

**TODAY'S VERSE**

Psalm 27:1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?



**FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY**

People who call our community their own.

What makes Gary Reynolds smile? "Life. God is good. Everything is good," said the 80-year-old Noblesville resident, who was recognized Thursday morning at the Bicentennial Groundbreaking of a new event center, The Silos at 37, to be constructed at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds, which will be renovated, expanded and modernized, the initial phase to cost \$26.5 million. Reynolds and Sonny Beck were recognized for their contributions and support of the Hamilton County 4-H program and Purdue Extension Hamilton County during the groundbreaking ceremony, which took place on opening day of the Hamilton County 4-H Fair. Reynolds is also volunteering at the 4-H Fair at Fishers United Methodist Church's food booth, which sells tenderloin, fruit cobbler and ice cream at the Fair. His booth duties? "Mine is to make sure I get the oil cookers going and change the oil every day, and that's my job, and a little bit of frying once in a while." What he enjoys most at the Fair? "I enjoy the people," he said, especially those folks he only gets to see once a year. He also likes to see people serve and participate from his church, where he has been a member all of his 80 years. He and his wife Cindy have four children, nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Reynolds is a big supporter of our community and is a donor at Conner Prairie in Fishers, where he is on an advisory group doing a similar multi-million-dollar expansion, he said. In 2014, the Reynolds family - owners and operators of Reynolds Farm Equipment in Fishers and Atlanta, Ind. - donated \$1 million (spread out over 10 years) to Conner Prairie. The Reynolds family has been donating to Conner Prairie since 2011 and a board member of the living-history museum since 2011. Reynolds is the middle child of A.W. "Mac" and Arline Reynolds, who founded the business on Dec. 15, 1955. The Hamilton County 4-H Fair opened Thursday and continues through Monday. Read the 4-H Fair schedule in The Times.

**And Another Thing...**

**1. FAA Bill: Congress is Back to Business as Usual**

Rep. Victoria Spartz (IN-05) released the following statement on her "no" vote on H.R. 3935 - Securing Growth and Robust Leadership in American Aviation Act, legislation reauthorizing the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the next five years. "Unfortunately, the DC swamp prevailed again - back to 'four corner' deals among Republican and Democrat leadership from both chambers," Spartz said. "No amendments were allowed to pass in the committees of jurisdiction or rules. Just a few conservative amendments were allowed for messaging on the floor, which were meant to be defeated. They even figured out how to use some archaic and hard-to-explain rule to kill an amendment. I cannot support this charade and hypocrisy from Republicans."

**2. Sheriff Tony Skinner Endorses Suzanne Crouch for Governor**

Delaware County Sheriff, Tony Skinner, has pledged his endorsement to Suzanne Crouch for Governor. "As a second-term Sheriff and lifelong Republican, I proudly endorse Lt. Gov. Crouch for Governor. Her unwavering support for mental health treatment funding and law enforcement makes her the ideal choice. Suzanne's dedication to expanding treatment facilities for mental illness and substance abuse will benefit every Indiana community. Her consistent support for our public service professionals further reinforces why she deserves your vote. I encourage everyone to cast their vote for Suzanne Crouch for Governor," said Skinner. Tony Skinner is in his second term as Delaware County Sheriff.

# The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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## County Celebrates Bicentennial Groundbreaking



Times photo by Betsy Reason

Hamilton County 4-H'ers joined in a Bicentennial Groundbreaking at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville Thursday morning with Hamilton County Commissioners Mark Heirbrandt, Christine Altman and Steve Dillingier, Hamilton County Council liaison Sue Maki, County Extension Director Susan L. Peterson and Hamilton County Extension Board president Jane Sipe. The Fairgrounds will be rebranded as The Silos at 37 Hamilton County: 4-H Fairgrounds and Events Center. The initial phase will cost \$26.5 million and will include renovations, expansion and modernization of the Fairgrounds. The expansion will create a new Bicentennial Pavilion to celebrate Hamilton County's 200th anniversary. Hamilton County The Extension board will launch a capital campaign to help with funding. The first of three construction phases will begin this fall. Read more in the Betsy Reason column in an upcoming edition of The Times.



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

Noblesville High School 1986 graduate Bryan Bishop gets crazy on stage at a previous Noblesville Street Dance, which this year will feature The Bishops at 9 p.m. Saturday at the Street Dance on the Noblesville Parks' mobile stage on the Courthouse Square in downtown Noblesville.

## 4-H Fair, Stone Soup Kids

## Musical, Street Dance, More



**BETSY REASON**  
From The Editor's Desk...

The Noblesville Street Dance is Saturday afternoon and evening on the Courthouse Square in downtown Noblesville, the Hamilton County 4-H Fair is now through Monday at the 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville, and Stone Soup Children's Theater's "Guys &

Dolls" is today and Saturday at Noblesville High School. Here's more specifics in our list of things to do:

1. Hamilton County 4-H Fair is now through Monday at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds, with food, 4-H exhibits, livestock competitions, Fashion Revue, live music, antique tractor pull, homemade ice cream contest, pet parade, youth pedal tractor pull, Farmer Olympics, youth talent contest, livestock auction and more. (See Fair schedule in The Times)

➔ See BETSY Page A5



Photo courtesy of Jared Keever

Leighton, Jared, Evelyn, and Kim Keever pose at Mile Marker 0 of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Towpath in Washington DC after completing a 10-day, 335-mile bike ride from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

## Sheridan Family Takes A Bike Trip

On July 12, Evelyn Keever and her family rolled into Washington DC on their bikes after completing a 10-day, 335-mile ride from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The ride consisted of 150 miles on the Great Allegheny Passage rail trail that runs between Pittsburgh and Cumberland, Maryland, crossing the Eastern Continental Divide, and then 185 miles on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Tow Path - operated by the National Park Service - that runs from Cumberland to Washington DC. The group camped the entire trip with the exception of a night in a hotel in Cumberland.

Evelyn, 8, of Sheridan, had ridden the same route two years earlier with her father, Jared, and his cousin's family. Evelyn

➔ See FAMILY Page A5

## The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset  
RISE: 6:34 a.m.  
SET: 9:13 p.m.

High/Low  
Temperatures  
High: 80 °F  
Low: 63 °F

**Today is...**

- Legal Drinking Age Day
- National Junk Food Day
- National Be Someone Day

**What Happened On This Day**

- 2011 STS-135 lands.
- 1983 Lowest temperature ever measured on Earth.
- 1969 First person walks on the Moon. Neil Armstrong became the first person to walk on the Moon.

**Births On This Day**

- 1948 Cat Stevens English singer-songwriter, musician
- 1899 Ernest Hemingway American writer, Nobel Prize laureate

**Deaths On This Day**

- 1982 Dave Garroway American journalist
- 1796 Robert Burns Scottish poet

## Local Student Represents Indiana At American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation

Ridhi Dondeti, Carmel, is one of 94 high school seniors selected to attend American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Girls Nation July 22-29 in Washington, D.C. The weeklong program, founded in 1947, has provided exceptional civic education to thousands of students, teaching them about how the federal government works.

Dondeti is one of two participants who will represent Indiana as a "senator" at ALA Girls Nation. Two delegates from each ALA Girls State program are chosen to represent their state after participating in an ALA state-level program held across the country. At ALA Girls Nation, senators will participate in mock Senate sessions complete with caucuses and debating bills that range from personal to political interests.

Other activities on the agenda include a visit to Arlington National Cemetery where they will place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, a visit

➔ See LOCAL Page A5

**INSIDE TODAY**

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**HONEST HOOSIER**

For those who think pride and patriotism in our country is a bad thing, you are wrong. Those strong feelings are what helped this country get to where it is today.



**TODAY'S QUOTE**

"Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect."  
-Mark Twain

**TODAY'S JOKE**

Why do fish swim in saltwater?  
Because pepperwater would make them sneeze!

**TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

Everyone should know their Body Mass Index (BMI) - adults should be less than 25. Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Times and online at www.thetimes24-7.com.



**OBITUARIES**  
William R. "Bill" Cox  
Larry Lee Revis

The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank **TRACY and STEVEN LINE** for subscribing!



## ➔ OBITUARIES

### William R. "Bill" Cox

October 24, 1936, Sunday, July 16, 2023

William R. "Bill" Cox, 86, of Knightstown, passed away early Sunday morning at his residence. He was born October 24, 1936 in Noblesville, a son of the late Carl and Grace (Beals) Cox.



Bill graduated from Westfield High School in 1957 and earned a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Indiana Central College (now the University of Indianapolis).

He retired from the U. S. Army following 28 years of service. He served during Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and Grenada. He was a life member of Knightstown Friends Meeting, and enjoyed woodworking, reading, and I.U. sports.



Always a "family-first" man, Bill was a loving dad and grandpa. He never wanted to be a burden to his family, and always put others first. He had a great sense of humor, flavored with sarcasm, and could occasionally have a stubborn streak.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his daughter, Debbie (Jeff) Wilkerson of Knightstown; grandchildren, Ashlee (Jeremiah) Ruddick of Knightstown, Jace Wilkerson of Knightstown, Trista (Jordan) Pruett of New Castle, Taylor Cox of Carthage; great grandchildren, Addison Ruddick, Emsley Ruddick, Avery and Hudson Cox, and Ridge and Paisley Pruett; step-daughter, Judy (Jeff) Elliott of Greenwood; stepson, Matthew Taylor of Plainfield; his grandpuppies, Bentley and Asher; two sisters, Maedean Tower of New Castle, and Suezanne (Bob) Bulthaupt of Indianapolis; two brothers, George (Marilyn) Cox of Carmel, and Norman (Elizabeth) Cox of Coldwater, MI; several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Rose Cox in 2002; second wife, Linda Cox in 2006; a son, Bill Cox, Jr. in 2002; two brothers, Steve Cox and an infant brother, Arthur; two sisters, Ruby Hair and Becky Ellis.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m., Monday, July 24, 2023 at Hinsey-Brown Funeral Service, Knightstown Chapel with Bro. Jeff Elliott officiating.

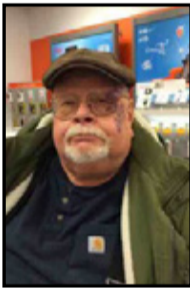
Burial will follow at Summit Lawn Cemetery in Westfield. Visitation will be from 5-8 p.m., Sunday, July 23, 2023 at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be given to Knightstown Friends Church, 214 E. Brown St., Knightstown, IN, 46148. Memories and condolences may be shared at www.hinsey-brown.com.

### Larry Lee Revis

March 19, 1941, Tuesday, July 11, 2023

Larry Lee Revis, age 82, passed away at his home in Fishers, Indiana, surrounded by his loving family on Tuesday morning, July 11, 2023. Born March 18, 1941 in Indianapolis, Indiana, he was the son of the late Noel Lester and Kathryn Lucille (Vesey) Revis.



Larry honorably served his country as a soldier with the United States Army and Army Reserves. After graduating from Noblesville High School with the Class of 1959, he continued at Butler University where he would study pharmacy for a short time. He later transferred to ITT Tech where he earned his associate degree in Business Administration in May of 1991. For 35 years, Larry worked in the driver check in office for US Foods, helping ensure that everything ran like a well-oiled machine.



He was a member of the Noblesville Friends Church, as well as a member of the Conner Prairie Muzzle Loading Club, which complemented his interest in the Civil War era history. Larry loved to travel, and Myrtle Beach and the Great Smoky Mountains were a couple of his favorite destinations. He was also an extremely vocal Colts and Pacers fan, to which anyone within a 3-block radius of his TV on game days could attest. Of the many loves and interests in his life, music was always Larry's greatest passion. He had a deep appreciation for music in all of its forms. After high school, he joined a band as their drummer. Music became a part of his soul. Later in life, he picked up playing the banjo and fiddle as well. Larry's faith and his family (both 2-legged and 4) were the most important parts of his life.

Larry is survived by his loving wife, Lynn (Roeder) Revis. He and Lynn were married on January 1, 1988. Also surviving are his daughters, Miranda Rodriguez (David) of Muncie, and Megan Weir (Chris) of Fishers; his canine BFF, Margot; and by his 3 cats, Oscar, Oswald "Ozzie", and Olive.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Noel Lester and Kathryn Lucille (Vesey) Revis; his brother, Ronald L. Revis; and by his sister, Karen Sue Dance.

A celebration of Larry's life will take place at 3:00 pm on Saturday, July 22, 2023, at Kercheval Funeral Home, 306 E. 10th Street, Sheridan, Indiana, with visitation from 1:00 pm until the time of service.

Larry will be laid to rest at Spencer Cemetery in Sheridan, Indiana. To honor Larry's love for animals, memorial contributions may be presented to the Hamilton County Humane Society.

## Mayor Jensen And Wife Present Check To Italian Elementary School



Photo courtesy of Mayor Jensen

Mayor Chris Jensen, and his wife Noblesville Schools educator Julie Jensen, presented a check to Lucrezia Cornaro Piscopia elementary school in Cittadella, Italy this week on behalf of Hazel Dell Elementary's student government. Hazel Dell students, staff and families raised \$735 for the Italian school and the Jensens are visiting Cittadella as part of Noblesville's Sister Cities Exchange program. The Italian school plans to use the donation towards books for 11-year-olds. Pictured L-R; Mayor Chris Jensen, and his wife Noblesville Schools educator Julie Jensen, visited Lucrezia Cornaro Piscopia elementary school in Cittadella, Italy to present a \$735 donation from Hazel Dell Elementary students, staff and families.

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THE TIMES

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# Walters Says That Purdue Football Will Be Competitive This Season



**KENNY THOMPSON**  
Columnist

For years, Purdue Hall of Famer Gene Keady has told the story of how he knew Matt Painter would be a basketball coach someday.

“Ever since he was a player here, Matt has had one of the sharpest basketball minds I’ve ever been around,” Keady said in 2004, when it was announced that Painter would be his replacement on the Boilermaker bench.

“He eats it, sleeps it and wakes up in the middle of the night thinking about it.”

Similar compliments have been paid by former colleagues of first-year Purdue football head coach Ryan Walters.

“The coaches I had in college would always say you should think about getting into coaching when your playing days are done,” Walters said. “It was natural for me. For whatever reason, as a player the X’s and O’s made sense to me. I don’t know if it was because I had the quarterback background prior to playing defense.

“I’ve always sort of been the youngest guy on the staff and have had a quick rise in this profession because one, I enjoy it. I enjoy the relationships. I enjoy the creativity and I enjoy the challenge and the pressure and the nature of this job. I feel like I’m doing what I’m supposed to be doing.”

The 37-year-old first-year Purdue coach, the

fourth-youngest in major college football entering the 2023 season, worked for six schools in seven years once his playing days at Colorado concluded. Graduate assistant for his alma mater in 2009 and one year later at Arizona. Promoted to defensive backs coach for the Wildcats in 2011, Walters’ journey to Purdue also saw stops at Oklahoma, North Texas, Memphis and Missouri.

Success as defensive coordinator in the SEC with the Tigers brought Walters to Bret Bielema’s attention when he was forming a staff at Illinois in 2021.

“Ryan is a talented coach with a bright future,” Bielema said at the time of Walters’ hire at Purdue. “This is something I had seen coming for a while.”

At Missouri in 2019, Walters’ defense ranked 14th nationally and third in the SEC. The Tigers’ pass defense that season ranked eighth in passing yards allowed (179.3 per game) and 17th in scoring defense (19.4).

At Illinois, Walters groomed cornerback Devon Witherspoon into the school’s first Jim Thorpe Award (top defensive back in college football) finalist. The numbers put up by Walters’ defense in 2022, most notably first in the country in scoring defense (12.3) and second in yards allowed per game (263.8), haven’t been approached at Purdue since 1978.

“The Junk Defense” created by Leon Burtnett and featuring Keena Turner, Kevin Motts, Rock Supan and Wayne Smith, gave up 282 yards and 10.8 points

a game (including three shutouts) on its way to a 9-2-1 record. That Boilermaker team missed a share of the Big Ten championship by virtue of a 24-24 tie at Wisconsin.

Even the best defense of the Joe Tiller era, the 2003 squad under coordinator Brock Spack, gave up 302 yards per game while allowing an average of 17.4 points. That Boilermaker defense had 11 future NFL players on the roster.

With a nod to Purdue’s tradition of passing offenses, Walters also promises a similar defensive approach when asked what fans should expect to see from his first Boilermaker team.

“You’re going to see a team that is going to be playing fanatically, playing fast, a team that loves to play the game and plays it the right way,” Walters said. “We’re going to be competitive, we’re going to be tough, we’re going to be disciplined.

“Offensively, we’re going to score points. We’re going to throw the football around. (Offensive coordinator) Graham Harrell and his track record with developing quarterbacks and skill players speaks for itself. I’m going to piggyback what the new Colts coach said. We’re going to throw the ball to score points and we’re going to run the ball to win games. He put that in terms that definitely speaks to the way we think about offensive football here.

“Defensively, we’re going to confuse and harass the quarterback. We’re going to generate turnovers and limit explosive plays. We’re going to play smart

football. More games are lost than they are won and so we are going to play attention to the things that can potentially get you beat like penalties, mental errors and turnovers.”

On paper, Purdue’s defense returns five starters: safeties Cam Allen and Sanoussi Kane, cornerback Jamari Brown, linebacker O.C. Brothers and defensive end Kydran Jenkins from a defense that gave up 367 yards and 27.3 points a game.

Those statistics are skewed by giving up 63 points and 589 yards to LSU in a Citrus Bowl game played without NFL draft picks Jalen Graham and Cory Trice.

Filling those vacancies, as well as finding a replacement for quarterback Aidan O’Connell (now with the Las Vegas Raiders), was a priority for Walters upon taking the job. The latter problem seems to be filled by signing former Texas quarterback Hudson Card out of the transfer portal. Promising underclassmen such as outside linebacker Nic Scourton (formerly Caraway), inside linebacker Yanni Karlaftis and a handful of transfers may be the solution to the former.

One of the advantages of being a young, first-time head coach is being open to different ideas. One of them is the balance between family life and coaching. Walters leads by example in the time he spends with wife Tara and their sons Aaron and Cason.

“This job requires a lot of your time,” he said. “I think time is the most valu-



Photo courtesy of Purdue Athletics

able commodity on this planet. So I’ve got time to get away. I like to spend that time with my family on vacation. We usually go to Hawaii every year for an extended period of time. As a result, we’ve got two dogs whose names are Maui and Kona.”

Walters notes that changing technology makes coaching clichés like spending 12-18 hour days in the office no longer applicable.

“I think sometimes people get stuck in ‘this is how we’ve always done it so this is how we have to do it’ instead of changing with the technology and the times,” Walters said. “Obviously it takes what it takes to get the job done but there are different seasons within the calendar year for the football program. For me it’s important to give myself and my staff time to be fathers and be husbands, be available to your family.

“I think balance keeps you hungry, keeps you energized and can give you a better perspective on what is required and what is conducive to having a healthy environment in your program.”

Walters has yet to coach

his first game at Purdue and a few fans on social media are already worrying he will abandon the Boilermakers for a return to Colorado when Deion Sanders leaves for a bigger job or is dismissed. Never mind that Colorado doesn’t hold the same affection for Walters that Louisville does for former coach Jeff Brohm.

“I’m over the moon appreciative over the opportunity to lead this program,” Walters said. “I want my kids, who are 9 and 7, when they grow up I want them to say they’re from West Lafayette. I plan on being here a long time, as long as they’ll have me.

“There will be adversity at times. That is guaranteed in life, right? But I’ll promise you we’ll do everything we can to attack that and overcome that adversity with great attitude and with maximum effort to win championships here.”

*- Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the Lafayette Journal & Courier and an award-winning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many years.*

## New Book, “Indiana Cryptids,” Uncovers Creepy Creatures In The Hoosier State

In this new book, Indiana Cryptids: Mysterious Monsters in the Hoosier State, co-authors Les O’Dell and Mark A. Randall shine a light on twenty hidden creatures that are said to call Indiana home.

Over the decades, there have been stories of strange lake and river monsters. Large, hairy creatures have been spotted roaming around farms, corn fields and wooded forests. Eyewitnesses have even claimed to have encountered bizarre aerial entities, diminutive human-like figures and enormous horned serpents.

Boonville Monster, Bremen Bridge Troll, Cable Line Monster, Crawfordsville Monster, Crosley Creature, Ghoul Snake, Goat Man of Centenary, Green-Clawed Monster, Meshekenabek, Mill Race Monster, Mud Mermaids, Mysterious Cats, Oil Pit Squids, Puk-Wud-Jies, Roachdale Monster, Spectral Hounds, Thunderbirds, Werewolves and White River Monster.

Indiana Cryptids is 47 pages and is filled with rich, informative text and eye-catching illustrations. It is available on Amazon.

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### About the Authors

Mark A. Randall lives in Indiana. He is an artist who has

created illustrations for book covers and film productions. In addition to West Virginia Cryptids, Mark has published four books in 2023: Mothman High Strangeness, The Flatwoods Monster, Mothman Encounters and The Mysterious Men in Black.

Les O’Dell lives in West Virginia. He is a Bigfoot researcher and co-founder of West Virginia Cryptids and Strange Encounters. Les and Mark co-authored the book, West Virginia Cryptids: A Visual Travel Guide for Traversing the Mountain State, in 2021. Les published his second book, Old Man of the Mountain: The West Virginia Bigfoot, in 2023.

**NOBLESVILLE BABE RUTH BASEBALL**

## 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 Emmerson 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](http://www.noblesvillebaberuthbaseball.com)

**Registration Deadline: August 6th**

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## The Line, Like Comedy, Is Subjective



**DICK WOLFSIE**  
Funny Bone

Last week, I shared with you some of the most common inquiries I have received from readers over the past 25 years about the writing of humor. Here are a few more.

“Are there any taboo subjects in humor?”

A well-known comic named Tig Notaro found out the day before a performance that she had breast cancer. She then created a monologue for her next stand-up about receiving the bad news. Was that an appropriate topic for comedy? In my mind, yes! Keep in mind it was her own diagnosis she was joking about. That gave her some leeway. As Tig has reported, it was those people with cancer who enjoyed her riff the most.

Jon Stewart once noted that the key to writing about sensitive topics is to make fun of the smoke, not the fire. Example: Stewart himself did a whole show satirizing the way reporters covered Michael Jackson’s death. Not the fact the legend died, but how it was handled in the press. Mel Brooks skewered Hitler, not the Holocaust.

Comedy is about going right to the edge and sometimes over, which

means you risk alienating some. Sara Silverman is brilliant, but she crosses that line for many. She does make Holocaust jokes. I don’t find them funny, but if I don’t like what I am hearing I grab the remote. Or walk out of the club. Let humorists do their thing. Some old Seinfeld episodes seem extremely politically incorrect now. Would I ban them from TV? Of course not.

“I once heard you say that puns were the lowest form of humor. But you often use them?”

I once considered puns a low form of humor because unlike a classic joke, a pun requires very little intellectual input by the listener or reader. There is really nothing to “get”. And getting a joke is what makes you laugh. A pun takes very little getting.

But I was wrong. In order to understand a (good) pun, you must hold two very different ideas in your head at the same time. In poems, the words rhyme. With puns, the ideas rhyme. Some puns do require a little thought to see the connection of two separate ideas. The story goes that a rich passenger on a sinking ship asked the captain if he could choose himself to row the lifeboat or not. “Of course,” said the captain “Either oar.”

“Make me the subject of a joke,” said the king to the court jester.

Frightened of getting himself in serious trouble, the jokester responded: “I cannot do that, the king is not a subject.” Of course, some puns are groan-worthy. For example, I hate puns about sausages. They are the wurst. (See what I mean.)

By the way, Shakespeare loved puns. He averaged about 80 per play. I manage about two a column, but I’m no Shakespeare.

“How long does it take to write a column?”

Actual writing takes about two hours. But the premise of the column must already be in my head. I have probably spent several days with the idea rattling around in my brain. I never sit down to write without already knowing the basic topic and having some direction. Otherwise, I’d be sitting there all day.

I think it was Mark Twain who said, “Humor is easy. If something funny occurs to you, just write about it.” Then he said: “The writing is easy; the hard part is the occurring.”

Next week, I’ll write a real humor column. Hopefully, something will occur to me.

*-Dick Wolfsie spent his career sharing his humor, stories and video essays on television, radio and in newspapers. His columns appear weekly in The Paper of Montgomery County. E-mail Dick at Wolfsie@aol.com.*

## Higher Education Commission Welcomes State’s Authority For Career And Technical Education

Commission has oversight of both secondary and postsecondary career and technical education.

As part of House Enrolled Act 1002, Indiana’s authority for both secondary and postsecondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) has joined the Indiana Commission for Higher Education as of July 1, 2023. CTE connects industry, workforce development and education through the development and implementation of relevant career and technical education programs of study that prepare students for high-skill, in-demand careers in fields such as advanced manufacturing, information technology and agriculture.

The Commission now manages the administration of the federal Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century (Perkins V) Act. States have received funding through Perkins since 1984, and last year, Perkins V awarded more than \$30 million in funding to Indiana’s 53 secondary CTE Districts, Ivy Tech Community College and Vincennes University. Secondary CTE programs received over \$180 million in programmatic funding from the State of Indiana in 2022, a level of support that’s anticipated to exceed \$200 million this upcoming school year.

Prior to moving to the Commission, the Governor’s Workforce Cabinet oversaw CTE since 2019.

“Career and Technical Education is a crucial way for students to jumpstart earning a college degree while in high school, providing students with a chance to complete up to 30 credit hours – equivalent to a full year of college – before graduation,” said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery. “CTE is a vitally important part of our education, training and economic development system here in Indiana. It is a pleasure for the CTE team to join the Commission in implementing our broader goals centered around the college-going rate for both youth and adults, postsecondary degree completion and graduate retention.”

Indiana launched Next Level Programs of Study (NLPS) in the 2022-23 school year to improve the consistency, quality and intentionality of CTE instruction across Indiana. NLPS offers over 60 programs of study organized into 16 career clusters. Programs are directly aligned to postsecondary programs to give students the opportunity to complete postsecondary credit in high school and earn credentials of value.

During the 2022-23 school year, 228,254 high school students enrolled in

at least one funded CTE course, representing nearly 60 percent of all high school students in Indiana. Also, over 34,000 high school seniors from the graduating class of 2022 earned CTE concentrator status. Students graduating with CTE concentrator status must use NLPS courses beginning in the 2024-25 school year.

A CTE concentrator is one way for students to meet the postsecondary readiness requirement of Indiana’s Graduation Pathways.

“While student outcomes and their experience in CTE are always our priority, we know that CTE also has many positive ripple effects for our state,” said State Director of Career and Technical Education Anthony Harl. “Companies looking to grow or make new investments in Indiana are increasingly interested in our state’s talent pipeline, particularly in emerging sectors like semiconductor and pharmaceutical manufacturing. Joining the Commission furthers the essential work of CTE in meeting the current and future needs of employers and achieving economic growth for communities across our state.”

Directors for each of the 53 secondary CTE districts can be found here. General inquiries regarding CTE can be shared with [CTE@che.IN.gov](mailto:CTE@che.IN.gov).

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**BETSY** From Page A1

2. Stone Soup Children's Musical Theater presents "Guys & Dolls," at 7 p.m. today and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday at Noblesville High School Auditorium, directed by Joey Murello with assistant director Daniel Huber, featuring many local children, ages K-Grade 8, singing and dancing in this popular musical, with tickets at \$15.

3. Grab your lawn chairs and blankets and pack a picnic for Conner Prairie's Symphony on the Prairie, which continues every weekend through the summer. This weekend features Broadway Under the Stars today and Saturday; Face 2 Face: A Tribute to Billy Joel & Elton John on July 28-29; Greatest Love of All: A Tribute to Whitney Houston, Aug. 4; Tusk: The Ultimate Fleetwood Mac Tribute Band, Aug. 5; with tickets available at indianapolisymphony.org. Earlier in the day, head to the 1836 Prairietown as the outdoor areas are open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, during the 2023 season at Conner Prairie in Fishers.

4. Noblesville Farmers Market is open 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays at Federal Hill Commons in Noblesville. Fishers Farmers Market is open 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays through the summer at Nickel Plate District Amphitheater in Fishers.

5. Come join or watch the Homemade Pie Contest sponsored by Hamilton County Extension Homemakers, in celebration of the Bicentennial, on Saturday at the 2023 Hamilton County 4-H Fair. Pie entries will be accepted 1-2 p.m., with judging at 2 p.m. Bring a family pie, an essay of 50-100 words telling your family story about the pie, and the pie recipe handed down from generations. Pies will be judged on appearance, taste and the heartwarming family story. Pies needing refrigeration (such as pumpkin, custard and sugar cream) will not be accepted.

6. The Noblesville Street Dance Bicentennial Celebration is 1 p.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday in downtown Noblesville, featuring an ice cream social with re-enactors, Susan B. Anthony at 1 p.m., Frederick Douglas at 1:30 p.m., Theodore Roosevelt at 2 p.m., Harry Truman at 2:30 p.m., organized by the Hamilton County Historical Society on the Street Dance Stage with ice cream and cake near the Historical Society museum in the Old Jail & Sheriff's Residence on the Square with Q&A and games with the celebrities 2:30-4 p.m. See Noblesville's Got Talent's young yodeler Azalia Davidson, runner-up, at 3:15 p.m., and vocalist/guitarist Spenser (Johns), winner, at 3:30 p.m. on the mobile stage. Next up are Moontown Pickle Stompers at 4:15 p.m., Kelli Ray Yates at 5:30 p.m., Ice Cream Eating Contest at 6:30 p.m., Tim Wright & The Steel Pedals at 7 p.m., Dance Contest at 8:30 p.m., and The Bishops (featuring Noblesville High School grad Bryan Bishop) at 9 p.m. DeeJay Luke Gardner plays all day long. Also, hands-on mural painting.

7. Travel to the countryside to hear live music with The Juan Douglas Trio tonight, The Midwest Originals on Saturday and Bomar and Ritter on July 29 at Spencer Farm Winery in Noblesville. Visit spencerfarmwinery.com

8. Central Indiana Vintage Vehicles car club invites car buffs to show off their vintage vehicles on the Courthouse Square during the weekly Saturday night Cruise-in.

Lawn chairs and old-car conversations invited.

9. Forest Park Aquatic Center in Noblesville is open for the season, noon to 8 p.m. Saturdays, noon to 6 p.m. Sundays and noon to 7 p.m. weekdays, admission \$8 per person, concessions available. Morse Beach also open for the summer through Sept. 4. Pool membership includes movie nights (below), Tiny Tots Swim and Morse Beach admission.

10. Check out the comedians at The Brick Room Comedy Club, featuring Improv Night with Old Saints featuring Rick Dean, Eric Sablan, Thacker, Holly Brooke, Ollenquest Jr., Davison, Bobby Tee, and Mookie Harris at Ninth and Maple in downtown Noblesville, with \$10 admission tickets at thebrickroom.cc.

11. Enjoy live music featuring Celtic Rain on Saturday at Primeval Brewing in downtown Noblesville.

12. Noblesville Bicentennial focuses on celebrating 200 years of history in Noblesville, with photography, drawings, paintings, newspaper articles and historical information, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays, now through July 28 at Noblesville City Hall, also sponsored by Nickel Plate Arts.

13. Check out the History Faire, part of the Bicentennial Celebration, 1-4 p.m. Saturday at Gal's Guide Library at Nickel Plate Arts Campus in downtown Noblesville.

14. Come out for live music during Fishers Parks Department's Free Tuesdays at 8 p.m. in July at Nickel Plate District Amphitheater, featuring the final show, Hank Ruff, July 25. Lawn chairs and blankets welcome. Visit <http://www.npdamp.com/>

15. Cool Creek Park and Nature Center free Wednesday Campfires at 7 p.m. on the northside of Cool Creek Park in Westfield, with the final campfire Really Dangerous Animals on July 26. Lawn chairs and blankets, extra marshmallows and bug spray encouraged.

16. Get your tickets for Hamilton County Theatre Guild's Belfry Theatre Apprentice Players summer youth production of "Willy Wonka Jr.," directed by Nancy Lafferty and featuring 60 cast members ages 5-18, at 7:30 p.m. July 27, 28 and 29, and 2 p.m. July 29 and 30 at The Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville. Visit [www.thebelfrytheatre.com](http://www.thebelfrytheatre.com).

17. Shop at Sheridan Farmers & Artisan Market from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, July 29, Aug. 12 and 26, at Biddle Park in Sheridan.

18. Noblesville Schools' Back to School Bash is 5-8 p.m. July 28 at Beaver Stadium.

19. Main Street Productions presents "The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood," a Rising Star young performers production, July 27-Aug. 6 at Basile Westfield Playhouse. Directed by Nikki Lynch and Becca Bartley, performances will be at 7:30 p.m.m. Thursday, Friday, Saturdays, 2:30 p.m. Sundays. Visit [www.westfieldplayhouse.org](http://www.westfieldplayhouse.org).

20. Noblesville Preservation Alliance will host the Gibson Guitar and Mandolin Co.'s traveling lecture and exhibition of antique and vintage instruments on July 29.

*-Betsy Reason writes about people, places and things in Hamilton County. Contact The Times editor Betsy Reason at [betsy@thetimes24-7.com](mailto:betsy@thetimes24-7.com). For more Hamilton County Bicentennial events, visit [www.hamcoturns200.com](http://www.hamcoturns200.com)*



Photos provided by Stone Soup Children's Theatre

**Youth grades K-8 are featured in Stone Soup Children's Musical Theater's "Guys & Dolls" at 7 p.m. today and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday at Noblesville High School Auditorium, directed by Joey Murello with tickets at \$15.**



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Joining Miss Hamilton County 4-H Fair 2023 Queen Avery Williams (center front) of Whitestown, in the Queen's Court, are Miss Congeniality, Mac Smith of Sheridan (standing front left); fourth runner-up, Sophia Hulén of Cicero; third runner-up, Meghan Haws of Noblesville; second runner-up, Sophia Beeson of Fishers; and first runner-up, Mary Rose Wahnsiedler of Indianapolis. The queen, crowned last Friday, will reign over the 4-H Fair, which runs now through Monday, plus the livestock auction Tuesday, at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville.**

**LOCAL** From Page A1

to Capitol Hill to meet with real-life U.S. senators from their state, and a tour of D.C. monuments.

Dondeti, a rising senior at Carmel High School, was active in many ways during her week at ALA Hoosier Girls State. She also participates in many activities in her school and community. Some of her activities include president of Carmel Mayor's Youth Council, Hamilton County Bicentennial Ambassador, Speech and Debate, executive member for Joseph Maley Foundation Junior Board, Youth Board Member for Hamilton County Youth and Family Alliance, Carmel Clay Public Library's Teen Library Council, Public Affairs Officer for Indiana Council on World Affairs Junior Chapter, freshman mentor at Carmel High School, United States Senate Youth Program Finalist, volunteer at 1947 Partition Archive, Indiana Senate Page, Indiana Legislative Page, and student athlete.

"ALA Girls Nation is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our nation's future leaders to learn about the inner workings of the federal government before they are of voting age," said Donna Dillard, ALA Girls Nation Committee chair. "After attending their local ALA Girls State program and

then ALA Girls Nation, the participants return home ready to be engaged citizens at all levels of government."

Students leave the program with increased confidence and leadership skills for college and in their future career paths. Some participants of the program go on to have careers in public service at the local, state, and national levels. No matter what their future holds, all leave with a better understanding of civic responsibilities.

The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) is a community of volunteers serving veterans, military, and their families. Our members also support the mission of The American Legion in improving the quality of life for our nation's veterans. Proud sponsor of ALA Girls Nation, National Poppy Day® and recognized for advocating for veterans on Capitol Hill, the more than 550,000 ALA members across the country volunteer millions of hours annually and raise millions of dollars in service to veterans, military, and their families. Founded in 1919, the ALA is one of the oldest patriotic membership organizations in the U.S.A. To learn more and to volunteer, join, and donate, visit [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org).

**FAMILY** From Page A1



Photo courtesy of Jared Keever

**Evelyn poses with her bike at Mile Marker 0.**



Photo courtesy of Jared Keever

**The family poses for a photo at the Eastern Continental Divide on their way to Washington DC.**



Photo courtesy of Jared Keever

**Evelyn rides through Hancock, Maryland.**



Photo courtesy of Jared Keever

**Evelyn tracks her progress during a stop in Rockwood, Pennsylvania.**

did that 2021 ride in a "Weehoo" trailer pulled behind her dad's bike. After completing that trip, she and her dad agreed that the entire family should do the trip as soon as her younger brother Leighton was old enough to do the long ride in the Weehoo.

They set to work planning and earlier this year set a July date for the trip, which would again be ridden with Jared's cousin's family.

Originally the plan had been that Leighton, 4, would ride the Weehoo, with pulling duties shared

between Jared and his wife Kim, and Evelyn would ride her bike with some sort of supplemental system that would allow her bike to be pulled on longer days or difficult portions. But as the family trained through numerous practice rides on the Monon Trail, Evelyn and her parents grew confident that she could do the ride on her own, provided they could carry enough snacks.

Snacks depleted, Evelyn completed this year's ride without a pull or a push while carrying clothes and other supplies for her and her brother.

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# FRIDAY

## Business

*Notes and*

# NEWS

Friday, July 21, 2023

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Photo courtesy of Getty Images

## 5 Tips to Improve Small Business Productivity

**FAMILY FEATURES**

**B**usinesses that run efficiently often find continued, long-term success. However, running a small business comes with a multitude of challenges that can hinder productivity.

Between hiring employees, managing payroll, handling customer relations, delivering products, meeting with staff and other tasks, it's important to take steps to help your business work smarter, not harder, while maintaining productivity. More efficient workdays mean more projects or tasks can be completed, giving you an advantage in a competitive marketplace.

To help improve productivity and create a more efficient work environment, consider these tips from the experts at Pitney Bowes, a global shipping and mailing company that has worked for more than 100 years to provide technology, logistics, financial services and solutions that help enterprises thrive and small business owners operate right from their homes including the PitneyShip Cube, which simplifies shipping packages and e-commerce orders while saving time and space.

**Set Goals**

Setting goals for your operation is vital to building a productive business and ensuring your employees understand your vision and how they can actively contribute to the company's success. Whether you're a startup or an established business with multiple employees, set realistic, well-defined goals that are in line with your business strategy, like investing in office tools and solutions that can help you discover efficiencies. Periodically revisit those goals to ensure you're on track to meet them and make any adjustments as necessary. For example, working from home can provide an opportunity to save on rent and enable you to allocate those savings toward upgraded office equipment.

**Delegate Less Critical Responsibilities**

Remember, you can't do it all by yourself. In the same way it's important to prioritize your list of tasks, delegation is key to improving productivity. Passing on some of the work, such as designing email templates, writing blog posts, creating white papers and more, to your employees allows you to maximize your limited

time. Think through additional ways for others to lessen the load, like using a cloud-based shipping solution to streamline the process and ensure alignment in task sharing. Even if you're a solo entrepreneur, look at what tasks you may be able to outsource to a third-party vendor to free up some of your time.

**Simplify Shipping**

If your business sells a product, shipping may be a time-consuming, expensive part of your operation. Leave the post office behind and save valuable time with an option like the PitneyShip Cube, an all-in-one, Wi-Fi-enabled thermal shipping label printer with a built-in scale. It includes companion software and can integrate with your current online store to automatically import order details then easily print the shipping labels and postage. You can weigh packages, compare discounted shipping rates and automatically share tracking notifications via email.

"One of the biggest barriers for small businesses are shipping costs," said Shemin Nurmohamed, president, sending technology solutions, Pitney Bowes. "Our goal is to allow clients to take advantage of what larger shippers get in terms of discounts while saving them the critical time they need to work on their core businesses. With the PitneyShip Cube, the first shipping label printer of its kind with a built-in scale and companion software, users are able to ship faster and smarter. This product is ideal for both e-commerce and office shippers looking to save time and space by streamlining their processes and eliminating unnecessary equipment. Plus, it can save users money as it provides a discount of 3 cents on First Class stamps, up to 89% on USPS Priority Mail and up to 82% off UPS standard rates."

By completing all the necessary tasks beforehand, you'll skip the post office line and allow yourself to focus on more profitable endeavors. You can also track parcels throughout their shipping journey with data that can be shared with customers for a smooth shipping experience.

**Streamline Software**

A quick and easy way to increase productivity and efficiency is taking advantage of technology like software as a service platforms. Particularly true in this age of hybrid and remote workers, cloud-based communications software can keep



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your team members on the same page, regardless of their location, to help your company keep up with important information such as ever-changing carrier rates to quickly identify the best shipping and fulfillment options. With available platforms that combine team messaging, video conferencing, task management, file sharing and storage, it can be simple to stay connected with your employees. Additional cloud-based software for everything from payroll to word processing and graphic design is also readily available to help further streamline your business's technology. Knowledge is power and combining all this information in one place can give you greater control over your organization as a whole.

**Learn from Your Customers**

When looking for ways to improve, start by asking your customers for honest feedback. Creating customer satisfaction surveys provides you with a fresh perspective while giving customers a voice so they can feel valued. Plus, it can help you build a rapport with customers as they know their voices are heard while you discover what's working, what isn't and ways you can improve the business.

Find more solutions for improving your productivity and efficiency in the workplace at [pitneybowes.com](http://pitneybowes.com).

# Voice of our PEOPLE

The Times of Noblesville

Friday, July 21, 2023

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## Leo Morris: Rest In Peace



Leo Morris

Leo Morris, columnist for The Indiana Policy Review these last six years, died last week the owner of a distinguished 50-year career in journalism, most of it with the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel. His honors included the Hoosier Press Association's award for Best Editorial Writer and being named a finalist in editorial writing by the Pulitzer Prize committee.

There was talk of giving him a Sagamore but the talk came back that he might refuse it. He was cantankerous that way knowing too well the character of some who had won it.

Surprisingly for an introverted writer with a down-home look, Leo was regularly asked to be a television guest and had developed an admirable speaking style thanks to the Toastmasters (an editor forced him to join as a condition of employment). He was said to be a good dancer.

He leaves a huge hole in what he termed his "so-called" profession. It can be said that Morris was

the last real journalist left in Indiana. He grew up in newsrooms where facts were hung on a frame of "who, what, when, where, why and how" and left there to dry without embellishment. He was a master copy editor who came of age on desks where breath-pause commas were exorcised in bloodily fought rewrites.

He was a journalist's journalist, a wordsmith.

Born to a coal-mining family in eastern Kentucky, Leo, whose opinion was sought by governors, had a right to tell a rags-to-riches story. But he was careful to give the credit to his hard-working parents who when the mines closed eschewed welfare and packed up their children for an unfamiliar life, in an unfamiliar city, in an unfamiliar state.

Beginning his education waiting for the library buses that visited the small towns of rural Kentucky, his range of knowledge and breadth of reading were unmatched.

Those who treasured Leo knew him to be jarringly honest. That

may be a great journalistic attribute but one can imagine that it shortens one's list of friends. That honesty would hit like an anchor thrown overboard. The conversation would stop, we would be forced to back up and think about what we had just said.

A friend tells an anecdote that well describes this experience. A professor returned his student's paper with the admonition, "Perhaps you need to read your words aloud, slowly and calmly, and then tell me what you think of them."

Leo's death leaves us adrift. We have nobody to read our words back to us. The staff and readership of The Indiana Policy Review already miss him greatly as does his weekly bridge club, two institutions where the conversation is in need of his constant monitoring.

This last year, Leo helped found a small group of friends dedicated to trying to find the truth about various and troubling things. Leo was its leader, fashioning the rules of discussion on the Socratic Method, that is, the presumption that wisdom begins with the realization that you know nothing at all.

Leo thought of himself that way. His writing, though, gave him away. You can honor his memory by visiting our website at [www.inpolicy.org](http://www.inpolicy.org) and searching for the keyword "Morris."

There is a wealth of wisdom there from a man you can think of as your dear, dear friend. — tcl

P.S. Please know that Leo took the above picture himself and much preferred it over more formal portraits in our files.

## Major League Baseball, If You Can Afford It



MARK FRANKE  
Guest Columnist

Now that the patriotic observances are past, it's time to turn to another pillar of Americanism—baseball.

Despite the combined efforts of the Commissioner and the players union to price Major League Baseball (MLB) games beyond the financial wherewithal of middle-class Americans, there are those idealists like me who just won't give up on our national game.

I grew up with baseball, its being the only sport in those halcyon days that had organized competition in the summer. That was important only because my love of baseball had been nurtured every weekend by the Saturday Game of the Week with Buddy Blattner, Pee Wee Reese and Dizzy Dean.

Even more important was my weekly trip, 25 cents allowance in hand, to the neighborhood convenience store to buy several pieces of the worst bubblegum ever but each coming with a handful of player cards. Collecting baseball cards was a young boy's *raison d'être*.

My son has taken over the baseball collecting franchise in our family, having started as a teenager. My collecting has been limited to cards of the Fort Wayne TinCaps, a High A level team that sees me in the stands for nearly every home game. Fortunately I can buy that season's complete set in the team store at the stadium, sans bubblegum.

I am not quite ready to give up on the major leagues but they are cer-

tainly trying my patience. Even though I pay an annual fee in excess of \$100 to watch every MLB game, I find it frustrating with all the special deals they are making with streaming services for exclusive broadcast rights that include blacking those games out.

I don't begrudge someone's maximizing income if the market bears, but part of that market is my pocketbook which is under increasing strain.

A friend, who sits across the aisle from me at the TinCaps, is a diehard Cincinnati Reds fan. Some games are not televised locally due to these special deals. Fort Wayne is considered a "local" market for the Reds (and Tigers and White Sox and Cubs) so we are blacked out on MLB and now occasionally on the local cable channel as well.

And so I get most of my baseball fix in downtown Fort Wayne watching young players pursuing their dreams. It is pleasing to watch these players develop over the season. The bittersweet part of watching a talented young player perform well is that eventually he will be promoted to AA. But that is the point of the minor leagues.

What is especially irritating about my hometown team is its affiliation with the San Diego Padres, a team I have absolutely no interest in following. Maybe that is OK for me as the Padres use talented minor leaguers primarily as trade fodder as they pursue an illusive World Series championship by dumping hundreds of millions on superstars. How is that working out for them? Check the standings.

We, the season ticket holders, try to follow TinCaps alumni even though very few play for the Padres. One local favorite, nicknamed "Goldilocks" by a beer vendor for his long hair, is a starting outfielder for the Pittsburgh Pirates. The

publicity department of the TinCaps used to show a pre-game video about former TinCaps now playing in the major leagues called "From the 260 (the telephone area code) to the Show." They don't do that anymore, perhaps because there are so few Padres to highlight?

I will confess to a strong bias on this. First, I am an American League fan. Second, I don't acknowledge the legitimacy of any team that did not exist in 1951 or that has changed cities since 1959. Don't ask me why those dates but note that they bookend the greatest decade in my lifetime.

To affirm me in my prejudice, I just read six books about baseball in the 1950's. Roger Kahn's "The Boys of Summer" was not one of them but it probably deserves a reread. Baseball then was almost exclusively a New York City affair, with nine of ten World Series boasting one or both teams from there. I became a Yankees fan back then due to the TV and newspaper coverage they received and remain stubbornly loyal to this day.

Regardless of what MLB is doing to baseball to make it unaffordable, I can still go to my hometown minor league ballpark 60 plus times every summer. I arrive at least 30 minutes before game time and walk the concourse. I know most of the ushers and other game day staff, and it is interesting to hear what gossip is going around.

And that is what it is—gossip—the ushers having no better insight than I. I guess none of us has a seat in the boardroom . . . probably because the only boardroom that matters these days is at MLB HQ in Manhattan.

*Mark Franke, M.B.A., an adjunct scholar of the Indiana Policy Review and its book reviewer, is formerly an associate vice-chancellor at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.*

## Don't Be Surprised By Alligators, Sharks And Hot Weather



GLENN MOLLETTE  
Guest Columnist

We recently heard the tragic news of a senior lady who was killed by an alligator in South Carolina. There have been a couple of golf courses I would have enjoyed playing in southern South Carolina, but alligator warning signs were posted everywhere.

I can't figure out the fun of playing golf in an area where I have to worry about alligators. This goes for walking the dog or doing anything. Alligators are dangerous and will kill you. Being attacked by an alligator in areas where they live should not be surprising. If you get close to one you are risking losing a leg or your life. Be warned, alligators are dangerous and if you are in an area where they fill up the lakes and ponds then be very, very cautious.

Once again, we are hearing that sharks live in

the ocean. There has been a lot of buzz this summer about shark sightings. They've been seen off the New Jersey shore and a large number of sharks were near the pier at Pensacola Beach, Florida last week. I've been on that beach numerous times in three or four feet of water. I know what you are thinking, "Sharks can be in shallow water too." I understand and I don't get in the gulf water that much. However, it only takes one bite to hurt or kill you.

We have to keep in mind that sharks live in the ocean. They are not far away from you regardless of which beach you are enjoying. Yet, we all are alarmed by the news whenever sharks are sighted, in the ocean.

Tragically, people have died this summer from triple digit heat. We keep hearing news about it being hot. It's July. July never misses a chance to be hot, really hot. We had triple digit heat every summer when I was a kid. We really noticed it too because we didn't have air conditioning. We still have hot weather in the mid-west but we have air conditioning. So, it's not that big of a deal.

We are all sorry to hear about people who have

lost their lives due to the heat. All we had was a fan when I was a kid. In the summer I would typically go to bed very warm and sometimes even sweating. It wasn't much fun but we didn't have a choice back then. We had some shade trees and a creek that us kids would get in to play. That's all we had. We had plenty of triple digit days too.

Please don't leave your kids or animals in the car. Elderly people need to be out before the hottest part of the day. This means early in the morning.

High school football coaches should not be practicing in triple digit weather. Every summer a high school kid dies practicing in this hot weather.

Alligators, sharks and hot weather should not be surprising. Being careful about each of the three would be wise for us all.

*Dr. Glenn Mollette is a graduate of numerous schools including Georgetown College, Southern and Lexington Seminaries in Kentucky. He is the author of 13 books including UncommSense, the Spiritual Chocolate series, Grandpa's Store, Minister's Guidebook insights from a fellow minister. His column is published weekly in over 600 publications in all 50 states.*

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