

➔ TODAY'S VERSE

Psalm 127:1 Except the
LORD build the house, they
labour in vain that build it:
except the LORD keep the
city, the watchman waketh
but in vain.



➔ FACES OF
HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Barb McEvoy smile?
“Good friends and flowers,” said
the Noblesville resident, a retired
insurance underwriter, who took up
pressed-flower art in retirement.
She was found demonstrating the
art of creating detailed, exquisite
pieces from her dried, pressed
flowers at the Hamilton County Art-
ists' Association Birdie Gallery in
Noblesville, where she is a juried
member. “I think about what I want
in the picture, then I decide what
plant material I'm going to use to
make it a picture, to make it the
art.” She said, “I paint with petals.”
Barb has her artwork in the gallery
and its gift shop. She was also
juried in for her pressed flower
jewelry, modeling her necklace
(above). Today's feature is a look
back at one of The Times' previous
Faces of Hamilton County. Her
pressed flower art earned first
place in its category in Nature's
Inspirations Art Exhibit in 2019 at
Cool Creek Nature Center. She has
always loved sewing and home
decorating and growing flowers.
She earned a certificate in fresh
floral design at IUPUI, which helps
her create arrangements in her
artwork. She has a husband, Chris,
one daughter, Anne, and a grand-
daughter, Zoe, who also loves art.
Born in Greensburg, she grew up
in Indianapolis, moving there when
she was 2. She most recently lived
in Carmel. Other passions? She
likes to cook and bake. The next
2022 HCAA First Friday event is
6 p.m. to 9 p.m. March 4 at the
Birdie Gallery, 195 S. Fifth St., in
downtown Noblesville. The event is
free and open to the community.
The First Friday will feature an
award ceremony for the inaugural
Midwest Juried Art Exhibit. Ac-
cepted mediums were oil, acrylic,
watercolor, pastel, charcoal,
pencil, ink and mixed media. The
Best of Show will be awarded
\$1,000 with merit awards for best
in categories. The HCC also has
an ongoing exhibit featuring juried
artist members at NobleMade Gift
Shop inside the Noblesville Visitor
Center in downtown Noblesville.
For more information on the HCAA,
visit <https://www.hcaa-in.org/>

And Another Thing...

The Delaware Township Board and Trustee
will be holding the following meeting
at the Delaware Township Government
Center:
Thursday, February 24, 2022 @ 5:30pm
Agenda:
Trustee's Annual Report to the Board

The TIMES

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Rendering courtesy of The City of Noblesville

The largest segment of the funding the city recieved will go towards phase 1 of the Reimagine Pleasant Street project, which aims to reduce congestion on SR 32 and innprove east-west connectivity in Noblesville.

City of Noblesville Receives \$10.3M In New MPO Funding For Infrastructure Projects

The City of Noblesville has received a total of \$12,219,034 from the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (IMPO). This includes a new award of \$10,359,670 for three major infrastructure projects within the city and increased financial support in the amount of \$1,859,364 for two previously awarded projects. The IMPO governing board approved the grants during its meeting this morning.

“We are grateful to have IMPO's and the Noblesville

Common Council's partnership and support with these projects. All of the new projects and the previously awarded trail projects will provide better and safer mobility in our city,” Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen said.

Noblesville had three of the 30 Central Indiana projects that were awarded a total of \$78 million.

“The financial support lessens the burden on our city as we make these necessary improvements to address traffic issues and enhance pedestrian

connectivity,” Noblesville City Engineer Alison Krupski said.

Noblesville's projects include:

- Pleasant Street - Phase I - \$7M

The Reimagine Pleasant Street project is a multi-year initiative that will result in improved east-west connectivity and accessibility for our growing city. This corridor will relieve traffic congestion off of State Road 32 by connecting Hague Road to State Road 37 and provide an

➔ See NOBLESVILLE Page A5

Hammer Takes Whoopi's Side?



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

“Timmons, are you familiar with The View?”

Seven words, albeit spoken in a voice loud as thunder, and I wondered if my heart was

going to attack John Hammer and me both. My first thought was I wondered if that electric fly zapper thingamabob could double as a defibrillator?

For those new to these scribbles, John Hammer is a mountain of a man. February, with all its red, is a good month for him because that's exactly the color of his neck and the red (white and blue) all-American blood coursing through his veins. He loves this country and has a hard time with those who don't. Every so often he comes by to share what's on his mind – and somehow, despite his size, manages to sneak in unnoticed and scares the living bejeezus out of me.

“Yeah, John. I know the show. It's a panel of women who-”

“They're idiots,” Hammer interrupted.

“Well, idiots is a pretty strong term, John. I think-”

“That's not the point though, Timmons. Did you hear that one of them got suspended because

➔ See BETSY Page A5

➔ See TIMMONS Page A5

➔ INSIDE TODAY

Obituaries.....A2
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➔ OBITUARIES

David Edgar Bentley
Alan L. Finch
Gary Richard Towle
Thomas "Tom" E. Brinker
Lowell Ray Logan
...and more on A2.



➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

If you're not already seeing an eye doctor, you should have a baseline screening at age 40.

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.



➔ HONEST HOOSIER

On this date in 1996 chess champ Gary Kasparov beat supercomputer Deep Blue in chess, proving there was still hope for the human race.



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



➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

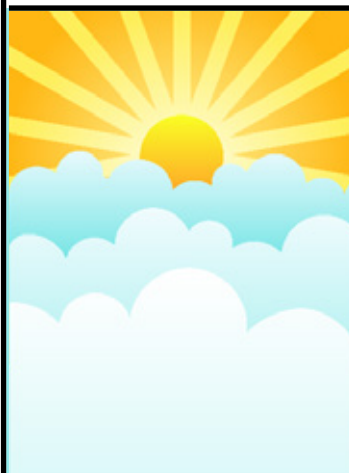
"Efforts and courage are not enough without purpose and direction."
John F. Kennedy

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

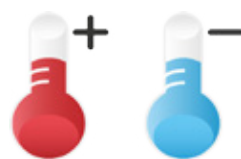
Here's a thought to ponder: The rotation of our planet really makes my day!



The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:34 a.m.
SET: 6:22 p.m.



High/Low
Temperatures
High: 57 °F
Low: 56 °F



Wacky Holiday Today
• National Cabbage Day
• National Public Science Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1992 Serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer is jailed for life
- 1863 A precursor of the Red Cross and Red Crescent is founded



Births On This Day

- 1981 Paris Hilton American model, actress, singer
- 1963 Michael Jordan American basketball player

Deaths On This Day

- 1982 Thelonious Monk American pianist, composer
- 1856 Heinrich Heine German poet

➔ OBITUARIES

David Edgar Bentley Oct. 16 1942 - Feb. 12, 2022

David Edgar Bentley, age 79 of Talihina, Oklahoma passed away from this life on Feb. 12th, 2022 in Oklahoma City, OK.

He was born on Oct. 16th 1942 in Noblesville, Ind., to Mary Alice (Reel) and Chester James Bentley.

Mr. Bentley enlisted in the U.S Army National Guard from 1960-1974. He worked as a street superintendent at Marlow.

He married the love of his life, Alta Ruth (Harrison) in Celina, Tenn., in 1974 and they began their life journey together.

Mr. Bentley was a member of the Grace Indian Baptist Church. He was a gun smith and a member of Marlow Gun Fighters Association.

He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Survivors include his wife of the home, Alta Bentley; children Derrick Bentley of South Carolina, Michelle Childers of Noblesville, Ind., Victor Bentley of Noblesville, Ind., and Jeff Jacks of Duncan, Okla.; fifteen grandchildren; fifteen great grandchildren; and siblings William Bentley and Terry Bentley.

He is preceded in passing by his son David Ray Bentley; brothers Chester James Bentley Jr. and Keith Bentley; and sister Brenda Sue Purser.

A Memorial will be set at a later date.

Cremation services are being provided by McCarn Funeral Service of Talihina, Okla.

Alan L. Finch

Aug. 7, 1946 - Feb. 14, 2022

Alan L. Finch, 75, Indianapolis, passed away Mon., Feb. 14, 2022, at Compassus Hospice in Indianapolis following an extended illness.

He was born Aug. 7, 1946, in Indianapolis, Ind., to Albert Finch and Phyllis (Taylor) Finch.

Mr. Finch graduated from Indianapolis Arsenal Tech High School in 1964.

He founded Crazy Al's Pizzeria and Music Venue in Broad Ripple. There, he hosted many top bands in their early years. Al also worked as a manager/ designer for Russ Dellen Oldsmobile, in their conversion van operation. Most recently he worked in the retail industry.

Mr. Finch served his country in the United States Army Reserve for six years. He was a charter member of the Daybreak Community Church in Lapel. He was a 25-year season ticket holder at Beef and Boards Dinner Theater and a 10-year season ticket holder of the Indianapolis Indians.

Survivors include his six children, William G. (Linda) Price, Tamara (Bryan) Terry, Julia (James) Arney, Mary Beth (Chris) Bates, Genevieve Price and Alan (Casey) Finch; ten grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

Alan was preceded in death by his parents; his loving wife, Barbara Joan; sisters Pamela Hazel, Patricia McClintock and Linda Finch; and a son, John Michael Price.

A Funeral Service is scheduled to be held at 4 p.m. on Fri., Feb. 18, 2022, at Hersberger-Bozell Funeral Home, 1010 North Main Street, Lapel, Ind. with Pastor Tim Johnson officiating. Burial will follow in Brookside Cemetery at a later date.

Visitation is scheduled to be from 3 to 4 p.m. at the funeral home on Fri., Feb. 18.

Memorial contributions may be made to Daybreak Community Church.

Online condolences can be made at www.hersberger-bozell.com.

Gary Richard Towle

Nov. 12, 1947 - Feb. 13, 2022

Gary Richard Towle, 74, of Noblesville, passed away on Sun., Feb. 13, 2022 at Riverview Health in Noblesville.

He was born on Nov. 12, 1947 to Robert and Elizabeth (Jossens) Towle in Mount Clemens, Michigan.

Mr. Towle proudly served his country in the United States Air Force at Nellis AFB where he maintained F-111 instrument panels. He worked as a machine tool sales engineer.

Mr. Towle was a member of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church where he served as head usher and volunteered. He was an avid hunter and fisherman, very adventurous, and a member of the International Harvester 4-Wheelers Club. He loved Veteran's Day. Mr. Towle enjoyed stained glass and was a handyman in his retirement. He was very resourceful, a modern-day "McGyver". He was president of the Potter's Bridge HOA and volunteered with a lot of maintenance projects. Mr. Towle was a loving and devoted father and husband and enjoyed taking trips with his wife. He was a thoughtful, kind, and caring man who always considered others before himself.

Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Fran Towle; daughters Melissa Towle and Carrie Towle; and his grandson Zachary Lewis.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers Bob Towle and Edmond Towle and sister-in-law, Judy Towle.

Services are scheduled to be held at 11 a.m., with visitation from 9:30 am to 11 a.m., on Fri., Feb. 18, 2022 at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, 9900 East 191st Street in Noblesville, with The Rev. Clayton Thompson officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, 9900 East 191st Street, Noblesville, IN 46060 (www.ologn.org).

Condolences can be made online at www.randallroberts.com.

Thomas "Tom" E. Brinker

July 27, 1941 - Feb. 7, 2022

Thomas "Tom" E. Brinker, 80, of Noblesville, was a loving, caring, husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother, and friend. He left this world suddenly on Mon., Feb. 7, 2022 at his home.

He was born on July 27, 1941 to Norman and Elizabeth (McAttee) Brinker in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Mr. Brinker was a manager and supervisor for over 31 years in the telecommunications field, working at AT&T and Indiana Bell. He owned Tom Brinker Hardwood Floors Company. He was a perfectionist and took extreme pride in his work and workmanship. He was truly an artist in his field.

Mr. Brinker was a very good father and super fun and energetic grandfather. He spent much time with his family traveling, camping, fishing, boating, water skiing, snow skiing, and much more. Memories of time spent together having fun and adventures as a family will always be deeply cherished and deeply missed.

Mr. Brinker's young son, Tommy, always idolized his father for many reasons, but considerably because his father could fix ANYTHING. Tommy grew up wanting very much to be like his father when he grew up and will miss phone calls and visits soliciting help and advice. Daughter, Debbie, has been known, on more than one occasion, to prod her husband into fixing something by offering to call her Dad who can fix anything!

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Edna Brinker; daughter Debbie (Keith) Stockberger and son Tom(my) Libby; grandchildren Ashlee (Luke) Edgerton, Jessica (Chris) Bello, Callee (Kyle) Stout, Leelynn (Turner) Lesnick, Lindsey Boes (Arek Ryzak), and Landon Boes (fiancé Megan Gabor); great-grandchildren Makaela, Adalynn, Austin, Emerald, Mila, Jack, Leon, Sia and Maddox. He is also survived by brothers Norm, Steve, Paul, Rick and David; sister Betsy, along with numerous brothers and sisters-in law, cousins, nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Butch.

Rest In Peace, Dad. We love you so much. You will be deeply missed.

The Brinker Family has entrusted Randall & Roberts Funeral Home with Tom's care.

A Celebration of Life is scheduled to be held Feb. 26, 2022, at 10 a.m., with a memorial service scheduled at 11:30 a.m. at Mercy Road Church Northwest, 9511 Angola Court, Indianapolis, Ind. 46268. A meal will follow at the church.

The family has requested donations be made in Tom's memory to: Senior Citizens Organization, Inc., 18336 Cumberland Road, Noblesville, Ind. 46060 (www.Seniorcitizensorg.org).

Condolences can be made online at www.randallroberts.com.

Lowell Ray Logan

Feb. 17, 1939 - Feb. 14, 2022

Lowell Ray Logan, 82, of Arcadia, passed away on Mon., Feb. 14, 2022 surrounded by his loved ones.

He was born on Feb. 17, 1939 to Taso and Edna Logan at their home in Monroe, Tenn.

Mr. Logan was one of five children and spent his childhood helping his mom and dad on their family farm with his siblings. In the late 1950s, he traveled to Indiana to work with his brother Wendell at Chevrolet in Muncie, Ind. There he worked for 35 years as a skilled tradesman, started a family, and raised five children.

After retirement, Mr. Logan pursued his music career. He was most happy when entertaining crowds, his family, or anyone that would listen to the magic that he could produce with a fiddle. He traveled around with many bands playing bluegrass music including Bobby Jewel, Cliff Flatford and the Flatlanders, The Ed Hamilton Band, and The Clear Creek BlueGrass Band. Mr. Logan even got the opportunity to play with Jamie Dailey and teach many accomplished fiddle players how to play the fiddle including Sierra Hull and Jessica Wesley. Music was his true passion and where he was most happy.

Recently, Mr. Logan enjoyed sitting outside in the sun, spending time with his family, and watching his grandkids play.

He will be remembered for his beautiful music, his great smile, and his sense of humor that could be easily missed if not paying attention.

Survivors include his sister, Bernita Gately; his children, Penny Jo Halloway, Melanie Russell, Cheryl (Dale) Twiford and Tom (Lisa) Logan; 10 grandchildren, Abby Russell, Amanda (Cody) Engle, Mollee (Michael) Baglione, Matthew Russell, Nick Arthur, Anthony Arthur, Kara Arthur, Jarrid Logan, Jordyn (Brice) Ferguso and Jayla Logan; and 11 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, Mr. Logan was preceded in death by his brothers Wendell, Donald and Jimmy Logan; the mother of his children, Judith Fearheiley; his son Timothy Lowell Logan; his sons-in-law Tracy Arthur and Mitchell Russell; and his granddaughter Courtney McConnell.

Visitation is scheduled to run from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Wed., Feb. 23, 2022 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, in Noblesville. Services are scheduled to be held immediately following at 7 p.m. at the funeral home, with The Rev. Andrew Smiley officiating.

Mr. Logan will be laid to rest at a later date at the Booher family Cemetery in Monroe, Tenn.

Condolences can be made online at www.randallroberts.com.

Margaret "Peggy" Briggs Spraker

Jan. 5, 1930 - Feb. 12, 2022

Margaret "Peggy" Briggs Spraker, 92, of Noblesville, passed away on Sat., Feb. 12, 2022 at Riverwalk Village in Noblesville.

She was born on Jan. 5, 1930 to Leonard and Margaret (Hunt) Briggs in Trenton, New Jersey.

Mrs. Spraker graduated in 1951 from Syracuse University with a bachelor's degree in Fine Arts. She enjoyed tollwear painting and crafts. She was mostly a homemaker but worked as a manager for JoAnn Fabrics in Michigan. She was a fabric maker. Mrs. Spraker also worked as a computer backup manager for Horizon Bank.

She was a member of Delta Gamma Sorority and an alumni representative of Syracuse University recruitment. She was a member of Forest United Methodist Church in Virginia where she was actively involved in the building of the new church. Mrs. Praker also attended Cicero United Methodist Church upon moving to Indiana. She was an avid Bridge player, involved with the D.A.R., and enjoyed volunteering at Conner Prairie. She also loved to travel, especially to England.

Survivors include her son, Robert "Bob" (Mary Jane) Spraker; daughter Margaret (Danial) Smith; granddaughters Rebecca Jane Spraker and Alexandra Danielle Smith; grandson Joseph Robert Spraker II; great-grandson Zane Oliver Smith; and sister Mildred "Mimsi" (Richard) Harder.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph Robert Spraker; sister Carol Baehre; and brother-in-law Bill Baehre.

Visitation is scheduled to be held from 12 to 2 p.m., with services scheduled for 2 p.m., on Fri., Feb. 18, 2022 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road in Noblesville. Pastor Jesse Mullins will officiate. Additional services are scheduled to take place in April 2022 at Houghtaling & Smith Funeral Home in Canajoharie, New York. Mrs. Spraker will be laid to rest next to her husband at Prospect Hill Cemetery in Canajoharie, New York.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Humane Society for Hamilton County, 10501 Hague Road, Fishers, Ind. 46038 (www.hamiltonhumane.com).

Condolences can be made online at www.randallroberts.com.

Local Students Named To Tufts Univ. Fall Dean's List



Tufts University recently announced the dean's list for the Fall 2021 semester. Dean's list honors at Tufts University require a semester grade point average of 3.4 or greater.

- Angela Chen of Carmel 46074 Class of 2025
- Peter LaBarge of Indianapolis 46256 Class of 2023
- Xander McGlothlin of Carmel 46032 Class of 2024
- Claire Wilkinson of Fishers 46037 Class of 2023

Tufts University, located on campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville and

Grafton, Massachusetts, and in Talloires, France, is recognized among the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions. A growing number of innovative teaching and research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across the university's schools is widely encouraged.

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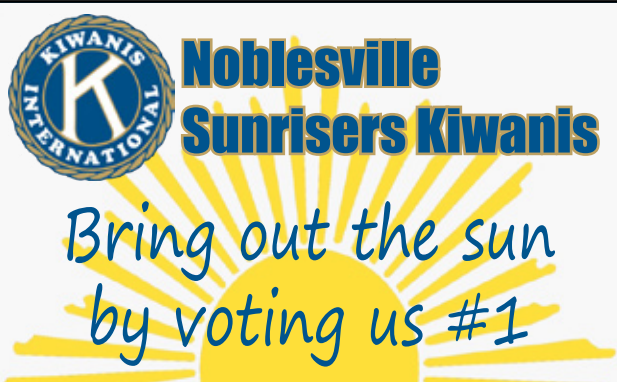
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Heights’ Neiling Signs to Play Softball for Franklin College

Belle Neiling, Hamilton Heights’ senior, has signed a letter of intent to play softball for Franklin College in Franklin, Indiana this fall. Franklin College is a member of the Heartland Conference and a NCAA Division III athletic institution. She is the daughter of Amie and Tony Neiling.

“I fell in love with Franklin College during my first visit,” recalls Belle Neiling, of one of Indiana’s oldest liberal arts institutions. “Meeting with Softball Head Coach, Angie Bain, sealed the deal.” Neiling said she plans to be active at Franklin College and in the community while earning a double major in psychology and sociology and minor in criminal justice to ultimately earn her doctorate in criminal psychology.

Neiling has been playing softball since the age of three and travel ball beginning at age eight. It was shortly after she started travel ball that she set her sights on playing at college. From there she would play year-round, attend camps, work with personal trainers, and build her skill in preparation for this opportunity.

Neiling started her softball career off at Hamilton Heights



Photo courtesy of Jen Kauffman

Hamilton Heights’ senior Belle Neiling has signed a letter of intent to play softball for the Franklin College Grizzlies in Franklin, Indiana this fall. Neiling is pictured with her family (l-r); parents Amie and Tony Neiling and brothers Theo and Eli.

strong. She has been a varsity center-field starter all four years and has also been a five-season member of Hamilton Heights Cheerleading squad. She received an All-County Honorable Mention, named Offensive Rookie

of the Year, a member of the All-Conference Team, Team Captain, and is among the Top 100 Softball Players in Indiana, Class of 2022.

In addition, she has been among Hamilton Heights’ Top 10% since her freshman year, is a member of the National Honor Society and this year’s secretary, Spanish and Bring Change to Mind clubs, a volunteer cheer coach, and works at Pizza House.

Neiling credits her parents as being the most influential in her development as a strong student athlete. She also credits her high school coaches, Ken Olovich, Dylan Baber, and Shelby Willis as being instrumental readying her to play softball at the collegiate level.

“Belle has been a mainstay in the softball program since entering high school,” said Kurt Ogden, Hamilton Heights High School Athletic Director. “She has been a tremendous leader on and off the field and an excellent role model for her teammates. We will miss her hustle, speed and determination but it’s assuring to know she’ll be an outstanding representative of Hamilton Heights and continue those same qualities while attending Franklin College.”

BBB Scam Alert: Protect Yourself From Tax Scams

Tax scams are among the most stubborn cons out there. They reappear often, each time with a slightly different spin. The main theme is scammers posing as the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) trying to trick people into either paying up or sharing personal information.

IRS impersonation scams most often start with a phone call and take two basic forms. In the first version, the IRS “agent” says you owe back taxes and pressures you into paying by prepaid debit card or wire transfer. If you don’t comply, the scammer threatens you with arrest and fines. In the other version, scammers claim they are issuing tax refunds and ask you for personal information so they can send your refund. This information can later be used for identity theft. Scammers also use this approach to target college students by claiming a “federal student tax” has not been paid.

You are pressured to act quickly. Scammers typically try to push you into action before you have time to think. The IRS will give you the chance to ask questions or appeal what you owe. Also, their first contact with you will always be by mail, not phone or email. Payment must be made by wire transfer, prepaid debit card, or other non-traditional payment methods. These methods are largely untraceable and non-reversible. The IRS will never demand immediate payment, require a specific form of payment, or ask for credit card or debt card numbers over the phone.

In the U.S., the IRS may call you about outstanding debts after reaching out by mail. See BBB’s tips on IRS calls to tell if the IRS is really calling or if you are talking to a scammer.

Another tax scam to look out for is tax identity theft. This occurs when a scammer uses your

government-issued identity number (Social Security number) to file a tax return in your name and collect your refund. It can also be someone using your information to get a job. Consumers don’t usually realize they have been victims of tax identity theft until they get a written notice from the IRS saying that more than one tax return was filed, or they were paid by an employer they don’t know.

Email phishing scams appear to be from the IRS and include a link to a bogus web site intended to mirror the official IRS web site. These emails contain the direction “you are to update your IRS e-file immediately.” The emails sometimes mention USA.gov and IRS.gov (without a dot between “IRS” and “gov”). Don’t get scammed; these emails are not from the IRS.

The best way to avoid tax identity theft is to file your taxes as early as possible. File before a scammer

has the chance to use your information to file a fake return.

In the U.S., jot down your Identity Protection PIN (IP PIN) from the IRS before you file your return. This is a six-digit number, which, in addition to your Social Security number, confirms your identity. It is important to note that you cannot opt-out once you get an IP PIN. So once you apply, you must provide the IP Pin each year when you file your federal tax returns. The IRS will provide your IP PIN online and then send you a new IP PIN each December by postal mail. Visit the IRS for more information about the program. Read BBB’s tips about the IRS PIN.

The IRS does not initiate contact with tax payers by email, text message or social media to request personal or financial information. This includes requests for PIN numbers, passwords or similar access information for credit

cards, banks or other financial accounts.

Only deal with trustworthy tax preparation services. For many people, major life changes, business ownership, or simply a lack of knowledge about the ever-changing tax laws make finding a trustworthy tax preparer a good idea. That said, not all tax preparers have the same level of experience and training. See our tips for finding the right tax preparer for you.

Check out websites carefully and make sure you are accessing the real IRS website when filing your taxes electronically or inquiring for additional information.

If you are the victim of tax identity theft, contact the IRS at 1-800-908-4490. You should also file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at [ftc.gov/complaint](https://www.ftc.gov/complaint) or by calling 1-877-FTC-HELP. The FTC also offers a personalized identity theft recovery plan at [identity-theft.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/identity-theft).

If you get tax information delivered electronically from your employer or other entity, treat that information carefully. Download it onto a password-protected computer.

For more information, visit the tax tips and resources page.

To report a tax scam, go to BBB Scam Tracker. To learn how to protect yourself, go to “10 Steps to Avoid Scams.”

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](https://www.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.

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BETSY From Page A1

He, in fact, often laughs at himself, and one of the reasons I’m featuring him in my newspaper column today is because I find the 20-year-old to be refreshingly candid and entertaining. (Also, by the way, he is playing in Main Street Productions’ current drama, “Of Mice and Men, through Sunday at Basile Westfield Playhouse. But I’ll share more on his role a little later.)

Something few people know about Browning? He cries in movies for nostalgic stuff. “Seeing Han, Luke, and Leia in the newest Star Wars trilogy? Tears! The original Ghostbusters returning in Afterlife? Bawled like a baby,” the Noblesville resident said.

But he’s not crying as much as he is smiling. “Nothing makes me smile more than just getting to stand around and talk to people. I love hearing other people’s stories and sharing my own. Any time you can make somebody laugh is time well spent in my book,” Browning said.

When he isn’t studying or on a live stage, he said, “Every Monday and Friday, however, I do have my own Classic Rock radio show from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. on WCRD 91.3 in Muncie.”

He said, “I just play a bunch of late ‘70s through early ‘90s rock, hair, metal songs. I’m having a real blast doing it.”

It seems a little early in the morning to be jamming to hair bands. But Browning doesn’t think so. It’s all that he listens to anyway.

“I know the most absurd members of the random one-hit wonders or big bands, and it has always

just been a staple of who I am,” he said. “So when given this opportunity to play that music that I love, and use that random knowledge in an appropriate setting, I knew I just had to take it.”

He plays everything from Bon Jovi, AC/DC, Alice Cooper, Van Halen -- Van Hagar mostly) and Mötley Crüe to KISS. “You name it, I play it,” Browning said. “The only hard thing is finding out how to be quieter for the microphone. I blame projecting for theater, but I’m just way too loud for how close I’m supposed to be to our microphone equipment.”

Browning’s show is on WCRD, a non-commercial FM radio station operated by students of BSU out of the David Letterman Communication and Media Building on the BSU campus. (Letterman, an Indianapolis native who grew up in Broad Ripple, is a 1969 BSU graduate best known for his self-mockery, and his cynical sense of humor on the “Late Night With David Letterman Show” that ran for 22 seasons.)

So what better place to hone your comedy skills and be on the radio?

Yes, Browning thrives as a radio-show host playing his favorite music and talking about the bands, his favorites being Van Halen, Sammy Hagar, Mötley Crüe, Aerosmith, Def Leppard, Damn Yankees, Poison, Skid Row, Kiss and Bon Jovi.

“I talk about some random fun facts about the band or tracks themselves, such as band members and what other groups they happen to be in or have played in, any fun stories from writing or recording



Photo courtesy of Basile Westfield Playhouse

Noblesville’s Logan Browning, a 2020 Noblesville High School graduate, portrays Carlson in “Of Mice and Men,” through this Sunday at Basile Westfield Playhouse.

the song, any notorious stories about the band themselves,” Browning said. “And, of course, that’s on top of the standard album-release years, album names, and more. “I also talk about upcoming concerts and at which venue they’ll be at and usual set-lists they play, drop in some ‘hot takes,’ such as Sammy Hagar being the better Van Halen singer than Diamond David Lee Roth, Eric Carr being the best drummer for KISS.”

Being that he loves all of these bands, I had to ask if there is a favorite celebrity that he’s met. And Browning did not even have to think twice. “The coolest celebrity I’ve met was John Corabi, the

second lead singer of the band Mötley Crüe, and got him to sign my CD. It’s been months, and I’m still starstruck,” Browning said.

“I feel that same way talking with a few of my cast mates though,” said Browning, who is currently in the local theater production, “Of Mice and Men,” a drama at Basile Westfield Playhouse, directed by James H. Williams of Fishers.

“I’ve truthfully never met a greater group of talented people. I mean Audrey Duprey (Curley’s Wife) kills it absolutely every night. Jake Hobbs (Curley) is so involved with his character that I’m blown away. Joe Wagner of Fishers (Lenny) and

Want TO GO?

What: Main Street Productions presents “Of Mice and Men.”
When: 7:30 p.m. Thursday (today), Friday and Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday.
Where: Basile Westfield Playhouse, 220 N. Union St., Westfield.
How much: \$17, adult; \$15, ages 62 and older and students with ID, free for active military and veterans with ID.
Reservations: www.westfieldplayhouse.org or call 317-402-3341.

his transformation into his character still just shocks me. Everybody is so amazing. It really makes me want to step up my game.” Browning loves doing live theater but this show is out of his usual “comedy” comfort zone.

“My character, Carlson, isn’t really the nicest guy in the world. He’s self-obsessed, very conceited, and has a weird vendetta against an old dog belonging to another character.” He said, “I’ve enjoyed being in this show a whole lot due to the fact that this role is so different in comparison to what I’m used to. I used to play the comic relief in shows, but this time I was a very ‘not funny’ jerk. It was a fun challenge for somebody who can’t help but spit out one-liners like a b-list Bill Murray.”

Browning -- who has a following, including Basile Westfield Playhouse board member and actor Tom Smith (who follows several of the local young thespians) -- stepped onto his first community theater stage (with Smith as Simon Stimson) in The Belfry Theatre’s “Our Town,” directed by Nancy Lafferty, in September 2018, in the role of Joe Crowell Jr.

At NHS Theatre, some of Browning’s favorite roles were Giles Corey

in “The Crucible” and Cogsworth in “Beauty and the Beast.” (I was in the audience of the latter production, a wonderful show on stage in November 2019.)

“I am excited for my next role however as Captain John Whitaker in the show ‘Fly Babies’ down at Buck Creek Players in April,” he said.

What about a bucket list?

“The only role on my bucket list is surprisingly one that doesn’t exist yet, and it may not even be a stage role,” Browning said. “I’ve always wanted to play Michael Lee Aday, aka the musician/actor Meat Loaf, in a biopic or biographical show,” Browning said. “I’ve always been a huge fan of his and thought there was a bit of a physical resemblance. I was devastated to hear about his passing (on Jan. 20, 2022). So, if anybody is planning a movie called ‘Bat out of Hell’ like ‘Bohemian Rhapsody’ did for Freddie Mercury, I’m your guy.”

Browning said, “I’ve always enjoyed performing and making people laugh in any way that I can. Whether it be in the classroom, at the workplace, or on stage.”

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

NOBLESVILLE From Page A1

additional bridge crossing over the White River.

“As the 10th largest city in Indiana, this project is crucial to mobility in Noblesville and across Hamilton County, especially considering the growth we have experienced and expect going forward,” said Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen. “The roadway design will provide Noblesville residents, local businesses, and visitors with many improvements that will enhance mobility and public safety while also honoring the urban character and historic features of the project area.”

Phase I is the largest portion of the three phases and includes work from River Road to 10th Street. The city will solicit bids and select a construction firm later this year, with construction beginning in early 2023. Phases II and III are expected to go to bid in 2023.

• Midland Trace Trail – \$1.5M

The 12-foot wide extension of the Midland Trace Trail will be constructed as a part of the Pleasant Street project. The trail project will be constructed in three phases like the roadway. The trail corridor will ultimately

connect from SR32 to SR37. The Midland Trace trail provides regional multi-use path connectivity. It will be extended 2+ miles from SR32/Hague Road to SR37, connecting Westfield and Noblesville. Phase 1 of the project will connect to the existing Riverwalk, which connects to downtown Noblesville and the Plum Prairie Historic District. It will also connect to the future Nickel Plate Trail and Fishers.

• 141st Street and Promise Road Roundabout (2024) – \$1.86M

Noblesville will transform the current 4-way

stop at 141st Street and Promise Road into a roundabout at the border between the city and Fishers. This improvement will lower gas emissions, better serve motorists and will aid in safely maneuvering the intersection, especially for students on bus routes. The addition of this roundabout along with a future roundabout at 141st Street and Howe Road will significantly improve traffic progression along the nearly three mile stretch of 141st Street east of SR37.

• Trail Projects Get Increase of \$1,859,364
The two previously

awarded projects that received additional IMPO funding include the Little Chicago Road Trail and the Stony Creek Trail. The Little Chicago Road trail will provide a 10-foot, multi-use path on the east side of Little Chicago Road from Elderberry Road to Carrigan Road, including widening the existing bridge to accommodate the trail. The Stony Creek Trail will provide a connection under SR37 along Stony Creek from Clover Road to Mercantile Boulevard. The 10-foot wide trail will connect existing trails and remove a vehicular barrier

er to pedestrians. Each of these projects is expected to be constructed in 2023.

The Indianapolis MPO is responsible for planning and programming federal transportation funds in an eight-county Central Indiana region, and this funding allocation is an annual IMPO process. The recipients were selected from a highly competitive pool, and each funded project requires a local match and is judged based on relative technical criteria including impacts to air quality, improvements to congestion, pavement quality and safety.

TIMMONS From Page A1

she made an idiotic comment about the Holocaust?”

“I did, John,” I answered. “That was Whoopi Goldberg. In fact, I think she just came back and-”

“She never should have been suspended, Timmons.”

Whoa. I didn’t see that one coming. I’m sure Goldberg and Hammer are about as far apart politically as anyone could be. Hammer defending her? What’s the world coming to?

“Does anyone understand free speech,” he asked. “Is everything in this country about canceling other people these days?”

Not sure what I was more surprised about – Hammer standing up for a woman he can’t tolerate politically or the fact that he knows what cancel culture is.

“Look, what she said was racist and pig-headed,” he continued. “She’s as two-faced as anyone can be . . . but so what? That’s the problem in this

country. Not only can no one disagree anymore, but some folks just go out of their way to make sure you believe what they believe. And heaven help you if you don’t. That Goldberg woman is like that, so if it wasn’t so damn scary it’d be kind of funny it got turned around on her. But it’s not. It’s just scary and wrong.”

“What do you mean?” I asked.

“I mean free speech, Timmons. Aren’t you listening? The founders of this country thought that freedom of speech was so important they made it part of the very first amendment they wrote. And do you know what free speech is, Timmons?”

I wasn’t sure if that was rhetorical, so I decided the wise move was listening.

“It’s easy to let people say whatever they want when you agree with them. But free speech means letting the folks you disagree with have their say.

We’ve somehow forgot that these days. There’s so much hate and rage out there. Too many folks are choosing sides. Their side is right and everyone else is wrong. And they run their mouths and close their ears – and that’s a recipe for disaster.”

The man called the Hammer paused. “Timmons, we’re turning into lefts and rights and there’s not much middle ground any more. We need to talk, but more than that, we need to listen with an open mind and an open heart. The answers aren’t that hard. But ain’t nobody going to find them if they never listen.”

With that he turned and left. I hope he knew he got me to listen.

- 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 ttimmons@thetimes24-7.com.



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Did You Know?

- Fountain County was founded in 1826 and named after James Fontaine.
- Covington, the county seat, was officially established in 1827.
- The county is 397.88 square miles and has a population of 17,240 residents.
- The largest city in the county, Attica, is home to 3,245 residents and is 1.61 square miles.
- The county contains 2.2 square miles of water because of its proximity to the Wabash River.

Got Words?

After rebuilding the county’s courthouse for the third time, in 1861 it completely burned down after only one circuit court meeting. In your opinion, what is the purpose of having a courthouse and do you think it is necessary in every town?

Number Stumpers

1. How many people in the county do not live in Attica?
≥
2. How old is Fountain County?
≤
3. What is the population density of the county?
≥
4. How long ago was Covington officially established?
≤

Answers: 1. About 13,995 people 2. 193 Years 3. Around 4. 43.3/sq mi 4. 192 Years

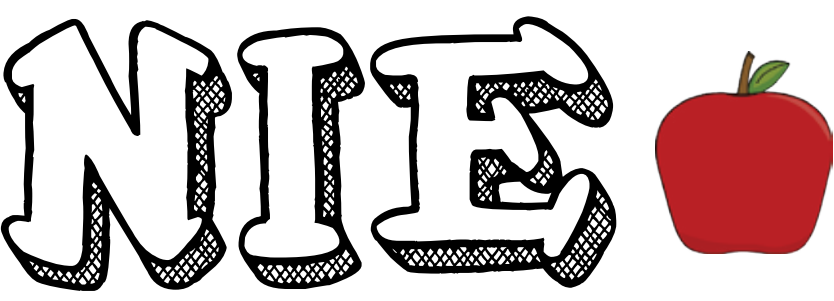
Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

1. OEHSCORTUU
2. UAIFONTN OUTCNY
3. ICTTAA
4. AHAWSB VERRI
5. OCGNVNOTI

Answers: 1. Courthouse 2. Fountain County 3. Attica 4. Wabash River 5. Covington

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A8

BBB Warning: Watch out for romance scams this Valentine's Day

Online dating and social media have made it easier than ever to meet new people and find dates. Unfortunately, it has made scammers' work simpler, too. Con artists create compelling backstories, and full-fledged identities, then trick you into falling for someone who doesn't even exist. This form of deception is known as "catfishing." Sometimes a catfisher is simply a lonely person hiding behind a fake persona. But often it is the first step in a phishing scheme to steal personal information or a romance scam to trick you out of money. In some cases, victims have been tricked into moving illegal money from other scams ("money mule"), which is potentially a crime.

Behind many dating profiles lurk scammers who are ready to dupe users into believing they have found love. According to the 2020 Risk Re-

port, those who fell victim to Romance Scams were adults age 55 – 64 years old, the majority of those scammed being women.

Read more in "Online Romance Scams: A BBB Study on How Scammers Use Impersonation, Black-mail, and Trickery to Steal From Unsuspecting Daters."

How the Scam Works:
Most romance scams start with fake profiles on online dating sites created by stealing photos and text from real accounts or elsewhere. Scammers often claim to be in the military or working overseas to explain why they can't meet you in person. Over a short period of time, the scammer builds a fake relationship with you, exchanging photos and romantic messages, even talking on the phone or through a webcam.

Just when the relationship seems to be getting serious, your new sweet-

heart has a health issue or family emergency, or wants to plan a visit. No matter the story, the request is the same: they need money. But after you send money, there's another request, and then another. Or the scammer stops communicating altogether.

Tips to Spot This Scam:

- Too hot to be true. Scammers offer up good-looking photos and tales of financial success. Be honest with yourself about who would be genuinely interested. If they seem "too perfect," your alarm bells should ring.
- In a hurry to get off the site. Catfishers will try very quickly to get you to move to communicating through email, messenger, or phone.
- Moving fast. A catfisher will begin speaking of a future together and tell you they love you quickly. They often say they've never felt this way

before.

- Talk about trust. Catfishers will start manipulating you with talk about trust and how important it is. This will often be a first step to asking you for money.
- Don't want to meet. Be wary of someone who always has an excuse to postpone meeting because they say they are traveling or live overseas or are in the military.

- Suspect language. If the person you are communicating with claims to be from your home town but has poor spelling or grammar, uses overly flowery language, or uses phrases that don't make sense, that's a red flag.
- Hard luck stories. Before moving on to asking you for money, the scammer may hint at financial troubles like heat being cut off or a stolen car or a sick relative, or they may share a sad story

from their past (death of parents or spouse, etc.).

Protect Yourself From this Scam:

- Never send money or personal information that can be used for identity theft to someone you've never met in person. Never give someone your credit card information to book a ticket to visit you. Cut off contact if someone starts asking you for information like credit card, bank, or government ID numbers.
- Ask specific questions about details given in a profile. A scammer may stumble over remembering details or making a story fit.
- Do your research. Many scammers steal photos from the web to use in their profiles. You can do a reverse image lookup using a website like tineye.com or images.google.com to see if the photos on a profile are stolen from somewhere

else. You can also search online for a profile name, email, or phone number to see what adds up and what doesn't.

To report a scam, go to BBB Scam Tracker.

To learn how to protect yourself, go to "10 Steps to Avoid Scams".

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.

Hoosiers With Disabilities Can Save More And Experience Lower Fees

Because of recent changes to existing law, Hoosiers with disabilities are now able to save even more under the state's INvestABLE Indiana program.

Beginning January 1, 2022, the annual contribution limit for ABLE accounts increased from \$15,000 to \$16,000. This increase of over 6% will allow savers to deposit even more into their accounts and experience

lower fees. The contribution limit is tied to the annual gift tax exclusion limit, which saw an increase this year.

ABLE plans have been making headlines across the country, too. The National ABLE Alliance, of which Indiana is a proud member, recently crossed a significant threshold, exceeding \$250 million in program assets. That automatically reduced the Program Management

Fee from 30 basis points (0.30%) to 28 basis points (0.28%), bringing further savings to the program and Hoosiers.

"I'm thrilled to announce that INvestABLE Indiana account owners can now not only contribute more annually toward their savings goals but also experience lower fees," said Amy Corbin, Executive Director of the ABLE Authority. "The lowering of fees comes

as a direct result of more individuals enrolling in ABLE and saving for their or their loved one's future. As INvestABLE Indiana continues to grow, it is heartening to see more individuals with disabilities achieving increased financial independence and economic empowerment."

INvestABLE Indiana offers seven investment options, including a checking account option with a debit card. Up

to \$16,000 per year can be saved in an account, with a maximum account balance of \$450,000. For individuals receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI), they can save up to \$100,000 in their INvestABLE Indiana account and not risk losing their monthly SSI benefit. Money can be withdrawn and spent on qualified expenses or INvestABLE Indiana account holders can choose to grow their

finances and create long-term savings with tax-free earnings. Contributions and earnings in INvestABLE Indiana accounts are not subject to federal or state income tax if spent on qualified expenses. Contributions are made with post-tax dollars.

More information about INvestABLE Indiana, including how to open an account, can be found at <https://in.savewithable.com>.

Registration Open For Healthy Minds, Healthy Lives

Untreated or ignored stress and mental health issues in rural areas impact quality of life, economic development and lives of farmers, the agriculture workforce and rural families. To raise awareness and help reduce the stigma surrounding mental health in the agriculture industry the Healthy Minds, Healthy Lives program was created by the Indiana Rural Health Association. Twenty-three free, one-day insightful workshops with subject matter experts will be conducted in 2022. The workshops will begin Feb. 10, 2022, in Mount Vernon, Ind. The series of workshops will continue in 22 other rural sites around Indiana through July.

"Our rural communities are the backbone of our Indiana economy, and we can make them even stronger by supporting mental health and reducing stressors at home and in our communities," said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, Secretary of Agriculture. "These workshops will give our farmers the resources to help their neighbors and their family members who may be struggling."

The workshops aim to discuss the mental landscape in Indiana, highlight local resources, discuss telehealth options and contain information about the Purdue Farm

Stress Program. The Indiana Rural Health Association will also present a training for the Question, Persuade and Refer (QPR) program.

"We all know that farming is one of the most dangerous professions, and it is sadly also one of the most mentally taxing ones as well," said Bruce Kettler, director of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture. "Our department was honored to be awarded this grant from USDA and we believe using these funds in partnership with the Indiana Rural Health Association and Purdue Extension will greatly impact thousands of Hoosiers, and work to decrease the stigmas around mental health in agriculture."

The free workshops through the Healthy Minds, Healthy Lives program are open to the farming community, including agribusinesses and related service industries, the faith community, local leaders and families.

"The suicide rates among farmers are six times higher than the national average," said Kathy Walker, Indiana Rural Health Association (IRHA) program director for Healthy Minds – Healthy Lives. "Financial stress is always present, pressure to never lose the family farm is great, the

work is physically and mentally stressful with long hours, social isolation and lack of confiding relationships."

Each one-day workshop is limited to 35 people, so individuals interested in participating are encouraged to register early.

Stigma and other issues that discourage people from seeking help can result in higher suicide attempts and other mental health issues. These issues often are higher – even double – than in urban areas. Depression, suicide and other mental health struggles often rise during the seasonal times of planting and harvesting when stress levels are also higher.

These workshops are part of a partnership with the Indiana Rural Health Association, Purdue Extension and the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA). ISDA received a \$500,000 grant from the National Institute for Food and Agriculture's Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network in October of 2021.

The list of current workshops is below. To register for a workshop please click here or visit indianaruralhealth.org. Registration opens 30 days prior to each event.
Date; County; Town
February 10; Posey; Mt. Vernon
February 23; Owen;

Spencer
February 24; Boone; Lebanon
March 9; Hancock; Greenfield
March 10; Tipton; Tipton
March 16; Kosciusko; Leesburg
March 17; Fulton; Rochester
April 6; LaPorte; LaPorte
April 8; Jasper; Rensselaer
April 20; White; Wolcott
April 21; Warren; Williamsport
May 4; Montgomery; Crawfordsville
May 5; Johnson; Whiteland
May 18; Putnam; Greencastle
May 19; Sullivan; Sullivan
June 8; Daviess; Washington
June 9; Dubois; Ireland
June 22; Washington; Salem
June 23; Scott; Scottsburg
July 6; Ripley; Osgood
July 7; Randolph; Winchester
July 20; Huntington; Huntington
July 21; DeKalb; Auburn
For additional information about the Healthy Minds – Healthy Lives QPR workshops, please contact Kathy Walker by email: kwalker@indianaruralhealth.org

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A9

IDEM Seeks Nominations For The 2022 Governor's Awards For Environmental Excellence

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is now accepting nominations for the 2022 Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence. These awards recognize individuals and organizations which have implemented outstanding environmental strategies into their operations and decision-making processes.

The Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence are Indiana's highest environmental recognition and are open to all Indiana businesses, government agencies, individuals, and other groups that implement exemplary environmental projects or initiatives with measurable results. By seeking out and utilizing

innovative environmental practices, organizations and businesses around the state have reduced waste, saved money, and contributed greatly to Indiana's environmental protection efforts.

"These are Indiana's most prestigious environmental recognition awards," said IDEM Commissioner Brian Rockensuess. "Each year, the governor and I look forward to seeing the innovative projects employed by Hoosiers and organizations across the state."

IDEM and Governor Eric J. Holcomb's office will present seven awards, one in each of the following categories:

- Energy Efficiency/Renewable Resources
- Environmental Educa-

tion/Outreach

- Five Year Continuous Improvement
- Greening the Government
- Land Use/Conservation

- Pollution Prevention
- Recycling/Reuse

The public is invited to submit nominations, and organizations may self-nominate. An instructional webinar, eligibility requirements and details about the nomination process are available at www.in.gov/idem/partnerships/governors-awards-for-environmental-excellence/.

Nominations must be received by IDEM no later than 5 p.m. EDT on Monday, April 4, 2022.

Awards will be presented at the Annual Pollution Prevention Conference on

September 21, 2022, at the Marriott Indianapolis North. IDEM also will issue a statewide press release announcing the seven winners and summarizing their projects.

For questions about the nomination process, or assistance in compiling your nomination, please contact 1-800-988-7901 or GovAwards@idem.IN.gov.

About IDEM
IDEM (idem.IN.gov) implements federal and state regulations regarding the environment. Through compliance assistance, incentive programs and educational outreach, the agency encourages and aids businesses and citizens in protecting Hoosiers and our environment.

Soy Growers Want Off EPA's Deadline Merry-Go-Round

EPA has finalized a rule that pushes the deadline for oil refiners to comply with 2020 and 2021 blending requirements under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), which the agency previously extended in April.

The agency last delayed compliance deadline reporting for small refineries to Jan. 1, 2022, saying the delay was a result of not having released RVOs for 2020, 2021, and 2022. Now, the EPA final rule released Jan. 28 states small refineries have until the next quarterly reporting deadline after the 2021 quotas are established to fulfill them.

Brad Doyle, soy farmer from Weiner, Arkansas, and ASA President said, "EPA's merry-go-round of deadline changes just keeps spinning. Rather than stopping according to its own timeline to make these decisions, EPA keeps the biofuels industry and in turn farmers on an unwitting ride that simply does not end. Delaying these compliance deadlines facilitates a cycle of uncertainty that undermines the integrity of the Renewable Fuel Standard and stifles growth in the biomass-based diesel industry."

Overall, for all refineries and importers of fuel, the new compliance deadlines

for 2022 targets will be the RFS quarterly reporting deadline after the 2023 standards effective date or the 2021 compliance reporting deadline—which ever date is later.

The RFS has reduced U.S. dependence on foreign oil, lowered fuel prices at the pump, reduced greenhouse gas emissions and added value by increasing demand for the soybeans and corn our farmers produce. Biodiesel and renewable diesel provide a valuable market for more than 9 billion pounds of soybean oil, adding more than \$1.10 in value to every bushel of soybeans grown in the U.S.

EPA is currently undergoing a rulemaking process to update Renewable Volume Obligations for 2020, 2021, and 2022. The proposed rule would increase the 2022 RVO for biomass-based diesel—a move that ASA strongly supports.

The American Soybean Association (ASA) represents U.S. soybean farmers on domestic and international policy issues important to the soybean industry. ASA has 26 affiliated state associations representing 30 soybean-producing states and more than 500,000 soybean farmers. More information at soygrowers.com.

State's Largest Safety And Health Conference Returning

Safety tactics, substance abuse, leadership and cybersecurity will be among the hot topics at the state's largest safety and health event. The 2022 Indiana Safety and Health Conference & Expo, which takes place February 28 – March 2, will feature more than 70 educational sessions to keep Hoosier workers safe on the job.

The three-day event is presented by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce and Central Indiana Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals, in partnership with INSafe Indiana and the Coalition for Construction Safety. Gibson is the lead conference sponsor.

"We're always thrilled to host this largescale event and it will be fun to meet new attendees and see those friendly faces who attend annually," relays Kerri Begley, vice president of business education and events for the

Indiana Chamber. "We have an esteemed group of speakers tackling many topics and conferencegoers will leave with much more knowledge in their arsenals."

The conference's two keynote speakers are Manley Feinberg II of Vertical Lessons, Inc. and retired FBI Special Agent John Iannarelli, also known as "FBI John," who will speak on cybersecurity.

Through Feinberg's address, "Reaching Your Next Summit," attendees will gain tools they can use immediately to develop a leadership mindset that equips them and team members to step up and lead, regardless of their title.

New this year is the Forklift Rodeo, hosted by ASSP Central Indiana Chapter and the Indiana Chamber, along with ProLift Toyota Material Handling. Forklift

operators will showcase their driving abilities in an obstacle course March 1 and complete challenges as quickly and efficiently as possible. (All forklift rodeo participants must be certified to operate a lift.) Forklift operators will be scored individually and a grand prize of \$250 will be awarded along with a trophy and bragging rights as the 2022 Indiana Forklift Rodeo Champion.

On day three of the conference, the 2022 Governor's Workplace Safety Awards (GWSA) will be presented during the lunch hour.

Visit www.insafetyconf.com or call (317) 264-6885 to register to attend or for more information. Registration options and costs can be viewed at www.insafetyconf.com/registration.

A virtual option is available for those who cannot attend in person. The educational sessions,

both general sessions and GWSA luncheon recordings, will be available to view from March 8 until June 1. Of note: Virtual attendees will not have access to sessions during the live conference Feb. 28 – March 1. Some educational sessions will not be provided on-demand at the request of the speaker.

Additional 2022 Indiana Safety & Health Conference sponsors include: platinum sponsors Indiana Safety & Supply and ClearPath Mutual; gold sponsors Board of Certified Safety Professionals and Martin Supply; and silver sponsors: Advanced Rescue Solutions, Healthy Roster, Honeywell PPE, Intelx, iReportSource Safety Management Software, KHA Online-SDS™, KPA, OraSure Technologies, Peak Performance, Safety Management Group, Sentinel Safety Group and Work Comp Management Services.

Hoosiers Would Want The Indy 500 On Their State Flag (If It Were To Be Rebranded), Reveals Poll

From all kinds of flora and fauna, stars, a peace pipe, and even a Union Jack, each state in America has its own symbol to represent their history and contribution to the nation. Indeed, 'Old Glory' represents the country's collective history and present - the 50 stars represent the 50 states and there are 13 stripes representing the 13 original colonies.

Most of these flags were created hundreds of years ago – some were a result of contests, while others were drafted through as a legislative process. But are these designs a modern reflection of what each state is known for today, given the centuries that have passed? New York, for example, often prides itself in its flashing Broadway performances,

as well as hard-to-miss yellow taxis and of course, the Empire State Building, whereas the current state flag is not a representation of modern-day NY (it features a central coat of arms with a sun symbol, mountain, and ocean, supported by ladies Liberty and Justice on either side). Likewise, Maine nowadays is well known for its prized lobster trade; West Virginia for its country roads and Kansas is associated with The Wizard of Oz!

MOJOMOX.com, an online brand designing site, conducted a poll of 3,236 Americans across each state, asking them one question:

If your state flag was to be redesigned, how would you like it to look?

While some of the re-

sults of the poll were quite predictable (New Yorkers opted of the Statue of Liberty, and Pennsylvanians voted for their Liberty Bell), the research revealed some very interesting results, including:

In the Hoosier State, more than half (51%) of people said they thought if the state flag was rebranded, it should include a reference to the Indy 500 - the annual automobile race which is held in aptly-named Speedway, Indiana. The event is usually held over Memorial Day weekend and is considered one part of the Triple Crown of Motorsport, along with the 24 Hours of Le Mans and the Monaco Grand Prix.

Another almost 2 in 5 (29%) Hoosiers thought the flag should include a

nod to Johnny Appleseed (or John Chapman), a pioneer who introduced apple trees to the land here, as well as other areas, like Ohio and Pennsylvania. He is buried on site at Johnny Appleseed Park, a public park in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

And nearly 1 in 10 (8%) thought the Indiana flag rebrand should have something to do with geocaching: a recreational outdoor sport that requires participants to use a GPS device and other navigational techniques to essentially play a game of nature-inspired hide-and-seek!

Lastly, 2% of Hoosiers thought the hypothetical state flag rebrand should include an element to do with gasoline, considering the gas pump was created in Fort Wayne.

Holcomb Signs Executive Orders Granting Medical Clemency

Governor Eric J. Holcomb today announced he signed executive orders granting medical clemency for the first time while in office.

"Today I granted medical clemency to three offenders who are bed ridden and diagnosed with terminal health conditions. The three men will be released to the supervision of the Parole Board and will serve the remainder of their lives at a skilled nursing home under the state's care. In all three cases the offenders require 24-hour a day care as they are unable to care for themselves.

I granted the medical clemencies after a great deal of research and consideration. These men are no longer a threat to society, and it's been deter-

mined they are better cared for at a skilled nursing home. The Indiana Parole Board unanimously recommended a medical clemency for all three men," said Gov. Holcomb.

The executive orders include information regarding the offenders.

Executive Order 22-03 regarding Charles Calhoun. <https://www.in.gov/files/Executive-Order-22-03-Calhoun-Clemency.pdf>

Executive Order 22-04 regarding Alphonzo Griffin. <https://www.in.gov/files/Executive-Order-22-04-Griffin-Clemency.pdf>

Executive Order 22-05 regarding Jerome Macclin. <https://www.in.gov/files/Executive-Order-22-05-Macclin-Clemency.pdf>

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