

➔ **TODAY'S VERSE**

Matthew 7:7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.



➔ **FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY**
People who call our community their own.

What makes Nicole Miller smile? "Seeing other people smile," said the 38-year-old Noblesville resident. She was born and raised in Phoenix and moved to Hamilton County for her husband's job. The high school sweethearts have been together for 20 years and have lived in Noblesville for nine years. "We moved and took the leap and never looked back." They have three sons, ages 16, 8 and 6; and a daughter, 12. Hobbies and interests? "I craft a lot. I like to make tumblers. I have an Etsy shop that I run." She was found earlier this month sharing her experiences of being a new school bus driver for Noblesville Schools during the district's "test drive a school bus" event. What interested her about being a school bus driver? "I had been a stay-at-home mom for 10 years. I wanted to go back to work, but I wanted a flexible job where I was off during breaks with my kids, and that I didn't have to find a sitter for the little ones." She had been a school bus driver for about two weeks. What does she enjoy most? "The kids, definitely the kids. Getting to know the kids, them getting to know me. And having a special relationship. Build a relationship with a kid really quickly and gain their trust and get to know them and just their silly, quirky, fun attitudes that they have makes for a good day for you." To learn more about being a Noblesville school bus driver, visit <https://www.noblesvilleschools.org/>

➔ **And Another Thing...**

County Holiday - New Year's Day Observed
Most County Offices in Hamilton County will be Closed Friday, 12/31/2021 in observance of New Year's Day. Typically, Hamilton County Government is closed in observance of this Holiday. There are occasional exceptions. If in doubt, please check directly with the office or agency in question.

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Only Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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Happy New Year's



Photo courtesy of Pixabay

Happy New Year's Hamilton County! We at The Times of Noblesville have seen and covered the news throughout 2021. From COVID scares to amazing new county advancements and events for all the locals to enjoy, we have seen it all, and we were all too happy to share it with you folks! As 2022 comes in just two days, we at The Times will be sure to make an early New Year's resolution to do our best to bring you all the news as efficiently as we can in 2022! We hope you all enjoy this holiday and welcome in this new year with us!

We are each responsible for our own actions . . . really

The following is a true story. Really. No one can make this stuff up.

On Dec. 15, I was working on a column about New Year's resolutions and wrote the following:



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

We are responsible for ourselves - if I keel over from a heart attack the fault doesn't lie

with McDonald's because they make quarter pounders. It's not Titus Bakery and their delicious doughnuts. It's not anyone or anything but mine.

As a society, we seem to always be looking for ways to blame someone else. Look, I lost dang near a hundred pounds by working my butt off (literally). Exercising each day - watching what I ate and all that good stuff. I gained it back when I stopped.

➔ See TIM Page A4

A year-end look back at our 2021

Over the past few years, it has seemed that people have been mailing fewer and fewer holiday cards. Some send



BETSY REASON
The Times Editor

greetings on Facebook (now Meta) and others use email or texts.

While any of these methods

are welcome, I have yet to give up mailing holiday newsletters. And this year was no exception.

While my once handwritten note in each card turned into a handwritten newsletter, then this year into a typed newsletter, copied at the local printer, I stuffed the letter into an envelope with a card created using family photos.

Every year, I share our year's best highlights with college and childhood friends, former co-workers and extended family who send us their holiday greetings. Oftentimes, I'm addressing envelopes as the greetings arrive in our mailbox. Originally, I was using professional photos taken in Christmas attire, but this year and last year I decided to use our own candid photos from the



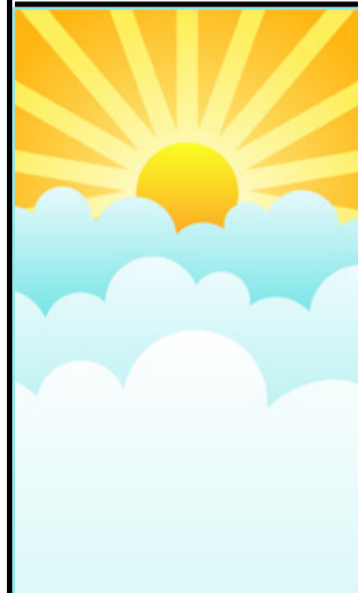
year.

Our holiday newsletter always revolves around my now 15-year-old daughter and all of her activities. I call it a holiday newsletter rather than a Christmas newsletter because last year I sent it a day or so before Christmas, so some folks received the letter before Christmas and some afterward.

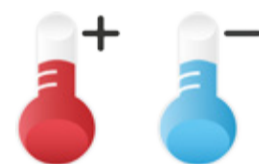
But I don't get stressed about it because I receive cards and newsletters throughout the holidays. In fact, this year, it seemed that we've received more cards

➔ See BETSY Page A4

The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 8:09 a.m.
SET: 5:31 p.m.



High/Low
Temperatures
High: 51 °F
Low: 38 °F



Wacky Holiday Today
• Bacon Day
• Festival of Enormous Changes at the Last Minute



What Happened On This Day

- 2006 Saddam Hussein executed
- 1995 Lowest temperature ever recorded in the UK
- 2004 Highest barometric pressure recorded



Births On This Day

- 1984 LeBron James American basketball player
- 1975 Tiger Woods American golfer

Deaths On This Day

- 1970 Sonny Liston American boxer
- 2006 Saddam Hussein Iraqi politician

➔ INSIDE TODAY

Obituaries.....A2
Classifieds.....A4
Comics.....A4

➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Eating quickly can triple your chance of becoming overweight - put the fork down between bites and allow your stomach to realize it's full.

Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Times and online at www.thetimes24-7.com.



➔ HONEST HOOSIER

Here's hoping that 2022 brings us together instead of keeping us on paths that are going farther apart.



➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

Resolution One: I will live for God. Resolution Two: If no one else does, I still will.
Jonathan Edwards

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

Where can you go to practice math on New Year's Eve?
Times Square

➔ THREE-DEGREE GUARANTEE

Weatherby says the high today will be **44°**

If Weatherby is off by more than 3 degrees, e-mail us at weatherby@thetimes24-7.com and let us know. Include your name and phone number. Each month those who called in and caught Weatherby will be entered into a drawing for a prize.



➔ OBITUARIES

Leona Ilene Zetterberg
Richard Allen Baker



The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank RON MCGILL of Noblesville for subscribing!



OBITUARIES

Leona Ilene Zetterberg

Feb. 6, 1923 - Dec. 26, 2021

Leona Ilene Zetterberg, 98, Arcadia, Ind., passed away Dec. 26, 2021 at Harbour Manor Health & Living in Noblesville, Ind.

Mrs. Zetterberg was the older of two daughters born Feb. 6, 1923 to Avery R. and Mary Elsie (Belzer) Bowman.

During her early years, she lived with her family on a farm east of Cicero, Ind. As a teenager she received limited piano instruction from an aunt. Her interest and desire to play the piano caused her to teach herself how to play.

She became engaged while still in high school a year before she married. She graduated on April 16th and married William C. Zetterberg on April 26th, 1941. When William was drafted into the U.S. Army she and their first child moved for those two years into the home of her parents who now lived east of Arcadia, Ind. She had five children and was a devoted wife, mother and homemaker. Loving music, she saw that music was prevalent in their home. Each one of the children played a band instrument and as a family or individually, they sang and played instruments at church services or at community functions in the area with their mother at the piano.

When most of her children were gone from home or were in their teenage years, she began working at a local grocery store in Arcadia as a cashier. She worked there for a number of years, then retired to work at helping her husband maintain their home and farm near Arcadia. For years gardening was a large part of their lives during the spring and summer growing seasons. This effort provided fresh vegetables for their table in season and a substantial supply of produce that they canned for themselves and family members during the winter months.

She was a woman of faith and belonged to the Trinity United Methodist Church in Arcadia as long as her health permitted.

Survivors include her daughter, Wilma VanWinkle of Smithville, Ark.; sons: Donnie Zetterberg of Jefferson, Md., Edgar Zetterberg of Noblesville, Ind. and Dwight Zetterberg of Sheridan, Ind.; a sister, Esther Fay Beard of Atlanta, Ind.; 14 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her husband, William C. Zetterberg and a son, Dennis C. Zetterberg.

Funeral services are scheduled at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 6, 2022 at Hartley Funeral Home Cicero Chapel, 209 West Jackson Street, Cicero, Ind., with burial to follow at Oaklawn Memorial Gardens, 9700 Allisonville Road, Indianapolis, IN 46250. A time of visitation will be from 10 a.m. until time of the services. Memorial contributions may be made to Cicero United Methodist Church, 100 East Jackson Street, Cicero, Ind. Donations envelopes will be available at the Funeral Home. You may send condolences at <http://www.hartleyfuneralhomes.com>.

Richard Allen Baker

March 3, 1947 - Dec. 23, 2021

Richard Allen Baker, 74, Fishers, passed away peacefully on Thursday, Dec. 23, 2021 at Community Hospital North in Indianapolis.

He was born on March 3, 1947 to Atlee and Claribel (Peggy) Baker in Dover, Ohio.

Mr. Baker worked for Intercontinental Exchange as the Director of Product Development before retiring after 30 years in his field. Before that, he studied Botany in college and worked for a few years as a Botanist at the Chicago Field Museum. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed fishing on his boat on Geist. Richard was well known at the Starbucks in Geist, Geist Coffee and the Sunrise Cafe in Fishers.

Survivors include his daughter, Jessica (Colby) Ross; son, Aaron Baker; grandchildren, Charlotte "Charli" and Connor Ross; brother, Tim (Rolene) Baker; sister, Bonnie (Dave) Michaud; nephews and nieces, Erin, Tim Jr., Michael and Nicole; and many other close family members.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

The Baker Family has entrusted Randall & Roberts Funeral Home with care. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to Youth on Course, 3200 Lopez Road, Pebble Beach, CA 93953 (www.youthoncourse.org/donors/ways-to-give)

Condolences online may be made at: www.randallroberts.com



Open Doors and Meijer fight food insecurity in Westfield through the Simply Give Hunger Relief Program Campaign

Westfield & Open Doors of Washington Twp. is proud to announce a partnership with Meijer to provide much-needed relief to local families facing food insecurity through the retailer's customer-driven hunger relief program, Simply Give.

"Westfield has seen an increase in the number of clients visiting our Pantry, as well as the need for student weekend meals, and the Simply Give program will go a long way to help satisfy this need," said Bruce Watson, Exec. Dir. of Open Doors.

Our community continues to feel the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. As uncertainty around guidelines and wage disruptions continue to place extreme pressure on low-income families, food pantries are seeing increased demand in their communities.

Each Meijer Simply Give campaign replenishes the shelves of more than 250 food pantries in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Wisconsin. The program encourages customers

to purchase \$10 Simply Give donation cards, which are then converted into Meijer food-only gift cards and given to a local food pantry in the store's community.

Open Doors will benefit from donation cards purchased at the Westfield Meijer store now through Apr. 2. In addition, Meijer will double match any cards purchased on Saturday, Mar. 5 and Saturday, Mar. 26, effectively tripling contributions made on those days. Meijer customers shopping online using Meijer pickup or home delivery can also purchase Simply Give donation cards as an add-on to their orders.

"The events of the last nearly two years have taught us all the importance of community members supporting each other," said Bruce Watson, Exec. Dir. of Open Doors. "We encourage community members to help us feed their neighbors facing food insecurity in Westfield this winter season by purchasing a Meijer Simply Give food donation card during their

next shopping trip."

In light of increased need resulting from COVID-19, Meijer donated more than \$7.6 million to Simply Give food pantry partners in 2020 and made an additional \$1 million gift in March. Since the program began in November 2008, more than \$69 million has been generated for food pantries in the Midwest to distribute to our neighbors in need.

"The cold winter months are a difficult time for people facing food insecurity and food pantries continue to struggle to keep up with the flood of requests they receive daily, especially given the difficult circumstances many families now face amidst the global pandemic," said Cathy Cooper, Senior Director of Community Partnerships and Giving for Meijer. "The Simply Give program is a way for Meijer customers to partner with us and support the food banks and pantries that feed families in need in their own communities. We certainly couldn't do it without the

support and commitment of our generous customers and team members, who stand beside us in this effort."

Open Doors is dedicated to serving the people of Westfield who are facing food insecurity in 2022.

About Meijer Philanthropy: Meijer is a family-owned retailer based in Grand Rapids, Mich. with a fundamental philosophy aimed at enriching lives in the communities it serves. Meijer proudly donates more than 6 percent of its net profit each year to charities throughout the Midwest. With hunger as a corporate philanthropic focus, Meijer partners with hundreds of food banks and pantries through its Simply Give and food rescue programs. Meijer also supports education, disaster relief, and health and wellness initiatives. For additional information on Meijer philanthropy, please visit www.meijer-community.com. Follow Meijer on Twitter @twitter.com/Meijer and @twitter.com/MeijerPR or become a fan at www.facebook.com/meijer.

Meeting Notes

Hamilton Heights School Corporation

Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2022

Regular Meeting - 6:30 p.m.

Location - Hamilton Heights Student Activity Center - Board Room, 420 W. North St., Arcadia 46030

REGULAR AGENDA
Pledge of Allegiance
Call to Order: Kevin Cavanaugh, President
REORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL BOARD: CCHA Attorney

1. Call to Reorganize
2. Election of Board of Trustees Officers
a. President (motion)
b. Vice-President (motion)
c. Secretary (motion)
REORGANIZATION OF CORPORATION - (motion, read all positions and names)

1. Appointments: (motion)
a. Corporation Treasurer - Caryn Provence
b. Deputy Treasurer/ Payroll - Trina Fennell
c. Committees

i. Bid Opening
ii. Finance
iii. Facility
iv. Policy
d. School Attorney - Church Church Hittle &

Antrim - Andrew Manna
e. Bonding of Personnel: (motion, read all positions and amounts)

i. ECA Treasurer - Student Receivables \$ 50,000
ii. ECA Treasurer - ECA \$ 50,000
iii. Corporation Treasurer - Caryn Provence \$500,000
iv. Deputy Treasurer/ Payroll - Trina Fennell \$100,000

2. Compensation for School Board members - presently \$2,000 per year + \$50 for called meetings (motion)
3. Newspapers that will be used for legal advertisement: Noblesville Times and Hamilton County Reporter (motion)

4. Authorization for the Superintendent and Business Manager, or designee for each, to sign agreements for alternative services and private residential school placements for the School Board President and Secretary for the 2022 calendar year (motion)
5. Authorization for the Superintendent or designee to approve home-bound instruction and instructors for the 2022 calendar year (motion)
6. Authorization for

the Superintendent and Business Manager, or designee for each, to apply for grants Title I, Title IIA, Title III, Title IV, NESP, Early Intervention Grant, SSSG and others (motion)
Minutes: (motion)
1. Dec. 15, 2021, Regular Meeting Curriculum / Board Information and Policy Updates - Derek Arrowood
No agenda items
REGULAR AGENDA (Cont.)

This meeting is a meeting of the School Board in public for the purpose of conducting the School Corporation's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There may be time for public participation.

The Board's meeting site is fully accessible to all persons. Any person requiring further accommodation should contact the Superintendent with the School Corporation's administrative office at 317-984-3538.

Business and Operations - Kristin McCarty
1. Board of Finance - Annual Meeting
a. Election of President & Secretary - HHSC Board of Trustees Election
b. 2021 Investment Schedule

c. Investment Policy
d. Financial Condition of the School Corporation

2. Payment of Claims between Board Meetings (motion)
3. MS ECA Purchase (motion)
4. Accounts Payable 1 2 3 and Payroll Claims 1 (motion)
NEW BUSINESS:

1. Personnel report: (motion)
a. Separations from Service
b. Recommendations
c. Conference Request
2. Requests: (motion)
a. Conflict of Interest Disclosures

i. Rodney Cummings
ii. Jennifer Kauffman
iii. Dan Morris
b. High School Head Wrestling Coach Gary Myers requests permission to take the Wrestling Team via bus to the Joe Burvan Holiday Duals in Rensselaer from December 22-23, 2021.

c. High School Business Teacher and BPA Sponsor Kim Kaiser requests permission to take BPA students to the BPA State Leadership Conference in Indianapolis via bus from March 13-15, 2022.

Adjourn
Next scheduled meeting
Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2022 6:30 p.m.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Finance members of the Hamilton Heights School Corporation shall convene on January 5, 2022 at 6:30 pm at Hamilton Heights Student Activity Center 420 W. North St., Arcadia, IN for their annual meeting to elect a President and Secretary, receive and review the investment report, financial condition report, and review other finance related business.

TL18602 12/30 1t hspaxlp

ATTENTION

Looking for persons who were employed at Warner Commercial Auto Body in Noblesville in the time frame of 1954-69. Please contact Jim Lyons at (330) 670-7319 or by e-mail at jllyons@hcplaw.net.

Thanks for reading
The Times!



Providing an affordable and positive baseball experience for all young men ages 13-18

REGISTRATION OPENS DECEMBER 1ST

Though we are "Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball," we welcome and encourage players from other communities to participate with us!

Registration: December 1, 2021 thru March 2022

Evaluations: March 12, 2022, NHS Aux Gym (New players ages 13-15 only)

Opening Day: April 18, 2022 (13-15)
April 30, 2022 (16-18)

www.noblesvillebaberuthbaseball.com

Representative Victoria Spartz Constituent Services



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I can help you when dealing with federal agencies, including:

- Social Security issues
- Medicare claims
- Veterans benefits
- Passport assistance
- IRS questions



United States Flag Requests

Obtain commemorative flags flown over the United States Capitol from my office.



Military Academy Nominations

High school students in our district may contact my office to request a nomination to attend one of our nation's service academies.

Anderson Office
(765) 639-0671

Carmel Office
(317) 848-0201

www.spartz.house.gov

CSO presents specially-priced family concerts January through March at Palladium at CPA

Carmel Symphony Orchestra under Artistic Director Janna Hymes is presenting three family-oriented events packaged together at one special price during the new year's first quarter, all at the Palladium at the Center for the Performing Arts. Included are:

- Family Fun Concert Sunday, Jan. 23, 3 p.m.
- Beethoven Lives Upstairs: A Classical Kids Live! Event Saturday, Feb. 19, 4 p.m.
- A youngster learns the genius of Beethoven, the torment of his deafness,

and the beauty of his music.

- Side-by-Side with Fishers High School Sunday, March 6, 4 p.m.
- A music mentoring experience as CSO musicians perform advanced symphonic music alongside members of the Fishers High School orchestra. Additionally,

this year's Young Artist Competition winner, Carmel High School senior violinist Abigail Ko, will perform with the CSO at this concert.

All three performances are priced at just \$10 for students (including college-aged), \$30 for adults. Tickets are on sale now at CarmelSymphony.org.



Indiana American Water acquires Lowell Water System in Northwest Indiana

Indiana American Water President Matt Prine today announced the company's acquisition of the Lowell water system in northwest Indiana. The purchase of the system adds approximately 4,000 water customers to the company's customer base, which represents a population of nearly 11,000 residents.

lower than they would have been as a small stand-alone system. The acquisition will also help us to meet future growth in the area and provide the resources to focus on other community needs."

The acquisition of the Lowell water system for \$24.5 million was approved by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission on Dec. 22, 2021 and closed by Indiana American Water and the Town of Lowell on Dec. 28, 2021.

"The acquisition of this system will help hold future rates down for Lowell customers as needed investments are made and also provide access to operations and capital management water professionals and a number of customer service options and payment methods," said Prine. "Indiana American Water already provides water service to several nearby communities, so this is a good fit for us and a continuation of our efforts to expand our presence across Indiana."

The Lowell acquisition marks the largest acquisition by Indiana American Water in more than two decades. The company provides water service to approximately one in five residents across the state and owns and/or operates more than 35 water and wastewater systems in Indiana.

About Indiana American Water, a subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK), is the largest investor-owned water utility in the state, providing high-quality and reliable water and wastewater services to approximately 1.32 million people. With a history dating back to 1886, American Water (NYSE:AWK) is the largest and most geographically diverse U.S. publicly traded water and wastewater utility company. The company employs more than 6,500 dedicated professionals who provide regulated and regulated-like drinking water and wastewater services to an estimated 14 million people in 25 states. American Water provides safe, clean, affordable and reliable water services to our customers to help keep their lives flowing. For more information, visit amwater.com and follow American Water on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

IDOE announces 2021 state graduation rate with data

- Nearly 40% of Students Graduate with Honors
- Increase in Percent of Students Graduating Without A Graduation Qualifying Exam Waiver

	State Graduation Rate	Federal Graduation Rate	Honors Diploma (Academic, Technical or IB)	Non-Waiver Rate
2021	86.69%	85.75%	39.6%	78.78%
2020	87.69%*	87.0%*	40.3%*	N/A**
2019	87.29%	86.4%	39.8%	76.73%

Recently, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) released the 2021 state graduation rates, with data showing 86.69% of students in the Class of 2021 graduating.

in high school. This mission takes all of us as we strive to make an impact on our students' lives, now and well into the future."

A spreadsheet with statewide-, corporation- and school-level graduation data is available here.

response, IDOE launched several accelerated learning programs, which are still underway and will be joined by additional efforts planned for next year.

released 2021 federal graduation rates. In 2021, Indiana's federal graduation rate was 85.75%.

This year, nearly 40% of Hoosier students graduated with a Core 40 honors diploma (academic, technical or both) or an International Baccalaureate diploma. Additionally, more than 78% graduated without requiring a waiver from passing the Graduation Qualifying Exam – an increase of nearly two percentage points from 2019.

*Note: Graduation rates in 2020 reflect the State Board of Education's waiver of the Graduation Qualifying Exam requirement for the 2020 cohort, which could not be administered due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to this waiver, caution should be exercised when comparing 2019 and 2021 rates to rates in 2020.

Due to differences between federal and state accountability equations and standards, IDOE also

**Note: Since the Graduation Qualifying Exam requirement was waived for students graduating in 2020, there is no non-waiver rate for that year.

Working to manage your grief during the holiday season

The holidays, as well as birthdays and other celebrations, are often difficult for anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one, particularly during the first year of adjusting to life without them.

and other celebrations, consider these ideas from Remembering a Life, an online resource from the experts at the National Funeral Directors Association.

are typically good, it is important for the bereaved to set boundaries and focus on what they want. While grieving, one should openly and honestly discuss wishes with friends and family and clarify what they are comfortable with and have the emotional bandwidth to do.

a memorial donation to a favorite charity.

- Talk About Grief: Grief isn't a linear journey. Ignoring pain and emotions won't make it go away. Don't be afraid to talk about grief with others. Confiding in close family and friends can help a grieving person feel heard and understood.

- Acknowledge the Loss: Families can find ways to honor their loved one's physical absence during holiday celebrations by incorporating their spirit into celebrations and holiday traditions. Examples of this could be decorating ornaments in ways that are symbolic of a loved one, cooking their favorite meal or making

Reflect On and Embrace Fond Memories: Memories of a loved one, both from the holidays and other special times, are an important legacy. Rather than ignoring these memories, talk about them with family and friends. It's OK to laugh and it's OK to cry.

Classifieds

765-361-0100 ext. 15 | class@thepaper24-7.com Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Deadlines for next-day publication: Line ads: 1 p.m. | Display ads 11 a.m.

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BETSY

From Page A1

than the past couple of years. And that's been terrific, hearing from so many folks during the holidays.

While there are friends who we keep in touch with throughout the year, I don't necessarily send them holiday newsletters because they already know what's going on in our lives, and we theirs.

Despite the pandemic, we, ourselves, had a busy 2021, with daughter, Addie, experiencing many firsts. It was her first time to visit Florida and the Florida beaches, first time to visit Walt Disney World parks, and first time to fly in a commercial airplane.

She also took driver's ed and got her driver's permit this year.

My dad celebrated his 95th birthday in June, and my mom celebrated her 90th birthday in November.

At the Hamilton County 4-H Fair, Addie won Champion in the Youth Division for her pumpkin pie ice cream in the Homemade Ice Cream Contest, and she emceed the 4-H Fair's Farmer Olympics.

She played the host for The Belfry Theatre's youth talent show on the Courthouse Square, sang the National Anthem during the StringTime on the Square music series and one Saturday got to be the opening and intermission act for one of the bands. She spent her fourth year as a Conner Prairie youth volunteer, in 1836 costume and competing with youth volunteer spinners in the Indiana State Fair's Sheep to Shawl contest, her team winning reserve champion for a handmade scarf the team made by carding, spinning, plying and weaving



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

Columnist Betsy Reason's daughter enjoyed many firsts in 2021: first time to visit Florida and the Florida beaches, first time to visit Walt Disney World parks (and Cinderella's Castle, above), and first time to fly in a commercial airplane.

wool in a four-hour competition.

This fall, school was more fun with involvement in Noblesville High School's New Dimension show choir, performing in her school's production of Disney's "High School Musical" and an opportunity to sing a vocal solo, the Carpenters' "Merry Christmas Darling" in her school's all-choir holiday concert.

Throughout my year, as a columnist, I've kept readers up-to-date on many of these

personal happenings in our lives, while also writing about people, places and things in and around Noblesville, as well as my opinion every now and again on things happening in our great city.

As we wind down our last couple of days in 2021, I thank our faithful readers of The Times. And I wish everyone a Happy and prosperous New Year!

-Contact Betsy Reason at betsy@thetimes24-7.com.

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TIM

From Page A1

Simple. Is there blame? Oh hell yes. And it's all mine. It's high time we quit wasting time on a bunch of crap that doesn't work. I respect immensely the religious community in Indianapolis who talk about the need to stop the violence. I've been listening to them for years. Yet our state capital set another record for murders. When the city-county council over there decides it wants to stop the violence and puts strict penalties for unlawful possession of firearms in city limits, things will change. When laws change and murdering someone becomes something that is punished severely, things will change. When we stop throwing minor criminals in with the rapists and murderers and child molesters and make prison a true deterrent, things will change. When we decide that we are each responsible for our own actions . . . Things. Will. Change.

OK, so that's what I wrote almost two weeks ago. What you don't know, and as Paul Harvey used to say, the rest of the story is I did have that heart attack. I didn't keel over, but only because my wonderful wife was there to catch me - and drive me to the hospital. I was transferred to the good folks at St. Vincent's Heart Center in Carmel. If there's a better place to go for heart help, I don't know where it would be. I spent the last few days there, and am now facing surgery - unfortunately, the kind where they cut you open from soft spot to soft spot.

Am I blaming anyone? Oh, we could go through a long list of my favorite restaurants, and perhaps include a few of my favorite cold beverages. It'd be for naught. Like previously stated, the fault is mine and mine alone. And should the talented docs give me another chance through a successful surgery, then those personal life choices will once again have a big impact on what direction things go. I am hopeful that hard lessons like these can penetrate even my thick skull and I'll choose better.

I know it's easy - almost expected - in today's world to blame others. It's easy to say white is black and black is white, even though something sits plain as day in front of us. There's a whole bunch of folks who think just because they say something it can change facts. That's not reality. Never has been. Never will be.

It's time for good folks to stand up. Those folks have always been accountable for themselves, but it's time to start holding everyone accountable. Do so at the ballot box. Do so by talking with your neighbors. Do so by being straight and forthright. Do it any way you want, but it's time we start. One last thing and then I'll climb off my soapbox. Word is filtering out about my health and I've been inundated with kind words and prayers. I appreciate them - and you - more than I can say. I hope to be back soon. Part of that is in God's hands. But living right and being smarter is in mine - and that's exactly the way it should be.

Timmons is the chief executive officer of Sagamore News Media, the company that owns The Noblesville Times. He is a proud Noblesville High School graduate and can be contacted at ttimmons@thetimes24-7.com.



I & Indiana Facts & Fun



14
Daviness

Number Stumpers

1. What is the population density of the county?
2. What percentage of the county population is the Amish community?
3. What fraction of land does Washington possess?
4. How old is Daviness County?

Answers: 1. About 76/square mile 2. 14.6%
3. About 1/92 4. 200 years
5. 200 Years

Did You Know?

- Founded in February in 1818, Daviness County is the 29th oldest county in the state.
- The county has an estimated population of 33,113 individuals.
- Washington, the county seat, is 4.77 square miles and has a population of 11,509 residents.
- The total amount of land in the county is 436.87 square miles.
- The Amish community in the county makes up 4,855 residents.

Got Words?

Washington contains numerous architecturally historic buildings, such as the Helphenstine House. What significance do you believe historic buildings have in towns, and how do they compare to modern buildings?

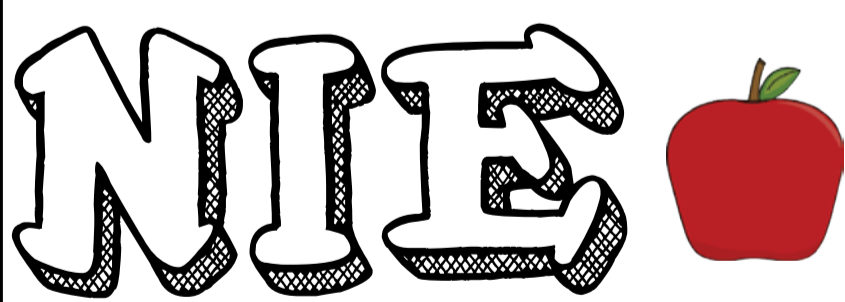
Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

1. GIWOSTHANN
2. CRSIOITH
3. MAHIS
4. SDVEIAS NYCOUT
5. HIETENNSPHLE

Answers: 1. Washington 2. Historic 3. Amish
4. Daviness County 5. Helphenstine

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