

➔ TODAY'S VERSE

Romans 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.



➔ FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Duane Kingery smile? "Going to the Father's Day Car Show," said the 64-year-old Noblesville resident, who was found showing his red 1953 Chevy pickup at the Central Indiana Vintage Vehicles annual Father's Day Car Show in 2022 in Forest Park in Noblesville. He also has a 2007 Chevrolet Corvette in Monterey Red. He was born and raised in Noblesville and is a 1976 graduate of Hamilton Southeastern High School. He has a wife, Nancy, and two daughters, Kelsey and Amber, both who graduated from Noblesville High School and Nancy worked for Noblesville Schools. He has a granddaughter, 15-month-old Brianna Rose Krueger. He bought his truck 13 years ago. "I liked the color," said Kingery, whose truck won "Best Paint" at the show. Other reasons he was drawn to buy the truck: "I liked the shape, I liked the design ... the contours, the way the fenders look. It's just a beautiful design in my opinion It was already painted red. I put different wheels on it, put a different battery box on the back, changed the stereo out, put disc brakes on it, so a lot of mechanic changes," he said. The truck has a V8 engine, a 350 crate engine, 700R automatic transmission, so it's a four-speed automatic transmission with overdrive, and has power steering and power brakes, he said. Kingery called his truck a "resto-mod," (a classic that's been restored, but modified with modern parts and technology). "I have a hobby of old cars, plus I like to camp, so we have a motorhome. We go to Texas a lot, because that's where Brianna Rose is." This year's CIVV Father's Day Car Show is 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday at Forest Park. Admission is free to spectators, \$10 for car entries. Read more about the car show in the Betsy Reason column in Wednesday's edition of The Times.

And Another Thing...

1. Coffee with the President

Coffee on us! Make sure to join us in Arcadia and learn more about our exciting announcement of Northern Hamilton County. Both organizations will have time to connect with Jack Russell, President & CEO AND connect with the team and board of directors. This is also a great way to network with many new faces. June 20th, 8 am - 9:30am @ Remnant Coffee Shop

2. LANE RESTRICTIONS - 116th Street between Eller Road and River Road (Bridge No. 160)

Please be advised, beginning on or after Monday, June 12, 116th Street between Eller Road and River Road will be under lane restrictions for bridge joint replacement. The estimated project completion date is Friday, June 16. Lane restrictions will be in place daily from the hours of 9am thru 3pm. Flaggers will be in place throughout this process, so we ask that you use extreme caution while driving through this area.

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

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Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven of Indy Ghost Light Photography

Youth ages 10-18 rehearse for Carmel Community Players' summer youth production of "Godspell" musical, which opens on Friday and runs through June 25 at The Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville.

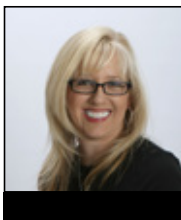


Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven of Indy Ghost Light Photography

Fender Brokamp of Westfield (from left, in background), as George, Jack Levine of Zionsville as Telly and Morgan Rusbasan as Peggy and Mason Yeater of Cicero as Jesus (front, right) rehearse for Carmel Community Players' summer youth production of "Godspell" musical, which opens on Friday and runs through June 25 at The Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville.

Director Says Everyone Can Relate to 'Godspell'

Carmel Community Players Musical Opens at Ivy Tech



BETSY REASON
From The Editor's Desk...

Thirty-five years ago in May, Tanya Haas appeared in her high school's production of "Godspell." The musical stuck with her as one of the most meaningful theater experiences that she ever had.

For years, she has been thinking that she would direct a youth production of the show.

And finally, the opportunity arose. She submitted the musical to Carmel Community Players and it was accepted.

This week, she brings the musical to the stage, as CCP's "Godspell" opens Friday and continues for a total of seven performances at The Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville.

Tickets are still available. Haas said members of the audience don't have to be religious or hold Christian beliefs to enjoy the show. "The stories we are telling, the 'lessons' we are imparting, go beyond religion and just speak to being a good person," she said. "Yes, the stories and songs are Biblically based, but they are about being human more than anything else."

The show features 14 cast members, ages 10 to 18, who hail from Cicero, Fishers, Noblesville, Westfield, Zionsville and Indianapolis. This is considered a "Rising Star" production which is eligible for Encore Association Rising Star awards, usually two presented each fall to youth during the Encore Association Awards night in Indianapolis.

CCP is presenting the 2012 version of "Godspell." Haas said, "We felt the cast would

Want TO GO?

What: Carmel Community Players presents "Godspell" musical, a Rising Star youth production.
When: June 16-25 with performances at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. June 22, 23 and 24 and 2:30 p.m. June 25.
Where: The Ivy Tech Auditorium, 300 N. 17th St., Noblesville.
How much: \$20 adults, \$18 ages 62 and older and students.
Reservations: 317-815-9387, www.carmelplayers.org

relate more to the updated references, and the script actually allowed for us to update some of the references even more to modern vernacular.

There are 15 songs in the show, and the updated score gives most of them a bit more

➔ See BETSY Page A6

Westfield Schools And Education Foundation Announces New Holiday Event

RocksGiving - Free Event to Build Community Through A Meal

Westfield Washington Schools and the Westfield Education Foundation announced a new holiday event to promote unity, community and the spirit of giving. This event, called RocksGiving, will provide a free holiday meal and an opportunity to commune with members of Westfield. RocksGiving will be held on Monday, November 20, 2023, from 5 to 8pm. Westfield Washington Schools is able to provide this free meal thanks to a grant from the Duke Energy Foundation.

Director of Community Engagement Ashley Knott says that this event is coming at a pivotal

➔ See SCHOOLS Page A6

State Of The County Address Scheduled For June 28

Commissioner Steve Dillinger to lay out Hamilton County's top priorities in coming year.

Hamilton County Commissioner Steve Dillinger will give his annual State of the County address Wednesday, June 28 at the Hamilton County 4H Exhibition Center.

The theme to this year's address will be "The Way We Were," as Dillinger pays homage to Hamilton County's Bicentennial Celebration. Among the topics expected to be addressed are renovations to the Hamilton County Fairgrounds, construction on a domestic violence shelter, and growth in the county's Parks and Recreation Department. Infrastructure projects like the streamlining of 146th Street at Allisonville Road, updates on State Road 37, and a new bridge over Pleasant Street in Noblesville will also be up for discussion.

"We've come so far in the past 200 years," Dillinger says.



STEVE DILLINGER

"I think those in attendance will be stunned at how much progress we've made in just the past four decades, especially those who are fairly new to the area. Hamilton County is a desirable place to live because we have been and continue to be so future focused."

The State of the County is hosted by the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce. The event is scheduled to start at 11:00 a.m. and end at 1:00 p.m. Doors open at 11:00 a.m. Member pricing begins at \$35 for a single ticket and \$350 for a corporate table of eight. Premium sponsorships and non-member rates are also available. Registration is required. You can register at www.noblesville-chamber.com.

➔ See NICKEL Page A6

Nickel Plate Arts Celebrating HATCH Fest Event, Formerly Known As Maker Faire

HATCH Fest, the event formerly known as Maker Faire, will be held on Saturday, June 17 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., including the time-honored St. Michael's Strawberry Festival, the Noblesville Cultural Arts District Juneteenth Celebration, SERVE Noblesville's FUN Fest, and Team Bloodsport's robot battles, giveaways, and interactive activities!

WHAT: Artisans, Makers and Craftspeople from Noblesville and surrounding areas will have amazing, one-of-a-kind creations to sell and area cultural groups, nonprofits, and businesses will be on display around the Courthouse Square with activities, demonstrations, performances and more.

WHO: Nickel Plate Arts, St Michael's Episcopal Church, Noblesville Cultural Arts District,

➔ INSIDE TODAY

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➔ OBITUARIES

Marge A. Clymer



➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Everyone should know their Body Mass Index (BMI) - adults should be less than 25.

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 thetimes24-7.com



➔ HONEST HOOSIER

We sadly remember Noblesville's own Bryan Clauson on what would have been his 34th birthday. Bryan, a world-class racer, passed away far too early in 2016 on the race track.



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

➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"Love is not only something you feel, it is something you do."
-David Wilkerson

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

What was it that Henny Youngman said? "The secret to a happy marriage remains a secret."

13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

58/77 SUN SUN	59/82 MON RAIN CHANCE	60/81 TUE WINDY	60/83 WED CHANCE	63/80 THU STORM CHANCE	59/81 FRI CLOUDS AND SUN	61/83 SAT CLOUDS AND SUN
WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE

OBITUARIES

Marge A. Clymer

June 30, 1949, Sunday, June 11, 2023

Marge A. Clymer, 73, of Noblesville, passed away on Sunday, June 11, 2023 at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis. She was born on June 30, 1949 to Arthur John and Josephine Jeanice (French) Brown in St. Joseph County, Michigan where she lived and attended school in Three Rivers and Constantine.

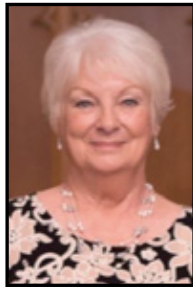
Marge worked in interior design as a furniture sales consultant. She was an avid Miller Backer and enjoyed gardening, music, and going to concerts. Marge loved decorating, and arts & crafts.

She is survived by her son, Troy Owen (Rebecca) Clymer; brother, Allen Brown; sister-in-law, Christy Smagala; nieces, Allison Hoffman and Cary Smagala; nephew, Steve Smagala; and cousin, David Wood.

In addition to her parents, Marge was preceded in death by her husband, James Hutton Clymer; and her step-father, Joe Geibe.

Visitation will be from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm, with services at 12:30 pm, on Friday, June 16, 2023 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, in Noblesville. Burial will be at Our Lady of Peace Cemetery in Indianapolis.

Condolences: www.randallroberts.com



Indiana State Fair Announces Second Wave Of Hoosier Lottery Free Stage Concerts For 2023

A Fair Favorite Returns BIGGER and BETTER in 2023!

The Best Concert Value of the Summer Returns Featuring Classic Rock Legends STYX, American Country A Cappella Group Home Free, 90's Hit Makers Gin Blossoms, The Fan Favorite Happy Together Tour, Gospel Music Legend CeCe Winans & Popular DJ Kurt Streblov and More!

July 28-August 20, 2023 (Closed Mondays & Tuesdays)

Today the Indiana State Fair unveiled additional shows to its 2023 list of scheduled concerts as a part of the Hoosier Lottery Free Stage schedule, July 28 through August 20 (Fair is closed Mondays and Tuesdays). The Hoosier Lottery Free Stage has become a summertime staple for concert goers and music lovers. The line-up each year consists of some of music's most legendary and diverse acts and this year is no exception. All shows at the Hoosier Lottery Free Stage are free with paid fair admission and seating is first-come, first-served. All shows start at 7:30 p.m., unless noted otherwise.

NEW Shows just announced today for 2023 Hoosier Lottery Free Stage at the Indiana State Fair schedule includes:

Clint Black - Friday, July 28 (opening day)
Peppa Pig Live! Peppa Pig's Adventure - Sunday, July 30 (11 a.m. & 2 p.m.)
Home Free - Sunday, July 30 (7:30 p.m.)
Keith Sweat - Wednesday, August 2

Retro Rewind 90's Night featuring DJ Kurt Streblov - Thursday, August 3
STYX - Friday, August 4

TobyMac - Sunday, August 6
Gin Blossoms - Friday, August 11
THE TAYLOR PARTY: TAYLOR SWIFT NIGHT - Saturday, August 12

Happy Together Tour 2023 featuring The Turtles, Little Anthony, Gary Puckett & The Union Gap, The Vogues, The Classics IV, The Cowsills - Wednesday, August 16
Buddy Guy: Damn Right Farewell - Friday, August 18

Gospel Music Festival featuring CeCe Winans, presented by WTLC AM & FM - Sunday, August 20

High resolution artist images are available by request or by visiting the State Fair media center photo gallery at www.IndianaStateFair.com.

As title sponsor of the Free Stage, the Hoosier Lottery is inviting fairgoers 18 or older to enter the free myLOTTERY All-Inclusive Indiana State Fair Prize Package promotion. Six people will win State Fair tickets, parking, Free Stage premium seating, Hoosier Lottery Prize Pack, autographed Indiana Pacers jersey, and Indiana Fever tickets. Enter by signing up to become a myLOTTERY member or confirming your existing account at HoosierLottery.com/StateFair by July 9, 2023. Promotional odds are dependent upon the number of entries received.

There will be a limited amount of reserved viewing area tickets sold later this summer for these concerts. The 2023 Indiana State Fair is scheduled to open on Friday, July 28 and runs through August 20, when you can enjoy The Greatest 18 Days of Summer at this iconic Hoosier tradition. For more information, please visit www.indianastatefair.com or follow the Indiana State Fair on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. The Indiana State Fair will be highlighted by its 2023 theme The State That Grew The Game presented by Pacers Sports & Entertainment.

2023 Artist Bios:
CLINT BLACK:

It has been three decades since the release of Clint Black's groundbreaking debut album, Killin' Time. The genre altering record cemented the Country music icon as one of the truest traditionalists in the game and his widespread influence can still be felt in the works of artists today. Now, the seemingly unstoppable legend is set to release his incredible 12th studio album, Out of Sane, dropping on June 19th. Having sold over 20 million records, earning 22 #1 career singles, nearly two dozen gold and platinum awards (U.S. and Canada), a Grammy Award, numerous CMA, ACM and American Music Awards, and being honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, Clint Black has had one of the most storied careers in modern music.

PEPPA PIG LIVE! PEPPA PIG'S ADVENTURE:

Come join Peppa on an exciting camping trip in the woods with George and her school friends, including Pedro Pony, Suzy Sheep and Gerald Giraffe. With lunch boxes packed and Daddy Pig driving the bus, Peppa and friends are excited about their outdoor adventure, full of singing, dancing, games and surprises. Little piggies everywhere will love this 60-minute live musical experience!

HOME FREE:

This country a cappella group comprised of vocalists Austin Brown, Rob Lundquist, Adam Rupp, Tim Foust, and Adam Chance has been captivating audiences with their unique sound with live performances since 2007. As the winners of the fourth season of NBC's The Sing Off, they released their first major album Crazy Life in 2014 and has been releasing original music since, their most recent album, So Long Dixie, released in November 2022.

KEITH SWEAT:

Keith Sweat is a Harlem-born R&B singer/songwriter who released his debut album, 'Make It Last Forever', at the end of 1987. The album sold over three million copies, spawning the hits "I Want Her" (#1 R&B, #5 pop), "Something Just Ain't Right" (#3 R&B), "Make It Last Forever" (#2 R&B), and "Don't Stop Your Love" (#9 R&B). It was followed in June 1990 by 'I'll Give All My Love to

You', another million-seller, that featured the hits "Make You Sweat" (#1 R&B, #14 pop), "Merry Go Round" (#2 R&B), "I'll Give All My Love to You" (#1 R&B, #7 pop), and "Your Love - Part 2" (#4 R&B). Sweat's third album was 'Keep It Comin'', an R&B chart-topper at the end of 1991, whose title track was another #1 R&B hit. In 1994 he returned with 'Get Up on It'; a self-titled release followed in 1996, and two years later he issued 'Still in the Game' and 'Didn't See Me Coming' in fall 2000.

RETRO REWIND: 90s Night ft. DJ Kurt Streblov:

DJ Kurt Streblov always brings the party and is one of Indy's favorite DJs and is also the in-house DJ and Host for the Indiana Pacers and Indiana Fever.

STYX:

This classic rock band from Chicago, Illinois continues to leave fans in awe with their upbeat tracks and power ballads, infused with familiar sounds of hard rock guitar mixed with elements of international music theatre. Known for classic rock staples like "Lady," "Come Sail Away," and "Rene-gade." Styx has remained active both in the studio and the road, releasing their latest album "Crash of the Crown" in 2021.

TOBYMAC:

With more than 16 million units in career sales and a whopping seven GRAMMY® Awards, TobyMac's career continues on the fast track. His RIAA Certified Gold studio album, THIS IS NOT A TEST, garnered a GRAMMY® Award and Billboard Music Award nomination on top of debuting at No. 4 on the Billboard Top 200. Each of his six studio solo projects have achieved Gold certification, a first for any artist in the history of his label, Capitol Christian Music Group. Among those is his project EYE ON IT, which debuted atop the Billboard 200, only the third Christian album ever to do so. THE ELEMENTS, his latest GRAMMY®-nominated, a full collection of music, boasted "Everything," "Scars," "Edge of My Seat," "See The Light" and more alongside the chart-topper, RIAA Gold Certified "I just need U." His most recent singles, "21 Years," "Help Is On the Way (Maybe Midnight)," "Promised Land," "The Goodness (feat. Blessing Offor)," "Everything About You (feat. Marlee)" and "Show Up Choose Love (feat. Jon Reddick)," are available wherever you stream music, along with his seventh studio project, LIFE AFTER DEATH.

GIN BLOSSOMS:

This rock band is a favorite for their jangle-pop sound with hits such as "Allison Road," "Found Out About You," and "Til I Hear It From You," dominating radio and MTV playlists throughout the 90s. They became one of the busiest touring bands in the world in the 2000s, playing close to 150 shows nearly every year. With

the fusion of Pop, Melodic Rock, Folk, and Country sounds, Gin Blossoms have sold over 10 million records and remain a high-demand, fan favorite live band.

THE TAYLOR PARTY: TAYLOR SWIFT NIGHT:

Courtesy of https://www.taylorswiftnight.com/:

We promise that you'll never find another party like THE TAYLOR PARTY: TAYLOR SWIFT NIGHT, a Taylor Swift Inspired Dance Party. Best believe our party is Taylor-made for ultimate fans.

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HAPPY TOGETHER TOUR:

The Happy Together Tour 2023 consists of six acts: The Turtles, Little Anthony, Gary Puckett & The Union Gap, The Classics IV, The Vogues and The Cowsills. These artists had their biggest hits in the 60's and 70's brought timeless sounds and songs like "Happy Together" by the Turtles, one of the most recognizable songs of that time period. These bands combined have multiple No. 1 hits with this tour starting in 1984. Since then the band has consistently knocked out 50 shows a year, making this tour an iconic homage to an era of music that has influenced many of today's artists. The tour has consisted of several different bands and artists throughout the nearly 40 years it has been running, with the only constant band being The Turtles.

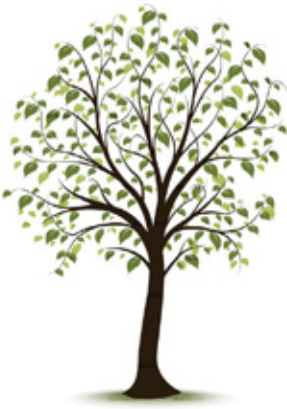
BUDDY GUY: Damn Right Farewell:

At age 86, Buddy Guy is a Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductee, a major influence on rock titans like Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton, and Stevie Ray Vaughan, a pioneer of Chicago's fabled West Side sound, and a living link to the city's halcyon days of electric blues. Buddy Guy has received 8 GRAMMY Awards, a 2015 Lifetime Achievement GRAMMY Award, 38 Blues Music Awards (the most any artist has received), the Billboard Magazine Century Award for distinguished artistic achievement, a Kennedy Center Honor, and the Presidential National Medal of Arts. Rolling Stone Magazine ranked him #23 in its "100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time."

CECE WINANS Gospel Music Festival:

Gospel superstar CeCe Winans performs as both a solo artist and a duo with her brother BeBe. As one of the most accomplished women in modern music, CeCe Winans is the most-awarded female gospel artist of all time, winning twelve GRAMMY Awards, twenty Dove Awards, and seven Stellar Awards. She's sold more than 5 million albums in the US and topped Gospel, Pop, R&B, and Adult Contemporary charts.

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Thanks for reading The Times!

Westfield Washington Schools Names New Director Of Operations

Middle School Principal Moves to Central Office.

Westfield Washington Schools is pleased to announce that, effective July 1, Mike Hall, current principal of Westfield Middle School, will assume the role of Director of Operations at the central office. The position opened up when the current director, Dr. Joseph Montalone, retired after 19 years with the district...

Hall has 21 years of experience in education. He has been the principal of Westfield Middle School since 2019. Prior to that, he was the principal of Monon Trail Elementary School. Before that, he served a dual role as the assistant principal for Carey Ridge Elementary School and Maple Glen Elementary School for 3 years.

"My family and I are honored to continue to serve the community of Westfield," Hall said. "For the past 14 years, it has been my privilege to work with amazing students and families. And, it has been an honor to work alongside the very best teachers, staff, and administrators. We truly have an amazing community and I look forward to continuing my service here."

As the director of operations, Hall will be responsible for leading the foodservice team, the custodial operation, the

transportation department and he will be the district safety leader. He will report directly to Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations Brian Tomamichel.

"I've seen Mike progress from an elementary principal to a leader at our second biggest school," Tomamichel said, "and I'm looking forward to seeing him continue to grow as a leader and as a difference maker in our district. I'm excited to see Mr. Hall continue to make an impact on our students and staff and I know he's going to bring that passion and hard work to the Administration Center."

Hall received his masters of education degree from Indiana Wesleyan, his masters in business administration with a focus on educational leadership from University of Indianapolis and his education specialist degree from Oakland City University.

Mike and his wife Angie live in Westfield with their two children, Graham and Grace, who both attend Westfield Washington Schools.

Westfield Washington Schools will begin the search to staff the Westfield Middle School principal position. If you are interested in applying, visit <https://www.applitrack.com/wvs/onlineapp/>.

Attorney General Todd Rokita Doubles Down On TikTok

Cooper & Kirk attorneys tell court: It's hardly political posturing to show how the Chinese government steals Americans' identities, even their facial features.

Attorneys at Cooper & Kirk joined Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita earlier this week in his ongoing fight to hold TikTok accountable for collecting personal data from app users — information that is then accessible to the Chinese Communist Party. Today, the Office of the Indiana Attorney General filed an amended lawsuit against TikTok.

"The district court's criticisms of the initial complaint were misguided and unfounded," said David Thompson of Cooper & Kirk, the state's lead outside counsel. "Is it considered 'irrelevant posturing' to express concern that Americans may be unknowingly posing for CCP facial recognition files?"

Even journalists at left-leaning CNN have now accepted the credibility of testimony "that the Chinese Communist Party accessed the data of TikTok users on a broad scale, and for political purposes." Recent sworn testimony from a former employee of ByteDance, TikTok's Beijing-based parent company, reveals the depths of their deception.


Such testimony provides just one example of TikTok's insidious practices — despite the company sparing no expense to deny it to Congress, the media and

American consumers. "TikTok has engaged in a massive PR campaign in which their statements and omissions paint a false, deceptive and misleading picture for Indiana consumers that there is minimal risk of the Chinese government accessing and exploiting their data," Thompson added.

In December 2022, Rokita led the way by filing two separate lawsuits against TikTok — both related to false claims made by the company about its video-sharing app. This week, Rokita amended the state's data-privacy complaint against TikTok to reflect the recent revelations that TikTok users' data is subject to Chinese law and may be intercepted by the Chinese government.

Previously, TikTok removed the state's case to federal court, but on May 23 the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana agreed with Attorney General Rokita's office that the case should proceed in state court. The district court criticized the complaint as "posturing" — an opinion not shared by the patriots fighting against TikTok.

"Not only do TikTok's false, deceptive and misleading practices blatantly violate Indiana law — but they also endanger individual Hoosiers," Rokita said. "Too many U.S. policymakers put their heads in the sand while the Chinese Communist Party steals data and uses it to advance its own strategic agenda."



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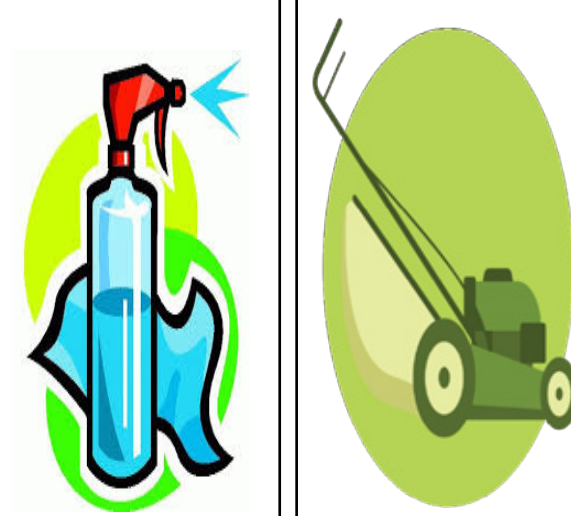
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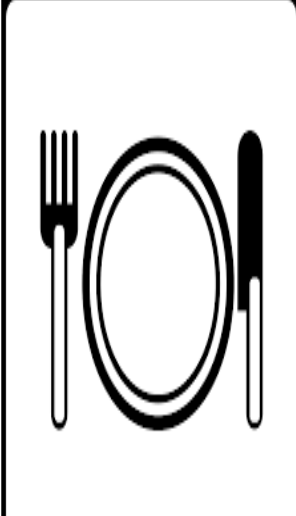
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Remembering John Marlowe



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

Seven months ago, John Marlowe was doing CrossFit workouts, writing a weekly column for The Paper

of Montgomery County and the Noblesville Times and basically enjoying life.

This week, he is dead. Cancer is an insidious beast.

If he could, John would tell people that his legacy boils down to a few things: He would hope that others would use his passing as a spur to go get their own checkups and if there is cancer, to find it early. He would also likely say that he didn't accomplish everything he wanted in this life. There's no "but" after that. He wouldn't qualify it. That's just the way he was. Humble? Certainly. Unassuming? Most definitely.

But his legacy is so much more.

Over the last few years, John won more writing awards than anyone else in our company. In the last five years, John won six state-wide writing honors from the Hoosier State Press Association, including three first places. Think about that for a minute. If this were high school basketball, John would have three state championships in five years. Think that's Hall of Fame material?

But it's not something he talked about.

For when it came to his accomplishments, John just never said much.

His actions spoke volumes.

John Marlowe was the kind of man and friend you could count on - no matter what. He and I met back in the late '70s or early '80s - neither one of us could remember the exact date. We tried a couple of times to figure it out and ended up laughing about being old men with bad memories.

The first thing that struck me about him back then was his dad. John was the son of famed sportscaster Chuck Marlowe. IU

and Bob Knight fans know the elder Marlowe from IU basketball glory days.

Whereas Chuck was outgoing and could take over a room, John was quiet and laid back. That's not to say he wasn't quick with the wit. He absolutely was. A degree from Wabash College proved he was no slouch - and a role on the football team proved he was tough - much tougher than the two-year starter from Cascade High School ever let on.

Actually, he was one of the funniest guys I ever met.

I asked him what position he played in football - and he said "left."

"Left end?"
"Left out."
He wasn't.

We used to play this game where someone would say the name of a song and the object was to name the performing artist. Other than one of John's very best friends Rocky, he was the best I ever saw at that. He used to joke that when it came to knowledge of unimportant things, he was awfully good.

There's that meekness again.

From the '80s to well after the turn of the century, John and I drifted apart. A vagabond newspaper guy, I left the great Hoosier state to work in Texas, North Carolina and California. It wasn't until after starting the Little Newspaper That Could that I saw him again.

I was working at my desk when I looked up and there stood John. We laughed and hugged and he said that word of our new venture reached him all the way over in Clayton. He just wanted to come by and say hi and wish us well.

That started some long conversations where we were able to catch up and rekindle a lost friendship. It actually brought another good friend along and the three of us laughed and did a lot of remembering over lunch one day. It was there that John said he was still looking for something fulfilling, job wise, I suggested he write for us.

He said no.



JOHN MARLOWE

Said that he wasn't that good a writer, that he didn't have anything worth sharing, that no one would be interested in what he had to say.

Many, many writing awards later, newspaper professionals would disagree. So would readers. John's columns were always among the most read we offered. When he stopped writing in January of this year because of the cancer - I can't begin to tell you how many people asked what happened to John. It was the main question I got for weeks. And John wouldn't let us put anything in about his cancer. He didn't want to make a big deal out of it - even though it was.

Finally, after weeks of bugging him, he finally allowed us to share with you that he had cancer and that prayers were appreciated.

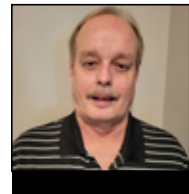
He also wanted - and tried - to write a column. He told me he wanted to tell everyone to go get checked. He said he had annual physicals, but the pandemic . . . got in the way and he put it off. He wanted others to know not to put theirs off. But John said every time he tried to write it, the words didn't come. Later, he didn't have the energy.

John would tell his legacy wasn't that much.

But believe me, it was. It was more. So very much more.

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

Hamilton County Offers Value For Retirees



RICK NOLAN
Looking In From Outside

For anyone on the fence considering retirement, I would highly recommend it.

As I have mentioned before, seeing our son more than a handful of times per year entered into my wife and I choosing to move to Noblesville. That said, it was only one of many reasons.

Hamilton County remains in the top tier of any place to live in the country. Thus far, I have experienced little to defy that claim. It still ranks high among national affordability when considering all factors of housing, taxes and day-to-day cost of living.

Not wanting to lecture but just stating fact, think your taxes are high here? They aren't compared to your western neighbor where my property taxes were twice the amount that I pay now and I was two hours outside of Chicago. Got a lot less in return there versus here as well.

Also, I am not saying Greater Indianapolis is void of problems because it's not. Everyone who has been here much longer than me pretty much knows what those are; but the good more than outweighs the bad in my humble opinion.

From a person who no longer has to worry about the Monday through Friday rat race, this area provides everything we were looking for in our Golden Years.

My wife and I were never snowbirds and we still like to experience the seasons' change.

As my better half likes to say, "we are simple people" (maybe even boring) and don't need a lot to make us content and happy.

A happy retirement for us is sleeping in from time to time, taking long walks at Dillon Park, eating lunch and dinner out at some surprisingly good local eateries and visiting the great farmer's markets that put the one's in central Illinois to utter shame.

We haven't taken in the day or early evening train rides yet from Noblesville but plan on it. Hamilton County and Greater Indy are "festival central" with something it seems going on every weekend. Potters Bridge is already on my wife's annual calendar for the foreseeable future. Summer camp for the Colts in Westfield is only weeks away and a short trip down Route 32.

For just me, my favorite fishing hole is only a short drive or a three block hike from my house and Morse Reservoir is less than a four-dollar drive if I choose.

Free summer and early fall concerts are everywhere it seems, to say nothing of the first class outdoor and indoor entertainment facilities in Noblesville and Carmel that would have required a hour drive in a previous life.

Indianapolis is within an hour or less to experience about anything you want and IMS is great to watch all types of racing without 300,000 others if you pick the right days and times. I'm also no longer investing what use to be a six hours on the interstate to see anything at 16th and Georgetown, but call me spoiled now.

Community fathers must know that more like me are coming as housing for us retirement types is on the rise in the county. Westfield, Noblesville and Fishers are developing more in retirement housing and that as they say "ain't all bad."

Even though retirees don't work 40 to 60 hours anymore, they tend to be a plus for any community.

Some of us tend to get

bored, so we make great and dependable part-time employees and bring lots of life experiences to any gig.

Look around and you will see the 60- plus crowd volunteering at hospitals, food and clothing banks, schools, driving a bus, taking the elderly to the doctor or various other appointments.

Speaking of doctors, one at IU Health probably saved my life less than one year ago by properly diagnosing a condition that had been missed in Illinois.

Besides just me, retirees keep pharmacies and doctors' offices busy. We are one of the reasons that CVS and Walgreens seem to have a facility every two blocks in Hamilton County, so our demographic keeps that part of the local economy humming.

Granted, you'll still have to listen to us complain and hold up lines over a dispute on any price whether it be at the grocery or drug store even over a few cents. We'll also be the ones making you wait for a seat at your favorite weekend breakfast haunt because our group has been drinking coffee since 7 a.m. and we refuse to be in a hurry.

On the plus side, we never will cause a major problem that requires a call to local law enforcement, unless it's over a dispute at the BINGO game.

For our few faults, be tolerant of us. We really love living here and appreciate everything central Indiana affords us.

Life really couldn't be better. You appreciate the things here that add to the quality of life for everyone.

Go Noblesville! Go Hamilton County!

- Rick Nolan is retired and moved to Noblesville from Illinois. He has a background in the newspaper world and has worked in news, sports and business.

2023 46th Annual Strawberry Festival

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Saturday, June 17, 2023
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How To Find Which Plants Benefit Local Ecosystem

EARTHTALK

Dear EarthTalk: I would like to plant a few new trees in my backyard, and am looking for guidance on which species are native and would benefit the local ecosystem. Where can I find this kind of information?

Home gardening is a great way to spend time outside, improve local ecosystems and learn more about botany and plants. When it comes to household gardening, natives are the key to success. Planting native species has numerous benefits, including providing food and habitat for native species, especially pollinators. Another important benefit is that native trees will thrive and spread naturally if they are planted in their native environment and suitable climate.

In order to plant the most well-suited flora for your garden to support a holistic, healthy ecosystem, here are some general principles to follow. As previously mentioned, go native! Secondly, look for pollinator friendly species. On a similar note, it could help to do some research on what species, both flora and fauna, are endangered or threatened in your area. Planting threatened tree

species can help to support and grow their population numbers. Similarly, finding out which animal species are threatened and planting trees that could be beneficial to their survival would also be beneficial to supporting the local ecosystem. Finally, planting a variety of trees is a great way to support local biodiversity. High biodiversity levels support healthy, productive ecosystems.

Finding just the right species that ticks off all the boxes can be a daunting task. Luckily, there is a plethora of tools out there that can help. For example, Tree Wizard is a tool that helps find tree species that are suitable for specific climates and soil types. Another useful tool is the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Climate Change Tree Atlas. This tool specifically looks at how different species' suitable ranges will change as a result of rising temperatures. This is a helpful tool for determining what tree species will thrive in the future in your area. You can also do research on which species are native to your specific state or region. Most states have an inventory of native trees available through their Department of Natural Resources, as well as an inventory of native animal species.

The bottom line is that planting trees, especially native ones, is massively beneficial to the ecosystem, and is an important step in fighting climate change. Trees provide major ecosystem services, especially carbon sequestration (removing carbon from the air). Trees store large amounts of carbon, and planting large numbers of them can create carbon sinks (defined as anything that absorbs more carbon from the atmosphere than it releases), decreasing the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Other ecosystem services provided by trees include increases in biodiversity, support for local populations, and protecting soils from erosion and chemical runoff, which can help to keep water sources clean. Trees are the key to our future, so it is crucial that we do it right!

CONTACTS: *Arbor Day Tree Wizard*, arborday.org/shopping/trees/treewizard/intro.cfm; *USDA Climate Change Tree Atlas*, fs.usda.gov/nrs/atlas/.

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Sec. Chambers Announces First-Of-Its-Kind Entrepreneurship Portal Launch To Fuel Startup, Small Business Ecosystem

In line with Commerce Secretary's 5E focus, state invites current, aspiring entrepreneurs and innovators to leverage new tool, ConnectIND, to power growth.

Today, Indiana Secretary of Commerce Brad Chambers announced the launch of ConnectIND, a digital portal designed to increase support for entrepreneurs and founders and power Indiana's entrepreneurial ecosystem. The new tool, which was first announced during Global Entrepreneurship Week in November 2022, is the first portal of its kind to provide comprehensive, statewide resources designed to connect current and aspiring entrepreneurs to the right resources at the right time.

"Hoosier entrepreneurs are drivers of Indiana's economic growth, leaders of innovation, and builders of Indiana communities," said Sec. Chambers. "An essential piece of our 5E strategy is entrepreneurship, and we're committed to giving entrepreneurs the tools needed to succeed. ConnectIND is a result of Indiana's focus on entrepreneurs and the entrepreneurial ecosystem, and it represents a critical step forward in fostering connectivity across the state."

ConnectIND, built in partnership with Baltimore-based company EcoMap, is designed to support founders and small business owners throughout their entrepreneurial journey, from ideation to growth and maturation. The portal, which was developed and will be maintained by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation

(IEDC), is the first of its kind statewide listing of resources, programs and services for entrepreneurs, providing visitors curated connections to Indiana's robust network of support organizations, mentors, accelerators, capital opportunities, space, licensing and permitting, community connection and more. ConnectIND also offers a matching tool and dedicated, statewide team of ecosystem navigators through the Indiana Small Business Development Center (SBDC) to help entrepreneurs narrow in on the right tools for them.

"The state's entrepreneurship portal is a great solution to address gaps in our startup and small business ecosystem, and it will create accessibility and connections to resources that we've yet to see in our community. I look forward to seeing how it will help our businesses thrive," said Brigid Morrissey, co-founder of The Root, a coworking space in New Albany, Indiana.

Now live, the state is inviting entrepreneurs and ecosystem stakeholders to leverage and help further build out the platform.

Entrepreneur support organizations: Create and customize an organization profile to help entrepreneurs find you and access your resources. Get connected to other entrepreneurial ecosystem stakeholders and access a directory of entrepreneurs across Indiana to fuel your initiatives.

•Entrepreneurs: Connect with the portal's ecosystem navigators – real people with unique, robust knowledge of Indiana's entrepreneurial ecosystem

who can provide information and help you connect with resources. Or, use the portal's matching tool to cut through the noise and get connected to the right resource for you at the right time.

•Aspiring entrepreneurs: Explore ConnectIND to learn more about Indiana's growing entrepreneurial ecosystem and find the people, organizations and resources near you to inspire and help you on your journey.

Indiana is committed to investing in the growth and success of the state's entrepreneurial ecosystem, which continues to inspire entrepreneurs and fuel new innovations, create quality jobs for Hoosiers, and attract record levels of capital investment. Indiana recently ranked as the No. 1 State to Start a Business by Forbes and as a Global Top 40 Emerging Ecosystem by Startup Genome while six of the state's cities were named among the 2022 Best Startup Cities in the Midwest with Indianapolis ranking No. 3.

The state's entrepreneurial ecosystem has a significant impact on the state's economy and its communities. Indiana's youngest companies (under five years of age) account for the majority of net new job growth in the state, creating more than 36,000 new jobs in 2019 alone. In 2021, Hoosier companies under five years of age contributed an estimated \$11.5 billion to Indiana's GDP. At the local level, one successful new company increases the median household income of surrounding households, driving community wellbeing.

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BETSY From Page A1



Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven of Indy Ghost Light Photography

Emmy Bobenmoyer of Indianapolis as Joanna (from left), Fender Brokamp of Westfield as George and Quincy Russell of Zionsville as Robin rehearse for Carmel Community Players' summer youth production of "Godspell" musical, which opens on Friday and runs through June 25 at The Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville.



TANYA HAAS

of a rock sound, as compared to the original version from the 1970s, Haas said.

She thinks the audience will likely know a lot of the music from the show since it's more than 50 years old now. The most well-known songs are "Prepare Ye" and "Day by Day." Haas said many don't realize that the music for "Godspell" was written by Stephen Schwartz, who also wrote the music for "Pippin" and more recently "Wicked." Rich Phipps is music director and producer for the show. Phipps and Haas have acted on stage together a few times, and Phipps was also her music director for "Back to the '80s." The two, both of Carmel, work well together.

"Godspell" explores the stories of Matthew's Gospel in a way that everyone can relate. "Many of the stories are very well known, but we are presenting them in a new light, likely not the way most people would have learned them in church growing up," Haas said.

The costumes are bright, colorful and full of bold patterns. "If anyone has ever seen a preschooler who has been allowed to dress himself, that is the look we are going for, to fit in with the 'Children of God' theme," she said.

Speaking of kids, the sets and props are all "toy" based. She admitted to have borrowed the idea from that same production of "Godspell" that she was in during high school. "Those in the audience will hopefully recognize something they themselves have had a connection to at some time in their lives. Pretty much all of the set pieces are either from my own family or borrowed from my cast and their families," Haas said. "We use the various toys in some pretty clever ways throughout the course of the show I think."

The costumes are being put together through a mix of items that cast members had at home, things that have been borrowed and items that have been

Meet the CAST

Ann, Isabella Bardos of Noblesville; Joanna, Emmy Bobenmoyer, Indianapolis; Celisse, Joey Brandenburg, Westfield; George, Fender Brokamp, Westfield; Morgan, Rachel Bush, Indianapolis; John the Baptist/Judas, Nick Lantzer, Fishers; Telly, Jack Levine, Zionsville; Uzo, Tatum Meadors, Westfield; Peggy, Morgan Rusbasan, Indianapolis; Robin, Quincy Russell, Zionsville; Lindsay, Greta Shambarger, Westfield; Jesus, Mason Yeater, Cicero; Jeffrey, Owen Yeater, Cicero; and Nick, Quinn Yeater, Cicero.

Meet the CREW

Director, Tanya Haas; musical director/producer, Rich Phipps; assistant director/stage manager, Amber Roth; choreographer, Donna McFadden; stage manager, Ethan Hutchinson; light design, Owen Yeater; sound design/operator, Karissa Monson; costumes, Caleigh Law; set design/decoration, Tanya Haas and Amber Roth; set production, Charlie Hanover and Dave Muse; props, The Godspell Families; graphics design, Lori Raffel; social media/publicity, Hannah Janowicz.

purchased. The only costume that is traditional is the Jesus costume, the often-seen Superman shirt.

Costumer Caleigh Law talked to each of the cast members and put together an overall individual 'look' for them, and "we set about trying to pull together the pieces to make that happen," she said.

Haas has performed in more than 50 shows since high school, most recently in CCP's "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940." CCP's "Godspell" will be the eighth musical that she's directed and the 10th youth production she's directed as a drama teacher. She was asked to direct the youth production of "Back to the '80s" in 2016 when the original director dropped out, since she had been the drama teacher, directing school musicals for Midwest Academy, for a few years after helping to introduce theater to her oldest son's English class when he attended the school. She and her husband raised six children, so she is used to "wrangling children" through her own life experiences. In 2022, CCP reached out to Haas to ask her to direct a summer youth production once again. She is also directing Basile Westfield Playhouse's summer youth production.

Haas has worked with kids since she was a kid. Her first jobs were babysitting, and then she was a preschool teacher and taught religion classes throughout high school and college and after she got married and started a family of her own.

She was born and raised in Cincinnati and has lived in Carmel for the past 18

years. "My parents raised my brother and I to be big theater aficionados from an early age. My parents still go to see over 100 productions a year," she said.

Haas fell in love with acting the first time she got on stage her freshman year of high school. "I love the excitement of bringing a story to life."

When she's not directing or acting, she enjoys volunteering a few times a week taking care of refugee children while their parents are learning to speak English. She also enjoys spending time with her husband of nearly 30 years and her children, who are now all adults, or her friends who, she said, "accept me just as I am."

Haas said when she directs a youth production, she always hopes to give her cast members a positive experience that will stay with them throughout their lives. "I hope that I am helping build their confidence as they see they can accomplish anything they set their minds to, and people will appreciate what they have to offer both on and off the stage."

She used to be pretty shy as a kid. "But acting gave me the chance to see that I could be bigger than life sometimes and no one was going to criticize me for trying something new," Haas said. "I hope that each young actor I have the chance to work with will take something good away from their time working with me."

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

SCHOOLS From Page A1

time for our community. "Westfield is the sixth fastest-growing large city in the United States," she said "but we truly value the small town feel that our community has maintained throughout this period of steady growth. Hamilton County is a community filled with neighbors supporting each other. We are thankful for Duke Energy's investment in the well-being of our families."

The Duke Energy Foundation was the first organization to step up and contribute to this event. Because of their generosity, all RocksGiving meals will be free to the entire community. Mark Labarr, government and community relations manager at the Duke Energy Foundation, said he is proud to continue the relationship with Westfield and his

foundation.

"The City of Westfield has grown rapidly in recent years, and RocksGiving provides a unique opportunity to ensure families and individuals continue to feel connected and heard," she said. "We're proud to support this event and hope it sparks conversation and a strong sense of community."

The success of the event is determined by the participation of neighbors from Hamilton County who gather around a table to engage in conversations. Individuals from churches, businesses, and non-profit organizations are all welcome to attend and either serve or enjoy the meal. If you are interested in volunteering or sponsoring RocksGiving, please contact Ashley Knott at knotta@wvs.k12.in.us.

NICKEL From Page A1

and SERVE Noblesville. **SPECIAL THIS YEAR:** Ellie Clark and Curtis Honeycutt, members of Team Bloodsport, a robot combat team featured on the Discovery Channel show BattleBots!

WHEN: Saturday, June 17, 2023 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

WHERE: Downtown Noblesville Courthouse Square 810 Conner Street, Noblesville

*Members of the media are welcome to attend.



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Number Stumpers

Did You Know?

- Howard County was founded in 1844 and named for Tilghman Howard.
Kokomo, the county seat, has a total population of 45,468 residents.
The county is home to 14 different educational institutes ranging from private to public schools and universities.
In 1894 Elwood Haynes of Kokomo made the first successful trial run of his "horseless carriage."
Howard county is 293.92 square miles and has a population of 82,752 residents.

- 1. How long ago was the first successful "horseless carriage" trial run?
2. How old is Howard County?
3. How many people in the county do not live in Kokomo?
4. What is the population density of the county?

Answers: 1. 125 Years 2. 175 Years 3. Around 37,284 People 4. 281/sq. mi

Got Words?

Kokomo is coined the "City of Firsts." The city is associated with discovering products, such as the mechanical corn picker, canned tomato juice and push-button car radio. How do you think these inventions have impacted Kokomo and the rest of the world?

Blank lines for writing answers to the word puzzle.

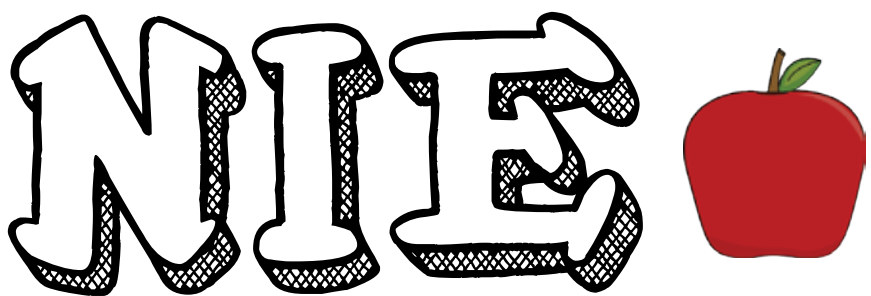
Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

- 1. TSFIRS
2. MOKKOO
3. ORSHESSL ARGCIAER
4. HOOCLSS
5. ORWDHA OYUCNT

Answers: 1. Firsts 2. Kokomo 3. Horseless Carriage 4. Schools 5. Howard County

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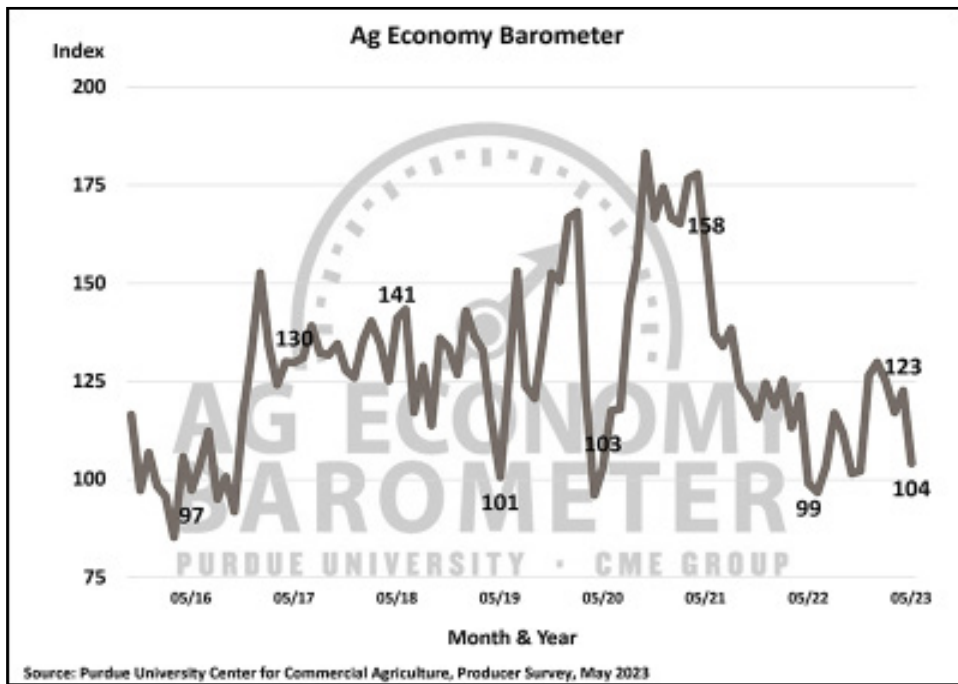
A8

Farmer Sentiment Sours As Crop Prices Decline

Producer sentiment fell to its weakest reading since July 2022 as the Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer declined 19 points to a reading of 104 in May. The Index of Future Expectations was down 22 points to a reading of 98 in May, while the Index of Current Conditions was down 13 points to a reading of 116. This month's lower sentiment was fueled by drops in both of the barometer's sub-indices and likely triggered by weakened crop prices. In mid-May, Eastern Corn Belt fall delivery bids for corn fell over \$0.50/bushel (10%), and soybean bids declined over \$1.00/bushel (8%), while new crop June/July delivery wheat bids declined nearly \$0.50/bushel (8%), all compared to bids available in mid-April, when last month's barometer survey was conducted. The Ag Economy Barometer is calculated each month from 400 U.S. agricultural producers' responses to a telephone survey. This month's survey was conducted between May 15-19.

"Producers are feeling the squeeze from weakened crop prices, which has reduced their expectations for strong financial performance in the coming year," said James Mintert, the barometer's principal investigator and director of Purdue University's Center for Commercial Agriculture.

The Farm Financial Performance Index was impacted by lower sentiment, dropping 17 points to a reading of 76 in May. Crop price weakness, uncertainty related to U.S. bank failures, and rising interest rates were likely key factors behind the decline. This month, 38% of respondents said they expect weaker financial performance for their farm this year, compared to just 23% who felt that way in April. Higher



input cost remains the top concern among producers in the year ahead; however, concern over the risk of lower crop and/or livestock prices is growing. This month 26% of respondents chose lower output prices as their top concern, compared with just 8% of respondents who felt that way in September. Meanwhile, nearly three-fifths (59%) of producers said they expect interest rates to rise during the upcoming year, and 22% of respondents chose rising interest rates as a top concern for their farm in the next 12 months. Additionally, 40% of farmers in this month's poll said they expect this spring's U.S. bank failures to lead to some changes in farm loan terms in the upcoming year, possibly putting more financial pressure on their operations.

Unsurprisingly, the Farm Capital Investment Index was also lower, down 6 points to a reading of 37 in May. More than three-fourths (76%) of respondents continue to feel now is a bad time for large investments. Among those who feel now is a bad time, two-thirds (67%) cited rising interest rates and increased prices for machinery and new con-

struction as key reasons.

Producers' expectations for short-term farmland values fell 13 points to 110 in May and marked the weakest short-term index reading since August 2020. In this month's survey, just 29% of respondents said they expect farmland values to rise over the next 12 months, compared to 54% who felt that way a year earlier. In contrast, producers remain more optimistic about the longer-term outlook for farmland values, as the Long-Term Farmland Value Expectations Index rose 3 points in May to a reading of 145.

With farm bill discussions ongoing, this month's survey asked respondents what title in the upcoming legislation will be most important to their farming operation. Nearly half (48%) of producers said the Crop Insurance Title will be the most important aspect of a new farm bill to their farms, followed by the Commodity Title, chosen by 25% of respondents. In a follow-up question, corn and soybean growers were asked what change, if any, they expect to see to the Price Loss Coverage reference prices in a new farm bill. Close to half (45%) of corn and

soybean growers said they expect Congress to establish higher reference prices for both crops, with very few (10% and 13%) expecting lower reference prices for soybeans and corn, respectively.

Read the full Ag Economy Barometer report at <https://purdue.ag/ag-barometer>. The site also offers additional resources — such as past reports, charts and survey methodology — and a form to sign up for monthly barometer email updates and webinars.

Each month, the Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture provides a short video analysis of the barometer results, available at <https://purdue.ag/barometervideo>. For more information, check out the Purdue Commercial AgCast podcast available at <https://purdue.ag/agcast>, which includes a detailed breakdown of each month's barometer and a discussion of recent agricultural news that affects farmers.

The Ag Economy Barometer, Index of Current Conditions and Index of Future Expectations are available on the Bloomberg Terminal under the following ticker symbols: AGEGBARO, AGECCURC and AGECFTEX.

Greencastle Community School Corporation Joins Indiana State University's Preferred Partners Program

Greencastle Community School Corporation has partnered with Indiana State University for a special new program that will provide a 15 percent discount off of in-state tuition for the school corporation's employees pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees through Indiana State Online, regardless of their state of residence.

Indiana State's Preferred Partners program launched just last year with five partners. Now, communities across Indiana are already benefitting as the program has grown quickly to more than 20 Indiana education and corporate institutions.

Working adults looking to advance their careers can take advantage of this new higher education opportunity, which combines affordability, access and convenience.

With a 15 percent in-state tuition discount for any of Indiana State's numerous online programs, employees at Preferred Partner organizations have access to undergraduate degrees in programs like accounting, business administration, cyber-

criminology and security studies, marketing, safety management and psychology, to name just a few.

Indiana State's graduate programs, including the Scott Campus MBA program with top accreditation, are offered to Preferred Partners for the same tuition discount, including online master's, doctoral and educational specialist programs. While offering numerous online certificate and licensure programs, the university is also focusing on partnering with businesses to create customized certification and training programs.

"The Indiana State University Preferred Partners program is making it easier for Indiana's employees to advance their job skills and better prepare for highly sought after careers in Indiana," says Jill Blunk, Director of Educational Partnerships. "We have been thrilled at the response to Preferred Partners, with nearly 40 adult learners signing up to pursue their degrees in just the first few months."

Visit Indiana State's Preferred Partners program for more information.

Indiana Securities Division Announces Top Investor Threats

The Indiana Securities Division is reminding investors to be on the lookout for investment schemes offered through various internet, texting, and social media platforms.

The North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA) recently released its annual list of top threats to retail investors. The survey includes responses of enforcement officials with state and provincial securities regulators throughout the United States, Canada, and Mexico. This year, the most critical threats include financial scams tied to emerging technologies, marketing tactics designed to play on emotions, and further attempts to capitalize on changes in the economy.

"Investigators with our Securities Division are constantly working to empower Hoosiers with the knowledge of scams and fraudulent schemes. We want Hoosiers to be prepared and never fall victim to perpetrators who are looking to steal their hard-earned money," said Indiana Secretary of State Diego Morales.

Indiana investors have fallen prey to frauds relating to all three of the top threats, especially fraud perpetrated online and those involving cryptocurrencies.

- Regulators cited digital asset frauds (62%) as the top scheme presents the most danger to the public.
- Romance schemes (46%) were the second most-cited threat to investors.
- Regulators determined social media and internet schemes (41%) as the third

greatest threat to retail investors.

A recent investigation by the Indiana Securities Division case involved a crypto romance scheme for a loss of approximately \$180,000. Some scams originate out of other countries which make it harder to recoup the funds. Perpetrators are effective because the bad actors use fear and anxiety as tools for disarming investors. Perpetrators contact victims, often seemingly random, and develop relationships before soliciting greater and greater investments. After draining the victim's bank accounts, the perpetrator simply disappears with the money.

Schemes using digital platforms are effective because scammers can use online communications to reach many potential victims quickly and efficiently. Additionally, some crypto cannot be traced and the identity of the receiver is anonymous. The most common telltale sign of an investment scam is an offer of guaranteed high returns with no risk.

"Get-rich quick schemes are typically built on empty promises and lead to empty pockets. Bad actors attempt to leverage vulnerabilities wherever they can be found. Don't be lured into programs offering the promise of high returns to supplement income lost because of lost income," said Securities Commissioner Marie Castetter.

Before making an investment decision, ask questions, do your homework, and contact the Indiana Securities Division at 317.232.6681 for more information.

Indiana To Receive \$21M In Federal Funds To Improve Safety Of Railroad Crossings

By Marissa Meador

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Railroad Administration announced a \$21 million grant Monday to help Indiana make railroad crossings safer. The grant follows a Propublica article from April that detailed the dangers of stopped trains in places like Hammond, Indiana, which often force kids to climb over the tracks to get to school and prevent first responders from getting to emergencies in time.

In Hammond, which is near Chicago — the busiest train hub in the country — trains stay motionless for hours or days, often spanning five or six intersections. Those who choose to climb over rail cars to cross face the risk of a

sudden start, and ProPublica reporters claim they witnessed trains in Hammond move without warning.

Still, the issue of stopped trains is a nationwide problem. Just last year, there were more than 30,000 reports of blocked crossings submitted to the FRA and more than 2,000 highway-rail crossing collisions according to a press release.

"Every year, commuters, residents, and first responders lose valuable time waiting at blocked railroad crossings — and worse, those crossings are too often the site of collisions that could be prevented," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg in a press release. "As part of President Biden's Investing in America

agenda, we're improving rail crossings in communities across the country to save lives, time, and resources for American families."

Buttigieg is the former mayor of South Bend, a community close to Hammond.

Major railroad companies have faced criticism as they report soaring profits amid disaster, like Norfolk Southern's train derailment that spilled toxic chemicals in an Ohio community earlier this year. Norfolk Southern, which reported a 13% increase in revenue from the end of 2021 to the end of 2022, is the same company that frequently blocks intersections in Hammond.

The \$21 million grant will fund five projects in Indiana, including Hammond, Gary, Scher-

erville, Peru and Wells County. Proposed safety improvements range from the elimination of some railroad crossings to a road overpass. Some of the projects are supplemented by other federal funds, state transportation funds, railroad companies and local governments. The grant is just a piece of a total \$570 million in funding to approve railroad safety nationwide.

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