

▶ TODAY'S VERSE

2 Corinthians 5:6,7 *Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: For we walk by faith, not by sight*



▶ FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Maggie Williams smile? "Honestly, the (Noblesville) Farmers Market. Just coming out here and interacting with all the vendors makes me excited," said the Farmers Market manager. "My favorite part is talking to the vendors." Williams is the onsite coordinator for Noblesville Farmers Market, which is open 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays at Federal Hill Commons in downtown Noblesville. The 45-year-old grew up in Goshen and graduated from NorthWood High School in Nappanee, where she played the trumpet and enjoyed an all-star band trip to Europe. She also plays piano. "I love music." She said, "I do sing, but I'm a horrible singer," comparing herself to the Elaine character on the "Seinfeld" television sitcom. She and her husband, Adam, a Mississippi native, have been married almost 28 years. They moved to Noblesville about seven years ago, to rural property just outside of Hamilton County where they live in a barn house on acreage. They have four children, ages 20-29. She loves food and loves to cook as does her husband, Adam, a chef. They own and operate Jaws Food Truck and offer made-from-scratch jambalaya, seafood gumbo, pulled pork and butter beignets. She loves Noblesville. "Potter's Bridge is my favorite park. We just go out and about in the town. There is so much to do, something going on, so many activities, so many free activities." Williams, who was Farmers Market manager in 2019 and decided to return in 2022 to the market after meeting with new Main Street executive director Kate Baker. Passions? "I love being outside and gardening." The weather forecast for this Saturday is sunny and in the 70s. This Saturday, it's Kids Day at the Noblesville Farmers Market, with kids who've already reserved spaces who will sell their homemade wares and services. After this Saturday, the next Kids Day at the Market is Sept. 16. More information is a noblesvillemainstreet.org/.

And Another Thing...

1. NEW ORDINANCE – No Pedestrians or Bicycles

Our field personnel have reported a large number of bicycle and pedestrian traffic within closed construction limits at 146th Street and Allisonville Road. This is an active construction zone where bicycle and pedestrian traffic is prohibited. Signage indicating "No Pedestrians or Bicycles" has been installed at all ends of the project. Our goal is to keep our workers, motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians safe during construction. Reminding people to be cognizant of their surroundings and obeying the closure limits is of utmost importance. Even with proper PPE that our construction crews are wearing, it could be hazardous. Please keep yourself safe and out of harm's way by finding an alternate route.

2. Make Plans To Join The Chamber On September 14!

We all know business gets done on the golf course! Birdies & Brews has been a catalyst for local businesses for 8 years. Building relationships, conducting business, and connecting with partners is best done with a 7 iron in one hand and a cold beverage in the other. Birdies & Brews features businesses at every tee box with fun activities and giveaways. Every 3rd hole has the addition of breweries & distilleries offering tastings and samples! Between the on course games, give away items, and friendly faces.

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

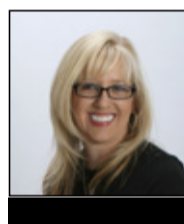
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Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven of Indy Ghost Light Photography

Vickie Phipps as Mrs. Hubbard and Earl Campbell as Monsieur Bouc rehearse for Carmel Community Players' play, the Agatha Christie "Murder on the Orient Express," adapted by Ken Ludwig, a comedy-mystery whodunit, through Sunday at The Cat in Carmel. Visit www.carmelplayers.org.

Kids Day At The Market, Josh Kaufman At Cool Creek, Flix 'N' Float, Chicago Tribute Among Weekend Things To Do



BETSY REASON From The Editor's Desk...

Mummies and Josh Kaufman with Nauti Yachtys at Cool Creek Park. Here's a list of 25 things to do this weekend and beyond:

1. Cool Creek Park Concert Series features the final concert of the season at 7 p.m. today with the Nauti Yachtys featuring Josh Kaufman, with gates opening at 6 p.m. for picnicking, with tickets at myhamiltoncountyparks.com or at the gate at Cool Creek Park in Westfield.
2. Carmel Community Players presents the Agatha Christie "Murder on the Orient Express," adapted by Ken Ludwig, a comedy-mystery whodunit, at 7:30 p.m. today and Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday at The Cat in Carmel, directed by Lori Raffel. Visit www.carmelplayers.org.
3. Travel to the countryside to hear live music with Jamie Owens tonight, The Juan Douglas Trio on Aug. 18 and Jennifer Mlott on Aug. 19 at Spencer Farm Winery in Noblesville. Visit spencerfarmwinery.com
4. 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 The Fab Four: The Ultimate Tribute, tonight; Here Come the Mummies with Rock E.

▶ See BETSY Page A5

Parent Project Designed To Reduce Juvenile Delinquency

Classes For Parents Of Strong-Willed Children Starting In September

The Hamilton County Courts' Department of Probation Services is offering an 11-week program for parents of strong-willed children. The Parent Project® is designed to curb destructive teen behaviors like poor school attendance, alcohol and drug use, runaways, and violence.



ROB EVANS

"Kids don't come with instruction manuals," says Rob Evans, a probation officer and class instructor. "That can leave parents feeling frustrated and helpless especially when it comes to modern problems like cell phones, social media,

▶ See PROJECT Page A5



Photo courtesy of HHMS

HHMS student-athletes Grace Reynolds and Illiana Bowyer recently earned the title of All American Cheerleader from Universal Cheerleaders Association. They will be traveling to perform with other All American Cheerleader titleholders from across the country at the Citrus Bowl game in Orlando, Florida in January 2024. Courtesy photo.

Five HHMS Cheerleaders Earn All American Cheerleader Title

Over the summer, 21 members of Hamilton Heights Middle School Cheerleaders attended a three-day Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA) cheer camp in Kokomo. They were among over 200 cheerleaders from seven Indiana schools in attendance.

They learned skills from highly qualified instructors in the sport. As part of the camp experience, between six and eight girls from each school were chosen to participate in an individual competition. They performed in front of their 200

▶ See HHMS Page A5

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 6:54 a.m.
SET: 8:51 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 87 °F
Low: 65 °F



Today is...

- Annual Medical Check-up Day
- National Raspberry Tart Day
- Presidential Joke Day



What Happened On This Day

- **1999** Last Total Solar Eclipse of the Millennium. The eclipse was visible from Europe, most of Asia and Africa and in parts of North America. Because of its path through heavily populated parts of the world, the solar eclipse is thought to be one of the most viewed eclipses in recorded history.
- **1992** Mall of America Opens its Doors to Shoppers. Located in in Bloomington, Minnesota, the mall is the largest shopping Mall in the United States. Spanning 4,870,000 sq ft, it has an indoor theme park and attracts about 40 million visitors each year.
- **1962** The Soviet Space Agency Launches Vostok 3. The spacecraft was piloted by Andriyan Nikolaev, the first cosmonaut to have orbited the Earth 64 times in 4 days.

Births On This Day

- **1978** Jermain Taylor American boxer
- **1950** Steve Wozniak American computer scientist, programmer, co-founded Apple Inc.

Deaths On This Day

- **1984** Alfred A. Knopf, Sr. American publisher, founded Alfred A. Knopf Inc.
- **1956** Jackson Pollock American painter

▶ INSIDE TODAY

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▶ HONEST HOOSIER

Hey, happy 43rd to Ryan Ahlwardt, an original - and former - member of Straight No Chaser and an HSE grad.



▶ TODAY'S QUOTE

"Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can."
-Arthur Ashe

▶ TODAY'S JOKE

Why do bananas use sunscreen in August?
Because they peel.

▶ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Breast cancer is not the number one killer of women - heart disease is. 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

None

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



Steve Latour Resignation

Steve Latour has submitted his resignation as the CEO of the Westfield Chamber of Commerce to the Westfield Chamber of Commerce Board, effective September 30. The board will immediately begin a search for a new CEO.

"I am so proud of what has been accomplished these past three years and will cherish the relationships I have made," said



STEVE LATOUR

Steve Latour. "It has been an honor to serve the Westfield community."

"Current staff members will be reassigned duties to ensure continuity with ongoing projects," said Steve Rupp, Westfield Chamber of Commerce Board Chairman. "We look forward to continuing the great work of the Westfield Chamber of Commerce."



STEVE RUPP

Hamilton County Residential Real Estate Markets Were Steady In July

Despite home sale prices increasing compared to last July, Noblesville and Hamilton Co. had a steady residential real estate market in July.

In Noblesville:

- The number of homes closed in July decreased 15.6 percent compared to July 2022.

- The average home sale price increased 7.9 percent to \$429,541 compared to July 2022.

- Noblesville homes spent seven days longer on the market than this time last year, but still

sold in 17 days on average.

In Hamilton County:

- Available housing inventory decreased, down 14.6 percent compared to July 2022.

- Pended home sales decreased, down 23.4 percent compared to this time last year.

- The average year-to-date home sale price increased 5.8 percent to \$501,680 compared to July 2022 – and was the highest average sale price of all the central Indiana counties.

Noblesville Lions Host Mended Hearts



Photo courtesy of Noblesville Lions

On Aug 9th Marvin Norman, President and Jim Grabowski, V-P of Mended Hearts Chapter 350 visited the Lions Club. They presented detailed information on how Mended Hearts can help people with heart disease issues. The following Mission Statement says it all... "To inspire hope and improve the quality of life for heart patients and their families through ongoing peer-to-peer support, education, and advocacy." Mended Hearts is highly supported by Riverview Health. They encouraged checking for details at mendedhearts350.org for information, and interest in becoming a member. Chapter 350 recently won the "Regional Chapter Excellence Award of the Year," among other awards highlighting their outstanding work. In the photo, Appreciation given to Jim Grabowski and Marvin Norman by Lion Jeff Kozicki

4-H Fair Pie Contest Winners!



Photo courtesy of Purdue Extension

The Hamilton County Extension Homemakers sponsored a pie contest during the Hamilton County 4-H Fair. Each competitor submitted a HOMEMADE pie made from a recipe handed down through the generations and an essay telling the story of how the pie became part of the family history. Winners were Joani Lawson (first place) with Black Raspberry Pie and Kathy Bray (second place) with Black Raspberry Pie. Pictured: front row l. to r. Joani Lawson, Valerie Carson, Kathy Bray; back row, Phil Anderson (history judge), Janet Hobson (culinary judge)

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Cute as a button and neat as a pin! This adorable brick home offers 4 BR/2 BA and is move-in ready. No HOA, large lot, & close to parks, golf courses, & downtown Noblesville. BLC#21931520

18507 Idlewind Court
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Stunning former Home-A-Rama beauty featuring 5BR, 3BA/2 half baths, walkout basement, beautiful hardwood floors, and gorgeous architecture throughout. BLC#21931254

17155 McKenna Way
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SOLD!

Well maintained 2 BR, 2 BA home in Willow Lake, home overlooks pond, has huge great room, double sided gas fireplace, sunroom, den, upper loft, 3 season room, kitchen wisland, eating area and kitchen appliances stay. A perfect "10". BLC#21918617

As summer winds down, the housing market is still red hot!

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A Coach That Was A Poor Fit And A Sports Editor With Power Of Persuasion



KENNY THOMPSON
Columnist

During my 35 years with the Journal and Courier, Purdue football and basketball fans were fortunate to have a pair of Hall of Famers in Tom Kubat and Jeff Washburn reporting on the ups and downs of the Boilermakers.

By the time I joined the staff in 1984, Bob Scott's days as a beat writer were over. But long before he showed me how to design a sports section and helped me improve my copy editing skills, he was the Purdue basketball beat writer during the Lee Rose era.

Not until Rose left for South Florida shortly after leading the Boilermakers to their most recent Final Four in 1980 did anyone realize what was going on behind the scenes.

A memorable column Scott wrote on April 4, 1981, laid out the reasons why Rose wasn't a fit at Purdue despite his 50-18 record and a share of the 1979 Big Ten Conference championship.

"Putting it plainly, Rose couldn't nail down top players in the state," Scott wrote before revealing a big reason why that was the case, taking away the obvious presence of Indiana coach Bob Knight at the peak of his dominance.

Rose didn't make many friends among the Indiana high school coaching

fraternity during a speech on April 21, 1979.

"I don't know why the high school coaches are so negative toward Purdue," Rose complained during his talk. "It has really been a learning experience."

He told the coaches that he came to that conclusion after being unable to convince top players like Indiana Mr. Basketball Steve Bouchie, Chuck Franz, Frank Smith and Leroy Sutton to make an official visit to Purdue.

"Rose sounded angry and almost evangelical as he addressed the coaches," Scott wrote. "He insisted that the state coaches had a duty to send kids to the state universities."

No one needs three guesses to surmise how that speech went over with the high school coaches.

In his two seasons at Purdue, Rose successfully recruited ONE Indiana high school player: Jon Kitchel from Lewis Cass.

In another column on May 10, 1981, Scott asked athletic director George King about his relationship with Rose. I'm not sure the term "high maintenance" was commonplace then but this paragraph fits the description.

"Lee was upset at one point because we didn't send the cheerleaders or team band to the Kentucky Invitational Tournament," King said. "We were in the thick of a trip to the Bluebonnet Bowl. But if Lee had come to us, we would have worked something out. After that,

Lee had the misguided opinion that basketball played second fiddle at Purdue."

Rose would later reinforce that opinion in his autobiography but also shared that his relationship with King was poor from the moment Rose claims the athletic director declared that no coach would ever make more money than him.

During the interim period between Gordon Graham and the Kubat/Washburn era, sports editors George Bolinger and Bruce Ramey covered Purdue football and basketball. Bolinger's era included the rise of Leroy Keyes and Rick Mount, two all-time greats on the West Lafayette campus at the same time. Bolinger also led the coverage of Purdue's first Rose Bowl appearance.

Ramey was closer in spirit to Graham's pro-Boilermaker style, leading the charge to honor his friend Guy "Red" Mackey in the months before the athletic director's death on Feb. 22, 1971.

In a Jan. 23, 1970, column titled "Let's call it Mackey Arena," Ramey pressed the Purdue administration to rename Purdue Arena while Mackey was alive to enjoy the tribute.

"No man in the 100 years of the school's history has done more for Purdue athletics than Guy J. (Red) Mackey, and no man is more deserving of such an honor," Ramey wrote.

It would be more than a year before Ramey got

his way, but not without using his bully pulpit to institute a policy change at the Journal and Courier.

On Dec. 3, 1970, Ramey decreed that henceforth in his stories the arena would be referred to as Mackey Arena.

"Presumptuous? I don't think so. Everything that has a name was given it by someone, sometime," Ramey wrote. "Who named Buck Creek? Or Steam Corners? Or Gnaw Bone? Or Manhattan Island? Or Purdue?"

A decade before Red Mackey donned a Purdue football jersey for the first time in 1925, a 14-year-old Lafayette Jeff student persuaded the owner of the Lafayette Morning Journal to give him a job covering high school sports.

That power of persuasion would serve Steve Hannagan well in his brief lifetime.

Hannagan became the Morning Journal's sports editor while a freshman at Purdue. For the next two years he covered Boilermaker football and basketball. Hannagan left the Morning Journal and Purdue in 1919 when he was offered a sportswriting job at the Indianapolis Star.

By age 25, Hannagan had opened his own publicity office. One of his first clients was Miami Beach. Hannagan's idea of promoting Miami Beach was to send beach bathing beauties photos to newspapers during the winter months.

The strategy was so

successful, Miami Beach paid Hannagan \$25,000 a year for his services. To put that in perspective, \$25,000 in 1927 dollars is nearly \$400,000 in today's money.

In the first sentence of his Journal and Courier front page obituary on Feb. 5, 1953, Hannagan was called "the man who put the bathing beauty on front pages." That same obituary earned a 60-point "coast to coast" headline usually reserved for events like the end of World War II.

Hannagan also gave Sun Valley its name to promote tourism and skiing. So successful was Hannagan's campaign that the Idaho venue soon drew a who's who of celebrities from Ernest Hemingway to Gary Cooper.

Hannagan also had a long-term publicity relationship with the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and was in Kenya representing Coca-Cola when he suffered a fatal heart attack.

Hannagan was buried not far from his roots on Wabash Avenue in Lafayette, at St. Mary's Cemetery. Among the mourners was his longtime companion, actress Ann Sheridan.

When he died on April 4, 1964, Robert C. Woodworth was remembered as the "Voice" of Purdue athletics by his former employer, the Journal and Courier.

Before Woodworth became Purdue's sports information director from

1928 to his death at age 61 from cancer, he served two years as sports editor upon his graduation from Purdue with a degree in mechanical engineering. His first "On The Level" column on March 23, 1926, expressed concern that Piggy Lambert only had 13 candidates for the Purdue baseball team. (As it turns out, the Boilermakers ended up with 23 players and went 11-4-2 that season.)

During his Purdue career, Woodworth was called upon to serve as acting athletic director in 1937 when Noble Kizer was gravely ill.

Woodworth was known for his sense of humor, especially directed at Indiana University. Responding to a job about Purdue being a cow college, Woodworth reportedly replied that "at Purdue we milk cows. At Indiana they date them."

Like his friend and successor as sports editor, Gordon Graham, Woodworth also owned a long streak of consecutive Purdue football games attended. His 37-year run was snapped in the fall of 1963 due to illness.

Fittingly, the old press box at Ross-Ade Stadium was renamed in his honor. Woodworth was elected to the Purdue Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame in 2015.

- 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.

Attorney General Todd Rokita Fights For Hoosier Farmers And Food Consumers

Congress must prevent California from imposing radical agenda onto Indiana and other states

Attorney General Todd Rokita this week called on Congress to enact legislation preventing states such as California from dictating rules to farmers and ranchers in Indiana.

"California's got every right to regulate agricultural practices within its own borders," Attorney General Rokita said. "But it shouldn't have the authority to impose restrictions on farmers here in Indiana. If the U.S. Supreme Court doesn't recognize this basic reality, then Congress needs to take action."

In a letter sent Wednesday to congressional leaders, Attorney General Rokita and other attorneys general call for passage of the Ending Agricultural Trade Suppression (EATS) Act — H.R.4417 in the U.S. House and S.2019 in the U.S. Senate.

In May, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a California law that outlaws the sale of pork originating from sows housed in less than 24 square feet — even if such pork comes from out-of-state producers.

Attorney General Rokita led a 26-state coalition in that case supporting the National Pork Producers Council and other petitioners contesting the California law.

"This law hurts Hoosier hog farmers by forcing them to change their livestock systems in order to sell to California markets," Attorney General Rokita said. "Beyond that, it also hurts Indiana families everywhere by increasing the costs of bacon and ham at grocery stores."

Some small- and medium-sized pork producers could be forced to go out of business. California buys about 13 percent of the nation's pork.

Extending beyond the pork industry,

the Supreme Court's decision paves the way for California and other states to similarly impose their will pertaining to other types of livestock production — and even other types of industries altogether.

On a philosophical level, Attorney General Rokita said, the court's decision flies in the face of American federalism and free enterprise.

In the letter to congressional leaders, Attorney General Rokita and the other attorneys general noted that U.S. farmers already follow prudent techniques in raising livestock.

"American farmers and ranchers raise massive amounts of animal protein as affordably and humanely as possible," the letter states. "American farmers' techniques have developed over generations to constitute global best practices. No other country raises anywhere near as much delicious and high-quality pork."

Indiana Department Of Education Announces Expansion Of Statewide Tutoring Grant Program

Additional Students Now Eligible for Math and English/Language Arts Tutoring Grants.

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) today announced the expansion of Indiana Learns, a statewide grant program providing qualifying parents and families with \$1,000 to spend on math and English/language arts high-dosage tutoring and approved out-of-school academic programs for their students. To date, more than 10,000 students are enrolled in Indiana Learns.

"We know from our 2023 ILEARN proficiency results, and the ongoing academic impact/recovery analysis, that our middle school students in particular need strategic learning support and interventions," said Dr. Katie Jenner, Indiana Secretary of Education. "This newly released data was the determining factor in the expansion of Indiana Learns, which will now include middle school students, in addition to the elementary school students already eligible. This will allow parents and families, who may not otherwise be able to pay for high-dosage tutoring, to access these opportunities for their students and provide them the additional support they need. Every year in the life of a child is essential to their continued growth and development, and we have no time to waste. With over 10,000 families already enrolled (and growing!), we look forward to even more families opting in in the

future."

Launched in October 2022, the goal of Indiana Learns is to increase access to effective, out-of-school academic support to help students recover from learning disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Mind Trust administers the operations of the program on behalf of IDOE. Initially open to fourth and fifth grade students, the expansion of the program now allows for students in third through eighth grade, who scored below proficiency in math or English/language arts on the 2023 administration of ILEARN, to be eligible for grant funds.

In addition to the expanded student eligibility, the following program updates are also effective July 2023:

- Increase in awards for all students with established accounts to \$1,000
- Families establishing new accounts will receive \$1,000
- Families can re-apply for funds after the initial award has been spent
- School corporations can serve as learning partners, providing tutoring support direct to students, without the match requirement
- Expansion of service opportunity to include tutoring during the school day (e.g., during lunch or any instructional period except reading or math)
- Individual schools within a school corporation can now apply to serve as learning partners
- Interested families can visit IndianaLearns.

org to check if their student is now eligible. Families will need to enter a student's student test number (STN) and date of birth to verify eligibility. Parents can locate their student's STN on their ILEARN score report or by reaching out to their school's registrar or office staff. If eligible, families will immediately be able to view available funds and schedule approved services after viewing multiple learning partners that can provide service in their area. Indiana Learns is continuing to receive applications and approve additional learning partners to serve students. Families with questions can reach out to the Indiana Learns team by emailing info@indianalearns.org or by calling (317) 203-9236.

"We are thrilled to have so many eligible students claiming the available funds, and to see families advocating for their students' education," said Seana Murphy, Senior Director of Indiana Learns. "We are especially thankful for school partnerships, which have been instrumental in the growth and success of Indiana Learns."

Indiana Learns is accepting applications for learning partners that can deliver high-quality math or English/language arts tutoring to Hoosier students in-person, virtually, or through a hybrid model. To find information about learning partner requirements and application information, visit the Indiana Learns website.

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Teaching An Old Dog A New Language



DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

One of the things on my bucket list is to be fluent in another language. In the past I've taken lessons in French, Spanish and Hebrew and I wasn't very successful, assuming I wanted to do more than say "Hello," "Goodbye" or most importantly, "Where's the bathroom?"

Mary Ellen and I are planning a trip to Mexico this winter and I am determined to really learn Spanish. I did some checking to see who was available for some personal one-on-one guidance. A lot of really nice houses popped up on my computer screen, but then I realized I had googled Spanish TUDOR instead of Spanish TUTOR.

Then I decided to look into the many apps that you hear advertised on the radio like Babbel, a lousy name for an application that claims to help you speak a new language clearly. There was also Rosetta Stone and Duolingo.

I opted for Duolingo and have spent the last six months dedicated to achieving some success. Up until now the app has been pretty good as long as I speak in the present tense and only want to

order beans and rice at a restaurant. It often gives me different scenarios and then provides the terminology I might employ in those situations, like at a library or a café. Here's one:

You are walking down the avenue alone one evening. You see a stranger. You ask for directions and then strike up a conversation. Then you suggest you have a drink so you can talk, maybe get to know each other better and have some fun.

This sounds to me like a lesson from "Spanish 101 for Street Walkers."

Now that I am in my sixth month of study, I get the feeling that Duolingo is running out of new things to ask me to translate from English to Spanish. The sentences below are actual examples from Unit 14 along with a few editorial remarks by me. All are 100 percent true. Totalmente Cierto!

Yesterday, the birds cleaned the kitchen. (What about the bottom of their cage?)

The horse and the cow went out for dinner. (Good luck. It's hard to find a good vegan restaurant in Indiana.)

My cat cleans the house. (But his litter box is still a disgusting mess.)

The duck learned to use the toilet. (But never flushes or puts the lid down.)

The cow cleaned the

dog's ears.

(I can say it, but I still want to see it.)

The pig wrote a letter to his grandmother.

(How many pigs still have a living grandmother?)

The horse is taking lessons in German. (But had trouble putting on the lederhosen.)

The horse watched his favorite movie.

(There's one scene in The Godfather he hates)

The cats are learning Chinese.

(Big deal, they are Siamese cats.)

Pigs can learn to spell.

(Yes, and they think "farm" is spelled E I E I O.)

I doubt I will ever have to use any of these phrases, but it's always good to be prepared. For example, right now I have to wrap up this column quickly. There is a lot going on in my house and I need to attend to it now...

Mi cerdo y mi vaca estan en la computadora pidiendo una pizza de anchoasa entregar.

(My pig and my cow are on the computer ordering an anchovy pizza to be delivered.)

- 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.

Dial Before You Dig – Duke Energy Reminds Customers To Call 811 On National Safe Digging Day

•Aug. 11 is 811 Day – a day dedicated to the importance of calling 811 at least three business days before digging begins

•Duke Energy received more than 200 reports of damage to underground electric lines in Indiana this year

National Safe Digging Day (also known as 811 Day) is observed Aug. 11, and Duke Energy is reminding professional excavators and do-it-yourselfers of the importance of calling 811 before digging to protect the nation's underground utility infrastructure, prevent potential injury and avoid electric outages.

"This summer and fall, many homeowners and contractors will work on yard and landscaping projects that require digging or excavating," said Stan Pinegar, president of Duke Energy Indiana.

"Before you pick up the shovel or power up excavation equipment, dial 811 at least three business days before digging to help keep yourself and our communities safe and to prevent costly and potentially dangerous damage to underground utility lines."

Call first, dig second

The national "811 Call Before You Dig" system was created so anyone who plans to dig can have underground utility lines clearly marked by making a free call. Contractors, homeowners, business owners and anyone preparing for a digging project should call 811 at least three business days before digging begins. The local utilities will then send a crew to mark underground lines in the area (electric, natural gas,

water, sewer, phone, cable TV and others) with stakes, flags or paint.

Digging into the damage data

From January to June 2023, Duke Energy received more than 200 reports of damage to underground electric lines in Indiana.

"We are committed to the safe operation of our underground infrastructure and the safety of our customers, employees and communities," Pinegar added. "While accidents do happen, most damaged lines can be prevented with a free call to 811."

For additional information about 811, visit duke-energy.com/safety-and-preparedness/call-before-you-dig. To contact the 811 center, dial 811 or visit call811.com.

Learn About What Westfield City Planners Do Each Day!

We're delighted to extend a special invitation to you hosted by the Westfield Chamber of Commerce. We're introducing an exciting new event called "Pastry with a Planner," where you will have a unique opportunity to connect with our city planners and delve into all things Westfield. You'll gain invaluable insights as our city planners present an overview of the city

structure and the Community Development Department.

We believe your input matters, so we've allocated ample time for Q & A with Senior Planner Caleb Ernest and our dedicated team. Don't miss this opportunity to learn, connect, and contribute. At "Pastry with a Planner," we're bringing our community together for a delightful morning

of mingling, delectable pastries, and refreshing beverages. It's the perfect chance to get to know the faces behind Westfield's planning and development.

We look forward to welcoming you to "Pastry with a Planner" and building a stronger community! On Tuesday, August 22nd, from 8 until 9 am. at the Bridgewater Club's Legacy Room.

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BETSY From Page A1

2023 Flix and Floats evenings on the giant LED video board, with the next movie at 8:15 p.m. Saturday, "Cars," Rated G; 8:15 p.m. Aug. 19, "Remember the Titans," Rated PG; 7:15 p.m. Sept. 4, "Back to the Future," Rated PG, admission charged, but free to members, visit forestparkaquaticcenter.com. Pool is open through Labor Day with \$8 daily admission.

11. Enjoy live music featuring Andy Schomburg tonight, The Dead Squirrels on Saturday, Hill and Oaks on Aug. 18, Sam King on Aug. 19 and Sept. 2, Tay Brons on Aug. 25, Donny Coyle on Aug. 26, Oktoberfest on Sept. 8-9, Jason Salyers on Sept. 15, Celtic Rain on Sept. 22 at Primeval Brewing in downtown Noblesville.

12. Celebrate the Second Saturday in August at Nickel Plate Arts with the focus on Fiber Arts, featuring Color Me Happy Fiber Arts Studio demonstration, arts activity based on sewing and fabric of Gio Swaby of the Art Institute of Chicago.

13. 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.

14. Enjoy live music featuring John Gilmore on Saturday, Craig Thurston on Aug. 17, Disagreeable on Aug. 19 at Grindstone Public House in Noblesville.

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

16. Nickel Plate Arts and artisan friends are bringing out their excess and unusual craft supplies for an epic Art Supply Yard Sale 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the Nickel Plate campus at Eighth and Maple, Noblesville.

17. Noblesville Main Street's free Music & All That Jazz series, sponsored by Gordon Insurance, features live music, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., with David Hartman Trio, Saturday; Moontown Pickle Stompers, Sept. 9; and Cohen-Rutkowski Project, Oct. 14, on the Court-house Square in downtown Noblesville.

18. Noblesville Parks and Recreation Department's free Concerts at the Commons will feature tribute bands 7-10 p.m. Saturdays: Chicago Rewired (Chicago tribute), Saturday; Earth to Mars (Bruno Mars tribute), Aug. 26; American English (Beatles tribute) Sept. 9; Trippin Billies (Dave Matthews Band tribute), Sept. 23; all at Federal Hill Commons in downtown Noblesville.

19. 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

20. Aviation enthusiasts can see home-built, restored and military aircraft during the Noblesville Chapter 67 of the Experimental Aircraft Association's Pancake Breakfast and Fly-in 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Aug. 19 at Noblesville Airport, with a Young Eagles Day at noon Aug. 20. Admission is free to the fly-in. The pancake breakfast is \$8, \$5 for ages 10 and younger.

21. Shop at the eighth annual Red Geranium Artisan Market 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 19 at the First Presbyterian Church in Noblesville, featuring 50 unique, one-of-a-kind juried booths indoors and outdoors, plus free admission and parking, live music, bake sale, food trucks, pet friendly to benefit local, state and international mission projects supported by the church.

22. Noblesville Cultural Arts Commission's free Summer Band Concerts on Aug. 20 with New Horizons Band and Aug. 27 with Indianapolis Municipal band at Federal Hill Commons in Noblesville.

23. Tour historic buildings on and around the Square during Noblesville Main Street's Upstairs Downtown at 5 p.m. Sept. 14. Buy a combo ticket for Upstairs Downtown and the Home Tour at www.preservationhall.org.

24. Noblesville Preservation Alliance's 36th annual Historic Home Tour is Sept. 15 in Old Town Noblesville, featuring the Noblesville and Hamilton County Bicentennial, homes built during Noblesville's Gas Boom (1887-1907) on the northwest side of Old Town Noblesville, on Logan and Conner streets, with tickets and tour information at www.preservationhall.org. Buy a combo ticket for Upstairs Downtown and the Home Tour.

25. Grab your lawn chairs and get ready for the Noblesville Porchfest happening 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Aug. 26 with 20 bands, 12 porches, plus beer and food, on Logan Street in Old Town Noblesville.

-Betsy Reason writes about people, places and things in Hamilton County. Contact The Times editor Betsy Reason at betsy@thetimes24-7.com. For more Hamilton County Bicentennial events, visit www.hamcounturns200.com



Photo courtesy of First Presbyterian Church of Noblesville



Photo courtesy of First Presbyterian Church of Noblesville

The 8th Annual Red Geranium Artisan Market – The Tradition Continues

The First Presbyterian Church of Noblesville is hosting their eighth annual Red Geranium Artisan Market on Saturday, August 19th, from 9 am – 3 pm at First Presbyterian Church of Noblesville, 1207 Conner St., Noblesville IN. The market features a variety of local, tri-state and international artisans, food, live music in a festive open-air environment with free admission to the event. Visitors will find 50 different artisan vendor booths located both inside and outside the historical church. The Red Geranium committee juries all the artisans selecting only unique, one-of-a-kind, and handmade items to provide a variety of shopping that includes fine art, antiques, furniture, boutique clothing, children's clothing and accessories, photography, jewelry, wood, fiber, mosaic and glass craft, pottery, garden art, re-purposed and up-cycled unique creations and more!

This year they have 32 returning vendors, including a few favorites who have been there from the beginning. Judy McDowell of MoJoJudo said, "Several years ago, I was fortunate enough to meet one of the organizers and was invited to join the church's new upcoming event, the Red Geranium, and I've been at each show since! The committee has everything so well organized, and the people are so friendly, and helpful. The Red Geranium Artisan Market is such a good fit for me, as I donate 100% of my profits to charitable organizations. I know this event, in turn, benefits various missions of First Presbyterian Church."

Along with the 50 artisan vendor booths the 8th annual Red Geranium will have a variety of live, local talent at the music stage throughout the day. A musical duo and fan favorite, Emily Ann and Kelly Thompson, will be back again this year. "Kelly and I have enjoyed performing at the Red Geranium Market for several years now. We love the setting among the charming old homes of downtown Noblesville, and everyone is so friendly and happy at the market.", said Emily Ann. They perform Celtic & American old-time, folk, bluegrass, & country.

Another important element of the Red Geranium, besides the artwork and music, is the food. The market will once again host the amazing PW Ladies Bake Sale located inside the church and the delicious house-made gelato from Stacco House by Mammamia. A new food vendor that the organizers are quite excited about is Smokey Blue Barbeque. Stop by their food truck and check out their So-Cal Burritos, This Little Piggy, or maybe an amazing side of Uncle Smokey's Street Corn.

All proceeds from the Red Geranium help fund the mission projects sponsored by First Presbyterian Church from the many local organizations right here in Hamilton County to as far away as Appalachia, Ukraine and Hungary. The market is a family and pet-friendly event with no admission fees and plenty of free parking available at the City Hall parking lot on 10th St. For more information, please contact secretary@fpc-noblesville.org or call 317-773-2383.

HHMS From Page A1

plus cheerleading peers and instructors showcasing their athleticism and skills they learned throughout camp.

Of this group, a total of 16 middle school girls tried out for the title of All American Cheerleader. Nine cheerleaders earned the title, five of them from HHMS. They included: Illiana Bowyer, Grace Reynolds, Kolby Weaver, Ashley Woodruff, and Rylee Worland. The title of All American Cheerleader brings with it many opportunities to participate with cheerleaders from around the country who received the same award.

Illiana Bowyer and Grace Reynolds have decided to take part in one of these events, the Citrus Bowl game in Orlando, Florida on Jan 1, 2024. They will travel to Florida with their families and their coach to participate in the halftime performance show.

"This year's group of student athletes are truly amazing," said Nikki Myrick, now in her 6th year of coaching at

the middle school. "I've had amazing responses from them for volunteer opportunities, which is allowing them to make a positive impact on younger, aspiring cheerleaders coming up the ranks in the community. They are all in great standing academically, team players, and work together to showcase each other's individual strengths."

The sport is on the grow at the middle school thanks in part to Coach Myrick's skill, interest, and enthusiasm. Myrick, who is the parent of four children at Heights, coached gymnastics prior to coaching cheer. She brings a positive energy and 12 years of experience traveling throughout the country to compete. Stay tuned for more good things coming out of this program.

These girls are currently looking for sponsors to help fund their trip. If you or someone you know would like to serve as a sponsor in some way, contact coach Nikki Myrick, at hhmscheercoaches@gmail.com.

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PROJECT From Page A1

on-line schooling, and designer drugs. We are here to help."

The Parent Project® has been proven to reduce juvenile delinquency and has helped over 100,000 families nationwide. It uses a support group model to allow parents to learn from each other as well as the curriculum and provides parents concrete prevention and intervention strategies that can be put into immediate use within the home.

"Parents of strong-willed children often question their ability to parent effectively," Evans adds. "This program will help them identify the

off-putting behaviors, empower them to take back their homes, and improve their relationship with their child. We have been providing this class to Hamilton County for over 15 years and know it can change the course of a family."

The Parent Project requires 33 hours of online classroom work. The next class begins Tuesday, September 5th at 5:30 p.m. Parents meet one night a week for approximately two and one-half to three hours. The program fee is \$80 per family. Click here to register. <https://bit.ly/3JLPmbv>

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A6

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Conquer Paralysis Now Plans Indiana Expansion To Accelerate Research And Rehabilitation For Neurological Disorders

Conquer Paralysis Now (CPN), a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing spinal cord injury research and treatment, announced plans today to grow its operations in Indiana, relocating its headquarters from Las Vegas, Nevada, to Carmel and establishing a new DRIVEN NeuroRecovery Center to serve those impacted by paralysis in central Indiana. The organization, founded by former Indianapolis 500 driver and part owner of the Arrow McLaren racing team in the NTT INDYCAR SERIES Sam Schmidt, plans to create up to 40 new jobs in Indiana by the end of 2026.

"Indiana is a global destination for entrepreneurship, and we're excited to welcome Sam Schmidt and his team to our growing and innovative ecosystem," said Indiana Secretary of Commerce Brad Chambers. "Conquer Paralysis Now joins a thriving life sciences sector, and I'm confident that those partnerships and our skilled workforce will enable the organization to find success here, improving the lives of those affected by paralysis and neurological conditions across the globe."

CPN will invest \$21.4 million to grow in Carmel, purchasing, renovating and equipping the former Five Seasons Family Sports Club facility. Located at 1300 E 96th St., the new space will house CPN's headquarters operations as well as its second DRIVEN NeuroRecovery Center, designed to provide fitness, wellness and rehabilitation for people affected by paralysis and other neurological conditions. CPN plans to break ground on the facility next week and start relocating to Indiana by the end of 2023.

The organization expects to begin providing client services by 2024, starting with services such as fitness programs, adaptive sports, aquatics, physical and occupational therapy, speech therapy, mental health services, recreational programs, and research support to local universities and hospitals, providing increased quality of life for those living with disabilities, advancing research and treatment,

and supporting the development of skilled staff to work with this population. Additionally, CPN is partnering with NeuroHope, a local physical rehab center, to further its mission and services.

"This is a monumental day for Conquer Paralysis Now," said CPN founder Schmidt. "It is our global mission to address the overwhelming need for greater access to neuro rehabilitation care while we continue to inspire research into finding cures. The opportunity to plant our stake in the ground in the Midwest – in a city that means so much to me and where we've received so much support – is one we couldn't pass up."

CPN, which was founded in 2000, is a global project of the Sam Schmidt Paralysis Foundation, which Schmidt established after sustaining injuries in a crash driving an IndyCar in 2000 that left him a quadriplegic. CPN is dedicated to advancing research aimed at curing spinal cord injuries and making neuro rehabilitation treatment more widely available. In 2018, the organization opened the doors to its first DRIVEN NeuroRecovery Center in Schmidt's hometown of Las Vegas. CPN's long-range plan calls for opening more independent DRIVEN facilities across the nation to make this vital physical and mental care more accessible.

"We are excited to welcome another corporate, life sciences based operation to Carmel," said Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard. "Conquer Paralysis Now will complement Carmel's already thriving industries of life sciences and medical services that benefit all of Central Indiana. We look forward to watching them grow and succeed in their mission."

Based on the organization's job creation plans, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation committed an investment in the Sam Schmidt Foundation (dba Conquer Paralysis Now) of up to \$660,000 in the form of incentive-based tax credits. These tax credits are performance-based, meaning the company is eligible to claim incentives once Hoosiers are hired. The IEDC will also invest up to \$750,000

in redevelopment tax credits, which provide an incentive for companies to invest in redevelopment and revitalization to improve the quality of place within Indiana. The City of Carmel supports the project.

About Sam Schmidt

Sam Schmidt is a resident of the Las Vegas area. He was an IndyCar driver before suffering an injury in practice in January 2000 in which he sustained a C-3/4/5 spinal cord injury that left him a quadriplegic. He created the Sam Schmidt Paralysis Foundation (SSPF) that year to raise funds for medical research, innovative equipment used for rehabilitation, and quality-of-life issues. In 2014, the foundation was rebranded as Conquer Paralysis Now with a mission to cure paralysis while assisting those who are already disabled.

Today, besides chairing Conquer Paralysis Now, Sam is a highly successful businessperson and INDYCAR team co-owner with Arrow McLaren.

About Conquer Paralysis Now

Conquer Paralysis Now is a 501c3 nonprofit devoted to furthering advancements in spinal cord injury research and treatment. In 2018, CPN created a program called DRIVEN NeuroRecovery Center to fill the gap for services for people with spinal cord injuries and other neurological conditions which affect mobility. For more information, visit the CPN website at ConquerParalysisNow.com.

About IEDC

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) is charged with growing the State economy, driving economic development, helping businesses launch, grow and locate in the state. Led by Secretary of Commerce Brad Chambers, @SecChambersIN, and governed by a 15-member board chaired by Governor Eric J. Holcomb, @GovHolcomb, the IEDC manages many initiatives, including performance-based tax credits, workforce training grants, innovation and entrepreneurship resources, public infrastructure assistance, and talent attraction and retention efforts. For more information about the IEDC, visit iedc.in.gov.



Photo courtesy of Purdue University

HADAR, or heat-assisted detection and ranging, combines thermal physics, infrared imaging and machine learning to pave the way to fully passive and physics-aware machine perception. Research led by Zubin Jacob, the Elmore Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and research scientist Fanglin Bao of Purdue University has been published as the cover story of the peer-reviewed journal Nature.

Purdue Thermal Imaging Innovation Allows AI To See Through Pitch Darkness Like Broad Daylight

Researchers at Purdue University are advancing the world of robotics and autonomy with their patent-pending method that improves on traditional machine vision and perception.

Zubin Jacob, the Elmore Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering in the Elmore Family School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and research scientist Fanglin Bao have developed HADAR, or heat-assisted detection and ranging. Their research was featured on the cover of the July 26 issue of the peer-reviewed journal Nature. A video about HADAR is available on YouTube. Nature also has released a podcast episode that includes an interview with Jacob.

Jacob said it is expected that one in 10 vehicles will be automated and that there will be 20 million robot helpers that serve people by 2030.

"Each of these agents will collect information about its surrounding scene through advanced sensors to make decisions without human intervention," Jacob said. "However, simultaneous perception of the scene by numerous agents is fundamentally prohibitive."

Traditional active sensors like LiDAR, or light detection and ranging, radar and sonar emit signals and subsequently receive them to collect 3D information about a scene. These methods have drawbacks that increase as they are scaled up, including signal interference and risks to people's eye safety. In comparison, video cameras that work based on sunlight or other sources of illumination are advantageous, but low-light conditions such as nighttime, fog or rain present a serious impediment.

Traditional thermal

imaging is a fully passive sensing method that collects invisible heat radiation originating from all objects in a scene. It can sense through darkness, inclement weather and solar glare. But Jacob said fundamental challenges hinder its use today.

"Objects and their environment constantly emit and scatter thermal radiation, leading to textureless images famously known as the 'ghosting effect,'" Bao said. "Thermal pictures of a person's face show only contours and some temperature contrast; there are no features, making it seem like you have seen a ghost. This loss of information, texture and features is a roadblock for machine perception using heat radiation."

HADAR combines thermal physics, infrared imaging and machine learning to pave the way to fully passive and physics-aware machine perception.

"Our work builds the information theoretic foundations of thermal perception to show that pitch darkness carries the same amount of information as broad daylight. Evolution has made human beings biased toward the daytime. Machine perception of the future will overcome this long-standing dichotomy between day and night," Jacob said.

Bao said, "HADAR vividly recovers the texture from the cluttered heat signal and accurately disentangles temperature, emissivity and texture, or TeX, of all objects in a scene. It sees texture and depth through the darkness as if it were day and also perceives physical attributes beyond RGB, or red, green and blue, visible imaging or conventional thermal sensing. It is surprising that it is possible to see through pitch darkness like broad daylight."

The team tested HADAR TeX vision using an off-road nighttime scene.

"HADAR TeX vision recovered textures and overcame the ghosting effect," Bao said. "It recovered fine textures such as water ripples, bark wrinkles and culverts in addition to details about the grassy land."

Additional improvements to HADAR are improving the size of the hardware and the data collection speed.

"The current sensor is large and heavy since HADAR algorithms require many colors of invisible infrared radiation," Bao said. "To apply it to self-driving cars or robots, we need to bring down the size and price while also making the cameras faster. The current sensor takes around one second to create one image, but for autonomous cars we need around 30 to 60 hertz frame rate, or frames per second."

HADAR TeX vision's initial applications are automated vehicles and robots that interact with humans in complex environments. The technology could be further developed for agriculture, defense, geosciences, health care and wildlife monitoring applications.

Jacob and Bao disclosed HADAR TeX to the Purdue Innovates Office of Technology Commercialization, which has applied for a patent on the intellectual property. Industry partners seeking to further develop the innovations should contact Dipak Narula, dnarula@prf.org about 2020-JACO-68773.

Jacob and Bao have received funding from DARPA to support their research. The Office of Technology Commercialization awarded Jacob \$50,000 through its Trask Innovation Fund to further develop the research.

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Voice of our PEOPLE

From Ernie Pyle To Polls To Scott Rolen . . .



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

Scattershooting while wondering whatever happened to Joe Besser . . .

AUG. 3, 1900 was the day Ernie Pyle was born. For those who know, no explanation is necessary. If you don't, Ernie was born just up the road in little Dana, Ind. and became America's most famous World War II correspondent. He was beloved by the reading public and GI's alike. He wrote stories from the front lines – not of battles and statistics, but of the guy in the foxhole or on the beach and what they were feeling. His work was so good that he was followed by millions . . . and was awarded a Pulitzer Prize.

Growing up, my dad who served in the U.S. Army revered Ernie and Bill Mauldin (creator of the cartoon Willie and

Joe) and taught me respect for the military and the flag. Thank God for that. If you get a chance, go to Dana and see the Ernie Pyle World War II Museum and his birthplace. Granted, it's a long drive and truth to tell, it doesn't take all that long to tour the facilities. But it's worth every second.

By the way, Ernie lost his life when he was shot by an enemy machine gun in the Pacific in April of 1945, just months before the end of the war.

THE POLLS show . . . are you kidding me? If there is anything that symbolizes the insanity running through our country right now, it's political polls. Has our memory grown so short that we don't remember how far off the political polls were in the last few elections? Remember that sizable lead Hillary had over the Donald? Or the one Trump had over Biden?

I don't know which is worse, the media for continuing to report such drivel, or us for paying attention.

SPEAKING OF insanity, what in the world is the fuss over a country song from Jason Aldean? I can't say I'm a

fan of Aldean. I couldn't name one of his songs if you paid me. But after the buzz surrounding Try That In A Small Town, I wanted to see what the clamor was all about. I googled the lyrics and I watched the video a couple of times.

Critics claim the song is racist. Country Music Television yanked it pretty quickly. And the (maybe this is the theme of the day) insanity ensued.

I'm no music expert, but here are a couple of observations. If you watch the video, it sure looks like an awful lot of the idiots shown in random acts of violence are white. Maybe Aldean doesn't like white people?

There's a TV show called The View – if you've never seen it, don't waste your time. Some of the women went off on Aldean and the song. Their take – it's like a dog whistle that's meant to be heard by racists everywhere.

Just one man's opinion, but hogwash.

A lot of Americans – yours truly included – are sick and tired of some of the crap going on in big cities. But bigger than that, A LOT bigger than that, is the idea that folks like those on The

View can take something and twist it into what it's not. Think that's wrong? Watch the video. Listen to the lyrics.

We can argue all day, but the facts are pretty simple. Racism is wrong. It's not just a little wrong, it's a lot wrong. But arguing or agreeing isn't going to change history. It's not going to make some stupid people suddenly wise up and respect their fellow man. It's not going to change bias – which goes way beyond race.

There are enough real examples of bias and racism in this country. Let's stop inventing ones that don't exist because that's only making things worse.

We all get to have our own opinions. What we don't get is our own set of facts. Enough.

WHILE WE'RE on the subject of our own "facts," did you catch the recent news out of Arizona where Gov. Katie Hobbs and Attorney General Kris Mayes defied the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on abortions and set their own standards?

This is not a pro or con argument on abortion. This is about elected officials deciding which laws they like and which ones they don't – and making

the enforcement of those contingent on that. What if it happened all across the country? Essentially, we'd have 50 governors ruling the U.S. Or what if it went to the county level? We have about 3,100 counties and equivalents in the U.S. What if each one decided which federal laws and rulings they wanted to enforce . . . or not?

Pretty sure that's called chaos.

STAYING ON the theme of insanity. Ever sat in a long line of stop-and-go traffic only to watch someone ahead of you let a car out from a side street? Here's a question: Are they being nice to that driver, or penalizing those behind?

YOU KNOW, I had a list of other things to bring up this week – chestfeeding, Hunter Biden, Donald Trump, cocaine in the White House, Mitch McConnell . . . talk about insane. It's just too depressing. What's it going to take to get this country back on the right track?

LET'S END on a bright note, shall we? For sports fans – and non-sports fans alike – you won't find a better exam-

ple of what's right with the world than Scott Rolen's Hall of Fame speech (google it). Rolen, a Jasper, Ind. boy with connections to Southmont and Wabash grad Dave Taylor, talked about his upbringing more than his career. He credited his parents for teaching him the important things in life. All too often we are reminded of athletes and their me-first attitudes. Not so with Rolen. He's exactly what a role model should be.

JOE BESSER? Three Stooges fans will remember him as basically the fifth of six stooges. He was the one who came along after Shemp died. You may recall him saying things like, Not so haaaaard." By the way, Moe Howard and Larry Fine were the two who appeared during the decades-long run of the comedy geniuses. Curly Howard, Shemp Howard, Besser and Joe DeRita were the other four.

Two cents, which is about how much Timmons said his columns are worth, appears periodically on Wednesdays in The Paper. Timmons is the publisher of The Paper and can be contacted at ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com.

Ask Rusty – I'm A Veteran. How Do I Get My Extra Social Security?

Dear Rusty: As a military veteran, I was told that the final amount of my Social Security should be a little higher as a reward for military service. If so, I have two questions: 1. How much is the boost? 2. How can I know that amount has been applied? Signed: Unsure

Dear Unsure: We receive questions about this fairly often from our military veterans. I want to first thank you for your service to our country and then assure you that, as a military veteran myself, I have thoroughly investigated this subject – the so-called "Special Extra Credit for Military Service," which is widely misunderstood. Although someone suggested that your Social Security benefit "is supposed to be a little higher" because you are a military veteran, allow me to share how this somewhat obscure rule actually works.

Any extra money for military veterans does not come in the form of a special "boost" to their Social Security benefit because of their military service; instead, certain older veterans receive extra credit to their earnings for the years they served. Those extra earnings are applied only to those who served in specific years, as additional dollars added to their actual earnings record for their service-years. The amount added to the veteran's true service-year earnings varies a bit depending on which years you served. For example, if you served between 1957 – 1977, your actual earnings for each service-year would be increased by \$300 for each full quarter you had active duty pay to a maximum of \$1200 additional earnings per service-year. The credit is computed a bit differently for those who served between 1978 – 2001, but the maximum annual earnings credit for those service



ASK RUSTY
Social Security Advisor

years is the same – \$1,200. And, for clarity, those who served before 1957 get extra earnings credit under an entirely different formula, and those who served after 2001 receive no extra credits for their military service years.

So how might this affect your Social Security benefit? Well, when your benefit is claimed, Social Security reviews your lifetime earnings record, inflates each actual annual amount to equal today's dollar equivalent, and selects the highest earning 35 years from your lifetime record

Social Security Matters by AMAC Certified Social Security Advisor Russell Gloor

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to calculate your "Primary Insurance Amount" or "PIA" (your PIA is the amount you are entitled to at full retirement age). If your military service-years are among the 35 years used to compute your PIA when you claim, then the "Special Extra Credit for Military Service" will result in a somewhat higher PIA (a slightly higher monthly SS benefit). If the highest earning 35 years in your lifetime record do not include your military-service-years, then those extra credits added to your earnings for your military-ser-

vice-years will have no effect on your Social Security benefit (because using those service-years would result in a lower benefit). How Social Security applies those special extra credits to your service-year earnings also varies depending on when you served. Those who served before 1968 needed to show their DD-214 to get the extra credits, but those who served in between 1968 – 2001 were automatically given the extra credits based on their military service records. So, if your military

service was between 1968 and 2001, your earnings during the years you served were automatically increased by SS to reflect your "special extra" earnings and - if those years are among the highest of the 35 years used to compute your SS benefit - you are now receiving the extra benefit amount you're entitled to from those credits. If you have at least 35 years over your lifetime where you earned more than your pay while serving in the military, your current benefit is more than it would be if your military service years were included. If you have questions about your earnings during your military service years, you may wish to obtain a copy of your lifetime earnings history from Social Security to review those amounts (easiest way to get your lifetime earnings history is via your personal "my Social Security" account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount).

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