



Nebraska’s ‘savvy’ QB Colandrea has Indiana’s attention

SPORTS, 1B

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Loud sounds have hidden health risks



When using power tools, lawn equipment or other machinery, wear properly fitted earplugs or earmuffs from the start, rather than waiting until the noise becomes uncomfortable. PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

Noise pollution a serious but often forgotten hazard

Laura Coco
San Diego State University | THE CONVERSATION

The human body is remarkably good at getting used to the environment around it. You’ve probably experienced this if you’ve ever gone to a matinee and emerged from the dark theater into sunshine. Your eyes sting, so you squint and shield your face until they adjust to the bright sunlight. • In the same way, the body can grow accustomed to constant noise. With repeated exposure to traffic, leaf blowers, construction, loud music, crowded restaurants, fitness classes and sporting events, you can become accustomed to loud environments. Over time, what once seemed unusually loud may barely register.

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Hearing damage is only part of the story. Noise acts as a stressor, activating the autonomic nervous and endocrine systems and affecting heart rate, blood pressure and other physiological processes.

Third Bucceto’s to open downtown; Aver’s competes in national contest



On the Menu
Carol Kugler
Guest columnist

Some changes are coming to downtown restaurants. As reported last week, Hoosier Hanks closed both its Bloomington locations. The downtown

site, formerly The Owlery, is transforming into a new restaurant — one already known in Bloomington. Bucceto’s is opening its third restaurant at 118 E. Sixth St. on the north side of the courthouse square. Adam Cornett, general manager for Bucceto’s, said they signed a lease for the space a couple weeks ago. Now they are determining what needs to be done before they open, serving pizza, pasta and

more. “We never thought we’d be able to get a store downtown,” he said, adding that Oct. 1 was the 22nd anniversary for Bucceto’s eastside location. With the third restaurant, Cornett said they’ve “got Bloomington covered for the most part,” with restaurants on the east, west and downtown.

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IN makes \$13M from ‘blackout’ license plate sales

Leslie Bonilla Muniz
Indiana Capital Chronicle
USA TODAY NETWORK

Indiana’s Bureau of Motor Vehicles has sold more than 380,000 “blackout” license plates in the year since the minimalist design launched — generating \$12.9 million toward a five-year modernization plan for the agency, the governor’s office announced Monday. The blackout plates feature white numerals and letters on an all-black background. The number of plates sold includes registration renewals, such as when a driver buys a new vehicle and moves the registration and plates from their previous ride to their new set of wheels. That leaves about 314,000 blackout plates on the road, BMV spokesman Greg Dunn said. The optional design adds \$45 to initial registration and annual renewal fees.

“Hoosiers clearly like the blackout plate, and its success is helping us build a better BMV,” Gov. Mike Braun said. “I directed the BMV to modernize, improve customer service and find smarter ways to operate. (The revenue) is now helping us invest in the employees who serve Hoosiers and technology that makes doing business with the BMV faster and easier.” Sales of the plates began last August. Hoosiers bought nearly 22,000 plates in the first month and more than 90,000 by the end of 2025. So far this year, the agency has purchased new payment machines that accept tap-to-pay options and digital currency and added more 24/7 BMV Connect kiosks statewide. Pay raises are coming for many customer-facing employees. “The blackout plate gave us an opportunity to offer Hoosiers something they wanted while generating revenue we can put directly back into improving the BMV,” agency Commissioner Kevin Garvey said. “More than 380,000 sales later, that approach is paying off. We’re investing in our people, modernizing our technology and making the BMV easier for Hoosiers to use.” More changes are expected. Braun, in an executive order last year, directed BMV to modernize its 20-year-old tracking and record support software — and other systems — over five years. The agency had to complete a comprehensive review of its systems last

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The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles began offering the “blackout” plate in August 2025. INDIANA CAPITAL CHRONICLE FILE PHOTO

