

➔ TODAY'S VERSE
Nahum 1:7 The Lord is good,
a strong hold in the day of
trouble; and He knoweth
them that trust in Him.



➔ FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY
People who call our community their own.
What makes Devon Puetz smile?
"I enjoy getting to talk to so many different people," said the Noblesville resident, who was found working in his family's new DonutNV food truck last weekend during the Boys & Girls Club's Darlington Bed Race and at the Noblesville Main Street Duck Race, both in downtown Noblesville. "There are so many of my friends coming out today to try the donuts. It's so much fun to be able to serve and see people enjoy donuts." The food truck provided donuts for the Bed Race's donut-eating contest. The son of Jason and Christine Puetz, the 15-year-old will be a Noblesville High School sophomore this fall. He said working at his family's new donut truck, with his parents, is a great learning experience. "This sort of business is going to be able to teach me something that I would need to know in any future business practices, the ability to speak in front of people, the ability to be communicative, take orders effectively, memory skills to remember orders and just overall how to be well prepared." What's he like about the donuts? "The thing about our donuts that makes them so unique, is that they're mini, and the way they're made is such a special formula that it's unlike a donut that you've ever tasted before." His favorite flavor is strawberry shortcake. "I can just never get enough of it." What a great salesman! After two visits to local neighborhoods, last weekend's two downtown Noblesville events were only the second and third times that his family food truck has been out. They were at Westfield Farmers Market on Thursday. Where to find the donut food truck in the next month? "We'll be all over Hamilton County." Follow them on Facebook at Donut-NV Hamilton County, Indiana.

And Another Few Things...
1. Mental Health First Aid
The Noblesville Chamber, in partnership with Invest Hamilton County, OneZone and Westfield Chambers hosts quarterly Mental Health First Aid trainings focused on employers throughout Hamilton County. Typically, this training costs at least \$250-\$400 per person, but thanks to support from the Hamilton County Council and Commissioners via the ARPA Committee, this training only costs \$5 per person. Trainings are conducted by Mental Health America of Indiana... Register Now

2. Bridge No. 148 - 161st Street between Hazel Dell Road and Gray Road
Please be advised, beginning on or after Monday, June 12, E. 161st Street between Hazel Dell Road and Gray Road will be closed to all thru traffic for bridge repair work. The estimated project completion date is Monday, June 26, after a 14-day closure. The hard closure is approximately 1,800' west of Hazel Dell Road. Local traffic will continue to have access to their homes, while thru traffic is asked to utilize the posted detour route of Gray Road, 156th Street, and Hazel Dell Road.

3. State of the County Luncheon
We continue our 'State of' Series with our annual State of the County Luncheon. This year's theme "The Way We Were" will complement our celebration of Hamilton County's Bicentennial. There is a lot happening around Hamilton County and you will not want to miss this chance to be fully updated and in awe of the progress in our county! Join us for this valuable update and information

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Boomer Bits

Ask Rusty - How Will Working Affect My First Year's Benefits?

Dear Rusty: I retired from working in January of this year and have since claimed Social Security. I didn't work at all in February or March, but I began a part time job in April. I'm very confused about how Social Security counts earnings for the first year. I don't know if I need to keep each month's earnings under \$1,770 or if they average it. Some of the literature I've found says each month must remain under \$1,770 or NO benefit will be paid that month. Two people at the Social Security office told me that they'll just dock me \$1 for every \$2 I am over that, even in my first year. I also cannot find anything about when they count your income. Is it when it's earned or when it's paid? If I go over in a month because there are three pay periods, can they withhold the benefit for that month? I'm just so confused! Signed: Part Time Worker



ASK Rusty
Social Security Advisor

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

Dear Part Time Worker: The Social Security earnings test during your first year collecting benefits before full retirement age is, indeed, somewhat confusing. The reason is because there are two methods which Social Security may use during your first calendar year collecting early benefits, and they will use the one which results in the least financial impact to you. To elaborate:

If you claim benefits mid-year before your full retirement age, for the remainder of that first year (starting in the month benefits begin and ending in De-

ember) you'll be subject to a monthly earnings limit (\$1,770 for 2023). If you exceed the monthly limit in any remaining month of that first calendar year, you won't be entitled to benefits for that month, so Social Security would (eventually) take back that month's benefit. That is, unless using the annual limit (\$21,240 for 2023) instead will result in a smaller penalty. If your total earnings for your first year collecting are over the annual limit (e.g., \$21,240 for 2023), the penalty would be \$1 for every \$2 over the annual limit and, if that is less than the penalty from using the monthly limit, they will assess the smaller penalty. In other words, Social Security will use the method which is most beneficial to you when assessing a penalty for exceeding the earnings limit during your first calendar year collecting benefits. And just for clarity, the earnings limits are much higher and the penalty less during the year you attain full retirement age (FRA).
Something else to be aware of: if you know in advance you will exceed the annual limit it would be best to inform Social Security in order to avoid an

Overpayment Notice next year. If you don't, Social Security won't know about your 2023 earnings until you file your 2023 income taxes, so you'll get your 2023 monthly payments as usual. But when the IRS informs Social Security of your 2023 earnings later next year, Social Security will ask you to detail your monthly work earnings for 2023. If you have exceeded the limits, they will determine an overpayment amount and will ask you to either pay back what is owed in a lump sum or will withhold your benefits for enough months to recover what you owe for exceeding the 2023 earnings limit. Then, after you reach full retirement age (FRA), you'll get time credit for all months in which benefits were withheld, thus slightly increasing your monthly payment after your FRA.

Finally, it is when your income is earned that counts, not when it is paid. So, for example, if you worked in January 2023 and were paid for that work in February 2023, that is considered January income which wouldn't count toward the February earnings limit.

Senator Marsha Blackburn Opines On Inflation, The Southern Border And Reckless Government Spending

By John Grimaldi
Senator Marsha Blackburn [R-TN] says if President Biden thinks he has inflation under control he has another think coming. In a recent interview on the Better For America podcast she told host Rebecca Weber, CEO of the Association of Mature American Citizens, as one of her constituents put it: "if people in D.C. think we've only got 5% or 6% or 7% inflation, they need to go to the grocery store with her and they need to go shop for clothes for the kids with her. They would see very quickly that you're talking about escalation rates of 20, 25, 30% in some products. I had a county commissioner out in the east part of the state say, look, I drive 30 miles a day to work, I can't fill up the gas tank and the grocery cart in the same week."
But Senator Blackburn went

on to say that it is not just inflation that is "hurting communities; the southern border, the open border and the gangs coming into our state are driving up crime. Look at what is happening with fentanyl and the fentanyl poisonings that are taking place. One pill of that fentanyl can kill you and our kids. We're losing a lot of Americans to fentanyl poisoning. We lost 4,000 Tennesseans last year to fentanyl. It's all coming across the southern border. Every town is a border town. Every state is a border state ... our governor in Tennessee decided last week to send troops to the southern border to help Texas defend the border and to keep some of these drugs and gangs and sex traffickers and human traffickers out of our country and out of our state."

How Urologists Detect Bladder Cancer With Blue Light Cystoscopy

(StatePoint) Like many bladder cancer survivors, Karen S. often reflects on her personal experience with the disease, and the support she received throughout her healthcare journey.
Karen was diagnosed with bladder cancer in 2010 at age 54, after experiencing symptoms for two years. As an oncology nurse for more than 40 years, she was well aware of the many forms of cancer. Nevertheless, she assumed her frequent urinary tract infections and discomfort were gynecological in nature and never expected her doctors to discover a tumor or to be diagnosed with bladder cancer.

After receiving a variety of

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 6:16 a.m.
SET: 9:17 p.m.

High/Low
Temperatures
HIGH: 83 °F
LOW: 56 °F

Today is...
• Ballpoint Pen Day
• National Rosé Day
• World Gin Day

On This Day in History
• 1999 The Kosovo War ends. Slobodan Milošević, then President of Serbia, agreed to withdraw his troops from the disputed territory following a massive NATO bombing campaign. NATO's involvement has been criticized for its lack of a U.N. mandate.

• 1967 The Six-Day War ends. Israel and Syria agreed to observe a ceasefire mediated by the United Nations, ending six days of armed conflict. On the previous day, Israel had occupied the Golan Heights.

• 1935 Alcoholics Anonymous is founded. Bill Wilson and Dr. Bob Smith established the mutual aid fellowship to battle alcoholism. Today, the organization is active in many countries around the world.

Births On This Day
• 1922 Judy Garland American actress, singer
• 1910 Howlin' Wolf American singer-songwriter, musician

Deaths On This Day
• 2004 Ray Charles American singer-songwriter, pianist, actor
• 1967 Spencer Tracy American actor



Photo courtesy of Noblesville Schools
BE SURE TO LOOK AT A3 FOR MORE GRADS!! Noblesville High School 2023 graduate Noel Peña gets his tie straightened by classmate and girlfriend Laina Lillge before commencement on Tuesday at the Indiana Farmers Coliseum at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.

➔ INSIDE TODAY
Grad Photos.....A3
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➔ HONEST HOOSIER
Trump, Biden, DeSantis, Kennedy . . . I don't care who wins so long as they get our economy back on the right path.

➔ TODAY'S QUOTE
"Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced."
-James Baldwin

➔ TODAY'S JOKE
When a toddler reaches the "why?" stage, it's like opening a bottle of champagne—once it's uncorked, there's no going back.

➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP
Three-quarters of U.S. teens and adults don't get enough vitamin D in their diets.
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
David Winfield Brogdon

The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank **KERWIN & CHERYL KAUFMAN** for subscribing!



WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

84 HAZE MIXES OUT TUE	60/78 WINDY SCATTERY SHOWERS WED	52/77 DRY & PLEASANT THU	50/79 COOL, BREEZY WARMER LATER FRI	56/83 SUNNY AND WARM SAT	61/75 SHOWERS AND STORMS SUN	56/74 SUN RETURNS MON
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Times photo by Betsy Reason

In the 11th annual Darlington Bed Race, sponsored by the Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville, the winning 2023 team was a Club team (at left) featuring AJ Tarzwell, Ethan Hutchinson, Demarvis Russell, Ella Hill (riding) and Jake Taylor, crossing the finish line just seconds before the Noblesville Police Department's team (team at right) featuring Deputy Chief of Patrol Eric Cunningham (back right) and his wife, Addie Cunningham, in the McGruff Crime Dog costume riding on the bed, and Officer Garrett Anderson (front left), Officer Lane Snyder (front right) and Det. Trevor Schmidt (back left).



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

Noblesville Preservation Alliance's team isn't always the fast but it does usually win the popularity contest for People's Choice. Here Tim Parker, Lauren Parker, Bill Russo, Bruce Bennett and Kevin Dillon were on the NPA team, which celebrated the Bicentennial with their themed bed decorated with "Noblesville or Bust, 1823."

A Lookback On Race Weekend



BETSY REASON
From The Editor's Desk...

While it's still another 11 days until summer officially arrives, the first 10 days of June have already been

every year except for the past three years, used his experience to offer his best tips on how to win the race. He formerly raced as Team Fuel, in 2018 with a team that also included John Gangnon, John Hill, Bryce Campbell and rider Korrin Hult, a team that had five Darlington bed-race wins before that. Taylor was thrilled to be there.

A close second place was Noblesville Police Department, which won the bed race in 2022. These year's team members included Deputy Chief of Patrol Eric Cunningham (with his wife, Addie Cunningham, in the McGruff Crime Dog costume riding on the bed) and Officer Garrett Anderson, Officer Lane Snyder and Det. Trevor Schmidt.

Every year, we can always count on the Noblesville Preservation Alliance to show their creativity in designing their bed for the Darlington Bed Race. NPA is never the fastest in the race. But the entry, which competes at a leisurely pace, is usually the most popular, winning the People's Choice for most creative bed in the race. This year, Tim Parker, Lauren Parker, Bill Russo, Bruce Bennett and Kevin Dillon were on the NPA team, which celebrated the Bicentennial with their themed bed decorated with "Noblesville or Bust, 1823."

There were 10 teams competing in the bed race

and also included teams from Noblesville Parks, Noblesville Main Street, Gordon Insurance. Fueled for School and Serve Noblesville.

And kudos to the Boys & Girls Club's Abigail Stutesman, who has organized the event every year. Her daughter, Ella Hill, was on the winning team.

Also, last weekend, Noblesville Lions Club members heated up the grills and served up pork chops and chicken, and then on Saturday morning pancakes and sausage for breakfast, all under a big tent on the Hamilton County Courthouse Square. Plus, the community was out Saturday enjoying the Noblesville Farmers Market at Federal Hill Commons and Noblesville Main Street's Duck Race (sponsored by Gordon Insurance) on Logan Street, with entertainment, food and fun. Gordon is also sponsoring Noblesville Main Street's free Music & All That Jazz series, which will be on the Square from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday featuring live music with The Andy Schomburg Band. If you're downtown, also visit the picturesque Bridge of Flowers on Logan Street, also spearheaded by Dick Gordon and Gordon Insurance.

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

OBITUARIES

David Winfield Brogdon

September 16, 1942, Wednesday, June 7, 2023

David Winfield Brogdon, 80, of Anderson, passed away on Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at his residence following eight-month battle with cancer.

He was born on September 16, 1942, in Anderson, Indiana to Joe L. Brogdon and Ethel M. (Helvie) Sprague.

He was a 1960 graduate of Anderson High School.

He retired from Delco Remy Division of General Motors in Anderson as a plant manager.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Anderson where he served on the church board. He loved to golf, and winter in Florida. He loved his family and friends.

David is survived by his wife, Catherine (Miller) Brogdon; two daughters, Barbara Brogdon of Anderson and Paige (husband, Jon) Needler of Anderson; two grandchildren, Jonathan (wife Ashley) Needler of Florida and Jared Needler of Colorado; two great-grandchildren, Ella Needler and Arelia Needler; two brothers, Robert "Bobby" (wife, Deborah) Sprague of Florida and Joe Brogdon of Anderson; a nephew, Bobby Sprague of Florida; a niece, Beth Ann Clore-Dufresne of Anderson; a sister-in-law, LeAnn Brogdon;

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Pamela H. Brogdon in 2011; his parents; two brothers, Billy Dean Clore and Jon Brogdon.

Per his wishes, cremation will take place with enticement at Mapelwood Cemetery in Anderson at a later date.

A celebration of life will be held on July 1, 2023 at First Presbyterian Church in Anderson.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Christian Center, 625 Main Street, Anderson, Indiana, 46016 or the American Heart Association, PO Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284-0692.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Hersberger-Bozell Funeral Home in Lapel.

Online condolences may be shared at: www.hersbergerbozell.com



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Noblesville High School Students On Graduation Day



Photo courtesy of Mamie Cooke, Noblesville Schools

Noblesville High School student body president Abby Pittman speaks to her NHS Class of 2023, 737 graduates, at commencement on Tuesday at the Indiana Farmers Coliseum at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.



Photo courtesy of Mamie Cooke, Noblesville Schools

Noblesville High School 2023 graduate Robert Calhoun takes a selfie with classmates, including Shawn Forsythe and Ethan May, at commencement for 737 graduates on Tuesday at the Indiana Farmers Coliseum at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.



Photo courtesy of Mamie Cooke, Noblesville Schools

Noblesville High School choral director John Neubauer leads NHS Class of 2023 choir members in a song during commencement on Tuesday at the Indiana Farmers Coliseum at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.



Photo courtesy of Mamie Cooke, Noblesville Schools

Noblesville High School 2023 graduate Ella Feliciano hugs a classmate at commencement on Tuesday at the Indiana Farmers Coliseum at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.



Photo courtesy of Mamie Cooke, Noblesville Schools

Noblesville High School 2023 graduate Jayla Rogers smiles for the camera at commencement on Tuesday at the Indiana Farmers Coliseum at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.



Photo courtesy of Mamie Cooke, Noblesville Schools

Noblesville School board president Dr. Joe Forgey speaks to the Noblesville High School Class of 2023 737 graduates at commencement on Tuesday at the Indiana Farmers Coliseum at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.



Photo courtesy of Mamie Cooke, Noblesville Schools

Noblesville High School English teacher and girls track and field coach Jim Pearce chats with NHS 2023 graduates Chandler Alanis and Aiya Albataneh earlier before at commencement on Tuesday at the Indiana Farmers Coliseum at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.

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A Voice That Deserves And Needs To Be Heard



JOHN R. ROBERTS, M.D.
Columnist

I'm noticing that a fair number of Americans think it's clever to "identify" themselves in various ways to get some cheap laughs

at the expense of others. Well, I decided to give "identifying" a try too. I'm a white cis-gender male with decades of experience in the medical field so I'm going to use that experience to try to identify as a 16-year-old trans girl and envision what her life has been and must be like.

I started feeling like a stranger in my own body in third grade. Since I was born with male anatomy I have always been called a boy, but the social expectations of "boy behavior" never seemed to fit how I felt inside. It was confusing and I didn't know who to talk to about it, so I just tried to ignore it. I was able to live the lie until my hormones started raging in seventh grade.

I started to have voice changes and hair growing where it hadn't before. My uneasy feelings got more intense each day - I didn't know what was wrong with me. The physical changes my body was undergoing were not syncing up with what was going on inside my head. Other kids told me puberty was messing with their heads too, but this was different. I was totally confused and needed someone to talk to.

I decided I was going to talk to my parents, but my dad was making more and more comments about people "choosing lifestyles" like being gay or intentionally changing their "sex." He would scream, "there's boys and girls,

period!" I love my dad, but I was too embarrassed and afraid to approach him with how I was feeling. I was sure my mom wouldn't understand since she wasn't born a male.

I suffered in silence and became sad and depressed. I didn't fit my classmates' definition of "normal" and they started to make fun of me and exclude me. Like any teenager, I was in desperate need of friendship. They posted disgusting things about me on social media that made me more depressed. It seemed like no one cared about me. I started researching how to kill myself that would be the least upsetting to my family.

My Social Studies teacher must have sensed I was in deep trouble. He asked me to stay after class one day to figure out what was bothering me. I wouldn't tell him then, but I knew he was truly worried about me. I finally broke down and told him how I was feeling; I almost puked - it was the hardest thing I have ever done. I was at the end of my rope - I had to finally trust someone. It took two months, but he finally figured out a way to help me tell my parents.

My dad was pissed! He went to the school and screamed at my teacher for "grooming" me and "indoctrinating" me with "crazy" ideas. He demanded that the school fire my teacher. My mom was not happy either, but decided to take me to see my pediatrician. She spent a long time talking to me and my mom - it was the first time I felt someone really cared about what was going on inside me. My mom was unconvinced.

The doctor helped me understand our brains are very complicated, and while most people's inner feelings about their gender match

their sex assigned at birth, some don't. Some don't even feel male or female which I still have trouble understanding. The doctor said I needed more expert care and referred me to a clinic that specializes in helping kids sort out what's making them feel so bad.

I could tell the doctors and therapists at the clinic had a lot of education and experience to help kids like me. They spent a ton of time talking to me and doing tests to make sure I met the definition for what I eventually learned was gender dysphoria. I wanted them to help me feel better right away, but they said they had to take their time to confirm what was going on. I was

crushed that my dad would not accept me - it took six months for him to even come to a clinic visit after he found out I had almost hung myself a couple of times.

All the tests showed I didn't have any medical problems that would explain my feelings. The doctors sat down with us and carefully went over my diagnosis and the options for helping me feel better. They thought the best option would be taking medicine to block puberty while I was getting more counseling to sort out my gender. I had read about people getting surgeries to change their anatomy but the doctors told me no. They stressed that's a major decision that should wait until I'm at least a young adult and that hardly any kids my age get surgery.

I've been on puberty blockers for six months. It was an agonizing decision for my parents to agree that I could take them. I don't like some of the side effects, but I can't describe how much better I feel! I've come so far and feel so much better and hopeful for my future. I still have some

normal teenage sadness, but I'm finally starting to feel better inside. I think this will give my brain a chance to rest while I continue to figure out who I am.

People continue to berate me for "choosing" to be transgender and that I'm making up the whole thing for attention. Why, in God's name, would anyone choose the hell my parents and I have been through for so many years? Friends I've made at the clinic all have similar stories to tell and they can't understand why total strangers who don't know their personal situations are making things so difficult for them and their families.

I don't understand why legislatures across the country are passing laws to take away our freedom to get the care we need to help us feel better. They say it's to "protect children"; from what?! I'm getting more worried and anxious every day. Our lawmakers say I have to stop taking my medicine by the end of the year. It looks like we're going to have to move to another state so I can continue the care that's helped me so much.

Legislators always talk about wanting to improve the mental health of teens; don't they know that trans kids are at super-high risk for suicide? I'm really afraid that denying care to us will cause some of my friends at the clinic to kill themselves. I worry every day that I'll be forced to be someone I'm not - why are people so afraid of people like me? I wish with all my heart that they would just accept me for who I am.

John Roberts, MD
Crawfordsville

- Dr. John Roberts is a retired member of the Franciscan Physician Network specializing in Family Medicine.

Judy Garland Named To Songbook Hall Of Fame

Great American Songbook Foundation honors late stage and screen star.

As Judy Garland's centennial year draws to a close on June 10, the Great American Songbook Foundation is celebrating the iconic performer's induction into the Songbook Hall of Fame.

Born Frances Ethel Gumm in 1922, the award-winning actress and singer is best known for her teenage role as Dorothy Gale in the 1939 MGM classic *The Wizard of Oz*, which included her performance of the timeless song "Over the Rainbow." She quickly became an international star, revolutionizing the movie musical genre and also making her mark as a concert performer, recording artist and TV host before her untimely death in 1969.

The Songbook Hall of Fame celebrates lyricists, composers and performers who have helped to create the soundtrack of our lives with their contributions to American popular song. Hall of Fame inductees are selected based on factors including musical influence on other artists, length and depth of career and body of work, innovation and superiority in style and technique, and overall musical excellence.

Previous inductees have included George and Ira Gershwin, Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Johnny Mathis, Liza Minnelli, Rita Moreno and Frank Sinatra. Songbook Foundation Founder Michael Feinstein announced Garland's induction during an April performance of

his multimedia stage production *Get Happy!*: Michael Feinstein Celebrates the Judy Garland Centennial. At the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel, where the Songbook Foundation is headquartered, Feinstein closed the show by playing "Over the Rainbow" on the upright piano (from the Songbook Foundation's archival collection) on which composer Harold Arlen wrote the song and other music for *The Wizard of Oz*. As he played, a clip of Garland singing the song appeared on a large video screen, and they finished in a virtual duet, drawing a standing ovation.

"Judy Garland was so uniquely gifted and truly iconic," Feinstein said. "She was an artist who changed the fundamental face of the American musical film ... and brought to the world such light and joy and hope and transformative power through her songs. We look forward to continuing to preserve and celebrate her legacy as a member of the Songbook Hall of Fame."

Many stages of Garland's career are documented in a collection of photos, memorabilia and other items donated to the Songbook Library & Archives by her EGOT-winning daughter, Liza Minnelli. Highlights of the collection, including rare family photos, are featured in an online tribute viewable at [TheSongbook.org/JudyGarland](https://www.songbook.org/JudyGarland).

The Songbook Hall of Fame is supported by a generous contribution from Dr. and Mrs. Charles Simons.

ACLU Of Indiana Challenges Law Censoring Classroom Discussions

Lawsuit Claims HEA 1608 Violates Teachers' First Amendment Rights and Due Process.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana today filed a lawsuit on behalf of a public-school teacher, claiming that House Enrolled Act 1608 (HEA 1608), a law that prohibits "instruction" on "human sexuality" in grades K-3, infringes her constitutional rights.

The lawsuit was filed on behalf of Kayla Smiley, a public-school teacher within the Indianapolis Public School system. The lawsuit claims that, in addition to First Amendment

violations, HEA 1608 is overly broad, as neither "instruction" nor "human sexuality" is defined. According to the complaint, the plaintiff is unable to determine how to conform her behavior to the law so as to not risk losing her license.


"HEA 1608 is written so broadly that it would be next to impossible for teachers to determine what they can and cannot say to students," said Ken Falk, ACLU of Indiana legal director. "In addition, teachers have a First Amendment right to express themselves as private citizens outside of

the classroom, including in the school's hallways, playground, or before and after school, but the vagueness of this law would certainly have a chilling effect on those rights."

According to the complaint, Kayla Smiley maintains a classroom library that contains age-appropriate books across a diverse spectrum of subjects and concerns, including LGBTQ issues, such as biographies of Harvey Milk, and Elton John. Under the new law, it is completely unclear to teachers whether or not books such as these qualify as "instruction . . .

on human sexuality" or whether or not they can discuss any topics regarding same-sex relationships.

"This session, legislators were determined to target LGBTQ community members and to censor conversation about the LGBTQ community in schools, HEA 1608 was no exception," said Katie Blair, ACLU of Indiana advocacy director. "This bill, like others across the country, was modeled after Florida's infamous 'Don't Say Gay' law. LGBTQ students exist at all ages and in all grade levels and their stories belong in Indiana schools."



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Hippensteel Named Heights' Teacher Of The Year

Hamilton Heights School Corporation is pleased to announce that Lori Hippensteel has been selected as its Teacher of the Year. Hippensteel, who is the Media Center Specialist at Hamilton Heights High School, was among four outstanding professionals from the district nominated as the top pick for their building for this year's recognition. Hippensteel will represent Hamilton Heights at the state Teacher of the Year competition in Indianapolis in the fall.

In addition to Hippensteel, this year's building level nominees included Jody Diller (HHES), John Walsh (HHMS), and Lori Hippensteel (HHHS). Honorees for the Building Level Support Staff of the Year were Tasha Smith (HHES), Sophia Wright (HHMS), and Heather Fettig (HHHS). Hippensteel was announced as the winner at the dis-

trict's annual End of the Year Staff Breakfast.

"I felt humbled and honored," said Lori Hippensteel, upon being selected with this honor. "Hamilton Heights has many deserving staff members, and to be added to the same conversation as past, current, and future winners was a true honor. I want to represent Hamilton Heights and the education profession in a humble and respectful manner. I would like others to see how so many educators pour their hearts and souls into their jobs and, most importantly, how much we love the students."

Hippensteel, who begins her 18th year as the high school Media Center Specialist this fall, took a personal love and turned it into a career. "I am grateful to work for Hamilton Heights in the high school Media Center," continued Hippensteel. "I believe the Media Center should be

the heart of the school and is there to serve the students, staff, and community's needs. Being the Media Specialist allows me to build a relationship with every student and staff member in the building by being accessible, a servant, and providing a safe and inclusive space for all."

Hippensteel, who is the Student Government and Honor Society Faculty sponsor, is also a volunteer with many other activities and initiatives on and off campus including the Ryan White Fest, Riley Dance Marathon, Unified Flag Football and Track and Field volunteer, Meals on Wheels, Youth Camps, and 4-H to name just a few. "The best part of my work is the opportunity to build lasting relationships with the students, staff and community and the chance to make everyone's day a little better," she added.

"Lori is one of our



Photo by Jen Kauffman

Lori Hippensteel, Hamilton Heights Media Center Specialist, has been selected as the corporation's Teacher of the Year. Hamilton Heights High School Media Center specialist, Lori Hippensteel (orange track and field shirt), is pictured with (l-r): her niece Audrey Summers (Miss Summers, HHHS Social Studies teacher), Andrea Hodgin (daughter), husband Mike, holding grandson, Dawson Hodgin, Dylan Young (son) and girlfriend, Mandy McGill, Andrea and Chuck Frazier (mother and stepfather) and father, Ray Mosbaugh.

most engaged and impactful educators," said HHHS Principal Jarrod Mason. "Lori is innovative, creative, passionate, thoughtful,

and deeply connected with her students. Everything she does with heart, intent, and in support of our students and staff. She

is a highly respected, valued, and effective resource who has made countless contributions during her storied tenure at Heights."

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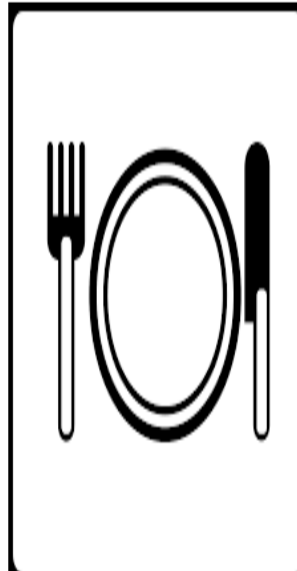
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DETECT

From Page A1

medical treatments, Karen still had persistent disease. She transferred to a National Cancer Institute-designated cancer center where her bladder cancer specialist informed her about a technology called Blue Light Cystoscopy (BLC) that would allow her doctor to see tumors that white light alone may miss.

"BLC was a quick and easy procedure that gave my doctor the ability to identify tumors early on, allowing for earlier and less aggressive treatment," says Karen.

Each year, about 81,000 people in the United States are diagnosed with bladder cancer, according to the National Cancer Institute. Symptoms in both men and women can mimic common urinary tract infections, like they did for Karen. For men, however, the more common symptom is blood in the urine. Whatever the symptoms, it is important to see a doctor.

According to Karen, people with bladder cancer, or those who suspect they may have bladder cancer, should ask their doctor questions and seek a second opinion. Once diagnosed, they should explore support groups and do research on bladder cancer, including learning about the latest treatments and technologies available.

"It's especially important for me to inform others about the benefits of BLC, since many people may not be aware

of this option. BLC may help others diagnosed with bladder cancer the way it helped me," says Karen.

A cystoscopy is a medical procedure where a urology healthcare professional uses a thin, tube-like telescope called a cystoscope to look directly into the bladder for a close examination of the lining. This procedure is used to help find the cause of symptoms and to treat and monitor the condition. Historically, the only type of cystoscopy available used white light. BLC, however, uses both white and blue light to offer significantly improved detection of suspicious areas compared to white light alone and has been proven to increase the detection of non-muscle invasive bladder cancer.

Today, Karen is cancer free and continues to support those affected by bladder cancer, including patients, caregivers and their loved ones, by hosting support groups and working with the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network. These resources can be found by visiting <https://bcac.org/>.

People experiencing symptoms of bladder cancer and those who have been recently diagnosed should ask their urologist about BLC, because it's not available everywhere. To search for a location where BLC is offered near you, visit <https://rebrand.ly/BLC-Locator>.

This article is sponsored by Photocure Inc.

JOHN

From Page A1

The Senator went on to opine that it would be great if we could go back to a time when there was a measure of bipartisan cooperation in Congress but these days we can't count on it. She noted that the legislative branch of government has the responsibility of oversight. "We cannot try anybody. We cannot indict anybody. We cannot prosecute anybody. That is not our role. And so it's up to us to highlight these issues. The House is continuing to do investigations. And, of course, they're required to give that information to DOJ. But we know this DOJ is most likely not going to do anything with the information. So we'll have to wait until we have Republicans in control and then we'll be able to hold some people accountable."

Asked if President Biden is going to wake up, exercise fiscal responsibility and stop overspending, Senator Blackburn said she has her concerns. "I give the House, Speaker Kevin McCarthy and Leader Steve Scalise credit for pulling together some concessions from the Biden White House when it comes to the debt ceiling deal." But, she added, "I do have a lot of concerns about that deal, about its lack of enforcement capabilities. I wanted to see more done with cuts and keeping caps on those cuts. This administration does not want to do anything that would curb spending. When you look at our na-

tion's debt, if you go from George Washington all the way through to George W Bush, our nation acquired \$10.6 trillion. So then George W Bush hands the keys to the Oval Office to Barack Obama. Obama and Biden were in charge for eight years. They doubled that debt and you end up at about \$22 trillion. President Trump comes in, he adds to it. COVID happens. We end up adding a couple more trillion dollars to it. Trump hands the keys to Joe Biden, and in two years, Biden has added \$6 trillion to our nation's debt. That is where we stand right now. I'm one of those Republicans that does not want to give this administration the ability to burden future generations with untold amounts of debt. When you are sitting under that much debt, which amounts to about \$95,000 per citizen, what you are doing is capping opportunity for future generations. I think it's immoral to pass on this much debt. I want to see some cuts. I want to see some reforming in the way our government works, using technology and making certain that we're achieving efficiencies."

In conclusion, the Senator pointed out that what's needed is pro-growth strategies, keeping in mind that government doesn't create jobs. "It is the private sector's goal and responsibility to create those jobs. Government creates the environment in which jobs growth can take place."

PLAYER OF THE WEEK



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Caden is always encouraging other players and consistently playing the game with a positive attitude. He has led the team several games with his pitching, catching and overall athleticism. He even pitched a no hitter.
Why he loves playing at Noblesville Babe Ruth: "I just love playing baseball."

Caden Renckly



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Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball Final Standings

13-15 League

Standing

POOL 1

Team	W	L	T	RD	RA	RS
Canady	14	2	0	132	53	185
Sheridan	12	2	2	52	68	120
Johnson	11	4	1	46	91	137
Smith	10	4	2	66	107	173
Coffman	8	7	1	13	115	128
Theisen	7	9	0	-31	138	107
Brockelman	6	10	1	-28	144	116
Brown	4	11	1	-9	133	124
Costlow	2	13	1	-138	196	58
Kreke	2	14	0	-103	190	87

16-18 League

Standings

POOL 1

Team	W	L	T	RD	RA	RS
Concannon	10	5	1	38	90	128
Knebel	10	5	1	34	92	126
Springer	8	6	1	2	103	105
Castor	6	7	3	9	104	113
Mitchell	6	7	3	-14	110	96
Thomas/Walters	6	9	1	-31	117	86
Moore	4	11	0	-38	122	84

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THE TIMES

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WEEKEND

In The Home

A7

Weekend, June 10-11, 2023

TIM TIMMONS, Publisher @ JOE LARUE, Vice-President of Readership @ MELISSA MEME, Account Executive @ BETH HEDGE, Business Manager



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

Healthy Habits for Your Home

FAMILY FEATURES

If you're like most Americans, health is an important aspect of your resolutions when each new year rolls around. While factors like diet and exercise are keys to healthy living, so are the ways you care for your home and belongings.

Your home living environment plays a major role in your health and comfort, so incorporating some new habits like these from the cleaning experts at Swash Laundry Detergent can help you establish a healthier lifestyle.

Control Air Quality

Especially during the winter months when your home tends to be closed tight, air can grow stale. Do your best to keep air quality strong by opening windows on mild days to circulate fresh air, using an air purifier to remove irritants and pollutants, frequently vacuuming and sweeping to keep floor dust and debris under control and regularly cleaning textiles that can trap allergens and other particles.

Scale Back Detergent Use

Using too much laundry detergent isn't just risking buildup and unnecessary wear on your washer and dryer; it can also increase

the residue and buildup in your clothes, which can lead to skin irritation and damage fabric faster. Using only what you need helps protect your belongings and your skin. An option like Swash Laundry Detergent, which features a Precision Pour Cap, dispenses the detergent for you, so you only pour what you need to effectively clean each load and fight stains. A single bottle of the ultra-concentrated formula – available in Simply Sunrise, Free & Clear and Pure Linen scents – washes up to 83 loads while taking up less space than traditional, bulky detergent bottles.

Make Use of Natural Light

When winter brings day after day of dark, dreary weather, it can take a toll on your mood. Brightening your living space with natural light can positively influence your emotional state while helping with your electric bill. If you're concerned about privacy, utilize window treatments at night, but let the sunlight bring good cheer to your living spaces during the day.

Switch Bedding on Schedule

While you sleep, your body sheds oils, cells and elements you carry into your home like pollen. Sheets should be washed once a

week on the hottest water setting your fabric will tolerate (check tags for laundering directions on your sheets before washing). If your schedule makes weekly washing, drying and remaking the bed unrealistic, consider having a couple sets you can rotate so you always have fresh, clean sheets waiting to remake your bed on laundry day.

Work Up (and Wash Out) a Sweat

The materials that keep you feeling cool and fresh by wicking away sweat can quickly get stinky, but over-washing can make them lose their shape and fade. Even so, washing after every use is a must. Washing workout clothes inside out exposes the surfaces that have absorbed sweat and body oil to detergent and agitation. Be sure to close zippers, buttons, clasps and other fasteners to prevent snags. Pre-soaking with equal parts vinegar and cold water can also help eliminate odors, and washing in a gentle, cold-water cycle and drying on low heat can help protect the fabric's elasticity and wicking properties.

Start your year off right with more advice for healthy habits around the home at Swash.com.

5 Ideas for an Organized, Intentional Laundry Space

Having an organized and decorated laundry room can ease the weight of your to-do list and the tension you feel from the day-to-day grind. It can also help keep your laundry routine simple, orderly and organized. Consider these tips from the laundry experts at Swash:

1. Think like a minimalist.

Empty your laundry space and sort through what you need and what you don't. Eliminating the extras leaves room to evaluate your space. Consider whether you could organize differently to make frequently used items more accessible and make the most of your storage space. Cutting down on clutter may even make it possible to incorporate shelves or cabinets that add stylish functionality.

2. Update your space with open shelving.

Open laundry shelves offer a sense of more space, and the horizontal lines can lend a sense of calm. For an easy and attractive upgrade, try hanging 2-3 open shelves within easy reach. If you're hesitant about the open feel, limit to just one shelf for the everyday necessities and keep the rest of your laundry supplies out of sight in a complementing cabinet. Baskets offer another option for concealing your belongings, whether you use them on the open shelves or inside cabinets to keep things tidy and clutter-free.

3. Create a practical workspace.

Mundane laundry chores like folding can be more enjoyable when you have a comfortable, dedicated space for the job. An open counter or table that folds down from the wall gives you the surface you need to fold clothing within your laundry space without disrupting the rest of the house. Other ways to add practical space include areas for sorting garments that need special attention and a place to hang items that shouldn't be dried in the dryer.

4. Use colors and materials that evoke calm.

Natural materials and a neutral color palette can lend to a more peaceful space. Lighter neutral colors reduce stress and anxiety, promote relaxation and can even make a space feel more expansive. For a calm, refreshing area, start with a base of white then add natural textures like woven baskets, faux or real plants and marble stone accents in the tile flooring or backsplash. Add a calming color like blue to evoke the tranquility of the sky or ocean, or consider green to incorporate the soothing effects of nature.

5. Invest in products that bring you joy.

Choose quality pieces that aren't overly trendy and will stand the test of time. Consider how your investment of laundry decor, including your washer and dryer, will serve you in the space in the coming years.



WEEKEND *Travel or stay! and Play*

A8

Weekend, June 10-11 2023

TIM TIMMONS, Publisher ☐ JOE LARUE, Vice-President of Readership ☐ MELISSA MEME, Account Executive ☐ BETH HEDGE, Business Manager

BBB Scam Alert: How To Avoid Scams When Booking A Hotel Online



If you are planning an upcoming trip, keep an eye out for hotel booking scams. BBB Scam Tracker has received multiple reports of travelers falling victim to lookalike websites. Always confirm you are on the right website before making hotel reservations.

How the scam works
You search for hotels in the city you plan to visit. Among the top search results is what appears to be an official hotel website or a legitimate travel booking agency. When you click the link, you find a website with professional photos from the hotel and reasonable pricing.

Everything looks normal, so you decide to book a room. You enter your credit card information and check out. However, when you

review your credit card statement, you notice you've been charged a much higher rate than you agreed. It turns out that you weren't on the official hotel website after all! You accidentally clicked on a third-party site without affiliation with the hotel.

One consumer reported this experience: "I was redirected without knowing it to a 3rd party website... which looked like the hotel website. I made what I thought was a reservation for two nights. But when I got the email confirmation, I saw that I was charged almost \$1,000. I was immediately concerned and located the ACTUAL hotel, and they said that there is no reservation under my name/email and booking number which doesn't even line up with the format that they use."

When you contact the company to cancel your reservation, you may not be able to get through to anyone. And even if you do, they'll likely tell you you've made a non-refundable reservation. The best they can do is cancel your reservation and charge you for it anyway.

How to avoid hotel booking scams

- Only book hotels

through official websites. The best way to avoid this kind of scam is to check and double-check you are on an official hotel website before you enter your credit card information. Scammers are pros at building fake lookalike websites to fool you into giving up your information. Look closely at the URL to ensure you are on the hotel's official website or a booking agency you know and trust.

- Only make reservations through secure websites. You'll also want to ensure websites and their payment pages are secure, meaning they start with https:// and display a padlock symbol. If a web page isn't secure, don't enter your personal information and close the tab.

- Watch out for misleading ads. Look at search results carefully. Just because a website is the first result on the page doesn't mean it's legitimate. Watch out for high-ranking ads that scammers could sponsor.

- Research businesses you aren't familiar with. If you find a booking site that looks professional but you haven't heard of it before, proceed with caution. Search for reviews on third-party

websites and keep a close eye out for reports of scams. Never share your personal information with a person or business until you know they are trustworthy.

For more information To plan your next vacation, visit the BBB Travel HQ for more tips and advice. You'll learn more about best booking practices, staying safe during travel, and avoiding scams.

If you spot a hotel scam, report it at BBB.org/ScamTracker. Your report helps to boost consumer awareness and stop scammers in their tracks.

ABOUT BBB SERVING CENTRAL INDIANA: The Better Business Bureau has empowered people to find businesses, brands, and charities they can trust for over 110 years. In 2022, people turned to BBB more than 250 million times for BBB Business Profiles on more than 5.3 million businesses and Charity Reports on about 12,000 charities, all available for free at BBB.org. The International Association of Better Business Bureaus is the umbrella organization for the local, independent BBBs in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

Mary Pfeifer – “Simply Patsy” - Tribute to Patsy Cline

The Boot City Opry presents Mary Pfeifer in a tribute to Patsy Cline, one of America's Greatest Female artists. During the show, Pfeifer will perform Patsy Cline's greatest hits and recordings from the '50s and '60s, including "Crazy", "Walkin' After Midnight", "Sweet Dreams", "I Fall to Pieces", and many others. Throughout the evening, Ms. Pfeifer will indulge the audience in stories

from Patsy Cline's illustrious career. Pfeifer's show remains a fan favorite at the Boot City Opry. Don't miss this tribute to one of country music's more beloved ladies!

Join us Saturday June 10, at The Boot City Opry. Showtime 7 p.m.

Reserved tickets \$22 General Admission tickets \$17

Call the Boot City Opry today for your tickets! 812-299-8521

Marvin Bartel Ceramics Exhibition

Marvin Bartel, the Man Behind the Inspiration, Creativity and Skill exhibit begins next Friday evening, June 9, with the opening reception from 6-8 p.m. Mr. Bartel will be in attendance and this event is open to the public at no charge. The exhibition runs from June 10 through Aug. 26, with a special "lunch and learn" with Marvin Bartel as the guest speaker on

Tuesday, July 11, from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. (register online or by phone 765-742-6449). Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to see his wonderful work. Ceramics by some of the artists who studied under Mr. Bartel will also be on display. Normal hours for visiting The Haan Museum of Indiana Art are Wednesday through Saturday from 1-4 p.m.

Turkey Run State Park Ranked Among Top 10 Parks In The U.S.



Turkey Run State Park was named the seventh best state park in the

United States in a list of 15 according to TravelAwaits, a website dedi-

cated to travelers 50 and older.

The site mentions the park's sandstone gorges, suspension bridge, and Sugar Creek as reasons why Turkey Run stands out.

For more details on the list TravelAwaits compiled, see travellawaits.com/2885378/best-us-state-parks.

For a similar landscape to Turkey Run that can have fewer crowds, try Shades State Park. It's located a 20-minute drive northeast at 7751 S. 890 W. in Waveland, 47989. See on.IN.gov/shades for more information.

Turkey Run State Park (on.IN.gov/turkeyrunsp) is at 8121 East Park Road in Marshall, 47859.

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