

➤ TODAY'S VERSE

Romans 12:1 "Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship." (NASB)



➤ FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Thom Johnson happy? The joy of spending time with his four grandsons, losing a great deal of weight and "the reaction and appreciation of the audience for giving a great show," said the Westfield resident, who is vice president of community engagement for Basile Westfield Playhouse, which was recently renamed for Playhouse donors Frank and Katrina Basile. Johnson was found attending the board gathering with the new donors during their signing of the naming rights, which will last 10 years. Johnson earned Encore Association award nomination for Best Producer of a Drama for "The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance" and a nomination for Best Minor Supporting Actor in A Comedy for "Lie, Cheat & Gen-ueflect," both during the 2019-20 theater season at Basile Westfield Playhouse. He co-produced with Jen Otterman of Noblesville a 2021 Playhouse production of "Silent Sky." He's performed in about 50 shows over the past 13 years, appearing also with The Belfry Theatre (during the 2017-18 season as a patient in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," for which the patients earned Best Ensemble in a Play from the Encore Association for 2017-18), Footlite Musicals, Epilogue, Buck Creek and Nickel Plate players, among others. He's been in more than a dozen productions at Basile Westfield Playhouse including a portrayal as a maniacal psychiatric client in "Perfect Crime" and as the loveable Nick in the Emporium for the Playhouse's "A Little Christmas Spirit." Thom is vice president of business on the Basile Westfield Playhouse board of directors and has been a part of Voices From the Past living history walk in Westfield. He also performed in the 2017, 2018 and 2019 Indy Fringe Festivals. He graduated from Plainfield High School and University of Evansville with a degree in pre-theology. By day, he trains others in customer service for the State of Indiana. He has two sons and four grandsons. He thanks friends and family for their support. For tickets to the current Playhouse show, "Flaming Idiots," a comedy that opens tonight directed by Brian Nichols, visit <https://www.westfieldplayhouse.org/>

And Another Thing...

The City of Fishers Planning & Zoning Department and Fishers Elementary School will host the Box City urban planning workshop for third grade students on Thursday, March 31 at the Fishers Maker Playground at Hub & Spoke (8100 E. 106th Street). With support from the City's Planning & Zoning team, students will learn how to be innovative city planners in the two-day workshop as they create a smart, vibrant and entrepreneurial community.

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

50¢ WWW.THETIMES24-7.COM



Photo courtesy of the Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville

An annual TopGolf Tournament is April 7 at TopGolf Fishers to benefit the Boys & Girls Club. Participants will tee it up for the Club kids. To sign up, visit <https://bgcni.org/>

Westfield Comedy, Golf Fundraiser, Bird Walks, More, Among 25 Things

A comedy at Basile Westfield Playhouse, bird walks, TopGolf fundraiser for the Boys & Girls Club and more are among the 25 things to do this weekend and beyond in today's list of things to do in The Times:



BETSY REASON
The Times Editor

1. Main Street Productions presents "Flaming Idiots" comedy by Tom Rooney, at Basile Westfield Playhouse, at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. Sundays, through April 10, directed by Brian Nichols.
2. Grab your binoculars and join Hamilton County Parks for Beginner Bird Walks at 8:30 a.m. Sundays and Wednesdays at Cool Creek Park in Westfield and 8:30 a.m. the first Wednesday, April-June, at Strawtown

3. Koteewi Park in Noblesville.
3. Conner Prairie is now open for the outdoor season on Tuesday with sprucing up of the Treetop Outpost, spring cleaning in Prairietown and Civil War Journey, plus the 1836 Balloon will be open, weather dependent.
4. Bring your favorite vinyl to play on a provided turntable at 5:30 p.m. on Turntable Thursdays at Primeval Brewing

➔ See BETSY Page XX

Passing Of Deputy Doug Sanford

It is with a very heavy heart that the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office announces the passing of Deputy Doug Sanford. After a long, hard-fought battle with illness, Doug is now at rest. Funeral services and arrangements will be forthcoming. Please keep Deputy Sanford's family in your thoughts and prayers during this time of great loss.



Deputy Doug Sanford

Deputy Sanford has been with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, serving the citizens of Hamilton County as the Animal Control Officer since 2015. He

has been a staple in this community since his swearing in and has done a fantastic job working with the citizens of this county, several animal organizations, assisting

other law enforcement agencies, and educating the public on animal laws and ordinances. We thank you for your service and we will miss you dearly.

"My prayers are with the Sanford family and with everyone who knew and loved Doug. As an expert in his field, he did so much to look out for animals in the community and to advance 'Humane Law Enforcement'. He was a great husband, father, personal friend and a servant leader and will be sorely missed," - Hamilton County Sheriff Dennis Quakenbush.

Wrapping Up Readers' Choice 2022

Readers' Choice is wrapped up for another year, and once again, The Paper's annual promotion to recognize your favorites in a multitude of categories was a huge success.

Back when our company was founded, the staff at The Paper brought Montgomery County this fun and good-natured promotion that features local businesses, people, products and more and gives you, our readers, the opportunity to vote for your favorites. We often joke that this is like Chicago politics and encourage you to vote early and vote often.

You see, this has never been about the rigidity of the process. Instead, it is designed to be an absolutely fun and very positive way for our readers to cast a good light on their favorites. And oh, how



you have responded! We annually see ballots that number in the hundreds of thousands - so many in fact that we had to find a way to automate the counting process.

This year, rather than unveil all the winners at one time like we have in the past, we are revealing several categories a day. Today's categories can be found inside and a quick list is also provided here. When the final winners,

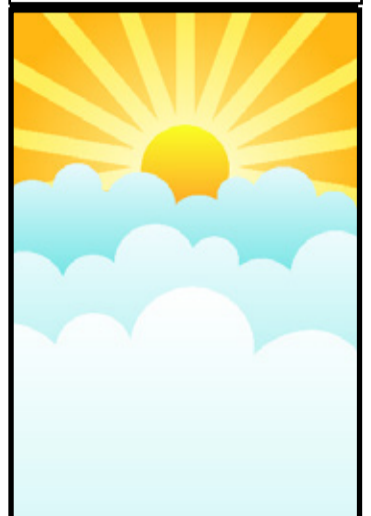
Want MORE?

Please turn to page A3 for the winners, runner ups, and honorable mentions in the **FOOD** category and page A4 for the **MEDICAL** category. Stay tuned for these categories: **SERVICE** and **ENTERTAINMENT** next week!

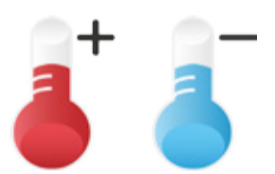
runner-ups and honorable mentions are revealed, we will compile all of them into one keepsake edition that will stay posted on our website for the entire year.

Lastly, we encourage you to pay attention to the many businesses who are saying thank you with their ads. Without those supporters, local news and specifically your daily edition, wouldn't be here.

The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:31 a.m.
SET: 8:12 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 48 °F
Low: 33 °F



- Wacky Holiday Today**
- National Walk to Work Day
 - Fossil Fools Day
 - National Jump in Muddy Puddles Day



- What Happened On This Day**
- 1976 Apple Inc. is founded
 - 2001 The Netherlands becomes the first country to allow same-sex marriage



- Births On This Day**
- 1961 Susan Boyle Scottish singer
 - 1875 Edgar Wallace English journalist, author, playwright

- Deaths On This Day**
- 2010 John Forsythe American actor

➤ INSIDE TODAY

- Obituaries..... A2
- Classifieds..... A3
- Business & News..... A7
- Voices of Our People.....A8, A9

➤ OBITUARIES

None

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



➤ HONEST HOOSIER

Today is April Fool's Day - so trust no one and believe nothing anyone tells you. You know, just like every other day.



➤ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

When walking on a road, walk on the same side of the road as the oncoming traffic. 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.



➤ TODAY'S QUOTE

"When you attack us, you will see our faces. Not our backs, but our faces."
Volodymyr Zelensky, Ukraine president

➤ TODAY'S JOKE

Everyone wishes these gas prices were an April Fool's Joke!



Mysterious Southern Ind. Boom Causes Concern

The Times
Harried and panicked people yesterday are peering right into long focused online observances looking directly at Yerkesville

The small southern Indiana community appears to be the epicenter of reports of a loud explosion and fireball in the sky that occurred Wednesday afternoon.

At first, some thought the mysterious sound might have originated in nearby Camp Atterbury. However, officials there said that no live-fire exercises were going on, nor had anything exploded at the military base. Then came word from the American Meteor Society indicated they were looking into reports of a fireball streaking across the southern Indiana sky.

However, more and more reports are surfacing online about the explosion and fireball being caused by a gigantic UFO entering the atmosphere around Columbus, Ind.

"I see it with my own two eyes," one unidentified Hoosier said on the interwebs. "It was a large saucer thing that looked like something from that movie The Day The Earth Stood Still."

Others were more skeptical.

"Well, I did see some-

thing," a farmer near the Indiana-Kentucky border said. "But I'm not ready to say it was a UFO. My first thought was that it might be the Russians."

As of today, there are no indications that the Indiana National Guard has been activated or even put on alert. Some southern Indiana mayors might be meeting secretly though to look further into the matter. One mayor, speaking on condition of anonymity, said he was upset that the state and federal governments weren't taking this seriously. "Sure, it's not their backyards that will be the battle zone if this is aliens. It's ours and we're not going to sit back and just wait."

Others said this was nothing more than a reminder of Orson Welle's radio broadcast on Oct. 30, 1938. That, too, was a fictitious report about an alien invasion that fooled some people into thinking it was real . . . just like this story out of the fabricated community of Yerkesville. Really observant readers might have noticed the first letter of each word in the first paragraph, a very sure giveaway that today's story goes right along with today's date, April 1. We hope you enjoyed our little chuckle.

Indiana Statewide 911 Board Adds Translation Capabilities To Text To 911

The Indiana Statewide 911 Board, in collaboration with INdigital and the State Treasurer's office, is announcing another tool that enhances communications between non-English speaking citizens and emergency services.

Since 2019, dispatchers at all of Indiana's Public Safety Answering Points have had access to "Language Line," which provides voice translating services for 911 callers. Over the past three years, Indiana telecommunicators have used voice translation services for nearly 70 of the more than 250 languages available. Spanish is the most frequently translated language used, comprising 91% of the translation calls. Marion, Elkhart, Allen, White, and Tippecanoe counties

are the top five users of the system.

Speaking at the Metropolitan Emergency Services Agency this afternoon, Treasurer Kelly Mitchell (chair of the Statewide 911 Board) unveiled significant enhancements to the Text-to-911 system. Citizens can now send text messages in their native language directly to 911 for help, and they will be automatically translated for the dispatcher. As the dispatcher responds, it will be automatically translated back into the native language of the individual. 108 languages are available for Text-to-911 translation.

"Text-to-911 enables direct access to emergency services for those who are deaf or speaking-impaired, having a medical

emergency that prevents them from being able to speak, or in a situation where making a voice call would put them in danger," said Treasurer Mitchell. "We've already seen the benefits of texting to 911. It allows people in sensitive situations to communicate with law enforcement, and now we are removing the language barriers to those services."

In 2014, Indiana was one of the first states to begin implementing Text to 911, and by 2016 all 92 counties had the capability. As a result, Indiana telecommunicators have processed over 1.3 million inbound and outbound text sessions.

"With technology constantly evolving, this upgrade shows why Indi-

ana is on the forefront in providing 911 services to our non-English speaking citizens," said Ed Reuter, Executive Director of the Statewide 911 Board. "This new translation upgrade will help bridge the communication gap and speed up sending emergency services when every second counts."

"Our company works to improve 911 service every day," said Mark Grady, CEO of INdigital. "Strong state programs like Indiana lead the nation with good legislation, targeted funding, and letting us build better systems. Our goal is for everyone to have access to 911 when they need it most. Bridging language barriers and providing more ways to communicate are essential in today's world."

Honoring And Protecting Farmworkers

The U.S. Department of Labor joins others during National Farmworker Awareness Week to honor farmworkers across the country.

Our Wage and Hour Division has prioritized agricultural stakeholders throughout its ongoing Essential Workers - Essential Protections outreach initiative. These efforts will continue beyond this week with outreach events in English and Spanish for farmworkers, advocates and employers. We'll be educating agricultural stakeholders on essential worker protections we enforce, such as:

- Required wages under the Fair Labor Standards Act, Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act and the H-2A visa program.
- Field sanitation provisions of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, including clean drinking water, hand-washing facilities and toilets.
- Housing and transportation safety standards under the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act and the H-2A visa program.
- Protections for some of the most vulnerable workers, including minors and labor trafficking

victims.

Farmworkers deserve to live in safe and sanitary housing. And the vehicles used to transport these workers must be maintained in safe operating conditions. When farmworkers' safety is at risk, the Wage and Hour Division will not hesitate to act, as evidenced by our recent investigation in Missouri and another in Idaho.

We are equally dedicated to protecting farmworkers who are victims of human trafficking. As a partner in the National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking, the department works aggressively with other federal law enforcement agencies to bring labor traffickers to justice, as we did recently in Georgia.

Over the past three years, the Wage and Hour Division has recovered over \$21.5 million in wages owed to agricultural workers and assessed over \$20 million in civil money penalties against employers, including those who intentionally or repeatedly failed to comply with the law, pay workers their hard-earned wages and ensure their housing and transportation safety. We use every available

tool, including litigation, to protect workers from harassment, abuse and retaliation for asserting their rights. Agricultural workers are at higher risk for exploitation for several reasons, such as the migratory and seasonal nature of the work, their reliance on employer-provided housing, the physical demands of the job and typically low wages.

The storage silos, heavy equipment and chemicals that are necessary for agricultural work can also be dangerous, which is why the Occupational Safety and Health Administration encourages all agricultural employers and workers to be aware of these potential hazards and how to avoid them.

And, of course, an issue that faces all farmworkers is heat stress and heat illness. Excessive heat can cause heat stroke and even death if not treated properly. It also exacerbates existing health problems like asthma, kidney failure and heart disease. Workers' bodies need time to adjust to working in even moderate amounts of heat. That's why, in addition to ensuring access to water, rest and shade, OSHA encourages employers

to gradually increase workloads for workers who are new or have not recently worked in those conditions, and to monitor workers closely for signs of heat illness.

OSHA is also working, as part of the administration's interagency efforts on workplace safety, climate resilience and environmental justice, to protect workers from the impacts of the climate crisis and dangers of working in heat. These efforts include initiating a rulemaking on Heat Illness Prevention in Outdoor and Indoor Work Settings, developing a National Emphasis Program to prevent heat-related illnesses and deaths through outreach and enforcement and updating our materials and website on the heat illness prevention campaign.

To learn more about wage and hour labor laws in agriculture, contact the Wage and Hour Division online or by calling the toll-free helpline at 866-4US-WAGE (487-9243). We answer calls confidentially and in more than 200 languages. To learn more about workplace safety laws and resources visit OSHA online or call 800-321-OSHA (6742).

What's Cooking?

Mary Ellen and I were in the middle of spring cleaning (we do it every three or four years) when I found a book in the back of the storage closet that I thought Mary Ellen could benefit from. I retrieved the book from a dusty shelf and placed it on the kitchen counter, as a subtle hint.

"What's with this, Dick? After 42 years of marriage, I don't think I need a refresher course in this area. True, I never really enjoyed the process, but I expected you to participate more than you have."

"Mary Ellen, the book is 'The Joy of Cooking.' Not 'The Joy of Cleaning.'"

Apparently, Mary Ellen inherited this volume from her mother. First published in 1931, this was the 1936 release, with 800 pages and hundreds of recipes. It's actually a collector's item. I skimmed the pages and was disappointed to discover there were no photos showing what it looks like when steps are followed properly. Does "The Joy of Sex" have photos like that? No clue.

The first chapter in this kitchen essential is about cocktails. Here's what the author, Irma Rombauer, wrote: "Cocktails loosen tongues and unbutton reserves of the socially shy...and they should be served the sooner the better." This is no longer considered good advice—especially if you are a flight attendant.

In the poultry and game chapter, here is a snippet of the introduction: "Draw out the entrails, cut the neck close to the body, remove the windpipe end, then chop off the feet." As you can tell, this book was also a big hit with serial killers.

The fish chapter begins by saying the key to a good dinner party is the proper preparation. I'm not sure whether the author refers to preparing the fish or the guests, but I'll be ready either



DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

way. "I hope you enjoy the blowfish, which is poisonous if not cooked properly. Just in case, be advised you might experience violent stomach pain, convulsions, and possible death."

One section references people retiring to the drawing room after the meal. First of all, if people are retiring at your party, you need to liven things up with a stripper or the Chippendales, to celebrate. And what's a drawing room? The only guy I know personally with one of those is the cartoonist Gary Varvel.

Doesn't this, taken right from the book, sound like it could be the climax scene from the original movie "The Thing"? "When it comes to vegetables, cooks often suffer from arrested development," says Irma, "and the result is indescribable, looking like it came from a siege, drained of all life force and surrendered to the inevitable."

When Irma finished writing "The Joy of Cooking," her husband, Edgar, had an idea. He told Irma that if she made every dish he would taste them all, but she had to cook them in alphabetical order, as listed in the index. This was the perfect publicity stunt, he thought, but it was doomed to ultimately fail before the very last meal. Edgar, you see, was allergic to zucchini.

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

Hamilton County Invasives Partnership Challenges You To Fill Up To Fight Invasives

Invasive species can be found across Hamilton County in our parks, roadsides, woods, trails and yards and their presence negatively affects our ecosystems. This spring, the Hamilton County Invasives Partnership is working with local partners to encourage citizens to "fill up to fight invasives" with an invasives bucket challenge.

Individuals are encouraged to engage in invasive species management and fill a bucket or bag with removed invasives.

Participants are encouraged to post a photo of their invasives filled bucket on their social media using the hashtag #invasivesbucketchallenge for a chance to win prizes. Participants



Photo courtesy of Hamilton County Invasives Partnership

Participants are encouraged to post a photo of their invasives filled bucket on their social media using the hashtag #invasivesbucketchallenge for a chance to win prizes.

can tag friends or family members to challenge them to fill a bucket with invasives as well. Special HIP buckets with invasive garlic mustard infor-

mation are available for free from the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District in Noblesville and other participating partners

while supplies last.

The invasives bucket challenge is a new program launched as part of Hamilton County Invasive Species Awareness Week which runs April 16th-23rd. Volunteer opportunities to take part in an invasive species workday Weed Wrangles on public property can be found on the HIP website, www.hcinvasives.org.

The Hamilton County Invasives Partnership (HIP) is a coalition of landowners and managers, concerned citizens, and local agencies working to educate and mobilize land stewards to manage and eliminate invasive species in Hamilton County. Learn more at www.hcinvasives.org.

Thanks for reading The Times!

www.The-Times24-7.com

Readers' Choice 2022 Results - Food Category

- **Bar and Grill**
Winner – 10 West
Runner Up – Woody's
Honorable Mentions – Syd's, Wolfie's, Eddy's Sports Pub, Barley Island Brewing Company

- **Caterer**
Winner – Big Hoffa's Smokehouse
Runner Up – Ritz Charles
Honorable Mentions – Sahn's, Famous Dave's, A Cut Above, Nameless Catering, Zeck's BBQ & More, MCL

- **Dine-In Restaurant**
Winner – 10 West
Runner Up – Ale Emporium
Honorable Mentions – Ginger's Cafe, Wolfie's, Matteo's, Erika's Place

- **Fast Food Restaurant**
Winner – Chick-Fil-A
Runner Up – Culver's
Honorable Mentions – Hardee's, Burger King, Arby's, Moe's Southwest Grill

- **Restaurant**
Winner – 10 West
- Runner Up – Big Hoffas
Honorable Mentions – Ginger's Cafe, Logan's, Cracker Barrel, Culver's

- **Chinese Restaurant**
Winner – Peking Garden
Runner Up – Asian Grill
Honorable Mentions – Happy Dragon, Mark Pis, Panda Express, Great Taste

- **Coffee Shop**
Winner – Noble Coffee
Runner Up – Starbucks
Honorable Mentions – Rosies, Cicero Coffee, Einsteins, Panera Bread

- **Ice Cream Place**
Winner – Alexander's
Runner Up – Handel's
Honorable Mentions – Graeter's, Bubs, Culver's, Dairy Queen (10th St.), Dairy Queen (West Noblesville), Cold Stone Creamery (116th St.)

- **Italian Restaurant**
- Winner – Matteo's**
Runner Up – Michaelangelo's
Honorable Mentions – Maggiano's, Puccini's, Mamma Carrolas, Olive Garden (Exit 10)

- **Mexican Restaurant**
Winner – Maria's Mexican Grill
Runner Up – Rio Grande
Honorable Mentions – El Camino Real, Red Habenero, Maya Riviera, Chuy's

- **Pizza Place**
Winner – Pizza King Noblesville
Runner Up – Puccini's
Honorable Mentions – Bazbeaux, Firehouse, Pizza by the Harbour, Marco's

- **Best Bagel**
Winner – Big Apple Bagel
Runner Up – Einstein
Honorable Mentions – Noble Coffee, Corner Bakery

- **Best BBQ**
Winner – Big Hoffas
Runner Up – Big
- Dog's Smokehouse
Honorable Mention – Famous Dave's BBQ, City BBQ, Zeck's BBQ, Buffalo Wild Wings

- **Best Burger**
Winner – Culver's
Runner Up – Red Robin
Honorable Mentions – Steak 'n' Shake, Burger King, Britton Tavern, Jim Dandy

- **Best Chili**
Winner – Wendy's
Runner Up – Syds
Honorable Mentions – Jim Dandy

- **Best Cookie Cake**
Winner – Pat-a-Cake
Runner Up – Starbuck's
Honorable Mentions – Panera

- **Best Cupcakes**
Winner – Gigi Cupcakes
Runner Up – Heavenly Sweets

- **Best Cup of Coffee**
Winner – Noble Coffee
Runner Up – Star-
- bucks
Honorable Mentions – Erika's Place, Dunkin' Donuts, Brunchie's, Ginger's

- **Best Donut**
Winner – Jack's Donuts (Fishers)
Runner Up – Dunkin' Donuts
Honorable Mentions – Big Apple Bagels, Krenolies, Titus, Rebellion Donuts

- **Best French Fries**
Winner – McDonald's
Runner Up – Chick-Fil-A
Honorable Mentions – Culver's, Steak 'n' Shake, Red Robin, Applebee's

- **Best Milke Shake**
Winner – Steak'n'Shake
Runner Up – Dairy Queen
Honorable Mentions – Hardee's, Jim Dandy

- **Best Onion Rings**
Winner – Red Robin
- Runner Up – Applebee's
Honorable Mentions – Carey Tavern, Perkins, Burger King, White Castle

- **Best Omelet**
Winner – Erika's Place
Runner Up – Ginger's Cafe
Honorable Mentions – Rosie's Cafe, Uptown Cafe, Perkins, Best Bet, Cracker Barrel

- **Best Sandwich**
Winner – Chick-Fil-A
Runner Up – Big Hoffas
Honorable Mentions – Burger King, Reb Robin, Wolfie's, Culver's

- **Best Tenderloin (breaded/ubreaded)**
Winner – Syd's
Runner Up – Jim Dandy
Honorable Mentions – The Nickel Plate

- **Best**
Runner Up – Jim Dandy
Honorable Mentions – The Nickel Plate

inogen
FREEDOM. TO BE YOU.
If you think oxygen therapy means slowing down, it's time for a welcome breath of fresh air.
1-877-930-3271

Are you at risk?
Get Screened for Risks of Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease
5 Screening Package for \$149 Call 844-499-4567
LIFE LINE SCREENING
The Power of Prevention

Erika's Place
Thanks to all those who voted for us!
317-984-0501
654 Logan St. Noblesville
40 West Jackson St. Cicero

Classifieds

765-361-0100 ext. 15 | class@thepaper24-7.com
Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Deadlines for next-day publication:
Line ads: 1 p.m. | Display ads 11 a.m.

2, 3 and 4 bedroom homes, Contract Sales, Hooks (765) 918-8700, (765) 362-0185 www.hookshomesindiana.com	Portable Oxygen Concentrator May be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 877-930-3271	DISH Network. \$64.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-855-551-9764	Earthlink High Speed Internet. As Low As \$49.95/month (for the first 3 months.) Reliable High Speed Fiber Optic Technology. Stream Videos, Music and More! Call Earthlink Today 1-855-977-7069	High-Speed Internet. We instantly compare speed, pricing, availability to find the best service for your needs. Starting at \$39.99/month! Quickly compare offers from top providers. Call 1-844-961-0666	4G LTE Home Internet Now Available! Get GotW3 with lightning fast speeds plus take your service with you when you travel! As low as \$109.99/mo! 1-877-327-0930
need a job? Find one in the classifieds. 765.361.8888	LIVE PAIN FREE with CBD products from AceWellness. We guarantee highest quality, most competitive pricing on CBD products. Softgels, Oils, Skincare, Vape & more. Coupon Code: PRINT20 Call Now 833-226-3105	SERIOUSLY INJURED in an AUTO ACCIDENT? Let us fight for you! Our network has recovered millions for clients! Call today for a FREE consultation! 844-517-6414	ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. FREE information kit. Call 855-965-4916	New Starting Base Pay - .60 cpm w/ option to make .70 cpm for Class A CDL Flatbed Drivers, Excellent Benefits, Home Weekends, Call 800-648-9915 or www.boydandsons.com	DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY! FAST FREE PICK-UP-24 HR RESPONSE! Help Children in Need, Support Breast Cancer Education/Prevention or Veterans. Tax Deduction 844-820-9099
DIAGNOSED WITH LUNG CANCER? You may qualify for a substantial cash award. NO Obligation, NO risk! We've recovered millions. Let us help you!! Call 24/7, 844-284-4920	Looking to SELL your Home? Save time & money, connect with the Top Agents in your area to get more MONEY and close FASTER! Call 317-854-9781	Wesley Financial Group, LLC - Timeshare Cancellation Experts - Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 877-329-1207	Never Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Complete Care Home Warranty COVERS ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. 30 DAY RISK FREE. \$200.00 OFF 2 FREE Months! 1-855-408-3894	COMPUTER ISSUES? GEEKS ON SITE provides FREE diagnosis REMOTELY 24/7 SERVICE DURING COVID19. No home visit necessary. \$40 OFF with coupon 86407! Restrictions apply. 888-715-8176	Need Help with Family Law? Can't Afford a \$5,000 Retainer? www.familycourtdirect.com/ Family/Law - Low Cost Legal Services - Pay As You Go - As low as \$750-\$1,500 - Get Legal Help Now! Call 1-888-417-4602 Mon-Fri 7am to 4 pm PCT
Denied Social Security Disability? Appeal! If you're 50+, filed for SSD and denied, our attorneys can help get you approved! No money out of pockets! Call 1-855-995-4758	Thinking about installing a new shower? American Standard makes it easy. FREE design consultation. Enjoy your shower again! Call 1-855-475-0534 today to see how you can save \$1,000 on installation, or visit www.newshowerdeal.com/hoosier	Directv Stream - The Best of Live & On-Demand On All Your Favorite Screens. CHOICE Package, \$84.99/mo for 12months. Stream on 20 devices at once in your home. HBO MAX FREE for 1 yr (w/CHOICE Package or higher.) Call for more details today! (some restrictions apply) Call IVS 1-844-412-9997	Guaranteed Life Insurance! (Ages 50 to 80). No medical exam. Affordable premiums never increase. Benefits never decrease. Policy will only be cancelled for non-payment. 833-535-1043	Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trustee by Authors Since 1920. Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for Your Free Author's Guide 1-888-965-1444 or visit http://dorranceinfo.com/hoosier	DIRECTV for \$69.99/mo for 12 months with CHOICE Package. Watch your favorite live sports, news & entertainment anywhere. One year of HBO Max FREE. Directv is #1 in Customer Satisfaction (JD Power & Assoc.) Call for more details! (some restrictions apply) Call 1-888-885-8931

Readers' Choice 2022 Results - Medical Category

• **Assisted Living/Nursing Home**
Winner – Harbour Manor & The Lodge
 Runner Up – Magnolia Springs
 Honorable Mentions – Sanders Glen, Prarie Lakes Health Campus, Bickford of Carmel, Hamilton Trace

• **Audiologist**
Winner – Beltone Hearing Care Center
 Runner Up – Total Hearing Solutions
 Honorable Mentions

– Indiana Hearing Aid, Dr. Charlotte Dugan, Northeast Otolaryngology, Whisper Hearing Center

• **Chiropractor**
Winner – Creekside
 Runner Up – Mark Woloshin
 Honorable Mentions – The Joint, Abe Beaber/Ham Co Chiropractic

• **Counseling Service**
Winner – Pathways to Healing/

Kristen Boice
 Runner Up – Prevail
 Honorable Mentions – Aspire, Family Tree

• **Dentist**
Winner – Chad Bailey
 Runner Up – Family Dental
 Honorable Mentions – Robert Holloway, Burns Family, Joe Forgy, Mike Bettner

• **Hospital**
Winner – St. Vincent Carmel
 Runner Up – River-

view Health
 Honorable Mentions – Community, Methodist, IU Health Saxony, Franciscan

• **Optometrist**
Winner – Midwest Eye Consultant
 Runner Up – Dana Meyers
 Honorable Mentions – Dr. Prather, Miller Eye Center, Dr. Ciana Revolutionary Eyes

• **Orthodontist**
Winner – Resmer & Ryan Orthodon-

tics
 Runner Up – Robert Page
 Honorable Mentions – Jason Bunch, Noblesville Pediatric Dentist, Pagem Condict, Sadler

• **Pharmacy**
Winner – Sheridan Elliot
 Runner Up – CVS
 Honorable Mentions – Kroger, Walgreens, CVS in Cicero, Wal Mart, Meijer, CVS (SR 37 & 146th)

• **Physician**

Winner – Scott Boschee,
 Runner Up – Bill Kirsch
 Honorable Mentions – Noblesville Family Practice, Thomas Miller, Amy Banter

• **Veterinarian**
Winner – Janssens
 Runner Up – Hamilton Hills Animal Hospital
 Honorable Mentions – VIP Animal Clinic, Hermann Vet Clinic, Hamilton Crossing, Noblesville Vet Clinic

Is There Time To Change The Course Of Purdue Basketball?

Albert Einstein is sometimes credited with saying "the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results."

That, in a nutshell, describes Purdue basketball over the last 42 years under Gene Keady and Matt Painter.

Although it irritates Purdue fans when national media laugh at the Boilermakers' NCAA tournament failures, it's difficult to argue when your favorite team is frequently the victim of a head-shaking upset. Chris Beard would not be a multimillionaire coach at the University of Texas today had his Arkansas Little Rock team not sent Purdue packing in the first round of the 2016 tournament.

Now, Shaheen Holloway is going to reap a major payday - likely at his alma mater Seton Hall - for that embarrassing performance Friday night that saw Saint Peter's become the first 15 seed in NCAA tournament history to reach the Elite Eight.

It's rare to call a 29-win season a failure but that's just the hard truth for Purdue basketball. No Big Ten regular season championship. No Big Ten tournament championship. No Final Four to extend a drought that has lasted since my freshman year in college.

Jaden Ivey, the



KENNY THOMPSON
 Columnist

All-American guard and Purdue's first projected NBA lottery pick since Glenn Robinson in 1994, could not have played worse at a more critical moment in Boilermaker basketball history. That performance likely will keep him off lists of all-time great Boilermakers.

In retrospect, the moment when Purdue earned the first No. 1 ranking from The Associated Press in school history was the peak of the 2021-22 season. From an outsider's perspective, some of the players did not handle the attention with humility. Which is a kind way of saying the ranking went to their heads.

In the weeks that followed, the Boilermakers didn't seem to learn after sleepwalking at Rutgers (losing on a halfcourt shot), playing down to North Carolina State's level (rallying to win in overtime) and a rare home loss to Wisconsin. I'll argue that Keady

is not in the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame today because of Purdue's postseason failures during his 25 years on the bench in Mackey Arena. It's galling to those who support Keady's candidacy that these cheating coaches - Jim Boenheim, Larry Brown, John Calipari, Rick Pitino, Bill Self - are enshrined.

Although well respected in the coaching community, barring a detour Painter is headed down the same path. There's just no explaining away losses to inferior tournament teams like No. 11 seed VCU in 2011, No. 12 seed Arkansas Little Rock, No. 13 seed North Texas last season and now Saint Peter's.

Is there time to change the course of Purdue basketball? Of course.

Painter has shown willingness to change in the past, most notably following the last place finish in the Big Ten during the 2013-14 season. Recruiting has been elevated. It's a strong possibility that Purdue will have recruited two consecutive Indiana Mr. Basketball winners for the first time since having three in a row from 1964-66 (Denny Brady, Billy Keller, Rick Mount). Braden Smith of Westfield and Fletcher Loyer of Homestead are among the five finalists to wear No. 1 for the Indiana All-Stars this summer. Incoming 7-footer

William Berg of Sweden was recently profiled in a Washington Post story about the lineage of Purdue big men under Painter.

The big question is where will the toughness and leadership come from when the pressure is on? The absence of both was the difference between an Elite Eight-Final Four run this season not to mention a Big Ten regular season championship.

In addition to Ivey, seniors Trevion Williams, Sasha Stefanovic and Eric Hunter Jr. are also departing. Isaiah Thompson, slated to be the only senior on Purdue's roster for 2022-23, entered the transfer portal earlier this week.

In addition to Smith, Loyer and Berg, forward Camden Heide is the fourth member of the true freshman class. Combined with redshirt freshmen Trey Kaufman-Renn and Brian Waddell, nearly half of the scholarship roster is comprised of players yet to officially step on the Mackey Arena court.

Assuming Edey returns (7-4 centers just don't fit the NBA most wanted profile these days), he's a favorite for preseason Big Ten Player of the Year honors. Mason Gillis returns at power forward, or the 4 as it's being called these days. He'll have to fight off 2021 Indiana Mr.

Basketball Caleb Furst, who took the starting job before COVID sidelined him and opened the door for Gillis.

Purdue needs the fearless scoring threat of Brandon Newman from his freshman season and not the Newman who wasn't in the playing rotation for most of the Big Ten schedule. Former Pennsylvania Mr. Basketball Ethan Morton showed flashes in his first full season that he belongs in the starting lineup somewhere.

With a true point guard and a scoring guard topping the list of Purdue's needs, it appears Painter will have to stick a toe into the transfer pool, which at last glance held more than 1,000 players. The Boilermakers were one of a handful of schools last season without a transfer on their roster.

In a dream scenario, former Lawrence Central star Nijel Pack would return to the state following the forced resignation of Bruce Weber at Kansas State. Pack is currently exploring his NBA Draft options, but media reports indicate the 6-0 point guard is likely to return to college for his junior season.

Notable names in the transfer portal include former Indiana guard Rob Phinisee, Illinois guard Andre Curbelo and Indiana State guard Tyreke Key.

Next in line Ever since Purdue's last place finish in 2013-14, Painter has prioritized finding a shooter in each recruiting class since then.

Dakota Mathias. Ryan Cline. Carsen Edwards. Sasha Stefanovic. Brandon Newman. Jaden Ivey. Brian Waddell.

Tuesday night, Fletcher Loyer showed off his shooting skills in New Orleans. The Homestead star matched Cline's 2015 feat of winning the national high school 3-point shooting contest.

Loyer topped Duke recruit Kyle Fillipowski 21-16 and Austin Montgomery 21-13 to win the He Gets Us 3-point Championship. Then, Loyer captured the Rocket Mortgage Battle of Champions by topping women's winner Taylor McCabe (Iowa recruit) 21-19.

He completed the championship trifecta by joining Georgia Tech recruit Tonie Morgan and Learic Davis to claim the TaxAct Team Shootout.

Purdue fans can watch how Loyer earned his titles at 1 p.m. Sunday when CBS airs the High School Slam Dunk & 3-point championships.

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

Fishers To Open Downtown Portion Of Nickel Plate Trail This May, Expanding Connectivity In Community

The City of Fishers and Fishers Parks announced today the public opening of the downtown portion of the Nickel Plate Trail, including the pedestrian tunnel beneath 116th Street, on Saturday, May 14. Over the past three years, the City, along with many community stakeholders, have worked to plan, develop and build the 3.8-mile paved, multi-use trail, strengthening connectivity within the Fishers community. With the opening of the downtown section, users will be able to travel from 146th Street to 106th Street.

In 2019, the City of Fishers unveiled the Nickel Plate Trail Master Plan, a long-range master plan for the one-of-a-kind public space that featured ideas from residents, students, community groups, and more. Paving of the trail began in 2020. Last summer, the City began construction on the Nickel Plate Trail pedestrian tunnel beneath 116th Street, which provides pedestrians with safe and efficient passage through the 116th Street intersection without disrupting traffic flow.

The downtown portion of the Nickel Plate Trail also features the Monumental Stairs with a built-in bike ramp that allows pedestrians and cyclists to access the trail at 116th Street and

provides seating overlooking the trail-level plaza — the perfect spot for live music, special events and community gatherings. A pedestrian bridge above the tunnel exit on the north side of 116th Street connects the existing train platform to the new Nickel Plate Station plaza, which includes swings and other activations.

Coordination and planning are underway with Indianapolis for the southern portion of the trail between 96th Street and 106th Street and will be announced as funding becomes available.

The City will unveil the downtown portion of the trail with the Nickel Plate Trail Grand Opening Celebration, presented by First Internet Bank, on Saturday, May 14. From noon to 4 p.m., residents can explore the new trail and enjoy food trucks, public art, and more at the Switch Plaza and Monumental Stairs (2 Nickel Plate Trail, Fishers), located between North and South Street in Fishers' downtown Nickel Plate Cultural District, as well as activations at Fishers Parks headquarters at Hub & Spoke (8100 E. 106th Street, Fishers). In the evening from 7 to 10 p.m., event-goers can enjoy a beverage from local breweries and stroll the trail while enjoying live music in the downtown area between North Street

and South Street.

To celebrate the trail opening, several businesses in the Nickel Plate District and along the Nickel Plate Trail will offer special deals for patrons throughout the month of May. Deals will be announced in May at playfishers.com/NPT-GrandOpening.

Along with the opening of the Nickel Plate Trail, residents and visitors can also use the trail to access and visit the Fishers Farmers' Market at the Nickel Plate District Amphitheater on Saturdays beginning in May from 8 a.m. to noon to shop from local vendors. The City of Fishers will also host the annual Hope for Happiness event at the Farmers' Market on Saturday, May 14 in partnership with Fishers High School and Hamilton Southeastern High Schools' Bring Change to Mind student clubs to raise awareness about mental health and the city's Stigma Free initiative.

Throughout the summer, residents are encouraged to use the trail to access summer events throughout the Nickel Plate District, including Fishers Parks' Summer Concert Series, the Shop Fishers celebration, and more.

Learn more about the Nickel Plate Trail and the grand opening at playfishers.com/NPTGrandOpen-

ing.

About City of Fishers
 The City of Fishers is a suburb of Indianapolis, Indiana, located in Hamilton County and was named #1 Place to Live in the US by Money Magazine in 2017. Under the leadership of Mayor Scott Fadness, Fishers is known as a smart, vibrant, and entrepreneurial city through its neighborhood development, dedication to supporting high-growth companies, and innovative city processes. With a population of 91,832 (2017), Fishers is one of the fastest growing communities in Indiana and has received national accolades for entrepreneurship, livability, and safety.

About Fishers Parks
 Fishers Parks create a community of exploration and discovery for all ages. Whether you are looking for the perfect summer camp, a maker-space to tinker, a night to let loose, or the perfect spot to unplug, our parks and activities are made for making memories. With 24 park properties totaling over 591 acres, 131 miles of nature and multi-use trails, and vibrant events throughout the year, find your next adventure with Fishers Parks. Learn more at playfishers.com and find updates on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF SALE
 18702 CHAD HITTLE DR WESTFIELD
 On 04/19/2022 @ 02:00 PM
 2002 UTILITY TRAILER MANF. 1UYFS24812A750201 \$3,450.00
 TL18919 4/1/1t hspaxlp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Public Works and Safety of Fishers, Indiana, hereinafter referred to as the Owner, will receive sealed bids for the following project:

ROAD RESURFACING CONTRACT 22-2
 IN FISHERS, INDIANA
ASPHALT ROAD RESURFACING & MISCELLANEOUS PAVING WORK IN FISHERS, INDIANA

Proposals may be forwarded individually, registered mail, or delivered in person, addressed to the Director of Engineering, City of Fishers, One Municipal Drive, Fishers, Indiana 46038, prior to 10:00 a.m., local time, April 7, 2022. Bids received after the 10:00 a.m. deadline will not be considered but will be returned to the Bidder unopened. Commencing immediately after 10:00 a.m. on the same date, such bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Fishers City Hall Auditorium located on the 1st floor of Fishers City Hall.

The work to be performed and the proposals to be submitted shall include a bid for all general construction, labor, material, tools, equipment, applicable taxes, permits, licenses, insurance, service costs, etc., incidental to and required for this project.

All materials furnished and labor performed incidental to and required by the proper and satisfactory execution of the Contract to be made shall be furnished and performed in accordance with requirements from the Drawings and Specifications included with these Contract Documents. Bid Documents and Plans can be obtained digitally for a fee of \$50 via this link: <https://fishers.in.viewpointcloud.com/categories/1079/record-types/1006533>.

Bid Documents and Plans can also be obtained at the City of Fishers City Hall Service Desk, One Municipal Drive, Fishers, Indiana 46038 for the fee of \$50. Partial sets will not be sold. Copies of bid documents and plans are also available for examination in the Engineering office.

Each proposal must be enclosed in a sealed envelope bearing the title of the project, bid opening date and the name of the bidder firmly attached.

The proposal shall be accompanied by a certified check or acceptable Bidder's Bond made payable to the City of Fishers, in a sum of not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount of the proposal, which check or bond will be held by the City of Fishers as evidence that the Bidder will, if awarded a Contract, enter into the same with Owner upon notification from him to do so within ten (10) days of said notification. Failure to execute the Contract and to furnish a Performance Bond to the City of Fishers, Indiana, will be cause for forfeiture of the amount of money represented by the certified check or Bidder's Bond, as and for liquidated damages. Form 96 (Most recent version), as prescribed by the Indiana State Board of Accounts, shall be properly completed and submitted with bid proposals. The City of Fishers at its discretion reserves the right to waive any and all informalities in the bidding process. All bids submitted shall be good for sixty (60) days from the opening of the bids.

TL18885 3/25 4/1 2t hspaxlp

Never miss a public notice on legal proceedings!
 After it prints in your local newspaper, it goes online:

IndianaPublicNotices.com
TheTimes24-7.com

Purdue Receives Over \$2.8 Million In USDA/NIFA Funding For National Agrability, Indiana Agrability Projects

The Agricultural and Biological Engineering AgrAbility Program at Purdue University has received \$2,124,000 in funding for the National AgrAbility Project and \$720,000 for the Indiana AgrAbility Project from the United States Department of Agriculture and National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). Paul Jones, project manager for the National AgrAbility Project and education and resource specialist for the Indiana AgrAbility Project, said the funding supports the projects' work through

2025. "Our team in ABE is thankful to receive both the Indiana AgrAbility grant and the National AgrAbility grant," Jones said. Purdue's Breaking New Ground Resource Center will again be the lead agency for the grants. "Having USDA/NIFA award both the National and the Indiana AgrAbility Project grants to Purdue in the same year is a strong indication that the staff behind these proposals is on the right track when it comes to the vision and work plan for AgrAbility that they

have projected," said Chuck Baldwin, Indiana AgrAbility project manager. The National AgrAbility Project reaches out to farmers and ranchers who live with a disability or physical limitation, Jones said. The Indiana AgrAbility grant will work to deliver direct services to farmers, ranchers or other agricultural workers around the state in the form of direct on-farm assessments or working alongside other agencies to get specific technology into the hands of farmers who need it. Stress-related impair-

ments have become a more significant focus for AgrAbility. "Mental health is becoming an increasingly critical area," Jones said. "We used to focus primarily on physical issues — disabilities, spinal cord injuries, amputations, arthritis and so on — but now there needs to be a greater focus on stress-related impairments." The National AgrAbility Project will work to support other state projects around the country and offer limited services to farmers in states without an AgrAbility project.

Indiana Design Center Hosts Design Open House

The Indiana Design Center is pleased to welcome the public to a Spring Design Open House from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM on Thursday, April 28, 2022. The Spring Design Open House is a wonderful way to see and shop what's new in the retail showrooms and talk with design professionals who can help solve your design dilemmas and connect you with the right products and design service solutions. The first hour will kick off with a moderated panel discussion centered around what's popular in home design for 2022, moderated Leslie Bailey, co-founder and CEO of Indy Maven. Following the program, the event will have an open house format with beer, wine and hors d'oeuvres, encouraging guests to visit the retailers, shop the latest spring offerings and connect with professionals. Showrooms and shops throughout the center will be unveiling new spaces and merchandise, and hosting pop up shops, special savings and product demonstrations. Affiliated member designers will also be showcasing their businesses and design portfolios and will be available to connect with guests.

is available in surface lots and the underground parking garage. About the Indiana Design Center The 82,000 square foot Indiana Design Center serves the statewide community of design professionals and their clients by providing a premier collection of resources including fine traditional and contemporary residential and contract furnishings such as fabrics, kitchen and bath products, lighting, architectural productions, wallcoverings and accessories. The Indiana Design Center is located at 200 S. Rangeline Road in Carmel, IN, just 30 minutes/23 miles from Downtown Indianapolis. The Design Center's proximity to the Carmel Arts & Design District provides convenient access to interior designers, art galleries, showrooms and antique dealers. The Indiana Design Center is a member of Design Centers International. Please visit the Indiana Design Center website at www.IndianaDesignCenter.com.

A full listing of Indiana Design Center and industry events may be found on the website calendar at www.indianadesigncenter.com/indiana-design-calendar. About Pedcor Companies Headquartered in Carmel, IN, Pedcor Companies develop, construct, manage and finance real estate projects throughout the United States, primarily in the Midwest. Pedcor is a national leader in the affordable housing industry and currently has several commercial and mixed-use projects underway in Carmel, IN. Among the many companies that comprise the Pedcor family are Pedcor Bancorp, Pedcor Investments, LLC, Pedcor Residential, LLC, and Pedcor City Center Development Company. For more information, visit www.pedcorcompanies.com.

Farm Credit Mid-America Returning \$63 Million In Patronage To Indiana Customers

Farm Credit Mid-America will pay \$63 million in cash patronage dividends to eligible customer-owners in Indiana through its Patronage Program this month. This amount is part of \$210 million in total cash patronage dividends the financial services cooperative is returning to eligible customers in Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. Since 2016, Farm Credit Mid-America has returned more than \$858 million through its Patronage Program.



farmCREDIT
MID-AMERICA

As a customer-owned cooperative, Farm Credit Mid-America understands that extra capital can make a big difference for a customer's operation. "Our Patronage Program allows our customer-owners to share in the success of our cooperative, and it is one of the many benefits of being a customer of Farm Credit Mid-America," says Steve Witges, senior vice president of agricultural lending in Indiana for Farm Credit Mid-America. "We enjoy hearing

how patronage checks have a very positive impact on our customers' operations." Farm Credit Mid-America's Board of Directors votes to approve the program annually. Eligible customers receive a patronage check the week of March 21 proportionate to his or her level of transaction with the association during 2021. In addition to receiving patronage, customer-owners of Farm Credit Mid-America are encouraged to participate in a variety of ways. These include participation in annual

Board of Director and Nominating Committee elections, the ability to vote on issues that influence the operations of the association, and the opportunity to serve on the Advocate Council, a diverse group of professionals and leaders from across Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee who deepen Farm Credit Mid-America's impact, relationships and support for customers. For more information about Farm Credit Mid-America's Patronage Program and its eligibility requirements, visit e-farmcredit.com/Patronage.

age. About Farm Credit Mid-America Farm Credit Mid-America is a financial services cooperative that has served the credit needs of farmers and rural residents across Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee for more than a century. Farm Credit Mid-America provides loans for real estate, operating, equipment, housing and related services such as crop insurance and vehicle, equipment and building leases. For more information, call 1-800-444-FARM or visit www.e-farmcredit.com.

📍 BETSY From Page A1

in downtown Noblesville. 5. TopGolf Tournament is April 7 at TopGolf Fishers to benefit the Boys & Girls Club. 6. Clean out your paperwork and head to Shred Day 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. April 9 at Hamilton County Household Hazardous Waste Center in Noblesville. 7. Head out early for Noblesville Kiwanis Sunrisers' annual pancake breakfast 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. April 9 in conjunction with the Noblesville Parks' annual Easter Egg Hunt at Shelter No. 5 at Forest Park. Cost is \$5 for breakfast with proceeds to a local charity. 8. Grab your Easter egg basket and head for Forest Park for Noblesville Parks' annual Easter egg hunt, featuring the

Easter bunny, at 11 a.m. April 9 with festivities -- bounce houses, deejay and Noblesville Police and Fire vehicles on tour -- beginning at 10 a.m. (Sunrisers Pancake breakfast 8-10:30 a.m. at Forest Park Inn, see above.) 9. Come out for the Wayne-Fall Lions Club's annual Palm Sunday All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 10, for a goodwill donation, at the Wayne-Fall Lions Club on East 191st Street in Noblesville. 10. Auditions for Main Street Productions' "Rumors" by Neil Simon, will be April 11-12 with performances June 2-12 at Basile Westfield Playhouse, directed by Jen Otterman of Noblesville.

11. Ready, set, run to find candy inside of eggs during the Hamilton County Junior Leader Easter Egg Hunt at 6 p.m. April 13 at the 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville. 12. All ages can enjoy the children's comedy, "The House at Pooh Corner" by Improbable Fiction Co., April 15-24 at The Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville. 13. Blatchley Nature Study Club invites the public to the 2022 Spring Wildflower Walk and Centennial Celebration is 1 to 5 p.m. April 16 and 30 at 125 Boulder Drive in Noblesville near Potter's Bridge. 14. Visit the annual Fairyville at Nickel Plate Arts and Hamilton County Artists' Associ-

ation Birdie Gallery and in downtown Noblesville on April 19-23 with most events free. 15. Westfield kicks off Movies in the Plaza series on April 22, featuring Dr. Seuss' "The Lorax," at Grand Junction Plaza. 16. Carmel Community Players presents "The Fantasticks" musical, April 22-May 8, directed by Rich Phipps. 17. Celebrate spring with the annual Teter Wildflower Walk with free guided tours at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. or wander on your own between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. April 24 at Teter Organic Farm in Noblesville. 18. Auditions for The Belfry Theatre's "Drinking Habits" comedy are at 7 p.m. April 24-25 at the Noblesville theater.

19. EnPointe Indiana Ballet will present "Don Quixote, featuring artistic directors Pollyana Ribeiro and Robert Moore of Noblesville, 7 p.m. April 29 and 2 p.m. April 30 at Noblesville High School with tickets available. 20. Handmade Vintage Spring Market is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 30 at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville, with tickets available at handmadevintagemarket.com. 21. Come out and watch or participate in the VFW Indiana Loyalty Day Celebration in the City of Noblesville with lineup at 11 a.m. and parade at noon on April 30, with food, entertainment and awards at the VFW Post 6246 on South Ninth Street. Parade starts at

Ivy Tech Hamilton County in Noblesville. To be a sponsor or a participant, contact the VFW Post. 22. The Attic Theatre presents "Sense & Sensibility" May 5-7. 23. Get dressed up and join in for the 14th annual "Wine, Wags & Whiskers" at 6 p.m. May 8 at Embassy Suites in Noblesville. 24. The Boys & Girls Club Auxiliary Auction is May 14 at Harbour Trees. 25. Get up early for the 23rd annual Hamilton County Master Gardener Plant Sale from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on May 21 at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville.

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

MARK

HALL

FOR HAMILTON COUNTY COUNCIL
DISTRICT THREE

CONSERVATIVE QUALIFIED LEADER

FAMILY & COMMUNITY VALUES REFLECTED IN
BOARD APPOINTMENTS

I WILL PROTECT OUR INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL
FREEDOMS

PUBLIC SAFETY IS JOB ONE

DEMONSTRATED SERVANT

I STAND FOR PEOPLE OVER DONORS

"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 the principles that made our communities so special." - Mark Hall

WWW.MARKFHALL.COM

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF MARK HALL




FRIDAY Business Notes and NEWS DAY

Friday, April 1, 2022

A6

EMAIL, news@thetimes24-7.com U.S. MAIL, 54 N. 9th St., Noblesville, IN 46060 ONLINE, www.thetimes24-7.com

Low Tuition Rate Increases, Generous Financial Aid Positively Impact Students

Most Hoosier students do not pay the full price to go to college due to efforts from Indiana's public institutions to maintain some of the lowest tuition rate increases in the nation and from state lawmakers to provide generous financial aid resources, according to the Indiana Commission for Higher Education's latest College Costs and Financial Aid Report.

Description automatically generatedThe Commission's first-of-its-kind report provides an analysis of the total cost of attendance at all Indiana public institutions, which includes tuition, mandatory fees, books, room and board, transportation and other needs. The report also analyzes the average debt load for college graduates and the impact state and federal financial aid has on reducing the cost for Hoosier students and families.

"Cost is one of the most important factors for anyone considering education and training beyond high school and the findings in this report will help students and families make informed decisions regarding their higher education pathways and bring awareness to the financial aid opportunities available in Indiana," said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Teresa Lubbers.

Each year, the State of Indiana makes \$385 million in grants and

scholarships available to students. When combined with federal financial aid, on average, Hoosier financial aid recipients receive more than \$8,000 in grant and scholarship aid per year. Additionally, tuition rate increases for both two- and four-year institutions in Indiana are lower than the national average (7.5 percent for four-year institutions, compared to a national rate of 11 percent).

While Indiana has been committed to increasing its financial aid expenditures, higher education appropriations as a percentage of the state budget have decreased over a decade and lag the national average by nearly \$2,000. Higher education appropriations fund programs such as Indiana's public institutions' operations and state financial aid support.

"Insight into the true costs of college has never been more important as the college-going rate in Indiana and nationally has continued to decline over the past several years," said Lubbers. "We need to provide assurances to Hoosiers that higher education can be an affordable option."

State aid keeps the cost of higher education within reach for Hoosiers with financial need

Indiana ranks first in the Midwest and fifth in the nation in providing need-based aid, and these

resources help bring college within reach for many low-income Hoosier students and families. After grants and scholarships, students from families with a household income of less than \$30,000 pay just over a quarter (30 percent) of the average college costs per year.

One example of Indiana's need-based aid is the 21st Century Scholarship. The program, which requires students to apply while they are in seventh or eighth grade, offers income-eligible Hoosiers up to four years of paid tuition at a participating Indiana college or university.

"The 21st Century Scholars program eliminates the largest cost of college – tuition – for low-income Hoosier students," said Lubbers. "By decreasing financial barriers, we are seeing Scholars go to college at higher rates than their peers, including students from high-income households."

Indiana's outcomes-based funding formula pays for what the state values

For nearly two decades, state policymakers have embraced an outcomes-based funding formula for public institutions that rewards completion and places a large premium on on-time completion. The formula includes an on-time graduation rate metric which recognizes

the value of 2- and 4-year institutions increasing students' likelihood of success by graduating on time while reducing the overall cost per degree. Extended-time completion leads to unnecessary costs for students. Two additional years in college can cost \$50,000 or more in lost wages, tuition and related costs.

"The most cost-effective degree is an on-time degree," said Lubbers. "Indiana's outcomes-based funding formula drives dollars to colleges based on student success outcomes that ensure personal prosperity and economic mobility. The Commission has reviewed and updated the formula over time to respond to and reflect changes taking place for learners and for the state's needs."

Recommendations

The Commission releases recommendations with each of its reports, offering strategies aligned to its strategic plan, Reaching Higher in a State of Change, which calls for a decrease in the cost of college and a reduction in the reliance on student debt to increase completion and promote lifelong success. Recommendations include:

- **Increasing college readiness with high school students** by encouraging greater access to dual credit opportunities and requiring all high

school seniors to file the FAFSA (with opt-out provisions embedded)

- **Continuing to make college more affordable** by urging Indiana public institutions to adhere to the Commission's non-binding tuition and fee recommendations, continuing to incentivize students and institutions for on-time completion through an outcomes-based funding formula and encouraging institutions to use Open Educational Resources to reduce costs

- **Supporting low-income and first-generation students** by advocating for all institutions to provide transparent information about financial aid opportunities available to first-generation students and explore options to offer financial support for socioeconomic barriers such as food, transportation, housing and childcare
- **Increasing financial literacy with students and families** through partnerships with community organizations such as INvestEd which work directly with K-12 students so they make informed, responsible borrowing decisions to limit excessive debt after college

Read the full College Cost and Financial Aid Report at che.in.gov. Data come from the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, Indiana State Budget Agency, U.S. Department of Education and

The Institute for College Access & Success.

Explore resources available to help students plan, prepare and pay for college at www.LearnMoreIndiana.org.

Indiana's College Costs and Financial Aid Report is part of a series of reports provided by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education to clearly define Indiana's progress in preparing Hoosiers for college and the workforce. The report provides an analysis of the total cost of college at all Indiana public institutions and analyzes the average debt load for college graduates and the impact state and federal financial aid has on reducing the cost for Hoosier students and families. Read the full report at che.in.gov and all the Commission's reports at che.in.gov/reports.

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

AmEx, National Trust for Historic Preservation Announce \$1 Million Grant Program to Support Historic Small Restaurants

American Express (NYSE: AXP) today announced the next installment of its Backing Historic Small Restaurants Grant Program, which will once again award \$40,000 grants, administered by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, to 25 historic small restaurants across the country.

Now in its second year, the Backing Historic Small Restaurants Grant Program will again award 25 historic U.S. small restaurants with \$40,000 grants.

The campaign will support restaurants that have contributed to their neighborhood's unique history as they manage ongoing challenges because of the pandemic.

This initiative complements American Express' dedicated Shop Small campaign launched earlier this month to support independent restaurants.

The past year has continued to pose challenges for restaurant owners as they navigate the impacts of the pandemic, including the ebb and flow of foot

traffic as new coronavirus variants emerged. According to the National Restaurant Association's 2022 State of the Restaurant Industry, more than half of restaurant operators surveyed have indicated that it would be a year or more before business conditions return to normal. Further, 96% of restaurant operators surveyed have experienced supply delays or shortages of key food or beverage items in 2021, and these challenges will likely continue in 2022.

To address these challenges, American Express is again working with the National Trust for Historic Preservation to bring back the Backing Historic Small Restaurant Grant Program, first launched in February of 2021, to help small restaurants that have contributed to the fabric of their communities so they can better serve their customers, financially recover, and grow their businesses. The focus of the program will be on historic small restaurants that have been dispropor-

tionately impacted by the pandemic.

"Historic restaurants have long been some of the most important establishments in our communities," said Jennifer Sklyer, Chief Corporate Affairs Officer at American Express. "They are places where families and friends gather, build relationships, share meals, and celebrate. While their future looks bright, many of these restaurants are still carrying the weight of the pandemic, and we are here to support them through this next phase of recovery."

"American entrepreneurship is a defining aspect of our nation's heritage, and historic commercial landmarks are essential to community identity and economic vitality," said Katherine Malone-France, Chief Preservation Officer for the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

"This initiative acknowledges that legacy restaurants are not only welcoming spaces where people share their traditions and

foodways, but also gathering places where history is made in meaningful ways, small and large, over and over again."

One 2021 grantee, Neir's Tavern, located in Queens, NY, said of their grant, "Learning that we were a recipient of a Backing Historic Small Restaurants grant during this bleak time gave us hope, and played a big role in our pandemic recovery. It allowed us to move forward with the much-needed outdoor renovations, including new signage and an awning. We also purchased new tables and chairs. Neir's Tavern and the entire community are incredibly grateful for this generous grant."

Now in its second year, this program builds on American Express' ongoing Backing Small initiative to provide economically vulnerable small businesses with financial support and other resources to address their critical needs and challenges, which include Small Business Saturday and

grant programs like the Coalition to Back Black Businesses and the recent Services That Back Us program.

Independent small restaurants that have been in business for over 25 years and that operate in historic buildings or neighborhoods are eligible to apply for grants. Restaurant owners can learn more and apply for the grant program here. Additionally, restaurant enthusiasts can nominate their favorite establishments that fit the criteria for consideration. Formal applications and public nominations will be accepted beginning at 10 a.m. ET on March 21, 2022, through 11:59 p.m. ET on April 4, 2022.

American Express is a globally integrated payments company, providing customers with access to products, insights and experiences that enrich lives and build business success. Learn more at americanexpress.com and connect with us on facebook.com/americanexpress, [instagram](http://instagram.com/americanexpress),

linkedin.com/company/american-express, twitter.com/americanexpress, and youtube.com/americanexpress.

Key links to products, services and corporate responsibility information: charge and credit cards, business credit cards, travel services, gift cards, prepaid cards, merchant services, Accertify, InAuth, corporate card, business travel, and corporate responsibility.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, a privately funded nonprofit organization, works to save America's historic places.

Through the grant program, 25 small historic restaurant owners will receive a grant in the amount of \$40,000, with at least 50% used to support capital improvements; up to 25% used to cover costs associated with project management and administration of grant-funded work; and up to 25% to support general operating costs.

FOR THE BEST SPORTS COVERAGE AROUND, READ



DELIVERED DAILY AND AVAILABLE ONLINE AT

WWW.THETIMES24-7.COM

FRIDAY Voice of our PEOPLE

Focus On Carl

I lost a friend and colleague this week. I visited Carl Finchum the day before he passed. The bond between a photographer and a reporter is like a marriage, with some ups and downs as well as zooms and pans. Our working relationship lasted a decade, from 1994 until about 2004. Much of the success I had during those years was due to Carl's expertise at his job, his flexibility with my method of reporting and patience with my erratic style. He was a true professional.

At his funeral, most of the eulogies included remembrances about Carl's faith, his passion



DICK WOLFSIE
Life in a Nutshell

for cars and his love of Laurel and Hardy. I had no idea about that last part. I wanted to share some favorite memories, but time ran out and the service ended. Here's one of my recollections:

In about 1997, we were doing a remote shoot right

down Meridian Street from WISH-TV at the old advertising agency Caldwell Van Riper (CVR). They were promoting some sporting events and wanted to highlight upcoming Pacers games. CVR was right next door to WRTV (Channel 6), a fierce competitor with my station (Channel 8). If you remember, I had a Beagle companion named Barney who accompanied me on every shoot. Barney was always escaping and running away while I did my segments.

That morning we were taping on the front lawn of CVR, so I tied Barney's leash to a flagpole. As always, he managed to

get loose. Carl was in his usual position, pointing the camera at me, ready to go live. He never knew what I was going to do. And neither did I.

Out of the corner of my eye, I saw that Barney had wandered over to the Channel 6 front lawn, and was sniffing their signage. Carl saw Barney, as well, and realized that the sign was just too easy a target for a Beagle. I motioned to Carl to pan his camera over to Barney, who I knew was about to leave his mark on the WRTV logo. Carl thought this was an unwise thing to do, number one because it would showcase a

competitor; and number two...well, let's just leave it at number one for now, although I was pretty sure Barney would leave number two, as well. Carl just kept shaking his head "no," fearing that both of us would get in serious trouble if the boss saw this.

Finally, live on camera, I said, "I'm asking Carl to show what Barney is doing and I want our general manager to know I take total blame for this." Carl shrugged his shoulders, flashed a huge grin and panned over just in time to catch Barney in the act. No, both of the acts.

On the way back to

the studio, I thought about what we had done. "Carl," I said, "I think we are in deep doo-doo." Carl burst out laughing: "Yeah," he said, just like the Channel 6 sign."

Later, there was a note in my mail slot from the boss. "Funniest thing I have ever seen," he said. "You guys are a great team." Yes, we were. Like Laurel and Hardy.

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

Ask Rusty – Do Immigrants Get Social Security Benefits?

Dear Rusty: I am 90 and a long time Social Security recipient - I signed up at age 62, which I now know was not wise, but I digress. We see from various sources that immigrants, legal and illegal, get Social Security benefits merely by attained age, regardless of contributions. Is that true? Signed: Curious Nonagenarian



ASK RUSTY
Social Security Advisor

Dear Curious: Rest assured that illegal immigrants (or "illegal aliens," "undocumented workers" or whatever one chooses to call them) are not entitled to collect Social Security benefits. It is, however, possible for legal immigrants to collect Social Security benefits if they have individually earned the right to do so, including those who are the legally-present dependent (spouse or child) of someone who is collecting Social Security benefits. By "legal immigrant" I mean those who have immigrated to the United States and have applied for and received

either a Permanent Resident Card ("green card") or who have subsequently acquired U.S. citizenship. It's also possible to obtain an "Employment Authorization Document" which grants a foreign citizen temporary authority to work in the U.S., mainly used by citizens of other countries who work in the U.S. (typically those working for an international corporation which has a U.S. presence). In all cases, however, only legal residents who work, earn, and contribute sufficiently to Social Security from their earnings, or who are a legal dependent of

Social Security Matters

by AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor
Russell Gloor

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

someone who is collecting Social Security, can receive Social Security benefits.

The criteria for Social Security eligibility are very strict and those without legal U.S. residency status are not eligible to collect benefits. Especially on today's social media outlets, we often see uninformed people espousing the belief that illegal immigrants enjoy access to Social Security benefits which is simply not true. That's not to say there are no instances of fraud, but rest assured that those cases are vigorously sought and eventually

found and prosecuted by Social Security's Inspector General's office.

FYI, there is another category of federal benefit known as Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") which has somewhat different eligibility criteria but still requires either legal residency as I've defined above, or another special residency status which defines them as a "qualified alien" (e.g., certain Indian tribes, refugees and those granted asylum, victims of human trafficking, etc.), as defined by the federal government. SSI is, essentially, a general disability benefit for

needy seniors, minors, and disabled adults with very little income and very few assets. Federal SSI benefits are paid from the general Treasury, not from Social Security funds, and do not detract from Social Security's finances. SSI is administered by each state, which usually provide other assistance in addition to the relatively small federal monetary benefit (\$841 per month for 2022).

As you are undoubtedly aware, all U.S. States have separate laws which may provide benefits to all state citizens, regardless of their federal residency status, but that is entirely outside the realm of Social Security and does not affect Social Security's financial structure. To receive Social Security benefits, one must have either earned the right to do so by contributing sufficiently to the program or be the legally present dependent of someone who is (or was) collecting Social Security and meet all other

eligibility criteria for the benefit claimed.

Regarding your decision to claim at 62, remember that life expectancy is always an unknown factor and deciding when to claim always includes a large degree of uncertainty. We should all be comfortable knowing for certain that Social Security will be there for us until the end.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

A Letter To Losers

Dear Athlete,
We see you out there, young man. We see you with your head cradled low. We see you daughter. We see the tears collecting in your eyes, eyes that you shield from us, so we cannot sup-pose weakness in your humanity.

We see your hand tremble, as you reach out in weedy approbation; to shake the very hand that snatched your dream from beneath your pillow.

Everything seemed so right, just one week ago. Now? Now, everything couldn't possibly be more wrong.

All that you ever envisioned, at least as far as your young eyes can see into the future, is gone in a blink, in a jot, in a second.

Time is gone.

With time, you held in your hands the power to melt mountains, to turn steel to dust, to grind hard stone to meal. However, time slipped through

your fingers -- right before us. We watched intently. We are witness.

We saw it happening to you, right before our eyes. Yet we still not know how.

You molded time tightly in your hands, and in utter control of it, shaped it to your needs.

But now it is no more, and you must endure watching it puff and waft gently into the ether of your youth.

Oh, it wasn't your fault -- although you want to blame yourself. Blame someone.

You don't owe us an apology. You don't owe us a thing. The debt is ours.

That's just the brutal irony of sport. Of life. All players want to play on. However, we find



JOHN MARLOWE
With the Grain

fairness in the integrity of the game. We honor the rule. The end comes when a whistle, a number, a clock, a buzzer -- a doctor's report -- some contrivance, obstructs the path to dreams, and says, "beyond here, you may not go".

And we don't go.

We sense your pain, athlete, although we can't really feel it. Not the way you do, anyway.

We do understand your frustration. We saw what your opponent did to you. We saw their shadow cast upon you. We watched things happen to you that wouldn't happen again in a month of Sundays, or in a Blue Moon, rarely, and almost never. Your adversary strode unrelent-ingly, as if escorted by an entourage of divine hands,

brushing you aside. Are they better? Or blessed?

That, too, hardly matters. Time is up.

Your opponent is respected, but we cannot love them. That's for others to do. We allow ourselves only to marvel. We only admit to our shock, not awe.

We saw what they did to you. To us. Often, we saw it coming even before you did, and therein lies the woe. That's the original sin of being your fan. We are not allowed to act on your behalf. We are only allowed watch. And talk. And talk we surely will.

Hopefully, we will talk with fondness, although that's not guaranteed. We will rely on the human brain, programmed to recall good times more quickly than the bad. There were plenty of good times. And there will be more. For you and for us.

We will move on. We will likely move on even faster than

you.

That's because we feel no shame in letting you hold onto the baggage of what might have been, to let it reign over the realm of "what if's" in our lifetimes.

As fans, we will satisfy our own longings again through others. We will claim our share of an-other family's son or daughter for another term. We will exhaust them, just as we did you. Did generations before.

We will latch on again. We will let them do all the work, like we let you. All the study. We will let them put in the extra shots, the laps, the sprints, the drills, like we did you.

We are parasites. And as such, we are grateful you took us along for the ride.

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

www.TheTimes24-7.com

www.TheTimes24-7.com

FRIDAY

Voice of our PEOPLE

Utility Bills, Gasoline Prices and Ukraine

Most of us simply want peace in our lives, nation and world. We enjoy resting in a warm or cool house, with something to eat, free from worry and stress. Peace is not always easy. This winter, chances are that your heating bill was chomping on your checking account and taking a huge bite out of your income. You may have turned your thermostat down and wore extra layers hoping to cut back on literally burning up your money.

People have reported gas and electric bills from \$500 to over a \$1,000 for



GLENN MOLLETTE
Guest Column

one month of trying to stay comfortable in their homes.

While you are attempting to stay warm or cool, you are wondering if you can afford to start your

car. Americans are seeing gas prices dance between \$4.00 and over \$6.00 for one gallon of gas. Filling up my old truck is pushing toward \$150 at a time. When my wife goes to the grocery store the same staples seem cost more every time she goes.

The current inflation is not only expensive but is chipping away at our peace. Peace? It's hard to have peace if you go into cardiac arrest every time your utility bill arrives, you buy gasoline or go to the grocery store. If you are renting a place in America then you have

a further burden as some Americans are paying over \$2,000 a month to rent a house. If they can find one to rent.

Russia has destroyed Ukraine and has become a major player in driving up our cost of living. We were already experiencing inflation but the entire planet is reacting to what Russia is doing to Ukraine. Do you remember when we heard the news that Osama Bin Laden had been shot by one of our seal teams? When and how will the murderous rein of Vladimir Putin end? We must

hope and pray for an end to this evil.

Unfortunately, the world is a difficult place for peace. The Bible assures us that in the last days there will be wars and rumors of wars. There will be pestilence, famine, and our hearts will fail us from fear. Thus, our peace must come from God who is greater than our problems. There is an internal strength and peace that comes when we focus our minds on Him. Currently millions of Ukrainians have nothing left but the shirts on their backs and

whatever internal resolve and fortitude that is keeping them going.

Our peace in America is very unsettling but compare your situation to millions of Ukrainians today. Pray for them and let us all give thanks for what we have.

- Dr. Glenn Mollette is a graduate of numerous schools including Georgetown College, Southern and Lexington Seminaries in Kentucky. He is the author of 12 books including *Uncommon Sense*. His column is published weekly in over 600 publications in all 50 states.

When Life Hurts

When life hurts, how do you find your way to around the pain?

I have communicated with numerous friends of late who have expressed that they were going through some painful moments in their life.

Some moments were personal emotional issues, some were related to career elements, some were relationship connected, and some were rooted in medical problems. No matter the source of the pain, it is very real to those who are experiencing it. Thus, we should never try to minimize to



RANDALL FRANKS
Southern Style Columns

the speaker what one tells us about their own issues.

What do we do? How do we share comfort? Often times all we can do is just be there. We can hold a hand, lend an ear, share

a word of encouragement.

Pain is sometimes a way of tempering our internal steel in hopes we can stand against the storms that are yet to come. We can only pray that when it hits us, we have the ability to weather the gale force winds of pain upon our soul or body.

It is those who share our lives, whether in passing or day-to-day who often provide the extra measure of hope needed to overcome the darkness that rise from within in various circumstances that confront us.

I would say most of us,

no matter how much we have been blessed to do in following life's dreams have thoughts and concerns that can cause us pain.

I know I do. The pain of what if's can swallow time, happiness, and hope when we should be focusing on what will ...

The only thing that gets beyond the bending of that weight is redirecting my thoughts: What will I do today to encourage some one? What will I do to find my path?

Obviously, we all have the same basic needs. Once we have the path

in place that meets those needs then we can spend the rest of our time fulfilling the promise of the dreams that God provides us.

However, pursuing dreams does not equal achieving dreams. That is not in our hands, we simply must draw our satisfaction in the pursuit. Thus, the wisdom of our founders giving us the ability to live in a country where the pursuit of happiness is possible.

Use some hours to make the world a better place, if you are in pain, find someone who is suffering

also and help uplift them and you will find your pain less severe.

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

What Is the Proper Policy Response to Today's Inflation?

by Dr. Mark W. Hendrickson

If you get depressed easily, you may wish to skip this article. Our country has suffered inflationary bouts to various degrees throughout our history, with perhaps the most severe having occurred during the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, and the 1970s. Sadly, we have never found a quick, clean way to escape inflation. As those of us above a certain age learned in the early 1980s, the end of a period of inflation can be protracted, problematical, and painful.

A big part of the inflation problem is as much psychological as economic. People start thinking, "I had better buy what I want now, because if I wait, it will cost more and it might not even be available." This shifts demand from the future to the present and contributes to the basic inflationary problem of more money chasing the same or fewer goods. The Wall Street Journal posted a story on Feb. 7 titled "Two Years Into Pandemic, Shoppers Still Hoarding."

Inflation is a huge liability for the political party in

power. President Biden has tried to assure Americans that his administration will successfully tackle inflation, but actually there is very little that they can do. In fact, what we have seen so far from Team Biden are examples of things NOT to do.

By far, the most important DON'T at his juncture is: Don't keep increasing federal spending, especially at a time of record deficits. That would pour more fuel on the inflationary fire. Yet, increasing federal spending has been President Biden's policy priority for much of the last year as he tenaciously sought passage of his trillion-dollar-plus Build Back Better plan. Thank goodness, two Democratic senators, Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona and Joe Manchin of West Virginia, realized the inflationary damage that the federal spending splurge has been causing. They refused to supply the necessary votes to pass BBB despite being cruelly badgered and persecuted by fellow Democrats. Instead, they placed the country's welfare above partisan victory, and for that we all owe them our thanks.

President Biden has cited

some very real problems with supply chains, but then has adopted and advocated policies that will further crimp supply. These policies include: imposing costly regulations on businesses (an additional \$200 billion of costs in just his first year as president), hinting at price controls, continuing (in spite of gasoline prices having risen 40% over the last year) to impede production of fossil fuels, proposing to contain rising drug costs by imposing "steep" taxes on pharmaceutical companies, etc.

One particularly silly policy proposal to fight inflation was President Biden's announcement on Jan. 3 of a plan to lower meat prices by channeling \$1 billion in subsidies to smaller meat processors and ranchers. The stated goal was to help them compete more effectively with larger competitors. The actual impact will be to put upward pressure on prices as subsidies always do.

By the way, the current high inflation provides a useful opportunity to take a closer look at Modern Monetary Theory, which is all the rage among progressives. MMT's prescription

for an outburst of inflation such as we have today is to raise taxes on the private sector so as to reduce private demand, thereby reducing the amount of competition government faces when bidding for economic goods. Yes, for the advocates of MMT, what government wants is more important than what private citizens want. That of course, is the everyday reality of socialism.

In fact, the aforementioned Senator Joe Manchin—one of the heroes who saved us from Build Back Better—urged fellow Democrats on Feb. 10 to gut the Trump-era tax cuts to combat inflation. Now think about this for a minute: The average American worker, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, has seen real wages fall 1.7% over the past year and the middle class is getting priced out of many housing markets. Do you agree with Senator Manchin that increasing taxes should be central to the Biden administration's plan to combat inflation and rein in the deficit? Manchin and friends will claim that they will only raise taxes on the rich, but there aren't enough rich people to drive

the prices of housing, food, fuel, used cars, etc. higher. It takes tens of millions of people to do that, and so Manchin is endorsing the MMT theory that the way to curb rising prices is to raise taxes on the middle class. Do you want to pay higher income taxes this year with prices soaring? I don't think so.

As a young economist, I thought the proper response to inflation might be a deflationary policy whereby the central bank contracted the supply of money. My wise mentor, Grove City College legend Hans F. Sennholz, said something to this effect: "Inflation is like being shot through the front. Would you try to fix those injuries by shooting the person through the back (deflation)?" Both policies are harmful. Sometimes the best thing you can do is simply let the economy make the necessary adjustments and heal over time.

I will close on a sobering note. We are a long way from the Fed's decade-long policy of aiming for 2% inflation per year. But even under that policy (with the actual rate averaging 1.63%) since the year 2000, the dollar has lost about 39 cents of its pur-

chasing power. The reality is that as long as we allow our government to continue engaging in deficit spending and piling up more debt, we are sentencing ourselves to future inflation. Rather than default outright, we will service our debts with ever-depreciating dollars. It will fall to future generations of Americans to abandon the treachery of fiat currencies, the destructiveness of a politicized central bank equipped with fiat currencies, and the immorality of deficit spending.

Postscript: This was written before Russia invaded Ukraine. I wrote last week about some of the economic repercussions of the invasion. The resulting shortages are likely to cripple production (recessionary) while driving prices of key goods higher (inflationary) all of which portends a return to the stagflationary economic conditions of the late 1970s and early 1980s.

- Dr. Mark W. Hendrickson is a retired adjunct faculty member, economist, and fellow for economic and social policy with the Institute for Faith and Freedom at Grove City College.

Never miss a public notice on legal proceedings! After it prints in your local newspaper, it goes online:
IndianaPublicNotices.com • TheTimes24-7.com