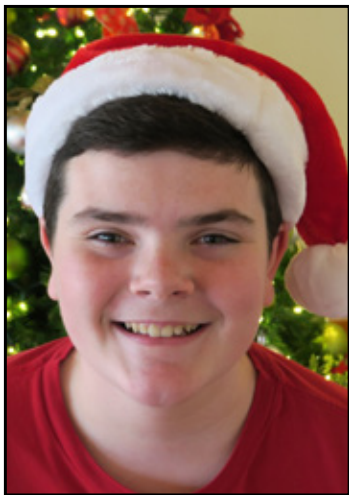


TODAY'S VERSE

Romans 5:3 – 5 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope; And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.



FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Nate Cook smile? "I like seeing all of the kids happy with Santa Claus," said the then 13-year-old, a then eighth-grader at Noblesville East Middle School. He was found in December 2017 at Tri Kappa's Breakfast with Santa at Forest Park. "I was Santa's helper, and I also helped out with the crafts that the kids made." Nate said, "I did this because I just really like it, and my (Tri Kappa) mom also helps out with it. I thought it would be fun to do it with her." Today's feature is a look back at one of The Times' previous Faces of Hamilton County. He is the son of Matt and Lynn Cook. Moffett Craig and Nate's mom started the breakfast when Nate was 1. A Boy Scout, he was involved in Student Council and played the alto saxophone and the clarinet in Jazz Band and Band at Noblesville High School, where he graduated in 2022. He has two brothers, Ryan and John. What else? "I try to make people smile."

And Another Thing...

1. Spartz Town Hall

Congresswoman Spartz will host a town hall in Howard County at 11 a.m. on Feb. 4 in the Cardinal and Peony rooms at Kokomo-Howard County Public Library South Branch, 1755 E Center Rd., Kokomo. For any questions, contact Rep. Spartz Carmel office at (317) 848-0201.

2. DNR at Boat Show

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources wants to see you at the Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show on Feb. 17-19 and 22-26. The show takes place at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. The DNR and State Park Inns will have an information booth in Tackle Town in the Blue Ribbon Pavilion. The booth is a convenient one-stop shopping opportunity for licenses, state park passes, lake-use permits and Outdoor Indiana magazine subscriptions. DNR biologists and State Parks interpretive naturalists will be on hand to share program information and resources, as well as answer fish and wildlife and parks questions.

3. Spartz Statement

Yesterday, Rep. Spartz issued the following statement on Biden, Gosar, Greene, Omar, Pence, Santos, Schiff, Swalwell and Trump:

"When Benjamin Franklin was leaving the Constitutional Convention in 1787 and was asked what kind of government the delegates had created, he replied: 'A republic, if you can keep it.' It's been over 200 years since that time, but do we really appreciate what it means to have a Constitutional Republic, the rule of law, presumption of innocence and proper due process," Spartz said. "As someone who grew up under dictatorship in the Soviet Union, I cherish these freedoms tremendously and understand how hard it is to get them back when you lose them. Therefore, regardless of politics, I will vigorously defend our Constitution and our rights. We are not a kangaroo court and have proper committees, like Ethics or Judiciary, to provide proper due processes to all individuals or we can lose credibility with the American people. I adamantly argued for proper due processes last Congress as a member of the Judiciary Committee, so I am not planning to become a hypocrite now."

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper



NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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BGCN Receives \$18K Grant from Crosser Family Foundation

The Tom & Soni Sheehan Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville (BGCN) recently received a \$18,000 grant from the Crosser Family Foundation, a fund of Hamilton County Community Foundation, in support of its Character and Leadership Development Programs.

The support of the Crosser Family Foundation will assist in providing a suite of youth-led programs for kindergarten through teenagers that focus on building character, teaching leadership skills and developing community stewards. The programming will help young people develop foundational skills that emphasize servant leadership and selflessness that are necessary for inclusive innovation and change in our community.

Youth development programs in the suite will provide members with the opportunity to explore career paths that will lead to their success in the workforce.

"One of the key pillars of our programs here at the Club emphasizes Good Character and Citizenship," stated BGCN Executive Director, Becky Terry.

"Local youth need a place where they can learn how to make a difference in their community while making their voices heard. We strive to provide our members with the engaging opportunities they need to become productive, innovative leaders of our community for



BGCN Executive Director Becky Terry

years to come."

The Crosser Family Foundation is dedicated to improving the lives of our youth and their families in the communities that we live by providing them with everyday needs and opportunities to help them achieve a bright future while setting them up for success so they will grow to be healthy, responsible, active citizens in their communities.

The Crosser Family Foundation was established by Janet R. Crosser and the late Richard H. Crosser in 2001. The foundation wishes to continue, celebrate and inspire philanthropy in Noblesville today and in the future.

Over the years, the foundation has given grants totaling over 3 million dollars to community groups, organizations and businesses focused on providing services to enrich the lives of youth and their families in local communities.

HSE Education Foundation Game Day 2023 Tickets Now Available



The Hamilton Southeastern Education Foundation (HSEF) will host the 11th annual Game Day, presented by CSO Architects, on Feb. 24 at 6:30 p.m. at a new venue, Hub & Spoke in Fishers. Grab your favorite sports team gear and get ready to tip off an informal evening celebrating excellence in education.

Game Day has become a signature event in Fishers, as the largest annual fundraiser benefiting all 22 Hamilton Southeastern schools and attracting a sellout crowd. Event attendees will enjoy tailgating themed games, delicious game day food,

a DJ playing music, the very popular rare bourbon raffle and the annual district-wide Pop-A-Shot contest.

Proceeds from the event help support innovative teacher grants, student scholarships, mental health and wellness initiatives across all grade levels.

The event also will feature the popular Game Day auction, a way for the entire community to support local schools. The auction annually features hundreds of unique items and experiences, including baskets from each of HSE's schools and PTOs.

➔ See TICKETS Page A6

Sign Ups Now Open for Jazz Girls Day at NHS



NOBLESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

ENGAGE | INSPIRE | EMPOWER

On April 11, Grammy Educator of the Year nominated Bethany Robinson and Jazz Pianist Monika Herzig will present Jazz Girls Days 2023 at Noblesville High School. They are bringing in prominent musicians as role models and teachers, including Arts leader Cathy Morris, Drummer Chelsea Hughey and more.

Participation is free and only basic instrument proficiency is needed – students can sign up now at forms.gle/zBblvVvX-MMEY6EkYA or through Arts With a Purpose. Students may also come to the event without prior signup. Tax-deductible sponsorships are also welcome in support of the clinician costs - info at Arts With a Purpose.

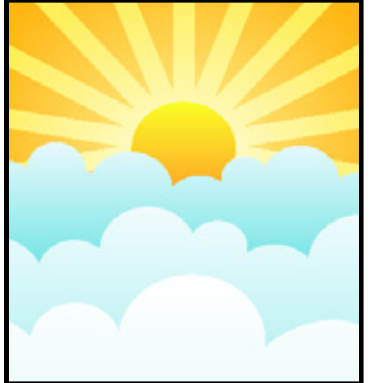
With the rise of jazz education, we see more participation by female musicians but the increase has been at a much slower rate than expected and participation in many areas is still in the single digits. Several research studies have documented the drop-off in participation from secondary schools to colleges.

Reasons for the drop-off are mainly due to lack of role models. Other reported issues are instrument stigma, stereotyping, tokenism, and ineffective pedagogy. Jazz Girls Day was initiated in 2013 at Berkley High School by Sarah Cline as a day of clinics and mentoring for girls involved in jazz studies.

Jazz Girls Day is an event specifically designed to invite girls and young women into the world of jazz. It includes games, clinics, jam sessions, performances and panel discussions to help give girls a break from the male dominated jazz world they encounter on all other days. The whole point is to provide role models and a safe space so that girls can consider taking up jazz, and specifically, jazz improvisation.

For questions, inquiries or sponsorship info, contact Monika Herzig via email at mherzig@indiana.edu

The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:57 a.m.
SET: 5:55 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
HIGH: 32 °F
LOW: 27 °F



Today is....

- Clashing Clothes Day
- Lotus 1-2-3 Day
- Spouse's Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1837 Michigan is admitted as the 26th state
- 1905 World's largest diamond, the Cullinan, weighing 3,106.75 carats, is found at Premier Mine near Pretoria, South Africa
- 1950 The Constitution of India comes into force; Rajendra Prasad is sworn in as the 1st President of India



Births On This Day

- 1925 Paul Newman American actor, director, race car driver, businessman and co-founder of Newman's Own
- 1961 Wayne Gretzky Canadian ice hockey player and coach

Deaths On This Day

- 1962 Lucky Luciano Italian/American mobster
- 1979 Nelson Rockefeller American politician and 41st Vice President

INSIDE TODAY

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TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Cigarette smoke contains carbon monoxide – yep, same stuff that comes out of your exhaust pipe. 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

"Inspiration is a guest who does not willingly visit the lazy."
- Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

TODAY'S JOKE

How'd the man in the moon cut his hair?
He eclipse it!

HONEST HOOSIER

Another one from a reader: It used to be rock around the clock. Now it's limp around the block.



OBITUARIES

None



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



3 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

27/32 SHOW SHOWERS LIKELY THU	20/34 BREEZY, P.M. HEAT FRI	27/41 MOSTLY CLOUDY SAT	38/39 FAIR & BREEZY WIND & SNOW POSSIBLE SUN	25/29 COLDER MON	22/30 MAINLY CLOUDY TUE	22/26 MIX & SNOW POSSIBLE WED
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Try This With Your Credit Card Company . . .



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

Last week we, as in We The People, hit a financial landmark. We maxed out our credit card.

Oh, the uppity ups in the government didn't call it that. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen explained that the U.S. reached its debt limit, a plain and simple way of saying, well, we maxed out the credit card. Except we didn't. Not really.

But first, let's take a look at the nuts and bolts.

The debt limit – how much money the government can borrow – is almost \$32 trillion. That's trillion with a capital T and that rhymes with C and that stands for . . . Congress. To quote the good Professor Harold Hill, aka Robert Preston in the Music Man, we surely got trouble.

But don't you worry your pretty little head about it. The hired help in Washington are working to fix the trouble so that by this summer everything will be all swell again. How? Why don't you know? The answer to the crisis is just as plain as the dollar in your pocket. They're going to increase the limit on how much we

can borrow! Yup, just like they and their predecessors have done since, oh, let's see . . . 1837.

Really? The last time our beloved country was debt free was when the man who's face graces our \$20 bills was president – Andrew Jackson. That's right. The seventh president of the U.S. said that the country couldn't really be free unless that included freedom from debt.

What a concept, huh?

To be fair, Jackson had his problems. He killed a man in a duel, had a lot of other fights, owned slaves and more. As a human being, he had issues. When he took office in 1828, the country was still trying to pay off the debt from wars – our fight for independence and the War of 1812. Nationally, we owed just a tick under \$60 million – about \$1.5 billion in today's money. Jackson, a Democrat, called it the “national curse.” Over his first six years as president he cut government spending – another novel concept – and sold off a bunch of federal land out west and eliminated the debt. To this day, it remains the only time our country was debt free.

Let's think about that for a second.

Have you paid off a significant debt? A house? Car? Maybe a big credit card? Remember how good it felt?

Isn't it amazing that in the history of this great country we've only done that once in the last almost 200 years?

Fast forward to today. President Joe Biden and the Democrats are playing chicken with House Speaker Kevin McCarthy and the Republicans. Over the next few months we're going to hear all sorts of posturing, accusations, proposals and noise. When the dust settles, what we're going to see is an agreement between Dems and Repubs to increase the debt limit.

Can we go back to the idea that hitting the limit is like maxing out the credit card please? Imagine with me, if you will, that phone call between you and the credit card company. You are well past the friendly voice on the other end asking how they can help. The person you are dealing with now – after maxing out the card time and again – has a hard edge to their voice. There's no warm and fuzzy anymore. There's talk about being turned over to collections. The dark and ominous cloud looming on the horizon means your life is about to change. If you can't pay your bills, you could lose your car – which could mean losing your job . . . which could mean losing your house . . . which could mean . . . OH WAIT! It's OK you tell the unfriendly voice. You are borrowing a page from your elected representatives and you have an answer: Increase your card's limit!

How's that going to go over?

But that's exactly what's going to happen in June. The \$32,000,000,000,000

– yes, that's 12 zeroes – will be increased. And just like that, the folks inside the beltway will shake hands, congratulate themselves on averting the crisis – the national media will heave a huge sigh of relief – and the federal spending – which is something around \$10,000 every three seconds – will roll on. (How long have you been reading this, a minute, two? Guess what? The debt is a couple hundred thousand bucks more than what it was when you started.)

And we aren't doing a damn thing about it.

The insanity will continue so long as we keep electing the same people over and over. Isn't it time for the grownups in the room – and politicians have proven that's not them – to say enough is enough. Indiana has 11 members in Congress – Reps. Victoria Spartz, Greg Pence, Andre Carson, Larry Bucshon, Erin Houchin, Frank Mrvan, Rudy Yakym, Jim Banks and Jim Baird and Sens. Mike Braun and Todd Young. You want them to do something different? Let 'em know.

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

Vulcan Kapital Tax Service Partners with RIP Medical Debt to Help Hoosiers Combat Medical Debt

Vulcan Kapital Tax Service has announced its partnership with RIP Medical Debt, the national nonprofit that strengthens communities by abolishing financially burdensome medical debt. Since 2014, RIP Medical Debt has abolished more than \$1 billion in medical debt for nearly 550,000 individuals and families across America.

Medical debt has been the leading cause of American bankruptcy for years. In 2013, a CNBC report revealed that unpaid medical bills would affect the finances of two million people in one year. Even of those who do not file for bankruptcy, an estimated 56 million adults will suffer in some way because of medical expenses, which accounts for more than 20% of the American population between the ages of 19 and 64.

Unfortunately, the financial strain of medical attention in the United States has led many Americans to find ways to avoid medical treatment. Whether it is skipping the doctor and hoping the issue resolves itself or deciding to live with the problem, people are taking desperate measures to avoid plunging into bankruptcy because of their medical bills.

One of the desperate measures is not taking prescription medications. Even for people with insurance, the deductibles on medications can be extremely high, especially

if you are taking a less common drug. Manufacturing processes change continuously, and the co-payment for a medication you have been taking for years could suddenly rise exponentially.

How Can You Help?

- Individuals and families can participate by directly donating to RIP Medical Debt through the donate button on Vulcan's website home page, or by filing taxes at vulcankapital.com. Their tax filing service is competitively priced at a flat fee of \$25 for both Federal & State, making it an easy and convenient way to help make a difference. Vulcan Kapital has committed to donate 20% of all revenue collected through their online business to help relieve this ever-growing burden.

- RIP Medical Debt uses your donations to purchase bundled medical debt portfolios from some hospitals and the secondary debt market, and then forgives that debt for pennies on the dollar. On average, \$1 is leveraged to abolish on average \$100 in medical debt, and every donation through this page will be spent directly on abolishing medical debt.

- When debt relief recipients open the yellow envelope from RIP, they are told that their debt has been bought by a third party and erased with no strings attached. They owe nothing on the debt and face no tax penalty.

Liberation Labs Announces Plans to Join Indiana's Agbiosciences Sector to Help Fuel Future of Food

Liberation Labs, a precision fermentation manufacturer, announced plans today to establish operations in Indiana, investing \$115 million to develop its first commercial-scale biomufacturing facility in Richmond.

“Next generation technology is critical to future food security for people everywhere, and I am proud that Indiana is leading the charge,” said Indiana Secretary of Commerce Brad Chambers.

“We are excited to welcome Liberation Labs to our growing agbiosciences ecosystem. Liberation Labs will continue to enable companies to innovate while creating high-paying, quality career opportunities for Hoosiers.”

The company, which aims to enable the commercialization of alternative protein products through fermentation manufacturing, will construct a facility on 36 acres of Richmond's 700-acre Midwest Industrial Park. The new facility, which will have a fermentation capacity of 600,000 liters with a fully dedicated downstream process (DSP), is part of the company's

model to offer customers fit-for-purpose capacity at large scale.

Liberation Labs' facility in Richmond will help meet demand for alternative proteins, increasing its availability and cost-effectiveness for existing major food brands as well as the growing network of food-tech innovators.

“The three things a biomufacturing facility like ours needs are sugar, power and people – and Richmond, Indiana, has them all,” said Mark Warner, co-founder and CEO of Liberation Labs.

“While sugar and power are commodities, a workforce experienced in manufacturing is not, which is why Richmond really stands out. We are thankful for the support the state and the local community have provided us, and we can't wait to break ground.”

Liberation Labs plans to break ground later this spring and reach full commercial production by the end of 2024. The company plans to create 45 new manufacturing jobs to support its growth, with average wages well above the state average.

“Securing this partnership and investment from Liberation Labs is another milestone in our strong relationship with Governor Holcomb and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation,” said Richmond Mayor Dave Snow.

“We are thrilled to add the expertise of Liberation Labs to our Industrial Park. Make no mistake, when a company of this caliber chooses to invest in Richmond, it's a resounding vote of confidence that we are moving in the right direction. With more jobs being created, and such a strong business model, I am confident this is just the beginning of a long and mutually prosperous relationship.”

Liberation Labs' first-of-its-kind precision fermentation facilities are engineered to deliver cost-effective, high-yield production of novel proteins and accelerate consumer adoption of healthy food alternatives. The company aims to build a network of purpose-built facilities to accommodate 80 percent or more of the alternative protein market, delivering a global solution to unlock a new era of

food accessibility and sustainability.

Based on the company's job creation plans, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) committed an investment in Liberation Labs of up to \$780,000 in the form of incentive-based tax credits and up to \$50,000 in training grants. These tax credits are performance-based, meaning the company is eligible to claim incentives once Hoosiers are hired and trained. Wayne County will consider additional incentives at the request of Economic Development Corporation of Wayne County.

About Liberation Labs: Liberation Labs is commercializing precision fermentation with a global network of purpose built, international manufacturing facilities that enable the next wave of biotechnology advancements to produce bio-based consumer products at scale. We combine modern technology with fit-for-purpose design to bring reliable and cost-effective solutions that meet customer demand across the world. More information is available at liberationlabs.com

PUBLIC NOTICES

**CITY OF FISHERS
NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Owner: City of Fishers, Indiana
Director of Public Works
10212 Eller Road
Fishers, Indiana 46038

Project: Continuous Diamond Grinding of Concrete Pavement

Notice is hereby given that the City of Fishers, Hamilton County, Indiana (“Fishers”) will receive sealed bids for the above-referenced Project addressed to the Director of Public Works, City of Fishers, 10212 Eller Road, Fishers, Indiana until 12:00PM on or before February 3, 2023. Any Bid received after the designated time will be returned to the Bidder unopened. The Bids will be publicly opened and read by the City of Fishers at 12:00 pm on February 3, 2023, in the Public Works Conference Room at 10212 Eller Road, Fishers, Indiana. The Bid should be clearly marked “BID ENCLOSED 2023 Continuous Diamond Grinding of Concrete Pavement” on the outside of the envelope, and as otherwise set forth in the Bid Documents.

An optional Pre-Bid Meeting for discussion of the Project, the bidding requirements and other important matters will be held on January 25, 2023, at 1:00pm in the Training Room at the Department of Public Works, 10212 Eller Road, Fishers, Indiana. For special accommodations for individuals planning to attend the Pre-Bid Conference or public bid opening meeting, please call or notify Fishers at (317) 595-3160 at least forty-eight (48) hours prior thereto.

In general, the Work shall be completed by State of Indiana certified/qualified Contractors and Subcontractors for the Project all as required by the Bid Documents which have been assembled into a bound Project Manual and generally consists of continuous diamond grinding of concrete roads at one (1) location - 116th Street Westbound from Ohio Road to Brooks School Road, Fishers, Indiana, all as further specified by the Bid Documents.

Any Bid may be withdrawn prior to the deadline for receipt of Bids, but no Bidder shall withdraw its Bid within sixty (60) days after the opening of the Bids. If a contract is awarded, it will be to the “lowest responsible and responsive bidder” in accordance with Ind. Code §36-1-12-1 et seq. The Owner, however, reserves the right to reject and/or cancel any and all Bids, solicitations and/or offers in whole or in part as specified in the solicitation when it is not in the best interests of the Owner, and waive any informalities, discrepancies, omissions, variances, or irregularities in bids received in its sole discretion. The Bid Bonds and certified checks of unsuccessful bidders will be returned upon selection of the successful Bidder, execution of the Agreement, and provision of the required Performance and Payment Bonds and Certificate of Insurance.

Each Bid shall be accompanied by bid security in the form of a Bid Bond as provided in the Project Manual in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the total Bid amount, including alternates with a satisfactory corporate surety qualified to do business in the State of Indiana or by a certified check made payable to Fishers, on a solvent bank in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the amount of the total Bid including alternates. The Bid Bond or certified check shall be security that the successful Bidder will, within ten (10) calendar days or such other time specified by Owner from the acceptance of the Bid, execute the Agreement and provide the required Payment and Performance Bonds, included in the Project Manual and Certificate of Insurance.

A Performance Bond with good and sufficient surety as required by the Owner on the Form provided in the Project Manual, shall be required of the successful Bidder in an amount equal to at least one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract Sum, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the Agreement. The surety of the Performance Bond may not be released until one (1) year after the Owner's final settlement with the Contractor.

The Contractor shall provide a Payment Bond with a good and sufficient surety as required by the Owner on Form provided in the Project Manual, in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract Sum. The Payment Bond is binding on the Contractor, its subcontractors, and their successors and assigns for the payment of all indebtedness to a person for labor and services performed, material furnished, or services rendered. The Payment Bond must state that it is for the benefit of the subcontractors, laborers, material suppliers, and those performing services. The surety of the Payment Bond may not be released until one (1) year after the Owner's final settlement with the Contractor.

All out-of-state bidder corporations must have a Certificate of Authority to do business in the State. Application forms may be obtained by contacting the Secretary of State, State of Indiana, Statehouse, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

TL19992 1/19 1/26 21 hspjlp

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David MacMillan, 2021 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, to Join Purdue President Chiang for Presidential Lecture Series

Renowned Princeton University professor and entrepreneur David W.C. MacMillan, who shared the 2021 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his groundbreaking work on catalysis, will join Purdue University President Mung Chiang for a conversation at the first Presidential Lecture Series event of 2023 on Feb. 13.

The discussion with MacMillan, the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor of Chemistry at Princeton, is at 6 p.m. on Feb. 13 in Stewart Center's Fowler Hall. The event, which is free and open to the public, is titled "The Path to Invention and Discovery in Catalysis." It also is the first Presidential Lecture Series event hosted by Chiang, whose administration plans to continue the lecture series launched in 2014 by his predecessor, Purdue President Emeritus Mitch Daniels.

"To continue enhancing the vibrancy of intellectual life on campus and to celebrate the scholarly impact of our colleagues, we are organizing various events with broad participation," Chiang said. "The Presidential Lecture Series will continue, and I would like to warmly welcome my former colleague David MacMillan, a groundbreaking scholar at the pinnacle of excellence in research and in entrepreneurial impact, to Purdue and West Lafayette."

The Scottish-born MacMillan shared the 2021 Nobel Prize in Chemistry with organic chemist Benjamin List from Germany. MacMillan and List had developed a type of catalysis in 2000 that built on small organic molecules. Using a process called asymmetric organocatalysis, their toolkit now makes it easier to produce asymmetric molecules — chemicals that exist in two versions where, like our human hands, one is a mirror image of the other.

Catalysts are substances that accelerate chemical



David MacMillan

reactions without becoming part of the final product, an especially important factor for chemists in their efforts to construct molecules. When they are being built, two different molecules actually can form as mirrored images. Chemists often want only one of these mirror images, particularly when producing medicines, but it has been difficult to find efficient methods to do this.

The pioneering process that MacMillan and List developed is helping solve this scientific challenge, paving the way for discovering new drugs and even making molecules that can capture light in solar cells. Chemistry also is made more environmentally friendly because of their innovation.

"Building molecules is a difficult art. Benjamin List and David MacMillan are awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021 for their development of a precise new tool for molecular construction: organocatalysis. This has had a great impact on pharmaceutical research, and has made chemistry greener," the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences noted in announcing the award.

For his Purdue discussion, MacMillan will highlight the advent and development of asymmetric organocatalysis in his laboratory. As an overview, he will explore concepts of chemical reactivity, catalysis and the asymmetry of organic molecules. He also will examine the impact of organocatalysis on modern synthetic chemistry and explore the real-world

applications of the technology.

"We will discuss the ways in which organocatalysis created a bridge to the development of a new field of research in our lab: visible light photoredox catalysis," MacMillan said in the abstract explaining his talk of the field of photochemistry that uses single-electron transfer. "Last, we will look to the future and consider how organocatalysis may continue to impact scientific research and society."

After his Nobel win, MacMillan used his share of the \$1.14 million prize to establish the May and Billy MacMillan Foundation. Created to honor his parents, the foundation supports educational opportunities for financially disadvantaged students in Scotland. MacMillan also contributed any money for talks he gave during 2022 to the foundation.

While at Harvard University in the late 1990s, MacMillan had been working with metal catalysts. But the types used in his research were rarely embraced by industry. The problem: While the oxygen-free and moisture-free conditions demanded by some metal catalysts were possible to achieve in the lab, this was much more difficult at large scales.

MacMillan studied chemistry as an undergraduate at the University of Glasgow. He then came to the United States in 1990, where he pursued his doctoral studies at the University of California, Irvine. Having earned a PhD, he took a postdoctoral position at Harvard University in 1996. There, MacMillan's began his research focus on catalysis.

In 1998, MacMillan was appointed to the chemistry faculty at the University of California, Berkeley, before moving on to Princeton in 2006 as the A. Barton Hepburn Professor of Chemistry. He also served as department chair at Princeton from 2010-15.

Individual Income Tax Filing Now Open

The Indiana Department of Revenue (DOR) began accepting filings for the 2023 individual income tax season this past Monday, Jan. 23, 2023, in concert with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Customers will have until April 18, 2023, to file both their state and federal 2022 tax returns and pay any taxes owed.

While Indiana tax forms for the upcoming individual income tax season are now available online, DOR is reminding Hoosiers to wait to file their tax returns until they receive their official tax documents and statements. Attempting to file without all documents can delay the process and ultimately postpone any refund a customer may receive. All employers are required to provide Form W-2s to employees by Jan. 31, 2023.

DOR also encourages



customers to utilize electronic filing, online payment and direct deposit to significantly improve the quality and speed of return and refund processing. While most Hoosiers received their Automatic Taxpayer Refund(s) via check or direct deposit in 2022, many elderly and disabled individuals who did not receive direct payment may be eligible to claim a \$200 tax credit. Visit dor.in.gov for eligibility and filing information.

Eligible taxpayers may be able to file their federal and state taxes for free

through the InFreefile program. Participating vendors and eligibility requirements are available at freefile.dor.in.gov. Additional information on individual income tax filing, including FAQs, tips and resources for free and low-cost tax preparation help are available at dor.in.gov/individual-income-taxes.

DOR says that the answer to most common tax questions can be found online through dor.in.gov. Customers who wish to contact DOR directly should use the secure messaging portal in INTIME for the most efficient service. INTIME registration takes just a few minutes for most users.

To download tax forms and find more information on what documents are required to file an Indiana individual income tax return, visit DOR's website at dor.in.gov.

Learn Hands-Only CPR During American Heart Month to Save Lives of Loved Ones

During February – American Heart Month – the American Heart Association, the leading voluntary health organization devoted to a world of longer, healthier lives for all, is urging at least one person in every household to commit to learning Hands-Only CPR.

Cardiovascular disease remains the leading cause of the death in the United States. This year's American Heart Month activities are designed to help motivate people to "Be the Beat" needed to keep someone alive by learning the two simple steps it takes to save a life – call 911 and push hard and fast in the center of the chest.

According to American Heart Association data, more than 350,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occur in the United States each year. CPR, especially if performed immediately, can double or triple a cardiac arrest victim's chance of survival – which is key since about 90% of people who suffer out-of-hospital cardiac arrests die.

And, because about 70% of cardiac arrests happen at home, odds are the person who needs CPR will be a family member or friend[1]. Hands-Only CPR is quick and simple to learn and can be performed by any family member or bystanders.

"If you are called on to give CPR in an emergency, you will most likely be trying to save the life of a loved one: a spouse, a parent, grandparent, child or a friend," said Beth Keyser, President of Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Indiana.

"We are excited to

support the American Heart Association's Hands-Only CPR campaign and bring awareness to the importance of knowing CPR this Heart Month. We encourage people to be prepared for a cardiac emergency by learning Hands-Only CPR to help save lives."

Hands-Only CPR involves two simple steps and anyone can learn it from a 60-second video available at heart.org/handsonlycpr.

• **Step 1:** If a teen or adult in your home suddenly collapses, call 911 immediately.

• **Step 2:** Place one hand on top of the other as shown in the video and push hard and fast on the victim's chest.

Take advantage of our CPR training kiosks as you travel. At Indianapolis International Airport and eight other locations throughout the country, Hands-Only CPR training kiosks are produced by the American Heart Association and supported by the Elevance Health Foundation. Each kiosk has a touch screen with a short video that provides an overview of Hands-Only CPR, followed by a practice session and a 30-second test.

"The public can get trained in Hands-Only CPR in about five minutes while they are traveling," said Dr. Michelle A. Albert, president of the American Heart Association.

"The kiosk has a practice manikin and provides feedback about the depth and rate of compression, as well as proper hand placement – factors that influence the effectiveness of CPR."

According to the American Heart Association, people feel more confident performing Hands-Only CPR and are more likely to remember the correct rate when trained to the beat of a familiar song. All songs in our 'Don't Drop the Beat' playlist are between 100 - 120 beats per minute, the same rate at which rescuers should perform compressions when administering CPR. The beat of any of several songs including "Stayin' Alive," by the Bee Gees, "Crazy in Love," by Beyoncé featuring Jay-Z, "Hips Don't Lie," by Shakira" or "Walk the Line," by Johnny Cash can "Be the Beat" to save a life.

Visit heart.org/handsonlycpr to watch and share a Hands-Only CPR instructional video.

The American Heart Association's Hands-Only CPR campaign is nationally supported by the Elevance Health Foundation.

Additional Resources:

• Bystander CPR (cpr.heart.org/en/resources/bystander-cpr)

• Bystander CPR Infographic (cpr.heart.org/-/media/CPR-Files/Resources/Bystander-CPR/Bystander-infographic-ucm_504227.pdf)

• Hands-Only CPR Resources (cpr.heart.org/en/cpr-courses-and-kits/hands-only-cpr/hands-only-cpr-resources)

• Women and CPR (goredforwomen.org/en/about-heart-disease-in-women/facts/cpr-and-women)

• Cardiac Arrest vs. Heart Attack (cpr.heart.org/en/resources/cardiac-arrest-vs-heart-attack)

DNR's Historic Preservation Month Photo Contest Kicks Off This Week

Get out your cameras and find your favorite historic destination because the DNR Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology's annual preservation photo contest has begun.

The contest has been held since 2005 to promote Indiana's historic resources. It is open to photographers of any age and skill level. All subjects of photos must be at least 50 years old and in Indiana. They do not have to be fully restored. Photos of exclusively natural elements will not be accepted.

Photos can be black and white or color and must have been taken within the last two years. Each photographer may enter up to three images, and an



Indiana Department of Natural Resources

entry form is required for each photo. Images should be emailed to aborland@dnr.IN.gov and must be JPEG files that are 10 MB or smaller. Participants will only be able to send one photo and one entry form per email.

For complete rules and guidelines and for the required entry form, see on IN.gov/preservationmonth. The

contest deadline is April 7.

Follow the DNR Instagram account (@indianadnr) in May. The DNR Division of Historic Preservation & Archeology will be taking over the account for a week and featuring selected photos along with contest winners to celebrate National Historic Preservation Month.

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Doomsday Clock Set at 90 Seconds to Midnight

The Doomsday Clock was set at 90 seconds to midnight, due largely but not exclusively to Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the increased risk of nuclear escalation. The new Clock time was also influenced by continuing threats posed by the climate crisis and the breakdown of global norms and institutions needed to mitigate risks associated with advancing technologies and biological threats such as COVID-19.

Rachel Bronson, PhD, president and CEO, Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, said: "We are living in a time of unprecedented danger, and the Doomsday Clock time reflects that reality. 90 seconds to midnight is the closest the Clock has ever been set to midnight, and it's a decision our experts do not take lightly. The US government, its NATO allies and Ukraine have a multitude of channels for dialogue; we urge leaders to explore all of them to their fullest ability to turn back the Clock."

The Doomsday Clock's time is set by the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists' Science and Security Board with the support of the Bulletin's Board of Sponsors, which includes 10 Nobel Laureates. Previously, the Doomsday Clock had been set at 100 seconds to midnight since 2020.

The Doomsday Clock statement explains that "Russia's war on Ukraine has raised profound questions about how states interact, eroding norms of international conduct that underpin successful responses to a variety of global risks. And worst of all, Russia's thinly veiled threats to use nuclear weapons remind the world that escalation of the conflict—by accident, intention, or miscalculation—is a terrible risk. The possibility that the conflict could spin out of anyone's control remains high. . . . Russia has also brought its war to the Chernobyl and Zaporizhzhia nuclear reactor sites, violating international protocols and risking widespread release of radioactive materials. Efforts by the International Atomic Energy Agency to secure these plants so far have been rebuffed." The statement has been translated into Ukrainian and Russian.

Mary Robinson, Chair of The Elders and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, said: "The Doomsday Clock is sounding an alarm for the whole of humanity. We are on the brink of a precipice. But our leaders are not acting at sufficient

speed or scale to secure a peaceful and liveable planet. From cutting carbon emissions to strengthening arms control treaties and investing in pandemic preparedness, we know what needs to be done. The science is clear, but the political will is lacking. This must change in 2023 if we are to avert catastrophe. We are facing multiple, existential crises. Leaders need a crisis mindset."

Ban Ki-moon, Deputy Chair of The Elders and former Secretary-General of the United Nations, said:

"Three years ago, I helped unveil the Doomsday Clock when its hands were last moved. Today they are even closer to midnight, showing how much more perilous our world has become in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, extreme weather events and Russia's outrageous war on Ukraine. Leaders did not heed the Doomsday Clock's warnings in 2020. We all continue to pay the price. In 2023 it is vital for all our sakes that they act."

Elbegdorj Tsakhia, former President of Mongolia and member of The Elders, added: "As a former President of a country landlocked between two large powers, I know how important international diplomacy is when it comes to tackling existential threats. Today our world faces multiple crises. A common thread runs through them all: failure of leadership. We need a collective response rooted in the spirit and values of the UN Charter that can put us back on a pathway to peaceful co-existence and sustainable development."

Sivan Kartha, PhD, senior scientist, Stockholm Environmental Institute, lead author for the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report, and member, Science and Security Board (SASB), Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, said: "Dealing with the crisis of climate change requires faith in institutions of multilateral governance and cooperation. The geopolitical fissure opened by the invasion of Ukraine has weakened trust among countries and the global will to cooperate."

Suzet McKinney, DrPH, Principal and Director of Life Sciences, Sterling Bay, and member, Science and Security Board (SASB), Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, said: "Devastating events like the COVID-19 pandemic can no longer be considered rare, once-a-century occurrences. However, disease-induced disaster can be avoided if countries around the world

cooperate on global health strategies."

Steve Fetter, PhD, dean of the graduate school and professor of public policy, University of Maryland, fellow, American Physical Society, member, National Academy of Sciences Committee on International Security and Arms Control, and member, Science and Security Board (SASB), Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, said: "Even if nuclear use is avoided in Ukraine, the war has challenged the nuclear order—the system of agreements and understandings that have been constructed over six decades to limit the dangers of nuclear weapons."

The 2023 Doomsday Clock statement details other threats and threat multipliers beyond the most immediate risks related to the Russia-Ukraine War:

Nuclear Weapons:

- The last remaining nuclear weapons treaty between Russia and the United States, New START, stands in jeopardy. Unless the two parties resume negotiations and find a basis for further reductions, the treaty will expire in February 2026. This would eliminate mutual inspections, deepen mistrust, spur a nuclear arms race, and heighten the possibility of a nuclear exchange.

- China's considerable expansion of its nuclear capabilities is particularly troubling, given its consistent refusal to consider measures to enhance transparency and predictability. The US Defense Department claims Beijing may increase its arsenal fivefold by 2035 and could soon rival the nuclear capabilities of the United States and Russia, with unpredictable consequences for stability.

- North Korea has greatly stepped up its intermediate and longer-range missile testing. In late March, North Korea successfully launched an intercontinental ballistic missile for the first time since 2017. In the following months, it also launched numerous other ballistic missiles, most of short range. Perhaps most concerning, on October 4, North Korea launched an intermediate-range ballistic missile over Japan. Meanwhile, US officials contend that North Korea is preparing to conduct its seventh nuclear weapon test.

- Iran continues to increase its uranium enrichment capacity, albeit under international safeguards outside the confines of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action that once restrained it. This positions Iran closer to a nuclear

weapons capability, should it decide to cross that threshold. Returning to the nuclear deal would reduce risks and provide a path forward, and the United States, Europe, and other countries have made reasonable efforts to revive the deal. But instability in Iran and Tehran's support for Russia's war against Ukraine will complicate successful negotiations to keep Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons.

- India continues to modernize its nuclear arsenal of some 160 warheads, with new delivery systems now under development to complement or replace existing nuclear-capable aircraft, land-based delivery systems, and sea-based systems. Pakistan has an arsenal of similar size and continues to expand its warheads, delivery systems, and fissile material production.

- The United States, Russia, and China are now pursuing full-fledged nuclear weapons modernization programs, setting the table for a dangerous new "third nuclear age" of competition. Long-standing concerns about arms racing in South Asia and missile arms races in Northeast Asia complete a dismal picture that needs to be addressed.

Climate Crisis:

- The Russia-Ukraine War's effects are not limited to an increase in nuclear danger; they also undermine global efforts to combat climate change. Countries dependent on Russian oil and gas have sought to diversify their supplies and suppliers, leading to expanded investment in natural gas exactly when such investment should have been shrinking.

- Global carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels, after having rebounded from the COVID economic decline to an all-time high in 2021, continued to rise in 2022 and hit another record high. A decline in Chinese emissions was overshadowed by a rise in the US, India, and elsewhere.

- Not only did weather extremes continue to plague diverse parts of the globe, but they were more evidently attributable to climate change. Countries of West Africa experienced floods that were among the most lethal in their histories, owing to a rainfall event that was assessed to be 80 times more likely because of climate change. Extreme temperatures in Central Europe, North America, China, and other regions of the Northern Hemisphere this past summer

led to water shortages and soil drought conditions that led in turn to poor harvests, further undermining food security at a time when the Ukraine conflict has already driven food price increases. Pakistan faced intense floods due to a "monsoon on steroids" that inundated one-third of the country, affecting 33 million people directly and unleashing cascading effects, including a major crop failure, an epidemic of water-borne diseases, and the destruction of infrastructure, homes, livestock, and livelihoods.

Bio-Threats:

- Devastating events like the COVID-19 pandemic can no longer be considered rare, once-a-century occurrences. The total number and diversity of infectious disease outbreaks has increased significantly since 1980, with more than half caused by zoonotic diseases (that is, disease originating in animals and transmitted to humans). As such, zoonoses put the human population at significant risk for pandemics. There is immense, uncharacterized diversity within the 26 virus families and the many phyla of bacteria and other microbes known to infect humans. The world's ability to predict which of these viruses and microbes are most likely to cause human disease is woefully inadequate.

- Laboratory accidents continue to occur frequently. Opportunities for human error, limited understanding of novel disease characteristics, lack of local government knowledge about the types of research occurring in labs in their jurisdictions, and confusion about lab safety requirements all challenge current laboratory biosafety and biosecurity programs. It is also easier now than ever to obtain and modify pathogens, increasing the chances of pandemics caused by laboratory accidents.

- Recent events—including especially the Russian invasion of Ukraine and its continuing disinformation efforts in regard to biological weapons—have changed the landscape of biological threats. The risk that Russia will engage in biological warfare increases as conditions in Ukraine become more chaotic, weakening norms of warfare. Escalation of the war in Ukraine poses many potentially existential threats to humanity; one of them is biological.

Disinformation and Disruptive Technology:

- On the disinformation front, there was some good news: For the most part, the American electorate rejected election

deniers in 2022, and in France, President Emmanuel Macron overcame a historic challenge from his country's far-right candidate Marine Le Pen. Meanwhile, the Biden administration continued its efforts to increase the role of scientists in informing public policy.

- On the other hand, cyber-enabled disinformation continues unabated. In the United States, political opposition to a "Disinformation Governance Board" proposed by the Department of Homeland Security was grounded in willful misrepresentation and the politics of personal destruction. But non-substantive and misleading as its messages were, the opposition succeeded in causing the department to withdraw its proposal. These types of attacks are hardly new but are emblematic of corruption in the information environment.

- Inside Russia, meanwhile, government control of the information ecosystem has blocked the wide dissemination of truthful information about the Ukraine war. Chinese use of surveillance technology has continued apace in Xinjiang. As we stated last year, the extensive use of surveillance technologies has disturbing implications for human rights and poses a distinct threat to civil society.

- Russian President Vladimir Putin has also shredded norms of behavior in space, publicly threatening to use an anti-satellite weapon against US Starlink satellites, arguing that they are not merely a commercial system but a military one as well. Ukraine has made use of Starlink in its conflict with Russia.

The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists was founded in 1945 by Albert Einstein, J. Robert Oppenheimer, Eugene Rabinowitch and University of Chicago scientists who helped develop the first atomic weapons in the Manhattan Project. The scientists felt that they "could not remain aloof to the consequences of their work" and worked to inform the public and policymakers about man-made threats to human existence.

The Doomsday Clock was created in 1947 by the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists to convey how close humanity is to destroying itself. Designed by painter Marty Langsdorf, the Clock has become an international symbol of the world's vulnerability to catastrophe from nuclear weapons, climate change and disruptive technologies.


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Photo by Whitney Downard courtesy of Indiana Capital Chronicle

At right, Rep. Doug Miller, R-Elkhart, presents his proposal to establish a revolving fund for housing infrastructure before committee on Jan. 24, 2022.

Committee Advances Measure to Help Fund Housing Revolving Fund

By Whitney Downard

A bill establishing a revolving fund known as the Residential Housing Infrastructure Assistance Program advanced in committee Tuesday but still doesn't have a price tag attached to it.

"We are creating a tool for our communities to provide infrastructure for the housing needs they see fit in their communities, especially workforce housing," said Rep. Doug Miller, author of House Bill 1005.

The Elkhart Republican led a series of interim study committee meetings on housing and crafted this bill to specifically pay for the vital infrastructure needs not otherwise considered in alternate grants or programs.

Miller, a homebuilder, emphasized the need to invest in rural communities, with 70% of the revolving fund dedicated to areas with less than 50,000 residents. The fund will be overseen by the Indiana Finance Authority, and the money could be used for sidewalks, curbs, sewer, water and other infrastructure.

These costs are usually built into the cost of residential development projects. By providing a funding stream to cover the basics, the hope is to reduce the cost of housing overall.

"I think we're really trying to look at Indiana and say we've got opportunities across the state to help areas that haven't been helped before," Miller said.

Applying localities will be evaluated on various criteria, including whether they've recently investigated their housing in a study or revised their ordinances to include higher density housing, accessory units and manufactured or modular housing.

Additional considerations include whether the community has requirements for garage sizes or placement, off-street parking or minimum lot sizes — which disincentivizes the large housing projects encouraged under this bill.

Approval from homebuilders, business organizations

The Indiana Chamber of Commerce praised the bill in committee after highlighting the state's need for more affordable housing in a press call earlier that day.

"The Indiana Workforce Excellence Institute, which is a subsidiary of the chamber, annually does a survey of employers and last year's survey shows that the top external factor that is negatively impacting talent attraction or retention... is housing," said David Ober, the organization's vice president of taxation and public finance.

Mark Shublak, on behalf of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation and the Association for Affordable Housing, said every part of the state

needs housing, specifically affordable and multi-family housing, to lure potential businesses.

"These mega plants that we're recruiting and we want to win over... they will have a need for an updated housing supply," Shublak said.

Gina Leckron, the state director of Habitat for Humanity, helms a nonprofit that builds affordable housing at reduced cost for lower income families, usually those making between \$35,000-\$55,000.

Leckron attested to the need for specific funding related to infrastructure, which neither grants nor private donors typically cover, for housing developments — especially in rural areas.

"We're pretty savvy at applying for every dollar out there (in grants)... and there's many more tools in the toolboxes of our urban centers," Leckron said. "We've got to do better. I don't want to live in a state where people don't have access to entry-level homes."

Realtors' report affirms housing shortage

The Indiana Association of Realtors released a report Tuesday analyzing government solutions to Indiana's housing shortage, studying the use of federal dollars and comparing Indiana to other states.

It identified a shortage of 30,000 homes when accounting for employment and population growth and asserted that the housing shortage decreased the state's economic competitiveness.

The association pointed to the demand for READI dollars to use for housing projects, saying that 30% of requests went to housing projects while another 13% went to infrastructure support for housing.

"We expect that the READI funds combined with matched funds will total more than \$600 (million) in housing-related investments," the report said.

READI, or the Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative, used federal dollars to award communities a combined \$500 million, with Gov. Eric Holcomb proposing another \$500 million infusion over the next biennium.

Locals aren't just relying on READI funds for housing projects. According to the Brookings' Local Government (American Rescue Plan Act) Investment Tracker, one out of every eight dollars awarded through the \$1.9 trillion law went to housing.

The report called for more state investment in housing, particularly for employees, by granting tax incentives to companies that fund new housing or assist their workforce with down payments.

Sharing the report with the committee, Maggie McShane — the association's vice president of government affairs — noted that the state currently doesn't directly fund

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- Streets, roads or bridges
- Curbs, gutters or sidewalks
- Traffic signals
- Street lights
- Electric or gas distribution lines

housing. Instead, housing agencies use federal grant money, which McShane said gave Indiana an opportunity to invest specifically in infrastructure needs as outlined in the revolving fund.

"Don't mirror those programs that are already working well; look for something new," McShane said. "You're not going to be duplicating something with this bill that's already out there."

The future of HB 1005

The committee voted unanimously, with one abstention, to send the bill to the House Ways and Means Committee to discuss funding. Two Democrats representing urban parts of Lake County, Rep. Earl Harris and Rep. Ragen Hatcher, expressed their concerns about the 70/30 split in the revolving fund in favor of rural communities.

"Hopefully we'll find a way that those urban communities can get the same response and assistance that we're offering to other communities," Hatcher, a former Gary City Council Member, said.

Other committee members noted that nearly three-quarters of Lake County residents live in localities with less than 50,000 people — only the cities of Gary and Hammond wouldn't qualify.

Rep. Mike Karickhoff, a Republican, said he initially had the same concerns, adding that his hometown of Kokomo netted the state's largest economic project last year with a \$2.5 billion investment from Stellantis/Samsung SDI. But Kokomo itself has more than 50,000 residents.

"We are scrambling (for housing)... I think we've got a hotline to Elkhart to help get RVs down for workers and all kinds of crazy stuff," Karickhoff said. "But in the conversations with elected officials and community leaders, we recognize that... every -ville and -burg is going to benefit."

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Throwing Stars, EMS Services, Food and Beverage Tax Bills Moving Through Legislature

By Casey Smith

Dozens of bills are already advancing through committees and legislative chambers halfway through the third week of Indiana's 2023 session.

The General Assembly's focus is largely centered around the crafting of the state's next two-year budget. Multiple bills relating to health care, education, fiscal policy and public safety are also top-of list for the Republican-dominated legislature.

The Indiana Capital Chronicle is following other bills, too. Here are some to keep an eye on as lawmakers continue their deliberations.

Township assessors

Township assessors in multiple Indiana counties could see their jobs nixed by voters under a bill passed out of the House 61-37 Monday.

The measure, authored by Rep. Jim Pressel, R-Rolling Prairie, now heads to the Senate for further consideration.

The bill would require county election boards to place a public question on the November 2024 general election ballot asking whether the county should "discontinue paying for the cost of township assessors in the county." All residents of the county — not just those in an affected township — would have a say.

Currently, there are 13 township assessors in nine different Indiana counties. Lake County has five of the township assessor offices that would be abolished. Allen, Elkhart, Howard, LaPorte, Porter, St. Joseph, Vigo and Wayne counties each have one township assessor office.

Pressel maintained that the elimination of the single township assessor in LaPorte County could result in an annual savings of up to \$250,000, but Democrats in the House pushed back against the bill. They emphasized that the cost savings for one county is not necessarily the same in others — especially those with thousands of parcels needing assessed.

Rep. Vernon Smith, D-Gary, noted that Lake County — which currently employs five township assessors — is geographically sparse. Eliminating the township offices would shift a substantial workload to the county assessor, he said. It would also create "difficulty" for residents needing to travel to the county office.

"I think the premise is flawed. Our citizens have already gone on record in Lake County saying that they want (the township assessors)," Smith said. "I think that we have to make some amendments to this bill so that we don't end up not really feeling the pulse of the people — and how people are concerned about their township assessors."

Throwing stars

Lawmakers could carve out an exception in Indiana code to allow for the recreational use of throwing stars, which have been banned in Indiana since 1985.

Under current law, a person who manufactures, imports, sells, or possesses a "Chinese throwing star" commits a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by up to 60 days in jail.

A bill carried by Sen. Liz Brown, R-Fort Wayne,

would legalize the recreational use of throwing stars at certain businesses, however, as long as there are safety precautions in place for throwing lanes and spectators. Brown said permitted activities would be similar to axe throwing.

The bill would also change the term "Chinese throwing star" to "throwing star" throughout the Indiana code.

The measure advanced 8-0 from the Senate Corrections Committee Tuesday.

Democrats questioned whether one portion of the bill should still be amended, however. They specifically pointed to a provision that allows minors as young as 12 years old to patronize a throwing star business without consent from a parent or guardian. Committee chairman Sen. Aaron Freeman, R-Indianapolis, said the Senate GOP caucus would likely support an amendment to address that point next week when the bill is weighed by the full chamber.

Joel Wieneke, an attorney with the Indiana Public Defender Council, said the group supports the bill but recommended that lawmakers go one step further and delete the state provision concerning throwing stars altogether. He cited a lack of throwing star violations in the judicial system — since 2015, there have been 10 charges filed for that misdemeanor.

Wieneke also pointed to existing state statutes that provide appropriate penalties for individuals who endanger others while using a weapon.

Coroners and autopsy expenses

County coroners could increase their pay and avoid certain autopsy costs under a bill that unanimously advanced from the House Public Policy Committee Tuesday.

Under current state law, the coroner for the county where a person died is required to bill the county where the incident that caused the death occurred for the costs of an autopsy. Under the proposed change, the coroners of both counties are required to discuss and agree as to whether an autopsy is warranted at all.

A qualifying incident could include a car crash victim who wrecked in one county but died at a hospital in a neighboring county, for example.

The bill, authored by Rep. Heath VanNatter, R-Kokomo, additionally provides that a coroner who is a licensed physician should earn 1.5 times the compensation of a coroner who is not a licensed physician. The provision applies to coroners who are elected or reelected in the 2024 general election and thereafter.

EMS services and 911 operators

The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Transportation voted Tuesday to approve Senate Bill 316 by Sen. Kyle Walker, R-Lawrence, to ease communication across various computer aided emergency dispatch systems used by public safety agencies across the state.

The State 911 Board will study the feasibility of joining the various systems to allow emergency alerts to go to the nearest agency, regardless of county lines.

Hancock County 911 Director John Jokantas shared how communal alerts allowed emergency services in neighboring Shelby County to arrive quickly at an emergency near the county line and advocated for more inter-agency data sharing.

"People in emergency don't care what the name is on the side of the apparatus," Jokantas said. "They just want help."

The bill heads to Appropriations for approval before heading to the full Senate.

A separate measure, authored by Sen. Jack Sandlin, R-Indianapolis, would remove residency requirements for 911 operators. Sandlin said the bill should help increase the number of employed operators at a time when 911 centers are "very" needed. The bill advanced from the Senate chamber in a 47-1 vote Monday.

Food and beverage taxes A food and drink tax worth roughly \$90 million a year could soon get an overhaul.

Lawmakers say Senate Bill 37 will foster transparency and ensure cities and counties are using funds properly, while some of those communities have resisted the changes and say they're already accountable to taxpayers. It passed unanimously out of the Senate Tuesday and now goes to the House for consideration.

The bill would sunset every existing food and beverage tax without a built-in expiration date either in 2045 or when the debt tied to the tax is paid off.

It would also require governments with such a tax to give the Department of Local Government Finance a list of each unpaid bond or lease agreement by early May, and report tax revenue distributions and spending every year.

Sen. Gaskill, R-Pendleton, failed in a similar attempt last year, when the bill language was stripped out during conference committee — the last step in the lawmaking process. But it's back on track this year with the Senate approving it unanimously. It now moves to the House.

Nonprofit protections

The Indiana Senate voted 50-0 to approve a bill Tuesday ensuring privacy protections for nonprofit organizations.

Sen. Liz Brown, R-Fort Wayne, said, "We have great philanthropic organizations in the state of Indiana. This ensures their donors have privacy protections. Some people like to remain anonymous when they make a donation."

Democrat Sen. Greg Taylor, of Indianapolis, thanked her for offering a bill that protects all organizations equally regardless of political or personal ideology.

The bill now moves to the House for consideration.

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Service Members at Odds Over National Guard Court-Martial Bill

By Leslie Bonilla Muñoz

A proposal stripping Indiana National Guard members of the right to refuse non-judicial punishment and demand a trial by court-martial is drawing outrage from some veterans, even as guard leaders say it'll ensure good order and discipline.

The controversy has caused the American Legion of Indiana to withdraw from The Big Four — a coalition of veterans service organizations that usually work together.

"The decision to leave did not come lightly; Indiana Legion believes that all voices within the Big 4 should be heard and given the opportunity to vote on our position before testifying to committees," a Legion email said. "This has not been the case, and since we believe it is important to represent all Hoosier veterans and active military members, we have decided to separate."

The Big Four include the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, and National Guard Association of Indiana, representing a combined 135,000 Hoosier veterans.

No military trials happening now

Twin legislation from the House and the Senate would make three changes to the state's military justice system — only one

of them controversial.

House Bill 1076 and Senate Bill 279 would let the guard's leader, Adjutant General and Major General Dale Lyles, convene trials in military courts, also known as courts-martial. They're typically reserved for more serious alleged offenses.

Right now, only Gov. Eric Holcomb has right to convene courts-martial — but Lyles told lawmakers at a hearing Tuesday that Holcomb had called none in at least the last three years.

And Lyles acknowledged there had been cases during that time period that should have used courts-martial. Col. Tim Baldwin, a judge advocate with the guard, said the organization had removed four people from its ranks in the last year on accusations of sexual assault.

But administrative separations don't go on permanent records. Court-martial convictions do.

The provision expanding the power to convene gained near-universal support in public testimony. But a second didn't.

The Indiana National Guard uses non-judicial punishments for minor offenses. Commanders notify the guard members involved, consider the evidence presented and decide if the members committed the alleged offenses.

But members also have

the right, upon notification, to demand trials by courts-martial. Commanders cannot deny those requests — they can only refer requests higher up the chain of command.

The bills would eliminate that right.

And in exchange, guard leaders said, the bills would block commanders from incarcerating members as part of non-judicial punishments.

Lyles argued that those provisions allow for "the swift administration of non-judicial punishment in cases involving minor offenses."

"The main theme of this bill is efficiency," said Judy King of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

"Others may say this bill takes away the due process rights," she said. "I disagree. This bill allows for to process at every level."

King emphasized the guard members are notified of proceedings, have access to free counsel or can hire their own lawyers, can present evidence, and can appeal the results.

But bill opponents argue that commanders are not independent arbiters, as a judge would be in a court-martial.

"It's not necessarily removing the due process rights of our men and women who volunteer in the [Indiana] National Guard," said Lisa Wilken,

an air force veteran and board member for the Indiana Veterans Support Council. "What it's actually doing is taking away their right to say to the government, 'prove it.'"

"Everybody has their opinion," Richard Caldwell, an American veterans representative on the Indiana Veterans Affairs Commission, told the Capital Chronicle.

Caldwell said that over his 32-year-career, he served on a court-martial in Iraq and oversaw numerous non-judicial punishments.

"I've been involved in one [non-judicial punishment] where the commander couldn't stand the kid," he said. "He was a young kid, didn't have great parental guidance. He was just always getting in trouble. And the commander didn't like him. He wanted to throw the book at him."

Caldwell said that he advocated for a less-harsh punishment aimed at rehabilitation, but concluded, "Not every commander likes everybody."

Baldwin pushed back on the idea that commanders can't be fair.

"To suggest that these commanders have already made up their mind, I find that offensive to the organization that I'm in," he said at a hearing last week in response to an opponent's argument that the proposal would render

members "guilty until proven innocent."

System problems?

Bill proponents and detractors both said the guard's current system, in which it's difficult to convene a court-martial, isn't working. But they had different takes on the proposed solutions.

"As a practical matter, these soldiers know if they refuse an [non-judicial punishment] and demand a court-martial that we're not going to give them a court-martial," said Baldwin, the guard judge advocate, at a House hearing last week. He emphasized the time and expenses involved.

"So in effect, they either get almost nothing — a memorandum of reprimand — or we go to separation procedures and they're out of the [Indiana] National Guard," Baldwin added.

Army veteran Rep. Renee Pack, D-Indianapolis, called the status quo a "system problem," during third reading for House Bill 1076 on Monday. She had previously offered an unsuccessful amendment deleting the court-martial proposal.

"We have our enlisted guardsmen paying the price for that system problem, losing their rights because of a system issue," she told lawmakers. "And I still stand to say it is not fair — it is not

right — to those men and women who have volunteered not only to help and defend this state but defend this country."

"Government inefficiency should not be an excuse for overreaching," she added in a passionate speech.

The House legislation passed out of the House on Monday mostly along party lines, 74-24. It will now go to the Senate for consideration.

Its Senate twin, 279, passed out of committee Tuesday, along along party lines of 6-2. But some Republicans expressed reservations with the court-martial proposal even as they voted yes.

Sen. Jim Buck, R-Kokomo, said he wanted to see the bill move out of committee, but that he wanted some concerns "addressed."

Sen. Blake Doriot, R-Goshen, also said he voted yes to "move this along," but said, "I'll be looking for some answers."

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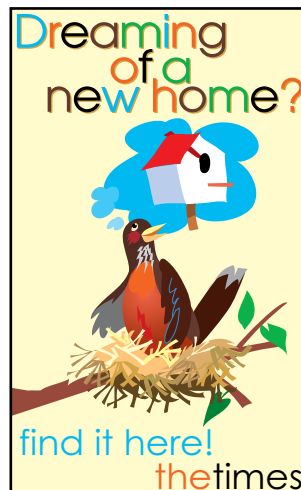
TICKETS

From Page A1

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I & Indiana acts fun



Number % Stumpers

- Decatur County was found in 1822 and named after Stephen Decatur Jr.
- Greensburg, the county seat, has an estimated population of 11,859 and a land area of 9.31 square miles.
- The county has a total land area of 373.32 square miles.
- Greensburg is known as "Tree City" because trees have been planted on top of the courthouse tower.
- There's an estimated population of 25,740 residents in the county.

1. What percentage of residents live in Greensburg?
≥
2. What is the population density of the county?
≤
3. How old is Decatur County?
≥
4. How many square miles of land does Greensburg not occupy?
≤

Answers: 1. About 46.07% 2. 69 People/Square Mile 3. 196 Years 4. 364.01 Square Miles

Got Words?

As science has evolved, the possibilities of expanding agriculture have widened. Trees on top of courthouses, as seen in Greensburg, are one of the many peculiar methods for growing plants. How do you think agriculture in Indiana has positively and negatively evolved?

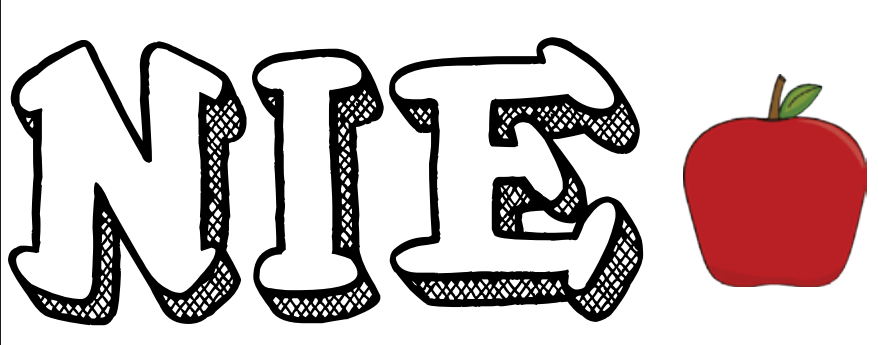
Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

1. TERE IYCT
2. GRREGSUNEB
3. UADECRT CNYOTU
4. HUORCUEOTS
5. CIRUAGEUTLR

Answers: 1. Tree City 2. Greensburg 3. Decatur County 4. Courthouse 5. Agriculture

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Hoosier Horsepower Booming Expo Registration Open for Green Industry Professionals

It's not just auto racing and paved tracks that are making investments in our state; another type of Hoosier Horsepower is making a big impact as well. The horse racing industry is a big business for the state of Indiana, touching all 92 counties. The newly released results of a recent economic impact analysis, conducted by Purdue University, show the Indiana agri-business industry of horse racing has more than doubled in the past decade. The racing and breeding business linked to horse racing has now reached just under the \$2 billion mark of economic impact. The Indiana General Assembly laid the footprint for success nearly 30 years ago to grow the agri-business industry in Indiana by creating jobs, increasing goods and services sold in Indiana, and subsequently increasing tax revenues.

Purdue University's study was a joint effort between all entities associated with Indiana horse racing, including the Standardbred, Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse Associations, Indiana Horse Racing Breed Development, and Racetrack Ownership. Like prior studies, detailed surveys were circulated by Purdue University, to those involved in racing, covering all aspects of the industry including breeding farms, training facilities, racetrack operations, and other impacted businesses in between.

"As a group, we identified there had been a significant increase in participation in our industry, but we didn't know the exact impact on the state," said John DeLong, President of the Indiana Standardbred Association. "Seeing the results from this survey is very enlightening and encouraging to our organization which has worked

hard to boost Standardbred racing in the state. We are set to host the prestigious Breeders Crown for a third time in 2023, which only strengthens us as one of the most viable options in Standardbred racing."

One of the most staggering statistics was the amount of investment within the state. The report noted between 2007 and 2020, a 59.2 percent increase in horses owned, trained, or bred. Another statistic showed 25.1 percent of the information reported resulted in an increase in Indiana owned property with an additional 47.9 percent representing an increase in invested equipment directly related to horse racing.

"We have seen a lot of new farm development in recent years, especially around Horseshoe Indianapolis," said Joe Davis, President of the Indiana Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association. "This survey solidifies what we expected to see based on our growing numbers in racing and breeding operations. Plus, these facilities are directly impacting their local communities by hiring additional workforce, purchasing supplies, and bringing tax dollars to the state. We knew there had been a significant increase in our industry but had no idea it had amounted to \$2 billion." Tom Mosley, President of the Indiana Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association added, "Our annual fall sale has shown significant increases over the past few years and the number of new owners is growing immensely. We are adding new stallions and brood mares to our program each year, which has elevated the quality of our breeding program. It's exciting to see this surge of interest in

our business."

"We have seen a lot of investment in the Indiana Quarter Horse racing industry just in the past five years," added Paul Martin, President of the Quarter Horse Racing Association of Indiana. "The Quarter Horse breed is one of the most popular in the state through several disciplines, from pleasure riding to rodeo activities, including the popular barrel racing circuit. It's encouraging to see some of those people starting to branch out into the racing end of our breed. Our hosting of the Bank of America Challenge Championships this past fall, the industry's premiere event, boosted our awareness on a national level and increased interest in our program in Indiana.

The most recent study on the economic impact of Horse Racing in Indiana encompasses mature business levels since the implementation of casino gaming at the tracks, which includes the addition of table games at the two racetracks in 2020. The continued growth of the Indiana equine agri-business that has been shown at each benchmark, in direct proportion, proves positive when looking towards the future and the implementation of further gaming opportunities.

"We are committed to bringing the Indiana horse racing industry to a higher level," said Joe Morris, Senior Vice President of Racing for Caesars Entertainment, which includes both Harrah's Hoosier Park and Horseshoe Indianapolis. "Our goal is to continue to elevate all three breeds into the national conversation of horse racing. We work closely with the horsemen organizations to ensure we

are traveling in the right direction at all times. Our relationship with these groups is imperative to continue the growth of our industry. Our collaboration with the horsemen and horsewomen in this state, the Indiana Horse Racing Commission, and the Breed Development programs is second to none in the United States, and we are not done yet. Our racing team is devoted to the success of horse racing in Indiana and seeing the results of this survey proves we are headed in the right direction."

"It is a great accomplishment that all facets of horse racing have worked together over the past two decades to build such a viable and impactful industry for Indiana," stated IHRC Chairman Phil Borst.

About Indiana Horse Racing:

Indiana Horse racing has been included at the county fair level since the late 1800s. Racing for equine athletes has been a staple at the Indiana State Fair annually since the 1930s. The implementation of pari-mutuel racing to the state in 1994 has increased the participation and development of breeding and racing programs in the state. Standardbred racing is now held annually for a 160-day racing meet at Harrah's Hoosier Park in Anderson with all Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing held at Horseshoe Indianapolis in Shelbyville for a 123-day season. Additionally, county fair racing is conducted at locations throughout the state from June until October, showcasing the Standardbred breed in additional venues. Horses associated with racing are located in all 92 counties of Indiana.

The Indiana Green Expo is returning this year with three days of educational opportunities for turf and landscape professionals in addition to a trade show and networking events.

The 2023 Indiana Green Expo will take place Jan. 30 through Feb. 1 at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis. Fourteen educational tracks will be offered with topics including design, invasive species, tree care and more, along with a track in Spanish. Continuing Education Requirements for a variety of certification programs will be available for attendees.

"The Indiana Green Expo is the best opportunity of the year for the green industry to gather for education, vendors and networking," said Kyle Daniel, a nursery and landscape outreach

specialist. "Investing in your employee professional development will greatly increase employee retention, a critical part to the success of companies."

Conference registration and additional details are available online.

The Midwest Regional Turf Foundation (MRTF) and the Indiana Nursery and Landscape Association first joined efforts in 2007 to offer the Indiana Green Expo (IGE). In recent years, the conference has had an average attendance of 1,600 green industry professionals. MRTF supports turf research and education at Purdue University for the advancement of the turfgrass industry. Proceeds from the IGE will be used to improve the green industry through research, educational programming and other supporting functions.

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 produce 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.

IRS Free File Launch Aims to Save Taxpayers Hard-Earned Dollars

The Internal Revenue Service's Free File Guided Tax Preparation service is live and ready for taxpayers to use. Free File went live Jan. 13, 2023, 10 days prior to the 2023 filing season start date. The IRS starts accepting individual tax returns on Jan. 23.

IRS Free File marks its 21st filing season this year and is one of many free options available to taxpayers for filing their taxes either online or in person. IRS Free File is offered via a public-private partnership between the IRS and the Free File Inc., formerly the Free File Alliance. Through this partnership, leading tax software providers make their online products available in both English and Spanish for free.

Seven partners will provide IRS Free File online products this year to any taxpayer or family who earned \$73,000 or less in 2022.

Because the filing season does not start until Jan. 23, IRS Free File providers will accept completed tax returns and hold them until they can be filed electronically on that date.

Those who make over \$73,000 can use the IRS's Free File Fillable Forms (FFFF), the electronic version of IRS paper forms beginning Jan. 23. This product is best for people comfortable preparing their own taxes.

How IRS Free File online works

Each IRS Free File provider sets its own eligibility rules for products based

on age, income and state residency.

Taxpayers that made \$73,000 or less in 2022 will likely find a product that matches their needs. Some providers also offer free state return preparation. Active-duty military can use any IRS Free File products if their adjusted gross income was \$73,000 in 2022 or less.

To find the right IRS Free File product taxpayers can:

- Go to IRS.gov/FreeFile,
- Click on Free Guided Tax Preparation. Then select IRS Free File Online Lookup Tool for help in finding the right product, or
- Use the Browse All Offers tool to review each offer,

- Select the best product for them, and
- Follow the links to the provider's website to begin their tax return.

No computer? No problem. IRS Free File products support mobile phone access. Taxpayers can do their taxes on their smart phone or tablet.

IRS Free File participants

For 2023, the following providers are participating in IRS Free File:

- 1040Now
- ezTaxReturn.com
- FileYourTaxes.com
- On-Line Taxes
- TaxAct
- FreeTaxUSA
- TaxSlayer

For 2023, ezTaxReturn.com will provide an IRS Free File product in Spanish.

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