

➔ TODAY'S VERSE

Psalm 23:1-6 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 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. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.



➔ FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

Your smile might just be the next one featured in The Times – all you have to do to win tickets (valued at \$15 each) is send us a selfie of you and our front page (Print or Online Edition) to ttimmons@thetimes24-7.com. The tickets are totally free, just be sure to tell us who you are, where you are from, how many tickets you would like and a little bit about yourself so we can include it if your photo is selected to publish on our front page. Then all you have to do is wait and watch. If you see your smiling face on our front page – you win!

And Another Few Things...

1. Comet Coming!

Want to see a comet with your naked eye? Well, you just might get your chance soon. Comet C/2022 E3 (ZTF) will be closest to our planet on Feb. 1 and Feb. 2. According to the good folks at space.com, if the comet continues to get brighter, we just might be able to look up and see it. And even if it fades a bit, we should still be able to use binoculars or a telescope around then. Go to space.com for more information.

2. Doomsday Clock

Are we closer to Doomsday? We'll find out what the stewards of the Doomsday Clock think soon. The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists say they will announce whether the time of the iconic "Doomsday Clock" will change during a live virtual news conference on Tuesday. The Doomsday Clock is a metaphor for how close humanity is to self-annihilation. It also serves as a call-to-action to reverse the hands, which have been moved backward before. The decision is made by the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists' Science and Security Board in consultation with the Bulletin's Board of Sponsors, which includes 11 Nobel Laureates.

3. Women Artists

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and the Indiana Arts Commission yesterday announced details for the 2023 Hoosier Women Artists Exhibition and began accepting submissions. Established in 2008, the Hoosier Women Artists Exhibition celebrates the importance of art and creativity in Hoosier communities and highlights the work of talented female artists throughout Indiana. Selected designees will have their artwork displayed in the offices of female elected officials at the Indiana Statehouse and at the Governor's Residence. Submissions are open from now to Friday, Feb. 3 and can be made through the Indiana Arts Commission's Online Application System. A reception will be held March 29, 2023 at the Indiana Statehouse to honor and showcase the selected artists. For more information on the program and eligibility requirements, visit in.gov/ig/ask-suzanne/hoosier-women-artists/.

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

50¢ WWW.THETIMES24-7.COM



Photo courtesy of City of Carmel and Beth Maier

The 2023 Festival of Ice features carving demonstrations by professional ice carvers today (carver Aaron Costic from a previous year above) on Main Street in the Carmel Arts & Design District and on Saturday at The Ice at Carter Green, with a Carmel Fire Department chili cook-off, and then on Sunday a fast-paced carve-off on stage, skating to a live deejay and more at The Ice at Carter Green.

Music, Comedy, Festival of Ice, Winter Farmers Market, More



BETSY REASON
The Times Editor

From live music and comics to the Indianapolis Home Show, a farmers market and Festival of Ice, we share our list of 22 things to do this weekend and beyond:

1. Enjoy live music with Fast Cadillac at 7 p.m. today, Hill and Oaks on Saturday, Jason Salyers on Jan. 27, Craig Thurston on Feb. 3 and Tay Bronson on

Feb. 4 at Primeval Brewing in downtown Noblesville.

2. Head south for decorating ideas while discovering the latest trends, and tour the Centerpiece Home with pool and pool house, see HGTV stars and twin sisters Leslie Davis and Lyndsey Lamb today and Saturday, meet design expert Mina Starslak on Jan. 28, explore four mini barns being transformed into backyard bungalows and hundreds of vendors at the Indianapolis Home Show, today through Jan. 29 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds & Event Center in Indianapolis.

3. Enjoy live music by Tommy Baldwin at 8 p.m. today at Wolfies Grill in Noblesville.

4. Hear My Yellow Rickshaw 9 p.m. to midnight today at Outlaws Steaks Burgers Brews on Cabella Parkway in Noblesville.

5. Check out the comedians at The Brick Room Comedy Club, featuring James Tanford, Greg Winston and Mo Mitchell at 8 p.m. today, Hayden Fredricksen and Gabi Rifter Saturday at the downtown Noblesville Maple

Avenue club, with tickets \$10 at thebrickroom.cc.

6. Westfield Winter Farmers Market is 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, through April 1 at West Fork Westfield Event Center on East 191st Street.

7. Try out Fishers Parks' mobile skatepark noon to 2 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays in January at Fishers AgriPark on Florida Road, with required registration at playfishers.com

8. Enjoy live music with Steve Fulton at 7 p.m. Saturday, The Juan Douglas Trio on Jan. 28 at Spencer Farm Winery in Noblesville.

9. The 2023 Festival of Ice features carving demonstrations by professional ice carvers today in the Carmel Arts & Design District and on Saturday at The Ice at Carter Green, with a Carmel Fire Department chili cook-off, and then on Sunday a fast-paced carve-off on stage, skating to a live deejay and more at The Ice at Carter

➔ See BETSY Page A6

Brown Honored as Husky Hero

Reverend Jody Brown, a Bus Driver for Hamilton Heights School Corporation, has been named as a Husky Hero for December. Rev. Brown, who is affectionately known as Jody to most everyone, received several nominations for his caring disposition, dedication, and natural connection with students he transports to and from school, sporting events and field trips.

"As we all know, getting kids out the door in the morning can be overwhelming," said Lindsay Becker. "Mr. Jody has always been a warm, welcome smile on the hurried days to the bus (and the non-hurried too). I never had to worry that we would miss the bus because he'd always give us some grace if we weren't out there ready and

waiting. As a parent that takes off a lot of stress. Plus, my kids love Mr. Jody. My youngest son said, 'he's funny' and my oldest son said, 'he's kind and always says hi and he loves our dog.' Though some may see his job as a small sliver of a child's day; I see the importance of what he does and appreciate that he gets our kids started on the right foot to be successful each and every day through his gentle and kind spirit."

Brittany Kincaid said, "He's the best bus driver, and such a great person in our community!!!"

Megan Bishop said Mr. Brown is an amazing member of the HH school community.

➔ See HERO Page A6

Update from Arrowood



DR. DEREK ARROWOOD
HBSC Superintendent



In last Friday's Department of Education Weekly Update from Dr. Katie Jenner, she shared several goals including a statewide literacy goal of 95% of third grade students demonstrating reading proficiency skills and passing IREAD-3 by 2027. Statistics show that students who pass the IREAD-3 assessment in third grade are roughly 35% more likely to graduate high school, which is why we have been diligently

working on helping our students at the elementary level develop in key literacy skills.

It's paying off! In fact, third graders at Hamilton Heights Elementary School posted the second highest IREAD scores in Hamilton County (which has the highest IREAD-3 scores in the state) during the last round of testing. While this great progress, we plan to continue giving our students what they need to achieve and exceed that statewide literacy goal!

Plan to enjoy exciting orange and blue action at the 3rd Annual Hickory Classic basketball event next Wednesday, January 25 at the historic Hoosier Gym

➔ See ARROWOOD Page A6

➔ INSIDE TODAY

- Obituaries.....A2
- Dick Wolfsie.....A2
- Letter to the Editor.....A2
- Ken Thompson.....A4
- Glenn Mollette.....A4
- Capital Chronicle.....A5
- Classifieds.....A5
- Voices.....A7, A8

➔ HONEST HOOSIER

On this date in 1825, state leaders moved the capital from Corydon in southern Indiana to the central location of Indianapolis.



➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Not receiving enough sleep can lead to increased appetite and obesity. 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

"To achieve great things, two things are needed; a plan, and not quite enough time."

- Leonard Bernstein

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

Where do polar bears keep their money? Why in a snow bank, of course!

➔ OBITUARIES

Evelyn "Joan" Ellis

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



WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

31/34 FLURRIES BREEZY	26/39 SOME SUNSHINE	31/36 SNOW SHOWERS	30/37 MOSTLY CLOUDY	29/39 MOSTLY CLOUDY	30/35 SNOW CHANCE	28/30 MOSTLY CLOUDY
FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU

OBITUARIES

Evelyn "Joan" Ellis

December 19, 1950-January 12, 2023

Evelyn "Joan" Ellis, 72, of Noblesville, formerly of Elwood, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 12, 2023 at Ascension-St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis following a sudden illness.

She was born on Dec. 19, 1950 in Elwood, the daughter of Francis Edwin and Mary Louise (Baker) Gerard.

Mrs. Ellis attended Elwood schools and later became a nursing aid working at Dickey Nursing Home and later a facility in Arkansas. She married Marvin Dean Ellis on May 17, 1973 and they shared over 33 years of marriage together before his passing in 2007.

She enjoyed playing games, cards and Yahtzee. She loved the color red and especially liked animals. Mrs. Ellis' cat, "Sunshine" was very special to her. In recent years, she liked watching the Animal Planet on television at her home in Heritage Woods in Noblesville. She was determined to remain very independent until the end of her life and make all her own decisions.

Survivors include her 2 children Marvin Edwin "Eddie" (Patty Anne) Ellis of Noblesville and Allishia Elaine (Rick) Smith of Arkadelphia, Arkansas; 4 siblings Diana (Robert) Hildenbrand of Booneville, Francis "Frank" Gerard of Elwood, David (Barb) Gerard of Richland and Rick (Angie) Gerard of Elwood; step-grandson Hunter Smith; many friends at Heritage Woods in Noblesville; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Marvin Ellis; 4 siblings Karen Gerard, Donna Rutledge, Vicky Phelps and Patty Riley; and step-grandson Josh Payne.

Mrs. Ellis' wishes were to be cremated like her husband. No formal services are scheduled to be held at this time. Burial will take place at a later date in Shiloh Cemetery in Arkansas. Arrangements have been entrusted to Copher-Fesler-May Funeral Home in Elwood.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at copherfeslermay.com



Sheriff's Deputies Receive Medal of Honor for Heroism in Home Fire

Yesterday, Hamilton County Sheriff's Deputies Austin Rumer and Michael Foote were awarded the Medal of Honor for their actions during a house fire in the early morning on Dec. 7 of last year. The Medal of Honor is presented to members of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office who, through an extraordinary effort, attempts to or contributes to the saving of a human life.

Additionally, when death of the victim seems imminent, the member's actions significantly assist the life-saving effort. Below is a briefing of the event that occurred early that morning.

On Dec. 7 of last year, Deputies Austin Rumer and Michael Foote received a dispatched call for a residence fire in the 16000 block of E. 196th Street. Upon their arrival, the structure was partially engulfed, with flames showing on the



Austin Pic

east exposure, the north exposure, and though the roof. A person nearby stated that the residence still contained two persons: an adult male and a juvenile male.

Without hesitation, and without priority for their own safety, Deputies Rumer and Foote entered the residence. Working in heavy smoke, they assisted with a rapid primary search of the first floor. Deputy Rumer remained calm and collected, relaying entry team location information to responding



Michael Foote

units. Upstairs access was located, and again Deputy Rumer and Deputy Foote swiftly moved into the heat and smoke to continue the rescue effort. An adult male was found lying on the upstairs landing and Deputy Rumer took control of him, ensuring his extrication from the structure.

Deputy Rumer returned and pushed further into the upstairs, searching for additional occupants with Deputy Foote. The team found the eastern-most

room of the 2nd floor to be completely choked with smoke and flame. Deputy Rumer moved into a safety position within the room to ensure contact with the other team member and visual/tactile contact with the room exit. After the room was declared to be clear, Deputy Rumer directed the departure with competence and a remarkable memory for the convoluted path to the exit.

On this occasion, Deputy Rumer and Deputy Foote performed beyond the call of duty, without regard for their own safety, where the outcome of the situation would have reasonably resulted in the loss of human life or serious bodily injury, in an environment of obstacles, smoke, and fire; and where there was ample opportunity for them to consider the risk of action before and during the event. Congratulations on a job well done.

Noblesville Toboggan Team Builds Sleds, Prepares for National Championships

Several Noblesville-based toboggan teams are preparing to compete in the 32nd annual U.S. National Toboggan Championships in Camden, Maine.

To support the teams and connect the community to the occasion, three new sleds will be crafted this Saturday at the Lacy Arts Building. Anyone is welcome to participate in and watch the process, which will begin at 9 a.m.

"For this project, my artistic goal is to further our sense of community," said Geoffrey Davis, the Noblesville resident and craftsman leading the city's involvement in the event.

Noblesville's first toboggan team, the Hoosier Hotshots, previously competed in the 2022 Toboggan Championships, with 12 Stars Media documenting the sled construction, team-building process, and

race-day footage in "Toboggan Bout Town." This year, three additional sledging teams have joined, forming the Noblesville Mountain Sports Club.

"It's a great opportunity for people of all ages and abilities to share Noblesville with the rest of the nation," said Kate Baker, Executive Director of Noblesville Main Street and participant in the 2023 Toboggan Championships. "Geoff has really helped

us create an atmosphere of people helping people, and I can't wait to showcase that."

The races will take place from Feb. 3 to Feb. 5. Both the Hoosier Hotshots and the Lovely Lady Sleighers, a team making its racing debut, are fundraising through GoFundMe. Donations in support of each team can be made at gofund.me/04f58ace and gofund.me/7a6a146f, respectively.

Wolfsie Getting Testy!



DICK WOLFSIE
Life in a Nutshell

My wife read some troubling information the other day in one of her monthly magazines. You might think the source of this bad news would be a publication like Prevention, where every page is full of things you should not be full of, like red meat, trans fat chips, cakes and pies, and sugary soft drinks. Next thing you know they'll be telling us to lay off cheese. Or did I miss that issue?

No, this time the messenger was Consumer Reports. I have mixed feelings when reading this publication. As a result of our subscription, Mary Ellen and I have over the years apparently purchased a lemon of a car, an energy inefficient freezer, unsafe snow tires, and a dangerous snowblower.

At the back of the magazine, they tell readers what items they are presently testing in their labs. So, there's a good chance we also bought the wrong toaster, mattress, sunscreen, meat thermometer, and insect repellents. This past month they were rating blood pressure monitors, which you really need when reading one of their reports.

We have also learned that we probably wasted lots of money buying useless vitamins and even many organic food options. I have trouble sleeping at night because CR rated my pillow choice very low—lower even than MyPillow. I bought a MyPillow years ago, but I returned it. I emailed the owner and told him that sleeping with my head on his product made me lean to the left.

So, what did CR report on that upset my wife? Mary Ellen is a chocolate lover, and the darker the better. Well, things could not have gotten any darker than last week when the new CR landed in our mailbox, just minutes before she tossed it in our recycle bin. Here's the feature article's headline:

Some Trader Joe's dark chocolate has dangerous levels of lead and cadmium

Say it ain't so, Joe! This is where Mary Ellen gets most of her chocolate. She will also occasionally pick up non-essentials like eggs, milk, bread, fresh fruits and vegetables.

For years my wife's consumption of chocolate was based not only on flavor, but on reports that chocolate was good for you—especially the dark variety, which is full of anti-oxidants. True, it contains some caffeine, but if you can't sleep, what better way to stay awake than scarfing down a candy bar?

CR tested 28 dark chocolate bars at Trader Joe's. For 23 of the bars, eating just an ounce a day puts someone over a level that CR's experts say may be harmful. Well, there goes Halloween. Scary, huh?

Mary Ellen was curious to know whether the CR folks also had to taste the candy, and if so, were there any openings available for jobs like that?

Truth is, my wife is very health conscious, so she is now cutting down on her chocolate consumption. She asked if I would be willing to make some similar sacrifices, based on past CR reports. I am proud to announce that last Tuesday was the last vitamin pill I will ever take.

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.

Letters

Former Township Trustee Tom Kenley Enjoyed Time in Office, Encourages Others to Run

Dear Editor,

I truly enjoyed my two terms as township trustee and one term as a township board member. It was a rewarding experience for me personally and professionally to have had the opportunity to serve all the citizens of Noblesville Township. The reward was in helping common everyday low-income folks who qualified for a financial assistance need or just offering them good practical advice or a referral to another government agency or non for profit that may be able to help where we could not. I generally took time to discuss issues and offer possible solutions for clients who weren't too overly upset with my decision on the use of taxpayer funded assistance. Denying assistance to a family or an individual is without question the most difficult part of being the trustee.

Unfortunately, you cannot always help everyone all the time or you wouldn't be doing job that you were elected to do. I always looked for reasons to approve before looking for a reason to deny. My devoted staff always did their best to help and guide people to solutions to their problems. I think they are a good model for how a trustee office should be run. People in need first and confidentiality of clients foremost. To my way of thinking, my best accomplishments were new programs to assist people at low cost, the establishment of two safe places to stay for township residents in dire need, and a two-year tax moratorium on the civil tax shown on the reverse of your property tax statement while at the same time providing increased financial assistance to needy residents. We will always need a levy for fire protection

and EMS services. A big thanks to all the churches, non for profits, civic organizations, the Noblesville Schools Education Foundation for assisting in with the first ever Noblesville Township Trustee Scholarship, and to all the good people who donated pantry items or to the township donation fund.

I would like to encourage anyone interested in serving the community to file for a public office before the February 3rd, 2023, primary fling deadline. I've noticed many uncontested or unfiled for seats remain as of this writing. These local offices are all very important. A choice of good candidates is important to our democracy and is necessary to keep voter interest high. I have consistently heard from younger people, who I will call 50 years or less, that too many office holders are also too old. That

will never change without your active participation. Show your willingness to serve, come up with a few good ideas, remain friendly to those who may not immediately accept you and you might just win! And if you didn't win and learned something from the mistakes you may have made you should file for the next election. I know of several people who have been successful on their second or third attempt. If you are not a young person and still honestly have the drive and energy to represent your constituents at a high level, you should consider running for office or running for re-election. My point is that we need more honest and well-meaning citizens willing to place their names on the local ballot. It's really the best thing for all of us.

Tom Kenley
Noblesville

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

Pursuant to Indiana Code § 6-1.1-20-5, notice is hereby given that the Board of School Trustees of the Westfield Washington Schools has preliminarily determined to enter into a lease agreement and issue bonds in one or more series of bonds in the principal amount of \$13,000,000 to fund the renovation and expansion of Carey Ridge Elementary School, including site work and the purchase of equipment and technology.

Dated: January 16, 2023

/s/ Board of School Trustees
Westfield Washington Schools
TL19983 1/18 1/20 21 hspaxlp

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

IndianaPublicNotices.com
TheTimes24-7.com

INDIANAPOLIS
HOME SHOW
— SINCE 1922 —

JAN. 20-29
INDIANA STATE FAIRGROUNDS
& EVENT CENTER

DISCOVER. PLAN. DO.

10 DAYS ONLY!

Shop, compare and save with 400+ experts in kitchen & bath, landscaping, flooring and more!

Discover the latest trends as you tour the brand-new Centerpiece Home, crafted by Custom Container Builders, including a container pool & pool house!

See HGTV stars and twin sisters **Leslie Davis** and **Lyndsay Lamb** from their hit show *Unsellable Houses* on Fri., Jan 20 & Sat., Jan. 21!

buy online & **SAVE \$2**

PROMO CODE: **TWO**
VALID ON REGULAR ADULT ADMISSION ONLY.

DISCOUNT COURTESY OF:

IndianapolisHomeShow.com



Photo courtesy of Loren Matthes

Loren Matthes (above) officially filed to run for Carmel City Council earlier this week.

Loren Matthes to Run for Carmel City Council

Loren Matthes, a 20 year Carmel resident, has filed to run for Carmel City Council in the West District.

Matthes retired in 2021, but has spent the last 35 years dedicating her professional career to public finance and economic development advisory work at a public accounting and consulting firm, and in local government.

Her background includes assisting Indiana cities and towns in planning and financing all types of projects from infrastructure projects to

redevelopment projects. Matthes has extensive experience in advising community leaders in financial management, cash flow analyses, tax management, budgeting, debt management, and credit ratings. She is one of the leading experts in municipal finance in Indiana.

“My 35 years of public finance advisory work makes me a uniquely qualified candidate to serve on the Carmel City Council,” said Matthes. “I am an independent and analytical thinker who values integrity

and ethics. I am excited for the opportunity to serve my community and ensure Carmel’s residents understand and support financial decisions made by the City.”

Matthes and her husband, Don have been married for 24 years and have three adult sons, and eight grandchildren --- with one on the way. In her spare time, Matthes enjoys family time, church and community service, hiking and exercise, reading and learning new things - including studying foreign languages.

Rocky Shanehsaz Forms Exploratory Committee to Consider Campaign for Noblesville City Council



Rocky Shanehsaz

Rocky Shanehsaz, a Noblesville resident, local business owner and ardent supporter of nonprofit organizations, announced yesterday that he has formed an exploratory committee to evaluate seeking election to the Noblesville City Council for either District 5 or an At-Large seat.

Shanehsaz, owner of Mill Top Banquet & Conference Center in downtown Noblesville, believes in small government, responsible growth, and protecting residents from wasteful spending of taxpayer dollars.

The registered Republican candidate previously ran for the District 5 seat on the Noblesville City Council

in 2007, and for an At-Large seat on the council in 2019. While both previous bids proved unsuccessful, Shanehsaz garnered nearly 20% of the vote in the four-way At-Large race for three open seats.

“The best thing is a small government. True conservatives look at the wealth of our taxpayers’ investment and the impact that it has,” Shanehsaz says. “I’m interested in making sure our tax dollars have the most impact in our community, and working more with existing small businesses, so they stick around.”

Shanehsaz moved to the United States more than 43 years ago and became a citizen as a teenager. He is best known for converting the historic Model Mill building into what is now the Mill Top Banquet & Conference Center. Shanehsaz also made headlines when he bought and relocated three historically significant homes to preserve them, paving the way for construction of a new Noblesville City Hall in 2005.

With a keen interest to

invest in his community, Shanehsaz also helped plant three churches in Noblesville, and hopes to soon expand Hope and Recovery Centers Inc., a comprehensive, ministry-based drug rehabilitation service to individuals with alcohol and drug addiction. Hope and Recovery Centers Inc. provides foundation funds for medications to individuals with financial difficulties. These funds can be used to obtain proper medication as part of their detox and rehabilitation. Hope and Recovery Centers Inc. has partnered with Miller Care Group for its medical needs and has resources for employment staffing opportunity for these patients. Ministerial services are being provided by Chapel Church along with several other local churches.

Shanehsaz has lived in Noblesville since 1990. He is married to Terri Shanehsaz and has two children: Abe, an attorney with Faegre Drinker Law Firm in Indianapolis, and Ava, a Purdue University freshman studying engineering.

2023 Indiana Small Farm Conference to Take Place at Hendricks County Fairgrounds

Registration is now open for the 2023 Indiana Small Farm Conference, the premier annual event for the state’s farming community. The 11th annual conference and trade show will take place March 2 and 3 at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds in Danville.

One of the featured keynote speakers is Hunter Smith, former Indianapolis Colts punter and co-owner of Wonder Tree Regenerative Farm in Zionsville, Indiana.

“At WonderTree we hope to prove, once again, the viability and sustainability of decentralized, local farms serving communities as primary sources of food, experiences and culture,” Smith said.

Since 2013 the conference has featured comprehensive, instructive and enjoyable programming about diversified farming and

local food systems, bringing together novice and experienced small-scale farmers. For more information and registration, visit purdue.ag/sfc.

“I grew up on a small family farm where nothing was ever wasted, and food was simple and delicious,” said Sara Frey, owner of Frey Farms and a 2023 conference keynote speaker.

“Every growing season yielded different crops, and we’re proud to bring that hope to market today. Some of my fondest memories are of trying to figure what to do with the imperfect or ‘ugly fruit,’ which led to my vision of using all of what we grow and creating farm-fresh beverages for families.”

This year’s conference offers 12 tracks, allowing attendees to choose sessions that best align

with their farming operations and goals. Among the topics are:

- Urban agriculture
- Vegetable production
- Farm stress
- Marketing
- Technology on small farms
- Livestock
- Equity in the food system
- Value-added products
- Fruit production

“The Indiana Small Farm Conference is a great way to learn what’s next in production, marketing and other areas to make the most of your efforts in 2023 and for years to come,” said Amy Thompson, Purdue Extension’s beginning farmers coordinator and a conference organizer.

Follow the conference on Twitter and Instagram at @SmallFarmPurdue or on Facebook at @Purdue ExtensionSmallFarms, with the hashtag #PurdueSmallFarms.

Sacred Places Indiana Receives \$10M Grant from Lilly Endowment

A \$10 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc., will help greatly expand Indiana Landmarks’ Sacred Places Indiana program, which helps congregations across the state maintain their historic structures and thrive as spiritual centers in their communities.

Shrinking attendance at churches nationwide leaves fewer resources to maintain historic houses of worship, often among the most architecturally distinguished and lavishly ornamented structures in a community. To deal with an increasing volume of calls for help from congregations in historic churches with restoration needs, Indiana Landmarks and Philadelphia-based Partners for Sacred Places founded Sacred Places Indiana in 2015 with funding from Lilly Endowment. Subsequent additional funding came from the Allen Whitehill

Clowes Charitable Foundation, Inc.

“After seven years of operating Sacred Places Indiana, Indiana Landmarks is ready to accept the challenge of expanding the program to offer meaningful assistance to even more congregations,” says Marsh Davis, president of Indiana Landmarks. “We are grateful to Lilly Endowment for the opportunity to sustain and grow this valuable initiative.”

Since its founding, the program has served 43 congregations from 14 denominations, providing technical expertise, rehabilitation grants, and training in community engagement, strategic partnerships, and fundraising. The recent grant will help Sacred Places Indiana expand these training opportunities, build congregational capacities,

and assist with stewardship of their historic churches.

During the next three years, the funds from Lilly Endowment will be used by Sacred Places Indiana to create a more robust matching grant program, offering planning grants of up to \$25,000, capital grants of up to \$500,000, and emergency grants of up to \$250,000 to qualifying congregations.

Along with relieving the financial burden for local congregations, Sacred Places Indiana will also supply the technical expertise of Indiana Landmarks’ preservation staff to help ensure the historic character of these special places is protected, assisting in prioritizing maintenance needs and identifying qualified contractors and tradespeople.

To learn more about Sacred Places Indiana, visit indianalandmarks.org/sacred-places-indiana.

Traditional Funerals | Affordable Cremation | Pre-Planning

765•534•3131 www.hersbergerbozell.com

1010 North Main, Street Lapel, IN 46051

<p>2914 Fordham Lane Indianapolis • \$99,900</p> <p>SOLD!</p> <p>Attention investors! This condo is ready for your expertise. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, eat-in kitchen, laundry on main level, brick hearth fireplace in family room, great patio, assigned covered parking. BLC#21897547</p>	<p>26 Forest Bay Lane Cicero • \$695,000</p> <p>NEW LISTING!</p> <p>Stately and well maintained brick 2-story, 2.24 acres with wooded backyard. 3 BR, 3 full and 2 1/2 baths, huge finished basement, 3-car garage, screened porch, access to lake. BLC#21896185</p>
<p>1999 N Harbour Drive Noblesville • \$389,900</p> <p>NEW PRICE!</p> <p>Pristine home situated in the heart of North Harbour on over half an acre (.65). Features include 4 BR, 2.5 BA and a stunning 22x15 sunroom. Lovely view of Harbour Trees Golf Course: #7 across the street. BLC#21893242</p>	<p>1350 S 9th Street Noblesville • \$329,900</p> <p>SOLD!</p> <p>Stunning rehab in downtown Noblesville with over 2,200 sq ft features 4 BR, 2 BA, finished basement, master bath with en-suite and more! BLC#21879748</p>

New Year, New Home. Call Today!

Speak to Deak!

Jennifer
Peggy

THE Deak Team
REALTORS

Speak to Deak.com 317.439.3258 **Peggy** or 317.695.6032 **Jennifer**

Talk to **Tucker** REALTORS
F.C. TUCKER COMPANY

Kenny on The Strength of Big Ten Basketball Recruiting

My old colleague at the Lafayette Journal and Courier, Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame sportswriter Jeff Washburn, liked to say winning in college football and basketball is all about the "Jimmys and Joes, not the Xs and Os."

It's difficult to argue that premise. Just look at the familiar names that seem to make the College Football Playoff every year or are semi-annual participants in the NCAA Final Four in men's basketball.

But there are exceptions. Purdue junior center Zach Edey, the presumptive favorite to be college basketball's national player of the year, was ranked 440th in the 2020 recruiting class by 247sports.com composite (an average of 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN ratings). Edey's success story, plus the old chestnut pulled out by national sportswriters and broadcasters that Purdue coach Matt Painter "does more with less" prompted an examination of each Big Ten Conference basketball starting lineup.

Do the teams at the top have more Top 100 recruits? Or are college basketball recruiting rankings as unreliable as political pundits who were sure "a red wave" was coming in the 2022 elections?

We'll look at each school based on the Big Ten standings as of Jan. 18.

Purdue: Zach Edey (440th in 2020), Caleb Furst (65th, 2021), Ethan Morton (103rd, 2020), Fletcher Loyer (96th, 2022), Brandon Smith (198th, 2022)

Edey wasn't even the starting center at IMG Academy in Bradenton, Fla., where the Canadian native enrolled for his senior year. Future Duke star Mark Williams played ahead of Edey and later became a first-round draft pick by the Charlotte Hornets.

Furst, Indiana's 2020 Mr. Basketball, was ranked second in Indiana behind future teammate Trey Kauffman-Renn



KEN THOMPSON
Columnist

(44th). Morton was Pennsylvania's Mr. Basketball in 2020. Smith earned Indiana Mr. Basketball honors over Loyer, who was Indiana's Gatorade Player of the Year and the national high school 3-point shooting champion.

Of note: Since 2000, only All-American forward Caleb Swanigan (19th) was ranked higher than Kauffman-Renn and Furst.

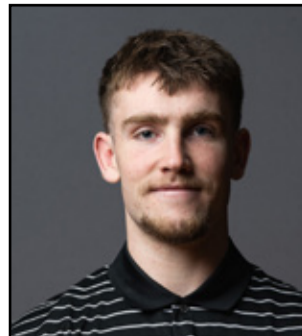
Rutgers: Cam Spencer (unranked, 2019), Caleb McConnell (344th, 2018), Clifford Omoruyi (51st, 2020), Mawot Mag (212th, 2020), Paul Mulcahy (156th, 2019)

Like Purdue, the Scarlet Knights aren't loaded with Top 100 prospects. Omoruyi is Rutgers' fourth-best recruit since 2000.

Michigan: Hunter Dickenson (43rd, 2020), Kobe Bufkin (46th, 2021), Jett Howard (43rd, 2022), Terrance Williams II (101st, 2020), Dug McDaniel (87th, 2022)

Had Dickenson selected Purdue instead of Michigan three years ago, would Zach Edey have prospered elsewhere? There's so much talent on the Wolverines' roster that their bench includes Tarris Reed (35th, 2022) and Isaiah Barnes (117th, 2021).

Illinois: Terrence Shannon Jr. (Texas Tech transfer, 90th in 2019), Coleman Hawkins (168th, 2020), Matthew Mayer (Baylor transfer, 93rd in 2018), R.J. Melendez (94th, 2021), Sencire Harris (113th, 2022)



Braden Smith

Shannon (17.6 ppg.) and Mayer (11.1) are the team's top scorers in their first seasons at Champaign. Point guard Skyy Clark, who recently left the Fighting Illini, was ranked 33rd in 2022. Bench players Ty Rodgers (59th, 2022) and Jayden Epps (72nd, 2022) are Top 100 recruits.

Wisconsin: Steven Crowl (235th, 2020), Chucky Hepburn (127th, 2021), Max Klesmit (Unranked, 2020), Tyler Wahl (204th, 2019), Jordan Davis (476th, 2020)

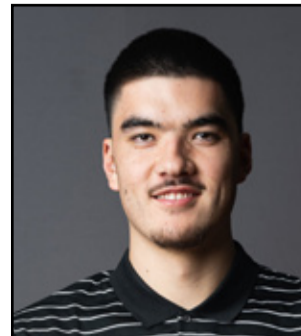
Now, this is an example of doing more with less. Crowl, Wahl and Hepburn are all averaging nearly 13 points a game for the Badgers.

Iowa: Kris Murray (333rd, 2020), Filip Rebraca (Unranked, 2018), Ahron Ulis (186th, 2020), Connor McCaffery (152nd, 2017), Tony Perkins (314th, 2020)

Murray is another big miss by the recruiting experts, who had his brother Keegan ranked 334th. Keegan Murray was taken fourth in the 2022 NBA Draft by Sacramento, one slot ahead of Purdue's Jaden Ivey. The Hawkeyes' second-best player, Patrick McCaffery (86th in 2019), is taking a mental health break from basketball.

Michigan State: Joey Hauser (Marquette transfer, 52nd in 2018), Tyson Walker (484th, 2019), Jaden Akins (54th, 2021), A.J. Hoggard (81st, 2020), Mady Sissoko (41st, 2020).

Sissoko, rated nearly 400 slots higher than Edey, started but did not take a shot against Purdue



Zach Edey

this past Monday. Starting forward Malik Hall, who missed the Purdue game with an injury, was rated 61st in 2019. He chose the Spartans over the Boiler-makers.

Northwestern: Boo Buie (327th, 2019), Chase Audige (William & Mary transfer, unranked in 2018), Robbie Beran (110th, 2019), Ty Berry (153rd, 2020), Matthew Nicholson (312th, 2020)

Audige and Buie would make an All-Big Ten underrated team, leading the Wildcats in scoring at 15.3 and 15.1 points per game, respectively.

Penn State: Jalen Pickett (Siena transfer, unranked, 2018), Seth Lundy (221st, 2019), Myles Dread (161st, 2018), Kebba Njie (118th, 2022), Andrew Funk (Bucknell transfer, unranked, 2018)

Averaging 17.7 points and 7.7 rebounds, Pickett is a contender for All-Big Ten honors. Otherwise, it's a testament to former Purdue assistant Micah Shrewsbury's coaching that the Nittany Lions are 12-6 overall.

Nebraska: Derrick Walker (Tennessee transfer, 270th in 2017), Juwan Gary (Alabama transfer, 93rd in 2019), Sam Griesel (North Dakota State transfer, unranked in 2018), Emmanuel Bandumel (SMU transfer, unranked in 2019), C.J. Wilcher (Xavier transfer, 113th in 2020).

Notice a trend? Even with today's loose transfer rules, how does a coach build chemistry with a lineup of newcomers?

Indiana: Trayce Jackson-Davis (30th, 2019), Race Thompson (134th, 2017), Xavier Johnson (Pitt transfer, 236th in 2018), Miller Kopp (Northwestern transfer, 114th, 2018), Jalen Hood-Schifino (23rd, 2022)

Mike Woodson is the midseason favorite for getting the least out of the most talent, even with Johnson and Thompson out of the lineup with injuries. Replacements Jordan Geronimo (105th, 2020) and Trey Galloway (157th, 2020) are solid players.

Reserves Malik Reneau and Tamar Bates were ranked 30th in the 2022 and 2021 recruiting classes, respectively. Seldom-used Logan Dunscorn was 73rd in 2021.

Maryland: Jahmir Young (Charlotte transfer, 235th in 2019), Hakim Hart (467th, 2019), Donta Scott (145th, 2019), Don Carey (Georgetown transfer, unranked in 2019), Julian Reese (60th, 2021)

It's not too surprising the Terrapins are in the lower half of the Big Ten.

Ohio State: Bryce Sensabaugh (65th, 2022), Justice Sueing (California transfer, 171st in 2017), Bruce Thornton (51st, 2022), Sean McNeill (Sinclair Community College transfer, 24th in 2019), Zed Key (155th, 2020)

The Buckeyes may be struggling right now but Sensabaugh (16.9 ppg.) and Thornton (9.6 ppg.) could rank among the Big Ten's best backcourts in 2023-24.

Minnesota: Jamison Battle (George Washington transfer, unranked in 2019), Dawson Garcia (Marquette transfer, 37th in 2020), Ta'lon Cooper (Morehead State transfer, unranked in 2019), Joshua Ola-Joseph (223rd, 2022), Taurus Samuels (Dartmouth transfer, 405th in 2018)

There's a reason why the Gophers are the Big Ten's only team with a sub-.500 record. Garcia has lived up to his reputa-

tion (15.6 ppg., 6.6 reb.) but Minnesota has struggled to play as a team.

By the numbers
A victory at Minnesota on Thursday night would give Purdue an 18-1 record, the best start in school history.

A secret to that successful start is making 294 free throws this season, 168 more than opponents. ...

The 64-63 victory at Michigan State gave Matt Painter 200 Big Ten wins, making him the third Purdue coach to reach that milestone and the seventh overall. Gene Keady won 256 conference games, and Piggy Lambert claimed 228.

Bob Knight tops the list with 353 Big Ten victories at Indiana. Tom Izzo has 326 and counting at Michigan State. Indiana's Branch McCracken won 216 games, two more than Lou Henson at Illinois. ...

Much to Izzo's chagrin after Monday's loss, Purdue center Zach Edey continues to have more blocked shots (37) than personal fouls (27). ...

Keep this in mind on Selection Sunday: Purdue is the only team with seven quad-1 victories. Five came against teams ranked in the NCAA Net's top 30 (Gonzaga, Ohio State, West Virginia, Marquette, Duke). Six of the wins have come away from Mackey Arena, with Marquette the lone home victory. ...

Fletcher Loyer was chosen the Big Ten's Player and Freshman of the Week on Tuesday, becoming the first Purdue freshman since Robbie Hummel in February 2008 to win Player of the Week honors. Loyer also matched the school record with his third Freshman of the Week award, a mark shared by Vince Edwards and Caleb Swanigan.

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.

Renting or Buying, Which is Best for You?



GLENN MOLLETTE
Columnist

A retired minister and his wife had never owned a house. They had spent all their married lives living in housing provided by churches. At age 65 they bought a house and financed it for 15 years. They had been frugal and had saved a good down payment. They paid for the house by age 80. The value of the house increased over the years and at age 83 they sold the house and received a very nice check. The money from the sale was enough to help them fund their next ten years in a nice assisted living apartment. While taking on a mortgage at 65 appeared crazy to some it afforded them financial security further down the road.

Many years ago, I bought a modest new house that cost \$151,000. I barely scraped together the nearly \$30,000 down payment. The house was financed for 15 years. I began the laborious journey of writing a monthly check to the bank. After about eight years, I needed money to pay medical bills and was able to borrow \$30,000 against my equity. It was nice that I had the equity because at

that time I really needed the cash. Looking back, I would never do that again because it made the actual cost of my house increase to \$181,000. For a couple of years, I had two payments to make to the bank. A couple of years later my wife passed. If I had needed to borrow \$10,000 against my house, I could have done so to pay for funeral expenses. Fortunately, we had both taken out small insurance policies that covered that cost. Eventually I refinanced and consolidated the mortgages. By the grace of God I still paid for the house in 15 years.

I don't like monthly payments or paying rent. For most of us, at some point in our lives there will be a monthly payment of some kind. I've lived in apartments on several occasions and even houses furnished to me by congregations I served. I didn't care for either one. I'm not saying I wouldn't do it again but my preference is to live in a place that is actually mine for as long as possible.

Renting a house or an apartment works for many at different stages of life. Buying a house is tough because it is a major financial commitment. You normally have to come up with 20% of the price to pay down as well as have the income to make the payments. That's not always easy.

New houses in a nearby neighborhood are presently selling for \$400,000. Most of them are modest three to four-bedroom houses. Having enough money to make the down payment and monthly

payments is a lot for any person or family.

However, rent is expensive. Depending on where you live you may be paying \$800 to \$3,000 a month for a small apartment. You don't have maintenance or property taxes but you'll also never see that money again. A friend of mine sold her house at age 70 and moved into an apartment complex for people over age 55. She pays rent but she says the landlord treats her well and is timely with upkeep. A landlord who is very untimely with upkeep is very frustrating.

There are pros and cons to owning and renting. Choosing depends on your situation and personal preferences. A landlord can raise your rent and have rules pertaining to pets, painting, and more. However, it may be just exactly what you need. Typically, you don't want to sink your money into property if you are going to move in three or four years. You might come out ahead if you buy a fixer upper and have the time and money to improve the property. You don't want to make a bad buy. Buying property that you can't resell is a bad idea, unless you love it and plan to live there a long time.

Keep in mind that a big chunk of most American's wealth is in the house they own. If you pay for it and maintain it you can normally sell it to someone and recoup a lot of your money. You might even make a nice profit.

Visit GlennMollette.com to subscribe, learn about his books and more.

ICHE Releases Statewide High School FAFSA Completion Goal

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education announced a statewide Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) completion goal for high school seniors to improve currently low FAFSA filing rates and increase access to state, federal and institutional financial aid.

The Commission's goal is to have at least 60 percent of the high school graduating class of 2023 complete the FAFSA by the state's April 15, 2023 priority deadline. A new statewide goal of 65 percent of FAFSA completions will be set for the high school graduating class of 2024.

Filing the FAFSA is the first step toward accessing some of the \$390 million in state financial aid and billions of dollars in federal aid available to learners. According to the National College Attainment Network (NCAN), Indiana high school graduates left \$65 million in Pell Grants on the table in 2021 by not completing the FAFSA. Completing the FAFSA on time is a necessary step for 21st Century Scholars to earn the full scholarship amount of up to four years

of college tuition.

"Hoosiers understand the value of competition, whether it's in basketball, racing and now FAFSA completions," said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery. "The ambitious FAFSA completion goal, championed by Associate Commissioner of K-12 Strategy Michelle Ashcraft, will hopefully lead to more Hoosiers enrolling in and affording college."

As of Jan. 12, 28 percent of current high school seniors have filed the FAFSA. Progress toward the 60 percent goal can be tracked on the Commission's interactive online dashboard at learnmoreindiana.org/fafsa-tracker.

The dashboard will be updated weekly. The high schools with the highest percentage of FAFSA completions will be recognized this summer.

How to file the FAFSA:

Students can file the FAFSA online at FAFSA.gov. The first step for students who have not previously filed the FAFSA is to create a Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID. Then, each student will need:

- Alien Registration number (for non-U.S. citizens)
 - Federal income tax returns, W-2s and other records of money earned from 2021
 - Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable)
 - Records of untaxed income (if applicable)
 - Assistance is available:**
 - The U.S. Department of Education provides email and live chat assistance for FAFSA filers as well as a helpline at 1 (800) 4-FED-AID.
 - Hoosier families can also access free FAFSA help through INvestEd Indiana at investedindiana.org.
 - The Commission's eight outreach coordinators are available via phone or email. A full list of counties and associated numbers is available here.
 - ¿Necesitas ayuda en español? Llame al 317-617-0358 o (317) 617-0318.
- College Goal Sunday will take place on Feb. 26 at 37 locations across Indiana. Students and families will be able to receive free, one-on-one assistance with filing the FAFSA.

SAVE ON YOUR **Travel Plans!**

✓ Up to **75%**
✓ more than **500 Airlines**
✓ and **300,000 Hotels** across the world!

Let us do the research for you for free... we'll save you time and money

We're not allowed to publish fares online so call for the best rates now **800-419-9625**

Spend your travel dollars when you get there not getting there!

LIVING WITH DIABETES CAN BE **PAINLESS**

If you administer insulin 3 or more times per day or using an insulin pump, CALL NOW and learn how a Continuous Glucose Monitor CAN HELP YOU.

Get **FREE** shipping of your new CGM, plus we will bill your insurance for you... **AT LITTLE OR NO COST!**

CALL NOW! 866-641-0141
COPAYS AND DEDUCTIBLES MAY APPLY

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

IndianaPublicNotices.com
TheTimes24-7.com

Lawmakers Weigh Bill to Create Universal School Choice Program

By Casey Smith

Indiana lawmakers on Wednesday began a contentious debate over whether it should bring universal school choice — and its daunting potential long-term cost — to Hoosier students and parents.

Testimony heard in the Senate education committee raised questions about how much universal education scholarship accounts would cost and whether the state can afford to fund all students who are eligible to participate. This would be separate than the state's voucher program, known as Choice Scholarships.

Critics of the bill additionally doubled down on their concerns that the program expansion would pull additional dollars away from already cash-strapped public schools.

Bill author Sen. Brian Buchanan, R-Lebanon, maintained that his bill seeks to give families more options and ensure that students who don't qualify for the program now — but want to — can participate.

"ESAs are designed all around to put parents in control of their kids' education, allowing them to have more say in essentially determining how the money is going to be spent and what accountability and transparency will look like," Buchanan said. "Anytime you can get more choice, more options for parents, I believe it's better, and that's what this bill is doing."

The bill is awaiting committee approval, which could come as early as next week. Senate education committee chairman Sen. Jeff Raatz, R-Richmond, said several amendments to the measure are likely to be adopted before a vote is held.

Will Indiana adopt universal school choice?

Indiana's Education Scholarship Account (ESA) program was created by the General Assembly in 2021 despite pushback from public education advocates who argued that the program lacks

oversight and takes money away from traditional public schools.

Currently, ESAs are limited to students who qualify for special education. Families must also meet income limits to participate. The income ceiling is high, however. A family of four can make up to \$154,000 annually — equal to 300% of the amount required for a student to qualify for the federal free or reduced price lunch program.

But Buchanan's bill would extend the program to all students, regardless of a student's educational needs or their family's income level.

Accounts set up by the state treasurer's office provide each qualifying student with funding for private school tuition and various other educational services from providers outside of their school district.

Buchanan is seeking to increase the ESA grants from 90% to 100% of the per-pupil funding that the state provides to local public schools. That means, on average, a student is eligible to receive about \$7,500 per academic year.

The previous state budget appropriated \$10 million a year for the program, enough to fund about 1,300 ESAs. Fiscal year 2023 is the first year the program enrolled students. The treasurer's office reports that 143 students are participating in the program this year.

Buchanan said he "would be happy" if budget writers kept the ESA funding the same in the next biennium, noting that the program expansion "is contingent upon getting a line item for a fiscal year in the budget."

While Buchanan repeatedly tried to focus on that initial \$10 million price tag, the program could easily grow.

For instance, Indiana has about 87,000 private school students, according to the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE). About 44,000 of those use the state's Choice Schol-



Photo by Casey Smith courtesy of the Indiana Capital Chronicle

Rep. Chuck Goodrich (R-Noblesville) outlined his bill to expand work-based learning during a House education committee hearing on Jan. 18 at the Statehouse.

arship program — which allows families to receive vouchers to attend private schools. But the remaining 43,000 would be eligible for the grant, which would average around \$7,500 statewide.

That would equal more than \$300 million annually.

The voucher program started similarly with a cap of 7,500 students at a cost of \$15 million. The cap doubled the next year and now there is no limit and a current annual cost of \$240 million.

Homeschool students would also be eligible, along with public school kids. But the latter are already being funded in the state's K-12 support formula.

Buchanan emphasized that less than 150 students currently participate in the ESA program. He said there are another 300 families who want to take part but aren't currently eligible.

"This program only exists if it gets funded by the state budget that we're currently crafting," he said, adding that "whether it be \$10 million again, or less or more than that, that will be the cap."

Buchanan said the program will be "first come, first served" if the number

of students who want an ESA exceeds the state cap.

It is unclear if the voucher program would still exist alongside a universal education savings account program.

It's also not clear whether the GOP caucus will support a universal school voucher program in the current budget. Republican House Speaker Todd Huston said last week that he "would love to see" Indiana adopt such a program.

Changes to high school learning and degrees

Legislators on Wednesday also began discussions around a key education bill that seeks to "reinvent" high school curriculum. The House education committee heard two hours of testimony on HB 1002, a priority bill for the caucus that seeks to expand work-based learning in Indiana high schools, like apprenticeships and internships.

In addition, the bill would create a framework for students to earn a post-secondary credential before leaving the K-12 system.

Bill author Rep. Chuck Goodrich, R-Noblesville, said his proposal seeks to narrow the "skills gap" between Hoosiers and employers.

"Many students are not receiving the education and training they need to succeed in our workforce," he said. "The world is changing at a rapid pace. We need to ensure that our students are ready for all that lies beyond high school — that they will have additional pathways to succeed."

Paramount to the bill is a provision that would establish accounts for students in grades 10-12 to pay for career training outside their schools.

The career scholarship accounts (CSAs) would be similar to Indiana's ESAs. Students would first be required to create a post-secondary plan in order to qualify for the scholarship accounts.

The amount each participating student can receive to pay for apprenticeships, coursework, or certification would be based on a calculation of the state dollars that their school receives. Students won't qualify for a CSA if they're already enrolled in a career and technical education program, though.

The IDOE would be tasked with approving the courses and tracks available to students, as well as determining the grant amount for each course.

GOP lawmakers said their goal is to get 5,000-10,000 students to participate in the next fiscal year.

Other provisions in the bill would require IDOE to put in place new diploma requirements by 2024, and ensure that high schools hold career fairs to help students connect with employers and work-based learning providers.

The bill would also allow students to apply funds from the 21st Century Scholars program — a statewide grant program that supports student enrollment at two- and four-year schools.

The CSAs have so far been met with support from business and economic leaders from across the state. Many education officials said they're on-board with the idea, but they want more clarity around the bill's fiscal impact.

The Indiana State Teachers Association, which opposes the current draft of the bill, said they specifically want lawmakers to ensure that public schools "play a major role" in work-based learning expansion.

"We are concerned that this bill drastically creates further privatization and outsources the public tax dollars that will have significant implications on school funding, how funding is streamed to schools and how it will affect students in classrooms," said Jerell Blakeley, ISTA's director of government, community, racial and social justice. "Educators in public schools are uniquely qualified, by training experience, to ensure that work-based learning experiences are both substantive and substantial."

Indiana Capital Chronicle is part of States Newsroom, a network of news bureaus supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501(c)(3) public charity. Indiana Capital Chronicle maintains editorial independence. Follow Indiana Capital Chronicle on facebook.com/IndianaCapitalChronicle and twitter.com/INCapChronicle

Become an author today! **DON'T WAIT!** www.mybook100.com

Learn how to get your book idea sold online and at bookstores nationwide.

Call or visit us to get your **FREE** authors guide to publishing! **800-448-1964**

BLUE PILL PROMOTIONAL OFFER **SAVE OVER \$500!**

Generic and Herbal versions of Viagra® right now as low as \$2 a pill. Mention the discount code **[STEELMAN]** and get the special **BUY 1 GET 1 FREE!** Call now for rush delivery in your unmarked package.

Change your life and call today! **1-800-515-6311**

Classifieds

765-361-0100 ext. 15 | class@thepaper24-7.com **Deadlines for next-day publication:**
Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Line ads: 1 p.m. | Display ads 11 a.m.

<p>Earthlink High Speed Internet. As Low As \$49.95/month (for the first 3 months.) Reliable High Speed Fiber Optic Technology. Stream Videos, Music and More! Call Earthlink Today 1-855-977-7069</p>	<p>High-Speed Internet. We instantly compare speed, pricing, availability to find the best service for your needs. Starting at \$39.99/month! Quickly compare offers from top providers. Call 1-844-961-0666</p>	<p>4G LTE Home Internet Now Available! Get GotW3 with lightning fast speeds plus take your service with you when you travel! As low as \$109.99/mo! 1-877-327-0930</p>	<p>FREON WANTED: We pay \$\$\$ for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified Professionals. Call 312-291-9169 or visit RefrigerantFinders.com</p>	<p>Portable Oxygen Concentrator May be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 877-930-3271</p>	<p>DISH Network. \$64.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-855-551-9764</p>
<p>ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. FREE information kit. Call 855-965-4916</p>	<p>New Starting Base Pay - .60 cpm w/ option to make .70 cpm for Class A CDL Flatbed Drivers, Excellent Benefits, Home Weekends, Call 800-648-9915 or www.boydandsons.com</p>	<p>DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY! FAST FREE PICK-UP-24 HR RESPONSE! Help Children in Need, Support Breast Cancer Education/Prevention or Veterans. Tax Deduction 844-820-9099</p>	<p>Smart Home Installations? Geeks on Site will install your WIFI, Doorbells, Cameras, Home Theater Systems & Gaming Consoles. \$20 OFF coupon 42537! (Restrictions apply) 855-668-0067</p>	<p>LIVE PAIN FREE with CBD products from AceWellness. We guarantee highest quality, most competitive pricing on CBD products. Softgels, Oils, Skincare, Vape & more. Coupon Code: PRINT20 Call Now 833-226-3105</p>	<p>SERIOUSLY INJURED in an AUTO ACCIDENT? Let us fight for you! Our network has recovered millions for clients! Call today for a FREE consultation! 844-517-6414</p>
<p>Never Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Complete Care Home Warranty COVERS ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. 30 DAY RISK FREE. \$200.00 OFF 2 FREE Months! 1-855-408-3894</p>	<p>COMPUTER ISSUES? GEEKS ON SITE provides FREE diagnosis REMOTELY 24/7 SERVICE DURING COVID19. No home visit necessary. \$40 OFF with coupon 86407! Restrictions apply. 888-715-8176</p>	<p>Need Help with Family Law? Can't Afford a \$5,000 Retainer? www.familycourtdirect.com/Family/Law - Low Cost Legal Services - Pay As You Go - As low as \$750-\$1,500 - Get Legal Help Now! Call 1-888-417-4602 Mon-Fri 7am to 4 pm PCT</p>	<p>DIAGNOSED WITH LUNG CANCER? You may qualify for a substantial cash award. NO Obligation, NO risk! We've recovered millions. Let us help you!! Call 24/7, 844-284-4920</p>	<p>Looking to SELL your Home? Save time & money, connect with the Top Agents in your area to get more MONEY and close FASTER! Call 317-854-9781</p>	<p>Wesley Financial Group, LLC - Timeshare Cancellation Experts - Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 877-329-1207</p>
<p>Guaranteed Life Insurance! (Ages 50 to 80). No medical exam. Affordable premiums never increase. Benefits never decrease. Policy will only be cancelled for non-payment. 833-535-1043</p>	<p>Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trusted by Authors Since 1920. Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for Your Free Author's Guide 1-888-965-1444 or visit http://dorranceinfo.com/hoosier</p>	<p>DIRECTV for \$69.99/mo for 12 months with CHOICE Package. Watch your favorite live sports, news & entertainment anywhere. One year of HBO Max FREE. Directv is #1 in Customer Satisfaction (JD Power & Assoc.) Call for more details! (some restrictions apply) Call 1-888-885-8931</p>	<p>Denied Social Security Disability? Appeal! If you're 50+, filed for SSD and denied, our attorneys can help get you approved! No money out of pockets! Call 1-855-995-4758</p>	<p>Thinking about installing a new shower? American Standard makes it easy. FREE design consultation. Enjoy your shower again! Call 1-855-475-0534 today to see how you can save \$1,000 on installation, or visit www.newshowerdeal.com/hoosier</p>	<p>AT&T TV - The Best of Live & On-Demand On All Your Favorite Screens. CHOICE Package, \$84.99/mo for 12months. Stream on 20 devices at once in your home. HBO Max FREE for 1 yr (w/CHOICE Package or higher.) Call for more details today! (some restrictions apply) Call IVS 1-844-412-9997</p>

Indiana American Water Now Taking Applications for Environmental Grant Program

Indiana American Water, a subsidiary of American Water, the largest publicly traded U.S. water and wastewater utility company, is now accepting applications for its 2023 Environmental Grant Program.

"Indiana American Water is committed to providing our customers with clean, safe, reliable water service and protecting our environment and our water sources," said Indiana American Water President Matt Prine.

"Everyone plays a role in protecting our nation's water supplies, and this program encourages municipalities, schools, environmental organizations and civic groups to apply for a grant that will benefit their watersheds and the communities we serve across the state."

Established in 2005, Indiana American Water's Environmental Grant Program offers funds for innovative, community-based environmental projects that improve, restore or protect the watersheds, surface water and/or groundwater supplies through partnerships. Last year, Indiana American Water provided funding for six watershed projects across the state.



In 2023, the company will be awarding several grants for a combined total of approximately \$10,000.

To qualify, proposed projects must:

- Address a source water or watershed protection need in the community
 - Be completed between May 1, 2023 and Nov. 30, 2023
 - Be a new or innovative program for the community, or serve as a significant expansion to an existing program
 - Be carried out by a formal or informal partnership between two or more organizations
 - Provide evidence of sustainability (continued existence after the grant monies are utilized), and
 - Be located within one of Indiana American Water's service areas across the state.
- Projects will be judged

based on criteria that include clarity of project goals and projected impact, strength of collaboration with other community and/or municipal organizations, and evidence that the project will provide sustainable environmental results after Indiana American Water's funding ends.

Applications must be postmarked by March 31, 2023 and mailed to Indiana American Water, 153 N. Emerson Avenue, Greenwood, Ind. 46143, ATTN: Joe Loughmiller. Award recipients will be notified by April 30, 2023.

Additional Information and application requirements can be obtained online at the Environmental Grant section of the company website at amwater.com/inaw/news-community/environmental-grant-program

Donate Now to Help Keep Blood Stocked When Winter Weather Hits

As National Blood Donor Month continues this January, the American Red Cross celebrates those who give blood and platelets to help save lives — especially now, as we work to ensure a stable blood supply amid the threat of icy winter weather and severe seasonal illness. Donors of all blood types — particularly type O blood donors, the most needed blood group by hospitals — and platelet donors are needed daily to meet demand.

The start of the new year is one of the most challenging times to collect enough blood products, despite the constant demand. **One in 7 patients entering a hospital will need a blood transfusion — yet only 3% of the public gives blood.**

Don't wait until there's a crisis to donate. To book a time to give blood, visit RedCrossBlood.org, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, or call 1 (800) RED CROSS.

In partnership with the National Football League (NFL), those who come to give blood, platelets or plasma through Jan. 31,

2023, will be automatically entered to win a trip for two to Super Bowl LVII in Arizona*, including access to day-of, in-stadium pre-game activities, tickets to the official Super Bowl Experience, round-trip airfare to Phoenix, three-night hotel accommodations (Feb. 10-13, 2023), plus a \$500 gift card for expenses.

How to donate blood

Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of

age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

Amplify your impact - volunteer!

Another way to support the lifesaving mission of the Red Cross is to become a volunteer blood donor ambassador at Red Cross blood drives. Blood donor ambassadors help greet, check-in and thank blood donors to ensure they have a positive donation experience.

Volunteers can also serve as transportation specialists, playing a vital role in ensuring lifesaving blood products are delivered to nearby hospitals. For more information and to apply for either position, visit redcross.org/volunteertoday.

ARROWOOD From Page A1



Photo courtesy of Chris Baird

Enjoy live music with local band Fast Cadillac at 7 p.m. today at Primeval Brewing in downtown Noblesville.

Green.

10. Main Street Productions and Basile Westfield Playhouse announce auditions for the musical, "The Spitfire Grill," directed by Doug Davis with musical director Brenna Whitaker, at 6:20 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at the Playhouse in Westfield, with performances April 13-27, and info at westfieldplayhouse.org

11. Enjoy live music of Craig Thurston from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Jan. 26 at Grindstone Public House in downtown Noblesville and the first and third Thursday beginning in February.

12. Experience Music Bingo from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays at The Boat-house Kitchen & Swan Drive in Cicero.

13. Experience Turntable Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. Thursdays at Primeval Brewing in downtown Noblesville.

14. Come party at The Lacy Building with all ages welcome for Ditchweed at the Lacy, 6:30 p.m. Jan. 27 and music by Ditchweed Acoustic Project, with donation items to Living Water Outreach.

15. Join the fifth annual Central Indiana Seed Swap from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Jan. 28 at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville

16. Attend the Central Kicks Sneaker Convention at 1 p.m. Jan. 29 at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville.

17. Auditions for Hamilton County Theatre's Guild's The Belfry Theatre production of "The Great Gatsby," directed by Andrea Odle, are 6:30



Photo courtesy of West Fork Whiskey Co.

Westfield Winter Farmers Market is 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, through April 1 at West Fork Westfield Event Center on East 191st Street.

p.m. Jan. 29-30 at Arts for Lawrence's Theater at the Fort in Indianapolis, for the March 17-26 show, with more info at www.thebelfrytheatre.com

18. Help raise money for North Elementary during the annual Savor Noblesville fundraiser -- a premier food event supporting the North PTO -- at 6 p.m. Feb. 2 at Mill Top Banquet and Conference Center in Noblesville.

19. Learn about beekeeping during a Pop Up Beekeeping 101 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Feb. 4 at Fishers AgriPark, with no registration required.

20. Make plans to attend the Galentine's Goddess Brunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 12 at The Lacy Arts Building in downtown Noblesville, with tickets \$45 each, includes waffle bar, mimosa bar, juice bar, book bingo, activities,

goddess crowns and more.

21. Save the date: The Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville's 37th annual Auxiliary Auction, Mardi Gras Charity Ball, is 6:30 p.m. Feb. 18 at Harbour Trees Golf Club, with a live and silent auction, and \$175 tickets available in advance. For information, visit bgcni.org or call the club at (317) 773-4372.

22. Save the date: Noblesville Schools Education Foundation's Miller-Palooza is 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. March 10 at the Embassy Suite in Noblesville, with \$125 tickets, sponsorships available, dress casual Noblesville school spirit, and featuring Dueling Pianos from Felix and Fingers. To donate to silent auction, email adriann_young@nobl.k12.in.us

Contact Betsy Reason at betsy@thetimes24-7.com

HERO From Page A1

in Knightstown. The 8th grade boys and girls basketball players from Hamilton Heights and Tip-ton will compete in a fun evening of Hoosier Hysteria. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased in advance at HHMS or at the door. The Husky Sports Network will stream a live video feed online at youtube.com/@huskybroadcasting-network5601/streams.

I want to take this opportunity to recognize the invaluable role of the Hamilton Heights School Board of Trustees as part of School Board Appreciation Month. School board members are ordinary people who have an extraordinary dedication to the students and schools in our community. Collectively, the school board works closely with parents, education professionals, and community members to create the educational vision, goals, and policy for the district.

These individuals are responsible for communicating the needs of the school district to the public and the public's expectations to the district, being good fiscal stewards, and improving student achievements and outcomes. Thank you, Dr. Kevin Cavanaugh, Arnett Cooper, Julie Davis, Ben Lehman, and Gretchen Pennington for your advocacy, commitment, vision, and voice. Our district is in good hands under your leadership!

I also want to thank the many community volunteers for the positive impact they have on our students' lives every day as mentors. Through supportive, one-on-one relationships, these volunteers enhance the educational experience and help students reach their potential in inspiring and life-changing ways. Shoot me an email (darrowood@hhschuskies.org) if you would like to know more about volunteering your time and talent as a mentor at Heights.

Hamilton Heights is also a great place to work! We have opportunities for individuals to join our team to help enhance the overall educational experience for our students in the classroom, on the bus, or in the cafeteria. You can check out the available positions and/or to apply today by going to www.hhschuskies.org/employment.

We are grateful for our community's longstanding history of support and involvement. Thank you for being an integral part of our efforts to meet the needs of each and every student along their educational journey at Heights! #WeAreHuskies

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

HERO From Page A1

"On November 15, I watched him pick up my kids for school, drive to the Children's Museum for the second-grade field trip, drop the kids back off after school, and then transport the sixth-grade boys to their basketball game in Lapel, meaning a 5:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. day for him followed by a 5:30 a.m. wake-up call the next day," Bishop explained. On top of that, he is kind and gentle with the kids and genuinely cares for them. We appreciate him!"

"Jody is our bus driver, and he has been so incredibly kind to my son!" said an appreciative Kelsey Morgan.

"My son has had a rough year, but Jody always seems to make his morning and night a little bit brighter! We truly appreciate the kindness he shines through the kids."

"It goes without saying that I was very surprised and humbled to be selected as a Husky Hero," shared Jody Brown after receiving the recognition.

"It is such an honor for me and I'm very grateful. Probably the greatest joy I get driving a school bus is the relationships I have with the students and with their parents. We have a sign at the transportation office that reads: 'We transport precious cargo.'



Photo courtesy of HHS

Rev. Jody Brown, Pastor of the Atlanta Christian Church, Veteran of the United States Army, and bus driver for Hamilton Heights School Corporation since 2017, was selected as a Husky Hero for the month of December. Pictured from left to right are Melissa Martin (HHEF), Rev. Jody Brown, and Amber and Craig Bowen (FC Tucker).

This is how I see my role as a bus driver knowing parents depend on me to transport their most valued possessions: their children."

He went on to say, "Every one of our bus drivers at Hamilton Heights share the same sentiment as I and it's a privilege to be part of the transportation team."

Congratulations to the December Husky Hero!

About the Husky Hero Award:

The monthly award is designed to recognize a Hamilton Heights School Corporation employee

for performing an act of kindness, or going above and beyond for a student, fellow staff member, or our community. Any staff member employed by the district is eligible to be nominated by anyone on or off campus. The Husky Hero recipient will be presented with a certificate and a monetary donation of \$250 in appreciation for their making a meaningful impact. Nominate a Husky Hero today or learn more about this special recognition program at bit.ly/hhschuskyhero

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

IndianaPublicNotices.com

TheTimes24-7.com

TheTimes24-7.com
TheTimes24-7.com

FRIDAY Voice of our PEOPLE

One More Look at Ridiculous World of Politics

The battle for Speaker of the House was irresistible to watch – irresistible in the same way a horrific car crash on the interstate is as you drive by.

And even though most of the mess happened a week ago, it behooves us to not let this fiasco slip past like the regular stream of waste we're so accustomed to from Washington. Why? Because this is a perfect example of not only what's wrong with politics, but what's wrong with how we accept it.

First, the general news about the 14 failed ballots to select a speaker of the house focused on the 20 or so disruptors. These lawmakers were the problem, we were told. And time and again, the other 200 or so representatives sent out tweets, e-mails and messages to their constitu-



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

ents explaining:

- a) Why this process takes time
- b) How it's not as bad as it looks
- c) And why these 20 or so are the problem

Not so fast my friends!

Of course the process takes time, and time is exactly what Republican lawmakers had from the end of the election in November when it

was apparent they were back in the majority. Why couldn't the Grand Old Party come to some decision in the almost two months since then?

But you know what, let's give them that one. After all, we had the Christmas break and far be it from us peasants to expect our nation's elected elite to work over the holidays . . . Like! The! Rest! Of! Us!

That still leaves the pathetic points of it not being as bad as it looked, and why those who held up the coronation of Kevin McCarthy were the problem.

It absolutely was as bad as it looked! The problems with politics in general today, and specifically inside the beltway, are too numerous to detail. But here's a few:

- Everything is decided

on what's best for one party or the other, not the country

- The fat in government is so outrageously overwhelming it's obscene

- Lawmakers live by their own set of rules while we're given another

- Lobbyists and money influence (i.e., determine) far too many decisions

- There are too many career politicians who have never worked a real job in their lives

That's just for starters.

Let's be clear, those 20 were the heroes not the bad guys.

They were vilified, accused of being "far-right" and a bunch of other labels that have become watchwords in today's world. It used to be conservative and liberal weren't negative terms. When did that change? About the same

time as when folks decided you were either on their team or you were the enemy. Forget the idea that two good people can hold opposing points of view and in the process find better outcomes. That's long gone. The 20 or so who said they wouldn't go along with Kevin McCarthy as the speaker cited valid objections. Maybe you agreed with them, maybe you didn't. But that's what a lot of them got elected for, to help – what's that term? – drain the swamp. For that, they got pummeled instead of respected.

Perhaps I'm overreacting here? Maybe I'm just on my soapbox – again. Maybe, but I don't think so. We, as in We The People, have become resigned to the outrageous things going on in our

country. We accept this sort of absurd politics as normal, never stopping to think that this is the first time in 100 years the House failed to elect a speaker on the first vote. We take in stride – or apathy – a ton of other things that defy logic in today's world.

It's time, no, it's past time, for us to stand up and say enough is enough. There's an old saying – politics as usual. We have the power to give that a whole new definition. We'd be better off if we do exactly that.

Two cents, which is about how much Timmons said his columns are worth, appears periodically on Wednesdays in The Paper. Timmons is the publisher of The Paper and can be contacted at timmons@thepaper24-7.com.

AMAC Action Update: We Helped Take Down Woke Disney

By John Grimaldi

AMAC Action is the advocacy arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens. The affiliate is responsible for the execution of legislative strategies as they relate to the wants and needs of the Association's 2.4 million members, working simultaneously in Washington, DC, and in state legislatures. Andy Mangione is AMAC Action's Senior Vice President and he joined Rebecca Weber, the Association's CEO, on the first 2023 episode of Weber's Better For America podcast to explain how AMAC works to achieve the membership's political and legislative goals.

For example, Mangione talked about the AMAC Action 2022 Call-To-Action campaign aimed at getting the Federal Trade Commission to investigate the anti-competitive business practices of pharmacy benefit managers. The goal of that effort, he said, was to "affect a 20% to 25% decrease across the board in prescription drug prices for every American, including those who use Medicare" by encouraging AMAC members to go online to the FTC's website and post messages urging the Commission to take action. In less than three months more than 17,000 members left their messages and just about two weeks later the FTC announced that it "would investigate the business practices of the top six pharmacy benefit managers. This is important because these anti-competitive business practices have been proven to increase the cost of prescription drugs."

Another issue of importance to AMAC's members ever since the 2020 presidential election is election integrity, Mangione said. "When 2022 rolled around, we found ourselves in the midst of the midterm elections and the primary elections that were before the midterm elections. We mobilized our members to

become poll watchers. We started in early January by recognizing national poll worker recruitment day." He said the goal was to make it easy for members to sign up to work the polls. "We did this throughout 2022, right up until about a week before the election when people could still get credentialed to work the polls. We drove over 12,000 of our members to work the polls [using] election worker recruiting websites . . . both in the primary and in the midterm election. We did this in states throughout the country. In some states, they experienced a 90% capacity, meaning they had 90% of the positions filled in their precincts during the Georgia recount. Some precincts were reporting 100% coverage. Our members stood up and they got involved in the election process to prevent it from being co-opted by the left. This was a significant victory because we had conservative scrutiny on these elections probably for the first time."

Mangione said that he, the president of AMAC Action, Bob Carlstrom, and Vice President Jennifer Bankston signed up to work the polls in their respective precincts. It was a huge commitment but so was it for our members who volunteered, he added.

And then there was the Disney debacle. The new management consisted of members of what some might call the "woke" generation – upstarts who were antithetical to the vision of the company's founder, Walt Disney. It riled a lot of people, including AMAC members when they "decided to pick a fight with Florida Governor Ron DeSantis over parental rights legislation that a lot of people agreed with, particularly people who pay the freight for their families to go to Walt Disney World. And so back in April, when this debate was raging, we did our first foray into corporate advocacy.

We asked our members to contact Disney's chief executives and people on their board to let them know exactly what they thought of Disney school policies. Our members sent over 140,000 emails and telephone calls to these executives and board members to tell them what they thought of their policies, and that they weren't supporting them. This was so effective that about two weeks after we launched our campaign, one of the Disney communications persons was fired. And then at the end, close to the end of this year, the Disney CEO was fired. Now, I'd like to think that our campaign has a little something to do with that and all the credit goes to AMAC members. They stood up. They made these calls. They sent these emails to the point where we were hearing from a Disney insider that they were overwhelmed and deluged with these calls and with these emails."

Mangione concluded his remarks by noting that the biggest source of pride within the AMAC Action family is when its members become citizen activists, become involved, and volunteer. "They're all volunteers who walk into their local congressional district office as a constituent first and an AMAC member second to articulate the same issues that we're articulating in Washington, D.C. so we can have synergy on the local and national level . . . I have tremendous hope and I have tremendous confidence that America's best days lay in front of her."

The 2.4 million member Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC] www.amac.us is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. AMAC Action is a non-profit, non-partisan organization representing the membership in our nation's capital and in local Congressional Districts throughout the country.

Ask Rusty – Should I Claim Social Security Now?



ASK Rusty
Social Security Advisor

Dear Rusty: I am 68 years old, born in July 1954. I have the credits necessary to qualify for benefits. The Social Security website says that if I continue to work to age 70 with yearly earnings of \$206,000, my monthly benefit would be \$4,245. If I stop working now, and start taking benefits in January 2023, my benefit would be \$3778. The number of months between January 2023 and July 2024 is 19. Nineteen months of benefits for that period would be \$71,782. It looks like it would take about 17 years to make up the difference between taking the money in January vs. waiting until age 70, which would put me at age 85. I don't think that I would live much past that age, given my family history. Do you think it wise on my part to begin taking benefits in January 2023, and are my calculations correct?

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

Signed: Trying to Decide

Dear Trying: Well, the difference between your monthly payment at age 70 vs. your benefit amount in January 2023 is \$467, so it would take you about 154 months (just under 13 years) to recover that \$71,782. But that doesn't take future cost of living adjustments (COLA) into account. Average annual COLA over the last 20 years was about 2%, and if you factor average future COLA into the equation you would likely break even at about age 81 (if you wait until age 70 to claim). And this is where your life expectancy comes in.

According to Social Security, the average life expectancy for a man your age is 85, which means that if you claim at 70 and enjoy average longevity, you'll collect that higher benefit for an extra 4 years. That would mean more than \$22,000 in additional benefits over your lifetime. Of course, no one knows how long they will live, but if you'd like to get a more personal estimate of your life ex-

pectancy, I suggest you try this tool: www.socialsecurityreport.org/tools/life-expectancy-calculator/. This tool takes your lifestyle and current health status, as well as your family history, into account.

When to claim is always a personal choice, but in your specific circumstances – since you apparently don't need the money right now and have a family history which suggests longevity – waiting until age 70 to claim could not only give you a substantially higher monthly benefit but also the most in cumulative lifetime benefits. And if you're married, it will also mean the maximum possible survivor benefit for your wife if you predeceased her because, as your widow, your wife would get the benefit you are receiving at your death instead of her own smaller amount. Thus, when you claim your benefit will also affect your wife's benefit as your surviving widow. In the end, it's your personal decision to make, after considering all of the above factors, especially your life expectancy.



Life without local news is like hearing crickets

STOP LISTENING TO CRICKETS



SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

770-7777

Voice of our PEOPLE

Learning for Freedom's Sake, Part 1: Liberal (Liberating) Arts at Grove City College

By Dr. Peter Frank

For the past couple of years, I have been working with the faculty at Grove City College to assess and review the core curriculum. While the culture at large, and higher education in particular, have been pushing greater and greater specialization and a focus on job-skill training, we at Grove City College are expanding our commitment to the liberal arts as the foundation of the student experience. The final details of the revised core are still in process, but we do know that rather than abandoning our rich heritage centered on the classical liberal arts, we are not only safeguarding that heritage, but strengthening it.

Why this emphasis on the liberal arts?

Perhaps a better name for these subjects of study would be the liberating arts. Throughout history this kind of education—focused on the great books of literature, history, philosophy, and theology, as well as the great works of music and art, and the exploration in science and mathematical fields—has been a way to liberate people. Originally the privilege of those who had leisure time and could learn more than a vocational trade, this kind of education was for free people, equipping them to strengthen democracy and promote freedom. Wise and eloquent citizens could advocate for liberty, justice, and virtue. Over the last millennium, these liberating arts have provided freedom to those who would otherwise have remained uneducated, unequipped, and unskilled.

Grove City College has always valued freedom and an emphasis in the liberating arts is central to our institutional vision. We want to raise up more wise and eloquent citizens “for such a time as this.” As a Christian college, our desire for free citizens is not for the purpose of individual indulgences, but rather for the purpose of helping others to thrive. (1 Peter 2:16, Galatians 5:13)

As an economist, I have seen over and over again the importance of a free citizenry. Data repeatedly demonstrate that when personal liberties diminish, the well-being of the entire society suffers. What's more, freedom always leads to a more hopeful and flourishing life by numerous measures beyond material well-being alone. Educational attainment, improved healthcare, protection under the law, access to the basic needs of food and water, expanded life expectancy, and improved infant mortality are a few of the factors

that improve significantly where freedom expands in society.¹

Beyond the basics of job training, we see our purpose here as forming free citizens steeped in Christian wisdom, ready to serve their communities by promoting and protecting freedom for all.

Rich Content and Conversations

We talk a lot at Grove City College about imparting what is good, true, and beautiful to our students. These transcendental concepts, appreciated for hundreds of years, are what shapes us as people, not just as workers. We are not here to just pass on information; we are more concerned with the formation of souls. The liberating arts are full of these good, true, and beautiful elements: from momentous occasions in history to perplexing philosophical questions, from stunning literary passages to exhilarating orchestral harmonies, from the complex structure of atoms to the profound truths in the very Word of God, there is gift after gift for the student to unwrap

Regardless of the student's future career—and our data shows that Grove City students will go on to have fulfilling careers—we want them to go forth with a greater appreciation for God, His world, and the people around them. Practically speaking, a person in his or her early 20s is likely to go on to several different careers throughout a lifetime², many of which are completely unforeseen while the student is in college. While skill development is an important element of the college degree, there is much more life preparation that takes place during a student's four years on our campus.

Various majors at Grove City College will prepare our students for thriving careers, but it is the core curriculum—the liberating arts—that will prepare them for thriving lives.

Technical training is good, and can be found in many places, but the combination of training with whole-souled wisdom is something unique to a school like Grove City College.³ As Steve Jobs once said, “it's technology married with liberal arts, married with the humanities, that yields us the results that make our heart sing.”⁴ There is so much more to education than job training. The rich content of the liberal arts, and the ensuing conversations that students will have as they go through the core curriculum together, will prepare them in broad and deep ways.

Cultivation of Virtue

In addition to these benefits of a liberal arts

education, there is also the cultivation of virtue that happens in the core. While students are exposed to things that are good, true, and beautiful, and also shown the contrast to things that are not, they are shaping their appetites. They are developing wisdom, and keener senses of other virtues like courage and diligence and love.

As their worlds expand beyond their own neighborhoods, they see examples of those who have gone before them and alongside them, whether in history or literature, and they can learn from those examples. As they are exposed to new, challenging ideas, they flex new “muscles” and grow in beneficial ways. Ultimately, because our entire curriculum centers around Christ revealed to us in the Bible, our hope is that as students see more of Him, they will become more like Him.

Finally, in addition to all the content, conversations, and cultivation of virtue that a liberal arts education provides, it also prepares students for their great roles in this world, as restorers. Cornelius Platinga, Jr. sums it up this way: “The point of all this learning is to prepare to add one's own contribution to the supreme reformation project, which is God's restoration of all things that have been corrupted by evil.”⁵ This is our great hope for all Grove City College graduates: that they will go forth in greater knowledge and wisdom from this City on a Hill to be light and salt in the world that so desperately needs both.

“Education means emancipation. It means light and liberty. It means the uplifting of the soul of man into the glorious light of truth, the light by which men can only be made free.” – Frederick Douglass, Blessings of Liberty and Education. Speech, 1894.

<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/economic-freedom>

The Bureau of Labor Statistics in 2021 reported that people between the ages of 18 and 54 had over 12 different jobs in that span. <https://www.bls.gov/nls/questions-and-answers.htm#anch41>

Ryan West, Educating for Whole-souled Christian Wisdom, unpublished manuscript.

<https://www.wired.com/2011/08/apple-liberal-arts/>

Cornelius Platinga Jr., Engaging God's World, p. xii

Dr. Peter Frank is the Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs at Grove City College. Frank also teaches economics.

Finding A Path Within One's Soul

Is there an unrevealed path deep within you. If you find a quiet place and think back upon your life, was there ever a still small voice that you ignored encouraging forward to something greater.

Did anyone ever come to you in life with a prophetic word about your future?

Did they say, “God asked me to share this with you, and He sees you being ...”

Contemplate and look back upon your life, was there some greater purpose that even you believed to be yours?

Were you to be a great minister of the Gospel meant to bring millions to Christ?

Maybe a leader of men and women who was to rise to great heights in elected office?

Perhaps your head was once teaming with ideas that could change the face of the business world?

Perhaps you hoped to change the world in some way, possible bring peace to mankind?

Did you have a play, a poem, or a novel floating between your synapses?



RANDALL FRANKS
Southern Style Columns

Is there a great work of art – a painting, a sculpture or another masterpiece just waiting for you to grasp the tools of it's creation?

Life has a way of getting away from us, one day we are young with all our future ahead, the next we are graying looking back upon the paths we trod.

The nice thing is no matter where on the timeline of life we find ourselves, our mind, our hopes, our dreams remain almost always planted strongly in our first quarter.

We can realign our lives no matter where we find ourselves, to use the remaining quarters to

achieve a trip down that unrevealed path.

While bones may no longer accept a path that includes skydiving or climbing Mount Everest, we still have the opportunity to reach within ourselves and make the world a better place for those around us.

Perhaps your unrevealed path is simply improving the plight of the less fortunate?

Be still, and listen to the Words within your soul.

God is speaking to your heart, if not today, He left a message for you long ago.

Seek and you shall find.

Randall Franks is best known for his role as "Officer Randy Goode" on TV's "In the Heat of the Night." His latest 2019 #1 CD release, "Americana Youth of Southern Appalachia," is by the Share America Foundation. He is a member of the Old Time Country Music Hall of Fame. His latest book is "A Badge or an Old Guitar: A Music City Murder Mystery." He is a syndicated columnist for <http://randallfranks.com/> and can be reached at rfrankscatoosa@gmail.com.

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

IndianaPublicNotices.com
TheTimes24-7.com

NOW
Hiring



LIGHT DELIVERY ROUTE

Early Wednesday morning newspaper delivery route available!

This does NOT include home delivery. It is delivering to post offices mostly.

Must have insurance, reliable transportation and a clean driving record.

Send resume and vehicle information to jobs@thetimes24-7.com.

Buy. Sell. Rent. Lease.



THE TIMES classifieds.