

**TODAY'S VERSE**

*Habakkuk 3:19 Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.*



**FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY**  
People who call our community their own.

What makes Beth Coston smile? "Definitely my daughter," said the 37-year-old Noblesville resident of her elementary-age daughter, Lyla, a student at North Elementary School in Noblesville. "She's an only child, little princess." Beth, who is married to Russell Coston, was born and raised in Irvington on Indianapolis' eastside and graduated from Sccecina Memorial High School and Ball State University with a degree in business administration. She traveled in her 20s, and lived in San Diego and Kansas City. She has been married for more than eight years and has lived in Noblesville for more than four years. She was found at downtown Noblesville's Huntington Bank, where she is employed as Relationship Banker II. "I do everything from opening accounts, personal and business, and do loans, auto loans, secured loans and equity lines of credit, and help with digital, online banking and bill pay, anything to make the customer's life easier." She has been employed at the bank for four years and is investment licensed. Why banking? She was a retail manager for 10 years, with Target and CarMax. "I was looking for something closer to home and a little better schedule (banker's hours)." Today's feature is a look back at one of The Times' previous Faces of Hamilton County. When she's not working? She's making home improvements to her 1930s historic home in Old Town. "Kickoff of the parade route is right by our house." What else? "We love living in Noblesville .... I like to do all of the stuff in town, so we go to a lot of the Federal Hill concerts and Farmers Markets ... We spend a lot of time with family."

**And Another Thing...**

Bethel Lutheran Church will host a workshop, Binding The Wounds of War, to help clergy, family members and friends, and counselors and caregivers understand the invisible wounds of war. Trained counselors from the Fort Wayne-based Lutheran Military and Families Ministries will facilitate the workshop from 9 a.m.-noon Feb. 3 at

# The TIMES

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The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Bill Jourdan of Noblesville, who wore a face mask, to keep himself "safe," due to the pandemic, said, "I always like to honor the vets and the soldiers who gave their lives so we could be free. It's an honor to have served." Jourdan passed away on Monday. He was 75.**

## Remembering Navy vet Bill Jourdan

I remember the day that Bill Jourdan invited me into his former 10th Street home in downtown Noblesville.



BETSY REASON  
The Times Editor

The U.S. Navy veteran could talk about his military service for hours. The retired Noblesville Police detective sergeant still fit into his Navy pea coat. And he kept his

"Dixie up"-style sailor hat close at hand.

Jourdan had a special niche in his home for his military keepsakes. As I climbed the stairway, I arrived at the landing between his second and third floors, where he pointed to a 1964 professional photo taken of himself, from when he got out of boot camp, sporting his pea coat and a dress-blue Navy uniform hat.

"This is when I was rich and good looking," he said, smiling.

During my visit with

Jourdan in November 2015, he showed me photos of the U.S.S. Valcour, the Navy spy ship on which he served as a petty officer third-class boatswain's mate, one of the oldest ranks in the Navy who do everything above the water line on the main decks. He still had his boatswain (bonsun's) pipe.

Jourdan also had certificates from when he crossed the equator and went through the Suez Canal and the Arctic

See BETSY Page A5

## Aspire distributing COVID test kits to vulnerable Hoosiers

Aspire Indiana Health is distributing more than 40,000 COVID home test kits to its community partners, schools and other nonprofit organizations in Boone, Grant, Hamilton, Madison and Marion counties.

In order to reach our most vulnerable Hoosier populations, Aspire is partnering with community organizations in our 5-county primary service area that can best connect vulnerable Hoosier populations with the rapid COVID tests. Social disparities have been shown to result in lower income, minority, urban and rural populations having less access to free testing options.

"Aspire's core mission is to serve the underserved. That's why we're working with schools, safety net providers and other partners in the Central Indiana community to get these much-needed test kits into the hands of people who serve people who face healthcare barriers," said President & CEO

See ASPIRE Page A5

## A Salute To Ron Stone

A few weeks back I did a tribute to some of Sheridan's important women who have helped to hold our community together over the years. I would like to take this opportunity to honor one of the men who has played a key



STEVE MARTIN

role in keeping this community on-going.

Ron Stone has been a friend as well as a stalwart supporter of the Sheridan community for years. I first met and worked with Ron during the Sheridan sesquicentennial celebration year of 2010. Ron was heavily involved in the celebration as the co-chair. His primary

See STEVE Page XX

## Notes found scribbled during the bombardment of Khe Sanh

You know, this didn't use to be true, but I think it's a blanket statement that applies to a lot more of us than it used to. We love our country, but struggle with our government. It certainly applies to the hired hands in Washington, but it filters down as well.



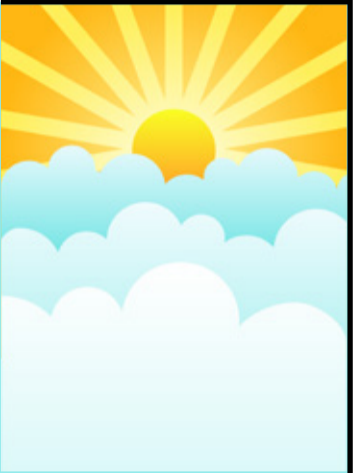
TIM TIMMONS  
Two Cents

Once again Indiana politicians are trying to take away public notices from Hoosier newspapers and hide them on government web sites. Sen. Jim Buck, a Republican from Kokomo, is helping lead the charge this year. And here's an interesting point.

Opponents of newspapers are saying they don't want to pay us to publish those notices, but what they don't tell you is that THEY SET THE RATES we charge AND

See TIM Page A5

## The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset  
RISE: 8:00 a.m.  
SET: 6:01 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures  
High: 35 °F  
Low: 11 °F



- Wacky Holiday Today**
- National Chocolate Cake Day
  - World Breast Pumping Day



- What Happened On This Day**
- 1945 Soviet forces liberate Auschwitz
  - 1967 3 astronauts die in a cabin fire while preparing for the Apollo 1 mission



- Births On This Day**
- 1832 Lewis Carroll English author
  - 1944 Mairead Maguire Irish activist, Nobel Prize laureate

- Deaths On This Day**
- 2014 Pete Seeger American singer-songwriter, guitarist
  - 2009 John Updike American author, poet, critic

**INSIDE TODAY**

- Obituaries.....A2
- Classifieds.....A4
- Service Directory.....A5

**TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

Learn to read food labels and watch for ingredients that end in -ose, that means it's a form of sugar. Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Times and online at [www.thetimes24-7.com](http://www.thetimes24-7.com).



**TODAY'S QUOTE**

"Even the greatest was once a beginner. Don't be afraid to take that first step."  
Muhammad Ali

**TODAY'S JOKE**

What's a computer's favorite snack?  
Microchips!

**HONEST HOOSIER**

Today is Auschwitz Liberation day and the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust. Let us never forget!



The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank R. G. WILLMAN of Noblesville for subscribing!

**OBITUARIES**  
NONE



**7 DAY FORECAST**

14/23 A.M. SNOW SHOWERS	2/20 WIND CHILL -15 TO 8	11/35 SNOW POSSIBLE LATE	19/28 SNOW POSSIBLE	11/28 PARTLY CLOUDY	15/40 NOT AS COLD	20/38 MAINLY CLOUDY
TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON

## Mobile coronavirus testing and vaccination clinic returning to Carmel

The Indiana Department of Health is again hosting a free mobile testing and vaccination clinic in West Carmel as part of its ongoing efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

WHEN: Wed., Jan. 26th – Sat., Jan. 29th from 12 – 8 p.m.

WHERE: Jill Perelman Pavilion, 3000 W. 116th St. Carmel, Ind. 46032

HOW: Register online by visiting ourshot.in.gov or call 211 (866-211-9966) and a representative will schedule an appointment for you from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. EDT daily. Appointments are encouraged, but walk-ins are accepted.

“We were incredibly lucky to have the support

of the State Department of Health last week as demand was incredibly high,” said Chris Walker, emergency preparedness coordinator with the Hamilton County Health Department. “The mobile crew administered 1,582 tests and 243 vaccines over the course of four days. Our limited staff simply won’t allow us to test that many people, so we’re especially grateful for the extra help.”

“This mobile vaccination site is one more way we are working to give all Hoosiers convenient access to COVID-19 vaccine in their communities,” said State Health Commissioner Kris Box, MD, FACOG.

“I encourage everyone who hasn’t been vaccinated yet to take advantage of this safe, effective vaccine, which is the best protection we have against this virus.”

If you are 18 or older, you may choose to receive either the single-dose Johnson & Johnson (Janssen), Moderna or Pfizer vaccine, which requires a second dose to be fully protected. This will be scheduled at the time of your first dose. You can also get the booster dose of your choice.

Individuals age 5-17 must receive the Pfizer vaccine. An adult must accompany children age 5-15 to the vaccine

appointment. If the adult present is not the parent or guardian, consent must be submitted in advance. For anyone age 16-17 it’s preferred that a parent or guardian accompany the minor to the vaccination site. We understand this may not always be possible. In those cases, the parent or guardian can provide written or verbal authorization.

Here are some additional facts:

- The vaccine is available at no cost, but insurance information is requested, because an administration fee may be charged.
- Each individual will need to schedule an ap-

pointment, even if they live in the same household.

- This site offers the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine, which require a second dose to be fully protected. This will be scheduled at the time of the first dose.

- Proof of age will be required at the appointment.
- After receiving the vaccine, recipients should sign up for V-safe, the after-vaccination health checker, on any smartphone, at vsafe.cdc.gov.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, if you’ve been fully vaccinated, you do not

need to stay away from others if you’ve been around someone who has COVID-19 or get tested, unless you have symptoms.

Once you’re fully vaccinated, you should still:

- Wear a mask and socially distance to reduce the risk of severe illness or death from COVID-19
- Avoid medium- or large-sized gatherings
- Protect yourself while traveling
- Get tested and stay home if symptoms develop

Learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine from the Indiana Department of Health at ourshot.in.gov.

## I-65 will have overnight lane closures for work on the County Road 550 Bridge next Week

The Indiana Department of Transportation announce there will be lane closures overnight next week on I-65 near the 132 mile marker. The contractor will be building the coping on the new I-65 Bridge at C.R. 550. The contractor plans on beginning Wednesday, February 2 with single lane closures at 9 p.m.

I-65 northbound will have double lane closures beginning at 10 p.m. and in the southbound lanes at 11 p.m. The Indiana State Police will be assisting INDOT and the contractor with the various lane closures as overhead work is completed by 6 a.m.

This project was awarded to E & B Paving for \$62.8 million. The project includes building a new interchange on I-65 at Boone County Road 550 South and redesigning the I-65 and S.R. 267 interchange. Both will be Diverging Diamond Interchanges, (DDI). The contract completion date is set for August of 2022.

A DDI is a type of interchange in which the two directions of traffic

on a non-highway road cross to the opposite side on both sides of a bridge. It is unusual in that it requires traffic on the highway overpass to briefly drive on the opposite side of the road from what is customary. When entering the DDI, drivers cross over to the left side of the bridge, guided by signals, signs and pavement markings. DDIs are designed to be safer, more efficient and more cost effective than traditional diamond interchanges.

INDOT reminds drivers to use caution and consider worker safety when driving through a construction zone.

Stay Informed Motorists in West Central Indiana can monitor road closures, road conditions, and traffic alerts any time via:

Facebook: facebook.com/INDOTWestCentral  
Twitter: @INDOT\_WCentral  
CARS 511: indot.carsprogram.org  
Mobile App: iTunes App Store and the Google Play store for Android

## Hamilton Heights to Host Architecture, Engineering, and Construction Job Fair

Do you have a student who is looking towards a career, summer apprenticeship, or internship in the local construction trade industry? Are they a junior or senior in high school? If so, you will want to attend the first annual Architecture, Engineering, and Construction Job Fair for area students enrolled in CTE programs and their parents next month!

This complimentary networking, information

sharing, and recruiting event will take place at Hamilton Heights High School, Arcadia, Ind., on Wednesday, February 16, from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

This event gives students (and their parents), employers, and not-for-profit adult education support organizations a chance to meet, establish professional relationships, and discuss potential job and/or internship and apprenticeship opportu-

nities while developing relationships that can open doors to potential employment upon graduation this spring.

Nearly 50 companies have registered to participate at this time. These companies have apprenticeship and internship opportunities and are looking to hire young, local talent. These employers know that schools with strong CTE programs are teaching the necessary em-

ployability skills, technical knowledge, and training students need to make valuable contributions and thrive in the workforce right away. In addition, there will be not-for-profit adult education specialists on hand to share their programs and services that support post-graduate career aspirations.

For questions or more information contact event organizer, Eric Fisher at efisher@hhschuskie.org.

## 475 Indiana schools to focus on students’ overall health during American Heart Month

In February, American Heart Month, 475 schools representing more than 190,000 students in Indiana will spotlight the importance of students’ mental and physical health through the American Heart Association’s school-based programs Kids Heart Challenge and American Heart Challenge.

Throughout the month, schools will work with students in a variety of ways to activate different elements of the over 40-year-old program created by the American Heart Association, a global force for healthier lives for all. Rooted in proven science, the program helps students improve their mental and physical health with a robust suite of content including STEM curriculum, social emotional learning and instruction of lifesaving skills such as Hands-Only CPR™.

“As we know, the early years play a vital role in the development of health-related behaviors. Placing emphasis on establishing healthy environments and behaviors can help students understand the importance of wellness,” said Dr. Shawn A. Smith, superintendent of schools for the Metropolitan School District of Lawrence Township. “Giving health a specific moment in time, especially in light of the pandemic, is an important way for our school to support our students.”

With deep roots in physical activity, Kids Heart Challenge and American Heart Challenge have expanded beyond the gym to meet the needs of today’s youth and educators as science has proven the strong connection between physical and mental health.

Kids Heart Challenge offers a variety of physical

activities to get elementary students’ hearts pumping such as dance, basketball or jumping rope paired with digital missions to learn life-saving skills like Hands-Only CPR™. The American Heart Challenge is a service-learning program for middle and high school students. The program also helps boost heart health and self-esteem, while reducing stress and anxiety through programs featuring yoga, dance and obstacle courses. Both programs’ curriculums help prepare kids for success by supporting physical and emotional well-being.

“We know that mental health concern or issues such as stress and anxiety

can impact physical health. We also know that physical activity can help students improve their grades, school attendance and classroom behavior,” says Dr. Sandeep Dube, a cardiologist who is president of the AHA’s Indianapolis board of directors. “Pairing both mental and physical wellness with in-school education and enrichment works to holistically support the long-term health of the whole child.”

Funds raised by Kids Heart Challenge and American Heart Challenge participants support the American Heart Association’s scientific research and outreach programs, while creating healthier communities.

### Meeting Notes

#### Carmel Plan Commission

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE  
Wed., Feb. 2, 2022  
Meeting Agenda  
LOCATION:  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
TIME: 6 p.m.

CARMEL CITY HALL, 2ND FLOOR (DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 p.m.)  
ONE CIVIC SQUARE, CARMEL, Ind. 46032

HOW TO VIEW ELECTRONICALLY:  
• AT&T Cable Ch. 99  
• Digital Ch. 64.45  
• Metronet Ch. 33  
• Spectrum Cable Ch. 340

• Facebook.com/CityofCarmel  
• YouTube.com/

CityofCarmel  
• http://carmelin.newswagit.com/views/1

The Comprehensive Plan Review Committee will meet to review the following item:  
1. Docket No. PZ-2021-00177 CP: Carmel Clay Comprehensive Plan Update.

The applicant seeks to update and reformat the Carmel Clay Comprehensive Plan. Filed by the Department of Community Services on behalf of the Carmel Plan Commission.

REVIEW TOPIC:  
Revised Comprehensive Plan Draft – All Sections  
Website: carmelcomprehensiveplan.com  
PDF: Pages 1-68

Who has the best cheeseburger in town?  
Who makes the best pizza?  
Who is the best mover?  
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**Sheridan** Employment Opportunity

The Town of Sheridan has an immediate full-time **Accounts Payable/Utility Clerk** position available in the Clerk's Office. You may pick up a job description and application at the Sheridan Town Hall located at 506 South Main Street, Sheridan, IN 46069 or you may mail your Resume to the same address, or it is available at www.sheridan.org. The deadline to apply is Friday, February 11, 2022, by 4:00 p.m. No calls please.

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## New Chartered Crypto-Startup Banking on Indiana's Thriving Tech Community, Top Talent

Anchorage Digital, a regulated digital asset platform and the first crypto company to receive a federal bank charter, announced plans today to establish operations in central Indiana, creating at least 10 new, high-skill jobs by the end of 2022.

"Indiana is on the cutting-edge of high technology and innovation as more companies like Anchorage Digital join the state's thriving tech community," said Dave Roberts, executive vice president of entrepreneurship and innovation for the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC). "We're excited to welcome Anchorage Digital, the first of its kind in a rapidly evolving market, to the Hoosier state, and we will continue growing an outstanding tech ecosystem businesses can count on."

Headquartered in San Francisco, with nearly 200 employees around the globe, Anchorage Digital will invest significant capital to hire top talent in Indiana, allowing the company to expand its technology and services to the Midwest, where it already employs six team members operating primarily out of Indianapolis.

"Indiana's talent pool is attractive to a growing company like Anchorage," said Anchorage Digital Co-Founder and CEO Nathan McCauley. "We're bridging crypto and blockchain with traditional finance and need

smart, capable employees around the globe. As a Hoosier myself, hiring in my home state and working with the Indiana Economic Development Corporation to bring education to university students and jobs to Indy tech talent is truly exciting. With our university recruitment specialist right here in Indiana, we plan to heavily focus on engineering and internship opportunities right here in the community."

Founded in 2017, Anchorage Digital began as a digital asset custody business offering institutions a new way to access and store cryptocurrency. The company has since grown into a full-service financial platform and infrastructure provider serving banks, financial technology (fintech) companies and other institutions. Anchorage's offerings include custody, trading and lending to help customers manage digital assets and cryptocurrencies.

Anchorage is hiring for several roles across recruiting and human resources, engineering, finance, and customer experience. Interested applicants may apply online. The company is also partnering with universities across Indiana to provide internships and opportunities for new graduates.

In January 2021, Anchorage received the first federal banking

charter for a digital bank. Since 2017, the company has raised a total of \$487 million with a valuation of more than \$3 billion.

"We are excited to welcome an innovative company like Anchorage Digital to Indianapolis," said Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett. "Their expansion brings jobs to our thriving economy and also marks our city as a leader in attracting cutting-edge firms to our robust tech ecosystem and high quality of life."

Based on the company's job creation plans, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation committed an investment in Anchor Labs Inc. (dba Anchorage Digital) of up to \$350,000 in the form of incentive-based tax credits. These tax credits are performance-based, meaning the company is eligible to claim incentives once Hoosiers are hired.

The city of Indianapolis supports the project in partnership with Develop Indy, the economic development organization for the city of Indianapolis and Marion County. The city of Indianapolis and Develop Indy work together to advise business entities with respect to state and local government incentives for economic development projects. In 2021, this partnership brought 71 relocation and expansion projects, created 4,575 new jobs, and secured \$572 million in capital investment for Indianapolis.

## 2022 Supportive Housing Teams announced

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) and CSH have announced the eight teams that will be participating in the 2022 Indiana Supportive Housing Institute. These teams will each establish a plan to develop affordable housing with access to supportive services for individuals experiencing homelessness.

"The Institute continues to be an intentional opportunity for organizations to develop detailed, individualized supportive housing plans," Crouch said. "This year we are focusing on providing supportive housing that will serve individuals experiencing homelessness as identified through the state's Coordinated Entry system."

Coordinated Entry helps communities prioritize assistance based on vulnerability and severity of service needs, to ensure that people who need assistance can receive it in a timely manner. The core elements of coordinated entry are access, assessment, prioritization and referral.

"The Institute is an opportunity for IHCDA to promote housing stability for those experiencing homelessness," said Jacob Sipe, Executive Director of IHCDA. "It's important that

IHCDA and our partners align affordable housing developments to the current needs in communities across the state."

"CSH congratulates the teams selected for the Institute. We look forward to collaborating with them and IHCDA to advance supportive housing in the state," said Lori Steele, Director of CSH Indiana. "Also, we applaud IHCDA for its leadership and for prioritizing HOME-ARP funds towards quality, supportive housing development that will help so many people and families to find a home and stability to thrive in their communities."

Provided below is a list of organizations participating in this year's Institute:

Project Lead: Housing Opportunities, Inc.

Partner Organizations: HealthLinc, Inc.

Location: LaPorte County

Project Lead: Beacon, Inc.

Partner Organizations: Gratus Development and Valenti Real Estate

Location: Bloomington

Project Lead: LTHC

Partner Organizations: Keller Development and Valley Oaks Health

Location: Lafayette

Project Lead: Model Group

Partner Organizations: Housing Opportunities Program, Inc., Fort Wayne Housing Authority, and Parkview Health

Location: Fort Wayne

Project Lead: Radiant CDC

Partner Organizations: Herron Property Management, Family Promise of Hendricks County, and Volunteers of America

Location: Hendricks County

Project Lead: South Bend Heritage Foundation

Partner Organizations: Oaklawn and South Bend Clinic

Location: South Bend

Project Lead: Partners in Housing

Partner organizations: Bradley Company and Hamilton Center

Location: Indianapolis

Project Lead: Mercy Housing Lakefront

Partner organizations: Mercy Housing Management Group and Horizon House

Location: Indianapolis

Over the next few months, these teams will work closely with IHCDA and CSH through a series of targeted training and group exercises. They will also be provided technical assistance and presented with pre-development financing opportunities. The Institute will culminate with the Finale this spring where teams will present their plans to a group of public and private investors.

Following graduation from the Institute, each lead organization can apply for funding through the HOME-ARP and National Housing Trust Fund programs.

## BBB Warning: Watch out for student loan scams in the wake of Navient's settlement

The Better Business Bureau warns that scammers may use Navient's student loan settlement to access your personal information. Even though federal loan borrowers who qualify for relief under this settlement do not need to take any action except update or create their studentaid.gov account, scammers will use tactics to their advantage.

BBB encourages graduates to carefully research trustworthy sources related to federal repayment plans before giving any information.

Watch out for companies promising to reduce debt by lowering payments through enrollment in student loan forgiveness or other programs. They may also falsely promise that in order to apply monthly payments to consumers' student loans and to improve credit scores – all you have to do is pay a small fee so they can negotiate with the lender on your behalf. In another version, dishonest collectors claim they can save money by consolidating loans – if a minimal fee is paid. Keep all of your personal information private and never give it to an unsolicited source.

The BBB offer these tips to protect yourself:

- Research the lender. Visit BBB.org to read business profiles and check out companies before working with them. The FTC has consumer education related to student loan debt relief scams at ftc.gov.

- Empty promises can lead to an empty wallet and more debt. Scammers not only falsely promise fast loan forgiveness, but also often pretend to be affiliated with the

government. Never share sensitive information, such as your Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID.

- Never pay a fee upfront for help. Requesting payment in advance to reduce or get rid of your student loan debt is a huge red flag. Paying it could mean you're not seeing it come back, or the debt relief you seek.

- Report it. If you have been a victim of a suspected scam, report it at BBB.org/ScamTracker. Visit StudentAid.gov for federal student loan repayment options. Student loans can be forgiven only under specific circumstances, so contact your lender directly to see if any options are available to you.

If it seems too good to be true, it probably is. A company that claims it can erase student loan debt in minutes is not being honest. This type of scheme is similar to a government imposter scam, watch for the warning signs.

Look for additional resources at BBB.org.

**ABOUT BBB SERVING CENTRAL INDIANA:** For more than 100 years, Better Business Bureau has been helping people find businesses, brands and charities they can trust. In 2020, people turned to BBB more than 220 million times for BBB Business Profiles on more than 6.2 million businesses and Charity Reports on 11,000 charities, all available for free at BBB.org. There are local, independent BBBs across the United States, Canada and Mexico, including BBB serving Central Indiana, which was founded in 1916 and serves 46 counties.

## Rails-to-Trails Conservancy Names Indiana Governor Eric J. Holcomb Doppelt Family Rail-Trail Champion

Recognition spotlights Gov. Holcomb's leadership to spur trail network development, delivering quality-of-life and economic benefits statewide

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC) has named Indiana Governor Eric J. Holcomb as the next Doppelt Family Rail-Trail Champion for his leadership in accelerating trail development across the state. Among his accomplishments is the Next Level Trails program, an innovative state funding program that RTC says could provide a model for other states looking to accelerate trail development nationwide. Gov. Holcomb is the 40th honoree and the first acting governor to be recognized as a Rail-Trail Champion.

The Next Level Trails program is part of Gov. Holcomb's broader Next Level Connections infrastructure directive, elevating the importance of trails alongside other infrastructure investments like roads, bridges and rail. The program emphasizes opportunities for investment in rural, suburban and urban communities, creating a level playing field for competitive grants and accelerating efforts to close gaps between trails

across the state.

"Gov. Holcomb exemplifies steadfast leadership in fostering the development of Indiana's trails so they may deliver powerful economic and quality-of-life benefits to all Hoosiers. He truly values the impact that trails have in our lives and our communities. He also understands that their impact grows exponentially as trails are connected to each other, within communities, and between towns, cities and states," said Ryan Chao, president of RTC. "The governor has done more than simply believe in trails. His commitment by way of creating dedicated state funding for trail projects large and small is what sets him apart—and is a model for the nation."

The impact of Indiana's fast-growing trail system extends beyond the state. Indiana hosts 215 miles of the Great American Rail-Trail™, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's signature project and ambitious initiative to connect more than 3,700 miles of multiuse trails across the country.

In a recent interview with Rails to Trails magazine about his recognition as the 2021 Rail-Trail Champion, Gov. Holcomb commented on why it is

important to fast-track trail development to maximize the potential of these trails and meet demand from Hoosiers statewide.

"When you look at vibrant communities, one thing in common—the common denominator—is outdoor amenities. People want to work where they want to live. Trails were that X-factor," said Gov. Holcomb.

"We're fully committed to continuing to build these trail connections throughout our entire state," he added.

Gov. Holcomb's Rail-Trail Champion award comes during "Indiana's Year of the Trails," which he proclaimed in October 2021. The year-long celebration runs from Oct. 23, 2021, through Oct. 23, 2022, to recognize that "connecting trail segments is a powerful tool for economic and community development that should be actively facilitated." Indiana's Year of the Trails creates an opportunity to bring trail users, business owners, nonprofits, local and state elected officials, and other stakeholders together to experience Hoosier trails and share the value of walking, biking and other nonmotorized infrastructure for all

Indiana residents and visitors. Advocates are leveraging the year-long celebration and focus on trails to call for permanent funding for trail connectivity and maintenance under the Next Level Trails program at \$10 million annually.

Since 2011, the Doppelt Family Rail-Trail Champions Award has honored individuals who have made significant contributions to the rail-trail movement through their hard work, volunteerism and support—in short, those who have gone above and beyond in the name of trails. The award is named in honor of the late rail-trail philanthropist Jeffrey L. Doppelt. Learn more about the nation's Rail-Trail Champions: rtc.li/trail-champions.

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy is the nation's largest trails organization—with a grassroots community more than 1 million strong—dedicated to building a nation connected by trails, reimagining public spaces to create safe ways for everyone to walk, bike and be active outdoors. Connect with RTC at railstotrails.org and @railstotrails on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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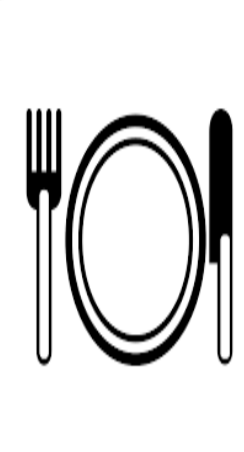

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## ASPIRE From Page A1

Barbara Scott. Those receiving the kits include: Madison-Grant United Schools Corporation Hamilton Heights School Corporation The Christian Center, Anderson Christian Academy Anderson Housing Authority Homeless Ministries -- Anderson Boone County Department of Child Services (DCS) Madison DCS Hamilton DCS Marion DCS Boone County Health Department Madison County Health Department Hamilton County Health Department Marion County Sheriff's Department

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Madison County) Fayette County Syringe Service Program Madison County Juvenile Probation and Youth Campus Madison County Community Corrections & Advisory Board Suburban North Club Carvel Club Club East Westside Club Southside Club Hamilton County Community Corrections & Advisory Board Hamilton County Council Hamilton County Courts Hamilton County Probation Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office Hamilton County Juvenile Services Madison County Syringe Service

Grace Baptist Church The free test kits are made available by the U.S. Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) to health centers and Medicare-certified rural health clinics for distribution to patients and community members. Aspire Indiana Health is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) certified to accept Medicare and Medicaid. "Health centers provide primary care services to nearly 29 million people each year throughout the country, including in geographically isolated and medically underserved and vulnerable communities. Two-thirds of the population served by health centers are living in poverty, over 60% are racial and/or ethnic minorities,

and nearly 1.4 million are unsheltered," according to HRSA. About Aspire: Aspire Indiana Health is a fully integrated nonprofit health system serving central Indiana that addresses behavioral health, primary medical care, substance use disorders, infectious diseases, deaf services, veteran programs, abused/neglected children and social determinants of health such as housing and employment. Aspire is supported by a strong network of community organizations, state/federal entities and generous benefactors. Those interested in partnering with Aspire in making health and well-being a reality in central Indiana are encouraged to contact us at: info@aspire-indiana.org.

## STEVE From Page A1

job was organizing the high school class reunion program, but he was also involved in other activities, most notable for me the Sesquicentennial Time Capsule project which he and I cooperated on putting together.

One of ten children, Ron has lived in the Sheridan community all his life. When he graduated from high school, he decided he wanted to continue his education, so he went to Indiana Wesleyan in Marion and earned a degree in education. Ron and wife Mary, whom he met in college, were both hired as teachers at Hamilton Heights. Both were elementary teachers and Ron did an 8-year stint as a principal before returning to the classroom. He retired in 2009 after many enjoyable years as a fourth-grade teacher as well as a few years teaching 5th and 6th grades as well as the afore mentioned principalship.

Ron has been the president of the Sheridan Historical Society for 11 years. During his presidency, the Society has experienced growth and stability. His most important project to date has been to oversee the transition from the old museum at 308 S. Main to the newer and larger museum across the street at 315 S. Main. Ron was instru-



Sheridan Historical Society President Ron Stone.

mental in the purchase and remodeling of what was a formerly a motorcycle repair shop, doing most of the work himself along with a little help from some skilled trades people such as electricians, plumbers, HVAC, and others. The museum is nearly complete now and Ron's attention is turning to the rescue, restoration, and re-purposing of the old Sheridan Monon Train Depot. He is also currently completing his second term on the Adams Township Advisory Board and one of his duties as a member of that Board is to serve as the Adams Township Coordinator for the Hamilton County Bicentennial Committee.

I would like to take my hat off to Ron Stone. Over the years as both an educator and Sheridan resident and supporter, he has done a whole lot of things to hold Sheridan together and help us grow into the strong, vibrant community that we are today. His life should serve as a beacon of achievement for others to follow. Considering his previous accomplishments, there is no doubt in my mind he will be successful in all these pending and future endeavors.

- Steve Martin is the retired director of the Sheridan Library and is actively involved with the Sheridan Historical Society and Rotary.

## TIM From Page A1

THOSE RATES ARE THE LOWEST WE HAVE! Also, and this is not a minor point, can you name something, anything, state or federal government does that is better than the private sector? How much does Sen. Buck think it'll cost for government employees to take over public notices and do all the work we in the newspaper world do now AT A VERY LOW RATE?

It's kind of like laws, or the size of government. How many laws come off the books once passed? Maybe the reason the law was created gets fixed, or becomes a moot point. If something generates money out of your pocket, chances are the government will find a way to keep it.

WHILE WE are talking about government, here's an idea - I've said for quite a while that a lot of us don't want the hired hands to blindly vote party lines. We'd expect, well at least like, for them to use their God-given brains and hammer out the best answers for everyone, not just follow what a party boss orders. So what if we had a 50-50 balance between Republicans and Democrats? Heck, I don't know how that would work, but

wouldn't it be great if neither side had a majority so that anything passed had to truly be a product of compromise and not simply because one side has more votes than the other side? Silly? Sure. But a guy can dream, can't he?

ONE MORE note on the size of government. Why do we need more buildings and more staff in an age where records and paperwork are digitized? How many government employees work 40-hour weeks? Some units have folks work 35, 36, 37 and a half . . . Again, private business doesn't work that way. Why does the organization we all pay for get to?

THE HUB-BUB over trans athletes continues and I struggle with this. I don't really understand how this isn't a simple solution. I fully agree that everyone has a right to be whoever they want, but this isn't a rights issue, it's a fairness of competition issue. So if someone wants to compete as a trans athlete, create a division for trans athletes.

It wasn't all that long ago that girls were not allowed to compete in the Indiana High School Athletic Association and

instead were in the GAA - Girls Athletic Association. But in the 1970s the IHSAA stepped up and created categories for female athletes. Do it again.

OK, THIS IS my last column for a few weeks. If you aren't one of the regular eight or nine who read my scribbles, I'm having heart surgery and will be under strict orders from my boss, i.e. much better half. Thank you again for an overwhelming response over these last couple of weeks! In the immortal words of Coach Norman Dale in Hoosiers, I love you guys.

FOR THOSE too young to remember, the bombardment of a U.S. Marine base at Khe Sanh in South Vietnam began this month in 1968 and lasted until April. More than 420 U.S. servicemen were injured and 155 tragically lost their lives. We can never do enough to honor the military. They forever have our thanks!

- Timmons is the chief executive officer of Sagamore News Media, the company that owns The Noblesville Times. He is a proud Noblesville High School graduate and can be contacted at timmons@thetimes24-7.com

## BETSY From Page A1

Circle. And he had the pennant that flew on his ship and a shell casing fired from the ship's guns.

At the time, Jourdan was president of his ship's reunion group. He was the only ship alumni from Indiana, but he always had a good time reminiscing at the reunions. "I used to say 'Drink beer, tell lies,'" he said.

Locally, Jourdan was a member of the American Legion Post 45 in Noblesville and Navy Club Ship 29 in Noblesville. I often saw Jourdan attending the Veterans Day and Memorial Day ceremonies at the Hamilton County War Memorial on the Courthouse Square in downtown Noblesville. He was part of the color guard for the Veterans Day Ceremony, participated in the Noblesville Christmas and July 4 parades and the annual Pearl Harbor Day in December in Noblesville and did the flag ceremony before some of Noblesville High School basketball games.

I remember a couple of years ago when I saw him at the Memorial Day ceremony and asked him what made him smile. His reply? "Life," said the then 73-year-old Noblesville resident.

Today, it is with great sadness that I share the

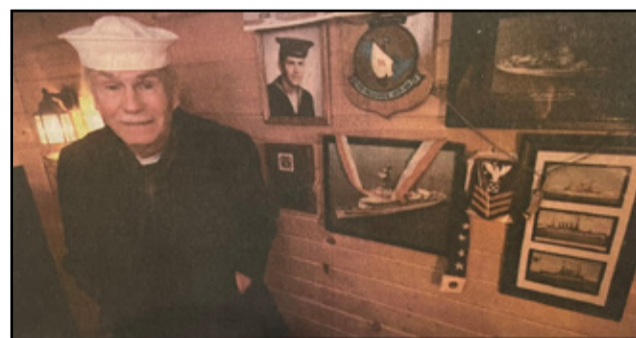
passing of Bill Jourdan, born William Lee Jourdan on Oct. 14, 1946. He died on Monday, Jan. 24, at his home after a battle with lung cancer. He celebrated his 75th birthday in October.

Jourdan, like most who have served in the military, was proud to be a veteran. And so I share here in this column about Jourdan's well-lived life and service to his country more than 50 years ago. When kids would ask him why Veterans Day is important, he would tell them, "It's important to remember the sacrifices that were made by them (veterans) so you can enjoy the liberties and freedoms that you have today."

Jourdan, who wore a face mask, to keep himself "safe," due to the pandemic, attended the 2020 Memorial Day Ceremony. "I always like to honor the vets and the soldiers who gave their lives so we could be free. It's an honor to have served," he said.

Did serving change his life? He thought so. "I grew up," he told me. "Boot camp was tough ... It made you realize that everything's not like the 'Leave It to Beaver' show." Plus, he told me, "Everybody was proud of me."

Jourdan grew up in Detroit and was 17 years



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Noblesville's Bill Jourdan, who served in the U.S. Navy 1963-67, showed off his wartime mementoes for a 2015 newspaper photo (above) and story in The Times. Jourdan passed away on Monday. He was 75.**

old and a senior at Gross Pointe High School when the Vietnam War was in full escalation. "I knew I would be drafted after I graduated," he said. "To avoid that, I joined the Navy to beat the draft board to the punch. With my parents' signed permission, I became a member of the U.S. Navy in October 1963." But he was allowed to finish high school and graduate in June 1964. Within two weeks, he received his orders to report to San Diego, Calif., for boot camp and training for 12 weeks.

In August 1964, Jourdan was assigned to the Philadelphia Navy Shipyard to await further orders. "I spent the next nine months doing things like swabbing the decks, cleaning bathrooms, picking up cigarette butts off the parade grounds." He was assigned to

the mothball fleet where there were many old decommissioned ships waiting to either be scrapped or sold off or put back into service at a later date.

His assignment was to be an old Patrol Craft Escort, which was among many to be given to the South Vietnamese Navy.

In June 1965, he was ordered to report to this first actual real ship in Norfolk, Va. The U.S.S. Valcour AVP55 serviced seaplanes that needed repairs, fuel and ammunition. Then the Valcour became another ship that was assigned to the Atlantic Fleet. In September 1965, Jourdan's ship was sent to the North Atlantic to join up with other ships of the fleet and with NATO nations to do maneuvers and war games.

While assigned to the ship, Jourdan crossed

over the Arctic Circle, and visited Great Britain and Scotland. In November 1965, his ship headed back to Norfolk, crossing the North Atlantic, they ran head into a severe winter storm that lasted 12 days. "If you have ever seen photos or videos or movies of ships at sea during a storm, then you would have a good idea of what we on the Valcour experienced. We were under water more than on top," he told me. After arriving back at Norfolk, licking their wounds from storm damage, he was ordered to Philadelphia to the dry docks, where his ship was repaired. Then in March 1966, his ship was given its next mission, to travel to the Middle East, and to Bahrain, a small island in the Persian Gulf. The Valcour intercepted transmissions and scrambled messages and decoded signals, "all that super-secret stuff that spy movies are made of," Jourdan said. The trip was "classified" until the 1990s.

He had so many, many stories to share about his adventures before he was sent home and honorably discharged in June 1967.

Jourdan moved to Indiana when he was looking for a job in police work. He became a police officer in Detroit, on a bet after the General Motors

parts plant he worked for went on strike, and Jourdan ended up serving 15 years for the Detroit Police Department. In Noblesville he was a police officer, 1985-99, rising to detective sergeant, serving under four different police chiefs.

One of the last times that I saw Jourdan was in the fall at his home with wife, Sue, of nearly 45 years, during the Noblesville Preservation Alliance Historic Home Tour. Their house was on the tour, and the Jourdans welcomed my 15-year-old daughter, who sold ice water in their front yard to help raise money for her show choir.

Sue Jourdan on Tuesday evening sent me a copy of her husband's obituary, which was filled with wonderful stories and interesting facts about his life, a life well lived.

An in-person and live-stream service to celebrate Bill Jourdan's life will be from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Friday at the First Presbyterian Church of Noblesville. Masks are requested. A funeral with military honors will be planned for the spring. In lieu of flowers, please consider a contribution in his name.

- Contact Betsy Reason @ betsy@thetimes24-7.com.

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# The Times

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HONEST HOOSIER



Elkhart County is just a couple years older than Wash College. That's pretty impressive!

# I ndiana

# Facts & Fun



## 20 Elkhart

### Number $\div$ Stumpers

1. How many educational institutions are there total in the county?  
 $\geq$
2. What percentage of the county is made up of water?  
 $\leq$
3. What is the population density of the county?  
 $\geq$
4. How old is Elkhart County?  
 $\leq$

Answers: 1. About 21 2. Approximately 1% 3. 422 per square mile 4. 189 Years 5. 200 Years

## Did You Know?

- Elkhart County was founded April 1, 1830 by immigrants from New England.
- The St. Joseph River is the main waterway in Elkhart which creates 4.8 square miles of water in the county.
- There are 7 public schools in the county, 8 private schools and 6 institutions for higher learning.
- The total amount of land in the county is 467.97 square miles with a population of 197, 559 residents.
- Goshen, the county seat, is the location of Goshen College, which has an enrollment of 800 students.

## Got Words?

Elkhart County contains 8 different museums that offer learning experiences about topics such as the 19th century and central railroad systems. Why do you think individuals still invest in and visit museums that share information from earlier times?

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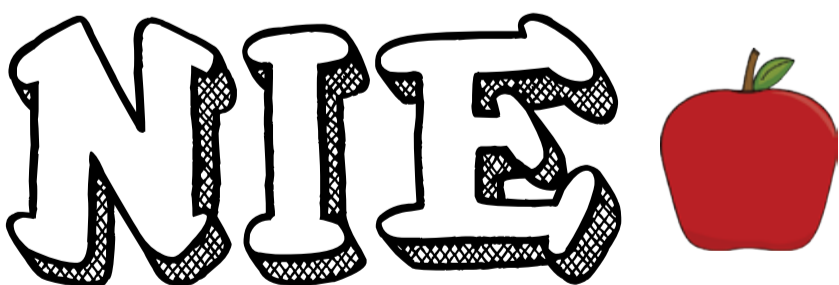
## Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

1. TS JEHPSO ERRVI
2. ENGHOS
3. TUCIAENOD
4. UMMUSES
5. REHTAL NCUOYT

Answers: 1. St. Joseph River 2. Goshen 3. Education 4. Museum 5. Elkhart County

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# THURSDAY

## Indiana the Strong

Thursday, Jan. 27, 2022

A7

### Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra announces \$24.6M total revenue for FY21

The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra announced total revenues of \$24.6 million for the 2021 fiscal year, including a surplus from operations of \$13.6 million. In the annual report released this week, the ISO announced \$3.2 million in earned revenue, \$7 million in annual fund contributions and \$4.5 million in support from the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra Foundation.

The largest single category of revenue took the form of funding from the federal government to ameliorate business losses and support employ-

ee retention during the pandemic. Altogether, federal funding provided more than \$9.8 million to the Indiana Symphony Society. As a result of this generous support, the Society enters 2022 with no outstanding debt and a strong base to rebuild after the pandemic.

"These results could not have been achieved without the hard work and sacrifice of our musicians and staff," said James M. Johnson, CEO, Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. "We could not have maintained stability in a tumultuous year without the support of

our stakeholders and the greater community in the form of numerous and significant contributions, sponsorships and grants. Providing oversight of our operations are the dedicated volunteers who serve on the boards of the Society and the Foundation. The ISO is grateful for the leadership and support of our constituents during the past year, and we are honored to continue working together to set the stage for future growth."

The 2020-21 season featured the return of concerts performed in front of live audiences,

including the Spring Inspirations Series and the resumption of full orchestra performances at Kroger Symphony on the Prairie during the summer and at Hilbert Circle Theatre in the fall. After celebrating the return of AES Indiana Yuletide Celebration in December, the ISO is offering a full slate of in-person events this spring, spanning the DeHaan Classical Series, the Printing Partners Pops Series and the Bank of America Film Series.

The ISO is continuing its important work in the community through impactful engagement and

education programs. The Metropolitan Youth Orchestra, the ISO's flagship youth and family development program, brought nearly 200 children and their families together first through virtual means and then in live sessions made possible through the ISO's COVID-19 mitigation efforts.

Guided by the goal of making the ISO a more inclusive organization, the ISO's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Committee of board members, musicians, and staff implemented internal and external diversity prac-

tices during the 2020-21 season. These included artistic programming that highlighted unheard voices in classical music to raise awareness of composers and musicians from diverse cultures who are less often centered in the western orchestra experience because of their gender, race, or ethnicity. In addition, the ISO deepened its partnership with the Sphinx Organization, a social justice organization dedicated to transforming lives through the power of diversity in the arts, with a series of concerts scheduled for spring 2022.

### Contaminated leafy greens turn purple

Some might say you look a little green when you are sick. Leafy greens actually turn purple — although not obvious to the human eye, it can be seen through advanced hyperspectral imaging (different than purple varieties of some vegetables). Purdue researchers discovered this color change in kale and basil stressed by cadmium, a heavy metal toxic to human and animal health.

The new detection method advances work to create a soil amendment that binds to the metal and keeps it from the plants, improving food safety in produce, baby food and prepared meals.

"It is very difficult to see heavy metal stress in plants," said Lori Hoagland, professor of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture at Purdue University, who led the research. "We need new tools for it. If we can quickly see it and accurately measure it as the plants grow, we will be better able to develop soil amendments that sequester the harmful metals, as well as identify contamination before it reaches our plates. Our goal is to be able to have drones that fly over fields and detect plant stress from cadmium, lead and arsenic."

Hyperspectral detection is much faster than traditional chemical analysis techniques. It also does not require destruction of the plant being analyzed, which enables studies of the plants and soil amendments through different stages of plant development.

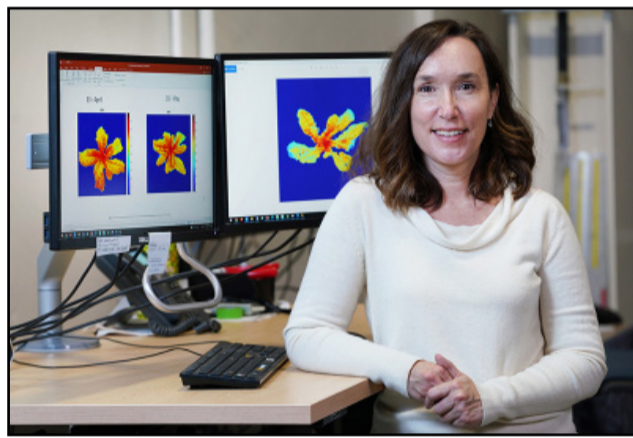
"Cadmium contamination of plants is known as a 'silent killer' because we can't see it and don't typically test for it," said Hoagland, who leads Purdue's Soil Microbial Ecology Lab. "The plants do suffer when exposed to high levels of cadmium, but they don't shrivel and wilt or die. They appear fine, unless the cadmium levels are through the roof. Contaminated plants make it through to maturity and harvesting."

Cadmium is used in batteries and is often bound to phosphate mined for fertilizers. Throughout the world, it and other heavy metals from trash and pollution seep into the soil and travel to nearby farms where crops absorb them. Consuming high levels of cadmium can lead to kidney disease, bone problems, cancer and other health issues.

"It is naturally present in many vegetables in small concentrations, but elevated levels can be harmful," she said. "We particularly need to keep these levels low in baby foods, but it is a growing issue throughout our food chain."

Hoagland worked with a team at Purdue's Ag Alumni Seed Phenotyping Facility to sort through thousands of different wavelengths to see what combinations showed changes that indicated plant stress from the metal. They then verified the method through chemical analysis techniques.

The phenotyping facility is equipped with a set of imaging-based, high-through-



Purdue University photo/Tom Campbell

**Lori Hoagland, professor of horticulture and landscape architecture at Purdue University, used advanced hyperspectral imaging to detect toxic metal stress in basil and kale in her work to improve food safety.**

put plant phenotyping systems that aren't found at many universities. A phenotype is an observable characteristic of an organism that results from its genetic code and its interactions with the environment. Researchers are only beginning to tap into its capabilities, Hoagland said.

"I went into the study as a bit of a test and unsure of whether or not it would work for my research," she said. "I was surprised by how powerful a tool it can be and how much data it generates in a short period of time. These imaging techniques are going to help us learn and answer many scientific questions."

In the controlled-environment phenotyping facility, plants travel by conveyor belt to an imaging station at intervals selected by the researchers. Hoagland's team's results showed kale accumulated higher levels of cadmium than basil under the same soil conditions, but symptoms of cadmium stress were stronger in basil. They also discovered that the plants only showed cadmium stress in early development.

"Hyperspectral imaging includes many more bands than the red, green, blue, or RGB, color bands we can see," said Yang Yang, director of digital phenomics at Purdue. "The technology is very sensitive to changes within plants that are not detectable to our eyes."

The team implemented a machine-learning algorithm to sort and classify the data.

"Through our dual pair of hyperspectral cameras, we can achieve full spectrum optical sensing from both the top and sides of a plant," Yang said. "Purdue's hyperspectral system can be used to scan plants from seedlings to a 15-foot corn stalk. This was the first time we used it to look for stress from heavy metals. It is an exciting application and was a new interdisciplinary challenge."

The team first thought the effect of cadmium toxicity stress on levels of chlorophyll production would be a likely indicator, and they examined the green light spectrum. The resulting color change was very subtle. The team progressed through other stress-related changes in the plant and other parts in the plant's reflectance spectra, Hoagland said. They found changes in metabolites due to the stress response offered a much clearer hyperspectral signal of stress.

"Looking at these second-

ary metabolites gave a much stronger signal, and there was a clear 'purpling' of the plant when viewed with the corresponding anthocyanin wavelengths," she said. "So, if green decreases and purple increases, we know the plant is stressed."

Hoagland and her team evaluated "vegetation indices," which are combinations of reflectance from different wavelengths that have been identified as best for hyperspectral analysis of different plant properties. The team found the Anthocyanin Reflective Index, or ARI, is the best for detecting cadmium stress, and they developed a specific vegetation index ratio equation for it. They also developed a soil amendment to reduce the level of cadmium taken up by the plant. The work is detailed in a paper published in the journal Environmental Pollution.

"I have been developing soil amendments to help remedy environmental pollution," Hoagland said. "These amendments are different mixes of bio char, which includes organic material waste and specially treated wood chips burnt at high temperatures. These can bind heavy metals and reduce uptake in combination with microbial processes. The trick is finding the right formulation of feedstock and temperatures."

The tested formulation slightly decreased cadmium levels in the plants, she said. One solution could be for farmers to simply use more of the amendment, but Hoagland plans to continue to adjust and improve the formulation.

She also plans to use the hyperspectral imaging method to find a clear signal for lead and arsenic.

"I'm a soil microbiologist, so I'm usually in the dirt," Hoagland said. "Imaging technology had been used more for evaluating drought responses or nutrients in plants, and my work was different. This was a new application for the tools and a great collaboration between engineers and scientists."

In addition to Hoagland and Yang, Purdue researchers Maria Zea, a graduate student in Hoagland's lab; Augusto Souza, a post-doctoral researcher for the phenotyping facilities; Linda Lee, professor of agronomy; and Krishna Nemali, controlled environment agriculture Extension specialist; worked on the project and are co-authors of the paper.

### Indiana School Choice Week celebrants aim to shake up school searches for good

Buoyed by 2021's school choice expansions, Hoosier families and educators have high hopes for the future of K-12 learning. Hoosiers will celebrate educational opportunity at hundreds of events during National School Choice Week.

Indiana schools, organizations, and individuals are planning 634 celebrations for the Week, which will feature more than 26,000 activities nationwide. Among the state's notable events will be the premiere of a school choice documentary highlighting the voices of Black community leaders. There will also be a student breakfast at the Capitol, and a pop-up series of "My School Options" information tables at popular grocery store and apartment complex locations in northern Indiana.

Nationwide, more than two dozen U.S. landmarks and notable buildings will light up in special colors to mark the Week.

The Week's celebrations focus on community building, sharing student and teacher successes, and raising awareness about how to put kids first when it comes to education. The goal? Supporting families and highlighting schools so more kids can find learning fits where they thrive.

Here in Indiana, there are a variety of educational options available including: traditional public schools with open enrollment at the discretion of each district, charter schools, public magnet schools, private schools, online learning, and homeschooling. Parents in Indiana can take tax deductions for private school or homeschool expenses, and families under a certain income level can qualify for state-run scholarships for private schools. Starting in 2022, students with special needs may be eligible for the state's new education savings account program. Additional funding may be available from other sources.

Across the state, communities are celebrating School Choice Week by formally proclaiming it, including the cities of Veedsburg, Montpelier, Beech Grove, Portland, Gary, and Washington.

"School Choice Week seeks to help parents and kids navigate and celebrate learning," said Andrew Campanella, president of National School Choice Week. "In Indiana, we hope this Week features positive celebrations and fruitful conversations that bring about positive change in the lives of

families." To download a guide to Indiana school choice, use the school finder tool to search schools in your area, or see celebration photos and proclamation updates, visit schoolchoiceweek.com/indiana.

Local celebrants are available to discuss their plans with reporters upon request. For more information, send us the specifics of your coverage area at [pressoffice@schoolchoiceweek.com](mailto:pressoffice@schoolchoiceweek.com), or preview a sampling of Indiana events at [schoolchoiceweek.com/indiana](http://schoolchoiceweek.com/indiana).

National School Choice Week shines a spotlight on effective K-12 education options for children, focusing equally on traditional public, charter, magnet, online, private, and home education options. Every January, participants plan tens of thousands of celebrations — such as school fairs and open houses — to raise awareness about school choice across all 50 states. School Choice Week also develops resources and guides to K-12 education for families. As a not-for-profit effort, the Week is nonpolitical and nonpartisan and does not advocate for legislation. For more information visit [schoolchoiceweek.com](http://schoolchoiceweek.com).

### Indianapolis man indicted in multi-jurisdictional firearm trafficking case

A federal grand jury in the Southern District of Indiana returned an indictment is charging an Indianapolis man with making false statements to purchase firearms on behalf of other people and dealing in firearms without a license.

According to court documents, over a two-month period, De'Angelo Carnell, 23, purchased 19 handguns from federally licensed gun stores in the Indianapolis area. These purchases were typically made on behalf of other people who could not legally buy guns at these stores. Carnell would then provide the firearms to these persons and accept a fee in exchange. One

of the recovered handguns was confiscated in Chicago, Illinois, during a traffic stop.

Carnell is charged with 13 counts of making false statements in connection with the acquisition of firearms and dealing in firearms without a license. If convicted of making false statements in connection with the acquisition of firearms, he faces up to ten years' imprisonment as to each count. If convicted of dealing in firearms without a license, he faces up to five years' imprisonment. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other

statutory factors. Zachary A. Myers, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, and Roland H. Herndon Jr., ATF Special Agent in Charge for the Columbus Field Division made the announcement.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives is investigating the case.

U.S. Attorney Myers thanked Assistant United States Attorney Jayson W. McGrath, who is prosecuting the case.

An indictment is merely an allegation and all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

### Purdue agricultural economists highlight inflation, pandemic-related uncertainties in annual outlook

The Purdue Agricultural Economics Report's annual outlook issue identifies key factors that may affect the agricultural economy in the coming year. For 2022, Purdue experts cite inflation and COVID-19 uncertainty as key issues impacting food prices, general economy performance, farm costs and returns, farm financials and household economics.

Jayson Lusk, Purdue University Distinguished Professor of Agricultural Economics, tackles the issue of increasing food prices in the coming year, suggesting that slowing government spending may slow the rate of inflation. Larry DeBoer, professor emeritus, examines

the role of inflationary expectations on the broad economy, asserting that price increases in 2021, as well as how continued COVID-19 complications may have a continued negative effect on economic recovery. Maria Marshall, professor and the Jim and Lois Ackerman Endowed Chair of Agricultural Economics, identifies the challenges that inflation places on households, especially those in rural areas, as they relate to childcare and employment. In the areas of farm management and finance, professors Michael Lange-meier and Nicole Olynk Widmar forecast that crop and dairy producers should expect to see increasing

input costs and a squeeze on margins in 2022.

Additional articles in the issue focus on topical areas where COVID-19 and inflation are not primary concerns; however, their effects are still being felt. Professor Russell Hillberry and associate professor Roman Keeney focus on changes in trade (supply chains, China) and farm policies (economic shocks impacting the next farm bill), while Brady Brewer, assistant professor, and Todd Kueth, associate professor and Schrader Endowed Chair in Farmland Economics, look at changing farm land values, cash rents, and expectations for agricultural credit markets in 2022.