

➔ TODAY'S VERSE
Psalm 37:5 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.



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

What makes Kate Baker smile? "The kindness of others, my nieces and nephew, laughter, my dogs, the ocean. There are so many things that bring me joy." She's "an incredibly proud aunt, the best title I've ever had," and "a proud mom" to her two sweet huskies, Dakota and Dasher. Since coming on to the job as Noblesville Main Street's executive director, Baker feels right at home. She invites everyone to stop in. "I love hearing about what people value about Noblesville Main Street and, of course, what they'd like to see from us in the future," she said. In Noblesville, Baker grew up singing and loving theater. She was involved in high-school drama productions and sang with Noblesville High School's NHS Singers and New Dimension show choirs, and she still sings in the chancel choir at Noblesville First United Methodist Church. Currently, she's preparing for Noblesville Main Street's First Friday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. today in downtown Noblesville. The event, "Noblesville's Got Talent," features local talent performing at the Lacy Arts Building, plus three other merchants in downtown Noblesville. Read more about the event in the Betsy Reason column in today's edition of The Times.

And Another Thing...

1. Reader's Choice

Want to get those final votes in on Readers' Choice '23? Then you better hurry because voting ends this weekend! Remember, RC is very much like Chicago politics - vote early and vote often! However, when the voting ends soon, that'll be it for another year. You have two options on voting - you can go to www.thetimes24-7.com and click on the Readers' Choice banner and then fill out the ballot. Or, you can e-mail your votes to timmons@thetimes24-7.com. But whichever way you choose, hurry. Time is running out!

2. Attorney General Todd Rokita

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita told the general public that his office is ready to defend the recently passed transgender bill. "Signing the bill that protects our children from irreversible and damaging decisions was the right move by the governor. Banning these experimental procedures is critical for the health and wellbeing of future generations. My office is thankful for the General Assembly's hard work to ensure this got across the finish line. We are ready to defend it in court."

3. Senator Braun's statement on Indiana bill banning irreversible "gender transition" drugs and surgeries for children

Indiana Sen. Mike Braun applauded a new state law that would stop irreversible and dangerous "gender transition" drugs and procedures for minors, including puberty blockers, hormone therapies, and irreversible surgeries such as mastectomies for the purpose of "gender transition." Gov. Eric Holcomb signed it into law Wednesday. "A child cannot consent to irreversible sex change surgery, and Indiana will no longer allow children to take dangerous drugs with long-term consequences like puberty blockers and hormone therapies in the name of extreme gender theories," Braun said. "These kids are clearly having a hard time, and we need to give them compassion and mental health help rather than dangerous, un-tested, unapproved drugs and irreversible surgeries."

Braun said that puberty blockers and hormone therapies have not been approved by the FDA for "gender transition," and when prescribed to children have long term medical consequences which are not reversible, including loss of bone mass and infertility.

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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Photo courtesy of The Attic Theatre

Experience the drama based on the true story of Helen Keller, a young deaf and blind girl, and her dedicated teacher Annie Sullivan, during The Attic Theatre's production of "The Miracle Worker," at 7 p.m. today and Saturday and 2 p.m. Saturday at Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville, with tickets at theattictheatre.com and at the door.

'Noblesville's Got Talent' on Square, Helen Keller Story, More Egg Hunts



BETSY REASON
Columnist

Beginning today with Noblesville Main Street's "Nobles-

ville's Got Talent" show, there are plenty of things to do this weekend and beyond. Here's our Times' list of 30 things to do.

1. Come watch singers, dancers, magicians and others perform from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. today for Noblesville Main Street's "Noblesville's Got Talent" during First Friday in downtown Noblesville. Main Stage will be in the Lacy Arts Building (former Kirk Hardware) on Logan Street, featuring Addie McMillan, 5:30 p.m.; Spencer Johns, 5:35 p.m.; Lilly Lanter, 5:40 p.m.; Azalea Davidson, 5:45 p.m.; Fulton Mraz, 5:50 p.m.; Addie Jarniac, 5:55 p.m.; Carlos Torres Del Peru, 6 p.m.; Ditchweed Acoustic

Band, 6:05 p.m.; talent show closing remarks, 6:10 p.m. After performing at the Lacy Arts Building, 848 Logan St., talent contestants will move on to perform at Little Petal Flower Farm at 173 N. Ninth St., Noble Coffee & Tea at 933 Logan St., and Vintage Adventures at 823 Conner St. Also, at the Lacy Arts Building, bands Night Below, 6:15 p.m.; Tom Pieziak & Friends, 7:15 p.m.; Josh Cecil & Tyler Meachum, 8:15 p.m.; and open jam, 9:15-10 p.m.

2. Shop with local artists and vendors while enjoying live music at First Fridays, 5 p.m.

➔ See BETSY Page A5



Kroger Celebrates Indiana's Top Community Rewards

Presentation acknowledges fundraising potential of shopper loyalty program.

Kroger celebrated a fundraising milestone in a visit to the Humane Society for Hamilton County. The achievement displays the fundraising potential for organizations enrolled in Kroger's Community Rewards program. Humane Society for Hamilton County earned more

than \$12,000 from its membership during 2022, more than any other participant in Indiana.

"It's a remarkably simple concept," said Eric Halvorson, manager of Corporate Affairs for Kroger Central Division. "You shop with us. We donate to your favorite local charity. We're here today to show our gratitude to members of the Humane Society for Hamilton

Lily Pesavento, Community Engagement Manager HSHC (dark hair, yellow shoes)
Jennifer Dant, Corporate Sponsorship & Events Manager HCSC (red hair, holding Community Rewards certificate)
The check for \$12,382 represents donations from Kroger to the Humane Society for Hamilton County during all of 2022.

The dog's name is Lasagna and the fingers on the left side of the photo are holding a treat for Lasagna. Seeing that made him a good boy when posing for the picture.

➔ See COMMUNITY Page A5

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:16 a.m.
SET: 8:15 p.m.



High/Low
Temperatures
HIGH: 59 °F
LOW: 36 °F

Today is...
• Good Friday
• Metric System Day
• National Beer Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1969 The internet is born. The Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) awarded a contract to build a precursor of today's world wide web to BBN Technologies. The date is widely considered as the internet's symbolic birthday.
- 1948 The World Health Organization is established. The WHO is a United Nations agency concerned with fighting disease and epidemics worldwide, building up national health services, and improving health education in its 194 member states.
- 1827 The first friction match is sold. English chemist John Walker produced and sold the first operable matches. They were soon banned in France and Germany because burning fragments would sometimes fall to the floor and start fires.



Births On This Day

- 1964 Russell Crowe New Zealand/Australian actor, singer, producer
- 1954 Jackie Chan Chinese actor, martial artist, director, producer, screenwriter

Deaths On This Day

- 1891 P. T. Barnum American businessman, founded Ringling Bros., Barnum & Bailey Circus
- 1947 Henry Ford American businessman, founded the Ford Motor Company

➔ INSIDE TODAY

- Dick Wolfsie.....A4
- Ken Thompson.....A4
- Business.....A6
- Voices.....A7

➔ HONEST HOOSIER

Anyone else remember Gene Autry singing Here Comes Peter Cottontail hopping down the bunny trail?



➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"The holy passion of friendship is of so sweet and steady and loyal and enduring a nature that it will last through a whole lifetime, if not asked to lend money."
-Mark Twain

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

Why didn't the artist stop running?
She was on the home sketch!

➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Kids work harder in school when their parents are involved in their education.

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.



➔ OBITUARIES

None

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



WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

55 MUCH CLOUDY	35/58 PARTLY CLOUDY	36/62 MAINLY SUNNY	38/65 SUNNY	40/68 PLEASANT	45/72 WARMING UP	48/72 WARMER
THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED

Noblesville Schools Accepting Applications For 2023 Back To School BASH



Photo Courtesy of Noblesville Schools

Community organizations interested in exhibiting at this year's Back to School BASH are invited to apply here by April 30. The Noblesville Schools BASH has been a favorite back to school celebration in Noblesville for almost a decade and typically draws over 8,000 attendees. Guests enjoy food, games, activities, music, and community organization booths. This year's event will be held Friday, July 28, 2023 from 5-8 pm at Noblesville High School's Beaver Stadium.

Sheridan Youth Assistance Supporters!

We are three months away from our 3rd annual golf outing to raise funds for the youth and families of Sheridan Youth Assistance.

If you don't golf, I bet you know others that do. Please pass along the information for a fun day on the golf course with the SYAP team!

Registration is now OPEN for our Golf Outing June 12, 2023 -. <https://syapgolf.wedo-auctions.com> and "buy tickets" today!

On Monday, June 12, 2023 Sheridan Youth Assistance will be hosting a Charity Golf Tournament at Plum Creek Golf Club with a 10:00 a.m. shotgun start. With your help we will be able to raise a generous amount of funds for the youth and their families in the Sheridan community. We've provided some amazing

resources for our youth this past year. Register as an individual, a team or be a sponsor!

The event will be a full 18 holes of golf, box lunch, dinner, raffle prizes, and Hole in One Prizes. Funds generated from this summer event will be used to provide positive opportunities and experiences students will only have because of your support.

I look forward to seeing many of you in June. Share with your friends and colleagues!

Save the Date for Saturday, September 16 - our annual Denim and Lace fundraiser at West Fork Distillery in Westfield.

Check out our annual report to learn how we served the youth in Sheridan in 2022. <https://youthassistance.org/sheridan-news>

Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation (CCPR) To Host Parks Beautification Week

Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation (CCPR) will hold its first-ever Parks Beautification Week later this month to engage community members in a series of fun, educational park restoration projects. From Monday, April 17 through Friday, April 21, there will be a variety of projects for volunteers to participate in, ending with a native tree planting in honor of Earth Day.

"Parks Beautification Week is a week where we show appreciation

to our environment by giving back to our parks and natural areas," said CCPR Volunteer Coordinator Caitlin May. "We're incredibly excited to share these events with the community and further encourage park stewardship."

Community members of all ages are invited to participate in one or all Parks Beautification Week activities. Volunteers ages 16 or younger must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required for each project.

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Westfield Meet The Candidates Event

The Westfield Chamber has announced that it will host a 'Westfield Meet the Candidates' event on Tuesday, April 11, from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. at The Bridgewater Club located at 3535 East 161st Street, Carmel. The event is free and open to the public. No ticket is necessary to attend.

Each candidate will have a table with their campaign materials. Residents will check in when they arrive (no ticket is necessary to enter) and can walk around the venue and meet with any candidate. The event's purpose is to give all Westfield voters the opportunity to meet the candidates running for office face-to-face and hear from them directly.

The Chamber recognizes

the historical significance of this moment, given that this will be the first time we have had a new Mayor and Clerk Treasurer since becoming a city in the late 90s. Additionally, with every City Council seat being contested, it is possible that there could be an entirely new City Council come 2024.

Given Westfield's trajectory as the fastest-growing city in Indiana, the stakes for the upcoming election primary on May 2 could not be higher. This event aims to give all Westfield residents the opportunity to meet the candidates who will be on the May 2 ballot.

Anyone of voting age is welcome to attend the event on Tuesday, April 11.

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Logan Village Mall

977 Logan Street in Noblesville

Vote for us as your favorite: **Antique Store**
"Mom & Pop" Store • Gift Shop

Help make us the **Best Apartment Community in Hamilton County** again this year!

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Millstone of Noblesville is located near Noblesville and Fishers off 146th St. and SR 37

To learn more about Millstone of Noblesville, visit MillstoneofNoblesville.com or call 317-674-8167.

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19344 Morrison Way
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SOLD!

Charming 4 BR, 2.5 BA home in popular Potters Woods. Hardwood throughout main level, family room with fireplace, kitchen with center island, new granite, finished basement, fenced parklike backyard, 3-car garage and so much more. BLC#21905032

1999 N Harbour Drive
Noblesville • \$379,900

SOLD!

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

7123 Burlat Lane
Noblesville • \$359,900

SOLD!

Over 3,000 square feet of living space in this beautiful home in Cherry Tree Meadows featuring 4 BR/2.5 BA office and loft. LVP Hardwoods on main level, fenced backyard with large deck. New roof! BLC#21902247

Call Peggy 317.439.3258
or Jennifer 317.695.6032

**Your house could be here!
Give us a call.**

Happy Easter from Peggy and Jennifer

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THE Deakyne Team

Jennifer
Peggy

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Attorney General Todd Rokita Releases Annual Report To Promote Accountability And Transparency

Attorney General Todd Rokita today released his office's 2022 Annual Report as part of his ongoing commitment to be accountable and transparent to Hoosiers.

"In 2022, we continued a pattern of accomplishment on behalf of Indiana citizens and taxpayers," Attorney General Rokita said. "We kept up our work protecting liberty, upholding the rule of law and keeping Hoosier families safe and secure at an all-time low cost to the state."

The annual report details the work of Attorney General Rokita and his team in such areas as consumer protection, financial stewardship, defending the Constitution, fighting federal overreach, supporting job creators & economic growth, targeting Big Tech abuses and much more.

In 2022, the Office of the Attorney General recovered more than \$475 million on behalf of Hoosier taxpayers — including the Unclaimed Property Division's

return of \$62 million in assets to rightful owners.

The office spends five times less than it collects in General Fund dollars. This even excludes multistate opioid settlements in which the office anticipates recovering nearly \$1 billion by 2038 from opioid manufacturers, distributors and retailers.

In comparison, the state has only received about \$3.1 billion over the past 25 years under the multistate tobacco master settlement.

"Through hard work and servant leadership, my staff and I achieved significant victories for Hoosiers throughout 2022," Attorney General Rokita said. "As we enter the spring of 2023, we're fully committed to keep doing all the things necessary to continue producing such positive results."

Attorney General Rokita and his team won lawsuits against the Biden administration over such infringements as vaccine mandates.

They stood up for Hoosiers' liberty by

publishing the Parents Bill of Rights and the Gun Owners Bill of Rights.

They repeatedly won court victories defending pro-life laws.

They achieved important settlements for Hoosiers with pharmaceutical companies that irresponsibly contributed to the devastating opioid crisis, with robocallers that scammed Hoosiers and with Big Tech companies that violated users' privacy.

They pressed the Biden administration to secure the U.S. southern border and — in a "first" for an inland state — sued the federal government over the costs exacted from Indiana due to the federal government's failures on this issue of national security.

They helped protect religious liberty through such actions as supporting Catholic schools' successful efforts to affirm they have the right to require ministerial staff — including educators and counselors — to uphold Catholic doctrine.

Consumer Alert: Products Recalled In March

Attorney General Todd Rokita is alerting Hoosiers of important consumer protection concerns for products recalled in March. Attorney General Rokita encourages consumers to take advantage of opportunities available for those who purchased the recalled items.

"Spring has sprung and so have house projects," Attorney General Rokita said. "That means making sure household products are working correctly. Hoosiers shouldn't have to deal with faulty items. If you have one of the recalled products, stop using it immediately and pursue resolution from the manufacturer."

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

•PRO XL501 Chipper Shredders from DR Power Equipment

•Docking Stations Sold with STIHL iMOW Robotic Lawn Mowers from STIHL Incorporated
•Sportsman All-Terrain Vehicles from Polaris
•Arctic Cat Alterra 600 and Tracker 600 All-Terrain Vehicles from Textron Specialized Vehicles

•Natural Gas Boilers from Burnham Commercial
•Office Chairs from TJX
•Patagonia Infant Capilene Midweight Base Layer Sets from Patagonia
•Children's Bamboo Plates from Primark
•Relion Insight Series Lithium Batteries from Relion Battery

•Classic Whimsy Children's Pajamas from Smocked Runway
•Multi-Purpose Kids Bike Helmets from Ouwoer Direct
•Wakeboard Bindings from Active Sports
•Soft Coolers and Gear Cases from YETI

•Aprepitant Capsules and Lidocaine and Prilocaine Cream Prescription Drugs from Sandoz
•Portable SRTH Small Room Tower Heaters from Vornado Air

•Kindred Bravely Bamboo Nursing Hoodies from Akerson Enterprises
•All Calico Critters Animal Figures and Sets Sold with Bottle and Pacifier Accessories from Epoch Everlasting Play
•Bedsure Electric Heating Blankets and Pads from Bedshe International
•Pure Outdoor Cooking System from Monoprice
•Crib Bumpers from Meiling Hou

If you believe you recently purchased a recalled product, stop using it, and check its recall notice. Then, follow the notice's instructions, including where to return the product or what steps must be taken to receive a replacement product.



Photo courtesy of Indiana Department of Homeland Security

Multiple Agencies Investigating Fatal Union City Fire

Indiana State Fire Marshal investigators are working with local fire officials to determine the cause of a fatal fire that occurred in the early morning hours Wednesday in Union City, Ind (Randolph County).

Local crews were called at about 3:20 a.m. to a rural address on Greenville Pike with a reported possible entrapment. They

arrived to find a home fully involved with fire. Crews were unable to make entry and were forced to work to contain the blaze as much as possible.

After extinguishing the fire, crews entered the remaining structure and found a deceased male, approximately 60 years old. Investigators are awaiting DNA results to confirm the victim's identity.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation. No foul play is expected. No additional information is available.

Responding agencies included Union City Fire Department, Union City (Ohio) Fire Department, Winchester Fire Department and the Ward Township Fire Department. Randolph County EMS and County Coroner also were on scene.

FeedingTeam.org

Tuesday, April 25th, 5p-9p

Mill Top Banquet & Conference Center

for an evening of fun and magic!
As we thank those that help make FeedingTeam a success.

730pm
Jon Mobley
Magician

Silent
Auction

5pm
Catered
Dinner

50/50 raffle

and more!



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OR visit <https://one.bidpal.net/feedingteam2>
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Thanks for making us #1 last year
Make us #1 again this year!

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Vote us the BEST VET in Hamilton County!

Forever Among The Greatest Players In Purdue History

Zach Edey's place among the all-time greatest to play basketball at Purdue was cemented Tuesday by winning his sixth and final 2022-23 National Player of the Year honor, the Wooden Award.

Whether Edey supplants All-American Joe Barry Carroll as the Boilermakers' center on an all-time team will be left to others. Some will want to use Carroll's role in Purdue reaching the Final Four and becoming the No. 1 overall NBA draft pick as a tiebreaker, but the pro game has changed dramatically since 1980.

The only thing certain is that the Edey household in Toronto is going to have to find room for a museum-sized trophy case.

Here is just a sample of the dozens of honors Edey has earned this season:

- National Player of the Year honors (Wooden, Naismith, Oscar Robertson Trophy (United States Basketball Writers Association), Associated Press, National Association of Basketball Coaches, Sporting News)

- Kareem Abdul-Jabbar Award (nation's top center)

- Pete Newell Big Man of the Year Award

- Unanimous first-team All-American

- Big Ten Player of the Year

- Big Ten Tournament Most Outstanding Player

Edey is the first Canadian winner of the Wooden Award and the first Purdue player since Glenn Robinson in 1994 to be the recipient.

The 7-4 junior averaged 22.3 points, 12.9 rebounds, 2.1 blocks and 1.5 assists per game. He is the first player in NCAA history with at least 750 points, 400 rebounds, 70 blocked

shots and 50 assists in a season.

Edey owns the single-season rebounds record (438) and fell one game shy of matching Caleb Swanigan's single-season double-doubles record with 27. If Edey decides to return for his senior season, he will have a chance to break Rick Mount's 53-year-old career scoring record of 2,323 points. Through 99 games, Edey has 1,533 points. The only players to score more points through their junior seasons were Mount, Robinson and Carsen Edwards.

Not to pull a Ford Frick* but Mount played just 72 games and did not have freshman eligibility or a 3-point line. Robinson put up 1,706 points in 62 games as he was academically ineligible by NCAA rules as a freshman and bypassed his senior season for the NBA.

*Ford Frick was the commissioner of Major League Baseball in 1961 – the first year of the 162-game schedule – when he ruled that a player must hit more than Babe Ruth's record 60 home runs in his first 154 games in order to be considered the record holder. Roger Maris hit No. 61 in the New York Yankees' 162nd game but fans and official record keepers ignored Frick and considered Maris the new home run king.)

Edey is Purdue's third National Player of the Year winner, joining John Wooden (1932) and Robinson.

Like Edey, Robinson was the unanimous selection for National Player of the Year. Wooden presented Robinson with his namesake trophy and was asked about the Big Dog's place in Purdue

history by the Journal & Courier's Jeff Washburn.

"At his size, Glenn can do more things, probably, than any other player that I know that Purdue has had," said Wooden, who shared No. 13 with Robinson. "As an all-around player, he is just marvelous."

"As far as his college play, Glenn will go down as the greatest Purdue has had."

What about Rick Mount, Washburn asked. "They are entirely different players," Wooden said. "To put Rick in Glenn's class, no. But as a scorer, yes."

High praise also came from Michigan State's Jud Heathcote, who coached a guy named Magic Johnson in the late 1970s.

"Glenn Robinson is as good a player as the Big Ten probably has ever had," Heathcote said in 1994.

In my previous career as sports editor of the Journal & Courier, I once wrote that Robinson was the greatest Boilermaker to wear No. 13. Older Purdue fans begged to differ.

Wooden stood 5-9, 10 inches shorter than Robinson. That didn't stop him from becoming the first player in college basketball history to be named a three-time consensus All-American.

Long before Brian Cardinal became "Citizen Pain," Wooden earned a nickname of his own. For his so-called suicidal dives on the court, Wooden was referred to as either "The India Rubber Man" or "The Indiana Rubber Man" depending on the source.

Wooden was named the Helms Athletic Foundation Player of the Year in 1932, the same organization that awarded Purdue the national champi-

onship that season. At the time when rules called for a jump ball after every made basket, Wooden broke the Big Ten scoring record with 154 points in 12 Big Ten games, a 12.1 average.

"People actually used to call him 'The Freak,'" current Purdue coach Matt Painter said on "Purdue Profiles: John Wooden." "He was so athletic. People always talked about what a good player he was, how tough he was."

Wooden excelled off the court as well. During the first semester of his senior year, Wooden's grade point average ranked 19th in a student body that numbered 4,675.

"If the most brilliant amateur basketball player in the country was to be selected, the name of John Wooden outshines all others," rival coach Dr. Walter Meanwell of Wisconsin wrote shortly after Wooden's senior season.

"This boy is a senior, weighs 180 pounds and can do anything with a basketball that anybody else can do and has a number of amazing tricks of his own. Wooden ... is the unanimous choice of every critic who has seen him for an honor team."

Long wait ends Gene Keady's election to the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame nearly a week ago relieved some fears inside and outside of Mackey Arena.

There were some Purdue faithful who worried that election wouldn't come until after Keady's passing, having fallen short in 2004 and 2006. He turns 87 on May 21.

A record seven Big Ten Coach of the Year honors and six National Coach of the Year awards during his 25 years at Purdue. Six Big

Ten championships. A Purdue record 512 wins.

All that was missing was a Final Four, a pretty obvious roadblock to election for nearly 20 years. Very few coaches in the Naismith Hall entered without a Final Four on their resume: Lefty Driesell (inducted in 2018). Pete Carril (1997). John Chaney (2001).

"It's the greatest honor I've ever had," Keady told the Big Ten Network's Andy Katz. "It means I'm old. I've coached at all levels and seen a lot of things. Eddie Sutton was probably the best coach I was ever around at Arkansas. I had great experiences and a lot of good people helped me."

It was literally half his lifetime ago that Keady came to Purdue from Western Kentucky. He was 43 and still had most of his hair, as indicated in photos taken from his introductory press conference on April 11, 1980.

Keady occasionally travels with the Boilermakers, now coached by his protégé Matt Painter. Keady wore a Purdue jacket and cap when he was introduced at the Final Four in Houston alongside the rest of the Hall of Fame class.

Katz asked Keady what he loved at Purdue.

"They expected good academics, which I always thought was the No. 1 thing," Keady said. "If you got your degree, you were on my good list. It was in a great league and we always had great attendance at the games. You can't beat that."

Painter is the most successful branch of the Keady coaching tree that includes Bruce Weber (497 wins at Southern Illinois, Illinois and Kansas State), Steve Lavin (248 wins at UCLA, St.



KENNY THOMPSON
Columnist

John's and San Diego), Kevin Stallings (479 wins at Illinois State, Vanderbilt and Pittsburgh) and Cuonzo Martin (264 wins at Missouri State, Tennessee, California and Missouri).

Painter, who is 99 victories shy of Keady's record at Purdue, has a special place in his coach's heart.

"He's like a son," Keady told Katz. "He was very coachable. He told his dad that he didn't know if coach Keady knew what he was doing. His dad told him to shut up and do what he says. Now he's the coach."

Keady becomes the fifth Purdue person in the Naismith Hall of Fame.

Crawfordsville's own, Ward "Piggy" Lambert, was inducted posthumously in 1960 alongside his two greatest players, John Wooden and Charles "Stretch" Murphy. The 1960 United States Olympic gold medal winning basketball team, whose starting lineup included Purdue All-American Terry Dischinger, was honored in 2010.

-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.

Not Funny You Should Say That!



DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

I think I just read some great news. But I'm not positive how to process the information. Here's the headline:

EXPERT SAYS DAD'S TERRIBLE JOKES ARE GREAT FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Wait a second! The jokes I told my son Brett as he was growing up were not terrible. I resent that. But even if they were bad, that's apparently a good thing. Confused, I read on....

A researcher named Marc Hye-Knudsen wrote an article in a British journal with the title:

DAD JOKES? THAT'S THE WAY EYE ROLL

His premise is that when fathers tell dumb jokes and lame puns, it prepares their kids to deal with awkward circumstances, giving them a little experience in life with embarrassing and demeaning situations. It might even assist in dealing effectively with bullies because it teaches them self-control. It sounded like a bunch of baloney, but I

wanted to believe it, so I called Brett, who is now an adult, to share the story I had just read.

"Brett, it's Dad. I need to tell you something."

"Geesh, Dad, I'm 35 years old. Not another juvenile joke!"

"Yes, yes, that's just what I was hoping you'd say. I read an article that says my telling dumb jokes to you when you were a kid helped you grow into a well-adjusted adult."

"It's true, Dad. I never thought you were funny, but reacting to your lame puns really did help me deal with other embarrassing experiences down the road."

"Brett, that is exactly what the British psychologist said. Are there any jokes that were particularly bad that might have led you to a more productive and satisfying life?"

"Well, I remember one about the duck who walked into a pharmacy and said, 'I need some lip balm and you can put it on my bill.' Now, Dad, that's just a dreadful joke. I found it demeaning and insulting for both of us."

"Thank you so much for saying that. How lucky you were to have such a humorless father."

And now, a 100 percent true story about how I really did humiliate Brett some 30 years ago:

Brett was in the fourth grade and I was doing field reporting for WISH-

TV. The Broadway show CATS was playing at Beef and Boards and I thought it would be fun to have the make-up artist apply the same cosmetics on me as she did for the actors in the show. The process took quite a while. When I looked at myself in the mirror some two hours later, it was bizarre feeling like my normal self but staring at a cat in the reflection. That's when I had an idea. I would go to my son's class and surprise the kids with my new feline face.

When I reached the school I checked in to the main office, explained my plan and made my way to Brett's room. After getting the teacher's attention through the tiny side window and identifying myself, I slithered in through the door.

The kids went wild—screaming, laughing, meowing. "WHO IS IT?" asked one kid in the front row. No one knew who I was, of course, with one notable exception.

From the back of the room came my son's voice, dripping in embarrassment: "Probably my father."

- 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.



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BETSY From Page A1

to 9 p.m. today, at the The Lacy Building on Logan Street in downtown Noblesville.

3. Experience the drama based on the true story of Helen Keller, a young deaf and blind girl, and her dedicated teacher Annie Sullivan, during The Attic Theatre's production of "The Miracle Worker," directed by Zoe Pointer and Rebecca Roy, at 7 p.m. today through Saturday and 2 p.m. Saturday at Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville, with tickets \$8-\$12, at <https://www.theattictheatre.com/>

4. Meet Sheldon Shalley in the Stephenson House with his exhibit, "Nebulas and Stardust," on display today through April 29, with a reception 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. today at Nickel Plate Arts Campus, where there will be refreshments, new exhibits, cash bar, music guest and more.

5. Head to the 1836 Prairietown as the outdoor areas are open today 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the 2023 season at Conner Prairie in Fishers. Springtime on the Prairie is 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, with Easter egg hunts every 15 minutes, 2-3-year-olds at 1:30 p.m., 4-5-year-olds at 1:45 p.m., 6-8-year-olds at 2 p.m. and 9-12-year-olds at 2:15 p.m., plus art activities, see young animals and rabbits, learn about springtime practices, including dyeing eggs and Maypole.

6. Come see a traveling exhibit while learning about our Bicentennial themes, now through April 7 at Hamilton North Public Library in Cicero, April 8-14 at Monon Community Center in Carmel, April 15-21 at Hazel Dell Elementary in Noblesville, April 22-28 at Hamilton Heights Elementary in Arcadia and April 29-May 5 at Jackson Township Trustee Office in Arcadia.

7. Check out the comedians at The Brick Room Comedy Club, featuring Alex Eakin and Ray Roberts at 8 p.m. today and Ray Hensley and Daryl Hollonquest Jr. at 8 p.m. Saturday with \$10 admission tickets at thebrickroom.cc.

8. Enjoy an Easter breakfast buffet and visit with the Easter Bunny for a photo opportunity from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday at Conner Prairie in Fishers. Remember to bring your own camera to capture the memory. Assigned seating will be arranged in advance for registered guests.

9. Paint free in watercolor recreations of local, historic class portraits and photographs found in the Indiana Room of the Cicero Library with art instructor Lor MacNorton 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday in the Maker Space at Hamilton North Public Library in Cicero.

10. Owners can bring their dogs and sniff out thousands of treat-filled Easter "Beggs" with treats, at 11 a.m. Saturday at Hamilton Town Center's Dog Park behind Express.

11. Families can celebrate Spring at the Hide and Peep Egg Hunt and more 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at Village Green in front of Dick's Sporting Goods.

12. The community is invited to an annual Easter Egg Hunt 9 a.m. to noon Saturday at the First Christian Church in Noblesville. Ages 5 and younger with parents at 9 a.m., ages 6-9 at 10 a.m. and ages 10-12 at 11 a.m.

13. Join the 11th annual Adult Easter Egg Hunt at noon Saturday at Blackhawk Winery & Vineyard in Sheridan, where the eggs you find will earn special prizes, and where your ticket includes a glass of wine and wine tumbler. For ages 21 and older. Grounds are open until 7 p.m. with music and food, with \$25 tickets at eventbrite.com.

14. Bring the kids out for Noblesville Moose Lodge's annual Easter egg hunt, followed by White Elephant Sale, with free hunt for up to age 12, starting at 1 p.m. Saturday on the Lodge lawn on Field Drive in Noblesville.

15. Board the Nick-

el Plate Express for an Egg-citing Easter train ride with the Easter bunny on Saturday, leaving Hobbs Station at Forest Park Depot in Noblesville. Visit nickelplateexpress.com/

16. Enjoy live music with John Gilmore on Saturday night at Grindstone Public House in downtown Noblesville.

17. Experience the live music of Brian Goins at 7 p.m. Saturday, Anneliese & Ali on April 14, Benjamin Watson on April 15, at Spencer Farm Winery in Noblesville.

18. Add a touch of jazz to your Easter Sunday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday at Feinstein's at Hotel Carmichael in Carmel with special guest Tom Clark and sounds of Blair Clark, who has captivated audiences through Europe, Canada and all over the U.S.

19. Amazing Athletes of Central Indiana is coming to Noblesville Parks and Recreation and is offering a free "Try-It" Day at Forest Park Lodge Basement on Saturday with 25-minute classes for ages 18 months to age 10, April 12-May 17. Visit noblesvilleparks.com

20. Main Street Productions and Basile Westfield Playhouse present "Spitfire Grill" musical, directed by Noblesville's Brenna Whitaker April 13-27, with tickets at westfieldplayhouse.org.

21. Unlock the past in this interactive Jackson Township historical walking tour put together by Hamilton Heights Schools students, during an open house, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 15 at select locations.

22. Join the Nickel Plate Express railroad in an excursion 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 15, celebrating the history of the town stations along the Nickel Plate line, from Hobbs Station in Noblesville, travel north through Cicero, Arcadia and Atlanta and you listen to and read about the history of the towns and landscapes, with \$20 tickets, including refreshments, at nickelplateexpress.com

23. Experience the free Welcome to Fairyville April 19-22 in Noblesville Cultural Arts District beginning at Nickel Plate Arts Campus as fairies take over downtown Noblesville, with info at nickelplatearts.org.

24. Day at Red Bridge Park in Cicero will offer dedication of new historical signage about Cicero's Red Bridge, a day of festivities, showing of the Ball State University PBS Special, "Now Entering Cicero," and outdoor showing of a Hoosier Hot Shots movie, plus local music and fun, on April 21.

25. Ages 2-5 can par-take 2 to 3 p.m. April 27 for "Wiggling Worms at Work, with dirt pudding, with fee and registration at noblesvilleparks.org or by calling 317-776-6350.

26. Hamilton County Theatre Guild's The Belfry Theatre presents "Crimes of the Heart," directed by Jen Otterman of Noblesville, April 28-May 7 at Arts for Lawrence's Theater at the Fort in Indianapolis, with tickets at 317-773-1085 and on sale soon at www.thebelfrytheatre.com.

27. Board the Nickel Plate Express for the Peony Brunch Express at 10 a.m. April 29 for a 90-minute ride with brunch by Andy's Hospitality, leaving Hobbs Station at Forest Park Depot in Noblesville.

28. Noblesville Farmers Market opening day is 8 a.m. to noon May 6 at Federal Hill Commons in Noblesville.

29. Noblesville Chamber of Commerce's "The Taste of Business-Made in Noblesville" is 4 to 7:30 p.m. May 10 at Embassy Suites by Hilton in Noblesville.

30. Charity Ride for American Veteran Riders Association is at 8:30 a.m. May 20 beginning at the Ralph Lehr VFW Post 6246.

-Betsy Reason writes about people, places and things in Hamilton County. Contact Betsy Reason at betsy@thetimes24-7.com.

COMMUNITY From Page A1

as another boost to help the organization provide daily essentials for the shelter pets waiting for their forever families.

"We are extremely grateful to be a beneficiary of the Kroger Community Rewards Program and we can't thank the Kroger shoppers enough," said Jennifer Dant, Corporate Sponsorship & Events Manager for the Humane Society for Hamilton County. "This donation has had a huge impact on the lives of the homeless pets in our care. With our shelter being overcrowded and currently in crisis we really depend on the community's support."

Through the Community Rewards program, The Kroger Co. (NYSE: KR) has directed more than

\$200 million in charitable giving since 2017, donating to thousands of local nonprofit organizations across the United States. The program is free for both customers and recipients. Customers with a Kroger Shoppers Card simply link their account to their chosen recipient so that all transactions apply to the organization of their choice.

Kroger loyalty members interested in giving back through the Community Rewards program can learn more here. Organizations wishing to become a beneficiary of the program can learn more here. Kroger Community Rewards is open to organizations that are tax-exempt under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Indiana Legislators Need To Act Now To Lower Healthcare Costs

Owners reporting labor quality as their top small business operating problem remains elevated at 23%, according to NFIB's monthly jobs report. Labor costs reported as the single most important problem to business owners decreased one point to 11%, just two points below the highest reading of 13% reached in December 2021.

"What's clear from this latest small business survey is that small business owners are still struggling to hire workers. The problem is even worse here in Indiana because of the high cost of health care. Indiana has one of the highest health care costs in the nation. According to NFIB's latest survey, the biggest reason that 65% of our small business owners don't offer health care is that it's too expensive.

Indiana lawmakers have a great opportunity to act upon this staggering fact. Right now, they are considering a bill that would prevent hospitals from charging hospital rates in doctor office settings, forcing them to bill for the service where the care was provided. This would move the needle in the right direction and help make health care costs more affordable for small business owners across the state," said Natalie Robinson, NFIB State Director in Indiana. Forty-three percent (sea-

sonally adjusted) of all owners reported job openings they could not fill in the current period, down four points from February. Thirty-four percent of owners have openings for skilled workers and 19% have openings for unskilled labor.

Small business owners' plans to fill open positions continued to ease, with a seasonally adjusted net 15% planning to create new jobs in the next three months, down two points from February and well below the recent peak of 23% reached last September. While large businesses shed workers, small business owners have reported some hiring success in the last 4 months, with more firms reporting increased employment than reductions.

Overall, 59% reported hiring or trying to hire in March, down one point from last month. Of those hiring or trying to hire, 90% of owners reported few or no qualified applicants for the positions they were trying to fill. Twenty-six percent of owners reported few qualified applicants for their open positions and 27% reported none.

Seasonally adjusted, a net 42% of owners reported raising compensation, down four points from February. A net 22% plan to raise compensation in the next three months.

Turn \$50 Into \$143 For Indiana's Rare And Endangered Wildlife

The Indiana Nongame Wildlife Fund largely relies on generous donations from conservationists (like you!) and pays for the research and habitat work for Indiana's rare and endangered species. These species are vital to our ecosystem, and our quality of life just wouldn't be the same without the rich biodiversity around us. Donations are given either directly via mail or online, or through Indiana residents donating their state tax refunds to the fund. Thanks to a federal funding match program, every \$50 donated to the

fund receives an additional \$93 to benefit wildlife.

Make your tax refund go further for Indiana wildlife by donating to the Indiana Nongame Wildlife Fund today.

If filing with paper forms, use Schedule 5/ Schedule IN-Donate. This video outlines the steps for filling out the form. If donating through online tax programs, you will be prompted to donate at the end of filing. If filing using a tax preparer, direct your preparer to the Schedule 5/IN-Donate (also referred to as IN Schedule 5-Credits).

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FRIDAY Business Notes and NEWS DAY

Friday, April 7, 2023

A6

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Purdue Launches oneAPI Center Of Excellence To Advance AI And HPC Teaching In The US

Purdue University will establish a oneAPI Center of Excellence on its West Lafayette campus. Facilitated through Purdue University's Elmore Family School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, the center will take students' original artificial intelligence and high-performance computing research projects to the next level through teaching oneAPI in the classroom.

oneAPI is an open, multi-architecture, multivendor programming model for CPUs and accelerator architectures, such as graphics processing units and field programmable gate arrays. Based on standards, oneAPI simplifies software development and delivers uncompromised performance for accelerated computing without proprietary lock-in. This is accomplished while enabling the integration of existing code. oneAPI allows developers to choose the best accelerator architecture for the specific problem they are trying to solve without needing to rewrite software for the next architecture and platform.

The oneAPI Center of Excellence is building oneAPI multiarchitecture programming concepts into the ECE curriculum; Purdue faculty will use curated content from

Intel, including teaching kits and certified instructor courses. Faculty and students will be provided access to the latest Intel hardware and oneAPI software tools via Intel's Developer Cloud

"We are very excited to collaborate with Intel on a oneAPI Center of Excellence," said Milind Kulkarni, associate head of teaching and learning and a professor in electrical and computer engineering. "The Elmore Family School of Electrical and Computer Engineering offers a wide variety of classes in data science, machine learning and artificial intelligence to students across the College of Engineering and at Purdue. We look forward to offering our students access to top-of-the-line hardware and cutting-edge software and libraries. These resources will give our students the ability to explore the frontiers of what is possible in emerging AI and HPC areas and equip them to become the next generation of leaders across engineering."

David Inouye, Purdue assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, will teach the pilot course, scheduled to be offered in fall 2023, in which oneAPI curriculum will be incorporated.

"Intel's Developer Cloud

with GPUs can enable students to tackle more realistic and full-scale AI class projects that were previously infeasible," Inouye said.

"Purdue's track record as one of the most innovative universities in America with its world-changing research, programs and culture of inclusion is a perfect fit for the oneAPI Center of Excellence," said Scott Apeiland, senior director of Intel Developer Relations. "By giving Purdue students access to the latest AI software and hardware, we'll see the next generation of developers, scientists and engineers delivering innovations that will change the world. We're excited to assist Purdue in embracing the next giant leap in accelerated computing."

The collaboration also will connect Purdue students and researchers with Intel engineers, providing opportunities to discuss new innovations and developments in accelerator research, said Timothy Rogers, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering and the Purdue-Intel liaison.

"We are excited about the opportunities this collaboration opens up as both parties explore how to program and design the accelerators of tomorrow," Rogers said.

Indiana American Water Acquires Claypool Water System In Northern Indiana

Indiana American Water President Matt Prine today announced the company's acquisition of the Claypool water system in northern Indiana. The purchase of the system adds approximately 150 water customers to the company's customer base, which represents a population of more than 400 residents.

"The acquisition of this system will help hold future rates down for Claypool customers as needed investments are made and also provides access to operations and capital management water professionals and a number of customer service options and payment methods," said Prine. "Indiana American Water already provides water service to several nearby communities, so this is a good fit for us and a continuation of our efforts to expand our presence across Indiana."

The acquisition of the Claypool water system for \$700,000 was approved by the Indiana

Utility Regulatory Commission on February 22, 2023 and closed by Indiana American Water and the Town of Claypool on March 28, 2023.

According to Claypool Town Council President Benny Stage, "Claypool customers will benefit from Indiana American Water's experience and expertise and the company's large customer base across the state will provide much greater economies of scale and future rate stability by keeping water rates lower than they would have been as a small, stand-alone system."

"The business of providing water is getting more complicated every day, especially for smaller systems like ours that struggle with evolving regulatory issues and not having the scale to gain efficiencies in our operations," said Stage. "The sale will also facilitate much needed improvements to the system and allow us to focus on other community needs."

Rokita Surveys Hoosier Businesses And Public Institutions In Bid To Strengthen Cybersecurity

Attorney General Todd Rokita is advising Indiana businesses and governmental organizations to take precautions to guard against cyber threats such as phishing attempts, malware attacks, and ransomware demands.

To gather information about the extent to which institutions are taking protective measures, Rokita is sending out letters to hundreds of organizations asking them to go online to answer survey questions.

"Cyberattackers are relentless in their determination to steal data and generally cause mayhem," Rokita said. "We need to be even more steadfast in our commitment to beat them at their game and keep our systems safe."

Rokita chairs the Legal and Insurance Working Group of the Indiana Executive Cybersecurity Council (IECC). In 2020,

the IECC's Legal and Insurance Working Group collaborated with Indiana University and University of Arizona to circulate a cyber survey to Indiana local governments, schools and businesses. The result of that survey was the 2020 State of Hoosier Cybersecurity Report.

The same entities are partnering once again to do a follow-up survey.

"Among other things," Rokita said, "we want to learn whether Hoosier organizations are giving more attention to safeguards in a post-Covid environment in which work-from-home has become a standard operating procedure. We aim to continue identifying barriers that prevent effective cyber risk planning, and we want to do everything we can do in our own capacities to enable and encourage organizations to implement effective cyber risk planning."

Community Development Block Grants Now Open For Applications

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs announced the first round of 2023 Community Development Block Grants is now open for applications

The following programs are currently accepting applications:

- Public Facilities Program
- Blight Clearance Program
- Stormwater Improvements;
- Wastewater/Drinking Water.

Proposal submissions will be collected via the Electronic Grants Management System, or eGMS. Instructions can be found at in.gov/ocra/cdbg. 2023 Round 1 proposals

must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. ET on Friday, April 28, 2023, via the Indiana Electronic Grants Management System, found here. Communities are encouraged to submit their applications prior to 4 p.m. on April 28, 2023, as technical assistance will not be available after that time.

2023 Round 1 applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. ET on June 30, 2023, also via the Indiana Electronic Grants Management System. Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications prior to 4 p.m. on June 30, 2023, as technical assistance will not be available after that time.

Note: Changes proposed in the 2023 Action Plan will not go into effect until CDBG 2023 Round 2.

Funding for all CDBG programs comes from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and is administered by OCRA. The state of Indiana distributes CDBG funds to rural communities to assist units of local government with various community projects like improving infrastructure, downtown revitalization, public facilities improvements and economic development.

For further information on these programs, contact the assigned OCRA regional community liaison.



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Voice of our PEOPLE

How Low Can We Go? Answers Are Evident

Remember Harry Belafonte's version of the Limbo song. . . that rich baritone asking how low can you go?

Harry is 96 today and I'm guessing might be surprised at the answer to that question. Why? Because today, in this country, we're proving over and over and over we can go pretty doggone low.

And it doesn't feel like we're done yet.

Consider:

- Voting
- Government assistance
- Drug testing
- School sports
- Academic rankings
- Sin
- Journalism
- Even tax day

Think not? Let's delve into each.

Voting: Most of us grew up with the idea that we would vote on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November at a specific location. That law was passed by Congress in 1845 and even though early voting options (absentee) have been in use for quite a while, the vast majority of Americans who voted (more than 90 percent) tended to do so on Election Day. In the 1990s that began to change, and those changes have accelerated of late. Is that good, bad or indifferent? Fans will tell you that early voting brings out more voters. Critics will tell you it opens the door to fraud. All I know is that growing up we usually had results election night. Now, despite technological advances, results often take longer and the whole process went from simple



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

to confusing. All in the name of lowering the bar for voting.

Government Assistance: Remember when most people would rather dig ditches than accept government assistance? There was a matter of pride involved, and I would argue that despite the sinful connotation, that wasn't a bad thing. Today, it is not uncommon for people to turn down jobs so they can stay at home on the government dime.

Drug testing: I was at an event recently where a manufacturing plant exec told me they quit drug testing as a pre-condition of employment. Why? It's harder to find employees now than ever before. They don't need an extra barrier.

School sports: OK, so the IHSAA has been a favorite punching bag on the issue of class sports. So, let's leave that low-hanging fruit alone for a second. What about earning varsity letters? Last time I looked, letter sweaters weren't in vogue anymore. But letter jackets still are. Even though every school can have their own system of how a student gets one, at some schools, the bar

is pretty low. As soon as a kid gets their first letter, they can go out and buy a letter jacket. It used to be a lot harder. A hundred or so years ago when I was in school you got half a point for making the freshman or JV team and you got one point for making varsity. At three points, you earned your letter sweater and it took six points to earn your jacket. For most, that meant they got their jacket as a junior or senior – and I guarantee you it meant a lot! It also kept you going when things got tough because that was a big goal you were working toward.

Academic rankings: Like most of the above, this is not a blanket statement. But some schools have done away with academic rankings and things like valedictorians. The idea being that such put undue pressure on kids and made some kids feel bad. And good gosh we don't want anyone feeling pressure or, even worse, feeling bad today.

Sin: This is one of my favorites. Things we were taught were wrong back in Sunday School now aren't only OK, they are celebrated. Even more, if you still believe all the things you were taught in those classes, you are now the one in the wrong. In fact, you are now characterized as a right-wing Christian Zealot.

Journalism: This one is NOT my favorite, but sadly, it's a reality. One of the first newsrooms I worked in had a sign on the wall – If your mother tells you she loves you,

get a second source. That used to be the standard. Us rookie reporters might write something without attribution, but savvy editors would whip out the red grease pencil and wipe out any "facts" that weren't backed. Today, take a look at a lot of stories and you won't be hard-pressed to find phrases like "falsely claimed." Are those statements backed up with sources and facts? Usually not. And most of the time they are aimed at conservatives. This one is personal for me, but we've lowered the standard way too much.

Tax Day: What, was having the same deadline every year too boring? Now, Tax Day is a movable feast (for the government) and the April 15 deadline is long gone.

I know, I sound like the grumpy old man I am. The thing is, we used to live in a country that raised standards – that set high goals and worked hard to achieve them. Anyone remember JFK's moon speech where he set a goal that we didn't even have the technology to pull it off? But pull it off we did.

You can talk sports or work, doesn't matter. In sports, good coaches raised expectations and standards. They never lowered them. And let's not forget those wonderful class sports. How many schools did we have back when Milan won state in 1954, 750 or so? The thing is, that tournament was never about the winner, not really. That tournament taught those 749 schools that if you want to

win, work harder. It taught the valuable lesson that sometimes in life you lose . . . and how to handle that.

Not true today. We don't want anyone to feel left bad or left out. We want the lowliest of jobs to pay good money, really good money. Forget the fact that some of us started out in low-paying jobs and worked our asses off to make a better life. Now, you get the better life handed to you without having to work so hard for it.

What does all that teach us? Are we learning that if you want something, work for it? Or are we learning that if you want something whine about how unfair things are and wait for someone to give it to you?

Before anyone gets offended, this has nothing to do with discrimination of any sort – race, gender, creed, orientation . . . Discrimination, in whatever form it manifests itself, is wrong. Capital W.R.O.N.G. But we've taken the concept and blown it out of proportion. Now, if an unjust act occurs, and if it is the exception and not the rule, we rush to change the rules so we can crush it out of existence and never, ever let it happen again. Sure. We seem to forget the ugly fact that no matter how many guidelines, rules and laws we have, stupidity will never go completely away. One can argue that the process can actually make things worse.

We lower standards with the idea that everyone

will feel OK. But let me repeat – stupid will not go away.

You want to make a real change? Teach people to pray for those who discriminate in any form . . . and then ignore them. Don't give them power. Don't make them martyrs. Walk away. Find another path. Do better. Don't give them any power.

Truth to tell, life can be hard . . . and unforgiving at times. When we keep giving everyone easy answers we are not preparing them for when things get tough.

Raising our standards, expecting the best from each other, that practice made us and our country better, tougher, more competitive. We survived and won a few wars because we truly were the toughest kid on the block. Keep on lowering things and see how tough we become . . . and see what happens when some other nation takes our lunch money and bloodies our nose.

We have to toughen up, to not get our feelings hurt so easily. We have to get back to raising the bar, to getting what we work for and taking a little pride in that. If we don't, then we should not be surprised when, as my grandpa used to say, things go to hell in a handbasket.

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.

Readin', Writin', Arithmetic ... Butch Has Some Ideas



BUTCH DALE
Columnist

Do you recall the subjects you took in high school? Everyone had to pass the required courses of biology, English, basic math, social studies, etc., but some of us were placed in the "college prep" curriculum. . . and took subjects such as physics, chemistry, trigonometry, and calculus, just to name a few. These came in handy when I attended Purdue, but I never really used the knowledge later in life. I also took Latin, which was the only language course offered. It actually was beneficial to understanding the meaning of words of many lan-

guages, but unfortunately I never met any Romans to discuss the triumphs and tribulations of Julius Caesar.

One class that was practical was typing, although I never learned to "touch-type." Yes, sorry, Mr. Inskip, I admit it. . . I cheated and looked at the keys, but could still type around 45-50 words a minute. A few boys took shop class (i.e. Industrial Arts), and I would have taken this if my schedule had allowed it.

The basic subjects that are taught today haven't changed much in the last fifty years. But the WAY things are taught has changed in SOME schools. Many parents are more worried about what they may have to "unteach" their kids when they come home. . . a multicultural curriculum which is "inclusivity-insistent," diversity-sensitive, and dripping with progressive-liberal-thinking. Many students can list every injustice and every perceived fault of

American society, but have never read the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution. According to a recent poll, almost one-half of all young adults believe socialism is a good thing! Their motto. . . "Everyone is equal in the world. Rich people should give their money to the poor. The government can correct all of our society's ills and the world's problems for your benefit by using YOUR money. Then everyone will be happy and contented and nice to each other." OK. . . sure thing. . . Sorry, kiddos, not going to happen.

When I taught 5th, 6th, and 7th grade social studies, all of my students were required to memorize the Equality clause of the Declaration of Independence, the Preamble to the Constitution, the Pledge of Allegiance, the National Anthem, all 50 states and capitals, all of the Presidents (in chronological order), the Gettysburg Address, and also label on a map the countries of Eu-

rope and Asia. Yes, it was difficult for some students, but they kept at it until they could do it. . . and they were so proud when finished! These are important things to know, not to mention the fact that memorization skills are vital to brain development.

While math and English are still considered the two most important subjects to master, perhaps schools could make a few other classes mandatory, such as:

1. Personal finance. . . basic day-to-day topics such as banking, loans, credit cards, insurance, investments, protection against fraud, etc. Most kids today have no idea how to handle money responsibly. Perhaps they should be taught that saving is a good thing!

2. Shop class. . . Yes, both boys and girls should learn how to use their brains and their hands to make/repair things. Woodworking, metalwork, construction, electricity, auto maintenance, and using various tools. They should also

learn how to change a tire and do simple home repairs.

3. Home economics. . . Here again. . . for both boys and girls at least two semesters. Learn about nutrition and healthy foods, cooking, baking, sewing and textiles, child development, taking care of younger kids, budgeting, etc.

Other mandatory topics might include first aid, self-defense, and local laws. I also believe driver education should be mandatory and be paid for by the schools. Many schools still have drug and alcohol education, but the results vary. Evidently they are not doing much good. In the most extensive study ever done, 5th grade students who had taken D.A.R.E. had higher drug-use rates when they reached the 12th grade than those who did not take the course.

With the way our society is nowadays, I would also suggest students take courses in how to manage

their time, how to accept failure and learn from it, and how to survive WITHOUT technology. A debate class, stressing facts, and not just personal opinion, would also be good.

It's a much more complicated world in which kids grow up today, compared to how I grew up in the 1950s and 60s. Many times students have not been taught to appreciate our history, American values, and the freedoms we all have. With regards to practical skills, I learned a lot of useful and common sense things from growing up on a farm. However, sad. . . but true. . . I never learned how to wash and dry a load of clothes until four years ago (at the age of 70). . . and then I forgot to put in the laundry soap! . . . OOPS!

John "Butch" Dale is a retired teacher and County Sheriff. He has also been the librarian at Darlington the past 32 years, and is a well-known artist and author of local history.

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