

TODAY'S VERSE

Psalm 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.



FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Aili McGill smile? "Being surrounded by creativity," said the 39-year-old Noblesville resident, the executive director of 10 years for Nickel Plate Arts campus in downtown Noblesville. McGill is a newlywed. After more than two years of being engaged, she married professional illustrator and comic book artist Stuart Sawyer. Today's feature is a look back at one of The Times' previous Faces of Hamilton County. She's readying for First Friday tonight, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., at the Nickel Plate Arts campus. The campus comes to life with new art exhibits, live music, refreshments and a cash bar featuring local beer and wine. Upcoming Nickel Plate events this month: "Gifted" exhibit, Nov. 26-Dec. 31; and Small Business Saturday, 10 a.m. Nov. 27. Visit nickplatearts.org

And Another Few Things...

1. Back at it Again

The Noblesville Times once again has free tickets to give away for the Christmas Gift + Hobby Show. This year's extravaganza is scheduled for Nov. 9-13 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

All you have to do to win two tickets (valued at \$28) is send us a selfie of you and our front page (Print or Online Edition). Be sure to tell us who you are, where you are from and a little bit about yourself so we can include it if your photo is selected to publish on our front page. If we use your smiling photo on our front page - you win!

It's really that simple! You can text or e-mail it to news@thetimes24-7.com.

2. Who Takes Forever?

Times have changed. Only a few years ago, the idea of a man spending more than a few minutes on his grooming regime - a dab of deodorant, a squirt of hair gel - would have been laughable. But - some might say thankfully - attitudes have changed.

Grooming advice website Tools of Men wanted to see how this trend has translated to American men, and polled 3,000 of them to find out just how long they spend getting ready for a night out. The results showed that the average Indiana man spends a not-insignificant 26 minutes getting ready (not including showering). The national average is 27 minutes.

Perhaps surprisingly, it is Kentucky men who made national news when she provided abortion services for a 10-year-old rape victim from Ohio, will sue Attorney General Todd Rokita. The office of the Attorney General yesterday released the following statement:

3. Rokita Statement

"By statutory obligation, we investigate thousands of potential licensing, privacy, and other violations a year. A majority of the complaints we receive are, in fact, from nonpatients. Any investigations that arise as a result of potential violations are handled in a uniform manner and narrowly focused. We will discuss this particular matter further through the judicial filings we make."

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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Graphic courtesy of the WWPL

An artists' mock-up of the front of the Westfield Washington Public Library's new center at the corner of Park and Poplar Streets.

Westfield Washington to Break Ground on New Library and Trustee Office

The Westfield Washington Public Library and Westfield Washington Township Trustee will break ground on their new 55,000 square foot building on Nov. 17 at 4 p.m. on the southwest corner of Park and Poplar Streets.

"This new building will be a centerpiece in the heart of Westfield's expanding downtown," Library Director Sheryl Sollars said.

"While our current buildings have served us well through the years, they don't allow us room to grow and continue to meet the community's burgeoning needs."

The building will be two-story with two separate entrances - one for the library and one for the township offices. The new library will provide more parking, an expanded teen area, a



Sheryl Sollars

massive community room, and a coffee shop - as well as outdoor activity space on the 3.6-acre property.

See LIBRARY Page A6

DNR to Admit Veterans, Active-Duty Military for Free on Veterans Day

All veterans and active-duty military personnel, and everyone in their vehicle, will be admitted free to DNR state parks, reservoir properties, state forest recreation areas, and off-road

state recreation areas on Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 11.

This includes admission to Falls of the Ohio State Park's

See DNR Page A6

Aspire Indiana Health Dedicates New Expanded Noblesville Clinic

Aspire Indiana Health dedicated the expansion of its Noblesville health center this past Wednesday with a ribbon cutting ceremony and open house.

Last year Aspire began the expansion of its Noblesville facility that doubled its size to 27,000 square feet. The enhanced facility will better allow Aspire to deliver its model of nonprofit comprehensive healthcare including family medicine, behavioral healthcare, addiction services and programs addressing social drivers of health.

The \$6.9 million project also included renovation of the existing space and addition of an in-house pharmacy through Aspire's partnership with Genoa Healthcare.

Attendees included Aspire President & CEO Barbara Scott, State Senator Michael Crider and State Representative Donna Schaible. Representatives from the offices of U.S. Senator Todd Young and U.S. Representative Victoria Spartz were also in attendance. State Representative Gregory Steuerwald was unable to attend, but sent a letter of support that was read to the audience.

In her speech, Scott not only celebrated the expansion of the Noblesville facility, but educated the community on how the facility fits within an entirely new operating system for mental health services in Indiana.

Scott explained how feder-

See ASPIRE Page A6

Holiday Open House, Music & Much More



BETSY REASON The Times Editor

Downtown Noblesville will be bustling tonight as Noblesville Main Street offers its First Friday Holiday Open House. Visit Suburban Indy Holiday Show at Grand Park. and Unseenpress Tours at Lacy Arts Building.

Here are more details of my list of 25 things to do this weekend and beyond:

- 1. Visit the Suburban Indy Holiday Show today through Sunday at Grand Park Sports Campus in Westfield. Hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. today, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.
2. Noblesville Main Street's First Friday Holiday Open House is 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. today in downtown Noblesville, with the Lacy Building open 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.
3. Visit the Fall Open House of The Wild Bohemian Boutiques in downtown Noblesville at 5 p.m. today.
4. Visit Noblesville First Friday tonight inside the open house of the Lacy Arts Building Farming.
5. Enjoy the live music of Jason Salyers 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

See BETSY Page A6

VSO Offers Vets Help with Camp Lejeune Claims

The Hamilton County Veteran Services Office is available to help qualifying veterans file for service-connected disabilities related to water contamination at Camp Lejeune. As part of the Camp Lejeune Justice Act passed in August, anyone who was exposed to contaminated water at the U.S. Marine Corps base in North Carolina for at least 30 days between August 1953 and December 1987 can file a claim with Veterans Affairs if they have been diagnosed with one or more of these presumptive conditions:

- Adult leukemia
• Aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes
• Bladder cancer
• Kidney cancer
• Liver cancer
• Multiple myeloma

See CLAIMS Page A6

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset RISE: 8:16 a.m. SET: 6:38 p.m.

High/Low Temperatures HIGH: 74 °F LOW: 54 °F

Today is...

- Fountain Pen Day
• National Candy day
• Use Your Common Sense Day

What Happened On This Day

- 1924 Nellie Tayloe Ross of Wyoming becomes the first woman elected as governor in the U.S.
• 1952 The U.S. government establishes the National Security Agency (NSA)
• 2008 Barack Obama becomes the first person of African-American descent to be elected President

Births On This Day

- 1916 Walter Cronkite American journalist
• 1933 Charles K. Kao Chinese physicist and Nobel Prize laureate

Deaths On This Day

- 1847 Felix Mendelssohn German pianist, composer and conductor
• 2008 Michael Crichton American author, screenwriter, director and producer

What Makes HHSC Great for Students and Families



DR. DEREK ARROWOOD HHSC Superintendent

Every day I get to see our student's curiosity sparked and dreams explored. I am in awe of the innovation, creativity, and passion I see among our staff who bring their best each day

to inspire and engage students. A good example taking place this week is Future Huskies Week at the middle school. The goal of this program is to encourage ALL students to explore ideas for Employment, Enrollment, Enlistment, and

See ARROWOOD Page A6

INSIDE TODAY

Obituaries.....A2
Dick Wolfie.....A2
Legal Notice.....A2
Letters to the Editor.....A3
Kenny Thompson.....A4
Classifieds.....A5
Business.....A7
Voices.....A8, A9

HONEST HOOSIER

Snow? Yeah, I know it's time - and no offense to those who like the white stuff - but I miss summer!



TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

You can usually take grandma's advice to the bank. 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

"Amateurs sit and wait for inspiration. The rest of us just get up and go to work."

- Stephen King

TODAY'S JOKE

What do you call military troops who survived pepper spray and mustard gas? Seasoned veterans!

OBITUARIES

Natasha D. Reynolds-Blankenship
Madonna Ruth Schamber

The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank CYNTHIA WATSON for subscribing!



WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST
54/74 WARM AND WINDY
59/64 RAINY AND WINDY
46/68 HOPELY SUNNY
44/71 SUNNY & CLEAR
48/70 HOPEFULLY SUNNY & WARM
46/70 HOPEFULLY SUNNY & WARM
50/61 P.M. SHOWERS



## OBITUARIES

### Natasha D. Reynolds-Blankenship

September 19, 1977-October 30, 2022

Natasha D. Reynolds-Blankenship, 45, of Indianapolis, passed away on Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022 at Community Hospital South in Indianapolis.

She was born, along with her twin brother, Travis, on Sept. 19, 1977 to Roy and Julia (Morris) Reynolds in Indianapolis.

Mrs. Reynolds-Blankenship graduated from Ben Davis High School in 1995, received a degree in Business Management from Indiana Wesleyan University in 2014, graduated from Project Management Institute in 2013 as a Project Management Professional and became a Professional SCRUM Master in 2021. She loved her family and riding Harley Davidson motorcycles.

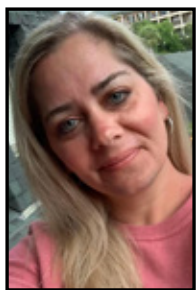
Survivors include her husband Larry Blankenship; parents Roy and Julia Reynolds; 3 children LaRen A. Wilford, Makahla R. Shelby and Jacob Boswell; 4 step-children Lamont Wilford Jr., Shaunte Hatchett, Lindsay Blankenship and Ronnie Blankenship; 2 grandchildren Sam Boswell and LaVon Wilford; 3 siblings, Tony (Beverly) Reynolds, Mikki (David) Forsyth and Julie (Patrick) Allen; twin brother Travis Reynolds; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her son LaMar A. Wilford.

Visitation is scheduled to be held from 1-6 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 6, 2022 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, in Noblesville. An additional visitation is scheduled to be held from 10-11 a.m., with funeral services scheduled to begin at 11 a.m., on Monday, Nov. 7, 2022 at the funeral home. Burial will be at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, PO Box 424053, Washington, DC 20042 (aafa.org).

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



## Don't Click Here, Please \*\*\*



**DICK WOLFSIE**  
Funny Bone

Mary Ellen and I promised each other that during our recent vacation we would not check our emails. At dinner each night, we conversed and learned a great deal about each other, things that have happened to each of us since we got our first cell phones in 1990.

When we returned home, we eagerly retrieved our messages.

"Mary Ellen, this is awesome. While we were away, I won a DEWALT Power Station."

"Hey, that's great. Guess what? So did I. What's a DEWALT Power Station?"

"No clue, but now we have two."

This was just one of over 40 emails we got tell-

ing us we won something, which we didn't. In order to win, you must click on a link and answer a survey, at which time you are informed that you won nothing, but...

1. You have a chance to win something
2. You have the opportunity to win something
3. You are in the running to win something
- 4.

Not only did I have a chance to own a DEWALT Power Station, but also a DEWALT Drill, a Yukon Stove Fire Pit, a gift certificate to Walmart, Ultimate non-stick cookware, a Yeti Cooler and a Samsung Neo 8K QLED Smart TV. I didn't know where NOT to click first. Walgreens was thanking me for being a loyal customer, but I have never been in a Walgreens in my life. I am a loyal CVS patron, but all they ever gave me for free was a two-foot-long receipt.

Wait: Incoming! I just received a "shipment pending" notice for a Keurig Coffee Maker and I have "won" a Ryobi Lawn Mower.

I'm no expert in this

area, but there are several clues to determine scams. Here are some real examples I received. Read each one carefully.

WIN AN GOLF CART

THEIRS A PRIZE WAITING OR YOU!

YOUR A WINNER!

YOU HAVE WON A FREE GIFT

The phrase "Free Gift" is not only suspicious, it's redundant. Clearly, a fake scam—which I know is also redundant.

Some of these language goofs are because the scammers are not English-speaking. Other mistakes are on purpose in order to either get your attention or to avoid detection by anti-spam programs. I tried using those last two excuses on my proofreader, Heidi, to justify some of my blunders in spelling and grammar. I was surprised she didn't fall for them. Who needs her, anyway?

The rip-offs often include an additional method to motivate you,

like a countdown clock that tells you how much time you have left to click on the link or the offer goes away.

"Honey, I know you are breastfeeding the twins, but drop what you are doing or we are going to lose out on that free sump pump from Ace."

My favorite come-on is

YOU HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO TRY CANNABLISS CBD

CONGRALUATIONS

Yes, and congratulations to all who have wisely avoided these bogus offers. I never click on a questionable link, but I am tempted by this CBD product, which is has the shape and texture of a gummy bear. Before I decide, I am going to have to chew on it for a while.

*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).*

### Madonna Ruth Schamber

October 19, 1923-October 28, 2022

Madonna Ruth Schamber, 99, of Westfield, passed away on Friday morning, Oct. 28, 2022, at Riverwalk Village in Noblesville, Indiana.

She was born on Oct. 19, 1923, in Sheridan, daughter of the late Richard and Glenia (Spear) Brandenburg.

After graduating from Sheridan High School with the Class of 1941, Mrs. Schamber earned a degree from Indiana Business College.

Early in her career she was hired at Eli Lilly, working in the corporate center as an office assistant. She later served as the Secretary to the Liberal Arts Dean and Vice President for of Academic Affairs at Tri State University (later becoming Trine University), in Angola, and retiring in June of 1986. Mrs. Schamber also worked part-time for Moffett Water Systems and Miller and Associates, Inc., as well as an Avon representative for several years. She had fond memories of her time with Avon and the customers she met along the way.

She was a woman of strong faith. Shortly after getting married, Mrs. Schamber joined the Lutheran Church, a decision that would impact her life in numerous ways. She faithfully served many congregations during her lifetime, in various capacities. She began her journey as a classroom teacher at her church in California, and later moved to Indiana, where she joined the congregation in Noblesville. It was there that she became active in the LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League). A few years later Mrs. Schamber started attending Pilgrim Lutheran Church, as it was closer to where she and her family lived. She later served as church secretary, and took an active role in the work center the church had started in partnership with Lutheran Braille in California. She and her husband were both active at their church in Angola during their years in Northern Indiana, but Pilgrim was always home. After her return to Central Indiana, Mrs. Schamber intended to take a less active role in the church, however..... the church was coming up on its 50th anniversary, and she was approached to write the history of the church. She was the perfect choice for such an undertaking. Her labor of love was published in October of 2005. She was currently a member of Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Westfield, Indiana.

Survivors include her 2 sons Ernest R. Schamber (Kimberly) of Noblesville and Thomas D. Schamber of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; grandson Andrew Schamber of Portland, Oregon; and sister Oleta Nay of Carmel.

She was preceded in death by her parents Richard and Glenia (Spear) Brandenburg; brother-in-law Fred Nay; and her loving husband Herbert Schamber on Jan. 21, 1995. The couple were married on Aug. 8, 1948.

Services are scheduled to take place at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 5, 2022, at Kercheval Funeral Home, 306 E. 10th St., Sheridan, with Visitation scheduled to be held from 12 p.m., noon until the time of service. Burial will follow at Crown View Cemetery in Sheridan. Pastor Ethan Spira will be officiating.

Memorial contributions may be presented to the American Cancer Society, the Parkinson's Foundation or to the Lord of Life Lutheran Church.



## Veteran County Health Board Member Retires After 18 Years



Laurie Pylitt

Laurie Pylitt announced she is stepping down from the Hamilton County Board of Health after 18 years of service. The retired physician assistant (PA) was first appointed to the board in 2004.

"I was looking for a way to contribute to the community and felt that my background gave me unique perspective into public health," Pylitt recalled.

"Over the years I've come to realize how lucky we are to have such an excellent Health Department, staffed by incredibly knowledgeable professionals. I'm continually impressed with the aggressive way in which our Health Department meets each and every challenge presented to it."

Pylitt is a graduate of IU Bloomington and Indiana University-Purdue University in Fort Wayne.



Naomi Penney

She also has a Master of Health Professions Education degree from the University of Illinois/Chicago Health Sciences Center. Pylitt helped found Butler University's PA Program in 1994.

During her career, Pylitt directed assessment and accreditation activities for the Indiana University Family Medicine Residency and Butler University's Doctor of Pharmacy program. Now retired, she and her husband are making plans to travel.

"We intend to make up for many years of lost time and limited activity during the pandemic," Pylitt said.

"We got a taste of the travel that we want to do with several trips this past year but, after our daughter's wedding next summer, we intend to really ramp up our travel schedule."

The Hamilton County Commissioners have appointed Naomi Penney to replace Pylitt on the Health Board. A Westfield resident, Penney has over 25 years of combined public health, and program planning and evaluation experience as well as academia

and community-based non-profits.

She currently serves as an Adjunct Professor at the Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health and as a mentor at Butler University for students in the Real Business Experience Course at the Lacy School of Business.

### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Noblesville Economic Development Commission (the "Commission") will hold a public hearing on behalf of the City of Noblesville, Indiana (the "City"), at 8:30 a.m. (Eastern Standard Time), on Tuesday, November 22, 2022, at the Noblesville City Hall, 16 S 10th Street, Noblesville, Indiana 46060, in the Council Chambers, regarding the proposed issuance of the City of Noblesville, Indiana, Taxable Economic Development Revenue Bonds, Series 2022 (Justus at Promenade Senior Project), in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed One Million Eight Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$1,865,000) (the "Bonds"), pursuant to the authority of Indiana Code 36-7-11.9 and Indiana Code 36-7-12, each as amended. If the Bonds are approved and issued, the proceeds thereof will be loaned by the City to Justus at Promenade Senior, LLC and/or one or more affiliates and/or designees thereof (the "Borrower"), to finance (i) a portion of an economic development project to be undertaken by the Borrower as described below and (ii) costs of issuance of the Bonds.

The economic development project will consist of the planning, designing, acquisition, construction and/or equipping by the Borrower of a 55+ community, consisting of 59 cottage-rental homes and 151 apartment units. The proceeds of the Bonds will be used to finance the costs of road, drainage, utility, trail and related infrastructure necessary in connection with the economic development project. The proposed project will be located at the corner of State Road 32 and Mill Creek Road on approximately 30 acres, which is also an economic development area established by the City of Noblesville Redevelopment Commission (the "Redevelopment Commission") designated as the "Noblesville-Justus Senior Housing Economic Development Area" (the "Area"). The Redevelopment Commission has adopted a program for age-restricted housing in connection with the Area.

The Bonds will not be in any respect a general obligation of the City, the State of Indiana or any political subdivision thereof. The Bonds will be payable solely from the repayment of the loan by the Borrower and from certain other revenues and properties, including certain tax increment revenues generated in the Area (the "TIF Revenues"), as described in the agreements of the City concerning each of the financing of the economic development project and payments to the City with respect to the financing (such agreements, collectively, the "Financing Agreements"). Copies of the form of Financing Agreements relating to the Bonds will be on file with the Clerk of the City and are available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk of the City located at the City Hall, during regular business hours daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays. The TIF Revenues are expected to be pledged by the Redevelopment Commission for the payment of the Bonds. Neither the City nor the Redevelopment Commission shall have any obligation with respect to the payment of principal of and interest on the Bonds other than the payment of TIF Revenues as such may be pledged by the Redevelopment Commission.

The public is invited to attend and comment on any of the matters herein noted and all taxpayers, residents or interested parties who appear will be given a reasonable opportunity to express their views, orally or in writing, on the proposed issue of Bonds and the location and nature of the proposed economic development project to be financed. If you are unable to attend the public hearing, written comments concerning any of the matters noted above may be addressed to the attention of Amy Smith, Economic Development Specialist, City of Noblesville, 16 S 10th Street, Noblesville, Indiana 46060. Written comments will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time), on Monday, November 21, 2022, at said address.

If the Commission shall find for itself and on behalf of the City that the proposed financing will be a benefit to the health and welfare of the City and its residents and complies with the provisions of Indiana Code 36-7-11.9 and 36-7-12, the Commission will adopt a resolution approving the form of the Financing Agreements, including the Bonds in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$1,865,000 and a proposed ordinance to be adopted by the Common Council of the City with respect to the Bonds.

Dated the 3rd day of November, 2022.  
City of Noblesville  
Economic Development Commission

TL19746 11/4 11 hspajlp

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

for HSE School Board District 1

**Vote Jackie Howell**

**Advocacy and Action**

- Mother of two in HSE District
- Licensed Mental Health Therapist who values prevention and safety
- Committed to recruiting/retaining quality staff and teachers

<https://jackieh4hse1.weebly.com/>

Paid for by Howell for HSE

I SUPPORT **STRONG PUBLIC SCHOOLS** AND I AM VOTING FOR

**Dr. Joe Forgey**

**Chuck Haberman**

FOR NOBLESVILLE SCHOOL BOARD ON NOV 8

**Joe Forgey**

**Chuck Haberman**



➔ Letters

# No CRT in Noblesville Schools?

Dear Editor,

I attended the School Board Forum on 10/24/22 and was happy to hear all five Noblesville School Board candidates don't support CRT in the classroom.

Sounds familiar. Where have I heard that before?

In May 2021, I attended one of the Community meetings on DEI in which the former Superintendent Beth Niedermeyer officially stated that CRT was not supported or taught in Noblesville Schools. Yet at the 10/24 School Board Forum, Joe Forgey, current President of the School Board seeking re-election, admitted that CRT was indeed being taught in a few instances going back to 2018. To further

confuse matters, during a prior Forum on 9/26/22, Joe Forgey denied that CRT was taught in Noblesville Schools. Which is it?

Furthermore, at the 10/24 Forum, Forgey stated that he brought CRT to Dr. Niedermeyer's attention starting in 2018 and they started looking for evidence of it in classrooms. I attended many School Board meetings the summer of 2021. I remember several parents providing Joe Forgey and the School Board with current evidence of CRT that seemed to fall on deaf ears. Joe Forgey never mentioned any prior occurrences and he did not offer to investigate further. If Joe Forgey was focused on keeping CRT out of the

classrooms in 2021, he did an excellent job of keeping it a secret.

I also found it interesting during the Forum Forgey's statement that on his watch several links to CRT were found on the Noblesville School website and "bumped out". Again, there were links to CRT identified by parents during the summer of 2021 that were simply moved to a different spot on the website....not bumped out. Interestingly enough, those links are currently back in their original spot under the DEI section of the school website.

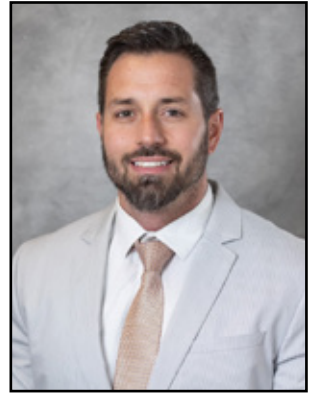
Noblesville voters . . . don't be fooled. Joe Forgey is not tough on CRT. Despite all the reassurances by the School leadership that CRT was not being taught, somehow

it managed to sneak in and stay in while Joe Forgey was on the School Board and President for the last 2 years. He may be a nice man and a good dentist, but we need to use facts, not feelings, as we choose the next members of the School Board. Maybe Joe is against CRT in K-12 education but his actions certainly haven't demonstrated that.

Candidates Melba Kiser and Misti Ray have seen the decline in Noblesville education over the past several years and are running on increasing academic excellence and getting political agendas such as CRT out of our schools. Vote for Melba Kiser and Misti Ray.

Alison Hanley  
Noblesville

# Attorney Joe Duepner Announces Run for Westfield City Council



Joe Duepner

Joe Duepner, attorney and long-time Westfield resident, will run as a Republican for Westfield City Council, District 3 in the May 2023 Primary election.

Growing up as a Westfield middle and high school student, Duepner has had the opportunity to see Westfield change and grow over the years.

"Growth is inevitable for Westfield. It's time to start proactively planning for it. I want all families to have an ample amount of opportunities and options to have fun together. Whether it's a lively downtown with independent restaurants or more connectivity throughout the city, it's time," said Duepner.

Duepner's campaign will focus on making conservative financial decisions around smart growth, and an infrastructure that supports it. Bringing down the taxes will be a key first step in diversifying the current tax base.

With downtown Westfield being in Duepner's district, he foresees downtown having its own unique personality and amenities. Duepner believes downtown has the potential for being a desirable entertainment district.

Duepner is a licensed Indiana attorney and entrepreneur, starting his business ten years ago. Duepner Law LLC practice focuses on personal injury, family, criminal and estate and probate matters. Duepner's

success as an attorney has arisen from becoming deeply ingrained in his client's stories and his passion for learning about new things.

Duepner is driven, and prides himself on his follow-through and dedication he provides to clients. "I see myself applying these characteristics to the Westfield City Council too. I'm ready to solve challenges for Westfield residents and be there when they need me most," said Duepner.

Currently, Duepner serves on the Westfield Youth Sports Inc. (WYSI) board of directors that serves over 3000 Westfield children. He is also on the Villages of Oak Manor HOA board and has served on other boards in the past.

The Duepner family enjoys traveling, sports and outdoor activities. Duepner's wife, Adrienne, is a Ophthalmology Technician, and together, they have two children -- daughter Dylan, 14, attends Westfield High School and son, Ty, 8, attends Washington Woods elementary.

➔ Letters

# Reader Endorses Misti Ray, Melba Kiser

Dear Editor,

I am a Noblesville resident of 23 years with 3 children graduating from Noblesville.

I have many good things to say about Noblesville schools. I also have a few experiences to share as we decide on the best leaders for school board.

I have asked for transparency in "back to school" information/newsletters to include the option for parents to file exemptions for vaccinations (medical/religious, per Indiana law). Unfortunately, the exemption option is often omitted, pushing families into a false belief that they must accept a medical procedure for their children to enroll/attend school. Why does that matter? In 2020, the Noblesville school board voted to follow CDC guidelines for Covid masking/testing. Under the school board president's leadership, it was announced at a meeting that the board handed over authority and decision making for Covid protocols to then superintendent Beth Niedermeyer. As elected officials, school board personnel are chosen to represent the parents. The superintendent is a hired position and should not be given such broad-sweeping and impactful decision-making control.

Fast forward to the recent CDC recommendation to add the Covid injection to the childhood vaccination schedule. I do not know what the Indiana State

House response will be. However, after witnessing the board President's past decisions, I question future decision making to protect parental rights and our children regarding freedom for medical choice. Parents should be in control of all medical decisions for their children.

I attended the school board meeting on 7/21/21. A 5G tower was brought up at the end after most attendees had left. Several of us in the audience expressed concerns about safety prior to the vote. The President said they would allow an opportunity for input at a subsequent meeting, but the vote was pushed through to approve at that meeting. No further opportunity for community/parental input was allowed.

My friend Ron Wilson with Hamilton County Veterans has given permission to share excerpts from his public comment out of the Noblesville planning meeting minutes from 3/15/2021 as follows:

"Mr. Wilson states in the 1940's and 1950's, doctors on TV, radio and ads claimed that cigarette smoking was safe and good for your health, and we all know how that turned out. He states in the 1960's my generation was lied to regarding the effects of Agent Orange. He states he hates to think about the number of funerals that he has attended since returning to Noblesville. He states since my discharge from the Navy, thousands of men and women have

suffered and died from Agent Orange and their children have suffered birth defects and many other health issues. We have been told to accept the fact the G5 towers are safe, and they will not harm anyone. He states for the sake of our children, I believe one life is not worth taking a chance on the G5 towers. He states he read a report that talked about children getting leukemia, I am not an expert but the things that were prophesied in writing, I believed happened. He requests that the Commission vote NO on the G5 tower that would be located not only here but on any Noblesville School property."

There are many studies showing risks associated with electromagnetic fields (EMF). Here is a link to more than 1,500 peer-reviewed scientific papers identifying negative biological/health impacts. The International Assn of Fire Fighters (IAFF) adopted a position against commercial wireless cell towers on fire stations. The IAFF website collects an impressive/compelling body of information worth reading. It is disturbing that safety signals and health concerns were not considered for our children and teachers. It makes me wonder if money and ongoing revenue were a carrot that overshadowed objective reasoning. Some may argue it was for technology access. However, I believe another appropriate location could have been identified without risking

our children's health.

Here is the AT&T bid from July 19, 2021:

- **Monthly Rent** - \$1,200/month with 1.5% annual escalator
  - **Co-locator Revenue** - \$100/month for each Co-locator
  - **Bonus** - \$15,000 bonus in the event Option and Land Lease Agreement is executed by July 23, 2021
  - **Windscreen** - Payment up to \$10,000 for purchase and installation of a windscreen
- City/School meetings discussing the 5G tower:
- go.boarddocs.com/in/noblesville/Board.nsf/files/BVGMYS5D1440/\$file/Resolution.cell%20tower.EXE.pdf
  - cityofnoblesville.org/egov/documents/1623884139\_94552.pdf
  - cityofnoblesville.org/egov/documents/1619203348\_81115.pdf
  - go.boarddocs.com/in/noblesville/Board.nsf/Public

I believe the school board members are nice people, work hard for the students and community volunteering their time and talents. However, I am disappointed with these decisions, lack of transparency and efforts to limit parental and community input.

Therefore, I am supporting Misti Ray and Melba Kiser because I believe they are the best individuals for transparency, protecting parents' rights and putting children first.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Mutter  
Noblesville

# State Budget Committee Supports Historic Increase in Scholarship Funding

The Indiana State Budget Committee recently reviewed the administration's request to increase by 35 percent the maximum Frank O'Bannon Grant base-award amounts. This is the largest funding increase in award history, and when combined with the Federal Pell Grant, will allow thousands of Hoosier students to have their tuition and fees completely covered by financial aid.

Administered by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, the Frank O'Bannon Grant includes both the Higher Education Award and the Freedom of Choice Award. It is the state's primary need-based financial aid program and annually helps around 40,000 Hoosiers afford college at both public and private institutions.

"Indiana is a national leader in annually providing \$385 million in available financial aid, yet our current college-going rate needs improvement," said Gov. Eric Holcomb. "The Commission for Higher Education in partnership with legislative fiscal leaders is setting a bold course to change the trajectory by increasing the Frank O'Bannon Grant award. By making the cost of higher education more affordable for Hoosier families, hopefully more individuals will pursue college."

Although the O'Bannon

Grant provides generous aid, the program was cut significantly during the Great Recession due to increased demand. The 35 percent increase brings the award back to 2008-09 levels when adjusting for inflation. Under the approved increase, the maximum award for a student attending a private institution is \$12,400 and \$6,200 for a student at a public institution.

"Increasing the Frank O'Bannon Grant is a significant victory for Hoosier students, families and the Commission," said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery. "Cost is the main factor for those who are deciding to pursue education beyond high school. The approval from the State Budget Committee makes more financial aid available to students who already qualified for the O'Bannon Grant and spreads the eligibility scale to reach additional students who may have been on the cusp of qualifying."

Eligibility for the O'Bannon Grant is based on financial need as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students do not need to apply for the grant. However, they must have a current FAFSA on file for the academic year to qualify.

"This bold act by the State of Indiana is a visible

commitment by the state's political leadership both to make a college education possible for more Hoosiers and to give Hoosiers the freedom to select a college or university that best suits their educational needs," said President and CEO of Independent Colleges of Indiana Kurt D. Dykstra.

"Once again, Indiana is leading the way for college access for all its residents."

The approved Frank O'Bannon Grant award amounts will go into effect during the 2023-24 academic year.

For questions about state financial aid, students can contact the Indiana Commission for Higher Education by phone at (888) 528-4719 or via

email at awards@che.in.gov.

About the Indiana Commission for Higher Education:

Created in 1971, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education plans, coordinates and defines Indiana's postsecondary education system to align higher learning with the needs of students and the state. The Commission also administers Indiana's financial aid programs, including the 21st Century Scholars early college promise scholarship, which celebrated 30 years in 2020.

Learn more about the Commission's Reaching Higher in a State of Change strategic plan at in.gov/che.

# Consumer Alert: Products Recalled in October

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita is alerting Hoosiers of important consumer protection concerns for products recalled in October. Consumers should take full advantage of the solutions available for those who purchased the recalled items.

"Hoosiers need to know if purchased items in their homes are flawed," Rokita said. "This month, several recalled products are home related, and it is important you pay close attention in order to keep you and family are safe. Consumer protection is one of my office's top priorities. If you have difficulty finding a solution for your recalled product, call my office for help."

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the following consumer products were recalled in October:

- Tea Kettles from Target
- Rubber Straps from Swift Bicycle Bags
- Optimus Gemini Portable Gas Stoves from Katadyn North America
- Desk and Storage Units from MillerKnoll
- Snowmobiles from Bombardier Recreational
- Children's Sleepwear from Ekouaer
- Scuba Diver Buoyancy Compensator Devices from Cressi-Sub USA
- Early Learning Centre



Attorney General Todd Rokita

Little Senses Lights & Sounds Shape Sorter from Amazon

- E-Bikes from Ancheer
- Outdoor Freezers from U-Line
- Magic Chef Air Fryers from Newair
- Children's Rings from U.P. Fashion
- Children's Sleepwear from Jammers Apparel Group

If you believe you purchased a recalled product, stop using it and check its recall notice (linked above for all products). Follow the notice's instructions, including where to return the product, how to get the product fixed, how to dispose of the product, how to receive a refund for the product, or what steps must be taken to receive a replacement product.

To view recalls issued prior to October, visit the Consumer Protection Safety Commission website at cpsc.gov/Recalls.

Never miss a public notice on legal proceedings! After it prints in your local newspaper, it goes online:

**IndianaPublicNotices.com**  
**TheTimes24-7.com**


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# The Fabled History of True-Freshman Starters at Purdue

On Tuesday night, barring the unexpected, Westfield's Braden Smith – and maybe Fletcher Loyer – will join a rare Purdue basketball fraternity.

Since freshman eligibility became a permanent rule in 1973, Smith would become the 21st true freshman to start his first game as a Boilermaker. All but five of these freshmen have played with Matt Painter as their head coach.

For some Boilermakers, the start marked the beginning of an exceptional playing career. Bruce Parkinson. Russell Cross. Melvin McCants. Chris Kramer. Robbie Hummel. JaJuan Johnson. E'Twaun Moore. Vince Edwards. Caleb Swanigan.

Others – such as Xavier Price, Nate Minnoy, Chris Lutz, Donnie Hale, Ronnie Johnson and Kendall Stephens – didn't finish their basketball careers in West Lafayette.

Curiously, only Parkinson and Lewis Jackson were point guards among the 21. That's one reason why Smith earning a starting role is unprecedented, even though he is the reigning Indiana Mr. Basketball.

If Painter is lucky, Smith will come close to the numbers Parkinson put up from 1973-77. Single-game (18), season (207) and career (690) assists record holder. Sixteen games with at least 10 assists, far and away the best total in Purdue history. As a bonus, Parkinson scored 1,224 points.

Jackson's numbers were strong, too, though he wasn't needed as a scorer with Hummel, Moore and Johnson in the same starting lineup. Jackson ranks seventh in career (456) assists.

Here's the rest of the list in chronological order:

Russell Cross – A Parade All-American out of Chicago, the 6-10 Cross was Gene Keady's first big-time recruit. During his three years at Purdue, Cross had 15 double-doubles. He ranks 24th all-time in Purdue history with 1,528 points and still holds the freshman single-season scoring record (540).

Melvin McCants – Another Illinois high school standout who teamed up with Troy Lewis, Todd Mitchell and Everette Stephens to help Purdue win back-to-back Big

Ten titles in 1987 and 1988. The 6-10 McCants ranks 22nd in Purdue history with 1,554 points.

Mike Robinson – A



**KENNY THOMPSON**  
Columnist

Parade All-American out of Peoria, Ill., Robinson didn't have the overall impact that Cross did but was a key player on the 2000 Elite Eight Boilermakers. With 1,322 points, Robinson ranks 29th in Purdue history.

Xavier Price – Lasted one season at Purdue, departing when Matt Painter officially became head coach in the spring of 2005. The 6-3 guard had been rated the 47th-best recruit by hoopscooponline.com coming out of O'Fallon, Ill. He transferred to Western Illinois.

Nate Minnoy, Chris Lutz and Marcus Green – The first of two times Painter began a season with three freshmen in the starting lineup. Only Green spent his entire career at Purdue, averaging 4.5 points. Minnoy, arguably the largest guard in Boilermaker history at 6-3, 270, injured a knee after 13 games and quit the team in September 2006. He played for three schools after leaving Purdue. Lutz made the Big Ten All-Freshman team and led the league in 3-point shooting percentage (47.2 percent) as a sophomore in 2007. Saying he was homesick, the New Hampshire native transferred to Marshall.

Chris Kramer – The Huntington native wasn't a highly recruited guard but for four seasons as a starter he was the face of Purdue defense. Kramer won the Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year honor in 2008 and 2010. He owns the career steals record with 274.

Robbie Hummel, JaJuan Johnson, E'Twaun Moore – This trio of freshman starters in 2007-08 fared much better than Minnoy, Lutz and Green. Two ACL injuries by Hummel arguably robbed Purdue of not one but two Final Four berths. Johnson, a 6-11 center, was the Big Ten's Player of the Year in 2011 and an NBA first-round draft pick. Moore is third in Purdue history with 2,136 points and spent 11 seasons in the NBA. Hummel is 10th with 1,772 points, two spots behind



Caleb Furst

Johnson (1,919). Hummel spent two seasons with Minnesota in the NBA.

Donnie Hale, Ronnie Johnson – One of the low points of the Matt Painter era was the 2012-13 season, when the Indiana All-Stars from New Albany and Indianapolis North Central were in the lineup. Hale left after one season to be closer to home.

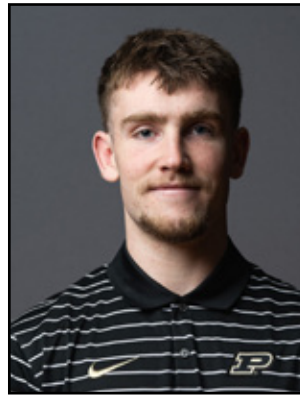
Johnson's two-year tenure ended acrimoniously after a last-place finish his sophomore season, which saw him average 10.8 points and 3.7 assists. He transferred to Houston and played for disgraced Indiana coach Kelvin Sampson.

Kendall Stephens – The son of former Purdue star Everette Stephens started 32 games over his three-year career but his junior season was impacted by a leave of absence Stephens took following the death of a friend. Stephens transferred to Nevada, where he was among the nation's leaders in 3-pointers made.

Vince Edwards – A prized 6-8 forward out of Middletown, Ohio, Edwards was a four-year starter who finished his career with 1,638 points, 779 rebounds and 403 assists. His 126 starts rank second in school history to E'Twaun Moore's 136.

Caleb Swanigan – The 2015 Indiana Mr. Basketball from Homestead High School and a McDonald's All-American, Swanigan was the Big Ten Player of the Year as a sophomore and a unanimous first-team All-American after averaging 18.5 points and 12.5 rebounds. Swanigan was a first-round draft pick of the Portland Trail Blazers. He passed away this past June 20 at age 25 due to natural causes.

Brandon Newman – The former Valparaiso High School star started 23 of 28 games as a freshman, averaging 8 points and shooting almost 38 percent from 3-point range and 94 percent at the free throw line. His role was reduced as a sophomore with the emergence of Jaden Ivey but is being counted on to help fill the outside shoot-



Braden Smith

ing void in 2022-23.

Caleb Furst – The second Indiana Mr. Basketball from Homestead came up big early in the 2021-22 season filling in for suspended starter Mason Gillis. Furst was the Big Ten Freshman of the Week after averaging 11.3 points and 6.7 rebounds in victories over Wright State, North Carolina and Villanova. Furst started 12 games as a freshman, averaging 4.1 points and 3.2 rebounds a game.

CBS basketball rankings To further whet your appetite for college basket-

ball season, it was interesting to read CBSSports.com's Top 100 rankings and see that author Matt Norlander is not on the Indiana will win the Big Ten bandwagon.

Norlander has Illinois ranked ninth and the Fighting Illini are his pick to win the league. He believes the high-profile transfers (Terrence Shannon Jr. from Texas Tech and Matthew Mayer from Baylor) plus highly regarded freshman guard Skyy Clark will be enough to offset the losses of Kofi Cockburn, Trent Frazier and Andre Curbelo.

We'll see. Purdue comes in at No. 20, two slots ahead of Indiana.

"There's a lot of questions with Purdue, but Matt Painter is a top-10 X-and-O coach," Norlander writes. "I'm banking on (Zach) Edey commanding attention in a crowded Big Ten POY race. And Mackey Arena is as tough an environment to win in

as that league has."

As for the Hoosiers: Trayce Jackson-Davis is Norlander's dark horse candidate for National Player of the Year. That's the optimistic view.

Now the pessimistic: "Mike Woodson's largest task will be splitting the difference between letting Jackson-Davis touch the ball on every possession but finding a way to get creative perimeter scoring. Woodson hasn't shown that yet as a college coach."

Other Big Ten teams cracking the CBS Top 100: Michigan (27th), Michigan State (32nd), Ohio State (38th), Rutgers (41st), Iowa (44th), Wisconsin (46th), Maryland (54th), Penn State (65th) and Northwestern (75th).

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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**JAKE NICHOLS**  
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# Naval Academy Glee Clubs to Perform with Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra for Veterans Day

The internationally acclaimed U.S. Naval Academy Men's and Women's Glee Clubs will appear as guest artists with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra in Indianapolis to celebrate Veterans Day. Performances will be held next Friday at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.; Saturday at 8 p.m.; and Sunday at 2 p.m. All performances will be at the Hilbert Circle Theatre on Monument Circle.

Tickets are available online at IndianapolisSymphony.org and through the Box Office by calling (317) 639-4300.

The concert theme will be A Veterans Day Salute including patriotic Pops music from Broadway, and choir classics. Also appearing with the Glee Clubs and Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra will be the USNA Pipes and Drums Corps.

The USNA Glee Club comprises 85 singers and includes members of the Men's and Women's Glee Clubs. The Men's Glee Club has achieved international prominence as one of the world's premier men's choruses, and the Women's Glee Club is the only all-female military choral ensemble in the world. Appearances on network television include The Kennedy Centers Honors (CBS), The Today Show (NBC), and several nationwide broadcasts featuring the National Anthem.

The Glee Clubs annually perform choral-orchestral works collaborating with the nation's leading symphonic organizations. Recent orchestral collaborations include performances as guest artists with the Minnesota Orchestra, Memphis Symphony, Dallas Symphony, Charlotte Symphony, Jacksonville Symphony, Winston-Salem Symphony and the Rochester Philharmonic. In the past decade alone, the Glee Clubs have performed extensively throughout the United States and abroad to include concert tours to Great Britain, Chile, Italy, Argentina, and Brazil.

"We are excited to be able to bring this acclaimed Glee Club to perform in Indianapolis with the world-renowned Indianapolis Symphony and their



widely-acclaimed Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly," said Glee Club Director Dr. Aaron Smith.

The Glee Club includes several midshipmen from Indiana, two of whom are from the Indianapolis area, to include Midshipman 4/C (Freshman) Grace Sullivan from Carmel, Ind., and Midshipman 4/C (Freshman) Allan Williams from Indianapolis (Irvington neighborhood), Ind.

"I am looking forward to coming home to Indiana with my good friends in the Glee Club to perform before my family and friends," said Sullivan. A recent graduate of Shortridge High School, Allan Williams was a chorister and choir member at Trinity Episcopal Church for many years.

"The opportunity to perform with a world class symphony as a member of the USNA Glee Club is a unique opportunity and honor for me and my shipmates," William said.

### About the U.S. Naval Academy:

Founded in 1845 as one of the nation's service academies, the U.S. Naval Academy today is a prestigious four-year undergraduate university that prepares midshipmen morally, mentally and physically to be professional officers in the naval service. More than 4,400 men and women representing every state in the U.S. and several foreign nations make up the student body, known as the Brigade of Midshipmen.

Midshipmen learn from military and civilian professors and participate in intercollegiate athletics and extra-curricular activities. Twenty-five percent of the

student body are involved in musical activities. They also study subjects such as small arms, drill, seamanship and navigation and tactics, naval engineering and weapons, leadership, ethics and military law.

Upon graduation, midshipmen earn a tax-payer funded Bachelor of Science degree in one of 25 different academic majors and go on to serve at least 5 years of rewarding service as commissioned officers in the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps.

For more information on the USNA Glee Club, go to usna.edu/music.

For more information about the Naval Academy, visit usna.edu or the Naval Academy's Facebook page at facebook.com/USNavalAcademy.

### About the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra:

The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, at home and thriving in the heart of Indianapolis, offers an exceptional artistic and musical experience. The orchestra is open to all and dedicated to creating an inclusive and innovative experiential environment that is inspiring, educational, and welcoming.

The ISO celebrates historically beloved performances while engaging audiences by introducing new voices through programming including the DeHaan Classical Series, the Printing Partners Pops Series, the holiday traditions of AES Indiana Yuletide Celebration and the popular Film Series presented by Bank of America.

For more information, visit IndianapolisSymphony.org.

# Voting Now Open for the Indiana Chamber's Second 'Coolest Thing Made in Indiana' Contest

The Indiana Chamber of Commerce's second annual Coolest Thing Made in Indiana tournament has officially tipped off with online voting now open at indianachamber.com/coolestthing.

The contest, which celebrates the state's long manufacturing history, boasts a 54-company field. There are a wide range of makers and their products entered from 43 Hoosier communities. The Hoosier Hysteria-style contest has quickly become one of biggest of its kind in the country.

"Like our inaugural contest, the response for the second annual competition has been tremendous, and we have seen an impressive array of manufacturers eager to compete for the Coolest Thing Made in Indiana title," said Kevin Brinegar, Indiana Chamber president and CEO.

The organization's goal with the Coolest Thing Made in Indiana program is "to showcase the wide variety of manufacturing taking place in the state that has helped our economy thrive," Brinegar added.

Entered companies face off in a single-elimination bracket format with winners chosen through public fan voting. Each winner goes to the next round until the Coolest Thing Made in Indiana champion is crowned.

For fairness, the initial matchups were generated via an online randomizer, notes the Indiana Chamber. Due to the number of companies entered, 10 teams received first round byes, selected at random.

"One of the really great things about this tour-



namment is that it draws some really big companies – that make some very-well known products – who compete right alongside some emergent ones that are just starting to make their mark," Brinegar offered. "We expect to see some David vs. Goliath matchups, and you just never know how these contests will turn out."

"We encourage all entrants to get the word out to their staff, families, customers and partners and on their social media accounts to rally support for their product."

The field is comprised of manufacturers from Angola, Auburn, Batesville, Bloomington, Brownstown, Carmel, Columbus, Decatur, DeMotte, Elkhart, Evansville, Fishers, Fort Wayne, Garrett, Gary, Goshen, Greens Fork, Greenfield, Greensburg, Greenwood, Indianapolis, Jasper, Kingsford Heights, Lafayette, Leesburg, Logansport, Markleville, Merrillville, Muncie, Nappanee, Plymouth, St. Meinrad, Rensselaer, Richmond, Rochester, Sellersburg, Syracuse, South Bend, Upland, Walcott, Wawaka, Westfield and Zionsville.

Each entrant includes a photo and product description to aid in voting. A voter may vote once per matchup per round.

The number of votes received will be reset at the beginning of each round. Voters must vote for all matchups in each round, including the ones with byes.

The first round of voting ends next Monday; voting for the tournament concludes Nov. 30. Below is the timing of each voting round:

- **Round 1:** Nov. 3-7 (now through 9 p.m. on Monday)

- **Round 2:** Nov. 8-10 (begins at 9 a.m.; closes 10 p.m. Thursday)

- **Round 3:** Nov. 11-15 (begins at 8 a.m.; closes 10 p.m. Tuesday)

- **Round 4:** Nov. 16-18 (begins at 8 a.m.; closes 10 p.m. Friday)

- **Semis:** Nov. 21-23 (begins at 8 a.m.; closes 10 p.m. Wednesday)

- **Finals:** Nov. 28-30 (begins at 9 a.m.; closes 9 p.m. Wednesday)

The Champion will be announced on Dec. 14 at the Indiana Chamber's Best IN Manufacturing Luncheon, which also features the first honorees in the Indiana Best Places to Work in Manufacturing program.

Entry in the contest is free. To participate, a company did not need to be headquartered in Indiana, but the product entered must be manufactured in the state. Companies are limited to having one product nominated for entry.

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## LIBRARY

From Page A1

"This is something we have been working toward and planning for nearly a decade, so we are beyond thrilled to see the start of construction," said Danielle Carey Tolan, Westfield Washington Township Trustee.

"This partnership is an excellent example of efficiency in government by sharing construction costs, space, equipment, and staff while providing a new and expanded community asset.

The library will cover its construction and land costs with a \$16.7 million general obligation bond. The township trustee's portion will not exceed \$5.2 million. KRM Architects will serve as the project architect. Meyer Najem is the contractor.



Danielle Carey Tolan

Construction is expected to last approximately 12-18 months.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend the groundbreaking. The trustee's office will be collecting new hats and gloves for those less fortunate in our community.

## BETSY

From Page A1

today, with Sam King at 7 p.m. Nov. 25 and at 7 p.m. Nov. 11 with The John Bearick Band at Primeval Brewing on Logan Street in downtown Noblesville.

6. Check out the Noblesville Moose Lodge Vendor Event from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Lodge on Field Drive. Bar will be open for drinks, and kitchen is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, with live band from 7:30-11:30 p.m.

7. Gather Toys for Tots for the Toys for Tots Caboose Rides with the Nickel Plate Express train at noon Saturday.

8. Visit a Holiday Open House today and tonight, plus daytime Saturday and Sunday at 3RN Shoppe & Mod Cat Boutique on Conner Street in downtown Noblesville.

9. Head to the northern part of Hamilton County and visit a Holiday Open House featuring more than 20 handmade vendors from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday in a newly restored boutique event space at Earthly Endearments on Main Street in downtown Atlanta, Ind.

10. Take your old Halloween pumpkin to Fishers AgriPark and chuck it into the field during a Pumpkin Chuckin' fundraising event for Fishers Fire Foundation from noon to 1:45 p.m. Saturday.

11. Put on your best act and head for auditions for The Belfry Theatre's "Around the World in 80 Days" from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday and 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Sunday at Warren Performing Arts Center.

12. Join the Holiday Preview Sip & Shop from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at Carmel City Center.

13. Main Street Productions presents "Mothers & Sons," an Artist's Choice Production that celebrates inclusion, diversity and new voices, Nov. 10-20 at Basile Westfield Playhouse.

14. 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.

15. Visit the Winter Market & Craft Show at 9 a.m. Nov. 12 in Sheridan Elementary School. facebook.

17. Visit the Suburban Indy Holiday Show today through Sunday at Grand Park Sports Campus in Westfield. Hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. today, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday All aboard for a bourbon tasting and BBQ meal, ride the rails while sipping on bourbon samples during a two-hour cruise, at 1 p.m. Nov. 12, including a bourbon sampling.

18. Enjoy live music by Jennifer Mlott at 7 p.m. Nov. 12 at Spencer Farm Winery in Noblesville, and a Cookie Decorating class at 6:30 p.m. to Nov. 19. Join in First Fridays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. today at Nickel Plate Arts in downtown Noblesville.

20. Attend the first worship of Northview Church opening in Noblesville at The Farm at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nov. 13.

21. Grab your friends and head to Bingo Night at Red Bridge Park at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 16 with proceeds benefiting Cicero Parks and \$15 for 15 games with prizes from local businesses.

22. While Geist Waterfront Park in Fishers isn't yet open to the public until spring 2023, a preview night will offer a sneak peak at the park while enjoying food trucks, Fishers Parks games and activities and music Then Kristen Timmons, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 19.

23. Join the Drinksgiving with The Dead Squirrels celebration at 7 p.m. Nov. 23 at 1205 Distillery North in Westfield.

24. Enjoy the music of Jai Baker 3 at 9 p.m. Nov. 23 (pre-Thanksgiving party) at Joe's Grille in Westfield.

25. The Belfry Theatre presents "The Sound of Music" Nov. 25-Dec. 4 at The Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville and tickets available at thebelfrytheatre.com

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

## CLAIMS

From Page A1

- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Parkinson's disease

"We encourage Hamilton County veterans who served at Camp Lejeune during the aforementioned dates to contact us," says Lisa Charles, the County's Veteran Service Officer (CVSO). "We are here to help veterans, their surviving spouse, and their 'helpless children,' complete the necessary paperwork to support their VA claim at no cost."

Ads by personal injury lawyers that solicit clients to file Camp Lejeune lawsuits are prevalent on the Internet, television and in print. What many veterans and their families don't understand is that they can file the paperwork themselves or with a CVSO with relatively little time and effort.

"We are concerned about the significant attorney advertising targeting veterans and veteran families because of the law that passed this summer," says Hamilton County Commissioner and Carmel attorney Christine Altman.

"Personal injury attor-



Commissioner Christine Altman

neys typically charge up to 40% of the recovery received. That's money that could be going to the recovery of those suffering from serious illness instead."

If awarded through the VA, the veteran, surviving spouse, or helpless child may receive monthly compensation based on the veteran's health condition(s) and severity. If they file through a lawyer, their compensation will be awarded in one-time lump sum.

The Hamilton County Veteran Services Office can help with all VA compensation and pension claims at no charge to the veteran or their family.

## ASPIRE

From Page A1



Photo courtesy of Aspire Indiana Health

**Dignitaries from Aspire Indiana Health, the Indiana State Senate and House and an Indiana Congressional Delegation gathered on Wednesday for a ribbon-cutting at Aspire's newly-expanded Noblesville clinic.**

al, state and local leaders are approaching the transformation through two nationwide models including a 988 behavioral health crisis system and specially-designated clinics, called Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC). Both of the models utilize effective financing that is expanding the scope of mental health and substance use services by permanently changing how and when people can access treatment services.

In his comments, Crider praised Aspire for its work with Hoosiers with mental health challenges and said Indiana lawmakers are looking to expand funding and rethink how behavioral healthcare is delivered in the wake of a recent report issued by Gov. Eric Holcomb's Behavioral Health Commission, on which Scott served. That report found untreated mental health issues cost Indiana

\$4 billion per year.

Wurster Construction was the general contractor on the project, with project management by Colliers and architectural planning by Artekna.

**About Aspire:**

Aspire Indiana Health is a fully integrated nonprofit health system serving central Indiana that addresses behavioral health, primary medical care, substance use disorders, infectious diseases, deaf services, veteran programs, abused/neglected children and social drivers of health such as housing and employment. Aspire is supported by a strong network of community organizations, state/federal entities and generous benefactors.

Those interested in partnering with Aspire in making health and well-being a reality in central Indiana are encouraged to contact them at [info@aspireindiana.org](mailto:info@aspireindiana.org).

## DNR

From Page A1



**Indiana Department of Natural Resources**

Interpretive Center.

"We appreciate the sacrifices and service of our veterans and active-duty military and look forward to recognizing them with a day to explore some of the best outdoor places in our state," said Terry Coleman, director of Indiana State Parks.

Veterans and military personnel should simply let the gate attendant know at

the property they visit that they are either a veteran or serving and on active duty.

For general information about state parks, reservoirs, forest properties, and off-road state recreation areas, visit on [IN.gov/recguide](http://IN.gov/recguide).

For information about interpretive programs at state parks and reservoirs, head to [interpretiveservices.IN.gov](http://interpretiveservices.IN.gov).

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## ARROWOOD

From Page A1

Entrepreneurship. It doesn't stop here – this week is part of a strong, collaborative effort at our middle school to offer robust career exploration opportunities throughout the year for students to develop skills and pursue interests that ensure they are college and career ready by graduation.

As a reminder, our second scheduled E-Learning Day of the year is set for this Friday, November 4. Students do not report to school.

If you like student theatre productions, you will love the shows coming to Hamilton Heights High School Auditorium this month! Members of the Hamilton Heights High School Drama Department cordially invite the community to attend its live production of You Can't Beat The House by Pat Cook. HHHS Theatre teacher Brooks Myers is directing the comedy in collaboration with her theatre class. Shows are Friday, Nov. 11 at 7 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 12 at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 13 at 2:30 p.m. at the HHHS auditorium. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased online beginning Friday, Nov. 4 at [secure.payk12.com/school/Hamilton-Heights-High-School/627/item/228605](https://secure.payk12.com/school/Hamilton-Heights-High-School/627/item/228605) and at the door. All proceeds benefit the High School Drama Department.

Hamilton Heights Elementary School will present two live performances of the musical adventure, Moana, JR., on Saturday, November 19 at 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. also at the high school auditorium.

Directed by Marianne Collar, this production is a collaboration of elementary, middle, and high school students along with teachers, retired teachers, and community members. Advance tickets are \$5.00 (K-adult) and can be purchased online by visiting [secure.payk12.com/school/Hamilton-Heights-Elementary-School/759/item/228200](https://secure.payk12.com/school/Hamilton-Heights-Elementary-School/759/item/228200) or are \$7.00 at the door.

Parents of seniors, mark

your calendar to attend a free Financial Aid and FAFSA Filing event on Monday, November 7 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the high school media center. The evening, sponsored by INvestEd, is designed for those students who are interested in pursuing higher education in the form of a college, university or trade school and their families. INvestEd will have people and computers on site to help navigate the process and fill out the necessary forms. Money to those who qualify are awarded on a first come first serve basis so it's always a good idea to apply as early as possible.

Next Friday is Veterans Day. This occasion gives us the opportunity to thank our veterans for always keeping the nation before themselves. I would like to recognize and express my gratitude to those men and women, who answered the call to serve, and for the sacrifices they have made so that we can enjoy the freedoms and life we lead today. Please join me in taking a moment, not just on Veterans Day, but any day there is an opportunity to thank and honor those who have served our country. We will always remember the dedication and sacrifice of our veteran families.

We look forward to Election Day 2022 next Tuesday, November 8. We share our thanks to all who have given of themselves to run as candidates this election season. Whether you vote early or vote on election day, please vote; we know our democracy depends on our engaged participation. Information about voting in Hamilton County can be found online at [hamiltoncounty.in.gov/222/Current-Election-Information](http://hamiltoncounty.in.gov/222/Current-Election-Information).

Thank you for your partnership and support. #WeAreHuskies

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

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# FRIDAY Business Notes and NEWS DAY

Friday, Nov. 4, 2022

A7

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## Entrepreneur, Innovator and Philanthropist Joe Lonsdale to Join President Daniels for Next Presidential Lecture Series Event

Serial entrepreneur, start-ups investor and philanthropist Joe Lonsdale will be the next Presidential Lecture Series guest, joining Purdue University President Mitch Daniels for the discussion at 6 p.m. Nov. 16 in Stewart Center's Fowler Hall.

The event, titled "A Conversation on Innovation With Entrepreneur, Investor and Philanthropist Joe Lonsdale," is free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Purdue President's Council, the event also will be livestreamed.

Lonsdale, 40, is a leading technology entrepreneur and investor who became the youngest member included in the Forbes Midas List of the world's 100 best venture capitalists in 2016 and 2017. Lonsdale is managing partner at 8VC, a U.S.-based venture capital firm that manages several billion dollars in committed capital.

In 2021 he became a founding trustee of the University of Austin, a new university in Texas.

Before focusing on institutional investing, Lonsdale co-founded Palantir, a global software firm known for its work in defense and other industries, as well as for providing the platform to manage the COVID-19 pandemic status and response for assisting key decision-makers in over 35 countries.

"There is nobody Purdue

admires more than innovators, inventors and those who challenge conventional wisdom," Daniels said. "We'll get all that and more when Joe Lonsdale comes to visit."

After launching Palantir, Lonsdale founded and remains chairman of both Addepar, which has in excess of \$4 trillion on its wealth management technology platform, and OpenGov, which provides software for over 2,000 municipalities and state agencies.

More recently, he co-founded Affinity, Epirus, Resilience and other mission-driven technology companies, which he continues to create with his team from the 8VC Build program.

He also was an early institutional investor in a lengthy list of notable technology startups including Oculus, Guardant Health, Oscar, Illumio, Anduril, Wish, JoyTunes, Blend, Flexport, Joby Aviation, Cityblock, Orca Bio, Qualia, Synthego, RelateIQ and others.

Lonsdale sits on the board of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation & Institute and also is an advisor to a range of other nonprofit ventures.

He began his career as an early executive at Clarium Capital, which he helped grow into a large, global macro-hedge fund. Lonsdale also worked at PayPal while attending Stanford

University.

Lonsdale and his wife, Taylor, are active in a variety of philanthropic and institutional pursuits, including support for liberty in public policy, the classical arts and health care innovation. In 2018 they founded the nonpartisan Cicero Institute, which crafts and advances policies to promote transparent and accountable governance in over a dozen states.

Very early into Daniels' tenure at Purdue, the university opened the rules for its policy governing intellectual property. That means students and faculty inventors now own their innovations, fostering and incentivizing a culture of entrepreneurship that extends from the newest first-year student to the most senior faculty member.

And the innovations on campus have followed. Purdue Research Foundation received 169 patents in 2021, ranking sixth internationally and first in the state of Indiana and the Big Ten. That mirrors Purdue's No. 6 ranking in 2020, when PRF received 175 utility patents. In addition, the mission of the Burton D. Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship in Discovery Park District at Purdue is to support innovative programs, activities and business-plan competitions and to provide the resources for moving student and faculty ideas to the marketplace.

## Keenan D. Wilson Joins Taylor, Chadd, Minnette, Schneider & Clutter

Taylor, Chadd, Minnette, Schneider & Clutter, P.C. is pleased to announce that Keenan D. Wilson has joined the firm in the practice of law.

Wilson grew up in Pittsboro, Indiana and is a graduate of Tri-West High School. He attended undergrad at Wabash College and Ball State University, graduating with a degree in Journalism in 2009. After working in the insurance industry for several years, he attended law school at the IU McKinney School of Law in Indianapolis. Keenan was a member of the Law Review and graduated Magna Cum Laude in 2014. Wilson is a member of the Indiana State Bar Association, Boone County Bar Association and Hendricks County Bar Association. He is admitted to practice law in Indiana, the Northern & Southern Federal Districts of Indiana, and the Seventh Circuit.

"We're thrilled to have Keenan on board," stated Kent Minnette, Partner in the firm. "His commitment and dedication to clients is an inspiration to see. His experience is extensive, and we look forward to seeing him succeed for his clients."

Keenan has spent most of his legal career representing clients in employment and educational disputes at a small law firm in Indianapolis. His practice included independently handling cases from the beginning to the end of the litigation process in federal and state court, helping to bring hundreds of disputes to satisfactory conclusions. He brings a wealth of experience in contract law, employment law, civil rights law and educational law and has prevailed in federal trials and appeals before the Seventh Circuit.

"I'm proud to be a part of such a prestigious team of attorneys," stated Wilson. "I am passionate about the law, and I look forward to helping my clients succeed and



Keenana D. Wilson

to helping represent the firm and our communities in a positive manner.

Keenan currently resides in Indianapolis with his girlfriend, Jess, their baby boy, Knox, and dog, Indy. For a decade, Keenan coached little league football in the Tri-West community and served as legal counsel for the league Board of Directors. In 2022 he joined the Tri-West High School football staff as an offensive line coach. He spends his free time with family, coaching, reading, and cooking.

Wilson is in our Lebanon office located at 117 W. Main Street, Lebanon, IN.

Taylor, Chadd, Minnette, Schneider & Clutter is committed to providing clients with sound legal counsel and valued legal services by helping people, businesses, and municipalities solve problems in many legal areas including estate planning or administration, family law or guardianships, criminal defense, injury law, municipal law, mediation and arbitration, business law, real estate, and general litigation. The attorneys and staff are committed to strong community involvement and their motto is All together, altogether better.

For more information, or to request an interview, please contact Kent Minnette at 765.361.9680 or visit [www.tcmslaw.com](http://www.tcmslaw.com).

## Annual Employer Survey: Three-Quarters Left Jobs Unfilled Due to Talent Shortage; Companies Increase Training in Response

The need for workforce talent remains the top concern in 2022 for Indiana employers – and by a wide margin. In response, more and more Hoosier companies are springing into action with various initiatives to address the talent shortage. Those are two top takeaways from the 15th annual employer workforce survey from the Indiana Chamber of Commerce and its Institute for Workforce Excellence (IWE).

Of the 992 survey respondents, 83% said meeting talent needs is a challenge. More than half (52%) said it's their biggest challenge.

"Finding enough talent and the right talent continues to be a huge problem plaguing Indiana employers," says Jason Bearce, Indiana Chamber vice president of education and workforce development. "The concern over talent by far trumps other concerns, including government regulations, inflation and supply chain challenges."

In the survey, 18% identified government regulations as its biggest workforce challenge, while 16% said inflation and 15% mentioned supply chain issues as the biggest challenge.

Alarming, 74% of Hoosier firms said they were forced to leave jobs open – at least temporarily – in the last year due to a lack of qualified applicants. "That's the highest it's been in the survey's 15-year history," Bearce states. "That's up from 45% in 2020 and 60% in 2021. This is a trend heading in the wrong direction."

Another question probed how employers ultimately responded to the talent shortage. More than half (51%) left the unfilled positions open, while nearly one in three (30%) companies hired underqualified candidates and just less than a quarter of the firms in the survey either hired temp workers (23%) or remote workers (21%) to deal with the shortage.

Indiana companies aren't sitting on their hands waiting for the overall situation to get bet-

ter. "In the survey, we're seeing companies getting aggressive about addressing the need for talent in ways we haven't seen before," Bearce notes.

This year, 55% of companies surveyed said they've increased their investment in training. That's up from 31% last year. There was an almost equal jump in on-the-job training, which was up from 33% in 2021 to 55% of the companies surveyed this year. Forty-seven percent of firms reported increasing time allowed for training, up from 27% last year; 25% increased classroom training, up from 8% last year; and half the companies reported increased online training, up from 40% a year ago.

"These are the biggest one-year changes in time spent on and investment in employee training we've seen since the survey began," Bearce emphasizes.

Survey results show that companies are also responding to the talent shortage by strengthening and diversifying their recruitment strategy.

"There are signs that employers are thinking more broadly about where and how they source or cultivate talent, including tapping historically disadvantaged workforce populations, including those that were formerly incarcerated, individuals with disabilities and recipients of public assistance," Bearce explains.

He notes that more employers are cultivating future talent through work-based learning and doing so earlier through high school internships and youth apprenticeships.

Additionally, Bearce adds, more employers recognize that accessible and affordable child-care is a workforce barrier that needs to be addressed as part of their talent strategy, along with housing and transportation.

Those steps seem to be having a positive impact. The number of respondents who reported that the supply of candidates does not meet their needs

declined from 72% in 2021 to 62% this year. That's still higher than the 50% who responded that way in 2019 and 2020.

Significant challenges remain. Chief among those, Bearce says, is the need to increase the amount of training that results in industry-recognized credentials "that give workers currency in the labor market and make Indiana more economically competitive for business expansions and company relocations."

Bearce also pointed out that the survey showed companies' human resources departments are often dedicated to compliance, payroll and benefit issues rather than strategic talent attraction and development.

"It's clear that more employers would benefit from engaging in meaningful talent pipeline partnerships with K-12 and higher education institutions, workforce training providers and community-based organizations," Bearce stresses.

To help combat the talent shortage, the Indiana Chamber's nonprofit IWE launched a first-of-its-kind online workforce center called the Talent Resource Navigator this summer with live customer service. This web-based tool allows Hoosier employers and individuals to better identify and access in one place the vast number of educational and training programs and resources available across the state.

"The talent challenge raises an abundance of opportunities for employers," Bearce offers. "This is a perfect time for companies to encourage their workers to skill up."

"The Indiana Chamber is working closely with state and regional partners to help more employers engage with area resources from education, community and government," he imparts. "This is key to deploy robust talent strategies that benefit employers and employees as well as the community at large."

Full results are available at [indianachamber.com/survey](http://indianachamber.com/survey).

## Duke Energy Dedicates an Additional \$200K in Energy Bill Assistance

Duke Energy is dedicating an additional \$200,000 in financial assistance to its Indiana customers who may be struggling to pay their energy bills. Qualifying Duke Energy customers can receive up to a \$300 credit annually.

Duke Energy works in partnership with the Indiana Community Action Association to distribute assistance funds. Customers should contact their local community action agency to see if they are eligible. A list of Indiana community action agencies by county can be found at [www.incap.org/energy-assistance](http://www.incap.org/energy-assistance).

"We know that our customers are facing rising costs for necessities, from groceries and transportation to their electric bill, which has risen due to escalating fuel costs to produce electricity," said Duke Energy Indiana President Stan Pinegar. "We've found that more of our customers could take advantage of the resources available to them, and we want to connect them to help."

The company also is encouraging customers who may be struggling to apply to the Indiana Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). The federally funded program is administered through statewide community action agencies and assists qualifying individuals with their energy bills. The application period opened Oct. 3.

"We expect that with the rising cost of natural gas and heating oil, as well as the challenging economy, the number of families in need of energy assistance will increase again this year. We are proud to partner with our local service providers to administer the Energy Assistance Program to help Hoosiers with these costs," said Jacob Sipe, executive

director of the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority.

Hoosiers should contact their local service provider to apply for LIHEAP. A list of service providers and more information can be found at [eap.ihcda.in.gov](http://eap.ihcda.in.gov).

Duke Energy also offers a number of tools and resources to help customers manage their bills, control their energy use and save money, including:

**Budget Billing:** Budget Billing lets customers pay one predictable amount every month to better manage their budget. The amount is periodically reviewed and adjusted.

**Pick Your Due Date:** Customers can choose the date they want their Duke Energy bill to be due each month to align with a date that works for them.

**Installment plans:** Duke Energy recently extended interest-free payment plans from three to six months for eligible Indiana customers. Customers can request a few extra days or restructure a past-due balance into a monthly payment plan. Customers should contact Duke Energy at 800.521.2232 to discuss options available to them.

**Usage alerts:** Customers can sign-up for emails and/or texts halfway through a billing cycle, well before a bill arrives, with their current usage amount and a projection of what their final monthly bill could be.

**Budget alerts:** Customers can also set alerts, so they know when their bill reaches a specific dollar amount of their choosing, allowing them to adjust their usage before their bill arrives.

To learn more about these programs and others, visit [duke-energy.com/HereToHelp](http://duke-energy.com/HereToHelp).



# FRIDAY Voice of our PEOPLE

## Bubba Shares Real Scary Story for Halloween



**TIM TIMMONS**  
Two Cents

I'm blaming it on the big box stores. Those folks put out Halloween stuff in July and Christmas stuff in August (what happened to Thanksgiving?). Heck, I was in one of those stores the first week of October and they already had their Halloween stuff marked down and were moving it out to make way for more Christmas trees.

The world has lost its mind.

And what that has done for us in the worldwide HQ of Sagamore News Media is make things busier. We have more year-end stuff happening now, more folks wanting to talk about 2023 advertising (which we always appre-

ciate) and more fun stuff with record keeping.

So it was the other day. I was sitting at my desk trying to see over the massive pile of papers because I thought someone was at my door. Well, I thought I could hear them, I just couldn't see . . . when all of a sudden the phone rang.

"Paper, Timmons," I barked, perhaps a little too harshly. (I've got to work on that!)

"This here is a special call for Timothy Timmons from Mr. Halloween himself, Morris Karloff," a familiar twang said.

"This here?" "MORRIS Karloff?" The twang?

It could only mean one thing. "How you doing, Bubba?" I sighed.

"Dang, Timmons!" Bubba Castiron said.

"How'd you know it was me? I disgraced my voice and everything."

"Disguised?"

"Huh?"

"Never mind."

For those not familiar, Bubba Castiron is a few screws short of a hardware store. He hangs out with his pals at a little hole-in-

the-wall joint called the Crawl-On-Inn out somewhere between Bowers, Kirkpatrick, Colfax and Clarks Hill. I've been there once but not sure I could find it again if I had to - and I really hope I never have to. Elvis tends bar there and you can usually find Bubba, Tater, Gumball, Big Country and part-time waitress, part-time truck driver Bambi.

It'd been a while since I heard from Bubba, but one thing was for sure. He hadn't lost his knack for calling at the worst possible times.

"Bubba, I'm kinda busy here. What can I do for you today?"

"Well, Timmons, seeing as how it's Halloween and all, I thought I'd tell you about the big trip me and the Mizzus took to the Big Cranapple?"

"Big Apple?"

"Huh?"

"Never mind. So you guys went to New York?"

"That's right, Timmons. And we had a grand old time. Even stayed in one of those fancy-schmancy high-rise hotels. It had more than a hundred

floors and we were all the way up on the 93rd."

"Wow, Bubba, I'll bet that was quite the view up there," I said. I've always loved New York and I could just imagine the view from that high up.

"It was, it was," Bubba said. "But that's not the big deal. Timmons, that hotel was haunted as Sammy Terry's basement."

"Now, Bubba. Don't tell me you believe in ghosts," I tried.

"Well, I ain't saying I does and I ain't saying I doesn't. But after what happened there, I can tell you it was the scariest thing I ever heard or saw in my life."

Much as I hate to admit it, Bubba had once again managed to interrupt my day and then caught my attention. He was like a wreck on the interstate. You know you should just drive on past, but you find yourself looking out of morbid curiosity.

"So what happened, Bubba?"

"Me and the Mizzus had gone out to eat at one of those fancy Coney Island restaurants - the

kind where they actually wrap the silverware in paper napkins instead of making you pull 'em out of the dispenser. When we got back, the head honcho at the front desk told us that they were having a problem with the elevators. Timmons, he actually leaned over and whispered they were 'haunted!' Well sir, I figured they probably done did call them Ghostbuster fellers . . . say, did you ever see those documentary movies on those guys? They sure do good work. Anyways, we didn't want to wait until they got there - besides, we didn't want to take a chance and get slimed you know. So we told the waiter-dee of the desk that we'd just take the stairs."

"But you said you were on the 93rd floor?"

"That's right, Timmons. And you ain't gonna believe what all happened."

"Was the stairwell haunted?" I asked.

"It mighta been," Bubba said. "The more stairs we climbed the dimmer the lights got and we heard moaning and groaning - then again that all

might've been 'cause we was getting pretty winded. But when we finally - and I do mean finally - got up to our floor, the scariest thing ever happened."

"You saw a ghost?"

"No."

"You heard one?"

"No."

"The air temperature was cold?"

"No."

"Well what was it for crying out loud?"

"The Mizzus looked at me and said, 'I forgot the room key.'"

With that Bubba burst out laughing and I was pretty sure I could hear the gang all laughing in the background as he hung up the phone. I hate Halloween.

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

## John Marlowe Spending Some Time in the 'Pen'



**JOHN O. MARLOWE**  
With The Grain

I'm a thief! There, I said it.

I've been wanting to get that off my chest for some time. It's not easy coming clean after all these years. For a person of high principles, like me, it's difficult admitting that I've often taken something that belongs to someone else without asking.

I steal writing implements. I am a pen pilferer.

Yes. Sad, but it's true.

Despite being a weekly churchgoer, I find myself routinely violating one of the Ten Commandments. I grant you, "Thou Shalt Not Steal" only ranks No. 8 on the list -- making stealing ink pens only slightly less abominable than sleeping with your neighbor's wife (No. 7) -- but I still feel like I'm riding the bullet train to hell.

Most of the time, I steal an ink pen without even knowing it. I think they call that "kleptographi-

um."

What usually happens is that I will "borrow" a pen off of someone's desk to sign a document or to fill out a form, and then fail to put it back. Instead, I'll return it to my briefcase, to be discovered later when I dump the contents onto my desk at home.

Sometimes, I'll wear an ink pen home. Without thinking, I will slide the pen into my shirt pocket, or onto a common perch atop my right ear. That's how I acquired the Viagra ink pen that I'm using now. At least I hope that's how I got it. All I remember is people pointing at my right ear and laughing, which I guess is better than the alternative location.

I've been assured that stealing an ink pen with a logo emblazoned on the side isn't really stealing. It's a form of company self-promotion, they say. It's OK. The company wants you to take it.

All I can say is, that sure wasn't the company's attitude when I tried to take the FedEx truck parked at the end of my street.

Bank ink pens seem to be a big part of my collection. Going through my pen holder on my desk, I count 12. It's ironic since that's three more than the total number of dollars I actually have in bank accounts.

Two of the pens belong to banks that closed. They might have survived had people stopped stealing

their pens.

I'm old enough to remember when most banking transactions were held inside the bank, and the banks used to anchor their pens to the counter with a logging chain. I liked that idea. It gave me a sense that the company cared enough about my money to put measures in place to protect it.

Now they give away pens. What does THAT tell you?

I have ink pens from six different insurance agencies. Two of them use invisible ink.

My friend Amy uses an ink pen with pink swirls on the barrel, and a miniature My Little Pony stuck on the top. She claims she's had that pen for 27 years. Amy works in an auto repair shop with 11 men. Did I mention how smart Amy is?

For some reason, I seem to have a lot of pens from funeral homes. I've never understood ink pens from funeral homes. Do they think we are going to use them to fill out our "Things to Do, Tomorrow" list?

Maybe they put them there just for me. If I feel the temperature rising on my way to eternity, I can use that pen to write "I'm sorry that I took your ink pen" one thousand times inside the lid.

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

## Ask Rusty - Why Don't I Get Annual Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA)?



**ASK RUSTY**  
Social Security Advisor

**Dear Rusty: I get a NET amount of \$210 from Social Security plus get an alimony check of \$1,400. Other people I know get a COLA increase every year, but I was told I am not eligible? But no reason was given. Why am I not eligible? Signed: Struggling Senior**

**Dear Struggling Senior:** Everyone who collects Social Security receives the annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), so whoever told you that you aren't eligible for a COLA increase was incorrect. However, keep in mind that COLA is applied to your gross Social Security payment, not your net payment. One thing which can happen, especially to those whose Social Security payment is small, is that an increase to the Medicare

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

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Part B premium may consume your COLA increase. Here's an example of how that might occur:

You say your NET Social Security amount is \$210. Assuming you are enrolled in Medicare, your gross Social Security payment (before the Medicare Part B premium is deducted) is probably about \$380. The COLA increase for 2022 was 5.9%, which would increase your gross Social Security payment from about \$380 to about \$402, an increase of about \$22. However, the 2022 Medicare Part B premium also increased by nearly \$22 and, since your Medicare premium is deducted from your Social Security benefit, your NET Social Security payment wouldn't change. I suspect this is why you didn't see the Cost of Living Adjustment

in your Social Security payment - an increase to your Medicare Part B premium most likely offset all of your COLA increase.

I know (and agree) this seems unfair, but inflation has also affected healthcare costs in general and Medicare premiums in particular, and a Medicare premium increase unfortunately offsets at least some of, and sometimes all of, the annual COLA received by all Social Security beneficiaries. I suspect the above, or some variation of it, is why you are not seeing a COLA increase in your net Social Security payment. Rest assured, however, that you ARE receiving an annual COLA increase to your gross Social Security amount - every recipient of Social Security receives each COLA increase granted.



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# Friday Voice of our PEOPLE

## The Importance of School Board Elections for Each Community

By Steve Horton, Director of Board Services, Indiana School Boards Association

The general election on November 8 is the day that will determine who assumes the role of school corporation trustee, i.e., school board member. It is a position of great importance to the community and should not be taken lightly. School board governance is multi-faceted, and the work is often misunderstood by members of the community. School board members who work well and make decisions together have a positive influence on their students, school employees and ultimately the community. It is important to keep in perspective that school corporations are complex organizations with multi-million-dollar

budgets.

Indiana statute is not overly prescriptive regarding the duty of school boards, although there are important expectations of the board. School boards are required to hire and evaluate a superintendent to act as the "CEO" of the corporation. That is arguably the most important decision the board makes. They are also the policy making body of the corporation. While most of the policies are not actually written by the board, it should be ongoing work to ensure that the policy manual is up to date and compliant with federal and state legal requirements.

School boards approve an annual budget and provide financial oversight for the corporation. Working closely with the

superintendent to ensure that the organization is fiscally healthy and that the children and staff have safe and secure facilities is paramount. Ultimately, the school board is accountable to the public to ensure the financial solvency of the school corporation.

Indiana Open Door Law does require the board of trustees to meet in public to consider the recommendations of the superintendent. The process of recommendation and approval requires a high level of trust and communication between the members of the leadership team. It requires that information is shared equally and transparently, and that all members agree to act with a high level of respect both for each other and for the work the team is

doing together. This work is bound by a commitment to honor each other and always put the needs of the children first.

One overarching and important point to make about the laws that govern the work of school boards is that nothing in Indiana statute grants individual decision-making authority to individual members. The only time the board has authority is when they meet in public and vote. Consensus is the board's job. Doing that work with fidelity requires that all the members have an equal voice and vote, and perhaps more important than talking is listening.

Whomever voters elect to the school board, these newly elected officials will assume their duty in January 2023.

## Lifting the Burdens

Have you ever known need? Have you ever been hungry and not known where your next meal is coming from? While I have been blessed not to know this sense of desperation, I have seen the face of despair in many and heard stories of desperation from years past.

I was standing at a gasoline pump filling my tank. When a car pulled in next to me. After hearing the engine, I immediately thought, they are lucky to be going anywhere.

In just a matter of minutes the man had stuck his head around the pump and passing the time of day. He shared the family's story with me and I listened as I pumped. I realized as the conversation progressed that it was apparent as I looked into his face that they were in real need.

Some years ago, I remember performing out in Texas with the gospel group, The Marksmen. We had had a long trip and the old bus was traveling rough.

As we drove through the areas of Louisiana and Texas that were deeply tied to the oil industry, you could see the shadow of doubt that covered the faces of the people. The bottom had fallen out and many could no longer afford to even pump the crude that supported their way of life. Families were hurting.

We pulled up to a little church out in the middle of a farm area somewhere between Dallas and Houston. The little church probably held 100 on its best day.

When we arrived some men from the church cheerfully assisted Keith Chambers, Rob Gillentine and Earle Wheeler with some repairs on the bus.

In spite of the depressed economy we had seen as we stopped along our trip, this little church seemed to be an island. The women of the church soon arrived; gleefully putting together a Texas spread fit for Sam Houston, filled with fried chicken, corn on the cob and green beans with a side of fatback. They went out of their way to make us weary travelers feel at home as we scurried around setting up the sound equipment and record table.

As we watched the congregation trickle in that evening to reach around 60 folks or so, I thought that



RANDALL FRANKS  
Southern Style Columns

was a long way to go to sing to such a small group of people. Before we even stepped up on the pulpit, you could feel the spirit of God filling the room. The church came alive with rejoicing; those whose faces came in laden with heavy burdens seemed to smooth as their concerns were lifted, if only momentarily.

After the singing and the eating were over, the bus was running again, loaded and we were once again on the road. Down the road a ways, it was customary to check over the offering and sales figures. None of us could believe what the count yielded. The amount given and bought by that little congregation exceeded that of some of the largest churches I have ever been in. I know some of those folks probably needed the money more than we did but they gave anyway.

I was blessed in their spirit and their faith.

Sometimes even when we find ourselves in despair, giving and helping others can lift us from those depths. Have you ever met someone when you asked, how they are, they really tell you?

After several minutes of sharing their problems, I imagine it makes them feel better. Or does it? Do they go to the next person and share the same afflictions?

If we only remember that each time we see someone, it is the opportunity to share joy and happiness. Everyone has problems. If we can only lift each other's load for just a moment by sharing happiness, much like these folks at that little church did for us through their spirit of love in the face of hard times. We came to brighten their lives through the message of God's love through music. After seeing such despair along the road, it turned out they were the ones who brightened mine.

Did you uplift or help someone today? We could all use a lot more of that!

## Halloween – Will Real Trick or Treat Be November 8?

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Halloween is coming but the real trick or treat may be November 8, the mid-term election. November 8 may feel more like Halloween this year than the traditional October date.

Who knows what will happen. Georgia, Nevada and Pennsylvania all have Senate races that could tilt the balance of Congressional power depending on who is elected. All three races are going down to the wire. In probably each state it will most likely be the next day before a winner is determined – if not longer.

The 2022 midterm election is shaping up to be one for the history books.

According to a new analysis from pollster Echelon Insights, an estimated 125.6 million Americans are expected to turn out in November's midterm contests. Such a figure would

shatter the record set in 2018's midterms, which saw 53.4% of the eligible voting-age population cast their ballots, according to the Census Bureau.

Already voters are starting to come out in full force: As of Tuesday, Oct. 18, at least 2.8 million people already cast their ballots in the midterms, according to the United States Elections Project. That includes the more than 131,000 Georgia voters who cast their ballots early on the first day of early voting on Monday, Oct. 17, handily beating the previous first-day record for a midterm of 72,000, per state election official Gabriel Sterling. (Spectrum News NY)

Issues are driving Americans to the polls. Pewresearch.org found the following to be priority concerns of registered Americans. The numbers with each issue represent a

percent of primary concern of those surveyed

Economy. 79, Healthcare 68, Supreme court appointments 64, The coronavirus outbreak 62, Violent crime 59, Foreign policy 57, Gun policy 55, Race and ethnic inequality 52, Immigration 52, Economic inequality 49, Climate change 42, Abortion 40. Of course, you could conduct a poll in your community and the level of interest on any of these issues would probably be in a slightly different order. In almost every scenario the economy and inflation are paramount with voters.

Inflation has knocked on every American's door and has not been satisfied by a treat. Inflation at the rate of 8.2 percent, has been one hungry monster that has devoured American paychecks and pushed seniors back into the workforce. Available part time jobs are now being sought by se-

niors who need the money.

A recent poll shows a dead heat between Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) and Republican candidate Adam Laxalt in the Nevada Senate race. In Pennsylvania, it's Lt. Governor John Fetterman and R. Mehmet Oz who are now very close. In Georgia the Senate race has Raphael Warnock leading Herschel Walker but the Governor race between Governor Brian Kemp and Stacey Abrams remains close according to a Quinnipiac University Georgia poll.

Save some of your leftover Halloween candy for November 8. Have a bowl of popcorn for a real evening of trick or treat.

Here Dr. Mollette each weekday at 8:56, 11:30 and 4:26 EST on XM radio 131. Contact him at GMollette@aol.com. Learn more at www.glennmollette.com

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