

TODAY'S VERSE

Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths." (NKJV)



FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Kaia Carpenter smile? "Snow" said the Noblesville resident who turned 13 on Jan. 18. She was found in January 2019 at the Forest Park sledding hill. She was sledding with brother, Caden, then 14, and her father, John Carpenter, a math teacher at Fishers High School. Her mom, Jennie, from Russiaville, is a part-time stay-at-home mom and part-time early-childhood musical instructor in Carmel. What else? Kaia is involved in gymnastics and enjoys the outdoors, including hunting and fishing with her family. The Forest Park sledding hill is among many busy sledding hills during this winter season, including Simon Moon Park in Westfield has a great sledding hill as does Flat Fork Creek Park and Heritage Park in Fishers and West Park in Carmel. Plus, don't forget Koteewi Run Seasonal Slopes at Strawtown Koteewi Park in Noblesville, with online reservations and two-hour tubing sessions starting at \$25. Koteewi Run is central Indiana's only groomed snow tubing hill, with tubers sliding 700 down groomed lanes in custom snow tubes to a soft landing, and then ride a tow line back to the top for another run. No experience necessary, just proper attire for the conditions. While Koteewi Run was closed on Thursday, the tubing will open today at 5 p.m. for normal operations. Koteewi Run owner and operator Brian Cooley tweeted on Thursday: "We're doing a lot of snow cat work today to absorb the falling snow and get lanes groomed out for what looks to be fast conditions tomorrow night (tonight)."

And Another Thing...

On February 3rd, 2022 at 7:00AM, the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), within the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, was activated. The EOC is a collaborative function of the Hamilton County Emergency Management, which specializes in basic disaster response preparation. Representatives from multiple jurisdictions, agencies and community volunteers are working hard to keep Hamilton County safe. In addition to the EOC, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Patrol Division is fully staffed and ready to act. Sheriff Dennis Quakenbush stated, "Many county roads are snow covered, slick and hazardous. Please drive slow, make proper preparations and consider limiting travel whenever possible." County travel advisory reports can be located at <https://www.in.gov/dhs/traveladvisory/>. Please contact dispatch for assistance: 911 (Emergency) or 317-773-1282 (Non-Emergency)

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Only Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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Photo courtesy of Mayor Jensen

Winter Storm Slams Hamilton County

A massive 2,000-mile snow storm has swept across the great plains and is now moving into the Midwest, covering everything in its path with snow and ice.

The National Weather Service is predicting that snow accumulation will top out between four and seven inches tonight. Temperatures will continue to drop into the teens over the next two days, with gusting winds and cloud cover expected on Friday before clearing up into a crisp but sunny Saturday with highs in the low 20's.

Hamilton County Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt commented on the county's preparations, saying, "I helped coordinate with Duke Energy to give them a place to gather, stay warm, and use the restroom as

they are going out to respond to power outages." He also reiterated the need for people to exercise caution, commenting that, "There's a lot of ice out here. I tell everybody to be really careful, we're currently in orange (the NWS's color-rating system for storm severity) and we could move into the red as the snow keeps coming down."

Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen confirmed the city has been working extensively to monitor conditions during the storm, saying, "I was out this morning for about an hour checking out the roads and conditions." As for what the city had to say to its citizens, Mayor Jensen was adamant, saying, "The key right now is if you don't absolutely need to be on the roads, then stay home." He also emphasized

that people, "should try to check on their neighbors, make sure they have food and power and that they're doing okay." In the event of any emergencies, people are urged to call 911 right away so first responders can get there as quickly as possible.

The City of Westfield has been in constant contact with the street superintendent, who is constantly monitoring the road conditions in the city. They are urging citizens with concerns about road conditions to visit the City of Noblesville Facebook page, where updates are coming from the street superintendent every couple of hours.

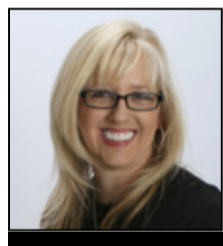
Mark LaBarr, Community Relations Manager for Duke Energy in Hamilton County,

See WINTER Page A5

Valentine, First Friday, snow tubing, music, more

Here are 25 things to put on your calendar, from now through February.

1. Check out Nickel Plate Arts' February First Friday's Love, Lust & Poetry" exhibit from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. today at the Nickel Plate Arts campus, plus a special showcase by Kathryn Smith and live music.
2. Enjoy live music with Sam King from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. today at Primeval Brewing in Noblesville.
3. Dance to My Yellow Rickshaw band at 9 p.m. today at Ale Emporium in Fishers.
4. Watch high school choirs, including Noblesville, compete all day Saturday at the 12th annual Fishers Silver Spotlight at Fishers High School.
5. Enjoy the music of Stella Luna & The Satellites at 8:30 p.m. Saturday at Alley's Ale-



BETSY REASON
The Times Editor

house at Pinheads in Fishers.

6. Anglers can discover what's new from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the Indiana Fishing Expo at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville.

7. The Koteewi Run Seasonal Slopes is open daily through Feb. 22 for snow tubing at Hamilton County Parks' Strawtown Koteewi Park in Noblesville.

8. Hearthside Suppers will be offered Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, through March 13 at Conner Prairie in Fishers.

9. Celebrate Little Valentine with some Valentine's Day fun from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Feb. 10 at Forest Park Lodge in Noblesville.

10. Main Street Productions presents the play, "Of Mice & Men" by John Steinbeck, Feb. 10-20, at Basile Westfield Playhouse, with James H. Williams directing.

11. The Spring Home and Outdoor Living Show is 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Feb. 11 at Grand Park

See BETSY Page A5

Latest Update On The Huskies

This morning, the weather was unseasonably warm. Not a snowflake in sight. We call off school for a snow day. Wait! What!? When we receive reports that severe weather is coming our way we follow an intricate process to help us make the best decision we can on whether to delay, dismiss early, or close all together.

Still, calling a snow day can often be a catch-22 for school superintendents. Let's say we keep school in session and the weather takes a turn for the worse or shows up earlier than predicted. Now we're sending buses and kids home in potentially dangerous conditions—that's not good. On the other hand, if we make

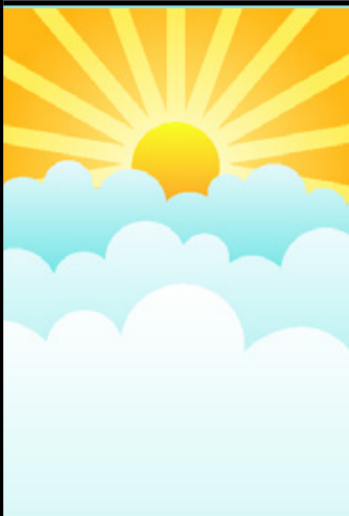


DEREK ARROWOOD
Hamilton Heights



See HUSKIES Page A5

The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:53 a.m.
SET: 6:10 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 21 °F
Low: 0 °F



- Wacky Holiday Today**
- National Quacker Day
 - National Hemp Day
 - World Cancer Day



What Happened On This Day

- 2004 Facebook is founded
- 1789 George Washington is elected as first President of the United States



Births On This Day

- 1913 Rosa Parks American activist
- 1948 Alice Cooper American singer-songwriter, actor

Deaths On This Day

- 2006 Betty Friedan American author, activist
- 1894 Adolphe Sax Belgian musician, invented the saxophone

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OBITUARIES

Dena Renae Moore
William Thomas "Bill" Hormell



HONEST HOOSIER

Can't figure out if Valentine's Day is my favorite holiday or not. I think it depends on how close to the dog house I'm living!



TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Chill out - people who are aggressive appear to be at greater risk for heart attacks and strokes. 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.



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



TODAY'S QUOTE

Love is the voice under all silences, the hope which has no opposite in fear; the strength so strong mere force is feebleness: the truth more first than sun, more last than star.
E.E. Cummings

TODAY'S JOKE

What'd the Beatles sing to the lovesick octopus?
I want to hold your hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand.

7 DAY FORECAST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
34 PARTLY CLOUDY	19/39 NOT AS COLD	29/50 LATE DAY RAIN	38/39 RAIN, WIND AND SNOW	24/24 MIX TO SNOW	2/18 WETTER COLD	0/24 SUNNY BUT COLD

➔ OBITUARIES

Dena Renae Moore Sept. 8, 1969 - Jan. 27, 2022

Dena Renae Moore, 52, passed away the morning of Jan. 27, 2022. She lost her hard fought battle against Covid-19 related Pneumonia at Ascension St. Vincent's in Indianapolis.

She was born in Danville, Ill. on Sept. 8, 1969 and resided in Fishers, Indiana at the time of her death.

Mrs. Moore was raised in Fishers and graduated from Hamilton Southeastern High School in 1988. She resided in Daytona Beach, Fla. with her family from 1995 until 2012 before she returned to Indiana. Upon her return to Indiana, she reconnected with a high school classmate, Mike Moore, whom she shared a great love with and later married at Lake Wawasee in Syracuse, Ind. in 2018.

She was full of life in many ways. She was a passionate caretaker, skilled crafter and devoted mother, sister, daughter, wife and friend. In her spare time, she enjoyed listening to music and dancing the night away. She also enjoyed traveling to Wisconsin every summer with her husband Mike and Florida to visit her son Alex. She was adored by her 7-year-old chocolate lab, Dakota. She touched the lives of everyone who met her for the better.

Survivors include her husband, Mike Moore and family; son, Alex Shepard and wife Jennifer; step-daughter, Alexis Moore; mother, Barbara Scott; sister, Darla Armstrong; and sister, Debbie Burgess and husband Rob.

She was preceded in death by her father, Bill Black; and her brother, Don Black.

Visitation is scheduled from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., with services to follow at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb., 12, 2022 at Randall & Roberts Fishers Mortuary, 12010 Allisonville Road in Fishers. Rev Brian D. Derrer will officiate.

Memorial contributions may be made to Christ the Savior Lutheran Church, 10500 East 126th Street, Fishers, IN 46038. Contributions will go to their programs to help people with special needs like Mike's sister, Donna Moore.

Condolences: www.randallroberts.com

William Thomas "Bill" Hormell

June 29, 1928 - Feb. 2, 2022

William Thomas "Bill" Hormell, 93, passed away Feb. 2, 2022, at his residence after an extended illness.

He was born June 29, 1928, in Washington, Pennsylvania, the son of Ellis Jacob and Edith Elizabeth (Scott) Hormell.

Mr. Hormell served in the US Navy on a ship in the Persian Gulf during the Korean War. He was then employed at Brockway Glass for a short time before joining Western Electric in Indianapolis as a tool and die maker. Later he transferred to Inland-Fisher Guide in Anderson as a tool and die maker, retiring in 1994.

Affectionately known by family and friends as "Willie T.," enjoyed the outdoors and was an avid fisherman. He especially enjoyed camping and spending time around the campfires with friends and family. He also loved his family and was especially proud of his children and grandchildren for all their accomplishments.

He was a longtime member of the Ford Street United Methodist Church where he taught Sunday School for several years. He also served as Scoutmaster for several years. He was a longtime member of the Masonic Lodge where he recently received a 50 year Past Masters award. He was also a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Indianapolis, member and past president of the Lapel Lions Club, and a member of the Lapel American Legion Post 212.

Survivors include his wife of 64 years, Linda Lou (Fisher) Hormell whom he married on Sept. 14, 1957; three sons, James Edward (Penny) Hormell of Lapel, Michael Wayne (Denise) Hormell of Anderson and David William Hormell of Lapel. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Tommy Hormell, Joey (Bree Cole) Hormell, Lindsey Hormell, Simmaney (Taylor Holloman) Wilkins, Katie (Brandon) Hutchison, Sara (Ryan Hepfler) Day, Jamie (Colin Loughman) Day and Marissa (Palmer Pickett) Graham, along with several great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister and brother-in-law, Mary Lou (Bill) Cecil; and parents-in-law, Vernon and Katherine Fisher.

Visitation is scheduled at 4-6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022, at Hershberger-Bozell Funeral Home, 1010 N. Main Street, Lapel, Indiana 46051.

Services are scheduled at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022, at Hershberger-Bozell Funeral Home. Masonic Rites will be conducted by Fellowship Masonic Lodge #681 F&AM at 5:30 p.m.

Burial with military rites conducted by Lapel American Legion Post 212 will be held at a later date at Brookside Cemetery in Lapel.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Ford Street United Methodist Church.

Online Condolences: www.hershbergerbozell.com

Obituary deadline

The Times publishes obituaries daily at www.thetimes24-7.com, and in its print product every day with the exception of Sundays and Tuesdays.

All obituaries must come from a funeral home. A photo may be included and should be sent as a high-resolution JPEG.

Daily obituary deadline is 4 p.m. for the following day's print publication.

To read more obituaries, visit www.thetimes24-7.com.

Attorney General Todd Rokita Files Multistate Lawsuit Against Precious-Metals Business

Attorney General Todd Rokita today filed a lawsuit with 26 other states and a federal agency against Safeguard Metals, a business that schemed to trick elderly victims into investing in wildly overvalued precious metals.

At least 16 Indiana residents invested a total of more than \$860,000 into silver coins and other products offered by Safeguard Metals. Nationally, at least 450 investors paid more than \$68 million to the company.

Safeguard Metals' customers generally and almost immediately suffered substantial losses on their investments due to fraudulently overpriced products. The company is operated by a California man named Jeffrey Santulan, also known as Jeffrey Hill.

"This con artist persuaded elderly folks to withdraw funds from safe and secure retirement accounts in

order to throw their money away," Attorney General Rokita said. "Secretary of State Sullivan and I are working together to bring him to justice and restore his victims, including Hoosiers right here in Indiana."

Attorney General Rokita is bringing the lawsuit on behalf of the Indiana Securities Division, which he previously oversaw in his capacity as Indiana Secretary of State. The U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) and the 27 states filed this legal action today in the United States District Court for the Central District of California.

State financial agencies nationwide are investigating numerous more precious metals investment companies on similar allegations. To prevent any further damages, investors are advised to be particularly cautious when purchasing precious metals and to

check for outrageously high commissions, spreads or markups as high as 30 to 70 percent.

As the market continues to fluctuate, authorities anticipate seeing more fraudsters capitalize on investors' uncertainty and use fear to manipulate consumers out of their hard-earned money.

The investors in this case were advised to liquidate their holdings at registered investment firms to fund investments in precious metals, bullion, and bullion coins through self-directed individual retirement accounts. Self-directed IRAs should not be confused with traditional IRAs or other retirement vehicles.

In this case, the defendants are accused of failing to disclose the markup charge for their precious metals bullion products and that investors could lose the majority of their funds once a transaction

was completed. In many cases, the market value of the precious metals sold to investors was substantially lower than the value of the securities and other retirement savings investors had liquidated to fund their purchase. Many investors liquidated their existing retirement accounts, which contained securities, to obtain funds to purchase the metals.

Attorney General Rokita thanked Deputy Attorney General Jefferson Garn for his work on this case.

Those suspecting they have been targeted by precious metals investment schemes may contact the Indiana Securities Division at securities@sos.in.gov or (317) 232-6681.

Anyone who suspects they have been the victim of any type of scam may file a complaint at indianaconsumer.com or call Attorney General Rokita's office at 1-800-382-5516.

You Have My Back

I'm a lucky guy. I have three great physical therapists. They treat me well from my top to my bottom. Literally. And I have a fine orthopedic surgeon. They are all busy with me lately.

Three of the PT's, Anna, Bri and Don, are assigned to my neck, shoulders and arm, and the other PT, Eva, helps me to effectively perform a certain exercise that I wrote about in a column a few years ago. Now I'm back for a second round of treatment. I'm glad it is literally not a round. It's embarrassing enough already, but can you imagine how I would feel if every time Eva finished with our session, someone rang a bell? DING DING DING! More on this later...

Previously, I saw my orthopedist who ordered an X-ray and then an MRI on my shoulder, for injuries I received from a pretty bad fall when I was out jogging a few months ago. Here's what I saw the next day on MyChart, my Community Hospital portal to all my medical information. These were just a few of the notes from the radiologist who read my results.

"The coracoid process is intact. The coracoclavicular ligaments are intact. The deltoid muscle is intact. The humeral head and bony glenoid are intact. The infraspinatus and teres minor are intact. The cardio-ligaments are intact. Visualized portions of the chest wall appear grossly intact."

I have never been considered person with any tact, so this all came as good news.

Now here's the bad news I read: Patient has Edematous capsular thickening at the IGHL and rotator interval most consistent with adhesive capsulitis. Supraspinatus tendinosis with a partial intrasubstance tear at the far anterior.

"Could you translate that into English?" I asked my bone doc during my appointment in his office.

"Well, Dick, you are 75 years old. That pretty much explains all that. Everyone has most of those issues at your age—if they reach your age."

Now back to Eva. She is in charge of getting



DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

my pelvic floor back in shape, since those muscles were weakened due to a surgery several years ago. At this point, the term Kegel may require some googling by men. And I don't mean peeking in the window at the rehab facility. Men in particular would be wise to question Siri or Alexa about Kegeling. Every woman knows what it is.

Eva's a tiny little thing, but by just working on me an hour a week for about a month, my pelvic floor is getting back to its original condition. By comparison, last winter it took three big men with a giant electric sander to get our dining room floor back in shape.

I also have exercises to do at home for my arm and shoulder, as well as doing my Kegel maneuvers. I really don't have enough time during the day to do all of these routines, so last night I tried to do everything simultaneously while watching TV. I was stretching my upper body, twisting my neck from side to side, and pulling up on an elastic band held under my foot. And all those repetitions while doing Kegels. I must have looked odd, because Mary Ellen thought I was showing signs of a terrible neuromuscular disorder.

Last week, Eva wasn't around so I asked Anna a quick question about the Kegels. Ana did not train for that specialty and she told me, "Sorry, Dick, that's a little over my head."

"Then you are doing it all wrong," I told her.

Dick Wolfsie spent his career sharing his humor, stories and video essays on television, radio and in newspapers. His columns appear weekly in The Paper of Montgomery County. E-mail Dick at wolfsie@aol.com.



PAWS OF WAR™
HELP A VET
SAVE A PET

Paws Of War Partners With Corporate Sponsors To Help Make Veterans' Lives Better

Many military members who come home from deployment are in need of support. Whether it's needing a service pet, obtaining food for themselves or their pets, or needing help putting up a fence on their property, many need support from the community. Companies that want to give back can do so by partnering with Paws of War, which helps veterans meet a variety of their needs. The challenges of the last two years both home and abroad have hit deployed troops, veterans and first responders particularly hard. Troops returning home are facing significant challenges finding housing, buying cars and adjusting to mask mandates and lockdowns. The frontline first responders have faced a never ending onslaught of patients and crises. Paws of War continues to make a significant impact on our hero's lives by providing them with the support they so desperately need by offering a wide range of services aimed to help make their lives better!

"We work with numerous corporate partners as they help give back to those who have given so much," explains Robert Misseri, co-founder of Paws of War. "We are grateful for every corporate sponsor we have because they help to make our programs possible."

Increasingly, consumers are looking beyond just logos to decide who to do business with. According to the Harvard Business School, corporate social responsibility has become a more important issue. They report that 70% of Americans believe it's important for companies to make the world a better place, and 77% of people are motivated to buy from a company that does help make the world a better place.

Corporations can take pride in knowing that they are helping to keep the country stronger and that they are caring for those who have served. The partnership helps cover the cost of such programs as rescuing soldiers' dogs from overseas, providing mobile veterinary care for veterans' pets, providing free trained service dogs, and providing dog obedience and care support for veterans' pets.

While charities gain financial assistance from corporate sponsors, it's really a

win-win relationship. Here are some of the things that companies gain in return:

The satisfaction of knowing they are helping an organization with its mission. Those who partner with Paws of War feel a sense of pride in helping the country's veterans.

Their image is strengthened by showing people they care about the issues they are putting their partnership behind.

Increased visibility for their company, because the partnership is shared through the organizations marketing and public relations efforts.

They can widen their audience and potentially reach new customers. Sponsorships give the company a way to introduce themselves to people, doing so through an organization they already trust.

A place where the company's employees can get involved, giving back to the community.

Paws of War has successful partnerships with numerous companies, including Express Scripts, Subaru, D'Arrigo New York, Mac Abstract, and the Westhampton Beach Performing Arts Center. It has also partnered with sports teams, such as the Buffalo Bills, New York Yankees, New York Giants, and New York Red Bulls.

Corporate sponsors can take pride in helping to give back to veterans, but they will also get cross-promotional marketing opportunities. They can provide sponsorship of the organization, one program within it, a specific event, etc. They can also opt for employee engagement.

Paws of War has helped veterans with numerous issues, including suicide, service and support dogs, companion cats and dogs, food insecurity, veterinary care, and animal rescue for deployed military. As the demand for Paws of War's services was growing, traditional fundraisers like galas and golf outings were sidelined, putting a crimp in the needed funding to keep these services going. Paws of War has a large loyal following of supporters, and looks forward to working with new corporate sponsors to keep these life saving programs running, and to get our family to show its support to our corporate donors.



Making A Play In The Nick Of Time To Deliver A Victory

Purdue sophomore guard Jaden Ivey earned Big Ten Player of the Week honors in dramatic fashion this past Sunday.

His 3-pointer just beat the buzzer, dealing No. 16 Ohio State an 81-78 loss in Mackey Arena.

It's the second time Ivey has stunned the Buckeyes in the final seconds but unlike last season's game-winner in Columbus, Ivey wasn't supposed to take this shot. The play call from coach Matt Painter was supposed to get the ball to 7-4 center Zach Edey.

"With seconds left, I just went to the ball and got my hands on the ball," Ivey said. "It was supposed to be for Zach, but I just got confused, honestly. Sometimes you've just got to make a play."

Over the past 50-plus years, there have been a handful of Boilermakers who made a play in the nick of time to deliver a victory. Here's a look back at some of those moments.

March 15, 1969
To quote Journal & Courier sports editor George Bolinger, "the Boilermakers were stone cold dead with 60 seconds to go in regular time" against Marquette in the 1969 NCAA basketball tournament regional at Milwaukee.

Like Lazarus, Purdue rose from the dead to force overtime. With two seconds remaining in overtime, perhaps the most confident player in Boilermaker history had the ball in his hands for a wide open shot.

Rick Mount made that jump shot to send Purdue to its first Final Four with a 75-73 victory.

"When I saw 'The Rocket' going up for that last shot, I knew he wouldn't miss," Purdue assistant Joe Sexson said afterward. "I felt it before the ball ever left his hand."

"That's the biggest shot I ever took," Mount said in the emotional aftermath. The greatest shooter in Purdue history had 26 points but was only 11 of 32 from the field.

Mount was one of three options for the final shot in the play drawn up by head coach George King.



KENNY THOMPSON
Columnist

"We used a double post off which either Jerry Johnson or George Faerber could make a pick," King said. "Anyone, Herm Gilliam, Larry Weatherford or Rick Mount, could have taken the last shot. Whoever had the ball with eight seconds to play was to go for the shot."

January 13, 1979
Purdue coach Lee Rose called it "the worst play ever devised in the history of basketball."

Rose called two timeouts with 10 seconds remaining and the Boilermakers tied with No. 1 Michigan State, 50-50 in Mackey Arena. Rose wanted the ball in the hands of either center Joe Barry Carroll or guard Jerry Sichting for the final shot.

Michigan State coach Jud Heathcote expected that strategy and had his Spartans, led by Magic Johnson, deny the duo.

Purdue forward Arnette Hallman, whose best shot was a dunk, saw the clock winding down and fired up an off-balance, 25-foot jumper.

Swish.
"I remember turning and seeing five seconds on the clock," Hallman said. "And then I heard Brian (Walker) saying 'shoot, shoot,' so I did."

"The shot felt good when it left my hand but 25 feet is a long way."

Following a wild on-court celebration, Rose thought his players deserved an encore. After a brief meeting, Rose led the Boilermakers back to the court for a victory lap to a standing ovation.
Jan. 19, 1983



Photo courtesy of Purdue Athletics

Jaden Ivey is hugged by teammate Mason Gillis after hitting the game-winning 3-pointer against Ohio State.

said. "But, we wanted the defense to dictate that last shot. Dan Palombizio was open and he hit it."

Feb. 5, 1983
Steve Reid had a flair for the dramatic during his three-year career at Purdue.

That was never more evident than the 25-foot 3-pointer he sank with one second remaining to give the Boilermakers a 60-57 victory against Iowa at Mackey Arena.

Reid tied the game at 57 with 1:46 to play and then stole the ball from Iowa's Bob Hansen 30 seconds later. Purdue held the ball for the final shot.

Feb. 23, 1983
Jim Rowinski banked in an 18-footer at the buzzer, completing one of the most amazing comebacks in Purdue basketball history and defeating Illinois 56-54 at Assembly Hall.

"It wasn't designed to go to me," Rowinski said. "I don't think they thought I would shoot it."

The Boilermakers trailed 47-29 with 12:41 to play and Keady pulled four of his five starters, leaving Russell Cross on the court with Rowinski, backup center Ted Benson, Herb Robinson and Mack Gadis.

"At that point I figured what did we have to lose," Keady said.

Illinois led 54-38 with 9:38 remaining but the Boilermakers would close with an 18-0 run.
March 4, 1990
Jimmy Oliver had never made a game-winning shot

points. "If somebody else would have been open, I'm sorry but I felt this was my time."

The shot put the Boilermakers in first place by a half-game over the Wolverines. Purdue wrapped up the Big Ten title one week later by defeating Illinois in Mackey Arena.

Feb. 25, 1996
Chad Austin moved Purdue one victory away from clinching its third consecutive Big Ten championship, sinking a 3-pointer from the right corner with 13.7 seconds left to defeat Indiana 74-72 in Bloomington.

Austin shot the ball over an unusual 2-3 zone defense by the Hoosiers. "I wasn't going to hesitate," he said. "I was going to shoot it. If it went in, it went in. If I miss, I miss. I wasn't nervous at all."

It was the Boilermakers' first victory in Assembly Hall since 1990.

Feb. 18, 1997
Journal & Courier sports writer Jeff Washburn said it best about Chad Austin's second game-winner in a row at Indiana: "same shot, different corner."

A fallaway jumper from the left corner with six-tenths of a second remaining in overtime gave Purdue an 89-87 victory. Austin said afterward, "It felt great when I let it go but you never know."

"If you didn't care who won or lost, you couldn't have had a better game," said Keady, who earned his 400th victory.
March 12, 1999

Tarrance Crump to redeem himself.

His turnover with 31 seconds to go allowed No. 25 Virginia to tie this Big Ten/ACC Challenge game at 59. A word of encouragement from backcourt mate David Teague coming out of a timeout put Crump in the right frame of mind.

Crump rolled off a screen set by Carl Landry and sank the game-winning basket with 1.2 seconds to go for a 61-59 victory in Mackey Arena. The triumph was the first against a non-conference ranked foe in 21 years.

March 21, 2010
The Associated Press called it "a daring drive." Purdue fans, though, weren't surprised that Chris Kramer challenged 6-9 Texas A&M big man Bryan Davis with a NCAA Sweet Sixteen berth at stake.

Kramer flipped the game-winning layup over Davis with 4.2 seconds remaining in overtime to lift the fourth-seeded Boilermakers to a 63-61 victory at Spokane, Wash.

"I had the ball and went right and crossed over to the left, and it parted like the Red Sea," Kramer said of the A&M defense. "Then it came down to finishing, as Davis came over and tried to block my shot."

Jan. 19, 2011
Center JaJuan Johnson was probably the last Boilermaker Penn State expected to attempt an 18-foot game-winning shot.

But a screen from E'Twaun Moore, the most likely Purdue player to shoot the ball, freed the 6-10 Johnson to sink that shot with three seconds left to give No. 14 Purdue a 63-62 victory in Mackey Arena.

Nov. 26, 2014
A.J. Hammons hit a jump hook with 1.8 seconds remaining in overtime to give Purdue an 87-85 victory against BYU in the fifth place game of the Maui Invitational.

"The only thing in my mind was to get the shot up," Hammons said.
Feb. 19, 2019

Verbally abused by Indiana fans, Matt Haarms got the last word when his tip-in with three seconds remaining gave No. 15 Purdue a 48-46 victory.

The win propelled the Boilermakers to a Big Ten championship and the first Elite Eight appearance under coach Matt Painter.
Feb. 2, 2020

Sasha Stefanovic capped a game-ending 11-0 run, making a 3-pointer with 3.1 seconds left to give Purdue a 61-58 victory at Northwestern.

The Boilermakers trailed 58-50 with 2:49 to play. Purdue went 4 of 4 shooting from the field while holding the Wildcats to 0 of 3 shooting with two turnovers.

Jan. 19, 2021
One of the first signs that Jaden Ivey could be a special player was the final three and a half minutes of Purdue's 67-65 victory at No. 15 Ohio State.

His game-winning 3-pointer from the top of the key with five seconds remaining capped a run that saw him score eight of his 15 points in that pivotal stretch of time.

Ivey had no doubt that would happen as the clock wound down in a tie game. "I'm hitting this shot," Ivey told The Associated Press. "I knew it was going in."

Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the Lafayette Journal & Courier and an award-winning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many years.

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Spartz Introduces Freedom To Repair Act

Representatives Victoria Spartz (R-IN) and Mondaire Jones (D-NY) introduced the Freedom to Repair Act, legislation to protect the right to repair the things we own. Currently, some companies, ranging from Big Tech to Big Ag, are abusing copyright law to deny people the right to repair their own devices or take them to locally-owned repair shops, which can subject these small businesses to civil or criminal penalties. To guarantee the freedom to repair, this legislation would legalize repairing what you own or taking it to the repair shop of your choice.

“Some large corporations have been taking advantage of American consumers with unduly burdensome repair restrictions,” said Rep. Victoria Spartz. “It’s time to level the playing field for small businesses, mechanics, farmers, and consumers. We have to strike the right balance. When Americans purchase a product, it should never be assumed that they also agree to the manufacturer performing all the maintenance of the product, regardless of cost. I’m honored to work with Rep. Jones on this initiative on a bipartisan basis.”

“For far too long, federal copyright law has allowed the most powerful corporations in the world to control who repairs what we own,” said Congressman Mondaire Jones. “By entrenching the power of these major corporations, repair restrictions threaten our economy, including the economic well-being of American consumers and small businesses. It’s time for a change, which is why I’m proud to introduce this bipartisan legislation with Rep. Spartz to take back control and secure the right of all Americans to repair what is rightfully theirs.”

Commissioner Lubbers To Deliver Her Final State Of Higher Education Address

Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers will deliver her tenth-annual State of Higher Education Address at 4 p.m. ET on Tuesday, February 8 at the south atrium of the Indiana Statehouse.

Lubbers’ remarks will focus on the imperative to transform higher education to meet the diverse needs of learners and a changing economy. As Lubbers concludes her tenure as Indiana’s Higher Education Commissioner in March, her address will be a reflection of her 13 years of service while considering the challenges and opportunities facing higher education.

“In considering what I wanted to share in this year’s address, I was struck by the challenge of being both honest about the new demands facing higher education and hopeful about our resolve and ability to meet them,” said Lubbers. “Exciting changes are underway to serve learners in more affordable, accessible and relevant ways.”

The Commission’s State of Higher Education Address is part of an ongoing public engagement effort designed to promote college completion and increase the education level of all Hoosiers. This year’s address is open to the public and livestream-

ing will be available.

About the Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Created in 1971, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education plans, coordinates and defines Indiana’s postsecondary education system to align higher learning with the needs of students and the state. The Commission also administers Indiana’s financial aid programs, including the 21st Century Scholars early college promise scholarship, which celebrated 30 years in 2020. Learn more about the Commission’s Reaching Higher in a State of Change strategic plan at www.in.gov/che.

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BETSY From Page A1



Photos courtesy of Koteewi Seasonal Slopes

The Koteewi Run Seasonal Slopes is open daily through Feb. 22 for snow tubing at Hamilton County Parks' Strawtown Koteewi Park in Noblesville.

Sports Campus in Westfield.

12. Celebrate Valentine's Day Date Night at 6 p.m. Feb. 11 at Nickel Plate Arts in Noblesville, with tickets \$15 to \$50.

13. Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville annual Sunrises Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast to celebrate youth basketball season 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Feb. 12 at the BGCN Community Center in Noblesville.

14. Westfield, Zionsville and Tipton County Chambers of Commerce will present the Hoosier Chocolate Fest, a 21-and-older event from noon to 9:30 p.m. Feb. 12 at The Bridgewater Club in Westfield, with \$45 reservations.

15. The Nickel Plate Express will pay tribute to the history of trains featured in romantic movies from

the past during a Feb. 12-13 two-day special family and adult Valentine's Excursions, departing out of Forest Park near downtown Noblesville.

16. A Parents' Night Out and Slightly Over the Top celebration is being offered 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Feb. 12 at the Hamilton County Sports Complex in Noblesville for ages 4-13.

17. Grab your friends and head for the Galentine's Brunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 13 at Gal's Guide to the Galaxy at Nickel Plate Arts Campus in downtown Noblesville.

18. Audition for the cast of "Flaming Idiots" by Tom Rooney, directed by Brian Nichols, at 6 p.m. Feb. 13 at Basile Westfield Playhouse in downtown Westfield, with performance dates March

21-April 10.

19. Visit the seventh annual Winter Blast 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 19 at Clay Terrace in Carmel.

20. Dare to join the Westfield Haunted Underground Railroad Ghost Walk at 7 p.m. Feb. 19 in Westfield, with reservations required at unseenpress.com

21. The next free day at Conner Prairie in Fishers is President's Day Feb. 21, featuring Discovery Station with story times and special raccoon tea parties; make and take a terry cloth; and Presidential Games, Parlor Games and Party Pre with First Ladies.

22. Noblesville Parks & Recreation's Daddy-Daughter Princess Ball will be 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 24 at Mill Top Conference & Banquet

Center in Noblesville, with registration required.

23. Noblesville Miller Palooza Aloha-style fundraiser to benefit Noblesville Schools Education Foundation is March 4 at Embassy Suites in Noblesville, with tickets at \$125 each.

24. Carmel Community Players presents "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime," Feb. 25-March 6, at the CAT, with Larry Adams directing.

25. The Belfry Theatre presents "The Lilies of the Field," by F. Andrew Leslie from the novel by William E. Barrett, March 18-27, at Ivy Tech Hamilton County in Noblesville, with Linnea Leatherman directing.

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

AIC and Policy Analytics Release Business Personal Property Tax Study

The Association of Indiana Counties (AIC) remains concerned with any substantial changes to property tax system, including reducing the business personal property tax. Any changes to the property tax system creates shifts in liability and/or a potential reduction in local services. Because of this concern, the AIC commissioned a property tax study through Policy Analytics, LLC to review the current trends in assessed value and property taxes.

"Substantial changes to the property tax system, such as reducing the amount of business personal property taxes, creates shifts in liability to other types of property," said David Bortoff, AIC Executive Director. "Overall, Indiana's system is currently stable, predictable and reliable. Indiana's property tax system is already recognized as the best for businesses by the Tax Foundation and eliminating any assessed value from taxes results in

a higher property tax rate for everyone." Highlights from the study include:

- Residential property taxpayers are paying a larger portion of the total property tax collections due to increasing home values.
 - Reducing the amount of property taxes paid by businesses will intensify the burden shift to residential and other classes of property.
 - There will be greater revenue loss where personal business personal property (BPP) is a larger share of assessed value and many taxpayers in those counties are at their circuit breaker caps.
 - Elimination of the 30% floor on new investment should have the similar pattern of effects as total elimination.
- The study was conducted by Policy Analytics, LLC, an Indianapolis based firm specializing in economic research, strategic planning, and fiscal and economic policy analysis.

WINTER From Page A1

made clear that the weather has yet to have a major impact on power lines or electricity. He commented that, "Things are kind of quiet right now, there is one single isolated outage with one customer but that's it." Duke Energy has been working with Hamilton County to ensure customers have access to speedy and reliable service

in the event of more extensive outages, with LaBarr saying, "We're bringing in 60 contractors, so I was working with Commissioner Heirbrandt and the county was nice enough to let us use the fairgrounds as a staging area. He went on to say that Duke Energy was, "very grateful for our relationship with the County."

HUSKIES From Page A1

decisions to have a 2-hour delay or close too quickly, this can have a rough impact on families, especially those who may not have childcare. We understand this and carefully review all the information we have prior to making any adjustments to our school day with safety as the top priority.

School will be closed tomorrow, and it will be an E-Learning Day. I'm holding off on making any decision on what school will look like on Friday until we see what tomorrow brings. Meanwhile, you can read

more about our Inclement Weather Delay or Closing Process at Hamilton Heights School Corporation here.

While this snowy and icy blast from Mother Nature isn't necessarily giving us much to cheer about, we do have a lot to celebrate including our Hamilton Heights Wrestling team, who under the leadership of Head Coach Gary 'Iron Bear' Myers, brought home their first sectional championship since 2009. Congratulations!

In other exciting accomplishments, our middle and high school

robotics teams have performed very well this season. Five HHMS Robotics Teams have qualified to compete at the state level. Their 214C team's first place win at a recent competition was the first signature event win in the history of HHMS Robotics. The HHMS 214C and 214D teams have officially qualified for the VEX World Competition. Last weekend, HHMS Robotics Teams took 1st and 2nd place at the Purdue Vex High School Competition. Team B won a seat at the State Championships and Team A brought home the

Design Award. Hamilton Heights will be among the best of the best at the 2022 Vex State Competition at Lucas Oil Stadium next month.

I also want to give a shout out to Eric Fisher, HS PLTW Teacher, and some 60 CTE students who put their energy, enthusiasm, and skills to good use by building 10 outdoor food pantries. This hands-on, real-time project helps the Feeding Team Hamilton County volunteers deliver 2,500 meals a month to hungry neighbors. This community project was a collaborative effort between

Heights, FeedingTeam.org, and TalentLogistix.

Mark your calendars to step into a world of pure imagination as Hamilton Heights Drama Department presents Roald Dahl's children's classic, 'Charlie & the Chocolate Factory' on February 25, 26 and 27. This play, directed by HS English Teacher and Drama Sponsor Brooks Myers, is filled with color, magical fun, and some of our most talented student performers. Tickets can be purchased online starting February 21.

On another note of community interest, our

Food Pantry will be open on Monday, February 14 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the high school. Enter through Door A.

As we celebrate all things love and appreciation this month, let's make a conscious effort to choose kindness, respect, compassion, empathy, generosity, and patience. Think of the impact this can have in making our part of the world a better place. #WeAreHuskies

Dr. Derek Arrowood is the Superintendent of the Hamilton Heights School Corporation.

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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FRIDAY Business Notes and NEWS DAY

Friday, Feb. 04, 2022

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A new sales tax on services would further burden small business owners

Natalie Robinson, Indiana State Director for the National Federation of Independent Business, testified in front of the House Ways and Means Committee regarding HB 1083, the egregious expansion of sales tax to services. Robinson explained how the bill would negatively affect NFIB's hard working and job creating entrepreneurs. NFIB represents more than 10,000 small business owners across Indiana.

"While we applaud lawmakers for passing a measure out of the House to cut business personal property taxes, we are extremely concerned with the proposal that would lower the sales tax rate one point by expanding Indiana's sales tax to services. It's imperative that lawmakers understand that this new tax will disproportionately impact smaller businesses. This expansion would create not only an administrative burden, but an added increase in expenses for Hoosiers across the

state. Small business owners are also concerned with the potential added increase to their bottom line in the form of services for accounting, legal, financial, insurance and payroll," said Natalie Robinson, NFIB State Director in Indiana.

Robinson told lawmakers that the bill would create a burden on Indiana small business owners who are trying to survive the pandemic and grow and compete with big business. A service tax on small business owners right now would discourage Indiana's economic growth and punish the people who have seen the most closures this year – mom and pop Main Street businesses.

A recent NFIB survey shows that inflation continues to be the biggest problem for our small business owners. That means every time a small business owner is forced to pay more for something – they have to increase costs somewhere else. If Indiana extends its sales tax on

services, it will result in higher costs for Indiana consumers.

Let's be clear: small business owners don't want to make it harder for their customers. They don't want to raise prices by passing those unnecessary costs onto their consumers. That's where Indiana lawmakers can help: by rejecting added taxes for small business owners.

"As small businesses try to recover after almost two years of significant financial distress and business disruptions, the last thing they need is an expansion on sales tax to service. Their reward for surviving these difficult times should be the opportunity to grow what they've fought so hard to maintain and preserve, not cause more business challenges. Now is not the time to expand sales tax on services which would result in increased costs for both small businesses and consumers," Robinson told lawmakers.

Ag-Celerator fund invests \$200k in two agriculture startup companies

Insignum AgTech and Verility Inc., two companies founded by Purdue University alumni, have received \$100,000 each from the Purdue Ag-Celerator, an agriculture innovation fund.

Insignum AgTech creates plants that warn growers of an early-stage infection so that crops can be protected. Founder and CEO Kyle Mohler said the plants turn purple before a pathogen can be identified, providing growers with information to fight disease.

"Investment from Ag-Celerator is a wonderful validation of our progress over the past few years and trust in our trajectory," Mohler said. "We at Insignum are excited that Purdue Foundry is joining our seed round, which will propel our product development in corn and allow us to begin developing technology for additional crops."

Verility Inc. is a global animal health platform providing fertility analysis products. Co-founder and CEO Liane Hart said the products enable livestock producers and breeders to accelerate reproductive performance through accurate, simple, cost-effective analysis by predicting ovulation phase and assessing sperm quality at the point of care.

"The \$100,000 from Ag-Celerator will allow us to finalize our proof-of-concept ovulation studies scheduled throughout the first half of 2022," Hart said. "It is an honor to be selected for this award not only as the CEO of Verility, but also as a Purdue alumna. We appreciate the esteemed panel of judges' recognition of the significant and successful results that we have accomplished throughout our startup journey. This opportunity definitely allows us to push

forward farther faster, creating more value for our company."

Ag-Celerator, created in 2015, is a \$2 million innovation fund designed to provide critical startup support for Purdue innovators who bring Purdue patented intellectual property or Purdue "know-how" technologies to market.

The fund is operated by the Purdue Foundry, with assistance from the Purdue College of Agriculture, the Purdue Research Foundation Office of Technology and Commercialization and the agricultural industry.

"The College of Agriculture is dedicated to building a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship among students, faculty, staff and alumni," said Bernie Engel, senior associate dean of research and graduate education. "Pitching to Ag-Celerator provides a tremendous opportunity as well as inspiration for these groups, and being awarded these generous grants takes the awardees that much closer to achieving their envisioned impact."

Riley Gibb, director of business development for Purdue Foundry, said, "There are many high-quality entrepreneurs bringing Purdue-related startups to market. These companies, including the recipients of Ag-Celerator investments, are already making an impact in plant sciences and animals sciences."

In August, Ag-Celerator eligibility was opened to startups in all agricultural fields. Previous recipients of Ag-Celerator investments are AkanoCure Pharmaceuticals Inc., Heliponix, JUA Technologies International LLC, Karyosoft LLC, Krishi LLC, LeafSpec AgTech, Onge-nia LLC, Phicrobe LLC, Prog-eny Drone Inc., Rogo Ag LLC, VinSense LLC and ZeaVaxx.

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Before it's time to enroll, it's important to understand your needs and the different types of coverage available to meet them, especially employee-paid coverage that supplements what your employer may already provide. Supplemental benefits are additional coverage beyond your health insurance you can choose and usually pay for through payroll deduction.

Supplemental benefits allow you to customize your benefits package with the types of coverage most important to you and your family. Because you sign up for them at work, it's usually more affordable than coverage you could buy on your own. It's also easier to qualify for coverage as part of a workplace group, often without answering any health questions.

Consider these major types of supplemental benefits offered by providers like Unum and

Colonial Life:

* Life insurance is financial protection for your family should anything happen to you. It can help your loved ones pay living expenses, debts, medical bills and funeral costs, in addition to future needs such as college tuition or retirement. Employer-provided life insurance may not be enough for your family's long-term needs.

* Disability insurance is designed to pay a portion of your income if you're sick or injured and unable to work.

* Dental insurance helps reduce out-of-pocket costs for most common dental procedures, like cleanings, fillings, crowns, dentures, oral surgery, orthodontia and other treatments.

* Vision insurance helps cover the costs of exams, glasses and contact lenses, and may include access to discounted materials and services through a network of vision service providers.

* Accident insurance offers a lump sum financial benefit that helps pay out-of-pocket expenses such as doctor bills, co-pays or emergency room fees if you have an accident or injury.

* Hospital insurance helps pay the costs of hospital stays and, on some plans, outpatient surgery and diagnostic procedures.

* Critical illness insurance

provides a lump sum financial benefit when you're diagnosed with a wide range of serious conditions, such as heart attack, stroke, cancer, organ failure, Alzheimer's disease, ALS and more.

* Cancer insurance provides more specific coverage for the often-overwhelming costs of treating cancer, from initial diagnosis through recovery. It can also help pay for a variety of treatments and services, such as ambulance transportation, hospital confinement, radiation and chemotherapy, medications and surgery.

Supplemental benefits can help bridge the financial gap between workplace medical insurance and your out-of-pocket costs. You can use your benefits for uncovered medical costs such as deductibles and copayments, or nonmedical expenses such as travel for treatment or child care during recovery. These benefits provide valuable coverage for many of life's common but unexpected health events, such as accidents and illnesses.

Plus, you don't have to be sick or injured to take advantage of supplemental coverage. Many plans include a wellness benefit that pays a set amount when you have a preventive screening or diagnostic test.

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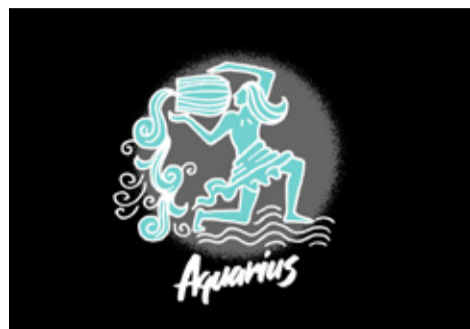
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Sillyscopes and More

Friday, Feb. 04, 2022

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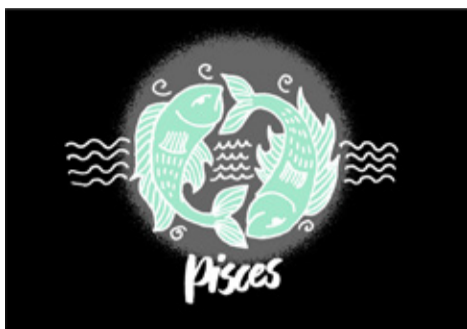
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PISCES

Feb. 20 – March 20

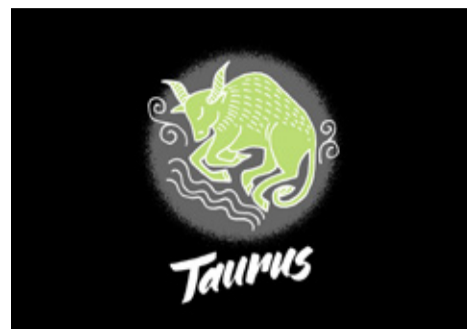
The Super Duper Full Eclipse Black and Blue Bloody Moon – or whatever it was called – is said to be a good omen for Pisces. Then again the last time anyone saw it Andrew Johnson was in the White House . . . so who the heck knows?



ARIES

March 21 – April 20

Did you forget anything lately, Aries? We're not sure what the issue may or may not be, but it's a good time to retrace your steps and make sure you cross all the i's and dot the t's . . . or something like that.



TAURUS

April 21 – May 21

May the bird of paradise come home and roost on your window sill, Taurus. Being a realist though, you will look at it as both a blessing and a whole lot of bird crap to clean up.



GEMINI

May 22 – June 22

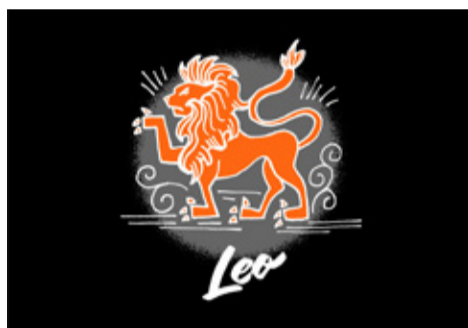
You've been preoccupied with your love life lately Gemini. Well, you can admire hunky Frank Thomas all you want, but no pill has been invented yet that allows anyone to make sense of the opposite sex.



CANCER

June 23 – July 23

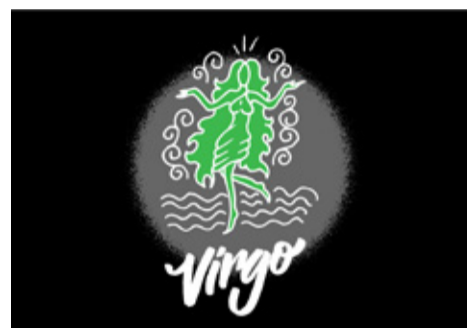
For goodness sake, Cancer, stop being so sensitive! Maybe the Cleveland Indians changed their red-faced logo, but trust us, there are no leprechauns angry with the University of Notre Dame.



LEO

July 24 – Aug. 23

Well Leo, this is a good week for some introspective analysis. Then again, when it comes to looks, charms, smarts and humility, you've got it all. (OK, scratch the part about humility.)



VIRGO

Aug. 24 – Sept. 23

The cup of generosity you have runneth over, Virgo. And over. And over. Thing is, you think about it as being generous. Friends and family, however, are absolutely OK with you not sharing chores.



LIBRA

Sept. 24 – Oct. 23

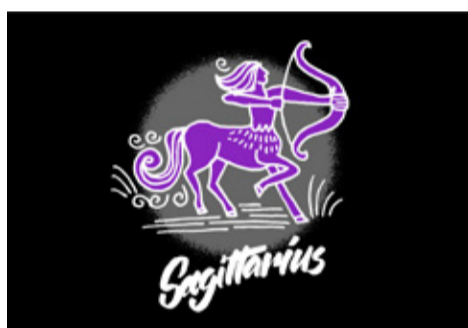
Get along. Just get along. That should be your mantra this week. For perfect harmony, avoid anything related to Donald Trump, Nancy Pelosi or network news.



SCORPIO

Oct. 24 – Nov. 22

One of the traits that fits you to a T Scorpio is being cautious. Well, with all the freezing, thawing and freezing we've had lately, roads are aplenty with potholes. So caution? Yeah it's a good thing.



SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 23 – Dec. 22

To be blunt or not to be blunt. That's the question. Of course with bluntness comes other questions: To have friends or not have friends. To have a job or not to have a job.



CAPRICORN

Dec. 23 – Jan. 19

You and Scorpio are closely connected this week, Capricorn. No, nothing romantic. But while they are being cautious, you should exercise your tendency to be responsible. Drive slowly. Avoid potholes

CROSSWORD

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55						56			57			58
59						60			61			
62						63			64			

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
THEME: SUPER BOWL

- ACROSS**
- Shout from a ship?
 - Shout from the bleachers
 - ___ and don'ts
 - Infamous Henry's number
 - One with COVID, e.g.
 - Fighter jet button
 - Resting stops
 - Not guilty, e.g.
 - One of Singapore's official languages
 - *Home of last year's Super Bowl winners
 - Armor chest plate
 - *Given name of 2011 Super Bowl MVP
 - African grazer
 - One of Singaporia deities
 - Ramones' hit "I Wanna Be ___"
 - Big fuss
 - Like certain Chili Peppers (2 words)
 - Cattle call goal
 - Scatterbrained
 - Bonehead
 - In a different direction
 - Jeté in ballet
 - More so than eggy
 - Conducted
 - Christmas firewood (2 words)
 - Annotator and commen-
- DOWN**
- *Roman number of this year's Super Bowl
 - "___ Misbehavin'"
 - Santa Maria's traveling partner
 - Despair in the face of obstacles
 - "The Hobbit" hobbit
 - "Caribbean Queen" singer
 - Colloquial approval
 - Cold cuts counter
 - South American tubers
 - Pig's digs
 - Not dense
 - Make corrections
 - *Florida team with no Super Bowl appearances
 - Return punch
 - Come and ___ it
 - Lamentably
 - Bye, to Edith Piaf
 - Bottom line
 - *2022 Super Bowl stadium
 - Upholstery choice
 - *Archie to Super Bowl MVPs Peyton and Eli
 - Exploits
 - *Super Bowl Halftime show Snoops' "last name"
 - Hardly a beauty
 - *Like some teams
 - Oenophile's concern
 - Many, many moons
 - Empower
 - Big Dipper's visible shape
 - Oppressive ruler
 - On the wagon
 - Nail salon board
 - Feminine of raja
 - Mt. Everest to Earth
 - Aladdin's light
 - Christian of fashion
 - Result of a brainstorm
 - Rudolf Nureyev's step
 - Stallone's nickname

A	V	R	L	T		A	R	P		X	I	S					
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FRIDAY

Voice of our PEOPLE

I am activated: Bank on it

Each January the small bank in my hometown — The Loanly Bank and Mistrust — attracts new customers to their banking services by offering premium gifts to anyone signing for a loan or opening a new account.

To anyone opening a savings account, the bank will bestow a \$25 gift card to Sleepy Joe's coffee shop down the street. Overlooking the fact that \$25 covers the cost of only one cup of Sweet Vanilla Mocha Creme coffee at Joe's, it's not a bad prize.

Sign for a new car loan, and you receive one year of free car washes. Restrictions apply, like: You have to be there on Monday nights when the local Fire Department flushes the hydrants.

Opening a new checking account with a \$500 initial deposit



JOHN MARLOWE
With the Grain

qualifies you for a new 2022 calendar

Now, I'm a sucker for a new calendar every year. However, this year's calendar was even more enticing. It features on each page a blonde model standing in a field of sunflowers. Wait until you see Miss August!

I'm rather partial to sunflowers and blondes, not necessarily in that order. I like the idea of maybe standing right there with them some day, enjoying our time together in a sea of yellow.

I opened a new account. It certainly wasn't that I had an extra five hundred dollars laying around. I transferred the money from my bank in another town. They were only offering calendars with vintage tractors on them.

Honestly, I wouldn't mind staring at a bright orange Al-

lis-Chalmers WD45 for thirty straight days, but I have to put my money where my mouth drools. Did I mention blondes standing in fields of sunflowers?

The transaction went smoothly, and aside from hitting my thumb with the hammer, while installing my new calendar above my desk, there was only one other problem. My new checking account comes with a free debit card, too, and before using it, it has to be "activated."

I called the number, and was greeted on the other end of the line by a charming female voice. By virtue of her unemotional Brooklyn accent, I'm certain it was Rosey, the maid on the Jetson's. I always wondered what happened to Rosey.

"If you'd like to continue the call using speech recognition, please press two," instructed Rosey. I punched No. 2, and Rosey continued.

"What may I help you with, today?"

"Yes, I was wondering. What happened to No. 1?" I inquired.

"I'm sorry. I did not understand that question," Rosey admitted. "Please punch No. 2 to continue in English, or No. 3 to continue in Spanish."

"I thought we were talking in English," I said, "and the only Spanish I know is arroz con pollo. Is there another option?"

"If you would like to speak with an operator, please hit zero. If not, please hit No. 1 to continue."

"Finally! We found No. 1! Good job, Rosey!"

She continued ...

"Please enter the 16 digit Debit Card number, followed by the 'pound key'." Luckily, I've been tripped up on this one before. Just hit the Tic-Tac-Toe key. It works the same.

Tap-tap-tap-tap. [Pause]; Tap-tap-tap-tap. [Pause]; Tap-tap-tap-tap. [Pause]; Tap-tap-tap-tap. [Pause].

"Enter the card expiration date."

Tap-tap [backslash] tap-tap. "Enter the card security code on the back."

"Enter the phone number associated with this account."

"Enter the zip code associated with this account."

"Enter your current PIN number."

"Enter your new PIN number."

"Enter your new PIN number to verify your new PIN number."

"Congratulations, this card is activated!"

Congratulations? Sounds like I won a contest. Makes me wonder what the runner-up gets. I'm quite certain I typed more digits than will ever appear in my account balance.

"Do you have any other questions?" Rosey asked. "Yes," I said. "How do you feel about sunflowers?"

John O. Marlowe is an award-winning columnist for Sagamore News Media.

Ask Rusty – Will I have any Social Security benefits?

Dear Rusty: I'm 60 years of age and wonder if I will have any Social Security retirement benefits. After all, I did purchase them.

Signed: Uncertain

Dear Uncertain: Your eligibility for Social Security benefits depends upon your lifetime earnings history from work, from which Social Security FICA taxes were withheld. If you have worked, contributed to SS while working, and have earned at least 40 "quarters" of credit, you will be entitled to Social Security benefits. You can earn up to four credits each year by earning a specific amount of money, which means you must have worked for about 10 years contributing to Social Security in order to be eligible for Social Security benefits. For 2022, you will get 4 credits if you earn at least \$6040 (the amount needed per credit varies by year). The amount of benefit you will get depends upon your average monthly earnings (adjusted for inflation) over the highest-earning 35 years of your lifetime.



ASK Rusty
Social Security Advisor

The higher your annual earnings (from which FICA tax was withheld), the more your SS benefit will be. But you must have worked, earned and contributed to SS for at least 35 years to get your maximum benefit. SS always uses 35 years of earnings to compute your benefit and if you have fewer, they will put \$0 earnings in some years to make it 35. They will use the monthly average of those 35 years to determine your primary benefit (known as your "Primary Insurance Amount" or "PIA" which is what you get at your full retirement age (FRA)).

You cannot collect your personal SS retire-

Social Security Matters by AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor Russell Gloor

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ment benefit until you are at least 62 years old, but if you claim at that age your benefit will be permanently reduced by 30%. You can only get your full SS benefit by waiting until your full retirement age (age 67 for you) to claim your Social Security. Claiming any earlier means a smaller benefit, but you can also delay longer and earn Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) up to age 70, when your maximum benefit would be 24% more than it would be at your FRA. You have an 8 year window to claim your Social Security, and when you claim within that window determines how much of your primary SS

benefit you will get.

If you claim before your FRA and you continue to work, Social Security places a limit on how much you can earn before they take away some of your benefits. For example, someone who claims at age 63 in 2022 would have an annual earnings limit of \$19,560, and if that were exceeded SS would take away benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 over the limit (a monthly limit may be imposed if you claim mid-year). The earnings limit applies until FRA is reached, after which there is no longer a limit to how much can be earned.

The easiest way to determine your eligibility for

Social Security benefits and how much that benefit would be at different ages is to obtain a Statement of Estimated Benefits from the Social Security Administration. You can request that by calling SS at 1.800.772.1213, but you can also get it yourself by creating your personal "my Social Security" online account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Once you have created your personal online account you can see your lifetime record of earnings and download your Statement of Estimated Benefits to understand whether you are entitled to Social Security benefits and, if so, how much your benefit will be if claimed at various ages.

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Degree in marketing

I'm in a lot of trouble. I tried to sneak in the back door without my wife seeing me, but I got caught with you-know-what on my breath: salami.

Yes, I had been out carousing. At Kroger. Ever since Covid started, my wife prefers that we not go into stores, but instead pick up food curbside. I'm sorry, but you can't indulge yourself in guilty delights on a computer screen, so...I put on my N95 and silently slipped out the door. Sounds mysterious, doesn't it?

The other day I returned home with a bagful of goodies. I usually shop while Mary Ellen is walking in the woods behind our



DICK WOLFSIE
Life in a Nutshell

house so when I get home I can take my stash and stuff it away without her seeing what I bought. I've devised many clever places to hide questionable food choices. I once got caught hiding a Johnsonville sausage link in an empty lamp socket. "What is that?" she asked.

"It's a 40 brat bulb," I told her.

Back to my attempted covert entry into the house. Mary Ellen carefully eyed each item as I unloaded my bag onto the counter...

MUFFINS: "Are they gluten free? How much added sugar?"

EGGS: "Did you check the expiration date? Did you check to see if any of them were cracked? These are not from cage-free farms. And they're cheaper at Costco. Are they organic? Brown eggs don't go with the new fridge."

FRENCH BREAD: "It's just going to go bad. You never finish it. It gets hard as a rock overnight because

you don't seal the package. After three days, the birds won't even eat it."

PISTACHIO NUTS: "Why did you buy those? You know we're just going to eat them. Almonds are better for us."

MILK: "A quart? It's so much cheaper by the gallon. And how many grown men still drink chocolate milk?"

CHEESE DIP: "That reminds me, did you remember to pick up your Lipitor?"

My wife doesn't have food cravings like I do. If Mary Ellen turned to me one night and said, "I have this hankering for a pastrami sandwich and a half sour pickle," well, I can tell you

right now, I'd want to check her photo ID before we spent the rest of the night together.

Last week I was yearning for a jumbo shrimp cocktail. By the time I got to the store, I had lost that desire, and opted instead for a bag of Spicy Nacho Doritos. That poor nutritional choice required finding the perfect hiding place at home to avoid my wife's disapproving eye. I can never use the space under the back porch. The raccoons know exactly what I'm up to.

Another drawback to this trickery is that I forget where I've hidden things. I've found a half-eaten burrito in the laundry cabinet, a

Twinkie in an old eyeglasses case and Peppermint Patties in a tennis ball can.

Truth is, I get a kick out of the game of Hide and Eat. I recently stashed a chocolate chip cookie under my pillow. That night just after we turned off our bedroom TV, Mary Ellen made me promise to think about laying off bad food. I told her I'd sleep on it.

Dick Wolfsie spent his career sharing his humor, stories and video essays on television, radio and in newspapers. His columns appear weekly in The Paper of Montgomery County. E-mail Dick at Wolfsie@aol.com.

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FRIDAY

Voice of our PEOPLE

Catalytic Converter Theft is a Problem; This is Why I Support Baird's Solution

By Sheriff Richard Myers

Over the past several years, law enforcement officers across the country have been fighting a rise in catalytic converter thefts.

Catalytic converters are a vital component of many cars on the road today that reduce emissions. These parts contain precious metals like platinum, palladium, and rhodium and, depending on metal prices, can be sold to scrap yards for hundreds of dollars. Troublingly, these parts can be removed in a matter of seconds, making them a prime target for criminals.

For drivers, these thefts can be devastating – resulting in thousands of dollars of damages, or even totaling the vehicle. For those who can receive repairs, installing a replacement takes weeks, limiting drivers' mobility as they await repairs.

I know all too well the reality of catalytic converter thefts. We have experienced a significant rise in catalytic converter thefts in our county and state. Unfortunately, these types of thefts are difficult to detect in progress and even more challenging to

prosecute due to lack of traceable information on the catalytic converter that ties it to the automobile it was stolen from. Our area is not alone - police departments throughout the country are experiencing similar issues.

According to data from the National Insurance Crime Bureau, the number of reported catalytic converter thefts rose over 325% from 2019 to 2020. As crimes continued to rise throughout the past several years, police departments took steps to prevent further thefts.

Officers encouraged the public to take preventative measures like parking in a well-lit area or installing brackets and braces around catalytic converter. Still, catalytic converter thefts persisted, and it became clear that further action was needed.

Throughout the past year, I have worked with sheriffs from several surrounding counties on a task force to stop catalytic converter thefts. There was clear consensus that current laws limit officers' ability to prevent these crimes. A lack of

criminal code regarding the trafficking of these stolen parts means that law enforcement must catch a criminal removing the part to prosecute them, and for a crime that can be committed in under a minute, this creates a challenging situation for police.

In recent years, several state legislatures have passed legislation to help officers stop catalytic converter thefts with encouraging results. Still, many leaders in law enforcement agreed that a nationwide solution would be the most effective solution to this

concerning crime.

The Preventing Auto Recycling Thefts Act, introduced recently by Congressman Jim Baird, is a long-awaited tool that will allow police across the country to finally stop catalytic converter thefts. This bill would introduce commonsense reforms that make it more difficult to steal catalytic converters, easier to locate stolen parts, and enhance our ability to enforce the law. I am pleased to see this legislation introduced before Congress and look forward to supporting its passage.

The Supreme Court Renders Mixed Decisions on the Vaccine Mandates

By John A. Sparks

The U. S. Supreme Court has rejected President Joe Biden's OSHA vaccination overreach for private sector employees, but has upheld the Center for Medicare/Medicaid Services (CMS) mandate for healthcare workers.

The decisions are important for their immediate effects. The OSHA-related opinion, *NFIB v. Department of Labor*, bars the president, through his administrative agencies, from imposing a nationwide employee vaccination/testing requirement on larger private businesses. Workers who opposed forced vaccination or vaccination in general view it as a victory which will, in many cases, allow them to retain their jobs. The other opinion, *Biden v. Missouri*, allows to stand the vaccination mandate issued to facilities that receive Medicare and Medicaid funding. That decision means that nurses and doctors who resist being vaccinated may lose their jobs.

The decisions are not merely about vaccinations and pandemics. What is at stake is the rule of law versus administrative abuse of authority. Let's begin with the case dealing with the OSHA mandate.

The majority of the high court recognized that this case posed one key question: Does the secretary of labor, through OSHA, have clearly given congressional authority to impose what the majority opinion calls "a significant encroachment into the lives—and health—of a vast number of employees?" To answer that question, the court examined the 1970 federal act which created OSHA. What it

found was that OSHA was conceived to further occupational safety; that is, to protect workers from the unique dangers that a plant or factory can present to them. OSHA's targets were, primarily, to be the toxic substances that produced harmful effects on employees engaged in manufacturing process. Though an employee can be exposed to Covid-19 while working, it "can and does spread at home, in schools, during sporting events, and everywhere else people gather." Therefore, the court labeled Covid a "universal risk" as opposed to primarily an "occupational risk." It said that OSHA's powers did not extend to universal risks.

Lacking the undergirding of clear congressional power, the vaccine mandate was exposed for what it was, an unwarranted effort to convert an agency with limited workplace authority into a kind of super public-health entity. The exercise of the enormous power to impact 84 million workers' livelihoods could not be sustained. True, the pandemic was an "emergency," but emergencies should not destroy established restraints on governmental power. As Justice Gorsuch put it in his concurrence, "declarations of emergencies would never end and the liberties our Constitution's separation of powers seeks to preserve would amount to little."

The court, having hit a home run on the OSHA case, struck out when deciding the CMS's medical workers vaccine mandate. Chief Justice Roberts and Justice Kavanaugh joined the court's three liberal justices. This majority

upheld the mandate which required the vaccination of 10 million healthcare workers employed in facilities receiving Medicare or Medicaid. The argument advanced by the majority was far from convincing. Their opinion relied upon a variety of broad references in the enabling statutes, allowing the secretary of health and human services to "publish rules and regulations" necessary for the efficient administration of Medicare and Medicaid. That general language certainly does not explicitly nor even implicitly amount to a congressional authorization of a mandate which warns nurses and doctors: get vaccinated or get fired.

Moreover, the CMS mandate failed to recognize neither a testing alternative nor the presence of natural immunity, the omissions perhaps being a product of the hasty avoidance of the normal process of allowing comments on proposed regulations. Nevertheless, the court's opinion labored to find authorization in various statutory provisions that concerned some 15 different types of facilities from hospitals and skilled nursing facilities to outpatient rehabilitation facilities. The phrases "health and safety" and "infection prevention and controls" appear in these statutes, sometimes as catch-all provisions, not meant to give specific authority to act.

The dissenters to this opinion, Justices Thomas, Alito, Gorsuch, and Barrett, saw the majority's effort as straining to pull together "scattered provisions" to create an unconvincing "hodgepodge." The Biden administration

had earlier admitted in the OSHA case that to find authority to act in the way it was advocating required it to do a "work-around." When that term is generally used in politics, it means the government was intent upon taking a certain action but encountered an obstacle. In both cases, the "obstacle" was the lack of clear congressional authorization.

In the CMS case it was the court which was required to do its own "work-around," scouring statutes and regulations to find a basis, however weak, to uphold the medical care mandate. Though the justices managed to cobble something together, the opinion should rightfully produce anxiety in Americans who love liberty and rely upon the certainty of the law. How many other federal agencies with vague statutes could extend their reach by relying on this opinion? For example, what if the EPA declared a "climate change emergency" which ordered Americans to follow "green dictates" like shifting from gas furnaces to solar power heating?

While the first OSHA decision reins in the administrative state, the Medicare/Medicaid opinion turns loose the horse of potential administrative excesses.

—Dr. John A. Sparks is the retired Dean of Arts & Letters, Grove City College and a Fellow in the Institute for Faith and Freedom. He is a member of the state bar of Pennsylvania and a graduate of Grove City College and the University of Michigan Law School. Sparks writes regularly for the Institute on Supreme Court developments.

What's Next?

I can remember standing nearby as I watched my mother move through business projects.

She would finish one task and from her mouth I'd hear the words, "What's Next?"

In many respects that is how I have looked upon my entire life and career. I complete one task, one project, or reach a goal, then I refocus my attention on the next one at hand.

By flowing from task to task, always keeping one's eyes looking forward, many goals may be achieved.

Many people rest upon the completion of objectives, spending time looking back at the achievement.

This can often be a great moment. That is as long as only a moment is spent looking back.

It is so easy to allow past successes to prevent our forward momentum.

Sometimes it is simply in getting tied to the ways we have done something and being unable to change as the world changes around us.

What's Next?

The answer could be: I need to re-evaluate why the latest project did not eclipse the success of an earlier one.

What's Next?

The answer could be: I should define a path that brings us closer to achiev-



RANDALL FRANKS
Southern Style Columns

ing a goal we have never even imagined we could accomplish.

What's Next?

God grants each of us the ability to imagine it, the will to strive towards it, and the hope to achieve it.

I pray your "it" enlightens, emboldens and uplifts the world and all of us that wonder "What's Next."

Randall Franks is an award-winning musician, singer and actor. He is best known for his role as "Officer Randy Goode" on TV's "In the Heat of the Night" now on WGN America. His latest 2019 #1 CD release, "Americana Youth of Southern Appalachia," is by the Share America Foundation. He is a member of the Old Time Country Music Hall of Fame. His latest book is "A Badge or an Old Guitar: A Music City Murder Mystery." He is a syndicated columnist for <http://randallfranks.com/> and can be reached at rfrankscatoosa@gmail.com.



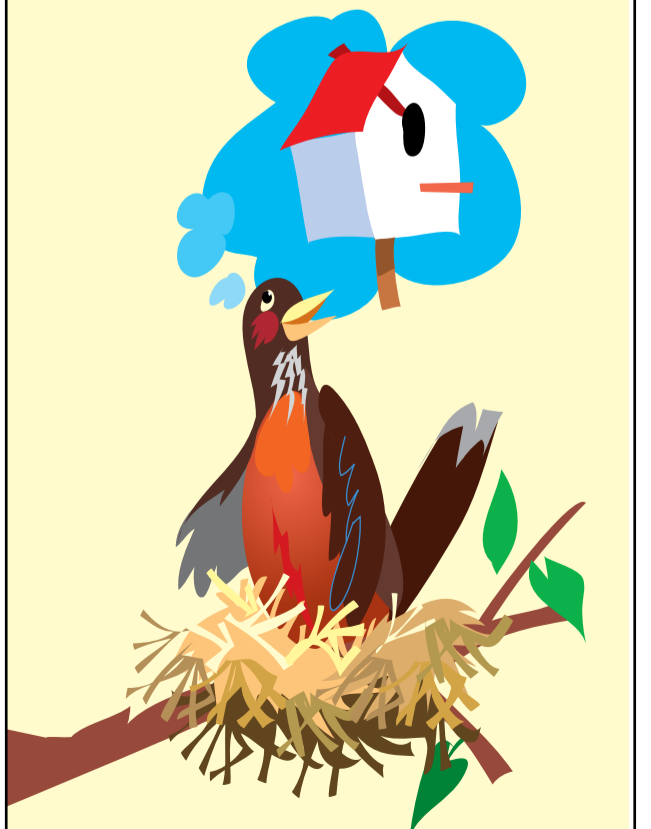
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