

TODAY'S VERSE

Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.



FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Aidan Board smile? "Playing music," said the 20-year-old, a 2020 Noblesville High School graduate. He will play the drums this Saturday night with the Indy Gorgeous Club at the Noblesville Street Dance, sponsored by Noblesville Main Street. He also played drums for the 2021 NHS fall musical, Disney's "High School Musical," during which he was part of the High School Musical Pit Players, playing in the orchestra pit at all performances with director of the Pit Band David Hartman. He was also found over the summers performing at the Noblesville Farmers Market, playing drums with a band called Cabbage "like the vegetable," with then NHS juniors Drew Matthews on guitar and Jay Thornbury on bass. He likes watching people enjoy his band. "We're making people happy, and they're making us happy." He enjoys playing a variety of familiar songs, such as Stevie Wonder's "Boogie On Reggae Woman" and "I Wish." "He's my hero," Board said. They also play Grateful Dead's "Fire on the Mountain" and "Amazing Grace" and some songs by Vulfpeck funk band. "We like funk and jam music." Board has played in the trio of CHF and with Evans Street Quartet, which have also played at the Farmers Market. At NHS, he performed with the jazz bands, Black and Gold Band (at basketball games), stage band for school musicals, stage band for show choir, and he got "called on every now and then to play drums for the orchestra." He is the son of musician Steven Board and Julie Board and during summers he has worked part time at Culver's to earn college money. "Just saving up until I move out," said the then college freshman, who in 2020 was studying online English Education at Ivy Tech but was to transfer his credits to Ball State University. Today's feature is a look back at one of The Times' previous Faces of Hamilton County. Board's mom and grandma like to go watch him perform. "I've been playing drums since I was in third grade," said Aidan, who also plays guitar. Favorite genre? "I really love playing jazz music." He draws inspiration from NHS jazz director Bethany Robinson. "She's done a great job of really nurturing our love of jazz and love of playing music." The Indy Gorgeous Club, made up of Jay Thornbury, bass; Drew Matthews, guitar; Caleb Beik, keyboards; and Aidan Board, drums, will perform at 7:45 p.m. Saturday, as the feature act, after opener Kelli Yates, and before headliner, Groove Smash, during the Noblesville Street Dance. Read more about the Indy Gorgeous Club and Noblesville Street Dance in the Betsy Reason column in today's edition of The Times.

And Another Thing...

On Wednesday, Senators Mike Braun and Senator Todd Young introduced a resolution on the floor of the U.S. Senate condemning the attack that occurred in Greenwood, Indiana on July 17, 2022, honoring the memory of the victims of the attack and praising the actions of Elisjsha Dicken who engaged the shooter. "On July 17, a tragic shooting occurred in my home county at the Greenwood Park Mall, resulting in the deaths of three innocent victims. As we condemn the shooting and continue to grieve the lives lost in this horrific incident, we are thankful for the quick actions taken by Eli Dicken and first responders. There is no doubt that Eli's bravery and decisive actions saved countless lives," said Sen. Young. Sen. Braun also offered his thoughts, saying, "Hoosiers are united in mourning for the victims of the senseless shooting at the Greenwood Mall and grateful for the heroic actions of the Good Samaritan that prevented the shooter from taking more lives. I am proud to recognize 22-year-old Elisjsha Dicken of Seymour, Indiana here on the Senate floor today for defending himself and others in an act of bravery in the face of danger."

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

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Photo courtesy of Indy Gorgeous Club

The Indy Gorgeous Club, made up of Jay Thornbury, bass; Drew Matthews, guitar; Caleb Beik, keyboards; and Aidan Board, drums, will perform at 7:45 p.m. Saturday during the Noblesville Street Dance.

Indy Gorgeous Club to be Feature Act at Street Dance



BETSY REASON
The Times Editor

A group of talented young men, all high school-age musicians, got together to play some music. They practiced in a band

member's basement. They performed at the Noblesville Farmers Market, at several private gigs and "wherever they could get the opportunity." When the band came up with the Indy Gorgeous Club name for a Spotify (digital music service) account, as kind of a joke, the name stuck. "It sticks in your head," said Eric Thornbury, Noblesville High School band director. "They have thousands of streams on Spotify. It's really kind of spontaneous music making which is really cool to see." Eric Thornbury's son, Jay Thornbury, is bass player and manager of the band. I met the band members two years ago when Indy Gorgeous Club won Nickel Plate Arts' 2020 Emerging Artist of the Year. The band at that time

was made up of then NHS junior Jay Thornbury, Braeden Janes, Drew Matthews, Caleb Beik, Levi Rozek and Matthew Plemster. This summer, Indy Gorgeous Club returns to the spotlight as the feature act for the Noblesville Street Dance this Saturday night at 7:45 p.m. Opener will be Noblesville's Kelli Yates at 6:15 p.m., and headliner will be Groove Smash at 9:15 p.m. Indy Gorgeous Club got the gig after reaching out to organizer Noblesville Main Street, I'm told. "They are all going off to college, and this is their last gig until next summer, so they wanted to end on a big stage," Eric Thornbury said. "I think it's a big deal for them to play a well-attended gig in their

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Arrowood Talks Kids Returning to School



DR. DEREK ARROWOOD
HHSC Superintendent



The start of the new school year is right around the corner, and I am looking forward to the chatter and activity as our campus comes to life with the

enthusiasm and energy of our students and staff. I'm excited about the unlimited opportunities for exploration and growth that is an integral part of our students' academic journey at Heights. Our job is to help create and inspire well-rounded, motivated students who will go out into the world to make a positive impact which our educators, administrators, and staff do with great passion. We strive to prepare our students to succeed in college or gain skills for the career they choose to follow as they work to become the best version of themselves. We care deeply about the whole child, and we value each one of our Huskies. Thank you for entrusting us with the care and education of your child. I would like to give a shout out to the Tony Etchison Foundation, a fund of Hamilton

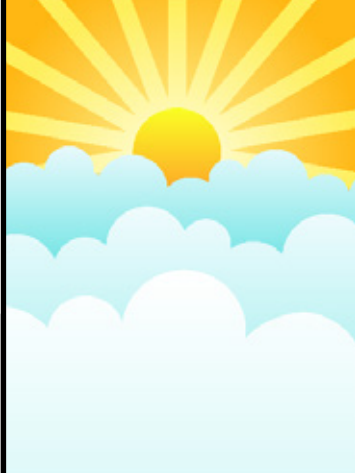
➔ See ARROWOOD Page A7

Hamilton County Seeking Volunteers for Water Study

The Hamilton County Surveyors Office is seeking volunteers for the county's three year Water Availability Study. The study is being done by INTERA, the engineering firm employed by the county, and will monitor aquifer levels throughout the county in order to better understand the groundwater availability within the county. The overall goal is to not only understand the current water resources in the county but also to determine ways to improve the long-term availability of water in the county, thus ensuring Hamilton County has a sustainable source of water into the future. An important part of this work is the implementing a groundwater water data network by partnering with county landowners. This network involves the addition of a water level sensor to volunteer landowner wells in order to remotely measure the

➔ See COUNTY Page A7

The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 6:46 a.m.
SET: 8:53 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 86 °F
Low: 71 °F



Today is...

- Braham Pie Day
- International Beer Day
- Work Like a Dog Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1962 Nelson Mandela is arrested and jailed
- 1962 Marilyn Monroe found dead at her home from a drug overdose
- 1981 President Reagan fires 11,359 striking air-traffic controllers



Births On This Day

- 1930 Neil Armstrong American pilot, engineer, astronaut, first person to walk on the moon
- 1968 Marine Le Pen French politician

Deaths On This Day

- 1895 Friedrich Engels German philosopher
- 1991 Paul Brown American football coach, executive

INSIDE TODAY

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OBITUARIES

None

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



HONEST HOOSIER

High school football is two weeks away. Can you believe that!



TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Consider sitting on an exercise ball instead of a chair - it helps your balance and keeps you more alert. Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Times and online at www.thetimes24-7.com.



TODAY'S QUOTE

"When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant. I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years."

- Mark Twain

TODAY'S JOKE

Little Johnny asked his dad if he could explain what a solar eclipse is. His dad just looked at him and said, "No sun."

13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

71/86 AFTERNOON STORMS	71/90 HOT & HUMID STRAY STORM	73/90 HOT & HUMID STRAY STORM	73/88 NOT WITH LATE DAY STORMS	65/79 CLEARING, MORE COMFY	59/79 SUNNY AND PLEASANT	60/81 MIX
FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU





Photo courtesy of the Sheridan Historical Society

Grandmother Marilyn Nicholson Godby smiles as her Granddaughter Samantha De Boer rides Sandy at the Sheridan Museum. Sandy was an icon in front of Ben Franklin Store on Main Street and Grandma Marilyn has fond memories of riding Sandy when she was ten years old, too.

Fun in Sheridan Begins at Museum

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, and this one is no exception. Pictured, is Grandmother Marilyn Nicholson Godby (Sheridan Class of 1966) and her ten-year old granddaughter Samantha DeBoer. They live in suburban Omaha, Nebraska now and are back in Marilyn's hometown this summer vacation to visit family and old friends. Folks familiar with Sheridan will certainly recognize the Nicholson and Godby family names.

They stopped by the museum to peek around, and Marilyn immediately recognized Sandy, the old Ben Franklin Store pony

she rode when she was a youngster growing up here. Sandy was in front of the old Ben Franklin Store on Main Street for years and years. The Sheridan Historical Society acquired Sandy and restored her to a working relic. Samantha just had to take a ride like Grandma did when she was ten years old. Well, as you can imagine, that made Grandma Marilyn happy and proud to no end.

The Sheridan Historical Society's Stephenson Cultural Heritage Center, aka the Museum, is located at 315 South Main Street in beautiful uptown Sheridan. They are open on

Tuesday and Friday afternoons from 1-4 p.m., and through Labor Day weekend on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. They are also open on Main Street First Fridays from 5-9 p.m. The Museum is located at the site of the old Hippodrome Theatre. That is why they choose the theatre-like façade for our new location, a unique feature for the "fresh look" of Sheridan's Main Street.

If you have not been to the museum in a long time, or if you are new in town, or are just visiting, make sure to stop by and have a look. The docents on duty are a bunch of

friendly old folks, full of old folk's jokes and they love kids. If you have roots here, they probably already know who you are and can share a story or two about your family. And if you don't have roots here, they will certainly try to change that.

The museum hopes you will drop by the museum and see them. Sheridan has quite a story to tell, from the arrival of George Boxley, through our boom times and bad, to the glory of impressive basketball and football dynasties, to the resilience of Sheridan's people, and to the challenges that lay ahead.

Fishers PD Accepting Applications for Fishers Police Cadet Program

Registration for the Fishers Police Cadet Program now open!

Registration is currently open for all Fishers area teens between the ages of 14 (or currently enrolled in the eighth grade) through 19 (or currently enrolled as a senior in high school). Registration is done electronically and is a two-step process. The first step collects basic information for the background check. After the background portion



is complete, a link will be sent to complete the second step. Registration is open now through September 2, 2022.

Register at this link, [https://app.smart-](https://app.smart-sheet.com/b/form/3ea6309be472438694759071655c8160)

[sheet.com/b/form/3ea6309be472438694759071655c8160](https://app.smart-sheet.com/b/form/3ea6309be472438694759071655c8160).

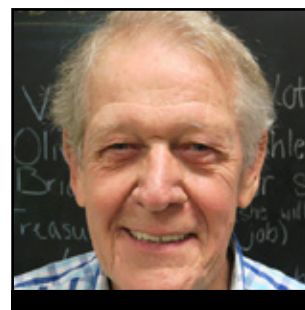
The purpose of the Fishers Police Cadet Program is to provide youth from Fishers between the ages of 14 and 19 with information about a law enforcement career through hands-on experiences, tours, guest speakers, and discussions. The Fishers Police Cadets meet two Tuesdays each month during the school year with additional volunteer and ride along

opportunities throughout the year.

The first meeting for FPD Cadets will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 13 from 5:30-8:00 p.m. at the Fishers Police Department located at 4 Municipal Drive, Fishers.

For questions regarding the Cadet Program or registration, visit the Fishers Police website, <https://www.fishers.in.us/241/Fishers-Police-Department> or email Allison Nicholson at nicholsona@fishers.in.us.

America, Some Thoughts



DAVID MARSH
Guest Column

Separation of church and state

I believe the separation of church and state is a two-way street. Government should stay out of religion and religion should stay out of government.

The Second Amendment

Have you ever read the second amendment? Let's read it now. A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

The Supreme Court has broadened the right to bear arms for self-defense in the home in 2010 during, McDonald v. Chicago. I believe the problem of gun violence is a Republican problem as they block almost all gun restriction laws. The Republicans are taking monies from the gun lobby NRA.

Here is a list from Google search, Mitt Romney \$13,647,676, Richard Burr \$6,987,380, Marco Rubio \$3,303,355, Todd Young \$2,897,582, Josh Hawley

\$1,391,548, Mitch McConnell \$1,283,515, Mike Braun \$1,249,967.

The 50 Republican senators only represent 43.5 percent of the U.S. population, yet control almost all legislation. I believe that if you are a member of the militia you may own an assault weapon.

Roe v. Wade

I believe any state that limits abortion to 12 weeks or less, sets a bounty for reporting any abortion activity by doctors, enablers, going out of state and eliminating contraception. What are their provisions for rape, incest or lack of viability of the fetus or health of the mother? Here is a suggestion, those states should provide free pre-school and day care.

One legal system

I have pledged it a thousand times, liberty and justice for all. If the same offense is committed by the president or a local Joe they should receive the same judgment and punishment.

Let's go back 50 or 60 years when people discussed their thoughts and differences. (Tip O'Neill and Ronald Reagan) I welcome your comments and discussion and I will listen, will you do the same? I believe we need to start talking to each other and stop relying so much on social media.

David Marsh is a Noblesville resident and a retired school teacher.

Public Invited to Second Thomas Marcuccilli Nature Park Public Meeting

Carmel • Clay Parks & Recreation

Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation invites the community to participate in a second public input meeting for Thomas Marcuccilli Nature Park. The meeting will be held on August 18 at 6 p.m. in the Wilfong Pavilion, 11675 Hazel Dell Pkwy, Carmel. The meeting can also be attended virtually. Individuals interested in participating virtually can register here.

CCPR and project consultants will report insights from the first round of public input meetings and focus groups and share the refined park concept. Feed-

back gathered during the meeting will help CCPR develop the Thomas Marcuccilli Nature Park Master Plan. The master plan will help guide the ultimate design of the park's development over the next several years.

Thomas Marcuccilli Nature Park was purchased in 2021. The undeveloped 63-acre park is located in northeast Carmel at 146th Street and River Road. Stay tuned to CCPR's social media and www.carmelclayparks.com/parks/thomas-marcuccilli-nature-park/ for more information.

18473 Jaden Drive
Westfield • \$424,900
PENDING



Meticulously maintained 3 BR, 2.5 BA, only 4 years old. Stunning entry, spacious great room, gourmet kitchen, 2 office spaces. Gorgeous landscaping surrounds the exterior w/privacy fence. Finished garage w/workbench. BLC#21867439

9740 William Drive
Noblesville • \$389,900
PENDING



This charming 3 BR, 2.5 BA home on almost half acre w/mature trees, formal living & dining, den w/fireplace, beautiful kitchen, huge sunroom, finished basement w/full kitchen and fireplace. A perfect "10." BLC#21871421

8710 Walma Drive
Warren Twp. • \$189,900
PENDING



Check out this 4 BR, 2 BA brick ranch with oversized two-car garage. Circular floor plan, large living room and family room. Covered front porch and patio, privacy fence, and storage building. BLC#21872947

348 Beechwood Drive
Noblesville • \$219,900
SOLD!



Adorable 3 BR, 1.5 BA ranch in Forest Hills Estates. family room and living room are quite spacious, eat-in kitchen w/black appliances, sunroom, professional landscaping, large concrete patio, mature trees pergola with swing. BLC#2186350

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Senator Braun Calls for Maximum Penalties for Criminals Who Target Cops

Following the tragic murder of an Elwood police officer by a career criminal who had previously shot at police, Senator Mike Braun is restating his support for strengthening penalties for criminals who target police. Senator Braun has been an original cosponsor of the Thin Blue Line Act since his first year in office.

Carl Boards II, who shot and killed an Elwood police officer on Sunday, had previously been convicted of criminal recklessness (and other lesser charges) after shooting at Indianapolis police during a pursuit in 2006, striking the police cruiser multiple times. Boards was sentenced to 25 years in prison, but was released after 13 years.

The Thin Blue Line Act makes the targeting, killing, or attempted killing of a police officer an aggravating factor

in favor of maximum sentences. Currently this only applies to federal law enforcement; the Thin Blue Line Act would apply this to local and state police as well.

“The career criminal who killed an Elwood officer also tried to kill Indy cops 16 years ago, and should have paid a stiffer price. If you try to kill a police officer, you should pay the highest price possible. I support making the targeting of police in a violent crime an aggravating factor in favor of the harshest penalties available.” - Senator Mike Braun

About Thin Blue Line Act:

- When a jury in a federal case considers whether to impose the death penalty, the jury must consider certain "aggravating" factors.
- Current law states that if the murder victim is a federal law enforcement



Senator Mike Braun

officer or federal prosecutor, this fact shall weigh as an aggravating factor in favor of the maximum penalty.

- The Thin Blue Line Act provides the same level of justice to local law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and first responders.

• It also enhances the penalty when a defendant targets a law enforcement officer, prosecutor, or first responder solely because that individual has chosen to protect and serve.

Photographers Harvest 2022 Indiana Agriculture Photo Contest Awards



Yesterday, Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and the Indiana State Department of Agriculture announced the winners of the 2022 Indiana Agriculture photo contest. The winning photographs will be displayed in the lieutenant governor's Family of Business offices in Indianapolis.

“Each year toward the end of June, I eagerly anticipate reviewing the hundreds of beautiful photos submitted for the Indiana Agriculture photo contest,” said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, Indiana’s Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. “The photos selected as winners represent Hoosier traditions and agriculture so well. I want to give my greatest congratulations to the 10 selected winners for sharing their talent with us.”

The winning photos were chosen from hundreds of entries in the following four categories: Agritourism, Conservation, Faces of Agriculture and On the Farm. Two winners were selected from each category, along with two winners overall.

To be considered, the photo had to be taken in the state by an Indiana resident. The photos were evaluated by a panel of independent judges



Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch

based on creativity, composition and category representation.

“The beauty of agriculture and farming is immense, and I love how our talented Hoosiers are able to showcase agriculture in the best way,” said Bruce Kettler, ISDA Director. “This year we received nearly 400 submissions and even though our judges selected only 10 winners, we look forward to showcasing hundreds of the submitted photos throughout the year in other ways with our department.”

The following list includes the photo contest winners for 2022:

Agritourism Category

- “Christmas is Coming” by Amanda Flickinger from Wakarusa
- “Sunflower Sunset” by Allyson Avery from Plainfield

Conservation Category

- “Lover’s Quarrel” by Forrest Michael Willey from Seymour
- “Sitting Pretty” by Cecile Dreyer from Sellersburg

Faces of Agriculture

Category

- “Future Farmers” by Kelli Kreider from South Whitley
- “Future John Deere Farmers” by Olivia Roberts from Goodland

On the Farm Category

- “Aerial Master” by Tom Jones from Star City
- “Chasing the Sun” by Erin Schuerman from Osgood

Overall Category

- “Days up” by Matt Howell from Farmland
- “Teach Me” by KaeLee Riley from New Paris

To view the winning photos, go to https://www.flickr.com/photos/isda_gov/albums/72177720300863419 or visit https://www.flickr.com/photos/isda_gov/albums/72177720301053596/with/52263739110/.

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) reports to Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch, Indiana’s Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. Major responsibilities include advocacy for Indiana agriculture at the local, state and federal level, managing soil conservation programs, promoting economic development and agricultural innovation, serving as a regulatory ombudsman for agricultural businesses, and licensing grain firms throughout the state.

Indiana Department of Education Announces Employability Skills Grant Recipients and Additional Resources



The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) yesterday awarded 58 schools across 40 counties with \$10 million in Employability Skills Innovation and Implementation Grant funding. The grant will help students develop in-demand employability skills that prepare them to meet the ever-changing needs of today’s workforce.

A complete list of grant recipients is available at <https://media.doe.in.gov/news/7.25.2022-esi-grant-recipient-list-2.pdf>.

“For years, as a state and a country, we have relied almost wholly on a single test score to best determine student and school progress,” said Dr. Katie Jenner, Indiana Secretary of Education. “While we know that academic mastery is essential to providing a strong foundation for a student’s future success, there are a number of other characteristics that also matter. This includes making sure students are equipped with skills like the ability to respectfully communicate and collaborate with others. The schools receiving this grant will be on the cutting edge of determining how best to measure these important skills, not just through an assessment, but through experiences. Congratulations to all of the awardees who are helping to lead this educational progress in understanding how skill

development can be measured across Indiana.”

As part of their grant proposals, schools detailed how they will leverage these funds to help students showcase proficiency in Indiana Employability Skills and how they will work with partners to help blur the lines between pre-K-12, higher education and the workforce through career exploration, engagement and experiences. Successful grant proposals included a strategic plan to evaluate program implementation and report data on student outcomes.

Originally slated for \$7 million, an overwhelming number of high-scoring applicants expanded the total award amount to \$10 million. Grant funding is allocated as part of the state’s federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief II plan.

In conjunction with this grant, IDOE also announced a partnership with All4Ed and BloomBoard to pilot a set of micro-credentials, which could also be known as skill development badges, that signal student mastery of career-readiness skills needed for success after high school. The pilot will launch this fall at Mitchell High School in Lawrence County, Purdue Polytechnic High School-South Bend in St. Joseph County and Irvington Community High School in Marion County.

By earning micro-credentials, students will

gain credentials that they can take with them across industries. Specifically, the pilot will standardize micro-credentials for the Indiana Employability Skills of communication, collaboration and work ethic. These skills are aligned with approved characteristics of the Indiana Graduates Prepared to Succeed performance dashboard, which will also launch this fall, and are one example of how Indiana is re-envisioning how educational progress is measured and tailored to individual students.

“With so many young people – particularly our underserved students – becoming disconnected from school during the pandemic, it is more important than ever to build career-connected pathways from high school to and through higher education,” said Deborah S. Delisle, president and CEO of All4Ed. “However, it is also critical to measure if students completing these pathways have attained employability skills needed to build successful careers. The micro-credentials tested during this pilot will help recognize high school students who have acquired essential career skills and provide valuable information about recent graduates to employers and higher education institutions.

IDOE will work with state and community partners to evaluate the success of micro-credential completion and will work to determine whether to scale the program to students statewide upon conclusion of the pilot.

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AQUATIC CENTER

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8 pm

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2022 Flix and Float Schedule

 June 18th Moana G	 June 24th Finding Nemo G	 July 1st Jumanji PG-13
 July 16th Waterhorse G	 July 22nd Encanto G	 July 30th The Shallows PG-13
 August 13th The Goonies PG	 August 20th Dog PG-13	 September 3rd Top Gun PG

Cost: \$5 per person / Members get in free

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Thanks for reading The Times!

The Case for Cecil Isbell's Induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame

It is almost a certainty that Drew Brees will be elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame the first year he is eligible in 2026.

However, there's a chance he won't be the third Purdue passing star to be enshrined at Canton, Ohio.

Long before Len Dawson and Bob Griese started their paths toward NFL immortality, there was Cecil Isbell.

Isbell, who starred for the Boilermakers from 1935 to 1937, is one of 12 senior committee finalists on the 2022 Hall of Fame ballot. Three of the 12 will eventually reach the voting stage for election from the Hall of Fame's full selection panel.

Technically, Isbell wasn't a quarterback at Purdue or for the Green Bay Packers from 1938 to 1942. But his passing exploits as a halfback in Curly Lambeau's Notre Dame-style box offense earned Isbell a place on the NFL's All-Decade Team of the 1930s.

Longevity, or lack thereof, has played a big role in keeping Isbell out of the Pro Football Hall of Fame. As writer Cliff Christi points out in Isbell's Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame biography, Isbell was more decorated during his five-year NFL career than the legendary Sammy Baugh.

This is the same Baugh who was one of the quarterbacks on the NFL's 100-year anniversary team. The same Baugh



KENNY THOMPSON
Columnist

who somehow was selected ahead of the record-setting Brees on that honor squad.

Isbell was the All-Pro Team passer in each of his final three seasons (1940-42). He retired with the record for most consecutive games with a touchdown pass (23), a mark that stood until the late 1950s when surpassed by Johnny Unitas with 47. Brees now holds the NFL record at 54.

No Packers quarterback threw more touchdown passes in consecutive games until 2003, when Brett Favre did it.

Here's an excerpt from Christi's profile of Isbell.

"His rookie year, Isbell finished fourth in the NFL in rushing and fifth in passing. By the eighth game of that season he had made such an impression that Chicago Bears coach George Halas declared Isbell was a better passer than his predecessor. Lambeau thought so, too, because the man Isbell replaced - Arnie Herber - was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in

1966. "Arnie Herber is just a passer," Halas said. "... But this Isbell is a passer, kicker, runner and a line buckler... Green Bay's attack is three times more potent now than it has been in recent years and the answer is Isbell."

The next season, Green Bay won its fifth NFL championship, with Isbell rushing for 407 yards and passing for 749.

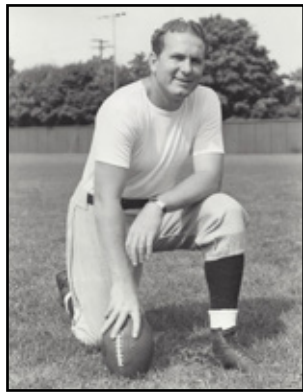
In 1942, Isbell became the first player in NFL history to pass for more than 2,000 yards in a season. At that point, Isbell's 2,021 yards were nearly 500 more than Baugh's career high at the time.

Isbell was at his peak in 1942, setting the NFL record for career touchdown passes (59) and the single-season mark of 24.

"Isbell was a master at any range - short, medium or long," Lambeau, the Packers' co-founder and longtime coach, said in 1945 when asked to name the greatest passer ever. "He could throw soft passes, bullet ones or feathery lobs. He's the best with Sid Luckman of the Bears a close second and Sammy Baugh a long third."

Isbell played 54 games with the Packers. To put that total in perspective, Chicago Bears great Gale Sayers' Pro Football Hall of Fame career lasted 68 games.

Today, it would be shocking news for one of the NFL's top quarterbacks to walk away at



Cecil Isbell

age 27. Colts fans recall with sadness and fury the premature retirement of Andrew Luck at age 29.

Purdue hired Isbell as backfield coach on July 15, 1943. At the time, no explanation was given as to why Isbell retired from the NFL. Later, Isbell reportedly said watching teammates like Herber being told they were through in Green Bay was difficult.

"I vowed it would never happen to me," Isbell said.

After helping Purdue go 9-0 in 1943, Isbell was promoted to head coach when Elmer Burnham departed for the University of Rochester.

Isbell lasted three seasons as head coach, long enough to recruit and tutor Bob DeMoss, the pioneer of Purdue's Cradle of Quarterbacks.

Almost 20 years later, Isbell played a key role in developing Bob Griese into a championship quarterback. Griese's odd throwing motion confounded DeMoss and nearly led to Griese play-

ing defensive back instead. "The ball got there but it didn't spiral very well," DeMoss recalled. "We were trying to figure out what the devil was wrong with him and we finally got it figured out with the help of Cecil Isbell."

DeMoss showed film of Griese to his mentor, who only needed to see a couple of plays.

"Here's what's wrong with him," Isbell said. "He's not turning his wrist out."

DeMoss put Griese in front of a mirror and showed him the correct passing motion. After practicing all summer in his hometown of Evansville, Griese came back as a sophomore to claim the starting quarterback job.

"The rest is history," DeMoss said.

Isbell passed away June 23, 1985 at age 69. He is buried at Grand View Cemetery in West Lafayette, just a few miles from Ross-Ade Stadium.

End of an era

Ryan Kerrigan may or may not have a chance at election to the Pro Football Hall of Fame beginning five years from now.

The former Purdue All-American defensive end signed a one-day contract last week to retire as a member of the Washington Commanders.

Before spending his 11th and final NFL season with the Philadelphia Eagles, Kerrigan had set Washington's career sacks record at 95.5. Playing for a

dysfunctional, mostly losing organization Kerrigan more than lived up to his promise as a first-round draft pick in 2011.

Overshadowed his entire career by media favorite J.J. Watt, Kerrigan was more durable (172 games to Watt's 135 and only 6.5 fewer sacks). Incredibly, Kerrigan made 139 consecutive starts for Washington.

"I just want people to know that they got all of me," Kerrigan told Commanders.com writer Zach Selby. "I don't have any more, physically or emotionally, to give as a player. I put my whole life into being a football player."

Kerrigan was a four-time Pro Bowl selection, including three consecutive seasons from 2016-18.

The Muncie native was elected to the Purdue Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame in 2019. As a Boilermaker, Kerrigan was a unanimous All-American, Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year and Smith-Brown Defensive Lineman of the Year in 2010. He matched the NCAA career record with 14 forced fumbles, leading the NCAA with seven in 2009.

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.

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Manchin-Schumer 'Inflation Reduction Act' is Really the Manufacturing Reduction Act

By Mike Braun

Non-partisan analysis of President Joe Biden's latest tax-and-spend scheme shows it will raise average taxes for Americans at every income level and either do nothing to inflation or make it worse.

But the worst thing about this bill is the crushing effect it will have on American manufacturing.

The tax portion of Democrats' imaginatively named "Inflation Reduction Act" hinges on something called the book-income minimum tax.

Basically, this means corporations would pay a 15 percent minimum tax on the income they report to their shareholders.

According to Congress's non-partisan Joint Committee on Taxation, American manufacturers would take the hit for 49.7 percent of this tax.

That means half of the \$313 billion this plan is expected to redistribute will come from U.S. manufacturing industry we're already struggling to keep here in the U.S.

They should have called

it the Manufacturing Reduction Act.

Manufacturing is already hurting from the Biden recession. In a new report out this week from the Institute for Supply Management, U.S. manufacturing expansion has cooled to its slowest pace since the locked-down summer of 2020.

It's no mystery why U.S. manufacturing is slowing: Americans are cutting back due to Biden's 9.1 percent inflation pay cut, and supply is stacking up.

And we know who will end up taking the hit from this harebrained scheme: American manufacturing workers and American consumers.

But it's not just the larger manufacturers that will take a hit from this bill.

Small manufacturers often rely upon large manufacturers as their primary customers. For example, over half of Americans who work in machine shops or screw, nut, and bolt manufacturers work in firms with less than 50



SENATOR MIKE BRAUN
Guest Column

employees.

When you hike taxes for large manufacturers, they buy less from small manufacturers. The negative effects of this tax hike will be felt in small communities across the country.

This bill also includes \$80 billion to double the size of the IRS and hire 80,000 new agents to shake America's couch cushions for every last cent to blow on failed social programs.

The IRS already announced last year it would be increasing the number of small businesses it audits by 50 percent, and that's before this proposed \$80 billion boost to their

operating budget.

Large corporations retain teams of lawyers to deal with IRS audits. Small businesses don't, and this extra hassle adds one more insult to the injury of 9.1 percent inflation.

More Hoosiers in my home state of Indiana work in manufacturing than any other industry, and every year as I visit all 92 counties I hear from manufacturers of all sizes and their employees.

These businesses are already getting hammered by bad fiscal policy in Washington.

Burdening larger manufacturers with a tax hike and small manufacturers with collapsing demand and IRS audits is the last thing this important American industry needs.

The only thing this tax-and-spend spree is sure to do is continue the Obama-Biden legacy of pushing American manufacturing jobs overseas.

Republican Mike Braun represents Indiana in the United States Senate.



DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

"Where are you?" asked my wife when she called me on my cell phone one afternoon.

"I'm in Walmart," I answered.

"Oh. Are you running errands?"

"No, just running...or jogging, to be more precise. Running in the aisles is not permitted. I just heard a mother say that to her kid."

"Why are you doing that in Walmart?"

At the time, I was not in the mood for a lengthy explanation, but here's the gist of it. It was 92 degrees outside—far too hot to exercise. I had considered going to Costco, but I forgot to bring my membership card and there are too many stations along the aisles to sample food, which kind of defeats the point of exercising.

"Are you doing any shopping at all?" Mary Ellen asked.

"Oh, yes, over my right arm I have three T-shirts and I bought some hangers for my closet, which are in my left hand. I hadn't planned on buying anything, which is why I didn't take a cart. And this way I can go faster, although increasing my speed makes me look like a shoplifter.

I figured out that going a full lap around the store's perimeter is close to 1,000 steps, or about a half mile, but going up and down each aisle, I could easily log a full mile. After a while, I stopped to rest, because I was breathing heavily. I realized I shouldn't have taken my break in the lingerie department when I saw moms whisking their kids as far away from me as possible.

My jog was enjoyable. I began in produce and trotted through the meat department where they had a good deal on ground turkey. I took a trip through the pharmacy. Then I zoomed through electronics, sped past Tire and Auto and toddled by the toy department. I picked up speed in the candy section to avoid temptation. I muscled my way through sporting goods and when I got to the cat food shelves, people were in the aisle sharing Instagram photos of their kitties. I slinked my way around them.

After circling the store three times, a security guard came up to me. "What are you up to, Sir?"

"About four miles an hour," I bragged. Didn't even get a smile from him.

This reminded me of a time at the old L.S. Ayres when I bought a dinner jacket for a cruise my wife and I were planning. The clerk forgot to remove the security lock from the garment. When I left the store, the alarms went crazy.

"Where do you think you are going with that coat?" asked a security guard.

"Alaska," I told him. Apparently, my comeback wasn't funny then, either. Maybe it was the same guard.

Toward the end of my workout, I overheard several of the employees on the sales floor talking about me. I considered hiding in a dressing room, but I wanted to reach my 15,000 steps and I am not good at running in place.

When I got to the check-out counter, the cashier said I owed \$26.50, but my T-shirts and hangers should have only amounted to \$22.00. "What's the additional charge?" I asked the cashier.

"Mileage," she told me.

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.

Why Breastfeed? The Benefits of Breastfeeding for Both Mother and Child

By Dr. Cameal Wright, CareSource Vice President and Market Chief Medical Officer

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recently updated their guidelines around breastfeeding, now supporting continued breastfeeding until two years or beyond, as mutually desired by the mother and child. Breast milk is and always has been the most optimal source of nutrition for a growing baby, and if breastfeeding is an option for the mother, that is the top recommended practice for giving babies the nutrients they need.

August represents National Breastfeeding Month, a time to raise awareness about the importance of breastfeeding. As the U.S. continues to face a shortage in infant formula, and with the AAP's updated guidelines, it's of the utmost importance now for mothers to be informed on the many benefits of breastfeeding for both their babies and themselves.

The Importance of Breastfeeding

The World Health Organization (WHO) actively promotes breastfeeding as the best source of nourishment for infants and young children. Breast milk is specifically formulated for optimal nutrition for a newborn. The composition of breast milk changes to match a baby's needs as it grows and its nutritional requirements change. Babies also receive immune support



DR. CAMEAL WRIGHT
Care Source VP and CMO

from the antibodies provided in breast milk, as breast milk offers immunity in the early stages of life before a baby can receive vaccinations. In fact, studies found that breast milk of mothers vaccinated for COVID-19 carry antibodies against the virus.

In addition to the ample amount of health benefits, breast milk is economically favorable. Due to an infant's changing routine, many find breastfeeding to be the most convenient feeding option due to the ability to breastfeed anytime, anywhere. Breastfeeding can help lift financial burdens associated with feeding as it offers a free, nutritional food source for babies.

Additionally, breastfeeding creates a special bond between mother and baby because it promotes skin-to-skin contact. Many experts say the bonding experience during the first years of life helps lessen social and behavioral problems in both children and adults. Breastfeeding even burns extra calories and helps many mothers

return to their pre-pregnancy weight. If a new mother has questions about breastfeeding, they can turn to health plans for answers, like CareSource. CareSource provides critical information and resources to assist mothers and families, pays for lactation consultants that can provide members with prenatal education and postnatal assistance with breastfeeding, and provides all mothers with a breast pump and supplies.

Disparities in Breastfeeding

Despite the AAP recommending breastfeeding, national rates remain low, especially among minority groups. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows racial and ethnic disparities in breastfeeding initiation continue to persist. Low rates of breastfeeding add more than \$3 billion a year to medical costs for mothers and their children in the U.S., per the CDC. Additionally, three quarters (76%) of Black infants are ever breastfed, which is below the national average of 84%. Indiana is one of 26 states where the breastfeeding initiation rate was lowest among infants of Black mothers. It's important to consider the root causes of disparities in breastfeeding, including historical trauma, access to care, provider bias and promotion of formula by manufacturers. Culturally appropriate education,

increased breastfeeding support and diverse representation within health care should be encouraged and implemented in order to increase awareness of the importance of breastfeeding and help remove these barriers.

CareSource encourages mothers and expecting mothers to learn more about the benefits of breastfeeding, especially as we continue to see a short supply of infant formula. Health plans like CareSource can provide access to case management workers who connect mothers to resources in their community. Additionally, mothers can utilize CareSource24™, a 24-hour Nurse Helpline, to ask questions and get advice. CareSource has also recently partnered with The Milk Bank, sponsoring 1,000 ounces of human milk through their Give an Ounce campaign. The gift is part of a larger effort to increase access to adequate infant nutrition during the formula shortage.

Breastfeeding is more than just a lifestyle decision; it's an investment in health for both mothers and their infants, reducing health risks like asthma, obesity, diabetes, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), breast cancer, ovarian cancer and more, according to the CDC. It's critical to advance the support, protection and promotion of breastfeeding so all families have the opportunity to breastfeed.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CONCERNING THE REAPPROPRIATION OF LOCAL INCOME TAX REVENUES BY THE SHERIDAN TOWN COUNCIL AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON REAPPROPRIATION

Notice is hereby given by the Sheridan Town Council (the "Council"), that the Council will consider the following reappropriation of local income tax revenues on deposit in the General Fund which has been determined to be necessary and which is in addition to all appropriations provided for in the existing budget and levy. Such revenues are already available to the Sheridan Police Department but, pursuant to this reappropriation, will be utilized by the police department to update tasers.

Notice is further given that the Council, on August 16, at the hour of 6:00 p.m. local time, in the Sheridan Community Center, 300 E 6th St, Sheridan, IN 46069, will receive and hear remonstrations from persons interested in or affected by the proceedings pertaining to the proposed reappropriation of local income tax revenues and will determine the public utility and benefit of the proposed reappropriation. At the time fixed for the public hearing, or at any time prior thereto, any person interested in the proceedings may file a written remonstrance with the Secretary of the Council. At such hearing, which may be adjourned from time to time, the Council will hear all persons interested in the proceedings and all remonstrances that have been filed. After considering this evidence, the Council will take final action with respect to such reappropriation.

Dated: August 3, 2022

Elizabeth A. Walden, IAMC, CMO, CMC
Clerk-Treasurer of the Town of Sheridan
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THE TIMES

Marginal Increases in Producer Sentiment in Spite of Rising Costs, Declining Crop Prices

The Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer farmer sentiment index rose 6 points in July to a reading of 103. Producers were somewhat more optimistic about both current and future economic conditions on their farms when compared to June. The Index of Current Conditions rose 10 points to a reading of 109, and the Index of Future Expectations rose 4 points to a reading of 100. Although all three indices rose this month, they were still 23% to 24% lower than a year earlier. The Ag Economy Barometer is calculated each month from 400 U.S. agricultural producers' responses to a telephone survey. This month's survey was conducted July 11-15.

"Even though we saw a slight uptick in sentiment this month, there is still a tremendous amount of uncertainty in the agricultural economy," said James Mintert, the barometer's principal investigator and director of Purdue University's Center for Commercial Agriculture. "Key commodity prices, including wheat, corn and soybeans, all weakened during the month and producers remain concerned over rising input prices and input availability."

Farm operators in this month's survey voiced concerns about several key issues affecting their operation, including higher input prices (42% of respondents), lower crop prices (19% of respondents), rising interest rates (17% of respondents) and availability of inputs (15% of respondents).

The Farm Financial Performance Index, which is primarily reflective of income expectations for the current year, improved

5 points to a reading of 88 in June. However, this month, 49% of respondents said they expect their farm to be worse off financially a year from now, which compares to 51% who felt that way in June. This is a markedly more pessimistic outlook than producers provided a year ago when just 30% of respondents said they expect their financial condition to worsen in the upcoming year.

Producers remain uncertain over their expectations for crop input prices over the next 12 months. In July, 18% of crop producers said they expect 2023's crop input prices to decline between 1% and 10% when compared to 2022's prices, versus 12% who felt that way in June. Meanwhile, 26% of respondents in July said they expect 2023's prices to rise by 10% or more, compared to 38% who expected a crop input price rise of that magnitude in June.

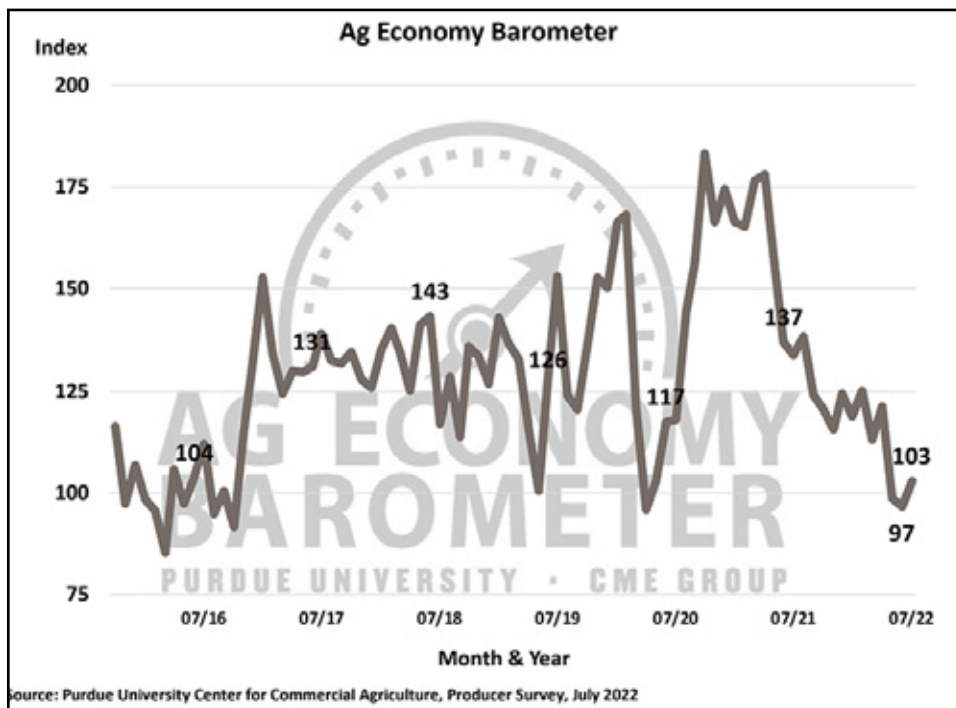
The rise in input costs is leading some producers to reassess their cropping plans for the upcoming year. In this month's survey, nearly one out of four (24%) of crop producers said that as a result of the rise in input costs, they plan to change their farm's crop mix in 2023. In a follow-up question, over half (53%) of respondents who said they plan to change their mix will increase the percentage of their cropland devoted to soybeans. In a separate set of questions, 26% of producers who said they planted winter wheat last year indicated they plan to increase their wheat acreage this fall.

The Farm Capital Investment Index remains near its record low, up

one point to a reading of 36 in July. To shed light on why, respondents who said now is a bad time for large investments were asked for the primary reason they felt that way. Of those respondents, 44% indicated an "increase in prices for farm machinery and new construction," 15% said "uncertainty about farm profitability," and 14% chose "rising interest rates" as the primary reason they viewed now as a bad time for large investments. Somewhat surprisingly, only 7% of respondents chose "tight farm machinery inventories at dealers" as their primary reason for responding negatively to the investment question.

Producers' views on farmland values diverged this month as the Short-Term Farmland Value Index declined 9 points to 127, while the long-term index rose 9 points to 150. The short-term index is down 20% from its peak reading in 2021, while the long-term index is only 6% lower than the peak reached last year. Short-term, there was a shift away from expectations that farmland values will go higher, with more producers in July expecting values to remain about the same. The long-term change was attributable to more respondents this month expecting values to rise with fewer expecting a decline over the next five years.

"The short-run and long-term farmland indices don't always move in tandem, but the magnitude of this month's divergence between the short and long-term indices is unusual," Mintert said. "Producers who expect values to rise over the upcoming five years con-



Graphic courtesy of Purdue/CME Group/James Mintert

At the right side of the graph, the slight uptick on the graph shows a slight rise in producer sentiment after a steady decline over the previous year.

Barometer, Index of Current Conditions and Index of Future Expectations are available on the Bloomberg Terminal under the following ticker symbols: AGECEBARO, AGECECURC and AGECECFTEX.

The Center for Commercial Agriculture was founded in 2011 to provide professional development and educational programs for farmers. Housed within Purdue University's Department of Agricultural Economics, the center's faculty and staff develop and execute research and educational programs that address the different needs of managing in today's business environment.

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Jazz, Salsa, Art Day, Art Fair, Street Dance, Kids Theater and More



BETSY REASON
The Times Editor

It's a busy weekend. So, here's a list of 20 things to do this weekend and beyond.

- Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville Cornhole Tournament is today at Forest Park in Noblesville.
- Noblesville Main Street's Music & All That Jazz, sponsored by Gordon Insurance partners, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. today, featuring the David Hartman Band, on the west side of the Courthouse Square.
- Noble Coffee & Tea's Salsa on the Square, supported by Noblesville Main Street, will be 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. today on Logan Street between Ninth and 10th streets, and is a ticketed 21-and-older event.
- Join Hamilton County Parks & Recreation on the lawn at Cool Creek Park for the Cool Creek Concert Series, with \$5 admission, free to ages 12 and younger, with the final concert at 7 p.m. today featuring 45 RPM.
- Main Street Productions presents "30 Reasons Not To Be in a Play," by Alan Haehnel, through Sunday at Westfield Playhouse, directed by Tanya Haas, with tickets at <https://www.westfield-playhouse.org/>
- Noblesville Farmers Market's Art Day at the Market, in collaboration



Photo courtesy of Indy Ghost Light Photography

Cast members – Mia Gordon (from left), Amaya Smith and Anastasia Hobbs – rehearse for Basile Westfield Playhouse's youth production, "30 Reasons Not to be in a Play," which continues through Sunday at the Playhouse with tickets still available.



Photo courtesy of Indy Ghost Light Photography

The cast of Basile Westfield Playhouse's youth production, "30 Reasons Not to be in a Play," rehearse for the show, which continues through Sunday at the Playhouse.

- with Nickel Plate Arts, is open 8 a.m. to noon, at Federal Hill Commons in downtown Noblesville. Market continues every Saturday this summer. Parking is offered at nearby parking lots and at the park's Green Room parking lot, which is restricted to vendor spaces and handicapped parking only during the weekly market.
- Hamilton County Artists' Association's 18th annual Art Fair on the Square is 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and features more than 60 juried artists and vendors on the Courthouse Square in downtown Noblesville.
- Ride the Nickel Plate Express little red Caboose on Saturday and Aug. 20, with tickets at <https://nickelplateexpress.com/>
- Hamilton County Parks' Koteewi Aerial Adventure (Edge Adventures), K-Trails Equestrian Adventures, Koteewi Range Sport & Target Archery Center and Koteewi Lake are all open for the

- with \$2 carousel rides and \$3 mini golf.
- Central Indiana Vintage Vehicles invites car buffs to show off their vintage vehicles on the Courthouse Square during the weekly Saturday night Cruise-in. Lawn chairs and old-car conversations invited.
- Carmel Community Players presents "Shipwrecked! An Entertainment," directed by Lori Raffel, Aug. 12-21
- Noblesville Parks' 15th annual Movies in the Park series, presented by Logan Street Signs and banners, Aug. 12, "Onward," (Rated PG) at Dillon Park; "Cruella," (Rated PG-13) Aug. 19, Federal Hill Commons; "Raya and the Last Dragon," (Rated PG) Aug. 26, Federal Hill; "Sing 2," (Rated PG) Sept. 2, Federal Hill; and "Ghostbusters Afterlife," (Rated PG-13) Sept. 9, Federal Hill.
- Come out to Forest Park Aquatic Center in Noblesville and enjoy

- 6-Oct. 23, with \$2 carousel rides and \$3 mini golf.
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- Come out to Forest Park Aquatic Center in Noblesville and enjoy

- movies this summer on the new video board during the Flix and Float movie nights select Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., featuring "Goonies," sponsored by Sign Craft, on Aug. 13; "Dog," sponsored by Lew's Plumbing, on Aug. 20; and "Top Gun," sponsored by Troy and Alicia Tricker, on Sept. 30. Admission is \$5 per person but included with pool membership. Visit <https://www.forest-parkpool.org/>
- Enjoy Concerts at the Commons 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on select Saturdays through September at Federal Hill Commons. Concert schedule: Aug. 13, Motor City Revue (Motown Tribute) and BBI; Aug. 27, Nightrain (Guns & Roses tribute) and The Cosmic Situation; Sept. 9, The Eagles Project (Eagles Tribute) and The Toons; Sept. 24, Trippin Billies (Dave Matthews Tribute) and Sam King.
- Shred Day at Hamilton County Household Hazardous Waste Center is 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Aug.

- 20, or when the trucks are full.
- The sixth annual Noblesville BrewBQ is 4 p.m. Aug. 20 at Federal Hill Commons in Noblesville.
- The First Presbyterian Church of Noblesville's seventh annual Red Geranium Artisan Market is 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 20 at the Church and features a variety of local, tri-state and international artisans, food, live music in a festive open-air environment.
- Legacy Keepers Music's free String-Time on the Square series, the third Saturday of each month through September, features bluegrass music at 6:30 p.m. on the Hamilton County Courthouse Square in downtown Noblesville, with upcoming bands, Aug. 20, Rock Bottom Boys of Madison County, opener Addie McMillan; and Sept. 17, Stones Crossing Family Band, opener Alec Bohuk & Eric Reel.

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

ARROWOOD From Page A1

County Community Foundation, for helping to make possible the opportunity for our elementary and middle school counselors and early intervention advocate to attend a specialty training at Brooke's Place in Indianapolis earlier this summer. Brooke's Place helps transform grief into hope through support groups, therapy services, and education to empower children, teens, young adults, and their families to thrive amid grief. All Heights counseling staff have attended, and collectively, described the experience as incredibly impactful with far-ranging benefits for our students struggling with grief and loss.

We are pleased to announce the Class of 2022 inductees to the Hamilton Heights Athletic Hall of Fame. They include Roger Bryan ('60), Brittney (Curfman) Hensley ('01), Chad Sherer ('08), Jessica (Carr) Kuramata ('11), and the Hamilton Heights 2012-13 Girls Basketball State Runner-Up Team. Congratulations on your selection! The Hall of Fame luncheon and ceremony will be conducted on Saturday, September 17 beginning at 1 p.m. The event is open to the community. Tickets are \$10 and available beginning August 8. For additional information or to purchase a ticket, email Mitch Street at mstreet@hhschuskiess.org.

As a reminder, our

Food Pantry will be open on Monday, August 15 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the high school; enter through Door A. Season passes for Hamilton Heights Middle and High School sporting events for the 2022-23 year are available. Get yours here today!

To stay connected to all things Hamilton Heights visit our website at www.hhschuskiess.org and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and LinkedIn.

With the beginning of a new school year, we have much to celebrate! To kick off the year with fun and frivolity, we are hosting a back-to-school party for Heights' students and their families this Sunday, August 7 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. outside between HHES & HHMS. The family-friendly event will feature games of skill and chance, contests, prizes, activities, food, fun, and much more!

As we look ahead to the 2022-2023 school year, we are committed to providing our students with the best educational experience while preparing them for the future in partnership with our families and community. See you back on campus on Tuesday, August 9 for the first day of what I expect to be a phenomenal year! #WeAreHuskiess

Dr. Derek Arrowood is the Superintendent of the Hamilton Heights School Corporation.

BETSY From Page A1

hometown."

So what kind of music does Indy Gorgeous Club play?

"IGC has morphed into a funk jam band. They will play music of Pink Floyd, Stevie Wonder, Phish and much more as well as a few original tunes," the proud dad said.

Today's band features four players. Jay Thornbury, bass; Drew Matthews, guitar; Caleb Beik, keyboards; and Aidan Board, drums.

"Caleb, Drew, and I all just graduated this year (2022) and Aidan graduated just a couple years before us (2020), but we knew him and his talent from the school jazz program," Jay Thornbury said.

"Over the years, we have gained a small amount of traction, and I expect a large amount of past fans and friends will come to the Street Dance, as it's our last show for the summer," he said.

"It's quite hard to get shows in Noblesville for us, so I am hoping people who wouldn't normally travel for a show will come out and support us."

The band typically wears casual clothes and all "have our own sort of unique styles and personalities on stage," Jay Thornbury said.

The band has been playing at Noblesville's Wolfies, The Coterie in Kokomo, Be Here Now in Muncie, and has played at Carmel St. Patrick's Day Festival and at many private parties.

Eric Thornbury said anyone interested can listen to and stream them on every major platform, including iTunes and Spotify. "You won't be disappointed. They are very good."

Jay Thornbury thanks all of the musicians who helped the band get where it is today.

"We started the band with Drew, Caleb, and I, along with a drummer by the name of Braeden Janes. Braeden was a very crucial member in getting the band started, as he also is a trained producer and recorded and helped release some of our material online," Jay Thornbury said.

Braeden's family let the band rehearse in his family's basement six hours a week for about two-and-one-half years. "And for that, we cannot thank them enough," Jay Thornbury said.

Soon after the band began its journey, the group added three horn players. Nate Peck on trumpet, Luke Nelson on trombone, and Peter Clark on alto saxophone.

"This was the first live band we played with when we had our EP release party at the Logan Street Sanctuary right in downtown Noblesville," Jay Thornbury said.

"Peter, Nate, and Luke all attended Noblesville High School with us. Soon after those horns left, we added two new people, Matthew Phemster on tenor saxophone, and Levi Rozek on trumpet," Jay Thornbury said. "Levi and Matthew took the band to a whole new level with their musicality and ability on the horn, and we gigged with them for a while. For a short period with Levi and Matthew, we added a (female) singer by the name of Maciah Letrese. Maciah had a beautiful voice that was perfect for the band, but she moved out of state so she was only with the band for a short while. While we

were with Maciah, we released a track entitled 'Swing' on all streaming platforms. It's awesome and features Levi Rozek on trumpet as well. After Braeden left for college in August 2021, we added Aidan Board to the group as our new drummer. With Aidan and the three of us original members, our whole vibe changed. Suddenly we became a four-piece jam band powerhouse and started covering the likes of Phish, the Dead, and Pink Floyd."

Jay Thornbury said, "We all picked up singing to keep the energy up, and we've been gigging frequently the past couple years and having a ton of fun."

He attributes his NHS band director dad and the NHS band program for helping his band succeed.

"My dad helped me get started with music and the program he helped build at Noblesville was a tremendous help to developing my skills as a musician," Jay Thornbury said. "Without the connections I made through the band program, I would not have been able to start a band in the first place. He never had much creative influence on the band, but having him to help network has been a big help to book gigs in the past."

For more about the Indy Gorgeous Club, visit www.indygorgeousclub.com and [IndyGorgeousClub.com](https://www.IndyGorgeousClub.com) on Facebook.

Contact Betsy Reason at betsy@thetimes24-7.com. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets for the Courthouse lawn and wear some comfortable shoes for dancing. See ya there! (Read about more things to do this weekend and beyond in today's edition of The Times)



Jay Thornbury

Want TO GO?

What: Noblesville Street Dance.

When: 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday.

Where: Historical Courthouse Square in downtown Noblesville.

How much: Free.

Who's the entertainment: Kelli Yates, 6:15 p.m.; Indy Gorgeous Club, 7:45 p.m.; and Groove Smash, 9:15 p.m.

What else: Beer Garden, presented by Peterson Architecture and supported by Noble Coffee & Tea and Primeval Brewing with cornhole and giant Jenga; Touch-A-Truck, sponsored by Reynolds Farm Equipment, will let kids get up close with some cool equipment used in agriculture; Kids Activity Area, sponsored by The Lacy Building, with bounce houses, face painting and balloon twisting; Ice Cream Eating Contest, sponsored by Alexander's on the Square; Dance Contest and 50 vendors with food, art, clothing and more.

Info: Noblesville Main Street, www.noblesvillemainstreet.org

COUNTY From Page A1

groundwater fluctuations in that area.

This network will be the first county based real time groundwater information system in Indiana. The monitoring system uses next-generation acoustic sensor technology to turn residential, agricultural, industrial and irrigation wells into real-time monitoring networks. The sensor attaches to the top of the well and does not interfere with the function of the well.

The county is looking for volunteers interested

in having their well outfitted with a real-time sensor to add their water data to the groundwater network. The installation is free and the data will contribute valuable information to the study. Landowners who choose to do so will be provided personalized access to your well's water level data through time.

If interested please reach out to the Hamilton County Surveyors Office at 317-776-8495 or email at surveyor@hamilton-county.in.gov.

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FRIDAY Business Notes and NEWS DAY

Friday, Aug. 5, 2022

A8

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

BBB Scam Alert: Not Every Social Media Ad is Legit

If you are on social media, you've seen the uptick in ads for amazing deals. Retailers know this generates a lot of insights and are flooding social media with their offerings. However, consumers need to be aware that not every retailer advertising on social media is legitimate.

Complaints, negative customer reviews and BBB Scam Tracker reports across the country find issues with placed orders from social media ads. Consumers allege everything from non-delivery of orders to poor material quality, wrong sizes, or no labels.

A consumer in Wolcott, Indiana reported to BBB Scam Tracker that stated they placed an order with a cosmetic company after being informed on Instagram that could be on their PR list if they made some purchases with a discount code. According to the report, the company did not deliver and refused to give them a refund.

When it comes to online shopping, BBB offers these tips:

- Do your homework. Check out retailers at bbb.org before you shop. Do an online search of the business

with the word "scam" or "complaints" to see what others are saying.

- Think before you click. Be especially cautious about email solicitations and online ads on social media sites. Many sketchy retailers advertise great deals or trendy clothing that don't measure up to the promotional hype.

- Know the advertiser. Some of the best deals are only available online but be careful. It's easy for a fake site to mimic a famous retailer's website, so make sure you are shopping with a legitimate site. A red flag is if the site is missing contact information.

- Check a site's security settings. If the site is secure, its URL (web address) should start with "https" and include a lock icon on the purchase or shopping cart page.

- Shop with a credit card. In case of a fraudulent transaction, a credit card provides additional protections; it's easier to dispute charges that you didn't approve. Debit cards, prepaid cards or gift cards don't have the same protections as a credit card.

- Keep documentation of your order. Save a copy of the confirmation page

or email confirmation until you receive the item and are satisfied. Be sure to know and understand the return policy and keep this documented with your purchase records.

- Keep Your Device Protected. Install a firewall, anti-virus, and anti-spyware software. Check for and install the latest updates and run virus scans regularly on your computer, tablet, and smart phone.

For more information:

If you suspect you have fallen victim to this scam, report it to BBB.org/Scam-Tracker. Your report can help alert others to similar scams. Sign up for BBB Scam Alerts.

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. 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.

New Social Media Tools Help Public Assess Viral Posts, Check for Bots

The Observatory on Social Media, or OSoMe, at Indiana University has launched three new or revamped no-cost research tools to give journalists, other researchers and the public a broad view of what's happening on social media.

The tools help overcome some of the biggest challenges of interpreting information flow online, which is often difficult to understand because it's so fast-paced and experienced from the perspective of an individual account's newsfeed. It can also be influenced by bots and other programs, distorting the picture of what is actually going on.

"You often hear something is going viral, but how?" said Filippo Menczer, director of OSoMe and Luddy Distinguished Professor of Computer Science and Informatics in the IU Luddy School of Informatics, Computing and Engineering. "Our tools show you what the conversation is, who the players are, what the viral messages are, and you can even visualize polarization. It provides a place for exploration of topics and how they work together."

The Networks Tool, which has recently been updated, creates an interactive map (now in 3D) to explore how information spreads across Twitter. Users can visualize who is retweeting or mentioning whom on a particular topic, or which hashtags are being used with other hashtags, and all data can now be exported. Using the tool, researchers, educators, journalists and the general public can see, at a glance, the complex networks that drive our online experience.

The Trends Tool helps users analyze the volume of tweets within a given hashtag, URL or keyword over a given period of time. This tool shows which topics are trending and what is going viral. It can be particular-

ly valuable to brands and businesses to see if their associated hashtags are trending, and users can even look up stock ticker symbols to see which stocks people are talking about.

The new BotAmp Tool enables users to pinpoint likely bot activity for tweets filtered by a search term. BotAmp is built upon the foundation of Botometer, a popular bot detection system developed by OSoMe, and is designed to help journalists understand whether something is being falsely amplified by bots or not.

"We run a very fast algorithm called BotometerLite that looks at an account profile and gives a score based on that profile," said Kai-Cheng Yang, a Ph.D. student at OSoMe who designed BotAmp. "A high score means the profile is likely automated, and a low score indicates the profile is likely human."

"We can't tell for sure if it is a bot, but we can tell if it looks very similar to one. We then look at the distribution of the scores of the profiles involved in the tweets that match the search term. BotAmp performs a statistical analysis to determine if the activity is likely amplified by automated accounts, compared to a baseline."

OSoMe's tools leverage a huge stream of data -- roughly 50 million tweets a day -- collected from Twitter. It equates to roughly 10 percent of public tweets, which are then analyzed and indexed for use through these tools.

Users can visualize data from any given month from the previous three years. Most tools don't allow users to go back as far, Menczer said.

"There's always a lot of debate about what's going on online," he said. "These tools are meant to help the public study these things and see for themselves."

How Small Businesses Can Attract and Retain Employees

(Family Features) Small business administrators are typically among the most competent multi-taskers, but even the most talented jugglers occasionally end up with too many balls in the air. Attracting and retaining employees doesn't have to be part of your juggling act; in fact, having the right team can make the rest of your business run smoother.

As a small business administrator, you may wear many hats, such as running the front desk, ordering supplies, managing accounting, onboarding and more. When you have extra hands to allocate the work, your business is likely to be more efficient and productive. Make employee retention a priority for your business with these practices:

Create a positive work culture

When employees enjoy coming to work each day, it shows. Your customers recognize it, and your internal team can feel it, too. A positive work culture encourages excellence, forgives mistakes, and leaves plenty of room for having fun. You can create a positive culture by

making sure expectations are clearly defined and giving feedback that is consistent and fair.

Provide an appealing salary and benefits package

A competitive salary that aligns with expertise is an obvious edge in hiring top talent. You can become a more attractive employer by offering a benefits package that includes paid time off, insurance and other extras.

Voluntary benefits, such as those provided by Unum and Colonial Life, offer customizable solutions for businesses and their employees. These benefits can provide flexibility to employees by catering to certain stages of life and lifestyles and to employers by offering various funding options like 100% employee-paid or employer-employee shared funding. With low premiums, many small business owners can achieve significant returns and invest in benefits to attract talent and retain loyal employees.

Allow for flexible schedules
In large part due to the pandemic, employees have learned to juggle their work and

home lives like never before.

The businesses who recognize this need have an edge, particularly for employees who need flexibility to care for family members. The degree of flexibility you can offer may vary depending on the business model. Communicating with your employees and working to make reasonable accommodations can go a long way toward attracting strong candidates and retaining current employees.

Provide opportunities for growth

Employees typically look for opportunities to learn and grow through additional responsibility, compensation and rewards for performance that encourage long-term commitment. Working with employees to understand their career goals is an important step on a path for growth that is mutually beneficial.

Find more solutions to help small businesses at Unum.com and ColonialLife.com or download The Essential Small Business Benefits Guide to learn how to add voluntary benefits to reduce total benefits costs.



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FRIDAY

Voice of our PEOPLE

The Times of Noblesville

Friday, Aug. 5, 2022

A9

They Are the Definition of Cuteness

We often go over the things in this space that seem wrong with the world, well, at least in one man's opinion. This week, please allow me to share a little bit about what's right.

Not too long ago, I had the distinct pleasure of watching two of our grandpups play in their first T-ball game.

Let me 'fess up to start with. I'm about as biased as biased can be on this. Not only do I love my grandpups, but there is no sport in the world quite like baseball. Poems have been written about the greenest of green grasses that make up the field, about the brilliant blue skies overhead, the satisfying pop of ball into leather glove and the crisp crack of the wooden bat when it connects perfectly with a pitch.

This game had none of that.

Well, OK, the grass



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

was green and the sky blue. But that was about it.

Didn't matter.

I'm pretty sure if you looked up the definition of cute in your Funk & Wagnall, these kids would be there. For example, when the game ended the coaches tried to line up these 4- and 5-year-olds so they could shake hands or high five the other team. Yeah, right. These little guys and gals had no clue. Half of them put their left hand up in the air, palm outward and then

walked by as the other team passed on their right.

If you're a baseball purist, you might not recognize the field. There are dots chalked into the infield and outfield. The dots represent zones, and when the team takes the field, each kid stands on a dot . . . sometimes even after the ball is hit. At other times, they might run to that same dot instead of first base after they hit the ball.

Innings did not consist of outs - thank goodness or otherwise we might still be there. Rather, every kid got to bat, and run the bases . . . sort of. When the ball was whacked off the tee, it was anyone's guess if six kids were going to dive for it, completely ignore it or, in a couple of instances, the batter fielded the ball and gave back to the coach.

For a little while, there

wasn't inflation or gas prices or Democrats or Republicans. Just a bunch of little boys and girls of all sizes, shapes and colors, getting along, playing a game that dates back to the 1800s. They weren't staring at a screen - grass or butterflies maybe, but not screens. They were laughing, yawning, interested, distracted and all the things pre-schoolers do over the course of an hour. For a little while, just a little while, all was right with the world.

Two cents, which is about how much Timmons said his columns are worth, appears periodically on Thursdays in The Times. Timmons is the chief executive officer of Sagamore News Media, the company that owns The Noblesville Times. He is also a proud Noblesville High School graduate and can be contacted at timmons@thetimes24-7.com.



Photo courtesy of Tim Timmons

Sully - arm raised - and Sebastian weren't celebrating the game, but rather a snack.

Cash Isn't Everything Permission Has Been Granted



JOHN MARLOWE
With the Grain

In the famous "temple scene" in George Lucas' story Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (1984), Harrison Ford, as our hero Indiana Jones, makes his way to steal the golden idol. He first must navigate a series of booby-trapped plates in the floor, dodge poison darts and negotiate the tripwires leading up the steps.

Standing in front of his quarry, he examines the priceless relic. He estimates its weight, and removes sand from a pouch that he ultimately uses to replace the golden idol on its rigged pedestal. Then he grabs the treasure, outruns a giant marble, climbs out of a bottomless pit and slides under a falling slab door to make his escape.

This is how I feel when I go to the bank machine. I miss the old days.

When we needed extra cash to run on, we simply stopped by the bank on our way home. We'd pull a check from our checkbooks, write it payable to ourselves, then endorse the back before slipping it to Ethyl Hostetter under the opening of the teller's cage or through the drawer in the drive-up window.

While Ethyl was processing our transaction, she would always ask us how our folks were doing,

and generally brought us up-to-date on what was happening around town, information we might have missed had we failed to stop by the beauty shop.

In a matter of a few seconds, Ethyl would hand us our cash. The transaction wasn't fully complete, however, until Ethyl presented us with a green, orange or yellow sucker, or in my case, two giant doggie biscuits.

Ethyl retired in 1989, and kids and dogs in my town have been hungry ever since.

Granted, the old system had its limitations. Ethyl grew weary of the times that I would call her up at 2 o'clock in the morning, asking her for money to get something to eat after a ballgame. And I remember quite clearly how the normally mirthful Ethyl grumbled loudly when I asked her to run \$200 to Terre Haute when my car broke down.

Still, I don't think ATMs are perfect either.

Years ago, I opened a new checking account at Old Mother Fletcher's Bank, and with it came privilege of one of the early bank machines. After several weeks, I noticed that I could never reconcile my daily account balance with what the bank claimed was in there. What made it really odd was that each day, the balance appeared to be in favor of the bank by \$1.50.

After weeks of complaining, and a lengthy investigation, the bank determined that a software glitch was failing to clean out a file buffer in the computer at the end of each day. Instead it was cleaning me out.

Another time, an ATM impounded my bank card.

I slipped the plastic rectangle into the slot as usual, and suddenly the video monitor began flashing alarmingly. "This is a fraudulently issued card," the screen read. "This card will not be returned to you. Please contact bank security for further instructions."

I might have been OK with that. After all, they are trying to protect our money. My issue is that, while this was happening, that annoying beeping that accompanies most bank machine was droning on the entire time. The incessant "beep-beep-beep" filled the night air, to the point that I didn't know if I was being arrested or about to be backed over by a bulldozer.

The other day, I needed cash, and I pulled up to the ATM under the canopy at my local bank branch. I slipped in my card, and entered my password. Nothing happened. I cancelled the transaction; I tried it once again.

Nothing. I went through the routine another six times, each time failing to get the machine to accept my password. Luckily, the bank was open, and I parked my car to go inside.

Barb, graciously joined me outside by the bank machine to give it a try. She became nearly as frustrated as I had been, trying the card over and over. Finally, she reached for her cell phone.

"Calling your IT Department?" I asked.

Barb raised a single index finger, then spoke into the phone.

"Is that you, Ethyl?"

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



DICK WOLFSTIE
Life in a Nutshell

My church's men's group recently had a discussion about who was the boss in our homes. Many of the members had never thought about it and didn't know how to respond. I told them I was sure I was the boss, but I wanted to check with my wife to see if she agreed with my saying that.

After giving it more thought, I realized I do something that may reveal I am not the boss. Whenever I share with my wife what my plans are, I follow my declaration with "okay?"

"Mary Ellen, I'm going to take a shower, okay?"

Why have I formed this as a question? Am I asking for permission?

When I was single, I took a shower anytime I wanted; I didn't need to inform anyone. I could just do it...unless I hadn't paid the water bill. Why do I need consent now? In all fairness, my wife has

never said, "No, I don't want you to take a shower," but occasionally she'll say: "Don't use all the hot water." One morning, she remarked, "It's about time," which really got my attention.

Last Tuesday, I said, "I'm going to the drug store, okay?"

"Sure...and while you're there, get a bottle of my shampoo and some dental floss, and pick up my prescription refill. And I also need a L'Oreal Voluminous Butterfly Mascara, Black/Brown color. Any man who can find that earns an A-OK. Good luck.

Then, just yesterday, I announced, "I'm going for a walk, okay?" Now, I knew Mary Ellen would have no objection, but phrasing it as a question gave her the option to add: "That's fine, but be sure to bring your water bottle, don't track in any mud when you get back, and don't walk in the middle of the street. The neighbors are complaining about having to swerve around you."

Ending with "okay?" must be a subconscious need for approval in whatever I do. In retrospect, I wish I had just said: "Mary Ellen, I am going for a walk." I tried that earlier this afternoon. Here's what she said: "That's fine, but be sure

to bring your water bottle, don't track in any mud when you get back, and don't walk in the middle of the street. The neighbors are complaining about having to swerve around you." Yeah, so much for that theory.

Mary Ellen may be the boss after all. She handles all our investments, medical policies, landscaping choices, mortgage decisions, barbequing, last will and testament updates, our automatic sprinkler system and any home security issues, just to name a few of her responsibilities. I am proud to say that oil changes for both of our cars are my department. That, along with doing the dishes, pretty much sums up my obligations in the Wolfstie household. As you can tell, I don't do very much. But in all fairness, Mary Ellen won't let me.

After admitting to all of this, I want you to know that starting right now, I am going to be more assertive in all my conversations, more positive in my tone and more confident in my decisions, okay?

Dick Wolfstie 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 Wolfstie@aol.com.

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FRIDAY

Voice of our PEOPLE

Ask Rusty – How Do We Apply for My Wife’s Spousal Benefit?

Dear Rusty: I am 70 years old and just started receiving my Social Security benefits about 4 months ago and I get close to \$3700 per month. My wife is 65 years old and worked sporadically over the years so is entitled to her own benefits. If we applied under her account, she would get around \$300 a month. If she applies under the spousal benefits, she should get a lot more, but we are not exactly sure how to apply for spousal benefits under her existing account. Can you help guide us? Signed: Uncertain How to Proceed

Dear Uncertain: Your wife can apply for both her own SS retirement

benefit (from her own lifetime work record) and her spousal benefit from you, at the same time. In fact, when she applies for her own Social Security benefit, since you are now collecting your benefits she will be automatically deemed to be filing also for her spousal benefit from you.

Your wife’s Social Security payment will actually consist of two elements – her own earned benefit and a “spousal boost” to bring her to her spousal entitlement. So, when she applies for her own SS benefit, she will also get a spousal boost to make her payment equal to what she is entitled to as your



ASK RUSTY
Social Security Advisor

spouse. She can apply by calling Social Security at your local office or calling the national service center at 1.800.772.1213 to request an appointment. She also has the option to apply for her benefits online at www.ssa.gov which is, by far, the most efficient way.

Social Security Matters by AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor

Russell Gloor

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

To apply online, your wife will need to first create her personal “my Social Security” online account, which is easy to do at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. When your wife fills out the application for her benefits, she will be able to

identify you as her spouse, and she should use the “Remarks” section of the application to emphasize that she wishes to receive her spousal benefits as well.

Just for your awareness, your wife’s spousal

benefit will be based on your full retirement age (FRA) benefit amount, not your age 70 amount, and if she claims at age 65 her benefits will be reduced because she hasn’t yet reached her own full retirement age (which is 66 years and 4 months if she was born in 1956). Your wife’s personal benefit will be reduced by .56% for each month earlier than her FRA that she claims, and her spousal boost will be reduced by .69% for each month earlier than her FRA she claims. So, if your wife claims her benefit before her full retirement age, her payment will be less than 50% of your FRA benefit amount.

Donald Trump – Rejection is Painful and Can Create Lifelong Embarrassment

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Rejection can be difficult to handle.

Perhaps an employer once said, “You no longer have a job here.” To be dismissed from your job would be painful, especially if you loved your job and wanted to stay.

Imagine a spouse or a boyfriend/girlfriend saying, “I don’t want to be with you anymore. Please leave me alone. I no longer want your company.” Something like that would most likely be very hurtful especially if you loved the person dismissing you and you were willing to do whatever it took to work it out.

The various scenarios of rejection can come from various levels of



GLENN MOLLETTE
Guest Column

life. Children can reject parents. Parents reject children. People are rejected because of their politics, sexual orientation, skin color, background, and much more.

Can you think of a hurtful instance in your life when you felt rejected by a group, church, community, employer, friend, loved one or other? If that has ever

happened to you then you haven’t forgotten how it made you feel. You were disappointed, hurt, probably angry, and maybe even bewildered by the rejection. You may have even been surprised by the rejection. Or, maybe you saw it coming but tried to hold on to the position or the relationship.

It is obvious that Donald Trump loved being President of the United States. He loved the position, the influence, the power, the prestige, and the millions of adoring fans and supporters. He flourished and thrived personally as President of the United States. While others may have grown tired from the load of being President, Trump seemed to thrive.

He loved speaking to the massive crowds and still does.

Trump’s crowds and mega support may have led him to believe that being defeated by an aging Joe Biden was just impossible. In his mind he was mentally set for another four years of White House living. When the vote went for Joe Biden, unfortunately, it was emotionally more than he could handle. He could not accept that enough votes had gone the other way. For a man who loved being President the rejection by the majority of the American people was more than he could swallow when victory seemed so probable to him.

The hurt, pain and an-

ger of rejection and losing something he loved so much muddled the mind of a President who truly had worked hard to shore up our military, Veterans, border security, medical cost transparency, and so much more. Sadly, rejection stings. Often, the way we react to rejection is rarely exemplary.

Trump messed up on January 6th. The rioters and invaders of those who attacked the Capitol were wrong. The long silence of Trump may be the ongoing nightmare that could permanently lock the White House door that he would so love to once again enter. Only time will tell. Republicans will most likely nominate him again and

Democrats are fearful of another race between he and Joe Biden. Who knows yet what the future will bring?

The main point is this, if and when you are rejected, give yourself enough time to make a rational and clear response. Anger, hurt and disappointment are black clouds that always mire the mind. Take some time off. Get away for a while. Talk to reasonable thinking people who can see the big picture. Try to recover from the blow of rejection. Eventually, you’ll respond in such a way that won’t result in lifelong embarrassment.

Hear Dr. Glenn Mollette each weekday morning at 8:56 and 10:11:30 a.m. EST

On John Mearsheimer: Or, Is The West Really Responsible For The Ukrainian Crisis?

By Dr. R.B.A. Di Muccio

John Mearsheimer has unquestionably earned our attention on contemporary international relations and on the Ukrainian crisis. Mearsheimer is an academic who specializes in theories of international relations (IR). If you were an IR graduate student in the 1980s or 1990s (I was), you would be very familiar with Mearsheimer and would appreciate his role in fleshing out the “neo-realist” version of the realist school of thought. He is a towering figure in the study of international affairs and one of the world’s most prominent IR theorists.

He has also been a rather provocative commentator on foreign affairs. Mearsheimer first became a subject of notoriety when he explained why we would “miss the Cold War.” When that piece was written, there was plenty of guffawing. The West had just declared victory in the Cold War, and here was an obscure academic essentially tossing a wet blanket on the celebration. Nevertheless, the thesis and many of the predictions in the piece wound up being spot on. Moreover, Mearsheimer

became famous (or infamous) for arguing in the 1990s that the Ukraine should be permitted to keep its nuclear weapons in a post-Soviet, post-Cold War world as a check on a resurgent Russia that might someday become aggressive. Ukraine might badly need those nukes as a deterrent.

Today, Mearsheimer’s analysis of the Ukrainian crisis has garnered a fresh helping of notoriety. For example, a June lecture version of the article is nearing two million views on YouTube. What’s the big deal?

You need look no further than the title of the article: “John Mearsheimer on Why the West is Principally Responsible for the Ukrainian crisis.”

There it is. A thumb in the eye of Western foreign policy establishment elites spanning eras, countries, and parties. The definition of controversial.

Now, the title is certainly part click bait, and Mearsheimer dutifully qualifies his thesis. But the core argument is unmistakable: the West, and the United States in particular, provoked and therefore caused Russian

aggression in Ukraine. This, itself, helps explain much of the controversy. But we should also examine Mearsheimer’s assessment because of the questions it raises about the value of realist theories in understanding contemporary world affairs.

Here’s a basic outline of the argument:

First, through spring 2008, Vladimir Putin had consistently and repeatedly signaled a willingness to allow Ukraine to be independent as long as it remained neutral vis-à-vis the West. Second, implied throughout Mearsheimer’s argument is a completely non-controversial realist assumption: it was and is clearly in Russia’s national security interest to demand and expect Ukrainian neutrality. Therefore, any actions obviously aimed at bringing Ukraine closer to the West or, worse, into NATO, would necessarily be viewed by Russia as an existential threat.

This is exactly what happened, starting in earnest with the April 2008 NATO summit in Bucharest, continuing with many subsequent moves to bring Ukraine closer to the EU and make

Ukraine a pro-American democracy. This was followed more recently by a series of steps that made Ukraine a near de facto member of NATO, including U.S. and NATO supplied weapons, the training of Ukrainian forces, multiple joint military exercises and more.

Realism holds that states are perpetually fearful for their security and therefore tend toward competition and conflict. States, being rational actors, have no choice but to act to ensure their survival.

According to Mearsheimer, such calculations fully explain why Russia took Crimea in 2014 and then launched a much broader invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. The West, led by successive U.S. administrations, “recklessly” sought EU and NATO expansion, and thereby needlessly provoked the Ukrainian crisis.

The thesis, though elegant, is not without problems and troubling implications. Mearsheimer offers this qualification: “Putin started the war and is responsible for how it is being waged. But why he did so is another matter.” In

other words, the West’s narrative that Putin is just an out-of-touch madman is false. Instead, Putin’s overarching motivations are perfectly rational, even though his methods may not be. But how can the essential motivation be rational but not its outward manifestations? Is Putin a rational actor or not? At what point do presumably non-rational methods undermine, contradict, or call into question the rational ends?

Secondly, Mearsheimer’s thesis leaves the impression that realist expectations of rational, security-seeking action apply to Russia, but not to the West. But what definition of the security motive disqualifies the West’s goals of ensuring that Ukraine is not brought back into a Soviet-style orbit? If the West’s actions over two decades haven’t been the result of rational security calculations, what explanations are left? Miscalculation? Corruption? Evil?

Mearsheimer is obviously outraged that the Western powers challenged Putin in the ways that they did. But his attempt to use realist IR theory to give Putin

mostly a pass on the causes of the Ukrainian crisis doesn’t quite stand up to scrutiny.

Is the West principally responsible for the Ukrainian crisis? Western provocation arguably did help occasion the Ukrainian crisis. But if these provocations were simply in pursuit of rational, realist aims, it’s the very structure of contemporary international relations that is the underlying cause of the crisis, not one side or the other.

Yes, this is a gloomy conclusion. But it’s one that arguably follows more faithfully from the realist paradigm than Mearsheimer’s assessment.

Dr. R.B.A. Di Muccio is a guest commentator for the Institute for Faith and Freedom at Grove City College. A former assistant professor and chair of the international relations program in the Political Science Department at the University of Florida, he is now vice president of research and advisory services for a global business advisory firm. He received his Ph.D. in international relations from the University of Southern California.

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