

# READERS' FORUM

## Central the right time for Indiana

With reference to Max Jones' Feb. 27 column headlined "The sun never sets on Indiana's time-zone debate," I urge you to reconsider your stand. May I offer the following facts:

■ The Central time zone is geographically correct for all of Indiana. The correct dividing line between Central and Eastern time zones, the 82.5 longitude, actually lies east of Columbus, Ohio.

■ Daylight saving time is not an issue. Our state's economy benefits by staying in sync with the rest of the USA, on daylight saving time as long as it is Central daylight saving time.

■ The Eastern time zone's excessive morning darkness is unsafe for school children, some of whom have been killed or injured while walking to school or waiting for school buses. (For example, see the Tribune-Star article of Sept. 29, 2011, "Shakamak senior hit by car on way to school.") Central time would help by bringing sunrise one hour earlier.

■ Our current Eastern time causes our schools to waste tax dollars on school delays. Some school delays can't be avoided, but according to the Indiana State

School Bus Drivers Association, Central time's additional hour of morning sunlight would reduce most two-hour delays to one hour, and some would be eliminated altogether. On 34 of 180 Eastern time school days the sun will rise on/after 8 a.m., when most students are already in class. How many of these students, do you suppose, are ready to learn when it's still dark outside?

■ Central time would benefit Indiana business. Today 2/3 of Indiana's exports go to time zones west of us. Being on Eastern time with a three-hour time difference between Indiana and the West Coast is inconvenient for business. (Just yesterday, Zimmer Orthopedics announced that it is moving part of its Warsaw operations to Memphis, Tenn., because of Indiana's "time zone constraints.")

Central time is Indiana's right time. I hope you will rethink your position.

— Mary McLaughlin  
Terre Haute

## Happy ending to lost jewelry

A few weeks ago I lost my wedding band, diamond engagement ring, and watch. I had the rings

threaded on the watch band in order to keep them safe as I was scheduled for minor surgery the next day. As I was recovering at home I tried to remember where I had last seen my jewelry.

I contacted newspapers, law enforcement, family, friends, neighbors, and every business I had been to prior to surgery trying to recovery my items.

Four weeks passed and I thought I'd ask at a favorite restaurant, desperately trying to hold onto the idea that I could find my jewelry that had such sentimental value for me.

Happy ending! The manager (Paul) at Qdoba said that a worker found the jewelry in a booth and turned it in four weeks ago.

The food is great at Qdoba, and so are the employees. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

— Camille Costa-Kuglin  
West Terre Haute

## How to contact us

Letters to the editor can be sent by the following methods:

■ U.S. mail: P.O. Box 149, Terre Haute, IN 47808.

■ Fax: (812) 231-4321.

■ E-mail: [opinion@tribstar.com](mailto:opinion@tribstar.com)