

**TODAY'S VERSE**

Psalm 19:14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.



**FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY**

People who call our community their own.

**What makes Mya Ponto smile?** "Being around my friends and hanging out with people from school," said the then 14-year-old Noblesville resident. Today's feature is a look back at one of The Times' previous Faces of Hamilton County. She is a freshman at Noblesville High School and, before that, she attended Noblesville West Middle School. She was found in summer 2021 working a summer job at the concession stand at Forest Park Aquatic Center, which celebrated its 90th anniversary in June 2021. Over the summer at the pool, she worked concessions, checked in guests and sold memberships. Her favorite job duty? "I like doing the concessions. I get to make people's food and give it to them." Favorite food to make and eat? "I like making pretzels a lot." She is the daughter of Matt Ponto and Amy Ponto and has a then 10-year-old brother, Camren. Pets? "I have one dog and two cats." Her dog is an English bulldog named Stella. When she wasn't working, she said she loves to swim and hopes to become a lifeguard there. Over the summer, she had plans to camp at Starve Hollow State Recreation Area in Indiana. Forest Park Aquatic Center is open for the season noon to 8 p.m. Saturdays, noon to 6 p.m. Sundays and noon to 7 p.m. weekdays. Admission is \$6, with memberships and donor-level memberships available.

**And Another Thing...**

Get rid of your unwanted electronics at an electronic waste (e-waste) collection event hosted by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and Technology Recyclers today, June 25 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Indiana Government Center on Robert D. Orr Plaza. This collection event is open to the public and helps to keep hazardous waste found in electronics from ending up in landfills. Unwanted electronics can be dropped off by drive-up or walk-up. For a contactless delivery, please stay in your vehicle and staff from Technology Recyclers will unload your unwanted electronics. Accepted e-waste items include TVs, cables and wiring, cell phones, computer towers and monitors, printers, and more. For a full list of accepted e-waste items, click here. There is a \$20 fee for each TV or cathode-ray tube (CRT) monitor of any size. Payments can be made by cash, check, or credit card. There is no fee for all other accepted e-waste items.

# The TIMES

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**Sunrise/Sunset**  
RISE: 6:16 a.m.  
SET: 9:17 p.m.

**High/Low Temperatures**  
High: 91 °F  
Low: 63 °F

**Today is...**

- Bourdain Day
- Global Beatles Day
- National Celebrate Your Marriage Day

**What Happened On This Day**

- 1947 The Diary of Anne Frank is published
- 1950 The Korean War begins as North Korea invades South Korea
- 1967 The world's first live global satellite TV program is aired

**Births On This Day**

- 1903 George Orwell English author
- 1961 Ricky Gervais English comedian, actor, writer

**Deaths On This Day**

- 1984 Michel Foucault French philosopher
- 2009 Michael Jackson American singer-songwriter, producer, dancer, actor

## Boomer Bits

### Ask Rusty - Will Claiming Early Affect My Wife's Survivor Benefit?

**Dear Rusty:** My wife will be turning 62 and eligible to collect Social Security this year. We realize it will be a reduced amount. I am 52 and have been the sole income earner for most of the last 20 years. We also have an adopted son who will be turning 14 this year. We realize he will receive a dependent benefit until he turns 18 and this may make the case for filing early. I am confused about widow benefits - will my wife's early filing affect her widow's benefit amount? *Signed: Confused*



ASK Rusty  
Social Security Advisor

**Social Security Matters**

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

**Husband**

**Dear Confused Husband:** When your wife claims her own SS retirement benefit (e.g., at 62) will have no effect on the

benefit available to her as your widow. The only thing that would affect her survivor benefit as your widow is her age when

➔ See RUSTY Page A7

## Seniors Suffering from 'Food Insecurity,' Side-Effect of Rising Inflation

by John Grimaldi

The inflation uptick continues to impose serious hardship on hungry senior citizens—particularly and tragically those suffering from malnutrition. The victims are the most vulnerable of our aging population—those who struggle to make ends meet on minimal fixed incomes at a time when the price of food is skyrocketing as the result of an uncontrolled, record-breaking

rate of inflation.

There are many factors that triggered the inflationary surge, not the least of which was the devil-may-care progressive spending spree of the Biden administration and the Congress it controls. The numbers don't lie. In December of 2020, a month before Joe Biden took office, the rate of inflation stood at 1.4%.

➔ See GRIMALDI Page A7

## A Healthy Smile Might Give You An Extra Mile

(Family Features) Poor oral health is common among American adults. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 65 million Americans have periodontitis, the most advanced form of periodontal disease. According to Harvard Medical School, people with periodontal disease have been found to be at higher risk for cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory disease and dementia.

➔ See SMILE Page A7

## Tenderloin Tuesdays Returns 'Hot Off the Grill' for 13th Year

Indiana's signature sandwich returns to the spotlight in Hamilton County June 28 - July 26 with Tenderloin Tuesdays, featuring the Midwest's best breaded pork tenderloin creations at 30 county-wide restaurants.

Each year, restaurateurs representing Hamilton County's independent cafés to its fine-dining establishments utilize their unique recipes to celebrate Indiana's signature sandwich.

To enhance the 2022 Tenderloin Tuesdays experience, sign up for the Tenderloin Tuesday Passport. The free passport, created by Hamilton County Tourism, provides you with exclusive Tenderloin Tuesdays discounts, participating restaurant information, menus and locations via a handy interactive map.

Signing up for the Tenderloin Tuesday Passport is quick and easy: visit TenderloinTuesdays.com and click the red "Sign

Up!" button on the right side of the page. Follow the prompts to place the passport on your smartphone's home page and beginning June 28, enjoy discounts at your favorite Tenderloin Tuesdays restaurants

Along with great discounts, each Tenderloin Tuesday Passport user that checks in at four or more participating restaurants from June 28-July 26 is eligible to receive a commemorative Tenderloin Tuesdays t-shirt, courtesy of Hamilton County Tourism, while supplies last.

Hamilton County Tourism Inc. is a nonprofit, destination management organization that promotes tourism growth through strategic marketing, hospitality and development initiatives providing hospitality to more than four million visitors to Hamilton County, Indiana, each year.

➔ See TUESDAYS Page A7



Photo courtesy of the Sheridan Public Library

**Pictured with some of the new books donated by Altrusa of Hamilton County are (seated) Cole Alexis, Kim Riley (Library Director) (standing) Donna Prather, Pam Wesley, Sharon Porter, Carol Rader and Gloria DelGreco.**

## Sheridan Public Library 'Checks Out' Book Donation from Altrusa

Recently, through a special donation, Altrusa of Hamilton County, IN, Inc. donated 21 Books to the Sheridan Public Library. The books are currently on display and available for checkout.

Altrusa is an International

group of dedicated volunteers who serve their local communities to enhance and make them an even better place to reside. Also, with the cooperation of these clubs, together they serve

➔ See BOOKS Page A7

**HONEST HOOSIER**

Gas prices might not look so bad if all the taxes were taken out of them!



**INSIDE TODAY**

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- Travel.....A9

**TODAY'S QUOTE**

"Don't be pushed around by the fears in your mind. Be led by the dreams in your heart."

- Roy T. Bennett

**OBITUARIES**

**Maxine Marie Harvey Bracken**  
**Dwayne Edward Keys**

**TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

Most sinus infections are due to viruses and will get better without antibiotics. 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.



The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank **JULIE LEONARD** for subscribing!



## OBITUARIES

### Maxine Marie Harvey Bracken April 13, 1946 - June 20, 2022

Maxine Marie Harvey Bracken of Ladoga, Indiana and Louisville, Kentucky, died unexpectedly on June 20, 2022 at St. Vincent Hospital-Carmel with her husband of fifty-seven years, Merrill, at her side following complications from chemotherapy.

She was born April 13, 1946 in Lebanon, Indiana to Max and Edith Harvey, the fourth of five children.

Mrs. Bracken graduated from Westfield High School, Class of 1964. In high school, she was in band and a ten-year 4-H member. It was at the Hamilton County Fair in 1960 that she met the love of her life, Merrill Dean Bracken of Noblesville, Indiana. They married on September 26, 1964 and spent the next fifty-seven years working side-by-side raising their children, farming, raising and showing cattle, and owning and operating Bracken's Steak America while representing the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association at the Kentucky Exposition Center.

When she was not working her usual twelve plus hour days on either the farm or at Bracken's Steak America, Mrs. Bracken enjoyed woodworking, gardening, and watching the Hallmark Channel. She had excellent business acumen and valued hard work, honesty, efficiency, education, and empowerment of women business owners. She loved her family and cherished the times we were all able to be together. She was very proud of her children and her grandchildren and all they have accomplished. Mrs. Bracken was a member of The Woodlands United Methodist Church in Houston, Texas, where her daughter serves as a pastor.

Survivors include her husband Merrill; three children Jill (J.R.) Emerson of Westfield, Joy (Joel) Johnson of Kingwood, Texas and Jerry (Laura) Bracken of Trafalgar, Indiana; seven grandchildren Jamie Emerson, Joules Emerson, Jackson Emerson, Jeremiah Johnston, Evija Johnston, Josie Johnston and Kenzie Bracken; and three brothers Tommy, Steve and Jimmy Harvey.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sister Martha Jo Poe; and infant daughter Cheryl Marie Bracken.

The family is scheduled to receive guests from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. on Wednesday June 29, 2022 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville, IN 46062. A Celebration of Life is scheduled to be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday June 30, 2022 at Randall & Roberts, with the Rev. Jill Moffett officiating. Interment will immediately follow at Carey Cemetery, 22221 State Road 37 N, in Noblesville.

Online condolences may be made at [www.randallroberts.com](http://www.randallroberts.com).

### Dwayne Edward Keys November 5, 1966 - June 22, 2022

Dwayne Edward Keys, 55, of Indianapolis, passed away on Wednesday, June 22, 2022 at his home.

He was born on November 5, 1966 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Mr. Keys participated in workshops and day services. He liked putting puzzles together, taking walks, and playing Yahtzee. In his younger years, he enjoyed roller skating. Mr. Keys loved drinking coffee and sipping on Pepsi.

Survivors include his sisters Corless (Charles) Poulter and Darla (Terry) McAlister; brother-in-law Richard Carson; and nephews and niece Kyle Poulter, Luke Carson, Kaitlyn (Joshua) Ewigleben and James McAlister.

He was preceded in death by his father James Keys; mother Mae (Tines) Keys; and sister Sandra Carson.

Services are scheduled to be held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan Street in Noblesville. Visitation is scheduled to run from 12 p.m. to the time of service at the funeral home. Burial will be at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Autism Society of Indiana, 1800 N. Meridian Street, Suite 103B, Indianapolis, IN 46202, or <http://www.autismsocietyofindiana.org/>.

Online condolences may be made at [www.randallroberts.com](http://www.randallroberts.com).

## News Briefs

### Holcomb Statement on Overruling of Roe v. Wade

Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb issued a quick and strong reaction to the Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

"The Supreme Court's decision is clear, and it is now up to the states to address this important issue. We'll do that in short order in Indiana. I've

already called the General Assembly back on July 6, and I expect members to take up this matter as well. I have been clear in stating I am pro-life. We have an opportunity to make progress in protecting the sanctity of life, and that's exactly what we will do."

## Rokita Reacts to SCOTUS Historic Ruling

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita on Friday issued a statement following the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. In essence, the nation's highest court overturned the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision and gave states the right to rule individually on abortion.

Here is Rokita's statement:

This is a historic moment.

With its action today, the U.S. Supreme Court at long last has acknowledged the gross injustice perpetrated by the court in 1973 through the tragic *Roe v. Wade* decision

that legalized abortion throughout the nation.

More than 63 million little ones have died at the hands of abortionists in the intervening 49 years since that act of judicial malpractice. Even as we mourn those lost lives, however, today we also rejoice that six justices on the current Supreme Court have acted wisely and courageously to correct one of the worst travesties in our nation's history.

My office was honored to assist the attorneys for the State of Mississippi in their preparations to argue the *Dobbs* case before the U.S. Supreme Court.

As Indiana's attorney general, I have devoted



Attorney General Todd Rokita

much of my time and energy to defending Indiana's own pro-life laws.

With today's Supreme Court ruling, pro-life states such as Indiana should find it easier to legislate and enforce

strong laws that protect lives. Even as we expect relief from the burden of spending as much time in court defending our abortion laws, however, we will remain watchful and ready for attempts in Washington D.C. to codify into federal law the same nationwide legalization of abortion that the court foisted on Americans in 1973.

The Supreme Court has delivered a historic win for life, but our fight for unborn children continues in earnest. We will continue working vigorously to protect those little ones and the physical, mental and emotional well-being of their mothers.

## Fishers Fire and Emergency Services Awarded \$250,000 Grant to Improve Health Outcomes

Fishers Fire and Emergency Services, along with the Fishers Health Department, announced yesterday that it has received a grant totaling \$250,000 from the Indiana Department of Health to hire a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW). The grant comes as part of the state's Health Issues and Challenges program, which was established by the Indiana General Assembly in 2021 with funding from the American Rescue Plan Act.

The LCSW will coordinate follow-up efforts between the Fire Department's WeCare Community Paramedicine program and the Health Department to provide temporary counseling and connection to care for individuals experiencing an acute mental health episode.



**FISHERS HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

reduction and education to ensure all patients are connected to appropriate programs and services.

Monica Heltz, Fishers Public Health Director says, "The Fishers Health Department and Fire and Emergency Services partnership, through the support of this grant funding, will serve to fill a gap in care between emergency response and preventative care. We anticipate that this program will have a lasting impact on the health and wellness of not just those in need of emergency services, but also, through coordination of resources, to all residents through the preventative focus of this

In a rebranding of the current program to WeCare-Connect, the social worker will work with community paramedics, existing Public Health Nurses (PHNs), Health Educator, and Community Risk Reduction Specialist to expand current services to all potentially preventable incidents of both a behavioral and physical health perspective. Social workers will also work to provide post-acute follow-up, social support services, medication reconciliation, fall risk

program." The City of Fishers Fire Department is one of more than 150 entities to receive funding for the Health Issues and Challenges program, which focuses on the following priority areas: tobacco use, food insecurity/obesity, lead exposure, hepatitis C, chronic disease, public health prevention programs, substance use disorder and community health workers. Priority was given to applicants that demonstrated high need and high impact in their grant proposals. The state awarded more than \$35 million statewide in the initial round of funding.

## Local Students Earn Degrees, Honors from Franklin College

Franklin College's 2022 Commencement took place on Saturday, May 21, 2022, in Spurlock Center Gymnasium on the Franklin College campus. The event was also live-streamed on the college's website. The top five majors of the graduating class were business, exercise science, biology, psychology, and history. The college conferred 172 undergraduate degrees and 31 graduate degrees.

Jamie P. Merisotis, president and CEO of Lumina Foundation, delivered the commencement address, and was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters during the ceremony.

The senior class speaker was Brynne E. Newland, a resident of Bloomington, who majored in elementary education and minored in Spanish and English as a new language. Newland plans to return to Bloomington to teach this fall.

Preceding commencement, on Friday, May 20, Rev. Troy Jackson, Ph.D.,



a 1991 alumnus of the college, gave the baccalaureate address and received an honorary doctorate of divinity degree from the college. Jackson is the co-founder of Undivided and the state strategies director for Faith in Action.

Graduates from Central Indiana include:

- **Braydon Matthew Augustinovicz, of McCordsville**, earned a Master of Science degree in athletic training. He is a 2021 alumnus of Franklin College.
- **Austin Brayden Boyer, of Noblesville**, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business (management).
- **Nicholas James Burk, of Cicero**, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in biology.
- **Benjamin Wesley Burton, of Fishers**, earned

a Bachelor of Arts degree in chemistry.

• **Claire Elizabeth Castillo, of Fishers**, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in public relations.

• **Matthew Richard Crandley, of Carmel**, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business (management).

• **Brooke Ann Haflich, of Noblesville**, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education.

• **Kaleb Matthew Johnson, of Noblesville**, earned a Master of Science degree in physician assistant studies.

• **Brittany Ann Spaulding, of Carmel**, earned a Master of Science degree in physician assistant studies.

• **Tanner Young Swindle, of Sheridan**, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in

exercise science. Founded in 1834, Franklin College is a residential liberal arts and sciences institution located 20 minutes south of Indianapolis. Franklin offers a wide array of undergraduate majors as well as master's degree programs in Physician Assistant Studies and Athletic Training. The unique curriculum merges classroom instruction with immersive experiences, research opportunities and study away programs.

Students participate in 21 NCAA Division III sports, esports, Greek life, musical and theatre productions and more than 40 student organizations. As the first college in Indiana to become coeducational with the admission of women, Franklin welcomes diversity of thought, belief and person into a community that values equity and inclusion. Franklin College maintains a voluntary association with the American Baptist Churches USA. For more information, visit [www.FranklinCollege.edu](http://www.FranklinCollege.edu).

# 2022 Fall Ball Season

**When:** August 13th/14th - October 1st/2nd, 2022...7 game season & single-elimination tournament to be played on Weekends.  
• Weekday games may be scheduled based on interest or in the event of rainouts  
• Single-elimination tournament played October 1st & 2nd

**Where:** Noblesville Babe Ruth Facility - Logan Field Forest Park, Noblesville

**Who:** Everyone - 7th-8th Grade and 9th-12th Grade  
• 7th - 8th Grade League  
• 9th - 12th Grade League  
• Due to construction scheduled on Emmerson Field, Fall Ball teams and player registrations will be limited.  
\*\* Please Note: There will NOT be a Travel division for the 2022 Fall Ball season.

**Cost:** \$80 per Individual registration - \$900 per full-roster team registration  
\*\* Note: Credit card and processing does apply and will be added at checkout

**How Do I Register?** [www.noblesvillebaberuthbaseball.com](http://www.noblesvillebaberuthbaseball.com)

**Questions?** Please contact:

Mark Kelly Director of Baseball Operations Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball (317) 201-4751 nrbdirectorofops@gmail.com	Chris Thomas League President Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball (317) 538-6555 nrbpresident@gmail.com
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# Empowering Hoosiers to Skill up, Earn More Can Boost Talent Pipeline



**REP. CHUCK GOODRICH**  
Guest Columnist

Indiana needs more skilled workers to fill high-paying, in-demand jobs, and we need to do more to strengthen our talent pipeline. For the last three years, I've been working on the state level to identify some of the root causes of the labor shortage and find ways to help. In working with our state agencies, we've taken action to remove roadblocks for low-wage or jobless Hoosiers who are receiving government assistance, so they can skill up, obtain a better-paying job and discover financial independence.

According to the Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute, most often the single greatest barrier to self-sufficiency for low-income individuals is the "cliff effect." This is when any extra money earned through a raise, promotion or higher-paying job makes recipients ineligible to receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or other benefits. This means a job promotion or small pay raise could push a worker just outside the income-eligibility requirements, and they could lose all their benefits. Now, they're

working harder but making less overall with no way to bridge the gap. The cliff effect is a real issue that many low-income Hoosiers face.

To help, I authored a new law this year to ensure Hoosiers who are actively pursuing higher-paying jobs or workforce education and training don't lose their government benefits solely because of an increase in their income. House Enrolled Act 1361 will allow families who receive TANF to save up to \$10,000 in additional assets and keep their benefits. TANF is a program that provides cash assistance and supportive services to families with children under age 18 when the parents or other responsible relatives cannot provide for the family's basic needs. This new law does not expand program eligibility. It simply enables families who qualified for and began receiving TANF to remain eligible as they continue taking steps toward self-sufficiency through saving money.

Additionally, this new law will help mitigate the cliff effect when it comes to paying for child care. For example, the Child Care and Development Fund is a federal program that helps low-income families obtain child care so they can work, attend training or continue their education. Under the new law, if a parent, who already receives CCDF vouchers, decides to pursue their first degree, certificate or apprenticeship, then

\$15,000 of income earned while in those education programs will be disregarded. Excluding this income will help more Hoosiers continue to send their children to quality child care programs while they work, attend training or go to school.

Last year, I authored legislation to allow Hoosiers who are 24 years old or younger in a home receiving TANF benefits to earn up to \$15,000 through internships or work-based learning programs, and not jeopardize their family's assistance. This can be an incentive for students from low-income families to pursue additional education or training that launches them into a new or better job.

While there are many factors affecting the workforce shortage, I'll continue to look for ways the state can help skill up more Hoosiers and strengthen the state's talent pipeline. I believe it's also critical that we keep our focus on empowering low-income individuals to further their education and seek higher-paying jobs in order to find a path to financial stability and independence. If you have comments on this issue or other topics, please contact me anytime at [h29@iga.in.gov](mailto:h29@iga.in.gov) or by calling 317-234-0931.

- State Representative  
Chuck Goodrich  
(R-Noblesville) represents  
House District 29, which  
includes portions of  
Hamilton County.

# IDEM Issues Air Quality Action Day Today for Hamilton County

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) has again issued an Air Quality Action Day (AQAD) and is forecasting high ozone levels in Hamilton County for today.

IDEM encourages everyone to help reduce ozone by making changes to daily habits. You can:

- Drive less: carpool, use public transportation, walk, bike, or work from home when possible
- Combine errands into one trip
- Avoid refueling your vehicle or using gasoline-powered lawn equipment until after 7 p.m.
- Keep your engine tuned, and don't let your engine idle (e.g., at a bank or restaurant drive-thru)
- Conserve energy by

turning off lights and setting the thermostat to 75 degrees or above

Air Quality Action Days are in effect from midnight to 11:59 p.m. on the specified date. Anyone sensitive to changes in air quality may be affected when ozone levels are high. Children, the elderly, and anyone with heart or lung conditions should reduce or avoid exertion and heavy work outdoors.

Ground-level ozone is formed when sunlight and hot weather combine with vehicle exhaust, factory emissions, and gasoline vapors. Ozone in the upper atmosphere blocks ultraviolet radiation, but ozone near the ground is a lung irritant that can cause coughing and breathing difficulties for sensitive populations.



IDEM examines weather patterns and current ozone readings to make daily air quality forecasts. Air Quality Action Days generally occur when weather conditions such as light winds, hot and dry air, stagnant conditions, and lower atmospheric inversions trap pollutants close to the ground.

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# State Lawmakers Respond to SCOTUS Decision Overturning Roe V. Wade

State lawmakers representing Hamilton County issued the following statements in response to the U.S. Supreme Court overturning its decision on Roe v. Wades. State legislators are expected to take action on the issue when they return to the Statehouse for a special session.

Governor Eric Holcomb recently announced his call for lawmakers to reconvene on July 6 and provide \$1 billion in inflation relief to Hoosier taxpayers due to higher-than-expected revenue collections. Details of the special session have not yet been announced. Updates will be posted to the Indiana General Assembly's website at iga.in.gov.

In March, Indiana House Speaker Todd Huston, Rep. Tony Cook, Rep. Chuck Goodrich, Rep. Chris Jeter and Rep. Donna Schaibley signed onto a letter urging Holcomb to call a special session should the nation's highest court return the question of abortion back to the states. Click here to view and download the letter.

"Today's decision rightfully returns the question of abortion back to the people and the states, and we're excited to build on Indiana's already strong pro-life track record. While it's too early to speculate on what form legislation may take, I strongly believe we'll couple any action with expanding resources and services to support pregnant mothers, and care for their babies before and after birth. It's my expectation for state lawmakers to take action to further protect life when we return to the Statehouse for a special session. We recognize the passion from all sides on this issue, and that's why I expect the General Assembly to thoughtfully vet any legislation through the full legislative process, including committee hearings and public testimony," said House Speaker Todd Huston (R-Fishers).

"This monumental Supreme Court decision rightfully returns the question of abortion back to the people of each state. We should always protect the sanctity of life, and this favorable

ruling gives us the unique opportunity to save more innocent lives," said State Rep. Tony Cook (R-Cicero).

"Advocating and being a voice for the unborn is a top priority, and I will support efforts to return to the Statehouse to further build on Indiana's life protections. It's also important that we take action to expand support for pregnant Hoosiers and newborns," said State Rep. Chuck Goodrich (R-Noblesville).

"After 50 years, the issue of our most basic right, the right to life, has finally been returned to the people and their elected representatives, where it belongs. I look forward to joining my colleagues at the earliest opportunity to pass legislation, which protects the life and dignity of unborn Hoosiers," said State Rep. Chris Jeter (R-Fishers).

"Indiana continues to prioritize defending the lives of our most vulnerable, and I look forward to taking action to further protect life. I also strongly believe that we need to expand



House Speaker Todd Huston



State Rep. Tony Cook



State Rep. Chuck Goodrich



State Rep. Chris Jeter



State Rep. Donna Schaibley



State Rep. Jerry Torr

resources and support for expectant mothers and their babies," said State Rep. Donna Schaibley (R-Carmel).

"I haven't yet had an opportunity to review the Dobbs decision, and I think it's too early to know what any proposed

legislation may look like. However, I look forward to having discussions with constituents and colleagues in the General Assembly about what this decision means for Hoosiers and what actions we should take. In recent years I have

authored legislation making adoption more affordable and accessible, and will continue to work on that as well as supporting efforts to provide more resources for expectant and new mothers," said State Rep. Jerry Torr (R-Carmel).

## Senators Todd Young and Mike Braun Release Statements on Historic SCOTUS Abortion Case

U.S. Senator Todd Young yesterday issued the following statement regarding the Supreme Court's decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization to uphold Mississippi's law protecting life and overturn Roe v. Wade:

"Today is a monumental day for the protection of life in America and a defining moment for our nation. Roe v. Wade was wrongly decided, and the Supreme Court has corrected a historic injustice.

"The American people will now have the opportunity, through their



Senator Todd Young

state elected officials, to decide our laws when it comes to protecting life and protecting women. It's now time to work on solutions that affirm the



Senator Mike Braun

right to life and support pregnant women and mothers."

Last year, Senator Young joined over 200 members of Congress

in filing an amicus brief supporting the State of Mississippi in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization and urging the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold Mississippi's law.

Senator Mike Braun released his own statement on the ruling yesterday, saying:

"After 50 years, the right to life has finally been returned to the people and their elected representatives. I'm excited to see the states take the lead to protect the unborn, and I look forward to crafting solutions that will defend the unborn and save lives."

### News Briefs

## DNR Monitoring Fish Kill at Loon Lake in Whitley and Noble Counties



DNR fisheries biologists collected fish and water samples at Loon Lake on Thursday as the result of a fish kill involving thousands of crappies that began earlier this week.

Samples were provided Thursday afternoon

to the Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory at Purdue University for testing regarding a cause. Results are not expected for weeks.

Because no significant numbers of other dead small fish species have been observed, the cause is not believed to be the result of a toxic event such as a chemical spill or release.

Biologists will continue to monitor the situation over the coming weeks.



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# US Department of Education Proposes Changes to Title IX

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of Title IX – the landmark civil rights law that opened doors for generations of women and girls – the U.S. Department of Education released for public comment proposed changes to the regulations that help elementary and secondary schools and colleges and universities implement this vital legislation. The proposed amendments will restore crucial protections for students who are victims of sexual harassment, assault, and sex-based discrimination – a critical safety net for survivors that was weakened under previous regulations. The proposed regulations will advance educational equity and opportunity for women and girls across the country to ensure that every student in America, from kindergarten through a doctorate degree, can achieve her dreams.

“Over the last 50 years, Title IX has paved the way for millions of girls and women to access equal opportunity in our nation’s schools and has been instrumental in combating sexual assault and sexual violence in educational settings,” U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona said. “As we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of this landmark law, our proposed changes will allow us to continue that progress and ensure all our nation’s students – no matter where they live, who they are, or whom they love – can learn, grow, and thrive in school. We welcome public comment on these critical regulations so we can further the Biden-Harris Administration’s mission of creating educational environments free from sex discrimination and sexual violence.”

The proposed regulations will advance Title IX’s goal of ensuring that no person experiences sex discrimination, sex-based harassment, or sexual violence in education. As the Supreme Court wrote in *Bostock v. Clayton County*, 140 S. Ct. 1731 (2020), it is “impossible to discriminate against a person” on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity without “discriminating against that individual based on sex.” The regulations will require that all students receive appropriate supports in accessing all aspects of education. They will strengthen protections for



LGBTQI+ students who face discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. And they will require that school procedures for complaints of sex discrimination, including sexual violence and other sex-based harassment, are fair to all involved. The proposed regulations also reaffirm the Department’s core commitment to fundamental fairness for all parties, respect for freedom of speech and academic freedom, respect for complainants’ autonomy, and clear legal obligations that enable robust enforcement of Title IX.

The proposed regulations would:

- Clearly protect students and employees from all forms of sex discrimination.
- Provide full protection from sex-based harassment.
- Protect the right of parents and guardians to support their elementary and secondary school children.
- Require schools to take prompt and effective action to end any sex discrimination in their education programs or activities – and to prevent its recurrence and remedy its effects.
- Protect students and employees who are pregnant or have pregnancy-related conditions.
- Require schools to respond promptly to all complaints of sex discrimination with a fair and reliable process that includes trained, unbiased decisionmakers to evaluate the evidence.
- Require schools to provide supportive measures to students and employees affected by conduct that may constitute sex discrimination, including students who have brought complaints or been accused of sex-based harassment.
- Protect LGBTQI+ students from discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex characteristics.
- Clarify and confirm protection from retaliation for students, employees, and others who exercise

their Title IX rights.

- Improve the adaptability of the regulations’ grievance procedure requirements so that all recipients can implement Title IX’s promise of non-discrimination fully and fairly in their educational environments.

- Ensure that schools share their nondiscrimination policies with all students, employees, and other participants in their education programs or activities.

The Department will engage in a separate rulemaking to address Title IX’s application to athletics.

The Department’s comprehensive review of its Title IX regulations began in March 2021, as directed by Executive Order 14021 – Guaranteeing an Educational Environment Free From Discrimination on the Basis of Sex, Including Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity. The Department has sought public input throughout that process. Over the last year, the Department has heard from a wide variety of stakeholders, including students, parents, and educators in elementary, secondary, and postsecondary schools, state government representatives, advocates, lawyers, researchers, and other stakeholders through the Title IX nationwide virtual public hearing in June 2021 convened by the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) and in numerous listening sessions and meetings.

This input, together with careful review of federal case law and OCR’s enforcement work under Title IX, highlighted the need to revise the current regulations to protect more fully against sex discrimination in all education programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance.

“The proposed regulations reflect the Department’s commitment to give full effect to Title IX, ensuring that no person experiences sex discrimination in education, and that school procedures for addressing complaints of sex discrimination, including sexual violence and other forms of sex-based harassment, are clear, effective, and fair to all involved,” said Catherine E. Lhamon, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.

The Department’s proposed Title IX regulations will be open for public comment for 60 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register.

# State Grants \$500,000 to Domestic Violence Shelters Across Indiana

The Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) awarded \$500,000 in grant funding to 26 non-profits to provide emergency shelter and services to victims of domestic violence and their dependents. The funding was provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) program.

“Domestic violence shelters are there for people during some of the darkest moments in their lives,” said Devon McDonald, ICJI Executive Director. “They provide a safe haven in the community, and we’ll continue to use every tool at our disposal to reinforce the work they’re doing to care for those in need.”

Established in 1981, the SSBG program is a

flexible funding source that allows states to tailor social service programming to address their needs. In Indiana, the funding is distributed to the Indiana Department of Child Services, which allocates a portion to ICJI to assist residential domestic violence programs.

This year, organizations will use the grants to provide items like food, clothing, transportation and shelter to survivors in crisis. The goal of the program is to help offset the cost of certain operational expenses, so that other funding may be used to provide support services.

“Providing access to safe accommodation and shelter, along with survivor-centered support, such as counseling and criminal justice resources,



can break the cycle of violence and help people begin to recover,” said Kim Lambert, ICJI Victim Services Director. “The grant funding we’re releasing today is part of a larger strategy to increase access to those services.”

The grants were approved by the ICJI Board of Trustees earlier this month and will be made available to organizations starting in July.

A full list of grants can be found on the ICJI website at <https://www.in.gov/cji/victim-services/social-services-block-grant/>.

# American Soybean Association Asks for Conservation Stories; Winner Could Harvest Big Prizes

Share the story of how conservation is part of your farm operation and you could be recognized with a Conservation Legacy Award. The awards recognize farm management practices of U.S. soybean farmers that are both environmentally friendly and profitable.

Are you using a reduced tillage practice on your farm? Do you grow cover crops? Have you taken steps to improve energy efficiency or water quality? These are just a few conservation practices used on some farms today that can help produce sustainable U.S. soybeans. Different regions of the country have their own unique challenges and ways to approach conservation and sustainability. We want to hear your farm’s conservation story!

All U.S. soybean farmers are eligible to enter to win a Conservation Legacy Award. Entries are judged on soil management, water management, input management, conservation, environmental management and sustainability. The selection process for these awards is divided into four regions – Mid-



west, Upper Midwest, Northeast and South. One farmer from each of these regions will be recognized at the 2023 Commodity Classic in Orlando, FL, and one will be named the National Conservation Legacy Award recipient.

Award Winners Receive:

- An expense-paid trip for two to Commodity Classic March 9 - 11, 2023, in Orlando, FL.
- Recognition at the ASA Awards Banquet at Commodity Classic.
- A feature story and news segment on their farm in Farm Journal magazine and on the AgDay television show.
- Video on each award winner’s farm and conservation practices.

The Conservation Legacy Awards are sponsored by the American Soybean

Association (ASA), BASF, Bayer, Nutrien, the United Soybean Board/Soybean Checkoff and Valent U.S.A.

More information on past winners and how to submit an application is available in the “About” section under “Awards” on the ASA website at <https://soygrowers.com/about/awards/conservation-legacy/>.

All applications must be submitted by Aug. 15, 2022.

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



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## RUSTY From Page A1

she claims it. Claimed before her FRA, her survivor benefit would be reduced, but claimed at or after her FRA, your wife's survivor benefit as your widow will be 100% of the amount you were receiving (or, if you are not yet collecting, the amount you were entitled to receive) at your death. Your wife would get that amount, instead of her smaller personal amount.

However, for your awareness, your wife's spousal benefit while you are both living (which she can claim when you start your own SS benefit) will be less than half of your FRA benefit amount because she claimed her own SS retirement benefit at age 62. The reason is that your wife's benefit as your spouse when you claim will consist of her own reduced SS retirement benefit, plus a spousal boost to bring

her payment up to her spousal entitlement. Since her spousal boost will be added to her own reduced early benefit, her total payment as your spouse will be less than 50% of your FRA benefit amount.

If your wife claims her own SS retirement benefit at age 62, she can also apply for your adopted minor son's benefits based on her personal lifetime work record. Although your wife's personal early benefit will be cut (by 30%) for claiming at age 62, your son's benefit as your wife's minor child will be based on your wife's full retirement age (FRA) benefit amount. Your son's benefit from your wife will be 50% of your wife's FRA amount (not her age 62 amount). As you know, your son will get that amount until he is 18 (or 19 if he is still in high school).

*The 2.4 million member*

*Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC] www.amac.us is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. AMAC Action is a non-profit, non-partisan organization representing the membership in our nation's capital and in local Congressional Districts throughout the country. And the AMAC Foundation (www.Amac-Foundation.org) is the Association's non-profit organization, dedicated to supporting and educating America's Seniors. Together, we act and speak on the Association members' behalf, protecting their interests and offering a practical insight on how to best solve the problems they face today. Live long and make a difference by joining us today at www.amac.us/join-amac.*

## GRIMALDI From Page A1

Since President Biden assumed office in January 2021 the rate of inflation has ticked up to at least 8.5% and climbing, making life difficult for us all but in particular for the fixed income seniors who have no alternative other than to live with it or die. Before the surge a quart of milk cost about 90 cents. The price of that same quart of milk today is more than 20% higher at about \$1.09 per quart.

It's not a matter of conjecture. A new Rasmussen poll shows that a growing number of us put the blame for the increasing cost of living on the president. It was bad enough in December at the end of his first year in office when only 32% of voters gave him an okay, but the newest survey shows that just 27% think he's doing a good job; 57% give him a poor rating on his handling of the economy.

Younger Americans might get a second job to make ends meet as the cost of living increases. But only a limited number of seniors have that option. For too many of America's seniors, the cost of living is out of reach. According to a report published by the National Institutes of Health, "Although only 1% of older adults who are independent and healthy are malnourished, the Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (HANES) data indicated that 16% of community-dwelling Americans older than 65 years consumed fewer than 1000 calories per day—a statistic that would place these persons at high risk for undernutrition. The nutritional risk increases in the community-dwelling elderly who are sick, poor, homebound, and have limited access to medical care. Malnutrition can become a major

concern. The incidence of malnutrition ranges from 12% to 50% among the hospitalized elderly population and from 23% to 60% among institutionalized older adults."

A major cause of malnutrition among our elders is what is called, food insecurity, a "socioeconomic condition" that limits one's ability to afford nutritious food, says the United Health Foundation. It includes more than 15 million seniors in the 65-plus category.

*The 2.4 million member Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC] www.amac.us is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. AMAC Action is a non-profit, non-partisan organization representing the membership in our nation's capital and in local Congressional Districts throughout the country.*

## SMILE From Page A1

Incorporating measures to help protect you from serious health conditions becomes increasingly important as you age. However, many people overlook a key contributor to whole body health: the mouth. The health of your mouth is directly related to important aspects of your overall health.

Bad breath, cavities, bleeding gums and gum disease are all signs your mouth is not as healthy as it should be. Fighting the bad bacteria in your mouth that causes these health issues and more isn't difficult, but it does require ongoing effort.

Brush and floss. Keeping up on the basics is essential. Brushing twice daily and flossing at least once a day helps keep plaque in check and loosens debris that can promote harmful bacteria growth, causing bad breath and leading to cavities and gum concerns.

When brushing, aim for at least 30 seconds per quadrant and use

circular motions with moderate (not aggressive) pressure. When flossing, maneuver the floss down to your gums then scrape the edges of each tooth with repeated upward and downward motions.

Restore good bacteria. Crowding out bad, disease-causing bacteria your toothbrush and floss can't reach can help restore your mouth's natural balance.

"Oral-care probiotics are designed specifically to balance the bacteria in the mouth, similar to how traditional probiotics work in the gut," said Sam Low, D.D.S., M.S., M.Ed. and professor emeritus at the University of Florida College of Dentistry. "Oral-care probiotics can be one of the easiest and most effective ways to maintain good dental hygiene."

For example, Pro-Biora's line of oral-care probiotics contains strains of good bacteria naturally found in the mouth that, when dissolved in the

mouth, allow the probiotic bacteria to migrate to the nooks and crannies of your teeth and gums where they compete with pathogens, or bad bacteria. Adding the once-a-day lozenge to your oral-care routine can help support healthier gums and teeth, along with fresher breath and whiter teeth.

Schedule regular cleanings. Like many health conditions, the earlier you catch a problem with your oral health, the better your prognosis. Catching and correcting small cavities is far less invasive than large cavities and other oral health problems like gum disease, which can be treated more effectively when they're caught in the early stages. Aim for a dental visit at least every six months, or more often if you're experiencing pain or other concerning symptoms.

Learn more about protecting your overall health by managing your oral health at [probiorahealth.com](http://probiorahealth.com).

## TUESDAYS From Page A1

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& Pub

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## BOOKS From Page A1

the world through our International Foundation. The primary focus of Altrusa is literacy, which they believe is the key to opportunity. To find out more about Altrusa go to [www.altrusa.org](http://www.altrusa.org).



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# I CAN HEAR, BUT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND



*Did you know that the earliest sign of hearing difficulty is often the complaint that "I can hear, but I can't understand." While this type of comment may seem contradictory, it makes a lot of sense to the hearing care professionals at Beltone. In an industry that is often confusing to consumers – our goal is to make patients comfortable in a no pressure environment. At Beltone, our hearing screenings and evaluations are always complimentary. We take the time to get to know you and your medical history and explain the results of your evaluation in an easy-to-understand way.*

### What you can expect at Beltone:

- Great hearing devices:** Our advanced digital technology gives you speech clarity with minimal background noise.
- Customer service:** From day one, we established a set of values unlike anything else in the industry – making your health our number one priority.
- Exclusive BelCare:** Receive a lifetime of care and service for both you and your device.

*Hearing aids are not just to help you hear but are critical to improving your brain's ability to decode speech. If hearing loss is left untreated, speech discrimination drops over time. This is because the part of the brain that decodes speech is not getting any exercise. Like a muscle without exercise, the ability to decode speech will deteriorate, but unlike a muscle, in most cases you can't get it back. This is why it's very important to get a hearing aid when you need one, rather than waiting until you can't hear at all.*

*P.S. We know there are hundreds of hearing aid advertisements out there promising different things. We see the news stories that talk about over-the-counter hearing aids. We can tell you the truth about "cheap" hearing aids—they don't work very well. At Beltone we are dedicated to finding a hearing solution that is right for both you and your budget!*



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**FINANCING AVAILABLE!**

# WEEKEND

## In The Home

TIM TIMMONS, Publisher ☐ JOE LARUE, General Manager ☐ MELISSA MEME, Account Executive ☐ BETH HEDGE, Business Manager

### Duke Energy Offers Tips, Tools To Help Customers To Save Energy And Money

As the mercury rises in Indiana, Duke Energy is providing tips and tools to help customers save energy – and money – while trying to stay cool.

High temperatures bring higher usage for customers, which can translate into higher bills. Here are some simple tips that can help energy users manage their bill and save money.

Low- to no-cost energy efficiency tips

§ Change air filters regularly. A dirty air filter makes an HVAC system work harder, which uses more energy.

§ Set your thermostat at the highest comfortable setting. The smaller the difference between the



inside and outside temperatures, the lower your energy usage and bill will be.

§ Close blinds, drapes and curtains during the hottest part of the day.

Keeping your blinds, drapes and curtains closed will help prevent the sun's rays from heating your house.

§ Use a ceiling fan in occupied rooms to supplement your air conditioning. Make sure the

fans are set to operate in a counterclockwise direction to push cool air down into living spaces. Only use ceiling fans in rooms that are occupied; fans cool people, not things.

§ Grill outdoors. Using your electric oven and stovetop creates a lot of indoor heat. Help save energy by firing up the grill outdoors or prepare meals that don't require cooking.

§ Turn off unnecessary lights. Be sure to turn off

lights when you leave a room. Lights emit heat and cause your air conditioning system to work harder.

Track, manage your energy usage

§ Energy use typically spikes in the summer since air conditioning is one of the biggest energy users in your home. Customers can also easily track and adjust their usage during this week's heat wave.

§ Customers with smart meters can check online to view their daily usage. Smart meters collect usage information by the hour, so checking spikes throughout the month – by day and even hour – can

show what appliances and behaviors are increasing their bills.

§ Duke Energy customers with smart meters can also receive usage alerts through email and/or text halfway through their billing cycle, well before their bill arrives, with their current usage amount and a projection of what their final monthly bill could be.

§ Customers can also set budget alerts, so they know when their bill reaches a specific dollar amount of their choosing, allowing them to adjust their usage and help save money on their bill.

§ Customers without smart meters can sign up

to receive high bill alerts for when adverse weather is projected to increase their electric bills by at least 30% and \$30 compared to historical usage.

Other energy-saving programs, tips and guidance to help you manage higher energy bills that can result from increased energy is available at [duke-energy.com/Summer](http://duke-energy.com/Summer).

Duke Energy Indiana, a subsidiary of Duke Energy, provides about 6,300 megawatts of owned electric capacity to approximately 870,000 customers in a 23,000-square-mile service area, making it Indiana's largest electric supplier.

### Perennial Gardens For Beauty All Season

By Melinda Myers

Create long lasting beauty and pollinator appeal in your landscape with the help of perennials. With a little bit of planning, you can have flowers, foliage and seed heads that add interest to your garden year-round.

Select perennials including native plants that thrive in the sunlight, soil, and moisture conditions in your garden. Incorporate several inches of compost or other organic matter into the top eight to 12 inches of soil to improve the soil so your perennials will be healthy, showy, and long-lived plants.

As you select your plants, consider seasonal foliage and flower color as well as texture. Warm colors like red, orange, and yellow make large areas appear smaller, energize the space, and make it feel warmer. Cool colors of blue, green, and violet make small areas feel larger, hot areas seem cooler, and create a sense of tranquility.

Large leaves and flowers are bold and

create a focal point while small flowers and narrow leaves create a sense of depth when used in the back of the garden and they make a nice backdrop for bold textured plants.

Maximize beauty in every square inch and extend your budget with plants that provide multiple seasons of interest.

Look for opportunities to include spring flowering bulbs like daffodils, tulips, hyacinths, and grape hyacinths into the landscape. Although their blooms are relatively short lived, these spring beauties are sure to brighten the garden and help chase away the winter blues. Add these to your fall planting list.

Include some spring, summer, and fall blooming perennials with season long foliage, fall color or winter interest. You will find many great options at your local garden center. Plants like Siberian Iris (*Iris sibirica*), hardy in zones 3 to 9, tolerates full sun to part shade, has beautiful flowers

in spring, nice foliage, fall color, and persistent seeds capsules for winter interest. Nonaggressive catmint (*Nepeta*) varieties flower all summer long with minimal maintenance. End the season with showy goldenrod (*Solidago speciosa*). Its bright yellow flowers add a burst of color to the fall garden and provide food for pollinators migrating through or overwintering in your garden. The dried flowers add interest to the winter garden.

Include some ornamental grasses. Their fine foliage is a great addition to the garden and most come into their full glory in fall. Leave them stand for winter and enjoy the motion and texture they provide

Don't let gardening in the shade stop you from creating season long beauty. Consider shade lovers that add multiple seasons of beauty to those shady spots in the landscape like barrenwort (*Epimedium*), variegated Solomon's seal, and coral bells.

Let your healthy perennials

stand in the garden all winter long. Their dried leaves, stems and seed heads provide winter interest and help attract birds to the garden.

They also provide winter homes for many beneficial insects. You'll enjoy the motion and color the birds and standing perennials add to drab winter days.

Start taking pictures of your landscape throughout the year. Then look for opportunities to add year-round perennial beauty to your gardens and landscapes.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the nationally-syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio* program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her website is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

### Summer Flowers For A Festive Atmosphere

If you are longing for carefree enjoyment and more lightness and positivity in life, you are not alone! Did you know that nature can lend a helping hand with this?

Cheerful and bursting with energy

During prolonged periods of stress, we feel a great need to experience the opposite. We long for carefree enjoyment and connection with each other. This tendency is clearly reflected in the interior, with green happiness in a central position. After all, nature has a relaxing and wholesome effect with its cheerful colors and scents.

Colors, colors everywhere

If you display flowers in your home, you bring positive energy indoors.

Using bright colors makes for a carefree and happy atmosphere. Don't be afraid to mix colors. Use bold pastel shades interspersed with brighter accents and display them in striking and equally colorful vases. You will feel happier!

Summer flowers Colorful summer flowers such as lilies, dahlias and gladioli instantly create the desired sunny effect. With the unusual round and wavy shapes of their petals, they truly represent summer. Combine them with lesser-known summer flowers such as *Eremurus*, *Freesia* or *Ornithogalum*. This combination is a sight for sore eyes.

Would you like to know more about bulb flowers? Take a look at [www.ilsays.com](http://www.ilsays.com).



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# WEEKEND

## In The Home

Weekend, June 25 - 26, 2022

A9

TIM TIMMONS, Publisher @ JOE LARUE, General Manager @ MELISSA MEME, Account Executive @ BETH HEDGE, Business Manager

## Actionable Environmental Impacts at Home



### Swap common household devices to curb your carbon footprint

#### FAMILY FEATURES

In every room of your home, you'll likely find numerous devices, appliances and fixtures that rely on the electric grid for power. Collectively, they affect your carbon footprint more than you may realize. Converting to lower carbon alternatives can help you be a better steward for the environment while reducing your reliance on electricity.

"As a father, husband, home builder and real estate agent, I think it's important to make smart choices for a cleaner today and greener tomorrow," said Matt Blashaw, residential contractor, licensed real estate agent and host of HGTV's "Build it Forward." "We all want to be good stewards of the Earth. I want people to think beyond planting a tree or recycling. The time is right now to choose a diverse, low-carbon energy mix to power our homes and businesses."

Consider these environmentally friendly upgrades from Blashaw and the experts at the Propane Education & Research Council (PERC) to help decarbonize Earth:

#### Smart Thermostats

Programmable thermostats and smart plugs don't conserve electricity on their own, but they help you become more aware of your energy consumption and adapt your usage to avoid waste. The introduction of programmable thermostats made it possible to adjust the temperature in your home when you're not there or when you are sleeping.

Some smart thermostats take those adjustments even further by learning your household habits and adjusting the temperature to accommodate your usage patterns. You can also make adjustments remotely, and some models allow you to control specific zones or rooms independently so you're only using the energy you really need. When combined with low-carbon, efficient HVAC units, smart thermostats can help lessen the impact on the planet.

#### Motion Sensors

Like programmable thermostats and smart plugs, motion sensors help manage your energy usage. Motion sensors ensure you're only drawing electricity to illuminate a space when it's in use or when the light quality falls below a certain threshold. You may be in the habit of turning on a switch when you enter a room whether you need the extra light or not. Relying on a sensor reduces the waste associated with that routine and helps ensure lights are turned off when they may otherwise be forgotten in an empty room.

#### Appliances

You may be surprised to learn the difference it can make to swap appliances for a different energy source. According to PERC, propane appliances are more efficient and produce fewer greenhouse gases than electric appliances. For example, propane-powered clothes dryers generate up to 42% fewer greenhouse gas emissions compared to electric dryers. They also dry clothes faster than electric dryers, and the moist heat is gentler on fabrics and can even help relax wrinkles and static cling.

Similarly, propane-powered cooking ranges generate up to 15% fewer greenhouse gas emissions compared to electric ranges while also allowing for greater control of heat levels. In addition, their instant flame turnoff capabilities help them cool faster than electric stoves, which can remain dangerously hot after they have been turned off.

#### Energy-Efficient Windows

Nearly one-third of energy loss in your home can be attributed to windows, especially if they're older or in poor condition. Even windows in good condition can be a source of energy loss if there's only one pane of glass or you have air leaks around the frame. Upgrading to double- or triple-pane windows can be costly but making more cost-efficient improvements like caulking and weatherstripping can reduce window-related energy loss. You can also rely on window treatments such as drapes or blinds, awnings or plant vegetation that provide shade to help manage how your windows contribute to your energy needs.

#### Tankless Water Heaters

Traditional water heaters maintain a tank of heated water at all times. Heating and re-heating the same water over and over is inefficient and wasteful. Conversely, tankless water heaters warm water only when you need it, cutting your energy usage and saving you money. Because it heats water whenever you need it, you don't have to worry about running out of hot water. In addition, your water heater's energy source can produce even greater savings. Switching from an electric storage water heater to a propane-fueled tankless water heater can prevent more than 1 ton of greenhouse gas emissions from entering the atmosphere each year, the same amount produced from driving a car more than 3,000 miles, according to PERC.

#### Ceiling Fans

You may think of ceiling fans as design elements and comfort features, but they also play a role in your home's energy use. Moving air feels cooler than still air, so not only does the circulation keep the air feeling fresh, but you can also keep your room temperature higher and still feel cool and comfortable. Opting for a smart ceiling fan can help you maximize savings by scheduling the fan to align with your normal routines rather than wasting energy by circulating air when you're not using the room.

#### Solar Panels

Harnessing the sun's energy is often viewed as the ultimate use of renewable energy, but it can be costly to install enough panels to adequately power an entire home. Many homeowners find success in offsetting their traditional energy consumption rather than replacing it completely. Implementing other measures, such as installing propane appliances or updating windows, can reduce the amount of energy needed from the solar panels, making it a more practical environmental option for your household.

"The more diverse America's energy mix is, the more reliable it is," Blashaw said. "Propane can work alongside renewable energy sources like on-site solar power to create a more efficient, clean and reliable energy mix for homes across the country and help accelerate decarbonization."

Find more low-carbon solutions for your home at Propane.com.



### Put Propane Power into Practice

As an approved clean alternative fuel under the Clean Air Act, propane is a low-carbon energy source that produces significantly fewer greenhouse gas emissions than diesel, gasoline and electricity in a wide range of applications. Because it reduces carbon emissions at home, at work, on the road and on the farm, propane can help Americans meet their environmental goals equitably and affordably. Consider these low-carbon facts from PERC for your family:

- Propane is a versatile alternative fuel being used in nearly 12 million U.S. households for residential uses like home heating, fireplaces, water heaters, cooktops and whole-home backup power.
- America's farmers not only rely on propane to power their homes but trust it to operate their businesses too. Propane is used to irrigate fields, dry crops and heat buildings.
- Every day, 1.3 million children ride to school in 22,000 propane school buses across the country. Propane buses are currently in 1,000 school districts in 48 states.

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# WEEKEND *Travel or stay! and* Play

## The Brothers Grimm Hit The Myers Dinner Theatre Stage With An Epic Fairytale About Wishes, Family And The Choices We Make

The fifth MainStage production in Myers Dinner Theatre's 26th Anniversary season will be Into the Woods, opening July 8th with seating for dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m., and running through July 31st. The book for this production is by James Lapine with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. This production is produced by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied

by MTI. [www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com). Our production will be directed by Sarah Philabaum, Costumed by Sharon Wright and Music Directed by Jill Smith! We have many returning MDT alumni: Dion Stover, Charles Burr, Ginny Spillman, Teresa Ross, Jennifer Barnaba, Emmie Wright, DRae Beller, Tyler Bowlin, Bill Rubenstien, Madison Cantey, Jordan J. Jones and Lexi Rae Smith. Making their MDT debut: Angie Fisher, Ciarra Stroud, Jordan

Arrasmith, and Evan Schmit. Into the Woods opens Friday, July 8 and runs through July 31, with Wednesday and Saturday matinees seating for meals at noon and curtain at 1:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday evening performances seat for meal at 6:30 p.m. with curtain at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinee with seating for meal at 1 p.m. and curtain at 2:30 p.m. Tickets may be purchased by phone at 765-798-4902, ext. 2,

or by visiting the MDT website at [www.myersdt.com](http://www.myersdt.com). Performance dates vary, so consult the online calendar for show dates and times. Theatre prices are \$47 for dinner and theatre, \$35 for students (ages 4-18), and show-only for \$33. Prices do not include taxes, handling fees or gratuity. Season tickets, group pricing and bus parking are also available. Myers Dinner Theatre is located at 108 Water St Hillsboro, and is handicap accessible.

## Dirty Dancing In Concert Making Its North America Debut

Relive the timeless love story of Baby and Johnny as global content leader Lionsgate (NYSE: LGF.A, LGF.B), GEA Live, Karl Sydow and Innovation Arts & Entertainment announce Dirty Dancing in Concert, celebrating the film's 35th anniversary on a full-size cinema screen with a band and singers live on stage. With a soundtrack that defined a generation, Dirty Dancing in Concert promises to bring a new thrilling experience to the 80s classic! Dirty Dancing in Concert comes to Indianapolis on November 7. Fans can sign up for the presale now at [Dirtydancinginconcert.com](http://Dirtydancinginconcert.com).

Dirty Dancing, written by Eleanor Bergstein, directed by Emile Ardolino, and starring Patrick Swayze and Jennifer Grey in their most iconic movie roles, was a worldwide box-office sensation when it was released in 1987. Its soundtrack generated two multi-platinum albums and multiple singles, including the Academy Award®-winning best original song "(I've Had) The Time of My Life". Grossing more than \$213 million worldwide, Dirty Dancing captured the hearts of audiences everywhere.

Audiences attending Dirty Dancing in Concert will experience the hit film in a unique and unforgettable way. A complete screening of the digitally remastered film will play as a band and singers perform the songs live, in sync with the film. Stay for the encore party and continue to sing and dance along with the band to your favorite Dirty Dancing songs.

Set in the summer of 1963, Baby Houseman (Jennifer Grey) and her family vacation to the beautiful Catskills resort, Kellerman's. Intrigued by the staff's dance instructor, Johnny Castle (Patrick Swayze), and the vastly different lifestyle of others, Baby finds herself learning to dance while having the time of her life and falling in love. It is a summer she'll never forget.

Dirty Dancing in Concert will tour in the Fall of 2022 stopping in 36 cities. Opening in celebration of the 35th anniversary of the film, fans will have a new way to immerse themselves in the world of Dirty Dancing while celebrating the classic they know and love.

Dirty Dancing in Concert's tour joins a series of live-to-film concerts touring internationally based on Lionsgate properties, including the highly successful La La Land in Concert, with more than 125 performances in 25 countries to date. Tickets for Dirty Dancing in Concert go on sale on Friday, June 24, 2022. [Dirtydancinginconcert.com](http://Dirtydancinginconcert.com)

## Kevin Hart Announces Second Leg Of His 2022 Reality Check Tour

Pollstar's comedy touring artist of the decade KEVIN HART has announced the second leg of his highly anticipated Reality Check Tour, which kicks off this month and includes a stop in downtown Indianapolis on Sunday, October 23 at Gainbridge Fieldhouse. Produced by Live Nation, the global tour will now have 70 dates, with 19 new shows just announced in North America, including stops in San Diego, Toronto, Portland, Seattle, and Kevin's hometown of Philadelphia.

arenas around the world, and he sold over one million tickets worldwide in 2018 during his Irresponsible Tour. Hart continued to break records with his hometown stand-up performance at Philadelphia's Lincoln Financial Field during his What Now Tour, marking the first time a comedian sold out an NFL stadium in Philadelphia.

imal contact and wear required personal protective equipment.

Anyone seen using a device during the performance will be escorted out of the venue by security. We appreciate your cooperation in creating a phone-free experience.

This event will be a phone-free experience. Use of phones will not be permitted in the performance space.

Emmy & Grammy nominated Kevin Hart was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where he launched his career as a comedian during an amateur night at a local comedy club. Over the years, Hart has become Hollywood's box office powerhouse, opening ten films at the box office with \$4.23 billion revenue at the global box office. Hart is the Chairman of HARTBEAT and Founder of HartBeat Ventures. Both of these companies play an integral part of his eco-system serving as an incubator for extraordinary growth and creativity. Hart continues to develop, star, and produce feature films and television and podcasts via HARTBEAT for his various partners which include Netflix, Peacock, Sirius XM and Audible.

Upon arrival at the venue, phones will be secured in individual Yondr pouches that will be opened at the end of the event. Guests maintain possession of their devices at all times and can access them throughout the event only in designated Phone Use Areas within the venue.

In 2020 Hart released his seventh hour long

All devices will be re-secured in Yondr pouches before returning to the performance space. All pouches and equipment are routinely sanitized. The Yondr staff is trained and required to follow safety guidelines and hygiene protocols to practice social distancing, min-

stand-up special, "Zero Fu\*\*ks Given," which quickly became Netflix's biggest stand-up special of 2020 and earned him a Grammy nomination for Best Comedy Album. Hart also earned Emmy nominations for "Die Hart," for Outstanding Actor in a Short Form Comedy or Drama Series along with an Emmy nomination for his Docu-series, "Don't F\*\*k This Up". Kevin is a New York Times Best Selling author twice over and his first Audible original, "The Decision," was nominated for an Audie award for Best Original Audiobook in 2021.

Kevin's brand partnerships include Fabletics Men, Chase, J.P. Morgan, Hydrow, NutraBolt, Brüush, Tommy John and Therabody.

About Live Nation Entertainment: Live Nation Entertainment (NYSE: LYV) is the world's leading live entertainment company comprised of global market leaders: Ticketmaster, Live Nation Concerts, and Live Nation Sponsorship. For additional information, visit [www.livenationentertainment.com](http://www.livenationentertainment.com).

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