

**➔ TODAY'S VERSE**

Luke 10:19 I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.



**➔ FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY**

People who call our community their own.

What makes Hailey Lamb smile? "I like working with Sue (Payne) and making stuff, making crafts and spinning," said the then 13-year-old, a then Westfield Middle School seventh-grader. She was found with her puppet, Alfonso (above), at the Hamilton County Artists' Gallery in Noblesville. "I made him at Apprentice Puppet (summer) Camp at Peewinkle's Puppet Studio with the help of some peers." She was dressed as a fairy for the fall 2020 Nickel Plate Arts Fairville, for which the gallery partnered to showcase fun fairy activities. Today's feature is a look back at one of The Times' previous Faces of Hamilton County. She is the daughter of Matt and Heather Lamb and has a sister, Julia Lamb. Hailey and Julia are both Conner Prairie youth volunteers in the spinning program led by Payne, who is past president of the HCAA. The sisters and other Conner Prairie youth volunteers dressed as fairies and demonstrated spinning skills during Fairville at the art gallery. During Fairville, Hailey also sewed on an arm and a leg that fell off her puppet, spun an entire bobbin and did some drop spindling. It was her first time to volunteer for Fairville but volunteered for Nickel Plate's Valentine's Day, felting Christmas ornaments and a garden gnome. This is the start of her fifth year as a Conner Prairie youth volunteer and wears an 1836 costume in Prairietown. She is in competitive cheer, school cheer and football cheer. The 10th annual Welcome to Fairville is happening April 20-23 at the Nickel Plate Arts campus at Eighth and Maple, with other fairy activities, Mad Hatter Tea Party and Tots Fairy Class by Caravan Classes, fairy toadstool fashion show at Lil Bloomers, clay fairy house project at Kiln Creations, fairy yoga at Shine Yoga, more at <https://nickelplatearts.org/fairville/>

**And Another Thing...**

If there is someone special (human or furry) that you would like to honor or memorialize with a life-long gift, look no further. With the purchase of a small or large engraved brick in our beautiful memorial plaza, you can make their legacy, or yours, a part of the Humane Society for Hamilton County.

Receive a 5% discount when you purchase a brick between April 12 - April 30, 2022. If you need to make special arrangements for your purchase, you can contact [developmentdirector@hamiltonhumane.com](mailto:developmentdirector@hamiltonhumane.com) or (317) 674-0089.

The deadline to purchase a brick for placement in 2022 is May 20th--so don't wait!

# The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

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The Times photo by Betsy Reason

(From left to right) J.C. Hart Company, Inc. Sr. VP Todd May, Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen, Republican Development President Rick Arnos, and Hamilton County Commissioners VP Steve Dillingier break ground on the \$47.9 million East Bank Development in downtown Noblesville. The development will include 5,000 square feet of retail space, 219 high-end apartments, and a 275-car parking facility.

## Ground Breaks on New East Bank Development

By Joe LaRue  
[joe@thetimes24-7.com](mailto:joe@thetimes24-7.com)

Yesterday, in a ceremony on the southwest corner of 6th Street and Connor Street, representatives from the City of Noblesville, J.C. Hart, and Republican Development broke ground on the mixed-use development that will go in on the east bank of the White River, south of downtown Noblesville.

Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen, J.C. Hart Senior Vice President for Development Todd

May, and Republican Development President Rick Arnos spoke about the project, their commitment to it, and the process of seeing their goal come one step closer to becoming a reality.

Both May and Arnos took pains to express their gratitude to the City of Noblesville and Mayor Jensen, as well as the Hamilton County Commissioners. Rick Arnos said, "I would like to recognize the county commissioners, Hamilton County is very fortunate to have the

commissioners they do. They are way out in front of things."

Todd May said, "I would like to thank the City of Noblesville, they have been so enthusiastic and supportive throughout this whole process." May went on to say, "Mayor Jensen, you have been so supportive throughout this whole process as well. Your energy and enthusiasm has permeated your whole team and it has been a pleasure to work with you."

➔ See EAST BANK Page A7

## Easter Egg Hunts, Wildflower Walks, Pooh Play, Birding and This Weekend



**BETSY REASON**  
The Times Editor

There's still time to attend another Easter Egg Hunt before Easter Sunday. Also, watch a kids play, join a wildflower walk and do some birding this weekend and beyond with today's list of 25 things to do in The Times.

1. Grab your Easter basket and head for Noblesville Moose Lodge for the annual Easter Egg Hunt, at 1 p.m. Saturday, followed by a white elephant auction.
2. All ages can attend the children's comedy, "The House

➔ See BETSY Page A7

## Westfield High School Robbie's Hope Club to Put on Mental Health Awareness Gala

Westfield High School's Robbie's Hope Club is welcoming everyone to the IMMI Conference Center on May 14th, 2022, with a night to learn about teen mental health and suicide awareness. Attendees will be able to hear from several student speakers from Westfield High School and listen to high school performers play. A variety of appetizers and desserts will be available to guests. Don't forget to place bets on the silent auction items too.

The host for the evening will

be Westfield's own Robbie's Hope Club members. Regular ticket admission is \$25, and you can reserve a table with eight chairs for \$200. Our sponsorship levels include: "Its Ok to Not Be OK" with one reserved chair for \$250, "H.O.P.E Hold On, Pain Ends" with two reserved chairs for \$500, "A Smile is the Shortest Distance Between Two People" with all eight chairs reserved for \$1000,

➔ See GALA Page XX

## Hamilton County Needs Poll Workers for Primary Election

Hamilton County Election Office is in need of poll workers for the Primary Election on May 3rd - namely, inspectors, clerks, and judges.

"You must be a registered voter in Hamilton County," says County Clerk Kathy Williams. "The jobs do require some training, but they are paid. As are meals. Plus, it's a great way to learn more about our democratic system and give something back to your community."

Hamilton County is still looking for Republican Inspectors. These people are in charge of the precinct and must attend

a training session on one of the following days: April 26 at 6:30 p.m., April 28 at 6:30 p.m., or April 30th at 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. Other obligations include picking up supplies on April 30th, setting up the polling place on May 2nd, and working on Election Day. The job pays \$200, plus \$25 for training and \$20 for meals.

The county is also in need of Republican and Democrat judges. This position requires no training. These individuals

➔ See COUNTY Page A7

## Wrapping Up Readers' Choice 2022



Readers' Choice is wrapped up for another year, and once again, The Times' annual

**Want MORE?**

Please turn to page A6 for the winners, runner ups, and honorable mentions in the **MERCHANDISE** and **GOVERNMENT** categories.

promotion to recognize your favorites in a multitude of categories was a huge success.

Back when our company was founded, the staff at The

➔ See CHOICE Page A7

**➔ INSIDE TODAY**

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**➔ OBITUARIES**

**Juliana Julie Terry**

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



**➔ HONEST HOOSIER**

Here's hoping for a happy and peaceful Passover to all our Jewish friends. Chag Pesach sameach!



**➔ TODAY'S QUOTE**

"When life brings big winds of change that almost blow you over, close your eyes, hang on tight, and believe."  
- Lisa Lieberman-Wang

**➔ TODAY'S JOKE**

Where does bad light end up?  
In prism.

**➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

If you're trying to lose weight, keep a food diary and calculate what you're actually eating each day - there are apps for that!  
Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Times and online at [www.thetimes24-7.com](http://www.thetimes24-7.com).



## ⇒ OBITUARIES

### Juliana "Julie" Terry

Aug. 24, 1958 - April 13, 2022

Juliana "Julie" Terry, 63, Anderson, passed away Wed., April 13, 2022, at Countryside Manor in Anderson following an extended illness.

She was born Aug. 24, 1958, in Anderson to Earl "Bus" Almack and Betty (Derry) Almack.

Ms. Terry graduated from Alexandria Monroe High School in 1976. She worked as a Manager for CVS for over 30 years.

She was involved in many activities throughout the years, darts being her favorite activity. Ms. Terry enjoyed spending time with her dogs, Mocha and Bella, her grandchildren, and her family and friends. She was much loved and will be missed by many. If you knew her, you knew how to have fun.

Survivors include her longtime partner, Randy Busby; children Alycia (Aron) Hacker of Muncie and Aaron (Deidre) Eden of Noblesville; mother Betty Almack of Alexandria; siblings Regina (Tim) Culbertson, Mike (Cheryl) Almack, Tim (Leslie) Almack, Bill (Jodi) Almack, Cecelia (Gary) Adkins, Earl (Joan) Almack II, Dave (Laurie) Almack and Della (Tom) Kauffman; grandchildren Roxie Eden, Anson Hacker, Abraham Hacker and Bowie Eden; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father.

Ms. Terry's wishes were to be cremated with no formal services.

Hersberger-Bozell Funeral Home has been entrusted in the care of Juliana.

The family would appreciate donations be made to Children's Brain Tumor Foundation, cdtf.org, ASPCA or your local animal shelter.

Online condolences can be made at [www.hersberger-bozell.com](http://www.hersberger-bozell.com)



## Split Decision



**DICK WOLFSIE**  
Life in a Nutshell

While at a recent speaking engagement in Lafayette, I chatted with a man from nearby Otterbein, a dot on the map in northwest Indiana, with a population around 1,200. I wasn't familiar with the town, despite my having visited much of the state several years ago for a book I was writing, called Indiana Curiosities.

"What county is Otterbein in?" I asked Town Administrator, Ron Shoup.

"Otterbein is in Benton County...and Tippecanoe County," said Ron.

When I first heard this, I remembered a story I wrote years ago about the town of College Corner, which is located on U.S. Highway 27 in eastern Union County and is geographically split by the Indiana-Ohio state line.

Today there are two distinct city governments, although these two tiny towns share some services. But in what has to be one of the most bizarre examples of multistate commerce, the trustees of West College Corner, Indiana, and College Corner, Ohio, decided more than 50 years ago to build a high school overlapping the border.

And it gets weirder. Not only was the high school split in half, but the school gymnasium is half in one state, half in the other—which meant that when players traveled down the basketball court, they were running from one state to another and, during Daylight Saving Time, the clock used to change by an hour after every score because at one time Indiana

did not recognize DST. In recent years, the high school was transformed into an elementary school, ending the traditional basketball rivalries, but the gymnasium remains an oddity and attracts visitors from all over.

People in the area will tell you there used to be a tavern that was also split by the state line, creating a watering hole with two different drinking ages. We can't find any evidence of this, but it's a great story either way.

Now back to Otterbein. Let's make this simple (kind of). If you live in the city of Otterbein and want to go to the local high school, you'll be in Benton County. If you then cross Meadow Street, which runs north and south, you can enter the Tippecanoe County Courthouse. But remember, you'll still be in Otterbein. Nuts. I said I'd make this simple. Let's try this. You're in Otterbein and want to go to the... grocery store: It's in Tippecanoe County.

gas station: Fill 'er up in Tippecanoe County.

Ice Cream shop: Benton county. Enjoy.

hospital: Get well in Tippecanoe County.

drug store: Off to Benton County you go.

Nite Owl Pub: After about an hour, you won't care which county you're in.

Again. You have not left Otterbein.

Here's a warning for those with a lead foot: Don't try speeding through Otterbein. Be prepared to get a ticket from either the Otterbein Police, the Tippecanoe County Police, or the Benton County Police. There could be Indiana State Troopers watching for speeders, too.

I'm not sure why I'm telling you this. It's not like you'll have a choice who stops you.

I asked Ron if the Otterbein Town Council had to be made up of a certain number of folks from each county. "Heck no,"

## Westfield Washington Library Hosts Earth Day Extravaganza

The Westfield Washington Public Library will celebrate Earth Day on Saturday, April 23rd with an Earth Day Extravaganza. The three-hour, open house-style event will feature a variety of activity stations set up throughout the Children's Department.

"Our hope is that those who participate will learn how to make the world and their community a better place," says Nancy Haggard, Children's Services Manager. "Children should learn early that they are part of the environmental solution regardless of their age."

Participants will be encouraged to participate in a collaborative display while sharing their ideas for reducing, reusing, and recycling. Those who attend can also watch an educational video about the impact of plastic on the world's oceans, take an energy IQ quiz, and learn about wave erosion and watershed with hands-on

activities.

Kim Wright, children's librarian and homeschool liaison, created the Earth Day Extravaganza as part of an assignment for her Master of Library and Information Science degree at IUPUI.

"My goal is to provide children with a greater awareness of environmental problems," Wright explains. "We'll demonstrate some simple ideas to help kids understand how to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Plus, it's also a great opportunity for them to share their recycling and repurposing ideas with others."

Participants can create a terrarium in repurposed glass jars and make a bird feeder from repurposed toilet paper rolls. Craft activities will take place from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. and require advance registration. You can register at: <https://wwpl.library-calendar.com/events/earth-day-extravaganza>

## Meeting Notes

### Hamilton County Board of Commissioners

Corrected Meeting Notice

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners will meet on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 10:00

## Meeting Notes

### Carmel Plan Commission

Tue., April 19, 2022

Meeting Agenda

Location: Council Chambers

Time: 6 p.m.

Carmel City Hall, 2nd Floor (Doors Open at 5:30 Pm)

One Civic Square, Carmel, IN 46032

How To View Electronically:

- AT&T Cable Ch. 99
- Digital Ch. 64.45
- Metronet Ch. 33
- Spectrum Cable Ch. 340
- Facebook.com/City-ofCarmel
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- <http://carmelin.newswagit.com/views/1>

Agenda:

- Call Meeting to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call
- Declaration of Quorum
- Approval of Minutes
- Communications, Bills, Expenditures, & Legal Counsel Report

1. Plan Commission Resolution PC-04-19-22-a: CRC Res. 2022-3 created a new "Michigan Road Economic Development Area" and Allocation Area and approved an Economic Development Plan for the area.

2. Plan Commission Resolution PC-04-19-22-b: CRC Res. 2022-4 created a new "Flora Economic Development Area" and Allocation Area and approved an Economic Development Plan for the area.

3. Plan Commission Resolution PC-04-19-22-c: CRC Res. 2022-5 created a new "Concourse Allocation Area" within the existing Old Town Economic Development Area and adopted a supplement to the plan for the area.

4. Plan Commission Resolution PC-04-19-22-d: CRC Res. 2022-6 created a new "ERS Old Meridian and Main Allocation Area" within the existing Old Meridian Economic Development Area and adopted a supplement to the plan for the area.

G. Reports, Announcements & Department Concerns

1. Outcome of Projects at Committees:

a. Commercial:

i. Docket No. PZ-2021-00205 DP/ADLS: 11335 N. Michigan Rd. Apartments – 3-0 favorable recommendation to the full Plan Commission.

ii. Docket No. PZ-2021-00139 DP/ADLS: Oberweis – That Burger Joint – Woodgrain Pizzeria – 3-0 favorable recommendation to the full Plan Commission.

iii. Docket No. PZ-2022-00001 DP/ADLS: Culver's – discussed, then continued to May 5 Commercial Committee.

b. Residential: Can-

celled due to no items to review.  
H. Public Hearings  
1. Docket No. PZ-2022-00025 PPA: Five-Ten Subdivision Amendment.  
2. Docket No. PZ-2022-00053 SW: Five-Ten Subdivision Street Frontage Waiver - UDO Sec. 7.17.A: Lots shall have direct access to a public street, Access from an alley and an access easement requested. The applicant seeks primary plat amendment approval to reconfigure 2 lots and 2 blocks into 3 lots on 1.95 acres. The applicant also seeks a design standards waiver to allow to 2 new lots to be created that front on the Monon Trail instead of a street. The site is located at 510 1st Avenue NW and is zoned R2/Residence within the Old Town Overlay Zone and Monon Overlay. Filed by Tom Lazzara of Custom Living USA.  
I. Old Business  
1. Docket No. PZ-2021-00247 V: The Steadman Apartment Community at The Bridges Variance from Bridges PUD Z-550-11 Sec. 13.9.D: Right-in/Right-out access only onto 111th St., Full Access onto 111th St. Requested. The applicant seeks site plan and design approval and a variance for a new apartment community consisting of 260 units in 5 buildings. The site is located at the northeast corner of Springmill Road and 111th Street, on about 12.5 acres. It is zoned The Bridges PUD, Ordinance Z-550-11. Filed by Jim Shinaver and Jon Dobosiewicz of Nelson & Frankenberger on behalf of Cityscape Residential, LLC.  
2. Docket No. PZ-2021-00139 DP/ADLS: Oberweis – That Burger Joint – Woodgrain Pizzeria. The applicant seeks site plan and design approval for a restaurant on a 1.15 acre vacant parcel. The site is located at 10920 N. Michigan Road, which is the SW corner of Weston Pointe Blvd. and Michigan Rd./US 421. It is zoned B-3/Business and is located in the US 421 Overlay Zone. Filed by Joe Oberweis, owner.  
3. Docket No. PZ-2021-00205 DP/ADLS: 11335 N. Michigan Rd. Apartments. The applicant seeks site plan and design approval for a new development with 4 future outlots and an apartment complex (244 units). The site is located at 11335 N. Michigan Road. It is zoned B-3/Business & Residential and is located within the US 421 Overlay zone. Filed by Ryan Wells of REI Real Estate Services, LLC.  
J. New Business  
1. Tabled to May 5 Committee Meeting  
K. Adjournment

## Civic Theatre Announces Upcoming Season of Plays

The Booth Tarkington Civic Theatre is excited to announce its 2022-23 season!

Civic's season will begin with Rent. Set in the East Village of New York City, Rent is about falling in love, finding your voice and living for today. Winner of the Tony Award for Best Musical and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, Rent has become a pop cultural phenomenon with songs that resonate with audiences of all ages. Rent will run October 7-22.

New to the Knebel stage for the holiday season is A Christmas Story. This musical, which received rave reviews on its Broadway run, is based on the movie classic that runs round-the-clock on television every Christmas. Set in the 1940s in the fictional town of Hohman, Indiana, the musical follows 9-year-old Ralphe Parker and his quest for the Holy Grail of Christmas gifts—an Official Red Ryder carbine-action 200-shot Range Model air rifle. A Christmas Story will run from December 2-24.

The first play of the season is The Diary of Anne Frank. Published long afterwards by her father, the only family survivor, this play records the twenty-five months that two Jewish families spent in hiding from the Gestapo in an Amsterdam warehouse attic. The constant secrecy, growing hunger and friction of living in such cramped conditions could not dull Anne's vibrant personality or her passion for living. The Diary of Anne Frank will also include student matinees and will run February 10-25.

The second play will be Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express. Just after midnight, a snowdrift stops the Orient Express in its tracks. The luxurious train is sur-

prisingly full for the time of the year, but by the morning it is one passenger fewer. An American tycoon lies dead in his compartment, stabbed eight times, his door locked from the inside. Isolated and with a killer in their midst, the passengers rely on detective Hercule Poirot to identify the murderer – in case he or she decides to strike again. Murder on the Orient Express will run March 10-25.

Ending the season will be The Sound of Music. The inspirational story, based on the memoir of Maria Augusta Trapp, follows an ebullient postulate who serves as governess to the seven children of the imperious Captain von Trapp, bringing music and joy to the household. But as the forces of Nazism take hold of Austria, Maria and the entire von Trapp family must make a moral decision. THE SOUND OF MUSIC will run April 28 – May 13.

Alongside the mainstage productions, Dr. Seuss's The Cat in the Hat will also return in February. The Jr. Civic musical will be Newsies Jr., and the Young Artist's Program will perform Revue! and Legally Blonde.

Subscriptions will be available beginning April 29, and single tickets will go on sale at the end of July. To learn more about each show, visit [civictheatre.org](http://civictheatre.org).

Booth Tarkington Civic Theatre is the largest of more than 70 community theaters in Indiana and is one of the 10 largest active community theatres in the United States. Civic has been a vital part of the cultural landscape throughout Central Indiana for over 100 years. Civic is the principal resident company of the Tarkington at the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel.

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### Obituary deadline

The Times publishes obituaries daily at [www.thetimes24-7.com](http://www.thetimes24-7.com), and in its print product every day with the exception of Sundays and Tuesdays.

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

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

To read more obituaries, visit [www.thetimes24-7.com](http://www.thetimes24-7.com).

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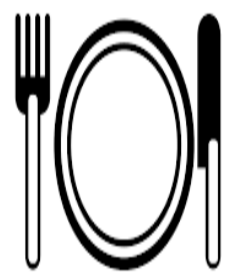

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## The Infrequent History of Purdue 7-Footers & Lamenting the Boilermaker Injury Curse

From A.J. Hammons to Wednesday's signing of 7-2 William Berg of Stockholm, Sweden, it seems that 7-footers are growing on trees for Purdue coach Matt Painter.

But during my lifetime, it wasn't always that way for the Boilermakers.

Purdue did not have a 7-foot player until 1962, when George Grams of Grand Rapids, Mich., became the first 7-footer in Big Ten history.

Recruited by assistant coach Bob King over Michigan and Michigan State, Grams was 6-foot by fifth grade and his father and uncles all stood at least 6-7.

Grams, who died in 2019 at 74, averaged 5.4 points and 5.7 rebounds a game as a senior on a Purdue team that featured All-American forward Dave Schellhase and had Indiana Mr. Basketball Denny Brady in the backcourt. Grams was taken in the 11th round of the 1966 NBA Draft by the Los Angeles Lakers.

The second 7-footer in Purdue history had a much bigger, pardon the pun, impact for the Boilermakers.

Part of the recruiting class headed by Indiana Mr. Basketball Rick Mount, Chuck Bavis was an Indiana All-Star after averaging 33 points a game as a senior at Garrett High School.

Bavis was one of the few men playing college basketball in the late 1960s who made the game difficult for the legendary Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, then known as Lew Alcindor at UCLA. In the 1967 dedication game of Mackey Arena, Bavis held Alcindor to 17 points but



**KENNY THOMPSON**  
Columnist

the Bruins pulled out a 73-71 victory.

Typical of Purdue's luck, Bavis injured his shoulder during the 1969 NCAA tournament and had to watch Alcindor dominate the Boilermakers in the national championship game.

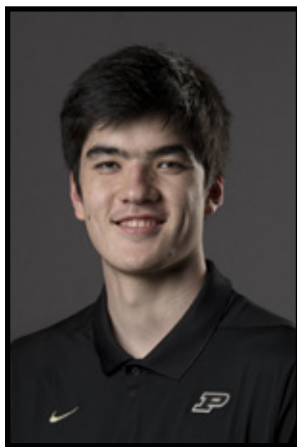
Bavis never played again after a one-car auto accident the fall of his senior year led to the amputation of a foot.

He was elected to the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in 2010. Bavis also died in 2019 at age 71.

Dan McDermott had bad timing when he signed with Purdue in 1973 out of Riverview Gardens High School in St. Louis. The 7-footer was in the same class as 6-11 Tom Scheffler, a two-year starter at center. Plus, 6-11 four-year starter John Garrett had two years of eligibility remaining.

Then when McDermott was a senior, future All-American Joe Barry Carroll came into the program from Denver. McDermott graduated having scored 31 points in 31 games.

Carroll remains the most talented of the 7-footers to play at Purdue. He earned All-American honors in 1980 and led the Boilermakers to their most recent Final Four.



Zach Edey

Carroll also was the first overall No. 1 NBA Draft pick in school history.

Gene Keady inherited 7-foot freshman center Joe Gampfer from the 1980 recruiting class put together by Lee Rose before his departure to South Florida. A major left knee injury prevented the Cincinnati native from ever having a chance to see major playing time.

A future first-round NBA Draft pick, McDonald's All-American Russell Cross, also limited Gampfer's opportunities for playing time.

I'll always remember Gampfer for a conversation we had during the 1983 NCAA Tournament in Tampa, Fla. Keady had gotten a major center prospect to make the two-hour drive from Merritt Island to watch Purdue hold off Robert Morris in the first round.

Keady introduced the skinny young man to myself and a couple of other media members afterward (Recruiting rules were far different in those days). That night at the hotel bar, Gampfer wondered aloud why Purdue was even recruiting this kid.

The kid's name was Will Perdue, who would

become the SEC Player of the Year at Vanderbilt before earning four NBA championship rings with the Chicago Bulls and San Antonio.

The next 7-footer to don gold and black was also a free spirit.

At 7-2, 286 pounds, Holland native Matt TenDam looked the part of a Big Ten center. As it turned out, he was far better with a paint brush than a basketball in his hands. Ten Dam, a fine arts major, was such a talented artist that a West Lafayette pizza parlor asked him to paint a mural on one of its walls.

On the court, Ten Dam saw little time, scoring 17 points in 62 minutes over his three-year stay.

Whether it was coincidence or a decision not to take any more recruiting risks, Keady never signed another 7-footer before retiring in 2005. His successor, Matt Painter, rode 6-9 Carl Landry and 6-10 JaJuan Johnson in the middle until a former Carmel resident began a run of 7-footers at Purdue.

A.J. Hammons oozed NBA potential while helping Oak Hill Academy compile a 44-0 record in 2011-12. A No. 77 national ranking by Rivals.com excited Purdue fans. Hammons helped reverse the course of a Boilermaker program that hit rock bottom in 2014 with a last-place Big Ten finish.

As a senior, Hammons averaged 15 points, 8.2 rebounds and 2.6 blocks per game to earn first-team All-Big Ten honors as well as the league's Defensive Player of the Year award. Fittingly, Hammons and Joe Barry

Carroll are the only players in Big Ten history with 1,500 career points, 900 career rebounds and 340 career blocked shots.

Isaac Haas was even more highly regarded out of high school than Hammons. The No. 71 overall four-star prospect from Piedmont, Ala., didn't mind spending two years behind Hammons. When Haas became a full-time starter in 2016-17, he teamed up with All-American Caleb Swanigan and Vincent Edwards to form one of the nation's best front lines.

Haas averaged 12.6 points and 5.7 rebounds as a junior. Another victim of Purdue's injury curse, Haas' college career ended with a broken elbow suffered against Cal State Fullerton in the opening round of the 2018 NCAA tournament. Painter's reputation for developing big men was international by 2016, resulting in 7-3 Matt Haarms coming over from Stockholm, Sweden via Sunrise Christian Academy in Kansas.

Haarms stepped in as a redshirt freshman after Haas' elbow injury, contributing 11 points and nine rebounds in an NCAA tournament victory over Butler and a loss to Texas Tech.

He shared time at center with Trevion Williams over the next two seasons and may be best remembered for the last-second game-winning shot at Indiana in 2019. Haarms used his graduate transfer option to play his final season at BYU. Haarms' status as the tallest player in Purdue history ended with his replacement, 7-4 Canadian Zach Edey.

Edey is Exhibit A for those skeptical of recruiting rankings. From his first game as a Boilermaker, 19 points and five rebounds in a victory over Liberty, Edey looked anything but the No. 440 prospect in the Class of 2020.

Edey was so talented that he ended up starting as a sophomore in 2021-22 over Trevion Williams, who merely earned some All-American honors the year previous. He averaged 14.4 points, second to All-American Jaden Ivey, and a team-high 7.7 rebounds a game.

His backup next season could be Berg, a 260-pound native of Stockholm.

"Will has really developed the last couple years and can play facing the basket and with his back to the basket," Painter said in a statement.

Assuming Berg completes his eligibility at Purdue, the Boilermakers could have a 7-footer on the roster for 14 consecutive years and a streak of 12 straight years with a player at least 7-2.

That streak could be extended if Painter lands one of his Class of 2024 targets, 7-foot center J.T. Rock of South Dakota. Brian Neubert of goldandblack.com reports that Rock visited Purdue this past weekend along with Kansas State transfer point guard target Nijel Pack.

*- 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.*

## County Commissioners Pass New Ordinance Limiting Political Signs



Christine Altman

In an effort to reduce damage to and clutter at polling places, the Hamilton County Commissioners passed an ordinance this week limiting the number of political signs allowed at each polling place.

Ordinance 04-11-22-A limits each candidate to one sign per voting location on Election Day and no more than two signs per voting location on Early Voting Days. Furthermore, the signs

cannot be larger than 36" X 24", cannot be placed with metal or wood posts, and cannot be placed in the public right of way.

"It looks like a carnival at the polling sites," says Commissioner Christine Altman. "Some candidates are placing four, five or more signs at a single location. Multiple that by the number of candidates and the problem is clear. The owners of the early voting locations and polling sites on election day have understandably expressed frustration over the number of signs outside their buildings and damage done by large signs."

The ordinance is effective immediately. Early voting locations include Mercy Road Church and the Jill Perelman Pavilion in Carmel, the Roy G. Holland Memorial Park Building and Billericay Park Building in Fishers, the Judicial Center and 4H Fairgrounds in Nobles-

ville, and City Hall and Cool Creek Nature Center in Westfield.

"Early voting locations make voting easy and convenient for our residents," says County Clerk Kathy Williams. "But voting locations can be incredibly difficult to secure because of the time and space commitment they require. We do not want to abuse their generosity or inconvenience them with picking up errand signs."

The ordinance also limits the amount of time the signs can be left at a location. No signs may be placed at a polling place earlier than 12 hours before the polling place opens and must be removed within four hours of a polling place closing on Election Day. Signs not removed within four hours of the polls closing will be deemed abandoned and may be removed and destroyed by the owner of the polling place and either stacked or destroyed.

## 165th Indiana State Fair Unveils Revved Up Theme for 2022 Edition

As the Indiana State Fair revs up for 2022, it will dedicate the theme for this year's event to Celebrating Indiana's Automotive Excellence, presented by Tom Wood Automotive Group. The 165th Indiana State Fair will take place Friday, July 29th through Sunday, August 21st and will continue its long tradition as Indiana's favorite all-encompassing summer destination event.

Each spring the unveiling of the Indiana State Fair's annual theme is one of its most anticipated announcements.

"For 2022, we are planning something very special, a monumental year to bring Hoosiers back together at this beloved summer tradition," said Cindy Hoye, Indiana State Fair Commission Executive Director. "We are so thankful to the Tom Wood Automotive Group for embracing this theme and partnership - we are putting the pedal to the metal and building momentum to get ready for FUN at the speed of summer!"

Indiana's rich automo-

tive tradition is a signature source of pride for Hoosiers, and the Indiana State Fair looks forward to celebrating Indiana's worldwide recognition for its automotive history and contributions to the industry. Fairgoers can expect to see iconic, celebrity cars from movies and books, in addition to world-class classic car collections showcasing Indiana-made vehicles, and so much more.

"We are proud to sponsor this year's Indiana State Fair - 'Fun at the speed of summer,'" said Jeff Wood, President of the Tom Wood Group. "We've been family-owned and locally operated serving Hoosiers since 1967. We are honored to share in the celebration of Indiana's Automotive Excellence highlighting the rich history and traditions of the automobile. It supports our motto of family, service and community."

The Indiana State Fair is planning to bring back fairgoer favorites including carnival rides, fun and wacky fair food,

4-H competitions, free entertainment, and much more. Stay tuned for new spectacular experiences and announcements in the coming weeks.

For complete details and tickets to the 2022 Indiana State Fair, please visit: <https://www.indianastatefair.com>.

The Indiana State Fair is the state's largest multi-day event celebrating the Hoosier spirit and agricultural heritage. These 18 days bring all communities together to celebrate all things Indiana and promote it to hundreds of thousands of people across the state, and beyond. Nationally recognized for offering great entertainment, showcasing youth and interactive agriculture educational programs, premiere facilities and a variety of unique, fun foods, the Indiana State Fair has been an annual attraction for generations of Hoosiers since 1852. This year's Indiana State Fair will take place July 29th - August 21st (closed Mondays & Tuesdays). For information, visit [www.indianastatefair.com](http://www.indianastatefair.com)

## Fishers Police Provide Update on Fatal February 16 Crash on Allisonville Road

Following an extensive investigation, the Fishers Police Department Crash Team determined Mr. Monn suffered a medical emergency which caused him to lose control of his vehicle, cross the centerline, and collide with southbound traffic. Upon review of the evidence there will be no criminal charges filed at this time.

At approximately 12:30pm on February 16th, police officers responded to a motor vehicle crash on Allisonville Road between 126th

Street and Orchard Boulevard. Upon their arrival, emergency crews located three vehicles, a tan Chevrolet 1500 pick-up truck, a gray Jeep Grand Cherokee, and a brown Nissan Altima. The driver of the Chevrolet was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The Fishers Crash Reconstruction Team responded to the crash. Based on evidence collected at the scene and witness statements it appears the Jeep was traveling northbound on

Allisonville Road when it traveled left of center striking the Chevrolet and the Nissan.

Those involved in the crash were Driver #1, Brent Jameson, 47, of Anderson, deceased on scene; his passenger, Devon Detling, 26, of Muncie, was hospitalized; Driver #2, Peter Monn 49 years old, of Indianapolis, who was hospitalized; Driver #3, Sharmarke Jama, 46, of Fishers; and their passenger Abdurizak Hassan, 44, of Fishers, who was hospitalized.

## Alzheimer's Association Offers Free Financial Program for Caregivers

The Alzheimer's Association Greater Indiana Chapter is offering a new financial program called Money Matters: A Caregiver's Guide to Finances. The free, virtual program is designed for dementia caregivers and anyone facing a chronic illness.

Money Matters will be offered Tuesday, April 19 from 11:00 a.m. to noon eastern time and will feature a special guest from Edward Jones.

"We know that tax season is a time when many families think about their financial situation, and this program will help them consider the potential impact of Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia - one of the costliest diseases in America," said Stephanie Laskey, program director, Alzheimer's Association Greater Indiana Chapter. "While dementia is the focus of the program, it contains

information that can help families facing a number of conditions - and those who simply want to be prepared for anything."

The program will cover a range of topics, including the benefits of early financial planning, facts about the financial impact of Alzheimer's and other dementia, tips for managing someone else's finances and common signs that a person is struggling to manage money. Attendees will also learn how to avoid financial abuse and fraud and hear tips on planning for the cost of care, including in-home health, adult day services and residential care.

According to the recently-released 2022 Alzheimer's Association Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures report, the total lifetime cost of care for someone with dementia is estimated at more than \$377,000. Seventy percent

of that cost is borne by family caregivers in the forms of unpaid caregiving and out-of-pocket expenses for items ranging from medications to food for the person with dementia.

In 2021, it is estimated that dementia caregivers bore nearly twice the average out-of-pocket costs of nondementia caregivers.

"The cost of this disease is truly staggering," continued Laskey. "It can have a devastating impact on a family's financial well-being. We want to arm Hoosier caregivers with the information they need to minimize that impact and help ensure their loved one is cared for as the disease progresses."

Registration for the program is free and available at [alz.org/indiana/](http://alz.org/indiana/) programs or by calling the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline at 800.272.3900.



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# Purdue Agriculture Experts Suggest Thinking Twice Before Purchasing Easter Pets

Dating back centuries as a sign of fertility and new life, chicks and rabbits have been identified with Easter and spring décor, making their seasonal arrival in most farm supply stores a tempting purchase.

However, these pets come with specific needs to be considered before heading to the checkout, according to Emily Luc, Purdue Extension agriculture and natural resources educator, and Marisa Erasmus, associate professor of animal sciences at Purdue University.

Before bringing any birds home, checking local zoning ordinances is critical. Many Indiana cities and towns do not permit backyard poultry, Luc said. While some larger cities do allow for hobby chickens, many have a limit on both hens and roosters, with specific confinement clauses for roosters included.

Chickens are social birds, meaning your flock should consist of at least

three chickens, Luc said. Aside from the ability to socialize, having more chicks will also increase their ability to keep warm, which is crucial for proper growth and survival.

Before purchasing chicks or ducklings, Luc said you should purchase a proper habitat ready for immediate transfer upon leaving the farm store. A brooder, an enclosed structure used to raise young poultry, will be needed and should include an infrared heat lamp with a hood over it to direct heat toward the floor. A mesh ring goes over the brooder to keep the chicks confined to an area near the heat source.

“The ideal temperature range inside the brooder is 90-95 degrees F for the first week of the chick’s life. Chicks are typically only a day old when you’re purchasing them,” Luc said.

Bedding should be evenly distributed on the floor of the brooder to absorb moisture, with

slick printed newspaper, cardboard or plastic being avoided, as creating a slippery surface can lead to leg damage, Luc said. Giving the chicks and ducklings enough room to eat and drink water at the same time will also create a comfortable living environment, and immediately showing them where the water source is located is important, according to Erasmus.

“Ensuring the chicks and ducks drink water immediately after you bring them home is important,” Erasmus said. “To teach them where the water is in the brooder, you could gently dip their beaks in the water source. Place feed in a shallow dish to make it easy for them to find food.”

While ducks are waterfowl, Erasmus said it is not a good idea to give ducklings swimming water until they are at least 4-5-weeks old because their feathers are not yet waterproof, posing a risk for drowning.

Feeding chicks and ducklings a proper starter diet is important for healthy growth, Erasmus said, which should be fed to them until they reach between six to eight weeks of age.

Those unfamiliar with raising chickens will be surprised at how quickly the 1.4-ounce fluffy babies will grow into 6-8-pound birds within 22 weeks.

“Chickens are able to produce their own eggs at just 18 weeks old,” Erasmus said. “That cute little yellow chick won’t last for long, so that needs to be kept in mind, too. Within four weeks they

can have their own full set of feathers. Before buying chicks, especially for someone else, it is important to think about where the animals will end up after Easter. Chickens can live for several years if properly cared for, so it is important to consider the long-term implications before buying chicks or ducklings. Ducklings also grow up to be adult ducks, and domesticated ducks cannot fly, so they are unlikely to survive on their own in the wild and need to be properly cared for.”

For rabbits, their ideal environment temperature is between 45-70 degrees

F, Luc said, and can be housed indoors or outdoors. Should a pet owner decide to house their rabbit outdoors, however, consideration should be taken for protection from the weather and predators.

“The size of the cage is determined by the size and weight of the rabbit,” Luc said. “For example, if the rabbit weighs between 4.4 and 8.8 pounds, the minimum space requirement is three square feet. The cage height has a minimum requirement of 16 inches, which allows the rabbits to erect their ears without touching the top of the cage.”

# Senator Young, Colleagues Re-Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Protect Families from Lead in Federally Assisted Housing

U.S. Senators Todd Young (R-Ind.) and Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.) re-introduced their bipartisan legislation to protect families living in assisted housing from lead found in drinking water. The Get the Lead Out of Assisted Housing Act would help protect families from lead exposure by requiring the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to inspect for lead service lines, create a grant program to address lead contamination and allow a cross-check for lead in water when remediating a home for lead found in paint.

“Families shouldn’t have to face the threat of lead contamination in their drinking water or in their homes,” said Senator Young. “That’s why we are reintroducing our bipartisan Get Lead Out of Assisted Housing Act to require HUD to identify and address lead contamination at the source. This must happen to protect the health of Hoosier families and communities across the country.”

“It’s unacceptable that in one of the wealthiest nations in the world, families living in federally assisted housing remain at risk of suffering permanent

brain damage as a result of drinking water contaminated with lead,” said Senator Duckworth. “With my Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act fully authorized in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, we’re already taking historic strides to get the lead out of our drinking water in communities across the country and help make sure everyone has access to clean water.”

Today’s bipartisan legislation would build on this progress and help ensure no family is overlooked.”

Along with Senators Young and Duckworth, this legislation is also co-sponsored by U.S. Senators Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) and Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.).

The Get the Lead Out of Assisted Housing Act would help protect families from lead exposure by:

- Directing the Secretary of HUD to update the Uniform Physical Condition Standards (UPCS) to include inspecting for lead in service lines and lead in plumbing.
- Creating a Healthy Homes Lead in Drinking Water Grant pilot program to provide grants to states and local governments responsible for developing consolidated plans for

community development. These funds would be used to identify the threats posed by lead in drinking water and take steps to protect residents. Activities under this grant program include creating a lead service line inventory, testing for lead in the drinking water at child care centers and schools, testing for lead at public facilities like public water fountains and remediation.

• Including testing, notification and controlling for lead in drinking water when providing grants for the lead-based paint hazard reduction program. This will ensure that when a home that contains lead-based paint is being remediated, that lead in the drinking water can also be addressed if a threat exists in the same home.

• Ensuring HUD has the authority it needs to address lead contamination from water, air or industrial sources in consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The copy of the bill text can be found online at <https://www.duckworth.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/MIR22311%20Get%20the%20Lead%20Out%20of%20Assisted%20Housing%20Act.pdf>



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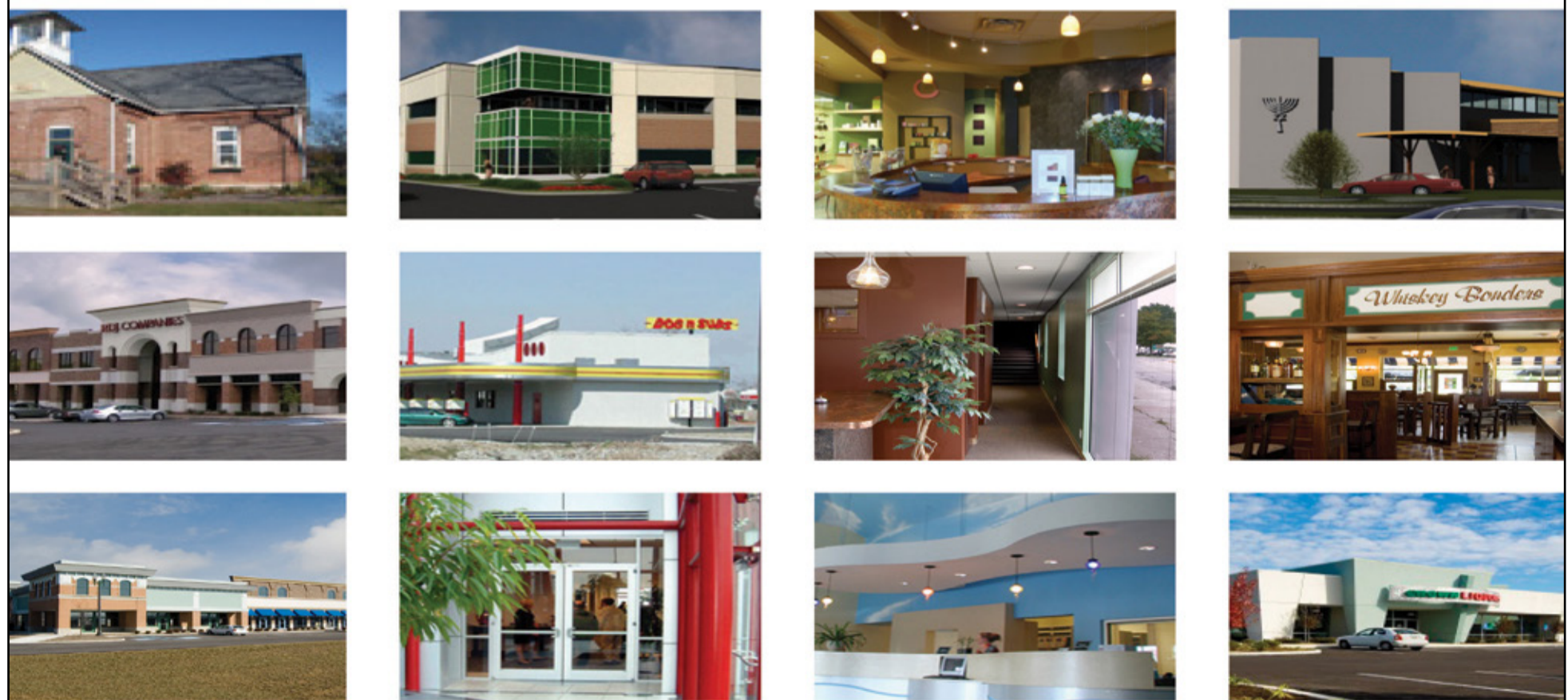
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# Readers' Choice Results - Merchandise and Government Category

## Merchandise

- Office Supply Store
- **Winner – Staples**
- Runner Up – Discount Copies
- Honorable Mention: Office Max
- \*\*\*
- Tire Store

- **Winner – R&T Tire Pros**
- Runner Up – Discount Tire
- Honorable Mentions - Firestone (Noblesville)
- \*\*\*
- **Trophy Shop**
- **Winner – Logan**

- **Street Signs & Banners**
- Runner Up – Noblesville
- Honorable Mention: AAA Trophy & Awards
- \*\*\*
- **Hobby/Toy Store**

- **Winner – Moonshot Games**
- Runner Up – Option 2
- Honorable Mentions - The Cultured Wall, Wood Crafts by Russ LLC, Mr. Muffin's Trains Shop

## Government

- **Post Office**
- **Winner – Noblesville**
- Runner Up – Sheridan
- Honorable Mentions - Cicero, Fishers, Westfield
- \*\*\*

- **Teacher**
- **Winner – Missy Bourdon**
- Runner Up – Rachel Dickover
- Honorable Mentions - Bill Kenley, Joe Akers, Karen Thompson, Kelli White

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## ↻ EAST BANK From Page A1

Mayor Jensen, who spoke last, thanked all of the developers who have worked on the project, before noting his partners in government who lent a hand as well. "I cannot do my job without a supportive team around me, and that is the Noblesville City Council. Those nine work as hard as anyone and we could not have got this done without them."

Mayor Jensen also emphasized that this project was intended to, "enhance our downtown area and our entire city without taking away from the aesthetic that makes this downtown area so unique." He went on to repeatedly mention the importance of respecting and caring for the city's history while looking forward that lay ahead.

After Mayor Jensen's closing remarks, representatives from the City, J.C. Hart, Republic Development and the Hamilton County Council posed for

photos. Commissioner Steve Dillinger represented the Council, Todd May represented J.C. Hart, Rick Arnos represented Republic Development, and Mayor Jensen represented the City of Noblesville. They posed for pictures with the various development teams and staff who assisted in the implementation of the East Bank Development.

The \$47.9 million mixed-use development represents an ambitious effort by the city to continue to upgrade and evolve the downtown Noblesville area. It will include a ground floor with 5,000 square feet of retail space, three floors of residential apartments that will total 219 high-end living units, and a 275-car parking space for residents and visitors to the downtown area.

Construction is expected to take two years and will be completed sometime in the winter of 2023-24.

## ↻ COUNTY From Page A1



County Clerk Kathy Williams will help set up the polling place on May 2nd and run the polling place on May 3rd. These jobs pay \$105, plus \$20 for meals. The Democratic judge will be

paid an extra \$15 to return election results to the Judicial Center in Noblesville with the Republican Inspector after the polls close.

And finally, the county is in need of Republican and Democratic Clerks to run the electronic polling pads. These people must attend a training on April 23rd at either 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. The job pays \$105, plus \$15 for training and \$20 for meals.

If you're interested in learning more, or would like to apply for a position, please fill out and return this form: <https://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/1351/Poll-Worker-Form>

## ↻ GALA From Page A1

and "In a World Where You Can Be Anything, Be Kind" which is the title sponsor for \$2500. All money raised goes back to the club and international organization, Robbie's Hope.

WWS Coordinator of Social and Emotional Learning, Kyler Miller, tells the importance of adults having conversations with adolescents about mental health.

"We are excited to support our student leaders working hard to elevate the conversation around mental health to break the stigma of seeking support," Miller says. "The Mental Health Gala in May will be a great way to bring our community together to hear directly from our students as we seek to strengthen the web of support for all."

Members of the student government have aided Robbie's Hope Club in organizing the upcoming event. Cooper Tinsley, the student body president, applauds the student's hard work.

"I consider myself lucky to attend a school and live in a community that prioritizes mental health," Cooper says. "Organizations such as the WHS chapter of Robbie's Hope have created a culture that allows students to ask for help and be comfortable enough to accept it. I look forward to attending this Gala to support my peers and their endeavors to eliminate mental health stigma."

If you or a local business would be interested

in supporting this event through our silent auction, reach out to [analiecee@gmail.com](mailto:analiecee@gmail.com). Donating items such as gift cards or other items for the silent auction would be a great way to show support and advertise your local business!

"Students supporting peers even in the darkest moments is such a gift", shared Ashley Knott, Westfield Washington Schools Coordinator of Family & Community Engagement. "The Robbies Hope Club is student lead, and we are very proud of their initiative to see the light."

Tickets can be purchased at <https://bit.ly/RobbiesHopeGalaRegistration>. The Westfield Education Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization supporting students and staff at Westfield Washington Schools. We invite you to use the link above to join our students and build awareness around teen suicide through the WHS Robbies Hope Club.

Robbie's Hope Club is a club at Westfield High School dedicated to raising awareness and removing the stigma around teen mental health. The national organization, Robbie's Hope, started a few years ago when a young boy, Robbie Eckert, completed suicide. His parents began this organization to help educate other adults and prevent them from feeling the same loss they did. With the help of the international organization, we are trying to cut teen suicide rates in half by the year 2028!

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## ↻ BETSY From Page A1



Photo courtesy of Indy Ghost Light Photography

**All ages can enjoy seeing the energetic and accident-prone Tigger, known for being a bit of a braggart while bouncing on his tail, in the children's comedy, "The House at Pooh Corner" by Improbable Fiction Theatre Co., today through April 24 at The Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville, with reservations at <http://tinyurl.com/HouseAtPoohCorner>.**

at Pooh Corner" by Improbable Fiction Theatre Co., today through April 24 at The Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville, with reservations at <http://tinyurl.com/HouseAtPoohCorner>.

3. Blatchley Nature Study Club invites the public to the 2022 Spring Wildflower Walk and Centennial Celebration 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday and April 30 at 125 Boulder Drive in Noblesville near Potter's Bridge.

4. Enjoy Easter on the Prairie on Saturday at Conner Prairie in Fishers with egg hunt (1:30 p.m. for ages 2-3, 1:45 p.m. for ages 4-5, 2 p.m. for ages 6-8, 2:15 p.m. for ages 9-12) and crafts, scavenger hunt at Treetop Outpost, and breakfast at 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., with reservations at <https://www.connerprairie.org/>. The outdoor history museum is open for the season.

5. 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 Koteewi Park in Noblesville.

6. Visit the annual Fairyville at Nickel Plate Arts and Hamilton County Artists' Association Birdie Gallery and in downtown Noblesville on April 20-23 with most events free.

7. Bring your favorite vinyl to play on a provided turntable at 5:30 p.m. on Turntable Thursdays at Primeval Brewing in downtown Noblesville.

8. Westfield kicks off

Movies in the Plaza series on April 22, featuring Dr. Seuss' "The Lorax," at Grand Junction Plaza, with more movies every fourth Friday through October.

9. Carmel Community Players presents "The Fantasticks" musical, April 22-May 8, directed by Rich Phipps.

10. Visit SMC's all-ages Community Day and celebrate National Pneumatics Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 23 at SMC Corp. of America in Noblesville, with factory tours, bounce house, inflatable obstacle course, scavenger hunt, food trucks, SMC's automation vision studio, local vendor market, face painting, chalk drawings, music and outdoor games.

11. Ages 18 and older can participate in Noblesville Tri Kappa's first Bingo Nite fundraiser, with raffles, pull tabs, baked goods sale and more, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. April 23 at the Noblesville Moose Lodge, with reservations by messaging Noblesville Tri Kappa on Facebook or by contacting Jennifer Warner at 317-903-9921 or email [NoblesvilleBetaEpsilon@trikappa.org](mailto:NoblesvilleBetaEpsilon@trikappa.org).

12. 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.

13. Auditions for The Belfry Theatre's "Drinking Habits" comedy are at 7 p.m. April 24-25 at the Noblesville theater, with performances June 24-July 3.



Photo courtesy of Conner Prairie

**Enjoy Easter on the Prairie on Saturday at Conner Prairie in Fishers with egg hunt (1:30 p.m. for ages 2-3, 1:45 p.m. for ages 4-5, 2 p.m. for ages 6-8, 2:15 p.m. for ages 9-12) and crafts, scavenger hunt, and breakfast at 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., with reservations.**

14. 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 at <https://enpointe.yapsody.com/>

15. 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](http://handmadevintagemarket.com).

16. 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, travels west on Logan Street, north on 10th Street, east on Monument St. To be a sponsor or a participant, contact the VFW Post.

17. The Attic Theatre presents "Sense & Sensibility" May 5-7.

18. Get dressed up and join in for the 14th annual "Wine, Wags & Whiskers" at 6 p.m. May 8 at Embassy Suites in Noblesville.

19. The Boys & Girls Club Auxiliary Auction is May 14 at Harbour Trees.

20. 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.

21. Noblesville Preservation Alliance's third

annual Flea Market on Logan and Clinton streets will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 21. Residents can be vendors at their home for \$25 donation per household, community may donate items to NPA to sell at Preservation Hall, with donations taken 10 a.m. to noon May 14 and 5:30-7:30 p.m. May 17.

22. Make plans to attend the free Indiana Peony Festival, in its second year, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 21 at Seminary Park in Noblesville.

23. A used bicycle sale and donation day will be 10 a.m. to noon May 21, sponsored by Recycled Cycles at the group's repair shop at 810 E. Main St., in Westfield, at the top of the drive, north of Big Hoffa's BBQ. Top-condition bikes will be for sale at bargain prices, with proceeds to purchase parts to repair other bikes, under the sponsorship of Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County.

24. Carmel Arts & Design District presents "Art of Wine" from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. May 21, for ages 21 and older, with unlimited wine tastings from participating wineries for \$30. Tickets go on sale today on [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com)

25. The Belfry Theatre will have auditions for ages 5-18 for Disney's "Frozen Jr.," Apprentice Players summer youth production 3-5 p.m. May 22 and 6-8 p.m. May 23 at a Noblesville location to be announced, with performances July 28-31 at The Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville.

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

## ↻ CHOICE From Page A1

Times brought Hamilton 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

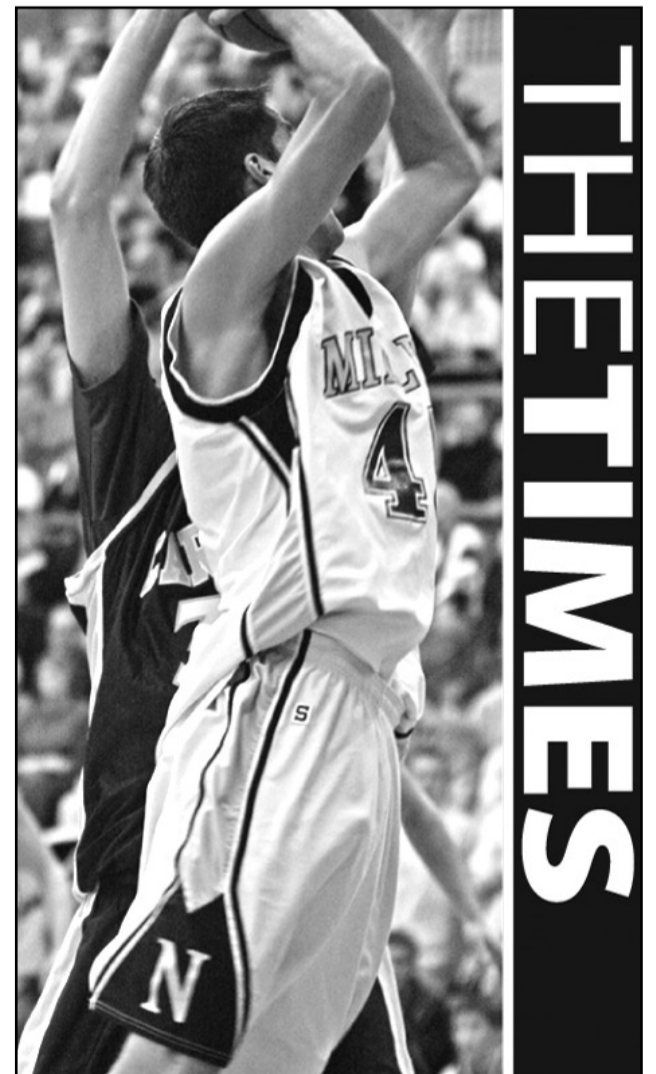
to automatic the counting process.

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, 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.

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# FRIDAY Business Notes and NEWS DAY

Friday, April 15, 2022

AS

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

## BBB Scam Alert: Scammers Use Bogus Connection Requests on LinkedIn

Just as job hunters use LinkedIn to connect with former colleagues and potential employers, scammers are using the networking service to find their next target. If you have a LinkedIn account, watch out for suspicious "recruiters" and job offers.

A Noblesville woman reported to BBB Scam Tracker that she went through a rapid interview process and was hired immediately after applying for a virtual assistant position on LinkedIn through a recruiter. After a week of working in this role, she asked about a paycheck

and was ignored. She then refused their request to open a bank account in her name to book a conference. The company's website domain later appeared to be suspended.

**How the Scam Works:**  
You get a LinkedIn message from a supposed recruiter encouraging you to apply for a job. You check out their LinkedIn profile, and it looks real. You may even have several connections in common!

From here, the scam works in a couple of different ways. Sometimes, the message contains a link that appears to point to an online

job application. You are supposed to upload your résumé and provide personal information, anything from your address to Social Security number. Other times, you respond to the message and are "hired" for the job. Then, you are asked to pay upfront for training and/or other expenses.

No matter the details of the scam, the job never materializes. The scammer takes the money or information and disappears. Victims who share personal details are at risk of identity theft.

**How to Spot a LinkedIn Scam:**

Here are some tips for dealing with job scams on LinkedIn.

- Set your LinkedIn privacy settings. You can limit which LinkedIn users can send you messages or connection requests.

- Don't accept every request you get. Check out the user's profile for completeness and correct grammar. Just because you have several connections in common does not mean they are real. Scammers frequently create a large network to look more legitimate.

- Ask to talk on the phone. If a recruiter contacts you through

email, ask to speak by phone. Scammers will try to dodge this with excuses, such as being out of the country.

- Check out BBB Tips: Many job scams use similar techniques, see [bbb.org/employmentscam](http://bbb.org/employmentscam) for more advice.

**For More Information**  
If you've been the victim of this or a similar scam, report it to BBB Scam Tracker. Your report can help educate other consumers by raising awareness of scammers' tactics.

Subscribe to BBB's weekly Scam Alerts.  
ABOUT BBB SERV-

ING CENTRAL INDIANA: The Better Business Bureau has empowered people to find businesses, brands and charities they can trust for over 110 years. In 2021, people turned to BBB more than 200 million times for BBB Business Profiles on 6.3 million businesses and Charity Reports on 25,000 charities, free at [BBB.org](http://BBB.org). Local, independent BBBs can be found across the United States, Canada, and Mexico, including BBB Serving Central Indiana, which was founded in 1916 and serves 46 counties.

## First Financial Bank Increases Minimum Wage To \$18/Hour For All Associates

First Financial Bank (Nasdaq: FFBC) has increased its minimum wage for all associates to \$18/hour, effective March 18, 2022, in a step that builds on its associate compensation and development efforts and further positions the bank as an employer of choice in the local communities it serves.

"Investing in our people is a winning strategy, and our updated compensation plan helps us to stand out as a highly desirable place to work," said Archie Brown, president and CEO of First Financial Bank. "We want our associates to have more of their best days at work with us, supported by competitive wages and a workplace that prioritizes wellbeing and encourages engagement and development."

The increase applies to all current and future First Financial associates throughout the entire four-state footprint of Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois.

The compensation programs at First Financial are important foundations that support the bank's strong performance. First Financial offers a best-in-class employer-funded pension plan and many other benefits that support the holistic wellbeing of its associates, including tuition reimbursement, qualified

transportation expenses, adoption assistance, parental leave, and a generous paid time off (PTO) package. An additional community service program includes 8 hours of PTO for full-time associates to pursue volunteer opportunities during work hours. First Financial's PTO donation program also allows associates to donate accrued, unused PTO that can be accessed by co-workers who are facing catastrophic events or family medical emergencies that may necessitate time away from work.

Additionally, the bank's LEAD Program provides management and leadership training opportunities for associates, and the IMPACT Mentoring Program connects associates with other experienced First Financial professionals who provide coaching, feedback and help with personal and professional development.

"First Financial is where top talent and emerging professionals can find a workplace that is supportive, challenging and rewarding," said Mary Sue Findley, chief human resources officer of First Financial Bank. "Increasing our compensation will help us compete for and attract the most qualified candidates in an exceptionally com-

petitive hiring environment."

About First Financial Bancorp.

First Financial Bancorp. is a Cincinnati, Ohio based bank holding company. As of December 31, 2021, the Company had \$16.3 billion in assets, \$9.3 billion in loans, \$12.9 billion in deposits and \$2.3 billion in shareholders' equity. The Company's subsidiary, First Financial Bank, founded in 1863, provides banking and financial services products through its six lines of business: Commercial, Retail Banking, Investment Commercial Real Estate, Mortgage Banking, Commercial Finance and Wealth Management. These business units provide traditional banking services to business and retail clients. Wealth Management provides wealth planning, portfolio management, trust and estate, brokerage and retirement plan services and had approximately \$3.4 billion in assets under management as of December 31, 2021. The Company operated 139 full service banking centers as of December 31, 2021, primarily in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois, while the Commercial Finance business lends into targeted industry verticals on a nationwide basis.

## How DRONEDEK Is Helping To Save The Planet, One Delivery At A Time

April 22nd is Earth Day, spotlighting ways people can help protect and preserve the planet. Increasingly, global warming and sustainability issues have become hot topics that are getting people talking. One company, DRONEDEK, is helping to save the planet through the way people have packages delivered. Focusing on the last mile of delivery, their efforts can help keep the planet healthier and consumers happier.

"To help protect the planet, we have to make small changes in many places, so they all add up to a radical improvement in the environment," says Dan O'Toole, the founder and chief executive officer of DRONEDEK. "Our contribution is in how packages are delivered. We are helping to save the planet one package delivery at a time."

Americans purchase billions of dollars worth of goods online each year, which means countless packages are making their way across the country. What adds to the carbon footprint that each package being delivered has is that millions are stolen each year. When packages are stolen from porches by "porch pirates," they typically have a replacement that will be sent out. This leads to many more packages needing to be delivered.

Reducing package theft is one way to help save the planet because it will reduce the number of packages being sent overall. DRONEDEK provides a solution to this problem by providing last-mile delivery that ensures packages are delivered safely and securely. Using drone technology, the packages are delivered to a secure receptacle so that only the rightful owner can access them. This helps to save resources with each delivery.

Here are additional ways that the DRONEDEK delivery method is helping to save the planet: The DRONEDEK autonomous delivery methods help reduce the number of vehicles on the road that would otherwise be used to make deliveries.

Building out networks of DRONEDEKs (and the subsequent reduction of delivery vehicles from the road) will help accelerate global efforts towards carbon-neutrality by (or before) 2050. What we may see is a positive correlation between the increase in the number of installed DRONEDEKs and the decrease in carrier traffic needed as a result.

There are numerous positive ripple effects of DRONEDEK helping to keep delivery vehicles off the road. These include reducing greenhouse gas emissions, harmful chemicals, wear

and tear on the roads, fossil fuel consumption, vehicle accidents, etc. There will also be fewer delivery vehicles driving through neighborhoods.

DRONEDEK is embracing an ESG-focus (environmental, social governance) model, by encouraging and fostering the acceleration of autonomous delivery methods, including using drones and robots. Having DRONEDEK allows service providers to integrate autonomous delivery methods alongside conventional delivery methods more easily.

"We are happy to be a part of the solution," added O'Toole. "Not only are we helping to reduce package delivery theft, but our method will also help protect the planet."

DRONEDEK allows people to receive package deliveries and outgoing mailings through a safe and secure receptacle. The receptacle is a patented, smart receptacle that works with a drone to ensure that packages are received and are allowed to be taken only by those who own the case. The receptacle has been designed to protect the items from the weather and would-be thieves. Users can monitor the delivery on an app on their phones.

Founded by Dan O'Toole, DRONEDEK has raised \$7.1 million, helping to bring the receptacles to market this year. Dubbed as the "mailbox of the future," the receptacle will help people send and receive packages securely, safely and provides privacy. The company recently announced it has partnered with Nova Labs, formerly Helium Inc. to allow for more significant wireless network expansion. Helium hotspots will be put into DRONEDEKs in areas with limited coverage to help build out the network.

To see videos of DRONEDEK works, visit DRONEDEK: The Next Generation Mailbox, and New DRONEDEK Smart Receptacle. To learn more about DRONEDEK, visit the site: <https://www.dronedek.com>.

About DRONEDEK  
DRONEDEK is a company offering a new way of sending and receiving packages of up to five pounds each. The device provides a safe, secure method of delivery that keeps the items in a patented receptacle. The receptacle offers complete protection from the weather and would-be thieves. The company was founded by Dan O'Toole, a patent holder and serial entrepreneur. The company is based in Indianapolis, Indiana. To learn more, visit the site: <https://www.dronedek.com>.

## Indy Arts Council Opens Round Two Of Mental Health & Wellness Grants

Central Indiana-based artists and arts administrators are invited to apply now for a new round of Wug Laku Mental Health & Wellness Grants supported by the Herbert Simon Family Foundation, the Indy Arts Council announced.

The grants, which range from \$250-\$750, can be used for one-on-one therapy, support groups, art therapy, and wellness and mindfulness practices. Guidelines and easy-to-fill-out applications, which opened March 16, are available here. To be eligible, artists must reside in Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Marion, Morgan, Johnson, or Shelby Counties; have made at least 40% of their income prior to the pandemic in the arts (in non-commercial work); and have been working in the arts for at least two years.

The grants honor the legacy of Wug Laku, a beloved Indianapolis visual artist and grassroots advocate for the arts. His untreated mental illness led to his death in 2017 at age 63. The program is part of the ongoing #IndyKeepsCreating initiative, funded through philanthropic, civic, and corporate partners, that began in March 2020 to support independent artists and nonprofit arts and culture organizations during the pandemic.

This is the second round for the grants. The first round was launched in 2021 after an Indy Arts Council survey showed nearly 50% of local independent artists were suffering from mental health issues due to the social isolation and financial challenges caused by the pandemic. Last summer, 69 grants were awarded, providing \$43,750 to artists and arts administrators. Nearly 100% of artist applications were approved. This year, the Arts Council expects to award up to 100 grants. Applications are expected to be open through June 13, unless funds are depleted before then due to the volume of applications.

"Supporting artists and expanding access to mental health services are two of our primary focus areas at the Herbert Simon Family Foundation," said President Rachel Simon. "When the Arts Council approached the foundation about continuing the Wug Laku Mental Health & Wellness grant program, our board was thrilled to help. Art is a way for all of us to heal, and it is critical that artists in our community have access to mental health and wellness services."

Artist Mental Health Stories

As part of the campaign to promote the Wug Laku Mental Health & Wellness Grants,

the Indy Arts Council worked with local videographer Kurtis Bowersock to feature five well-known artists talking about the creative ways they take care of their mental health, and encouraging others who are struggling to ask for help. The artists include metalsmith and jeweler Nancy Lee, dancer Carol Nunez Verdin, teaching artist and poet Devon Ginn, actor and playwright Ben Asaykwee, and teaching artist and poet Mariah Ivey. View the videos here.

Black health and wellness will be focus of upcoming Art & Soul celebration

Starting Saturday June 4, the Indy Arts Council will kick-off Art & Soul at the Indianapolis Artsgarden and celebrate the theme of Black Health & Wellness with entertainment throughout the month. Art & Soul, which annually attracts more than 2,000 visitors and is supported by Lilly Endowment Inc., has helped to expand the city's awareness and appreciation of African-American art and music for more than 25 years. Program partners include Asante Art Institute of Indianapolis, Indy Jazz Fest, Iibada Dance Company, and FLAVA FRESH! Details on this year's Featured Artists are available at [www.indyarts.org](http://www.indyarts.org).

Thanks for reading The Times!



# FRIDAY

## Voice of our PEOPLE

## Moving Forward Apart Or Together?

It just doesn't feel like 54 years since the assassination of Martin Luther King, but this week marked that milestone. It was on April 4, 1968 that the civil rights leader was gunned down on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis.

That single act of cowardice and violence by James Early Ray sparked riots in more than 100 cities around our country. Some of the biggest riots took place in Washington, Chicago, Baltimore and Kansas City.

One place that did not see such violence was just down the road from us, Indianapolis.

Why? As many of you already know, Robert F. Kennedy was on the campaign trail in his presidential candidacy for the Democratic Party's nomination. RFK could speak from a place few others could since his own brother had been assassinated a few years earlier.

Kennedy's speech that night at the corner of 17th and Broadway in the heart of the African-American community touched hearts. In part, he said "what we need in the United



**TIM TIMMONS**  
Two Cents

States is not division; what we need in the United States is not hatred; what we need in the United States is not violence or lawlessness; but love and wisdom, and compassion toward one another . . . "

Of course he wasn't able to truly follow through on those words because two months later he too was senselessly shot to death.

And here we are, more than half a century later, and if anything, the division in this country is worse. Some of it is racial, but not all. Some of it is ideology, but not all. Some of it is political, but not all.

*Two cents, which is about how much Timmons said his columns are worth, appears periodically on Wednesdays in The Paper. Timmons is the publisher of The Paper and can be contacted at [ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com](mailto:ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com).*

Let's take the issue of gay rights. According to a Gallup poll released in February, 7.1 percent of U.S. adults identify as something other than heterosexual.

Let me be very clear on two points that are just my opinion. I think their lifestyle is a sin.

I think they have every right to choose it.

OK, can't stop there . . .

And I think folks like me who disagree should respect their choice.

It's kind of like smoking or any number of things. I can agree or disagree, but my opinion only travels to the point where it meets yours and no farther. We can see eye to eye, or we can be polar opposites. But we don't have to be ugly about it.

And therein lies the problem.

The gay community can legitimately say they are persecuted for their stance. The straight community can legitimately say they are tired of getting something rammed down their throats they disagree with.

And think about this.

If 7 people in a crowd of 100 think one way, where else in life does that mean the other 93 either have to go along with it, or are constantly bombarded with the message? You don't think that causes problems? Of course it does.

Of. Course. It. Does.

Both sides have valid points and both sides have every right to those. What both sides don't have, at least shouldn't have, is the ability to force their opinion on others. Should we be teaching gay lifestyle in schools? I don't think so. A good sex education program might include a section on alternative lifestyles, but at this point it sure feels like the LGBTQ movements gets a lot more than 7.1 percent of the attention for young people.

Look, it's a big country. It's a country that got started because not everyone wanted to be singing from the same pew as King George. We made room for everyone, even if we didn't always live up to it. Maybe we ought to recommit to doing so again?

Kennedy said it best that night in Indianapolis.

"We can move (toward division) as a country, in great polarization - black people amongst black, white people amongst white, filled with hatred toward one another. Or we can make an effort, as Martin Luther King did, to understand and to comprehend, and to replace that violence, that stain of bloodshed that has spread across our land, with an effort to understand with compassion and love."

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## Cooler Heads Prevailed

Sunday night, at midnight mind you, I decided to get a head start on the grilling season. If that seems like a peculiar time to begin grilling, you'll find the appliance that I used to be quite unconventional, too.

I used the grille of my car.

Those of you who groaned at my pun should know that I am equally chagrined by the circumstances that provoked this word play.

I was heading westbound on the highway that connects the two flagships of this venerable two-town newspaper conglomerate, when I could see in the peep of my headlights' beam an object in the road taking shape before me.

Normally, an obstruction wouldn't present much of a problem. State Road 32 is a broad, two-lane highway with a smooth surface and ample berms



**JOHN MARLOWE**  
With the Grain

I loved driving this stretch of road at night. Often at Sunday zero hour, I'd find myself to be the only vehicle on the road, alone to the hum of the tires and the drone of the thoughts running through my head.

"Nothing behind me, everything ahead of me, as is ever so on the road," Jack Kerouac would say. (On the Road, 1957) But all has changed.

on each side. The terrain is level and the course is straight, making it an ideal route to make time crossing the state.

Nowadays, an increasing number of motorists are also discovering the highway as a means of avoiding the metropolitan snarl to the south. A disquieting volume of traffic can form on that road, even late at night.

Such was the case, Sunday.

Although not tightly formed, a train of oncoming traffic approached me from the west. Behind me the distinctive pattern of Jeep headlights shone brightly in my rear-view mirror, in alternating distances of "watch it buddy" to "Hey! Get off my ...".

So, when the object in the road first broke into the gloaming, I knew I had one chance to make a decision, and it had to be right. If I went left, I was into the oncoming traffic. If I jammed on my brakes, the Jeep was into me. If I went right, I

could spill into the ditch.

In the first millisecond, I concluded that the two-inch, thin white rectangular object was a plastic lid. In the next millisecond, I assessed that I would straddle the object, since the white lid seemed much narrower than my wheel base. In the third millisecond, the silhouette of a big red box still attached to the lid pierced the veil of darkness.

The person who suggested that making any decision is better than waiting at the fork in the road, never had to contend with a huge Coleman® cooler.

I hoped that my front spoiler would deflect most of the debris away from my tires, and it did. However, the bulk of the cooler rolled under the spoiler, and was suctioned up into the front of the motor compartment.

My 4,780 pound SUV quickly

dispelled any claims that Coleman™ might make about their coolers being indestructible, and the shards of plastic traveled the length of my car in a tintinabulation of tinkling that a Chihuly chandelier might make when dropped from a six story building.

I am left, now, with driving a 1986 Dodge soccer Mom van, while my car is in the shop for a new radiator, fan, fan motor, and air conditioning condenser.

It could have been worse, I know. It could have been a refrigerator. I am grateful.

Nevertheless, I am left with a deep wondering whether I made the right decision ... and this really odd craving for potato salad.

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

## Ask Rusty - About The Earnings Test And Taxation Of Social Security Benefits

Dear Rusty: I'm 63, married, and we file a joint tax return. If I claim Social Security now and keep working and earn \$7,000 more per year than the annual limit of \$19,560, I know I'd have benefits withheld at the rate of \$1 for every \$2 over the limit (\$3,500). But if I were to contribute \$7,000 to a conventional (not Roth) IRA and take the deduction, would this reduce my earned income and eliminate the SS benefit withholding? And will such an IRA deduction help avoid taxation of my SS benefits if I am above the \$32,000 taxation threshold for married - filing jointly? I'm trying to figure how much I can afford to earn while collecting Social Security benefits. Signed: Searching for Ways

Dear Searching: Contributions to an IRA will not reduce the income tax liability on your Social Se-



**ASK RUSTY**  
Social Security Advisor

curity benefits. Taxation of Social Security benefits is determined using something known as Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI), which is your normal AGI on your tax return, plus 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year, plus any other non-taxable income you had (which would include contributions to your IRA). As you know, MAGI over \$32,000 will cause 50% of your SS benefits received during the tax

**Social Security Matters**  
by AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor  
**Russell Gloor**  
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year to become taxable, but MAGI over \$44,000 will up that percentage to as much as 85% of SS benefits received during the tax year (taxed at your normal IRS tax rate).

For the Social Security earnings limit, which applies to anyone collecting early benefits, your gross income from working is what counts so contributing to an IRA won't reduce the amount you exceed the limit by - they will use your gross W2 amount, not the Adjusted

Gross Income (AGI) from your tax return.

FYI, the 2022 annual earnings limit is \$19,560 and if that is exceeded, you'll pay the penalty (\$1 for every \$2 over). But claiming mid-year you'll also be subject to a 2022 monthly limit of \$1630 and, if that is exceeded, you aren't entitled to SS benefits for that month (the monthly limit will only apply for the remaining months of 2022).

What will happen is SS will compute the penalty

both ways and see which is greater - the one for exceeding the annual limit or the one for exceeding the monthly limit - and they will assess whichever penalty is smaller. As you may know, the earnings limit goes up by about 2.5 times during the year you reach your full retirement age (FRA) and goes away entirely starting in the month you attain FRA.

But there's something to be aware of also: If you have benefits withheld because you exceeded the earnings limit, when you reach your full retirement age you will be given time credit for the months benefits were withheld, meaning that they will increase your FRA benefit amount according to the number of months you didn't get benefits before that. So, at least theoretically, you can eventually recover the benefits withheld for

exceeding the earnings limit by getting a higher benefit payment starting at your full retirement age. But income tax on SS benefits is different - there is no age cap for assessing federal income tax on your Social Security benefits.

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# FRIDAY

## Voice of our PEOPLE

### Cheap Thrills

The dollar store as we knew it is gone. Oh, it's still there. I can see the helium balloons from the street—hugging the ceiling, beckoning me to enter. But don't you fall for it. It's not a dollar store anymore, it's the Dollar and a Quarter Store, regardless of the store name. One chain considered the name 2 BELOW. That would give them the option of two more price increases without having to buy another new sign.

I am addicted to all dollar stores. But now with this price increase, maybe it's time to break my habit. Years ago, when pay phones went from 10



**DICK WOLFSIE**  
Life in a Nutshell

cents to a quarter, that was the last phone booth I ever walked into, except to check the little coin return to see if anyone had left any change in it. Let me pause here while younger readers google what a phone booth is. By the way, for older folks,

just so you know, the five-and-dime store has also raised their prices.

Several weeks ago, I was in a dollar store in my neighborhood, unaware this seismic shift in my budget was about to occur. I waited for the cashier to ring up my purchases, though I thought I knew exactly what the total would be. I kept track of how many purchases I was about to make, and I even know to how multiply 1 x 16.

"Wait, how could the total be \$20.00? I only bought 16 items!"

"Everything is \$1.25 now, Sir."

"Even a can of okra?"

"Sir, if you really like

okra, why not just spring for the extra 25 cents?"

"Because I hate okra.

Everyone hates okra. I was buying it because it was a dollar. How about those helium balloons? How much are those?"

"Everything is \$1.25, Sir."

"Okay, I understand the increase with food, but why did balloons go up?"

"Because we put helium in them."

Frustrated, I wandered around the store putting my willpower to the test. At a buck and a quarter, could I resist a half-gallon of generic cola, a set of three screwdrivers, sunglasses, or five pounds of

dog food? Hey, we could get a dog someday.

I wondered if I should start a support group for people like me who are getting sucked into an increasingly more costly addiction.

My support group would have six steps to recovery:

1. Admit you are powerless to pass up a dollar bag of ginger snaps.

2. Resist the notion that lower prices are a higher power.

3. Never question the price of goodness.

4. Share your story with others so they can be savers, as well.

5. Pray the \$1.25 stores never go to \$1.50.

6. Before buying on impulse, look deeply inside your shelf to be sure of what you really need.

As I was finishing this column, I saw a rumor online that the dollar store may revert to the old dollar price for some select items that are less popular.

My goal now is to find a really good okra cookbook.

*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.*

### The Biden Administration's Cynical And Unconstitutional Proposed Tax On Wealth

by Dr. Mark W. Hendrickson

President Joe Biden's proposed 2023 federal budget, which calls for a gargantuan outlay of \$5.8 trillion, includes plans for a new kind of tax on the wealth of the rich. The official party line of Team Biden is that such a tax will be "fair" and "efficient." That is some of the most cynical political spin I ever have encountered. The proposed wealth tax would be anything but fair and efficient.

Collectively, our country has made great progress in reducing discrimination against individuals due to race, gender, sexual preference, etc. The glaring exception is that progressives insist on discriminating against "the rich."

They rationalize this kind of discrimination by saying that it is based not on who a person is, but what a person has. They say it is "unfair" that some people accumulate so much wealth. But when one considers how the typical billionaire amassed his fortune—in service to others, supply-

ing them with the goods and services that they value—then really the progressives are saying it is "unfair" for some individuals to provide so much more for their fellow man. Bizarre, isn't it?

They are also saying that people who have earned large fortunes, but have not spent those fortunes on various luxuries and self-indulgences, deserve to be subjected to special additional taxes. But by maintaining their wealth in the form of capital as part of the vast capital pool that undergirds our prodigious productive capacities, rich people are benefiting the rest of us. To target wealthy savers with discriminatory taxes as if they were lowly miscreants rather than society's economic benefactors is perverse.

The proponents of a wealth tax think it is "unfair" that many wealthy people decide not to sell their investments and so avoid paying a tax on the resulting capital gains. The tax-raising clique objects to any behavior

that deprives the government of revenue, as if the citizen has an obligation to manage his affairs to maximize his tax bill.

Another argument in favor of a wealth tax is that without it, other taxes have to be higher. Not necessarily. That is only true if Uncle Sam continues to overspend. Get spending under control and there won't be a need for additional taxes, fair or unfair.

The assertion that a wealth tax would be "efficient" is belied by the description of the complicated formula for calculating the actual liability. Since the tax would be on unrealized gains—that is, on investments such as stocks that an individual owns, and has not yet sold—then there aren't any actual gains, but only hypothetical "paper gains." The problem is, nobody knows what the market price of stock holdings—and hence, the consequent capital gains or losses—will be until some future date when the transaction takes place.

You can see the

potential for an administrative nightmare here: What if the value of the investments has fallen between the time it was taxed and when it was later sold, leaving the investor with an actual loss after having paid a tax on a phantom gain? Will Uncle Sam refund the tax already collected on the now-evaporated paper gain? Nope. As currently structured, the Biden proposal offers to collect the wealth tax on paper gains over a five-year period. That way, if the price of the investments falls and erases the paper gains, the investor can stop paying—but he can't get a refund from the government for taxes already collected on the phantom gain. What is fair about government taxing an investor's loss?

Apart from the fact that a wealth tax would be neither fair nor efficient is the inconvenient fact that such a tax would be unconstitutional. There is no provision in the Constitution of the United States for the federal government to tax wealth. Since day

one, Uncle Sam has been authorized to tax consumption through excise and import taxes. With the adoption of the Sixteenth Amendment to the Constitution in 1913, the federal taxing authority expanded to include taxes on annual income. "Income," of course, represents an actual monetary gain, not a hypothetical paper gain. Taxing wealth that has been accumulated over the years has always been exempt from taxation (with the exception of inheritance taxes, a Marxian scheme that mutilates justice).

Another point to consider: Be very wary when you hear promises that only the very rich would pay the proposed paper wealth tax. Remember what happened a century ago: Popular support for the Sixteenth Amendment, which authorized Uncle Sam to tax income, was won with promises that only the rich would pay the new tax. At the outset, that was true. The tax rate was only one percent on incomes of

\$3,000 (equivalent to about \$85,000 today), two percent on incomes over \$20,000 (\$567,000 today), and a top rate of seven percent on incomes over \$500,000 (multi-millions today). Alas, within a mere four years, the top rate soared to 77 percent, and the lowest income Americans were taxed six percent of their income—just one percentage point below what the rich were taxed four years earlier.

As the federal government continues to increase its already outlandish, unaffordable spending, it will become increasingly desperate for additional sources of revenue. The unfair, inefficient, unconstitutional proposal for a tax on phantom income is likely a harbinger of increasingly destructive proposals yet to come.

—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.

### Bad Jokes And Slapping People

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

In a civil, polite society we shouldn't run around slapping comedians, politicians, radio or television personalities, or musical performers. The list goes on and includes everyone. Will Smith's stunt of slapping comedian Chris Rock at the 2022 Oscars was a bad idea. It was only by the grace of God and mainly the grace of Chris Rock that Smith was not arrested or sued. Before this is all over, Rock could still take him to court. At this point in time, it doesn't



**GLENN MOLLETTE**  
Guest Column

seem likely.

On the other hand, it was a bad idea for Chris Rock to use Will Smith's wife, Jada Pinkett Smith, in a joke that highlighted

alopecia, the disease that has been tormenting her. Diseases and disabilities are issues with which people struggle. The joke angered Will Smith. His feelings got totally out of control as he bounded on stage to slap Chris Rock. While many people understand how Smith must have felt and may have thought Rock deserved it, we still have to restrain ourselves.

I suspect there are people who probably have wanted to slap a politician or two. You can't do that because you

would go to jail. Furthermore, that is the wrong way to conduct our behavior. What about Vladimir Putin? You couldn't get by with that in Russia. Regardless of how evil and heinous an individual is, if you slapped him while walking down Broadway in New York City, a policeman would most likely arrest you. This is a far-fetched scenario even though most of the free world is ready for Putin to be totally removed.

If you have been working on your list of

people to slap you might as well put it away. It won't work. You will eventually end up in jail, in court, or both.

We do have free speech in America. People can hurl words freer than hurling punches. Words can and do hurt. There are repercussions if you slander, malign or use your speech against others in a way that "hurts" them. However, television, radio, and political events frequently allow the rhetoric to go way out of bounds.

An idea for us all is to

control our tongues and our actions. Most of us have spoken before we thought. We may have reacted in a way without seriously considering the action. Too often a fast mouth or quick action may have brought regret. There are lessons to be learned from this year's Academy Awards. Mainly, don't act like those people.

Hear Glenn Mollette every weekday morning EST at 8:56 and 11:31 on XM radio channel 131

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