

# The Southside Times



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The Southside Times

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## THIS WEEK on the WEB



Awards were presented and select pieces of artwork were available for purchase at the event. (Photo courtesy of Franklin College)

### Franklin College students receive art awards

Franklin College students, including four from the Southside of Indianapolis and Greenwood, won awards last month at the Franklin College Student Art Exhibit and Opening Reception held by the Franklin College Art Department. The event celebrated the work of Franklin College students completed during the fall semester. The students include Sarah Mendoza of Perry Township and Serenidy Cockerham, Kendra Shirrell and John Hasquin of Greenwood.

[myiconmedia.com/franklin-college-students-receive-art-awards](http://myiconmedia.com/franklin-college-students-receive-art-awards)

### DAR's Samuel Bryan Chapter recognizes Good Citizens

The Samuel Bryan Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) recently recognized the winter of their chapter Good Citizen Award: Lilian Lewen of Roncalli High School. She will be presented with her scholarship check, in addition to her certificate, pin and cords at her school senior night. Other students selected by their schools as DAR Good Citizens include Gretchen Turner, Southport High School; Reef Snodgrass, Perry Meridian High School; Grace King, Lutheran High School; and Heidi Flores Hernandez, Beech Grove High School. They will also receive a DAR Good Citizens pin, certificate and graduation cord at their senior honor's night.

[myiconmedia.com/dars-samuel-bryan-chapter-recognizes-good-citizens](http://myiconmedia.com/dars-samuel-bryan-chapter-recognizes-good-citizens)



Heidi Flores Hernandez of BGHS (inset) and Reef Snodgrass of PMHS are two of five seniors who received Good Citizen Awards. (Submitted photos)

For more information on these articles and other timely news, visit [ss-times.com](http://ss-times.com).

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### Contact the Editor

Have any news tips? Want to submit a calendar event? Have a photograph to share? Email Nicole Davis at [nicole@myiconmedia.com](mailto:nicole@myiconmedia.com). And remember, our news deadlines are several days prior to print.

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## Take simple steps to stay safe in the cold

By Robert Gonzalez, M.D.  
Pediatrician with Eskenazi Health



Our unusually warm start to winter may have tempted you to exchange your boots for flip flops and turtlenecks for T-shirts, but just like that, winter has now arrived.

Remember that Indiana weather is as predictable as which roads will be free of construction. It is always best to prepare for the bitter temperatures that can lead to frostbite and other perils of cold weather.

If you're planning a quick trip outside this winter, you may be tempted to wear lightweight clothes and just return home for extra coverage if needed, but frostbite can occur within minutes if the wind chill is severe enough. Frostbite not only damages the skin, but the tissue underneath. The Richard M. Fairbanks Burn Center at Eskenazi Health warns you that it can even damage tendons, muscles, nerves and bones. The impact for frostbite is similar to a burn injury and can be very painful.

You should avoid time outside if the

temperature is nearing 0 degrees. If you must go outside, even briefly, wear layers of loose-fitting, warm clothing as well as a hat, scarf and boots. Don't forget mittens, which typically offer better protection than gloves. Wet clothing can become dangerous in chilly weather, so include a waterproof layer. Make sure your vulnerable extremities are fully covered, including your nose, ears, fingers and toes.

Don't forget those warm layers even if you're driving. Car trouble always hits at the most inconvenient times, and you won't be the only one calling the tow truck if the temperature drops below 0 degrees. Keep your gas tank full and a flashlight handy. Additional supplies the National Weather Service recommends for a car safety kit include a cell phone charger, extra warm clothing, a first aid kit, a blanket, snacks, water, a bag of sand or cat litter, jumper cables, a tow rope and flares. They also recommend snow supplies, such as a snow scraper/brush, a shovel and tire chains/snow tires. While you might not have access to all of these items, make sure you at least

include the basics in your car to keep you and your loved ones safe.

Watch for signs of frostbite if you do expose your skin to severe cold. According to the Richard M. Fairbanks Burn Center, you will feel a tingling sensation, then numbness. Once frostbite has set in, the affected area will be hard, pale, cold and without feeling. In a severe case, you may notice a whitening of the skin as well as numbness, and you may get blisters. If you think you have frostbite, seek medical attention immediately. According to the American Burn Association, going to a verified burn center within 12 hours of exposure increases your chances of avoiding potentially severe effects of frostbite, such as the need to amputate frostbitten limbs.

If you are waiting for medical assistance, the CDC advises you to avoid walking on affected feet or toes, rubbing the area or using hot water. You can use body heat or milder warm water instead. Leave any blisters alone. Remove wet clothes. Since frostbite causes numbness, avoid fireplaces or heaters to prevent burning your skin.

Instead, apply dry, sterile bandages or cloths to the frostbitten skin.

These steps can help you if frostbite occurs, but just a little preparation may help you avoid it entirely.



Robert Gonzalez, M.D. (Submitted photo)

## BUSINESS

### Torabi joins JCBank as Chief Financial Officer

Marvin S. Veatch, JCBank president and CEO, announced the addition of a new senior leader and chief financial officer to the JCBank team. Peymon S. Torabi, an experienced and seasoned financial professional and CFO, has worked in banking throughout his 20-year career, most recently serving as chief financial officer at a \$2 billion institution in northern Indiana. "Peymon's experience, vast skill set in bank accounting and finance, budgeting, and financial reporting, along with his knowledge of strategic planning, has resulted in a proven track record that will positively contribute to JCBank's

continued growth and success," Veatch said. Mr. Torabi obtained his Master of Science degree in accountancy and Bachelor of Science degree in management at Purdue University Northwest and is a graduate of the American Bankers Association Stonier Graduate School of Banking. "I am honored to be joining the JCBank team and look forward to contributing my expertise in fostering financial growth and innovation and continuing JCBank's investment in its customers, employees, and communities." For more information, visit [jcbank.com](http://jcbank.com).

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ESKENAZI HEALTH



# Perry Township Education Foundation celebrates 30 years

## A Q&A with PTEF Executive Director Mary Blake

Compiled by Nancy Hammerstrom

### Please explain when and why the PTEF started.

The PTEF was created and incorporated on May 5, 1994, a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. "The 13 community members were dedicated solely to the purpose of helping make Perry Township Schools the best around!" said Chuck Stumpf, a founder and current board member of PTEF. Since its creation, PTEF has been the primary source of private philanthropic support totaling above \$1 million in grants to teachers, staff and administrators, each targeted at helping create innovative educational opportunities for all PTS students.

### Tell us about the Helping Hand Grant and Kuntz Service-Learning endowment.

For the 2022-2023 school year a total of 47 Helping Hand Grants were distributed to educators in Perry Township, benefiting over 1,500 students. The service-learning grant supports a powerful avenue for youth to not only enhance their academic knowledge but also to develop essential life skills and a strong sense of social responsibility. As young people actively engage with their communities and work toward positive change, they not only contribute to the betterment of society but also undergo a transformative journey that shapes them into informed, empathetic and engaged citizens.

In the spirit of service learning, the youth of today are not just students; they are active contributors to a brighter and more compassionate future for all. The connection between the Kuntz Service-Learning Endow-

ment and the James Whitcomb Riley Success Center is now in its second term and is blossoming both the endowment and the students. The teamwork and thought process that is going on in the classroom is beyond any of our expectations.

### How did these grants make a difference in the lives of teachers and students?

- In January 2023, 16 elementary schools were granted \$1,000 each from the PTEF-managed Borst grant, supporting educators and impacting more than 8,000 students.

- Annually, including 2023, four students received scholarships from the PTEF-managed endowments.

- Over 250 students were able to attend outdoor education overnight camps through special PTEF grants.

- Forty-one educators were honored through the PTEF Honor an Educator program.

PTEF was delighted to collaborate with the William Henry Burkhart Elementary School to establish a state-of-the-art Sensory Room. This joint venture represents a significant leap toward creating an inclusive educational space that caters to the diverse needs of students. The Sensory Room is carefully designed to provide a supportive environment, fostering optimal learning experiences for all. This is the first collaboration of its kind in Perry Township Schools, with PTEF funding the room, painting the room and installation of the equipment.

### When did your involvement with PTEF begin, and how has it grown to where you are today?

In May 2022, I joined PTEF and was subsequently appointed as the executive director by the PTEF board. Since assuming the

role of executive director, my primary focus has been on fostering the growth of PTEF through various avenues. This includes actively seeking additional sponsorships, engaging in grant writing initiatives, and fostering community involvement. By leveraging these strategies, I aim to contribute to the enhancement and expansion of PTEF's mission and impact.

### What is the 19.94 Club?

In honor of our founding year, we are excited to introduce the "19.94 Club." For only a \$19.94 monthly donation this exclusive membership is designed for individuals and organizations eager to make a lasting impact on education. Club members will enjoy special privileges; early registration to events, exclusive updates and the satisfaction of knowing they are part of a legacy that has shaped the future of countless students.

### What are some additional ways the community can help?

Community members can be involved as an event day volunteer, administrative volunteer, committee member or board member. There are opportunities in all of our events to become an individual sponsor, corporate sponsor, or be a one-time or monthly donor.

### What is the 19.94 Club? What are some goals for PTEF in the near future?

One is to increase sponsorship, donations and diversify funding sources. It is imperative to secure additional sponsorships and donations to increase financial support for educational initiatives. PTEF is striving to enhance community involvement and grow awareness of PTEF's mission. We will also enhance our evaluation and measurements of our impact. By implementing these goals and strategies, PTEF can continue to grow and make a positive and lasting impact on education in the Perry Township community.

### Corporate sponsors supporting Perry Township educators and students:

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Williams Comfort Air and Mr. Plumber

## In honor of the 30th anniversary, how will PTEF celebrate?

In commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the Perry Township Education Foundation, we have exciting plans that encompass a range of new events. These events include a pickleball tournament, engaging trivia nights and the continuation of our annual golf outing. As part of the celebration, we will introduce an exclusive 30-year swag, providing a special memento for the occasion. Additionally, we are thrilled to announce new Impact Grant opportunities that will benefit both schools and the wider community, further reinforcing our commitment to fostering education and community development. Join our monthly e-news community to stay informed, sign up on our website or email directly to [Mary@PTEF.org](mailto:Mary@PTEF.org)



(Left) The Henry Burkhart Sensory Room. | (Right) The PTEF and Indy Sports Corp. granting 10 new bikes to Winchester Village Elementary School students. | (Cover) Homecroft Kindergarten Academy hosting a pumpkin patch for all kindergarteners through a Helping Hand Grant. (Submitted photos)





**Catholic Schools**  
United in Faith and Community

# National Catholic Schools Week

*United in Faith and Community*

January 28 - February 3, 2024

National Catholic Schools Week this year is recognized from Jan. 28 to Feb. 3.

This weeklong celebration is themed “Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community.” Schools across the nation will observe this holiday with open houses, Masses and other special activities. In this special section, The Southside Times recognizes the Catholic schools in its coverage area, what makes our schools special and what’s happening this year.

## Why choose Catholic schools? Jesus Christ is our foundation and our goal

MESSAGE from SUPERINTENDENT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Catholic schools across the country will celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2024 from Jan. 28-Feb. 3. This year’s theme is “United in Faith and Community.” What a beautiful theme which gets to the essence of what makes our Catholic schools so great! Our Catholic schools bring together and unite students and families, faculty and volunteers and various cultures. This unity is deeply grounded in Jesus Christ and our Catholic faith which permeate everything we do and believe.

According to Catholic teaching, “parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2223). Therefore, parents should have the right to choose the educational option that best meets the needs of their children. Our great State of Indiana recognizes these God-given rights by supporting all forms of K-12 education and providing state education funding to parents for public or private education, except for families earning over 400% of free/reduced eligibility who can only receive funding for public schools. Parents in Indiana have many great educational choices for their children, so why should they choose Catholic schools? Parents should choose Catholic schools because Jesus Christ is the foundation and goal of everything we do.

Everything we do as Catholics flows from and leads back to the Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. The Eucharist is also the source and summit of our Catholic schools and every ministry of our church.

Holy Communion is food for the spiritual journey home to heaven where we will celebrate full communion with God and our brothers and sisters in Christ. Holy Communion is also the food that nourishes our Catholic school communities on our common journey through this life and into the next. What separates our Catholic schools from other school choices is that everything we do is built on our foundation in Jesus Christ.

Families choose our Catholic schools because of our academic rigor and excellence. Catholic schoolteachers challenge students to grow in knowledge, wisdom and truth through lessons that engage minds, bodies and spirits. Catholic schools develop the full human potential of each student because we know that human beings have an eternal destiny. Our students’ performance on standardized assessments is equal to or better than students in other schools. Our students earn many college credits while in high school and graduate at high rates. Our graduates excel in all areas of life. The foundation of our academic programs is Jesus Christ and a Catholic worldview.

Families choose our Catholic schools because the strong moral values we teach mirror what the parents are teaching home. Our schools are centered on the person of Jesus Christ, gospel values and teachings of the church. Our daily lessons in the Catholic faith reinforce and support the strong religious foundation

taught at home. Our Catholic school students participate in daily prayer, regular school Masses, special prayer activities, religion classes and Eucharistic adoration. Our students grow as ethical and moral decision-makers by learning to apply Catholic teachings and human reason to real-life situations. Our students develop strong moral characters that are necessary to withstand the changing values of secular culture. The foundation of our religious, moral and character education is the gospel and Catholic teaching.



Disney

Families choose our Catholic schools because of our safe and disciplined learning environment. Every student is recognized as a child of God who needs to be seen, valued and loved. In educating the whole child, Catholic schools form students spiritually, emotionally and socially. Lessons grounded in the gospel values help students to love God, themselves and others. This culture of respect, love and forgiveness permeates our classrooms, hallways and cafeterias. Students are held to high standards of caring for themselves, their classmates and the school. The foundations of our spiritual, emotional and social education are the gospels, Catholic values and Jesus Christ.

Families choose Catholic schools because parishes and schools create a community for the entire family. Catholic schools are communities of learners and

communities of faith. School families develop a sense of community with fellow parishioners and have opportunities for friendship, fellowship and service. Each of us is called to be a gospel witness who understands and accepts the teachings of the Church and the demands of the gospel. Catholic school educators partner with parents (the primary teachers) in the formation of their children. Our school communities are villages needed to raise our children. Jesus Christ brings us together as one common family and provides spiritual food to serve others.

Families choose Catholic schools because they are great investments in their children’s earthly and heavenly futures. Catholic schools educate children for significantly less than our public-school counterparts. Catholic school graduates excel in colleges and careers. Catholic school graduates actively participate in our America’s democracy, serve others in our communities and lead in business, government, education, healthcare, science and other careers. Catholic school graduates are more likely to retain their Catholic Christian identity, pray daily and attend Mass as adults. Catholic schools prepare students for life on earth and in heaven. The return on investment in Catholic education is unmatched.

Why choose Catholic schools? The foundation and goal of our schools is Jesus Christ.

**Dr. Brian R. Disney**  
SUPERINTENDENT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

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- The Class of 2023 earned over \$38 million in college scholarships.
- The Class of 2023 completed 46,550 hours of community service during their four years at Roncalli, which averages over 181 hours per senior.
- In the past 30 years, Roncalli students have collected more than 2.2 million canned food items for those in need of assistance.
- Roncalli offers 24 Advanced Placement and 28 Dual Credit courses with eligibility for college credit.
- The Class of 2023 included 5 National Merit Scholars.
- Over 145 students participate in our comprehensive student support programs including STARS resource, the Life Academy and ENL (English as a New Language).

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RHS students with Kass, a facility dog. (Submitted photo)

## Roncalli High School

### MESSAGE from OUR PRINCIPAL

While most private high schools use the label "College Prep," Roncalli expands our motto to a "Life Prep School." It is our mission to offer a personalized education that helps students discover and develop their God-given talents and interests. We want to prepare students for college, religious life, military service or entering the workforce.

For the past 55 years, Roncalli High School has been on the cutting edge of education. We have done that through a nationally recognized Special Education Department that started 30 years ago. Today, that program continues to thrive while serving our students. In addition, we offer an expansive curriculum that contains 24 Advanced Placement and 28 Dual Credit courses.

As we move forward in the 21st century, we continue to innovate our educational model by offering internship programs. In these programs, students take traditional courses for half of the day at Roncalli and

then leave our building to pursue courses, credits and certifications. Over 30 of our students attend Central Nine Career Center. We are in our third year of an internship with the EM Company for students focused on electrical and mechanical work. This is our first year in a partnership with the Indy South Greenwood Airport where students study rocketry, meteorology, unmanned drones and complete ground school. Next year, we are partnering with KLR Medical Training Certification to offer half-day medical certification training for our students interested in medical assisting, pharmacy technician, dental assisting and veterinary assisting.

Each one of us has been called by God for a specific purpose, and we want to ensure that as a Catholic school, we provide an individualized education that prepares students for their calling in life.

**Kevin Banich**  
PRINCIPAL

### STUDENT LETTER Roncalli High School

Through my four years at Roncalli, I have seen what a blessing Catholic education can be. Coming from a public school my eighth-grade year, I had no expectations or understanding of a Catholic education. Yet I quickly realized that what separated Roncalli was how my peers cared about my faith journey and who I would be after I left high school. I have a great appreciation for my Catholic education because I would not be where I am today without the people at my high school. My teachers consistently support me despite how I perform in their classes, and they treat me as a child of God before a student. I do not think most high

school students feel comfortable talking to teachers about personal matters, yet at Roncalli, I would not think twice about sharing my troubles with any teacher. To add, the students around me build a friendly environment that allows me to perform my best academically and excel in my friendships. My Catholic education experience has been nothing short of incredible, and I could never perform as well academically or grow as much in my faith without it.



**Drew Kegerreis**  
SENIOR





Academic excellence with grade 2 at Endress Hauser. (Submitted photo)

## Our Lady of the Greenwood

### MESSAGE from OUR PRINCIPAL

Our Lady of the Greenwood Catholic School serves children as young as pre-3 and as old as eighth grade. Since 1954 when the Sisters of Providence founded OLG School, our commitment to the gospel has never wavered. We are devoted to our faith and to the families we serve. Students receive an excellent education that is grounded in time-honored traditions and values. Our school population comes from 12 different school districts and three counties. Our families originate from all over the globe. That diversity is reflected in our school culture and climate. At OLG School, we learn, play and pray together. OLG

School accepts School Choice Scholarships, also known as vouchers. This makes tuition within reach for every kindergarten through eighth-grade family. SGO scholarships are available for our pre-K students as well. For more information, you can do one or all of the following:

1. Come to our open house on Thursday, Feb. 1, from 5:30-7 p.m.
2. Call the office at 317-881-1300 to schedule an appointment for a private tour.
3. Email [info@ol-g.org](mailto:info@ol-g.org). Come and see.

**Kent Clady**  
PRINCIPAL

### STUDENT LETTER Our Lady Of The Greenwood

Here are some reasons why I like Our Lady of the Greenwood School:

- Number one: the teachers are really kind.
- Number two: the food at lunch is good, plus on Wednesdays we get cookies with lunch.
- Number three: specials are really fun. Music, art, computer, and PE are the specials here.
- Number four: the kids are all very kind and sweet. You will make friends quickly.
- Number five: this one will be for book lovers. Upstairs, the library has books galore.
- Number six: after school, if you are not

a car rider, aftercare is in the lunchroom, and it is really fun there.

Number seven: Some Fridays we have families. Families are groups of kids, and you go to that classroom and sometimes play games or learn about God and Jesus.

Number eight: On Wednesdays and Fridays, we go to church.

These are some reasons why I like OLG School.



**Ellie Gray**  
FOURTH GRADE

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## Nativity Catholic School

### STUDENT LETTER Nativity Catholic School

I have been at Nativity for two years, and now it's my last year. I love it here, and I would never choose to go back to a public school. Being a student here has really changed me as a person and what I've become. I used to be a student at a local school. I went there from kindergarten all the way through sixth grade. It is a lot different here than there. I remember just simply trying to get to my next class and being trapped in a corner because of a fight going on in the hallway. I also remember walking into the bathroom with graffiti all over the bathroom stalls. None of that happens here. It's like a totally different school. Here at Nativity basically everyone is friends. There's no fights, no bullying and no vaping in the bathrooms.

I love that we get the privilege to learn about Jesus. We get religion class and church every week. I love getting this opportunity to learn about Jesus and read the Bible. We get to pray in every class as well. I think this part of my schooling has honestly changed me for the better. I've learned so much about Jesus and the Bible for the two years I've been here. I also love getting recess. I think it helps us get our energy out and prepare for our next classes. It also gets us exercise and burns calories right after lunch. Another thing that I honestly like is that we can't have our phones out. I think that helps me to pay attention and get better grades. I can also not get distracted easily when I don't have my phone on me. Although we must wear a uniform, out of uniform days are really nice.

Uniforms can also be nice though because you just know what you're wearing every day. There are no last-minute decisions.

I also like the smallness of our school. I think it makes us closer to each other, and we can spend more time together. Since our classes are smaller, I think we can learn easier, and if we need help with our work, it's easier to get help. I also like how the doors are locked at our school. It makes it a much safer place. No one can get in the door and harm the school. They must be let in. I also enjoy having to work the concession stand. It gives me something to do, and I enjoy doing it with friends.

I also love playing basketball with my classmates. We get to have fun on the court together. It's a fun thing to do with each other. When you're in eighth grade you get to do a lot of fun things. You get to go on an eighth-grade trip. Have eighth-grade retreats and go to eighth-grade Mass. We even get to have eighth-grade lunch and breakfast. I plan to go to Roncalli for high school. I chose this school because it is another Catholic school and for a few other reasons. It is a good high school to graduate from because most go to college afterward if they go to Roncalli. Also, Roncalli has lots of fun events like Nativity does. I would never go back to public school. This place has really changed me!

AN EIGHTH-GRADE STUDENT



Sixth-grade students participate in a STEM activity. (Submitted photo)



## A RICH LEGACY OF SERVICE

At O'Riley-Branson Funeral Service & Crematory, we've been serving Catholic families since 1971. We're proud to support Catholic education, an important tradition we've carried on with our sons, Benjamin (Cathedral '23) and Buddy (Roncalli '24) Branson. We want to wish all Indianapolis Catholic educators and students a successful year.

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Chris Branson, Cathedral High School '92,  
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Buddy Branson, Roncalli High School '24

Mary Beth Branson, Cathedral High School '88,  
Marian University





First grade students presenting the gifts at an all-school liturgy. (Submitted photo)

## Saint Mark Catholic School

### MESSAGE from OUR PRINCIPAL

Saint Mark Catholic School is blessed to have many reasons to celebrate this school year! After a full year of construction, we are enjoying our new facilities which include a new gym, cafeteria and kitchen, two new pre-K classrooms, and all new parish offices. Construction began in the summer of 2022 and was completed in the summer of 2023, just before school opened this year! These new spaces connect our school and church, so students are now able to get everywhere they need to go in a day without having to go outside in poor weather. In addition to our new facilities, we are also celebrating the 75th year for Saint Mark Catholic School and Church! We hosted a parish-wide celebration in which Archbishop Thompson joined us and was able to bless our new spaces! The school celebrated the 75th day of this 75th year with some fun activities that included a frisbee dog show for students to enjoy! Over the past year there has also been a focus on safety protocols and many updates have been completed. Some of the updates include

new doors and doorknobs for classrooms that are more safety conscious, two-way communication radios for staff, an updated camera system, and an all-new electronic door access system. Saint Mark currently has two classes for all grade levels from pre-K to eighth. Our students benefit from a large support staff with full-time instructional aides in all elementary classrooms as well as four interventionists, a three-person Special Education team, a social worker and a speech therapist. Our student-teacher ratio is about 12 to 1. Our team is strong, caring and student-centered! If you are interested in learning more about our 4-year-old pre-kindergarten or kindergarten programs, please join us for our open house on Wednesday, Feb. 7 between 5-7 p.m. If you are interested in any other grade levels, please contact the school office at (317) 786-4013. Happy Catholic Schools Week! God bless.

**Jen Kocher**  
PRINCIPAL

### STUDENT LETTER Saint Mark Catholic School

Saint Mark is an absolutely amazing school for many reasons, but my favorite reasons are school spirit, love and religion. Everywhere you look there is a smile to brighten your day. On some days the principal Mrs. Kocher will help the school celebrate special occasions like on the 75th year of Saint Mark when she set up many surprise celebrations! Saint Mark also lets everyone have a chance at something, so you are never left out and are always included. For example, each class gets to lead Mass at least once. One very special thing about Saint Mark is how they help us grow

in faith in different ways, like when Fr. Tim came in to talk to each class about how to grow closer to God. On Thursday when we all go to church, the whole school puts their hearts in singing loud for God! Saint Mark is filled with spectacular students and the teachers here have really helped everyone grow together into a wonderful family. St. Mark has definitely helped me grow in my faith 100%. At Saint Mark you are loved every second, minute and hour.



**Chloe Hayslett**

**PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE**

05:00PM - 7:00 PM  
Wednesday, February 7

**St. Mark CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

QUESTIONS, CONTACT JEN KOCHER  
jkocher@stmarkindy.org

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Indianapolis, IN 46227

www.school.stmarkindy.org

**75**

**FIRST DAY OF PRE-K**





Scouts Nathan Tellez, Henry Wilson, Tucker Naugle and Isaiah Amador assist with raising the flag on Veterans Day. (Submitted photo)

## St. Jude Catholic School

### MESSAGE from OUR PRINCIPAL

The 2023-2024 school year has been a year full of so many bright moments of students being great leaders and learners each and every day. Although our school has much to offer students Preschool through eighth grade in terms of academics, technology and creative experiences, we pride ourselves most on our faith, service and sense of community. "All Who Hunger" has been our theme this year as we focus our efforts on finding ways to nourish and feed ourselves and others with positivity and faith. We know that we are better together and are striving to bring our community together through service and faith and most especially the Eucharist. We

want to feed one another with the word of God and be nourished. Service activities such as collecting food for our Halloween food drive, delivering care packages to the homebound, cleaning up outdoor spaces and even creating colorful cards for local nursing homes.

We are so proud of our St. Jude community and the work we do to help students be the best they can be. If you are interested in enrolling your child to be a part of St. Jude School, please contact the office at 317-784-6828 or visit the website at [sjsindy.org](http://sjsindy.org).

**Beth Meece**  
PRINCIPAL

### STUDENT LETTER St. Jude Catholic School

Catholic education provides students a deeper understanding of religion as well as showing how much our parents sacrifice for us when it comes to our education. We are able to have an entire class dedicated to learning our religion; it's a privilege to be able to learn and talk about Catholicism. For me, the most important aspect of a Catholic education is deepening my

faith every day during school. It is a gift to be able to talk freely about religion and what I believe. The education I am receiving will help me to develop as a person, and for that, I am thankful.



**Lizeth Perez**  
SEVENTH GRADE



St. Roch students work on a science project. (Submitted photo)

## St. Roch Catholic School

### MESSAGE from OUR PRINCIPAL

St. Roch Catholic School celebrates our 100th year of providing exceptional education and fostering a strong Catholic identity in our students. Our school has been a cornerstone in the community, and it is with great pride that we reflect on our century-long journey.

At St. Roch Catholic School, we have a dedicated and talented staff who work tirelessly to create a positive learning environment for our students. Their commitment to education is evident in our student's academic and personal achievements. Our entire staff goes above and beyond to instill a love of learning and encourage students to reach their full potential.

Our students are the heart and soul of our school. Hardworking and enthusiastic, they embody the spirit of our school theme: "Soaring with the Spirit." Each day, our students work hard and fill our school with happiness and love. We embrace the role of

the Holy Spirit in our lives and ask for the Spirit's guidance as we go through our day.

Our 100th-anniversary celebration is a testament to the enduring legacy of St. Roch Catholic School. Throughout the years, we have seen generations of families pass through our halls, creating a strong sense of community and connection. The support of our alumni and the broader community has played a crucial role in shaping the success and longevity of our school.

Rooted in faith, we strive to nurture the spiritual development of our students. Our school community comes together in prayer, worship, and service, fostering a sense of compassion and social responsibility among our students.

We look forward to 100 more years of success and growth.

**Amy Wilson**  
PRINCIPAL

### STUDENT LETTER St. Roch Catholic School

Some things that are special about St. Roch is that they put students where they need to be academically. The teachers give you different activities and groups based on where you are in your grade. They have fun celebrations on holidays such as pep rallies, where different classes compete in games against each other for prizes.

The principal, Mrs. Wilson, is very funny and kind. I like her because of her daily jokes and that she even once kissed the computer teacher's bearded dragon!

St. Roch also gives everyone chances to

learn about God in religion class. In all of the classes, we do fun projects about what we learned, like a big, fun review! The lunch staff makes delicious lunches like pizza, chicken and rice, tacos and salads.

There are also many different kinds of clubs to choose from, like chess, basketball, math and spell bowl. That is why I think St. Roch is special.



**Danny Zapp**  
FOURTH GRADE



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An eighth grade "Giant Buddy" working with first-grade students. (Submitted photo)

## Holy Name Catholic School

### MESSAGE from OUR PRINCIPAL

Love One Another: that is our theme for the 2023-2024 school year. Each and every day the staff and students of Holy Name Catholic School strive to show Christ's presence within our school. We are lucky enough to attend all-school Mass twice a week and Eucharistic Adoration each Thursday. We offer many opportunities for students to engage in prayer and deepen their relationship with Christ. Every day we recite our school pledge together, which truly drives all that we do at HNCS. "Using Christ as our model, we strive daily to enhance the growth of each person. In His way, we develop lifelong learners who are committed to knowing, loving and serving God." We have a phenomenal staff of truly dedicated teachers who love and support each student as if they were their own. We care deeply about the well-being and growth of each individual student and will work with them to accommodate their individual needs. We

have worked very diligently over the last few years to enhance the rigor of our academics, and we have seen tremendous growth in our students' ability to think critically and problem solve. When you ask a member of our school family what they love most about Holy Name, you will almost always get the same answer – the small community and family feel. The comment has often been made that there is an immediate feeling of faith-filled love when you walk through our door. If you are looking for a school that will nurture your family's faith and provide a rigorous curriculum, in an atmosphere with a true sense of family, I have no doubt Holy Name is the right place for you. We would love to show you more about what it means to be a Holy Name Giant. Please contact us to learn more!

**Amy Wright**  
PRINCIPAL

### STUDENT LETTER Holy Name Catholic School

Holy Name is a great Catholic school because we have Oktoberfest every year. Oktoberfest is a festival that we celebrate every year in October. It is a very fun event that happens in our school that me and many others enjoy. Oktoberfest has live music, fun crafts for kids to enjoy and great food. Oktoberfest is one of the reasons why Holy Name is a great school. Another reason why Holy Name is a great Catholic school is because we had a sock drive a few months ago. The sock drive that our class held had a goal to reach 500 pairs of socks, but we surpassed our goal! At the end of the month, those socks were donated to homeless people who needed them. The

sock drive lasted one month before we donated them all. This is another reason you may consider thinking Holy Name is a wonderful school. My final reason why Holy Name is a great Catholic school is because our school has been around for over 100 years. Our school has been around longer than most Catholic schools. Holy Name has also been the oldest Catholic school in Beech Grove. These reasons indicate why our school, Holy Name, is a great and wonderful Catholic school.



**Samantha Camargo**  
SEVENTH GRADE



(Top) Central Catholic School students learn via hands-on learning to enhance the classroom experience and to prepare them for solving life problems. | (Right) Central Catholic School's eighth graders at a CYO retreat. (Submitted photos)

## Central Catholic School

### MESSAGE from OUR PRINCIPAL

Central Catholic School is located on the Southside of Indianapolis and offers a Catholic education to students in grades PreK to eighth grade.

At Central Catholic School, our mission is to prepare students for the future by nurturing their academic and spiritual growth,

while instilling the values of faith, love, perseverance, respect and service.

For more information about Central Catholic School, visit our website: [central-catholicindy.org](http://central-catholicindy.org).

**Tami Clouse**  
PRINCIPAL

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Third graders pose for the camera. (Submitted photo)

## Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi School

### MESSAGE from OUR PRINCIPAL

Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi School continues to celebrate our schoolwide theme focused on the National Eucharistic Revival. This year our theme, "Journey to the Source and Summit of Christian Living" is encouraging families to attend Mass and experience the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. We are also very proud of our sixth-place ranking among elementary schools on the 2023 Spring iLearn assessment.

We will be kicking off Catholic Schools Week with our annual Chili Cook Off on Jan. 27. The event is a family night of food and fun for the entire community. We will

have a silent auction, kids carnival and contest to judge approximately 50 entries of chili and soups.

The school will host an open house on Feb. 21 from 3-7 p.m. Tours can be arranged during the day by calling the school office and setting up an appointment with our office at 317-859-4673. All families interested in "Discovering the Difference" that Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi has to offer are welcome to visit.

**Betty Popp**  
PRINCIPAL

### STUDENT LETTER Saints Francis & Clare of Assisi

As a student attending Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi school, I get the privilege of safety, uniforms and education about God. Mr. Cary talked about how he feels safer in this environment and doesn't feel the need of looking over his shoulder. We are granted a security guard, Mr. Cary, and a strict front office procedure to enter the building.

Many people find the uniforms aggravating, but there is a reason behind them. In a public school, many students worry about what they will wear each day to look good in front of classmates. Since our school enforces uniforms, we all wear the same thing every day. Mr. Cary used the military as an

example. The military wears similar uniforms, and they are disciplined. In order to get good grades you have to be disciplined.

Teachers in Catholic schools teach us about our faith. The ultimate goal in life is to make it to heaven where we will have eternal life with God. Mrs. Kesler prepares us for our Confirmation toward the end of the year, where we will receive the Holy Spirit.

**Vincent Conover**  
EIGHTH GRADE



### STUDENT LETTER Holy Name Catholic School

I am a student at Holy Name, and I've been here since I was 5 years old. I am in fifth grade now, and I am 11 years old. You don't have to be here for that long to know it's a great school! Our school is full of nice people. We have amazing teachers, nice students and fun service projects every month. I play CYO basketball, but there are many other sports, and they are all fun. All the projects that we do at school are fun and amazing. All of the kids in my class enjoy specials like STEM and PE. We also celebrate a week where we get to dress up with hats and at the end of the week, we have a pep rally where the whole school is no work, just party and have fun! Our church is not just for the school Mass, but we also have Mass on the weekends and adoration for both students and parishioners. Our priest, Father Bob, is good at communicating with the students and he knows almost all of our names. Along with Father Bob we also have Sister Nicolette who gives out handmade rosaries to students. Every

Friday there is a chance for anyone in the school to go to her classroom and get a special rosary. Holy Name also has the eighth grade put on the Living Stations of the Cross play and we also say an entire rosary together as a school every year. Holy Name is a great place to learn as well because every student does ELA, religion and math almost every day. In third grade every single student does the Living Wax Museum where we research a character and dress up as them and inform an audience of the person's life. In religion we read chapters of Jesus' life and the Old Testament and get tested on it later. Overall Holy Name is a great place to learn faith and reading! The church and staff teach many great stories about God. The school is a nice place for students to learn and socialize and I think there should be more schools like it!



**Carter Brenchley**  
FIFTH GRADE

### STUDENT LETTER Nativity Catholic School

Hi, my name is Reese, and this is my first year at Nativity; I am loving it! I love that we get to pray before class. I like getting to talk to God before we start class and just asking Him to help me to do my best and to just have a good day. Next, I really like how we get to go to Mass. I just moved to Nativity, and I didn't get to have Mass at my old school. Also, I like how it is a smaller school because smaller school equals easier to focus in the classroom. That equals easier to learn, and that equals good grades, and good grades equals happy parents.

I have dyslexia, so it's hard for me to read and write and spell. I am so lucky to have all the wonderful teachers that help me with that. Nativity just has AMAZING teachers

overall. The schoolwork is harder for me than at my old school. I think a Catholic education will better me to get ready for high school and college.

Finally, a Catholic education means to me that I know everyone at Nativity wants me to do my best. I will be well prepared for the future because of the hard schoolwork that I do. It also means that I get to connect with God every day at school with prayers and Mass. Moving from public to private school was one of the best decisions my parents could have made for me. I love going to Nativity Catholic School.

A SIXTH-GRADE STUDENT



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Seventh-grade students design pizza boxes through STEM integration. (Submitted photo)

## St. Barnabas Catholic School

### MESSAGE from OUR PRINCIPAL

"We are many parts, we are all one body, and the gifts we have we are given to share..." These words are a great example of St. Barnabas Catholic School. Each of us comes with a different story, a different background and different experiences, but we are one united in the love of Christ. We are so blessed to be part of this amazing place.

Recently a student shared with me that, "Our teachers teach us how to think, not what to think." I believe this is a hallmark of the education St. Barnabas Catholic School students receive. Through a focus on depths-of-knowledge and active learning that requires critical thinking, students have the opportunity to learn and engage with content in authentic ways.

While all students benefit from our approach to learning, at St. Barnabas Catholic School, we see children as individual blessings. We work diligently to use what we know about a child to help him or her develop to their fullest potential. While all students receive an excellent education, develop ways to manage learning and are

motivated to set rigorous learning goals, our personalized learning environment allows differences to be celebrated and each learner to grow.

Our students have many opportunities to grow in their faith. We not only begin and end each day in prayer but throughout the day there are many opportunities for encounters with Jesus Christ. Beginning each class with prayer, daily catechesis, attending Eucharistic Adoration and participating in service projects such as our food drive and writing letters to military veterans are just a few of the ways our students are growing as disciples of Christ.

Relationships are essential at St. Barnabas Catholic School. Students are encouraged to build connections with others while becoming disciples themselves. Through lasting relationships, our community has been able to maintain a stewardship model for nearly 60 years as each generation works to provide an irresistibly Catholic education to the next.

**Ryan Schnarr**  
PRINCIPAL

### STUDENT LETTER St. Barnabas Catholic School

My Catholic education means that I have the opportunity to grow stronger in my faith through all aspects of what I do here at St. Barnabas. St. Barnabas has given me the chance to be able to talk freely about God and how He impacts my life. Prayer is something that we do during morning and afternoon announcements to keep God close and in our hearts. Going to Mass each week brings our school together as one to celebrate God in the Eucharist. Our Catholic faith is also tied with our sports, which many students participate in. We pray before games, sometimes with the other team,

because our faith and love for God unites us as one. My education at St. Barnabas prepares me well for high school, but it also allows me to learn about my faith which I would not be able to do in a public school. The time I get to spend each day learning about the Catholic faith shapes me into the person Christ wants me to be. At St. Barnabas, I have learned what it means to be a St. Barnabas Warrior and how to live for Christ.

**Jocelynn Lee**  
EIGHTH GRADE



### STUDENT LETTER St. Jude Catholic School

Education is a gift, and a Catholic education is even more precious. We are blessed that the Archdiocese of Indianapolis provides the profound gift of Catholic education, affording students the ability to express creativity, kindness and leadership. More importantly, Catholic education provides a deeper understanding of our Creator and faith. Genesis 1 states, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the

deep." God made the world hopeless and empty, but he made us. With Catholic education, I have come to realize that we all play a role on this earth. Despite there being darkness, we must learn to prevail and create a haven so that we may get to heaven. We have the gift of the opportunity to become saints.

**Keegan Shaffer**  
EIGHTH GRADE



### STUDENT LETTER St. Barnabas Catholic School

My Catholic school is not perfect, but Jesus is. Sometimes kids struggle with things happening at home or in their relationships with classmates. They may even be more worried about what shoes they are wearing or what other people think about them than their relationship with Jesus. What is beautiful about my Catholic school is it offers many chances for my classmates and me to serve others, encounter Jesus and grow in our relationship with Him. Jesus is with us no matter what, and I see Him every day at school when we pray in the morning, at lunch and at the end of the day. We see Je-

sus at school mass and receive Him in the Eucharist every Thursday. Sitting with Jesus in adoration, saying the rosary and going to confession are more ways we can grow our relationship with Jesus. We are also given the opportunity to be Jesus for others through our service projects like making blankets, collecting food and collecting toiletries for people in need. I am grateful for my Catholic school which brings me closer to Jesus.

**Eva Miller**  
EIGHTH GRADE



### STUDENT LETTER St. Roch Catholic School

I am a third-grade student at St. Roch Catholic School. I have gone to St. Roch since Pre-K. My siblings go to school here, too. My mom works here on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. My mom and her siblings went to St. Roch, too.

Catholic schools are important to me because we learn about Jesus in religion. We receive Jesus in the Eucharist every Friday and Sunday. When we go to Mass, we get to praise God. We learn things from the Bible.

I enjoy St. Roch because we get to have an amazing principal and vice principal. We get to go with Mr. G and pray, learn about the Bible, and make cards for people. I learn about my faith when we celebrate Mass and listen to the Gospel. We start and end our day with prayer. We have religion class and learn about saints. I love St. Roch Catholic School!

**Adele Moses**  
THIRD GRADE



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## Southside Educator of THE Month

Compiled by Nancy Hammerstrom

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 [nancyh@icontimes.com](mailto:nancyh@icontimes.com). Congratulations to this month's nominated educators of the month: **Beth Wolfe**, Beech Grove High School, **Jean Long**, Central Catholic School, **Maggie Cooper**, Perry Meridian High School



### Beth Wolfe

BEECH GROVE HIGH SCHOOL  
MATH TEACHER

For a quarter of a century, Beth Wolfe has been a beacon of inspiration, leaving an indelible mark on students and families across Marion County. For the past 15 years, Beech Grove High School has been fortunate to have her as an integral part of our academic community. This is Beth's last semester at BGHS as she will be retiring at the end of the school year.

Beth's dedication goes beyond the realm of teaching math; she has been a guiding force in various academic teams, serving as a coach, as well as taking on roles such as the National Honor Society advisor, cheer coach and English department chair.

Unsurprisingly, when reflecting on her greatest memories and what she will miss the most, it all circles back to the students. Beth Wolfe, at her core, is about the kids – whether they are her own, her neighbors, those in her class or simply passing in the hallways.

"I will miss my students and colleagues the most! I feel like my greatest accomplishment has been witnessing so many students transform from disliking math to finding success in my classes. I plan to remain involved, so don't hesitate to reach out if there's something you'd like me to be a part of! I will continue to participate in community and school events."

Beth, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for making Beech Grove High School a better place through your unwavering dedication and caring heart. You will be profoundly missed!

#BethWolfeLegacy

#BeechGroveHighSchool #25YearsOfImpact

\* Nominated by Beech Grove City Schools



### Jean Long

PART-TIME ASSISTANT FOR  
SPED PROGRAM, CENTRAL  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Miss Jean Long wears many hats in the Central Catholic community. She is a part-time assistant for our SPED program, a kindergarten aid one day a week and is also our building sub. She is one of the only staff members who interacts with all of our students.

Jean undertakes each role with a positive attitude and a smile on her face.

Students say that Miss Long is very nice and helpful and she makes them smile.

The staff sees Jean as a ray of sunshine whenever she is in the building. Her love for Central Catholic School is infectious and she helps everyone in our building smile even when we may be having a bad day.

Central Catholic is blessed to have Miss Jean Long as a part of the family.

\* Nominated by Central Catholic School



### Maggie Cooper

PERRY MERIDIAN HIGH  
SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION  
TEACHER

Maggie is an inspiration to all teachers at PMHS. She is an exemplary teacher who cares deeply about her students and their success. She takes

time to get to know each and every child and their families during the course of the school year. She believes the family serves as her partner in education. Maggie takes on many additional roles at PMHS. Maggie can be found at academic competitions, sporting competitions and dances many days of the year. She takes the extra time not only to know the academic abilities of her students but also their hobbies, likes, dislikes, as well as their future goals. Maggie knows her students, their families, students' needs and works tirelessly to make sure her students are prepared for real world challenges.

She is liked by everyone in the school and in the community. Her kind and caring attitude is infectious to anyone she is around. She is upbeat, finds the silver lining and genuinely cares about and loves her students and her job. She is always willing to share her ideas in a team meeting, at a staff meeting or individually. Maggie has led professional development in the Special Education department as well as in our staff meetings. She reaches out to our middle school every year to meet students who will be transitioning to high school to make sure the students know her. She always wants to be prepared to offer a great academic experience.

Maggie is the kind of teacher we should all strive to be like. She is a wonderful, positive and uplifting colleague, and she is a great person to be around. Maggie is a role model for students as well as the staff at PMHS. PMHS would not be a special place for special kids without the hard work and dedication that Maggie has for her students and school. She is just a good person and makes everyone around her better.

\* Nominated by Perry Township Schools

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## Bob Rohman's **INDY** Athlete of the Month **HONDA** Kate McKee

By Ken Severson

Excelling in athletics is never easy. Sometimes it takes years for an athlete to just to be very good.

And sometimes it takes months.

Kate McKee is proof of that.

McKee, a junior at Perry Meridian High School, took fifth place in the 155-pound weight class at the Indiana High School Girls Wrestling championships held on Jan. 12 at Kokomo High School.

This after only taking up the sport three months.

"I'm very competitive, but I was as surprised as anyone," McKee said.

McKee really shouldn't be surprised given her track record.

Last season, McKee also qualified for state in the pole vault at the Indiana High School Athletic Association Girls Track & Field State Tournament.

She didn't place, but again, it was a new sport for her, and she still has two more years to try.

Prior to all this, McKee was a competitive gymnast for 13 years, that is until an injury curtailed her chances of advancing further.

"Kate's had a great year," McKee's mother Jennifer McKee said. "We've really enjoyed it."

"I had a forced retirement due to injuries," McKee said. "I was at a Level 9 in gymnastics and did all four disciplines, the balance beam, floor exercises, vault and uneven bars."

When the injuries forced her out of gymnastics in 2022, it prevented McKee from advancing to Level 10, the ultimate level.

"Gymnastics taught me discipline," McKee said. "I made it to nationals, and I felt after this, I could conquer any sport."

Track filled a void after gymnastics, but something else seemed missing. McKee spent her time in the weight room when Perry Meridian wrestling coaches noticed her pulling and pushing weights with the best of them.

"(Kate) started during preseason (Octo-

ber) and really was a natural," Perry Meridian wrestling coach Matt Shoettle said. "She is athletic, strong, smart and she works very hard. Coach Chris Payton also helps in the weight room in the girls' strength class. He noticed her work ethic and athletic ability and really recruited her."

McKee thought that after gymnastics, track, specifically the pole vault, was her sport but some friendly persuasion from the coaches and a friend told her otherwise.

"My teammate Bella Osterhoudt convinced me, and everyone kept telling me how good I would be," McKee said. "She said it's not anything crazy and if I didn't like it, I could leave, but I loved it and it's like the perfect sport for me after a few practices."

It was a swift and successful transition for McKee and the Falcons. McKee finished her first season with a remarkable 28-9 record in a sport that not only requires strength, endurance and discipline, but especially the last one when it comes to making weight.

McKee began her wrestling career at 170 pounds, but she was wrestling nearly 10 pounds lighter, and it was suggested she cut weight further to 155.

"My coaches felt I would have a better chance of success at 155," McKee said. "I was down for that, but it wasn't easy."

McKee's discipline took over and she made the weight.

"I'm not going to go to a tournament and sit around for 12 hours and not do anything," she said.



Perry Meridian wrestler Kate McKee in action at the Indiana High School Girls Wrestling State Tournament at Kokomo High School on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024. McKee placed fifth in the state at the 155 pounds weight division. (Submitted photo)

With the season over, McKee now turns her attention to the pole vault and she's already practicing and thinking about the upcoming season. McKee's personal best is 10 feet, 9 inches and she has a goal of not only making the state tournament again, but to score points for her team with a placing.

"I'm hoping to place," McKee said. "I don't care what I place it is; I just want to place."

McKee will also continue wrestling her senior year along with track.

"They are very different sports. It's a shock that I'm pretty good at both," McKee said.

McKee is also pretty good in the classroom, maintaining a 4.3 grade point average out of 5.

#### THE MCKEE FILE

**NAME:** Kate McKee

**HEIGHT:** 5-foot-1

**SCHOOL:** Perry Meridian

**HOBBIES:** Usually I'm busy with my sports, but other than that I like hanging out with friends and lifting/going to the gym.

**COLLEGE PLANS:** I would like to attend college for

nursing or something in the health field; as to where I'm not sure yet.

**FAVORITE SUBJECTS:** Anatomy/science and history

**FAVORITE ATHLETE:** Aly Raisman

**FAVORITE VACATION SPOT:** Myrtle Beach, S.C., or Orange Beach, Ala.

**PARENTS' NAMES:** Jennifer and Brian McKee

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## PHOTO of the WEEK



National bestselling author and parent expert, Julia Cook, visited students at North Grove Elementary School in Center Grove last week. A former school counselor and teacher, Cook is the author of "Awesome Dawson Has Big Emotions," "A Bad Case of Tattle Tongue" and "My Mouth Is A Volcano." She has presented in thousands of schools across the country and abroad, regularly speaks at national education and counseling conferences, and has published nearly 100 children's books with a wide range of characters and social development topics. (Photo courtesy of Center Grove Community School Corporation)

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*Over every mountain there is a path, although  
it may not be seen from the valley.*

– Theodore Roethke

## HUMOR



### Top 10 things heard recently that make me worry about mankind

By Torry Stiles

10. "I ain't ever gonna have money so I might as well get a tattoo."
9. "You can't have him fired. He's a customer like you."
8. "I don't need math. I'm gonna get paid to play Fortnite."
7. "The funny smell went away, so I figured my car was fixed. Now it won't start."
6. "The doctor said to call if it got worse, but he didn't say who to call."
5. "I can never remember which ones are Democrats, but I think DeSantis is."
4. "They got the Christmas stuff at 75% off. I guess I was too slow for the half-off sale."
3. "Well, if they didn't want to be hostages then they should've stayed home."
2. "The other guy who helped me was a woman. Is he still here?"
1. "How can the newspaper know what time sunrise is if it hasn't happened yet?"

## BELIEVE IT!

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

Cresskill, N.J., all cats must wear three bells to warn birds of their whereabouts.

Source: [stupidlaws.com](http://stupidlaws.com)





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 D P R  
 V I R G O  
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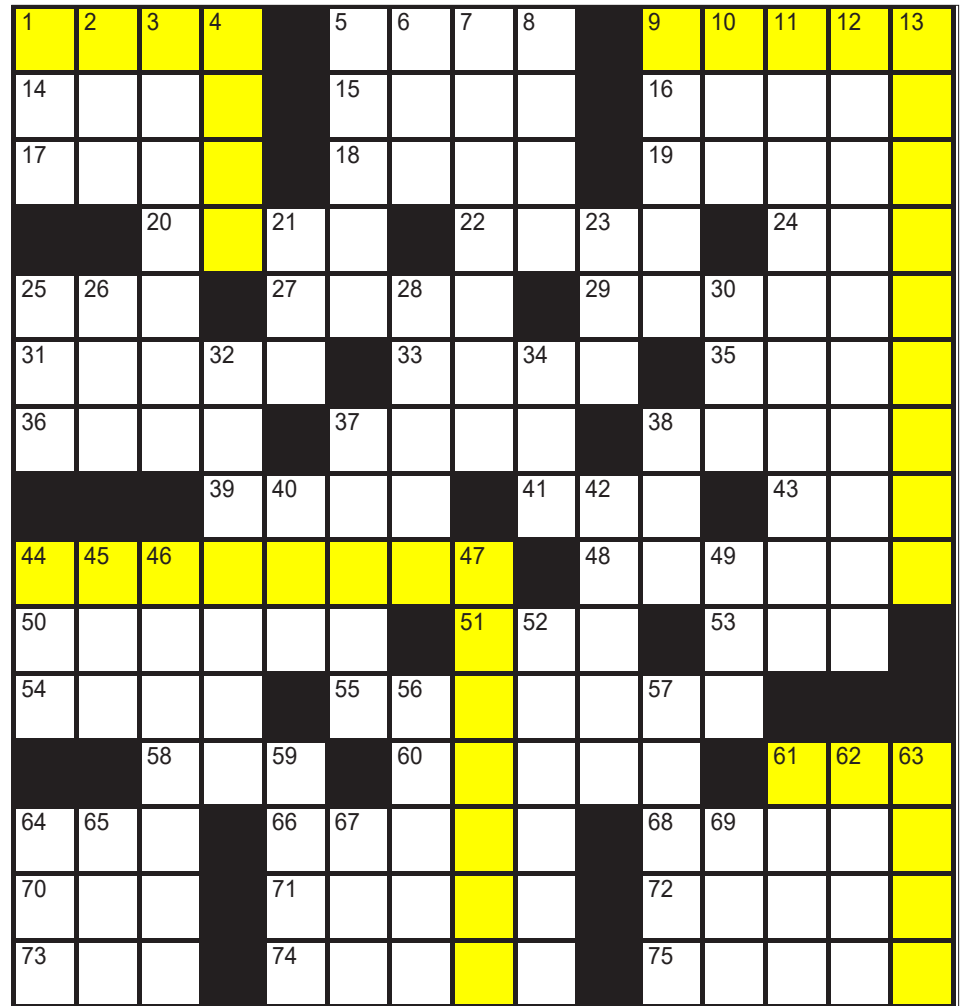
5 Zodiac Signs \_\_\_\_\_  
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2 Basketball Venues \_\_\_\_\_  
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1 Fort Benjamin Harrison Home \_\_\_\_\_

**ACROSS**

- 1 North Central HS grad starring in the Netflix stand-up comedy special "Don't Take It Personal"
- 5 Footnote abbr.
- 9 Only "Indiana Mr. Basketball" who won the NBA MVP award
- 14 Type of school, like Brebeuf, briefly
- 15 Cape Canaveral org.
- 16 Be of \_\_\_ (help)
- 17 Fight for breath
- 18 New Mexico art colony
- 19 Pulsate
- 20 Old Russian ruler
- 22 Not this
- 24 Indy-to-Cleveland dir.
- 25 Southern Dunes Golf Course standard
- 27 Manhattan neighborhood
- 29 Indianapolis Opera performance: "The \_\_\_ of Seville"
- 31 First Hebrew letter
- 33 IMPD alerts
- 35 Prefix for "while"
- 36 Bearish broker's advice
- 37 "Desperate Housewives" role
- 38 Gets nothing done
- 39 "\_\_\_ Lang Syne"
- 41 Ger. neighbor
- 43 Zodiac sign
- 44 Indy native with 12 Grammy Awards
- 48 Like some kisses, glances or bases
- 50 Still hadn't fully settled, as a loan
- 51 Patriotic women's org.
- 53 WSJ rival
- 54 None, nil, nada
- 55 Had to be paid, say
- 58 Appropriate rhyme for "spa"
- 60 Congregation Beth-El Zedeck scroll
- 61 Colts coach known for his "Playoffs?! PLAYOFFS?!" press conference rant
- 64 Stick out



- 66 Muscat native
- 68 Speed skater Ohno
- 70 GPS suggestion
- 71 Oscar winner Swinton
- 72 Lucas Oil Stadium seater
- 73 Southport HS color
- 74 "The Sound of Music" girl
- 75 Indiana State Sen. Rogers
- 10 "Quiet!"
- 11 In an intellectual manner
- 12 In a person's immediate vicinity
- 13 ---
- 21 Fireplace residue
- 23 "Six-pack" muscles
- 25 Mas' partners
- 26 Scarlet Lane Brewing brew
- 28 Sound heard at the beginning of "class"?
- 30 \_\_\_ Speedwagon
- 32 "Imagination Taking Shape" toy
- 34 "Maude" actress Arthur
- 37 Mont \_\_\_ (highest Alp)
- 38 WWII vessel
- 40 ET craft
- 42 Old nutritional fig.
- 44 Singer Scaggs
- 45 Wonder
- 46 Chewed out
- 47 ---
- 49 Washington's bill
- 52 TV attachment seen less often on roofs these days
- 56 "\_\_\_ of Two Cities"
- 57 DIY mover's rental
- 59 Langford Wilson's "The \_\_\_ Baltimore"
- 61 Ex-Indiana Lieutenant Governor Mutz
- 62 Cole Porter tune: "Where Is the Life That Late \_\_\_?"
- 63 ---
- 64 \_\_\_ Tolkien
- 65 Western Indian
- 67 Roman 1002
- 69 "Deflategate" air pressure letters

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# NIGHT & DAY

## LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT ENTERTAINING

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### BARGERSVILLE

**Resources of Hope: All In for Foster Youth Casino Night** • We are thrilled to announce Takkeem Morgan as our Keynote Speaker. Takkeem spent eight years in the foster care system. Today he is dedicated to supporting foster parents and is an established change maker within Indiana's foster care reform system. Our **ALL IN for Foster Youth** Casino Night will serve as our primary fundraiser tasked with covering a large portion of our annual operating costs, programs and anticipated growth. As we prepare our annual operating budget, we have set our goal at \$30,000. We encourage you to be a part of making that a reality as we ask for your help in supporting foster children in our community. Purchase a table of eight for \$500 or \$75 for an individual ticket. | When: Feb. 17, 6-11 p.m. | Where: The Sycamore at Mallow Run, 7070 Whiteland Road, Bargersville. | Info: resourcesof-hope.org/casinonight

#### BEECH GROVE

**Art Adventures with Mr. Jeremy** • For preschoolers: Make tissue paper flowers with Mr. Jeremy and watch your child's creativity bloom! This hands-on program with Jeremy South of Ripple Mobile Arts will foster artistic expression, fine motor skills and a deeper connection to the beauty of nature. Registration required. Dress to mess! | When: Feb. 5, 11-11:45 a.m. | Where: Beech Grove Library Branch, 1102 Main St., Indianapolis. | Info: (317) 275-4560; attend.indypl.org/event/9918684

**Ladies Night** • Join us the second Friday of each month for a fun-filled evening for just the ladies. Meet other ladies in the community while enjoying dinner and a variety of fun activities, including crafts, games and prizes. \$5 per person. Email RSVP@beechgrove.com. | When: Feb. 9, 6-8 p.m. | Where: Hornet Park Community Center, 5245 Hornet Park Ave., Beech Grove. | Info: (317) 788-4986; communitycenter@beechgrove.com; hornetpark-communitycenter.com

**Retirement Plan Basics** • Pensions, IRAs, 401Ks, 403Bs. Join us for financial planning workshops in 2024 presented by a Certified Financial Planner (CFP®) at the library. | When: Feb. 13, 6:30-7:30 p.m. | Where: Beech Grove Library Branch, 1102 Main St., Indianapolis. | Info: (317) 275-4560; attend.indypl.org/event/10020586

**Second Annual BGPD & Boys II Men, Inc Chili Cook Off** • This year anyone can enter! Entries will be limited to 30 pots, but just 10 cents per category: hot, mild and white chicken, so register soon! Category winners will receive a trophy, and the overall winner will have their name cemented into everlasting glory on the Grand Champion's

trophy. The door fee for adults and teens is \$20; children 12 and under are \$5. There will also be a gift basket auction! Water is provided; all other drinks are available next door at O'Gara's Irish Pub. All proceeds go to Boys II Men, Inc. Raffle baskets needed! Fundraising and advertising opportunity for impactful community cause with Boys II Men, Inc. For entry or donations email Tom.Hurrl@Beechgrove.com | When: Feb. 17, 6 p.m. | Where: 524 Events, 524 E Main St., Beech Grove. | Info: boy-siimen.org

**Village of Stories** • Bring traditional African stories to life with the rhythm of the drum and the power of interactive learning with Arts for Learning teaching artist, Kahil the Djeli. Children ages 3-5 will experience stories, rhythms and drums to create their own village of stories! | When: Feb. 22, 11-11:30 a.m. | Where: Beech Grove Library Branch, 1102 Main St., Indianapolis. | Info: (317) 275-4560; https://attend.indypl.org/event/9925437

#### CENTER GROVE

**Stuffed Animal Sleepover** • Ever wondered what goes on in the library at night? Your stuffed animal can find out when they stay over at the library. Join us for storytime and leave your stuffed friend. Pick them up the next day. | When: Jan. 26, 4:30 p.m. | Where: White River Branch Library, 1664 Library Blvd., Greenwood. | Info: jcplin.libnet.info/event/9079670

#### GREENWOOD

**The Bishops at Ale Emporium** • The Bishops are well known for their high-energy, multi-genre performances. Find great music, food and drinks at this event. | When: Jan. 26, 8:30-11:30 p.m. | Where: Ale Emporium, 997 E. County Line Road, Greenwood. | Info: 317-300-1560 or go to thebishopslive.com/calendar

**Purse Bingo** • Tickets on sale \$35 starting Jan. 20, 9-11 a.m. at The Social of Greenwood, 550 Polk St. Greenwood, cash or check only. | When: Feb. 8, doors open at 5 p.m.; Bingo starts at 6:30 p.m. | Where: The Barn at Bay Horse Inn, 1468 W. Stones Crossing Road, Greenwood. | Info: (317) 882-4810; thesocialofgreenwood.org

**Southside Art League Presents: White Rose** • The featured artists this month are an exhibit by the students of Beverly S. Mathis's watercolor classes in February. The subject for the paintings is a white rose. There is no charge to enter the gallery. There will be an open house for the artists from 2-4 p.m. on Feb. 4. Light refreshments will be served. | When: Jan. 31-Feb. 29, Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. | Where: Southside Art League, 299 E. Broadway St., Greenwood. | Info: Please call SALI at 317-882-5562 or Beverly

### AN OPTION

#### Helm Coffee

If you Google the best coffee cities in America, Indianapolis (perhaps unsurprisingly) is typically near the bottom of the list for ranking in national publications. However, patrons of a little-known and locally owned gem in Garfield Park have discovered that Helm Coffee raises the bar. Specialty coffee is sourced from farmers in countries like Costa Rica, Ethiopia and Guatemala, with notes of black cherry, dark chocolate, wild honey and more. "The coffee was incredible," according to a Google review. "We have been to a lot of coffee shops in Austin, Houston, Denver and Dallas, and this coffee RULES them all!" The environment-friendly shop uses jars from nearby Amberson Coffee & Grocer as coffee mugs, and pastries come from local Leviathan Bakehouse. Pilates classes are offered on Friday, and guests are treated to live jazz or acoustic music on Sundays. "I strongly recommend them for cozy morning meetings, and they do bulk coffee for events like champions," added a Google reviewer.



*The Ginger Latte, made with fresh ginger root and ingredients that nourish body and mind. The perfect drink to help us transition into spring and add a little bit of spice and warmth to our days. (Photo courtesy of Helm Coffee)*

**Hours:** Thursday through Sunday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.; closed Monday through Wednesday. Address: 2324 Shelby St., Indianapolis. For more information, go to helmcoffee.roasters.com

Mathis at 311-313-5922 to arrange for viewing or appointment at any other time.

**Soup-er Bowl and Chili Cookoff** • Cost: \$5 admission; includes samples and a bowl for your favorite(s). \$20 cook-off contest entry includes admission. Fun, games and a silent auction. Half-time entertainment by Mid-Life Crisis. Cash bar available. Proceeds from event to be donated to the 2024 Regional 11 ABC State Charity Event. \*Cash, check or App payments must be received by Feb. 3. Judging to begin at 11:15 a.m.; guest sampling/eating to begin at 11:30 a.m.; games and entertainment from 12:15-1:45 p.m. Awards ceremony: 1:45 p.m. | When: Feb. 10 (a day before the NFL Super Bowl), 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. | Where: VFW Greenwood Post 5864, 1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood. | Info: Contact Crissy at (317) 529-4341 or via email at Smedley11@sbcglobal.net

**Art Learning Experience for Older Adults** • Led by Greenwood paper artist Sonja Lehman, the creative program, "The Magic of the Zhen Xian Bao: Chinese Thread Box," teaches participants of the centuries-old Chinese Folk Tradition, the Zhen Xian Bao: Chinese Thread Box, Chinese women made and decorated to store their sewing tools and thread. Participants create their own ZXB with the paper boxes, trays and folders they make each week throughout the eight-week program. This sequential program lends well to engaging with peers, learning skills that build from week to week and encourages critical thinking and development of design skills. | When: Feb. 8-March 28,

1-3 p.m. every Thursday. | Where: Southside Art League, 299 E. Broadway St., Greenwood. | Info: Sonja Lehman at 317-508-2074 or email: sonjask04@yahoo.com

#### INDIANAPOLIS

**2024 Indianapolis Home Show** • The Indianapolis Home Show is a vibrant marketplace where you can shop for home-related products and services, experience stunning displays to help inspire your next home project, connect with industry experts and enjoy informative presentations from renowned local and international home professionals. Admission: adults (at the door): \$15; online only, \$13; children (ages 6-12): \$3; children (ages 5 and under): free. Parking: \$10. | When: Thursday, Jan. 25, Friday, Jan. 26 and Saturday, Jan. 27, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sunday, Jan. 21 and Sunday, Jan. 28, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. | Where: Indiana State Fairgrounds, West Pavilion, 1202 E. 38th St., Indianapolis. | Info: indianapolishomeshow.com

#### PERRY TOWNSHIP

**The Cultivating Garden Club** • Growing Gladiolus and How to Store for the Winter presented by Ashley McDaniel-Hoeing (former president of the Indiana Gladiolus Society). | When: Feb. 15, 6 p.m. | Where: St. John's Church, Highway 31 and Southport Road. | Info: Linda Stemnock at 317-889-2540



★★★★☆ • R • Action/Crime/Thriller • 2 hours, 49 minutes

## John Wick: Chapter 4

### Against all odds, they just keep getting better

#### MOVIE REVIEW

By Bradley Lane

The first *John Wick* film, released in 2014, was not seen by the Hollywood elite as a good idea. It was a completely independent production that struggled to find a distributor up until just two months until its eventual release. An aging star, a seemingly tired revenge formula and a first-time director all signaled that it was bound to be a flop. However, despite the low expectations, *John Wick* would go on to simultaneously revolutionize and resurrect the American action film. Directors Chad Stahelski and David Leitch made against the grain choices, opting for impossibly demanding long act sequences, only made possible with precise and intricate action choreography honed from their years as stunt coordinators and performers. With each subsequent entry into the series the films have become more successful and accordingly each film's bud-

gets increase making possible even more stunning, ambitious action set pieces. *John Wick: Chapter 4* represents the team behind *John Wick*, somehow, impossibly making a bigger and better film than the massive over-the-top thrills of *John Wick 3: Parabellum*.

Still suffering the consequences for seeking revenge and entering back into his life as an elite hitman, *John Wick 4* opens on its titular character recovering from his wounds suffered from the last film. While in hiding, Wick is planning his revenge on the High Table, the shadowing power structure of this underground crime world, which turned on him after his years of service following a breach in their very strict code of rules. *John Wick 4* sees the titular character going scorched earth, brutalizing anyone in his path to free himself from the shackles of a life of violence and servitude to the High Table.

As with each of the *John Wick* films, the

obvious draw is how the creators can top themselves in regard to the action and without question, this film is the new bar for the franchise. Unfailing in their pursuit of improvement, the action is always inventive, gorgeously lit and stunningly realized. A massive car chase set against the Arc de Triomphe, a mind-blowing overhead one take, and a multi-phased samurai-esque battle in a hotel are only a few highlights of a film nearly three hours long, the majority of which is stuffed with inventive and fun fight choreography.

What was surprising is how well the film balances its thrills with an emotional throughline that has been missing since the first film. Along with a refreshing and well realized cast of new characters, Wick himself is struggling with his place in this world. Quietly struggling with his existence that seems to be in constant conflict with the world around him, Wick's character arc



provides a subtle but necessary meta-commentary on a series reaching essentially the fourth film focused on the same story as the original. Reeves owes his career revitalization to the *John Wick* franchise, and it's clear he cares about the craft of the action just as much as the emotional core of his character.

Even despite these refreshing additions, the film can't help but drag just a bit too much in between the action. Even so, *John Wick: Chapter 4* is still a high point for American action cinema. The expertise on display from the cast and crew deserves to be seen in a crowded theater and celebrated as a serious work of art, not just genre entertainment. *John Wick: Chapter 4* is currently available to stream on Stars. - 4/5 stars



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](mailto:blane2214@gmail.com).

## SPOTLIGHT

### White Rose

The featured artists this month are an exhibit by the students of Beverly S. Mathis's watercolor classes in February at the Southside Art League Off Broadway Gallery, 299 E. Broadway St., Greenwood (two blocks north of Main Street and six blocks east of Madison Avenue in historic Old Town Greenwood). The subject for the paintings was a white rose. In August of 2023 the two classes of 37 artists were challenged to paint a white rose, which is not easy in watercolor since white paint is not used like in traditional media. They all followed the steps of the demonstrations and it all worked out in the end. For three students in the classes, this was their very first watercolor painting. For several other experienced students, they used their artistic license to put their own spin on this painting to create an original. This is the first time to frame artwork or hang it in a gallery for many students. Reading the stories behind some of their pieces will touch your heart and your funny bone. Many will be for sale and would make a memorable gift for Valentine's Day. The white rose paintings will be on display from Jan. 31 - Feb. 29. Come meet the artists at the SALI Open House, Sunday, Feb. 4, 2-4 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Visit the gallery during regular hours Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Please call SALI at (317) 882-5562 or Beverly Mathis at (317) 313-5922 to arrange for viewing by appointment at any other time.



Viewers will enjoy the many distinct styles that shine through with each beautifully painted rose. (Art by Bev Mathis)



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## Study indicates bad grammar wigs us out

### GRAMMAR GUY

By Curtis Honeycutt

It's science — hearing bad grammar raises our stress levels. I always knew this implicitly, but a recent study from the University of Birmingham shows this explicitly.

In a small sample of 41 British English-speaking adults, researchers played speech samples to the subjects, half of which featured grammatical errors. The subjects, connected to heart rate monitors, showed a decrease in heart rate variability (HRV) and an increase in heart rate. These two indicators reveal stress in the nervous system — a fight-or-flight response to egregious grammatical gaffes.

I've always maintained that good grammar makes your life better regarding career and relationship success, but now I'm comfortable going one step further by declaring good grammar also makes you

healthier. True, there's probably a large overlap between word nerds and people who shop at Whole Foods, but the Birmingham crew hasn't yet measured that phenomenon.

We're also told regular dentist visits and steady exercise lead to healthier lives, but that doesn't mean we do it. Just because someone tells me kale is good for me doesn't mean I'm going to eat it. So, is there a way to convince people to improve their English language skills?

Unfortunately, the answer is "probably not." You can lead a horse to water, as they say, but you can't make him stop dangling his modifiers. If a watched pot falls in a forest, the grass isn't necessarily greener for whom the bell tolls. Or something like that.

Yet, even a wince at "This needs washed" is a tiny tremor in the earthquake of bad grammar. Each slip-up, each misplaced "who," each forgotten comma chips away at the foundation of our shared language. If my biology classes in high school taught

me anything, it's that survival of the fittest includes developing your muscles into Arnold Schwarzenegger-level behemoths — and your brain is a muscle!

So, while we may not force-feed everyone a thesaurus, we can at least acknowledge the subtle stress of a misplaced comma. We can celebrate the elegance of a well-turned phrase and the clarity of a concise sentence. Because for good grammar to truly prevail, it takes a village — a conscious, comma-loving, apostrophe-appreciating village. It's time to give our mental lexicons the workout they deserve for the sake of our sanity, our shared language and, perhaps, even our heart rates.



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](http://curtishoneycutt.com).



### Puzzle Time Answers

SEE PAGE 19

Answers to HOOSIER HODGEPODGE:

**Meats:** BEEF, BISON, DUCK, LAMB, PORK, TURKEY;

**Signs:** ARIES, LEO, LIBRA, PISCES, VIRGO;

**Hours:** AMATEUR, ELEVENTH, HAPPY, RUSH;

**Words:** INDIANAPOLIS, PUBLIC, LIBRARY;

**Venues:** ASSEMBLY HALL, MACKAY ARENA;

**Home:** LAWRENCE

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



## Throwing out the towel

### HUMOR

By Dick Wolfsie

This is the 20th anniversary of my son's metamorphosis. I was reminded of it when Brett requested new towels for Christmas. When he opened the gift, he flashed a big grin. I knew exactly what he was remembering.

Back when Brett started college, we were worried about him. How would he handle his new independence? We had the normal apprehensions any parent would have. But when we visited him that first year, we witnessed something we did not anticipate.

Brett had turned green.

I wish I were making this up, but while Mary Ellen and I sat across from Brett at dinner during Parents Week, we noticed that his skin had a grayish-green tint to it. At first, we were alarmed. We sent Brett to college with the hopes of a good education. We hoped that something would set in.

We didn't expect gangrene.

"Brett, have you noticed that you are turning green?" I asked nonchalantly, trying to hide my concern.

My wife, never wanting to seem

negative, interrupted my query. "It's a lovely shade of green, of course. But you weren't that color when you left home."

Brett seemed unnerved by the observation. He looked at his arms and his hands. Then he tightened his face, gritted his teeth and growled: "Don't make me angry. You won't like me when I'm angry."

Thinking my son was The Hulk was a bit disconcerting, but if you have ever raised a teenager, you know that few things should really surprise you.

Brett explained that he noticed his change in hue after showering and drying off with the towels we bought him for his dorm room. This brought a glare from my wife who wanted to splurge on plushier accessories but was convinced otherwise by her cheap husband who thought if Amazon.com was good enough for books, it would be good enough for towels.

Now that the source of the discoloration was identified, Mary Ellen went into a spasm of laughter, mostly out of relief that Brett did not have a rare tropical disease. Knowing this would end up a column, I tried out all my jokes on Brett like, "You should start a garden, now that you have a green thumb." Then I went into a musical rendition of "It's Not Easy Being Green," using my very best Kermit the Frog impersonation. Mary Ellen, at this

point, would have laughed at anything, just relieved we didn't need to make an appointment at the Mayo Clinic.

It was time to go back to the dorm. I helped carry some of the items from the car to Brett's room. Brett's roommate, Connor, was there practicing his guitar. "Hey, Connor, did you notice that Brett has turned green?" I blurted out, still a bit giddy with the potential for more green jokes.

"That's odd," said Connor, looking at his arm. "I did notice that I am turning kind of blue."

Sure enough, Connor's arms had an attractive sky-blue tint, which my wife and I immediately noticed perfectly matched his towels on the shelf. Connor's dad was probably a tightwad like me.

From that day on, we bought all his towels at a higher-quality establishment. Recently, that very company filed for bankruptcy. Unlike my son, Bed Bath & Beyond was not the color of money.



Dick Wolfsie lives in Indianapolis with his wife of 43 years. Dick is usually in the basement trying to think up something funny to write. He can be reached at: [wolfsie@aol.com](mailto:wolfsie@aol.com).

UPCOMING BEECH GROVE MEETINGS & EVENTS

**Art Adventures with Mr. Jeremy** • For preschoolers: Make tissue paper flowers with Mr. Jeremy and watch your child's creativity bloom! This hands-on program with Jeremy South of Ripple Mobile Arts will foster artistic expression, fine motor skills and a deeper connection to the beauty of nature. Registration required. Dress to mess! | When: Feb. 5, 11-11:45 a.m. | Where: Beech Grove Library Branch, 1102 Main St., Indianapolis. | Info: (317) 275-4560; attend.indypl.org/event/9918684

**Board of Sanitation Meeting** • The Board of Public Works Meeting will be held immediately following the Board of Sanitation Meeting. | When: Feb. 5, 6 p.m. | Where: Beech Grove City Hall Council Chambers, 806 Main St., Beech Grove. | Info: beechgrove.com

**Common Council Meeting** • The Beech Grove Common Council Meeting. | When: Feb. 5, 7 p.m. | Where: Beech Grove City Hall Council Chambers, 806 Main St., Beech Grove. | Info: beechgrove.com

**Ladies Night** • Join us the second Friday of each month for a fun-filled evening for just the ladies. Meet other ladies in the community while enjoying dinner and a variety of fun activities, including crafts, games and prizes. \$5 per person. Email RSVP@beechgrove.com. | When: Feb. 9, 6-8 p.m. | Where: Hornet Park Community Center, 5245 Hornet Park Ave., Beech Grove. | Info: (317) 788-4986; communitycenter@beechgrove.com; hornetparkcommunitycenter.com

**Retirement Plan Basics** • Pensions, IRAs, 401Ks, 403Bs. Join us for financial planning workshops in 2024 presented by a Certified Financial Planner (CFP®) at the library. | When: Feb. 13, 6:30-7:30 p.m. | Where: Beech Grove Library Branch, 1102 Main St., Indianapolis. | Info: (317) 275-4560; attend.indypl.org/event/10020586

**Second Annual BGPD & Boys II Men, Inc Chili Cook Off** • This year anyone can enter! Entries will be limited to 30 pots, but just 10 cents per category: hot, mild and white chicken, so register soon! Category winners will receive

a trophy, and the overall winner will have their name cemented into everlasting glory on the Grand Champion's trophy. The door fee for adults and teens is \$20; children 12 and under are \$5. There will also be a gift basket auction! Water is provided; all other drinks are available next door at O'Gara's Irish Pub. All proceeds go to Boys II Men, Inc. Raffle baskets needed! Fundraising and advertising opportunity for impactful community cause with Boys II Men, Inc. For entry or donations email Tom.Hurle@Beechgrove.com | When: Feb. 17, 6 p.m. | Where: 524 Events, 524 E Main St., Beech Grove. | Info: boysii-men.org

**Village of Stories** • Bring traditional African stories to life with the rhythm of the drum and the power of interactive learning with Arts for Learning teaching artist, Kahil the Djeli. Children ages 3-5 will experience stories, rhythms and drums to create their own village of stories! | When: Feb. 22, 11-11:30 a.m. | Where: Beech Grove Library Branch, 1102 Main St., Indianapolis. | Info: (317) 275-4560; https://attend.indypl.org/event/9925437

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AROUND TOWN

Hornet Park Elementary staff and students celebrate 100 days of school



Hey, Hornet Park families! Can you believe it's already the 100th day of school? Or for some of our fantastic adults, it might feel like we've circled the sun a few extra times! Whether it's been a quick journey or a long and adventurous one, let's take a moment to celebrate the learning, growth and countless memories made so far. Here's to the amazing students, dedicated teachers and supportive families who make every day special at Hornet Park!

Celebrating the 100th day of school at Hornet Park with plenty of fun. (Photo courtesy of Beech Grove City Schools)

AROUND TOWN

Beech Grove Middle School basketball team celebrates perfect record

Hey Hornet fans! Beech Grove Middle School's eighth-grade boys' basketball team is setting the court ablaze with a PERFECT 15-0 record this season! They geared up for the Middle School Indiana Crossroads Conference Tournament at Monrovia Jr./Sr. High School on Saturday, Jan. 20, aiming to clinch the championship for the second consecutive year. This week begins the Marion County Tournament. Let's send them all the positive vibes and cheers as they strive for glory!



BGMS boys' basketball team is on fire again this year! (Photo courtesy of Beech Grove City Schools)

AROUND TOWN

BG Lady Hornets basketball team hosts first alumni game at Matt English Court

On Jan. 13, the BG Lady Hornets basketball team hosted an alumni game in the main gym. The game was open to any past girls' basketball alumni, and players in attendance were recognized at halfcourt before the varsity game against Speedway that evening.



The first BG GB alumni game was a true success; roughly 20 alumni were back to the Matt English Court. (Photo courtesy of Beech Grove City Schools)



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### Maureen Lynn Alexander

Maureen Lynn Alexander, 67, Indianapolis, died Jan. 19, 2024. Predeceased: four siblings. Survivors: children, David, Darren (Amy) and Nicole Baise; 13 grandchildren; eight great-granddaughters; former spouse, David Baise, Sr.; extended family members, friends. Visitation: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. service, Thursday, Jan. 25, G. H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home.

### Jack Travis Bow

Jack Travis Bow, 66, of Indianapolis, passed away on Jan. 14, 2024, in Indianapolis, surrounded by family. He was born on Jan. 13, 1958, in Indianapolis. Jack leaves behind his wife and best friend of 45 years, Anna Bow, and their children, Sarah Bow and Travis Bow (daughter-in-law Amanda), and his eldest daughter, Christine Peters (son-in-law, Eric). Jack was grandfather to Claudia Binion, Joseph Peters and Clement Peters. He is also survived by his sister, Ginny Moberly. Jack served in the U.S. Navy for 12 years, demonstrating his unwavering dedication and commitment to his country. After his military service, he embarked on a successful career as a facilities manager at the Indianapolis Zoo, where he worked from 1988 to 2017. Outside of his professional life, Jack had a passion for reading, traveling, camping and spending quality time with his family and friends. These hobbies brought him great joy and allowed him to create lasting memories with his loved ones. Jack will be deeply missed by those who knew and loved him. Celebration of Life to be held at the Hornet Park Community Center on Feb. 3 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Arrangements entrusted to Jessen Funeral Home & Simple Cremation ~ Whiteland Chapel. 729 N. US Highway 31, Whiteland, IN 46184. (317) 535-6880. jessenfuneralhome.com



### Anna Carrier

Anna Carrier, 96, Greenwood, died Jan. 20, 2024. Survivors: grandchildren, Kelly Parker, Dawn Howard and Robert Wilson; six great-grandchildren; and eight great-great-grandchildren. Visitation, Tuesday, Jan. 30, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Funeral service at 1 p.m. at Little & Sons Funeral Home, 4901 E Stop Eleven Road, Indianapolis, IN 46237.

### Hellen Cox

Hellen Cox, 89, Indianapolis, died Jan. 21, 2024. Predeceased: husband, Isom; three siblings. Survivors: children, Larry and Tim Jones; four grandchildren; great-granddaughter on the way; siblings, Shirly (Val) Nolan, Ron (Millie) Marsh; several nieces and nephews. Visitation: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. service, Thursday, Feb. 1, Forest Lawn Funeral Home.

### Doris Marie (Barnhart) Dobbs

Doris Marie (Barnhart) Dobbs, 91, Greenwood, previously of Indianapolis, died Jan. 14, 2024. Predeceased: husband, Kenneth; sisters, Wilma Pieper and Margorie Wagoner; one great-grandchild, Cooper Tonte. Survivors: children, Mark (Pam) and Barbara Dobbs; grandchildren, Rachel (Joe) Tonte and Jacob Dobbs; one great-grandchild, Connor Tonte. G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home.

### Nina Lou Ferraro

Nina Lou Ferraro, 98, Indianapolis, died Jan. 14, 2024. Predeceased: husband, Leonard; daughter, Patricia L. Bouvier; three siblings. Survivors: two daughters, Dr. Maria R. (Bob) Hayes and Cathy Merrell; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; brother, Jack Dillon; numerous nieces and nephews. Services entrusted to G. H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home.

### Robert C. Freeland

Robert C. Freeland, 81, Indianapolis, died Jan. 14, 2024. Predeceased: son, Robert S. Freeland. Survivors: wife, Carolyn; daughter, Lara (David); grandchildren, Jacob A. and Sophia Grace; brother, Larry; sister, Elaine Ryan; daughter-in-law, Katherine Moran; several nieces and nephews. G. H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home at The Gardens of Olive Branch.

### Thelma Pauline Frye

Thelma Pauline Frye, 89, died Jan. 21, 2024. Predeceased: husband, Charles; son, John; granddaughter, Rachel. Survivors: sons, James, Larry, Gary, Terry; nine grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren. Visitation: Friday, Jan. 26, 4-8 p.m., G. H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home. Funeral: Saturday, Jan. 27, 1 p.m., Suburban Baptist Church, Indianapolis; visitation: noon-1 p.m.

### Patricia Ann (Hager) Griffin

Patricia Ann (Hager) Griffin, 90, died Jan. 18, 2024. Survivors: children; Joe (Dawn) Griffin, Becky (Mike) Sutton, Steve (LeeAnn) Griffin and Brenda (Todd) Kermod; eight grandchildren and spouses; and 14 great-grandchildren. Siblings; Marilyn, Joseph, Johnny and spouses. Services entrusted to Little & Sons, Stop 11 Road Chapel.

### Shelly Hawkins

Shelly Hawkins, 57, Whiteland, died Jan. 20, 2024. Predeceased: father, Talmage Hawkins. Survivors: mother, Darlena; fiancé, Randy Whitis; stepchildren, Derek, Cheyane Bradley, Noah, Michaela, Maure, Lyndi Whitis; four grandchildren; sister, Angela; 10 nieces and nephews; five great-nieces and nephews. Visitation: 10 a.m.-noon service, Saturday, Jan. 27, Forest Lawn Funeral Home.

### Marjorie A. Huff

Marjorie A. Huff, 83, Columbus, Ind., died Jan. 19, 2024. Predeceased: husband, Daryl; four brothers and three sisters. Survivors: daughter, Cheryl (Ricky) Blankenship; son, Larry (Vickie) Huff; sister, Betty Anderson; several nieces and nephews. Services entrusted to G. H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home at The Gardens of Olive Branch.

### Larry Lang

Larry Lang, 83, Indianapolis, died Jan. 15, 2024. Predeceased: first wife, Lois Gene; second wife, Marlene; son, Jeffrey; several brothers and sisters. Survivors: daughter, Belinda (Robert Moul); six grandchildren; sister, Faye Holley; several great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews. Services entrusted to G.H. Herrmann Funeral Home.

### William B. Petty

William B. Petty, 73, Greenwood, died Jan. 15, 2024. Predeceased: wife, Susan. Survivors: daughter, Shannon (Todd) Kersey; son, Scott (Erin); sister, Carolyn Berton; five grandchildren, Rebecca Sherry, Cody (Ashley), Tyler, Colton and Zachery Petty; two nieces; great niece; close family friend, Julie Patterson. G. H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home.

### Mildred "Fern" Riley

Mildred "Fern" Riley, 89, Indianapolis, died Jan. 18, 2024. Predeceased: husband, Charles; grandson, Nicholas Shipley; four brothers; sister. Survivors: children, Charles, Ronda Shipley; granddaughter, Hayley; three great-grandsons; brother-in-law, John. Visitation: Thursday, Jan. 25, 4-8 p.m., G. H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home. Funeral: Friday, Jan. 26, 11:30 a.m., funeral home.

### Margaret Louise Wiley

Margaret Louise Wiley, 81, of Indianapolis, passed away Monday, Jan. 22, 2024. She was born on Jan. 18, 1943, in Beech Grove to William and Anne Armstrong Wiley. Margaret was a product representative for Dow Chemical for 38 years. Margaret enjoyed photography and traveling. She loved her great adventures in life. Margaret is survived by her brother, Richard Wiley, and her nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents and three brothers and one sister. Services entrusted to O'Riley - Branson Funeral Service & Crematory, 6107 S. East St. Indianapolis, IN 46227.

### Catherine Elizabeth Secrest Woempner

Catherine Elizabeth Secrest Woempner, 94, Indianapolis, died Jan. 13, 2024. Predeceased: husband, George; five siblings. Survivors: children, Carolyn Darnell and Larry (Erin) Woempner; four grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; sister, Dorothy (Alanson) Abel. She was buried in Forest Lawn Memory Gardens. Services entrusted to G.H. Herrmann Funeral Home.

*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](mailto:news@ss-times.com). Information received by noon Tuesday will be published Thursday, space permitting.*



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\*Copies of The Southside Times are available each week in this church's office or lobby.

✚ CATHOLIC

**\*Good Shepherd Catholic Church** • 2905 S. Carson Ave., Indpls. | Ph: (317) 783-3158. | Rev. Jeffery Moore, Sac. Minister. | Sat. Mass: 4:30 p.m. | Sun. Mass: 9 a.m. | Ordinarate Rite 11:00 a.m. | Completely Handicapped Accessible. | All Welcome!

**Holy Name of Jesus** • 89 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. | Ph: (317) 784-5454. | Rev. Robert Robeson. | Worship Times & Anticipation Sun.: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. | Sat. Mass: 5 p.m.

**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.

✚ LUTHERAN

**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. | Ladies Bible Study: Wed. 10am | Womens Bible Study: Wed. 6pm | Engaging People in Christ through Connecting, Learning, Caring and Serving.

**\*Concordia Lutheran Church and Preschool** • 305 Howard Road, Greenwood. | (317) 881-4477. | Worship Sun.: 9:30 a.m. | Mon.: 6:30 p.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. 46237 | Ph: (317) 786-7002. | Services Sat.: 10:45 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.

**Garfield Park Baptist Church** • Meets at 2560 Villa Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46203 | Ph: (317)-784-7068 | Worship Service at 11am

**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. | TSCOI.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. | Sunday Worship: 10:30a.m. | Sunday School: 10:30a.m.

✚ UNITED METHODIST

**Edgewood United Methodist** • 1820 E. Epler Ave. | Ph: (317) 784-6086. | Rev. Kevin Davis. | 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: officerhumc@att.net. | Senior Pastor Amy Lee. | Sun.: 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School: 10:45 a.m. | rosedalehillsumc.com.

✚ DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

**First Christian Church of Beech Grove** • 405 Main Street, Beech Grove, IN 46107 | (317) 786-8522 | In Person on Sundays at 10:30 or Zoom, same time: 121 813 648



Weekly Devotion



*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

EPHESIANS 2:10

Many of us will never find the treasures God has laid before us to find because we are too busy fighting battles God does not want us to fight. We look for opportunities to do good deeds in a day. There are battles all around us, and we are programmed by the world to fight all the battles we believe we can win. We see a problem or someone who suffers and we think that if we have the ability to solve their problems, or if we have the resources to ease their suffering, then we feel an urge to give. But there are times when God does not want us to fight the fight just because we believe it's a battle we can win. There are times when our best intentions to help others actually hurt them in the long run. If someone is sick because they are addicted and they need to "get right" it is not our calling to ease their suffering by buy-

ing them more drugs. In our desire to help others we can actually become enablers. And in the process, we can become codependent to their addiction and dysfunction. I heard a pastor say that before codependents die, they see the lives of others flash before their eyes. Before you lift a finger to solve the problems of others, put your hands together in prayer and ask God if it is a battle He wants you to fight. If you don't hear God's answer, then the answer is no. The hardest word to learn to say is no. The most powerful word we will ever learn to say is Amen.

**God bless and go and have a great day.**

*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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Our stories.

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What stories in the community deserve to be told?  
What community Icons deserve recognition for what they do for Southside residents and organizations?

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**Public/Legal**

Auction

PUBLIC NOTICE AUCTION OF PROPERTY BY Nick's Packing And Storage LLC. Public auction of personal property including household goods, furniture, non-perishables, belonging to the following persons: Kanika Killebrew, Dillion Poole, Samantha M Murray, Anyanwu Godwin, Joshua Nicley, April Tolliver, Mary Cloud, April Fox, Ariel Fox On Thursday February 1, 2024 at 6:30PM The location for the auction is: Mike Heime! 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)

**AROUND TOWN**

**Sen. Cyndi Carrasco files for election**

State Sen. Cyndi Carrasco has filed as a candidate for State Senate in the 2024 Republican primary to be held on May 7. In the approximately two months fundraising as a candidate, Carrasco raised a total of \$77,524, and 99% of all contributions came from Hoosiers. In October, Carrasco was overwhelmingly victorious in a caucus of local Republican precinct committeemen and was selected to fulfill the remainder of the late Sen. Jack Sandlin's term in the State Senate. District 36 covers parts of Marion and Johnson counties, including Perry Township and a portion of Greenwood. Carrasco lives in Indianapolis with her husband, Robert, and their daughter, Sarah. They attend church at Saints Francis & Clare of Assisi in Greenwood.

**AROUND TOWN**

**Franklin College, Aspire and Franklin Chamber of Commerce invite public to community engagement session**

Franklin College, Aspire Johnson County, and the Franklin Chamber of Commerce invite you to a community engagement session to discuss the Lilly Endowment for the College and Community Collaboration (CCC) initiative and Innovation Park at Franklin College. TPMA, an Indianapolis-based consulting firm, will facilitate the sessions. In-person sessions will be held Wednesday, Jan. 31 at the Napolitan Student Center, Franklin College, 101 Branigin Blvd., Franklin. Small employers/Aspire and Franklin Chamber general membership will meet at 9 a.m. Large employers/manufacturers will meet at 1 p.m. A virtual session will be held at 3 p.m. to accommodate those unable to attend in person. Each meeting will last 45 minutes

and include an overview about Innovation Park at Franklin College and a discussion to gather input for the Lilly Endowment College and Community Collaboration grant application. As a community leader and key stakeholder, your participation, or a designated representative in one of the engagement sessions will help us identify the current and future needs of the community and ways Franklin College can create educational experiences and collaborations that enhance the quality of life in the City of Franklin and Johnson County. Please plan to attend one of the sessions. Your input is valuable. For questions or more information, contact Jonathan Faris at jfaris@tpma-inc.com or 317-507-0189.

**IN OUR SCHOOLS**

**Roncalli girls basketball team wins fifth consecutive Circle City Conference Championship**

The Roncalli girls basketball team is Circle City Conference champs for the fifth year in a row! They battled against the Bishop Chatard Trojans, but the Royals came out on top with a 69-65 victory. Freshman Elliot Leffler led all scorers with 15 points, while senior Jasmine Horsman had a career high 12 points. Senior Taylor Turk added 12 points as well. The Lady Royals have now won 28 straight against conference opponents. Head coach Jason Sims shared this about the game and the season the team has had, "This has been an amazing accomplishment for our program. To win 28 straight games and five straight championships in a league that has great basketball history from all of the schools and continues to put out high level teams each year is really tough to do. I am especially happy for this senior class that has been able to persevere through some really tough games and have found ways to win down the stretch." The Royals will start their post-season run with sectionals on Tuesday, Jan. 30 at 7 p.m. at Pike High School.



The Roncalli Royals girls basketball team defeated the Bishop Chatard Trojans. (Submitted photo)

**IN OUR SCHOOLS**

**Roncalli Wrestling wins eighth consecutive Circle City Conference Championship**

For the eighth year in a row, the Roncalli wrestling program brought home the Circle City Conference Championship! The Royals defeated Guerin Catholic 72-5, Brebeuf Jesuit 84-0 and Bishop Chatard 54-22. Top wrestlers for the day included: freshman Jack Richardson, sophomores Peyton Schoettle, Andrew McHugh, Blake Getz, MJ Morton and Brody Heidelberg, junior James Dozier and seniors Evan Nalley and Braden Getz. Braden also surpassed 100 career wins at the meet! Coach Shaun Richardson had this to say about the tournament, "Our wrestlers are peaking at the right time. Our young team added their eighth straight conference title, and we will use the victory to build before the start of sectionals." Roncalli's athletic director David Lauck (Roncalli 1994) expressed his compliments as well, stating, "Congratulations to Coach Richardson and the entire wrestling team for sweeping through the Circle City Conference and bringing another conference championship to their program!" The Royals start sectional competition at Southport High School on Saturday, Jan. 27 at 9 a.m.



The Royals celebrate their eighth win at Circle City Conference. (Submitted photo)



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**AROUND TOWN**

**United Way of Central Indiana opening its accreditation process**

Accreditation allows nonprofits to apply for United Way grants, access training and resources

United Way of Central Indiana is opening its accreditation process to nonprofits interested in joining its network of accredited community partners.

Accreditation allows nonprofits to apply for United Way grants and access training, resources and programs to grow their organizations.

Applications are open until 5 p.m. Feb. 23. United Way accredits nonprofits in the human services sector that work to tackle the most complex issues in our community and align with United Way's issue areas of basic needs, early care and learning, economic mobility and safe and affordable housing.

In opening the accreditation process, United Way conducted an analysis to identify current needs in the community and gaps in services. This year, United Way is only accepting accreditation applications from organizations that address these areas of alignment in the following counties and zip codes:

- In Marion County, organizations must be serving the zip codes of 46218, 46201, 46222, 46225, 46226, 46241, 46224, 46203, 46216, 46227, 46219, 46235 or 46208 and address: safe and affordable housing; or adult or youth workforce development or workforce pathways (education or credential obtainment).

To be eligible, an organization must be a legally authorized nonprofit incorporated in Indiana or a nonprofit with its own governing or advisory board organized as an identified part of another organization incorpo-

rated in the state. Organizations must have been incorporated for at least five years and employ at least two full-time employees.

Applying organizations are required to attend one virtual application workshop, two of which will be held:

- 4:30 to 6 p.m. Jan. 29
- 10 to 11:30 a.m. Feb. 7

To RSVP to a workshop, email [accreditation@uwci.org](mailto:accreditation@uwci.org).

The accreditation process involves a site visit and evaluation by a team of United Way staff, board members and volunteers. They assess a nonprofit's financial health, governance, strategy and innovation, sustainability and diversity and inclusion, among other things. Eligible organizations applying for accreditation must participate in an in-person site visit the week of April 22.

**AROUND TOWN**

**Franciscan Health Indianapolis hosts monthly Lung Support Group**

Franciscan Health Indianapolis will be hosting a monthly Lung Support Group in 2024 at the Indianapolis hospital. The meetings will take place on the third Thursday of each month from 1-3 p.m. in the Cardiac Testing Conference Room. The first meeting for the year will be on Thursday, March 21. The Lung Support Group provides support for people living with lung disease. Meetings include a guest speaker and focus on education and treatment information. Those with lung disease and those who would like help breathing better are encouraged to attend. A light meal will be provided, and a shuttle bus service is available. RSVP for meeting and transportation a week prior to the event. The Lung Support Group will meet at Franciscan Health Indianapolis, 8111 S. Emerson Ave., Entrance 1 in the Cardiac Testing Conference Room. For more information, call 317-528-8901 or email [Kay.Williams@FranciscanAlliance.org](mailto:Kay.Williams@FranciscanAlliance.org).





# *The* Southside Times

**The presses have been steadily running for the past 95 years!**



***Celebrating***