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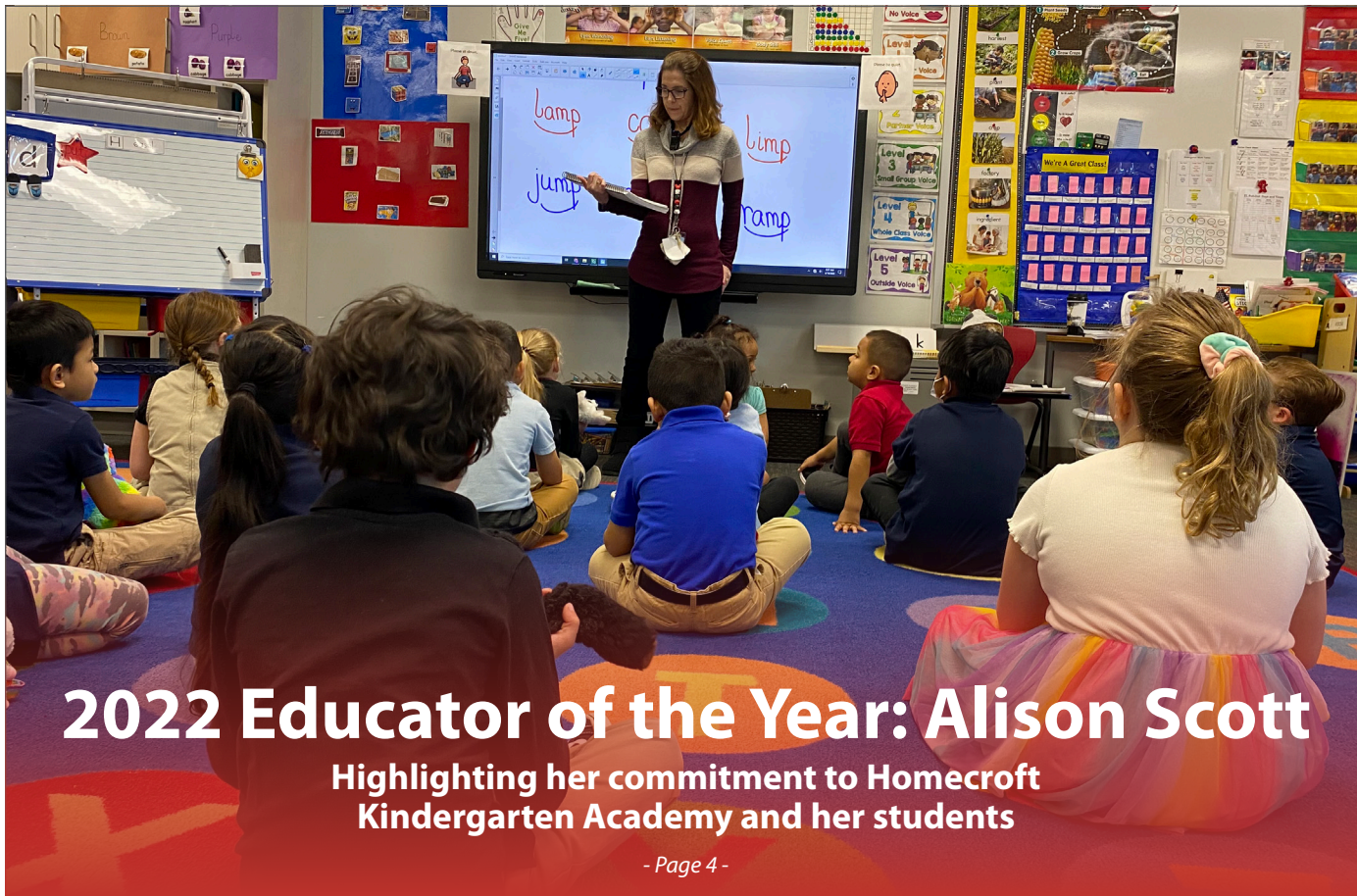
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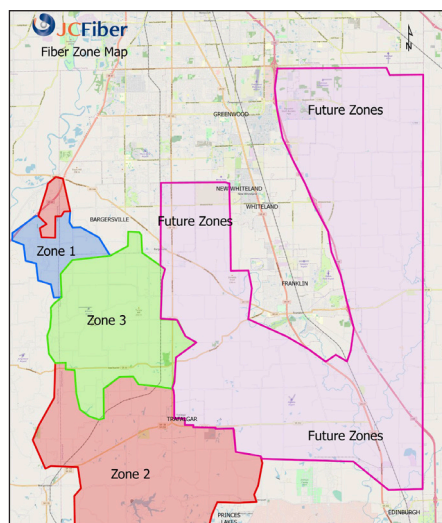


McGee & Company Fine Jewelers, at 880 US Highway 31 N, Greenwood, has been in business since 1988. (Submitted photo)

McGee & Company Fine Jewelers hosts retirement sale

A Southside jewelry store owner is celebrating his retirement by inviting guests to a major sale. Bob McGee opened McGee & Company Fine Jewelers in Greenwood 34 years ago. His son Adam McGee and daughter-in-law Brittany McGee will take ownership after Bob retires. The store, which offers bridal jewelry and watches, along with repairs and custom work, is currently hosting a brief sale featuring the entire collection of 14-karat gold, diamond and colored gemstone jewelry and watches.

ss-times.com/mcgee-company-fine-jewelers-hosts-retirement-sale



All Zone 1 households are eligible to sign up for service, and construction for Zones 2 and 3 are slated for completion by the end of 2022. Planning is under way for the second half of the four-year expansion, divided into Zones 4, 5 and 6. The next zone to begin construction will be announced this summer. (Submitted image)

Johnson County invests \$1 million in JCFiber broadband expansion

A \$1 million investment approved by the Johnson County Commissioners will be used to complete work for broadband expansion in Johnson County's underserved areas. The funds are coming from the county's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allotment and will be used to finish labor in JCFiber's previously announced Zones 2 and 3 on the western side of the county.

ss-times.com/johnson-county-invests-1-million-in-jcfiber-broadband-expansion

For more information on these articles and other timely news, visit ss-times.com.

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Have any news tips? Want to submit a calendar event? Have a photograph to share? Email Nicole Davis at nicole@icontimes.com. And remember, our news deadlines are several days prior to print.

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Topics in History: History through Film

A Southport student review of the 2005 movie *The Greatest Game Ever Played*

FEATURE

Topics is a course at Southport High School, taught by Kevin Sanders, which analyzes major events from United States and world history through Hollywood films that attempt to portray those events. Students investigate historical documents and other sources to determine if a film is historically accurate.

*The goal is for students to develop deeper understandings of the historical discipline while generating questions about the way the world is around them, along with watching classical films that have graced American and international screens. This week, Luke Goodwin reviews the film *The Greatest Game Ever Played*.*

By Luke Goodwin

In the film, *The Greatest Game Ever Played*, there was a constant feeling of a human element throughout the film that makes people who don't like golf even enjoy the film.

During the film they feature the late

American Francis Ouimet, frequently referred to as the "father of amateur golf" as a young boy, and they follow him as he grows older. In the film Francis found a love for the sport of golf at a young age since he and his poor family lived across from a golf course. As he grew older, he became a caddy, and he would caddy and play golf as an amateur. The human element comes to life when you think about how Francis grew up poor and wanting to play golf, when golf in America was only for the wealthy. That hits home to many people these days who grow up poor or grow up without many opportunities. In the film Francis shows that it is possible to do what you want, no matter if you are poor or rich. According to a biography on

Francis on the website for the Francis Ouimet scholarship fund, "There were very few players in America, no public courses, and the game was confined mostly to the wealthy. Ouimet's victory changed all of that. His victory and unlikely background combined to create an inspirational moment. Within 10 years the number of players tripled."



On the other side you have the supposed villain of the story, Harry Vardon. Surprisingly, Harry Vardon grew up much like Francis did. Harry grew up in a poor working-class family, who lived directly on top of a golf course. And in the beginning of the movie you can see his house while some men survey their land for the construction of a new golf course. This is the moment

when Harry finds out what golf is when he asks one of the men, who are looking at the property. Harry also brings that human element to the movie because we find out pretty early on that Harry Vardon is one of the biggest names in the golf scene at that time and golf at that time was a gentleman's game, and Harry was no gentleman. He was a class act. Also throughout the film you can see that Harry sees himself when he looks at Francis, because of how similar they are. And you can tell that Harry knows Francis is a great golfer, but he would never make it in the establishment.

In all, *The Greatest Game Ever Played* is more than just a golfing movie. It shows that with no matter what background you come from, you can achieve pretty much anything you want, as long as you work for it. Both Harry and Francis showed great sportsmanship and generosity toward the end of the movie when playing at the U.S. open match. All athletes could watch this film and see the sportsmanship and generosity portrayed the characters, and improve themselves in their sports, too.

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Take a glimpse of a typical day in Alison Scott's classroom at Homecroft Kindergarten Academy. (Photos courtesy of Perry Township Schools)

2022 Educator of the Year: Alison Scott

Highlighting her commitment to Homecroft Kindergarten Academy and her students

By Todd Travis

Educator of the Year award

Educators play a vital role in our community as they help equip our children to become the leaders of tomorrow. They are known to put in countless hours of dedicated service as they plan, prepare and teach throughout the school year (and even into the summer). While all educators deserve to be recognized, Alison Scott has been chosen to be specially recognized as this year's Educator of the Year. She has been teaching in Perry Township for 18 years. According to the school nomination, "Miss Scott goes above and beyond each day to meet the needs of her students. She puts in countless hours and effort to plan the most impactful instruction for the varied needs of her class. Alison has the ability to interact in a positive way with all students and staff members, and her collaborative efforts make Homecroft Kindergarten Academy a better place for students!"

Becoming a teacher

Scott talks about her love for school and what led her into education as a career. "I can't pinpoint one specific thing that inspired me to become a teacher. Growing up I always loved school. I loved the 'feeling' of school and I loved being there. I loved how my new crayons smelled, I loved the feel of my new textbooks, I loved the sound of my teacher's heels as she walked around our room. I was never the smartest kid in the class, but I was really good at being a student," she recalled. She admits that she fell into education through her love of school and involvement with the different programs she participated in. "Throughout my life I loved school and tried to be as involved

with as many things as time would allow. I always had a deep respect and admiration for my teachers and, I think, I can still name everyone, kindergarten through high school. At the time I didn't realize it as much as I do now the long-lasting impact each of them had on me," she remembered.

In junior high, Scott started babysitting and working in the "Baby Room" at church. In high school, she worked with elementary students in cheerleading clinics, theatre and the DARE program. "I always had a love for children," she stated. While she had planned to train to be a child life specialist in college, the program was not offered. Her counselor suggested she try early childhood education instead. She followed this advice which eventually led her to expand to elementary education with a K endorsement and a reading minor. "I have been lucky to have had opportunities present themselves to further my training in the field of education with an emphasis on early literacy education," she remarked.

Overcoming challenges

Not everything was smooth for Scott in her teaching career. After two years of teaching she faced a crossroads and felt she might quit teaching altogether. "Without going into all the details, I was basically told that I wasn't good enough to be a teacher. That, and a few other comments, were the nail in the coffin of my career continuing in that school system and, also, almost the end of my career entirely. The power of words!" she shared. Just as she felt she had made the decision to quit teaching, a twist of fate came in to change her mind. "A friend of a friend worked in Perry Township as a reading recovery trainer. I reached out, she invited me to an open meeting at Glenss Valley (Elementary School), I met Mr. Oldham, I applied, I in-

terviewed, and I was hired. I started in Perry Township 18 years ago as a half-day kindergarten teacher, half-day reading recovery teacher and I have never looked back," she said.

She credits Roberta Hannon, who was principal at Southport Elementary School at the time, for helping her build up her confidence after having it shaken in her previous school district. "She just saved my teaching career. And I've told her that many times," Scott remarked. She also felt that same welcoming spirit from the rest of the staff she interacted with. "The welcoming spirit and love that I felt in the first moments of my career in Perry started to build back that confidence that was lost. I felt like I was part of something, and I was appreciated. I will be forever grateful!" she recounted.

Family influence

Scott's family was always a big proponent of education. Her maternal grandparents immigrated to the United States in the 1930s and had to quit school around eighth grade to go and work. "They were huge advocates for education. It was never, 'If you go to college,' it was always 'WHEN you go to college,'" Scott remembered. Her paternal grandparents both graduated from high school but did not have the opportunity to attend college, instead entering the workforce. "My paternal grandmother, however, dreamed of becoming a teacher. She talked about teaching and teachers and education her whole life. When we visited Grammy's house, we always got to play school!" she recalled. "Even as she got older and her memory was fading, she always knew me as 'the teacher.' We were able to have conversations, centered around school, until the very end."

With such a strong foundation from her

grandparents, her parents become the two biggest influences on her regarding education. They were at every event she and her sister were involved. They volunteered for concession stand duty, band trip chaperones and post-prom committee. "You name it, Mama and Papa Scott were there! They value education, as their parents did, realizing that education can open up doors and opportunities. They have always been the cheerleaders encouraging me, pushing me and sometimes dragging me along because their belief in me is unshakable. I wouldn't be anywhere without them!" Scott said.

Fast forward to today

Scott loves the process of getting to know her students. "When they first come in, they start off as names on paper, but as you get to know them you see their personalities and how they become more comfortable and grow as students," she explained. Her goal for her students is to set a foundation and to plant seeds for them to grow a love of learning and education. Her school recognizes her for not only her passion in the classroom, but also involvement outside of the classroom. "Miss Scott organizes our annual Valentines for Vets program and is the liaison between HKA and the office of Dr. Carson. She works hard in an effort to get the valentines delivered to the veterans in our community. She is also building 'Cheer Coordinator' and plans our payday Friday Spirit days. Alison also played a critical role in our virtual distributions for our families this school year," the school noted.

While much more can be said of Scott and her efforts as a teacher, she has proven to be a worthy recipient of this year's Educator of the Year award.

Congratulations, Alison!

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Southside Educator of the Month

Compiled by Nicole Davis

Do you know an educator that deserves to be recognized? Please email their name, grade or subject they teach, school name and reason(s) for nomination to nicole@icontimes.com. Congratulations to this month's nominated educators of the month: **Mr. Brian Dunn**, Franklin Central High School, **Ann Cook**, Grassy Creek Elementary, **Anthony Derouin**, Central Catholic School, **Alex Grayson**, Perry Meridian Middle School.



Mr. Brian Dunn

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS CO-ORDINATOR, AN AP LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR, FRANKLIN CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

"Mr. Brian Dunn's professional leadership is palpable in our district. Leading the way on technology initiatives for our large staff, Mr. Dunn also leads the school Poetry Out Loud competition. In addition, he has grown our AP language program exponentially and developed the curriculum to seven high-interest theme literature courses such as True Crime, Hoosier Hysteria, Monsters, and Tragedy & Triumph. He has transformed the English department. As a long time Flashes varsity cross country coach, Brian has been recognized by his team, colleagues, and the IHSAA for sectional championships, inclusiveness, and growth. This summer, he is leading the Fast Flash charity race for our district for the Franklin Township Education Foundation

initiative. Mr. Dunn is a vital force of positive change in our booming district, and those who encounter him leave feeling uplifted, motivated, and encouraged to the light our students need! Brian embodies what it means to BE A FLASH!"

** Nominated by Franklin Township Community School Corporation*

Ann Cook

SECOND GRADE TEACHER, GRASSY CREEK ELEMENTARY

I would like to nominate my son's teacher. Her name is Ann Cook, and she is a second grade teacher at Grassy Creek Elementary in Clark Pleasant Township. She has helped my son tremendously as he is very behind due to the pandemic. My son has anxiety about school and is embarrassed as he is further behind than anyone else in his class. She is so kind to him and makes him enjoy going to school. She communicates with me on a weekly basis and tries to individualize a learning plan just for him. We are very thankful for her!

** Nominated by a Clark-Pleasant Schools parent*



Anthony Derouin

JUNIOR HIGH MATH & STEM CENTRAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"Mr. Derouin is an amazing math teacher for middle school! I am sure almost every

teacher is an amazing teacher and they put

their most effort into doing the job they love. Mr. Derouin is different though, he stands out in a way I have never seen in any of my past teachers before. He truly cares about his students and makes us feel heard and appreciated! He goes to our sport events and our activities that we participate in. I think it is really important that he does that because it makes us the students feel special and like he really cares about his students! That is a quality in teachers that we love in them! Mr. Derouin does an incredible amount of work at school. He volunteers to do coaching in sports and chess! He also tutors and does extra violin lessons at school for the students! He does a lot for the school and we don't recognize it enough. Every teacher does a great job at what they do and we appreciate it but Mr. Derouin does all these things for us, the students. His love for the students is astonishing and beautiful! For example, when someone's birthday in middle school comes up he buys them a gift and writes them a letter! Other than all of his kindness and generosity towards the students, his teaching in math is great! He pushes us to be our best selves in math class and he knows what is best for us!"

"Mr. Derouin is the middle school math teacher at Central Catholic School. I think he should be recognized as an educator of the month. Not only is he a great educator, but he also helps a ton in extracurricular activities. He coaches chess and volleyball. He even led our eighth-grade team to a city championship. He stays after school to help with tutoring and even gives violin lessons sometimes. Mr. Der-

ouin is such a great part of Central Catholic, I know without him people wouldn't be able to succeed in things like math or volleyball. Central Catholic is so happy to have Mr. Derouin!"

** Nominated by Central Catholic Elementary eighth-grade students*



Alex Grayson

EL TEACHER PERRY MERIDIAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

"He does an amazing job building relationships with our students and then leverages those to push students. He uses creative real world projects that incorporate multiple subjects and help students build skills they can use in all classes. Additionally, he has really worked hard to help each of his students set measurable goals and then work toward them. As they do he is the constant cheerleader who lets each of his students know how much he believes in them. Because of his contagious positivity and relentless desire to push students, Alex is a kid magnet that makes Perry Meridian Middle School!"

** Nominated by Perry Township Schools*



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Peterman Brothers Heating and Cooling steps up for teachers

FEATURE

By Grady Gaynor

According to an annual survey done by Indiana University Bayh College of Education, 96.5% of participating Indiana school districts reported teacher shortages, the highest in the seven years of surveying school corporations. Due to the many aggregations brought upon the school system due to covid, many teachers have struggled to perform their jobs day in, day out, adding to an already trending downward issue, and compounding the problem.

In times of need, certain businesses rise above the call of duty to give back to its communities. For Peterman Brothers Heating and Cooling, philanthropy in Indiana is a year-round commitment. Learning and Development Specialist Dani Wernert oversees Peterman's internal and external philanthropy campaign with a focus on a different area of need each month. For the month of April, that focus is on our teachers.

With a focus on giving back to the statewide community and improving literacy,

team members have been raising money to award a deserving teacher with a classroom full of new books. When teachers see the impact they have in not only their students' lives, but the community they statistically stay teaching for longer and continue to inspire lives, according to Wernert. At the core of this fundraising effort is the children who will benefit from exciting new books to explore.

"As a company, Peterman puts a strong emphasis on philanthropy in our community. These nominations bring teaching to the forefront of the community and help us remember why teachers are so important in the first place," said Wernert.

Peterman employees have held a department contest to compete in raising money for the winning teacher's library. Through an internal bake sale and raffle contest, employees have raised \$700 in 20 days.

All have been asked to nominate a deserving teacher of this award through their website: www.petermanhcop.com/teacher or found on the company Facebook page. The winner will be announced during National Teacher Appreciation Week (May 2-6).

IN OUR SCHOOLS



BGHS Chamber Choir. (Photo courtesy of Beech Grove City Schools)

BGHS Chamber Choir earns Gold

ISSMA - The Beech Grove High School Chamber Choir earned all Gold ratings for their performance at the ISSMA Concert Organizational Festival on April 9.



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May is National Mental Health Awareness Month

By **Robert Gonzalez, MD**
Pediatrician with Eskenazi Health

Everyone who knows someone who suffers from mental or behavioral health issues are well aware of the unfortunate stigmas those individuals are faced with, which is why National Mental Health Awareness Month each May raises awareness of the difficulties individuals with those conditions must contend with.

Mental illness consists of a variety of conditions that may adversely affect a person's feeling or mood, and their thinking. Relating to others and functioning normally can be a huge challenge, and people with identical diagnoses may have completely different experiences.

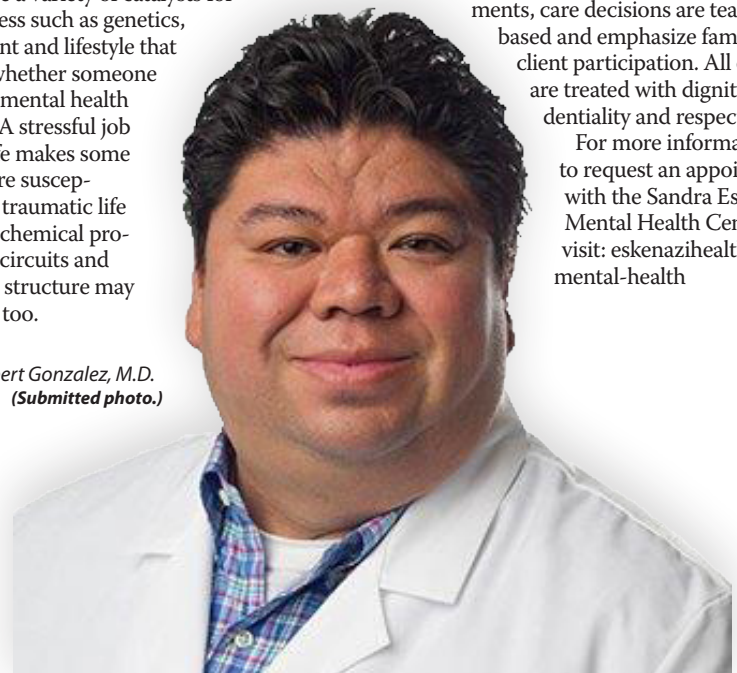
Unbeknownst to much of the general public, mental health conditions are far more common than many of us realize, mainly because people are reticent to talk about them.

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, one in five U.S. adults experience these difficulties each year, and one in 20 U.S. adults annually experience serious mental illness. In addition, one in six U.S. youth aged 6-17 experience a mental health disorder each year, and 50% of all lifetime mental illness begins by age 14, and 75% by age 24.

The most common mental illnesses in the U.S. include anxiety disorders, major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), panic disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and eating disorders.

There are a variety of catalysts for mental illness such as genetics, environment and lifestyle that influence whether someone develops a mental health condition. A stressful job or home life makes some people more susceptible, as do traumatic life events. Biochemical processes and circuits and basic brain structure may play a role, too.

Robert Gonzalez, M.D.
(Submitted photo.)



A possible contributing factor in the nation's rise in mental illness could be the increasing use of social media. Online interaction has taken precedence over face-to-face communication, which promotes isolation and loneliness. Physical appearance is also heavily stressed on social media and other online platforms. Also, the more time spent on social media, the more likely one might experience cyber-bullying, which is linked to depression and suicidal behaviors.

For many people, recovery – including meaningful roles in social life, school and work – is possible, especially when you start treatment early and play a strong role in your own recovery process.

Sandra Eskenazi Mental Health Center, Indiana's first community mental health organization, provides comprehensive care for all types of emotional and behavioral problems, including severe mental illness and substance abuse. It offers both inpatient and outpatient services in multiple locations throughout Indianapolis and often integrates treatment into a patient's primary care treatment plan.

The primary mission of Sandra Eskenazi Mental Health Center is to serve individuals with serious mental illness and chronic addiction and seriously emotionally disturbed children and their families. Patients of all ages are welcomed, from children to seniors, with a philosophy of care that stresses strength-based and family- and community-centered treatment utilizing the Recovery Model of treatment.

Utilizing best practices resulting from ongoing research and medical advancements, care decisions are team-based and emphasize family and client participation. All clients are treated with dignity, confidentiality and respect.

For more information or to request an appointment with the Sandra Eskenazi Mental Health Center, visit: [eskenazihealth.edu/mental-health](https://www.eskenazihealth.edu/mental-health)

BUSINESS

Southside residential real estate markets remain healthy

Home prices - The residential real estate markets in Greenwood and Southport remained healthy in March. According to F.C. Tucker Company, homes in Greenwood spent one day, or 7.1%, longer on the market, while homes in Southport did not see any change in days on market, compared to March 2021. Home sale prices increased compared to this time last year, with the average sale price for a Greenwood home increasing 21.3% to \$284,054, and the average sale price for a Southport home increasing 14% to \$231,005.

Aspire announces finalists for its Business Awards

Celebrate Aspire - Aspire Economic Development + Chamber Alliance announced the finalists for its business awards. Aspire's Business Success Award recognizes those that demonstrate qualified success and creativity in the face of adversity. And its Excellence in Talent Award spotlights employers demonstrating excellence in talent recruitment and retention. The winner in each category will be revealed at "Celebrate Aspire" on April 28. The event, sponsored by Franklin College, will be held at The Garment Factory in Franklin. Finalists by award and category are:

- **Business Success, Small Companies (1-49 Employees)** - Bargersville Wellness, Crown Staffing, Duke Homes, Hoosier Brewing
- **Business Success, Large Companies (50+ Employees)** - AECOM Hunt, Indiana Foundation Services
- **Business Success, Nonprofits** - Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana, Festival Country, Indiana, Habitat for Humanity of Johnson County, Resources for Hope
- **Excellence in Talent Development, Small Employers (1-49 Employees)** - Airtomic LLC, All In Painting, Bargersville Wellness, Duke Homes, Dynamic Music Services
- **Excellence in Talent Development, Large Employers (50+ Employees)** - AECOM Hunt, California Custom Fruits & Flavors, The Garrett Companies

Indianapolis Weichert offices welcome new team members

Realty - Weichert® affiliated offices in the Indianapolis area have recently added the following individuals to the team. Mindy Swanson and Taylor Paschal join at 5329 S Emerson Ave. Suite C in Indianapolis. For more information, contact Lora Reynolds at 317-893-5000 or lora@wrsuccess.com.

Sandlin: \$2.5 million in rural broadband grants awarded

Local Recipients - Rural broadband projects in Senate District 36 will receive a total of \$2,509,160.72 to improve broadband connectivity through the third round of the Next Level Connections Broadband Grant Program, said State Sen. Jack E. Sandlin (R-Indianapolis). Created with support from the General Assembly, the Next Level Broadband Grant Program is the largest single state investment in broadband. In total, rounds one, two and three of the program have awarded \$268 million for broadband infrastructure for more than 74,800 homes and commercial locations. When combined with private and local investment, over \$580 million has been leveraged since 2018. In Senate District 36, the following providers were awarded grants: AT&T received a grant to expand broadband access to 159 households and six businesses in Bartholomew, Johnson and Owen counties. Comcast received a grant to expand broadband access to 695 households and 22 businesses in Fayette, Hamilton and Johnson counties. Johnson County REMC received two grants to expand broadband access to 24 households and five businesses in Johnson County.

Franciscan Health Cancer Centers pose 'Triple Threat Against Cancer'

Accreditation Program - Franciscan Health Cancer Center Indianapolis and Mooresville have earned three national accreditations from the American College of Surgeons and are the only cancer program in the state to receive this recognition. Both locations were up for voluntary renewal and have been accredited by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC), National Accreditation Program for Rectal Cancer (NAPRC) and the Commission on Cancer (CoC). To achieve these accreditations, the cancer program met rigorous improvement standards focused on outcomes, survival and quality of life. As a NAPBC-accredited center, Franciscan Health Breast Center is committed to maintaining levels of excellence in the delivery of comprehensive, patient-centered, multidisciplinary care for patients with breast disease.



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Vote for Perry Township Schools' operating referendum

On Tuesday, May 3, 2022, Perry Township voters will go to the polls and decide whether or not to renew the soon expiring Perry Township Schools' operating referendum that was previously approved by voters in 2015.

It's important to note that approval of this referendum WILL NOT raise our taxes! Passage of this referendum extension is a crucial step for Perry Township Schools to continue to deliver their award-winning, nationally and state recognized academic successes. Perry Township cannot afford to go backwards now. Success in the schools equals success in the community. Failure to pass will result in dire consequences. Superintendent Mapes has said that 193 teachers will lose their positions. Bus transportation services will be cut back, forcing many students to walk to their schools. Additionally, cuts to enriching programs like sports, art, music, clubs, will all likely see cuts, if not outright elimination.

Our mission as invested adults should always be to help our Perry Township kids achieve and be the best and most successful person that they could possibly be. We all want our kids to become great citizens. We want them to be happy, well-rounded and well-adjusted citizens who are able to take on and meet life's challenges. Supporting Perry Township Schools is one of the best ways to help deliver on these goals. Support your community by supporting your schools!

I encourage you to vote YES to Perry Township Schools' operating referendum on Tuesday, May 3, 2022.

Sincerely,
Jim Sullivan

Perry Township Resident

Franklin Township Referendum

Dr. Kent Pettet explains the proposed construction referendum for Franklin Township

By **Todd Travis**

Franklin Township is proposing a construction referendum on May 3. Dr. Kent Pettet, chief communications and public relations officer explained the referendum and its impact. "As an analogy, a construction referendum is kind of like buying your house, where you have an initial cost, and you spend a period of time paying that cost off," Pettet explained. "Our referendum is just over \$98 million for 22 years. It would be just under 21 cents, which would be the lowest referendum tax bill in Marion County for any school district with a referendum. In addition to that, with a construction referendum, since you're paying off that one cost, every time someone new moves into your community you're spreading your cost over more people. So that 21 cents will continue to go down," he continued.

"One of the concerns when you have a referendum is that it is an increase in taxes," Pettet admitted. "We're very cognitive of that. The growth in Franklin Township has allowed us to build multiple additions to our schools and

build a new elementary school without raising taxes. These projects are not part of the referendum," he said. "The core of the high school is 50 years old and needs a lot of infrastructure support. Buildings hit a point where they need to be renovated and that's where we are now. In addition to that, our demographic studies show that we're going to continue to grow by over 1,000 more kids. So in addition to the core, we'll be adding an academic wing, reconfiguring the space to increase the performing arts area and to accommodate the growth of the building. When the high school is done, the high school will be set to accommodate the predicted growth over the next decade," he concluded.

"Going back to the taxpayers and the concern of raising taxes, we have structured the construction referendum to intentionally be the lowest referendum rate of any in Marion County. So the residents will continue to have the lowest referendum tax bill in Marion County," Pettet reiterated.

For more information on the referendum, visit ftcsc.org/growth

JOHNSON COUNTY PRIMARY ELECTION

US SENATOR

Todd Young (R)
Thomas M. McDermoss, Jr. (D)

US REPRESENTATIVE: DISTRICT 6

James Dean Alspach (R)
Greg Pence Republican (R)
George Thomas Holland (D)
Cynthia (Cinde) Wirth (D)

STATE SENATOR: DISTRICT 41

Greg Walker (R) • Bryan Muñoz (D)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE: DISTRICT 58

Brittany Carrol (R)

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Lance Hamner (R)
Joseph M. Villanueva (R)

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Trena McLaughlin (R)

COUNTY AUDITOR

Elizabeth Ann Alvey (R)

COUNTY RECORDER

Teresa K Petro (R)

COUNTY SHERIFF

Duane E. Burgess (R)

COUNTY ASSESSOR

Mike Watkins (R)

COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Kevin M Walls (R)

COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER

District 1: David W Bleke (R)
Pamela J Burton (R)
District 2: Charlotte Sullivan (R)
District 3: Jon Myers (R)
District 4: Walt Janiec (R)
John Mallers (R)

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

Pleasant Township Trustee
C William Hart (R)

White River Township Trustee

Mark W Messick (R)

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBER

Pleasant Township
John Asher (R)
George Hall (R)
Ron McCoy (R)
Thomas L Whitaker (R)
Jessica Burnside (D)
Margaret L Sheets (D)
White River Township
Dick Huber (R)
David S Pollard (R)
Margaret (Peggy) Young (R)
Trisha Phillips (D)
Robert A Pribush (D)



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May 3

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MARION COUNTY PRIMARY ELECTION

U.S. STATE SENATE: District 47

Kevin Boehnlein (R)
Gary Byrne (R)
Keeley R. Stingel (R)

Dan Heiwig (R)
Erin Houchin (R)
D. Eric Schansberg (R)
Mike Sodrel (R)
Bill J. Thomas (R)
Brian Tibbs (R)

INDIANA HOUSE STATE REPRESENTATIVES

District 47

John Young (incumbent) (R)
Luke Campbell (R)
Robb Greene (R)
Scott Strother (R)

District 58

Michelle Davis (incumbent) (R)

District 89

Mitch Gore (incumbent) (D)
Michael-Paul Hart (R)

District 90

Mike Speedy (incumbent) (R)
David W. Waters (R)

District 93

Andy Miller (D)
Incumbent John Jacob (R)
Julie A. McGuire (R)

District 97

Justin Moed (incumbent) (D)
John P. Schmitz (R)

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

District 9

Isak Asare (D)
D. Liam Dorris (D)
Matthew Fyfe (D)
Jim Baker (R)
Stu Barnes-Israel (R)
J. Michael Davisson (R)

MARION COUNTY ASSESSOR

Joseph P. O'Connor (incumbent) (D)
MARION COUNTY AUDITOR
Myla A. Eldridge (D)

MARION COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Ryan Mears (incumbent) (D)
Cynthia Carrasco (R)

MARION COUNTY RECORDER

Christopher Becker (D)
Faith James Kimbrough (D)
Barcia Alejos (R)

MARION COUNTY SHERIFF

Kerry Forestal (incumbent) (D)
Randall Swindle (R)

MARION COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CLERK

Kate Sweeney Bell (D)
Billie Breaux (D)
Andrew Harrison (R)

MARION COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

Tiffany Vivo (incumbent) (R)
Amber Collins-Gebrehiwet (D)

Perry Schools Referendum

Superintendent Pat Mapes explains the referendum and the impact on Perry Township Schools and residents

By Todd Travis

On May 3, an operating referendum approved in 2015 will be up for renewal by Perry Township residents. The original referendum was proposed based on a census that predicted a large influx of students into the school system. The incoming group increased the school's attendance by more than 3,000 kids. The referendum included a capital referendum, which was dedicated to a specific project, as well as an operating referendum, which addresses ongoing needs. The capital referendum was used to build four kindergarten academies and 26 classrooms. The operating referendum provides 193 teachers, 20 assistant principals, 17 technology positions, 14 instructional and special education assistants and \$1.5 million to the transportation fund.

"When you do an operating referendum because you're not getting enough funds from the state to provide all the services for your students, you're asking your taxpayers to help provide extra funding, so you're adequately funded to provide education. And it usually happens when you have a growth spurt in your district," explained Pat Mapes, superintendent at Perry Township Schools. "Currently, from grades 3 and above, we are over 1,200 students, and at times, close to 1,400 students per grade level. So that surge of enrollment is still here in Perry Township, and so we still need these positions to have adequate class sizes and provide the coursework at the high school our students need to prepare themselves for college, career or enlist in services," Mapes continued.

The operating referendum is the portion that is up for renewal. If approved, the .4212 (about 42 cents) tax that was instituted by the 2015 referendum will remain in place. It will not add any additional taxes to what residents are currently paying. "The tax rate in 2015 with the approved referendum was \$1.58 on every \$100 of assessed value to property, and that rate will stay the same. There will be no tax increase. We're just asking people to continue to provide the support they approved in 2015 so we can carry out the services and educational programs for our students," Mapes stated.

Mapes explained some of the reasons for the influx of people that Perry Township has continued to receive. "Some of it was an influx of our Burmese population in the Southside of Indianapolis. We have a large contingency of people moving into the Southside as jobs were available in the Indianapolis area. We have affordable housing, and we also have transportation as IndyGo comes down through the Southside. So it made it



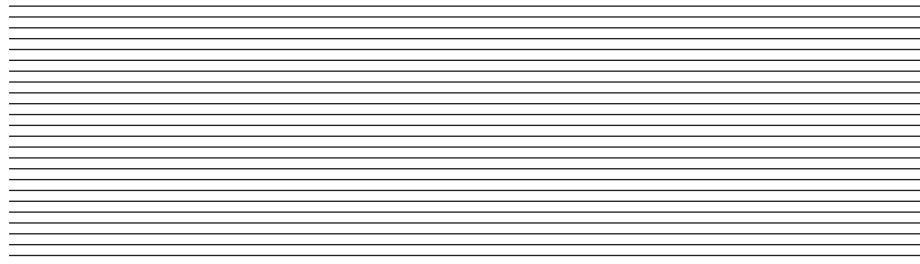
Superintendent Pat Mapes helps students with a school project. (Submitted photo)

a very attractive place for people who were looking to relocate for jobs and brought an influx of people into the community that increased our enrollment in the school system," he said.

As this renewal approaches, some residents may be wary of what impact this will have on their upcoming taxes. Mapes explained why he feels they should not be concerned. "The biggest information piece that we're providing is the fact that this is something residents have said 'yes' to before. They were able to see the need that we had, and the need is still here as our enrollment growth is still here," he said. "I think the fact that we have been fiscally responsible and been able to have the same tax rate for seven years is pretty unique for school systems. In addition, we're the top performing urban school district on statewide assessments, so the dollars residents have given us have helped us become recognized nationally as an educator effectiveness school district. A lot of people are coming to us to figure out how to actually do this work so their kids can academically achieve, receive a diploma and move on from the K-12 system into adulthood of what they want to pursue," he concluded.

What are the downsides if the referendum renew is not approved? "We have a lot of employees serving kids in Perry Township and unfortunately if something like this doesn't pass our class sizes will go up to about 35-36, we'll have to cut programming and we'll probably also have to look at having kids walk to school if they live within a half mile of the school," he noted.

To learn more about the referendum, visit perryschools.org/referendum



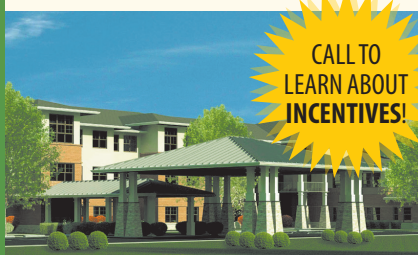
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Bob Rohrman's **INDY** Athlete of the Month **HONDA** Zander Hooten

By Mark Ambrogi

Roncalli High School senior Zander Hooten is the epitome of versatility among track and field athletes.

"Athletically due to his combination of speed and power I would argue that he is the best athlete in the building," Roncalli track and field coach Frank Litz said. "I can put him in any event on the track, and he will be successful. He is incredibly coachable and has a great ability to make his own athletic adjustments, for example, steps in between hurdles or his take-off point on the long jump runway."

Hooten qualified in the 60-meter hurdles and long jump for the indoor state track and field meet. He placed 10th in the hurdles and 12th in long jump.

Hooten won three different events, 110 hurdles, 300 hurdles and long jump at the Archdiocesan Meet earlier on April 6.

He has run the second-fastest time in program history in the 110 hurdles and is in all-time top 10 in the other two. In 2021, he was an outdoor state qualifier in the 300 hurdles and 400-meter-relay.

"My goals are to qualify in long jump, 300 hurdles,

110 hurdles and 4x100 relay again," Hooten said. "I like the 110 high hurdles the best now because it's the most new to me. I didn't start that until this year. I like finding the whole process of finding new strategies and ways to get better in it."

Hooten competed in the high jump before this year but gave it up for the 110 hurdles. Hooten said with other competitive high jumpers on the team, it didn't affect the team's strength to move to 110 hurdles. Hooten said he keeps setting personal records each meet in the high hurdles.

Hooten played football his freshman year at Roncalli and then played soccer his sophomore and junior year. Hooten was a wide receiver in football and forward in soccer. He played both sports growing up.

"This year I joined a club track team (Indiana Storm), so I did track year-round," he said.

Hooten signed to compete for Bellarmine University in Louisville for the 2022-23 season.

"I like it's new in Division I," he said of Bellarmine. "No one has expectations on (the program), and I get to make them. It has a really good nursing program. It's far enough away from home, but it's not far. It was a per-

fect combination for me."

Litz is eager to see what Hooten can do at the next level.

"I think that when he gets on a college campus and can narrow his focus to simply academics and athletics that he has potential to really take off," Litz said.

Hooten, who lives in Greenwood, started competing in track and field as an eighth grader.

"I've always been a little more on the quick side, so I decided to give it a try," he said.

Hooten shows his versatility off the track and fields as well. A show choir member, Hooten was in the chorus in the school musical, "Holiday Inn" in November 2021. He previously had roles in other musicals as well.

"Our choral and sports departments do a really good job of making sure you can find time for both of them," Hooten said. "It's encouraged to find time for fine arts at our school. I joined on a whim, and I've really enjoyed it."



Roncalli track and field coach Frank Litz and Zander Hooten pause at a track meet. (Photo courtesy of Zander Hooten)

THE HOOTEN FILE

NAME: Zander Hooten	University in Louisville
SCHOOL: Roncalli	HOBBIES: Show choir
CLASS: Senior	FAVORITE SUBJECT: History
HEIGHT: 6-foot-2	FAVORITE ATHLETE: Sprinter Noah Lyles
AGE: 18	FAVORITE MOVIE: La La Land
SPORT: Track and field	DREAM VACATION SPOT: Hawaii
COLLEGE PLANS: Study nursing and compete in track and field at Bellarmine	PARENTS: Terry and Greg Hooten



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PHOTO of the WEEK



Congratulations to Center Grove High School's Red Alert Robotics for winning the 2022 State Champion Chairman's Award and placing as World Division Finalists in Houston, Texas! FIRST Team 1741 Red Alert Robotics began in March of 2005 and is led by a group of students, mentors, parents and the Center Grove School Corporation, and has focused on spreading the message of FIRST®: "To inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication, and leadership." Their mission statement is: To cultivate a culture of STEAM in order to inspire future generations of leaders and innovative thinkers. (Photo courtesy of Center Grove High School's Facebook page)

HUMOR



Top 10 complaints from school bus drivers in 2022

By Torry Stiles

10. Now that the masks are off you don't recognize anybody.
9. There are so many kids with so many different allergies that your Easter treat for the kids was ice cubes.
8. You make one "La Bamba" joke and the whole school board is breathing down your neck.
7. Mommy Karen over there thinks her little Suzy needs a few more minutes to get ready. Time to try out the new horn that says "Am-trak" on the side.
6. After that "WAP" song and a few others they got now you really do miss the days of "99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall."
5. It's still against the rules to duct tape kids.
4. The teachers got a union. The district people got a union. You whisper "teamster" around here, and you're scrubbing wheels at the garage for a week.
3. Kids still hold their breath when we pass a graveyard. Got written up for driving too slowly.
2. The trip home after Taco Tuesday should qualify you for HAZMAT pay.
1. That fourth grader Caitlin did a TikTok video of you telling the kids to sit down and shut up. It went viral, she booked over a hundred grand and all you got was a gift card to Cracker Barrel.

BELIEVE IT!

Our nation has all sorts of arcane, nonsensical laws on the books. Each week, we'll share one with you ...

In Delaware it is illegal to get married on a dare.

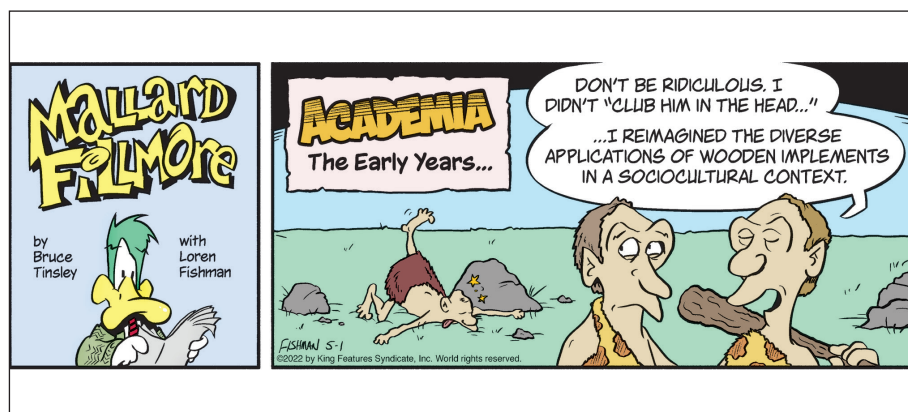
Source: stupidlaws.com

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"A teacher affects eternity: he can never tell where his influence stops."

– Henry Adams

CARTOON





X
S J J
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R E T R I E V E R
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E R H R E T M T H
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6 Indiana Garden Vegetables _____

4 Working Dogs _____

3 Wabash River Towns _____

5 Manhattan Neighborhoods _____

2 Famous Purdue Aviators _____

1 Indiana Fever Top Draft Pick _____

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ACROSS

- 1 Iraqi port
- 6 "Becoming A Popstar" ailer
- 9 Frank ___ Wright
- 14 Ex-IMS Chairman Tony George's given first name
- 15 "So that's it!"
- 16 Downy duck
- 17 Former governor with a destiny of becoming a politician?
- 19 Tiny
- 20 3, on some clocks
- 21 317 Vapers buy
- 22 A/C meas.
- 23 A deadly sin
- 25 Hankering
- 27 White River barrier
- 30 Take the helm
- 32 Surreptitious
- 34 Prominent
- 38 Troops group
- 39 Former governor with an opening on his schedule?
- 42 City about a one-hour drive north of Indianapolis
- 43 African flies
- 44 Do-it-yourself diagnostic tool
- 46 Seeped
- 50 ___-cone
- 51 Snug bug's place
- 55 Cairo river
- 56 IND scanners
- 57 "Once ___ a time ..."
- 59 Beech Grove HS tennis court divider
- 60 Internet connection device
- 63 Former governor with a lack of power?
- 65 Japanese cartoon art

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65						66				67				
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- 66 Brown County's ___ Martin Lodge
- 67 Narrow cuts
- 68 Entice
- 69 Hoosier Hysteria mo.
- 70 Brag
- 12 Japanese currency
- 13 Towel off
- 18 Medical condition with repetitive behavior, initially
- 22 One of Julius Caesar's assassins
- 24 "Right, however ..."
- 26 "___ now, when?"
- 27 Have a steak at Revery
- 28 Enthusiastic
- 29 Came together
- 31 "Norma ___"
- 33 University of Arizona locale
- 35 Senorita, say
- 36 Photo-sharing app, familiarly
- 37 St. Louis-to-Indy dir.
- 39 Southport HS prom attendee
- 40 Approximately
- 41 "The Matrix" hero
- 42 Pacers stats
- 45 Fate
- 47 Sunflower kin
- 48 Votes into office
- 49 Abhor
- 52 Ballroom dance
- 53 Bunk option
- 54 Gunky stuff
- 56 Office fill-in
- 58 Crash-probing org.
- 60 Fountain Square Yoga class need
- 61 Quarter of four
- 62 Poorly lit
- 63 Descartes conclusion
- 64 "Evil Woman" band, for short

NIGHT & day LOCAL ENTERTAINING ENTERTAINING

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BEECH GROVE

Going Green in the Grove • Join for free trees and plants, activities for all ages, demonstrations, educational booths, collaborative art, art contest, raffle and silent auction and free electronics recycling. | When: April 30, 12 - 4 p.m. | Where: Hornet Park Community Center, 5245 Hornet Ave., Beech Grove. | Info: hornetparkcommunitycenter.com

CENTER GROVE

Gala for the Grove • Proceeds from the Gala allow the Center Grove Education Foundation to provide additional learning experiences and resources for Center Grove students and teachers. Gala seats are \$100, or a table for 10 \$850. VIP reception is \$50 per person. | When: April 30, 6 p.m. | Where: The Indiana Roof Ballroom, 140 W. Washington St., Indianapolis. | Info: centergrovefoundation.org

GARFIELD PARK

Solo Exhibitions: Small Moments: Kylin Brown • This body of work is a collection of oil and acrylic paintings capturing small moments. A light touch from a loved one, the view when you turn a corner on a hike, a wave of sadness, or quiet time at home with my children are all simple but meaningful. | When: May 3 - July 2. | Where: Garfield Park Arts Center, 2432 Conservatory Dr., Indianapolis. | Info: gpacarts.org

Hoosier Women in Art Exhibition: Identity • Featuring artwork in a variety of mediums, this show will explore the theme of "identity" through the lens of diverse female and female-identifying artists. Discover what identity means to these artists and what makes them unique. | When: May 6 - 28. First Friday is May 6, 6 - 9 p.m. | Where: Garfield Park Arts Center, 2432 Conservatory Dr., Indianapolis. | Info: gpacarts.org

GREENWOOD

The Secret Garden Blooms • The Secret Garden springs to life at Creative Grounds Fine Arts Academy. CGFAA students aged 12-18 have been hard at work preparing to bring The Secret Garden to the stage since January. Tickets cost \$8 for adults and \$5 for students. Concessions and merchandise will be available for purchase. | When: April 28 - May 1, 7:30 p.m. and April 30 and May 1, 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. | Where: Studio One Theater, 1251 U.S. Highway 31 North, Greenwood. | Info: <https://our.show/cgfinearts/tsg>

INDIANAPOLIS

Spring Banquet • Good Shepherd United Methodist Church is hosting its Spring Banquet to celebrate the women in our lives, whether it's a spiritual mentor, aunt, mother, daughter or good friend. This is a free event. However, bring a covered dish to share for our pitch-in dinner; table service and drinks are provided! The men attending are invited to help with set up, serving, and clean up as well as enjoying the banquet and program with their special lady! | When: May 10, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. | Where: Good Shepherd United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 2015 S. Arlington Ave., Indianapolis. | Info: (317) 356-3787

JOHNSON COUNTY

The Submission • The Franklin College Theatre Department will present its final play of the year, "The Submission." Written by Jeff Talbot, the play centers on Shaleeha G'ntamobi who has written a new play about an alcoholic Black mother and her son trying to get out of the projects. The play has been accepted to the country's top theatre festival. The problem is Shaleeha doesn't exist. Note: Audience discretion is advised. General admission is \$12. | When: April 28 - 30, 8 p.m. and May 1, 2 p.m. | Where: Théâtre Margot in the Johnson Center for Fine Arts. | Info: To reserve tickets, email tickets@FranklinCollege.edu or call (317) 738-8029 or (800) 852-0232, ext. 8029.

PERRY TOWNSHIP

Roar Survival Safari • Join the adventure at Roar, Roncalli's premier fundraiser, benefitting needs-based tuition assistance. In the spirit of thanksgiving, food, drinks, live entertainment and auction items await! Tickets are \$125 each. | When: April 30, doors open 5:30 p.m. for cocktails, safari snacks and silent auction Dinner buffet is served at 6:45 p.m. | Where: Ascension St. Vincent Gymnasium, 3300 Prague Road, Indianapolis. | Info: roar.givesmart.com, awagner@roncalli.org

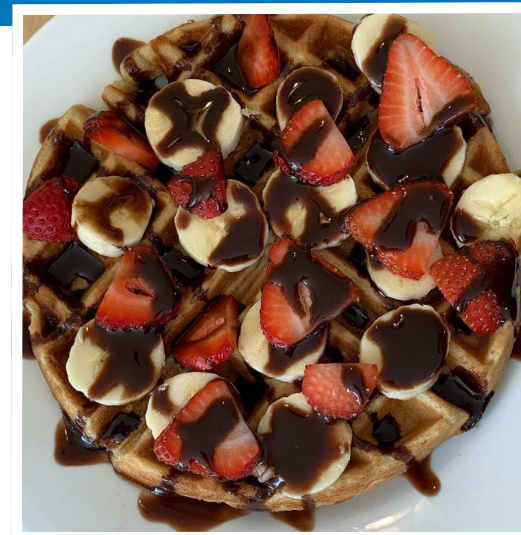
SOUTHPORT

The Dirt on Soil • Are you ready to start gardening, but not sure if it's safe to start digging in? In this workshop learn about an invisible urban soil contaminant and how to work with your soil safely so you and your family can enjoy the fruits of your efforts. | When: May 5, 2 - 3 p.m. | Where: Southport Branch library, 2630 E. Stop 11 Road, Indianapolis. | Info: indypl.org

AN OPTION

The Grove Café

Interested in trying the latest locally owned family-friendly restaurant on the Southside for breakfast or lunch? Check out Bargersville's new option, The Grove Café. The menu features plenty of morning favorites like country friend steak, steak and eggs, chicken and waffles, pancakes (including gluten-free options), omelets and Belgium waffles (you can even order a peanut butter sauce topping). "Try out the fresh squeezed orange juice," offered a Facebook review. "Biscuits and gravy and waffles were amazing!" Lunch favorites include the Philly cheesesteak sandwich, various burgers and tenderloins. "My in-laws enjoyed a fantastic and thick fried tenderloin and Philly steak sandwich while I ate a juicy bison burger with sweet potato fries," a restauranttj.com reviewer stated. "Food was great, the owner came out and checked on us and said 'hello' and overall a nice addition to the Bargersville/Center Grove area."



Breakfast for those with a sweet tooth. (Photo courtesy of The Grove Café's Facebook page)

Hours: Tuesday through Sunday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; closed on Mondays. For more information, go to thegrovecafeecg.com or call (317) 458-0218. Location: 524 E. Old Plank Road, Bargersville

SPOTLIGHT



Southside natives David Buerkler and Shelbi Berry perform in "Hello, Dolly!" (Photo courtesy of Beef & Boards)

Hello, Dolly

Based on the play "The Matchmaker" by Thornton Wilder, "Hello, Dolly!" is the story of the vibrant, romantic, and meddling Dolly Levi, who is filled with both personality and an agenda. A turn-of-the-century matchmaker, Dolly is tasked with arranging a match for the wealthy Horace Vandergelder, although she'd prefer to keep him for herself. Horace may have his sights set on a pretty young widow, but Dolly is determined to get her man. "Hello, Dolly" will run through May 15 at Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre, 9301 Michigan Road, Indianapolis. Tickets range from \$51 to \$76 and include the Beef & Boards dinner buffet and select beverages. Suzanne Stark (Shear Madness, Phantom, The Sound of Music) reprises the role of Dolly Levi. Southside natives David Buerkler (Shear Madness, A Christmas Carol, Phantom) plays Barnaby Tucker, and Shelbi Berry (A Christmas Carol, Phantom, Beehive) plays the role of Minnie Fay. Buerkler is a graduate of Roncalli High School. Berry is a graduate of Perry Meridian High School. For tickets, visit beefandboards.com or call the box office at (317) 872-9664.

★★★★☆ • R • Action, Adventure, Drama • 2 hours, 16 minutes

The Northman

A brutal Viking revenge tale

MOVIE REVIEW

By Bradley Lane

Robert Eggers cut his teeth on ultra-historically accurate low-budget genre art films. A ridiculously specific niche if ever there was one, now Eggers is at the helm of a \$90 million historical Viking epic. Given his historian like obsession with the past and previous critical acclaim, Eggers seems to be an obvious choice to a film like this, but his artistic eccentricities create a great quandary for *The Northman*. Can an auteur like Eggers make a film artistic enough to satiate his core fanbase of indie cinema lovers and a film crowd pleasing enough to keep general audiences entertained for its over two-hour runtime?

Like all of Eggers' previous work, the initial idea for *The Northman* comes from historical texts of the time and place of the setting and in this case, it was a 10th-century Norse saga that would serve as the jumping off point for the story. If that sounds intimidating, fear not, this saga also served as a basis of Shakespeare's *Hamlet* which has been adapted over and over until the narrative has essentially been imprinted into the collective modern consciousness.

If you've ever seen *The Lion King*, the story will be familiar to you: a young prince loses a father figure through a betrayal and then seeks revenge to claim his kingdom back from the betrayer.

Where *The Northman* seeks to separate itself then is in its presentation of a well-trodden plot. Eggers' previous two films were celebrated so much because of their extreme artistic integrity, even going so far as to recreate historically accurate dialects for the dialogue. Despite its wider release and big monetary backing *The Northman* continues this tradition as the film is practically stuffed full of era accurate costumes, sets and props creating a wonderfully tactile texture. This base of an incredibly well realized setting provides an immersive platform for the cast to deliver uniformly excellent performances, with stand-out roles from Nicole Kidman and Alexander Skarsgård.

Where an issue begins to arise is who exactly the film is for; and more importantly for Eggers, can it make money? The nature of adapting a 10th-century saga is that the context of the story is rooted in the values and conventions of the era. Eggers makes some attempt to modernize the story with a hypnotic editing technique and visceral action set pieces,

but I worry general audiences might still feel alienated by the pacing and arthouse fans might not find enough narrative depth to resonate with their expectations. Despite this, I find myself in a unique position of enjoying both sides of this cinematic push and pull between art cinema and a crowd-pleasing blockbuster.

With the caveat that audiences need prepare themselves for a less than modern narrative experience, I think *The Northman* is an effort worth celebrating. The fact that this movie even exists is exciting. To think a filmmaker as weird as Robert Eggers can be given a big budget and an A-list cast to make a summer blockbuster is a hopeful sign from Hollywood that risks are still worth taking in an increasingly homogenized film landscape. *The Northman* is currently available to watch only in theaters.



Bradley is a Beech Grove High School alumnus and has been enamored by film for as long as he can remember. He recently graduated from IUPUI, with a degree in Media and Public Affairs with a minor in Film. Bradley can be contacted at blane2214@gmail.com.



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Like teaching grammar to a baby

GRAMMAR GUY

By Curtis Honeycutt

My wife and I welcomed our third baby last week. Our baby boy is happy and healthy; his parents are happy and tired. Please send caffeine.

During the nightly brain fog induced by our new “feed-change-cuddle-repeat” cycle, I’ve been thinking about a few baby-related language rules. Please excuse me if any spit-up gets on this column.

Is “baby” ever a proper noun? Unless your stage name is DaBaby, the short answer is “no.” Baby is a common noun, just the same as lamp, tree and stroller are common nouns. The only instance in which “baby” becomes proper is when the word is used as a name. For instance, “Baby Sinclair” is the name of a character from the early 1990s sitcom “Dinosaurs.”

How do you express something a baby owns or possesses (other than my heart when he wraps his perfect, tiny fingers around my pinky)? That certainly depends on the context.

If one baby owns a thing or things, use

“baby’s”: My baby’s pacifier got lost in his car seat. That baby’s lung capacity is exceptional.

The word “babies” on its own indicates more than one baby: The babies went through an entire crate of diapers last week. As a child, I enjoyed the cartoon “Muppet Babies.” Those politicians are acting like a bunch of babies.

When multiple babies possess or own a thing or multiple things, use babies’: The babies’ strollers each got a new neon green paint job. The babies’ father had his hands full when each of the triplets started crying at the same time.

According to a March 2020 article published by the peer-reviewed scientific journal “Current Biology,” eight-month-old babies have a basic understanding of their native language. While they still can’t speak in full sentences, babies’ brains can distinguish between the linguistic categories of basic articles, pronouns, prepositions, verbs, adjectives and context-specific content words like “dog” and “rainbow.” This means that good grammar matters even for babies!

It’s a daunting task to take on the responsibility for a new life, especially given the various levels of disarray in our nation and world.



Congratulations to the Honeycutt family on their new addition! (Photo provided by Curtis Honeycutt)

I do take solace, however, that my baby’s first word will no doubt be uttered in honor of his favorite absolute person in the entire world: mama.



Curtis Honeycutt is a syndicated humor columnist and treasurer of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists. He is the author of *Good Grammar is the Life of the Party: Tips for a Wildly Successful Life*. Find more at curtishoneycutt.com.

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Puzzle Time Answers

SEE PAGE 15

Answers to HOOSIER HODGEPODGE:

Vegetables: BEAN, BEET, LETTUCE, ONION, RADISH, TOMATO

Neighborhoods: CHELSEA, HARLEM, NOLITA, SOHO, TRIBECA

Dogs: COLLIE, HUSKY, RETRIEVER, SHEPHERD

Towns: LAFAYETTE, TERRE HAUTE, VINCENNES

Aviators: EARHART, SULLENBERGER

Pick: NALYSSA SMITH

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8	1	5	7	3	6	4	2	9
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2	5	1	9	8	7	6	3	4
4	9	7	6	1	3	5	8	2
1	4	2	3	7	5	9	6	8
9	7	3	8	6	1	2	4	5
5	6	8	4	2	9	1	7	3

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AROUND TOWN



Pastor Dan Bailey speaks at the vigil on April 16. (Submitted photo)

Beech Grove holds prayer vigil one year after FedEx shooting

In Memory - The city of Beech Grove held a prayer vigil on April 16 commemorating the one-year anniversary of the mass shooting at a FedEx Ground facility in Indianapolis. Beech Grove resident Samaria Blackwell was among the eight victims. The vigil was sponsored by the Mayor's Faith Based Roundtable. In the days following the mass shooting on April 15, 2021, the City held a prayer vigil bringing together the community to mourn the victims, pray for the injured, and offer support to the Blackwell family. "As a community, it's important we continue to mark this somber milestone to remember Samaria Blackwell and the seven other people who lost their lives that terrible day," said Beech Grove Mayor Dennis Buckley. "This prayer vigil is an opportunity for us to come together and remember Samaria, while continuing to pray for peace and healing for everyone who was affected by this tragedy."

Angela English presents WeB4Me Awards

Surprise Awards - Mrs. Angela English presented "WeB4Me" Awards to three people at Hornet Park Elementary School on Wednesday, April 13. Mrs. English presents these awards to individuals who personify the spirit of Coach and former high school athletic director Matt English in everything they do! The three recipients are: Mrs. Sheila Davis, cafeteria manager; Mrs. Amy Jennings, Title 1 teacher; and Mrs. Erin Probus, principal. Mrs. English surprised each recipient by having members of their families present for the presentations.



(Photo courtesy of Beech Grove City Schools)

City Council supports HP Project

Literacy - The Beech Grove Common City Council voted to support a unique project at Hornet Park Elementary School for our students: a book vending machine! District 1 representative, Elizabeth (Liz) Lamping, is pictured with Missy Keeley, Home School Advisor at Hornet Park Elementary, who launched the project, and James (Jim) Coffman, Clerk-Treasurer of Beech Grove, for the check presentation.



Pictured, State Representative Mitch Gore, Beech Grove staff and basketball team members. (Photo courtesy of Beech Grove City Schools)

State Rep. Gore recognizes Beech Grove basketball team

Basketball Celebrations - State Representative Mitch Gore, who serves the City of Beech Grove in District 89, visited Beech Grove High School on Friday, April 15, to deliver a proclamation recognizing April 15, 2022, as "Beech Grove Hornets Boys Basketball Day" to celebrate the team's 2021-2022 season and their historic state championship win.

UPCOMING BEECH GROVE MEETINGS & EVENTS

Going Green in the Grove • Join for free trees and plants, activities for all ages, demonstrations, educational booths, collaborative art, art contest, raffle and silent auction and free electronics recycling. | When: April 30, 12 - 4 p.m. | Where: Hornet Park Community Center, 5245 Hornet Ave., Beech Grove. | Info: hornetparkcommunitycenter.com

Board of Sanitation Meeting • Board of Public Works & Safety meeting will follow. | When: May 2, 6 p.m. | Where: City Hall Council Chambers. | Info: beechgrove.com

Beech Grove Common Council Meeting • When: May 2, 7 p.m. | Where: City Hall Council Chambers. | Info: beechgrove.com

Board of Zoning Appeals • When: May 4, 1 p.m. | Where: City Hall Council Chambers. | Info: beechgrove.com

Board of Parks and Recreation Meeting • When: May 11, 7 p.m. | Where: Hornet Park Community Center. | Info: beechgrove.com

Free Shredding, Appliance Drop Off and Medicine Disposal • Hosted by Ray's Trash Service and Hanna's Wrecker Service. | When: May 14, 9 a.m. - noon. | Where: Behind Beech Grove City Hall, 806 Main St., Beech Grove. | Info: beechgrove.com

Board of Sanitation Meeting • Board of Public Works & Safety meeting will follow. | When: May 16, 6 p.m. | Where: City Hall Council Chambers. | Info: beechgrove.com

Redevelopment Commission Meeting • When: May 19, 7 p.m. | Where: City Hall Council Chambers. | Info: beechgrove.com



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Ben L. Braughton, Sr.

Ben L. Braughton, Sr., 70, Whiteland, died April 22, 2022. Survivors: wife, Theresa K. (Prosser) Braughton; children, Ben Braughton, Jr., John Phillips and Justin Phillips; seven grandchildren; one brother. Funeral services: Thursday, April 28, 7 p.m., Forest Lawn Funeral Home, Greenwood, with visitation 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Raymond Ulysses Garrett

Raymond Ulysses Garrett, 66, died April 19, 2022. Survivors: mother, "Aunt Ruth"; daughter, Brianne; and son, Nick and family. His celebration of life will be Sunday May 8, at Don Challis Park, 1100 South 9th Ave., Beech Grove, from noon to 5 p.m. Services entrusted to Little & Sons.

Barbara Jean Garrison

Barbara Jean Garrison, 67, Indianapolis, died April 22, 2022. Survivors: brother, Jeff Garrison (Ann); sister; Susan Garrison-Brown; many nieces and nephews and their families. Services entrusted to Little & Sons Stop 11 Road Chapel.

Lucy Jane Gatlin

Lucy Jane Gatlin, 89, Indianapolis, died April 21, 2022. Lucy is survived by her son, Jeffrey Sedam (Mary); stepchildren, Mila Dyson, Kathy Duncan and John Gatlin; and eight grandchildren, including Jeff, Kara and Sean. Services entrusted to Little & Sons Stop 11 Road Chapel.

Mona F Gregory

Mona F Gregory, 81, Indianapolis, died April 22, 2022. Mona worked for 25 years at IU Medical Center in Indianapolis and loved family activities. Survivors: companion of 40 years, Clyde White; sons, Bill and David Gray; six grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren. Services entrusted to Little & Sons.

Giuseppe S. Grillo

Giuseppe S. (Joe) Grillo, 95, died April 20, 2022. Preceded in death: wife, Helen; survivors: brother, Vittorio Grillo; children, Joseph (Linda Edmonds) Grillo, Margo Grillo and Linda (Steve) Bour; grandchildren, Alyssa and Regina; and great-grandchild, Theo. Funeral service: April 27. Burial at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens in Greenwood.

Bessie Jean (Flowers) Hamner

Bessie Jean (Flowers) Hamner, 90, of Woodstock, Georgia, formerly of Greenwood, died April 21, 2022. Services will be held at noon on Saturday, April 30, in Lauck & Veldhof Funeral & Cremation Services, 1458 S. Meridian St., with visitation from 10 a.m. until service. Burial in Washington Park East Cemetery.

Norma J. Hatcher

Norma J. Hatcher, 91, Indianapolis, died April 22, 2022. Preceded in death: husband, Johnnie Hatcher. Survivors: children, Linda DeWeese, Randy McNew and John Hatcher, eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; 14 step-great-grandchildren. Visitation: Thursday, April 28, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at G. H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home, service at 1 p.m.

Joseph Tyler Linneman

Joseph Tyler Linneman, 25, of Greenwood, died April 23, 2022. Arrangements have been entrusted to The Cremation Society of Indiana, 4115 Shelby St.

Elizabeth Ann McIntosh

Elizabeth Ann McIntosh, 79, died April 18, 2022. Preceded in death: husband, Carlos V. McIntosh Jr.; son, Eric A. McIntosh. Survivors: children, Richard A. McIntosh and Lisa M. Schoenly; six grandchildren. Visitation: Friday, April 29, 10:30 a.m. until service at 12:30 pm at G. H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home.

Dorothy M. Ratcliff

Dorothy (Dottie) Ratcliff, 95, Mooresville and Greenwood, died April 21, 2022. Preceded in death: husband, Leonard; a great-grandchild; two brothers. Survivors: two daughters, Jina Clark and Janet Smith; two grandchildren; four extended grandchildren; two great-grandchildren. Visitation: Thursday, April 28, 11 a.m. until service at 1 p.m., Forest Lawn Funeral Home.

James Daniel Ridge

James Daniel Ridge, 91, Greenwood, died April 16, 2022. Survivors: daughters, Rebekah Ridge, Brenda Jenkins and Wanda (Joe) Read; two stepdaughters, Brenda Bradford and Diane Bright; sister, Barbara Yates, brother, Bob Ridge; seven grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; and eight step-great-grandchildren. Services entrusted to Little & Sons.

Joann Marie Rodarmel

Joann Marie Rodarmel, 87, Greenwood, died April 14, 2022. Preceded in death: husband, James Warren Rodarmel; daughter, Judith Rodarmel; son, James Rodarmel; grandson, Travis Cook. Survivors: children, Vicky Rice and Dawn Malone; seven grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren. Funeral service on April 25. Burial in Forest Lawn Memory Gardens.

Macel "Eyvonne" Smithey

Macel "Eyvonne" Smithey died April 24, 2022. Visitation: Friday, April 29, 3 to 7 p.m., Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 1977 S. State Road 135, Greenwood. A funeral service will be at the funeral home on Saturday, April 30, 11 a.m. Burial to follow at noon at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens.

George William Vernon

George William "GW" Vernon, 80, Greenwood, died April 19, 2022. Survivors: children, Michael Vernon and Cassandra Vernon; one grandson; four siblings; several nieces and nephews. Celebration of life: 1-4 p.m., Saturday, April 30, Smock Golf Course, 3910 E. County Line Road, Greenwood. Forest Lawn Memory Gardens.

Brit Alan Vollrath

Britt Alan Vollrath died April 23, 2022. Services for Mr. Vollrath will be private and at the convenience of the family. Forest Lawn Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

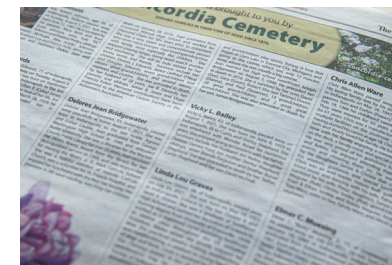
Betty L. Webb

Betty L. (Norris) Webb, 91, died April 23, 2022. Survivors: four children John Webb, Donna Watkins, Marsha Johnson and Denny Webb; six grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; brother, David (Judy) Norris; and sister, Laverne. Visitation: Friday, April 29, 11 a.m. to service at 1 p.m. at Forest Lawn Funeral Home.

John R. Williams

John R. Williams died April 19, 2022. Predeceased by a brother. Survivors: five siblings. Visitation: Friday, April 29, 4-8 p.m., Friedens United Church of Christ, 8300 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Additional visitation: Saturday, April 30, 11 a.m. to noon at the church, with a service immediately following. G.H. Herrmann.

Basic death notices (up to 50 words) are printed free of charge. Personalized Obituaries exceeding 50 words will be charged at a rate of \$12 for the first 60 words and 10 cents for each additional word. Full-color photographs may be included for an additional \$10. Families/estates or funeral directors are encouraged to send obituaries and photos to news@ss-times.com. Information received by noon Tuesday will be published Thursday, space permitting.



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Saints Francis & Clare Catholic Church • 5901 Olive Branch Road, Greenwood. Ph: (317) 859-4673. | Fr. Steve Giannini. Sat. Anticipation Mass: 5:30 p.m. | Sun.: 7, 8:45 & 11:30 a.m.

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Calvary Lutheran Church and School • 6111 Shelby St., Indianapolis

| (317) 783-2000 | info@dcls.org | dcls.org | Sat: 6:30 p.m. | Sun: 8 & 10:45 a.m. | Sunday School: 9:25 a.m. | Engaging People in Christ through Connecting, Learning, Caring and Serving.

***Concordia Lutheran Church and Preschool** • 305 Howard Road, Greenwood. | (317) 881-4477. | Worship Sun.: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.; Mon.: 6:30 p.m. | Sunday School: 10:05 a.m. | concordia-lcms.com.

✠ NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Tallwood Chapel Community Church • 5560 S. Shelby St., Indpls. | Ph: (317) 787-5595. | The Gospel is a seed - come grow with us. | Worship with us Sundays 10:30 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m. Prayers are with you during this time. | BIBLE CHURCH, Ministry of HOLY WORD.

✠ SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Southside Seventh-Day Adventist • 4801 Shelbyville Road, Indpls. | Ph: (317) 786-7002. | Pr. David Tenold. | Services Sat.: 11 a.m. | Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m. | southsideadventist.org.

✠ SOUTHERN BAPTIST

Calvary Baptist Church • 200 Sunset Blvd., Greenwood. | Ph: (317) 881-5743. | Sr. Pr. Dave Cook | Sun.: 10:30 a.m. | Sunday School: 9 a.m. | Something for All Ages.

Southwood Baptist Church • 501 S. 4th Ave., Beech Grove | Ph: 317-786-2719 | Proclaiming Christ because we care. | Pastor John C. Jones II | Sunday worship 10:45am. | Sunday school 9:30am

✠ SPIRITUALIST

The Spiritualist Church of Indianapolis • 3020 S. Meridian St. Ste. E & F, Indianapolis 46217. | Sun.: 6:30 p.m. | TSCOL.org.

✠ UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

St. John's United Church of Christ • 7031 S. East St., Indpls (U.S. 31, Southport Road). | Ph: (317) 881-2353. | Rev. Shannon Abbott | Sunday Worship: 10:30a.m. | Sunday School: 10:30a.m.

✠ UNITED METHODIST

Edgewood United Methodist • 1820 E. Epler Ave. | Ph: (317) 784-6086. | Rev. Paul Wagner. | Sun. Worship: 9 a.m. | Sunday School: 10:15 a.m. | edgewoodumc-indy.org. | "The Church for The Next 100 Years." | We are on

Rosedale Hills United Methodist • 4450 S. Keystone Ave., Indpls. | Ph: (317) 786-6474 | Email: officercumc@att.net. | Senior Pastor Amy Lee. | Sun.: 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School: 10:45 a.m. | rosedalehillsumc.com.



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Weekly Devotion



Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

MATTHEW 7:7

It is mushroom season! You may ask what morals have to do with devotionals. I grew up on the Southside of Indianapolis, and family gatherings regularly involved catching and cleaning fish for large fish fries and mushroom hunting with my grandparents and other family members. When my mother was in hospice care she told me that she would truly love one last fish fry for old time's sake. She asked me while I was praying for success to throw in a prayer or two for some morel mushrooms too. And so I did! It was late April when I went to Summit Lake and fished my favorite spots. I caught nothing! I fished the entire day with no luck! I couldn't sit in the boat a minute longer, so I ventured through some mud and thick brush to stretch my legs. There before me I saw a hillside covered in mushrooms! I couldn't believe my

eyes. I gathered them till almost dark, and then as I passed by my favorite fishing hole, I made one last cast. How can God answer our prayers if we don't act in faith? With only minutes of daylight left, I caught one fish, then another. I didn't just catch a few. I caught my limit! Scripture tells us that faith is the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things unseen, but as for my mother and me, the evidence of our faith was in our prayers answered. May you be reminded to continually ask and seek, with confidence that you will receive, and you will find. God is always only a prayer away!

Pastor Dan Bailey is the chair of the Mayor's Faith Based Round Table for the City of Beech Grove, who believes in its mission statement to "Strengthen the Community with Christ's Love." He is a lifelong resident of Southside with his wife, four children and five grandchildren. He has also been a criminal investigator for the last 30-plus years for the Public Defender Agency.

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Public/Legal

Legal/Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE AUCTION OF PROPERTY BY Nick's Packing Service, Inc. Public auction of personal property including household goods, furniture, non-perishables, belonging to the following persons: Aspen Kimora, Squire Thompson, William Jones, Brooknashay Turner, Unknown, Nikko Crespo, Sarah Davis, Maureen Mcguire, Joanna Hinds, Nicole Humphrey, Mytiya Sanders, Unknown, Unknown On Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 6:30PM & Keathia Ezell, Briana Payne, Kim Spivey On Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 6:30PM. The location for the auction is: Mike Heimel Auction Services 59 N. 2nd Ave, Beech Grove, IN 46107
PURUSANT TO IC 32-31-4-4, IC 32-31-4-5, IC 26-1-7-210(B) (5)

Public Auction 350 S Grand Ave on 5/13 @11am 2015 Nissan Rogue VIN JN8AS5MVXFW755832 starting at \$4350.00

Public Auction 8815 Frontenac Rd on 5/13 @10am 2007 Chevy Impala VIN 2G1WB58N079290864 starting at \$2500.00

Nicole Munden, resident of Marion County, Indianapolis IN, has filed for divorce against Daniel Michael Munden, birthday April 26, 1988, resident of Marion County, Indianapolis IN. After knowing this notice, within 30 days, before the court personally or through an authorized counsel, to show cause why the relief claimed by the petitioner against you should not be granted, failing which the court shall proceed as per law against you.

Public Auction 5525 Madison Ave on 5/13 @3pm 2009 Dodge Grand Caravan VIN 2D8HN54139R593586 starting at \$1685.00

Public Auction 2418 N Oxford on 5/13 @12pm 2010 Nissan Altima VIN 1N4AL2AP5AN539789 starting at \$2250.00; 2007 GMC Acadia VIN 1GKEV33717J138317 starting at \$2250.00

Public Auction 2925 Winthrop Ave on 5/13 @1pm 2007 Hyundai Santa Fe VIN 5NMSH73E37H037040 starting at \$2250.00

Public Auction 3585 Sutherland Ave on 5/13 @10am 2006 Freightliner VIN 1FUJA6CK46LV2075 starting at \$6500.00

Public Auction 1131 Newman St on 5/13 @2pm 2003 Chevy Tahoe VIN 1GNEK13Z33J150478 starting at \$2250.00

Employment

General Employment

German Park is hiring for Ground Maintenance/Cleaning. Pay starts @ \$12/hr. Call 317-885-0283.

Garage Sale

Franklin Township

GARAGE SALE
4740 Sundance Trail, Indpls. Friday April 29, 10AM-4PM; Saturday April 30, 9AM - 4PM; Sunday May 1st 12PM-4PM. For Sale: China Cabinets, Tables and Chairs, Hallmark Ornaments, Dolls, Collectibles of all kinds, Craft items, too many items to list, some vintage and craft material.

Perry Township

Garage sale, Friday April 29, 8-3. 8846 Country Walk Ct., @ South Sherman & County Line. Dishes, lamps, linens, kids wagon & toys, Longaberger baskets, nicer ladies clothes, mens HD t-shirts, lots of misc.

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The referendum renewal question on the ballot is...

MISLEADING!

*I'm voting yes on
Tuesday, May 3rd!*



Actual Ballot Question

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

PERRY TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS QUESTIONS

Shall Perry Township Schools continue to impose increased property taxes paid to the school corporation by homeowners and businesses for eight (8) years immediately following the holding of the referendum for the purpose of funding the continuation of current academic and support programs and services and essential transportation services at their current levels? The property tax increase requested in this referendum was originally approved by the voters in May 2015, and originally increased the average property tax paid to the school corporation per year on a residence within the school corporation by 44.5% and originally increased the average property tax paid to the school corporation per year on a business property within the school corporation by 38.4%.

- YES
 NO

Understanding the Ballot Question

- ✓ The wording of the question is required by state law.
- ✓ The amount requested for this renewal will **not** increase the tax rate by 44.5%.
- ✓ The referendum renewal **will not increase the tax rate at all**. It will only carry over the current rate.
- ✓ After the 2015 referendum passed, residents paid \$1.518 per \$100 of assessed value on their property.
- ✓ If the 2022 referendum passes, residents will pay \$1.518 per \$100 of assessed value on their property.