

**➔ TODAY'S VERSE**

Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.



**➔ FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY**

People who call our community their own.

What makes Sue Jourdan smile? "Taking something old and freshening it up, repurposing it. I love working with painting and antiques and doing things on the creative edge," said the 67-year-old Noblesville resident. She founded and is co-chair with Jennie Auble of the Red Geranium Artisan Market, which is 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the First Presbyterian Church in Noblesville. She lives in Old Town Noblesville. Sue and her late husband, Bill Jourdan, moved here in 1986 from Detroit when Bill joined the Noblesville Police Department. She's an interior designer and graduate of Wayne State University in Detroit and has been in the design business for more than 30 years. She has two children, Jennifer and Christine, and one grandchild, Spacely Finister. And yes, her granddaughter's name came from Spacely Sprockets on The Jetsons' popular animated television sitcom from the early 1960s.

**And Another Thing...**

**1. Cost of Flight Delays**

According to the good folks at FamilyDestination Guide.com, Hoosier families on average spend \$238 on airport food and drinks because of flight delays. This equals about a quarter of their ticket costs. And that figure ranks Hoosiers the 17th most expensive state in the country. Apparently the surge in flight delays this summer has created chaos in airports around America, with the delay domino effect leaving travelers spending more time (and money) inside airports while they await their unpredictable departure. Airports are infamously renowned for their massively marked-up food and drink charges. In fact, an outrageously-priced \$28 beer from a vendor at LaGuardia Airport recently made headlines because of its alarming cost.

**2. Job Opportunity**

Looking for a part-time job that does not involve the words: Would You Like Fries With That? The Noblesville Times offers jobs that include pagination and page design, basic clerical and even some photography and writing. We're looking for bright and eager people to join our winning team! This could be the perfect job for part-time students all the way up to Baby Boomers looking for something to do. Let us know you are interested by sending an e-mail with either your resume and a note telling us what you love about newspapers to jobs@thetimes24-7.com.

**3. Reader's Choice**

If you are one of the many who were Readers' Choice winners in our annual huge recognition promotion, you may be getting e-mails from Showmark, a company trying to sell plaques and such. Please know, that has nothing to do with our company and the actual Readers' Choice program. For years, we have produced the annual popular Readers Choice contest and we give, absolutely free of charge, certificates suitable for framing to our winners, runner-ups and honorable mentions. We're not familiar with this Showmark group, and we certainly don't blame them for trying to wiggle in to one of the biggest contests around, we just want you to know we have never charged a penny for those recognized - and we never will!

# The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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The Times photo courtesy of Betsy Reason

The Noblesville American Legion has purchased the historic R.L. Wilson property located at 273 S. Eighth St., in Noblesville.



The Times photo courtesy of Betsy Reason

The Noblesville American Legion property (above) located at 1094 Conner St., Noblesville, has been sold to Church, Church, Hittle & Antrim attorneys in downtown Noblesville.

## Noblesville Legion Has New Home, Sells Own Property



**BETSY REASON**  
The Times Editor

Noblesville American Legion is finally "at the finish line."

The Legion has completed the sale of its current property and purchase of its future home.

Frank Huntzinger Post 45 Commander John Morris confirmed at 4 p.m. Tuesday of the two property sales.

Church, Church, Hittle & Antrim (attorneys) have purchased the beloved Legion property at 1094 Conner St., Noblesville. The American Legion has purchased the historic R.L. Wilson property at 273 S. Eighth St., in Noblesville.

The Times had reported in January that voting members of the Post unanimously approved to sell the Legion property to a buyer and to purchase property elsewhere but was unable to release details of either sale. However, in June, sale agreements with all parties involved were signed and information released.

Both property closings were completed Monday afternoon with funding occurring on Tuesday.

"Having the properties settled is definitely satisfying," Morris, 52, said Wednesday morning. "Now the hard work starts, prepping the new space for relocation."

Members of Legion Post 45 will continue to use the current site on Conner Street for several months during preparation for their new home, which is expected to be ready for move-in by spring 2023.

The R.L. Wilson house, which sits on one acre, is an historically classic home originally built in 1867 by Leonard Wild (1834-1909), who could be considered Noblesville's "master builder," according

to Hamilton County historian David Heighway. In 1867, Wild replaced the house that William Conner had built in 1837 with the structure known as the R.L. Wilson house. After a bad fire on Courthouse Square in 1892, Wild also built the building known as the Harris-Joseph Block, now the offices of Church, Church, Hittle, and Antrim, which have been in business for more than a century.

"The R.L. Wilson property represents the rich history of Noblesville. As with this property, the Noblesville American Legion has also served this community for over 100 years," Morris said. "A key for the seller was that the property go to someone that would appreciate the tradition and be good stewards, as well. All sides agree that this match was an ideal situation. We also will be able to usher in a new age for our Post through increased Veteran support, a giant leap forward with our computer lab and more." (The computer lab will have six work stations, dual

➔ See BETSY Page A5

## Westfield Washington Schools Give Nurses Rock Service Award



On Tuesday, during the school board meeting, the Westfield Washington Schools Board of Trustees, in partnership with the Westfield Education Foundation, gave out Rock Service Awards to the Riverview Health nurses who staff all 10 of the district buildings. This award is a new recognition that the school district gives to organizations and people who have gone

above and beyond the call to support the mission of Westfield Washington Schools which is to provide rigorous and engaging experiences to prepare all children for their future.

Dr. Chase Stinson, director of special education and student services, said he has seen, first-hand, what the COVID-19 pandemic did to our nurses.

"Simply put, the last two school years would not have been possible without these amazing healthcare profession-

➔ See NURSES Page A5

## Elks Lodge 576 Awards Grant to Feeding Team

Noblesville Elks Lodge 576 awarded a \$2500 grant to Feedingteam.org this past week. Martin Weiss, incoming Lodge 576 Exalted Ruler commented "We are proud to partner with the Feeding Team, they exemplify the values of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Together we make a positive difference in the lives of our Hamilton County neighbors."

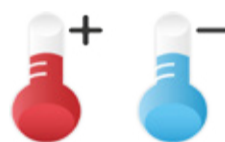
Lisa Hall, Co-Founder of Feeding Team says "Support from local organizations like the Elks is critical to our ability to provide thousands of meals each month to local neighbors. We

➔ See LODGE Page A5

## The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset  
RISE: 6:58 a.m.  
SET: 8:36 p.m.



High/Low  
Temperatures  
High: 83 °F  
Low: 60 °F



**Today is....**

- Never Give Up Day
- National Bad Poetry Day
- National Fajita Day



**What Happened On This Day**

- 1958 Lolita is First Published in the US
- 1920 The State of Tennessee Passes the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution
- 1612 The Pendle witch trials begin



**Births On This Day**

- 1750 Antonio Salieri Italian composer
- 1983 Cameron White Australian cricketer

**Deaths On This Day**

- 1227 Genghis Khan Emperor
- 1990 B. F. Skinner American psychologist, author

**➔ INSIDE TODAY**

- Obituaries.....A2
- Tim Timmons.....A2
- Service Directory.....A4
- Classifieds.....A6
- Indiana Facts & Fun.....A6
- Indiana The Strong.....A7, A8

**➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

Grandma's advice not to put anything smaller than your elbow in your ear was right - that includes Q-tips. 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**

"Men always forget that human happiness is a disposition of mind and not a condition of circumstances."  
- John Locke

**➔ TODAY'S JOKE**

The past, the present and the future all walk into a bar. Things were a little tense.

**➔ HONEST HOOSIER**

Anyone seen any Build Back Better blue hats or yard signs? Wonder what that means?



**➔ OBITUARIES**  
See obituaries on page A2



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



**7 DAY FORECAST**

60/82 MOSTLY SUNNY	60/83 MAINLY SUNNY	62/85 MOSTLY SUNNY	71/84 LATE DAY STORMS	64/82 SCATTERED STORMS	66/81 PARTLY CLOUDY	64/84 PARTLY CLOUDY
WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE



➔ Business News

# Coles Marketing Brings 17 Jobs to Carmel with New Location

Coles Marketing, a family-owned integrated marketing agency based in Indiana, brings 17 jobs to Carmel with its relocation to 358 Gradle Drive. The move comes after more than 35 years in Indianapolis, most recently located at 3950 Priority Way South Drive in the Lakefront at Keystone office park.

A certified Women Business Enterprise (WBE), Coles Marketing was founded by Barbara Coles, MS, APR, in 1985. Co-owner Brian Coles joined the firm in 2003, and together they have led the agency in providing top-quality communications with digital-age marketing techniques for clients in a variety of industries, including health care, automotive, financial services, manufacturing, not-for-profit and technology.



decades in Indianapolis, we are excited to move our offices to Carmel and contribute to such a vibrant, growing community," Brian Coles said. "Our team of 17 public and media relations professionals, copywriters, designers, developers and e-communications experts looks forward to helping organizations stand out in the marketplace by delivering our clients'

key messages to the right audiences and securing the desired results."

Coles Marketing offers services in marketing strategy, digital media, website development, creative, content marketing, advertising and public relations.

For more information about Coles Marketing and services offered, call 317-571-0051 or visit <https://colesmarketing.com/>.

# Sen. Braun Pushes for More Spending on Agriculture Research, Development

By Casey Smith

Indiana Sen. Mike Braun said increasing government spending on agriculture research should be a top priority for the federal government as lawmakers in Congress craft their ongoing response to food security issues.

The Republican senator met with agricultural industry leaders, including from Bayer and Purdue University, during a panel talk on Tuesday at Tom Farms in Leesburg, a rural farm community just north of Warsaw.

The farm — one of the largest in Indiana — is owned by megafarmer and former U.S. Ambassador Kip Tom, who moderated the discussion.

Addressing food shortages

Panelists emphasized that the world's food system is under increasing pressure due to supply chain issues affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine, severe weather events, and high fertilizer costs.

Rising input costs for farmers translates to higher prices for consumers at grocery stores and creates additional challenges for mitigating record levels of global hunger.

Tom said those issues have increased the need for the U.S. to invest in agricultural research and development.

"We've relied heavily on the private sector in the past, but we need to get the government involved in some of these activities," said Tom, who ran an unsuccessful GOP bid for the U.S. House in 2016 and later served on a Trump agricultural advisory committee. "We can help prevent another further food crisis."

He noted that the country's public investment in agricultural research has declined since 2003, putting U.S. trade and competitiveness at risk. Agriculture is particularly important to Indiana, where the sector contributes \$31.2 billion to the state's economy.

When asked about the upcoming 2023 Farm Bill, Braun said lawmakers haven't talked enough about food security issues but maintained that would be part of his focus as discussions within the Senate Agricultural Committee continue.

He said the bill will originate in the House and focus primarily on nutrition, conservation and "securing the food supply."

"When it comes to the Farm Bill, I don't expect any drama," Braun said, adding that he wished lawmakers in the Senate would have started the bill's crafting sooner. "(The emphasis is) putting that long-term research and development into things that are going to increasingly allow us to get more out of the acres."

Braun continued that investment by businesses, whether towards agriculture or manufacturing, "has got to be part of our GDP."

The senator praised companies like Bayer for investing in agricultural advancement "the old-fashioned way — not borrowing." Jackie Applegate, President of Bayer Crop Science North America, said Tuesday that the company invested \$2 billion in agricultural research and development in 2021.

"Because when you're consuming, you're living off the merits of the past. We need to start spending less on things we consume, and spend double, triple, quadruple on investment through the federal government," Braun said. "Sadly, that's not the focus. If we don't do it, you're going to have other major players across the world who do it."

Braun spares specifics on potential Walorski replacement

Last week, Braun and his colleague from Indiana, Sen. Todd Young, joined other Republicans in voting against the Inflation Reduction Act. President Joe Biden signed the sweeping \$750 billion bill

— which also addresses health care and climate change — into law at the White House on Tuesday.

U.S. Representative Jackie Walorski, R-2nd, was originally scheduled to speak at the event. An empty chair adorned with the Indiana flag and other mementos memorialized the congresswoman at the Tuesday talk following her unexpected death earlier this month. A handful of Republicans in the 2nd Congressional District have filed to run for the seat, vying to fill the vacancy during a caucus later this week.

"She's going to be hard to replace," Braun told the Indiana Capital Chronicle. "I think from the names I've heard, we're going to get a good replacement."

Panelists also fielded questions about land depletion from some Hoosier farmers who attended the talk.

Concerns were raised that solar farms and population spread are eating into the state's farmland.

Karen Plaut, Dean of the Purdue University College of Agriculture, pointed to ongoing research at the land-grant university to put solar panels in the air, which still lets farmers grow crops underneath.

"Those are some of the types of solutions that research and development can bring for the future," Plaut said.

Braun agreed, saying that increasing funding for "common sense" innovations will help bridge relationships between farmers, academic institutions and private businesses.

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# Indiana State Fair Announces Top Three 2022 'Taste of the Fair' Winners

A returning crowd-favorite, the results are in for the Indiana State Fair's annual culinary competition amongst concessionaires for the Taste of the Fair. Announced this morning at an unveiling at the Fairgrounds, the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners are taking home a "Taste of the Fair, 2022 Food of the Fair" title and a cash prize.

Entrants of this year's Taste of the Fair were voted on throughout the Fair by the public since the fair has opened and all entries can be viewed via [www.indianastatefair.com/p/state-fair/food--shopping/taste-of-the-fair](http://www.indianastatefair.com/p/state-fair/food--shopping/taste-of-the-fair). Creativity is key in this annual competition, as vendors push the limits and think outside the box with their bold, creative ideas to vie for a coveted title.

The 2022 1st place Taste of the Fair title goes to Pickle Pizza, created by Swain's Concessions LLC,

who will take home \$2,500 in prize money. This item features homemade dough with a dill ranch sauce topped with mozzarella cheese, dill seasoning and dill pickles.

2nd place was awarded to Pretzel Nacho Bites, created by Wilson Concessions, who will leave the fair with \$1,000. This item features Wilson Concessions pretzel bites covered in nacho cheese, sour cream, jalapenos, and bacon bits.

The 3rd place winner is Mexican Street Corn in a Cup, created by Wilson Concessions, who will receive \$500. This item features roasted sweet corn, mayonnaise, hot sauce, cheese, and Mexican spices.

Just a few days remain for fairgoers wanting to try this year's Taste of the Fair entries and more - a map can be downloaded by visiting [www.indianastatefair.com/p/state-fair/food--shopping/](http://www.indianastatefair.com/p/state-fair/food--shopping/)

taste-of-the-fair. The State Fair is open today through Sunday, Aug. 21.

THE GREAT INDIANA STATE FAIR

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



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### 2022 Flix and Float Schedule

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 <b>July 16th</b> Waterhorse G	 <b>July 22nd</b> Encanto G	 <b>July 30th</b> The Shallows PG-13
 <b>August 13th</b> The Goonies PG	 <b>August 20th</b> Dog PG-13	 <b>September 3rd</b> Top Gun PG

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

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# Advocates Push Indiana Legislature to Counter Rising Medical Debt

**By Whitney Downard**  
Roughly one in six Hoosiers have medical debt in collections — higher than the national average — and it jumps to one in four residents for Hoosiers of color.

In all, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau estimates that Hoosiers have \$2.2 billion in outstanding debt. This means Indiana has the eleventh highest share of its population with medical debt in collections across the United States, the highest among its neighbors.

The median amount owed? Just \$748.

For several community organizations, those numbers are worrisome.

Hoosiers for Responsible Lending, a coalition of the Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute, Grassroots Maternal and Child Health Initiative and Prosperity Indiana, released the figures in a report analyzing the state's medical debt and its overall impact on Hoosiers.

"After seven miscarriages, I finally was able to have a child of my own, but it came at a huge cost because of the time she spent in the NICU. Medical bills created so much stress and anguish. They caused me to go through bankruptcy, and eventually I lost my home," said Deborah Fisher, with Grassroots Maternal and Child Health Initiative, in a

release. "I believe we can all work toward solutions so that my daughter, grandchildren, and other families won't have to face the same challenges."

Stakeholders compiled the report with the assistance of Americans for Financial Reform, a non-profit group formed in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis.

## The consequences of debt

Having debt in collections creates barriers and families with children under 18 are more likely to have medical debt as well as Black and Hispanic households that may already face hurdles when it comes to credit or housing.

The report notes that people with medical debt have poorer mental health and physical health outcomes, such as depression, anxiety and high blood pressure. Many might delay or skip medical care due to their debt, exacerbating their health conditions.

"Medical debt that goes into collections can exacerbate financial challenges and stress; overdue medical debt that is reported to credit bureaus damages credit scores and makes it more difficult to get loans, insurance, rentals and jobs," the report said.

Because of the country's decision not to provide universal health insurance coverage, the United States

stands out among its peers for the amount of accrued medical debt and the negative social impact.

States that expanded Medicaid fared better than their peers, with non-expansion states having the highest concentration of medical debt. But under-insured individuals, an estimated one in five adults, had inadequate coverage with high deductibles and co-pays, still risk high medical bills.

"The burden of medical debt is a pervasive challenge for too many Hoosiers," said Andy Nielsen, with the Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute. "This is unacceptable... Healthcare is a right, and individuals, families, and children should not have to choose between seeking medical care or dealing with crushing debt."

## Analyzing the burden of debt in Hoosier communities

The Indiana Community Action Association issued a survey between 2020 and 2021 to 5,822 Hoosiers who shared information about their debts. Their clients, generally speaking, are at or below 125% of the Federal Poverty Level (though the CARES Act increased that threshold to 200% temporarily).

Nearly half of those respondents, 47.6%, reported outstanding medical debt. Most, or 40%, reported their medical debt

balances to be between \$1,000 and \$10,000 but 17.4% reported having more than that.

The Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute noted that Indiana's cutoff for Medicaid eligibility is 133% of the Federal Poverty Level (\$2,313 monthly for a family of four in 2022), meaning that nearly all of the people surveyed should have been eligible for coverage.

"There is clearly work to be done to ensure that all those who are eligible for Medicaid are enrolled and covered," the report said.

Look up medical debt in Indiana counties in this interactive map from the Urban Institute: <https://apps.urban.org/features/debt-interactive-map/?type=medical&variable=medcoll>

Nearly one-third of those Hoosiers surveyed, 30.6%, said they had medical debt in collections. According to the Urban Institute with the U.S. Census Bureau, roughly 16% of all Hoosiers have medical debt in collections, or 25.3% for Hoosiers of color. In Allen County, the disparity was even bigger, with 29.7% of Hoosiers of color reporting medical debt in collections compared to just 11.9% of white Hoosiers. On average, each person with medical debt in collection in Allen County owed \$872.

**Action on the state level**

In December 2021, House Speaker Todd Huston and Senate Pro Tem Rodric Bray sent letters to health insurance companies and healthcare systems urging them to reduce Indiana's disproportionately high healthcare costs.

Several responded, including the Indiana Hospital Association, promising action to lower the overall cost of care but resisting "heavy-handed government intervention."

In an April response to those letters, Huston and Bray said they wanted to continue the conversation.

"Our overarching goal is to bring down the cost of health care and deliver real savings for everyday Hoosiers and business owners," Huston said. "Hoosiers are rightfully frustrated about rising costs and simply can't afford inaction on reducing healthcare expenses."

The report from Hoosiers for Responsible Lending outlined several recommendations for reducing debt burdens, including stronger consumer protections, expanding Medicaid enrollment and requiring Indiana hospitals to adopt Financial Assistance Policies.

The report urges lawmakers to draft eligibility standards for financial assistance require all hospitals to provide some financial assistance.

According to the National Consumer Law Center, Indiana is one of a few states not to already require those provisions.

"The findings from this report indicate that, among all Midwest states, Indiana has the highest share of its population with a medical debt in collections," said Jessica Love, the executive director of Prosperity Indiana. "This should be sobering news for any policymaker concerned with long-term economic stability. Indiana's decision-makers should act quickly to use these findings and implement recommendations to increase consumer protections for all Hoosiers."

The report acknowledges that the \$2.2 billion in delinquent medical debt already held by Hoosiers poses an additional challenge, since private collection companies own that debt. Research on reducing the load is limited but offers potential avenues for further research.

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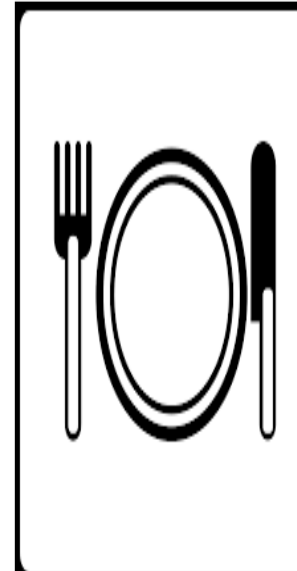
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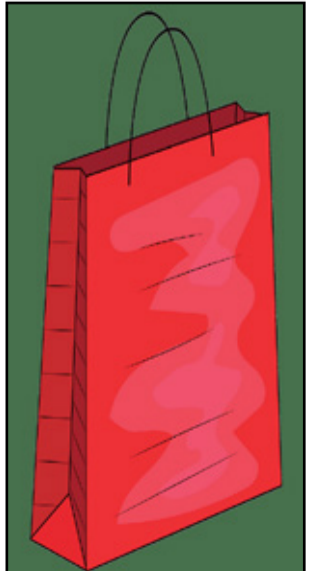
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**LODGE** From Page A1



Photo courtesy of Feeding Team

**Pictured (back row, from left) are Geoff Robinson, Sonny Ott, Martin Weiss, Mark Hall, Pete Smith, Jerry Wides, Steve Vallier and Nolan Vallier. In the front row (from left) Terry Kennedy, Lisa Hall, Jason Snyder.**

are so grateful for their partnership and investment of volunteer hours. This grant will be used to get food that will be distributed in local pantries." With over 27,000 food challenged neighbors in Hamilton County, www.Feedingteam.org is a registered 501C3 not for profit organization that provides outdoor 24x7x365 no questions asked free food pantries throughout the county. Feeding Team provides thousands of non-perishable meals through forty-eight pantries in service. The pantries exist, to meet the food insecurity needs of gap families, neighbors that may not qualify for public assistance and could use a few meals before payday.

The Elks Fraternal Order was founded "To promote and practice the four cardinal virtues of Charity, Justice, Brother-

ly Love and Fidelity; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its members; to quicken the spirit of American Patriotism and cultivate good fellowship."

The Order spends more than \$80,000,000 every year for benevolent, educational, and patriotic community-minded programs in such fields as benefitting special needs children, sponsoring Elks National Foundation scholarships, scouting, athletic teams, veterans' works, a national "Hoop Shoot" free-throw contest involving more than three million children, physical and occupational therapy programs, and patriotic programs. Additionally, every lodge observes June 14th as Flag Day, a tradition which the Elks began in 1907 and was later adopted by the Congress as an official observance.

**NURSES** From Page A1

als," Stinson said. "The nurses in Westfield schools have spent the last two years on the frontline of an unprecedented global pandemic, and that is on top of the already consequential job they do on a daily basis. So, the school district and the Westfield Education Foundation want our nurses to know that we value them and their hard work."

Bill Anderson, member of the WWS school board, said it is important that the district highlight important community partners.

"As a school board, we have had to make some very tough decisions for the safety and wellbeing of all of the students, staff and families in our district," Anderson said. "and it truly helped us to know that we had such a strong and dedicated group of nurses on our team. Seeing them navigate the ever-changing guidelines and never miss a beat, gave us the confidence to know that every student in our district would be under expert care when they walked through our doors."

Below is the full list of names of nurses who were given the Rock Service Award:

**WWS Nurse Coordinator:**

- Teresa Layton
- Susan Benner
- Brandi Bowlds
- Adrienne Eskildsen
- Jean Marie Hamilton
- Melissa Hurst
- Lisa Kaufman
- Jeannie Langenkamp
- Kortney Marburger
- Jessica Marchand
- Jamie Moenter
- Erin Scheller
- Karissa Southworth
- Jordan Sterr

**Assisting building nurses:**

- Helina Doppelfeld
  - Jane Van Dyne
- Westfield Washington Schools is one of the fastest growing school districts in the state of Indiana. With an "A" rating from the Indiana Department of Education, WWS enrolled nearly 8,800 students, in 2021-22, across six elementary, one intermediate middle and high school. The district employs more than 600 teachers and nearly 250 support staff. Westfield High School is ranked in the top 3 percent nationally by U.S. News and World Report, and has a graduation rate of 98.3 percent with 86 percent of its graduates continuing onto higher education.

For more information on Westfield Washington Schools visit [www.wws.k12.in.us](http://www.wws.k12.in.us).

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**BETSY** From Page A1



The Times photo courtesy of Betsy Reason

**A building on the R.L. Wilson property nearest Eighth Street, which was formerly Heavenly Sweet's display room, will become the Noblesville American Legion's gaming building, complete with shuffleboard, pool, darts and a smaller satellite bar.**

monitor setup for member use, computer classes and e-gaming tournaments.)

He said, "We aim to make this into a shining example of what the American Legion is capable of."

The current Heavenly Sweets bakery building, at the back of the property, which was formerly Steve Keneipp's Classic Kitchen at 610 Hannibal St., will continue to operate as Heavenly Sweets for the near future as a tenant of the American Legion. The ability to continue operating that business was also important to the seller, he said. According to the Hamilton County property report, the R.L. Wilson property since 2007 has been owned by TSM Property Group operated by Heavenly Sweets owner Tanya Marshall.

"The flexibility on all three sides on these transactions truly is what made it all possible," Morris said.

The Legion already has preliminary designs for the buildings on the new property. "The bakery will be untouched for as long as it continues to operate other than some exterior maintenance," he said.

The R.L. Wilson main house will house the main Post bar and sitting areas. "We envision this to have a very 1920s vibe," Morris said. Some of the interior walls will require some structural change to accommodate, which represents the largest part of the renovation."

The Legion will also create a commercial kitchen in the existing space. Upstairs will be Legion office space and storage, conference room and computer lab. An elevator will be installed during the renovation.

Most renovations on the building will cover maintenance, paint, floor

and trim refresh.

The building on the R.L. Wilson property nearest Eighth Street, which was formerly Heavenly Sweet's display room, will be the Legion's gaming building, complete with shuffleboard, pool, darts and a smaller satellite bar. This renovation will require some structural wall work along with new paint.

"The small building is still a work in progress but member ideas are flooding in," he said.

The Legion will continue to offer live entertainment both indoors and outdoors.

"The green space available to us now will also be a game changer," Morris said. "We will still be able to have indoor music as well, just not in the typical 'hall' style Legions are used to."

The Noblesville American Legion Frank E. Huntzinger Post 45 has a long history, being the first American Legion post in Hamilton County, established on Sept. 2, 1919. The post's 100th anniversary was observed in September 2019. The first regular meeting of the post was at 8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 22, 1919. The first meeting was in the Hamilton County Courthouse in Noblesville. They decided they wanted their own space and moved to the Wild Opera House on South Ninth Street. Unable to afford the space, they returned to the Courthouse. The Legion later met at an old log cabin at Forest Park until June 7, 1944, when the Legion bought a small house at 1094 Conner St., where the current building sits. Next door was an Eagles lodge, which the Legion bought and is now a grassy area with a flagpole, cannon, Prisoner of War-Missing in Action monument and

Frank Huntzinger memorial wall. The lower level opened in the mid 1950s. There was a huge walk-in cooler, a full bar with about 15 bar stools and bathrooms. The Legion moved into the main level at Christmas 1958. The building hasn't changed much over the years.

Although there are recent attractive blue awnings installed. Today, the Noblesville post has more than 400 members in the Noblesville Legion, a little over a hundred members in the Sons of the American Legion and a hundred plus in the Legion Women's Auxiliary, which started June 18, 1921.

Today, the Legion is open to the public on Saturdays. Guests can eat, play bingo and gamble but can't buy alcohol, which is restricted for purchase to a member who signs in his or her guest.

For seven decades, the Legion on Conner Street has been home to veterans and veteran families.

Church, Church, Hittle & Antrim, buyers of the Legion property, are also a longtime fixture of Noblesville, "which made this a great partnership," he said. "I believe they have thoughts on additional office space and expanded surface parking but these details are probably best to come from them."

Financially, the deals worked out in the Legion's favor. "Specific dollar amounts will be public information at some point, but I will say that the Post was able to walk away with enough to pay for our renovations, remain debt free, and hopefully put a sizable amount into our accounts. I truly believe this move secures us physically and financially on solid ground up to our 200th anniversary (Sept. 2, 2119 (yes, 97 more years)) and beyond.

This achievement was my goal from the very beginning of this idea."

He said, "To provide better veteran and community support while securing our future is, and always will be, our mission."

The expected spring 2023 move-in "heavily depends on how long it takes to get state approval on the engineering documents, Morris said. The Legion has a lease agreement to stay in its current building until the relocation is completed.

He's already started the opening-day planning, a community event with lots of live entertainment.

The Legion consists of Legionnaires, Sons of the American Legion and the Legion Riders. Information on joining is found at <https://www.noblesvilleamericanlegionpost45.com/>

Design elements are being discussed with all willing members guided by Morris' overall vision. Much is still a work in progress that will be complete in the next month or so.

Morris, who is serving his second term, became post commander in June 2021. He was vice commander for two years prior to that time. He was born and raised mostly in Joliet, Ill., and served in the U.S. Navy from 1987-1993. When he's not conducting Post business, he's working as a sales executive in the healthcare industry. He moved to Noblesville when he was hired for his job. "We looked all over Hamilton County and chose Noblesville," he said. He and his wife, Maria, of 24 years, have a daughter, Taylor Munoz, a Hamilton County 911 dispatcher whose husband Anthony works for Hamilton County Kitchen Tune-Up, and both are U.S. Navy veterans as well. Taylor is the post board of control member. Morris' son, Jordan, 23, is a graduate of Noblesville High School and IUPUI as a cyber security expert and lives in Fishers.

Morris has been extremely busy over the past year as Post commander. "Going no smoking, bringing bands back on a regular basis and turning around the Post finances has been quite a challenge," he said.

"Switching to no smoking did unfortunately result in some membership loss, but we are filling those losses with new members regularly," Morris said. "That shift was a calculated risk but one that had to be done to grow in the future."

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

**AUGUST 27, 2022**  
**NOON - 10 PM**

**LIVE MUSIC**  
1 pm - Elizabeth Lee Duo  
4:30 pm - Eliana Weston  
8 pm - The Warrior Kings

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Aki Les Voy Takeria, China Inn, Coal Creek Cellars, Greek's Pizzeria, Hoosier Ice Queen, Jarocho Minimarket, Jesus Kettle Corn, Juniper Spoon, Street Penguin Gelato, Sunoco, Warehouse Bakery, Wildfire348, and more!

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**\$3 STUDENTS**  
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Quite the county!

# I ndiana



# Facts & Fun



## Number $\%$ Stumpers

1. What percentage of people live in La Porte the city?  $\geq$
2. How old is LaPorte County?  $\leq$
3. How many live in the county, but not in the City of La Porte?  $\geq$
4. What is the population density of the county?  $\leq$

Answers: 1. About 20 percent 2. 187 Years 3. 89,414 People 4. 186/sq mi

## Did You Know?

- LaPorte county is part of the Northwest Indiana and Michiana regions of the Chicago metropolitan area.
- The population in 2010 was 111,467 with 22,053 residing in the county seat, La Porte
- LaPorte County was formed in 1832. La porte means “the door” or “the port” in French. French travelers or explorers so named the area after discovering a natural opening in the dense forests that used to exist in this region, providing a gateway to lands further west
- According to the 2010 census, the county has a total area of 613.26 Square miles

## Got Words?

Located in the northernwest part of the state, LaPorte County is close by to one of the largest cities in the country, Chicago. How do you think this location might impact the people who live in LaPorte County but work elsewhere?

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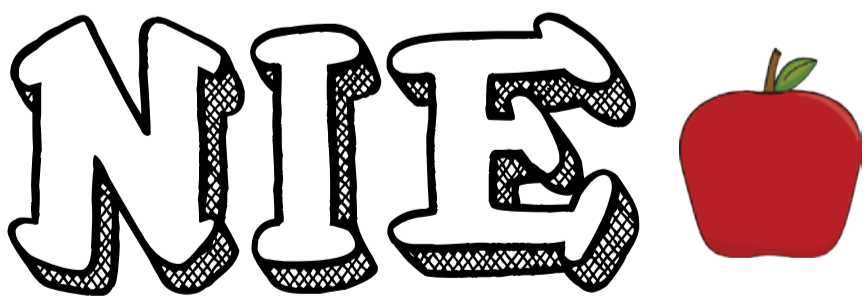
## Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

1. TEPORLA
2. CCHIGOA
3. CHRENF
4. STEW
5. RFOESTS

Answers: 1. LaPorte 2. Chicago 3. French 4. West 5. Forests

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# THURSDAY

## Indiana the Strong

Thursday, Aug. 18, 2022

A7

### Analysis of Global Tree Population Explains Baffling Trends in Species Richness

Local species richness, the number of species that coexist in a local community, is a key measure of biodiversity. Scientists have known for more than 200 years that large numbers of local species live near the equator, then decline toward the middle and higher latitudes. However, why local species richness differs from place to place remains largely unknown.

Purdue University has now led a study involving 249 co-authors from more than 50 nations that analyzed a database of unrivaled size and detail to understand the geographic variation of local tree species richness across the world's forested regions and the underlying causes of this global pattern. They found that multiple factors, such as landforms, soil and human impact control local species richness, especially in the tropics.

"Conventionally, people would've expected that temperature and precipitation are the main drivers behind the local species richness and biodiversity patterns," said Jingjing Liang, associate professor of quantitative forest ecology at Purdue. "However, one of the surprises that we found, especially in the tropical region, is that it is actually a combination of different factors."

The study, based on 1.3 million sample plots and 55 million trees archived in the Global Forest Biodiversity Initiative database, appears in the journal *Nature Ecology and Evolution*. The co-author list includes 11 Purdue scientists affiliated with the Forest Advanced Computing and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, the departments of Forestry and Natural Resources and Botany and Plant Pathology and the Rosen Center for Advanced Computing. Video is available online.

"It is exciting to see the leadership skills and technical knowledge that Jingjing brings to enable a global assessment of biodiversity patterns."

He brought together an impressive group of experts and lots of data to accomplish this important task," said Karen Plaut, Purdue's Glenn W. Sample Dean of Agriculture.

The researchers meshed the findings, covering 97% of the world's forests with previously established trends of species richness of other organisms by latitude. The trend starts at an average 98 species per hectare (an area covering nearly 2.5 acres) at the equator. The number of species declines until it becomes stable at about four species per hectare at both 50 degrees north and south of the equator. The team pinpointed locations of the most diverse tropical forests on Earth (in Amazonia with more than 200 tree species per hectare), as well as the most diverse temperate forests (in south-central Chile with up to 50 species per hectare).

"Given the very limited resources available for biodiversity conservation, the high-resolution species richness and co-limitation maps produced here are foundational to optimizing conservation efforts globally as well as locally," said study co-author Mo Zhou, associate professor of forest economics and management at Purdue. "They will help enable spatially explicit and coherent planning that is ecologically sound and economically efficient."

One-third of the study co-authors are based in traditionally underrepresented regions such as Africa and South America. Liang was able to harness the strengths of his highly diverse team via Science-i, a web-based platform that he founded.

"Every single aspect of the project is documented and made available to every co-author instantaneously, so everyone can discuss, contribute and provide inputs in a transparent, fair, and streamlined fashion," Liang said.

The research will help scientists better understand

the dire statistics for life on Earth, said study co-author Bryan Pijanowski, director of Purdue's Center for Global Soundscapes.

"One out of every seven species is in the threatened-endangered category," he said. "Right now, we don't have good assessments of what creates the natural patterns of diversity that we've seen on Earth and how human disturbance affects that. The paper focuses on both of those aspects."

The resources at Purdue's Rosen Center for Advanced Computing, including the Brown and Bell supercomputing clusters, were needed to process the gigabytes of data that the co-authors provided. But first, the researchers had to organize and format their massive global data set in the same way, then analyze it with one modeling approach.

"The analysis and modeling framework that was used in this study is really quite novel in itself," said study co-author Douglass Jacobs, the Fred M. van Eck Professor of Forest Biology and associate department head of Purdue Extension. "One of the most exciting things about this paper is the potential to use the same type of framework to tackle even more pressing, more ambitious questions in the future."

The possibilities for future work include using the global network and database to look at patterns of change in biodiversity over a period of years.

"Scientists are trying to quantify climate-change impacts at a local, regional and, potentially, global scale," Jacobs said. Such studies could help answer questions related to how climate change affects tree growth and survival at various scales.

Scientists from underrepresented nations around the world can now leverage the Science-i platform to propose new ideas that the entire team can help support.

"There are brilliant young scientists from developing countries across the world, but they are limited by their resources to conduct high-impact research," Liang said.

A Ph.D. student working in the Jacobs lab already is taking advantage of the Science-i platform. Aziz Ebrahimi had studied the Persian walnut of Iran earlier in his career. Now he uses Science-i to survey the global diversity of walnut species.

A task ahead will be to make it easier for scientists everywhere to obtain clean, consistent and readily adapted datasets from underrepresented regions of the world.

"That could be a research initiative in its own right. And Jingjing has the platform to accomplish that goal," Jacobs said.

In a separate but related NASA-funded project, Liang and Pijanowski have combined their efforts to map global biodiversity patterns by using their datasets on tree diversity and animal sounds. With these datasets—the largest of their kind in the world—the duo will map global diversity patterns while accounting for their natural and human-driven causes. Plus, they continue to add new data collected by passive recording devices, drones, and sensors mounted on the International Space Station.

"We've been challenged for hundreds of years to understand biodiversity patterns on Earth," Pijanowski said. "It's only recently that we are able to collect the data and assemble it and bring it all together and have the computers help us to analyze it. I'm hoping that this is the first of many studies on different kinds of organisms at a global scale."

This work is supported in part by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (101771 and 1016676), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (12000401), and the National Science Foundation (NSF-DBI-2021898).

### BBB Tips on Donating to Victims of the Evansville Explosion

Authorities continue to investigate the cause of the horrible explosion in Evansville, Indiana on August 10th that killed three people and damaged about 40 homes. Some will be seeking to make donations to help the victims and their families. We encourage potential donors to be aware of the different circumstances that often emerge in tragedy-related philanthropy and offer the following tips.

Crowdfunding advice become so popular that it is not unusual for fundraising to start within hours after a tragedy has occurred. Please keep in mind that while some crowdfunding sites take precautions in carefully screening, vetting and managing postings after a tragedy, others might not. If unsure, review the posting procedures described on the crowdfunding site and also find out about transaction fees and other specifics.

Does the appeal respect victims and their families?

Charitable organizations or crowdfunding postings raising funds should get permission from the families to use either the names of the victims and/or any photographs of them. Don't assume there is

an official connection if photos are displayed.

How will donations be used?

Be cautious about vague appeals that don't identify the intended use of funds. For example, is money being collected for funeral expenses, reconstruction or other family needs? Also, unless told otherwise, donors will assume that collected funds quickly collected after a tragedy will be distributed or spent just as quickly.

Tax Deductibility Contributions that are donor-restricted to help a specific individual/family are not deductible in the U.S. as charitable donations, even if the recipient organization is a charity. See IRS Publication 526, page 7, for more information on this subject.

Review recent announcements to avoid duplication of effort.

Be mindful of public announcements that identify assistance being provided to victim families to help avoid donating to duplicative efforts.

Check out charities with Give.org.

As always, we remind donors to check out charities by visiting BBB's Give.org to verify if the charity meets the BBB Standards for Charity Accountability.

### New Website Will Help Indiana's Lake Michigan Coastal Communities

A new online tool now available on the Indiana DNR's website will provide Indiana's Lake Michigan coastal communities with a one-stop shop for information about coastal resources.

Called the Indiana Coastal Atlas, and available at [on.IN.gov/coastal-atlas](http://on.IN.gov/coastal-atlas), the website presents information about the coastal program area using maps, pictures, and informational text.

The Indiana Coastal Atlas was developed by the Indiana DNR's Lake Michigan Coastal Program (LMCP), in partnership with the Indiana

Geographic Information Office (IGIO). The project was funded in part by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of Coastal Management.

The LMCP (on [IN.gov/lakemichigancoastalprogram](http://IN.gov/lakemichigancoastalprogram)) supports coordination and partnerships among local, state, and federal agencies and local organizations for the protection and sustainable use of natural and cultural resources in the Lake Michigan region.

To view more DNR news releases, please see [dnr.IN.gov](http://dnr.IN.gov).

### Eight Purdue Researchers Receive \$470,000 to Strengthen the Marketplace Appeal of Their Work

Creating groundbreaking inventions to improve lives requires more than an idea: It needs research and development, which involves funding. Two Purdue University funds are helping researchers take those R&D steps.

Eight Purdue University researchers have received more than \$470,000 from the Trask Innovation Fund and Proof of Concept Fund to make their work more attractive for commercial use. Both funds are managed by the Purdue Research Foundation Office of Technology Commercialization.

"Researchers face a gap between creating their technology and advancing it to the point that it is ready to be licensed and brought to market. Researchers need funding to bridge that 'valley of death,'" said Brooke Beier, senior vice president of commercialization for Purdue Research Foundation. "PRF recognizes the

importance of funding to translate research into products that are viable for startups and industry. These programs are two examples of helping Purdue technologies advance toward commercialization."

The Proof of Concept Fund was established in 2021; this is its first round of funding. It invests up to \$100,000 in select Purdue technologies for commercialization-directed research or related projects. Industry leaders are involved in the selection, design and oversight of the funded projects.

"This engagement of industry professionals reflects the Proof of Concept Fund's objective to fund work that will substantially improve the probability of a startup company being investible or a license with an existing company being executed," said Abhijit Karve, director of business development for the Office of Technology

Commercialization.

Proof of Concept Fund recipients, their college, project title and total award amount are:

- Rahim Rahimi, College of Engineering, "Microneedle Array Patch for Wound Oxygenation and Biofilm Eradication," \$89,604.
- Yoon Yeo, College of Pharmacy, "Flexible, Non-cationic, Cold Chain-Free Nanocarrier for Systemic Delivery of RNA Therapeutics," \$98,629.
- Jeffrey P. Youngblood, College of Engineering, "Sustainable Lidded Rigid Trays for Food Packaging," \$99,244.

The Trask Innovation Fund awards up to \$50,000 to support short-term projects that enhance the commercial value of Purdue's intellectual property. Trask Innovation Fund recipients, their project and award amount are:

- James Caruthers and Enrico N. Martinez,

College of Engineering, "Production of Lignin and Clean Cellulose from Nonfood Biomass," \$50,000. Somali Chaterji, Colleges of Engineering and Agriculture, "Serverless Cloud Engineering for Complex Machine Learning Workloads: Fast and Furious for Your Hardest Data Analytics Tasks," \$33,991.

• Vilas Pol, College of Engineering, "Safer High-Voltage Solid-State Batteries," \$50,000.

• P. Ramachandran, College of Science, "Selective Therapeutic for Clostridiodes Difficile Infection," \$50,000.

These and other inventions created by Purdue researchers across all academic disciplines and campuses are available for further development and licensing. Contact [otcip@prf.org](mailto:otcip@prf.org) for more information.

The application deadline for the next round of Trask Innovation Fund awards is Sept. 23.

### Basket Weaving Workshop Offered at Monroe Lake

Monroe Lake is hosting a Coil Basket Weaving Workshop on Wednesday, Sept. 14 at 10 a.m. at Paynetown State Recreation Area as part of Salt Creek Valley History Week.

Participants will learn the traditional craft of coil basket weaving and make a miniature coiled basket of their own (about 5 inches in size) during the 75-minute workshop. They'll also learn a bit about the history of basket making in the Salt Creek Valley area, which was known for another type of traditional baskets made

from woven strips of white oak.

The workshop costs \$10 and is limited to 12 people, ages 13 and older. Registration is required at [bit.ly/coiledbasket2022](http://bit.ly/coiledbasket2022) by Sept. 11.

For information on other programs being offered during Salt Creek Valley History Week, which is from Sept. 10 to 16, see [bit.ly/SCVhistory-week2022](http://bit.ly/SCVhistory-week2022).

Questions should be directed to the Paynetown Activity Center at 812-837-9967 or email Jill Vance at [jvance@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:jvance@dnr.IN.gov).

#### Obituary deadline

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

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

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

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

# THURSDAY

## Indiana the Strong

Thursday, Aug. 18, 2022

AS

### Red Cross Issues Steps to Keep Students Safe as They Head Back to School

School bells will be calling students back to the classroom soon and the American Red Cross – Indiana Region has steps everyone can take to help kids remain safe as they head back to school.

As parents get ready for the start of a new school year, it's a good time to think about emergencies, such as weather-related disasters, and draw up an emergency plan for their household. Know what the emergency plan is at your child's school and develop a family emergency plan so everyone will know who to contact and where to go if something happens during the school day. Details are available at [redcross.org/prepare](http://redcross.org/prepare).

"There are a lot of things to think about for the start of a busy new school year, but don't forget to include safety," said Chad Priest, CEO of the American Red Cross – Indiana Region. "We ask parents and guardians to consider familiarizing their children with these measures to help keep them safe as they head

back to school."

**CELL PHONES A DISTRACTION** The National Safety Council (NSC) reports that distracted walking can be dangerous, even deadly. Teach your students the following:

- Don't text or talk on your phone while walking. If you must text, move out of the way of others and stop on the sidewalk.
- Never cross the street while using an electronic device.
- Do not walk with headphones in your ears.
- Drivers can be distracted too. Never use a phone while driving. Help keep children safe by eliminating all distractions.

**TAKING THE BUS**

Students should get to their bus stop early and stand away from the curb while waiting for the bus to arrive. Young children should be supervised.

Board the bus only after it has come to a complete stop and the driver or attendant instructs them to get on. They should only board their bus, never an alternate one.

All students should stay in clear view of the bus driver and never walk behind the bus.

**WALKING TO SCHOOL**

Cross the street at the corner, obeying traffic signals and staying in the crosswalk.

Never run out into the street or cross between parked cars.

Use a route along which the school has placed crossing guards.

Parents, walk with young children and those taking new routes or attending new schools, for the first week to ensure they know how to get there safely. Arrange for the kids to walk to school with a friend or classmate.

**GOING BY CAR**

Everyone should always wear a seat belt.

Younger children should use car seats or booster seats until the lap-shoulder belt fits properly (typically for children ages 8-12 and over 4'9"), and ride in the back seat until they are at least 13 years old.

If a teenager is going to

drive to school, parents should mandate that they use seat belts.

**RIDING A BIKE** There may be more young people on bikes as the school bells ring. They should:

- Wear a properly fitted helmet and bright clothing.
- Ride on the right side of the road, with traffic, in a single file.
- Come to a complete stop before crossing the street; walk bikes across the street.
- Stay alert and avoid distracted riding.

**SLOW DOWN** Drivers should slow down, especially in residential areas and school zones, and know what the yellow and red bus signals mean. Yellow flashing lights indicate the bus is getting ready to stop, and that motorists should slow down and be prepared to stop. Red flashing lights and an extended stop sign indicate the bus is stopped and children are getting on or off.

Motorists must stop when they are behind a bus, meeting the bus,

or approaching an intersection where a bus is stopped. Motorists following or traveling alongside a school bus must also stop until the red lights have stopped flashing, the stop arm is withdrawn, and all children have reached safety. This includes two and four-lane highways. If physical barriers such as grassy medians, guide rails or concrete median barriers separate oncoming traffic from the bus, motorists in the opposing lanes may proceed without stopping.

**KEEP LITTLE ONES SAFE**

Keeping all students safe is the primary concern for everyone, but there are special steps for parents of younger kids and those going to school for the first time:

Make sure the child knows their phone number, address, how to get in touch with their parents at work, how to get in touch with another trusted adult and how to call 911.

Teach children not to talk to strangers or accept rides from someone they don't know.

Finally, download the free Red Cross First Aid app for instant access to information on handling the most common first aid emergencies. You can find it by searching for 'American Red Cross' in your app store or at [redcross.org/apps](http://redcross.org/apps). Learn and practice First Aid and CPR/AED skills by taking a course ([redcross.org/takeaclass](http://redcross.org/takeaclass)) so you can help save a life.

About the American Red Cross:

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

### Indy Airport Hosts Behind-The-Scenes Look at Massive Runway Construction

The Indianapolis Airport Authority recently hosted a private tour of the first phase of its \$190 million construction project under way at the Indianapolis International Airport to enhance capacity for Runway 5R-23L and the initial construction and electrical phase of Taxiway D.

This construction investment will be instrumental for both passenger and cargo aircraft and the future of aviation operations at the Indy airport.

IAA officials discussed the project at length on the airfield construction site with elected officials, state and city leaders and local news media, explaining the project will create more than 2,700 jobs and has spent more than \$14.2

million to date with more than 15 diverse businesses. The IAA anticipates more diverse business participation as the project proceeds in subsequent years.

"This is public asset management in its finest form," said IAA Executive Director Mario Rodriguez who led the IAA to secure more than \$100 million for the project, including the largest Federal Aviation Administration Airport Improvement Program grant in the airport's history – and the largest in the country received in last year's funding. "This project will pay dividends to the community for decades to come and will play a crucial role in Indiana's economic growth over time."

The first phase of the construction is expected to be completed in October 2022, with the two additional phases of construction in 2023 and 2024 during April through October of each year.

"To put it into perspective, the project will use enough concrete to replace the smallest pyramid in Giza, which is equivalent to building a two-lane highway from Indianapolis to Terre Haute," said Jarod Klaas, IAA senior director of planning and development.

The existing concrete will be recycled into the new runway pavement section, and a new concrete that captures carbon dioxide, preventing it from contributing to global warming, will also

be used.

"IND will be the first airport in the United States to use this carbon-capturing concrete technology and is another concrete example of our commitment to long-term sustainability," Klaas said.

Additional sustainable improvements will include LED lighting and an extra inch of concrete to extend the life of the concrete runway, from a 20-year expected life cycle to a 40-year life cycle, providing an additional two decades of resiliency. The construction process has also had substantial environmental benefits, such as construction waste management, water reuse, material reuse, and reduced emissions and fuel by using onsite materials.

The IAA is pursuing ENVISION certification for this project to ensure the delivery of infrastructure that tackles climate change, addresses public health needs, creates jobs, and spurs economic recovery.

About the Indianapolis Airport Authority The Indianapolis Airport Authority owns and operates Indiana's largest airport system in the Indianapolis metropolitan area. In addition to the Indianapolis International Airport (IND), its facilities include the Downtown Heliport, Eagle Creek Airpark, Hendricks County Airport-Gordon Graham Field, Indianapolis Regional Airport and Metropolitan Airport. IND generates a

\$5.4 billion total annual economic impact for Central Indiana – without relying on state or local taxes to fund operations. More than 10,000 people work at the airport each day, and 22,600 area jobs have a connection to the airport. In 2021, IND served more than 7.1 million business and leisure travelers. IND is consistently ranked, year after year, as the best airport in North America and the nation, based on ease of use, passenger amenities, customer service, local retail offerings and public art. The airport is home of the world's second largest FedEx operation and the nation's eighth-largest cargo facility.

For more information, visit [IND.com](http://IND.com).

### Scrapbooking Workshop at Paynetown SRA on Sept. 12

Monroe Lake is hosting a Family Heritage Scrapbooking Workshop on Monday, Sept. 12 at 9 a.m. at Paynetown State Recreation Area as part of Salt Creek Valley History Week, a celebration of Salt Creek Valley's past.

This three-hour workshop will cover best practices for preserving and sharing family photos, heirlooms, and other historical documents. This event includes basic tips on scrapbook page making, archival considerations, balancing originals against copies of photos, layout and page design, color choices, cropping techniques, choosing adhesives, and other considerations. Digital scrapbooking options will be discussed.

Participants will also complete at least two memory scrapbook pages of their own. The \$15 workshop fee includes four 12 x 12-inch base papers (two with print design), six 8 1/2 x 10-inch solid color mat-décor sheets,

two black journaling pens, two plastic page protectors, one roll of adhesive dispenser, photo mounting corners (for use with original photos), and a poster board to create a smooth tabletop work surface. All materials will be archival-quality and acid-free.

The workshop will be presented by Susan Snider Salmon, an experienced genealogist and a genealogy instructor for the Ivy Tech Center for Lifelong Learning. Space is limited to 12 people and restricted to ages 16 and older. Advance registration is required at [bit.ly/heritagescrapbook2022](http://bit.ly/heritagescrapbook2022) by Aug. 26.

For information on other programs being offered during Salt Creek Valley History Week, which runs from Sept. 10 to 16, see [bit.ly/SCVhistoryweek2022](http://bit.ly/SCVhistoryweek2022).

Questions should be directed to the Paynetown Activity Center at (812) 837-9967 or email Jill Vance at [jvance@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:jvance@dnr.IN.gov).

### Red Gold Tomato Growers Awarded for Conservation Efforts

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture and Red Gold recently announced the winners of the 2022 Red Gold Stewardship award. Nick Totzke Farms of Stevensville, Mich., was selected as the first-place winner, and Wischmeyer Farms LLC of Ottawa, Ohio received second place.

"This award is a wonderful way to recognize producers for the conservation efforts they are implementing on their farms," said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch. "The State of Indiana is so fortunate that Red Gold is rooted here in the Hoosier State. I commend each of Red Gold's tomato growers for their efforts in producing exceptional tomatoes while also advancing soil conservation efforts both here in Indiana and across the Midwest."

This presentation, now in its 14th year, is a partnership between Red Gold and the Indiana State Department of Agriculture.

The award is presented to Red Gold growers who value improving soil health and water quality on their operations.

"Red Gold is very proud of our tomato growers for continuously practicing good soil and water conservation practices," said Curt Utterback, Director of Agriculture at Red Gold. "Many are generational farms, and they know the importance of being good stewards. We appreciate being partners with ISDA in promoting an annual awards program. It was an honor to be able to formally recognize this year's winners Nick Totzke Farms and Wischmeyer Farms."

Located in southern Michigan, Nick Totzke has put a strong emphasis on not only raising excellent crops, but also the conservation of the land they farm. In addition to tomatoes, they grow corn, soybeans, grapes, green beans, peas and banana peppers. On each

of their farms, they have implemented a variety of stewardship practices to reduce nutrient runoff and conservation practices, such as cover crops and grass filter strips.

"Family owned; family grown. Being good stewards of the land feeds our family and everyone else," said the Totzke family.

Second place winner, Wischmeyer Farms LLC, is located in northwestern Ohio. On their family farm, they grow tomatoes, corn, soybeans, and wheat. The Wischmeyers have implemented a multitude of conservation practices such as cover crops, filter strips, reduced tillage, and grass filter strips, among others, to promote soil health and water quality on their farm.

"In participating in the Red Gold Stewardship Program, we have been made more aware of the different conservation programs available, as well as been more innovative to build soil health for future

generations," said Tom and Brian Wischmeyer.

The Midwest is leading the pack in soil conservation efforts. Specifically in the Hoosier state, farmers utilize a variety of soil conservation practices and planted more than 1.5 million acres of cover crops in 2021.

"Conservation of our soil is top of mind for producers, and the Red Gold Stewardship Award is an excellent way to recognize the work being done in the specialty crop sector," said ISDA Director Bruce Kettler. "Congratulations to both of this year's winners on this impressive achievement."

As the top winner, Nick Totzke Farms received a \$1,000 scholarship and the option to ship an extra truckload of tomatoes per day during harvest season. Wischmeyer Farms LLC was awarded a \$500 scholarship and the opportunity to ship an extra half truckload of tomatoes per day during harvest.

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