

➔ TODAY'S VERSE
2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.



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

What makes Mya Ponto smile? "Being around my friends and hanging out with people from school," said the then 14-year-old Noblesville resident. Today's feature is a look back at one of *The Times'* previous Faces of Hamilton County. She is a sophomore at Noblesville High School and, before that, she attended Noblesville West Middle School. She was found in summer 2021 working a summer job at the concession stand at Forest Park Aquatic Center, which celebrated its 90th anniversary in June 2021. Over the summer at the pool, she worked concessions, checked in guests and sold memberships. Her favorite job duty? "I like doing the concessions. I get to make people's food and give it to them." Favorite food to make and eat? "I like making pretzels a lot." She is the daughter of Matt Ponto and Amy Ponto and has a brother, Camren. Pets? "I have one dog and two cats." Her dog is an English bulldog named Stella. When she wasn't working, she said she loves to swim and hopes to become a lifeguard there. This summer, she's again working at the concession stand, which has several new food offerings, including popcorn. Forest Park Aquatic Center is open for the summer pool season noon to 8 p.m. Saturdays, noon to 6 p.m. Sundays and noon to 7 p.m. weekdays. Admission is \$8, with memberships and donor-level memberships available. Memberships include admission to Morse Beach. Grab a float and watch a flick during Movie Nights at Forest Park Aquatic Center's 2023 Flix and Floats nine evening on the giant LED video board, 8:15 p.m. Friday, "Hook," Rated PG; 7:15 p.m. July 3, "Top Gun: Maverick," Rated PG-13; 8:15 p.m. July 14, "Field of Dreams," Rated PG; 8:15 p.m. Aug. 5, "Madagascar," Rated PG; 8:15 p.m. Aug. 12, "Cars," Rated G; 8:15 p.m. Aug. 19, "Remember the Titans," Rated PG; 7:15 p.m. Sept. 4, "Back to the Future," Rated PG, admission charged, but free to members. For more info, visit forestparkaquaticcenter.com

And Another Thing...

1. UPDATE: River Heritage Park Rededication Ceremony Postponed Due to Air Quality

Due to air quality, today's rededication ceremony at River Heritage Park will be postponed to a later date. For updates, visit carmelclayparks.com or follow Carmel Clay Parks on social.

2. State Representative Cindy Ledbetter Endorses Suzanne Crouch for Governor

Indiana State Representative, Cindy Ledbetter, has pledged her endorsement for Suzanne Crouch for Governor. "As a strong conservative, Suzanne Crouch values maintaining a framework for ordered liberty. A framework that consists of family, community, entrepreneurship, charity, justice, autonomy, and privacy. She understands and exemplifies what it means to be Indiana Homegrown. It is an honor to endorse Suzanne Crouch as our next Governor of Indiana," said Ledbetter. Cindy Ledbetter serves in the Indiana House of Representatives as the Assistant Majority Caucus Chair. She represents District 75 which includes portions of Gibson, Pike and Warrick counties in southwest Indiana

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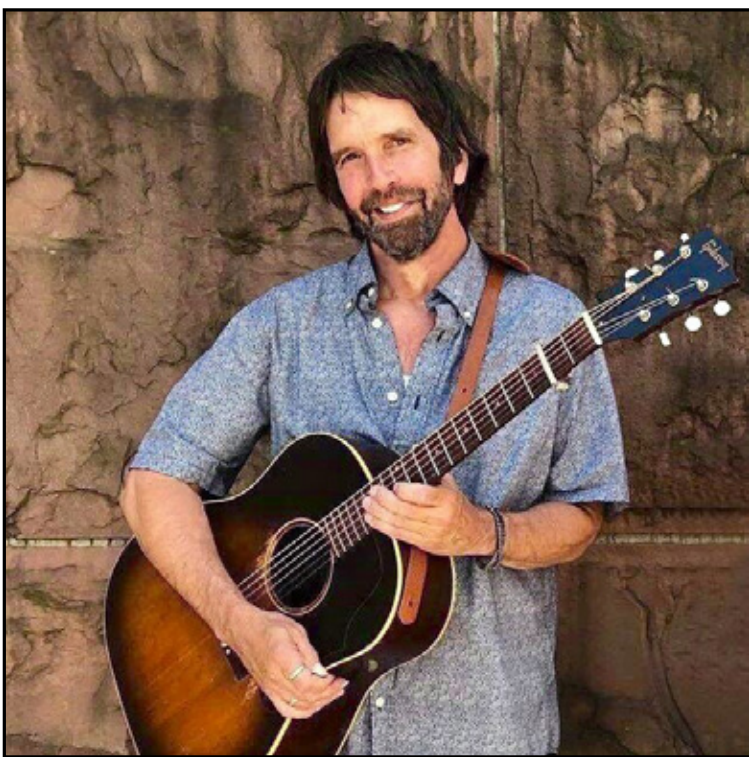


Photo courtesy of John Gilmore

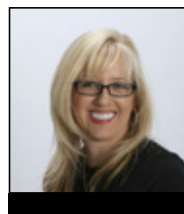
John Gilmore of Noblesville will perform bluegrass, country and Americana at 5:45 p.m. Saturday.



Photo provided by Limestone Nomad

At 3 p.m. Saturday, Limestone Nomad will perform southern Indiana folk and modern bluegrass with Carmel native Josh Hughey on guitar, Samuel McGuire on banjo and Arianna Shepherd on bodhrán (a framed drum used in Irish music).

Bicentennial Music Festival All Day Saturday on Square



BETSY REASON From The Editor's Desk...

Grab your lawn chairs and blankets and get ready to tap your toes all day Saturday during a Hamilton County Noblesville Township Music Festival.

The Legacy Keepers Music Bicentennial Celebration is part of Legacy Keepers' seventh annual StringTime on the Square summer music series.

While a Slow Jam begins at 10 a.m. in the side yard of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Residence and Old Jail on the Courthouse Square, the Music Festival officially begins at noon and runs until about 8 p.m.

This old-timey day of music will begin promptly after the original Courthouse clock tower strikes 12 noon with a brief dedication ceremony to include members of the Navy Club Color Guard making a flag presentation with rifle salute

Want TO GO?

What: Hamilton County Noblesville Township Music Festival, a Legacy Keepers Music Bicentennial Celebration, part of the seventh annual StringTime on the Square summer music series.

When: noon to 8 p.m. Saturday, with a Slow Jam, open to any-level musicians, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Where: West side of the Hamilton County Courthouse Square near the Hamilton County War Memorial, downtown Noblesville.

What's the lineup: 10 a.m. Slow Jam in Sheriff's Side Yard led by mandolin player Jeff Hutson; noon, Opening Dedications, featuring Hamilton County Commissioner Mark Heibrandt, the Navy Club Color Guard Flag Ceremony and National Anthem by Noblesville High School senior Addie McMillan; 12:15 p.m. PrairieTown String Band; 12:45 p.m. Addie (McMillan) & Friends (featuring NHS students); 2 p.m. Santiago Bap Trio; 3 p.m., Limestone Nomad folk and bluegrass; 4 p.m., Stampede String Band; 5 p.m., Dedications; 5:15 p.m., Brad McCord; 5:45 p.m., John Gilmore; and 7 p.m. Barrel Scrapers Bluegrass.

How much: Free. **Good to know:** Lawn chairs, blankets, picnicking and toe-tapping invited.

➔ See BETSY Page A6

HHEF Golf Outing Raises Funds for Students

The members of the Hamilton Heights Educational Foundation would like to extend their sincere appreciation to all those individuals who helped make this year's golf outing a wonderful success. Moneys generated through the annual event, now in its 34th year, gives students and teachers a chance to grow and explore beyond traditional boundaries through grant money.

"We were pleased with the outcome," said Melissa Martin, HHEF president, of this annual fundraising event. Hamilton Heights Educational Foundation along with the help of the entire board, has organized the annual event during her more than 10 year-year tenure (eighth year as president) with the Foundation. "We are so grateful to Mark Wiseman and the dedicated staff at Bear Slide and the opportunity to play on one of the state's most awesome courses that is right in our back yard. They are an incredible community partner for the support they give us on this day along with all the other things they do throughout the year for our students and staff."

Daniel Engel, Mike Burns, Eddie Hughes, and Austin Parten from KDC Truck Trailer & Bus Repair took first place at this year's scramble. The team of Lance Jones, Garrett James, John Kemker, and Vincent Harley came in second.

Austin Parden had the longest drive for men and Ellie Arrowood had the longest drive for the women's division. Seth Ireland was closest to the pin for men. Jeff Bragg won the putting contest.

"We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to all our sponsors, players, and volunteers who helped make another successful event to benefit teachers and students again," added Martin.

2023 Education Foundation Golf Outing Sponsors

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➔ See HHEF Page A6

➔ INSIDE TODAY

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➔ OBITUARIES
Wilma Bush



➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Alcohol has almost twice the calories per unit weight than carbohydrates and almost as much as fat. 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 SAYING

Why is it that saying God bless America - which I said yesterday - makes people say that's insulting to other nations? It'd take an awfully long time to mention 194 others, wouldn't it?



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

➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same."
-Ronald Reagan

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

The crusty old general wasn't well liked by his troops. Right before he retired he addressed them, saying he knew they couldn't wait until he died so they could mess on his grave. One buck private in the back yelled, "No sir, when I get out of this outfit I'm never standing in a long line again!"

13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

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OBITUARIES

Wilma Bush

December 6, 1947, Tuesday, June 20, 2023

Wilma Bush passed away peacefully in her sleep on June 20, 2023, at the age of 97. Wilma was born in Sheridan, Indiana to the late Virgil Owen and Ruth Maria (Pruitt) Owen. Wilma graduated from Sheridan High School in 1944. On December 6, 1947, she married the love of her life and best friend, John (Jack) Bush Jr. He preceded Wilma in passing on July 2, 2015. They established their home in Sheridan and raised four children (Brendalee, Terry, Peggy and Joe). Their home was always filled with laughter and love. She believed a home was not complete without the laughter of children. They continued that philosophy by welcoming eight grandchildren (Deidra, Brett, Audra, Danny, John, Brian, Kate and Dustin) and twelve great grandchildren (Alicia, Ashlynn, Halee, Alexis, Aurora, Ella, Parker, Freya, Aaron, John, Finley and Elizabeth) to their family.



Along with raising a family, Wilma worked for the Wallace Grain Company in Sheridan as an accountant for approximately 20 years. Her passions were in history and doll collecting. She was an active member of the Sheridan Historical Society, providing many donations of historical artifacts, her own knowledge, and playing an active role in the rehabilitation of the historic Boxley Cabin in Sheridan. She spent a large portion of her life collecting antique dolls and was a member of the Indianapolis Doll Circle, United Federation of Doll Clubs. They met monthly in each other's homes to share knowledge and love of dolls. She enjoyed sewing, stained glass work, and traveling. In her early retiree years, they took annual snowbird trips to Florida with her best friends Joe and Gloria Watson. (Joe affectionately called her "Flinstone").

Entering their home, you were guaranteed a cup of coffee with a seat in a recliner in the living room or on the front porch. The fridge was always full and there was always extra food on the stove. In the fall, they'd pick persimmons and shake them off the tree in the back yard and Wilma made her persimmon pudding, loved by all, and cherished at Thanksgiving. She was well known for her homemade pies, particularly raspberry, lemon meringue and cherry and of course her chicken and dumplings made by hand with so much love. Needless to say, everyone was well fed.

Wilma, the wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother will be dearly missed. However, her memory will live on in the lessons she taught and example she lived to both those she loved and whose lives she touched. Our family is truly blessed to have had such an amazing woman as the matriarch of our family. She always put the needs of others before her own, until her very last day. She was a Proverbs 31 woman of faith. "Many Women do noble things, but you surpass them all."

Charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting; But a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate. Proverbs 31:29-31 NIV Biblegateway

Wilma is preceded in death by her parents Virgil Owen and Ruth Maria (Pruitt) Owen, Siblings Herschel Beecher Owen, Iva Lou (Owen) Hobson, John Lamar Owen, and Veda Owen, and child Peggy Bush.

Services will be held at 2:00 PM on Thursday, June 29, 2023, at Kercheval Funeral Home, 306 E. 10th Street, Sheridan, Indiana, with visitation from Noon until the time of service.

Burial will follow at Crown View Cemetery in Sheridan, Indiana

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Sheridan Historical Society.

Hamilton County Leadership Academy Graduates The Class Of 2023

Earlier this month, the Hamilton County Leadership Academy (HCLA) added 34 community leaders to their alumni ranks. With this graduating class, HCLA's 30+ year legacy grew to over 850 alumni who have and continue to make their mark in Hamilton County.

HCLA is thrilled to officially announce the graduates of the HCLA Class of 2023:

- Ramona Adams | The Center for the Performing Arts
- Ali Alvey | Beaver Gravel
- Stephanie Amick | Agape Therapeutic Riding
- Ed Bukovac | Citizens Energy Group
- Jamar Cobb-Dennard | Indiana Business Advisors
- Todd Crosby | Eli Lilly and Company
- Christi Crosser | Nova 29, LLC
- John DeLucia | Citizens State Bank
- Dustin Dixon | Hamilton County Sheriff's Office
- Laurie Dyer | T&T Sales and Promotions, Inc.
- Brad Fruth | Becks

Hybrids

- Roz Harris | Fit Chicks
- John Helling | Hamilton East Public Library
- Taylor Hollenbeck | Indiana Office of Technology
- Sam Hughes | Church Church Hittle + Antrim
- Dave Hyatt | River-view Health
- Travis Lovett | Krieg DeVault LLP
- John Mann | Noblesville Police Department
- Harley McCorkle | Duke Energy
- Kathryn McLaughlin | Community Health Network
- Brian Millis | ADVISA
- Jennifer Neher Sommers | Conner Prairie
- Kathy Pelletier | The Children's TherAplay Foundation, Inc.
- Jennifer Penix | Carmel Education Foundation
- Stephanie Perry | City of Fishers
- Julie Pettypool | Browning
- Anita Rogers | Hamilton County Community Foundation
- Steven Rushforth | Hamilton County Government

• Jack Russell | One-Zone Chamber of Commerce

- Jen Sacheck | Dentons Bingham Greenbaum LLP
- Sarah Shields | Hamilton Superior Court
- Bailey Spitznagle | City of Westfield
- Dr. Jennifer Wheat Townsend | Noblesville Schools
- Leah York | Talbot Talent

HCLA Class of 2023

Dean, Karen Radcliff, shared, "I have been inspired by this experience and by every member of this class. I am thankful for the time and devotion people spent participating in such a positive way. I am delighted by the connections I've made with new friends and colleagues. And I am proud of my part in building something that felt bigger and more meaningful together than it would have been experienced as individuals."

The HCLA program is made possible by the support of community partners with a special thank you to Duke Energy

and The Hamilton County Community Foundation who served as the Program Sponsors for the Class of 2023.

HCLA's legacy will continue to grow as preparation for the HCLA Class of 2024 is in motion. A formal announcement of the next cohort will be made in July.

ABOUT HCLA

HCLA is a 10-month program for professional and community leaders who live or work in Hamilton County. Class sessions cover a wide variety of topics that affect the operations of the county. Participants receive learning in the areas of government, education, criminal justice, arts, culture, business, industry, and much more. Graduates of the program have a deeper knowledge and understanding of Hamilton County, create meaningful, life-long connections with their peers, HCLA alumni, and community leaders, and gain clarity around how to lead and make an impact in their backyard.

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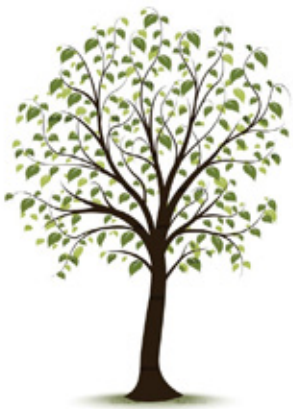
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BOOK From Page A1

way for families to discover the natural beauty and recreational offerings of each park in Fishers.

This is the first year for the journal which has been given free of charge (because of the generous donations by local businesses) to a second grade class at Southeastern Elementary, a local neighborhood, and a chiropractic office.

"We are looking to expand how many stu-

dents/families get copies of the journal next year to use to explore the parks. Every student from grades first through fifth in Fishers visits one of the parks twice throughout the school year. There are approximately 4,500 students in each of those grades. It's our goal to partner with businesses who'd like to make a difference in kids' lives by sponsoring the journal to be given to as many of those 4,500 kids as possible",

explains Hershberger.

The Fishers, Indiana Kids Park Journal exemplifies the spirit of our vibrant community, encouraging families to spend quality time together and explore the beauty of our local parks," remarked Mayor Scott Fadness. "I commend Nina Hershberger for her passion and dedication in creating this remarkable publication, and I am delighted to have had the opportunity to celebrate this achieve-

ment with her and her grandson, Luke."

The journal not only has a page for each park for kids to write and journal in, but it includes how to make a leaf collection, 100 other fun things to do, math puzzles and a calendar of free summer concerts around the area for families to enjoy.

In the future Hershberger hopes to host a unique coloring contest where students would fill in a coloring page using

nontraditional items like dirt, macaroni, leaf rubbings, etc. No traditional things like markers, pencils, crayons, etc will be allowed. The purpose is to expand their creativity. She is looking to partner with a grocery store to post the entries next year as they come in. Voting will be in the form of donations - all which will be going to the charitable cause.

"I am deeply grateful to Mayor Fadness for taking the time to

meet with Luke and I and for his unwavering support of our efforts," expressed Hershberger. "Fishers, Indiana is truly a remarkable city with its stunning parks, and I loved creating a resource that allows families to explore and appreciate the beauty of these outdoor spaces. I hope the Fishers, Indiana Kids Park Journal becomes a cherished companion for families, fostering a love for nature and creating lasting memories."

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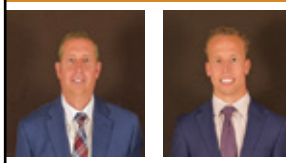
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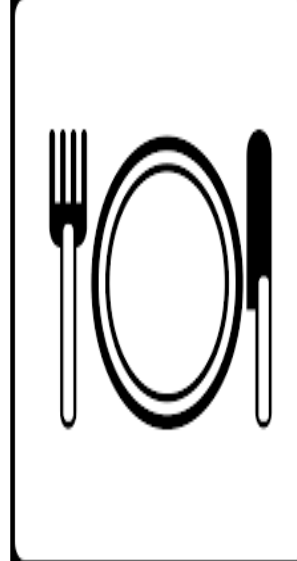
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America turns 237, but . . .



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

Next week we'll be waving sparklers, rocking the red, white and blue and in general partying like it's

doesn't, but it's not going to do much good finger pointing today. If we are to survive – and there's no law that says we have to – we better find some common ground, or at the very least agree to disagree – and find a way for us all to live with that instead of gearing up for a fight.

For what?
Are we a better country on the cusp of birthday 237 than we were say at 220? 225? 200? I think we all know the answer to that.

Let's be clear though. The answer is still inclusion. It always has been. We need to embrace our fellow citizens, regardless of our differences. We simply need to stop cramming those differences down throats that don't want to be crammed.

We need to do that because America has given us so much. So very much . . . and it all started with a small group saying they were fed up.

Sound familiar?
Again, how?
Where do we go from here? Armed rebellion sure isn't the answer. Do you want to be the guy bringing a gun to an F-16 fight? The answer can't be violence. It has to be much smarter than that. It has to effect real change.

We have to.
Our current model is unsustainable. It's not sustainable internally. We're going broke. Parts of our society – our brothers and sisters – hate each other. It's not sustainable externally. Did you hear the news that China is looking to establish a military presence in Cuba? In 1962, the idea of the Russians doing that with nuclear missiles brought the world to the brink of unthinkable war. How well will you sleep with China 90 miles from our border?

Like my friend John Hammer said, we're fixing to come up a bad cloud. Whether it's us, wokeism, Biden, Trump, the Chinese, Russians . . . we need to find some answers . . . and quickly.

Next week, we turn 237. Does anyone believe that unless something changes America won't last another 237? Even 7? If not, then the overriding question is this: When are we going to do something about it?

-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.

1999.
Except it's not. Things were a lot better in 1999.

I've been writing these Happy Birthday America columns for some time, dating back to the 1980s. For the first time in four decades, I am no longer confident in whether or not the Republic will survive. Whether it's internal or external, we are setting ourselves up for a fall – and no one seems to care.

Before you go blaming it on Biden, hold fast. The Republicans are just as much at fault. I mean c'mon – last week they brought up the tired and now over-used line about impeachment.

Really?
Since the Democrats used it to torpedo Trump, the Republicans have been chomping at the bit to get even. Kind of feels like the cacophony from the back-seat of the station wagon on the family vacation . . .

"He touched me."
"Did not."
"Did too."
"Mom!"

Far too many politicians – regardless of the flavor – seem to be in this for one thing . . . themselves. And the country, full of people asking what their country can do for them, rather than what they can do for their country, doesn't give a tinker's dam. We're too busy debating why grown men can parade around in dresses, why guns are the problem instead of the idiots pulling the triggers and how the woke culture is giving the common sense crowd nightmares.

You've all heard this story. Ben Franklin comes waltzing out of the convention and is asked whether we have a republic or a monarchy – to which Gentle Ben says "A republic, if you can keep it."

Hate to tell you this, but we're doing a pretty poor job of keeping it.

Thing is, I love this land – and so do many of you – and so do many folks you and I might disagree with. Sure, there's a crowd that

Hurdles Of Mass Production On Unprecedented Scale



Dear EarthTalk: Can we mass produce heat pumps with the same effort as when the country retooled to make tanks for World War II?

Environmental advocates are bullish on heat pumps as a better choice for home heating than the traditional options. "Heat pumps use only about a third as much electricity as baseboard electric heaters and considerably less energy than gas or oil furnaces," reports Bob Schildgen in Sierra magazine. "You don't need gas or oil to operate a heat pump, as it relies only on electricity."

Heat pumps were rare just a decade ago, but nowadays are now much more common. "The share of new homes using an air or ground source heat pump as the primary means of providing heat has increased, going from 23 percent in 2000 to 40 percent in 2021," reports the National Association of Home Builders. "Meanwhile, the share relying on a forced air system has slipped, going from 71 to 58 percent in the same time frame." And in 2022, sales of heat pumps outpaced sales of gas furnaces for the first time ever.

While production is certainly ramping up on its

own due to rising demand, the federal government could spearhead a more concerted effort to mandate a national switchover akin to retooling manufacturing for the WWII war effort. Of course, doing so would be no small task. During World War II, Americans mobilized their industrial capabilities to an unprecedented level, converting existing factories and building new ones to produce large numbers of tanks, planes and other military equipment. Similarly, to mass-produce heat pumps, it would require a substantial expansion of manufacturing capacity, including retooling existing factories or constructing new ones.

Another hurdle to overcome would be building up the supply chain. Heat pumps require various components and materials, including compressors, heat exchangers, motors and refrigerants. Ensuring a consistent and reliable supply of these components would be essential to meet production demands. Finding large numbers of skilled workers to be trained in the intricacies of producing heat pumps would be yet another challenge to ramping up production World War II-style.

Perhaps the largest impediment of all to ramping up heat pump production way above current rates is

mustering the political will to bring federal and other subsidies to bear in funding the effort. Similar to wartime efforts, substantial government support and coordination would be essential to drive the mass production of heat pumps. This support would include financial incentives, regulatory measures and collaboration between government agencies, manufacturers and research institutions. Such an endeavor could contribute significantly to addressing climate change and transitioning to more sustainable energy systems.

-CONTACTS: Clean Energy 101: Heat Pumps, rmi.org/clean-energy-101-heat-pumps/; "Almost Even Split Between Natural Gas and Electric Heating Systems in New Homes," eyeonhousing.org/2022/09/almost-even-split-between-natural-gas-and-electric-heating-systems-in-new-homes; "How Can Air Source Heat Pumps Help Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions Even in Cold Climates?" nahb.org/blog/2021/06/How-Can-Air-Source-Heat-Pumps-Help-Reduce-Greenhouse-Gas-Emissions-Even-in-Cold-Climates. EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at https://emagazine.com. To donate, visit https://earthtalk.org. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

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CICOA Announces 2023 Annual Award Winners

CICOA Aging & In-Home Solutions presented six awards during its annual meeting on June 27 to honor the contributions of volunteers and partner organizations over the past year.

“With heartfelt gratitude, we thank each of these individuals and organizations for their creativity, innovation and advocacy in serving vulnerable older adults, people with disabilities and caregivers,” said CICOA President and CEO Tauhric Brown. “We are proud to recognize these outstanding awardees and know that we are better for their partnership.”

•**Exceptional Service Award:** Low-income seniors in Indiana aren’t getting enough to eat, and many don’t have access to fresh produce, which causes increased risk of chronic diseases and reduced quality of life. To address this and contributing social factors that prevent seniors from living a healthy life, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation awarded a \$4.4 million Connecting Older Hoosiers with Healthful Foods grant to the I4A Education Institute. This benefits Indiana’s 15 area agencies on aging, of which CICOA is the largest.

•**Collaboration Award:** Dr. Robert Russell of Communicare Health Services is the current chair of CICOA’s Medical Advisory Council and a founding member since 2017, offering guidance and best practices to help CICOA better engage and partner with the clinical community. Dr. Russell also serves as the medical director for CICOA’s Medical Nutrition Therapy program, which is a therapeutic nutrition-based treatment and counseling service provided by a registered dietitian that includes lifestyle assessment, nutrition diag-

nosis, interventions, goal monitoring and evaluation to help manage chronic conditions with individualized nutrition care.

•**Dementia Friends Indiana Advocate Award:** Representative Greg Porter of Indianapolis was the primary author of 2023 Indiana General Assembly House Bill 1422, which was signed into law by Governor Eric Holcomb on May 1, 2023. HB 1422 establishes a Dementia Care Specialist program in the state and provides up to \$1.5 million in annual funding for at least two years to bring more dementia expertise to local communities. As the number of Hoosiers experiencing dementia continues to grow, the Dementia Care Specialist program can help individuals stay in their homes and remain active in their communities longer. This represents a critical investment in the state’s public health to address the impact of the diseases associated with dementia.

•**Impact Award:** At the beginning of CICOA’s 2023 fiscal year, CICOA received a \$5 million sustainability grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. The grant was one of eight grants totaling \$34 million that Lilly Endowment gave to help human service organizations in central Indiana enhance their long-term impact by building stronger financial futures. As CICOA has grown in service reach, offering and scale, the need for better data integration has become more critical. This endowment will provide a sustainable source of income for future technology needs in support of CICOA’s mission.

•**Spirit Award:** American Senior Communities is honored for their continued support, dedication to providing team members to serve as

volunteers, and living out their commitments with enthusiasm, dedication, and contagious positive energy. The organization not only has supported CICOA through corporate sponsorships, but often has provided teams of enthusiastic volunteers to serve the beloved seniors of our community.

•**Innovation Award:** United Healthcare (UHC) is recognized for providing members in their care with amazing experiences through innovative programming and service offerings. UHC partnered with Postbook, an inter-generational postcard exchange that fosters warm, personal connections across multiple generations. Postbook is one of CICOA’s innovation portfolio companies. UHC also has utilized animal robots to combat social isolation and loneliness among older adults and offered peer-to-peer caregiver supports through a mobile application that connects former and current caregivers to reduce caregiver burnout through shared experiences.

About CICOA
CICOA Aging & In-Home Solutions is the premier source of information and access to resources for older adults, people of any age with a disability and family caregivers living in Central Indiana. Through a network of agencies, service groups and volunteers, CICOA provides home healthcare, home-delivered and neighborhood meals, transportation services, home modifications, respite care and caregiver assistance. CICOA is Indiana’s largest Area Agency on Aging and serves Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Marion, Morgan, and Shelby Counties. To learn more, visit cicoa.org.

Muhammad New VP Of Primary Care For Aspire

JayVon Muhammad, a veteran healthcare executive with a record of championing underserved populations, has been tapped by Aspire Indiana Health to be their next Vice President of FQHC Medical Services, overseeing all of the nonprofit’s primary care operations and psychiatric services in four Central Indiana counties.

After a half-century of being primarily a behavioral healthcare provider, in 2015 Aspire launched family medicine services, becoming certified as a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) look-alike that accepts Medicaid and Medicare. The nonprofit also accepts most traditional insurance and has sliding-scale fees for the uninsured and underinsured.

Today approximately one-quarter of patient appointments are for primary care services, with health centers in Indianapolis, Anderson, Lebanon, Noblesville, Carmel and Elwood. Muhammad

will help guide the continued expansion of FQHC services to communities lacking adequate primary care coverage.

“My goal is to bring healthcare to the community. My approach is very grassroots. I want to see what every person in the community needs and find a way to bring that service to them,” Muhammad said. “I want Aspire to be the provider of choice, not just need. I’m going to work very hard to make sure the clinics are connected to the people.”

She currently serves as president and CEO of RAMS, Inc., a behavioral health provider in the San Francisco Bay Area that won the California Non-profit of the Year award in 2022. She previously served as CEO of FQHCs in Lakes Charles, La., and Marin City, Calif. She began her healthcare career as a midwife and continues to hold that certification.

Muhammad received her bachelor’s degree



JAYVON MUHAMMAD

from the National College of Midwifery and her master’s degree in maternal and child health systems from Bastyr University, where she has also served on the adjunct faculty.

Muhammad was initially interested in the Central Indiana area due to her daughter moving to Indianapolis to work with the Indianapolis School for the Deaf, with which Aspire has an ongoing partnership, boasting its own deaf services team. She was attracted to the nonprofit’s “whole health” approach to fully integrated care.

She will start her new position July 31.



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2023 Fall Ball Season

When: August 12th/13th - September 23rd/24th, 2023
7 game season to be played on weekends

- NO GAMES played on Labor Day Weekend (Sept. 2nd/3rd)
- Weekday games may be scheduled based on interest or in the event of rainouts
- Single-elimination tournament played September 30th & October 1st

Where: Noblesville Babe Ruth Facility - Logan and Emerson Fields Forest Park, Noblesville

Who: Everyone - 7th-8th Grade and 9th-12th Grade (based on 2023-2024 School Year Enrollment)

- 7th - 8th Grade League
- 9th - 12th Grade League
- * **Note:** Post HS players are not eligible for Fall Ball
- 2 Divisions in each league: Travel and Rec
- * **Note:** Travel Division will be limited to 4-6 teams in each league on a first-come, first served basis

Cost: \$80 per individual registration/ \$900 per full-roster team registration

- * **Note:** Credit card and processing fees apply and will be added at checkout

How Do I Register? www.noblesvillebaberuthbaseball.com

Registration Deadline: August 6th

BETSY

From Page A1



Photo courtesy of Legacy Keepers Music

At 2 p.m. Saturday, NHS 2021 grad Santiago Baptista, who plays lead guitar and will be joined by a drummer and bass player, performs as a solo guitarist and with his own trio.



Photo courtesy of Tyler Cowan

Noblesville High School senior Addie McMillan will sing the National Anthem at noon and then will present her own set, with Addie & Friends, with pickup time at parade at 3:45 p.m.



Photo courtesy of Stampede String Band

At 4 p.m. Saturday, Stampede String Band, whose members include Kyle Buck, John Bahler and Aaron Nicely, and will perform country, folk and bluegrass.



Photo courtesy of Legacy Keepers Music

At 7 p.m. Saturday, Barrel Scrapers Bluegrass -- consisting of banjoist Scott McAlpine, fiddle player Carl Sparks, guitarists Tom Sizemore and Paul Fry-Miller, mandolin player Mark Jones and bass player Dave West -- will perform traditional bluegrass from the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s.



Photo courtesy of Betsy Reason

At 5:15 p.m. Saturday, Brad McCord of Noblesville will take the stage with his guitar, playing country, rock, bluegrass, gospel and Americana.

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on the Hamilton County War Memorial Plaza, followed by remarks from County Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt. Noblesville High School senior Addie McMillan will sing the National Anthem.

This Music Festival and Bicentennial Celebration is among many events this year that celebrate Hamilton County's yearlong 200th birthday.

"To celebrate the Bicentennial, we wanted to arrange a program that spanned many age groups and interests, to appeal to the broadest audience possible," said Janet Gilray of Noblesville, founder of Legacy Keepers Music, an educational charity that she started in 2007 to offer musical family programming. Legacy Keepers Music series debuted in July 2017 in celebration of the 10th anniversary of Legacy Keepers Music.

Gilray, musician and vocalist herself, loves bringing string music, particularly bluegrass, to the Square and our community. A woman of many hats, she'll not only do some emceeing during the daylong festival but will also perform in PrairieTown String Band, which also features her husband, Dan Wethington (whom she married in July 2019 on the Square during the StringTime music series); Bob Foster of Noblesville, owner of The Hedgehog Music Showcase; and Michael Davis, music director of Noblesville First Presbyterian Church.

While the StringTime on the Square music series usually features bluegrass and country, there's more planned for this Saturday.

During this celebration, there will be an array of genres, including Americana, bluegrass, country, folk, gospel, classic rock and soft pop.

"We designed a program that would incorporate several musicians who helped launch the series, along with a number of musicians never featured at this series before," Gilray said. "We are proud of our lineup. It includes musicians primarily from Hamilton County. However, since we invite all Hoosiers to celebrate with us, we brought in acts from around the state (just north and just south of Hamilton County), as well." The headliner, the final band of the day, is Barrel Scrapers Bluegrass, whose members make their home in and around the Indiana towns of Wabash and Manchester. The lead member of Limestone Nomad group, who hails from Bloomington, grew up in Carmel.

The all-day Music Festival will be presented on the west side of the Hamilton County Courthouse Square, near the Hamilton County War Memorial, in downtown Noblesville.

Look for the celebration to be on the West lawn across from Syd's. The series changed sides in 2022 after a big shade tree on the east lawn came down in a storm in 2021.

While the Music Festival officially begins at noon, a Slow Jam in the Sheriff's Side Yard will begin at 10 a.m., with Jeff Hutson, a mandolin player and member of the Metamora Mandolin Society. He regularly attends the StringTime on the Square Courthouse Concert Series and came forward to volunteer his leadership for a gathering of players hosting an early Slow Jam from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday. Here's the scenario: "Players arrange their chairs in a circle and take turns playing songs. The intent is to enjoy casual camaraderie and provide opportunities for musicians who are not always skilled at stage performances to share their tunes in the company of others," Gilray said.

"The Slow Jam takes place on the lawn of the Sheriff's Residence much in the way it was probably done in earlier times of our county's history. Although any jam can bring a wide range of talent, from the beginner to the most versatile players, a slow jam generally has a leader who sets the tempo according to the skills of the participant, tries to ensure that everyone gets a turn, and helps to welcome beginners." (Long-time Noblesville residents might recognize Hutson's name from his time as a reporter in the mid 1980s for The Noblesville Ledger. I met Hutson during my first week of work at The Ledger in May 1986, as he was preparing to move on to another newspaper.)

Following a break after the Slow Jam, the Music Festival's opening dedication and Navy Club Color Guard Flag Ceremony will begin at noon. Addie McMillan, 17, a senior at Noblesville High School, will also sing the National Anthem.

At 12:15 p.m., Gilray's PrairieTown String Band (mentioned above) will kick off the live band performances.

From 12:45 p.m. to 2 p.m., Addie McMillan will play host to Addie & Friends, featuring some of her musically talented NHS friends, Roux Carney, Jaiden Casey, Tyler Cowan, Lily Ferazzi, Mia Gordon, Ehren Knerr and Kat Logue. Addie sings in her school's NHS Singers mixed varsity show choir and regularly sings the National Anthem during StringTime on the Square. (At age 13, she sang and played mandolin on the Bean Blossom Bluegrass Festival stage with the former Sideline bluegrass band whose hit single, "Thunder Dan" won Bluegrass Music's Song of the Year later that year, in 2019.)

At 2 p.m., NHS 2021 grad Santiago Baptista, who plays lead guitar and will be joined by a drummer and bass player, performs as a solo guitarist and with his own trio.

At 3 p.m., Limestone Nomad will perform southern Indiana folk and modern bluegrass with Carmel native Josh Hughey on guitar, Samuel McGuire on banjo and Arianna Shepherd on bodhrán (a framed drum used in Irish music).

At 4 p.m., Stampede String Band, whose members hail from the Moontown area, include Kyle Buck, John Bahler and Aaron Nicely, and will perform country, folk and bluegrass.

At 5 p.m., there will be a Bicentennial Dedication Ceremony.

At 5:15 p.m., Brad McCord of Noblesville will take the stage with his guitar, playing country, rock, bluegrass, gospel and Americana. "When the pianist at church left, I decided to learn traditional hymns, and this is where I first started playing in front of people," McCord has said.

At 5:45 p.m., singer, songwriter and guitarist John R Gilmore of Noblesville, who has recorded two solo albums of his original material, will perform bluegrass, country and Americana. He also performs as a trio with Indy area musicians Doug Sauter and Rod Schindler, under the new name, Lenwood.

At 7 p.m., Barrel Scrapers Bluegrass -- consisting of banjoist Scott McAlpine, fiddle player Carl Sparks, guitarists Tom Sizemore and Paul Fry-Miller, mandolin player Mark Jones and bass player Dave West -- will perform traditional bluegrass from the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s with a handful of modern tunes that they've adapted to the traditional style.

After this weekend, Legacy Keepers Music StringTime on the Square summer music series continues on Aug. 5 with Stones Crossing family bluegrass and gospel group, featuring Mark Graham, his daughters Shalynn and Amanda, and son-in-law, Billy Adams; and Sept. 2 with Cornfields & Crossroads Bluegrass Band featuring Dan Wethington of Noblesville on banjo, Darrell Duety of Indianapolis on mandolin, Jason Barrows of Indianapolis on guitar and Joe Flowers of Lebanon on bass. The band has shared the stage with bluegrass singer and songwriter Rhonda Vincent.

Series benefactor is Noblesville Township Trustee Office, and Trustee Theresa Caldwell has been a driving force in organizing this Music Festival. (Hamilton County has 12 townships, and each of the 12 months was assigned to a different trustee and month, Noblesville being assigned to July) Caldwell and her team will be under a "Welcome" canopy and will be joined by Noblesville Preservation Alliance -- which is featuring the covered wagon used to compete in the Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville's annual Darlington Bed Race in June -- to be used as a selfie station.

This year's band sponsors include: Chuck Goodrich, Mark Heirbrandt, George Kristo (in memory of his late wife, Linda Kristo), and Jean Roberts. Opening act sponsor is Deco Indy. Other sponsors include: Stage Patron, Jeff Lockridge and Charlie McMillan; Musicians' Friend, Hoosier History Live Radio 88.1 FM, Robbins Rabbit Ranch; Band Fans, Kathy and Bob Foster. With in-kind recognition to Discount Copies, The Times newspaper and Voices in Time LLC.

Legacy Keepers Music is an organization established to preserve and promote American heritage folk music, so any historic event, "but especially one as important as our Hamilton County Bicentennial, provides an occasion for showcasing some of the acoustical-style music commonplace downtown Noblesville in Hamilton County's early years," Gilray said.

Since its inception, Legacy Keepers Music has presented more than 100 public music programs.

Gilray has been mixing business, music and special events ever since her college days in Fresno, Calif. Gilray got her start as a business and marketing major when she landed an internship with the president of the town's convention and visitors bureau. With that experience, she went on to preside over a non-profit cultural arts auxiliary affiliated with the city parks and rec and then established her own marketing firm to manage promotional events," she has said. "I have always enjoyed gatherings in a public square. All my life it seems, I've been organizing art and music festivals, rodeo events, promotions where people come for a good time," Gilray said. "Now I've simplified my life by encouraging live music -- finding and hiring the musicians -- they play, and I kick back and smile."

This series sounds like some amazing talent not to miss. Thanks for bringing another season of music and for planning this awesome daylong music festival, Janet Gilray.

-Betsy Reason writes about people, places and things in Hamilton County. Contact The Times Editor Betsy Reason at betsy@thetimes24-7.com. Addie McMillan, mentioned in this column, is Betsy Reason's daughter.

HHEF

From Page A1

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Lunch was catered by Big Dawg's Smokehouse and Jim Dandy Restaurant provided 19th Hole pies.

Hamilton Heights Educational Foundation Board includes officers: Melissa Martin (President), Jeanann Dodson (Vice President), Melissa Bernero (Secretary), and Caryn Provence (Treasurer). Directors' Steve Becker, Julie Day, Brian Doak, Tim Johnson, Gary Perkins, and Amy Prater. Student Directors: KateLynn Bishop, Jackson Cantlon, Sam Dawson, Meredith Dodson, Sam Harpham, Karson Herrell, and Josh Steffen and Superintendent Dr. Derek Arrowood.

To stay up to date with the latest happenings and projects funded through the Foundation go to <https://www.hhschuskie.org/hhef>. Follow on Twitter @hhedfoundation.

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Facts Fun



36 Jackson

Number Stumpers

- 1. What percentage of people live in Seymour?
2. How old is Jackson County?
3. How many more people live in Seymour than Brownston?
4. What is the population density of the county?

Answers: 1. About 41.3% 2. 203 Years 3. Around 14,556 People / sq. mi.

Did You Know?

- Jackson County was founded in 1816 and named after General Andrew Jackson.
• Brownstown, the county seat, has a total population of 2,947 residents.
• The county has the second longest 3-span covered bridge in the world; The Medora Covered Bridge.
• The largest city in the county, Seymour, is 12.1 square miles and has 17,503 residents.
• The county is 513.91 square miles and has a population of 42,376 residents.

Got Words?

Every year the Pepsi Plunge, a competitive swim event, takes place at the Shield's Park Pool in Seymour. The event attracts thousands of competitive swimmers. How do you think events such as the Pepsi Plunge impact small communities?

Blank lines for writing answers to the 'Got Words?' question.

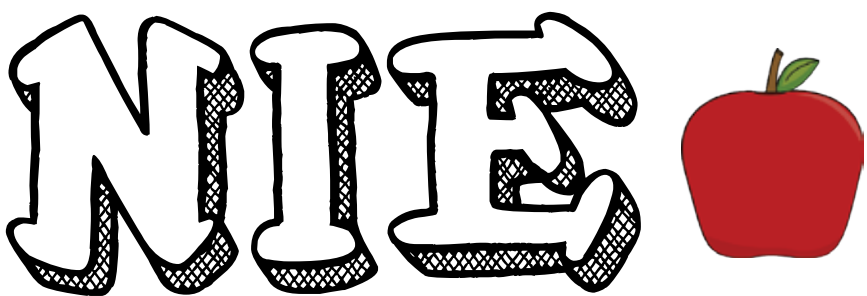
Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

- 1. ONTNWORSB
2. OEDCEVR IEBRDG
3. MSEYRUO
4. SEPIP NPUGLE
5. OKCSJNA YUOCTN

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THURSDAY

Indiana the Strong

Thursday, June 29, 2023

A8

Two Wabash College Students Earn International Fellowships

Two current or former Wabash College students have accepted international fellowships to Latvia and Germany.

Paul Haesemeyer '21 earned a Fulbright open study/research award to Latvia, while Ethan Brown '24 claimed a Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship to study in Germany.

Haesemeyer will be based in Riga, Latvia, with the goal of completing a book that explores the histories, traditions, and people involved with Latvian knitting. The book, "Adišanas stast," will feature knitting patterns inspired by interviews with local craftspeople. He will work closely with the Latvian National Centre for Culture to spotlight knitting's place in Latvia's culture and its impact as both craft and art.

A native of Billings, Montana, Haesemeyer majored in theater and minored in art. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity and found his home at Wabash working in the costume shop. He was involved in many Wabash College Theater Productions onstage and behind-the-scenes, as well as the Glee Club and Knitting Club. He received the Celebration of Research, Scholarship, and Creativity Award for The Haze Collection, a line of clothing he designed and created, as well as the Kenneth W. Kloth Design and Technical Theater Award.

During his collegiate career, Haesemeyer interned at the Williamstown Theater Festival, the Metropolitan Opera,



Paul Haesemeyer

and New Light Theater Project. After graduation, he apprenticed at the Santa Fe Opera in the costume shop. For the last two seasons, Haesemeyer has worked for the Alabama Shakespeare Festival in Montgomery, Alabama. Recently, knitting patterns he designed were published in Vogue Knitting and in Radām, a Latvian knitting magazine.

"Paul is a rising star in the worlds of knitting and costume design," said Susan Albrecht, Wabash College Fellowship Advisor. "When he decided to pursue this Fulbright Study/Research award, I was over the moon. I knew that he had an amazing vision for the project, and his talent is undeniable. The Latvian cultural emphasis on storytelling through knitting, especially with mittens, was tailor-made for Paul's talents. It seems appropriate that Paul is Wabash's very first creative arts Fulbright award recipient."

Previously, he made immersion trips to New York City, Taiwan, and the Czech Republic.

"Winning a Fulbright feels incredible," said Haesemeyer. "I am excited to pursue knitting full-time and provide an



Ethan Brown

exciting opportunity to knit, write, and explore. Knitting brings people together and I can't wait to see where it will lead me."

An English and German double major from Gary, Indiana, Ethan Brown is a member of the Wabash Pep Band and has previously completed an immersion experience to Heidelberg, Germany, in May 2023.

"A Gilman Scholarship is a big deal," said Brown. "In a competitive process, it's a surprise to find out that you've won and it is a wonderful opportunity. I look forward to living with a host family and the program's excursion to Berlin. I also hope to visit the town of Ansbach, Germany, just southwest of Nuremberg, where my grandfather was stationed during the Vietnam War."

While abroad with the Gilman program, Brown will be based in Heidelberg, Germany.

"Ethan's application was very strong, and I was thrilled he received this recognition," said Albrecht. "He was already in Germany with a Wabash immersion course and Gilman funding made it possible for him to extend this first-ever international experience with

a summer study abroad program. This extended study has made it possible for Ethan to add German as a second major, which was a wonderful bonus."

The Fulbright open study/research award program allows recipients to design their own projects and work with mentors at foreign universities, non-profits, cultural organizations, or other research institutes. The study/research awards are available in approximately 140 countries.

Administered by the Institute of International Education on behalf of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and funded by Congress, the purpose of the Gilman International Scholarship program is to encourage participation in study abroad programs for under-represented students, particularly those who are studying in under-represented areas of the world and/or under-represented languages.

Haesemeyer and Brown are among the many Wabash men who have earned highly competitive fellowships in the last decade, including the Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, Obama Voyager, Yenching, Goldwater, and Point Foundation Flagship Scholarships. Additionally, Wabash students have earned the Center for the Study of Presidency and Congress' Presidential Fellowship, U.K. Fulbright Summer Institute placement, and NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships, to go with 27 Fulbrights and 26 Gilman Scholarships.



Duke Energy Indiana Commits To Purchase Up To 199 Megawatts Of Solar Power

Duke Energy is expanding its Indiana solar energy resources. The company has signed an agreement with renewable energy developer Ranger Power for up to 199 megawatts of solar power to serve the equivalent of roughly 35,000 homes.

The company has filed a request with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission to approve the agreement. Pending regulatory approval, the energy generated from Ranger Power's Speedway Solar facility will be sold to the company under a 20-year power purchase agreement.

"The emission-free solar power that this new facility generates will help us continue to diversify our generation resources and make meaningful progress toward a cleaner energy future," said Stan Pinegar, president of Duke Energy Indiana.

Construction on the 1,700-acre facility located south of Gwynneville, Ind., began in March

2023. It's expected to reach commercial operation by September 2025.

"We are thrilled to bring this significant investment in clean energy to Shelby County and the state of Indiana," said Adam Cohen, CEO of Ranger Power. "Speedway Solar will deliver significant economic and environmental benefits for decades to come — powering businesses and homes in Indiana."

Under the company's most recent Indiana Integrated Resource Plan, Duke Energy is proposing to add 2,218 megawatts of solar power, 450 megawatts of solar with energy storage and 6,200 megawatts of wind energy. These new investments in renewable energy are in addition to the continuing operation of the company's Crane solar plant in southern Indiana, the recent expansion of its Markland hydroelectric plant and additional solar and wind power the company purchases.

Leadership Change For Office Of Medicaid Policy And Planning

Indiana Medicaid Director Allison Taylor will be resigning later this summer after serving eight years with the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, including six years leading the Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning through historic changes and events.

"Allison has led Medicaid through its most transformative time," FSSA Secretary Dr. Dan Rusyniak said. "The positive impact she has made will benefit Hoosiers for decades to come. We will miss her."

Taylor first served as general counsel of FSSA and then became Indiana Medicaid director in 2017. During her tenure, she was also selected among her peers nationwide to serve as president of the National Association of Medicaid Directors.

"Allison served with great distinction as president of the NAMD Board of Directors, elevating states' best practices and liaising with federal partners," said Kate McEvoy NAMD executive director.

"The Indiana Medicaid team is unlike any in this nation, moving mountains to serve Hoosiers, and I will enthusiastically work to ensure a smooth and successful transition,"

Taylor said. "This work has been the honor of a lifetime."

Among the Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning's achievements under Taylor's leadership:

- Indiana received a first-of-its-kind 10-year renewal for the Healthy Indiana Plan

- A multi-pronged effort was launched to reform long-term services and supports founded on industry-leading Medicare integration

- Telehealth services were expanded for Hoosiers

- A Medicaid provider reimbursement rate matrix was established to ensure a sustainable, predictable reimbursement structure going forward

- Substance use disorder and serious mental illness treatments were expanded and a continuum built for better behavioral care delivery

- Indiana became a national leader in managed care alignment, compliance and oversight

"We focus every day on serving Hoosiers and helping them live their best lives, in fully integrated communities," Taylor said. "During the pandemic, Medicaid flexed and did what it does best — served individuals and communities in need."

The executive director of the National Association of Medicaid Directors commended Taylor's service.

"Allison served with great distinction as president of the NAMD Board of Directors, elevating states' best practices and liaising with federal partners," Kate McEvoy said.

Dr. Rusyniak also announced that Cora Steinmetz will be the next director of Indiana Medicaid. Steinmetz and Taylor will work closely during the weeks ahead to ensure a smooth transition later this summer for employees and all initiatives underway.

"No leader is better positioned to continue this important work than Cora Steinmetz," Dr. Rusyniak said. "Her knowledge of Medicaid finance, policy and regulation combined with her communication and team management skills will assure that the critical work we are doing seamlessly continues."

Steinmetz has been Gov. Holcomb's senior operations director for health-related state agencies, including FSSA, Department of Child Services and Indiana Department of Health, since 2021. She has been deeply involved in developing policy and

strategy and guiding the state's work related to the Governor's Public Health Commission, the long-term services and supports reform, the delivery of mental health services and the evolution of early childhood learning services.

"I am deeply grateful for my time in Governor Holcomb's office and the faith he and Dr. Rusyniak are placing in me as I move into the Medicaid director role," Steinmetz said. "Over the last two years, I have been fortunate to work side-by-side with the Medicaid team and other agency leaders on a number of key health strategies and initiatives. This has given me a firsthand view of the incredible impact this team has on our state and I look forward to continuing the important work underway."

Steinmetz, a licensed attorney, previously worked as a program director for government programs and revenue cycle compliance for Indiana University Health and was an attorney for the Indiana Department of Revenue and the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. She is also a board member for Music for All, a national organization focused on music education.

Indiana Land Use Summit To Address Rural Development Trends

Local government employees, plan commission members and conservation agencies are encouraged to join Purdue Extension and the Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) for the 2023 Indiana Land Use Summit.

This year's Indiana Land Use Summit will be held at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds on Aug. 30 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. ET. The morning session features a policy update panel with state Rep. Kendell Culp from District 16, which includes portions of Jasper, Pulaski, Starke and White counties, as well as representatives from ISDA, The Nature Conservancy and the Indiana Chapter of the American Planning Association.

"The 2023 Indiana Land Use Summit topics reflect important issues in rural development trends based on feedback from plan commissions and

land use practitioners across the state," explains Kara Salazar, assistant program leader for Purdue Extension Community Development.

Breakout sessions cover topics of housing and planning, tools and process to improve planning and zoning, and planning for rural development trends. American Farmland Trust will present during an afternoon session.

"Topics surrounding land use continue to shift and change," said Katie Nelson, deputy director of ISDA. "The Indiana Land Use Summit is a great place to learn about the most recent issues and discuss them with decision-makers across the state."

Register online by Aug. 16. Lunch will be provided, catered by Juniper Spoon. For more information, contact Kara Salazar at salazark@purdue.edu.

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