

➔ TODAY'S VERSE

Psalms 1:1-3 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.



➔ FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Hazel Burris smile? "Making other people smile and making them feel valuable in what they have to offer," said the then 18-year-old Fishers resident, a 2019 Hamilton Southeastern High School graduate. She was found in 2019 representing her school, as a finalist, at the Horseshoe Prairie Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Good Citizen of the Year awards tea at the First United Methodist Church of Noblesville. Today's feature is a look back at one of The Times' previous Faces of Hamilton County. She is the daughter of Dan and Leah Burris and has a brother, Max, a then sophomore in college and one of her best friends. "My mom's probably my biggest inspiration. She passed away a couple of years ago. She had cancer. She's been my inspiration through everything I do. The person she was and the legacy she left, she taught me the importance of being my complete, true self and putting myself out in the community and making a difference in anything that I can do." Hazel plays the piano, knows basic American Sign Language and studies Spanish. She volunteers for Servants of Christ Lutheran Church, Habitat for Humanity Club and has collaborated with other students and Sen. Jim Merritt to develop ways to bring awareness to the opioid epidemic. At HSE, she has been a Key Club member, Royal Rumble student mentor to incoming freshmen and a member of "Be-You"tiful Club that discusses the importance of individuality. She earned a Varsity Letter all four years in HSE Wrestling, for which she was team manager. She earned Scholar Athlete Awards for maintaining her grade point average throughout high school. She participated in a mission trip to Memphis, where she worked to build new roofs for those in need. She went on a 12-day student educational trip to Italy, Switzerland and France to learn about their cultures. She graduated with an Academic Honors Diploma and envisions herself years from now with a degree in secondary education, with plans to create a mentor program for kids who have lost a parent to cancer. Through her efforts to help others, she said, "The most rewarding part of all is the humility in seeing the people's appreciation for what I can do for them." This year's Horseshoe Prairie Chapter of DAR Good Citizen of the Year will be announced in April.

And Another Thing...

Please be advised, Anthony Road between SR-38 and 216th Street will be under daytime road closures at the small structure while tree clearing work is completed for an upcoming project. Work will begin Monday, February 28, 2022 from 8:30am to 3:00pm and will continue daily, concluding at the end of Monday, March 14, 2022

# The TIMES

Hamilton County's Only Daily Newspaper



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The Times photo by Betsy Reason

Adriene's Flowers & Gifts in Noblesville – owned by Steve and Moffett Craig – was voted Favorite Florist in The Times' 2021 Readers Choice contest. This year's contest kicked off in January with readers invited to vote for their favorites in Hamilton County at [www.thetimes24-7.com](http://www.thetimes24-7.com)

## Vote for All of Your Favorites in The Times' 20th Readers' Choice Contest



BETSY REASON  
The Times Editor

While you may not have gotten out and about as often during 2020 and 2021, we know that you still have your favorites. Favorite

restaurant. Favorite jewelry store. Favorite florist.

So we're bringing back The Times Readers' Choice contest 2022.

It's the largest reader promo-

tion in Hamilton County. It's where you vote for all of your favorites.

The Times began celebrating Readers' Choice in 2003. Now this is the 20th year of Readers' Choice.

Where's your favorite place to find adventure in Hamilton County? Maybe one of the dozens of entertainment venues that we have here? Favorite lawn care provider? Best bowling center? Place for entertainment? Best bar and grill? Favorite antique store? Local lodge? Best

meat shop? Mom and pop shop? Resale shop? Music store?

Where can you sink your teeth into the best tenderloin? Or the best cheeseburger? Or best french fries? Where can you find the best omelet? Sandwich? Or milkshake? What about the best chili? Best cup of coffee? Or the best donut?

Who's your favorite pet groomer? Orthodontist? Or architect? What's your favorite

➔ See BETSY Page A6

## Tiptoeing Through the Tulips . . .



TIM TIMMONS  
Two Cents

Scatter-shooting while missing the wonderful work of Bob Collins . . .

\*\*\*  
FOR THE record, I've never been

confused with Tiny Tim (Google him, millennials – Baby Boomers remember him . . . and probably wish they didn't). My hair was never that long. I sang bass in the choir. And I can't play a ukulele. Now that we have that cleared up . . .

\*\*\*  
THIS WILL be my final column for a few weeks (I hope). If the good Lord is willing and the creek don't rise, I'll be back and better than ever sometime in March.

For the eight or nine of you regulars who follow my scribbles, this is the week for my by-

pass surgery. And for you guys keeping score at home, I'm hoping the good folks working here will be kind enough to throw an update in and share how the whole thing went. Hopefully it'll be good news or that statement about "a few weeks" might be a tad off-base!

\*\*\*  
HERE'S A question: When did we become so soft as a society that we now need warning labels on television shows . . .

AFTER EVERY COMMERCIAL. Do we really need to be alerted that the next few minutes will contain smoking? Or bad language? Or violence? Heck, that sounds like any weekend from back in the day.

Surely we're tougher than that. Maybe? Hopefully?

\*\*\*  
WHO ARE "they?" Ever notice how many times "they" get

➔ See TIMMONS Page A6

## Customer Service



RIX QUINN

Has this ever happened to you?

I wanted to reorder a product last week, so I called the company's toll-free phone

number. A cheerful recorded voice wished me a good morning (it was afternoon), and told me how much she valued my call, my time, my loyalty, and my impressive humanness.

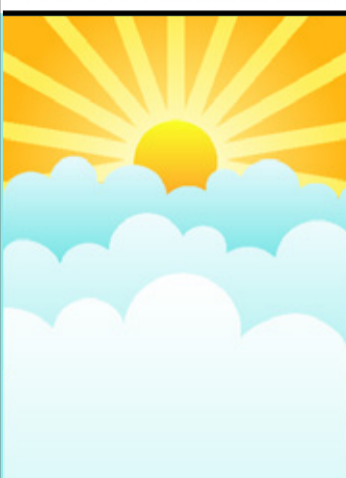
She reminded me that it was spring, and that their company offered several items to not only enhance my life, but to improve my ordinary appearance.

She asked for my 18-digit customer number. How should I know? I barely remember my address.

So, she then connected me to

➔ See QUINN Page A6

## The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset  
RISE: 7:24 a.m.  
SET: 6:30 p.m.



High/Low  
Temperatures  
High: 36 °F  
Low: 25 °F



Wacky Holiday Today

- Fat Thursday
- National Chili Day
- Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1920 The German Nazi party is founded
- 1989 A Boeing 747 jumbo jet rips open over the Pacific Ocean



Births On This Day

- 1955 Steve Jobs American businessman, co-founded Apple Inc., Pixar
- 1956 Judith Butler American philosopher

Deaths On This Day

- 1990 Malcolm Forbes American publisher
- 1929 André Messager French composer

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➔ OBITUARIES

JACK LEROY GLOVER  
JOHN CHRISTOPHER SCIAUDONE

➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Keep your fingers away from your eyes if you want to minimize your chances of getting "pink eye." Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Times and online at [www.thetimes24-7.com](http://www.thetimes24-7.com).



➔ HONEST HOOSIER

Hey, Hoosier Hysteria gets going next week with boys sectionals. I still miss the old tournament, but I'll still take this one.



The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank Gary and Barbara Gordon of Noblesville for subscribing!

➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"Do not allow people to dim your shine because they are blinded. Tell them to put some sunglasses on."  
Lady Gaga

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

Hey, do y'all remember those crazy old times when we used to eat cake after someone else had blown on it?



13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

25/34 WINTER MIX AND SNOW THU	27/32 MORNING SNOW FRI	19/35 MOSTLY SUNNY SAT	25/39 MOSTLY SUNNY SUN	18/40 MOSTLY SUNNY MON	24/47 NOT AS COLD TUE	30/40 WINDY AND COLDER WED
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## OBITUARIES

### John Christopher Sciaudone

Oct. 19, 1966 - Feb. 17, 2022

John Christopher Sciaudone, 55, lost his six-year battle with brain cancer on Feb. 17, 2022. He died peacefully surrounded by his family, his wife Stephanie and his amazing children, Sophia, Jack and Lauren.



He was born in Connecticut to John "Jack" and Sharon (Cade) Sciaudone on Oct. 19, 1966.

Mr. Sciaudone was the proud older brother to Jennifer (John) Burns, Allison Kozel and Andrew (Alberta) Sciaudone. Before his junior year of high school, the Sciaudone family moved to Marion, Indiana. As a child, he developed his love of sports, especially tennis, golf, Indiana University Basketball, and Notre Dame Football. Mr. Sciaudone was a member of the tennis team at Marion High School. After he graduated, he attended Indiana University and was a member Sigma Nu Fraternity, the Beta Eta chapter.

Mr. Sciaudone moved to California after college, and he coached tennis at the Clermont Racquet Club. Four years later, he returned to Marion and helped coach the Marion High School Boys Tennis Team to a State Championship. He also began to work with his father at the family business, Tulox Plastics Corporation, as the national sales manager. He was happy to return to Marion where he was surrounded by family and friends.

Mr. Sciaudone met his wife Stephanie through a good friend in 1997, and they married in April 1999. They have three beautiful and talented children, Sophia, Jack, and Lauren. He was so proud of his children and told anyone who would listen about their numerous activities and talents. Mr. Sciaudone was particularly proud of Sophia's academic success and commitment to IU Dance Marathon, Jack's athletic triumphs, and Lauren's singing talent. Jack and his dad shared a love of baseball, which eventually led to Mr. Sciaudone's involvement in Noblesville Youth Baseball where he served as its Executive Director.

Mr. Sciaudone was an awesome, encouraging, and loving dad. He taught his children the importance of faith and family through his words and actions. He never missed a performance, event, or activity that his children were involved in. Mr. Sciaudone shared his passion for sports with his family and they spent many hours watching sporting events together. The family attended many Notre Dame Football games and tailgates. They also enjoyed several trips to Walt Disney World. And Jack and his dad enjoyed many, many rounds of golf on courses all over the country.

Mr. Sciaudone's Catholic faith was of utmost importance to him. He was parishioner of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in Noblesville, Indiana. His children attended school at OLG. And he quickly immersed himself in the OLG community, volunteering his time and making many friendships.

Mr. Sciaudone and his wife decided to send the children to Guerin Catholic High School after they graduated from OLG. He was a great advocate for Guerin Catholic and loved the Guerin Catholic community. It is an understatement to say that the Guerin Catholic community was part of his extended family.

In his last years of life, Mr. Sciaudone reignited his love of tennis and became the head tennis coach of the Guerin Catholic Boys Tennis Team. He loved coaching the special group of student athletes and shared his love of tennis with his players. He inspired his players with his words, actions, and faithfulness. Mr. Sciaudone lived his life by the Guerin philosophy, "Love the children first, then teach them."

Despite suffering from brain cancer, Mr. Sciaudone always had a positive attitude and a smile on his face. He lived life to its fullest until his final moments. He was often described as a storyteller and a man of words. As a tribute to him, friends and family have used the following words to describe Mr. Sciaudone: faithful, brave, leader, inspiring, coach, teacher, kind, loving, caring, generous, thoughtful, encouraging, funny, and grateful.

Mr. Sciaudone was so thankful for the care he received during his six-year brain cancer journey from the Indiana University School of Medicine, Brigham Women's Hospital in Boston, and the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He also appreciated the support he received from his employer, Graphic Packaging, where he was an account executive.

Mr. Sciaudone found comfort in his unshakable faith in the Lord. He was a wonderful husband and father, a fabulous friend, and an amazing coach. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him, and his legacy will always live on in his family's and friends' hearts and memories.

Survivors include his wife, children, parents, siblings, and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents William and Frances Sciaudone and William and Lillian Cade of Norwalk, Connecticut.

A funeral mass in Mr. Sciaudone's honor is scheduled to be held at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church at 9900 East 191st Street in Noblesville, Indiana on Friday, Feb. 25 at 11 a.m. His celebration of life is scheduled to be held at the Ritz Charles at 12156 North Meridian in Carmel, Indiana on Saturday, Feb. 26 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Flowers or memorial gifts may be sent to Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Sciaudone Memorial Education Fund at Old National Bank or through Venmo: @Sophia-Sciaudone

### Jack LeRoy Glover

Oct. 16, 1941 - Feb. 21, 2022

Jack LeRoy Glover, 80, of Fortville, passed away on Monday, Feb. 21, 2022 at IU Health University Hospital in Indianapolis.

He was born on Oct. 16, 1941 to Donald and Marjorie (Abel) Glover in Mattoon, Ill.

Mr. Glover worked as an inspector for Allison Gas Turbines while serving as Fishers Fire Chief and Town Marshall. He enjoyed playing golf and poker with the boys. Most of all, he loved spending time with his family.

Survivors include his wife of 40 years, Patty Glover; children Jeff (Amy) Glover, Katherine Glover, Martha Compton, Penni (Tony) Spencer, Jason (Tiffani) Glover and Kelly (Stephen) Tutrow; brother, Donald (Jane) Glover; grandchildren Katie Glover, Emma Glover, Megan (Rick) Watson, Elizabeth Cook, Hannah (Rachel) Ricker, Nicholas (Megan) Compton, Allison (Matt) Compton, Brian (Mary) Stiles, Dylan (Kelcey) Stiles, Kai Byers, Hunter Glover, Lucas Glover, Madison Petrey, Kase Tutrow, Benjamin Tutrow and Sofia Tutrow; and his great-grandchildren, Brayden, Maci, Lily, Thatcher, Jack, James, Benjamin, CJ, Adilyn, Kaliya, Will and Charlee.

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

A Celebration of Life is scheduled to be held from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., with sharing of memories at 6:30 pm, on Monday, Feb. 28, 2022 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville, Ind. 46062.

Condolences can be made online at [www.randall-roberts.com](http://www.randall-roberts.com).



## Noblesville Business to Hold Hiring Events

News around the need for workers has been constant throughout the pandemic. The home care industry has felt this need, and with the global population of people aged 65 and older projected to more than double, from 703 million to 1.5 billion by 2050, there is a surge in demand for professional caregivers, as many older adults choose to age at home.

To meet this growing need, Home Instead, a leading provider of in-home senior care, is immediately hiring permanent part-time and full-time positions in the Noblesville area.

The local Home Instead offices are hosting hiring events on March 1 and 2 from 10 - 2 p.m. at:

- 2611 Waterfront Parkway East Drive, Suite 305 in Indianapolis
- 1311 N Arlington Ave, Suite 210 in Indianapolis
- 941 E 86th St, Suite 250 in Indianapolis
- 633 Library Park Dr, Suite G in Greenwood

• 341 Logan St, Suite L 100 in Noblesville

Professional caregivers have proven to be essential workers during the pandemic, making the labor shortage in this industry more dire. They provide services such as Alzheimer's care, companionship, meal preparation, household help, personal care, and transportation for older adults living, and often isolating, at home. Dedicated caregivers build meaningful relationships and often find rewarding jobs with opportunities for advancement, and the positions are a strong building block for those interested in a career in healthcare.

I would be happy to put you in touch with a local spokesperson or caregiver, who can speak to the rewarding aspects of caregiving or employee benefits.

For more information about career opportunities at Home Instead, visit [HomeInstead.com/careers](http://HomeInstead.com/careers).

## IPRA, Fishers P.D. Intern Among 2022 IMPACT Award Winners



Nine categories, 80-plus nominees and infinite potential. The 16th Annual Indiana IMPACT Awards, presented by Work and Learn Indiana, honored outstanding talent and contributions regarding Hoosier internships at a virtual celebration today.

The winners - chosen by a panel of impartial judges - are:

- College Intern of the Year: Jenna Burow, Purdue University (Fishers)
- High School Intern of the Year: Shelby Rosenberger, Franklin County High School (Brookville)
- Non-Traditional Intern of the Year: Dana Perez, The Children's Museum (Indianapolis)
- College Career Development Professional of the Year: Kathy Kassissieh, RoseHulman Institute of Technology (Terre Haute)
- High School Career Development Professional of the Year: Eric Feller, Oldenburg Academy (Oldenburg)
- Intern Supervisor of the Year: Kameron Utter, Quest Safety Products Inc. (Indianapolis)
- Employer of the Year (For-Profit): Corteva Agriscience (Indianapolis)
- Employer of the Year (Non-Profit): Indiana Park and Recreation Association (Noblesville)
- David R. McKinn-

The two winners from Hamilton County are listed below:

Employer of the Year (non-profit): Indiana Park and Recreation Association

While the Indiana Park and Recreation Association (IPRA) may only take on a few interns at a time, that does not make its interns' contributions any less significant. The organization gives interns the chance to directly make an impact statewide, serving more than 1,800 members. Interns' work directly impacts the success of the organization, giving them meaningful experiences to further their educational and professional journeys.

IPRA maximizes the potential of its interns by tailoring each experience to an individual's skill set. Instead of strictly staying within an internship's job description, the organization seeks to play to each intern's interests, resulting in more enthusiasm and overall satisfaction with the experience. Students experience a wide variety of networking opportunities, including at the organization's annual conference, giving them access to significant connections within the parks and recreation field.

IPRA's internship program pays off as a successful talent pipeline strategy. Multiple interns were hired as full-time staff, or placed at IPRA's counterparts around the state. By committing to providing meaningful and informative experiences to its interns, IPRA builds a sustainable pipeline for not only itself, but for Indiana's entire parks and recreation field.

recreation field.

College Intern of the Year: Jenna Burow, Purdue University

To many, forensics is a fascinating and challenging field. For Jenna Burow, it's a potential career and an enduring passion. She's been interning with the Fishers Police Department, primarily in the forensics unit, since 2017. When COVID-19 led to the elimination of her paid internship position in 2020, Burow persevered, requesting to continue as a volunteer.

Among her accomplishments are earning a designation as a certified evidence technician and drone operator. She's qualified to respond to/process crime scenes and trained to deploy the police department drone to search for missing children, endangered people and criminal suspects. She also serves on the Indiana Division of the International Association of Identification, a rare distinction for an intern.

Her supervisor, Sgt. Jim Hawkins, cites her mentoring skills as a strength: "Jenna sees the value in training her replacement. She cares enough about the forensics unit that she has purposefully cultivated relationships with other interns to develop future leadership within the lab."

Burow has excelled in applying critical thinking and problem-solving capabilities. She created an interactive lesson plan that she has implemented as an instructor, teaching classes for the Fishers Police Department Teen Academy and Cadet Program.

Thanks for reading The Times, Hamilton County!

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# Readers' Choice Awards 2022

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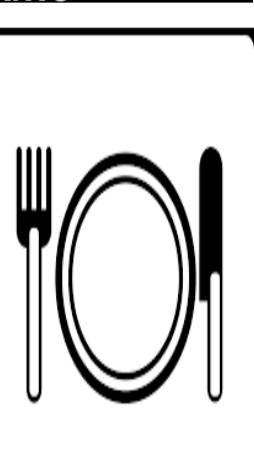
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Photo courtesy of Westfield Washington Schools

Check presentation from Rotary Club of Westfield in support of "Laugh It Off" - Staff Appreciation event on Friday, April 29th in support of Westfield Washington Schools staff hosted by the Westfield Education Foundation.

## Westfield Education Foundation Hosts "Laugh it Off" Teacher Appreciation Event for Westfield Washington Schools Staff

The Westfield Education Foundation is honoring all Westfield Washington Schools' staff on Friday, April 29, 2022, with a night of laughter and magic at The Center For the Performing Arts with an event called "Laugh it Off". Staff will be entertained by comedian Eddie B & magician Jeff Loeser. The Westfield High School Culinary Arts students will provide desserts. The host for the evening will be Washington Woods Elementary School Principal Tom Hakim. Entry is FREE to all Westfield Washington Schools' staff but they must register in

advance. Former Westfield teacher and current president of the Westfield Education Foundation, Kyle Messmore said it's important that teachers know they are appreciated. "We wanted to hold this program to show our support and appreciation for all of the staff in the Westfield Washington Schools district," Messmore said. "These teachers are dedicated to providing the best education for our students. What better way to support their wellbeing than to provide them a night of appreciation and entertainment."

Helping to support the event is the Rotary Club of Westfield. Rotary Club administrator Cindy Olson, said she and the Rotary Club understand the power of giving. "We understand the importance of appreciating Westfield Washington Schools staff. They are our connection to Westfield students and building promising futures. It has been a challenging few years. Our Rotary Club felt called to donate \$2500 in support of this event." Ashley Knott, Westfield Education Foundation's executive director, is pleased

with the collaboration that is making this event possible. "All nine schools are working together to host this event," Knott said. "We appreciate the staff's resilience, dedication, and commitment to our students. Hosting an event such as this allows our staff to take a night off." This event is made possible through community partnerships from The Center for Performing Arts, our WHS Culinary Arts program, Westfield Washington Schools, PTOs, local businesses, and generous donors.

## Hamilton Heights is #PublicSchoolProud

This week, Hamilton Heights School Corporation (HHSC) joins a nationwide observance in celebrating the vital role that local public schools play in student's and our nation's futures. In addition to offering education for children in kindergarten through high school, public schools like Heights, provide meals, special needs support, family resources, and school staff who help children navigate challenges and become successful. In addition, public schools strive to provide equitable access for students of all races, colors, lifestyles, languages, and abilities. Strong public schools are the building blocks of our democracy and the foundation of success for young people across the country. Public education makes our communities stronger. It is the key to ensuring the future remains bright for the 90% of children who attend public schools. HHSC has been preparing students for successful college and ca-

reer experiences for over a century. At the same time, it offers unlimited opportunities for students to build character, leadership, citizenship, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills among a few that are essential to becoming productive members of society. Working together to advance the mission of public education will ensure that every child can receive an education that helps them reach their full potential and become the best version of themselves. Let's continue to make the necessary investments in our public education institutions at all levels for students today and tomorrow. Please take a moment to thank a teacher, principal, school staff member, coach, counselor, custodian, bus driver, or other HHSC employee for their tireless dedication, compassion, care, and who help maximize opportunities for all children attending Heights.

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# BBB Scam Alert: Tech Support Scams



A tech support rep calls and offers to fix a computer bug you haven't even noticed, or a popup warning appears on the screen instructing you to dial a number for help. In this con, scammers pose as tech support employees of well-known computer companies and hassle victims into paying for their "support."

Within the last year BBB Serving Central Indiana has received numerous Scam Tracker reports from consumers losing more than \$5,000 to tech scams.

**How the Scam Works:**  
A call comes through on the Caller ID, a popup on the computer screen or you receive an email from someone claiming to be with tech support from a well-known software company. Microsoft, Comcast, Norton and Dell are all popular choices. The scammer creates a sense of urgency—the computer is sending error messages, they've detected a virus, or your computer is about to crash causing a massive loss of data!

Rest assured the tech support employee can fix the problem but only if they're allowed to remote access the troubled machine. Once access is granted, the caller will often run a "scan" and claim the computer is infected with viruses. The offer is made to fix and repair the machine for a fee. That may not be the end of the scam. If you allow remote access, malware may be installed on your machine. Malware often scans files

in search of personal information, which scammers then use to commit identity theft.

According to a recent BBB Scam Tracker report, a Bloomington woman reported losing \$1,400 to this tech scam. She called the number in a pop-up message after her computer screen went black. At the time, she believed she was speaking to a technician at Microsoft. "He then told me that he will download an ad blocker Aduard and cleaner and charged me \$699 for the software - I thought this was a good way for me to protect my information online, so I wrote out a check for \$699." Later, she realized additional charges had been taken from her account and that's when she knew she had been scammed. She is now taking steps to shut down her bank account and file a police report.

Tips to spot this scam:  
• Never give control of your computer to a third party unless you are absolutely certain it is the representative of a computer support team you initiated contacted.

• Legitimate tech support companies don't make unsolicited phone calls. A popular way for thieves to get in touch with victims is through cold calls. The callers often claim to be from a tech company. Scammers do and they can spoof official looking phone numbers, so don't trust Caller ID.

• Look out for warning screens: Nearly half of tech support scams begin with an alert on the victim's computer screen. This pop up will have a phone number to call for help. Instead, disconnect from the internet and wi-fi connection by shutting off the device and restart it with an antiviral scan.

• Be wary of sponsored links. When searching online for tech support, look out for sponsored ads at the top of the results list. Many of these links lead

to businesses that scam consumers.

• Avoid clicking on links in unfamiliar emails. Scammers also use email to reach victims. These messages point consumers to scam websites that launch pop-ups with the fake warnings and phone numbers.

If you are a victim of a tech support scam:

- Contact the bank immediately to report the incident and describe exactly what happened.
- Take the laptop, tablet, mobile device, or computer that was infected to a trusted local business and have it checked out.
- Remove any software that authorized remote access to the device.
- Change all of the passwords used to access bank accounts, social media and other websites that contain personal information.
- File a report with BBB Scam Tracker and with law enforcement authorities, such as the FTC

To learn how to protect yourself, go to "10 Steps to Avoid Scams" and sign up for scam alerts.

Read BBB's complete study with more details on who is behind tech support scams, how they are requesting money, and whom they are victimizing, as well as BBB's recommendations for dealing with the problem.

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.

# Todd Young, Senators Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Test Portable Benefit Models

Last week, U.S. Senators Todd Young (R-Ind.) and Mark Warner (D-Va.) introduced legislation to test innovative portable benefit designs for the growing independent workforce.

The Portable Benefits for Independent Workers Pilot Program Act seeks to provide these workers with access to benefits typically provided through traditional full-time employment. This legislation would establish a \$20 million grant fund within the U.S. Department of Labor to incentivize states, localities, and nonprofit organizations to experiment with portable benefits models for the independent workforce.

"Job opportunities in the gig economy provide workers with utmost flexibility, which is increasingly needed as parents continue to adjust schedules due to the pandemic," Senator Young said. "Supporting portable benefit options helps uncover creative solutions to addressing the needs of our drastically changing workforce. I am pleased to reintroduce this bill to make it easier for Hoosiers to find the job opportunity that best suits their family situation."

"More Americans than ever are engaging in part-time, contract or other alternative work arrangements. As the workforce changes, it is increasingly important that we provide



Todd Young

workers with an ability to access more flexible benefits that can be carried to multiple jobs across a day, a year, and even a career," Senator Warner said. "This program will encourage experimentation at the state and local levels to find ways we can better support our independent, 21st century workforce."

The legislation is co-sponsored by Sens. Angus King (I-Maine), Ben Sasse (R-Neb.), Michael Bennet (D-Colo.), and John Hoeven (R-N.D.).

While the composition of the workforce has changed, those who earn all or some of their income as independent contractors, part-time workers, temporary workers, or contingent workers find it difficult and expensive to access benefits and protections that are commonly provided to full-time employees, such as paid leave, workers' compensation, skills training, unemployment insurance, tax withholding, and

tax-advantaged retirement savings. As the workforce changes, employers and policymakers need to consider a system of portable benefits that allow workers to carry these benefits with them from job to job across a lifetime in the workforce.

The Portable Benefits for Independent Workers Pilot Program Act would establish a portable benefits pilot program at the U.S. Department of Labor. It authorizes a total of \$20 million for competitive grants to states, local governments, and nonprofits for pilot projects to design, implement and evaluate new models or assess and improve existing models for portable benefits for independent workers such as contractors, temporary workers, and self-employed workers.

Eligible models should provide any number of work-related benefits and protections – such as retirement savings, workers compensation, life or disability insurance, sick leave, training and educational benefits, health care, and more. In order to encourage innovative thinking on these challenging issues, programs focused solely on retirement-related benefits will not be eligible. In awarding grants, the Secretary of Labor is directed to prioritize models that can be replicated on a large scale or at the national level.

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**BETSY** From Page A1

car dealer? Favorite playhouse? Favorite real estate agent?

Yes, The Times invites you to vote for your favorites in the Readers' Choice Awards 2022 contest.

The contest is self-explanatory. You go online to [www.TheTimes24-7.com](http://www.TheTimes24-7.com). You'll find the icon on the top of the home page; then click, and vote.

With nearly 170 categories, this contest does take at least 30 to 40 minutes

to complete, if you vote for every category. If you think that's a long time, just imagine how long it took for The Times' staff to come up with this list initially and to update this list each year.

From years' past, we know this contest is popular among our readers, from individuals to businesses and nonprofits to fraternal organizations.

It's funny, but when I'm out and about, folks ask when the contest winners will be announced,

when the favorites will go live online, and when we'll hand out the awards.

We encourage your friends, your family, your coworkers, your club members, and your customers to vote. And vote as many or as few times as desired and as often as you want.

Each year, there are more than a record 1 million votes.

"This promotion just grows every year because everyone wants to share

those favorite places to go in Noblesville and Hamilton County," said The Times publisher Tim Timmons.

Last year there were more than half a million votes.

"We started the Readers' Choice Awards as a way to have some fun and let people recognize their favorite things," Timmons has said. "It seems that we always hear about the bad things. Readers' Choice is a great opportunity to point

out the many, many good things and good people all over Hamilton County."

This contest is a way to recognize your favorite things in Hamilton County, particularly your favorite people, places and services.

Ballots are online at [www.thetimes24-7.com](http://www.thetimes24-7.com). If a business, group, company, etc., is not listed that you want to vote for, let us know by emailing [ttimmons@thetimes24-7.com](mailto:ttimmons@thetimes24-7.com). We'll be

sure to add it right away.

The winners of the Readers' Choice Awards 2022 contest will be published in an Online Edition as soon as we can get the votes tallied.

Each of the winners will receive a certificate that can be framed and proudly displayed.

Now, ready, set, vote! P.S. Don't forget to vote for your favorite columnist.

- Contact Betsy Reason at [betsy@thetimes24-7.com](mailto:betsy@thetimes24-7.com).

**QUINN** From Page A1

the automated system. It first asked me to press numbers for my zip code, my street address, then for the day, month, and year of my birth. It next asked me to press 1 if I was a returning customer, 2 if I was a new customer, and 3 if I didn't know what I was.

The voice told me I was only two minutes away from my live contact. While waiting, I listened to unidentifiable musical notes. I did not know the song, but I discovered I could not dance to it.

Finally, a real person greeted me. I'm sure he was live, because I asked him if he was a robot, and

he said no. "Please be aware that this call may be recorded for quality purposes," he instructed.

I told him the product I wanted, and he said, "That item has been discontinued. But we appreciate your business, and we invite you to call back next week."

But I will not...for quality purposes.

- Rix Quinn is a former magazine editor who appears here each week. Quinn is a native of Fort Worth, Texas and appears in about 140 newspapers across the nation. Got a story idea for Rix? E-mail it to [rix@rixquinn.com](mailto:rix@rixquinn.com)

**TIMMONS** From Page A1

the blame or credit for something? Exactly who are "they?" And where are "they?" I'd like to talk to "them." It sounds like "they" have a lot of answers to questions I'd like to ask "them."

\*\*\*

**FEBRUARY**, as you know, is Black History Month. Isn't it astounding and sad that we still care deeply about the pigmentation that causes skin color? Wouldn't it be nice (and far more important) if a person's character mattered more

than skin color? Heck, wouldn't it be even nicer if we all left the judging of others to the man upstairs? I'm not an expert on the Bible, but I seem to recall that's what He told us to do.

\*\*\*

**HERE IS** a heart-felt and very sincere thank you to all the wonderful people I am lucky enough to work with. They will all take on more work in the next few weeks, and I want to publicly acknowledge how much I both appre-

ciate and admire them. As many of you know, it's a new and very different day for newspapers and I am truly lucky to be with the team we have here. Many thanks, Gang!

\*\*\*

**I'LL BET** several of you remember Robert Joseph (Bob) Collins. The former Sports Editor of the Indianapolis Star was one of a handful of scribes I read as much as possible 100 or so years ago when I was just a lad. He and Don

Jellison, Wayne Fuson, Blackie Sherrod and so many others had a lot to do with this newspaper vagabond going into the business. All of them are gone now and newspapers are much poorer for that fact.

- 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](mailto:ttimmons@thetimes24-7.com)

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# I ndiana



# Facts & Fun

## 24 Franklin

### Number Stumpers

1. What is the population density of the county?  
≥
2. How old is Franklin County?  
≤
3. How many people in the county do not live in Brookville?  
≥
4. How long ago was it that Brookville platted?  
≤

Answers: 1. 59/sq mi 2. 208 Years 3. Around 20,491 People 4. 211 Years

## Did You Know?

- Franklin County was founded in 1811 and named after Benjamin Franklin.
- Brookville, the county seat, contains 2, 596 residents and is 1.54 square feet.
- The county contains numerous historical landmarks.
- Brookville was platted in 1808 by Thomas Manwarring.
- The county is 391.05 square miles and has a population of 23, 087 residents.

## Got Words?

Brookville contains 6 historical landmarks of differing origins, and there are more landmarks throughout the county. Why do you think it is important that cities preserve historical homes, buildings and other sites?

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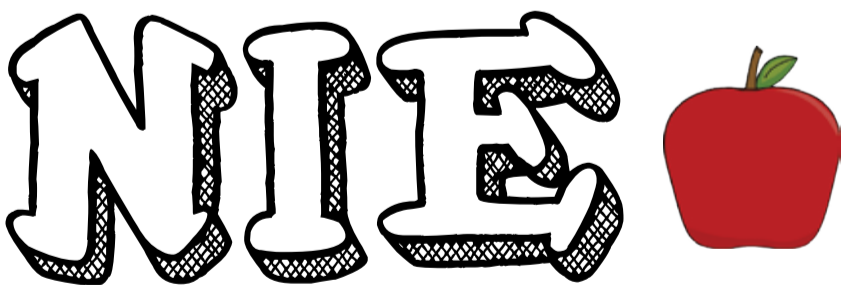
## Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

1. OVRLBIKLE
2. LNARDAKM
3. NLRANIFK YNUCOT
4. ITSrhoY
5. IEAMBJNN NANIRKLF

Answers: 1. Brookville 2. Landmark 3. Franklin County 4. History 5. Benjamin Franklin

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# THURSDAY

## Indiana the Strong

Thursday, Feb. 24, 2022

A8

### IDEM Offers Free Virtual Earth Day Presentations To Hoosier Students

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is offering free virtual presentations to elementary schools across the state to celebrate Earth Day 2022. Every year, IDEM staff meet with students to talk about their careers and share science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) based lessons about air, land, water, and recycling. "IDEM's annual Earth Day presentations are a great way to teach students about the importance of protecting our environment," said IDEM Commissioner Brian Rockensuess. "These virtual lessons encourage students to understand how their actions can impact them-

selves and their community."

Virtual Earth Day presentations are available for elementary schools across the state and vary in length from 30 to 50 minutes. The interactive presentations offer activities such as reduce, reuse, recycle your trash; or a demonstration on how water flows through a watershed. Teachers who participated in IDEM's virtual presentations last year commented about how much they enjoyed the "hands-on way of learning" and "my students are still using the words they learned from the presentation."

Registration is required and is now open. Please visit [www.idem.in.gov/iee/index.htm](http://www.idem.in.gov/iee/index.htm) to see

dates, topics, and to register. Educators may direct questions to IDEM's Environmental Education Outreach Coordinator at [education@idem.IN.gov](mailto:education@idem.IN.gov) or 800-988-7901. Presentations are also available throughout the year. For more information, please visit IDEM's Environmental Education website: [www.idem.IN.gov/iee/](http://www.idem.IN.gov/iee/).

About IDEM  
IDEM ([idem.IN.gov](http://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.

### ICRC Celebrates Black History Month

The Indiana Civil Rights Commission (ICRC) and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Indiana Holiday Commission (MLKIHCC) are pleased to share their "What are you Doing for Others?" light show throughout the month of February in honor of Black History Month.

With the help of Downtown Indy and Innovative, ICRC's light show, inspired by Dr. King's famous quote, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" will be displayed on the AES building nightly throughout February. Featuring community members and leaders, the video shares a storyline emphasizing the importance of service.

The video will play nightly following the Signature Salute at approximately 6:45, 8:15, and 10:15pm through Feb. 28. ICRC welcomes all Hoosiers to visit the heart of our state to view the illuminating light show.

"After such a great response from our community members on our Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, we were thrilled to have Innovative offer to share our light show throughout Black History Month. While celebrating the achievements of African Americans this month, it is vital to make your own contributions to society in the acts of service," said Greg L. Wilson, ICRC executive director.

ICRC will continue its "What are you Doing for Others?" campaign

throughout the month of February while highlighting some of Indiana's most minority-supportive companies and organizations. Follow ICRC on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter @INCivilRights to learn more.

About Indiana Civil Rights Commission  
The Indiana Civil Rights Commission (ICRC) enforces the civil rights laws of the State of Indiana. We investigate complaints of discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodation, credit and education. We also educate organizations, companies, landlords, associations, and individuals on their rights and responsibilities under Indiana Civil Rights Laws and the mission to eradicate discrimination.



### Virtual Reality Enhances Lives of ASC Residents

American Senior Communities is pleased to announce a new partnership with MyndVR, the leading provider of virtual reality solutions for older adults in the United States, ASC is bringing MyndVR's virtual reality (VR) program to our residents. MyndVR's immersive VR platform allows seniors to engage in an array of fields including learning, travel, art, music and nature.

MyndVR debuted the innovative technology recently at Allisonville Meadows Assisted Living in Fishers, Indiana, ASC plans to expand this service to additional Senior Living locations. This immersive technology allowing residents to experience a variety of scenarios, including visiting foreign cities, interacting with animals, joining a Broadway musical on stage, and even sky diving.

"We are so excited to be partnering with American Senior Communities to bring our headsets to their residents," said Chris Brickler, CEO of MyndVR. "Their team has been incredible to work with and we can't wait to see how the community responds to the technology."

ASC is an Indiana owned and operated senior community that takes pride in incorporating Hoosier hospitality in all of their services. ASC has created an Integrated Care Network with a full range of lifestyle and care options

to bring innovative ways to serve their residents. Their latest partnership with MyndVR is one of the ways their team is honoring this commitment.

The video link below captures a recent demonstration of the MyndVR technology as it was introduced at Allisonville Meadows Assisted Living. <https://vimeo.com/661315762/f496827595>

As the largest senior healthcare provider in Indiana, ASC is proud to be the first such industry member to incorporate this immersive technology for their residents. While virtual reality is certainly entertaining, it has many applications for older adults and can be used to enhance various therapies.

"ASC is intentional in choosing partnerships that allow us to leverage cutting edge technology to enrich the lives of the residents that we are honored to serve," said David Stordy, Chief Operating Officer at ASC. "We are truly excited to partner with MyndVR to bring these innovative virtual reality experiences to our residents as part of our mission to serve each customer with quality care and excellence."

About American Senior Communities  
American Senior Communities offers a variety of senior lifestyle and care options throughout Indiana and Louisville. To learn more visit [ASCCare.com](http://ASCCare.com).

### Indiana Department Of Education Provides Update On Indiana GPS Dashboard Development

At last week's State Board of Education (SBOE) meeting, the Indiana Department of Education provided an update on development of the Indiana Graduates Prepared to Succeed (Indiana GPS) dashboard. This included an update on how data could be used to show performance of student populations across a range of measures.

"We know that the pandemic's academic disruptions disproportionately impacted many of our students who were already struggling to master foundational skills," said Dr. Katie Jenner, Indiana Secretary of Education.

"As we develop the Indiana GPS dashboard, we will continue working with stakeholders to ensure each indicator is accessible and useful. This includes functionality that empowers users to dive in to learn more about how student populations have been impacted by learning disruptions and how they are recovering. Transparency will help drive continuous improvement for our students."

By allowing users to view data disaggregated by student population across multiple indicators, the Indiana GPS dashboard will allow stakeholders to view

where students are today – and work towards helping students gain support where they need it the most. For example, as just one data point, last spring's ILEARN results show that achievement gaps persist among Indiana's racially and ethnically diverse, low-income, special education and English language learner students – gaps that were exacerbated by the pandemic.

As IDOE works to have the initial version of the dashboard operational this fall, the department is engaging school leaders, teachers, families and community members

to gain feedback on how data is displayed – making it accessible across a variety of indicators. This information will be presented on landing pages, school summary pages and informational pages that display trends and data comparisons.

Dashboard development follows the SBOE's unanimous approval last year of five characteristics that best indicate a student's preparation for success after high school, as well as the indicators that will measure these characteristics. These characteristics and indicators will be the basis for the dashboard.

### Nearly \$500,000 In Federal Grant Funds Available For Specialty Crop Industry

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), beginning Feb. 15, will seek project proposals from Indiana's specialty crop sector for funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. Eligible projects must enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops in Indiana, defined as fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, horticulture and nursery crops.

"Indiana is home to an abundance of agricultural sectors, including a robust specialty crop industry that contributes significantly to our economy," said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, Secretary of Agriculture. "The funding through this program, whether that be research, market development or education and training, will help to greatly advance this industry in our state."

The USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program offers federal funding annually to the state departments of agriculture to support their specialty crop industries. Indiana's allocation is \$486,095.35.

ISDA created and distributed a funding priority survey in early 2022 for specialty crop funding; respondents included stakeholders across the specialty crop industry. Based on the survey suggested projects included enhancing food safety, pest and disease control, developing organic and sustainable production practices, and developing local and regional food systems. When the application opens please refer to the notice of funding opportunity for a full list of suggested projects.

Funding will not be awarded to projects that benefit a particular commercial product, or provide a profit to

a single organization, institution or individual. Each project must identify at least one of the new USDA performance measures that specifically demonstrates the project's impact on enhancing the competitiveness of eligible specialty crops.

"These funds have the potential to make a substantial impact on the specialty crop industry," said Bruce Kettler, Indiana State Department of Agriculture director. "I encourage those involved in the specialty crop sector to apply and work toward further supporting this industry and enhancing its significance in our state."

Applications open on Feb. 15, 2022 and are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on March 8, 2022. Proposals must be submitted online through the Indiana State Department of Agriculture's Grants Management System.

ISDA will host a SCBGP webinar for interested applicants on February 22, 2022. Registration information is available on ISDA's Funding Opportunities website.

ABOUT ISDA  
The Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) was established as a separate state agency by the Legislature in 2005. Administratively, ISDA reports to Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch, who also serves as Indiana's Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. Major responsibilities include advocacy for Indiana agriculture at the local, state and federal level, managing soil conservation programs, promoting economic development and agricultural innovation, serving as a regulatory ombudsman for agricultural businesses, and licensing grain firms throughout the state.

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