

**➔ TODAY'S VERSE**  
Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.



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

What makes Kinsley Sherck smile? "Winning this (trophy)," said the 11-year-old Cicero resident, who was found holding onto her shiny Hamilton County Farm Bureau Young Agrileaders 2023 Pedal Pull trophy after competing and winning in the Youth Pedal Tractor Pull, ages 10-11 category, at the Hamilton County 4-H Fair in July. She had a big smile on her face and was laughing as she came out of the tent holding her trophy. "It was difficult because it (the weight) was really heavy (to pull), but I didn't really know I would win." She competed twice. She is the daughter of Matt and Lindsey Sherck and has a brother, Kyler Sherck, 7, who was holding onto his blue ribbon after competing in the ages 10-11 category of the Youth Pedal Tractor Pull. The family attended the 4-H Fair to watch Kinsley, a third-year 4-H'er, show goats. She is a sixth-grader at Hamilton Heights Schools in Arcadia. Favorite activity at the Fair? "Showing goats." Favorite fair food? "The elephant ears." The 2023 Hamilton County 4-H Fair is over but watch for more Fair photos and Fair results in upcoming editions of The Times.

**And Another Thing...**

**1. Noblesville Bicentennial Events Look at Wayne Township Farming**

Hamilton County's Bicentennial programs during August will draw on the farming and transportation history of Wayne Township.

-The Taste of History: Finding your Farming Ancestors" will be presented 11 a.m. to noon Saturday at Hamilton East Public Library in Noblesville. Join the library staff to learn more about the sources available to research your farming ancestors by looking at a local farm family and sampling a small harvest from a local farm.

-Join lifelong farmers Donald and David Zeller at 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday at Clarksville Christian Church as they explain how farming in Wayne Township has changed over the decades. This will include a show-and-tell of artifacts. Also, in the church, see history displays about Clarksville and surrounding areas. Outside the church, experience the Hamilton Southeastern FFA's "Touch-A-Truck" event with old tractors, alongside new Reynolds Farm equipment and old Ford trucks and Model T automobiles, alongside new trucks off the Don Hinds Ford dealership lot. Free refreshments will be provided at the church, with Wayne-Fall Lions Club providing food for sale.

-A traveling Bicentennial Exhibit will be at Clarksville Christian Church, 16600 Lehr St., Noblesville, on Aug. 12-18 and at Hamilton East Public Library Aug. 26-Sept. 1. Learn about five of the Bicentennial themes. For more Hamilton County Bicentennial events, visit [www.hamcoturns200.com](http://www.hamcoturns200.com)

**2. ROAD CLOSURE - 246th Street between SR-213 and Brehm Road (Bridge No. 89)**

Please be advised, effective immediately, 246th Street between SR-213 and Brehm Road will be closed to all thru traffic for bridge repair. An estimated project completion date is not yet known. This immediate closure is due to structural damages. Another release will be forthcoming once a road opening date is known.

**3. LANE CLOSURE - 146th Street**

Please be advised, beginning on or after Thursday, August 10, between the hours of 9am and 3pm, 146th Street from Allisonville Road to a point approximately 1,800' west of Allisonville Road (west of Renner's Body Works) will be under a lane restriction. The westbound right lane will be restricted for sheet pile operations.

# The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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Photo provided by the Indiana State Fair

**Azalia Davidson, 12, Noblesville, taught herself to yodel when she was 6 and has since yodeled her way to the Hamilton County 4-H Fair Youth Talent Contest and on to the Indiana State Fair Youth Talent Contest, where she'll compete this Sunday.**

## 12-Year-Old Yodeler To Sing at State Fair



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

Allow me to introduce Azalia Davidson. She's 12 years old and is in the seventh grade. She taught herself to yodel when she was 6 years old by watching

YouTube videos.

Azalia has performed in several talent shows, including the Hamilton County 4-H Fair's Youth Talent Contest for which she won Grand Champion the past two years and Reserve Grand Champion this year, in the Junior Division.

As first-place Youth Talent Contest winner of the Vocal Solo in the Junior Division, she also went on to win first place the past two years at the Indiana State Fair, and she was also invited to sing her yodeling song at the State Fair Opry House stage at the 2022 State Fair.

Azalea will return to the State Fair this Sunday for two appearances.

She'll compete at noon, singing "Yodeling at the Grand Ole Opry" in the State Fair Youth Talent Contest, Junior Vocal Solo division, in the Purdue Extension Building (formerly the Farm Bureau Building.)

The daughter of John and Sally Davidson of Noblesville, Azalia will also sing the National Anthem at 4 p.m. Sunday for the Supreme Livestock Drive in the Indiana Farmers Coliseum.

The latter invitation to sing was a pleasant surprise. Azalea was asked to sing at Purdue University for the 4-H Round-up on June 27. "We had no idea this would go further, but she received a phone call from the 4-H office at Purdue a few weeks later asking if she would be willing to sing the National Anthem (at the Livestock Drive)," her mom said.

Besides loving to sing, she is a Hamilton County 4-H'er and won Grand Champion for Pigmy and Meat Goat Showmanship at this year's county 4-H Fair. She and her family live on a farm and have 25 goats, one sheep, one alpaca, one pony,

## Westfield Washington Schools Selects Construction Managers For District Expansion Plan

Garmong, Hagerman and CORE To Construct Separate Parts of Destination Westfield.

Westfield Washington Schools has selected the construction managers with whom they will partner on the next phase of Destination Westfield, the school district's plan to keep up with the growth that comes along with being the top destination district in the state. Garmong will take on the elementary school portion of the plan, including the building of a brand new elementary school and upgrading Shamrock Springs Elementary School. Hagerman has been selected to manage the district's new middle school project. CORE Construction will handle the expansion of the Virginia F. Wood Early Learning Center as well as the construction of a new tennis complex.

Serving the fastest-growing city in the Midwest, Westfield Washington Schools has increased its enrollment every year for at least 23 consecutive years and is on pace to reach an enrollment of 10,000 students by 2026. As the district's enrollment continues to grow, Superintendent Dr. Paul Kaiser wants to ensure that the district provides high quality learning and extracurricular opportunities for students of all ages.

"Our goal as a school district is to make sure that every Rock is life-ready," said Kaiser. "For us, that starts before kindergarten, and we take a three-pronged approach, focusing on academics, career readiness and wellness. That is why, as Westfield continues to be the fastest-growing city in the Midwest, we want to ensure students continue to have impactful extracurricular experiences in addition to the nationally recognized academic experience. We are confident that our partners, Hagerman, CORE and Garmong understand our community and can bring our vision to life."

Lance Gassert, chief operating officer at Garmong, said he and his team are looking forward to working with the district.

"Garmong is honored to be selected as the construction manager for the elementary school projects," Gassert said. "We are excited to work with Westfield Washington Schools administration, staff, students, and community to further their mission of ensuring high levels of learning and growth for each student."

Brice Johnson, client services

## The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset  
RISE: 6:53 a.m.  
SET: 8:52 p.m.

High/Low Temperatures  
High: 83 °F  
Low: 67 °F

Today is...

- National Lazy Day
- National S'mores Day
- Smithsonian Day

**What Happened On This Day**

- 2003 The First Person to Get Married While in Space. Russian cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko was on the International Space Station when he married Ekaterina Dmitrieva, who was located in Texas at the time of the wedding.
- 1990 Magellan Space Probe is Inserted in Orbit Around Venus. The first spacecraft to be launched by a space shuttle, Magellan was a robotic space probe that spent 8 months gathering data about the surface of the planet also known as Earth's twin.
- 1675 The foundation stone for the Royal Observatory, Greenwich is laid. Commissioned by King Charles II of England, the Royal Observatory started operating in 1676 under the supervision of John Flamsteed, the first British Astronomer Royal.

**Births On This Day**

- 1960 Antonio Banderas Spanish actor
- 1874 Herbert Hoover American politician, 31st President of the United States

**Deaths On This Day**

- 2008 Isaac Hayes American singer-songwriter, pianist, producer, actor
- 1945 Robert H. Goddard American physicist, inventor

## Sheridan Historical Society Program Monday Evening

The Sheridan Historical Society will be offering a special program for community members on Monday evening, August 14 at 7 pm about the pending upgrade, remodel, and expansion to take place at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville. It was announced last spring that the county is going to commit several million dollars to the project. This author was fortunate enough to attend the county fair this year and had the good luck to run across the Purdue Extension display of what all is to take place, and when asked, the Purdue folks would be more than happy to take their displays and talking points on the road for a show and tell because not

➔ See BETSY Page A5

➔ See PLAN Page A5

➔ See PROGRAM Page A5

**➔ INSIDE TODAY**

- Service Directory.....A3
- EarthTalk.....A3
- Tim Timmons .....A4
- Indiana Facts & Fun.....A7
- Indiana News.....A8

**➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

Most back strains improve on their own in a week or two. 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](http://thetimes24-7.com)



**➔ HONEST HOOSIER**

Let's bow our heads today in remembrance of Hoosier Maurine Dallas Watkins. This female pioneer showed everyone how it was done. The journalist and playwright (she wrote Chicago way before Richard Gere) passed away on this date in 1969.



**➔ TODAY'S QUOTE**

"It sounds so simple, but if you just be yourself, you're different than anyone else."  
-Tony Bennett

**➔ TODAY'S JOKE**

On the first day of school, what did the teacher list as her two favorite words?  
June and July!

**➔ OBITUARIES**  
None



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



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| WED                            | THU                                  | FRI                            | SAT                                  | SUN                     | MON                             | TUE             |



## ➔ OBITUARIES

### Montie H. Merrill

May 2, 1933, Tuesday, August 23, 2022

Montie H. Merrill, age 89, passed away at his home in Warsaw, Missouri on Tuesday, August 23, 2022.

He was born on May 2, 1933, in Kirklintown, Indiana, the son of Charles Merrill and Louise (Kemmer) Merrill. Montie graduated from Sheridan High School, in Sheridan, Indiana in 1951. After graduation he worked at Delco Remy in Anderson, Indiana. He later joined the United States Army and was stationed at the Chanon Engineering Depot in Chanon, France.

In December of 1954, he was united in marriage to Dorothy Marie Wiles of Sheridan, Indiana, and together they were blessed with four sons. In 1976 the family moved to Missouri. Montie was a fencing contractor prior to working along his two sons, driving milk trucks. He was first a member of First Christian Church in Sheridan, Indiana, then later the Warsaw Christian Church.

Montie is survived by his wife, Dorothy Marie (Wiles) Merrill; their four sons, Michael Eugene Merrill and wife Mary, David Warren Merrill, Gary Joe Merrill and wife Cheryl, and Scott Douglas Merrill and wife Teresa; sister, Charlene, of San Bernardino, California; eight grandchildren; and eleven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Louise (Kemmer) Merrill; brother, Roland; nephew, Ron; and niece, Diana. The family extends a special thanks to Karen Wallace for taking care of Montie in his final days.

Graveside services with Military Honors will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, August 12, 2023, at Crown View Cemetery in Sheridan, Indiana. Reverend Mike Srbljan will be officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be presented to the Warsaw Christian Church, 320 State Street, Warsaw, MO 65355, or to the Sheridan First Christian Church, P.O. Box 111, Sheridan, Indiana 46069.

### Dorothy Marie Merrill

March 3, 1935, Sunday, July 16, 2023

Dorothy Marie Merrill, age 88, of Warsaw, Missouri, formerly of Sheridan, Indiana, passed away on Sunday, July 16, 2023 at home, surrounded by her family.

She was born on March 3, 1935, in Sheridan, Indiana, to Roy and Julia (Walls) Wiles. She graduated from Sheridan High School in 1953. Dorothy married Montie H. Merrill in December 1954.

She was a homemaker who enjoyed church activities and crocheting. Dorothy was a member of the Warsaw Christian Church, where she was the organist for many years, and formally a member of the First Christian Church in Sheridan.

Dorothy is survived by her four sons, Mike Merrill and wife, Mary of Cole Camp, Missouri, David Merrill of Warsaw, Missouri, Gary Merrill and wife, Cheryl of Sheridan, Indiana, and Scott Merrill and wife, Teresa of Westfield, Indiana; 8 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and sister-in-law, Col. Marjorie Charlene Merrill.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Roy and Julia (Walls) Wiles and her husband, Montie H. Merrill on August 23, 2022.

The family would like to thank Karen Wallace for taking care of Dorothy in her final days.

Graveside Services will be held at 11:00 A.M., Saturday, August 12, 2023 at Crown View Cemetery, Sheridan, Indiana. Reverend Mike Srbljan will be officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be presented to the Warsaw Christian Church, 320 State Street, Warsaw MO 65355, or to the Sheridan First Christian Church, P.O. Box 111, Sheridan, Indiana 46069.

## Last Chance To Register!

Registration ends TOMORROW, Thursday August 10th, at 2:00pm.

NETWORKING POWER HOUR

August 24th | The Balmoral House | 11:30am - 1:00pm

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OneZone and Northern Hamilton County Chambers!

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**THE TIMES**



# Over \$10 Million In STEM Teacher Grants Awarded To Organizations And Colleges

Grants support organizations preparing Hoosier educators in STEM subject areas.

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education has awarded over \$10.5 million to 19 organizations and colleges to support programs which recruit, prepare, place and retain educators in schools with teacher shortages in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) subject areas.

Since the STEM Teacher Recruitment Grant was created by the General Assembly in 2013, it has supported thousands of current and new STEM educators in Indiana. This is the sixth round of grant funding.

"There is a growing need in Indiana for talent within STEM fields," said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery. "To ensure alignment between our talent pipeline and high-demand career opportunities, it is imperative that we advance the quality of STEM instruction throughout the state. The recipients of the STEM Teacher Recruitment Grant will help us reach this important goal."

The selected programs focus on recruiting and retaining high-quality teachers in underserved STEM classrooms and high-need school districts by:

- providing access to coursework which allows STEM teachers to begin or continue teaching dual credit courses;

- supporting teacher mentorship programs;
- increasing rural access to computer science content and teaching; and providing training for advanced manufacturing and logistics teachers

2023 STEM Teacher Recruitment Grant Award Recipients;

ORGANIZATION, PROGRAM - GRANT AMOUNT

- Ball State University Foundation, Hoosier STEM Academy Program - \$722,400.00

- Butler University, STEM New Educator Academy with Mentorship - \$230,000.00

- Conexus Indiana, Manufacturing and Logistics Pathways - \$195,000.00

- Educate ME Foundation, STEM Teacher Recruitment Grant - \$200,000.00

- Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning and Independent Colleges of Indiana, STEM Teach VI - \$2,770,476.00

- Indiana University Foundation, STEM Teacher Recruitment Grant - \$226,317.00

- Indiana University Foundation, Empowering Elementary and Middle Mathematics and Science Teachers (EEMMS) - \$189,000.00

- Indiana University

Foundation, STEM Urban teacher Preparation (STEM UtP) - \$148,000.00

- Indiana University Foundation, STEM Educator Pathway Program - \$91,938.00

- Indiana University Foundation, Growing Tomorrow's STEM Teachers (GTST) - \$317,413.00

- Nextech, STEM Teacher Recruitment Grant - \$720,000.00

- Project Lead the Way, STEM Teacher Recruitment Grant - \$647,500.00

- Purdue University Foundation, Strengthening Indiana's Future through 21st Century STEM Teachers Scholarship - \$360,000.00

- Teach for America, STEM Teacher Recruitment Grant - \$2,550,000.00

- TNTP, STEM Teacher Recruitment Grant - \$250,000.00

- University of Evansville, STEM Grant - \$127,849.00

- University of Southern Indiana Foundation, New Experiences in Mathematics Education (NEXIME) - \$288,000.00

- University of Southern Indiana Foundation, Teaching Eagles Recruitment and Retention Program - \$240,000.00

- Valparaiso University, Engineering the Teachers of the Future - \$307,941.00

## Rokita Promotes Parents' Bill Of Rights 4.0

Launched in 2021, Parents' Bill of Rights empowers parents to direct children's education and upbringing by ensuring they know legal rights and responsibilities.

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita this week rolled out the fourth update to his office's Parents' Bill of Rights — a roadmap for moms and dads seeking to maximize their involvement in school governance, curriculum, medical decisions for their children and choosing where their kids attend school.

The latest version includes a new section emphasizing Hoosiers' precious freedom to practice their religious beliefs, including within the walls of public schools.

"The Parents' Bill of Rights is the result of direct conversations with parents," Rokita said. "Across Indiana, Hoosier moms and dads tell us that their children's schools spend more time indoctrinating kids with historically and scientifically incorrect anti-American propaganda and exposing them to sexual and perverted materials than teaching math, science, reading and writing. With our test scores falling behind the rest of the world, schools cannot afford one second of distraction from these subjects."

The best educators fully respect the value of involved parents in the process of maintaining high-quality schools, Rokita said.

"The single most effective way to ensure school accountability is for parents to fulfill their rightful roles in directing their children's education and upbringing," Rokita said. "The Parents' Bill of Rights empowers them to do just that by ensuring they know their legal rights and responsibilities in Indiana."

The first volume of his Parents' Bill of Rights was released in June 2021. That installment focused on school governance, curriculum adoption, standards adoption and civil rights complaints. The second volume, released in November 2021, detailed parents' rights regarding medical decisions for their children, such as access to student health records, vaccination requirements, and educational accommodations. The third volume, released in July 2022, focused on school choice — the liberty of parents to choose where their children attend school.

Rokita's team has updated all three of those existing volumes with fresh information arising from such developments as new legislation or to answer additional questions submitted by Hoosiers from across

Indiana — along with adding the new section on religious liberty.

"In this one nation under God, America's founders knew the fundamental importance of faith," Rokita said. "Just as they sought to protect liberty in their generation, our team works to prevent government from infringing on Hoosiers' rights in our own time."

The latest installment features a helpful Q-and-A section, including such questions as:

- Can students read or distribute religious material at school? (Yes, provided that the material is distributed during non-instructional time.)

- Can students leave campus during the school day to participate in religious instructional activities? (Yes. Under Indiana law, a parent may request that a student be released from his or her public school for up to two hours each week to attend outside religious instruction.)

- Can religious clubs meet on school grounds? (Yes. A school must treat every recognized non-curriculum-related student organization equally.)

The entire Parents' Bill of Rights is available online at [in.gov/attorneygeneral](http://in.gov/attorneygeneral). Changes to the law will be reflected in future digital publications.



## 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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# Electric & Infrared Tech Usher In Greener Grilling

## EARTHTALK

Dear EarthTalk: I've heard that grilling generates a lot of pollution and greenhouse gases. Are there greener types of grills or grilling methods that are more planet-friendly?

We certainly do love to grill. Whether it's hot dogs, burgers, steaks, salmon or shish-kebab, chances are you and/or your neighbors have grilled it up recently. But all that grilling can't be good for the planet or our carbon footprints.

Researchers in the United Kingdom report that a typical summer barbecue for four people releases more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere than an 80-mile car journey.

There are several types of grills that can contribute to pollution, and your grill is most likely included. Charcoal grills release more emissions because they are literally burning carbon. If you live in a poorly ventilated area, charcoal grills may not be the best option since they release particulate matter into the air.

There are two major

types of charcoal: lump charcoal, which is roasted wood; and briquettes, which are laced with chemicals and flammables. Both release very toxic volatile organic compounds and carbon monoxide when burned. But, between both of them, lump charcoal is the more sustainable option.

On the other hand, propane and natural gas grills emit significantly less pollutants than charcoal grills; however, they do burn fossil fuels. They are more efficient, cooking faster easier, but still release chemicals like Nitrogen oxide, although usually on a smaller scale compared to charcoal grills.

An even better option are electric grills. These might be pricier, but they do significantly reduce emissions and will last a long time without refueling. They rely on electricity from the grid, so their environmental impact depends on the source of electricity generation.

Choosing renewable energy sources, such as solar or wind power, further enhances the sustainability of electric grills. Similarly, infrared grills use infrared radiation for cooking. Instead of heating

the air around the food, they target the actual metal and food on the grill. They also lock in moisture making them ideal for cooking steaks, burgers and other meats.

Grilling is an integral part of our culinary culture, but it is essential to acknowledge and address its potential environmental impact. By embracing sustainable alternatives, such as electric grills or infrared grills, we can still indulge in grilling while minimizing our carbon footprint.

**CONTACTS:** How much is your summer BBQ damaging the environment? [manchester.ac.uk/discover/news/how-much-is-your-summer-bbq-damaging-the-environment/](https://www.manchester.ac.uk/discover/news/how-much-is-your-summer-bbq-damaging-the-environment/); Green Grilling for a Better Cookout, [thespruceeats.com/green-grilling-basics-334977](https://thespruceeats.com/green-grilling-basics-334977/); How to Become a Green Grill Master, [saveonenergy.com/green-energy/green-grilling/](https://saveonenergy.com/green-energy/green-grilling/); The Greenest Way To Grill, [theatlantic.com/science/archive/2021/07/grilling-emissions-environment/619394/](https://theatlantic.com/science/archive/2021/07/grilling-emissions-environment/619394/).

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# How To Help Keep Your Child Safe And Healthy This School Year

(StatePoint) As students return to classrooms, doctors say that it's important to ensure that children are up-to-date with routine childhood vaccinations.

"The evidence around vaccinations is abundantly clear; they're safe, effective and will help protect you, your loved ones and your community from preventable diseases. If you have questions about vaccines, their safety, or effectiveness, please speak to your physician. We are here for you, eager to answer your questions, and ensure your family is protected," says Jesse M. Ehrenfeld, M.D., M.P.H., president of the American Medical Association (AMA).

In an effort to promote a safer, healthier school year for everyone, the AMA is sharing these vaccine facts and insights:

- Vaccines are safe, effective and save lives. Routine childhood immunization is highly effective at preventing disease over a lifetime, reducing the incidence of all targeted diseases, including measles, mumps, rubella, polio and chickenpox. For the U.S. population in 2019, vaccines prevent-

ed more than 24 million cases of disease.

- The benefits of vaccines can be quantified. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), vaccination of children born between 1994 and 2021 will prevent 472 million illnesses, almost 30 million hospitalizations and more than 1 million deaths, saving nearly \$2.2 trillion in total societal costs, including \$479 billion in direct costs.

- Vaccination rates have fallen. Even before the rise in vaccine misinformation and disinformation associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, vaccine hesitancy was increasing, elevating the risk of community outbreaks, which put under-and unvaccinated children at risk for serious illnesses, like measles. According to a mid-January 2023 report from the CDC, vaccination coverage decreased in most states for all vaccines among kindergarteners for the 2021-22 school year when compared with the previous school year, which was already below pre-pandemic levels.

- Speak to your child's

physician. With increased misinformation around vaccinations, it is critical that you seek out reliable, evidence-based sources for information. These sources may begin with websites like [getvaccinesanswers.org](https://getvaccinesanswers.org), but they should also include your child's physician.

Physicians can also answer questions on the new monoclonal antibody therapy, nirsevimab, available for infants and children under the age of 19 months, for the prevention of RSV disease.

- Don't let cost be a barrier. Programs like Vaccines for Children (VFC) are federally funded to provide no-cost vaccinations to children whose families otherwise could not afford them. Parents can learn more by contacting their state or local health department.

"Make an annual well-child visit and immunizations a part of your household's back-to-school routine," says Dr. Ehrenfeld. "Doing so will protect you and your family from a number of preventable illnesses. It's something I do for my own children, and I urge you to do so, too."

TheTimes24-7.com

# GOP Leaders Say Changes In Lt Gov Selection Unlikely

By Leslie Bonilla Muniz  
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Conservative pastor Micah Beckwith's bid for Indiana's second-highest office has ranked some Republican politicians — but don't expect changes to the lieutenant governor selection process, according to party leaders.

Although everyday Hoosiers vote for their party's gubernatorial nominee, it's party delegates that select that person's second-in-command. Still, delegates typically fall in line with the gubernatorial nominee's preference.

But in June, Beckwith went public with his bid for the post — and a direct campaign to the Indiana Republican Party's roughly 1,800 delegates.

Now some Republicans — including on the party's central committee, according to multiple people familiar with the organization — want to put the power to choose more firmly in the hands of the gubernatorial nominee.

Though Indiana Code commands political parties to conduct state conventions and nominate candidates for lieutenant governor, it also gives state party committees the power to determine nomi-

nating procedures.

Each party's nominees for governor and lieutenant governor must appear on the general election ballot together.

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## Party leaders uphold status quo

Indiana Republican Party Chairman Kyle Hupfer downplayed talk of changes to the selection process.

"Nothing is (happening) right now," he told the Capital Chronicle. But, he continued, "I mean, where I stand is that the governor should get their choice."

He added that there are states that elect their lieutenant governors separately but Indiana isn't one of them. Instead, the lieutenant governor nominee is the gubernatorial nominee's running-mate, and they appear as one ballot selection on general election day.

"I think that, you know, those folks who are electing their governor candidate are entrusting them with that ability to choose their lieutenant governor," Hupfer said.

He was one of four of the party's current executive officers and central committee members to respond to Capital Chronicle

requests for comment.

Jon Winkler, the party's District 8 vice chair and Spencer County's chairman, said letting delegates make the choice keeps power closer to "the people."

"Our system's been working really well the way it is, for the most part. A lot of times, your (lieutenant governor) will be the governor's pick anyway," Winkler acknowledged. "... Still, it's not taking the voice of the people away."

Party Secretary Mary Martin said she expected the process to "go just the way it is: delegates get to choose." She separately works for U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, who is also a gubernatorial candidate.

"I live in the farthest corner of northeast Indiana — I live in Angola — and up in our area, people don't even discuss that. It's just a moot issue," said Martin, who advocated for a greater focus on upcoming local elections.

Amanda Lowery, the party's District 9 vice chair and Jackson County's chairwoman, said she hadn't yet formed an opinion on how the process should work.

"We'll see how it goes,"

she said of Beckwith's bid.

Asked of her wait-and-see approach, Lowery added, "We're in uncharted territory here."

\*\*\*

## Governor candidates reassure delegates

The party's four most prominent candidates for governor were largely supportive of the current selection process, although to varying degrees.

Senior Adviser Josh Kelly called Braun an "outsider" in a recent statement — "just like the hundreds of grassroots Hoosier conservatives that serve as convention delegates."

Braun, he continued, "looks forward to working with the delegates next summer to find a Lt Gov candidate that shares his conservative values and can help further his agenda to make Indiana a beacon of freedom and opportunity."

Indiana's current Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch said she's "not in favor of any changes" in a statement to the Capital Chronicle. And she pledged to maintain "a fair and open convention delegate process," if elected governor.

"While I've had discussions with various Hoosiers about being a po-

tential running mate when I become the Republican nominee for governor, I want to be clear — I respect our delegates and their role in this process," she said.

She is rumored to be considering Congressman Greg Pence as a lieutenant governor running mate.

Fort Wayne businessman Eric Doden's campaign similarly said he "doesn't support changing the current process."

Former Attorney General Curtis Hill — who lost his reelection bid at a convention after a groping scandal — hedged.

"... We intend to announce our choice for running mate ahead of the primary, so as to give the voters the fullest understanding possible," the campaign said.

But because the nominees are eventually partners, the campaign said that "the convention delegates should give deference to the nominee's selection, as has historically been done."

"I think it would backfire"

For his part, Beckwith said he'd gotten overwhelmingly positive responses from likely delegates with whom he'd met

— even if a conversation with one central committee member hadn't gone quite as well.

"She was not very kind ... she did not like in any way shape or form what I was doing," he said.

And on Monday, Beckwith challenged Pence to embark on a similar run for lieutenant governor.

He said he was all-in on his campaign, but didn't fear rule changes regardless.

"They already don't want the people to have a voice," he said of what he described as "elite ruling class" politicians "masquerading as Republicans."

"I think it would backfire if they tried to do something like that, but let them try," he added.

-Capital Chronicle Editor Niki Kelly and Reporters Whitney Downard and Casey Smith contributed reporting.

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**BETSY** From Page A1



Photo provided by Riders in the Sky

**Azalia Davidson, 12, Noblesville, had the opportunity to perform her yodeling songs with the Grammy Award-winning Riders in the Sky, a western music and comedy group that wrote and performed music for “Woody’s Roundup” from the “Toy Story 2” movie and more.**

four rabbits, four hamsters, four dogs and 10 cats.

Azalia this spring sang with the legendary Grammy Award-winning Riders in the Sky, a western music and comedy group that wrote and performed music for “Woody’s Roundup” from the “Toy Story 2” movie; a Pixar short, “For the Birds;” and also wrote the song and lyrics for “Monsters Inc.”

The Riders in the Sky performance was a sold-out show at the Eagles Theatre in Wabash, Ind. It was an “amazing night,” according to the band, who posted on social media: “Joining in the fun was 12-year-old yodeling phenom Azalia Davidson, once again proving she can hit a note only an airedale can hear.”

She also stole the show during an earlier performance with Riders in the Sky at the Brown County Playhouse in Nashville, Ind., garnering a standing ovation. “It was an amazing evening ...” her mom said. “After the concert, several people even asked for her autograph.”

Azalea’s dream is to someday appear on “America’s Got Talent.” And that dream may very well happen, although it may take a while. She had a Zoom video-conference audition in November, singing “He Taught Me How to Yodel” for “America’s Got Talent.”

The next morning, Azalea received an email from an “America’s Got Talent” show producer asking the Davidsons to contact them the next business day. During a 20-minute phone conversation, the Davidsons learned of the show producer’s desire to have a yodeler on the show. But it’s not a quick process and could take two years to get Azalia on the show. The Davidsons learned that one of the previous winners, Darcy Lynn, who won the 12th season of “America’s Got Talent” in 2017, worked with the show producer for four years before she made it on the show.

When I met Azalia, she was 8 years old and holding \$100 in cash after winning her age division of the Cicero Kids Got Talent Show at the Lights Over Morse Lake Fourth of July celebration in 2019. Just minutes earlier, she dressed, from head to toe, as Disney mermaid princess Ariel and sang “Part of Your World” from Disney’s “The Little Mermaid.” It was the second consecutive year that she won the talent show; in 2018, at age 7, she sang the lively “I Want to Be a Cowboy’s Sweetheart,” the first song that she ever

**4-H Fair Talent Show Winners**

Here are the winners of the Hamilton County 4-H Fair Youth Talent Contest. Winners of each category are also eligible to compete at the Indiana State Fair, which runs through Aug. 20. Junior Solo Division -- Vocal Solo, Azalea Davidson, first; Amelia Peters, second; Instrumental Solo, Evan Feliciano, first; Clara Dantsin, second; Novelty Solo, Jayda Delaney, first. Junior Group Division -- Dance Group, Dazzling Dancing Princesses, Vivienne Thibodeau and Brienne Babione, first place, Senior Solo Division -- Vocal Solo, Addie McMillan, first place (and Grand Champion of Senior Division); Lucy Kaufman, second place; Instrumental Solo, Ethan Feliciano, first place (and Reserve Grand Champion of Senior Division); and Dance Solo, Abigail Montemer, first place. The competition schedule follows: Jr. and Sr. Tumbling Solo and Group followed by Jr. and Sr. Novelty Solo and Group, 11 a.m. Saturday; Jr. Vocal Solo and Group, followed by Jr. Instrumental Solo and Group, noon Sunday; Jr. Clogging Solo and Group followed by Jr. Dance Solo and Group, 11 a.m. Aug. 19; Sr. Clogging Solo and Group followed by Jr. Dance Solo and Group, 4 p.m. Aug. 19; Sr. Vocal Solo and Group followed by SR. Instrumental Solo and Group, noon Aug. 20. All competitions will be in the Purdue Extension Building, formerly known as the Farm Bureau Building.

sang on stage in public, her mom said. Her prize money, she saved up to spend on the family’s trip to Walt Disney World.

“She wanted to start doing talent shows after she was successful at her first one,” her mom said.

Azalea sang for two years in the Indianapolis Children’s Choir. Ariel is her second favorite Disney princess, her favorite being Belle from Disney’s “Beauty and the Beast.”

She attends Carmel Clay Schools where her mom is a teacher of 27 years.

“Azalia likes to yodel because it’s unique, and it has a fun sound to it, her mom said. “No one else in our family can yodel.”

Azalia said that “yodeling comes easy” because she can “break” her voice well for yodels. (The break is the point between the higher register (head voice) and the lower register (chest voice).)

Her mom said of Azalia: “She sings and yodels all the time. We can be in the car or at home, and she is always singing or yodeling.”

—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).

**4-H Fair Talent Show**



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Amelia Peters sings “Poor Unfortunate Soul,” for which she won Reserve Champion Vocal Solo in the Junior Division of the Hamilton County 4-H Fair Youth Talent Contest.**



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Jayda Delaney performs a monologue, for which she won Champion Novelty Solo in the Junior Division of the Hamilton County 4-H Fair Youth Talent Contest.**



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**The Dazzling Dancing Princesses, who didn’t divulge their real names, dance to “Princess Diaries Waltz” and won Champion Dance Group and Overall Champion Group Division.**



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Hamilton County 4-H Fair Youth Talent Contest, Junior Division, winners: Evan Feliciano (from left), Champion Instrumental Solo and Overall Junior Division Solo Grand Champion for “Cello Suite No. 1”; The Dazzling Dancing Princesses, Dance Group Champions and Overall Grand Champion Group Division, for “Princess Diaries Waltz”; Jayda Delaney, Novelty Solo Champion for monologue; Clara Dantsin, Reserve Champion Instrumental Solo for “The Fly’s Adventure” on piano; Amelia Peters, Reserve Champion Vocal Solo for “Poor Unfortunate Soul”; Callie Heflin, Instrumental Solo, “Legend of the Bison,” blue; and Azalia Davidson, Champion Vocal Solo and Overall Junior Division Solo Reserve Grand Champion for “Yodeling at the Grand Ole Opry.”**



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Hamilton County 4-H Fair Youth Talent Contest emcee Josiah Rhea (second from right), 4-H Fair Queen’s Court second runner-up Sophie Beeson (left) and Queen’s Court first runner-up Mary Rose Wahnsiedler (right) pose with 4-H Youth Talent Contest, Senior Division, winners and contestants, Archita Nath (second from left), Vocal Solo, blue, for “Reflection”; Ethan Feliciano, Champion Instrumental Solo and Overall Senior Division Reserve Grand Champion, for “Czardas for Monti” on the violin; Lucy Kaufman, Reserve Champion Vocal Solo, for “Cover Me in Sunshine”; Addie McMillan, Champion Vocal Solo and Overall Senior Division Solo Grand Champion, for “I’m Not Afraid of Anything”; and Abigail Montemer, Champion Dance Solo, “A Crack in Your Foundation.”**

**PLAN** From Page A1

manager at CORE Construction, understands the importance of these projects.

“Westfield’s school district has set a tremendous vision of maximizing student impact with Destination Westfield, their expansion plan,” Johnson said. “Our team at CORE is humbled and honored to be chosen to carry through construction with part of that vision. We take great pride in building and enhancing the schools that shape our community’s future leaders, and cannot wait to get started with these projects. As a father of a toddler myself, I’m impressed with the district’s focus and desire to provide quality education and care for every young Rock!”

Mike Holtkamp, project executive with The Hagerman Group, said they understand the impact this project will have on the

community. “The Hagerman Group is honored to partner with Westfield Washington Schools and CSO to build the new middle school,” Holtkamp said. “Building a better future is what we do, and providing construction management services for this project solidifies our vision by creating a top-notch educational environment for students to learn and grow – ensuring that all Rocks are life ready.”

Each construction company will now work with the chosen architectural firm as well as Westfield Washington Schools to create building plans and a timeline for their projects. Those plans and timelines will be shared with the public when they are finalized.

For more information on the district’s expansion plans, visit <https://www.wws.k12.in.us/about-us/destination-westfield>.

**PROGRAM** From Page A1

everybody has the opportunity to go to the county fair.

The Purdue Extension folks are coming to the Sheridan Historical Society Museum next Monday evening, August 14, at 7 pm. The Museum is located at 315 South Main Street in uptown Sheridan.

If you are interested in what the new fairgrounds are going to look like after the makeover, you will appreciate this opportunity to listen to their talk, see the displays, and ask questions of the people knowledgeable about the 4-H Fairgrounds project. We hope you can attend.

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## Number $\div$ % Stumpers

## Did You Know?

- Johnson County was founded in 1823 and named after Indiana Supreme Court Justice John Johnson.
- The largest city, Greenwood, is inhabited by approximately 49,791 residents.
- The county seat, Franklin, is the home of Franklin College along with several international companies.
- Greenwood has 2 high school, 3 middle schools, 10 elementary schools, and 4 private schools.
- The county is 321.79 square miles and has a population of 139,654 residents.

1. How many total schools are there in Greenwood?  
 $\geq$
2. How old is Johnson County?  
 $\leq$
3. What percentage of people live in Greenwood?  
 $\geq$
4. What is the population density of the county?  
 $\leq$

Answers: 1. 19 Schools 2. 196 Years  
3. Around 35.6% 434/sq. mi.  $\div$

## Got Words?

Franklin was nationally recognized during the 1920s for the outstanding athletic achievement of a local basketball team. Coined the Franklin Wonder Five, the small group won 3 consecutive state titles. How do you think achievements, such as this one, impact small communities?

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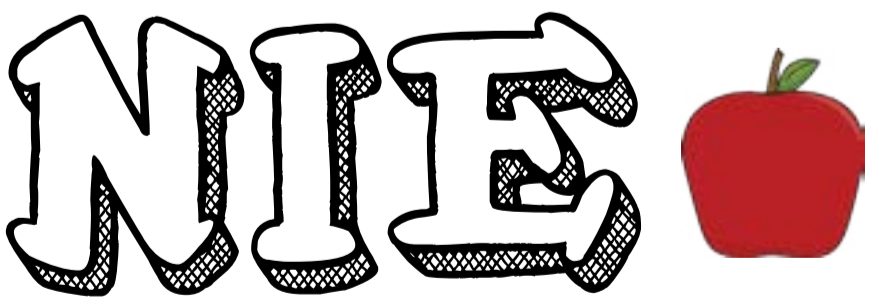
## Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

1. ONRDEW EFIV
2. FNRALKNI
3. ONJSHNO NYCTUO
4. EGROOWEND
5. CHSLOOS

Answers: 1. Wonder Five 2. Franklin 3. Johnson County  
4. Greenwood 5. Schools

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# THURSDAY

## Indiana *the* **Strong**

Thursday, August 10, 2023

A7



Photo courtesy of NASA

**A Purdue University experiment aiming to find out how condensation works in reduced gravity is onboard Northrop Grumman's 19th commercial resupply services mission (NG-19) to the International Space Station for NASA.**

### Science Enabling Heat And Air Conditioning For Long-Term Space Habitats Is Almost Fully Available

To live on the moon or Mars, humans will need heat and air conditioning that can operate long term in reduced gravity and temperatures hundreds of degrees above or below what we experience on Earth.

Building these systems requires knowing how reduced gravity affects boiling and condensation, which all heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems use to operate in Earth's gravity.

A Purdue University experiment launching Aug. 1 on Northrop Grumman's 19th commercial resupply services mission (NG-19) to the International Space Station for NASA aims to collect data scientists need to answer decades-old questions about how boiling and condensation work in reduced gravity.

"We have developed over a hundred years' worth of understanding of how heat and cooling systems work in Earth's gravity, but we haven't known how they work in weightlessness," said Issam Mudawar, Purdue's Betty Ruth and Milton B. Hollander Family Professor of Mechanical Engineering.

The NG-19 spacecraft is expected to launch at 8:31 p.m. on Aug. 1 from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia and arrive at the space station Aug. 4. A livestream of the launch is available via NASA Live.

Onboard this flight is a module for conducting the second experiment of a facility called the Flow Boiling and Condensation Experiment (FBCE), which has been collecting data on the space station since August 2021.

Last July, Mudawar and his students finished their first experiment gathering data from a module of FBCE on the space

station that measures the effects of reduced gravity on boiling. When the facility's additional components arrive with the NG-19 spacecraft, the researchers will be able to conduct the second experiment, which will investigate how condensation works in a reduced-gravity environment.

Both experiments' modules for FBCE will remain in orbit through 2025, allowing the fluid physics community at large to take advantage of this hardware.

"We are ready to literally close the book on the whole science of flow and boiling in reduced gravity," Mudawar said.

To develop FBCE, Mudawar's lab worked with NASA's Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, which engineered and built the flight hardware funded by the agency's Biological and Physical Sciences Division at NASA Headquarters. The team spent 11 years developing FBCE hardware to fit into the Fluids Integrated Rack on the orbiting laboratory.

FBCE's answers on boiling and condensation will not only support exploration on the moon or Mars but also help spacecraft to travel longer distances. The farther missions are from Earth, the more likely that the spacecraft for those missions will need innovative power and propulsion systems, such as ones that are nuclear thermal or electric. Compared to other types of processes that enable heating and cooling in space, boiling and condensation would be much more effective at transferring heat for spacecraft with these systems.

In addition, FBCE data could help enable spacecraft to refuel in orbit by providing scientific understanding of how

reduced gravity affects the flow boiling behavior of the cryogenic liquids spacecraft use as propellant.

FBCE is among NASA's largest and most complex experiments for fluid physics research. Mudawar's team is preparing a series of research papers unpacking data the FBCE has collected on the space station, adding to more than 60 papers they have published on reduced gravity and fluid flow since the project's inception.

"The papers we have published over the duration of this project are really almost like a textbook for how to use boiling and condensation in space," Mudawar said.

With more than 30,000 citations, Mudawar is one of the most highly cited researchers in the field of heat transfer. Google Scholar ranks him No. 1 in flow boiling, spray cooling, microchannels, and microgravity boiling. He also is the most cited author in the International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer.

For more than a decade, Mudawar and his students have been developing three sets of predictive tools to be validated using FBCE data. One set of tools puts the data into the form of equations that engineers can use to design space systems. Another set identifies fundamental information about fluid physics from the data, and the third set is computational models of the fluid dynamics.

All together, these models would make it possible to predict which equipment designs could operate in lunar and Martian gravity.

"The amount of data coming out of the FBCE is just absolutely enormous, and that's exactly what we want," Mudawar said.

### Purdue Research Awards And Philanthropic Fundraising Both New Records In Fiscal Year 2023



Purdue University has announced it reached new milestones in both research awards and gift funding for fiscal year 2022-23, shattering previous records for both research funding and donor giving to the university. Purdue received \$613 million in research awards during the fiscal year that ran from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023.

Concurrently, Purdue received a record \$610 million in private contributions. These two new records mark the first time in university history that either category surpassed \$600 million in a year.

"Excellence at scale is both reflected in and further supported by these two new watermarks, simultaneously achieved at Purdue this past year," Purdue President Mung Chiang said. "Annual percentage increases around 10% for research funding and for philanthropic gifts continue the compounding rise and are based on the persistent pursuit in excellence by our faculty, staff and students and the incredible generosity of Boilermaker family and friends."

#### Research Funding

The university's total research awards have steadily climbed each year since 2013. The total amount represents a 9% increase in awards from fiscal year 2022 and a 92% hike over the last 11 years (FY 2013 to FY 2023), with this year's funding supporting approximately 3,500 research projects. This year's funding is benchmarked as high for a university without either a medical school or a major Department of Defense establishment.

As part of this record funding, Purdue has seen a significant uptick in larger awards from federal agencies through highly competitive processes, which account for 70%

of the research funding at Purdue, with the U.S. Department of Defense topping the list for the first time at \$98 million. In FY23, DoD authorized \$20 million to advance SCALE, the preeminent U.S. program for semiconductor workforce development in the defense sector.

Other top sponsors include the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, including the National Institute of Health (\$95 million), National Science Foundation (\$81 million), U.S. Department of Agriculture (\$62 million), U.S. Department of Energy (\$41 million) and state and local government (\$43 million).

Private industry also contributed nearly \$90 million to support Purdue research, and the university signed 11 master research agreements, including a new commitment of \$50 million from Eli Lilly and Company toward a five-year strategic research collaboration.

"This new record for research awards funding demonstrates the strength of Purdue research and, perhaps even more importantly, the impact of our work by our faculty, staff and students," said Karen Plaut, executive vice president for research. "Through concentrated effort, Purdue has successfully increased the diversity of our funding sources, providing more opportunities for our researchers across all areas of study and training the next generation of scientific leaders."

#### Highlights include:

- \$7.8 million in funding from the Semiconductor Research Corp., DARPA and Georgia Institute of Technology for research in two JUMP 2.0 research centers – the Center for the Co-Design of Cognitive Systems (CoCoSys) and the Center on Cognitive Multi-spectral Sensors (CogniSense) – to accelerate U.S. advances in information and communications technologies.
- A \$10 million award from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to fuel economic resilience and sustainability in Eastern U.S. forests.
- A \$6.8 million award from the National Institutes of Health in support of the Indiana Clinical

and Translational Sciences Institute, which works to increase collaboration among the brightest minds in Indiana to solve the state's most pressing health care challenges.

- A \$3.9 million award from the National Institutes of Health to demystify the link between obesity and breast cancer.

#### Philanthropic Gifts

In addition to research awards, Purdue hit an all-time high of more than \$610 million from 83,836 donors. These gifts come from generous donations from alumni, students, families, partners and foundations, and are often specified for each gift's intended purpose.

FY23 is also the 11th consecutive year that the total raised for student support has increased. Purdue raised \$183 million for student support – a 22% increase over last year.

"Purdue has had another monumental year in private giving, thanks to the generosity of our alumni, friends and fans," said Matt Folk, president and CEO of the Purdue for Life Foundation and vice president of university advancement and alumni engagement for Purdue University. "Together, through small steps and giant leaps, we are strengthening Purdue's reputation in teaching and research while remaining affordable and accessible to brilliant young minds."

#### Records that Purdue donors set this year include:

- Total dollars raised: \$610.3 million, an increase of 12.6% from last year's total and the previous record of \$542.1 million.
- Dollars raised for student support: \$183 million, up from last year's record of \$150 million. The university has seen a giant leap in private support for scholarships, fellowships and student programming each year since 2012-13, when Purdue raised \$32 million for student support.
- Largest single-day fundraising campaign in higher education: \$110.8 million from Purdue Day of Giving, shattering last year's record of \$68.2 million and bringing Purdue Day of Giving's cumulative total since it launched in 2014 to \$420.5 million.

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