

**➔ TODAY'S VERSE**

O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.



**➔ FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY**  
People who call our community their own.

What makes Michael Harrison smile? "I'm 74 years old and still sitting here," said the Arcadia resident, an antique car buff who was found on Labor Day 2020 at Cicero Parks' annual Red Bridge Park Car Show, which is in its 31st year 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Labor Day. He was showing his 1965 Plymouth Belvedere II, a 282 Automatic. He said he wanted to replace it with a four-speed manual transmission. Out of the factory, it was a 272 standard shift three-on-the-tree manual transmission. Why'd he buy it? "I like old cars." He said, "I traded a '35 Plymouth for it." Through the years, he's owned a 1968 Charger 444, a 1970 Charger 444, a 1964 Plymouth Sports Fury 383 four-speed (his favorite). "I should have been a drag racer but I never could afford it," Harrison said. He was born in Richmond and moved to Arcadia at age 2. He attended school at Jackson Central and his first car was a 1948 Chevy with three-on-the-tree manual transmission. He operated his own trucking business for 30 years. A car he wished he still owned? "A '68 Charger, olive green."

**And Another Few Things...**

**1. Mayor Cook Statement**

Mayor Andy Cook of Westfield offered the following statement in response to the attempted murder of a Westfield City employee earlier this week:

"The arrest of a suspect in the assault and attempted murder of a City of Westfield Street Department employee this week, shocked and stunned the citizens of our city. Two of our Street Department employees were involved in an unprovoked attack on Monday afternoon when they were assaulted by a male with a handgun who attempted to discharge the weapon at one of our employees. Fortunately, the gun did not fire. The victim was then pistol whipped before the suspect left the area shouting racial slurs at the two men.

"This incident has left me shaken and angry. This behavior has no place in our society and it won't be tolerated in this city. Neither will intolerance and racism. The safety of our employees has always been my priority as mayor and an assault on one is an assault on our city. I'm grateful for our diverse workforce and the women and men who proudly serve our citizens. They deserve our gratitude and respect, not mistreatment. I'm relieved that the victim of this vicious attack is recovering and will soon return to work. I also commend Westfield Police for making a swift arrest.

"As a city and as a society, we must address the difficult questions as to why this type of behavior is spreading across the country. Are we ignoring mental health issues, or are the consequences of criminal actions no longer a sufficient deterrent? Regardless we must find answers and quickly.

"For as long as I am mayor, violence and racism will never find safe harbor in our city."

**2. Flags at Half-Staff**

Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb is directing flags in Huntington County to be flown at half-staff to honor U.S. Marine Sergeant Jackson Payne Wright who passed away on Aug. 20 at his base in Kaneohe, Hawaii. Flags should be flown at half-staff from sunrise to sunset today.

**3. Rokita Responds**

After the ACLU and others filed suit over Indiana's new abortion restrictions, Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita had this to say: "The left can't stand a culture of life. Hoosiers respect and value all lives, including the lives of the unborn. The Indiana Constitution says nothing about securing the right to abortion. The text, history, and structure of our Constitution excludes any serious argument that abortion is a fundamental right in our state."

**4. Playground Upgrade**

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHEDA) yesterday launched a crowdfunding campaign to transform Oregon-Davis Elementary's three playgrounds. Hamlet residents will have three improved places to play if this crowdfunding campaign reaches its goal of raising \$50,000 by Nov. 1. If successful, the project led by Oregon-Davis PTA will receive a matching grant as part of the IHEDA's CreatiNg Places program. Funds from this campaign will be used to create obstacle courses, a climbing web, slides, a walking track, and surfacing. The CreatiNg Places program began in 2016 and is available to projects located in Indiana communities. Non-profit entities and local units of government are eligible to apply.

# The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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Photo provided

**Bruce Oldham, Deputy Director for Hamilton County Parks and Recreation (left) thanks Sydney Loomis, The Farmers Bank Assistant Vice President and Market Manager for his staff's Blue Jean Friday donation.**

## Noblesville's The Farmers Bank 'Blue Jean Friday' Funds Benefit County Parks

The Farmers Bank Assistant Vice President and Market Manager, Sydney Loomis, on behalf of his Noblesville's banking center's staff, met with Bruce Oldham, Deputy Director, Hamilton County Parks and Recreation and proudly donated nearly \$500 to Hamilton County Parks and Recreation. The funds were generated

through the bank's "Blue Jean Friday" charity fundraising program in which participating The Farmers Bank employees agree to pay a fee for the privilege of wearing blue jeans at work on select Fridays. Deputy Director Oldham said that the generous "Casual

➔ See BANK Page A8

## Bier Brewery Taps into New Market, Announces Noblesville Location

Bier Brewery has been working with the City of Noblesville to open a new 6,000 square foot taproom at 1618 S. 10th St. in Noblesville. Located on 4 acres of property, the new family friendly establishment will serve BIER, wine, cider, cold brew coffee, wine slushies and food.

The plan includes a dog park, kids' playground, covered outdoor seating, a private room, and a large outdoor green space with bike access to the Allisonville Road Trail. It will have a focus on working with the community, local farmers and sustainable environmental practices throughout the operation. The space also will be welcoming to be used as a coworking office space with plenty of room to

accommodate staff, guests and families. "Bier Brewery is known for its quality and taste and I know their commitment to excellence will make them a success in Noblesville," said Mayor Chris Jensen. "Our administration has invested heavily into our city's gateways, including a new trail and road improvements along the South Tenth Street corridor. I'm excited for our residents to have Bier

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➔ See TAPS Page A8

## S&P Affirms Hamilton County's 'AAA' Credit Rating, Only County in Indiana to Earn Such Rating

S&P Global Ratings (S&P) recently affirmed its 'AAA' long-term rating of Hamilton County, which is the highest rating that can be given. In addition, the agency assigned its 'AAA' to the county's bridge improvement bonds that are scheduled to close in September of 2022. The outlook is stable.

The bond proceeds will be used to finance a new bridge project over the White River. This will be done in conjunction with the City of Noblesville. The bridge is the critical com-

ponent to Noblesville's Pleasant Street project, which will provide traffic congestion relief on State Road 32.

This is the second year the county has received a AAA rating. Hamilton County is still the only county in Indiana that holds a AAA rating from S&P.

"This rating not only saves our residents money, but also signals a sound and stable economic climate," says Hamilton County Commissioner Mark

➔ See COUNTY Page A8

## Hamilton County Juries Return Guilty Verdicts in Three Violent Cases

The pace of jury trials in Hamilton County since early 2022 has continued to increase. In just the last half of August, the Hamilton County Prosecuting Attorney's Office presented three cases to juries -- each one involving violent crime, and each one resulting in findings of guilt for all felony offenses. First, in a trial that began on

Aug. 15, Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Andre Miksha and Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Ashley Thompson presented the case against Heidi Marie Littlefield: murder and two counts of conspiracy to commit murder. Following a seven-day trial in

➔ See GUILTY Page A8



Photo courtesy of Lucky Teter Rebel Run Car Show

**The 12th annual Lucky Teter Rebel Run Car Show and Vintage Motorcycle Show is 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday with registration to begin at 9 a.m.**

## Jazz on the Square, Chocolate Trail, Movies, Lucky Teter and Red Bridge Car Shows Among 30 Things to Do



**BETSY REASON**  
The Times Editor

Labor Day weekend is upon us, and there are plenty of things to do. Here's a list of 30 things to do to keep your calendar up to date.

1. Noblesville Main Street's Music & All That Jazz, sponsored by Gordon Insurance partners, will feature the Juan Douglas Trio from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. today on the Courthouse Square, with the Chocolate Trail 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the shops and restaurants in downtown Noblesville; and the musical

➔ See BETSY Page A8

## Dr. Arrowood Praises Good Start, Offers Fall Updates

I want to thank you for your support and preparation which led to an outstanding start to the 2022-23 school year. Our educators and staff have been spending



DR. DEREK ARROWOOD  
BHSC Superintendent



time developing relationships and laying the groundwork to engage, motivate, and help students on their learning journey throughout the year ahead.

We continue to build upon our successes through our outstanding educators and staff, involved community, strong partnerships, and extremely effective school

➔ See ARROWOOD Page A8

## Fishers PD Continue to Investigate Two Deaths



Yesterday morning, Fishers police officers responded to the Cumberland Place Neighborhood after a caller threatened suicide. Upon their arrival, officers attempted to contact the resident(s). After no response, the officers made entry into the residence and discovered the bodies of two adults, one man and one woman.

Detectives and Crime Scene Technicians responded to the scene and began interviewing witnesses and collecting evidence.

Based on the evidence at the scene and the information obtained thus far, Detectives believe the two deceased are the only individuals directly in-

➔ See DEATHS Page A8

### The Daily Almanac

**Sunrise/Sunset**  
RISE: 7:12 a.m.  
SET: 8:13 p.m.

**High/Low Temperatures**  
High: 88 °F  
Low: 64 °F

**Today is...**

- Calendar Adjustment Day
- National Food Bank Day

**What Happened On This Day**

- 1666 The Great Fire of London begins
- 1752 U.K. adopts the Gregorian Calendar
- 1789 U.S. Department of the Treasury is formed

**Births On This Day**

- 1913 Bill Shankly Scottish footballer, manager
- 1964 Keanu Reeves Canadian actor

**Deaths On This Day**

- 1969 Ho Chi Minh 1st President of Vietnam
- 1973 J. R. R. Tolkien English philologist, author

**➔ INSIDE TODAY**

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**➔ HONEST HOOSIER**

Here's a rare shoutout to those high school boys and girls who don't play football. It seems the gridders get the publicity all the time. Well, here's to you!



**➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

If you want youthful skin, limit your exposure to the sun. 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**

"All at once summer collapsed into fall."

- Oscar Wilde

**➔ TODAY'S JOKE**

Here's a few books that maybe ought to be written! Under The Bleachers by Seymour Butts  
Where Have All The Animals Gone by Darin Dabarn  
Supporting Athletes by Jacques Strappe  
Always Being Prepared by Justin Case  
The Future of Robotics by Anne Droid and Cy Borg

**➔ OBITUARIES**

**Janet Rita (Ellefson) Duryea**

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



**13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST**

61/87 MOSTLY SUNNY	64/88 SUN & CLOUDS	66/90 MOSTLY SUNNY & HOT	66/88 HOT, STORM CHANCE	66/87 STORM CHANCE	66/88 STORM CHANCE	65/87 PARTLY CLOUDY
THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED

## ➔ OBITUARIES

### Janet Rita (Ellefson) Duryea September 5, 1928 - August 30, 2022

Janet Rita (Ellefson) Duryea, 93, of Carmel, passed away August 30, 2022.

She was born September 5, 1928 in Chicago, daughter of Edward and Frances Ellefson.

Mrs. Duryea received her BA degree in Home Economics from Ohio State University.

For a number of years, she worked at Lorene's Casuals and Merle Norman on Main Street in Carmel, where she was a Manager and Buyer. She acquired many loyal customers through the years allowing the store to become very successful.

Mrs. Duryea's greatest joy was time with her family and friends, especially her grandchildren.

Survivors include her four children Robert Craig (Marjie) Duryea, Gary Gordon (Becky) Duryea, Debra Lynne (Keith) Mertz and Nancy Kay (Ken) Pilcher; 10 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband Robert Gordon Duryea; and sister Marie Pond.

There will be a Family Memorial Service held in the Chapel at Orchard Park Presbyterian Church, of which Mrs. Duryea was a member.

Carmel Cemetery will be Janet's final resting place.

Bussell Family Funerals is privileged to assist the family with the arrangements.



## ➔ Letters

# Democrat Disagrees with Biden's Plan

Dear Editor,  
I am a Democrat who disagrees with President Biden's plan to forgive billions of dollars of student loan debt. A different plan is needed.

Forgiving student loan debt under the Biden plan is a slap in the face to those who did repay their student loans. Also, it would enrich colleges whose counselors deliberately misled students about the economic value

of the degrees sought by those who could not repay.

Here is an alternative debt forgiveness plan. The colleges that benefited from misleading the students who took the loans, the banks that originated the loans, and the banks or financial groups that bought the loans before they were given to the federal government to collect through the I.R.S. and others, should each

pay 25% of the loan, the interest, and any additional fees or charges. The students should pay 25% of the original loans but have the interest and fees forgiven.

As students, the colleges, banks, and financial groups that profited from the student loan programs were working together to take advantage of students with little or no knowledge or experience to enter into such

agreements with "eyes wide open". But to saddle the taxpayers with a complete "bailout" is making the taxpayers the new "debt slaves" of the colleges, banks, financial groups, and now the federal government through tax paid bailouts for those who caused the problems in the first place.

Woodrow Wilcox  
Dyer, Indiana

# UIndy Receives Grant from Lilly Endowment for Career-Exploration Summer Camp for Central Indiana Youth

The University of Indianapolis announced on Wednesday that it has received a grant of \$688,938 from Lilly Endowment Inc. through its initiative, Indiana Youth Programs on Campus. The grant will help the University launch a week-long residential summer camp with the aim of expanding already existing educational programming for Hoosier youth who might not yet realize the benefits of higher education or don't see a place for themselves within higher education.

The initiative is designed to help Indiana colleges and universities to engage youth, ages 5 to 18, in high-quality on-campus enrichment programs that can help young people envision a future for themselves in college.

For one week in the summer, students in grades eight through ten will stay on the University's campus where they will receive programming geared toward career exploration, showing the possibilities that higher ed can bring in five key industry areas: health-care, STEM, education, business, and the arts & humanities.

A corporate partner for each pillar will present relevant career information, and students will visit campus locations corresponding with UIndy majors related to the



careers. In some cases, students may take field trips to employer partner locations for tours when appropriate. Each student will also participate in a number of career exploration and college readiness activities.

"We welcome any opportunity to bring Hoosier youth to our campus," said University of Indianapolis Interim President Phil Terry. "As we all aim to increase the higher education attainment rate within the state, it is critically important to reach our young people and demonstrate both the value of higher education as well as remove barriers of entry to those populations who are traditionally underrepresented in the higher ed landscape."

"We are incredibly grateful to Lilly Endowment for its generous support of these goals both at UIndy and throughout the state," added Terry.

Lilly Endowment launched the initiative, in part, to respond to the significant decrease in the number of Hoosiers pursuing higher education degrees. In 2015, 65 percent of Indiana high school graduates were going straight to college. The college going rate has dropped steadily since. In 2020, only 53 percent of Hoosiers were attending college the year after high school.

Goals for the initiative include increasing the number of Indiana youth who obtain valuable postsecondary degrees and credentials and to help schools strengthen how they recruit students, especially students who have been traditionally underserved by higher education institutions.

About the University of Indianapolis:

The University of Indianapolis, founded in 1902, is a private uni-

versity located just a few minutes from downtown Indianapolis. The University is ranked among the top National Universities by U.S. News and World Report, with a diverse enrollment of nearly 5,400 undergraduate, graduate and continuing education students.

The University offers a wide variety of study areas, including 100+ undergraduate degrees, more than 40 master's degree programs and five doctoral programs. The University of Indianapolis impacts its community by living its motto, "Education for Service."

Learn more at uindy.edu.

### About Lilly Endowment Inc.:

Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolis-based, private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by J.K. Lilly Sr. and sons J.K. Jr. and Eli through gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical business, Eli Lilly and Company. While those gifts remain the financial bedrock of the Endowment, the Endowment is a separate entity from the company, with a distinct governing board, staff and location.

In keeping with the founders' wishes, the Endowment supports the causes of community development, education and religion and maintains a special commitment to its hometown, Indianapolis, and home state, Indiana.

# Clean Sweep!



**DICK WOLFSIE**  
Funny Bone

We recently bought a new vacuum cleaner. We shopped around and decided to purchase an Oreck. Two weeks later, we got this email from the company:

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Wolfsie,

Thank you for buying a new Oreck. We hope it brings you many years of vacuuming pleasure. Please call us today about hosting an Oreck party.

Your friendly Oreck Sales Team

The truth is that I don't have any intentions of spending a single enjoyable moment with my vacuum. I was a bachelor until I was 33 years old and I managed to maintain a very active social life without hovering over a Hoover or dallying with a Dirt Devil. In addition, I have always felt there is something frightening about vacuum cleaners. Every dog I have ever owned agrees.

It was a friendly gesture by Oreck, to be sure, although I have no recollection of a similar follow-up after the Wolfsies bought our state-of-the-art sump pump. And I've gone through all my previous correspondence and no one cared a whit whether I had a positive experience with our document shredder. As a general rule, I don't want annoying phone calls and letters asking me if I'm a satisfied customer. If I have a garbage disposal that is not disposing, the load of goop in my sink is a good indication that I'm not happy with my purchase. I think I'll skip hosting a party.

When I had my car serviced, the dealership called me every other day for a week to see if I was happy with my new brake pads. I told them that I couldn't be more thrilled

and that I'd be willing to throw a happy hour for all their customers, so people could vent about some of the poor brake pad choices they've made in the past. (Assuming any of those people are still alive.)

Now, let's talk about that Oreck party. My wife and I are not big on "entertaining," the term my mother used for dinner parties when I was growing up. As a kid, I kept waiting for Mom to break into song when the guests arrived and for my father to commence a little soft-shoe.

But what about a vacuum cleaner bash? I'm not usually at a loss for words, but I'd be stuck for snappy conversation while guests clustered around the artichoke dip. I took a speech class in college and once spoke off-the-cuff for 15 minutes on the topic "Life Before Rubber Bands." Nevertheless, the prospect of chatting with 20 people who shared similar cleaning devices was daunting. Who knows what I'd be asked?

"So, Dick, I understand you and your wife have a new Oreck. Enlighten the group with some of your favorite moments."

"It's hard to pick our favorites. The night the bag of Fritos fell on the rug was unforgettable. We loved the time the dog shredded the down pillow." I'll tell people that Mary Ellen has a special place in her heart for Christmas morning when there was packing foam all over the living room floor.

Mary Ellen and I will pass on the Oreck party. We still have feelings for our first vacuum and it was tough saying goodbye. It wasn't easy for Kirby the past few decades. He was the product of a bygone era when people were not as progressive in their thinking. Until the day Kirby died, he pretty much remained in the closet.

*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.*

## ➔ Meeting Notice

### Hamilton County Council Highway Committee

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) The Hamilton County Council Highway Commit-

tee will meet at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 2 at the Hamilton County Highway Department, 1700 S. 10th Street, Noblesville. The purpose of this meeting is for discussion of highway projects.

Thanks for reading The Times!

# StepStone Family and Youth Services Announces Back to School Backpack Drive to Help Indiana Foster Students

As the academic year approaches and students head back to the classroom, StepStone Family and Youth Services of Indiana is kicking off its first-ever "Back to School" backpack drive to benefit foster youth in need. StepStone will be accepting donations of new and gently used backpacks from Sept. 1 through Sept. 30 at locations across the state.

"Every student deserves to walk back in the classroom prepared for the school year ahead. That's why we're excited to host our first 'Back to School' donative drive to provide backpacks to



our foster youth in need," said Megan Tungate, with StepStone Family and Youth Services. "We're confident owning their own backpack is going to make for a great year of learning."

StepStone Family and Youth Services helps connect children in need with foster families who can provide comforting, nurturing homes. The organization has been serving Indiana for more than 10 years and provides foster care services, counseling,

respite care, training for foster parents and youth residential services. StepStone is always looking for new foster families to help children in the Indiana communities who need safe, caring living environments.

StepStone Family and Youth Services has operations in nine states and is organizing backpack drives nationwide this fall.

StepStone Family and Youth Services provides the full spectrum

of support to children in need of alternative, safer and more positive living environments with residential and family services. StepStone connects children and youth who need homes with foster families, as well as foster care training, respite care and support services.

For young adults transitioning from foster care to independent living, StepStone provides personalized guidance and training on basic life skills, including money management, life skills and education.

For more information, please visit [www.stepstoneyouth.com](http://www.stepstoneyouth.com).



Life without local news is like hearing crickets

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# Indiana Chamber of Commerce Endorses State Senator Kyle Walker for Reelection Bid



The Indiana Chamber of Commerce announced on Tuesday its endorsement of State Senator Kyle Walker in his re-election campaign for Senate District 31. Senate District 31 encompasses parts of Hamilton and Marion counties, including all of Fishers and part of Lawrence.

In its endorsement, the Chamber noted Walker's record on economic development, jobs, cutting taxes and improving the quality of life metrics important to Indiana employers and growing the state's economy.

"Senator Walker has led on key issues to fuel economic development and support job growth, accelerate entrepreneurial activity, strengthen public safety and improve quality of life," said Indiana Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Kevin

Brinegar. "He is an innovative, pro-jobs leader that's making an impact to grow the Indiana economy and his district."

During the 2022 legislative session, Walker authored economic development legislation (SEA 245) to attract sports, convention and tourism events to Indiana, which generate revenue, drive economic development and bring visitors to the Hoosier State. He also authored legislation (SEA 166) to help local communities leverage private investment for key infrastructure projects.

During the 2021 budget session, Walker supported a \$1.1 billion income tax cut for Hoosiers, which – when fully implemented – will be tied for the lowest income tax rate in the country. He also worked to secure funding to support



State Senator Kyle Walker

technology, innovation and entrepreneurial efforts at the Indiana Internet of Things (IoT) Lab based in Fishers, which will be used to expand programming and development of IoT Labs across the state.

"I'm grateful to the Indiana Chamber of Commerce for its endorsement and the meaningful work it does to support and grow Indiana jobs, businesses and our economy," Walker said. "In the Senate, I will continue to advance policies that allow businesses in our district to thrive, bring jobs to our region, support entrepreneurship and improve quality of life for all residents."

For more information visit [www.WalkerforIndiana.com](http://www.WalkerforIndiana.com).

# \$500K Available from IDEM for Community Recycling Projects



The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) yesterday announced the availability of grant funding for recycling and household hazardous waste (HHW) collection and disposal from the agency's Community Recycling Grant Program.

"We are happy to offer this grant funding to help

educate communities about recycling and waste reduction. These grants will fund projects that improve recycling efforts throughout Indiana," said IDEM Commissioner Brian Rockensuess.

Counties, municipalities, solid waste management districts, universities, schools, and nonprofit organizations in Indiana are eligible to submit a Community Recycling Grant application requesting \$1,000 to \$100,000 in funding.

Applications will be accepted through Oct. 6, 2022.

The Community Recycling Grant Program is funded through IDEM's Solid Waste Management Fund. Eligible projects should focus on education and promotion of recycling, processing of recyclable materials, waste reduction,

or HHW and organics management (including yard waste management and composting). Grant funding is intended to create successful, cost-effective, and sustainable programs. Applicants must demonstrate a direct or indirect increase in waste diversion because of the project.

To apply, please visit IDEM's website. For additional information, contact 800-988-7901 or [crpg@idem.IN.gov](mailto:crpg@idem.IN.gov). Final funding determinations will be made December 2022.

IDEM ([idem.IN.gov](http://idem.IN.gov)) implements federal and state regulations regarding the environment. Through compliance assistance, incentive programs and educational outreach, the agency encourages and aids businesses and citizens in protecting Hoosiers and our environment.

# Rokita Working to Protect Indiana State Employees' Retirement Funds

Attorney General Todd Rokita issued an advisory opinion yesterday affirming that Indiana law requires Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS) investments to be based solely on the financial interests of Hoosier public employees and retirees.

"Hoosiers deserve assurance that these retirement funds are being invested solely for financial interests," Rokita said. "Any other commitment or stated purpose is unlawful."

INPRS board members here in Indiana have steadily worked hard to serve the best interests of Hoosiers. But increasingly, actions by outside investment firms hired to manage Indiana's investments threaten to erode this financial stability.

ESG investment strategies represent a threat not only to the savings of individual retirees, Rokita said, but also to the larger national economy and democratic policymaking processes.

"We must root out



Attorney General Todd Rokita

investment-management companies that scheme to leverage Hoosiers' retirement funds to advance leftist social and economic agendas that otherwise cannot be implemented through the ballot box," Rokita said. "The proliferation of ESG investing has begun to affect state pension funds across the nation. We're going to make sure that Indiana is not among the states being duped by this kind of mismanagement."

To that end, the AG's office is demanding answers from BlackRock, an investment management company that has been sole manager of Indiana's large cap equity index fund — and one of

several managers of the state's international equity fund, real estate assets and public equity fund. BlackRock has publicized that it has made a "firm-wide commitment to integrate ESG information" into its investment processes.

BlackRock's activities include involvement with a program that may represent an illegal agreement to restrict the production of fossil fuels, which may run afoul of federal and state antitrust laws.

"These woke Big Businesses are collaborating with their leftist allies to subvert the will of the people, including by investing Hoosiers' hard-earned money in ways that work against the best interests of Indiana families," Rokita said. "Our advisory opinion makes clear that oftentimes this collusion is not only unconscionable and unethical, but it's also illegal. And we're going to hold these firms accountable and give INPRS the tools to do so as well."

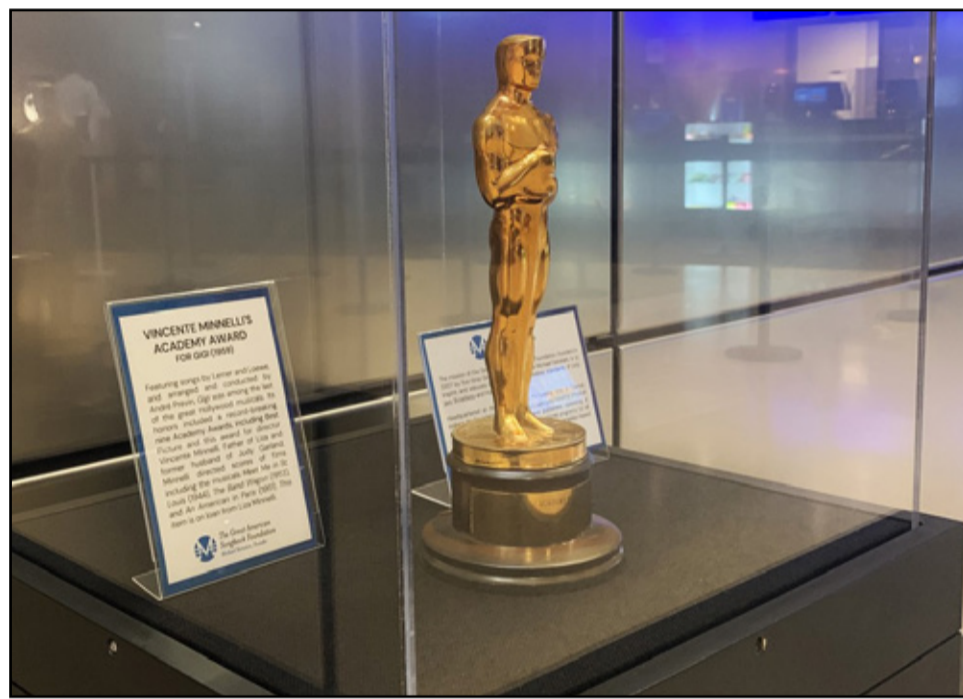


Photo courtesy of the CPA

This Academy Award for Best Director, presented to Vincente Minnelli in 1959, is on loan to the Great American Songbook Foundation and on display through mid-September at the IMAX Theater in the Indiana State Museum at White River State Park.

# Academy Award Statuette on Display at Downtown IMAX

Movie buffs visiting the Indiana State Museum's IMAX Theater this month may have a surprise encounter with a flashy character.

His friends call him Oscar.

A genuine Academy Award statuette – presented to Vincente Minnelli as Best Director for the smash 1958 musical *Gigi* – will be on display in the lobby through Sept. 15 as the theater at White River State Park in Indianapolis presents Oscar-winning films including *Jaws* and *The Godfather*. The historic item is on loan to the Carmel-based Great American Songbook Foundation from EGOT-winner Liza Minnelli, the late Vincente's daughter and a close friend of Songbook Foundation Founder Michael Feinstein.

"Not only is our IMAX home to the largest movie screen in Indiana, but we're now one of the only movie theaters in the country with an Academy Award on display," said Jake Oakman, executive director of the White River State Park Development Commission. "We're grateful to partner with the Great American Songbook Foundation on this unique exhibit and thankful to the legendary Liza Minnelli for allowing us to showcase this piece of Hollywood history in White River State Park."

*Gigi*, a romantic comedy starring Leslie Caron, Maurice Chevalier and Louis Jordan, featured a screenplay and lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner and music by Frederick Loewe, arranged and conducted by André Previn. The movie swept the 1959 Academy Awards, claiming a record-breaking nine Oscars including Best Picture. The Library of



Congress later selected the film for preservation in the United States National Film Registry, and the American Film Institute ranked it #35 on its 100 Years ... 100 Passions list of cinema's greatest love stories.

The theater's schedule over the next two weeks includes *Jaws*, in IMAX for the first time ever, from Sept. 1-8, and a special one-time screening of *The Godfather* on Sept. 13, with the first 150 guests treated to the film's signature pastry, cannoli. Also showing are the Indian film *Brahmastra: Part One – Shiva* from Sept. 8-15 and an early-access screening of *Moonage Daydream*, a documentary about rock icon David Bowie, on Sept. 12.

The Great American Songbook Foundation, headquartered at the Palladium at the Center for the Performing Arts, celebrates and preserves the history of the Tin Pan Alley tunes, jazz standards and songs from Broadway and Hollywood that form the foundation of American popular music. Among other education and preservation initiatives, the nonprofit organization maintains a vast Songbook Library & Archives with more than 500,000 documents, recordings, images and memorabilia representing the music's creators and performers.

The Songbook Foundation operates a multimedia exhibit gallery at the Palladium and is in the planning stages of establishing a standalone Songbook Hall of Fame Museum.

"This partnership with White River State Park, the museum and the theater is a fun, short-term opportunity, but it speaks to the work we do every day at the Songbook Foundation, preserving and sharing the legacy of popular culture that brings so much magic and meaning to our lives," said Christopher Lewis, executive director of the Great American Songbook Foundation. "We look forward to future partnerships with these and other organizations that share our vision."

About the Great American Songbook Foundation:

The mission of the Great American Songbook Foundation, founded in 2007 by five-time Grammy Award nominee Michael Feinstein, is to inspire and educate by celebrating the timeless standards of pop, jazz, Broadway and Hollywood. Headquartered at the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel, Indiana, the Foundation advances this rich legacy by curating physical artifacts of its creators, performers and publishers; operating a multimedia exhibit gallery; overseeing the Songbook Hall of Fame; offering programs for the public and research opportunities for scholars and artists; and providing educational opportunities for student musicians, including the annual Songbook Academy summer intensive.

The Foundation is a Cultural Affiliate of the Los Angeles-based Grammy Museum. More information is available at [TheSongbook.org](http://TheSongbook.org).

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Thanks for reading The Times, Hamilton County!

# \$10K Prize Up for Grabs for College Savings Month

September is National College Savings Month, and Governor Eric Holcomb has highlighted the importance of saving for education with a Proclamation establishing September 2022 as College Savings Month in Indiana. To celebrate, one individual will be selected to win a \$10,000 account deposit in the CollegeChoice 529 Education Sweepstakes.

To enter the Sweepstakes, individuals 18 years of age or older must complete the entry form available at [www.collegechoicedirect.com/september](http://www.collegechoicedirect.com/september) by 11:59 p.m. on Sept. 30. The winner will be randomly selected from all eligible entries to receive a \$10,000 CollegeChoice 529 account deposit.

"The semester is in full swing, and with school on the mind, there's no better time for Hoosiers to begin saving for their educational goals," said Kelly Mitchell, Indiana Treasurer of State. "This \$10,000 giveaway will make a tremendous impact whether a family is saving for a technical or trade program, a registered apprenticeship, or a 4-year degree."

CollegeChoice 529 provides account owners and gift contributors flexibility when it comes to saving for education after high school. Funds can be used at any eligible school or registered apprenticeship program, both in- and out-

of-state. Accounts grow tax-deferred and distributions are tax-free as long as the money is withdrawn to pay for qualified education expenses like tuition, books, computers, equipment, and fees.

Indiana taxpayers may also be eligible for an annual state income tax credit of 20 percent of contributions to their CollegeChoice 529 accounts, worth up to \$1,000 each year (\$500 for married couples filing separately).

"We would love to see a record number of families enter the contest," said Marissa Rowe, executive director of the program. "Imagine what \$10,000 could do for a Hoosier student."

For full contest rules and to enter, please visit [www.collegechoicedirect.com/september](http://www.collegechoicedirect.com/september). For more information about CollegeChoice 529 Savings Plans, visit [www.collegechoicedirect.com/plans](http://www.collegechoicedirect.com/plans).

### About CollegeChoice 529 and the Indiana Education Savings Authority:

CollegeChoice 529 is Indiana's tax-advantaged 529 education savings program and is offered and administered by the Indiana Education Savings Authority, a state government quasi-agency and board chaired by Treasurer of State Kelly Mitchell. CollegeChoice 529 includes the Direct, Advisor, and CD Plans and has more

than \$6.3 billion in assets under management in over 418,000 accounts as of July 31 of this year.

To learn more or enroll in CollegeChoice Direct, call 1.866.485.9415 or visit [www.collegechoicedirect.com](http://www.collegechoicedirect.com). To learn more or enroll in CollegeChoice CD, call 1.888.913.2885 or visit [www.collegechoiced.com](http://www.collegechoiced.com). To learn more about CollegeChoice Advisor, contact your financial advisor, call 1.866.485.9413, or visit [www.collegechoicedirect.com](http://www.collegechoicedirect.com).

These Disclosure Booklets include information on investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses, and should be read and considered carefully before investing.

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# Indiana Allocates \$22.9M for School Safety Projects, Highest Single Year Investment to Date

The Indiana Secured School Safety Board has approved more than \$22.9 million in matching state grants, marking the fourth consecutive year of record-breaking school safety investments. The grants will be allocated to 425 schools, which is the largest number of schools to ever apply.

"We continue to prioritize investments in school safety to help students and staff succeed without the worry of violence in Hoosier schools," Gov. Eric J. Holcomb said. "This funding allow schools to address their specific safety needs through additional personnel and programs designed to prepare for and prevent school violence."

The General Assembly allocated \$19 million the past two years for the Secured School Safety Grant (SSSG). Legislators will set future allocations during this year's budget session. With the addition of \$3.9 million in funds unspent from previous grant cycles, Indiana was able to fully fund all top priority, eligible requests from all schools that applied. Additionally, the funding will cover all eligible requests for additional training for School Resource Officers and staff.

With this funding, Indiana now has invested more than \$132.9 million in school safety since 2013, when the SSSG program was initiated.

For FY23, the Board approved \$22,911,714.45 in school safety funding. The performance period for the grant begins Sept.

1. The allocation of funds include:

- \$15,567,558.92 to 272 projects for SRO and LEO personnel costs;
- \$1,500 to one threat assessment project;
- \$6,468,821.16 to 133 projects for equipment and technology;
- \$1,800 to one active event warning system project;
- \$37,161.37 to 12 projects for training and;
- \$834,873 to 18 projects for student/parent support services programs.

"These grants allow Indiana to make a real and tangible impact on students, staff and administrators at schools across the state," said Rusty Goodpaster, director of the Secured School Safety Board. "We're proud to be able to help make these schools safer while Hoosier kids receive a world-class education."

The Secured School Fund is administered by the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Visit the IDHS website for a full breakdown of SSSG awards (schools and total award received).

The SSSG issues matching grants for eligible items and then schools match those funds at a certain level, either 25 percent, 50 percent or 100 percent. The match requirement is based on average daily membership of the school district, the total amount of the project or what the request covers.

Eligible items in the grant include funding for school resource officers (SROs) and law enforcement officers in schools;



equipment and technology; active event warning systems (no matching requirement); firearms training for teachers and staff that choose to allow guns on school property; threat assessments and to implement a student and parent support services program. Common ineligible requests include vehicles, clothing/uniforms or vape detectors for schools.

The Indiana School Safety Hub also provides schools with a wealth of resources, training opportunities and other information designed to give schools the tools they need to keep students and staff safe.

### About the Indiana Department of Homeland Security:

Established in 2005, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) leads the way to a safer and more secure Indiana. With jurisdictions involving emergency management, building code enforcement, as well as training and certification for first responders around the state, IDHS works to provide a safe, secure and resilient Indiana.

For more information about IDHS, visit [dhs.in.gov](http://dhs.in.gov).

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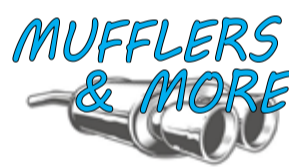
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# Predicting the Big Ten Football Rankings with Ken Thompson

Just how dominant has Ohio State football been in Big Ten Conference play since 2000?

The Buckeyes have won 11 league championships or an average of one title every other season. Perhaps just as sweet to Ohio State fans, the Buckeyes are 17-4 against that team from up north, also known as Michigan.

Even with a victory last season against Ohio State, propelling the Wolverines to an eventual Big Ten Championship Game victory over Iowa, that still leaves Michigan one win shy of Purdue's total against the Buckeyes in this century.

Purdue owns a 5-9 record against Ohio State, starting with Drew Brees to Seth Morales in 2000 and most recently Rondale Moore and the Tyler Trent-inspired 49-20 rout in 2018.

Odds are that Michigan will have to wait until 2023 to get that fifth win against Ohio State. Once again, the Buckeyes are projected to win the Big Ten title and reach the College Football Playoffs for the third time in four years. It would be four times in five years if not for that loss at Purdue in 2018, the only blemish on a 13-1 season.

Purdue does not play Ohio State in 2022, nor does it have to face Michigan and Michigan State. It may be the final opportunity for the Boilermakers to win the West Division title before the Big Ten likely scraps divisions in 2024 to accommodate a 16-team league with USC and UCLA.

Since this is written and submitted to The Paper and The Times before Thursday night's opener in Ross-Ade Stadium against Penn State, it is difficult to make a West Division forecast. Beating the Nittany Lions would be a giant step toward Purdue breaking the Wisconsin-Iowa-Northwestern hold on the division.

Home non-conference games with Indiana State and FAU, sandwiched by a trip to a struggling Syracuse program, could provide Purdue with enough momentum to finally break a string of bad luck against Minnesota. Whether it's Rondale Moore and quarterback Elijah Sindelar getting injured on the same play in 2019, a hometown official's phantom offensive pass interference call on what would have been the game-winning TD in 2020 or another blown TD call in the Gophers' favor during a rainstorm last season, it's always been



**KENNY THOMPSON**  
Columnist

something.

The game of the year for Purdue will be Oct. 22 at Wisconsin. Purdue could be 6-1 or 7-0 entering that game with only Iowa, Illinois, Northwestern and Indiana remaining on the schedule.

Perhaps mimicking the Wisconsin basketball team's snapping of its Mackey Arena jinx this past winter, if Purdue somehow earns its first victory in Madison since 2003 it will be the team to beat in the West.

Let's take a capsule look at how the 2022 season could turn out.

## East Division

**1. Ohio State (12-0, 9-0 Big Ten)** – Luckily for the Buckeyes' national championship hopes, Purdue is not on the schedule this season.

But seriously, the Big Ten schedule makers could not have done more to enhance Ohio State's chances of a College Football Playoff berth. Wisconsin, Iowa and Michigan in Columbus. Michigan State may be the biggest road challenge that includes trips to Penn State, Northwestern and Maryland.

Bad news for Notre Dame, which comes to Columbus on Saturday night: Ohio State has won 22 consecutive season openers. That's only the longest active streak in major college football.

**2. Michigan (11-1, 8-1)** – Coach Jim Harbaugh, emboldened by finally beating Ohio State last season and winning the Wolverines' first Big Ten title since 2004, is now channeling NFL Hall of Fame coach Tom Landry.

Defying the belief that a team which has two quarterbacks really has no quarterbacks, Harbaugh has anointed Cade McNamara and JJ McCarthy as co-starting quarterbacks. McNamara will start Saturday's opener against Colorado State, while McCarthy will get the nod against Hawaii.

By Game 3, will Harbaugh swap quarterbacks every other play like Landry did with Craig Morton and Hall of Famer Roger Staubach for the Dallas Cowboys in 1971 against the Chicago Bears?

Michigan will have plenty of time to sort out its quarterback situation. It plays the first four games at home before traveling to Iowa and Indiana. Back to back home games with Michigan State and Penn State will determine if the Wolverines will be unbeaten heading to Columbus.

**3. Penn State (8-4, 6-3)** – The price of mediocrity went up in 2021, with Penn State giving James Franklin a 10-year, guaranteed \$75 million contract extension.

The good folks at State College are going to expect far more for their money than last season's 7-6 (4-5 Big Ten) record. The Nittany Lions have not won a Big Ten title since 2016 and the odds aren't looking good to hoist a banner in 2022.

Sixth-year quarterback Sean Clifford was as inconsistent as his offensive teammates last season. The Nittany Lions were ninth in the Big Ten at 25 points a game.

Good thing the defense only allowed an average of 17.3 points, tied with Minnesota for second best in the Big Ten. New defensive coordinator Manny Diaz brings with him an aggressive mindset from Miami (Fla.).

**4. Michigan State (8-4, 6-3)** – Will Year 2 of Mel Tucker's strategy of making the Spartans a contender through the transfer portal work as well as 2021?

Yes, if former Pac-12 Offensive Player of the Year Jarek Broussard (Colorado) comes close to approaching running back Kenneth Walker III's impact on an 11-2 season.

No, if the Spartans' pass defense doesn't improve from finishing dead last in 2021.

**5. Maryland (6-6, 3-6)** – Scheduling matters and the Terrapins will likely be in a deep hole after opening Big Ten play at Michigan and against Michigan State.

Record-setting quarterback Taulia Tagovailoa is wrongly overlooked by some media. He owns the school single-season record for passing yards (3,860) and completions (328), plus a share of the touchdowns record (26).

What Tagovailoa can't do is play defense, too. Only Indiana was a worse defensive squad in 2021 than Maryland, which gave up almost 31 points and 400 yards a game.

Maryland games won't be dull in 2022 but there's no margin of error for bowl eligibility.

**6. Indiana (3-9, 1-8)** – The annual Michael Penix

serious injury problem now belongs to former IU offensive coordinator Kalen DeBoer and Washington. But whoever wins the quarterback competition between Missouri transfer Connor Bazelak or Jack Tuttle has to be able to generate points.

Indiana could have the second coming of Pittsburgh's Steel Curtain defense and still not win managing just 17 points a game. Alas, Mean Joe Greene and Jack Lambert aren't walking through the door in Bloomington.

The Hoosiers can't sink lower than being the Big Ten's worst scoring defense (33.3 points a game). That figure has to be shaved by at least a touchdown per game or IU will struggle to avoid going winless in Big Ten play for a second consecutive season.

There's no such thing as a must-win game but Friday's opener against Illinois might come close. Indiana will be seeking its fourth consecutive win against Illinois, which it hasn't done since 1967-70.

**7. Rutgers (3-9, 0-9)** – Greg Schiano is a heck of a coach but even Nick Saban can't make chicken salad out of, well, you know.

Mix a young team (the Scarlet Knights may start 18-year-old Gavin Wimsatt at quarterback) with few playmakers (if he's healthy, Aron Cruickshank) and that adds up to a long season.

Funny thing is, Rutgers could very well win its first three games (Boston College, Wagner, Temple) before reality sets in with back-to-back games against Iowa and Ohio State. Nebraska may be ripe for an upset in Piscataway, but the only Big Ten game Rutgers might be favored to win is at home against Indiana.

## West Division

**1. Purdue (10-2, 7-2)** – If the Boilermakers break through against Minnesota and Wisconsin, look no further than quarterback Aidan O'Connell for the reason.

"Aidan has done a great job," Brohm said at Big Ten Media Days. "It's unfortunate his head coach didn't start him at the beginning of (2021), but we were able to figure that out."

"I do think the last half of the season he did play at an elite level. He helped us win a lot of good football games. If we can design some plays and spread the field out and give him a chance to make throws in rhythm, he'll do a great job."

"If we can improve the team around him, protect him, dial up the perfect play at the right time, get our playmakers involved, he can do an outstanding job."

**2. Minnesota (9-3, 6-3)** – Don't be surprised if quarterback Tanner Morgan returns to his 2019 form that saw him set 11 school records and that former big Ten Running Back of the Year Mo Ibrahim will return fully from a torn Achilles.

Morgan's offensive coordinator in 2019, Kirk Ciarocca, is back after two middling seasons at Penn State. There's nothing subtle about Ciarocca's offense: run the ball to set up the pass. I'm giving Morgan and Ibrahim a slight edge over Wisconsin's Graham Mertz and Braelon Allen for the best quarterback-running back combination in the West.

If the Gophers cannot adequately replace four departed starting offensive linemen and rebuild their defensive line, then this pick will look foolish in November.

## 3. Wisconsin (9-3, 6-3)

– Only three other freshmen besides Braelon Allen have rushed for 1,000 yards at Wisconsin: Heisman Trophy winner Ron Dayne, Indianapolis Colts star Jonathan Taylor and James White.

It's a decades-old formula that wins in Madison: run the ball behind behemoth offensive linemen and play sound defense under coordinator Jim Leonhard. But the difference between a Rose Bowl trip and another Jan. 1 in Florida will be quarterback Graham Mertz.

Is the real Mertz the quarterback who had a promising start in 2020 before COVID affected the Badgers' season. Or is it the passer who had more interceptions (11) than touchdowns (10) in 2021?

**4. Iowa (7-5, 4-5)** – The defending West champions are proof that defense will take a team a long way in college football.

Preseason All-Americans Jack Campbell and Riley Moss head a unit that held opponents to just over 19 points a game. Seth Benson, Jestin Jacobs and Campbell all made the Butkus Award watch list for the nation's best linebacker.

A dull offense and lack of opportunities to make plays likely contributed to wide receivers Tyrone Tracy and Charlie Jones jumping ship to Purdue in the offseason. Three-year starting quarterback Spencer Petras has thrown for 3,474 yards in his career.

That's 238 yards fewer than Aidan O'Connell recorded last season at Purdue.

**5. Northwestern (5-7, 3-6)** – It's an even numbered year, which supposedly means coach Pat Fitzgerald's team will contend for the West Division crown.

In 2018, the Wildcats went 9-5 overall and 8-1 to reach the Big Ten Championship game. The roller coaster went downhill in 2019 as Northwestern went 3-9. Up went the Wildcats in 2020, winning the West again with a 6-2 mark. Back down to 3-9 last season, which coincided with the retirement of defensive coordinator Mike Hankwitz.

I see 2022 looking more like 2016, which saw Northwestern go 7-6 overall and 5-4 in league play. Steal a win from Penn State in Evanston and the Wildcats will go bowling.

**6. Nebraska (5-7, 3-6)** – For the first time since the 2009-10 season, there was no turnover in the Big Ten head coaching ranks. Don't expect that streak to extend into 2023.

## Scott Frost's Cornhuskers

have nine consecutive losses by one score and a 5-21 record in one-score games in his tenure. That's not bad luck nor was Nebraska the nation's best 3-9 team a year ago.

The date to watch is Oct. 1, when Frost's buyout is halved from \$15 million to \$7.5 million. That's also the same day Nebraska hosts Indiana, the fourth consecutive home game for the Cornhuskers. A loss to the Hoosiers could be the end for a formerly beloved Nebraska player.

**7. Illinois (4-8, 1-8)** – It's likely Purdue's Aidan O'Connell won't be the oldest starting quarterback on Zuppke Field Nov. 12 when the Boilermakers take on the Fighting Illini.

Syracuse transfer Tommy DeVito is 24 days older than O'Connell, who turned 24 Thursday. The fellow sixth-year senior looked good in his debut against Wyoming, completing 27 of 37 passes for two touchdowns in the 38-6 victory.

The Fighting Illini will need more strong performances from running back Chase Brown (167 total yards, 3 TDs) to make any noise in coach Bret Bielema's second year.

*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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# JAG Indiana Students Earn Over \$24M in Scholarships

The Indiana chapter of Jobs for America's Graduates announced yesterday that this year's graduating class earned more than \$24,300,000 in scholarship money. Recipients included students from 48 Indiana counties.

"The Jobs for America's Graduates program impacts the lives of young people in an extraordinary way, and I'm thrilled to see so many Hoosiers reap the benefits of receiving their high school diplomas and earning financial aid for more education or training to begin their career," said Governor Eric J. Holcomb, who serves on the JAG's National Board of Directors. "JAG continues to equip Hoosiers with employable skills and provides a road map to lifelong success."

JAG Indiana, which is administered by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, is a state-based, national non-profit organization dedicated to helping high school students of promise who have experienced challenging or traumatic life experiences achieve success through graduation. JAG students receive adult mentoring while in school and one year of follow-up counseling after graduation.

Recently, JAG Indiana received the "5 of 5" Award at the 39th Annual National Training Sem-

inar held in Las Vegas. The award recognized the Indiana program for exceeding five goals set at the national level relating to graduation rates, post-secondary education, job placement and other significant milestones.

JAG Indiana's achievements for the 2021-22 school year include:

- 94% graduation rate (national goal is 90%);
- 85% full-time employment rate (national goal is 80%);
- 82% positive outcome rate (national goal is 80%);
- 69% job placement rate, including military (national goal is 60%); and
- 39% further education rate (national goal is 35%).

"The JAG Indiana program continues to be a national leader for boosting educational opportunities for Hoosier high school students," said DWD Director of Youth Initiatives Brianna Morse. "The outcomes our students achieve are in part due to the work of the dedicated JAG Indiana staff who work year-round to transform the lives of their students in and out of the classroom, through building relationships that last long after graduation."

Since 2006, more than 40,000 students have participated in JAG Indiana with 94% graduating from high school.

# Duke Energy Indiana, Toray Resin Company Commence Operation of Solar Facility



Duke Energy Indiana's solar energy facility at Toray Resin Company's Shelbyville campus is now in service. The new facility is capable of generating up to 900 kilowatts of electricity to help power the plastics manufacturer's operations while offsetting carbon emissions.

The solar project is the first to come from a Duke Energy pilot program that aims to make it easier for businesses, schools and nonprofits to incorporate clean, renewable energy sources into their energy mix.

"We're excited to partner with Toray Resin on this renewable energy venture," said Stan Pinegar, president of Duke Energy Indiana. "This unique leasing arrangement will help power the company's manufacturing operations in a sustainable and cost-effective way, while also demonstrating how our neighbors, businesses and communities can come together to make meaningful progress toward a cleaner energy future."

Under the program, Duke Energy will own, operate and maintain the Blue River Solar Facility on Toray Resin's Shelbyville campus for a monthly service fee. The program provides Toray Resin with the advantages of clean energy to help power their operations, while minimizing upfront costs and maintenance obligations.

"Toray Resin Company and our parent, Toray

Industries, intend to be a leader in the future use of renewable energy by jointly developing affordable, reliable and cleaner energy," said Dennis Godwin, president of Toray Resin Company. "This joint agreement with Duke Energy Indiana further advances Toray's commitment to reduce our carbon footprint by investing in renewable power solutions like solar that are reliable, scalable, cost-efficient, sustainable and directly support our core business strategy."

Construction on the 8-acre, ground-mounted solar project began in October 2021 and was completed in late Aug. 2022. The facility consists of 2,487 solar panels that are each 6 feet tall, 3-1/2 feet wide, and 1-1/2 inches thick. The solar array is located on the east side of Toray Resin's campus, between Mausoleum Road and Boomer Way.

Under Duke Energy's solar services pilot program, eligible Indiana customers can lease an on-site solar system for a period of up to 20 years. Duke Energy installs, operates, owns and maintains the system, while customers receive all of the kilowatt-hour (kWh) and solar renewable energy credit (SREC) output. Initial program capacity is limited to a total of 10 megawatts (MW) for eligible commercial and industrial customers within the Duke Energy Indiana service territory.

# USDA Seeks Applications to Create New Opportunities for Rural People

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is seeking applications for funding to establish revolving loan programs to support rural businesses and community development projects.

USDA is offering priority points to projects that advance key priorities under the Biden-Harris Administration to create new and better market opportunities, advance equity, and combat climate change. These extra points will increase the likelihood of funding for projects that will advance these key priorities in rural places.

The funding is being made available under the Intermediary Relending Program. The program provides low-interest loans to local lenders or "intermediaries" that re-lend the



funds to businesses to improve economic conditions and create new opportunities in rural communities. Eligible intermediary lenders include nonprofit corporations, cooperatives, federally recognized tribes and public agencies.

Loans from an intermediary to an ultimate recipient business may be used to:

- Acquire, build, convert, expand or repair a business or business facility;
- Purchase or develop land;
- Purchase equipment, machinery or supplies, or make leasehold improvements;
- Support start-up costs and working capital;
- Control and abate

pollution and;

- Support transportation services.

Applications are accepted on quarterly basis and must be submitted to the applicant's local Rural Development Office no later than 4:30 p.m. (local time) by the following dates:

- **First Quarter:** Sept. 30, 2022.
- **Second Quarter:** Dec. 31, 2022.
- **Third Quarter:** March 31, 2023.
- **Fourth Quarter:** June 30, 2023.

Eligible applications that are not funded in the quarter received will automatically compete for funding in up to three additional quarters.

For additional information, see page 53452 of the Aug. 31, 2022, Federal Register.

# ISB Expo Gives Hope to Indiana Small Business Owners

The 2022 Indiana Small Business Expo will be held again on Sept. 16 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, in downtown Indianapolis and a portion of the proceeds go to Indiana Veteran Business Owners and to mentorship programs for boys without role models.

The event will bring together businesses statewide of various industries for networking, workshops and Keynote Speaker, Norma Lawrence Unser and Al Unser Jr., will participate.

This is a passion project for Hoosier Realtor Kelly Sparks, and she believes that the power of divine connection and generosity has helped her survive and thrive. Kelly knows the value of working hard as an entrepreneur and the importance of collaborating with other entrepreneurs to grow and to pivot in business.

Ms. Sparks has proven that by taking a leap of faith with the goal of entrepreneurship and serving others along the way that she was able to come out of poverty while overcoming many oppositions.

Ms. Sparks has had challenging circumstances as a single mother with her two sons, one of which has had major heart surgeries and the other nearly died from an unexpected illness. Kelly shares, "We've been



burglarized; homeless, car-less and inundated with medical bills and one adversity after another, but I never gave up on helping others, while being my sons' hero which was always my focus!"

While Ms. Sparks was serving her networking group it led her to take a leap of faith in rebranding and revitalization of Indiana Small Business Expo in 2020, she funded it herself and created successful networking events. "I believed in my entrepreneurial dream so much that I knew it could help other entrepreneurs to believe in their dreams and to hold on through Covid." The Indiana Small Business Expo provides return on investment with new client

connections generated, and the venue has grown even larger and gained many Sponsors that want to be involved.

"I was fortunate that I had the opportunity of attending both the June and November [2021] Indiana Small Business Expo's. Besides the fact that I got to meet new small business owners, I generated a \$6,000 return on investment and have gained several new clients," shared Delaram Moghaddam of Delaram Art & Design.

What is the outlook for small business in Indiana? We're still navigating the post-2020 changes and pivots, sometimes almost daily. But one thing remains constant - small

business is the backbone of the Hoosier heartland and only thrives when we all come together to support each other.

Norma Lawrence Unser, Small Business Owner, Executive Director of Wings and Wheels Foundation will deliver a Keynote Talk. Al Unser Jr. will join her.

Additional Speakers include Global Speaker, Coach, Author and Trainer, Hazel Walker of BNI. Author, Small Business Owner, India Brown of PM Phase. Speaker, Brand Expert, Author, and Coach, Yolanda Smith of Branding 4 Success. President of International Chambers Group, Ron Chambers.

An Official Sponsor for Indiana Small Business Expo is Rainmakers. Nancy Sunshine, owner and CEO of The Sunshine Group Inc., Rainmakers and Thrivent.

There are still booth and sponsorship opportunities, just go to [www.indianasbc.com/expo](http://www.indianasbc.com/expo) for more information.

All networking groups and entrepreneurs, at any stage of their business are encouraged to attend and support this wonderful cause and create new connections. All attendees have a chance to win door prizes.

Learn more and get tickets at [www.indianasbc.com/expo](http://www.indianasbc.com/expo)

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**ARWOOD** From Page A1

board. In fact, behind every successful school district is a visionary and effective school board committed to positive educational outcomes.

Elected by district residents, our school board is uniquely poised to assess academic performance, establish a vision for progress, collaborate on strategies for goal attainment, and maintain a clear commitment to the staffing and developmental requirements needed for success. They are in tune to the needs of the school community, support the district and school administrators, and implement meaningful policies.

During my tenure as superintendent, the collaborative efforts of our past and current school board members have made real and profound changes throughout our campus in curriculum, amenities, learning environments, and opportunities that have enhanced the overall student experience resulting in greater student achievement. I am deeply grateful to Dr. Kevin Cavanaugh, Arnett Cooper, Julie Davis, Doug Ozolins, and Gretchen Pennington for their service and stewardship of our school district. Together they bring unwavering leadership, advocacy, and benefit to Heights. Learn more about our five-member board along with dates, times, and locations of our board meetings in the year ahead online at [www.hhschus-kies.org/Page/209](http://www.hhschus-kies.org/Page/209).

In other reminders, the HHHS Honor Society will be hosting their first Blood Drive of the school year next Wednesday from 3-7

p.m. Register to schedule your time to make a life-saving difference at [donate.indiana.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/155647](http://donate.indiana.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/155647).

Back to School Night at HHMS is set for Sept. 15 from 6-8 p.m. Hamilton Heights annual Homecoming Parade launches from the high school parking lot at 4 p.m. on Sept. 16. The Huskies match up against the Tipton Blue Devils later that night. Half-time festivities include the introduction of the Homecoming Court and crowning of this year's king and queen.

The HHHS Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony begins at noon on Sept. 17 at the high school gymnasium. Hamilton Heights Alumni Association All-Schools Reunion Open House is set for Sept. 17 from 2-7 p.m. at the Hamilton Heights Student Activity Center.

Plan to enjoy exciting football action at this Friday's season opener on our newly renovated artificial turf field. The Huskies welcome the Rensselaer Central Bombers. Bonus! Our Middle and High School bands will be recognized.

I want to give a shout out to our educators, staff, and volunteers whose positive contributions at Hamilton Heights is noticed and appreciated. Celebrate those efforts through a relaxing and enjoyable Labor Day holiday! See you back on campus next Tuesday! #WeAreHuskies

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

**TAPS** From Page A1

Brewery as a new dining and recreation option in this area of the community."

This will be the third and largest location for Bier Brewery, which also has taprooms at 5133 East 65th St. in Indianapolis and 13720 North Meridian St. in Carmel. This is a multi-million dollar investment for Bier Brewery to complete the project.

"We are very excited to be adding our third location in Noblesville," said Ryan Connor, Director of Sales and Distribution for Bier Brewery. "The City of Noblesville has been a great partner and very welcoming to our ideas and goals. We are anxious to get started as soon as we tie up loose ends."

Bier is a local family-owned and operated brewery that has been open since 2010. The operation started out small by Jerry (father) and Darren Connor (son) as a small scale nano brewery. It has since evolved to include Darren's siblings, Ryan Connor and Leah Keene, and expanded in 2015 to a 20-barrel system in order to keep pace with growing demand for its product, which now consists of more than 130 beer selections. It opened their 4,300 sq. ft. all-ages



Mayor Chris Jensen

taproom location with food service in Carmel in 2018.

With a steadfast focus on crafting quality brews, Bier Brewery is a perennial award-winner in state-wide and national craft beer competitions. Bier Brewery was awarded the Indiana Brewers Cup Champion award in both 2011 and 2012, and has garnered over 110 medals at state, national, and international competitions.

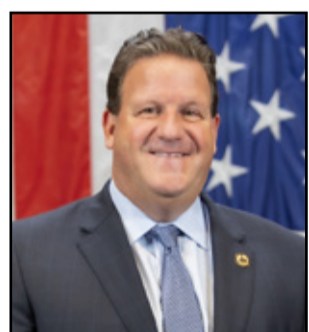
Bier Brewery has been involved with the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce as a Taste of Business vendor and featured in their Birdies & Brews Golf Outing fundraiser along with numerous other fundraisers in the Noblesville area. The taproom also plans to host community organizations and local musicians on their outdoor patio. The new taproom is expected to open in summer 2023.

**COUNTY** From Page A1

Heirbrandt. "It certainly speaks to the hard work and teamwork of our county commissioners, county council, and finance team."

In its report, S&P analysts noted that the county has "[a] very strong economic profile, characterized by robust economic growth... wealth levels that are among the highest in the state, [and] robust tax base growth and strong budgetary management practices..."

"To improve our credit rating, while we continue to recover from the effects of the pandemic and ramp up numerous projects is simply exceptional," adds Heirbrandt.



Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt

"Our county is fiscally strong, disciplined, resilient, and poised for more growth in the future."

Analysts further elaborated that the county's financial position will remain very strong and will be supported by its proactive budgetary management.

**BANK**

From Page A1

Friday contribution" is greatly appreciated and will be put toward parks maintenance and improvements.

To learn more about Hamilton County Parks and Recreation visit [MyHamiltonCountyParks.com](http://MyHamiltonCountyParks.com), call 317-770-4400 or follow Hamilton County Parks on Facebook. You can follow The Farmers Bank on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/thefarmersbank>



**DEATHS**

From Page A1

involved in this incident and there is no threat to the community.

Anyone with information regarding this case is asked to contact Detective/Sergeant Robbie Ruble at 317-595-3319.



**BETSY** From Page A1



Photo courtesy of Carmel Community Players

**Carmel Community Players adds two more performances of "Shipwrecked: An Entertainment!" directed by Lori Raffel, at 7:30 p.m. Sunday and 2:30 p.m. Monday at The Cat in Carmel.**

lineup is still being finalized for 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Oct. 7, with Fall Fest and Soup Cookoff from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., on the Courthouse Square.

2. Experience Nickel Plate Arts First Friday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. today at Nickel Plate Arts featuring the work of artist Anthony Schillaci, with live music by John Gilmore, plus food.

3. Noblesville Parks' 15th annual Movies in the Park series, presented by Logan Street Signs and banners, is tonight at dusk, featuring "Sing 2." (Rated PG) at Federal Hill; and Sept. 9, "Ghostbusters Afterlife." (Rated PG-13) at Federal Hill.

4. Noblesville Farmers Market is open 8 a.m. to noon, at Federal Hill Commons in downtown Noblesville. Market continues every Saturday this summer through Oct. 15.

5. The 12th annual Lucky Teter Rebel Run Car Show and Vintage Motorcycle Show is 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday with registration to begin at 9 a.m. and presentation of the flag at noon and singing of the National Anthem by 16-year-old Addie McMillan, a member of the Noblesville High School's NHS Singers. Show is on the lawn under the trees at Forest Park, 701 Cicero Road, Noblesville. Entry fee is \$10, and free to spectators, with proceeds to benefit Noblesville Masonic Lodge's Angel Fund

6. Carousel Corner is open at Forest Park in Noblesville from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends through Oct. 23, with \$2 carousel rides and \$3 mini golf.

7. 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.

8. Listen to live music featuring The Dead Squirrels at 7 p.m. Saturday at Grindstone Public House in downtown Noblesville, Hill & Oaks, Sept. 8; Matt Record, Sept. 10, Craig Thurston, Sept. 15.

9. The final Flix and Float movie night at Forest Park Aquatic Center in Noblesville "Top Gun," at 8 p.m. on Saturday, \$5 per person, included with pool membership. Friends of Central Pool and Forest Park Aquatic Center's 25th Anniversary Celebration is 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Sept. 11, with registration encouraged, festive luau party with beer and wine cash bar and charcuterie provided by the Wine Trough. Admission is free but a tax deductible donation of \$25 or more per person is greatly appreci-

ated. Visit <https://www.forestparkpool.org/>

10. 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 season.

11. Kiln Creations in downtown Noblesville is having a Taylor Swift Night at 6 p.m. Saturday, and is filling a request for "It's 420 Somewhere," an adults-only painting party at 6 p.m. Sept. 9 with a choice of tobacco pipes, trays, decorative houseware, jars and more, plus check out new 420 designs available just for this event.

12. Carmel Community Players adds two more performances of "Shipwrecked: An Entertainment!" directed by Lori Raffel, at 7:30 p.m. Sunday and 2:30 p.m. Monday at The Cat in Carmel.

13. The 31st annual Cicero Red Bridge Park Car Show is 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, with a craft show indoors, a deejay playing tunes and the American Legion at noon presenting the colors. Pork chops and hot dogs will be available.

14. Watch Meals on Wheels 8th Annual Dancing with Our Stars Event from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sept. 8 at Embassy Suites in Noblesville, with \$75 tickets, benefiting Meals on Wheels, available through Aug. 31, featuring Tim Griffin dancing with Natasha Cox, Phil Huang dancing with Kristen Motz, Aaron Head dancing with Diana Miller, Tom Kilian dancing with Olga Cansino, Kenneth Hubbard dancing with Yulia Shook, Erin Dickerson dancing with Ed Godby-Schwab, Pinky Stuhldreher dancing with Adam Trogdlen, Kris Beckwith dancing with Scott Shook, Karen Keinsley dancing with Rob Jenkins and Taylor McLean dancing with Xavier Medina, with tickets at <https://mealsonwheels.org/>

15. Experience Conner Prairie's Jupiter Flights Balloon Festival, Indiana's largest balloon festival with 42 balloons competing in balloon races and "glows" Sept. 9-11, featuring balloons originating from throughout the United States, family-friendly entertainment, live bands, flight simulators, remote-control airplanes, bubble workshops, live bird shows and more. There will be balloon "glows" Sept. 9-10 nights, a balloon race that starts at 7 a.m. Sept. 10 and 11, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. activities on Sept. 10, plus 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. balloon competition, bounce houses, corn maze and more on

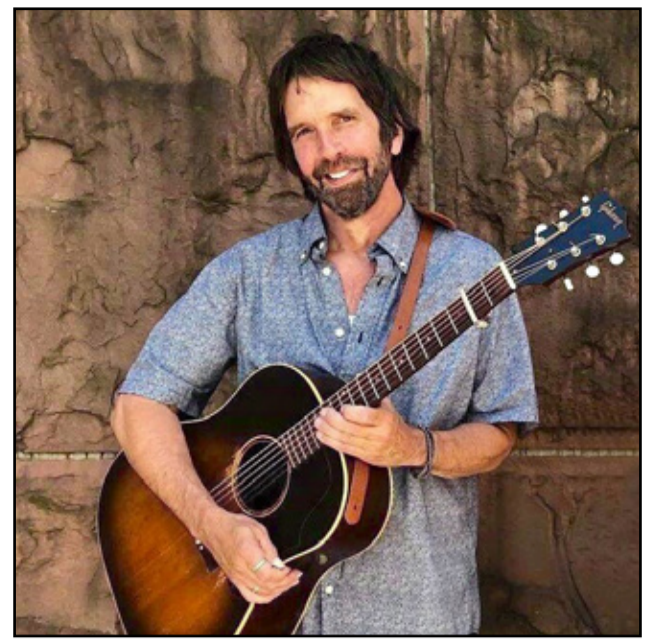


Photo courtesy of John Gilmore

**Enjoy live music by John Gilmore of Noblesville during the Nickel Plate Arts First Friday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. today on the Nickel Plate Arts Campus in downtown Noblesville.**

Sept. 10.

16. Westfield continues its Movies in the Plaza series at dusk select Fridays, featuring "Encanto" on Sept. 9 on the Great Lawn at Grand Junction Plaza, with more movies that include "Raya and the Last Dragon," Sept. 23; "Hocus Pocus," Oct. 28; and "Elf," Dec. 2.

17. Noblesville Elks No. 576 will have a Rummage Sale for charity with household items, tools, kitchen items and much more, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 10 and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 17 at the Elks, 35 S. Ninth St., with proceeds to go to Elks annual charity awards.

18. The Atlanta Fall Market is 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 10 on Main Street in downtown Atlanta, Ind.

19. Celebrate The King during Roy E. Reynolds' Memorial Tribute to Elvis Presley from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sept. 10 at Jim Dandy Restaurant in Noblesville. Kids are welcome.

20. Enjoy Concerts at the Commons 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on select Saturdays through September at Federal Hill Commons. Concert schedule: Sept. 10, The Eagles Project (Eagles Tribute) and The Toons; Sept. 24, Trippin Billies (Dave Matthews Tribute) and Sam King.

21. 6th annual Strut 2 Save Lives is at 11 a.m. Sept. 11 at Dr. James A. Dillon Park in Noblesville, with registration \$25 for adults, \$12 for ages 12 and younger and \$65 for families up to five participants, with registration at 10 a.m., opening remarks at 10:45 a.m., with live deejay until 1 p.m., plus free pet photos with owners, food from E&M Hot Diggity Dogs and beer from Moontown Brewing.

22. Take a ride on Nickel Plate Express' Super Hero Express, a train ride with Spiderman, Batman & Catwoman, at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Sept. 11 boarding at Hobbs Station in Forest Park in Noblesville. Ride the historic dining car to celebrate Oktoberfest with a four-course German meal at 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sept. 17. Board the Wizard Express on Oct. 1.

23. Noblesville Preservation Alliance's 35th annual Historic Home Tour is 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 17 in Old Town Noblesville, with advance tickets available online only, and tickets available day of tour at the Hamilton County Historical Society in front of the Old Jail and

at a ticket table at Preservation Hall on Logan Street.

24. Nickel Plate Arts and artists friends are bringing out their excess and unused craft supplies for an epic yard sale from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 17 at the Nickel Plate campus at Eighth and Maple in downtown Noblesville.

25. 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 the final show of the season at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 17, featuring Stones Crossing Family Band with opener Alec Bohuk & Eric Reel.

26. Noblesville Brewfest & Wine Garden is 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sept. 17 at Forest Park in Noblesville, benefiting Forest Park Aquatic Center, with tickets, \$40 in advance, \$50 at the door if still available, at [www.NoblesvilleBrewfest.com](http://www.NoblesvilleBrewfest.com). The event features unlimited sampling of beers, a wine garden samplings, designated drivers get in free, food vendors, live music, cornhole competitions.

27. A Spaghetti Fundraiser benefits Cicero Police, Fire and Public Safety, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sept. 18 at Red Bridge Park in Cicero, free meal with donations accepted, plus a Karma-Concert on the Pier from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. featuring hits from the '70s to today, and a Jeep Cruise-in 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

28. Visit the Handmade Vintage Market supporting local small businesses from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 1 at the Hamilton County Fairgrounds in Noblesville.

29. Visit the Potter's Bridge Fall Festival 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 1 at Potter's Bridge Noblesville featuring 90 arts, crafts and food booths, free KidZone and live entertainment.

30. Feeding Families Hamilton County will play host for the second year to an all-day Music Festival, 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Oct. 1 at Federal Hill Commons in downtown Noblesville, with food vendors, live music featuring Fast Cadillac, bounce house, silent auction. Bring nonperishable food items to donate to the Feeding Families local pantries.

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

**GUILTY** From Page A1

Hamilton Superior Court No. 1, the jury returned verdicts of guilty on all three counts, and sentencing is set for Oct. 7. This trial involved the murder of Francis Kelley, a Carmel man, who was killed by asphyxiation due to manual strangulation or neck compression with acute fentanyl intoxication listed as a contributing factor in his death.

Ms. Littlefield's daughter, Logan Runyon, testified in chilling detail to the discussions, plans, and ultimate actions taken in January 2021 to kill Francis Kelley. Ms. Runyon is currently serving a twenty-six-year prison sentence following a plea agreement through which she was convicted of conspiracy to commit murder.

"While the work my deputies put into this case was significant and tireless, the success at jury trial would not have been possible without the

truly exceptional work of Detective Greg Loveall of the Carmel Police Department," said Prosecuting Attorney D. Lee Buckingham II.

Second, in a trial that began on Aug. 16, Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys Lars Olson and Toulia Guedel, who both specialize in the prosecution of domestic violence offenses, presented the case against Kevin Michael Doberneck.

Following a two-day jury trial, Mr. Doberneck was found guilty of felony domestic battery resulting in moderate bodily injury and not guilty of interference with the reporting of a crime, a misdemeanor offense. This trial involved a February 2021 violent domestic incident during which Mr. Doberneck was physically violent toward his girlfriend. Mr. Doberneck punched the victim, threw her into a table, grabbed her by the neck, and

struck her in the side of her head.

"The prosecution of domestic violence is a key focus of this office. Not only have two full-time prosecutors been assigned to that caseload for a few years but I formed the Domestic Violence Task Force in October 2019 to better understand and address the scourge of domestic violence for our current and future generations," said Prosecutor Buckingham.

Sentencing is set for Sept. 22 in Hamilton Superior Court No. 3.

Third, in a trial that began on Aug. 24, Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys Rachel Jefferson and David McPherson presented the case against Emad Samir Rezk Ayad. Ms. Jefferson, who has specialized in the prosecution of sex crimes for most of her lengthy career, and Mr. McPherson were successful in convincing the jury of Mr. Ayad's guilt of all

charges after a three-day trial: criminal confinement in two counts, armed robbery and sexual battery.

This trial involved a May 2020 incident at Raymond Worth Park in Westfield during which Mr. Ayad held two teenagers at knifepoint in their vehicle, demanded a kiss from the female, and stole a backpack belonging to the male. Sentencing is set for Oct. 13 in Hamilton Circuit Court.

Mr. Buckingham explained, "When the peace and dignity of our daily lives are so dramatically disturbed, our community should take solace that our Hamilton County law enforcement agencies, including the Westfield Police Department here, will take the matters seriously and that my deputies will diligently work to ensure that the offenders are held responsible for their abhorrent criminal behavior."



# FRIDAY

## Business

Notes and

## NEWS

Friday, Sept. 2, 2022

A9

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### Andretti Global Plans \$200M Racing & Technology HQ in Fishers

Andretti Global, the parent company of Andretti Autosport, announced plans earlier this week to establish its universal motorsports headquarters in central Indiana, enabling increased innovation and creating up to 500 new jobs by the end of 2026.

"Indiana has long been the racing capital of the world, and Andretti Autosport's commitment to growth here will only further cement our state's leadership position in Motorsports and STEM-related pursuits," said Governor Eric J. Holcomb. "This new campus will not only bring new, exciting employment opportunities and serve as an asset for one of our fastest-growing communities, but it will also show just how much this living legacy, one of the most globally iconic brands known, continues to invest in the future of our great state."

"I am excited to celebrate this legendary racing family of entrepreneurs in their competitive quest to innovate in the global racing industry," said Indiana Secretary of Commerce Brad Chambers. "Indiana continues to demonstrate leadership in this sector as well as its position as a premier destination for automotive, speed and mobili-

ty-focused industries.

Andretti Global will invest \$200 million to build a modern, 575,000-square-foot facility on 90 acres in Fishers near the Nickle Plate Trail, Ritchey Woods Nature Preserve and Indianapolis Metropolitan Airport. The new development will serve as the headquarters of Andretti's global commercial functions and the base of operations for the team's current NTT INDYCAR SERIES, Indy Lights and IMSA programs, as well as other future racing initiatives. In addition to housing day-to-day operations for the racing team, the building will be home to the advanced research and development efforts of Andretti Technologies.

"Indiana holds an important place in the history of racing, and in my career as a driver and an owner; I'm happy to confirm that the Racing Capital of the World will continue to be the home of our global racing efforts for a long time to come," said Michael Andretti, chairman and CEO of Andretti Autosport. "Over the past 20 years, I've worked to expand our operations, and I'm proud of our steps to create a diverse racing portfolio. For us, it's about more than

just having somewhere to work on the cars; it's about having a global motorsport home and sharing that with our people, our fans, and our sponsors to advance the sport and leave a lasting legacy."

Planning of the new headquarters is underway, with construction expected to begin in the fall and the facility expected to be operational by 2025. The collaborative campus will feature modern technologies and create a work-life environment to support Andretti's team, fans, and partners. Additionally, the headquarters' location will allow Andretti Global the opportunity to welcome community and race fans from the around the world through involvement with the Fishers Parks Nature First program, planned indoor amphitheater and museum and innovation center that will preserve and showcase the Andretti legacy and inspire the future of motorsports.

"Partnering with Andretti to bring an incredible mix of innovation, visitor experiences and a commitment to the local community is a dream come true for this special property at the Indianapolis Metropolitan Airport," said Fishers Mayor Scott

Fadness. "Fishers will be a welcomed home for the future of Andretti, and I look forward to celebrating their successes together."

Andretti operates worldwide in seven racing championships and across eight types of motorsports with 17 full-time drivers. Since establishing the team in 2003, Michael Andretti has built a diverse, global enterprise competing at the highest levels of motorsport and reaching all five habitable continents. In his time as a team owner, Andretti has collected 17 championship titles and 252 race wins – including five Indianapolis 500 victories, victory at the Bathurst 1000, a Sebring 12 Hour title and wins in the ABB FIA Formula E World Championship and Extreme E series.

"In 2015, the Indianapolis Airport Authority and the City of Fishers partnered to maximize the use of this land and thus increase to an even greater level the quality of life for residents of Fishers, said Mario Rodriguez, executive director of the Indianapolis Airport Authority. "We are so pleased Andretti chose this location and supports the vision for this vital part of Fishers and the iconic team that

leads this great effort."

Pending approval of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) board of directors, the IEDC will commit an investment in Andretti Autosport of up to \$19 million in the form of conditional tax credits and up to \$125,000 in training grants based on the company's plans to invest in its Indiana operations. The city of Fishers has approved additional incentives.

About Andretti Global Andretti Autosport, led by racing legend Michael Andretti, boasts a wide racing portfolio rooted in tradition and designed for success.

Under the banners of Andretti Autosport and Avalanche Andretti Formula E, the Indianapolis-based team fields multiple entries across the INDYCAR SERIES, Indy Lights, the FIA Formula E World Championship and the IMSA Prototype Challenge LMP3 division. The team also competes as Walkinshaw Andretti United in the Australian Supercars category through partnership with Walkinshaw Racing and United Autosports. Additionally the team fields an entry in the Extreme E championship via Andretti United Extreme E.

The global racing

enterprise boasts four INDYCAR SERIES championships, five Indy Light titles, one Pro Mazda championship, a Silver Class GT4 Championship and has captured victory five times at the famed Indianapolis 500. The team also holds two X Games Gold Medals and five U.S. rallycross championships.

To share in the Andretti story, please visit online at AndrettiAutosport.com and follow on social media with #AllAndretti.

#### About IEDC

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) is charged with growing the State economy, driving economic development, helping businesses launch, grow and locate in the state. Led by Secretary of Commerce Brad Chambers, @SecChambersIN, and governed by a 15-member board chaired by Governor Eric J. Holcomb, @GovHolcomb, the IEDC manages many initiatives, including performance-based tax credits, workforce training grants, innovation and entrepreneurship resources, public infrastructure assistance, and talent attraction and retention efforts. For more information about the IEDC, visit [iedc.in.gov](http://iedc.in.gov).

### Junior Achievement to Induct Prominent Indianapolis Leaders

Last week, Junior Achievement of Central Indiana (JACI) announced the four Laureates who will be inducted into the Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame this year. The 2022 Laureates are Sue Ellspermann PhD, President, Ivy Tech Community College; Jeffrey A. Harrison, President & CEO, Citizens Energy Group; David L. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer, Central Indiana Corporate Partnership, Inc.; and Mark D. Miles, President and CEO, Penske Entertainment Corp. The honorees will be inducted at the 34th Annual Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame Gala on Friday, Nov. 4, 2022, at the Indiana Roof Ballroom.

Jeff and Heather Smulyan will serve as this year's event Co-Chairs. Jeff Smulyan



Photo courtesy of Junior Achievement of Central Indiana  
2022 Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame Laureates from left to right: Sue Ellspermann PhD; Jeffrey A. Harrison; David L. Johnson; Mark D. Miles

was inducted into the Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame in 2000, and is Chairman, CEO and Founder of Emmis Communications.

"Junior Achievement's 2022 Laureates embody resilience, compassion and commitment to excellence in the face of adversity," said Jennifer Burk, JACI president and CEO. "We are honored to induct each of these

outstanding individuals into the Hall of Fame and to highlight them as role models for the students Junior Achievement of Central Indiana serves."

Ellspermann, Harrison, Johnson, and Miles were selected based on their personal and professional achievements, high moral and ethical standards, dedication to civic causes, and positive impact on the quality of life in

central Indiana.

"The 2022 Laureates are an extremely deserving and hard-working group," said Jeff Smulyan. Heather Smulyan added, "As event Co-Chairs, Jeff and I are honored and humbled to have the opportunity to celebrate these individuals for their outstanding impact not only to business but the entire community in central

Indiana."

The Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame was established in 1989 by the Junior Achievement Board of Directors to honor outstanding men and women who epitomize personal and professional success and have had notable impact on the central Indiana community. Since the event's inception, 137 laureates have been inducted into

the Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame.

To learn more about the Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame event and to purchase sponsorships, please visit [www.jahalloffame.org/](http://www.jahalloffame.org/) or contact Kacy Wendling, Vice President of Development at [kacy@jaindy.org](mailto:kacy@jaindy.org).

#### About Junior Achievement of Central Indiana

Junior Achievement of Central Indiana, Inc. (JACI), in partnership with the business and education communities, empowers young people to own their future success. JA educates and inspires young people in the areas of career exploration, employability/life skills, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and philanthropy through hands-on, experiential learning opportunities for children in preschool through high school.



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# FRIDAY Voice of our PEOPLE

## Who's Paying Attention to the Big Stuff?

Last week we talked about a quote from Thomas Jefferson. OK, pardon the drastic switch but this week let's look at a quote that "sort of" came out of Wonderland – with Alice.

A lot of people attribute – if you don't know where you're going any road will get you there – to Lewis Carroll's delightful (and somewhat frightening) story of Alice in Wonderland. The scene in reference was when Alice came across the Cheshire Cat.

Thing is, that's not exactly what was said. Alice asked the crafty feline which way she should go and the cat said it depends on where she wanted to get to. Alice said she didn't much care – and CC uttered the famous and mis-quoted reply, "then it doesn't matter which way you go."

Not sure how that popped in my addled brain the other day, but it got me to thinking. Where do we want to go as a country? Or better yet, what's our goal?

And please, save me the political rhetoric. I don't much care to hear a bunch



**TIM TIMMONS**  
Two Cents

of blarney I have trouble believing anyway.

No, I mean the substantive stuff. What is it we want to be as a country? What do we stand for? Not the stuff in the weeds.

The. Big. Stuff.

Once upon a time (seems a fitting phrase since we started out talking about Alice, don't you think?) we were a nation of what Bill Murray brilliantly called mutts in the classic movie Stripes. We welcomed the world's tired, poor, huddled masses. If they yearned to breathe free, we lit Lady Liberty's lamp to show them the way home.

That wasn't all.

We didn't exactly say it (but like my Grandpa used to say, what you do

says more than anything coming out of your pie hole), we also stood for being the best. And we were pretty proud of that, too.

In terms of the Big Stuff, we were a nation that welcomed immigrants and we had a competitive streak.

You can probably toss in a few other things, too.

For example, we said it first and started practicing it later – we are all brothers, equal in standing under God's watch. Yup, we pretty much sucked at it for a while, but we kept trying to get better – and we did. No, we're still not perfect, but we strive.

Any Big Stuff I left out? Maybe. But for today's ramblings, let's stick with these.

With all that in mind, can you define what the goal of our country is now?

We still welcome strangers to our strange land, but now it's more under cover of darkness with a flashlight instead of Lady Liberty's lamp.

It does seem like we want to be the best – but to do that, doesn't it make

sense that we need our citizenry fairly united, rowing mostly in the same direction? I guess I would then ask, how does it help us accomplish that when those entering our country don't have to become a functional member of society, united in the cause of the United States and mostly rowing in the same direction?

And no you don't. Don't you go there. This isn't about illegal immigration or diversity. Just the opposite. Look at championship teams in the world of sports. They are made up of all kinds of members. Black, white, yellow, Christian, atheists, short, tall, straight, gay, and everything in between . . . except those who either can't or won't contribute. Championship teams – teams that are good and not struggling – have no place for them.

But wait, you say. Sports? That's such an oversimplification.

I beg to differ.

It may be sports, but the principles are the same. The common goal is to be the best. When everyone works together,

it can be a beautiful thing.

That used to be us. We voluntarily and perhaps even enthusiastically gave up a lot during World War II. We sacrificed. We kept tabs on prices and rationed things like gas, sugar, firewood, nylon, silk, meat, dairy, coffee . . .

Can you imagine that today?

Can you imagine anything that the vast majority of our citizens would unite for?

It's not just us. Our government is about as divided as we are. Sen. Rand Paul said the other day that if his party takes back the Senate they will begin an investigation of my least favorite doctor, Mssr. Fauci. The other party has their own ongoing investigative orgy with Mssr. Trump.

(And here's a question: Can you name any former U.S. president who was still in the headlines almost two years after leaving office?)

If a real investigation is warranted, why does it matter which party is in control? Shouldn't they all want to do it? And if it's

not warranted, why do it? Actually, it goes further than that. Doesn't matter if it's Dems or Repubs. If they go into something absolutely knowing nothing will come out of it . . . isn't that the definition of an exercise in futility? Doesn't the whole thing – and again, it matters not which side is doing it – just become more political grandstanding with absolutely no possibility of a result that will make a real difference?

Sadly, that's the definition of politics today. It is such an accepted practice we don't even notice anymore.

The. Big. Stuff. The. Stuff. That. Matters. Who's paying attention to that now?

*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 [ttimmons@thetimes24-7.com](mailto:ttimmons@thetimes24-7.com)*

## A Night of Make-Believe Severance Payback!



**JOHN MARLOWE**  
With the Grain

Close your eyes. Wait a minute! What am I thinking? That won't work. How are you going to read the rest of this experiment if your eyes are closed? Let's start again.

Make-believe that your eyes are closed.

That's better! And it is a perfectly acceptable preamble to what's coming next. Because from this point on, we are only dealing with the imaginary.

I want you to imagine that you are something that you are not. Make-believe you are a novelist. You could be a renowned surgeon. Perhaps a famous celebrity. Maybe just a grandpa.

How does that make you feel? Are you happier in your make-believe world? You should be.

Make-believers, by inference if not definition, are happy people. Rarely do make-believers ever imagine themselves worse off than they already are. Make-believers get to choose their own destiny; steer their own course.

I picked the term "make-believe" intentionally. I could easily use "fantasize" or "pretend." However, those terms are impersonal. They don't evoke emotion or sentiment. You can fantasize that the world is a better place. You can pretend that you are an honest businessperson. Neither of those plots tell me anything about YOU!

The make-believe world is your world? We are only in it with you if you invite us.

My Mother used the term make-believe almost exclusively. I was reminded of this the other evening. It was the beginnings of a beautiful summer night, and the bright flecks of starlight were just assembling into constellations above.

In the summertime, on nights when the temperature is warmish, and the night air dew-less and clean, she would sit with her two sons on the beautiful wrap-around deck that Dad built onto the second story of our brick ranch-style house. Enwrapped by a palisade of mature maple, birch and sweet gum trees, we'd sit in the dark, peering through the canopy at the glittering light above.

"Close your eyes," she'd say to her boys. "Just listen. Tell me what you hear."

In the distance, a train's airhorn punctured the darkness. On a normal night, its blaring signature goes unnoticed in a

visual world, too far away to matter to the eyes; an imperceptible melody lost under the din of a family readying for bed, concluding its day.

Tonight, however, it is unmissable. "I hear a train!" my brother says.

"Now make believe that you are on that train," Mother said. "Where are you going?"

"The mountains," my brother says. "Colorado".

We listen until the train, its horn and its signature clackity-clack, perishes into the night.

"What do you hear, now?" Mother asks.

"I hear crickets and frogs . . . and Jenny Lake yelling at her Mother!" I say, and we all laugh. Mother plays this game again. And again. And one more time, until our happy minds are full of glorious dreams of where we may go, and of what we may become.

There are sweet mysteries in the night. Our Mother taught us a simple game, really. Yet, its lesson is profound. We too often are restrained by the limits of our own convention — only believing what we can see, or feel, or taste, or smell in that moment.

But if we listen . . . ah, we can hear the sounds of make-believe, and therein lies all possibilities of our lifetimes.

Now, close your eyes.

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

As I write this, I am home alone without a caring soul in the house. My wife said she wanted to go to Michigan to visit friends. I was opposed to this and was very firm. "Don't you have friends here? Gas is expensive. So are hotels." She left yesterday.

Whenever she goes out of town, I need instructions on how to use the microwave and dishwasher. We also have an air fryer now, which I can turn on, but I can't figure out how to turn it off. So, I just pull the plug. Time passes slowly when my wife is away, not just because I miss her, but because it's been 4:27 in the great room for the past 22 hours. I don't know how to wind the grandfather clock.

Watching TV without Mary Ellen is a real problem for me, too. First of all, I am hard of hearing. Second, even with captions, I lose the thread of the story because my mind wanders, and third, I am very impatient. I ask questions about the plot before anyone is supposed to know.

"Why did that woman jump off the bridge?" I'll ask.

"I don't know, Dick. Nobody knows. We've been watching the show for 45 seconds."

Before Mary Ellen's current trip, we started the first episode of a

series called Severance, but she decided after the first 10 minutes that she had seen enough and she left the room. It was way too weird for her. She reminded me that she was going on vacation and this would give me something to occupy my time in her absence. And that's where the trouble began.

The show was confusing to me from the start. It's about a company apparently involved in some illegal activity. They implant a programmable chip in employees' heads so when they leave the office, they don't recall what questionable stuff they did that day. I suffered from a similar lack of memory for 30 years at WISH-TV, but I've been told over the years by people who watched my segments that I looked like I was having fun. I was so happy to know I enjoyed my work.

The first night she was away, I called Mary Ellen to ask her a question about the plot. "Can you turn on Severance and help me figure this out?"

"Dick, remember, you asked me stay at a cheap place to save money. I know this is hard to believe, but they don't have Apple TV+ at Motel 6."

I asked Mary Ellen if I could hold the phone up to the TV so she could listen. "I'm going to rewind it and play the part I don't understand. Then you can help me decipher what it



**DICK WOLFSIE**  
Life in a Nutshell

means."

"Geesh, Dick, watching Severance was already weird enough. Okay, I assume from the promos that the woman is drilling into the dead guy's head, trying to extract the chip to see what memories he had of the company."

Turns out Mary Ellen was right, which annoyed me because she had never even watched a full episode. I was on show number six.

The next day in church I approached our friends the Penrys, who initially had recommended the show. "Dan, can you help me understand one of the story lines in Severance?"

"Oh," said Alyce, his wife, "I didn't know Mary Ellen was out of town."

*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](mailto:Wolfsie@aol.com).*



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# FRIDAY Voice of our PEOPLE

## Will Less Than 2% of Americans Fix Our Financial Problems?

By Dr. Glenn Mollette



**GLENN MOLLETTE**  
Guest Column

According to the IRS, a \$400,000 or more annual household income represents America's top 1.8% income-earners. Per IRS Publication 6292, there were 154 million tax returns filed in 2019, thus approximately 2.8 million people earn over \$400,000.

330 million people live in the United States. (2020 Census) Millions of illegals have and are coming so this number is on steroids.

69.1 million people received benefits from programs administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA) in 2019. 5.7 million people were newly awarded Social Security

benefits in 2019. (SSA)

2.8 million people making over \$400,000 a year cannot solve the financial problems of America's government. Telling Americans that we are going to stick it to the rich or 1.8% of our country to carry 70 million retirees and millions of illegals flooding into our country

is just political rhetoric.

Most people aren't doing great when it comes to saving for the future: A 2020 SSA study found that 40% of Americans rely on Social Security as their sole source of retirement income. The average annual Social Security benefit for a worker is nearly \$20,000, hardly enough money for most retirees to subsist on. (CNBC)

The United States Department of Labor data shows that there were 113,062 pension plans in 1990, but only 46,869 in 2018. The average private pension in the United States today is about \$10,788, according to data from the Pension Rights Center. (Annuity.org)

In 2023, the year in which the legislation will increase tax revenue most, individuals making less than \$10,000 per year will pay 3.1% more in taxes and those making between \$20,000-30,000 per year will see a 1.1% tax increase, the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) analysis showed. Tax revenue collected from those making \$100,000 per year or less would increase by \$5.8 billion in 2023 under the Inflation Reduction Act.

In addition, the share of tax revenue collected from all Americans making more than \$200,000 per year would remain at the current percentage, according to the JCT.

Taxpayers with an annual income of \$200,000 or greater pay more than 57% of all federal income taxes.

Will America's seniors eventually pay more in taxes? Currently retirees may pay income tax on up to 85% of benefits if your combined income is more than \$34,000. Combined incomes between \$32,000 and \$44,000 may be taxed up to 50% of the total, and above \$44,000 may be taxed up to 85% of the total. If you're married and filing a joint return. Do you think these numbers will go down? There is only one way that taxes have gone in America - up.

Our problems cannot be fixed by one small group

of America's people. We must have a flat tax for everyone making over \$50,000. We have to stop the influx of illegals. We must be self-sufficient in energy and manufacturing. Many retirees who are physically able may have to go back to work to survive inflation.

In the meantime Government must help us by eliminating the billions of dollars wasted each year. Also, they need to stop trying to convince us that they are going to fix our problems by only going after 1.8 percent of the America people.

Hear Dr. Glenn Mollette each weekday morning at 8:56 and 10:11:30 AM EST. on XM 131 Radio

## Ask Rusty - Military Wife Turning 65 Seeks Information About Medicare

**Dear Rusty:** My husband is 63 and I will be 65 in a few months. He's retired from the Air Force, so we currently have Tricare Select. As I understand it, I only need to sign up for Medicare Part B, which I think I can do now. Can I do this online, or do I need to go somewhere to enroll? And how do I find the cost? We also currently are enrolled in and pay for FEDVIP for our dental and vision. Is vision handled under Medicare? All our adult life we've just used Air Force bases and now we have to pay attention and we don't know where to start. Any guidance is appreciated. Signed: Retired Military Wife

**Dear Military Wife:** First, please extend my gratitude to your husband for his military service. I'm happy to assist you with your questions.

With few exceptions (mainly those on active duty and military reservists) Tricare requires that you enroll in Medicare Part B as soon as you are eligible (age 65) to retain your Tricare coverage. If you're already collecting Social Security, you'll be automatically enrolled in Medicare Part A and Part B at age 65 and won't need to do a separate enrollment. If not, enrolling can be easily done online by going to this link: [www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare/](http://www.ssa.gov/benefits/medicare/). Here you'll see an explanation of how Medicare works, and you can scroll down to the "Apply for Medicare Only" tab to start your application. You will need to first have your personal "my Social Security" online account set up to apply online for Medicare, which is easy to do at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount). You should enroll in Medicare during



**ASK RUSTY**  
Social Security Advisor

your Initial Enrollment Period (IEP) which starts 3 months before the month you turn 65 and ends three months after the month you turn 65. So, if you are within 3 months of age 65 you can enroll in Medicare now and your coverage will start in the month you turn 65. Your Medicare coverage will start on the first of the month you turn 65, even if your birthday isn't until later in the month. If you have any trouble enrolling in Medicare online, you

### Social Security Matters by AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor Russell Gloor

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can call Social Security at 1.800.772.1213 to enroll in Medicare.

It's important to understand Medicare's various "parts." Medicare Part A is coverage for inpatient hospitalization services and is free for anyone who is also eligible for Social Security (you don't need to be collecting SS, only eligible to). Medicare Part B is coverage for outpatient medical services (e.g., doctors, tests, etc.) and there is a monthly premium associated with

Part B. The 2022 Part B premium is \$170.10 per month and, unless you're on Social Security, you'll make arrangements when you enroll in Medicare to pay those premiums separately, usually quarterly. If you're already collecting Social Security, the Medicare Part B premium will be deducted from your monthly SS payment. When your Medicare coverage starts, Medicare will become the primary payor of your healthcare expenses and Tricare will

become secondary payor. Medicare Part C is an "Advantage" plan obtained through a private insurer and used instead of Part A and Part B. Medicare also has a Part D which is for prescription drug coverage, and which you probably won't need because Tricare likely covers any prescription drug needs you may have.

Medicare Part B does not provide routine dental services, and only provides very limited vision services (screenings for glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, and screening for and treatment of macular degeneration), but routine eye screenings, contacts, eyeglasses, and frames, etc., are not covered. Tricare's vision coverage is also very limited, so if your current FEDVIP is not adequate for your needs, you may wish to explore your options for private dental and vision coverage.

## What Is The Truth? Compromising For The Culture

By Dr. Joseph Horton

Who better than the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) to report on a conference of Anglican bishops? The BBC is satisfied that the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby has brokered a compromise on one of the most controversial issues of the day, namely, which sexual expressions the churches in the Anglican Communion should countenance.

How does one compromise irreconcilably different positions? Archbishop Welby's solution is that the traditional doctrine remains on paper, but those who flout the doctrine will not be sanctioned. So, everyone is happy?

In a piece headlined, "Lambeth Conference: Welby unites bishops with compromise on sexuality," the BBC states that the archbishop has "found the formula for now," which suggests that even the BBC knows the

compromise will not stand the test of time. Indeed, archbishops from Nigeria, Rwanda, and Uganda chose not to attend the Lambeth Conference, believing that compromise was inconsistent with the truth-preserving role of the church.

The bishops from these and other African countries support maintaining traditional teaching while those bishops who want to liberalize the church's teaching are from Western nations. This same geographic divide prevails in parallel debates within the United Methodist Church. It is not unique to Anglicanism. And therein is a significant spoiler alert: the United Methodist Church has begun splitting over such issues. Past compromises to preserve traditional teaching on paper but not in behavior have not unified.

As the BBC explains the situation, the positions of both the African churches and the Western churches

can be best understood by understanding the surrounding cultures in which they serve. Thus, the African churches will be most respected by those in their surrounding culture if they maintain traditional teachings about sexuality while the Western churches will have more respect from their cultures if their teaching is liberalized.

Missing from the BBC analysis is a consideration of how bishops, or anyone else, knows what is true. What is truth? Both the BBC and Archbishop Welby seem to argue for the position that truth must be acceptable to the larger culture. Experiencing "derision" or "contempt" would be dangerous for the church.

Yes, Christians are to avoid antagonizing the larger culture for the sake of antagonizing it. We should not bring suffering upon ourselves by doing evil. But Jesus told us that as the world hated Him, it would hate us. Neither

approbation nor condemnation from the larger culture determine the truth of Christian doctrine.

Fidelity to Biblical teaching is the standard by which doctrine must be judged. It is disappointing that the BBC does not even consider the possibility that doctrine should have a Biblical foundation. An educated reader, however, should understand that historically Christians have used the Bible as the foundation for church doctrine.

I am not sure the BBC is demonstrating ignorance or neutrality with its news report. Rather, I think the BBC is showing a complete disregard of the claim that the church offers truth authored by God; truth that applies in all times and cultures. The BBC is going beyond disagreeing with the African bishops. The BBC is undermining the relevance of the African bishops and the faith they represent by pretending that the church

makes no meaningful truth claims.

The BBC would have the church promote whatever makes people in each time and place feel warm and safe. This appears to be Archbishop Welby's approach, too. But this has never been the church's mission. Jesus was not crucified because he made everyone feel warm and safe.

Ultimately Welby's compromise will please no one for more than a moment. Worse, the archbishop has weakened the church's claim to be a possessor of cross-cultural timeless truths and has undercut a historical approach to ascertaining the truth.

The nature of truth is under attack in our culture and we are woefully unskilled in debating truth. Truth is debated in the public square with snarky memes. I'll admit that I like snarky memes, but let's be honest, memes do not educate or persuade.

We need church leaders who will stand for truth regardless of whether truth is popular in the larger culture. Further, we need church leaders who will teach about how truth is established. Archbishop Welby has failed us in this regard.

The issue of truth has implications that go beyond an international gathering of bishops. We must consider what our schools and colleges are teaching about truth. Is truth knowable, and if so, how is truth knowable? Education should move us to a more sophisticated understanding than memes can provide. May God bless us with more institutions that educate well.

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