

TODAY'S VERSE

Matthew 7:2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

Meet Baskin



Baskin is a 2 year old female American Pit Bull Terrier that has been at The Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County (AWL) since 2/27/2024. Let's find Baskin a forever home! Baskin loves going out for walks, playing fetch, and looking cute! Baskin has 3 other siblings also with us --> Robbins, Ben, & Jerry. Baskin is spayed, dewormed, and up to date on her shots! Baskin is looking for her best friend! Could that be you? AWL is open Monday - Friday from 12:15p-5p and Saturday's from 9:30a-3p. Come say hi, snuggle cats, walk dogs, or lend a helping hand!!

The Paper

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CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

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MC United Shines at Indiana State Fair



Photos courtesy of Nicholas Shotwell

Montgomery County United Marching Band & Guard smile for a photo before going on the track to perform last Friday at Indiana State Fair Band Day.

By Betsy Reason
For The Paper

Montgomery County United Marching Band & Guard earned seventh place at the Indiana State Fair Band Day.

Montgomery County United Marching Band & Guard features 65 members from Crawfordsville, Southmont and North Montgomery high schools. The band was among 37 bands competing on Friday.

"I am profoundly proud and heartened by the results achieved this year," Jon Tebbe, Crawfordsville band director, said on Sunday.

"Seventh place represents

the highest finish ever achieved by Montgomery County United," he said.

"It is also the first time since 2010 that a band from Montgomery County has secured a position in the top eight at the State Fair Band Day finals," Tebbe said. Last year, Montgomery County earned 10th place in the Indiana State Fair Band Day competition.

"Additionally, the final score of 85.2 is the second-highest ever recorded by a Montgomery County band, surpassed only by the 1988 Southmont Band under the direction of James Patton," Tebbe explained.



Montgomery County United Marching Band & Guard's trumpet players prepare for their performance last Friday at Indiana State Fair Band Day.

See BAND Page A3

Keep Your Eye on Founding Principles



ANDREA NEAL
Guest Columnist

If only George Washington could see us now ... what would he say?

"Didn't I warn you that political parties are a bad idea?"

"Have you forgotten my advice about avoiding foreign entanglements?"

"Just look at your credit cards. \$34 trillion in outstanding debt. Apparently you ignored that part of my Farewell Address that urged you to pay your bills quickly so as not to burden the next generation."

Yet here we are – so politically divided that an assassination attempt of our former president surprised almost no one.

So entangled in global affairs – we've committed 175 billion dollars in Ukraine related aid and, according to the Stacker newswire, are involved in more than a dozen shadows wars from Afghanistan to Yemen.

My latest check of the national debt clock put it at 34.9 trillion and counting. We have burdened the next generation beyond anything George Washington could have imagined.

What would Washington and our other founding fathers have to say?

See ANDREA Page A6

Meet the Good Doc and son Nobby



KAREN ZACH
Around The County

Austin Kenneth Noblitt (Montgomery GenWeb photo) was born in English, Indiana (Crawford County) on the 8th of 1905 and lived to age 76 passing away

in Clinton, Indiana the third day of 1982. He was the son of James Scott and Edith Trinkle Noblitt and lived in Waveland and Rockville most of his years.

In English, Austin's father, James was in the hardware business, specializing in Devoe paints before he decided to attend college and put Dr. in front of his name. James Scott grew-up in a good family with a brother John whom he was quite close to and two sisters, Zona and Nellie Bell. James' mother passed in 1930 and he brought his father, George to

See KAREN Page A5

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Kindness is contagious – surround yourself with giving people.

Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Paper and online at www.thepaper24-7.com



TODAY'S QUOTE

"Discourage litigation. Persuade your neighbors to compromise whenever you can. As a peacemaker the lawyer has superior opportunity of being a good man. There will still be business enough." Abraham Lincoln

TODAY'S JOKE

Speaking of the boss and school days – he told the teacher he couldn't turn in his homework because he ate it. "Why in the world did you eat your homework," she asked. "Because I don't have a dog." (See what we have to live with!)

THREE THINGS You Should Know

- The evidence is clear: distracted driving is dangerous, and seatbelts save lives. With the help of sponsor GEICO, the Indiana Department of Transportation announced the addition of the Buckle Up Phone Down logo on its fleet of Hoosier Helper Safety Service Patrol vehicles to increase awareness of this important initiative. Buckle Up Phone Down tackles two of the most impactful actions drivers and passengers can take – wearing a seatbelt and putting the phone down behind the wheel. Indiana enacted its Hands-Free Law in 2020, which prohibits drivers from holding mobile devices, such as smartphones and tablets, in their hands while driving.
- SeaWorld San Antonio has been busy dealing with a Baby Boom recently. So far this year they've had a newborn spotted harbor seal, a California sea lion and an endangered radiated tortoise [named for the yellow lined patterns on their shells]. Most recently, a 36-year-old white-sided dolphin gave birth to a 20 pound calf and a 24-year-old Beluga Whale gave birth to a 130-pound, four-foot-long calf.
- It was easy for Jeffrey the goat to make his getaway in Kansas City. After all, he is a mountain goat. They found him hiding 80 feet off the ground under a roadway and rescuers managed to get a rope around him. But Jeffrey didn't surrender. Instead, he tried to escape by jumping from ledge to ledge. He finally fell to the ground, landing on padding provided by local firefighters.

The Paper appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank DONNA KING for subscribing!

'Breaking Up' Hits Stage at Myers Dinner Theatre

Myers Dinner Theatre presents "Breaking Up Is Hard To Do," featuring the songs of Neil Sedaka, with Book by Erik Jackson and Ben H. Winters; Music by Neil Sedaka; Lyrics by Neil Sedaka, Howard Greenfield, and Philip Cody. This musical comedy directed by Artistic Director, Dion Stover, opens Friday and runs through Saturday, Aug. 31.

Set at a Catskills resort in 1960, 'Breaking Up Is Hard To Do' features nearly 20 timeless hits written by Neil Sedaka. Marge and her stagestruck best friend, Lois, arrive at "Esther's Paradise Resort" in the Catskills on Labor Day Weekend in 1960, on a vacation that was intended to be Marge's honeymoon — until the groom left her at the altar. Lois attempts to console Marge by setting her up with the resort's handsome, self-obsessed singer Del Delmonaco. But her plans backfire when Del mistakenly assumes that Marge's father can further his ambitions to become the next teen heartthrob on "American Bandstand." Gazing forlornly at Marge from the wings is geekish cabana boy and aspiring songwriter, Gabe. When he isn't entertaining the guests with classic, but still comical, Borscht Belt shtick, house comic Harvey

secretly carries a torch for widowed resort owner, Esther, who is more preoccupied with trying to keep her resort open.

Featured in this production are MDT alumni TJ Bird (as Gabe), Don Hart (as Harvey) and Susan Boilek Smith (as Esther). Newcomers to the Myers' stage are Jack Preston Issler (Del Delmonaco), Madison Meeron (Lois Warner) and Rae Squillante (Marge Gelman).

This nostalgic jukebox musical will take audiences on a lighthearted romp filled with laughter and love, and is suitable for all ages!

"Breaking Up Is Hard To Do" will feature a food menu combining MDT favorites, as well as new items themed to the production. Selections will include: meatloaf, Hillsboro-famous "Red Meat," Chicken Cacciatore, mashed potatoes, corn casserole, California blend vegetables, and peas; for dessert, lemon bars and apple crisp. Two of the specialty items from the menu hold significance: Chicken Cacciatore is selected from a vintage Catskills resort menu from the 1960s and the "Red Meat" entree (pork steak with a red sauce) is lovingly passed down from owner Mark McGrady's mother. McGrady says, "Red Meat is my mother's

most famous recipe and its fame has spread to other families here in Hillsboro."

Wednesday matinee seating for meals is at 11:30 a.m. with curtain at 1:30 p.m. Friday evening performances will have seating for meals at 6 p.m. with curtain at 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday matinees will have seating for meals at noon and curtain at 2 p.m. During this performance, trivia contests based on the late 1950s and early 1960s will be held between the meal and the show. Tickets may be purchased by calling the Box Office at (765) 798-4902, ext. 2, or by visiting the MDT website at www.myersdt.com

During the run of "Breaking Up Is Hard To Do," a special concert will be presented by The Logan Kirby Band on Aug. 13. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. with show at 8 p.m. Performance dates and times can vary, so consult the online calendar for updated information. Theater prices are \$59.54 for dinner and show, \$47.50 for students (ages 4-18), and show-only for \$39.50. Prices do not include taxes, handling fees or gratuity for waitstaff. Season tickets, group pricing and bus parking are also available. Myers Dinner Theatre is located at 108 Water St., Hillsboro, and is handicapped accessible.



Photo courtesy Myers Dinner Theatre

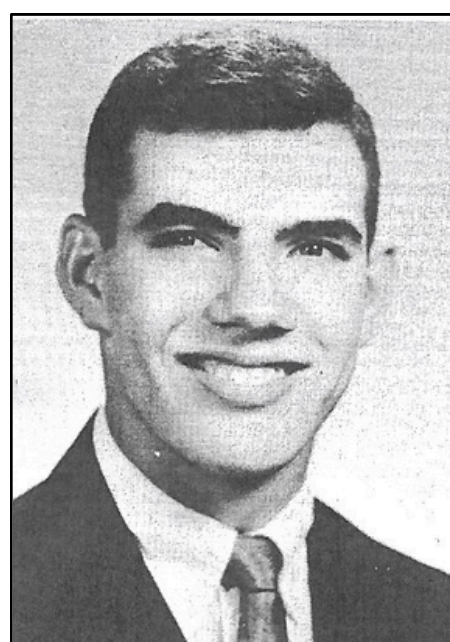
Best friends Marge Gelman (Rae Squillante, left) and Lois Warner (Madison Meeron, right) share the spotlight on stage with resort singer Del Delmonaco (Jack Preston Issler).

ABOUT MDT

The purpose of Harmony Theater at MDT is to bring harmony in all facets to those who visit or work at the theater. We strive to provide beautiful music and other high-quality theatrical experiences in an atmosphere where guests, performers, staff members and the surrounding community feel welcomed, respected and loved. We hope that all who enter our doors will leave as one of Hillsboro's happy people.



Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia



Do You Recognize This 1967 Linden Grad?

HINT:
 He had a long career in banking here and in Putnam County.

Answer on Page A3

We appreciate our readers!

Thank You For Reading The Paper



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 An Independent Newspaper - Founded 2004

Vol. 20
 Sen. Phil Boots, President
 USPS Publication Number:
 022-679
 Annual Print Subscription: \$89
 To subscribe: circulation@thepaper24-7.com
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↓ BAND From Page A1

"The dedication demonstrated by the students was truly commendable," he went on. "The principal challenges often originate within our minds; therefore, it is crucial that we continually strive to inspire ourselves and deliver our best efforts each day. This, in turn, enables us to effectively motivate the students to reach their highest potential. What impressed me most about the performance was the depth of emotion and passion each student invested in their role. Every student embraced the concept wholeheartedly and executed their part with exceptional commitment," Tebbe said.

The band's competition theme -- "Through the Eyes of Imagination" featuring the concert band piece "Imaginarium" by Randall D. Standridge -- "revolved around exploring the transformative potential of viewing the world through the lens of childlike imagination," Tebbe said. "We aimed to narrate the journey of

a young girl whose vibrant imagination faces attempts at suppression, ultimately culminating in her ability to mature while preserving her sense of wonder and awe. We illustrated this narrative through a deliberate progression in our color scheme, beginning with subdued tones, transitioning to a stark, colorless field to represent the suppression of her imagination, and concluding with a vivid array of colors that symbolized the full spectrum of her creative vision. All 65 performers believed in that idea and sold it."

Elizabeth Newnum, Southmont director of bands, and Andrew Simpkins, North Montgomery director of bands, join Tebbe as band directors for Montgomery County United, plus assistant director Kevin Brooks of North Montgomery and auxiliary director Thomas Hillenbrand.

Earlier this year, Montgomery County United earned second place at Montgomery County and sixth place at Muncie Central.



Montgomery County United Marching Band & Guard perform "Through the Eyes of Imagination" theme, about viewing the world through the lens of childlike imagination, earning them seventh place last Friday at Indiana State Fair Band Day.

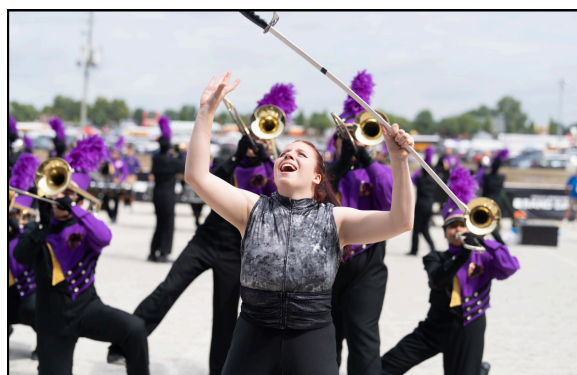


Photo courtesy of Nicholas Shotwell

Montgomery County United Marching Band & Guard trombonist Colten Brock (CHS) performs last Friday at Indiana State Fair Band Day.



Montgomery County United Marching Band & Guard line up before their performance last Friday at Indiana State Fair Band Day.



Montgomery County United Marching Band & Guard perform last Friday at Indiana State Fair Band Day.



Montgomery County United Marching Band & Guard saxophonist Abigail Thomas (Southmont) performs last Friday at Indiana State Fair Band Day.



Montgomery County United Marching Band & Guard's trumpet player Drew Turner (CHS) perform last Friday at Indiana State Fair Band Day.

Way To Go, Veronica!



Photo courtesy Crawfordsville District Public Library

Verónica Dominguez Munoz, age 5, has completed the Crawfordsville District Public Library program "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten." She is the daughter of Adriana Munoz and Norberto Dominguez. Verónica's favorite book is Listen to My Trumpet! by Mo Willems. Mom said, "We love our library! Vero loves reading every day and night. She has been going to the library since she was 4 months old. Thank you for all you do to keep her interested in each program."

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Wabash. IT HELP DESK SPECIALIST

WABASH COLLEGE invites applications for the position of IT Help Desk Specialist to provide technical assistance and user support on Windows, MacOS, and mobile device platforms.

For more details about the position and how to apply, go to www.wabash.edu/employment, select the relevant position, and click the "Apply Now" button. At the time of application, be prepared to upload a cover letter, resume, and names and contact information for three professional references. Review of applications will begin on August 19, 2024.

Wabash College, a liberal arts college for men, seeks faculty and staff who are committed to providing quality engagement with students, high levels of academic challenge and support, and meaningful experiences that prepare students for life and leadership among diverse populations around the globe. Wabash is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications from persons of all backgrounds.



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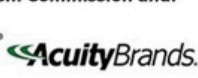
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Butch Dale's Flashback Trivia

Answer:
Rodger Winger

After NCAA Change, Let's Run Through History of Boiler Walkons



KENNY THOMPSON
Columnist

Jim Rowinski and Aidan O'Connell are among the most unexpected Purdue success stories during my 45-year sportswriting career.

Both began their collegiate careers as non-scholarship players, more commonly known as walkons. By the time they departed West Lafayette, Rowinski and O'Connell were not only on scholarship but good enough to play professionally.

There's a distinct possibility the walkon will go the way of the 10-team Big Ten Conference if the House vs. NCAA settlement agreement is approved by the Northern District Court of California.

The settlement sets firm roster limits for every NCAA sanctioned sport and would permit each school to offer scholarships up to that limit. For example, major college football was mandated to allow 85 scholarships but could have another 35 walkons on the roster.

House sets college football's roster limit at 105. The agreement also permits football to offer partial scholarships for the first time, but the days of 120-man rosters are over for now.

Not every school will issue 105 full football scholarships. If there were an extra 20 scholarship players at Purdue, and all from within the state of Indiana, the tuition bill to the athletic department would approach \$200,000 a year.

Men's basketball scholarship limit/roster cap will increase to 15 from 13. Using the Boilermakers' 2024 national runner-up squad as an example, half of their four walkons would not have

been on the team had the settlement been in effect a year ago.

Here's a quick breakdown of how the proposed settlement affects the other sports sponsored by the Purdue Athletic Department.

- Women's basketball remains at 15
- Baseball 34 (up from 11.7 scholarships)
- Softball 25 (up from 12)
- Women's volleyball 18 (up from 12)
- Wrestling 30 (up from 9.9)
- Men's cross country 17 (up from 12.6)
- Women's cross country 17 (down from 18)
- Men's golf 9 (up from 4.5)
- Women's golf 9 (up from 6)
- Men's track and field 45 (up from 12.6)
- Women's track and field 45 (up from 18)
- Women's soccer 28 (up from 14)
- Men's swimming / diving 30 (up from 9.9)
- Women's swimming / diving 30 (up from 14)
- Men's tennis 10 (up from 4.5)
- Women's tennis 10 (up from 8)

For those thinking Purdue may have to eliminate sports, it's got a thin cushion to work with since the NCAA mandates a minimum of 16 sponsored sports for FBS schools. The earliest the new roster limit/scholarships rules would go into effect would be the 2025-26 school year.

Until then, let's celebrate the walkon by looking back at notable non-scholarship football and men's basketball players at Purdue.

Mike Augustyniak – Turned down by Indiana, Ball State, Indiana State and Saint Joseph's College, the fullback from Leo would start for Purdue in the Peach and Bluebonnet bowls. Augustyniak then spent three seasons with the New

York Jets.

Rick Brunner – Told he was too small (5-8, 145 pounds) to play high school football, Brunner beat the odds by first walking on, then earning a scholarship from Purdue as one of its best wide receivers of the 1980s. After football, Brunner became a police officer in Boynton Beach, Fla. Suffering from depression, Brunner took his life on Jan. 29, 1994.

Lamar Conard – Questions about his speed led to no major offers for Conard during his senior year at Elkhart Central. Conard walked on at Purdue, where in 1997 he became the first walkon given a scholarship by coach Joe Tiller. Conard became a three-year starter at cornerback and is now back at his alma mater as running backs coach under Ryan Walters.

Nick Hardwick – The future 11-year Pro Bowl center for the San Diego Chargers didn't play football at Lawrence North. But Hardwick's wrestling skills came in handy when, inspired by Drew Brees and the 2000 Boilermakers, he decided to walkon in 2001. By his senior year in 2003, Hardwick developed into a second-team All-Big Ten center and was taken in the third round of the 2004 NFL Draft by the Chargers.

Zander Horvath – Indiana wanted the Mishawaka Marian graduate to play linebacker as a preferred walkon. Purdue offered a chance to remain at running back. To the Hoosiers' regret, Horvath rushed for nearly 1,200 yards at Purdue and played one season for the Los Angeles Chargers after being selected in the seventh round.

Mark Jackson – To get Purdue coaches' attention as a freshman walkon wide receiver from Terre Haute South, Jackson dove for every poorly thrown football even though the Boilermakers were

practicing on artificial turf. Trainer Denny Miller gave Jackson the nickname "Turf" from all the burns the receiver accumulated on his knees. As a fifth-year senior in 1985, Jackson caught 43 passes for 732 yards and five touchdowns. The Denver Broncos selected Jackson in the sixth round of the 1986 NFL Draft, and he would play nine seasons with three Super Bowl appearances.

Devin Mockobee – The first act of Ryan Walters as Purdue head coach was to give the running back a scholarship. Mockobee earned that grant by rushing for 968 yards and nine touchdowns as a redshirt freshman. He repaid Walters' faith in 2024 with 807 yards and six touchdowns. This fall, Mockobee will seek to become Purdue's first 1,000-yard rusher since Kory Sheets in 2008.

Seth Morales – There would never have been "Brees to Morales" in 2000 against Ohio State had the fleet wide receiver not decided to take a shot at Big Ten football after a season at Butler. Coach Joe Tiller tried to discourage Morales, who insisted on being given a chance. After watching Morales in practice, Tiller came to the conclusion that "maybe he'll be a better player than we thought he would be." Earning a scholarship before the 2000 season, Morales started every game for the Big Ten champs.

Aidan O'Connell – The quarterback rose from seventh on the depth chart to a two-time second-team All-Big Ten selection who led the Boilermakers to a memorable Music City Bowl win against Tennessee and the 2022 Big Ten West Division title. O'Connell started 10 games for the Las Vegas Raiders in 2023 after being drafted in the fourth round.

Jermaine Ross – Recruited to Purdue on a track scholarship, Ross decided to walk on the football team as a wide receiver for coach Fred Akers in 1990. The Jeffersonville native became a two-year starter who parlayed his breakout senior season (31

receptions, 493 yards, 3 TDs) into a five-year NFL career, mostly with the Rams.

Kevin Sumlin – Told he was too small (6-1, 178) to play linebacker in the Big Ten, Sumlin was driven to prove his skeptics wrong. As a redshirt freshman in 1983, Sumlin led Purdue with 91 tackles. When he graduated, Sumlin's 375 total tackles placed him among the top 10 in school history.

Jacob Thieneman – The eldest of the three Thieneman brothers to play at Purdue, Jacob had to wait two seasons to get on the field after walking on. As a redshirt junior in 2017, Jacob started all 13 games at strong safety. His interception in the final moments ensured a victory against Arizona in the Foster Farms Bowl. A shoulder injury and a staph infection during his senior season opened the door for his brother, Brennan, to receive more playing time. Despite the setbacks, Jacob earned a tryout with the New York Giants.

Brennan Thieneman – Three starts during his sophomore season in 2018 was a prelude to a breakout junior season. Now on scholarship, Brennan started eight games at safety. He started all six games during the abbreviated COVID season in 2020.

Let's give honorable mention to comedian Jim Gaffigan, who after graduating from Chesterton High School walked on in the mid-1980s for one season before transferring to Georgetown to earn a business degree.

While performing at Purdue in 2007, Gaffigan recalled his brief Big Ten football career.

"I have so many fond memories from Purdue," Gaffigan is quoted as saying by Fox Sports. "Most seem to involve walking. I walked onto the football team and walked away after I didn't like getting my head bashed in. I remember walking to some classes that were, for some reason, at 7 a.m., walking to Hardee's at 11:30 at night, finally buying a bike, and then walking after it fell apart after two days.

Go Boilers."

Rowinski was one of three notable walkons with the Purdue men's basketball program over the past 40-plus years. The 6-8, muscular center came to Purdue as a student but answered a call to try out for coach Lee Rose's "Renegade" squad that would serve as a practice opponent for the varsity. Given a scholarship by Gene Keady, Rowinski gained national attention during the 1983-84 season by helping the Boilermakers win an unexpected Big Ten championship.

Rowinski was selected the Big Ten's Most Valuable Player after averaging 15 points and 6.7 rebounds. He was drafted by the Utah Jazz and spent parts of three NBA seasons with Detroit, Philadelphia and Miami.

The Purdue basketball staff had no idea who Willie Deane was when the guard came to West Lafayette from Boston College in 1999 after his father was transferred to Fort Wayne by General Electric.

After making the team as a walkon, Deane had a breakout performance in a 72-69 upset of No. 1 Arizona in the 2000 John Wooden Classic at Indianapolis. He scored 16 points, including the final four that sealed the victory.

Deane earned first-team All-Big Ten honors in 2003 and left Purdue ranked 26th on the career scoring list with 1,328 points. Deane played professional basketball overseas until 2018.

Grady Eifert followed in the footsteps of his father, Greg, who was a starting forward for the 1984 Big Ten champions. It took Grady only one season to earn a scholarship, and he eventually started all 36 games for the 2019 Elite Eight squad.

Eifert is now part of former Purdue assistant Micah Shrewsberry's staff at Notre Dame.

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



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**Thank you for reading
The Paper**

↓ KAREN From Page A1

Waveland to live with him, George eventually moving to Lexington KY on an extended care home, passing there in 1945 at age 85. Long livers! James Scott was also a seed corn dealer switching careers at the end of May in 1909 (English Democrat) asking for anyone owing him money to please settle-up. This was prior to his going to Terre Haute and graduating in 1914 (English Democrat 11 June 1914) then on to the IU School of Medicine, graduating in 1917, immediately heading to Waveland to practice here (as well as some at Bellmore and toward the end of his career a bit at Rockville). Besides his main career of doctoring, he also kept land but not sure if he farmed it or had renters do so. For a few years, Austin farmed right over into Parke County. Also, James was in the hatchery business with son Austin in Waveland for several years. They advertised, “a better feed for every need.” Their volume was quite huge as in the Waveland Fair Pamphlet of 1929 it noted they were contracting \$10,000 worth of hatching eggs to be delivered in 1930. The flocks needed to be 50% or more hens which were fed a good mash preferably Wayne Growers. The pullets had to be well developed and Noblitts would do the culling which costs the seller nothing. A competent veterinarian had to give the flock a blood test and eggs had to be gathered regularly and properly cared for. The Flock owner needed to provide good males and there were to be one breed only on the farm. “Everything for the Poultrymen” was signed by AK Noblitt, Waveland, Indiana.

Austin had one sister, Lenore also born in English 8 August 1907. She was twice married, first to teacher John David Howe a graduate of Wabash. They lived in South Bend. Not sure what happened to him, but she later married Herman Harvey Spencer (Jan 1950), lived in Rockville but died in Clinton at the hospital 24 Jan 1991 at age 83. She was a teacher before marrying and passed of a heart attack as many of the Noblitt’s did.

The Noblitt home is still in Waveland, on the southwest corner of Main and Cross Streets next to the post office. Our daughter lived there and it’s an awesome house. Plenty of room in it for his office but it was in part of the building where the Cozy Corner Restaurant is now. Isobel Arvin sent me some memories of him. She told me that he kept strips of tape about 3” long hanging from a table to be ready to apply to bandages when needed (sanitary? oh my!). “He was a great guy, loved by all the community.”

He was a big man and everyone said that’s what they remembered him by. Naomi Mitchell said his prominent belly shook when he laughed. He was also a cigar smoker, often puffing away when working on a patient. John Cornell told me that his dad had a story about Doc Noblitt. The good doc had been out at a young married couple’s house, and he named them, to deliver a baby. The person who asked, got to counting back and said the couple hadn’t been married 9 months. Dr. Noblitt didn’t bat an eye and said, “The first one doesn’t always take 9 months, just the ones afterward.” and he went about his business. Dr. Noblitt was an assistant superintendent at the Sunnyside tuberculosis sanitarium (Indianapolis) in the late 1920s and worked at the Rockville state sanitarium. He passed away in January 1973 at the age of 92. He and Edith are buried in the Rockville Memory Garden cemetery.

As you read, Austin had a large hatchery right outside of Waveland on Highway 47 for several years, did some farming but mainly he lived in Rockville where he, too was in the hardware business for a couple of decades. He was said to look quite a bit like the good Doc. Austin was referred to as “Nobby” by about anyone who knew him. (note not sure who the child is with him). At age 30, he married Margaret Porter, daughter of John Ora and Bertha (Newgent) Porter. They were parents of James P. and John R.

One of Austin’s biggest pluses in life (at least to me, being a history buff) was that he was on the first committee and continued to work constantly for the Covered Bridge Festival being its Executive Secretary and an incorporator of historic Billie Creek Village. He was a Purdue graduate. Margaret lived to the last day of 2005 and majored in Home Ec in college. Their home was on Northwood Drive (off of 41) in Rockville.

The Noblitt ancestry is French going back to DeNoblet in the late 1300s. Other French names marrying in to the family were Normandy; Noelle; Delachler; LeChiere; Godfrey; Vandever and others, John Noblet coming from Dublin and passing away in York County PA on 14 August 1748. The family came to Washington and Orange County in early Indiana times. All seemed like nice folks so glad to present to you the good doc and his son, Nobby!

– *Karen Zach is the editor of Montgomery Memories, our monthly magazine all about Montgomery County. Her column, Around the County, appears each Friday in The Paper of Montgomery County. You can reach her at karen.zach@sbcglobal.net.*

Keeping an eye on regulations that may affect Hoosier farmers, looking for opportunities to expand farm exports and decoding potential farm bill proposals were among the topics covered during the recent 2024 Ag Policy Summit at the Hamilton County Fairgrounds.

The Summit is an annual policy-focused program presented by the Indiana Soybean Alliance’s Membership and Policy Committee (M&P) and the Indiana Corn Growers Association (ICGA). M&P Chair Joe Stoller, a farmer from Bremen, Ind., and ICGA President Chris Cherry, a farmer from New Palestine, Ind., welcomed approximately 130 farmers, industry stakeholders and the staff of state and federal lawmakers to the annual event.

“I want you to know our policy organizations have been very busy this year advancing issues important to the soybean and corn farmers,” Stoller explained. “We had a productive presence in the General Assembly testifying on behalf of the Biofuels Tax Credit this year, and we are already planning out next year’s Session. Just a couple weeks ago, directors and staff were in Washington, D.C. for American Soybean Association (ASA) meetings and meetings with federal legislative staff, where we highlighted many priority issues for the soybean industry.”

Among the important topics discussed while on Capitol Hill was the overdue farm bill. Former USDA Secretary Mike Johanns gave the Summit’s keynote address about farm bill delays and the prospects of getting one adopted by Congress this year.

Johanns led USDA from 2005-2007 in President George W. Bush’s cabinet. He served as the governor of Nebraska from 1999-2005, then served one term in the U.S. Senate from 2009-2015. These days, Johanns is the Chairman of Agriculture for alliantgroup, which is an agricultural consulting firm focused on tax credits and incentives to support American farmers. In addition, alliantgroup was the Premier sponsor of this year’s Summit.

The biggest challenge to getting a farm bill passed this year, Johanns said, is the combination of few remaining legislative days and election year politics. He said that Republican leadership in the House Ag Committee has passed a farm bill with details that Democratic Party lawmakers dislike. Similarly, Democrat leaders in the Senate Ag Committee have

discussed a farm bill plan with elements that Republicans cannot support. He added that the Senate committee has not yet formerly written any legislative text and a farm bill mockup has not been written.

“We will come back after the election, and then there will be a lame duck period from November to January,” Johanns said. “A farm bill will get done, but the election will likely influence it.”

He suggested that if either party wins the White House and takes control of the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives, then that will probably bring swift passage to a farm bill.

Baird named Friend of Farmer

Among the key members of the House Ag Committee’s farm bill debate is U.S. Rep. Jim Baird (R-Dist. 4). ICGA and M&P announced during the Summit that Baird has been honored with the organization’s Friend of Farmer award for 2024. Baird was unable to attend Wednesday’s Ag Policy Summit, but the policy groups plan to present him with the award during a Shop Talk on Friday, Aug. 9 in White County.

Go online to incornandsoy.org/events to register for this Shop Talk and to see a schedule for other upcoming Shop Talk events in August.

Baird is a lifelong resident of west-central Indiana. The Fourth Congressional District covers 16 of the counties in that region of the state. Prior to being elected to Congress in 2018, Baird was a state representative to the Indiana General Assembly for eight years. He is a Purdue University graduate with degrees in animal science, and he earned a doctorate in monogastric nutrition from the University of Kentucky. Baird is also a decorated Vietnam veteran in the U.S. Army.

Throughout his legislative career, both at the state and federal levels, Baird has served on committees that cover rural and agricultural issues. Cherry and Stoller said Hoosier farmers are well represented by Baird in Congress.

“Congressman Baird has been a longtime friend and ally to our commodity groups and Hoosier farmers,” Cherry said. “He has always been there for ISA and ICGA issues, including an early co-sponsor of the Next Generations Fuels Act. Through his work on the House Agriculture Committee, a farm bill proposal was developed and passed out of committee that includes many of our priorities.”

Monitoring EPA’s herbicide strategy
The Ag Policy Summit covered a variety of issues that M&P and ICGA are watching closely in the coming months – including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) herbicide strategy to comply with the Endangered Species Act. ASA Director of Government Affairs Kyle Kunkler said EPA is caught between ongoing pressure from environmental advocacy groups and farmers who fear the loss of important tools to control weeds.

“EPA must follow certain rules when implementing policy in the registration process,” Kunkler said. “Right now, the lawsuits are playing out faster than the registration process. EPA has a nearly impossible problem to solve, and they have less time to solve it.”

He added that EPA has only released a draft version of its herbicide strategy, so far. Kunkler said the official policy must be announced by Aug. 30. “The official policy isn’t here, yet, but it’s on our doorstep,” he said. “We will have an opportunity to respond to the official policy.”

Go online to ASA’s website at https://soygrowers.com/news_release_category/economists-angle/ to read more on this subject.

Container shipping expansion

ICGA and ISA CEO Courtney Kingery led a panel discussion about expanding ag exports through container shipping. The panel featured:

- Jody Peacock, CEO of the Ports of Indiana
- Aaron Kuhn, Regional Marketing Manager for POET
- Paul Pence, Founder and CEO of Pence Group in Lafayette, Ind.

Because Indiana is a major warehouse and distribution center, many shipping containers enter the state. However, too many containers leave the state empty. Kuhn said the containers are available to be filled, if Indiana agricultural businesses can coordinate the logistics. Peacock said Indiana’s three ports – one on Lake Michigan and two on the Ohio River – can help move agricultural products in containers to export markets around the world. Pence said the advantage of container shipping is getting smaller quantities of products to places that can’t manage larger shipments. “Our little company in Lafayette, Ind., isn’t going to move the needle much in exports,” he said. “What we can do is prove to Indiana farmers and to importers around the world that we can ship quality products in shipping containers.”

Gauck earns ASA/BASF scholarship

Addie Gauck, a recent high school graduate from Greensburg, Ind., is the recipient of the

2024-25 Soy Scholarship award, sponsored by ASA and BASF. Monrovia, Ind., farmer Keevin Lemenager, who serves on both the ISA and ASA boards, presented Gauck with a certificate for her scholarship during the Summit.

“ASA and BASF are proud to offer this opportunity to invest in future industry leaders,” Lemenager said. “As a farmer director for both ASA and ISA, I am excited to present this \$7,000 scholarship to a fellow Hoosier – Addie Gauck. Addie is a 2024 graduate of North Decatur High School and plans to study agriculture systems management at Purdue University. Her impressive agricultural involvement includes numerous awards and leadership roles in 4-H and FFA. Addie also owns Addie’s Fresh Pork and Pasture Raised Chicken, a business she started at age 11.”

Gauck said her father taught her that it is important to maintain her business and agriculture connections. She sees the value in keeping these relationships as she plans her future career. Gauck said her goal is to bring together all the skills she’s learned to improve the agriculture industry and her community.

Sponsorship and membership

The policy organization leaders emphasized that their work relies upon the investment and involvement of industry partners and their farmer members. “Along with Indiana Soybean Alliance Membership & Policy Committee, ICGA works closely with our allied industries, recognizing the roles that food, livestock, industry, trade and fuel markets respectively play in building one, cohesive farm economy supporting our rural communities,” Cherry said. “As many of you know, we are membership organizations that serve as the policy voice of Indiana’s soybean and corn farmers. Our policy work is not funded by checkoff dollars. That means we must rely on membership dollars and corporate contributions to ensure farmer voices are heard and to address issues at all levels of government that directly affect Hoosier crop producers.” ICGA and M&P hosted a Membership Appreciation Dinner, a members-only event, to recognize their contribution to the farm advocacy efforts. Several farmers who have signed up to be Lifetime Members of M&P and ICGA were honored during the dinner. Anyone interested in more information about Lifetime Membership should contact Khyla Goodman, Industry Affairs Outreach Manager for ICGA and M&P, at kgoodman@indianasoybean.com.

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That was the question — and premise — behind the publication: *Indiana Mandate, A Return to Founding Principles, An Agenda for the 2020s*. I worked on this book with Craig Ladwig, executive director of the *Indiana Policy Review Foundation*, with the intention of examining current issues — local, state and national — from the lens of the founding generation. With the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence right around the corner, we hoped to get people talking about the many ways this country has strayed from the principles of limited government, rule of law, individual rights and economic freedom that have been the foundation of our country since 1776. And we asked the question: Can we return to those founding principles before it's too late?

What is the evidence that the United States — in many ways — has lost its way? Consider the following: On a global index of economic freedom, the United States ranks 25th — trailing such countries as Lithuania, Cyprus, Chile and the United Arab Emirates. The 2024 Index, conducted by the Heritage Foundation, looked at economic policies and conditions in 184 sovereign countries from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, and ranked the countries on a 100-point scale. It found that the average global score for economic freedom is the lowest it has been since 2001 — at 58.6.

What's notable is the continuing decline of the United States, whose score dropped to 70.1, its lowest level ever in the 30-year history of the Index. According to Heritage, the primary reason for a decline in economic freedom here is excessive government spending, which has resulted in mounting deficit and debt burdens. These threaten the quality of life of our children and grandchildren. Placing in the top three in the ranking are Singapore, Switzerland and Ireland.

Political freedom is likewise on the decline globally and in the United States. A ranking conducted annually by Freedom House looks at political rights and civil liberties on a 100-point scale. The organization reports that "Global freedom declined for the 18th consecutive year in 2023. The scope and scale of deterioration were extensive, affecting one-fifth of the world's population. Almost everywhere, the downturn in rights was driven by attacks on pluralism — the peaceful coexistence of people with different political ideas, religions or

ethnic identities — that harmed elections and sowed violence."

The United States registered a score of 83, down from 86 prior to the pandemic, and behind such countries as Uruguay, the Bahamas, Slovenia and Portugal. Now, Freedom House has a bit of a left-wing ideological bias, so I disagree with them on the culprits behind the U.S. decline but I certainly agree that our political freedom is under attack. Political division and discord in this country have resulted in suppression of views, especially of conservatives and Christians, an increase in political violence, and concern for election integrity. And the Justice Department has been weaponized for political purposes.

What can we do about these trends?

The Indiana Policy Review believes the place to start is educating ourselves. We the people and our elected officials need to understand what the issues are and how we can apply founding principles to them. And some of these issues are complicated.

We started by picking 75 topics that are of concern today and researching what if anything the founders might have said about them. In some cases, there is clear and convincing evidence of what they thought. On some issues, we had to extrapolate. And in some, we stretched a bit in order to include them. It was a fascinating exercise and one I think all policy minded people should do before staking out a position on anything. After establishing the founders' views, we offered context and data for the issue in today's times. And whenever possible we suggested actions steps policymakers should take to take into consideration founding principles.

Let me share some examples.

Let's start with the economy, which voters consistently indicate is a top issue heading into the 2024 elections. On many of the economic issues on which Republicans and Democrats disagree, the founders' philosophy is indisputable. They opposed excessive taxation.

While their primary concern in the revolutionary era was taxation without representation, they understood that government should tax only for urgent need. George Washington wrote, "... towards the payment of debts there must be revenue ... to have revenue there must be taxes ... (and) ... no taxes can be devised which are not more or less

inconvenient and unpleasant." Today, the combined rate of federal, state and local taxes on the average middle class wage earner is approaching 50 percent ... talk about unpleasant. As Craig Ladwig noted, that's a rate that would make even King George blush. The solution is self-evident. Government must spend less in order to tax less. The public has to demand discipline from our elected representatives.

The founders were firm in their support of property rights. Thomas Jefferson borrowed heavily from John Locke's second treatise in which Locke said that even in a state of nature, where no government exists, "No one ought to harm another in his life, health, liberty, or possessions." Jefferson's wording transformed Locke's thought into "life liberty and happiness," suggesting that happiness and property are related. George Washington said, "Freedom and property are inseparable. You can't have one without the other."

The founders warned against incurring government debt that couldn't be paid off quickly. Washington referred to it as "ungenerously throwing upon posterity the burden which we ourselves ought to bear."

The founders opposed earmarks — those bills that direct tax dollars to specific projects in lawmakers home districts. James Monroe said federal money should be limited to "great national works only, since if it were unlimited it would be liable to abuse and might be productive of evil." Did you know that in January 2021 Congress brought back earmarks after a decade long moratorium? In 2023, Congress passed 7,396 earmarks costing \$26 billion. Notably and worthy of kudos, Indiana ranked near the bottom in pork per capita at \$5.70. Alaska ranked at the top at \$668. Some would contend Indiana's congressional representatives are failing to get Indiana its fair share. But this should not be a competition to fleece the taxpayers. The only solution: Ban earmarks altogether.

In sharp contrast to the national government, Indiana's lawmakers are conscientious about spending and debt, our constitution places limits on debt, and our laws protecting private property are commendable. However, there are threats aplenty at the state level to our fiscal freedom. Economic development policies, as one example, distort market forces by

picking winners and losers. This was one of the few issues on which the Republican gubernatorial candidates actually disagreed in the primary campaigns.

Economic development sounds worthy. The stated purpose of the Indiana Economic Development Commission and related municipal and regional agencies is to grow the economy and create good paying jobs. Their chief strategy, however, is to offer tax relief or subsidies to certain types of business ventures — from hotels to convention centers. We taxpayers fund all sorts of things that benefit some but not all — such as Lucas Oil Stadium where the Indianapolis Colts play. Indianapolis taxpayers are right now helping to finance the new Signia by Hilton Hotel downtown because the project couldn't get loans from the private sector.

The example that you all are familiar with and that has been in the news is the LEAP (Lebanon Innovation District). At first blush, it sounds fantastic. It's been billed as the economy of the future. 9,000-plus acres with advanced manufacturing, ag-bio science, defense, high tech logistics. The IEDC, which by the way is a quasi-public agency that receives minimal legislative review, has committed almost a billion dollars in tax dollars to it.

The case can be made — and was strongly made by Eric Doden and Brad Chambers in the GOP primary — that this will benefit Indiana's economy, employ thousands, lead to technological advances etc. But what would the Founders say about it?

I think they'd object. The First Congress rejected a bill to loan money to a glassmaker as unconstitutional favoritism. In a debate during the second congress, South Carolina Rep. Hugh Williamson opposed a bill to pay a bounty to New England cod fishermen because it sought to — "gratify one part of the union by oppressing the other."

We hear the term crony capitalism thrown around a lot. It's something we need to be concerned about because it limits economic freedom. The founders would point out that crony capitalism caused the Boston Tea Party. Colonists objected to the Tea Act of 1773 because it granted the East India Company a monopoly on tea exported to the colonies, exempted the company from the export tax and guaranteed it a "drawback" or (refund) of duties owed on surplus quantities of tea in its possession.

The tea act benefited some at the expense of all.

Let's move from the economy to election integrity. If the *Indiana Policy Review* were to prioritize one issue above all others in "Indiana Mandate," it would be election integrity. If we cannot trust the accuracy and fairness of our electoral process, our republic is sunk.

The latest survey I could find on this was CNN's from August 2023, when 69 percent of Republicans and Republican-leaning voters questioned the legitimacy of Joe Biden's election. That's a lot of "election deniers." Many in the Republican Party are saying the only solution is to beat the Democrats at their own game — to do everything possible to maximize early voting and mail-in ballots so the GOP's lead can't be eroded by "middle of the night" vote-counting shenanigans. Elon Musk just committed 45 million-dollars a month to a political action committee that will focus on early voting efforts.

What would the founders say?

The earliest elections occurred by voice vote or paper ballot, and — as today — fraud was a concern. Candidates greeted voters at the polls, often offering food and drink to opponents as well as supporters. Elections in the early republic sometimes lasted two or three days to accommodate those traveling long distances to the courthouse. The idea of month-long early voting periods or mail-in ballots, however, would defy the founders' understanding of "election day" as a patriotic and social affair that brought citizens together for what Samuel Adams called "one of the most solemn trusts in human society."

Absentee and early voting are modern inventions. Absentee voting began during the Civil War so soldiers could participate in the 1864 presidential election, but it wasn't until 1921 that a state — Louisiana — enacted the first absentee law. California was the first state to offer absentee voting for any reason in the 1970s, and Texas offered early in-person voting starting in the late 1980s.

This trend continued and accelerated during the Covid pandemic. In 2016, two in five ballots cast for the general election were early, absentee or by mail. In 2020, 43 states allowed early voting with windows ranging from a few days to almost 50. In Indiana, early voting starts 28 days prior to the election.

Early voting sounds democratic but creates a huge risk of fraud and ballot damage, misplacement or accidental destruction. As observed by political commentator Deroy Murdock, "Making early ballots disappear from overwhelmingly Democratic or Republican precincts could throw elections. Even if nothing inappropriate happens, as ballots gather dust, they generate suspicions of monkey business, especially in skin-tight races. Such doubts corrode confidence in institutions and officials."

Early voting is changing the fundamental nature of campaigning, making it more expensive and thus more likely to benefit incumbents, who have budgets, staff and tactical ability to conduct get-out-the-early-vote efforts. Further, early voting changes the very nature of the election season. From Labor Day until early November, candidates have the opportunity to appeal to the people, and citizens have the opportunity to debate. According to constitutional law professors Eugene Kontorovich and John McGinnis, "The integrity of that space is broken when some citizens cast their ballots as early as 46 days before the election, as some states allow. A lot can happen in those 46 days. Early voters are, in essence, asked a different set of questions from later ones; they are voting with a different set of facts."

Indiana can be a leader here. Under the Elections Clause of the Constitution, state legislatures hold the power to determine time, place and manner of federal as well as state elections. Any effort to address the chaotic hodgepodge of voting rules and procedures that exist around the country needs to begin at the state level.

Indiana lawmakers could and should return to single-day voting on Election Day, expand voting day hours (6 a.m. to 9 p.m.), increase the number of polling sites and continue to offer absentee ballots to Hoosiers with legitimate reasons they cannot vote in person at the polls. Indiana has the opportunity to create a model law that restores the integrity of Election Day but preserves the opportunity for all eligible citizens to vote.

At the federal level, we should make Election Day the most important national holiday, rivaling Memorial Day and the Fourth of July.

➡ See ANDREA Page A8

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Countries that do this have higher voter participation rates than the United States.

Turning to education, another issue that continues to be at the top of voter priority lists. Here's what is absolutely clear: The Founders were not worried about college or career readiness, which are the obsession of politicians and business leaders today. They saw the primary purpose of education as "civic" — as unifying, as essential to character development. They understood that the ability to read, write and think is essential if citizens are to take part in representative democracy.

That thought was written into the Declaration by Thomas Jefferson: Governments "derive their just powers from the consent of the governed," and it was assumed education made that consent possible. It was never suggested that the government order students to attend certain schools, and the wording in subsequent state constitutions made clear that the establishment of public schools was for regions where schools had not yet been established.

The Founders considered civic education essential to continued good government. In his Farewell Address, George Washington said, "A primary object should be the education of our youth in the science of government. In a republic what species of knowledge can be equally important? And what duty more pressing than communicating it to those who are to be the future guardians of the liberties of our country."

At that we have failed abysmally. We laugh when the late-night comedians air "man on the street" interviews showing just how ignorant Americans are of their history. I watched one on Prager U's channel the other morning conducted at the National Mall. When was the Declaration of Independence signed? 1904. To what political party did Lincoln belong? Democratic. In a recent Annenberg survey, less than half of Americans were able to name all three branches of government.

To our great detriment, we have lost the Founders understanding — that the new country would remain free only if people were education in good government and history — and we need to get that understanding back.

As a side note, the Founders were all-in on phonics. Noah

Webster, best known as the author of the dictionary, noted that "every child in America ... should read books that furnish him with ideas that will be useful to him in life and practice." Webster's "blue-backed spellers," used during the 18th and 19th centuries, taught children to spell and read by learning explicitly the relationship between letters and sounds. The Indiana General Assembly has been trying to get "science of reading" back into the schools, but it hasn't been easy because of resistance from the education schools and teachers unions.

Moving on to the administrative state, the bureaucracy, the swamp. The Founders would be aghast at where power lies in our country today — it lies with executive branch agencies and employees. They would surely be in favor of Vivek Ramaswamy's proposal to cut the federal workforce by 75 percent.

The Founders created a system of checks and balances with separation of powers to ensure no one branch overpowered the others. Their writings, however, make clear that they considered the legislative branch the most important because it was elected by the people. It's horrifying to report that executive branch agencies enact more policies each year than Congress itself.

In 2023, the Biden administration issued 3,018 regulations with the force of law, compared with 65 laws passed by Congress during the same period. This directly relates to the economic freedom rankings I mentioned earlier. The National Association of Manufacturers reports that the cost to the economy of regulatory compliance exceeded 3 trillion dollars in 2022. For a typical U.S. business, regulations cost about 19 percent of payroll expenditures. This system has been decades in the making and will take time to solve, but Congress can start with a simple accountability measure. Require lawmakers to vote all major rules into law. Congress should feel empowered in this regard by the Supreme Court's recent, welcome decision to overturn the Chevron precedent, which had essentially allowed federal agencies to interpret the laws they administer with almost no oversight.

Let me finish by sharing a few of things that surprised and delighted me about the Founders.

As you might imagine "Indiana Mandate" does not buy into the

validity of climate change. The Founders would not have supported President Biden's effort to shut down coal plants or to phase out fossil fuels; they would have agreed with the philosophy of energy independence as a matter of national security.

That said, they liked trees, and would probably approve of tree-planting and tree conservation as the best method of carbon capture, which reduces air pollution.

British historian Andrea Wulf, in her book "Founding Gardeners," credits James Madison, the father of the Constitution, with being a forefather of the American environmental movement. "Madison feared that if society lived off nature at the current rate it would eventually destroy it and that man had to return to nature what man took from it," Wulf writes. Notably, Madison's residence in Montpelier, Va., maintained hundreds of acres of untamed forest, which he saw as a treasured asset. The fourth president demonstrated his affinity for forests into retirement when he protested unnecessary logging in an 1818 address to the Agricultural Society of Albermarle County, admonishing farmers for "the injudicious and excessive destruction of timber and fire wood."

The Founders would not have supported subsidies of electric vehicles, but they probably would have been fascinated by the technology. They were noted tinkerers, Ben Franklin's experiments with lightning being just one example.

For that reason, they might think ChatGPT and Artificial Intelligence are pretty cool — but surely they would worry about their use in K-12 classrooms before students acquire the necessary skills of reading, writing and critical thinking.

Finally, an issue of great importance to the next generations. They would tell the Indiana legislature: Do not follow the crowd. Do not legalize marijuana. They would tell the Biden administration: Treat fentanyl as a public health emergency. Dr. Benjamin Rush, founding father and founder of the first medical school in the United States, warned his colleagues that overconsumption of distilled spirits negatively affected industry, health and morals. His then novel theories about alcoholism and addiction have all been proved correct by subsequent research.

The founders of our

country knew what they were doing when they created the United States of America. They had insight into almost every issue confronting us today. We talk in "Indiana Mandate" about such diverse issues as the autism epidemic, vaccine mandates, Midwest exceptionalism, term limits, wind power and abortion.

Our country is on the verge of squandering a great inheritance. Let us honor the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence by reclaiming their wisdom, their political philosophy, and their founding principles.

Andrea Neal is former editorial page editor of The Indianapolis Star, now a history teacher and the author of three books, including "Road Trip: A Pocket History of Indiana" and "Pence: The Path to Power." This essay has been adapted from a talk she is giving to Indiana groups preparing for the upcoming anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.



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