

➔ TODAY'S VERSE

Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.



➔ FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Victor Barker smile? "My beautiful wife and daughters," said the 34-year-old Noblesville resident. He has a wife, Alicia, and daughters, Presley, 9, and Adley, 4. They live in the countryside in rural Noblesville. Today's feature is a look back at one of The Times' previous Faces of Hamilton County. He is a member and current president of Wayne-Fall Lions Club. Barker is a 2006 graduate of Hamilton Southeastern High School, where he played football. He does heavy hauling for Miller's Towing & Transport in Noblesville. What else? "My family and I enjoy doing many things together as time allows," he said. "I love being able to watch both girls do their gymnastics." What else makes him happy? "I look forward to seeing the beautiful and successful women my daughters will become and growing old with my wife." He is a volunteer firefighter for White River Township Volunteer Fire Department. This week, Oct. 9-15, is the 100th anniversary of National Fire Prevention Week. The Noblesville Fire Department Auxiliary Pancake Breakfast for the community is 7:30 to 11 a.m. today at Station 71, 135 S. Ninth St., with inflatable slides, plastic fire helmets, and fire hoses for future NFD firefighters. All-you-can-eat pancakes are \$5.

And Another Few Things...

1. Young, Kaine Statement

Yesterday, U.S. Senators Todd Young (R-Ind.) and Tim Kaine (D-Va.) released a statement calling for the passage of their bill to repeal the 2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF). The 2002 AUMF was signed into law nearly 20 years ago—on Oct. 16, 2002—and authorized the use of military force against the Saddam Hussein regime in Iraq.

"Decisions as important as whether to send service members into harm's way warrant careful deliberation and consensus, which is why our Founders gave Congress—rather than any single commander in chief—the power to formally declare and end wars. By failing to repeal outdated and unnecessary AUMFs, Congress is abdicating its responsibility to provide oversight over military action and leaving these war authorizations subject to abuse. It is long past time to reassert Congress' vital role in these decisions. Our bill has the support of a strong bipartisan majority and deserves a vote on the Senate floor during consideration of the fiscal year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act. We owe it to our nation's service members, military families, and veterans to pass our legislation repealing the 2002 AUMF and formally end the Iraq War."

Senators Young and Kaine, members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (SFRC), have been the leading voices in Congress raising concerns over the use of military force without congressional authorization. They've introduced legislation to repeal the 1991 and 2002 war authorizations that could be subject to misuse by future presidents. Last month, Kaine filed the legislation as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The NDAA is expected to be considered by the Senate in November or December.

2. Riverview Job Fair

Riverview Health Physicians will host a physician practice job fair on Wednesday, Oct. 26 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. in the Krieg DeVault conference room, in the hospital's lower level. Managers will hold open interviews on a walk-in basis during this time. Open positions include medical assistants, LPNs and front office staff at a variety of physician offices including family practice, OB/GYN, surgery and other specialties.

Those attending should enter the hospital through Entrance 3 and use the elevators to proceed to the lower level. A virtual option will also be offered.

Visit riverview.org/classes/physician-practice-job-fair/ for more information.

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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Boomer Bits

Ask Rusty – How Do Social Security Survivor Benefits Work?

Dear Rusty: Social Security is confusing in itself and gets even more confusing when you receive multiple answers to the same question from multiple sources. During my research I came across your organization, and I hope you can assist me in making educated choices regarding my Social Security benefits.

My husband of 20+ years passed away in 1998 and I have not remarried. I will be turning 65 next month (born in 1957), and my full retirement age is 66 years and 6 months. I work full-time, have not made any specific retirement plans, and my



ASK Rusty
Social Security Advisor

Social Security Matters

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

current gross salary is over \$60,000. So, my questions are: Can I collect any of my late husband's social security? If yes, when, and how? Signed: Confused Widow

Dear Confused Widow: From the facts you provided, you are

eligible to collect a survivor benefit from your deceased husband, but because you are working full time earning over \$60,000 you will not be able to collect those benefits at this time. Here's why:

➔ See RUSTY Page A6

70M Americans to See 8.7 Percent Increase in Social Security Benefits for 2023

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for approximately 70 million Americans will increase 8.7 percent in 2023, the Social Security Administration announced earlier this week. On average, Social Security benefits will increase by more than \$140 per month starting in January.

The 8.7 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will begin with benefits payable to more than 65 million Social Security beneficiaries in January 2023. Increased payments to more than 7 million SSI beneficiaries will begin on Dec. 30 of this year. The Social Security Act ties the annual COLA to the increase in the Consumer Price

Index as determined by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"Medicare premiums are going down and Social Security benefits are going up in 2023, which will give seniors more peace of mind and breathing room," Acting Commissioner Kilolo Kijakazi said.

"This year's substantial Social Security cost-of-living adjustment is the first time in over a decade that Medicare premiums are not rising and shows that we can provide more support to older Americans who count on the benefits they have earned."

Some other adjustments that

➔ See INCREASE Page A6

One of the Main Causes of Vision Loss is Flying Under the Radar

(Family Features) The number of Americans 65 years of age and over continues to rise, according to the United States Census Bureau.

While many in this demographic are mindful of conditions like osteoporosis, Alzheimer's disease and diabetes, a leading cause of vision loss is flying under the radar, according to survey results included in the Visionary Report from the eye care experts at Bausch + Lomb. The results of the report identify blind spots in Americans' understanding and awareness of a stealth eyesight stealer: Age-related Macular

➔ See VISION Page A6

Marilyn's Place Non-Food Pantry Having Moving Sale



BETSY REASON
The Times Editor

Old Town Noblesville resident Glenn Conn, with the help of co-founders Marie Marks and Hilary Ricks, started Marilyn's

Place Non-Food Pantry on South Eighth Street in Noblesville two summers ago.

For Conn, it has been a way to help others in need because someone once helped him.

"I've been homeless myself and been in need a number of years ago," said Conn, 69, who still has the warm leather jacket that he was given during a low point in his life. "I knew then I wanted to pay it forward some day ... Literally, I woke up one day and said, 'Why not have a non-food pantry?'"

Marilyn's Place is a place where people in need can go to get quality of life necessities, like personal hygiene products, cleaning supplies, and appropri-

ate clothing for school, work or the weather.

It's a place where people in need can receive a "hand up" so they'll have a better chance at "a brighter tomorrow."

It's also a place where Conn is making a difference. There are plenty of food pantries in the county, but not a place where those in need could get non-food items. Marilyn's Place is an all-volunteer, donation-based 502(c)(3) nonprofit that received its designation in 2019.

"Many of our clients are on social security, disability or both. Trying to survive on a fixed income is extremely diffi-

➔ See BETSY Page A6

➔ HONEST HOOSIER

Can somebody please help me understand the fascination with political signs? Do candidates actually believe that the more they put out the better their chances are of being elected? (And if that were true, what a sad statement that would be about our voting habits!)



➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Are you having trouble remembering things? Perhaps you're not getting enough sleep. Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Times and online at www.thetimes24-7.com.



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

➔ INSIDE TODAY

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➔ OBITUARIES

- Esther Fay Beard
- Mary Caroline Luprich
- Glendora Ann Walker
- Connie L. Steele

➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"You wouldn't believe on All Hallow Eve what lots of fun we can make, With apples to bob, and nuts on the hob, and a ring-and-thimble cake."

- Carolyn Wells

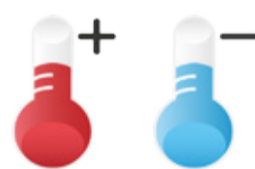
➔ TODAY'S JOKE

What do you get when you cross Bambi with a ghost? Bamboo!

The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:54 a.m.
SET: 7:04 p.m.



High/Low
Temperatures
HIGH: 59 °F
LOW: 42 °F



Today is...

- 'I Love Lucy' Day
- Breast Health Day
- National Mushroom Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1951 I Love Lucy Aired for the First Time
- 1966 The Black Panther Party is created by Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale
- 1989 Wayne Gretzky becomes the all-time leading points scorer in the NHL



Births On This Day

- 1844 Friedrich Nietzsche German philosopher
- 1926 Michel Foucault French philosopher

Deaths On This Day

- 1793 John Hancock American politician and 1st Governor of Massachusetts
- 1869 Franklin Pierce 14th President of the United States

13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

42/59 MAINLY SUNNY	43/65 MIXED	38/49 MUCH CLOUDS	34/48 MAINLY SUNNY	32/50 A.M. FROST & FREEZE	34/55 MIX AS ONLY	38/62 WARMER
SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI

OBITUARIES

Glendora Ann Walker

September 18, 1934-October 10, 2022

Glendora Ann Walker, age 88, of Lebanon, Indiana, passed away on Monday evening, Oct. 10, 2022, at Homewood Health Campus in Lebanon.

Born Sept. 18, 1934, in Boone County, Indiana, she was the daughter of the late Jesse Ermin and Ethel Irene (Elsey) Poer.

She was a 1952 graduate of Sheridan High School, and a member of the Gadsden Church of Christ.

Family was always first and foremost in Mrs. Walker's life. If the kids or the grandchildren were involved in an activity, so was she, always there supporting them in whatever way she could. Back home on the farm, she was a dedicated farm wife; again, doing whatever needed done to support the people she loved the most. One of Mrs. Walker's favorite chores was keeping the yard in tip top shape. Every year, as winter was winding down, she would get the itch to get out on the rider and officially start mowing season, (the unofficial 5th season, and by far, her favorite). Life on the farm was busy, as was keeping up with a growing family, but she always found time to sit and watch her daily episode(s) of Wheel of Fortune, mostly uninterrupted.

Mrs. Walker also loved to cook, and it was the perfect way of sharing a part of herself with those she loved. She was fortunate enough to find a part-time career that let her share that part of her life with the world, literally. For 30 years, she worked for Donaldson's Finer Chocolates in Lebanon, Indiana, and absolutely loved every single minute. Mrs. Walker did a little bit of everything around the shop, but her favorite job was hand dipping the nuts.

Her strong faith and dedication to her family is the foundation of the legacy that she leaves behind.

Survivors include her two sons Randy J. Walker (Jacque) of Zionsville and Ronald E. Walker (Teresa) of Lebanon; five grandchildren Ben Walker (Lisa), Craig Walker (Eliana), Tracy VanFossan (Matthew), Brad Walker (Heidi) and Kelly Walker; six great-grandchildren Henry Walker, Oliver Walker, Mason VanFossan, Cora VanFossan, Allison Walker and Estelle Walker, plus 1 great grandchild on the way; sister Phyllis McCarty of Sheridan; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents Jesse Ermin and Ethel Irene (Elsey) Poer; sisters Betty Simms, and Vonda Spray; and by the love of her life, Floyd Eugene Walker, on Dec. 16, 1998. The two were married on June 28, 1953, and she and her "favorite pet" would spend the next 45 years creating a lifetime of memories.

Mrs. Walker will be laid to rest at Crown View Cemetery in Sheridan. A private Graveside Service will be held with Pastor Jim Williams officiating.

Memorial contributions may be presented to either the Alzheimer's Association, or to the American Cancer Society.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Kercheval Funeral Home in Sheridan.

Mary Caroline Luprich

May 29, 1947-October 2, 2022

Mary Caroline Luprich, age 75, of Westfield, Indiana, passed away on Sunday morning, Oct. 2, 2022, at Copper Trace of Westfield.

She was born on May 29, 1947, in Chicago, Illinois, the daughter of the late Casimir Joseph and Lottie (Ocwieja) Kusz.

Mrs. Luprich was a 1965 graduate of Madonna High School in Chicago, Illinois.

She was a woman of strong faith. She attended St. Hubert Catholic Church in Hoffman Estates, Illinois for many years.

She was a people person, a trait that would serve her very well throughout her career. Starting out as a cashier with the National Tea Company, Mrs. Luprich quickly fell in love with her job. Interacting with the many customers that frequented her store throughout the years was truly a blessing. She would later become a licensed real estate agent, working for Liberman Real Estate Company in Schaumburg, Illinois.

If anyone appreciated a sale, it was Mrs. Luprich. She was a bargain shopper extraordinaire, and the Queen of the garage sales. She was always on the lookout for toys, hoping to find just the right addition to her collection. She loved celebrating all the holidays, but there were a few that held a special place in her world - Thanksgiving and Black Friday. Black Friday was her Super Bowl, and Thanksgiving was her pre-game tailgate party, (only with turkey, the customary trimmings, and a stack of sale ads from which to formulate her plan of attack with military precision). Mrs. Luprich was also an avid reader, never passing up an opportunity to lose herself in the pages of a good book.

Family was a very important part of her life. No matter what the occasion, her family always came first - without exception.

Survivors include her two daughters Michelle Luprich of Noblesville and Kristin Luprich of Westfield; three grandchildren Mason Doerr, Madelyn Doerr and Nathan Luprich; three brothers John Kusz (Michaelene) of Park Ridge, Ill., Richard Kusz (Debra) of Wonderlake, Ill. and James Kusz (Diane) of Medford, Ore.; sister Theresa Mazurek (Christopher) of Fox Grove, Ill.; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents Casimir Joseph and Lottie (Ocwieja) Kusz; and her former husband Joseph Luprich.

A Celebration of Life is being planned for Nov. 12, 2022, in Illinois.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Kercheval Funeral Home in Sheridan.

Meeting Notice

Noblesville Police Merit Commission

The Noblesville Police Merit Commission Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2022 at 5 p.m. has been canceled.

Buy. Sell. Rent. Lease.



THE TIMES classifieds.

Esther Fay Beard

June 18, 1929-October 11, 2022

Esther Fay Beard, age 93, of rural Atlanta, Indiana passed away Oct. 11, 2022 at Miller's Merry Manor at Tipton, Indiana.

She was born June 18, 1929 near Arcadia, Indiana to Avery and Mary (Belzer) Bowman.

Mrs. Beard attended Walnut Grove School Elementary and Junior High School and graduated in 1947 from Walnut Grove High School.

Esther Fay, as she was fondly known, married Ralph Eugene Beard on Jan. 13, 1951 and they began their lives together in a farm home north of Arcadia. She enjoyed her new role as homemaker and also worked in the Cafeteria at Walnut Grove School.

Mrs. Beard was an active member of the Arcadia Church of the Brethren. When the new Brethren Church was built, the old church was torn down. She gathered wood from the demolition, and being a gifted wood carver, she made Christmas ornaments from the wood and gave them to family, friends and church members. She was an excellent seamstress and made clothing for her family. She also made a quilt for each grandchild (seven of them) and gave a handmade quilt to each one when they graduated from high school. In her leisure time, Mrs. Beard enjoyed reading, crocheting, taking care of her pets and just being outdoors.

Survivors include her daughter Karen Fay Chase of Windfall, Ind.; sons Charles Avery Beard of Arcadia and Steven Eugene Beard of Atlanta; seven grandchildren Cristy, Sara, Amber, Stephanie, Candace, Amanda, and Anna; and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, parents and sister Leona Zetterberg.

Funeral services are scheduled to be held Monday, Oct. 17, 2022 at 2 p.m. at Hartley Funeral Home Cicero Chapel, 209 West Jackson Street, Cicero with Pastor Mark Knapp officiating. Burial will follow at the Cicero Cemetery. Visitation is scheduled to run from 12 p.m. until time of the services.

Memorial contributions may be made to your local Humane Societies.

Friends and family may give condolences online at hartleyfuneralhomes.com.

Connie L. Steele

December 22, 1945-October 14, 2022

Connie L. Steele, 76, of Noblesville, passed away on Friday, Oct. 14, 2022 at her home.

She was born on Dec. 22, 1945 to Justin and Mary Davis in Lima, Ohio.

Mrs. Steele worked as a medical technician for 25 years at St. Vincent Hospital. She loved to paint, play BINGO, and do crafts. Most of all, she enjoyed spending time with her family.

Survivors include her four children Ronald "Ron" (Mary) Lawrence Sr., Susan Lawrence, April (Mike) Welch and Angie (Jon) Ward; ten grandchildren Stefan (Doreen) Langley, Ronald (Darshika) Lawrence Jr., Nicholas (Cheyenne) Classick, Sarah Lawrence, Shavaun (Leo) Del Rosario, Bradley Lawrence, Kyle Lawrence, Alan Rawls, Jaxon Welch and JJ Ward; and nine great-grandchildren Jaythan Langley, Clarissa Classick, Arya Langley, Jacob Lawrence, Emelia Lawrence, Mackenzie Del Rosario, Lilith Classick, Christopher Sortor and Kailee Sortor.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband Terry Steele.

Visitation is scheduled to be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with services scheduled to begin at 1 p.m., on Thursday, Oct. 20, 2022 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan Street, in Noblesville. Pastor Andrew Marshall will officiate. Burial will be at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Humane Society for Hamilton County, 10501 Hague Road, Fishers, Ind. 46038 (hamiltonhumane.com).

Online condolences may be made at randallroberts.com.

Obituary deadline

The Times publishes obituaries daily at www.thetimes24-7.com, and in its print product every day with the exception of Sundays and Tuesdays. All obituaries must come from a funeral home. A photo may be included and should be sent as a high-resolution JPEG. Daily obituary deadline is 4 p.m. for the following day's print publication. To read more obituaries, visit www.thetimes24-7.com.



PUBLIC NOTICES

**CITY OF FISHERS
FISHERS BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CASE VA-22-22
UPDATED MEETING LOCATION**

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY SUBMIT COMMENTS BY GOING TO: https://townofishers.formstack.com/forms/public_meeting_comment_form
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY STREAM THE LIVE MEETING BY GOING TO: <http://tinyurl.com/CityOfFishers>

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the **FALL CREEK BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS at 6:00 PM on Thursday, October 27, 2022 at Fishers City Services Court Room, 3 Municipal Drive, Fishers, IN 46038. PLEASE ENTER THROUGH THE DOOR LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE BUILDING, DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM AND FACING THE POLICE STATION.**

REQUEST: At that hearing, the public will be invited to offer comments on the following request ("Proposal"): Case # VA-22-22 - Consideration of a Development Standards Variance from Section 6.2.2.C of the City's Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) to allow an accessory structure larger than 600 square feet to be closer to the property line than its height.

LOCATION: 15924 E 126TH ST, FISHERS, IN 46037

The case file about this project is available for public review in the office of the Department of Planning and Zoning, located at Fishers City Services Building, 3 Municipal Drive, Fishers, IN 46038. The meeting agenda with room location details and case related information will be posted on the City's website forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting specified above. If you have specific questions or want to provide written contacts to the case planner directly, please contact:

City of Fishers Planning & Zoning Department
planning@fishers.in.us
(317) 595-3155
www.fishers.in.us/notice
Petitioner: Christopher Cox

TL19647 10/15 1t hspaxlp

**CITY OF FISHERS
FISHERS BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CASE VA-22-23**

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY SUBMIT COMMENTS BY GOING TO: https://townofishers.formstack.com/forms/public_meeting_comment_form
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY STREAM THE LIVE MEETING BY GOING TO: <http://tinyurl.com/CityOfFishers>

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REQUEST: At that hearing, the public will be invited to offer comments on the following request ("Proposal"): Case # VA-22-23 - Project Description - Consideration of a Development Standards Variance from Section 5.A - Area C of the Vermillion Planned Unit Development (PUD), Ordinance No. 122120G, to allow an increase in the maximum impervious surface coverage from 35% to 42%.

LOCATION: 16324 PORTAGE TRAIL LN, FORTVILLE, IN 46040

The case file about this project is available for public review in the office of the Department of Planning and Zoning, located at Fishers City Services Building, 3 Municipal Drive, Fishers, IN 46038. The meeting agenda with room location details and case related information will be posted on the City's website forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting specified above. If you have specific questions or want to provide written contacts to the case planner directly, please contact:

City of Fishers Planning & Zoning Department
planning@fishers.in.us
(317) 595-3155
www.fishers.in.us/notice
Petitioner: Troy A. Terew, True North Surveying Agent to Owner

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Meeting Notes

Hamilton Heights School Corporation Board

Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, Oct. 19,
2022 at 7:30 a.m.

Hamilton Heights Middle School, 25150 SR 19, Arcadia

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Call to Order: Julie Davis, President

3. Minutes: (motion)
A. September 21, 2022 Regular Meeting

4. Curriculum / Board Information and Policy Updates - Derek Arrowood

A. HHMS Highlight - Conner James - HHMS Job Spark CTE Learning Experience

B. 2023 Board Meeting Calendar (motion)

5. Business and Operations - Kristin McCarty

- A. September 2022 Financials
- B. 2023 Budget Adoption
 - a. 2023 Budget (motion)
 - b. Resolution to Adopt Tax Rate (motion)
- C. Cash Rent Farm Lease (motion)
- D. 2022 Fuel Budgeting Program Resolution (motion)
- E. 2022 GO Bond Update
- F. Facility Update
 - a. SAC Boiler Replacement (motion)
- G. Accounts Payable 1 2 3 and Payroll Claims 1 2 (motion)
- 6. New Business
 - A. Personnel report: (motion)
 - a. Separations from Service
 - b. Recommendations
 - c. Conference Requests/Reports
 - 7. Adjourn

relax & enjoy



THE TIMES

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317-790-5353

Monday	9-7	Friday	9-9
Tuesday	9-7	Saturday	9-5
Wednesday	9-7	Sunday	10-2
Thursday	9-9		

Dreaming of a new home?



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thetimes

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THE TIMES

Thanks for reading
The Times!



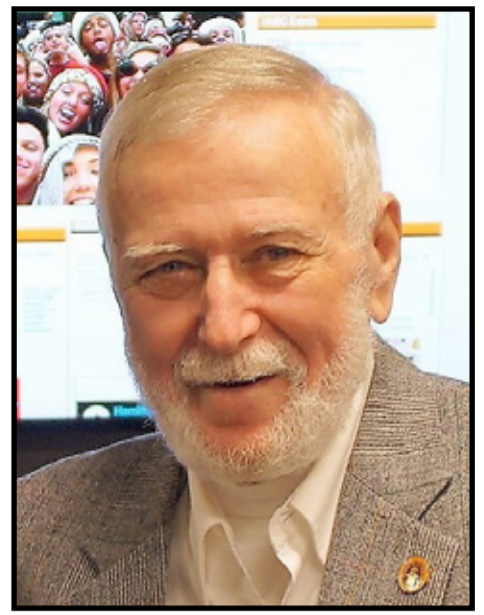
Ben Lehman



Doug Ozolins



Julie Davis



Arnett Cooper

Meet the Candidates in the Upcoming HHSC Schoolboard Candidate Forum

Editor's Note: The interviews conducted in this article were conducted by HHSC staff.

At the November 8 election, Heights' district residents will have two candidates from which to choose for the White River Township seat on the Hamilton Heights School Corporation School Board. Doug Ozolins and Ben Lehman will vie for the White River Township seat on the five-person board. Ozolins is seeking a third term on the school board and Lehman is looking to be elected to the HHSC Board for the first time. Julie Davis (Jackson Township) and Arnett Cooper (At-Large) are running unopposed.

In addition, a special forum featuring all the candidates will take place on Thursday, October 20 at 6 p.m. at the Student Activity Center in Arcadia. This evening will double as Heights' first HHSC Superintendent Advisory Group (SAG) meeting of the year. The forum, presented by the Hamilton Heights Classroom Teachers Association (HHCTA), is open to the public and will be broadcast live by the Husky Broadcast Network at youtu.be/xzS1U94vUiY.

Meet Ben Lehman and Doug Ozolins below:

Candidate: Benjamin G. Lehman

City: Noblesville, Indiana

Spouse: Audrey Fisher Lehman

Children: 2

Profession: Certified Public Accountant

Ben Lehman is a lifelong resident of Hamilton County and a 2003 graduate of Hamilton Heights.

Shortly after graduating from Purdue in 2008 with his accounting degree, he married his high school sweetheart, Audrey (Fisher) Lehman. She is a 2005 graduate of Hamilton Heights and is a scientist at Corteva Agriscience. They have two amazing and active children, Faith (Hamilton Heights class of 2030) and Caleb (Hamilton Heights class of 2033).

Lehman worked for Crowe Horwath for two years before joining the Lehman and Company CPA firm, founded by his parents Kevin and Donna (Flanders) Lehman. He was blessed with the opportunity to become a part owner in the practice in 2016. He has always had a heart for serving, for his family, for his church, for his community and his clients. He is the treasurer for Victory Chapel Community Church and the 50 Club of Hamilton County and is a board member of Hamilton County Extension Board as well as the co-commissioner for the Hamilton Heights Youth Football League. Ben has served as a 4-H volunteer for 17 years, while serving as Swine Barn superintendent for eight years giving back after his 10-year 4-H career. He has been a baseball, basketball, soccer, and football coach for Faith and Caleb's teams the past few years and

has loved every minute of spending that time with his kids and helping their peers learn and grow.

Lehman would like the opportunity to serve on the school board taking his career knowledge, volunteer experience and service-oriented heart to make our school the best it can be.

Q: Why do you want to serve Hamilton Heights as a member of the School Board?

A: I want to be an advocate for the kids, parents, teachers and property owners of this great community.

Q: What specialized skills/background do you bring with you that would make you an asset to the Hamilton Heights School Board?

A: I am a Certified Public Accountant; therefore, I help my clients with making financial business and personal decisions every day. This background has allowed me to look through the lens of many different businesses and situations while trying to have an open mind for what decisions will create the best outcome.

Q: What experience do you have with complex budgets?

A: My work as a CPA has provided me the opportunity to help clients create and review budgets. In addition to dealing with numbers daily for work, I am also the treasurer of Victory Chapel Community Church and the Fifty Club of Hamilton County. These individuals and organizations have entrusted me with making financial decisions and these roles have taught me to treat their money as I would treat my own.

Q: What is the district's greatest capital needs right now? How do you think those needs should be addressed?

A: I believe the district's greatest capital need right now is preparing for potential growth. I believe with kids transferring into the school system and the potential for more subdivisions being built calls us to be prepared for this potential influx of students. I believe our school did a good job initially preparing for the increase by remodeling, but at some point, we will need to review logistics and determine how to adjust for this new climate.

Q: What do you see as the opportunities and challenges in this district?

A: Our school's greatest opportunity is the small-town feel, with booming potential. We have created an atmosphere that promotes family and being civic minded. Our challenge is to maintain our core values as transfers and new families move into our school system. We have to embrace the fact that why people are coming here is because of our core values.

Q: What are the significant issues that matter most to you? How will you be accountable for

them as a School Board member?

A: The most significant issue for me is transparency. If I am elected, I will be working for those that entrusted me to do what I say. I want my constituents to know as much as I can possibly provide. I will do this by working to inform people on what is planned and listening to their concerns.

Q: What are the factors on which you will base your decisions as a School Board member?

A: I will base my decisions as a School Board member on my faith and the past opportunities I've had to learn from members of our community. I am simply a vessel trying to make the best better for our kids, our parents, our teachers and staff, and our community.

Q: How will you build consensus and support in the community around the decisions of the school district? Who do you bring with you to the table?

A: I will listen. I will insist on input from the community. If the school board assumes they know what's best without input from the community, it will completely discount those around us and the wisdom they have developed over the years. My job will be to use discernment as I bring the needs and concerns of the kids, parents, teachers, and property taxpayers to the table to help make Hamilton Heights the best it can be.

Candidate: Doug Ozolins

Town: Atlanta, Indiana

Married: Christi (Bryant) Ozolins

Children: 3

Profession: Entrepreneur

Doug Ozolins is a 1985 graduate of Center Grove High School and attended Ball State University. Doug's wife, Christi Bryant-Ozolins, is a 1984 graduate of Hamilton Heights. Ozolins has lived in the community for more than three decades. The Bryant family has farmed in this community since the mid-1800's.

Ozolins is the owner of Tier2 Group (Construction Supply Wholesale) and Atlas Lifting & Rigging, Inc. (Lifting & Rigging Manufacturer). He is involved in the industries' leadership and has served in many leadership positions on a national level. He has been married to Christi for 34 years and they are members of Arcadia Christian Church where he has helped lead worship for almost 30 years. Their son Derek is the high school tennis coach at Heights, Josh is a senior at Heights and is planning to attend Purdue University. Son Nick passed away from injuries suffered in an automobile accident in 2010.

Ozolins has served as the elected school board representative for White River Township for the past eight years. Currently he is serving as a member of the Hamilton Heights School Board facilities and Policy committees. In addition, he among the

longest serving members of the Indiana State School Board Association (ISBA) Legislative Committee (since 2019) and the high school Robotics Coach. He is a past member of the Hamilton Heights Educational Foundation, past President of the Husky Champion's Club, past President of Hamilton Heights Youth Football.

Ozolins would like to be elected to the school board one more term. He wants to finish the construction projects at Heights, hand his son his diploma, and ride off into the sunset knowing he made a difference in his community.

Q: Why do you want to serve Hamilton Heights as a member of the School Board?

A: When discussing this question, the first time I ran, I was told that it was never good to run if you had an agenda to promote. An agenda can blind you to what the best decisions may be. My only reason was to give back to the community that had been so supportive of my family when our oldest son Nick was killed in an auto accident during Christmas break of his freshman year at Purdue.

I want to continue to serve because, simply put, I have work left to do. Completing the building projects that have been started during my tenure is important to me. Also, as one of the most tenured members on the Indiana State School Board Association Legislative Committee, I have a major voice in the legislation that affects not only our school but the whole state. I am in that position to make a difference for our community. I look forward to the next four years.

Q: What specialized skills/background do you bring with you that would make you an asset to the Hamilton Heights School Board?

A: The best skill that any school board member can bring is common sense. What you do for a profession, what boards you have served on, your work in the community or what you have done in the past is important, but what matters the most is the ability to work cohesively and as a team with the other school

board members and staff. The ability to listen, communicate with others, listen some more and then make decisions is crucial. I believe I have earned the respect of our community, administration, teachers, students, and current board members.

Q: What experience do you have with complex budgets?

A: I currently own and operate two businesses. As for school finances with their state and federal requirements, a school board's role is not to manage those finances, but to set a vision for the finance team. I have eight years of dealing directly with our team to keep your tax rates flat while expanding and remodeling our facilities.

No one in our community knows how to run the finances of a school corporation like our Heights financial team. We have hired and continue to maintain a staff that specializes in school finance and sets a vision of conservative financial decisions. Thankfully, I can get out of their way and let them do what they do best.

Q: What is the district's greatest capital needs right now? How do you think those needs should be addressed?

A: Teacher pay and teacher retention should be everyone's priority. We now have facilities that are state of the art, but none of this means anything if we don't have and can't keep the best staff to teach our kids. One of the agenda items I pushed for in the past on the state legislative committee was a major pay increase for our teachers. If I am re-elected, I will continue at the state level to focus our legislators on the importance of increasing our teacher's compensation.

Q: What do you see as the opportunities and challenges in this district?

A: Keeping Heights, Heights is a constant challenge. Growth is an issue for many schools. However, I feel that our board has done its due diligence in planning for the future. We invest in detailed population studies that continue to be accurate year after year. I also feel

that one of the biggest challenges we may face is the line between being politically correct and what we, as a conservative community, want our children to be taught. I want our kids to be brought up in a community that loves every one of them equally and allows great kids to do great things.

Q: What are the significant issues that matter most to you? How will you be accountable for them as a School Board member?

A: My goal has always been to make Hamilton Heights the best 3A school in the state. We have some of the best facilities, staff, and educational programs in the state. We have one of the best financial ratings of any school corporation in the state. We have the second lowest tax rate in Hamilton County. We have set the standard in the state of Indiana on how to run a fiscally conservative school corporation. We lead the way in the state for career pathways for our students. Our kids are safe and getting an outstanding education. If you feel I haven't done my job, vote for the other guy.

Q: What are the factors on which you will base your decisions as a School Board member?

A: Always putting the student first and non-emotional, common-sense decision making.

Q: How will you build consensus and support in the community around the decisions of the school district? Who do you bring with you to the table?

A: I believe consensus and community support is earned through transparency (all school board meetings are available to the public and minutes are published unless it is an executive session where confidential personnel or student aspects are involved). I also believe communication, trust, integrity, and common-sense decision making are needed to gain that support. I hope that my 31 years of experience as a parent, years of service as a school board member, coach, and leadership in several Heights organizations has solidified the trust and support of the community.



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➔ Meeting Notes

Carmel Board of Public Works and Safety

Meeting Agenda
 Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2022 at 10 a.m.
 Council Chambers City Hall, One Civic Square

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Minutes from the October 5, 2022, Regular Meeting
3. Bid Opening
 - A. Bid Opening for Brookshire Golf Course Cellular Tower and Equipment Building Addition; Benjamin Legge, Office of Corporation Counsel.
4. Performance Bond Release/Reduction Approval Requests
 - A. Resolution BPW 10-19-22-02; Extra Space Storage; Erosion Control; Gilliatte General Contractors.
 - B. Resolution BPW 10-19-22-03; Franciscan Orthopedic Center; Erosion Control/Mass Grading/Right of Way; Tonn & Blank Construction, LLC.
5. Contracts
 - A. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Caulking Specialists; (-\$3,617.00); Carmel Data Center - Masonry Joints; CO #1; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer.
 - B. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Shuck Corporation; (\$61,855.69); 19-02 and 10-10 Brookshire

Golf Bridge Replacement - Mitigation; CO #1; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer.

- C. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Rieth-Riley; (\$29,100.00); 2022 Paving Program - Blue Reflector Unit Cost; CO #2; Lee Higginbotham, Street Commissioner.
- D. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Calumet Civil Contractors, Inc.; (\$29,196.00); 16-ENG-37 116th and Medical Drive at Range Line Road Roundabout; CO #3; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer.
- E. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Frederick's, Inc.; (\$7,563.00); Carmel Data Center - Limestone Delivered and Placed; CO #4; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer.
- F. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Cross-Road Engineers, P.C.; (\$40,000.00); 20-ENG-07 106th Street Pedestrian Path - College to Penn - Inspection; Additional Services Amendment 15a; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer.
- G. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Cross-Road Engineers, P.C.; (\$150,000.00); 18-ENG-05 4th and Main Roundabout - Inspection Services; Additional Services Amendment 23a; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer.
- H. Request for Purchase of Goods and

Services; Fire & Police Selection, Inc.; (not to exceed \$20,000.00); 2023 Applicant Testing; Chief David Haboush, Carmel Fire Department.

- I. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Glaus, Pyle, Schomer, Burns & DeHaven, Inc. d/b/a GPD Group; (\$44,760.00); Construction Consulting - Brookshire Golf Club; Mike Hollibaugh, Director of the Department of Community Services
- J. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Mainscape, Inc.; (\$49,319.00); Installing Holiday Lights; Additional Services Amendment; Lee Higginbotham, Street Commissioner
- K. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Office-works Services, LLC; (\$12,033.58); Office Furniture; Additional Services Amendment; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer
- L. Resolution BPW 10-19-22-01; A Resolution of the City of Carmel Board of Public Works and Safety Acknowledging Agreement Between City and Vendor; CC&T Construction, Inc.; (\$58,000.00); Concrete - Village of West Clay; Additional Services Amendment; Lee Higginbotham, Street Commissioner
- M. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Telamon Energy, LLC; (\$49,500.00); West Solar Services - W10133; John Duffy, Director

of the Department of Utilities

- N. Request for Amendment to Customer Agreement; Zayo Group, LLC; Internet Service - Customer Order# 2058625; Timothy Renick, Director of Information and Communication Systems
6. Request to Use City Streets/Property
 - A. Request to Use/Close City Streets in Clay Terrace Mall; Clay Terrace 10th Annual Boo 'N Brew Fall Festival; Oct. 22, 2022; 6 a.m.-10 p.m.; Christine Foulke, Washington Prime Group
 - B. Request to Use Civic Square Gazebo; Diwali Party; Oct. 29, 2022; 4-9 p.m.; Maleeha Mahbub, Giving Hope
 - C. Request to Use Japanese Garden; Hawkins - Lian Wedding Ceremony; Oct. 22, 2022; 11 a.m.-12 p.m.; Nicole Hawkins
 - D. Request to Use Palladium Paver Patio East; Wedding Ceremony; Aug. 26, 2023; 2-9 p.m.; Rehearsal - Aug. 25, 2023; 5-6 p.m.; Megan Painter
 - E. Request to Use Japanese Garden; Sparacino Wedding Ceremony; Nov. 5, 2022; 6-7 p.m.; Allison Sparacino
 - F. Request to Use Civic Square Gazebo; Wheelock Wedding Reception; September 23, 2023; 9-11 p.m.; Emily Wheelock
7. Other
 - A. Resolution BPW

10-19-22-04; A Resolution of the City of Carmel Board of Public Works and Safety Requesting the Financing, Construction, and Dedication of Certain Infrastructure or Other Impact Zone Improvements in Lieu of and as a Credit Against the Payment of Parks and Recreation Impact Fees ("PRIF") and Approving a PRIF Credit Agreement; Village Capital Corporation; Wren; Henry Mestetsky, Director of the Department of Redevelopment

- B. Resolution BPW 10-19-22-05; A Resolution of the City of Carmel Board of Public Works and Safety Requesting the Financing, Construction, and Dedication of Certain Infrastructure or Other Impact Zone Improvements in Lieu of and as a Credit Against the Payment of Parks and Recreation Impact Fees ("PRIF") and Approving a PRIF Credit Agreement; Pedcore Housing Corporation; Windsor; Henry Mestetsky, Director of the Department of Redevelopment
- C. Resolution BPW 10-19-22-06; A Resolution of the City of Carmel Board of Public Works and Safety Setting 2023 City and Participant Contribution Rates for the City of Carmel Employee Health Benefit Plan; Annual Insurance Rates; Lisa Hartz, Director of

Human Resources

- D. Request for Renewal of City of Carmel Employee Health Benefit Plan; Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield; 2023 Insurance Plans and Products; Lisa Hartz, Director of Human Resources
- E. Request for Road Closure/Open Pavement Cuts; The Edge Apartments - 96th Street and Kittrell Drive; J. C. Hart
- F. Request for Grant of Perpetual Storm Water Quality Management Easement; The Steadman Apartments - 111th and Spring Mill Road; Bridges Apartments, LLC
- G. Request for Street Closure/Open Pavement Cut; Near 10210 Orchard Park Drive West; Morphe Construction
- H. Request for Street Closure/Open Pavement Cut; Near 10800 Cornell Street; Lamb Excavating
- I. Request for Secondary Plat; Albany Village; Ed Fleming, Platinum Properties
- J. Request for Consent to Encroach and Variance; 15 W Executive Drive; Balconies; Carmel Development III, LLC, Property Owner
- K. Request for Consent to Encroach and Variance; 1516 Brook Mill Court; Pool and Landscaping; Dustin Carmack, Property Owner
- L. Request for Storm Water Technical Standards Waiver; Tom Wood Jaguar - 4620 E. 96th Street; Roger Ward Engineering
8. Adjournment

The Times

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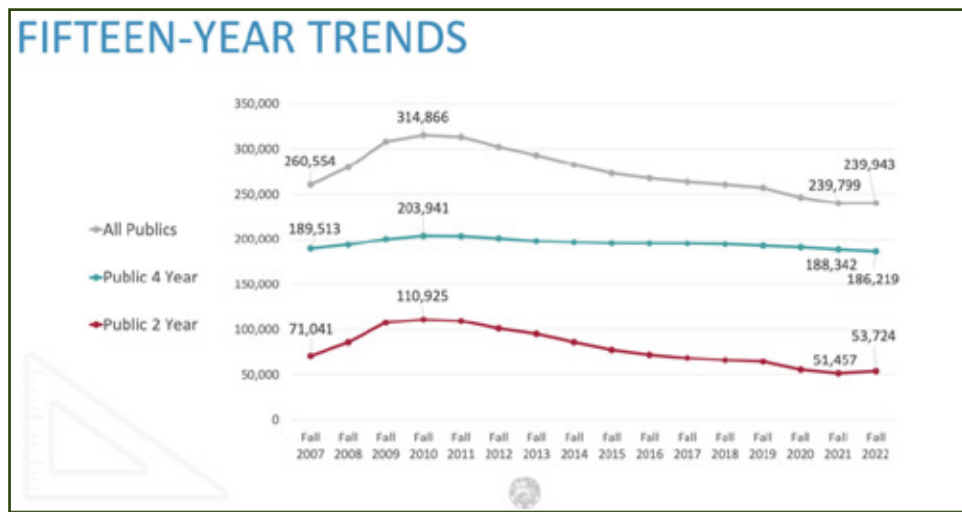


Photo courtesy of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Historical enrollment data for public colleges and universities in Indiana.

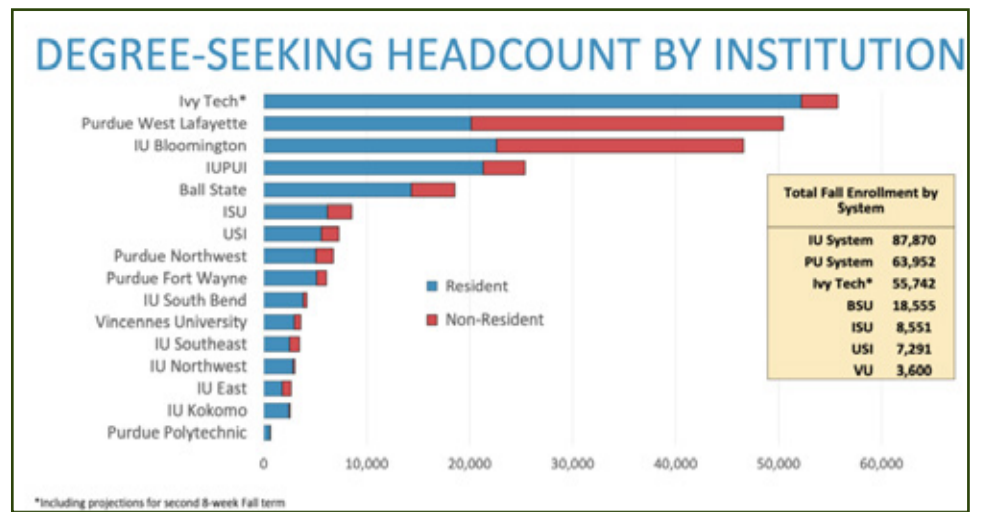


Photo courtesy of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Fall 2022 enrollment data for public colleges and universities in Indiana.

Fall Enrollment Flat at Indiana's Public Colleges; Long-term Trend is of Concern

By Casey Smith

Overall fall enrollment at colleges across the state of Indiana stayed about the same this year, but the number of students attending those schools over the last five to 15 years is on a downward slide.

That's according to data released Thursday by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (ICHE). The college attendance numbers reflect student enrollment at public institutions in Indiana at the start of each fall semester. The latest data captures enrollment numbers for the current academic year, which started in August.

Overall enrollment at public colleges and universities in Indiana increased 0.1% this fall, for a total of 239,943 degree-seeking undergraduate and graduate students. In 2021, the ICHE reported 239,799 students were enrolled in state schools.

Still, Indiana continues to struggle with low college attainment among Hoosiers.

Only half of Indiana's 2020 high school graduates pursued some form of college education beyond high school, according to an ICHE report released earlier this year. The drop marked the state's lowest college-going rate in recent history.

The state's higher education officials point to overall college enrollment

declines in Indiana that trend back more than decade. They opine the low enrollment has been caused by "numerous" factors. In the last two years, that largely includes the COVID-19 pandemic, which led many students to delay or steer away from college classes altogether.

Now, education officials are continuing to focus on how the state can meet Gov. Eric Holcomb's goal of having at least 60% of adult Hoosiers with a quality degree or credential beyond high school by 2025. Currently, that number is just over 48%, leaving a majority of Hoosier adults without a credential beyond a high school diploma.

"[The state's overall education attainment goal] is really to make our economy tick, and whether it's those certificates, associate degrees, bachelor's degrees, master's, PhDs — we've got to do better on each of those levels," ICHE Commissioner Chris Lowery said Thursday during a commission meeting. "And part and parcel to that, it's going to include the college going rate, how we're working with and serving adults better, how we're working to retain such incredibly talented graduates here in Indiana, and doing so in the most cost effective manner that I believe our institutions have already set the bar on."



Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery

What the latest fall enrollment numbers show

The new ICHE data shows undergraduate headcounts in Indiana are down 0.1% this year from 2021.

In the last five years, the state's public higher education institutions have seen a 12.1% dip in undergraduates, equal to 27,000 fewer students.

The number of resident students from Indiana is down even more, with 30,000 fewer undergraduates — 17% down from 2017. The metric accounts for 17,000 fewer Hoosier undergraduates attending an in-state, four-year public school.

At the same time, however, a greater number of non-resident undergraduates are attending Hoosier schools.

Compared to five year ago, Indiana public colleges and universities report 7% more students from different states or countries — that's an increase of 3,000 undergrads. Non-resident graduate student

numbers are also on the rise. Graduate student headcounts are up 18% since 2017, equal to 4,000 more degree-seekers.

Bucking the trend, Purdue University President Mitch Daniels noted during the ICHE meeting Thursday that the land grant university recorded a near-record high number of Hoosiers attending Purdue University West Lafayette this fall. Of the campus' 50,884 students enrolled, 17,964 are Indiana students.

"We've worked very hard on this, despite the college going rate, unfavorable windage ... We've been working on it, and we're sailing — I think somewhat successfully — against that wind," Daniels said.

But ICHE data indicates that Indiana's other public colleges have "almost entirely" absorbed the statewide enrollment declines.

State officials maintain the increased drop is likely due to the lingering impacts of the pandemic, as well as the perceived cost of higher education, low unemployment rates, and a perceived low value of education beyond high school.

An ongoing challenge Getting more Hoosiers educated has been an issue of increasing concern in recent months.

State officials maintain that people with a bachelor's degree or higher earn 85% more

per year than high school graduates. The longer college takes, however, the more it can cost, and the less likely it is a student will ever graduate, according to the ICHE.

To get more Hoosiers to college, the higher education commission recommended automatic enrollment for all eligible students into the 21st Century Scholars program, which provides up to four years of undergraduate tuition to income-eligible students at certain Indiana colleges or universities.

Currently, fewer than half of eligible students enroll in the program, despite its success — more than 80% of those who complete the program go to college.

The ICHE has also called for increased funding for state financial aid programs and requiring all high school seniors to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to qualify for financial aid.

The commission, along with the Indiana Department of Education, is additionally pushing for more Hoosier students to earn college credit while still in high school.

Lowery maintained that students who earn College Core credits are more likely to enroll in college and go on to earn degrees or technical certificates.

The Indiana College Core curriculum consists of a 30-credit-hour block

of general education courses that transfer between all of Indiana's public institutions and some private colleges.

A hopeful sign, this year, more Hoosier high schoolers than ever before have the option to earn those college-level credits while still in secondary school.

Lowery also commended a statewide grant program announced in August that will provide low-income Indiana families with funds to support tutoring for students who are struggling to recover from academic setbacks spurred by the COVID-19 pandemic. He emphasized that increasing reading and literacy rates at the K-12 level

"Reading and literacy has taken a hit with the pandemic, but it did not start with the pandemic. This, similar to the college-going rate, has been a decline and a challenge for a long while," he said, adding that the investment is putting dollars "where it really matters."

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RUSSY From Page A1

Social Security imposes an “earnings test” for anyone who collects benefits before reaching their full retirement age. The penalty for exceeding the earnings limit is \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit (which is \$19,560 for 2022). With \$60,000 in earnings, you would be \$40,440 over the limit, for which SS would impose a penalty of \$20,220. That essentially means that your survivor benefit would be entirely (or almost entirely) offset by the penalty for exceeding the earnings limit, leaving you unable to collect a survivor benefit at this time. The earnings test is in effect until you reach your full retirement age (FRA), after which your earnings will no longer affect your Social Security benefits.

There are also other nuances you should know about. Claiming any SS benefit before reaching your FRA will result in a permanently reduced benefit. If claimed at your FRA, your survivor benefit would be 100% of the amount your husband was receiving (or entitled to) at this death but claimed at age 65 your survivor benefit would be reduced to about 93% of his benefit entitlement. Also, you will be eligible for your full widow’s benefit at 66 years and 2 months of age because – in your specific case – your “widow’s FRA” is less than your normal full retirement age. However, the earnings test previously described is still in effect until you reach your normal FRA of 66 years

and 6 months.

In the year you reach your normal full retirement age, the earnings limit (for the months prior to reaching your FRA) increases by about 2.5 times. You’ll reach your normal FRA in February 2024 and, at your current earnings level, wouldn’t exceed the higher earnings limit in 2024. That means the earnings test shouldn’t affect your SS benefits in 2024 at your current income level, so you could claim your full survivor benefit effective January 2024 without penalty.

You will also have the option, if desired, to claim only your survivor benefit and permit your personally earned SS retirement benefit grow. It would be wise to do that if your personally earned SS

retirement benefit at maximum will be more than your maximum survivor benefit as a widow. After reaching your FRA, your personal benefit will grow by .667% for each month you wait to claim it, up to age 70 when your own benefit would be 28% more than it would be at your normal FRA. So, you could collect your full survivor benefit at your normal FRA, continue to work if desired, and switch to your higher personal benefit at age 70 (and collect that for the rest of your life). If you expect to achieve at least average longevity (about 87 for a woman your current age), and your own maximum benefit will be more than your benefit as a widow, that is an option you may wish to consider.

BETSY From Page A1



The Times photo courtesy of Betsy Reason

Noblesville’s Glenn Conn started Marilyn’s Place Non-Food Pantry three years ago and opened a pantry in 2020.

cult and many of these individuals have told us of their appreciation to be able to use their limited funds for more important matters, such as rent, food, and medicines,” he said.

Conn contacted me to see if I could help get the word out to the community.

A year ago, Marilyn’s Place was having trouble making ends meet, paying the monthly rent, while still helping folks in need.

This year, the nonprofit’s board members in August agreed at their last board meeting that the nonprofit could afford about \$500 per month to lease space. The current space rents for more than three times that amount, he said.

The Marilyn’s Place lease is up at the end of October. Marilyn’s Place has decided not to renew its lease. He said they’re having a Moving Sale this month and are hoping to move to a new location and to partner with a local

church.

“These have been very difficult times for us,” Conn said.

“We recently had a whole trailer of merchandise donated to us for our sale,” Conn said. “Hundreds of boxes and literally thousands of items.”

Their sale is in their current location, at 1106 S. Eighth St., Noblesville, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday, all during the month of October. “We have so much to offer,” Conn said. “Furniture, kitchen goods, lamps, glassware, Norman Rockwell commemorative plates, games, artwork, Christmas merchandise and much, much more.”

Conn founded Marilyn’s Place thanks to the help of his co-founders, cousin Marie Marks, treasurer, and retired criminal-defense attorney Hilary Ricks, the nonprofit’s vice president. He found Ricks when he put a call-out for prospective board members in a local newspaper. She was born

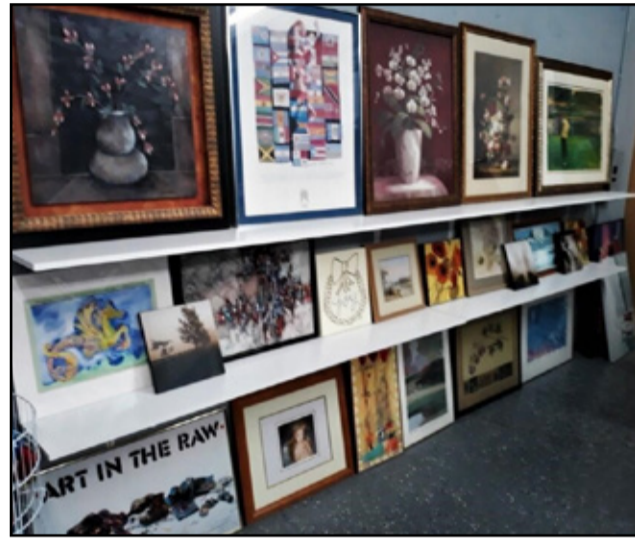


Photo courtesy of Marilyn’s Place

Artwork is among the many items that are in the Moving Sale for Marilyn’s Place Non-Food Pantry on South Eighth Street in Noblesville.

Want MORE?

Marilyn’s Place is a non-food pantry at 1106 S. Eighth St., Noblesville. To make a monetary donation, visit marilynspplaceinc.org. The pantry is currently having a Moving Sale 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday, all during the month of October. While folks can donate to the website, they can also donate at a gofundme.com fundraising account listed as Marilyn’s Place Non-Food Pantry (MPNFP).

in Syracuse, N.Y., and grew up in New Palestine and has worked for and volunteered for nonprofits.

Conn, who holds a bachelor’s degree in sociology, brings with him 50 years of experience in social work, at Hoosier Hills Food Bank, Community Kitchen of Monroe County, Martha’s House, a homeless shelter, and founder of an artists cooperative. He also brings experience in retail operations, including eight years in receiving at Sears and more than four years processing returns at Cabela’s. “My background has really

helped,” he said.

Conn created this nonprofit because he wanted to do something for his community.

While Hamilton County is ranked second in per-capita income in Indiana and has one of the lowest poverty rates in the nation, there are still 12,000 to 16,000 residents trying to live on a household income at or below the poverty level, Conn said.

Any monetary donations will go to Marilyn’s Place and helping those served.

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

VISION From Page A1

Degeneration (AMD). AMD is a progressive eye condition that impacts central vision and is a leading cause of vision loss for those over age 50 and a leading cause of blindness for the 65-plus population, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The condition impacts central vision and occurs when the macula – the part of the eye that controls sharp, straight-ahead vision – is damaged over time, causing people to have difficulty seeing faces, reading, driving or doing close-up work like cooking, according to the National Eye Institute (NEI).

Most notably, the survey of more than 2,000 adults in the United States, conducted by The Harris Poll on behalf of Bausch + Lomb, found 81% of adults would be willing to give up \$1 million or other comforts like listening to music if it meant never losing their eyesight. Despite this clear prioritization of the ability to see, only 37% of those surveyed over the age of 50 know AMD is a leading cause of vision loss for Americans.

Additionally, 62% of those surveyed who are 50 years of age and older are worried about losing their eyesight as they age, but true understanding of the condition is blurry as 61% aren’t aware a dilated eye exam is needed to diagnose AMD, and less

than half are aware that vitamins or supplements may help reduce the risk of progression of AMD in some patients.

“As a practicing physician, I find the data in the Visionary Report alarming but also very helpful,” said Rishi Singh, M.D., staff physician, Cleveland Clinic Florida, and president, Cleveland Clinic Martin North and South Hospitals. “The findings underscore the need to take time to educate and empower aging Americans who are vulnerable to AMD and are clearly lacking a full understanding of the risk factors.”

While AMD can lead to blindness and does not yet have a cure, there are steps patients can take as part of a plan created with their doctors to reduce their risk of progression. Those steps include visiting an eye care professional for an annual dilated eye exam – the only way to diagnose and check the progression of AMD – quitting smoking, exercising regularly and maintaining a healthy diet.

Patients should also talk to their doctors about taking a vitamin based on the AREDS2 study conducted by the NEI. Researchers tested and refined the AREDS formula for more than 20 years.

To learn more about the survey findings and the steps you can take to help protect your vision, visit SightMatters.com.

INCREASE From Page A1

take effect in January of each year are based on the increase in average wages. Based on that increase, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax (taxable maximum) will increase to \$160,200 from \$147,000.

Social Security and SSI beneficiaries are normally notified by mail starting in early December about their new benefit amount. The fastest way to find out their new benefit amount is to access their personal my Social Security account to view the COLA notice online. It’s secure, easy, and people find out before the mail arrives.

People can also opt to receive a text or email alert when there is a new message from Social Security--such as their

COLA notice--waiting for them, rather than receiving a letter in the mail. People may create or access their my Social Security account online at ssa.gov/myaccount.

Information about Medicare changes for 2023 is available at www.medicare.gov. For Social Security beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare, their new higher 2023 benefit amount will be available in December through the mailed COLA notice and my Social Security’s Message Center.

The Social Security Act provides for how the COLA is calculated.

To view a message from Acting Commissioner Kijakazi, visit youtube.com/watch?v=Vg-m5q4YT1AM.

To read more, visit ssa.gov/cola.



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WEEKEND

In The Home

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Weekend, Oct. 15-16, 2022

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Boost Your Indoor Garden's Beauty

By Melinda Myers

Whether your indoor garden has outgrown its location or you are looking to expand your garden, a bit of pinching, pruning or propagating may be the answer. Grooming houseplants keeps your indoor garden looking its best and plants contained to the available space. You can use some of the trimmings to start new plants.

Give plants with long, leggy stems a pinch. Removing a small or large portion of the growing tip encourages the plant to form more branches and compact growth. Pinching removes a growth hormone produced in the stem tip called auxin. This hormone encourages upward growth of the stem. Removing the stem tip reduces the auxin and allows more branches to develop along the stem.

A soft pinch removes just the uppermost portion of the stem with developing leaves and the stem tip. A hard pinch, more like pruning, removes the tip and several inches of the leafy stem. These stem pieces can be used to start new plants.

Some gardeners pinch with their fingers, but I prefer using sharp snips like Corona Tools ComfortGEL® micro snips with stainless steel blades that resist the buildup of plant residue or Corona bypass pruners that make a clean cut that closes quickly and looks better.

When pinching and pruning your houseplants make the cuts just above a set of leaves. The plant remains relatively attractive while you wait for new leaves and stems to grow. Avoid leaving stubs by making cuts elsewhere as these



Photo courtesy of MelindaMyers.com

Tradescantia plant being started from a leaf stem cutting.

detract from the plant's appearance and can create entryways for insects and disease.

Houseplants can be propagated in several different ways. Avoid propagating patented plants protected by patent laws. These laws are designed to protect the investment of the plant breeder. Respecting patent laws allows companies to continue breeding improvements into plants for all of us to enjoy in the future.

Use leaf stem cuttings to start a variety of houseplants like inch plants, philodendron, pothos, dieffenbachias, dracaenas, jade plants and many more. Use a sharp knife, snips or bypass pruner to cut three- to six-inch-long pieces from firm, mature, non-woody stems. Remove the lowest leaf or two that will be buried in the potting mix. This is where new roots will form. If you have had trouble rooting cuttings in the past, try using rooting

hormone labeled for use on houseplants. It contains fungicides to fight disease and hormones to encourage root development.

Root cuttings in a small container filled with vermiculite or a well-drained potting mix. Make a hole in the mix, insert the cut end, and gently push the potting mix around the stem. Loosely cover the potted cutting with a plastic bag left open at the top. This increases the humidity around the cutting to compensate for the lack of roots. Set the container in a bright location out of direct sun for several weeks as roots develop. Give the stem a gentle tug to see if roots have formed. Move the rooted cutting into a container filled with well-drained potting mix, place it in a location with the proper amount of sunlight and water as needed.

You'll be amazed at how a bit of grooming and propagating can perk up a tired indoor garden.

Share or trade extra rooted cuttings with family and friends so each of you can grow your indoor garden and memories.

For more ways to start new plants and answers to your indoor gardening questions, join Melinda for her webinar on Nov. 2 at 6:30 p.m. CT. The webinar is free, but registration is required. Register at <https://bit.ly/3vDVRr5> or www.MelindaMyers.com.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Corona Tools for her expertise to write this article. Myers' web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.*

Flower Bulbs For Bees And Bumblebees

Did you know that the first bees and bumblebees fly out as early as February? This is when they wake up from hibernation, and rush out hungrily to find food. Help these important insects by planting flower bulbs now.

Open flowers With flower bulbs, you can experience spring very early on thanks to buzzing and fluttering insects. But which flower bulbs are the most suitable? Some bulbs produce more food for bees than others. And the pollen of certain flowers is easier to reach than others. Always try to choose pollen bombs with open flowers. It's also a good idea to spread the flowering times, so that the bees can feast for months on end. This selection of flower bulbs is known for producing lots of nectar and pollen:

- Grape hyacinth (Muscari)
- Wood Anemone (Anemone nemerosa)
- Bluebell (Hyacinthoides non-scripta)
- Botanical tulips (Tulipa)
- Sicilian honey garlic (Nectaroscordum siculum)
- Garden star-of-Bethlehem (Ornithogalum umbellatum)
- Crocus (Crocus), botanical and large-flowered
- Balkan anemone (Anemone blanda)
- Allium (Allium giganteum, moly and sphaerocephalon)
- Snowdrops (Galanthus)
- Glory-of-the-Snow (Chionodoxa luciliae and sardensis)
- Scilla (Scilla bifolia and siberica)
- Winter aconite (Eranthis)
- Summer Snowflake (Leucojum aestivum)

The right spot Once you have chosen your flower bulbs and they are ready to be planted, choose a spot in the garden with humus-rich soil, in the half-shade. Botanical tulips are the exception, because they like plenty of sunshine. Sun promotes the production of pollen and nectar. What's more, flowers diffuse a stronger scent in the sun, so that the bees and bumblebees can find them more easily. Areas around trees or places where leaves are

left in winter are perfect spots, because the humidity promotes the production of new seeds.

Nectar From early spring to late fall, bees and bumblebees live off nectar. Nectar is a sweet, syrupy liquid that is rich in sugar. You can see it in the heart or on the outside of the flower. It looks like water, but it is sticky to the touch. The sugars in nectar give the insects the energy they need to move. In addition to sugars, nectar contains protein and vitamins. Honeybees also collect nectar, but they use it to make honey. This honey is an important food source for the bee colony.

Pollen Honeybees, wild bees and bumblebees collect pollen from flowers in addition to nectar. They use it to feed the larvae. Pollen is created in the flower's male germ cells. It looks like fine powder. Every flower produces a different color of pollen; from yellow to red, but sometimes also purple, white, and brown. Regardless of its color, all pollen contains protein, fat and vitamins. When collecting pollen, bees pollinate flowers at the same time.

- Interesting facts:
- If they are unable to get to the nectar, bumblebees have a useful extra weapon! They throw their weight into the fray to open the flower.
 - Some bumblebees, like the buff-tailed bumblebee, make a hole in the side of flowers to get to the nectar.
 - Bees and bumblebees have a preference for white, yellow, and blue flowers.
 - Many flowers have spots and stripes. These acts as a signpost to the nectar for our little friends, with the message 'this way for nectar!'
 - Bees and bumblebees have special pollen baskets on their hind legs to transport pollen.
 - The amount of nectar a plant produces varies throughout the day. This is affected by moisture and sunlight.
- If you would like to know more about flower bulbs, please go to www.flowerbulbs.com.

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Get Smart About Sustainability



Tips for teaching kids earth-friendly habits

FAMILY FEATURES

For many parents, their interest in sustainability and earth-friendly living is driven by a desire to create a better world for their children. Taking personal action and responsibility are part of the solution but teaching the next generation to be environmentally conscious is an important part of the equation, too.

Connecting lessons about sustainability to familiar aspects of your child's daily life, like school, can make it easy for him or her to understand and establish earth-friendly habits from a young age. Here are some ideas for promoting sustainable behaviors this school year:

Be smart about supplies. Before restocking your student's supplies, take inventory of what you have left over from last year. Your student probably had several items with plenty of life left, or things that were bought as backups, so you can avoid waste and save a little money while reducing your consumption of unnecessary goods.

Model good habits. Kids learn by example, so know they're watching and internalizing your behaviors. If you're not already practicing these habits, make an intentional effort to turn lights off before you leave the house each morning, turn off the water while brushing teeth, use alternate energy sources around the house and encourage your school district to adopt sustainable practices, such as propane-powered buses.

Reduce food-based waste. Convenient, single-serve packaging makes assembling school lunches a breeze, but all that extra wrapping is waste that ends up in the landfill. Other options, like buying in bulk and sending treats in reusable plastic bags, is a more earth-friendly approach. Bento-style boxes with compartments for different foods are another option to help make lunchtime more sustainable. Similarly, encourage your child to carry a water bottle at school each day, which reduces water fountain waste (and cuts back on his or her exposure to germs).

Enjoy nature together. As temperatures cool, it's a terrific opportunity to spend quality time outdoors as a family. Showing your child reasons to appreciate nature can make it easier for him or her to understand and provide motivation to make choices that protect the earth.

Reinforce with reading. Multiple studies reinforce the benefits of reading with and to young students. Selecting books with earth-positive messaging helps them explore new ideas for sustainable living and see how beloved characters embrace values similar to those your family shares.



Safer, Smarter Bus Transportation

The way kids ride to school today is very much the way children traveled to school 25 years ago: in aging diesel school buses. However, diesel school buses are not only expensive to operate, but they pose risks to children's health, the community and the climate.

Today, there are two main options for clean student transportation: propane and electric. While both can reduce emissions, propane can do it at a fraction of the cost.

Every day, 1.3 million American children ride to school in 22,000 propane-powered school buses. Propane buses are currently in 1,000 school districts in 48 states. That's only about 5% of the nation's total buses, but the number is growing. These are some of the reasons more districts are moving to propane-powered transportation:

Student Health and the Environment

The cloud of black smoke that comes from the tailpipe of a diesel bus contains harmful emissions that are classified by the World Health Organization as a carcinogen and are known triggers for issues like asthma, bronchitis and other respiratory problems, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Propane school buses lower those emissions to near-zero levels, which improves air quality and eliminates concerns about breathing-related issues. In fact, according to a study by Georgia State University, students who ride to school on a low-emissions bus, like propane, had higher test scores than those who rode on diesel buses.

Compared to electric, propane buses provide a lower lifetime carbon option. That includes emissions that take place before the

wheels start turning on the road, like charging a bus using the electric grid versus refueling it with propane. Coal and natural gas are still America's primary sources of energy for electricity generation and drive up emissions.

Cost Savings

Three times less expensive than electric buses, the cost of a propane school bus and its refueling infrastructure is one of the most affordable options for school districts.

School districts can save money throughout the lifetime of propane buses, which cost 30-50% less per mile to operate than diesel, according to the Propane Education & Research Council. What's more, a World LP Gas Association study found replacing diesel buses with propane buses would save enough money to hire 23,000 new teachers.

Reliability

While electric vehicles make sense for several uses, propane has the fuel range and performance needed for large vehicles that drive long distances without stopping to recharge or refuel. A typical propane school bus can drive more than 2.5 times farther on a full tank than a comparable electric school bus can drive on a full charge.

Find more information about clean school bus operation at BetterOurBuses.com.



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