

➔ TODAY'S VERSE

Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths." (NKJV)



➔ FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Alex Jaensson smile? "Being with my friends over summer, doing fun things, not having to go to classes, just making new memories," said the 2017 Noblesville High School graduate who went on to Ball State University to study business administration, when he was found for this photo. He has loved participating in Noblesville Parks' Summer Camp as a Noble Kids Camp Counselor. "It's actually a lot of fun. It's a really rewarding job. The counselors do a good job and the kids have a lot of fun. So it's a good time." For eight weeks each summer, he was a counselor for the day camp, which offers games, crafts, water activities and more for kids. "It gives them something to do during the summer that's good for them and allows them to have a fun time." He was among about a dozen camp counselors at Dillon and Forest parks. He was found in summer 2019 working at the parks department's Thursday night Summer Concert Series, which featured Dave & Rae at Dillon Park. He is the son of Mike and Julianne Jaensson and has a sister, Ellie, a 2019 NHS grad. What else? "I love to go fishing. I like to be outside. Be out in nature. I love to play soccer." Noblesville Parks and Recreation presents the free 2023 Summer Concert Series, continuing 7 to 9 p.m. Thursdays in July at Dillon Park in Noblesville. The next band is Groove Smash at 7 p.m. today. The series continues with The Toons, July 13; and Hairbangers Ball, July 20. Lawn chairs and blankets invited. Concessions available. For more about Noblesville Parks, visit <https://www.cityofnoblesville.org/>

And Another Thing...

1. LANE RESTRICTIONS - 146th Street and Allisonville Road Project

Hamilton County, Indiana - Please be advised, beginning on or after Friday, July 7 between the hours of 9am and 3pm, 146th Street between the White River and River Road within the existing construction limits, will be under lane restrictions for the paving of a 90' stretch of median. This is a one-day restriction. Only the left-hand lane for westbound traffic will be restricted. Please use extreme caution while driving through this construction zone.

2. Lt. Gov. Crouch statement regarding fallen officer Heather Glenn

The following is a statement from Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch on the death of Tell City Police Department Sgt. Heather Glenn, who was tragically killed in the line of duty Monday morning, July 3, 2023. "Tragically, another police officer in Indiana has been killed in the line of duty in less than a week. My heart goes out to Sgt. Heather Glenn's family. I will keep the Perry County Hospital staff, the Tell City Police Department and Officer Glenn's family in my prayers."

3. Captain Meredith Addison Endorses Suzanne Crouch for Governor

Captain Meredith Addison has pledged her endorsement for Suzanne Crouch for Governor. "I have walked the entire distance of the Little Italy parade route for years with Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and I have personally watched, and listened, to how she speaks to everyone and listens when they speak. As a Hoosier, in my veteran expert registered nursing assessment, she is a public servant and we need her in the top spot of our state," said Captain Addison. Captain Addison served from 1985 to 1995 at General Hospital-Fort Benjamin Harrison. To learn more about Suzanne Crouch: <https://www.crouchforindiana.com/>

The TIMES

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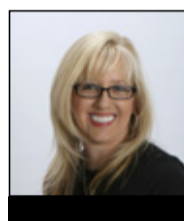
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The Times photos by Betsy Reason

Noblesville Fire Chief Matt Mitchell and Noblesville Police Chief John Mann rode in No. 73 ladder truck's bucket high above the crowd, waving, as NFD engineer Justin Crawford drove the fire truck in the Noblesville Fourth of July Parade on Logan Street in Noblesville on Tuesday. NFD's Sparky mascot gave high-fives and fist bumps to young fans along the route.

Everybody Loves A Noblesville Parade



BETSY REASON
From The Editor's Desk...

What a beautiful, sunny and hot day for a parade. I think there were more spectators for the Noblesville Fourth of July Parade than there have been for a

long time.

Everybody was out in their yards and along the city streets enjoying the day.

The parade, as usual, lined up at the Ivy Tech Hamilton County campus, which is the former

Noblesville High School at 300 N. 17th St.

Just before the parade kicked off, kids were playing hopscotch on the parade route, on Logan Street, where one youth wearing a safety helmet was riding an electric skateboard on the brick street.

A sign in a resident's yard along 17th Street offered hot dogs and popcorn, compliments of Christ Lutheran Church, whose members were enjoying premium lawn-chair seating and camaraderie for the parade.

Spectators in all kinds of lawn chairs lined the parade route, which traveled south on 17th Street, west on Logan Street, north on Ninth Street and east

on Monument Street and south on 18th Street, back to Ivy Tech.

Kids eagerly stood along the route with bags to collect tossed candy. Families sat under large umbrellas shaded from the sun. Others gathered on blankets along the curb. Many found shade on Logan Street, which has many trees.

In tradition, Noblesville Police led the parade followed by the Honor Guard and Noblesville July 4th Parade banner holders Ian Thompson and Dakota Light. Noblesville Deputy Mayor Matt Light walked alongside the banner holders.

➔ See BETSY Page A6

Summer Activity Days



Photo courtesy of Sheridan Public Library

The summer activity days at the Sheridan Public Library have been filled with great programs including an outdoor Touch a Truck series for little (and big) truck enthusiasts. Patrons have enjoyed visits from the Town of Sheridan including, firetruck, police and ems vehicles. Duke Energy brought a bucket truck for those to explore and experience how a community works. Our next vehicle will be an IDES (International Disaster Emergency Services) truck on Wednesday, July 12 @ 12pm. See our full event lineup at <https://sheridan.lib.in.us/>

July Party On The Patio Presented By The Indy Colts

Save the date for an exhilarating evening at the Colts Training Camp Kickoff themed party, proudly presented by the Indianapolis Colts. Join us on July 18th for a remarkable event that will leave a lasting impression, featuring live music, food, and the chance to win exciting prizes through a charity raffle.

Immerse yourself in the vibrant and festive atmosphere as we celebrate the Colts Training Camp. Forge connections with fellow football enthusiasts, share your passion for the game, and revel in the camaraderie that unites us all. Delight your taste buds with food and desserts, perfectly capturing the essence of this spirited occasion. Raise your glass in a toast to the indomitable spirit of the Colts Training Camp and the enduring legacy of the team.

Unlike our other Party on the Patio events, this event is open to all ages.

The roots of the Party on the Patio trace back to 2013 when DWA introduced this delightful gathering as a way to bring together Westfield residents and businesses. This annual tradition has blossomed into a catalyst for fostering relationships, building opportunities, and cultivating a sense of community in downtown Westfield. By uniting

➔ See PARTY Page A6

Fishers Native Trains The Next Generation Of U.S. Navy Submariners

By Megan Brown
Navy Office of Community Outreach

A Fishers, Indiana, native is training sailors to continue a 123-year tradition of service under the sea.

Submariners play a critical role in carrying out one of the Defense Department's most important missions: strategic deterrence. As an instructor at Navy Submarine School, Petty Officer 2nd Class Wesley Ballensky is teaching sailors the skills needed to operate aboard submarines so they can successfully complete missions around the world.

"I joined the Navy because I didn't want to go to college," said Ballensky. "I wanted a more unique experience."

Growing up in Fishers, Ballensky attended Fishers High School and graduated in 2016.

Skills and values similar to those found in Fishers are similar to those required to succeed in the military.

"I learned in my hometown to always chase after my goals, regardless of what anyone else thinks," said Ballensky. "I also learned that the best way to break through roadblocks is to just go through them."

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➔ INSIDE TODAY

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➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Treat burns by immediately soaking the area in cold water for at least five minutes and cover any open areas with antibiotic ointment.

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

O Canada . . . where are my blue skies?



➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"Live free or die: Death is not the worst of evils."
-General John Stark

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

There's a fine line between a numerator and a denominator . . . and yes, only a fraction will get this!

➔ OBITUARIES

None



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



Bicentennial Buzz July 2023

Happening in July:
It's Noblesville Township's Month! Check out even MORE events on our website!

July 8 and 22 - HISTORY FAIRE

Gal's Guide to the Galaxy Library
FREE

Think Science Faire but for history! Kids (10+) and adults (18+) are invited to create a tri-fold board and dress up as notable people from Hamilton County and interact with guests to showcase what they learned. If you can't make the registration session on July 8, email info@galsguide.org to have your spot reserved. The History Faire will take place on July 22 and will be open to the public. More info at galsguide.org.

July 8 - HAMILTON COUNTY MILITARY & VETERANS CELEBRATION AND RESOURCE FAIR

Noblesville Schools Community Center
FREE

Veterans, Active Military, their families, and the general public are invited to this Veteran Resource Fair where visitors will learn about all the Federal, state and local resources available to our Hamilton County Veterans. Additionally, a challenge coin commemorating the event will be given to Military and Veterans who attend, and there will be a history presentation on past Hamilton County Veterans. For more, visit: hamiltoncountyveterans.com and click "July 8, 2023 HC Veteran Celebration" link.

July 22 - POLITICAL CELEBRITIES AND THE VOTE ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Hamilton County Historical Society
FREE

The Hamilton County Historical Society has gathered some famous folks to re-enact their speeches on the square! Come see President Truman, Frederick Douglass, Susan B Anthony, and Teddy Roosevelt on the stage of the annual Noblesville Street Dance! Each presenter will speak, then be available for Q&A near the Historical Society. Additionally, free ice cream (while supplies last!) will be available.

July 29 - LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

Potter's Bridge Park
FREE

Hamilton County Parks and White River Canoe Company are working together to provide a visual experience for visitors during this evening event. Stroll along historic Potter's Bridge and see lighted canoes in the waters of White River for a unique show.

July 29 - GIBSON GUITAR AND MANDOLIN INSTRUMENT TOUR

Preservation Hall, No-

blesville
FREE

Join the Noblesville Preservation Alliance for this free musical program demonstrating old instruments with some tunes from the time they were created! This program includes the Master Luthier for Gibson among other speakers. Sign up: <https://preservationhall.org/2023/04/gibson-guitar-and-mandolin-company-traveling-instrument-tour>

August Sneak Peek!

Some events we are highlighting during Wayne Township's month include:

August (dates TBD) - NOBLESVILLE TOWNSHIP'S SIGNATURE EVENT:

HAMILTON COUNTY FABRIC ARTS SHOW
Noblesville
FREE

Join us during August in celebrating the fabric arts, both old and new! Hosted in partnership with Nickel Plate Arts, this art show will showcase dozens of artists and techniques for different fabric arts. Noblesville Township's Signature Event is so big we had to squeeze it into August instead of July! Check out heirlooms and new pieces and vote for your favorite. Spots are still open until July 22, so apply here to be featured! <https://tinyurl.com/3z-vnh854>

August 12 - FIND YOUR FARMING ANCESTOR

Hamilton East Public Library - Noblesville
FREE

In the 1820s, 72% of the American workforce was engaged in "farm occupations." Join the staff of Hamilton East Public Library's Indiana Room to learn more about the sources available to research your farming ancestors by looking at a local farm family. Discover historic farming traditions in Wayne Township and take a taste of Hamilton County today as we sample a small harvest from a local farm.

August 13 - FARMING PAST AND PRESENT

Clarksville Christian Church
FREE

To start the event, join lifelong farmers Donald and David Zeller at 2:30 p.m. or 4 p.m. as they explain how farming in Wayne Township has changed over the decades. This will include show and tell of artifacts. Also in the church see history displays about the Clarksville and surrounding areas. Outside the church, experience the Hamilton Southeastern Schools FFA "touch a truck" area with old tractors alongside new Reynolds farm equipment and old Ford trucks and Model T's alongside new trucks off the Don Hines dealership lot. Free refreshments will be provided at the church, with the Wayne/Fall Creek Lions Club providing food for sale.

Noblesville Lions Participate In July 4th Parade



Photo courtesy of Noblesville Lions

This past Tuesday, the Noblesville Lions Club had many of their patriotic club members participate in the Noblesville July 4th Parade. Even Stanley the Lion mascot was available in the heat. The Lion float also sported some new red and blue lighting this year!

Nickel Plate Arts to Feature Four Artists of the Month in July

Nickel Plate Arts is featuring four artists of the month in July. The artists of the month include Claudia Labin, John Dierdorf, and Chris and Aime Knuckles, and each of their exhibits will be featured at a different Nickel Plate Arts showcase location. Information on the exhibit dates, receptions, and artist details are available below.

STEPHENSON HOUSE:

Claudia Labin Born and raised in Paris, Claudia Labin has taken her talents around the world to Montreal, Rio de Janeiro, and Chicago before settling in Indianapolis. The now Carmel-based artist's approach to her work is spiritual; Labin has always been attracted to mystery and mysticism, and she tends to shy away from political and social commentary or cultural statements. She has always gravitated towards mixed media, collage, and assemblage, as her art is all about process.

"For me, it is a way to solve a puzzle, to dive into the unknown and the unconscious, always looking for that elusive missing piece," Labin says. "The idea comes first, then I find the material. The art comes out raw, authentic, and often unexpected."

The artist looks forward to sharing her upcoming exhibit, *Sculptural Forms*. Specializing in mixed media collage and assemblage, her approach is experiential and primarily self-taught. Labin uses mediums that engage her tactile sense by utilizing multiple layers of collage.

"I want to leave mystery in a painting and let the

viewer complete the painting by finding his own private meaning through symbolism and personal emotional response," she says.

The full *Sculptural Forms* exhibit can be seen in the Stephenson House Wednesday through Friday from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You can meet Labin during the July First Friday event from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Stephenson House on Nickel Plate Arts campus.

Exhibit Dates: July 7 to 29, 2023

Reception Date: July 7 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Nickel Plate Arts campus)

MEYER NAJEM: John Dierdorf

John Dierdorf, a past member of the Nickel Plate Arts board, has a passion for artwork that creates expression for architectural elements, trees, and flowers. Taking inspiration from time spent in his garden as well as the scenic landscape of his back porch, abstract impressionism is Dierdorf's preferred style and definition of his work.

During his years at the Ball State University School of Architecture, Dierdorf participated in design classes to study how to be a curious observer of one's surroundings, how light and shadow impart character, and how these environments will affect people. Dierdorf believes his architectural studies at Ball State provided a great foundation for his artwork, which he did not revisit until 2009.

"As a part-time en-

deavor, I began painting with acrylics on larger canvases, often creating hard edge images that were clearly influenced by Robert Indiana's work," says Dierdorf. "I also continued my photography of buildings, architectural details of buildings, flowers, and landscapes."

Today, the artist works primarily with acrylics and uses bold colors, as well as blended subtle tones, to create an interesting expression for subjects. The use of "loose, spontaneous brushstrokes" to capture the essence of the subject can be seen in most of his current pieces.

See Dierdorf's full exhibit, *Floral Celebration*, in the Meyer Najem 2nd floor gallery, located at 11787 Lantern Road in Fishers, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. You can meet Dierdorf at his free public reception on Friday, July 28 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Meyer Najem.

Exhibit Dates: July 7 to September 29, 2023

Reception Date: July 28 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Meyer Najem 2nd floor gallery)

FOUR DAY RAY:

Chris & Aime Knuckles Vintage Adventures began in 2015 when owners Chris and Aime Knuckles started attending auctions to seek out unique furniture pieces to refinish or repurpose for their home. Their first-ever sale took place on Facebook after the couple realized they had a few pieces they were not fond of for use in their own home.

As they continued to sell their products on Facebook, Aime realized that "[they] kinda had a knack

for what [they] were doing." Chris and Aime decided to make Vintage Adventures their "side-gig" as a means to make some extra money and spend more time together. They opened a booth space at the Antique Mall in downtown Noblesville before moving to a booth space in Logan Village Mall, which they believed better represented their brand. It was at this booth that the Knuckles realized they wanted to expand from furniture to wall art.

"Neither one of us started out as artists," the couple explains. However, Aime and Chris had always been creative individuals. Through trial and error, the Knuckles realized that Farmhouse-style signs and wall art pieces were their specialty. Their method quickly evolved from carving each piece individually with a Dremel to using a CNC machine and its software to design and carve their pieces more efficiently.

"What excites us about our art is that it's different from anything else we've seen. Most of our pieces are our own reflections and memories from our own travels together but, we do have some pieces which share our love of things retro and vintage."

The Knuckles' full exhibit, *The Artwork of Vintage Adventures*, can be seen at Four Day Ray Brewing, located at 11671 Lantern Road in Fishers, Sunday and Monday from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., and Friday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Exhibit Dates: July 16 to September 29, 2023

Homemade Pie Contest

Bake your family's favorite pie recipe for some friendly competition. The Hamilton County Extension Homemakers are sponsoring a homemade pie contest open to Hamilton County residents in honor of the county's bicentennial celebration. The contest will be held during the Hamilton County 4-H Fair. Entries will be accepted from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 22 in the Exhibition Center Hall B on the 4-H Fairgrounds located at 2003 Pleasant Street, Noblesville.

Submit a HOME-MADE pie made from a recipe handed down through the generations. Include the recipe with

directions. NOTE: No pies needing refrigeration (e.g. pumpkin, custard, sugar cream, etc.) will be accepted. Entries must also include an essay (50 - 100 words) telling the story of how this pie became part of your family history.

Judging begins at 2:00 p.m. Scoring will include pie appearance, flavor and the heart-warming details of your family story. Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

For more information on the Extension Homemakers Program in Hamilton County, contact Purdue Extension Hamilton County at 317-776-0854 or visit <https://puext.in/hamcohomemakers>

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Are There Solar Options For Electric Vehicles?

EARTHTALK

Dear EarthTalk: Are there any electric vehicles available that can charge up using solar power (so you don't have to plug them in to charge them)?

Yes, there are electric vehicles (EVs) available that can be charged using solar power. Often referred to as solar-powered EVs or solar-charging EVs, these vehicles integrate solar panels into their design to harness solar energy and convert it to electricity for the vehicle's batteries. Solar charging alone may not be enough to power an EV completely, but it can provide additional power and extend the vehicle's range.

Solar-powered EVs use photovoltaic (PV) cells, which are typically installed on the roof or other parts of the vehicle's body. These cells capture sunlight and convert it into electricity through the photovoltaic effect. The generated electricity is then used to charge the EV's battery pack or supplement its power requirements, reducing the reliance on grid electricity.

One example of a solar-powered EV is the Lightyear One, developed by a Dutch company called Lightyear. This EV is equipped with solar panels integrated into its roof and hood. Its solar

panels are highly efficient, enabling them to charge the vehicle's battery while it is parked or in motion. The company claims that the solar panels can provide up to 12 kilometers (7.5 miles) of range per hour of solar charging, depending on weather conditions.

Another notable example is the Sono Sion, an EV developed by a German startup called Sono Motors. The Sion is covered with solar panels that can generate electricity to charge the vehicle's battery. The car also features bidirectional charging, allowing it to share its excess energy with other devices or even power another EV. The Sono Sion's solar panels are expected to provide approximately 30 kilometers (18.6 miles) of additional range per day through solar charging, according to the company.

It's worth noting that the efficiency and range added by solar charging depend on various factors such as the size of the solar panels, the weather conditions, the amount of sunlight available and the energy requirements of the vehicle. While solar charging can be a convenient and eco-friendly way to extend the range of an EV, it is not intended to replace traditional charging methods entirely.

In addition to solar-powered EVs, there are also aftermarket solutions available for existing electric vehicles.

These solutions involve retrofitting solar panels onto the roofs or other parts of the vehicle to enable solar charging. These aftermarket options may not provide as seamless an integration as purpose-built solar-powered EVs, they can still offer an opportunity to harness solar energy and reduce the reliance on grid electricity.

Solar-powered EVs and solar charging technologies are continually evolving as researchers and manufacturers explore ways to improve efficiency and integration. The combination of renewable energy generation through solar power and the increasing adoption of electric vehicles represents a promising step towards a sustainable and clean transportation future.

-CONTACTS: Lightyear One, lightyear.one; The Sono Sion Solar Car Is Coming to the US, Here's What It Will Do, cnet.com/roadshow/news/the-sono-sion-solar-car-is-coming-to-the-us-heres-what-it-will-do; Why solar electric vehicles might be the next generation of EVs, cnbc.com/2022/11/22/how-sono-aptera-and-lightyear-are-making-solar-powered-evs-a-reality.html.

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New Laws In Effect For The State Of Indiana

Several new laws are now in effect in the great Hoosier state. According to Indiana Republican legislators, many aim to make Indiana an even better place to live work and raise a family. Here is a roundup of some of the most important and interesting ones that went into effect July 1.

Tax Cuts
The 2024-25 state budget continues Indiana's conservative approach to fiscal responsibility and accelerates income tax rate cuts to 2.9% by 2027 instead of 2029.

Health Care
SEA 1 expands access to mental health care for Hoosiers by providing ongoing funding to build a system of certified community behavioral health clinics throughout Indiana.
SEA 4 modernizes

Indiana's public health system by increasing the quality of services performed by Indiana's local health departments and promoting collaboration between local health departments and the Indiana Department of Health.

SEA 7 outlaws noncompete agreements for primary care physicians, which will allow these doctors to practice where they want and give Hoosier patients more freedom to choose their medical provider.

Education
SEA 35 requires students graduating from a public, charter or state accredited nonpublic school in 2028 to successfully complete a personal financial literacy course before graduation. To help students realize what financial aid they may qualify for, SEA 167

requires most students in Indiana to complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) during their senior year of high school.

Public Safety
SEA 161 creates penalties for using electronic tracking devices to track another individual without their knowledge in order to commit a crime.

HEA 1050 requires a driver approaching a disabled vehicle with its hazard lights flashing to move over or slow down.

General Government
SEA 151 gives Hoosier foster families and foster children free entry to Indiana State Parks.

HEA 1466 increases the jury pay from \$40 per day to \$80 per day for the first five days of a trial and \$90 per day starting on the sixth day of a trial.

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Some Choices Last An Eternity



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

Getting older changes things, doesn't it? (Yup, that was rhetorical.) When I was younger, I used to

look forward to Saturdays. When I was really young, it meant no school, sleeping in, Saturday morning cartoons and in general playing all day. A few years after that, there was softball tournaments, golf outings and hanging out with buddies. Then came family outings, taking the girls to the zoo, amusement parks, state parks and so on.

Now? Well, one of the great things about Saturdays is a quiet office and a chance to catch up on all the stuff that I didn't have time to get to during the week. I wonder exactly when a happy Saturday went from play to work? I wonder what that says about me? Maybe I should quit wondering? But then I realized that my wandering mind was getting in the way of me getting anything done so I turned back to my desk and - AAAGGH!

John Hammer, the incredibly massive John Hammer was standing in my door. I hadn't heard him come in. Had no idea he was there or how long he had been. All I knew was he scared the living bejezus out of me.

"Lord, John! You do realize that one day you are going to give me a heart attack, don't you?" I managed - trying to get my breathing back to normal. It's not that I'm afraid of the man they call Hammer - well, mostly. It's just that he always does this. It's like being in your house and you turn around and your spouse is right there. It gives you a start.

If you aren't familiar with him, John is an incredibly large man. His calloused hands are the size of baseball mitts and the result of decades of

honest, hard work. His neck is twice the size of mine and the skin is the texture of rough, yet worn-out leather. When he talks, which isn't all that often, his gravelly voice sounds like it's been drug over two miles of bad country roads. And if there is anyone who loves his country more, I haven't met them yet.

"Well, since it appears the EMTs aren't necessary, what can I do for you, John?"

"You know I don't wear my religion on my sleeve," he began, a little quieter than usual.

"Sure."

"But Timmons, I swear, there is evil in this world."

I smiled. "John, there's always been evil. Look at Sodom and-"

"I know that," he snapped. "I'm not saying there has never been, but Timmons, I swear there's stuff going on that is getting worse by the day."

"What do you mean?"

"Well, we know that politicians lie," he said. "Nothing new with that. But the level they're doing it now is pretty unbelievable."

"I don't know John, do you remember Richard Nixon?"

"It's not just that," he said in a tone that clearly said I wasn't catching on. "Look at the violence in the world today. Indianapolis has turned into, well, I don't know what. And that shooting in Nashville, Tenn. That shooter went in and targeted Christian kids."

"Look, John, you can't take one isolated incident and-"

"Isolated?" Hammer boomed. "Isolated? Have you not been paying attention, Timmons? There's been more criminal acts against churches in the last few years than ever, and 2023 is even worse."

Hammer was referring to a report I read from the Family Research Council that documented more than 400 incidents against churches from 2018 to 2022. Things like bomb threats, arson and van-

dalism. According to the study, 2023 is on track to be the worst year yet.

"And we're fighting about putting sexually explicit books in school libraries, Timmons . . . SCHOOL LIBRARIES! And good people, people who are smart and seem to mean well, are screaming that those who don't want the books in front of school kids are like the Nazis, that they're banning books. Hell, Timmons. Books like that have been available in our public libraries for a long time and no one has suggested getting rid of them. There's no banning of books here. It's just plain common sense that you don't put that stuff in front of kids."

"Look, John, I get it. There's a debate-"

"There shouldn't be, Timmons," he shot back. "The point is that the world has changed and now people are saying that kids, little kids and kids in general, should be exposed to things that not too damn long ago would have been called pornographic."

Hammer paused. He almost seemed out of breath.

"I'll tell you this, Timmons. There's something at work in the world today. You can call it good and evil on a God-kind-of-scale or you can call it whatever you want. I'm not smart enough to know the answer. But I do know this. In my heart I believe it's time to think about what we believe and start making some choices."

"What kind of choices, John?"

"The kind that last an eternity."

With that, the Hammer walked away. But his words stayed.

-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 ttimmons@thetimes24-7.com.

IDDC Launches Initiative, 'Military Monuments And Museums In Indiana'

At the backdrop of the Indiana War Memorial, Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and the Indiana Destination Development Corporation (IDDC) launched a new initiative: 'Military Monuments and Museums IN Indiana,' powered by Luke Family of Brands.

"The Military Monuments and Museums IN Indiana initiative is a comprehensive program that encompasses war memorials, historical markers, museums and other distinctive locations that showcase the rich military history of the great state of Indiana," said Lt. Gov. Crouch, Indiana's Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. "This initiative is creating a network of information and immersive opportunities that unites all regions of Indiana."

IDDC collaborated with various organizations across Indiana to promote the state's military history, including the Indiana National Guard, Indiana Historical Society, Indiana Historical Bureau, Indiana War Memorials and more. These partnerships demonstrate Indiana's collective dedication to preserving its military heritage.

"We have a unique opportunity to spearhead a statewide program dedicated to educating and informing Hoosiers and visitors about the abundance of military history in Indiana," said Elaine Bedel, IDDC Secretary and Chief Executive Officer. "We encourage you to participate in the Military Monuments and Museums IN Indiana initiative after its launch to

show your support."

The Military Monuments and Museums IN Indiana initiative has a dedicated microsite on VisitIndiana.com/military where people can learn about Indiana's military history and numerous locations around the state that showcase it. The wide range of information on the microsite would not be possible without the statewide effort made by IDDC partners and Luke Family of Brands.

"We are proud and humbled to be a part of celebrating the great State of Indiana's military history," said Tom Collins II, Luke Family of Brands President and Owner. "Thank you for all of our active military and veterans for your service to defend our nation and freedom!"

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An Unforgettable Day Of Golf, Entertainment And Heart Health Awareness

The Fan and The Franciscan Health Heart Center is thrilled to present The Fan On The Back 9 Golf Outing, an exciting event that brings together golf enthusiasts of all ages, sports radio personalities, and supporters of heart health. Taking place on August 18th at Back 9 Golf and Entertainment, this event promises an afternoon of golf, delicious food, and tournament-style games with sports radio hosts Kevin Bowen, Jake Query, and JMV.

As part of our commitment to promoting heart health and wellness, a portion of the proceeds for The Fan On The Back 9 Golf Outing will benefit the American Heart Association. The American Heart Association is dedicated to protecting the hearts we love and saving lives through groundbreaking research, education, and advocacy.

Attendees will have the opportunity to enjoy a memorable day, show-

casings their skills while engaging in friendly competition. In addition to the golf tournament, the event will also host a silent auction featuring sports memorabilia and one-of-a-kind experiences for attendees to bid on. 100% of the silent auction proceeds will be donated to the American Heart Association.

Adding to the festivities, The Ride with JMV live broadcast will take place from 3 PM to 6 PM, offering participants and fans an exclusive opportunity to be part of the radio show experience. Join JMV and his fellow radio hosts as they discuss the day's highlights, share stories, and interact with the enthusiastic crowd.

Tickets for The Fan On The Back 9 Golf Outing are limited, so don't miss this opportunity to join us on August 18th for an extraordinary event. To secure your spot and support the American Heart Association.

State Of Indiana Has Its First State Comptroller

State Auditor Tera Klutz, CPA officially became Indiana's first State Comptroller on July 1, 2023. The name change stems from House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1001-2023, which allows the State Auditor to be known as the State Comptroller to better align with the responsibilities of the office.

"The title of 'State Comptroller' provides a more appropriate depiction of the services we provide," said Comptroller Klutz. "We balance the state's checkbook,

distribute tax dollars, provide year-end financial reporting and pay state employees.

"Due to the previous title of State Auditor, the most common misconception of my office was that we audit the State, other local governments or even individual taxpayers; however, those audits are performed by the State Board of Accounts and the Department of Revenue."

HEA 1001, authored by State Rep. Jeff Thompson (R-Lizton) and sponsored by Sen. Ryan Mishler

(R-Mishawaka) includes:

The auditor of state shall also be known as the state comptroller. After June 30, 2023, the auditor of state's office shall use the title "state comptroller" in conducting state business, in all contracts, on business cards, on stationery, and with other means of communication as necessary. The change in title under this subsection does not invalidate any documents or transactions conducted in the name of the auditor of state.

The new law does not

change Indiana's constitution which creates the position, title and requirements to be elected Auditor of State. Indiana now joins the list of 19 other states who refer to their chief financial officer as the State Comptroller or Controller.

"We will continue serving Hoosiers as we have for the last six years, and now by updating the title we are clearing up a long-running misconception. The responsibilities of the office haven't changed - just the title on the door."

State Launches First Of Its Kind Vehicle Data Dashboard

Multi-agency partnership leverages data to accelerate information sharing.

A new interactive tool that highlights data and trends in the types of vehicles Hoosiers drive is now available. The Indiana Vehicle Fuel Dashboard is designed to shed light on alternative fueling trends in transportation throughout the state.

Roughly 6.5 million cars, trucks, motorcycles, and recreational vehicles are registered each year in the State of Indiana through the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV). This tool allows users to see how many are powered by gas, diesel, and electric, among others. In 2018, there were 76,000 electric and electric hybrid

vehicles in the state. That number increased to nearly 125,000 by 2022.

"The fuels Hoosiers are choosing for their transportation needs are diversifying," said Ryan Hadley, Executive Director for the Indiana Office of Energy Development (OED). "The Indiana Vehicle Fuel Dashboard puts the data directly in the hands of citizens and businesses to see how vehicle adoption trends has and will continue to change."

In addition to electric, other alternative fuels include ethanol, propane, compressed natural gas, and hydrogen. The Dashboard allows users to filter by county, fuel type, and type of vehicle.

"The BMV has heard

from a number of Hoosiers they want to see this type of data and we are glad to work with key partners to provide the information," noted Joe Hoage, Commissioner of the Indiana BMV. "The dashboard creates an insightful view of vehicles registered in Indiana. The efficiency it provides will serve many looking to utilize this data both in and outside of Indiana."

The Indiana Vehicle Fuel Dashboard was developed in collaboration with Indiana Office of Energy Development (OED), Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV), and Indiana Management Performance Hub (MPH) with support from Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and Indiana

Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC).

"The Indiana Management Performance Hub is always excited to tackle Indiana's complex problems by bringing the right data to the right people for the right mission," Indiana Chief Data Officer Josh Martin said. Martin also serves as the Executive Director at MPH. "This dashboard is another example of how MPH is helping the State use the best tools and technologies to analyze and visualize data to create sufficient information for intelligent public policy."

To check out the Indiana Vehicle Fuel Dashboard, visit www.in.gov/oed/resources-and-information-center/vehicle-fuel-dashboard.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Request for Qualifications
Hamilton County Special Projects for 2023 and 2024
Construction and General Contracting Services

Project Location: Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, Hamilton County Historic Courthouse, Hamilton County Jail Complex, and Hamilton County Health Department.
 Noblesville, Indiana

Response Due Date: July 21 by 4:00 PM

Hamilton County is requesting qualifications (the "RFQ") for professional Construction Management Services ("CM Services") for the following interior and exterior renovations:

- Exterior brick work, renovation, and rehabilitation
- Repair and/or replace windows
- Design and oversee the construction of a storage facility for the Hamilton County Health Department
- Install a new HVAC system and remove the existing HVAC system

These services are being requested at the following locations (a non-exhaustive list): the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, the Hamilton County Historic Courthouse, the Hamilton County Jail Complex, and the Hamilton County Health Department. The RFQ is being issued to solicit certain documents from qualified firms to perform professional services for the above-mentioned project as outlined in this RFQ.

A response to this RFQ is not a guarantee that the firm responding will be awarded a contract to perform CM Services, but only that the responding firm wishes to be considered.

Contact for questions regarding this RFQ:
 Mr. Steve Wood
 Title: Building and Grounds Superintendent
 Phone Number: 317.776.8446
 Email: steve.wood@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

INTRODUCTION
 Potential firms shall be required to submit the following documents:

- A response to this RFQ as outlined herein.
- One (1) original, three (3) copies, and one disc or flash drive of the response are to be submitted.
- All submittals shall be titled: Request for Qualifications for the Hamilton County Special Projects for 2023 and 2024: Construction and General Contracting Services
- All submittals shall be made to: Hamilton County Board of Commissioners

c/o Mr. Lee Buckingham
 Title: Director of Administrations
 Address: 1 N. 8th St., #157
 Noblesville, IN 46060

Pre-selection information:

- The firm shall be properly licensed in Indiana to provide the CM Services requested.
- A contract with terms similar to a standard AIA terms will be executed between the selected firm and the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners. The County reserve the right to modify, amend, or replace the AIA contract with a County drafted contract.
- The County reserves the right to reject any or all RFQs, to waive any informality or irregularity in any RFQ received, and to be the sole judge of the merits of the respective RFQs received.

Section 1: The Project.
 The Board of County Commissioners of Hamilton County (the "Commissioners"), Indiana seeks CM Services to begin a project for the renovation and modernization of existing space to accommodate the needs for the County government's continued growth, updating existing systems, updating and installing new HVAC systems, removing old HVAC systems, brick work, and other similar construction services (the "Project").

The scope of Project is:

- Renovate, rehabilitate and other brick work on the current historic courthouse, judicial center, health department center and jail complex.
- Update and/or replace certain windows at the current historic courthouse, judicial center, health department center and jail complex.
- Install a new HVAC system and remove the current HVAC system at the Hamilton County Jail Complex.
- Renovate and modernize the County Council offices.
- Work with design and architect team to design additions to the Hamilton County Health Department offices and facilities to promote health and safety guidelines.
- Work with the "Design Package or Packages" provided by the design and architect for the Project, meeting the "basic services" as defined within the standard AIA terms.
- All of the scope of the Project shall likely be performed and completed while continuing the operations of the Hamilton County government at all Project locations/sites.

In order to complete the project, the Commissioners are seeking a qualified professional CM Services firm with experience in the construction, renovations and modernizations of judicial facilities and design of government use space. The potential firm must have the experience to ensure the continued operations of Hamilton County throughout the duration of the Project. The Commissioners expect that the selected firm will provide recommendations and services to work with the conceptual design, prepare construction documents and specifications of the renovations and structures.

The final project scope will be determined through a scoping period with the selected firm, during which the selected firm will be required to provide site analysis, design, operation of the project site during construction, and construction analysis to create a final scope and budget. The scoping period is anticipated to be a very intense and fast-paced process, with the goal of achieving a final schematic design and budget in the fall of 2023.

Upon receiving a satisfactory scoping schedule from the selected firm, the County will move forward with the Project and selected firm. If the selected firm is unable to produce satisfactory deliverables and budget, the County will begin a new scoping period with another firm or cancel the RFQ process all together.

Section 2: Qualification Information Required (10-pages maximum)

- Informational Cover Letter
- Identification, Qualifications and Key Staff
 - Provide the firm name and office location from where the work will be performed. Include the name and contact information for the person authorized to negotiate the proposed contract.
 - Describe the project team, organizational structure and individuals responsible for the delivery of the key tasks.
 - Include a listing of the proposed subconsultants and the tasks to be completed by the prime and each subconsultant.
 - Describe the capacity of the team to complete the required work elements.
- Describe experience in the construction and construction management of courthouse construction/renovations, or other similar projects, projects and a description of space for other government uses. Include references for the projects noted. List up to four county courthouse projects and similar government projects.
 - Provide references for projects included in the project experience section.
 - Your firm's project understanding and approach to the project.
 - Address your firm's understanding of the services requested and approach to completing the design requirements. Describe your proposed innovative ideas, cost containment measures, energy efficiency and/or sustainable design suggestions, staging and sequencing of work to accommodate operating government offices, seamless design of building additions, quality control procedures, etc.
 - Presuming you are selected by July 24, 2023 include a Proposed Project Schedule.

TL20546 7/5 7/6 7/12 7/13 41 hspaxlp

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BETSY

From Page A1

The banner announced parade sponsor Gaylor Electric, which followed with Gaylor trucks in the parade.

There were three parade marshals. The former Noblesville Mayor Mary Sue Rowland (1988-95) rode in a red Chevy Corvette driven by her son, Dane Rowland. Former Noblesville Mayor Dennis Redick (1996-2003) and former Noblesville Mayor John Ditslear (2004-2019) waved from silver Chevy Camaro SS Convertible Indy 500 Festival Cars.

Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen and his family also waved from the back of a Chevy Camaro SS Convertible Indy 500 Festival Car.

Noblesville High School Marching Millers -- 173 strong this year, the biggest in school history, according to band director Eric Thornbury, plus some middle school guard campers just for the parade, totaling 180 band players -- performed throughout the parade route. Noblesville Band Boosters walked alongside a pickup truck advertising this fall's Pot of Black & Gold 50/50 Raffle. Encore, the NHS Alumni Band also performed riding on a trailer.

Noblesville Fire Chief Matt Mitchell and Noblesville Police Chief John Mann rode in No. 73 ladder truck's bucket high above the crowd, waving, as NFD engineer Justin Crawford drove the fire truck. NFD's Sparky mascot gave high-fives and fist bumps to young fans along the route.

Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, including a walking Sheriff Dennis Quakenbush, waved at parade-goers. Hamilton County Emergency Management followed.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post. 6246, Hamilton County Navy Ship No. 29 and American Legion Post 45 each had parade entries. The Crossroads Corvette Club brought about 15 Chevy Corvettes, mostly in red, but also yellow and white. Hamilton County Bicentennial was represented. Noblesville Lions Club featured Leo the Lion. Noblesville Masonic Lodge Freemasons saw Jake Waterman driving the parade truck.

Hamilton County 2022 4-H Fair Queen Faith Hittle of Cicero, the daughter of Josh and Billie Hittle; first runner-up Anna Clark of Noblesville, the daughter of Chris and Leslie Clark; and fourth runner-up Allie Mathews of Noblesville, the daughter of Rick and Stacy Matthew, all rode in a blue Chevy Camaro Convertible waving at the crowd.

Hamilton County Theatre Guild's The Belfry Theatre, founded in 1965, was represented by its Apprentice Players summer youth cast and crew, who gave out show info about "Willy Wonka Jr.," which will be onstage July 27-30 at The Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville.

Dick and Margaret Gordon, of Gordon Insurance, rode a Gator, decorated with flowers from Gatewoods, promoting the Bridge of Flowers at the Logan Street Bridge, which the Gordons spearheaded, and followed up from behind the Gordon Insurance parade truck with tons of balloons.

Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts of America in Noblesville, White River Elementary Pack 104, Noblesville Travel Softball and Noblesville Soccer Club had kids in the parade.

Perkins Restaurant employees carried the giant American flag. Pure Barre Noblesville showcased dancers, ABC Ballroom demonstrated dance moves and Anderson Steppers Unique Diamonds danced along the route.

Moonshot Game Store was among parade entries giving out freezer pops. Other parade entries included Colt Moving, Colt Roofing & Construction, Colt Clean Team, Hoots Marketing, Anderson Roll Arena, Prime Plumbing & Drains, The Learning Experience Academy of Early Education, F.C. Tucker real-estate agents, Ashlin Hadden Insurance, Junk Viking, Noble Optique, Arched by Mara, Ostlund A. Service Co., Bourn2Haul, Mobile Engine Medic and Car Wash King in Noblesville were also represented.

There were political parade entries that included Indiana Secretary of State Diego Morales, Hamilton County Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt, Chuck Goodrich for Congress, Suzanne Crouch for Governor, Alaina for Noblesville and Doden for Indiana. The Hamilton County Republican Party and Hamilton County Democratic Party were also represented.

More than 50 parade entries followed the parade route, including Noblesville resident Steve Costlow, who smiled as he showed off his 1976 Chevy C10 with new rims and tires, which he loves to drive in the Noblesville parades.

It was a great parade and a great day.

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



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

Noblesville High School Marching Millers -- 173 strong this year, the biggest in school history, according to band director Eric Thornbury, plus some middle school guard campers just for the parade, totaling 180 band players -- performed throughout the Noblesville Fourth of July Parade route.



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

Noblesville's July 4th Parade banner holders Ian Thompson and Dakota Light lead the Noblesville Fourth of July Parade, along with the Honor Guard in front, as Noblesville Deputy Mayor Matt Light walks alongside the banner holders.



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

The Honor Guard leads the Noblesville Fourth of July Parade.



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

Encore, the Noblesville High School Alumni Band, perform riding on a trailer during the Noblesville Fourth of July Parade.



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

Hamilton County Theatre Guild's The Belfry Theatre, founded in 1965, was represented by its Apprentice Players summer youth cast and crew, wearing purple "wonka" shirts and giving out show info about "Willy Wonka Jr.," which will be onstage July 27-30 at The Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville.

PARTY

From Page A1

people in a relaxed and engaging environment, we hope this becomes another way to attract businesses to set up shop in our growing downtown.

Last year, we were delighted to welcome nearly 200 attendees to each event. Help us surpass that record by inviting your colleagues, neighbors, and anyone who would relish a few hours of networking and mingling with the movers and shakers of Westfield.

This exceptional Colts Training Camp Kickoff themed party on July 18th is not to be missed. Ensure your spot by registering now and seize the opportunity to immerse yourself in an evening filled with celebration, camaraderie, and the infectious energy that surrounds the team. Come with fellow fans, embrace the festive ambiance, and create cherished memories at this extraordinary event.

Charity Raffle

This special 10th-anniversary edition of Party on the Patio welcomes all Westfield businesses, their staff, and our cherished residents. As a testament to our commitment to the community, this event will also feature a charity raffle. Be sure to bring cash or your debit card to purchase raffle tickets.

Proceeds from this month's raffle will benefit Prevail, saving lives, restoring hope, and empowering those they serve. Prevail supports survivors of all ages throughout their journey. They specialize

in working with adults, teens, and children who have experienced trauma. With exciting Indianapolis Colts themed prizes, you won't want to miss this opportunity to contribute while potentially winning big!

Young Professionals Raffle

If you are under the age of 40, you are a Young Professional! Don't miss your chance to participate in the exclusive, and free, YP Raffle.

Come visit the red tables during the event to learn more about the Young Professionals and to enter the raffle.

Register now and cement your chance of winning this \$250 Yeti Cooler! The winner will be chosen at our September Party on the Patio/YP Happy Hour. Limit of one entry per person per event attended.

Volunteers Needed

We can always use a few extra hands! Join the excitement at our Party on the Patio events by volunteering and becoming a vital part of our incredible event team. As we continuously seek enthusiastic individuals to lend a helping hand, we offer you a unique opportunity to make a difference while enjoying complimentary drinks and a delicious meal. Simply click on the link below to explore the possibilities and register for an unforgettable volunteering experience in Downtown Westfield.

NAVY

From Page A1

These lessons have helped Ballensky while serving in the Navy.

Known as America's "Apex Predators!," the Navy's submarine force operates a large fleet of technically-advanced vessels. These submarines are capable of conducting rapid defensive and offensive operations around the world, in furtherance of U.S. national security.

There are three basic types of submarines: fast-attack submarines (SSN), ballistic-missile submarines (SSBN) and guided-missile submarines (SSGN).

Fast-attack submarines are designed to hunt down and destroy enemy submarines and surface ships; strike targets ashore with cruise missiles; carry and deliver Navy SEALs; conduct intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions; and engage in mine warfare. The Virginia-class SSN is the most advanced submarine in the world today. It combines stealth and payload capability to meet Combatant Commanders' demands in this era of strategic competition.

The Navy's ballistic-missile submarines, often referred to as "boomers," serve as a strategic deterrent by providing an undetectable platform for submarine-launched ballistic missiles. SSBNs are designed specifically for stealth, extended patrols and the precise delivery of missiles. The Columbia-class SSBN will be the largest, most capable and most advanced submarine produced by the U.S. - replacing the current Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarines to ensure continuous sea-based strategic deterrence into the 2080s.

Guided-missile submarines provide the Navy with unprecedented strike and special operation mission capabilities from a stealthy, clandestine platform. Each SSGN is capable of carrying 154 Tomahawk cruise missiles, plus a complement of heavyweight torpedoes to be fired through four torpedo tubes.

"Our mission remains timeless - to provide our fellow citizens with nothing less than the very

best Navy: fully combat ready at all times, focused on warfighting excellence, and committed to superior leadership at every single level," said Adm. Mike Gilday, Chief of Naval Operations. "This is our calling. And I cannot imagine a calling more worthy."

Serving in the Navy means Ballensky is part of a team that is taking on new importance in America's focus on strengthening alliances, modernizing capabilities, increasing capacities and maintaining military readiness in support of the National Defense Strategy.

"The Navy ensures national security by providing constant worldwide deterrence and by being the most capable fighting force in the world," said Ballensky.

With 90 percent of global commerce traveling by sea and access to the internet relying on the security of undersea fiber optic cables, Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity of the United States is directly linked to trained sailors and a strong Navy.

Ballensky and the sailors they serve with have many opportunities to achieve accomplishments during their military service.

"My proudest accomplishment in the Navy is when I earned my 'dolphins' or submarine warfare device because it was the culmination of years of hard work," said Ballensky.

As Ballensky and other sailors continue to train and perform missions, they take pride in serving their country in the United States Navy.

"Serving in the Navy means being a part of something bigger and carrying on the tradition of defending our freedoms as United States citizens," said Ballensky.

Ballensky is grateful to others for helping make a Navy career possible.

"I want to thank my mentors, Chief Fire Control Technical Watson and Chief Logistics Specialist (Submarines) Zapp, for going above and beyond and for showing me what a real leader looks like," added Ballensky.



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Facts & Fun



Number $\%$ Stumpers

1. What percentage of people live in Rensselaer?

\geq

2. How old is Jasper County?

\leq

3. How old was Jasper County when the courthouse was built?

\geq

4. What is the population density of the county?

$\%$

\leq

Answers: 1. 17.5 2. 181 Years 3. 60 Years Old 4. 59 / sq. mi.

Did You Know?

- Jasper County was formed in 1838 and was named for Sgt. William Jasper, a famous scout for the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War
- Rensselaer, the county seat, has a total population of 5,859 residents.
- Former home to Saint Joseph's College.
- The Jasper County courthouse was built in 1898 at a total cost of \$141,731.94.
- The county is 561.39 square miles and has a population of 33,478 residents.

Got Words?

The Jasper County Courthouse has a historic clock tower on top of the building. Montgomery County recently added a clock tower to our courthouse. What do you think is the cultural impact of having a landmark such as that atop a courthouse?

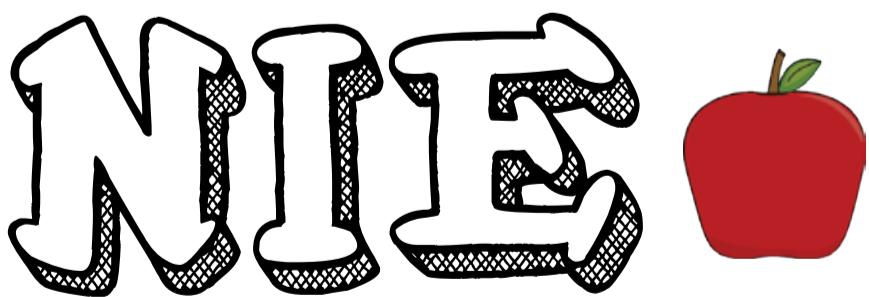
Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

1. ILAWMLI JSRAEP
2. SATIN JSHOPES
3. ESERAERNLS
4. EPSJRA YUOCTN
5. ORSCUHEUOT

Answers: 1. William Jasper 2. Saint Josephs 3. Rensselaer 4. Jasper County 5. Courthouse

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THURSDAY

Indiana the Strong

Thursday, July 6, 2023

A8



Photo courtesy of Purdue University Agricultural Communications

Purdue field day attendees observe different techniques of turf and landscape care.

Green Industry Trade Show And Research Tours At Purdue Turf And Landscape Field Day

Purdue University's Turf and Landscape Field Day will take place Tuesday, July 18, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the William H. Daniel Turfgrass Research and Diagnostic Center. Research tours, info sessions and a trade show will comprise the annual one-day event.

"The 2023 field day will feature 18 faculty, staff and graduate students from Purdue featuring research, best management practices and pests of concern," said Kyle Daniel, Purdue Extension specialist. "In

addition to morning presentations, there will be four afternoon workshops that include turfgrass health, weed identification and control, getting started with using UAVs (drones), and a tour of the Purdue Arboretum discussing opportunities and challenges of native plantings."

A trade show with over 40 exhibitors displaying equipment, turf and landscape products will also be included in the day's activities.

The William H. Daniel Turfgrass Research

and Diagnostic Center is located at 1340 Cherry Lane, West Lafayette. Registration begins at 8 a.m. ET the day of the event, and a Women of the Green Industry tour will occur at 3:30 p.m. after the field day concludes.

More information, including preregistration instructions for attendees and exhibitors, pricing, and directions, can be found at https://www.mrtf.org/event/turf-and-landscape-field-day/?event_date=2023-07-18.

Pittsboro Teen Selected As Second Runner-Up In National Scholarship Competition

On Saturday, June 24, Madison Parker of Pittsboro, Ind., was selected as the second runner-up in the Distinguished Young Women National Finals competition and was presented with a cash scholarship of \$15,000. Parker earned preliminary competition awards in the fitness category for \$1,000 in additional cash scholarships.

Following a selection process that began in her home state of Indiana, Parker began preparing for the 66th annual scholarship competition. The competition was held at the Mobile Civic Center in Mobile, Ala. Thursday, June 22 was the first night of preliminary competition and Friday, June 23 was the second night of preliminary competition.

Parker is a graduate of Tri-West Hendricks High School. In the fall, she

will attend the Rose Hulman Institute of Technology with plans to become a biomedical engineer. She is the daughter of Lori and William Parker.

Carrington Hodge of Helena, Ala., was selected as the Distinguished Young Woman of America for 2023 and presented with a \$40,000 cash scholarship. Maggie Haimelin of Tennessee was selected as first runner-up and Megan Tandar of Utah was selected as third runner-up. \$155,000 in total cash scholarships was awarded during the three-day competition.

About Distinguished Young Women

Founded in 1958, Distinguished Young Women is a free program that encourages participants to reach their full individual potential. Our mission is to empower young women by providing over

\$1 billion in scholarship opportunities, connecting with a nationwide network of women, developing their self-confidence, and participating in our Life Skills Workshops that prepare them for success after high school. National sponsors include Barbara Barrington Jones Family Foundation, Mobile County, City of Mobile, Alabama Power Foundation, Master Boat Builders, Gant Travel Management, Regions Financial Corporation, John Cauley Jeweler, Jostens, and Alabama Media Group.

For more information about Distinguished Young Women, contact Tara Lawson, National Headquarters Marketing and Communications Director, at 251-438-3621 or Tara@DistinguishedYW.org or visit www.DistinguishedYW.org.

Purdue Scores Top 10 Among U.S. Public Universities In QS World Rankings



The QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) World University rankings, released Tuesday (June 27), lists Purdue as the No. 27-ranked university in the U.S., No. 10 among U.S. publics. The public institution ranking is up three spots from last year. Purdue is also back in the global top-100 list among 1,500 universities around the world, jumping 30 spots from last year.

Now in its 20th year,

the QS World University rankings introduced three new metrics to determine its list: sustainability, employment outcomes and international research network. The methodology also includes academic reputation; employer reputation; faculty/student ratio; and other measures of undergraduate, graduate and research excellence.

"Excellence at Scale is Purdue's signature, and the latest worldwide ranking is another reflection of the combined reputation and metrics that put Purdue in the top 10 among U.S. public universities," said Purdue president Mung Chiang. "While all rankings are partial and noisy, we appreciate the hard work by our colleagues and students that distinguishes Purdue in

the top 100 in the world."

A top-10 Most Innovative school nationally for five years running (U.S. News & World Report) and a top-4 in patents received in the U.S., Purdue has numerous academic programs – including two colleges – consistently rank among the nation's best. Purdue has also been selected in both the last two years by Fast Company magazine as a Brand That Matters, and made Fast Company's list of the world's most innovative companies (No. 16 – ahead of the likes of NASA and the Walt Disney Co. – and the only university listed).

The QS World University Rankings 2024 features 1,499 institutions – including 199 in the United States – across 104 locations.

Hoosiers Can Expect Increased Grocery Prices Ahead Of The Fourth Of July

Hoosiers can't seem to escape rising food prices. Indiana Farm Bureau's annual summer cookout market basket, featuring some of America's summertime staples, revealed Hoosiers are paying an average of \$69.47 for a cookout feeding 10 people this summer, or \$6.95 per person – an 8% increase compared to last year. That's similar to the United States Department of Agriculture's Food Price Outlook for grocery store food purchases, which increased 5.8% this past May compared to this time last year.

Indiana's market basket price is approximately 3% more, or 18 cents more, than the U.S. average price of \$6.77 per person. This is the first time since 2019 that the total Indiana market basket price came in above the U.S. average. Additionally, the Indiana price is up 5%, or 34 cents more, than the average price for the Midwest region of \$6.61 per person.

"We are still seeing food inflation throughout the whole supermarket, specifically with items that require more processing, labor and transportation," said INFB Chief Economist Dr. Todd Davis. "This impacts items like cookies and chips that are non-perishable with no urgency to sell by a strict deadline, meaning grocery stores don't need to discount to move inventory."

The total market basket price of \$69.47 includes

ground beef, cheese, hamburger buns, pork chops, chicken breasts, pork and beans, potato salad, strawberries, chips, ice cream, cookies and lemonade.

All items on the shopping list are more expensive in Indiana than last year, except cheese and pork chops, which were relatively unchanged. Many items were less than the national average, including ice cream, strawberries, pork and beans, hamburger buns, lemonade and potato salad. The items that came in significantly above the U.S. average were chocolate chip cookies, chicken breasts and chips.

While food prices have increased, so have input prices for the farmers growing that food. Drought in the west and Midwest has significantly impacted feeding costs for livestock, which has increased consumer prices for meat as well.

According to the USDA, just 14 cents of every retail food dollar can be attributed to farm production, after accounting for input costs. Using this figure, the farmer's share of this \$69.47 market basket would be less than \$10. The rest is for food processing, packaging, transportation, wholesale and retail distribution, and food service preparation.

"Like consumers, farmers are price takers, not price makers," said Isabella Chism, INFB 2nd vice president. "While

food prices are increasing, the amount farmers are being paid doesn't cover the sharp increase in their input expense. When our crops or animals are ready to sell, we have to sell at the current commodity price."

"This year's summer cookout market basket reflects what Hoosiers are seeing when they go to their local grocery stores," Chism explained. "Farmers are consumers too, and we experience the price increase at the grocery store as well as on the farm."

The INFB summer cookout market basket survey was conducted in early June by volunteer shoppers across the state who collected prices on specific food items from one of their local grocery stores. Volunteer shoppers were asked to look for the best possible prices, without taking advantage of special promotional coupons or purchase deals.

"This survey was conducted before many stores offer Fourth of July sales, so if you go to the grocery store now you are likely to see slightly reduced prices than what this market basket shows," noted Dr. Davis.

Indiana's survey was completed in conjunction with a national survey administered by the American Farm Bureau Federation. More details about AFBF's national summer cookout market basket results can be found at fb.org.

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