

➔ **TODAY'S VERSE**

Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.



➔ **FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY**

People who call our community their own.

**What makes Laura Wertz smile?** "Being able to come beside all of my friends with 4-H, with my other extracurriculars within school and outside. and just the camaraderie between me and my friends," said the 18-year-old, a Noblesville High School senior and 10-year Hamilton County 4-H'er. "I have been involved with 4-H ever since my brothers were young." The daughter of Brad and Susan Wertz was found Wednesday making a presentation about sheep to second-graders during the Hamilton County Ag Day activities, which kicked off Tuesday and continue through today at the Fairgrounds in Noblesville. "I love the (4-H) Sheep project. It's provided a place where I can make many friends and have new, different opportunities where living in suburban Noblesville might not provide that. Being able to learn how to run a business by myself, raising animals and selling them for either wool or meat, has taught me money management, how to conduct myself in front of future investors and people who would like to support me in my career. I've learned a lot from 4-H, and it's just a really cool thing to be a part of, and I'm really thankful for it." She invites everyone to stop by at the Sheep Barn during the 4-H Fair, which runs July 14-18. She also plans to compete in the 4-H Queen Pageant. Favorite food at the 4-H Fair? She said, "Cherry Slushie from the (Westfield) Whiz Kids tent. Yes!" At NHS, she has performed in show choir all four years and will perform tonight with NHS Singers during the district's show choir concert at the school. She performed in NHS's musicals, "High School Musical" as Ms. Darbus and in "Beauty & The Beast" as Mrs. Potts. After high school, she plans to attend Ball State University and study music education. She is a cadet teacher with Noblesville West Middle School choir director Alex Axsom and hopes to teach choir someday.

➔ **And Another Thing...**

In the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy gave a video address to a joint session of Congress. Senator Mike Braun issued the following statement after President Zelenskyy's address: "Today we heard from President Zelenskyy about his people's fight for their freedom, and the U.S. must continue to help them repel the Russian invaders with lethal defensive aid and economic sanctions that cripple Russia's ability to fund this war and isolate them from the world economy. United States and NATO military leaders must be reminded to take every precaution to avoid escalations that will result in war with Russia and American soldiers being put in harm's way."

# The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper



NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Second-graders from Legacy Christian School in Noblesville learn about llamas from local 4-H'ers at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds on Wednesday during Hamilton County Ag Day activities, which kicked off Tuesday and continue through today at the 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville.**

## Ag Day Returns for 2nd-Graders



**BETSY REASON**  
The Times Editor

Anybody who has driven by the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds since Tuesday has likely noticed Reynolds' Farm Equipment's big green and yellow John Deere 8370 R tractor parked on the lawn of the Exhibition Center.

Hamilton County Ag Day -- in its 36th year -- is being celebrated three days this week -- Tuesday, Wednesday and today -- with activities planned at the 4-H Fairgrounds for 2,500 second-graders and teachers from pre-registered Hamilton County schools.

The students rotate through 11 different live animal and crop presentations thanks to a staff of more than 100 4-H and FFA members and adult volunteers who coordinate Ag Day activities and make these presentations. Among the dozens of Ag Day youth volunteers are 11 Noblesville High School student presenters, including my own sophomore 4-H'er daughter (who is helping with the Ag Day program this morning), and her classmates, Danielle Baker,

➔ See BETSY Page A5

## Hammer Pays a Visit to the Missus . . .



**TIM TIMMONS**  
Two Cents

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Tim Timmons will be returning soon. He underwent quadruple bypass surgery and is on the mend. In his stead this week, his wife Linda reports on an unexpected visit from a very familiar face.*

As a publisher's wife I've encountered many people with opinions about the news and newspapers, most of them very pleasant. But I wasn't expecting

➔ See TIMMONS Page A5



Photo courtesy of Noblesville Schools

**Noblesville Schools announced two new promotions to assistant superintendent, Ryan Rich (left) and Heather Hendrich. The two replace the departing Dr. David Mundy. CFO David Hortemiller (right) will also see an expansion of his office's responsibilities and areas of operation.**

## Noblesville Schools Names Assistant Superintendents

Noblesville Schools announced today that they have appointed Ryan Rich and Dr. Heather Hendrich as assistant superintendents, replacing Dr. David Mundy who has been named the new superintendent of Sheridan Community Schools.

Rich takes on the role of assistant superintendent from his current position as co-ex-

ecutive director of learning. He will now be the district's academic leader, overseeing the learning department and supporting educator selection and development. Previously, Rich served as the principal of Noblesville East Middle School. He is currently pursuing his doctorate at Ball

➔ See SCHOOLS Page A5

## The Daily Almanac



**Sunrise/Sunset**  
RISE: 7:52 a.m.  
SET: 7:53 p.m.



**High/Low Temperatures**  
High: 75 °F  
Low: 46 °F



- Wacky Holiday Today**
- St. Patrick's Day
  - Corned Beef and Cabbage Day
  - Oranges and Lemons Day



- What Happened On This Day**
- 1941 The National Gallery of Art opens in Washington, D.C.
  - 1992 Apartheid in South Africa comes to an end



- Births On This Day**
- 1919 Nat King Cole American singer, pianist, television host
  - 1948 William Gibson American/Canadian author

- Deaths On This Day**
- 460 Saint Patrick Irish missionary, bishop
  - 2006 Oleg Cassini French/American fashion designer

➔ **INSIDE TODAY**

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- Indiana The Strong.....A7

➔ **OBITUARIES**

**Deborah "Debbie" Martin**

➔ **TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

If you sit a lot at work, take walking breaks as often as you can to help keep your weight in check. 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**

Happy St. Patrick's Day -- and an Irish blessing on you all!



➔ **TODAY'S QUOTE**

"May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, The rains fall soft upon your fields, And, until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand."

- An Irish blessing

➔ **TODAY'S JOKE**

In honor of St. Paddy, we'll share some jokes for a bit that'll have you Dublin over with laughter! What musical instrument does a show-off play this time of year? Brag-pipes!



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



**7 DAY FORECAST**

73 BRIGHT AND BALEY	46/75 WINDY WET AND WET	50/63 WET AND WET	42/46 WINDY, BALEY WET AND WET	37/61 WINDY SUNNY	41/67 WARMER	49/58 RAIN RETURN
WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE



## ➔ OBITUARIES

### Deborah "Debbie" Martin

Sep. 23, 1956 - March 14, 2022

Deborah "Debbie" Martin, 65, of Indianapolis, passed away March 14, 2022.

She was born in Indianapolis on Sep. 23, 1956, daughter of the late Andrew and Betty (Rush) McElyea.

Ms. Martin was a 1974 graduate of Decatur Central High School. She worked at Republic Airways and ATA as a scheduler for several years. Most recently, she worked for Koorsen Fire and Safety, also in scheduling.

Ms. Martin was privileged to have a loving family during her childhood. She continued to have a close relationship with her parents until the end of their lives. She lovingly cared for her them until the end.

Her family was her priority. Mrs. Martin was a proud grandmother and loved to talk about her grandchildren whenever possible. She enjoyed traveling during her career with ATA Airlines. She acquired many friends along the way during her career.

Her laugh was contagious. The jokes she told would make everyone laugh. She was an avid reader. Just a few of her favorites were biographies, novels, history or whatever was available to read.

Survivors include her daughter, Dana (Martin) Sailes (Andre Paris); grandchildren Mikayla Sailes and Camden Sailes; brothers Allan McElyea and Rodney McElyea; nephew, Cody McElyea; and niece, Danielle McElyea.

Friends and family are scheduled to gather Fri., March 18, 2022 at 1 p.m. at Crossroads Church in Westfield 19201 Grassy Branch Road, where the Funeral Service is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m. with Pastor Shawn Eldridge officiating.

Bussell Family Funerals is privileged to assist the family in arrangements.



## The Middle Ages



**RIX QUINN**  
Quinn Summary

I've been reading old articles we've had around the house since the 1980s.

I keep a file folder near my desk that holds newspaper and magazine clippings. Some days I read about things that happened last year. Sometimes I read about inventions from 1975. Yesterday I read about the Middle Ages (not mine, but the world's). Those folks suffered nearly 1,000 years...and those were the rich ones.

What if you had no alarm clock? What if you had no toothbrush? What if you had no tooth?

How tough was it? Well, rich people owned the land, lived in a castle, and could afford to bathe once a year.

Peasants farmed that land, and lived in houses made of wood, straw, and clay. Those dwellings had no windows, dirt floors... and sometimes farm animals slept inside. (That meant their wooden TVs had to remain at high volume.)

These people worked long hours, between sunrise and sunset. They had no wristwatches. Sundials were too heavy to keep in a pocket.

Many remedies were herbal. They were passed down from one generation to the next, mostly by conversation. (These were the first oral medications.)

Consequently, there were very few old people, because anybody over 30 with three or four teeth and most of his fingers was considered a geezer.

And nearly everybody had superstitions. Many believed in witches, and their ability to transform into werewolves at night. This made parties extremely risky, and curfew a lifesaver.

- Got a question to ask Rix? E-mail him at [rix@rixquinn.com](mailto:rix@rixquinn.com).

## Crash in Noblesville Sends Three People to the Hospital

An early-Wednesday morning crash on the southeast side of Noblesville sent three people to the hospital, two with critical injuries, and closed Union Chapel Road between Golden Bear Way and Chapel Woods Boulevard most of the morning.

Noblesville Police say that it appeared a 2001 BMW crossed the center of Union Chapel Road and struck a 2017 Honda Civic a little after 7 a.m.. The operator of the BMW was identified as Drake C. Webb, 19, of Liberty. He was rushed to Ascension St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis in critical condition. A front-seat passenger in the vehicle

was identified as Kahli J.E. Parks, 21, of Trenton, Ohio. He was also taken to Ascension St. Vincent Hospital in critical condition. The operator of the Honda was identified as Jacob Green, 35, of Noblesville. He was taken to Ascension with non-life-threatening injuries.

Union Chapel Road between Golden Bear Way and Chapel Woods Blvd. was restricted or closed until approximately 11:45 a.m. as investigators from the NPD Accident Reconstruction Unit collected information for the crash investigation.

NPD officials say the cause of the crash is still under investigation.

**Obituary deadline**  
The Times publishes obituaries daily at [www.thetimes24-7.com](http://www.thetimes24-7.com), and in its print product every day with the exception of Sundays and Tuesdays. All obituaries must come from a funeral home. A photo may be included and should be sent as a high-resolution JPEG.  
Daily obituary deadline is 4 p.m. for the following day's print publication.  
To read more obituaries, visit [www.thetimes24-7.com](http://www.thetimes24-7.com).



David Kinkead

## A Quiet Hometown Hero



**GUEST COLUMNIST**  
Steve Martin

One of the unsung leaders of our community here in Sheridan, it seems to me, is the immediate past president of the Town Council, one Mr. David Kinkead. I have known David for about 10 years now, ever since he was elected to the Town Council. He served as a council member his first year and became president of the council starting on his second year and he continued to serve as the president for 8 years.

David has caused Sheridan to make noteworthy progress and I recently asked him to recap the high spots of his tenure on the

town council as president. One of the first things accomplished here in town was the completion of the flood drainage project across the east part of the community. For years, every time it rained hard there were major flooding issues throughout the southeast part of town. Partnering with the county, the town was able to solve that problem with a flood plain project completed over a 3-year period. David has been proud of the partnership he has been able to forge with Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt and Hamilton County. This has resulted in the major flood abatement project mentioned above and several smaller projects here in Sheridan. David has been able to work closely with INDOT, the county and use town resources to repair and re-surface nearly three quarters of the streets within the of the town perimeters. The crowning achievement of David's tenure occurred a couple of years ago when the local

water and wastewater utility was sold off to Indiana American Water Company. This sale saved the town millions of dollars in EPA fines as it faced the mandatory expense of upgrading an aging system; the sale money also endowed the town with funds for future infrastructure improvements.

David is a life-long Sheridan resident. His family owned and operated the Pure Oil gas station on Main Street where David learned to service and repair all sorts of vehicles. After high school he attended Lincoln Tech and earned a degree as a diesel mechanic. He worked as a mechanic in his family's business for years, and eventually worked for the state highway department as a mechanic before retiring a few years back.

Another big part of David's life has been the Sheridan Fire Department. David has been a Sheridan volunteer fire fighter for years, rising through the

ranks and holding most of the positions within the department. As a member of the fire department, David was involved with town administration and a few years back he decided to take the plunge and enter politics by running for the Sheridan Town Council. He was elected to his first 4-year term on the council in 2012.

David is one of the quieter characters in this community, and while the town's progress under his leadership does not sound like much, what he has accomplished has made a substantial impact on the life quality of Sheridan. Being a politician is a tough gig. They seem to get blamed for everything that goes wrong and it seems like they hardly ever get the credit they deserve. We should be enormously proud of David Kinkead and thankful for his steadfast leadership and many accomplishments that have made Sheridan a better place to live and work.

## Dave Mundy Returns to Sheridan Schools



Dave Mundy

The Sheridan Community Schools Board of Trustees announced at its meeting Monday evening its intent to ratify a contract with Dr. David Mundy as the new superintendent. Dr. Mundy will follow

Mary Roberson, who announced her retirement earlier this year. As required by Indiana Code, the Sheridan School Board posted the terms of the superintendent contract and held a hearing on the proposed contract Monday. Official action on the contract will take place on Monday, Feb. 21.

Mundy, who is currently Associate Superintendent at Noblesville Schools, will be returning to Sheridan, where he previously served as superintendent from 2014 to 2017. In his role at Noblesville, Mundy has been responsible for overseeing district Human Resources and Operations with numerous accomplishments to his credit.

"I'm so incredibly honored and thankful for the opportunity to return and work with all the outstanding students, teachers, leadership, and entire community of Sheridan" Mundy said. "I am grateful for my time in Noblesville, the goals we have achieved, learning I've experienced, and fun I've had during my time in Noblesville. I will always have a big heart for Noblesville Schools. I look forward to this next step of my life and I am tremendously grateful for the Sheridan school board presenting me with this opportunity."

Board members say they are optimistic about the school corporation's bright future and excited about

Dr. Mundy leading the Blackhawks.

"We are thrilled to have Dave coming back to Sheridan to serve as our superintendent," Board President Todd Roberts said. "We know Dave is a great leader and look forward to his leadership in the future."

There will be a period where Roberson and Mundy work together to insure a seamless transition and continuation of programming and projects. The terms of the posted contract call for Mundy's start at Sheridan to be April 11.

Mundy is a graduate of Ball State, Indiana Wesleyan, Olivet Nazarene, and Oakland City universities.



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Chuck Haberman

## Haberman Announces Noblesville School Board Bid

Chuck Haberman, currently serving as the Assistant Director of Economic Development for the City of Noblesville, has announced his bid to run for Noblesville School Board.

"We're fortunate today to have such a great school system with outstanding teachers and staff, a myriad of programs and offerings, and top-notch facilities," Haberman said. "I'm running for School Board because I'm passionate about ensuring we continue to provide the best for the kids and young adults in our community. My daughter will be starting kindergarten in the fall and a son a couple years behind her, making the future of the school system near and dear to my heart."

Haberman was hired by the City of Noblesville in 2020 as Workforce Development Manager until his promotion in November 2021. Before joining

the City of Noblesville, Chuck led HR and talent development teams in the construction industry.

"Working in Economic Development, I know firsthand how critical our workforce is to the future of our community; every conversation begins and ends with workforce," Haberman said. "The cornerstone of a solid workforce foundation is the K-12 education system."

Haberman served 8 years in the United States Marine Corps as a Combat Engineer. During his service, he traveled the world over 3 deployments and discovered his passion for service, leadership, and lifelong learning. After the Corps, Haberman received his B.S. in Organizational Leadership and Supervision from IUPUI, a M.P.S. in Organization Development and Change at Penn State, and most recently finished the Certified Economic Developer Certificate from the University

of Oklahoma Economic Development Institute.

"I believe every student should have the opportunity to define their own future success, be provided with the tools, resources, and experiences during their time in Noblesville Schools, and to understand the possibilities of their choices," Haberman said. "My personal career pathway had many dips and turns, but the valuable lessons I hope to convey to the next generation of students are these: everyone's journey is their own, define your own success, be a lifelong learner and learn when you need it, and don't waste an experience or opportunity."

Other community involvement by Haberman include;

- Miller Ambassadors - Class of 2022
- Noblesville Chamber of Commerce - Board Member, Board of Directors
- Ivy Tech Community

College Hamilton County - Vice Chair, Campus Board of Trustees

• Hamilton County Economic Development Corp. - Board Member, Board of Directors

• Hamilton County Leadership Academy - Class of 2020

• Twin Oaks of Noblesville Homeowner's Association - Vice President, Board of Directors

• Marine Corps Coordinating Council of Indiana - At Large Council Member

Haberman lives in Noblesville with his wife, Kari; daughter, Paige; and son, Connor. They love being outside as often as possible, especially with friends and family.

Feel free to connect with him on his Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Chuck-Haberman-for-Noblesville-School-Board-104645455496138>) or email at [ElectChuckHaberman@gmail.com](mailto:ElectChuckHaberman@gmail.com).

## Gov. Holcomb Announces Site Selections for Two Capital Education Projects

Gov. Eric J. Holcomb yesterday announced that sites have been selected for a new state archives building and a co-located site for the Indiana School for the Deaf (ISD) and the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ISBVI).

The archives building will be constructed in downtown Indianapolis, adjacent to the Senate Avenue Parking Garage on the canal. The current home of the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired will become the home for both schools.

"These are two projects that play crucial roles in our state's future," said Gov. Holcomb. "The location of the archives building will bring further opportunities to showcase our state's history and provide new partnership opportunities with the Indiana State Museum, Indiana State Library, Indiana War Memorials and other entities all in the same area."

The state owns the archives site which will offer easy access for visitors, staff and other government entities. The new building will be approximately 59,000 square feet and will provide proper storage, maintenance and restoration capabilities for archival documents. The General Assembly appropriated \$35 million toward building a new facility.

The Indiana Department of Administration will move forward with a feasibility

study to determine the future of the former Indiana Department of Correction Indianapolis Re-Entry Facility (IREF), located at New York and Randolph Streets on Indianapolis' near east side, which also was considered as a site for the archives facility. The first step will be to demolish a number of buildings on the site.

"The modernization of both schools are long overdue. This new campus will have facilities that promote safer and positive learning experiences for future ISD and ISBVI students," said Holcomb. "I couldn't be more excited about what will become a signature, state-of-the-art campus."

After an extensive search for potential new locations for the combined campus, a feasibility study of the two existing campuses was conducted, leading to the decision to use the current ISBVI site. The site can support each school independently yet allow for sharing of resources while maintaining their unique identity. ISBVI is located on 67 acres near North College Ave. and East 75th St. Current facilities will be renovated, and new buildings added with dedicated programming for each entity. \$225 million was appropriated for this project.

The projects were authorized in the biennium budget passed by the General Assembly during the 2021 legislative session.

**TheTimes24-7.com**

MARK

# HALL

FOR HAMILTON COUNTY COUNCIL  
DISTRICT THREE

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*"We all see it; change has arrived nationally, in Indiana, and even in our cities. Inch by inch territory has been surrendered in the name of progress. Family values and individual freedoms are under attack. We can't expect the same results for Hamilton County without fighting for the principles that made our communities so special."* - Mark Hall

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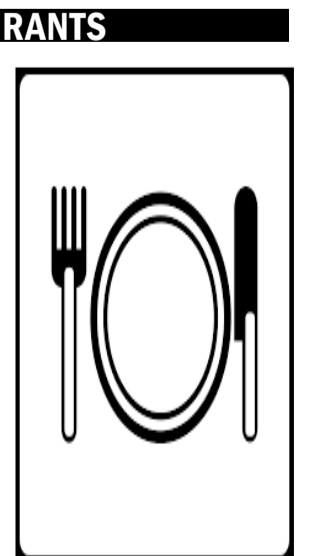
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## Gov. Holcomb Continues to Strengthen Indiana with Key Agenda Accomplishments

Governor Eric J. Holcomb today is continuing the steps of strengthening Indiana's economic, education, and health foundation after his 2022 Next Level Agenda was adopted by the Indiana General Assembly.

"I am pleased that we will now have the tools we need to help build and grow businesses, nurture a healthy environment for infants and children and make gains in our critical early education offerings," Gov. Holcomb said. "At the same time, we are

putting money back into Hoosiers' pockets, and these efforts combined will continue to result in a robust state with a thriving economy. I look forward to our next steps in implementing these Hoosier priorities."

The Indiana General Assembly approved key components of Gov. Holcomb's Next Level Agenda, including:

- Cutting Indiana's individual income tax for years to come while maintaining the state's reserves and guaranteeing

the maximum number of Hoosiers receive the upcoming automatic taxpayer refund of \$125

- Modernizing the Indiana Economic Development Corp. toolkit to make Indiana better positioned to compete in attracting transformational economic development opportunities

- Strengthening Indiana's early learning efforts by establishing an Office of Kindergarten Readiness at the Indiana Department of Education, which will partner with the early learning team at the Family and Social Services Administration and a revised Early Learning Advisory Committee

- Empowering the Department of Health to take more steps to reduce Indiana's infant mortality, by requiring healthcare providers to offer universal lead testing for children at 12 and 24 months of age and conducting investigations into Sudden Unexplained Infant Deaths using a process that will result in a better understanding of the causes so that future deaths can be prevented

- Implementing specific changes to the membership of the Indiana Law Enforcement Training Board

Additionally, the Governor's 2022 agenda includes these priorities, which are underway:

- Reviewing the state's public health infrastructure by the Governor's Public Health Commission, which will issue recommendations this summer

- Partnering with local communities to bring to fruition their Regional Economic Acceleration

and Development Initiative projects with \$500 million awarded by the state

- Collecting and disposing of certain firefighting foam that contains PFAS, which poses a risk to firefighters' health and safety and the environment

- Building and maintaining the state's capital project priorities, including roads, bridges, trails and broadband

More details are available on the Bill Watch page at <https://www.in.gov/gov/newsroom/2022-bill-watch/>.

## Gov. Holcomb Encourages Fire Depts. to Participate in Program to Protect Firefighters' Health and Safety

Governor Eric J. Holcomb announced yesterday the next steps in a new program to collect and dispose of hazardous firefighting foam that contains PFAS, a known contaminant.

"Indiana has chosen to be a leader in this PFAS foam program, because, frankly, firefighting is hard enough without having to worry about these hazardous chemicals," Gov. Holcomb said. "We hope more departments will sign up so we can do all we can to protect Indiana firefighters."

About 200 fire departments have already signed on to participate and have identified about 50,000 gallons of the foam that will be safely disposed of at no cost to the department.

Fire departments across the state can register for this free program by visiting the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) website at [DHS.IN.GOV](https://www.in.gov/dhs). The program is a partnership between IDHS and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM).

The Indiana Class-B Foam Collection Initiative makes Indiana one of only a handful of states in the country to create a PFAS foam disposal program. This program allows the state to offer a free pickup and

environmentally friendly disposal service, which saves fire departments thousands of dollars in disposal costs while protecting Hoosiers and the Indiana environment.

The initiative was launched by Gov. Holcomb, State Fire Marshal Joel Thacker and IDEM Commissioner Brian Rockensuess on Wednesday during a kickoff event with fire departments statewide, hosted at the Greensburg Fire Department in Decatur County.

PFAS are widely used, long lasting chemicals, components of which break down very slowly over time. Because of their widespread use and their persistence in the environment, many PFAS are found in the blood of people and animals all over the world and are present at low levels in a variety of food products and in the environment. Extended exposure to PFAS chemicals has been linked to four of the top eight types of cancer most common to firefighters: testicular, prostate, mesothelioma, and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

In 2020, Indiana law prohibited the use of PFAS foam for any training purposes.

"This collection program is an opportunity for the State to honor those men and women

who sacrifice so much for us every day," Thacker said. "PFAS exposure represents a hidden danger to firefighters, and Indiana is determined to protect them as much as possible through this program."

"IDEM is proud to work with our state partners to protect the hardworking men and women who risk their lives for us," Rockensuess said. "PFAS foam has the potential to also negatively affect our groundwater and removing it from our communities will make the environment safer for all Hoosiers."

A state vendor will begin collections in May by contacting departments that have completed the Foam Collection Initiative Survey to arrange a pickup. IDEM will monitor the disposal program.

Established in 2005, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) leads the way to a safer and more secure Indiana. With jurisdictions involving emergency management, building code enforcement, as well as training and certification for first responders around the state, IDHS works to provide a safe, secure and resilient Indiana. For more information about IDHS, visit [dhs.in.gov](https://www.in.gov/dhs).

## BBB Scam Alert: Home Improvement Scammers Take Money, Don't Finish Work



Use caution when hiring a home improvement contractor especially following a major storm, flood, or other weather event when many homeowners are trying to repair their homes. However, contractor scams can happen any time, so be wary of high-pressure sales tactics, upfront fees, and fly-by-night businesses. Contractors will take homeowners' money and deliver (or not deliver) less than quality work.

Within the last year BBB Serving Central Indiana has received numerous Scam Tracker reports from consumers losing more than \$10,000 to home improvement scams. One Noblesville consumer reported losing \$1,225 last month after an independent contractor began a project then disappeared.

How the scam works: Home improvement scams can start with a knock on the door, a flyer or an ad. The contractor may offer a low price or a short timeframe. One

common hook is when the scammer claims to be working in your neighborhood on another project and has leftover supplies.

Once started, a rogue contractor may "find" issues that significantly raise the price. If you object, they threaten to walk away and leave a half-finished project. Or, they may accept your upfront deposit and then never return to do the job. Following a natural disaster, scammers persuade homeowners to sign over their insurance payment.

Tips to Spot This Scam: Watch out for "red flags." Say no to cash-only deals, high-pressure sales tactics, high upfront payments, handshake deals without a contract, and on-site inspections. Not all "storm chasers" are contractors, but enough are that you should be cautious any time a home contractor contacts you first... especially after a natural disaster.

Ask for references and check them out. Bad contractors will be reluctant to share this information and scammers won't wait for you to do your homework. If you can, get references from past customers, both older references to check on the quality of the work and newer references to make sure current employees are up to the task. Check them out at [bbb.org](https://www.bbb.org) to see what other customers have experienced.

And always be sure to get a written contract with the price, materials and timeline. The more detail, the better.

Know the law. Work with local businesses that have proper identification, licensing and insurance. Confirm that your vendor will get related permits and make sure you know who is responsible for what according to your local laws and that your vendor is ready to comply.

To report a scam, go to BBB Scam Tracker.

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

Go to [BBB.org](https://www.bbb.org) to look up business profiles, file a complaint, or write a customer review. Visit BBB Scam Tracker to research and report scams.

ABOUT BBB SERVING CENTRAL INDIANA: The Better Business Bureau has empowered people to find businesses, brands and charities they can trust for over 110 years. In 2021, people turned to BBB more than 200 million times for BBB Business Profiles on 6.3 million businesses and Charity Reports on 25,000 charities, free at [BBB.org](https://www.bbb.org). Local, independent BBBs can be found 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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The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Second-graders from Legacy Christian School in Noblesville pet llamas after learning about the animals from Hamilton County 4-H'ers and Noblesville West Middle School student Isabella Whitaker and Westfield student Ava Lee on Wednesday during Hamilton County Ag Day activities.**



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Reynolds Farm Equipment's big green John Deere 8370R tractor is parked on the lawn of the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds this week in celebration of Hamilton County Ag Day activities, which kicked off Tuesday and continue through today. National Ag Day is March 22.**



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Second-graders from a Carmel's Woodbrook Elementary watch sheep shearing at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds on Wednesday during Hamilton County Ag Day activities.**



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Noblesville High School senior and 10-year Hamilton County 4-H'er Laura Wertz (left) answers a question about sheep from a Woodbrook Elementary second-grader on Wednesday during Hamilton County Ag Day activities.**

Amelia Wiggins and Chloe Zerr, who each volunteered a different day.

All give several brief presentations about various animals and related topics or lead groups through a tour Zerr, a llama 4-H'er, for instance, shared about llamas. NHS senior Laura Wertz shared about sheep, one of her 4-H projects.

Goals of the program are to provide students with a better understanding of the important role of agriculture in their

daily lives, according to Emma Mendez, Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator for Purdue Extension Service, who sent out letters to families of Ag Day student volunteers and to their schools asking for school officials to excuse their absences if presenting on Ag Day. Mendez and Lisa Hanni, youth program assistant for Purdue Extension Service in Hamilton County, planned the Ag Day. National Ag Day is Tuesday. According to Mendez,

these student volunteers are expected to "gain valuable leadership and public speaking skills through their volunteer work with Ag Day." Sarah Morin-Wilson, youth experience manager at Conner Prairie, this morning is sending "some good, responsible spinners," including my daughter, who will take her own spinning wheel and demonstrate the use of wool and spinning. Conner Prairie's textiles expert Sue Payne, who has worked at the museum for more than

50 years, is supervising today's Conner Prairie youth at Ag Day and they will explain the steps of making a garment from wool. The Conner Prairie youth spinners each August compete in the Sheep to Shawl contest at the Indiana State Fair, demonstrating everything from carding a fleece, which prepares it for spinning, spinning it on spinning wheels, plying (which is twisting two strands of wool together) and weaving it into scarf in four hours.

Last year's 2021 Ag Day was virtual, so this will be the first time since 2019 that there has been an in-person Ag Day. Some of the most popular questions: "What do sheep eat?" "How many eggs do chickens produce in a year?" "And what's the most important piece of gear when horseback riding?" Hamilton County Ag Day attracted 300 students the first year, in 1987. Besides the 4-H Fair, Ag Day is the largest program Purdue

Extension does at the Fairgrounds. So it takes a lot of people to put it together. Hanni usually reaches out to the 4-H program's livestock superintendents, who talk to 4-H'ers who show in the sheep, horse, swine, llama and cattle projects about volunteering their time during the three-day event that took over the main buildings at the Fairgrounds from Tuesday to today. - Contact Betsy Reason at [betsy@thetimes24-7.com](mailto:betsy@thetimes24-7.com).

## TIMMONS From Page A1

someone beating so hard on our front door recently. As you all know, Tim has been away from the job recovering nicely from heart surgery. He's showed me the many cards, e-mails and messages from you kind folks. And, as Tim says, truth to tell, I didn't expect to see Mr. John Hammer at our door to check up on Tim and to talk a bit. But there he was - and I knew who he was before he told me. Tim has described him to a T and yes, he does take up an entire doorway. As soon as he started to talk, I had to tell him to shoo his booming voice a bit because Tim was asleep. "How can I help you, Mr. Hammer?" I asked. He said, "Call me John, Mr. Hammer was my dad." "OK then, what can I do for you, John?" "Well, I wanted to see how Timmons is doing, and talk to him about this Ukrainian war." "John, let's let Tim sleep a little longer, but

while you wait, could I offer you a cup of coffee?" We sat there and talked a bit. He asked about the bypass operation and how the recovery was going. Then we got to Tim's last column about Whoopi. "Well Mrs. Timmons, what did you think about that one?" he asked. "John, at first, all Tim told me was he had written a column defending Whoopi Goldberg . . . and, well, I just about went off on him. But he was facing heart surgery, so I kept my thoughts to myself. I mostly disagree with everything Whoopi Goldberg says and does. But after it was published and I read it, I saw that it was really about defending freedom of speech - just one of the basic freedoms our servicemen and women work and fight for." "OK, Mrs. Timmons, what's your take on the Russian invasion." "I'm thinking China is waiting on the outcome to see if they can overtake Taiwan without global

interference." I told him. "Also, what if President Biden was as crazy as Putin? Would VP Harris and others stand up and have him imprisoned? Do Putin's generals not see how crazy this is? How much more will this escalate? Chemical weapons? Nukes? And Alaska isn't that far from Russia. If worst came to worst, could I stand up to a tank like the Ukrainian people are? Could you, John?" Before he could answer Tim came into the kitchen. "I thought I was dreaming, but that really is your voice I heard," Tim said. "Just checking up on you, Timmons," the man called the Hammer said. "When are you going to be back?" "Well John, the boss here (Tim said, pointing at me) and the docs want me to work from home for a bit. But I'm feeling better every day and hope to get back soon." "Mrs. Timmons makes a great cup of coffee and we've been talking about

the war and some of your columns. Let me ask you, Timmons, does she always agree with you?" Tim laughed. "No John, she certainly doesn't. But on the big stuff, stuff about the constant squabbling between Republicans and Democrats and some of their childish behaviors, she's like a lot of us and doesn't understand. She tries to live by God's golden rule and wishes everyone else would do the same." "Glad to see you're in good hands, Timmons. You be good to her because I surely know she's good to you. God bless you both." And with that he was out the door. I can see why Tim likes him so much. - Timmons is the chief executive officer of Sagamore News Media, the company that owns The Noblesville Times. He is a proud Noblesville High School graduate and can be contacted at [timmons@thetimes24-7.com](mailto:timmons@thetimes24-7.com).

## SCHOOLS From Page A1

State University and holds a Ball State master's degree and educational specialist degree. Hendrich, currently the district's safety director, will serve as assistant superintendent for HR and safety. She will oversee human resources while continuing to lead the district's safety efforts and transportation department. Prior to joining Noblesville Schools in 2019, Hendrich served as assistant superintendent at Western School Corporation. She holds a doctorate in education from Ball State University. Chief Financial Officer David Hortemiller will also see an expanded role as part of Mundy's departure. In addition to running the district's

business office, he will now lead facility and grounds operations with responsibility for master facility planning and oversight. "These new appointments capitalize on the talent of our highly skilled district team and will position Noblesville Schools for success heading into the future," said superintendent Dr. Beth Niedermeyer. "This arrangement also creates staffing efficiencies, allowing the district to realize a cost savings. Please join me in congratulating Ryan, Heather and David. I'm confident they will continue to provide the highest level of service to our students, staff and families."



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### Number $\div$ % Stumpers

1. How many people in the county do not live in Marion?  $\geq$
2. How old is Grant County?  $\leq$
3. What percentage of the county land is taken up by Marion?  $\geq$
4. What is the population density of the county?  $\leq$

Answers: 1. About 40,113 People 2. 188 Years 3. Around 168 / sq mi 4. 3.8%  $\div$

## Did You Know?

- Grant County was founded in 1831 and named after Samuel and Moses Grant.
- Marion, the county seat, has a population of 29,948 residents and is 15.66 square miles.
- The Mississinewa River flows through parts of the county.
- Marion is home to Indiana Wesleyan University, the largest evangelical Christian University in the Midwest.
- The county is 414.9 square miles and has a population of 70,061 residents.

## Got Words?

Indiana Wesleyan University plays a critical role in the county and attracts people from all over the world. How do you think colleges, specifically those with a religious affiliation, impact the community they reside in?

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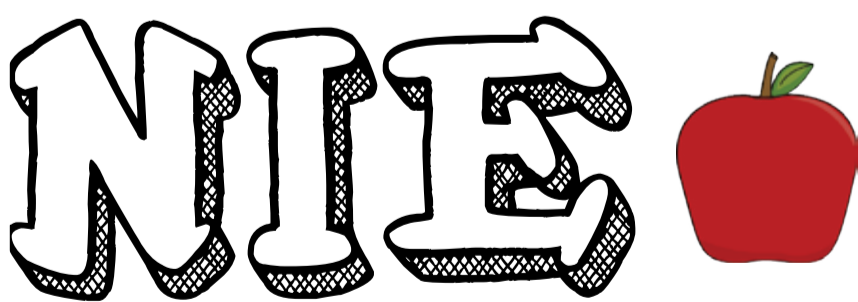
## Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

1. GECLOLE
2. SMSNWAESIIS RVIER
3. NIARMO
4. AGNVLIECLEA
5. NGRTA TYNCUO

Answers: 1. College 2. Mississinewa River 3. Marion 4. Evangelical 5. Grant County

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# THURSDAY

## Indiana the Strong

Thursday, March 17, 2022

A7

### Franciscan Health Gathering Medical Supplies For Ukraine

Franciscan Health Western Indiana, which includes hospitals and offices in Lafayette, Crawfordsville and Rensselaer, is proud to have participated in sending more than 100,000 pounds of medical supplies to Ukraine. This donation was the product of a massive mobilization across Franciscan Health hospitals and clinics, working with the Illinois Division of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA).

"During such times of heartbreak and unrest, we are reminded of the strength of the human spirit," said Terry Wilson, president and CEO of Franciscan Health Western Indiana. "One good thing to come out of all of this is seeing people unite for a common cause. Franciscan Health Western Indiana is

grateful to be a part of this effort that we hope will provide some relief to the suffering in Ukraine. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all."

The effort began a week ago at Franciscan Health Dyer, where obstetrician/gynecologist Roman Puliaev, MD, sought to gather surgical equipment that had been in a room with a steam pipe leak. While the material could no longer be used at the hospital, it could still be useful in a warzone like Ukraine. He connected with UMANA, which was organizing a charter flight to take supplies to Poland for transportation over the border into Ukraine.

Dr. Puliaev, who graduated from Crimea Medical University and came to the U.S. in 2002, called Russia's invasion of Ukraine an indescribable tragedy.

"We never thought this kind of scale of war would happen after World War II," he said while sorting and boxing supplies with volunteers and other staff at the Dyer hospital.

After hearing about the gathering of supplies for UMANA, Franciscan Health Crown Point vice president of Medical Affairs Erik Mikaitis, MD, sought to expand it into a system-wide effort, putting the call out to divisions in Central and Western Indiana and South Suburban Chicago to collect equipment and material that was excess or near expiration.

"We are so proud to see such incredible support from our coworkers and medical staff across the Franciscan system. In just 48 hours, our supply chain team was able to fill three semi-trucks with supplies and equipment now bound

for Ukraine," Dr. Mikaitis said. "From gloves, gauze and bandages to syringes, sterile irrigation fluid and even surgical equipment; along with these supplies, the entire Franciscan team sends our hope for peace in Ukraine and our prayers for the safety and wellbeing of the Ukrainian people."

UMANA representative and physician at Express Care Clinic in Michigan City Mariya Dmytriv-Kapeniak, MD, said Logistics Plus, Inc., is providing transportation and storage of the supplies at no cost. The supplies were picked up from Franciscan Health locations on Friday, March 4, and Monday, March 7. The organization is chartering a plane to take the supplies to Warsaw, Poland. From there, the supplies will be loaded into trucks and

will be taken to Ukraine's hospitals, field hospitals and frontlines.

Tucked in with the supplies will be prayer cards provided by the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, Franciscan staff and students at St. Matthew's Cathedral School in South Bend, Ind. Franciscan Health Michigan City Vice President of Mission Integration Sister Petra Nielsen said, "I think it is important to let everyone know that the Sisters are praying for all those in Ukraine during our hours of perpetual adoration (24/7) at our Motherhouse in Mishawaka. It is so beautiful to see everyone at Franciscan come together in such a short time."

Dr. Dmytriv said, "On behalf of the people in Ukraine, the Ukrainian Medical Association of

North America, Illinois Division and myself, we extend our sincere thanks to Franciscan Health for the collection of close to 100,000 pounds of much needed medical supplies in a record short time. Your generosity and care will aid many Ukrainian lives. Love, hope, kindness and care will prevail in the crisis faced by a peace-loving and sovereign Ukraine."

To help Anyone who wishes to contribute needed medical supplies (orthopedics, wound care, surgery supplies) and can deliver them to UMANA's warehouse in Bensenville, Ill., can contact Dr. Dmytriv at (773) 858-7639 or Olga Maihutiak (630) 632-9307 for logistics.

Anyone who wishes to donate to UMANA's efforts can do so online at [umana.org](http://umana.org).

### Red Cross Honors Community Heroes During Annual Red Cross Month Celebration In March

In March, the Indiana Region is honoring the people who make its mission possible every day during its annual Red Cross Month celebration — a national tradition started nearly 80 years ago when President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued the first national Red Cross Month proclamation recognizing those who give back through the American Red Cross. Each U.S. president has issued a proclamation ever since.

"When emergencies strike, our community rallies together to help families and individuals when it matters most," said Chad Priest, Regional CEO of the American Red Cross - Indiana Region. "We honor this dedication during our Red Cross Month celebration, and we invite everyone to turn their compassion into action by volunteering, giving blood, or taking a lifesaving skills course."

Volunteers like James Christy Wareham, who experienced tragedy in his own life and saw how the Red Cross helped those in need, decided to give his time and resources to help others in their time of need. He serves as a disaster action team member, responding to local or national disasters to provide care and comfort to those affected by storms.

"The presence of the responder as the face of the Red Cross — our generous donors, the unseen staff, the volunteers in every community — helps make the impact of assistance truly meaningful and the hope in recovery sustaining," said Wareham.

Join Red Cross Month by visiting [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) to make a financial donation, give blood, become a volunteer or take a class in lifesaving skills, such as first aid and CPR. On March 23, you can also join our annual Red Cross Giving Day campaign by donating at [redcross.org/givingday](http://redcross.org/givingday) to help provide shelter, food, relief items, emotional support and other assistance for people affected by disasters big and small.

The Red Cross blood supply remains incredibly vulnerable — especially as doctors begin to resume elective surgeries previously delayed by omicron. It's critical that individuals schedule a blood or platelet donation immediately to help ensure patients get the care they need as soon as possible. To make an appointment, visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org), call 1-800-RED CROSS or download the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

As a thank-you, all those who come to give March 1-31 will receive a \$10 e-gift card, thanks to Fanatics. Plus, those who come to donate in March

will be automatically entered for a chance to win a trip for two to the 2022 MLB® All-Star Game® in Los Angeles, California.\*

About the Indiana Region of the American Red Cross:

The Indiana Region serves 104 counties across Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, and Illinois through its six-chapter areas: Central, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest, and Greater Indianapolis (Regional Headquarters). For more information on the Indiana Region: [www.redcross.org/indiana](http://www.redcross.org/indiana). Follow the Indiana Region on Twitter at: @INRedCross, on Instagram at: @indianaredcross or [www.facebook.com/INRedCross](http://www.facebook.com/INRedCross).

About the American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides comfort to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; distributes international humanitarian aid; and supports veterans, military members and their families. The Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission. For more information, please visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) or [CruzRojaAmericana.org](http://CruzRojaAmericana.org), or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.

### Plant-Based Compounds Have Been Created To Treat Alcohol Use Disorder

The 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health reported that 14.5 million people ages 12 and older have alcohol use disorder, or AUD. This represents 5.3% of that population, according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

Researchers in Purdue University's College of Pharmacy, the Purdue Institute for Drug Discovery and Washington University in St. Louis are synthesizing compounds to treat people affected by AUD. The research was published in the peer-reviewed journal *Frontiers in Pharmacology*.

Richard Van Rijn, adjunct associate professor of medicinal chemistry and molecular pharmacology in Purdue's College of Pharmacy, leads the research program with Susruta Majumdar, associate professor of pharmaceutical and administrative sciences in the University of Health and Sciences & Pharmacy in St. Louis. Van Rijn said the compounds are based on alkaloids found in the plant *Mitragyna speciosa*, or kratom. These compounds could treat AUD and have less abuse potential than opioid-derived opioids.

Arryn Blaine (left) and Yazan Meqbil, doctoral candidates in Purdue University's College of Pharmacy, confer in Richard Van Rijn's laboratory about results from tests of compounds that may be able to treat alcohol use disorder. The compounds are based on alkaloids found in the kratom plant. (Purdue Research Foundation photo/Steve Martin) Download image

"We can synthesize a derivative of the natural-occurring kratom alkaloid speciogynine, which has superior potency to reduce alcohol intake," Van Rijn said. "We used mouse models of alcohol use and assessment of adverse effects, including monitoring for seizures or hyperactivity. Our synthesized compound does not display adverse effects observed with other kratom alkaloids, including abuse potential, hyperactivity and seizures. As such, this molecule may have utility in humans in treating alcohol use disorder."

Alkaloids found within kratom, Van Rijn said, are considered less problematic than synthetic opioids or opium-derived opioids like fentanyl, morphine and oxycodone.

"The U.S. Drug En-

forcement Agency has not scheduled kratom as a substance of abuse," he said. "More research is needed to properly establish this, but one hypothesis for their lower risk for abuse is related to their cellular pharmacology."

Still, Van Rijn said, several steps are needed to further develop the compound to treat AUD.

"We will look to reduce any potential off-target effects. Kratom alkaloids may interact with multiple nonopioid receptors, so improving the current molecule series to limit those interactions would make the molecule safer," Van Rijn said.

"We also need to conduct studies to determine the half life of the drug, how it is metabolized and how much is getting into the brain."

A provisional patent application on the research was filed by the co-owner, University of Health Science & Pharmacy in St. Louis. Industry leaders looking to develop or license the compound should contact Annie Ghosh of the Purdue Research Foundation Office of Technology Commercialization at [aghosh@prf.org](mailto:aghosh@prf.org) about 2022-VANR-69644.

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