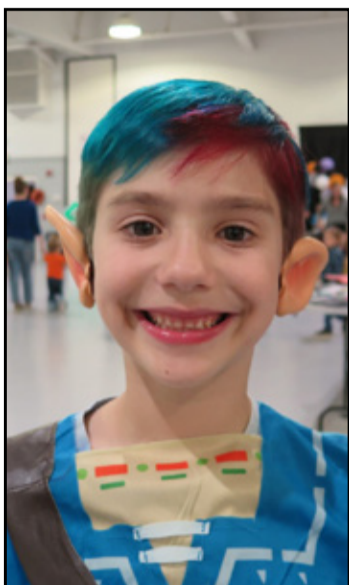


➔ TODAY'S VERSE

Philippians 3:7-8 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ.



➔ FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Levi Bates smile? "Kittens," said the 8-year-old, a third-grade homeschooler. He was dressed up -- from head to toe, including his faked pointed ears -- as Link from the action-adventure game, "Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild." He was found attending the 2022 Hamilton County 4-H Junior Leaders Halloween Party at the 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville. Could he hear better wearing the large rubber ears? "No, it's just part of the costume," he said grinning. He has a sister, Quinn Bates, 11, who was with him and dressed as a witch at the Halloween party. Their parents are Richard and Stephanie Bates. Levi likes to play outside, "pretty much run around and make noise." Favorite school subject? "I do really like Science." Favorite food? Chicken. Favorite movie? "One of my favorite movies is 'Sonic.' I also like 'Spiderman.'" Read today's Betsy Reason column for a list of Halloween and fall events.

And Another Thing...

1. Howl-O-Ween

Calling all pup-kins! Hamilton Town Center, in partnership with Outlook Hamilton, is celebrating the spookiest time of year with a Howl-O-Ween event at the center's dog park. On Oct. 29, from 1-4 p.m., shoppers are invited to bring their furry friends for a ghoulish good time. Activities include Cartoon Dog Portraits, Three Dog Bakery Giveaways and more.

The first 100 costumed dogs will receive a goodie bag! For more information about Hamilton Town Center and other upcoming events, visit simon.com/mall/hamilton-town-center.

2. Pumpkin Lovers

Ahead of Halloween and National Pumpkin Day on Oct. 26, LawnStarter ranked the 200 best cities for pumpkin lovers based on seven pumpkin-friendliness factors, including easy access to pumpkin patches, pumpkin treats and beverages and pumpkin-related events. Indianapolis finished 101st overall, though Indy did shine bright in one area, landing in a tie for third on the list of "most breweries serving pumpkin or pumpkin spice beer." Cheers to you, Naptown.

3. New Park Preview

Geist Waterfront Park isn't set to open to the public until Spring 2023, but as major construction on Phase 1 of the city's newest park wraps up for the year, Fishers Parks and the Fishers Parks Foundation are hosting the Geist Waterfront Park Preview Night & Duck Drop on Nov. 19 from 4-6 p.m.

Get an early look at the park while taking part in the inaugural Duck Drop and enjoying food trucks, Fishers Parks games and activities, music and more. Support the Fishers Parks Foundation by purchasing a duck for the inaugural Duck Drop in the cove at the north side of the park. Watch from the beach as rubber ducks are launched. The owner of the first-place duck gets \$500.

Supporting the Fishers Parks Foundation helps the Fishers Parks Department in a variety of ways, primarily with new amenities and beautification projects in parks all over Fishers.

Ducks are \$5 per duck or 6 ducks for \$25. Purchase your duck online at playfishers.com/659/Geist-Waterfront-Park-Preview-Night-Duck

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper



NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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The Times photo courtesy of Betsy Reason

Families ride a hay wagon during the 2022 Hamilton County 4-H Junior Leaders' Community Halloween Party earlier this month.

Ghosts, Goblins, Ghouls, Oh My, Out for Halloween



BETSY REASON
The Times Editor

Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to attend the annual Hamilton County 4-H Junior Leaders Community Halloween Party.

I always love to attend the party, which my daughter is too old to attend as a guest; the party is for ages 10 and younger.

But she still got to dress up this year, as a witch, and as a new Junior Leader, she volunteered helping at the party's photo booth, helped clean up and enjoyed a Junior Leader pizza party afterward.

The party is such a family-friendly event. A hayride takes guests out onto the 4-H Fairgrounds. Refreshments are served by volunteers. Junior Leaders lead the many games and work the haunted house.

Also, this month, my daughter also puts on her 1836 Prairietown costume and heads back in time to Conner Prairie as a youth volunteer. The Brom Bones Chorus, for which she volunteers, is made up of 1836

➔ See BETSY Page A8



The Times archive photo

Look out for Santa Claus in downtown Noblesville on Dec. 3 in the City's newly-formatted Christmas Parade. The remaining dates and routes for parades will be announced in the future.

More Parades for Noblesville

Newly-Formatted Christmas Parade to Come Through Downtown Dec. 3

By Joe LaRue
joe@thetimes24-7.com

Noblesville's Christmas Parade is finally returning to Downtown, Mayor Chris Jensen has told the Times, albeit in

➔ See PARADES Page A8

Nickel Plate Express Partners with Toys for Tots



As the holiday season quickly approaches, Nickel Plate Express (NPX) and Toys for Tots have partnered together to collect toys for families in need this season.

To launch the toy drive, NPX will be offering a free caboose ride on Nov. 5 to each passenger that brings a donation. The caboose rides will board from the newly renovated Hobbs Station located inside Forest Park from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. on a first come, first serve basis.

No tickets will be sold for this event. Passengers will enjoy a scenic ride on the historic Monon Caboose over the White River in downtown Noblesville.

"Toys for Tots is excited to partner with Nickel Plate

Express for the 2022 Holiday season," said Toys for Tots Civilian Coordinator Sabrina Young.

"This year is Toys for Tots 75th year. We are so thrilled to be able to partner with an organization that has a beautiful train and draws a huge crowd each holiday season. It was the perfect fit to our iconic Toys for Tots train logo."

NPX will be accepting new, unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots through Dec. 23. In addition to the caboose rides being offered, NPX will be offering a visit with Santa on Dec. 15 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The public is encouraged to bring a toy to

➔ See EXPRESS Page A8

➔ INSIDE TODAY

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- Tim Timmons.....A2
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➔ OBITUARIES

William D. Goodnight
Bruce Michael Springer
Peter Edward Wagner
Frederick 'Fred' Lewis Evans



➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Elderly people who exercise regularly are less likely to suffer falls and fractures.

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

Just a few days left to head to the great Parke County Covered Bridge Festival. It's one of my favorites!



➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"Whatever you do, don't fall asleep."
- From Nightmare on Elm Street

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

What do you use to mend a jack-o-lantern?
A pumpkin patch.

13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
30/60 FOGGY START THEN SUNNY	43/70 MUCH MILDER	52/77 BRISK, BREEZY, AND WET	56/78 BRIGHT, BREEZY, AND WET	56/78 SUNNY WITH SHOWERS LATE	55/68 CHANGE OF RAIN	44/58 TURNING COOLER

The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank **JACKIE HUDNALL** for subscribing!



OBITUARIES

William D. Goodnight

August 22, 1962-August 31, 2022

William D. Goodnight, age 60, of Pinellas Park, Fla., formerly of Sheridan, was called to his Heavenly home on Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2022, at Largo Medical Center in Largo, Florida, surrounded by his loving family.

He was born on Aug. 22, 1962, at Fort Hood, Texas, son of Caroline Jane (Mossburg) Goodnight and Lowell Meredith Goodnight.

Mr. Goodnight was a 1981 Sheridan High School graduate, where he was a proud member of the 1980 Sheridan Blackhawks State Football Championship team. He earned his Bachelor of Business at Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion Indiana. This led him into owning his own business "1" Will Do Carpet Cleaning, Residential and Commercial Mr. Goodnight He enjoyed meeting and becoming close friends with his customers. Later, he was in sales with Republic Waste Management until moving to Florida in 2021, where he was in sales for Waste Pro.

His real passion was working with the youth in football and basketball. That led him into the Zionsville Youth Program, where he coached several different football and basketball youth teams. He met so many wonderful boys and their parents, which was very life fulfilling for him.

Mr. Goodnight always dreamed of moving to Florida to enjoy the sunshine, beaches and watching the sunsets over the ocean. So glad he was able to do just that.

Survivors include his mother Caroline Jane (Mossburg) Goodnight of Sheridan; two daughters, who were the loves of his life, Gabrielle Marie Goodnight of Indianapolis and Ellie Grace Goodnight of Fishers; several aunts, uncles and cousins; companion Christy Jones of Clearwater, Florida; and his faithful canine buddy Dottie.

He was preceded in death by his father Lowell M. Goodnight; paternal grandparents Burford Goodnight and Anna Mae Goodnight; and maternal grandparents Ernest and Maxine Mossburg.

A Celebration of Life is scheduled to be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022, at Kercheval Funeral Home, 306 E. 10th Street, Sheridan, with Visitation scheduled to run from 12 p.m. noon until the time of Service. Cade Stockwell will be officiating. Mr. Goodnight will be laid to rest at Crown View Cemetery in Sheridan at a later date.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Kercheval Funeral Home in Sheridan.

Bruce Michael Springer

February 17, 1953-October 16, 2022

Bruce Michael Springer, 69, of Lapel, Indiana, passed away on Oct. 16, 2022, at Community Heart and Vascular Hospital in Indianapolis following an extended illness.

He was born on Feb. 17, 1953, in Anderson to Daniel and Lillian (Bowen) Springer.

Mr. Springer attended Madison Heights High School and graduated from Lapel High School.

He retired in 2005 from Bridgestone-Firestone after 33 years of employment. He attended Ford Street United Methodist Church.

He enjoyed woodworking in his workshop. Mr. Springer had three passions, IU basketball, Colts football and 67 Pontiac GTO's. He was always kind and helpful, even after dementia. He loved helping and being there for others.

Survivors include his wife Tonja (Fischvogt) Springer, whom he married on Sept. 1, 1979 at Anderson Christ Lutheran Church; two sons James 'Matt' Springer of Anderson, Daniel (Laura) Springer of Lapel and daughter Kyndra Springer of Lapel; brother Mark Springer of Lapel; three grandchildren Telicia (Stephen) Dickey, Taylor Springer and Tabi Springer; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers Paul Springer, Rod Springer, Jerry Springer and Bill Springer; and two nephews Scott Springer and Brian Springer.

A funeral service is scheduled to be held at 2 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 24, 2022, at Ford Street United Methodist Church, 925 Ford Street, Lapel with the Rev. Glenn Knapp officiating. Burial will follow in Brookside Cemetery in Lapel.

Visitation is scheduled to held be from 12-2 p.m. on Monday at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to Anderson Protection League, 613 Dewey Street, Anderson, Ind. 46016.

Online condolences may be shared at hersbergerbozell.com.

Peter Edward Wagner

August 13, 1946-October 17, 2022

Peter Edward Wagner, 76 of Noblesville, and formerly of Dudley, Mass., passed away on Monday, Oct. 17, 2022.

He was born on Aug. 13, 1946 in Webster, Mass. to Henry and Vivian Wagner.

Mr. Wagner graduated from Marianapolis in Thompson, Conn., and was a US Air Force Veteran serving as a chaplain's assistant during the Vietnam War. He worked as an auditor in the insurance industry, first retiring from CIGNA and later from Liberty Mutual.

He was a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and enjoyed sailing in Rhode Island. Mr. Wagner enjoyed spending time at Union Point on Webster Lake and vacationing on Cape Cod or Key West.

He was an avid reader and dog lover. May he Rest In Peace assured that he did more than the best he could.

Survivors include his wife Diane of Noblesville; daughter Pam Wagner of Dudley, Mass.; children Cody and Shannon Germain of Dudley, Mass.; step-children Christopher (Sarah) Latello of Lynn, Ind., Anthony (Nanci) Latello of Noblesville and Lisa (Glenn) Hendrix of Noblesville; and step-grandchildren children Amaya Latello, Paige Latello, Jaxson Latello, Torry Latello, Graelyn Hendrix and Clayton Hendrix.

Family services are planned at a later date in Massachusetts.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association.



Frederick 'Fred' Lewis Evans

August 12, 1935-October 16, 2022

Frederick 'Fred' Lewis Evans, 87, of Sheridan, left for his final fishing trip peacefully and surrounded by his loving wife and family on Oct. 16, 2022.

Fred was born Aug. 12, 1935, to Frank and Pearl Evans of Greenville, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Evans married his beloved wife, Ardell (Thrasher) Evans, on Nov. 26, 1954, and they have celebrated 68 years of love and marriage together. The couple shared an amazing life together and anyone that knew them, knew they came as a package. Their love was everlasting and stood strong as the years went by. One of Mr. Evans' final comments to his family was acknowledging his love for Ardell saying, "I love that woman! I wouldn't have made it without her. I've been with her my whole life." Although he was always proud of catching the biggest fish, his true pride in life was that he caught the biggest prize of all, his dear wife Ardell.

In 1954, Mr. Evans moved from Pennsylvania to the Midwest and settled in Sheridan to begin what became a long and happy life with an ever-growing family. He was the proud father of four wonderful children that were the joy of his life. He was the proudest dad and could often be heard telling stories about all of his children's successes in life. He stood with his children in good times and bad making sure that regardless of the outcome that they knew they were loved. Mr. Evans was a strong man that valued hard work and honesty. He passed down to all of his children the same strength and devotion to their own families.

He was the best Grandpa and was so proud of his grandchildren. Mr. Evans could be seen on the sidelines of ball games, attending grandparent's days at their schools, talent shows, watching many weddings, and holding lots of new born great-grandchildren. He loved to tease all the kids and see them smile.

Mr. Evans worked for Ford Motor Company in Indianapolis for 40 years as a Tool and Precision Die-Cutting Specialist. He retired from Ford in 1997 and celebrated 25 years of retirement this year. Prior to his extensive career at Ford Motor Company, Fred worked for Greenville Steel Car in Greenville, Penn., Gentry Excavating, Biddle Manufacturing and Herschel Graham's Gas Station, all in Sheridan.

He was a long-standing member of the Free and Accepted Masons Lodge in Pickard, Ind., and was raised to Master Mason by his son, Bruce Evans. He was proud of being a Brother Mason and was honored to live by their principles and share in the fellowship.

Mr. Evans will be remembered as a skilled fisherman, avid hunter, and an expert storyteller. His stories ranged from finding many coolers full of morel and snake head mushrooms in the woods of Michigan and Indiana; the battles with Tennessee's water snakes; fishing and boating the chilly waters of Minnesota and Ontario, Canada; and even bear hunting in the hills of Pennsylvania. He was one of the greatest fishermen that people knew. He was so proud to tell everyone that his biggest fish was caught in Orr, Minnesota on the Vermillion River and was a 29-pound 54-inch Northern Pike. Mr. Evans loved to go fishing with his wife and kids as well as the many friends he made over the years. He was always happiest in the seat of his boat, his family and friends by his side, a fishing pole in his hand, and the sun coming up over the horizon. There was always a plentiful feast to follow with the days catch.

He also found his passion in wild-game hunting. Mr. Evans would often travel to Iowa with his bird dogs to score his prized pheasants and quail; enjoyed hunting deer, rabbit, and raccoon in Indiana; and hunting geese, turkey, rabbit, and deer in Pennsylvania. It provided him a great honor to teach his sons how to trap game. He was also proud of his many accomplishments as a self-taught bowler and golfer - earning trophies in both throughout the years.

Survivors include his wife Ardell (Thrasher) Evans; three children Fred Evans, Jr. (Christy) of Lima, Ohio, Theresa Evans of Sheridan and Bruce Evans of Sheridan; nine grandchildren Brad (Adrian) Sutton, Jeff Sutton, Todd Jones, Kyle (Stef) Jones, Rodger Chaudion, Brett (Sandra) Evans, Stacey (Steven) Dollahan, Danielle (Zach) Richie and Bruce Evans; 27 great-grandchildren Kaleb, Nikki, Summer, Emma, Logan, Alyssa, Bryce, Brandon, Wyatt, Anna, Austan, Drew, Brooke, Bailey, Jeffrey, Kate, Dane, Rory, Cayden, Collin, Parker, Cooper, Addie, Gabrealla, Abigail, and Olivia and Raegan; and eight great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his daughter Debra Ann Sutton (Charles); parents Frank and Pearl Evans; two brothers Bill Evans and Ted Evans; four sisters Marian Smith, Winifred 'Winnie' Spain, Alice (Jim) Frye and Romona (Al) 'Monie' Pitts; grandson, Andy Tishner; great-grandson Austin Sutton; and his loving mother-in-law, which he shared a special bond with, Armina Swift.

The family requests donations be made to the Sheridan Fire and Rescue Department in honor of all their support during Mr. Evans' final years or to the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Post 67 of Sheridan for the gracious dinner that will be provided in memory of Mr. Evans.

To honor the extraordinary life of Mr. Evans, Grave-side Services are scheduled to be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 24, 2022, at Boxley Cemetery, 25911 Six Points Rd., Sheridan.

A celebration-of-life dinner is scheduled to be held upstairs at the American Legion in Sheridan at 12:30 p.m. immediately following the service. Come and help the family honor Mr. Evans with wonderful laughter, stories of the past and help them say goodbye to one of the good ones.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Kercheval Funeral Home in Sheridan.



Definition of Insanity - and Voting



TIM TIMMONS

Two Cents

Not too long from now we're going to head to the polls to once again put people in office who are the problem.

Think not? It doesn't matter if you are a Republican, Democrat, Libertarian, Independent or some other affiliation. Every election, We The People continually place or return to office politicians who routinely agree to spend more than they bring in.

I know, I know, we can couch that into a thousand different ways and we can use all sorts of fancy words and long-winded explanations, but that's what it boils down to, isn't it? We are electing Congressmen and women to positions of power while they demonstrate the fiscal integrity of a teen-ager on a shopping trip to the mall with mom and dad's credit card.

Do you think any of them handle their own finances that way? Of the ones who are not career politicians, do you think they run their businesses that way?

And how is it that \$31 trillion dollars in debt isn't the hot topic every election?

I'll tell you why. Because most of them don't want to talk about it. And it's understandable. \$31 trillion has 12 zeroes in it. Who wants to talk about that?

Well, we should. \$31,000,000,000,000.

It even LOOKS like a lot.

Why are we not sick and tired of it? If our local officials were throwing us into the deep, dark abyss of debt that seems to have no bottom, we'd vote them out of office in a heartbeat. . . . well, let's leave Carmel out of it for now.

But we do it on the national level.

Every. Single. Time.

They all talk about it a lot when campaigning, don't they? But once in office, they all act like there's nothing they can do about this massive and crippling debt - well, not only that, but they then turn around and add to it. Oh sure, some of them rail and wail, wring their hands and gnash their teeth. That looks great in the papers and sounds good on TV and radio. But take a look at their voting record. Like my granddad used to say, what you're doing speaks so loudly I can't hear what you're saying.

Here's the thing though. While I get the fact that a trillion bucks times 31 is a boatload of money, it doesn't necessarily have to be insurmountable, does it?

Do you remember a few years ago when then-Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels struck a deal to lease a toll road in northern Indiana for almost \$4 billion?

The lease was for a long period, 75 years, and as it turned out, the overseas company that leased it has gone bankrupt. Good thing a bunch of that money was paid upfront, huh? (Nice work, Mr. Daniels!) If memory serves, those few billion bucks funded a lot of road work around the state and the negatives were pretty darn minimal.

Why couldn't something similar work for the national debt? What if we leased more roads for gazillions of dollars? Contracts can be set that ensure tolls don't go too high and that the overall condition of the roads

must be maintained. (Besides, could potholes possibly get worse?)

Maybe we lease some national parks? Again, we're not selling them, just letting someone else run them for a while. I can hear folks screaming now, but just remember, it's not forever. And whatever terms we set will probably be shorter than the years it will take our grandkids and great-grandkids to pay off the debt we're piling on them now.

Let's not stop at parks. We have a ton of land. What if we sold some - especially the ones with major de-fund the police movements? What do you think we could get for California or Michigan or Minnesota?

Too much? OK, fine. How about selling drilling rights? Before folks scream about the ecology and global warming and all that, let's keep in mind that a lot of the same folks who would line up to pay a pretty penny for those rights don't exactly have stellar safety and environmental records where they currently operate. Why does that matter? Because when we shut down our domestic production, we gave those folks carte blanche to rape and pillage the earth anyway they want - and charge us an arm and a leg in the process. Besides, if we leased them the rights maybe they'd have to hire some of the same Americans who lost their jobs when we stopped U.S. production.

Here's a thought. How about if we cut every single federal department 25 percent? C'mon, if anyone thinks they don't have 25 percent fat that could be trimmed, well, I've got a newspaper company I would be happy to sell you. Cut the federal ones 25 percent, the state departments 10 percent and the local ones 5 percent. And if any struggle figuring out how to do that, call a small business owner. I guarantee you they could figure it out.

Still not enough? How about dividing what's left by 66? There are 50 states and 16 territories. Seems fair that we all pony up our share. Heck, maybe we could even do it by population. No sense Indiana paying the same amount as California, Michigan, Texas and such. Oh wait, is that too much like the Electoral College? Sorry.

Maybe instead of trying our damndest to screw over the richest folks in the country, how about if we offer them a sweet-heart deal? What if we told them that they and their corporations don't have to pay taxes for the next 20 or so years - if they write a check with 12 zeroes in it today.

Just saying. It won't be enough that we do all this though. Somehow, someday, we are going to have to change who we hire/elect so they can't spend us right back into the same hole.

The bottom line is that I'm not the smartest guy in the room, even when the room is really, really small. I'm just a newspaper vagabond with holes in the bottom of his Weejuns. But I know this - there are answers to the national debt. The first one is stop spending more than we have. The second is find ways to pay what we owe and the third is to not dig the hole again. Why is this never the conversation?

Two cents, which is about how much Timmons said his columns are worth, appears periodically on Thursdays in The Times. Timmons is the chief executive officer of Sagamore News Media, the company that owns The Noblesville Times. He is also a proud Noblesville High School graduate and can be contacted at timmons@thetimes24-7.com.

Obituary deadline
The Times publishes obituaries daily at www.thetimes24-7.com, and in its print product every day with the exception of Sundays and Tuesdays.
All obituaries must come from a funeral home.
A photo may be included and should be sent as a high-resolution JPEG.
Daily obituary deadline is 4 p.m. for the following day's print publication.
To read more obituaries, visit www.thetimes24-7.com.

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IndianaPublicNotices.com
TheTimes24-7.com

Thanks for reading The Times!



Photo courtesy of Meals on Wheels

Posed together are (from left to right) Meals on Wheels of Hamilton County Client Services Coordinator Janet Richardson, Eric Erby of Trio, Meals on Wheels of Hamilton County Executive Director Beth Gehlhausen and volunteer Melody Heer.

Meals on Wheels of Hamilton County, Duke Energy Serve Up New Breakfast Program

After a successful pilot program, Meals on Wheels of Hamilton County has officially launched a new frozen breakfast option for its clients, furthering the organization's mission of enhancing the quality of life of homebound individuals and seniors in Hamilton County by providing nutritious meals, personal interactions, and independence.

Beth Gehlhausen, Meals on Wheels of Hamilton County Executive Director, notes the response to the breakfast option has been overwhelmingly positive. During the pilot program, a \$2,800 grant from Duke Energy made breakfast meals possible five days a week for eight weeks for 12 clients.

The frozen breakfasts are delivered Friday mornings and can come in quantities from two up to seven. "Because the breakfasts are frozen, it gives our clients greater flexibility to enjoy their meals on days and times that work for them," said Gehlhausen.

By introducing the frozen breakfast option



to their meal offerings, Meals on Wheels has seen their monthly orders increase from an average of 634 meals monthly to 1,700 meals last month.

"Duke Energy was proud to support Meals on Wheels of Hamilton County through their pilot process," said Duke Energy Community Relations Liaison Dagny Zupin.

"This option is another great way for Meals on Wheels of Hamilton County to continue feeding their clients who may be struggling with health and mobility barriers."

About Meals on Wheels of Hamilton County:

Established in 1975, Meals on Wheels of Hamilton County enhances the quality of life of homebound individuals and seniors in Hamilton County by providing nutritious meals, personal interactions and

independence.

Meals are prepared in state-approved healthcare facilities and designed by a certified registered dietitian under a physician's prescribed supervision according to the client's specific dietary needs. Over 200 meals are delivered daily by volunteers to enable our clients to remain independently living within the community in their own homes for as long as possible.

For more information on receiving services or to volunteer, contact Meals on Wheels at (317) 776-7159.

About Duke Energy Indiana:

Duke Energy Indiana, a subsidiary of Duke Energy, provides about 6,300 megawatts of owned electric capacity to approximately 870,000 customers in a 23,000-square-mile service area, making it Indiana's largest electric supplier.

Nickel Plate Arts to Pursue Historic Lacy Building for Artist Studios

The iconic Lacy Building in downtown Noblesville is getting a new twist on its decades of rich history.

In late 2021, Chris Nurnberger and his wife Katie reached out to Nickel Plate Arts after purchasing the property. They asked what the Noblesville Arts community might need and revealed that they would love to find a way for the building to be a home for artists and artistic ventures.

The building has some especially unique spaces, including two mezzanines that may make quality artist studios as well as a basement that could be some form of workshops.

"I was immediately excited to hear that one of square's oldest and largest buildings could have a new future and be fully activated after so many decades," said Nickel Plate Arts Director Ailithir McGill.

Cleaning of the Lacy building was completed in Spring 2022, and some renovations are already beginning, including installation of an elevator that would make all floors of the building accessible.

McGill toured the building in December 2021 and saw first-hand just how much work was ahead of Katie and Chris. Many sections of the building had been abandoned for years, and others were filled with storage.

The ballroom on the top floor had been carved into smaller rooms. The mezzanines, which occupy the back of the building between the 1st and 2nd and 2nd and 3rd floors, definitely have potential for artists. The building's windows are bisect, allowing natural light to be at a premium, and there is opportunity for wide open spaces to accommodate flexible studio space for artists. The basement seemed like it could become a very useful space for woodworking, ceramics, or welding.

"It seemed like a match made in heaven," said McGill. "The more I looked, the more potential I saw, and the more I worked with the Nurnbergers, the more convinced I was that they wanted to be meaningful, long-term partners for the Arts community."

Nickel Plate Arts' plans are still tentative because the owners have a lot of decisions to make about the renovation. This endeavor is only made more difficult due to supply chain problems in the construction and material industry - impacting prices daily.

After a few key conversations, Nickel Plate Arts is pursuing the following goals:



Photo courtesy of Nickel Plate Arts

The historic Lacy Building in downtown Noblesville is now a target of Nickel Plate Arts. The organization intends to use the building to offer studios for artists' use.

- Nickel Plate Arts plans to manage the studio spaces and likely hold a master lease with the Lacy Arts Building to sub-lease to artists, but the exact arrangements are not yet set in stone.

- Plans call for installing 15 to 20 studio spaces of various sizes on the two mezzanines. These spaces will be flexible and communal; the hope is to construct moveable walls to delineate the studios, with lots of shared common spaces.

- These studios could be used by traditional 2-d artists, but could also be useful for graphic designers and even some 3-d artists.

- If there is interest from the community, Nickel Plate Arts might be able to design some of the spaces for musicians or photographers.

- Incorporate a shared common room that could be used as a classroom or event space.

- In the basement, the goal is to develop two studios designed for ceramics work, including working kilns (and the ventilation systems needed for various ceramics projects). Nickel Plate Arts also hopes to fit a welding studio in the basement, complete with appropriate ventilation and safety equipment.

- There may also be a first floor space available for artists with an entry from the Alley behind the building. This space could be a great retail/gallery location for one artist, or perhaps a shared space to feature work made by all of the artists in the building. The exact plans will depend upon the budget and interest from artists and community members.

- The Nurnbergers are open to exploring where art can be displayed throughout the building to give the studio artists even more opportunities to promote themselves and sell their work.

- The Nurnbergers are also enthusiastic about having the building open and activated for every First Friday, and

they want to reserve the Ballroom space for artists to activate a few times a year for unique and engaging artist-focused events.

Nickel Plate Arts will have to figure out how to pay for certain aspects of adapting spaces to the needs of artists, which may end up being a pricey venture.

This project was the focus at their Anniversary Gala, where over \$10,000 was raised specifically for installing studios in the Lacy Building.

"That will get us a long way, but we anticipate needing more than twice that to make these spaces the attractive, professional, efficient spaces that local artists deserve," McGill said. "Our hope is that the renovation will be well underway by the start of 2023 and that these studios could begin taking shape by summer or fall of next year."

Nickel Plate Arts has a waiting list for studio spaces; artists should contact info@nickelplatearts.org to get added to that waiting list in order to be considered for one of the new studios.

Peterson Architecture Principal Darren Peterson is the head of the Nickel Plate Arts board, and his business partner Robert McGill is the lead architect on the project.

Artists who want to get more involved—or anyone wishing to support this project through monetary donations—can reach out to Director Ailithir McGill via email at amcgill@nickelplatearts.org with "For the Lacy Arts Building Project" in the memo or notes.

About Nickel Plate Arts:

Nickel Plate Arts is an umbrella nonprofit organization that creates and coordinates arts and cultural experiences across communities in eastern Hamilton County and the surrounding areas to improve the quality of life for residents, strengthen local economies and enrich experiences for visitors. Nickel Plate Arts is a project of Hamilton County Tourism, Inc.

Meeting Notes

Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District Board

Meeting Agenda
Monday, Oct. 24, 2022
at 12 p.m. noon
Hamilton County

Government and Judicial Center
Commissioner's Courtroom, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
 - A. September 26, 2022
 3. Public Comments
 4. Household

Hazardous Waste Center Update

- A. Director's Report
- B. 2022 HHW Center Holiday Closure Request
5. Old Business
6. New Business
 - A. Approval of Vendor Claims
 - B. Approval of Payroll Claims
 7. Adjourn

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Thursday	9-9		

Letters

Reader Offers School Board Endorsements

Dear Editor,

When I was a little girl, I wanted to be a teacher when I grew up. I took a different career path, and while I may not be a teacher today, I know and respect many of them here in our community. My girls have been fortunate to learn from the best in the business during their time in this district.

The Noblesville Teachers' Forum is endorsing Chuck Haberman and Dr. Joe Forgey for Noblesville School Board. So am I. And I hope you will, too.

I am honestly exhausted by the current rhetoric that seeks to find fault with our teachers and librarians who are working hard for our children. We have outstanding schools and libraries. We need to elect civil servants like Mr. Haberman and Dr. Forgey who will support our administrators, teachers, and school staffers to continue pursuing excellence. Other candidates seek to criticize and tear them down.

In 2018-19, I proudly participated in Miller Ambassadors, a year-long program that takes citizens behind the scenes of our school system. During that time and in the years since, I have learned about the statis-

tics and honors proving that we have an A-rated district as determined by the Indiana Department of Education. Despite false claims that are circulating, we continue to score in the top 10 percent in the state on ILEARN, as only one metric of our success.

The Noblesville School Board election on November 8th is far more important than most people realize. We get only two votes to cast among five people running. Please learn the facts behind what our school board candidates represent and who is really driving and funding their campaigns.

In the case of Chuck Haberman and Dr. Joe Forgey, they are authentic, locally supported, grassroots leaders. These two respected and successful gentlemen are, without a doubt in my mind, our best choices.

Because Chuck Haberman is a newer name on the ballot, I want to share examples from his record of excellence. He attended Purdue for his undergraduate work and Penn State for an advanced degree in Organization Development and Change. Prior to that, he served eight years in the US Marine Corps as a Squad Leader and Engineer and earned

a range of honors, including multiple Certificates of Commendation. Chuck has traveled the world, even teaching English to Kindergartners in Japan. He currently serves as the City of Noblesville's Assistant Director of Economic Development. He is a proud graduate of the Hamilton County Leadership Academy and Miller Ambassadors; a featured speaker and panelist around town; a past coach for the Special Olympics; and a dedicated husband and father to two Noblesville children. These experiences show Chuck's readiness to join Dr. Forgey as a school board member.

As a parent and a taxpayer, I care deeply about who is making the decisions that impact our students, our teachers, and our community at large. We cannot take our schools in the wrong direction, and that is where I believe other candidates on the ballot want to go. Please vote for Chuck Haberman and Joe Forgey for Noblesville School Board. When you do, you will be voting for continued excellence, progress, and true caring and kindness.

Michelle Payne
Noblesville

Get Your Holiday Treat Fix with New Options at Carmel Christkindlmarkt

The Carmel Christkindlmarkt will have new food and gift options available for purchase during the 2022 season:

New food options include:

- Baumstriezel, or chimney cakes: A pastry roasted to a golden crisp and dressed with sugar, cinnamon or nuts
 - Lángos, also known as Hungarian fried bread: A common street food featuring deep fried dough adorned with savory or sweet toppings, such as garlic butter, cheese, cinnamon sugar or Nutella
 - Käsespätzle: A dish featuring egg noodles and melted cheese, often garnished with crispy fried onions
 - Tartiflette: A potato casserole-like dish cooked in a paella pan and topped with meats and cheeses
 - Soups will be offered this year as well, such as potato soup, lentil soup and others.
 - Carmel-based business Sugar Creek Winery will also offer wine by the glass, as well as some savory treats. Additionally, a German bakery hut will serve traditional cookies and wine by the glass, courtesy of Daniel's Vineyard.
- New gift and vendor options include:



- Kinderboutique: Heirloom-quality clothing, toys, books and accessories for children up to eight years old. Goods are imported from Germany and the surrounding region.
- Werkstatt Souvenirs: An array of gifts and crafts made by German artisans, including wood toys, traditional bells, snow globes, finely carved wooden sculptures, and more
- Lichtenwald: A hut specializing in lights, including Herrnhuter Sterne (also known as Moravian Stars), traditional German paper lanterns, candles, and candle holders
- Chocofdea: High-end chocolate and chocolate sculptures imported from a German-owned company

"We are absolutely thrilled to have so many new products and food options for our guests to try this winter," said Maria Murphy, CEO of the Carmel Christkindlmarkt. "At the Market, guests can explore flavors and dishes that they've never experienced before, and shop for one-of-a-kind, handmade gifts. We are honored to bring the joy of these heirloom treasures and magical memories to Carmel, Indiana."

Guests can peruse all these new options as well as old favorites throughout the Market season. Opening day is Nov. 19 and the Market will remain open through Dec. 30. For full hours and a list of all vendors, visit carmel-christkindlmarkt.com.

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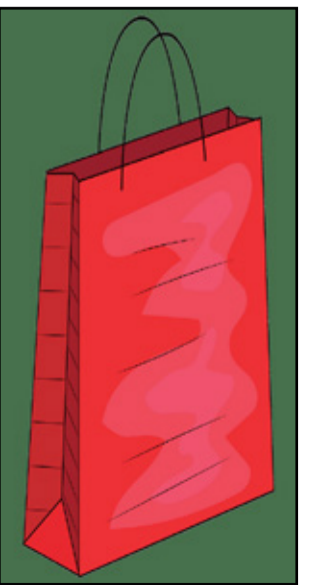
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Head to Carmel City Center for the Holiday Preview Sip 'N' Shop

Join the Shops at Carmel City Center on Saturday, Nov. 5 from 2-6 p.m. for a Holiday Preview Shopping Event! Visitors can kick-start their holiday shopping with the locally owned merchants at Carmel City Center while sipping on wine and Peppermint White Russians at four of the participating Shops.

Shoppers can also enjoy holiday carols by students from Carmel High School's Select Sound. Members of Select Sound will be caroling around the Center during the event from 2-5 p.m.

Complimentary wine tastings and Peppermint White Russians will be available at 317 Home, Addendum/MacKenzie-Childs, Fishman Fine Jewelers and The Shop along with some light hors d'oeuvres at select Shops. Participating Shops will have special holiday promotions, including:

- **Addendum:** Spend \$250 or more on MacKenzie-Childs and receive a free Courty Check spoon



rest (valued at \$55).

- **Bath Junkie:** Customers can enjoy Buy One Get One for 50% off all holiday home fragrance gift sets.

- **317 Charcuterie:** Enjoy 15% off dine-in boards during the event.

- **Endeavor Boutique:** Enjoy 20% off your purchase of \$70 or more during the event.

- **Lily & Sparrow Boutique:** Enjoy 15% off your purchase of \$100 or more.

- **The Old Spaghetti Factory:** Enjoy 1 free

Garlic Cheese Bread with the purchase of an Entrée when you mention the SIP + SHOP event. (Valid on Nov. 5 only).

- **Uplift Intimate Apparel:** Enter to win a \$50 gift card during the event and shop from select items at 50% off.

During the event, visitors can enter to win a \$75 gift certificate at Kits & Kaboodle Classic Toys, Lily & Sparrow Boutique and Out of the Blue Polish Pottery when they visit those shops.

Carmel City Center will

host another Sip & Shop event on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 12-3 p.m.

Carmel City Center is located at the southwest corner of City Center Drive and Rangeline Road. Parking is available along the street and surface parking is available on plaza level (accessible from City Center Drive) and in the underground garage (accessible from Range Line Road as well as City Center Drive) and in the Veterans Way garage.

About Carmel City Center:

Carmel City Center is a one million square foot, \$300 million, mixed-use development located in the heart of Carmel, Indiana. A destination like no other in central Indiana, the project offers the appeal of a neighborhood and the vibrancy of a downtown. Carmel City Center features luxurious residences, specialty retail and restaurants and premier office space. Phase One includes 62,427 square feet of commercial space.

Meeting Notes

Hamilton County Commissioners

Executive Session and Public Meeting Agenda Monday, Oct. 24, 2022 at 1 p.m.

Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, Commissioner's Courtroom

One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville

1. Executive Session - Conference Room 1A (Beginning at 12:15 p.m.)

A. Discussion of Security IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(7)

B. Purchase of Real Estate IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(D)

C. Discussion of Pending Litigation IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(B)

D. Discussion of Personnel IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(7)

2. Call to Order - Commissioners Courtroom

3. Declare Quorum

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Approval of Executive Session Memoranda

A. 10/10/22 - 3:30 pm Executive Session

B. 10/24/22

6. Approval of Minutes

A. 9/26/22

7. Bid Opening

A. Contract 22-03, Various Roads in Delaware, Fall Creek and White River Townships

B. Mobile Medical Vehicle

8. Highway Business

A. Road Cut Permits

B. Private Traffic Control Permits

C. Vehicle Exemption Permits

D. Acceptance of Bonds and Letters of Credit

E. Release of Bonds and Letters of Credit

F. Agreement/Supplements

G. Acceptance of Streets

H. Concurrence with Traffic Study Correspondence

a. Emilie Britt - 191st Street Speed Limit Reduction, Wayne Township

b. Scott Bradford - 191st Street Speed Limit, Wayne Township

c. Heather Six - 191st Street Speed limit, Westfield-Washington Township

d. Jennifer Gregg - Campus Parkway & Boden Road/Brooks School Road Lane extensions

1. Markings and Lane Use Signs, Fall Creek Township

e. Eric Nyberg - 166th Street Speed Limit, Westfield-Washington Township

f. Robert Hiday - 191st Street Speed Limit and Four-Way Stop, Wayne

Township

g. Tim and Floy Heidenreich - 166th Street Edge Lines or Warning Signs, Westfield-Washington Township

I. Public Works Quotation Results

a. Bridge No. 178 Approach Guardrail

J. Official Actions

K. Correspondence

L. Announcements

9. Clerk of the Circuit Court - Kathy Williams

A. Order Establishing Precincts

B. Request to Approve Uniforms for Election Technicians

10. Health Department - Jason LeMaster

A. Permitting Software Enhancement Contracts

11. E911 Public Safety Communications - Ryan Horine

A. RQAW Amendment for Fishers PSAP Remodel

B. Authorization for Meal Expense

C. Request Permission to Release Bid Packet for E911 Backup Center Remodel

D. Request to Dispose of Assets

12. Surveyor - Kenton Ward

A. Banning Engineering on Call Drainage Review Services Agreement

13. Community Development Block Grant - Mary Shaw

A. PY22 Funding Agreements

B. Introduction of Michelle Westermier - Aimee Jacobsen

14. Commissioner Committee Reports

15. Attorney

16. Director of Administration

17. Sheriff

A. Request to Extend PTO

18. Auditor

A. Surveyor's 2023 Compensation Agreement in Lieu of Statutory Fees

B. Clerk of the Circuit Court 2023 Compensation Agreement in Lieu of Statutory Fees

C. Capital Asset Notification of Final Disposal

D. Liability Trust Claim

E. Liability Trust Monthly Expenditure Report

F. Clerk's Monthly Report

G. Treasurer's Monthly Report

H. Acceptance of Bonds/Letters of Credit - Drainage Board

I. Release of Bonds/Letters of Credit - Drainage Board

J. Vendor Claims

K. Payroll Claims

Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Seeking Input for Two Park Projects

Addressing the critical deficiency of parkland in Hamilton County, as defined by Indiana DNR, Hamilton County Parks has acquired land for one new park and will further develop one of its existing parks. The county parks leadership is seeking direction regarding how these park properties can best be utilized.

The department has scheduled an open meeting to gather public input intended to help guide the master planning of the recently acquired HC Farms property, located at 216th Street and Hinkle Road and nearby Bray Family Homestead Park, 4528 Sheridan Avenue (State Road 38), in Noblesville.

Discussion will take place concerning potential recreational activities, amenities and programs for the parks that attendees feel should be considered in planning, to best serve the community. Traditional park offerings

such as trails and shelters will be discussed, along with other innovative recreational and nature education options proposed by planners and the public.

The public meeting will be held on Nov. 9 from 6 to 8 p.m. in Bray Family Homestead Park. Guests are invited enter the park from its State Road 38 entrance. Directional signage will be posted to aid attendees in locating the meeting space.

Those individuals with special needs requiring assistance when attending the meeting are invited to contact the parks department two business days in advance, in order for appropriate accommodations to be made.

About Hamilton County Parks and Recreation:

The Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department exists to serve the leisure and recreation needs of its residents and tourists, and to enhance



Photo courtesy of Hamilton County Parks and Rec.

Bray Family Homestead Park, acquired in 2007, is the site of the park department's popular Maple Madness, a maple syrup-making and history education event held annually in February.

the quality of life in the county. The department strives to preserve and provide high-quality, passive parks and facilities, to offer historical and natural resource education and services, and to be recognized as a leader and resource for its community and its citizens in the pursuit of living an

environmentally responsible lifestyle.

For complete details about this important public meeting or to learn more about Hamilton County Parks and Recreation, call (317) 770-4400, visit MyHamiltonCountyParks.com or follow the parks department on Facebook.

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Indiana Association of School Principals to Host Indiana Cheer Championship

This Saturday, the Indiana Association of School Principals (IASP) will host the 2022 Indiana Cheer Championship Varsity Prelims at Mt. Vernon High School in Fortville. The Indiana Association of School Principals, Department of Student Programs, sponsors the Indiana Cheer Championship, a series of competitions exclusively for Indiana school cheerleaders.

The competition will feature 51 Varsity cheerleading teams from around the State of Indiana. The teams will compete in this preliminary event and the top 60% of the competing teams will advance to the 2022 State Finals to be held Nov.

5 at New Castle High School.

Doors open at 9:15 a.m., with the competition beginning at 10 a.m. Awards will be presented at 1:30 p.m. for the Varsity B, C and Coed Divisions and at 5:30 p.m. for the Varsity A and D Divisions.

Among Hamilton County and Marion County schools, the following programs are slotted to participate (performance times and divisions are in italics):

- **Noblesville High School** – Varsity A, 3:18 p.m.
- **Hamilton Southeastern High School** – Varsity A, 3 p.m.
- **Fishers High School** – Varsity Coed, 12:54



p.m.

- **Westfield High School** – Varsity A, 2:54 p.m.
 - **Carmel High School** – Varsity A, 3:24 p.m.
 - **Guerin Catholic** – Varsity C, 11:42 a.m.
- About the Indiana Association of School

Principals:

The Indiana Association of School Principals leads in the advocacy and support of all principals in their commitment to every child. The Department of Student Programs hosts 11 different academic competitions for students in grades 4-12, as well as a Martin Luther King Jr. essay contest, the Academic All-Stars Program, and the Indiana Cheer Championship.

Annually, over 30,000 students are involved in Department of Student Programs sponsored events.

To learn more about the Indiana Association of School Principals and the Department of Student Programs, visit iasp.org

Housing Inventory, Median Sales Price Up

New housing data issued by the MIBOR REALTOR Association (MIBOR) for September 2022 shows an increase in active inventory and months supply of inventory.

The median sales price rose 11.8 percent in September compared to September 2021, and remained the same compared to August 2022. New listings decreased 13.7 percent in year over year comparison. Active inventory increased 61.8 percent in year over year comparison and 8.8 percent compared to last month.

Pending sales decreased 15.9 percent in year over year comparison. Closed sales decreased 13.7 percent compared to last year.

"This remains a relatively tight housing market with strong year-over-year price appreciation, although it is cooling," said Shelley Specchio, MIBOR CEO.

"As the market feels the impact from both rising interest rates and a return to seasonality, average days on market increased from 22 in August to 28 in September. The percent of asking price received at sale dipped again this month, from 100.6% last year and from 99.2% in August to 98.7% in September, a sign that sellers are offering price concessions. Overall, this remains a seller's market, though one with more opportunities and less competition for potential buyers."

Dr. Elliot Eisenberg, an internationally acclaimed economist and public speaker says, "Year-over-year closed sales declined by 13.7% but are still meaningfully higher than pre-Covid levels for September. Pending sales compared to last year declined 15.9%, but again, are consistent or slightly higher than before the pandemic. What may be



more meaningful is that new listings are down for the third month in a row. We are seeing the effects of rate "lock-in" on new listings across the country. Data from the end of July show that 90% of existing mortgages have an interest rate below 5% and more than two-thirds are below 4%. As interest rates climb, fewer potential sellers are willing to sacrifice their existing mortgage for the new, higher rates."

Additional central Indiana year-over year comparisons (Sept. 2021 vs. Sept. 2022):

- Pending sales decreased 15.9 percent to 2,940
- Current median sales price: \$285,000
- Months supply of inventory: 1.4 months
- Total active listings increased 61.8 percent

To coincide with the new MIBOR Market Insights Report, MIBOR has added a consumer tool to allow members of the public to view a number of market metrics such as number of units sold, median sales price, number of new listings and more. The metrics are shown graphically to show the trends in the marketplace. To view the new Market Insights, visit mibor.com/marketinsights.

This information has been provided by MIBOR REALTOR Association (formerly named the Metropolitan Indianapolis Board of REALTORS), the professional association representing central Indiana's REALTORS.

USDA Provides Over \$800M in Funds to Help Keep Financially Distressed Farmers Farming

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on Tuesday announced that distressed borrowers with qualifying USDA farm loans have already received nearly \$800 million in assistance, as part of the \$3.1 billion in assistance for distressed farm loan borrowers provided through Section 22006 of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).



Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack

The IRA directed USDA to expedite assistance to distressed borrowers of direct or guaranteed loans administered by USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) whose operations face financial risk.

Tuesday's announcement kicks off a process to provide assistance to distressed farm loan borrowers using several complementary approaches, with the goal of keeping them farming, removing obstacles that currently prevent many of these borrowers from returning to farming, and improving the way that USDA approaches borrowing and servicing. Through this assistance, USDA is focused on generating long-term stability and success for distressed borrowers.

"Through no fault of their own, our nation's farmers and ranchers have faced incredibly tough circumstances over the last few years," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack.

"The funding included in today's announcement helps keep our farmers farming and provides a fresh start for producers in challenging positions."

Work has already started to bring some relief to distressed farmers. As of today, over 13,000 borrowers have already benefited from the resources provided under the Inflation Reduction Act as follows:

- Approximately 11,000 delinquent direct and guaranteed borrowers had their accounts brought

current. USDA also paid the next scheduled annual installment for these direct loan borrowers giving them peace of mind in the near term.

- Approximately 2,100 borrowers who had their farms foreclosed on and still had remaining debt have had this debt resolved in order to cease debt collections and garnishment relieving that burden that has made getting a fresh start more difficult.

In addition to the automatic assistance already provided, USDA has also outlined steps to administer up to an additional \$500 million in payments to benefit the following distressed borrowers:

- USDA will administer \$66 million in separate automatic payments, using COVID-19 pandemic relief funds, to support up to 7,000 direct loan borrowers who used FSA's disaster-set-aside option during the pandemic to move their scheduled payments to the end of their loans.

- USDA is also initiating two case-by-case processes to provide additional assistance to farm loan borrowers. Under the first new process, FSA will review and assist with delinquencies from 1,600 complex cases, including cases in which borrowers are facing bankruptcy or foreclosure. The second new process will add a new option using existing direct loan servicing criteria to intervene more quickly and help an estimated 14,000 financially distressed borrowers who request assistance to avoid



even becoming delinquent.

More details on each of the categories of assistance, including a downloadable fact sheet, are available on the Inflation Reduction Act webpage on farmers.gov.

Similar to other USDA assistance, all of these payments will be reported as income and borrowers are encouraged to consult their tax advisors. USDA also has resources and partnerships with cooperators who can provide additional assistance and help borrowers navigate the process.

The announcement today is only the first step in USDA's efforts to provide assistance to distressed farm loan borrowers and respond to farmers and to improve the loan servicing efforts at USDA by adding more tools and relaxing unnecessary restrictions. Additional announcements and investments in assistance will be made as USDA institutes these additional changes and improvements.

This effort will ultimately also include adding more tools and relaxing unnecessary restrictions through assistance made possible by Congress through the IRA. Further assistance and changes to the approach will be made in subsequent phases.

Background: USDA provides access to credit to approximately 115,000 producers who cannot obtain sufficient commercial credit through direct and guaranteed

farm loans, which do not include farm storage facility loans or marketing assistance loans.

With the funds and direction Congress provided in Section 22006 of IRA, USDA is taking action to immediately provide relief to qualifying distressed borrowers whose operations are at financial risk while working on making transformational changes to how USDA goes about loan servicing in the long run so that borrowers are provided the flexibility and opportunities needed to address the inherent risks and unpredictability associated with agricultural operations and remain in good financial standing.

In January 2021, USDA suspended foreclosures and other adverse actions on direct farm loans due to the pandemic and encouraged guaranteed lenders to follow suit. Last week, USDA reiterated this request to provide time for the full set of IRA distressed borrower assistance to be made available before lenders take irreparable actions.

Producers can explore available loan options using the Farm Loan Discovery Tool on farmers.gov (also available in Spanish) or by contacting their local USDA Service Center. Producers can also call the FSA call center at (877) 508-8364 between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. Eastern. USDA has tax-related resources available at farmers.gov/taxes.

Rokita Encourages Hoosiers to Be Cautious of Cyber Criminals

Attorney General Todd Rokita warns Hoosiers of predatory cyber criminals during National Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

"Cybersecurity has been an important issue for years, but after COVID-19, businesses and schools have relied more and more on technology," Rokita said.

"This makes them even more vulnerable to these types of attacks, and I encourage Hoosiers to educate themselves and stay on high alert."

Implementing appropriate cybersecurity controls has become a necessary part of doing business in today's economy. The average cost incurred by a business from a data breach is now more than \$4 million, and the average cost of a healthcare data breach has skyrocketed to over \$10 million.

Cyber-attacks do not only affect schools and businesses, but they also affect individuals and can potentially destroy the lives of hardworking, honest people.

Security breaches involving your personal information, also referred to as data breaches, can create a significant risk of fraud or identity theft if the information is acquired by the wrong person.

To keep you and your family protected, Rokita encourages Hoosiers to follow these tips:

- **Monitor your credit.** Credit monitoring services track your credit report and alert you whenever a change is made, such as a new account or a large purchase. Most services will notify you within 24



Attorney General Todd Rokita

hours of any change to your credit report. Most major credit cards now offer these monitoring services at no cost to the consumer.

- **Consider placing a free credit freeze on your credit report.** Identity thieves will not be able to open a new credit account in your name while the freeze is in place. You can place a credit freeze by contacting each of the three major credit bureaus:
 - o **Equifax:** 1 (888) 766-0008
 - o **Experian:** 1 (888) 397-3742
 - o **TransUnion:** 1 (800) 680-7289

- **Place a fraud alert on your credit report.** A fraud alert tells lenders and creditors to take extra steps to verify your identity before issuing credit. You can place a fraud alert by contacting any one of the three major credit bureaus.

- **Contact Attorney General Rokita.** If you believe you are a victim of identity theft, visit attorneygeneral.gov or call us at 1 (800) 382-5516. For additional tips, you may also visit identitytheft.gov, a site maintained by the Federal Trade Commission.

Never miss a public notice on legal proceedings! After it prints in your local newspaper, it goes online:

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Indiana Has 9 Congressional Races: Here's What You Need to Know

By Whitney Downard and Leslie Bonilla Muñoz

Indiana sends nine representatives to the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington, D.C. – and all are up for election on November 8, along with the rest of the 435-member chamber.

Just one race is expected to be competitive: Indiana's First Congressional District, which a Republican could represent for the first time in 94 years. Incumbents are running again in that race and six others, while the Second and Ninth Districts will soon have entirely new representation.

The Libertarian Party fielded candidates in four of the nine races, a continued uptick in the party's attempt to gain relevance in statewide elections.

First Congressional District:

Voters in this traditionally Democratic stronghold haven't selected a Republican representative since an election in 1928. The district, located in Northwestern Indiana, includes most of the Hoosier state's share of the Chicago Metropolitan area. The outcome could swing the partisan balance of the legislative chamber.

Incumbent Frank Mrvan assumed office in January 2021 after his predecessor retired. The in-district native was born and raised in Hammond.

When he announced a reelection bid in January 2022, Mrvan said he wanted to grow Northwest Indiana's economy and protect the area's steel and other manufacturing industries. In a news release, Mrvan touted his votes for the pandemic-era American Rescue Plan, which sent billions to Indiana and other states, and some veteran health care improvements.

Republican challenger Jennifer Ruth Green is a U.S. Air Force veteran – and active reservist – and nonprofit science education leader.

She aligned herself with former President Donald Trump in the lead-up to a seven-way primary, though she's since backed off, telling Politico, "His personality was not something that I want to emulate." A Fox News regular, she has continued to campaign with members of Trump's circle, pumping gas with former Vice President Mike Pence and fundraising with former ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley.

In a "battle plan" on her website, she highlighted plans to combat inflation by limiting government spending and pushing homegrown goods. She also prioritized energy independence via American oil, national security, education and more.

"I do not desire to represent Washington, D.C.



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in Northwest Indiana," the page reads. "I will represent Northwest Indiana in Washington, D.C."

While one premier race-tracker still rates the race "Lean Democratic," the other two have classified it a toss-up, according to the nonpartisan Ballotpedia. Both parties are going all in: Mrvan was designated one of Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee's 2022 Frontline Program members, while Green is among the National Republican Congressional Committee's Young Guns Program designees.

Second Congressional District:

The Second Congressional District had unprecedented national coverage after the death of Rep. Jackie Walorski, who had represented the district since 2013. She was up for re-election but died in August, far enough from the November election to require a special election.

Following her death, Gov. Eric Holcomb called for the special election to be held concurrently with the regular election.

Rudolph "Rudy" Yakym III emerged as the victor in a crowded Republican caucus with a dozen candidates, leaning on his prior service as Walorski's campaign finance director.

Yakym's slim biography on his candidate website cites his business experience and "common sense Indiana values" he'd use "to get America back on track."

Yakym, a growth initiatives director at an Elkhart-based logistics company, faces Democrat Paul Steury and Libertarian William E. Henry, both of whom will appear on the special and regular election ballots as well.

Steury, a high school science teacher living in Goshen, characterized his decision to run as a counter to "radical" Republicans to elect leaders focused on good-paying jobs, affordable health care and effective policies.

On his Facebook page, Henry emphasized his pro-marijuana stance and pushback on government emergency mandates during the pandemic. As a candidate for Lieutenant Governor, he called for greater transparency and previously proposed allowing teachers and staff to be armed on school grounds.

Third Congressional District:

Incumbent congressman Jim Banks, a Republican, is the frontrunner in a safely red seat. The veteran made a name for himself as a vocal supporter of former President Donald Trump with a firebrand Twitter account.

He has represented the district since 2018, before which he represented a northeastern portion of Indiana in the State Senate. During his term, he was deployed to Afghanistan and his wife, Amanda, was elected to serve in his place until his return.

His Democratic opponent, Gary Snyder, is also a veteran and former foster parent in Huntington who works in the financial services industry. His platform focuses on capping the price of insulin, expanding preschool/childcare opportunities and addressing climate change – citing specific bills that Banks voted against during his six years in office.

Nathan Gotsch is the only independent candidate running for congressional office who is not a write-in. He is a filmmaker who developed a campaign to fight COVID-19 and encourage vaccination during the pandemic. Gotsch criticizes the Jan. 6 insurrection on his website as an example of extreme partisanship, pushing for political party reform and a free market system.

Fourth Congressional District:

Jim Baird first won the seat in 2018 after spending eight years in the Indiana General Assembly as a state representative. A Vietnam veteran, Baird's biography says he "is a strong believer in fiscal responsibility and the idea of living within our means." Baird frequently opposes Democrat bills and defended Trump following the FBI raid of his Florida residence.

Democrat challenger Roger D. Day also faced Baird in 2018, as well as Baird's predecessor, Attorney General Todd Rokita, in 2014.

In a 2018 interview with the Logansport Pharos-Tribune, the former health insurance executive positioned himself opposite of Trump, saying he supported Medicare for All, labor unions and gun control measures.

Fifth Congressional District:

Freshman lawmaker Victoria Spartz, a Republican, is the only native Ukrainian serving in Congress but has attracted

controversy for repeatedly criticizing the actions of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky.

A licensed certified public accountant, Spartz previously served as a senator in the Indiana General Assembly, pushing for limited government and to repeal state regulations on wetlands following a failed development she oversaw in Hamilton County.

The conservative has said that she would seek U.S. Sen. Mike Braun's Senate seat in 2024 if he leaves the office to launch his own campaign for governor.

Her opponent, Democrat Jeannine Lee Lake, a Muncie journalist, previously challenged Congressman Greg Pence twice in the 6th Congressional District before redistricting placed her in the 5th District.

In her campaign bio, Lake's top three issues are economic concerns for small business owners, healthcare disparities and "common-sense" gun control regulations like Red Flag laws. She describes herself as a "fiscally conservative, social liberal Christian Democrat."

Sixth Congressional District:

A Pence has represented the Sixth Congressional District for 14 years over the last two decades, starting with former Vice President Mike Pence in 2002. His brother, Greg Pence, ran for the office and won in 2018.

Greg Pence, a Republican, describes himself as a "pro-life, pro-Second Amendment and faith-driven conservative," and owns two antique malls in southern Indiana. For his re-election, Greg Pence promised to strengthen the middle class and professed other pro-business positions.

During redistricting, Pence's district shifted significantly, losing counties in southeastern Indiana to pick up the southern third of Marion County but retaining his Columbus hometown.

His opponent, Democrat Cynthia "Cinde" Wirth, promotes her experience as a science and education expert for Congress in 2018 and 2019. Her priorities listed on her campaign website include funding public education, legalizing marijuana, lowering healthcare costs and defending the rights of transgender children.

Seventh Congressional District:

The only safe Democrat seat, located entirely within Marion County, has been held by André Carson since 2008 when he won a special election following the death of his grandmother, Julia Carson.

Carson previously worked with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, a position he says helped him prepare to serve on the Emerging Threats Subcommittee in Congress. Within the House Democratic Caucus, Carson holds a position of power as the Senior Whip tasked with gathering votes.

Carson is one of three Muslims serving in Congress.

Challenging Carson is Angela Grabovsky, a Republican born in Ukraine who grew up during the Soviet Union. Grabovsky's website details her story of moving to the United States to work as a housekeeper while simultaneously learning English before launching her own real estate company.

She claimed Carson allowed "extremist policies and a radical agenda" to pass in Washington D.C. even as families withstood high inflation and violent crime. Her biography says she is "running for Congress to save America from a dark future" and from devolving into the Soviet Union.

Newcomer Gavin Maple, a libertarian from Crown Point, works as an electrician and bartender in Indianapolis.

In an email, Maple emphasized his focus on abolishing property taxes, civil asset forfeiture and "no knock" warrants. Congress needs term limits, he said, and to stop passing omnibus bills.

Eighth Congressional District:

Larry Buschon, Indiana's longest-serving Republican Representative currently in Congress, was first elected in 2010. Buschon, a cardiothoracic surgeon, has pushed to lower healthcare costs and combat opioid overdoses. Representing southwest Indiana, Buschon is the son of a coal miner and advocates for energy jobs in that sector.

He has a 100% voting record from National Right to Life and an "A" rating from the National Rifle Association.

Buschon faces Democrat Ray McCormick and Libertarian Andrew Horning

in the general election.

McCormick previously worked with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources as a member of the natural resources commission. A farmer from Knox County, McCormick details the responsibility of "caring for God's creation" and being "stewards of the planet" in his climate-focused biography. He focuses on the need for conservation in the district and protecting natural resources.

He leads local soil and water conservation districts and has testified before Congress on conservation issues.

Horning, a perennial Libertarian candidate, maintains a farm and works in medical technology development. He keeps an active blog in addition to his campaign website, where he said he "fights the system," muses on the possibility of World War III and pushes for third-party representation.

Ninth Congressional District:

Earlier this year, Rep. Trey Hollingsworth said he wouldn't run for a third term representing Indiana's southernmost district, prompting rumors of a bid for the governor's office, which opens up in 2024.

During redistricting, the district grew to absorb counties in the southeastern part of the state without losing too much ground in central Indiana. Following Hollingsworth's announcement, nine Republicans filed to run in the safely Republican seat and former State Sen. Erin Houchin emerged as the victor.

Houchin's campaign website highlights her record of anti-abortion, pro-law enforcement legislation, saying she has the "experience and energy we need in Washington (D.C.) to push back against (President) Joe Biden and (House Speaker) Nancy Pelosi."

Democrat Matt Fyfe, a high school math teacher from Bloomington, holds a position on the board of his local teacher's union. His website emphasizes the importance of public education, which he calls the "bedrock of our society."

Fyfe calls for accessible health care and support for working parents, including affordable childcare and paid parental leave.

Tonya Mills, a Libertarian, previously campaigned for the district in 2020. Mills, a real estate agent, calls for rolling back rules and regulations on small businesses and the trucking industry. She also wants to abolish the Internal Revenue Service, proclaims herself to be pro-life and believes the government "should stay out of the People's personal business."

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BETSY From Page A1



The Times photo courtesy of Betsy Reason

A Hamilton County Junior Leader volunteer instructs a young guest at the candy corn bowling game during the 2022 Hamilton County 4-H Junior Leaders' Community Halloween Party earlier this month.



The Times photo courtesy of Betsy Reason

Young ghosts and ghouls paint miniature pumpkins during the 2022 Hamilton County 4-H Junior Leaders' Community Halloween Party earlier this month.



The Times photo courtesy of Betsy Reason

Kids do Halloween crafts during the 2022 Hamilton County 4-H Junior Leaders' Community Halloween Party earlier this month.



The Times photo courtesy of Betsy Reason

A Hamilton County Junior Leader volunteer instructs a young guest during an apple-bobbing game at the 2022 Hamilton County 4-H Junior Leaders' Community Halloween Party earlier this month.

costumed youth volunteers, ages 10-18, who act and sing for guests in the Haunted Hayride line, which winds through Sleepy Hollow.

Guests still have plenty of time to visit the Headless Horseman event, with eight more nights open this season with gates open 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday through Sunday and next Thursday through Oct. 30, with hayrides and activities running until 10 p.m. or later, depending on the crowds. Reservations for hayrides are suggested and may be made online.

Now, here's our list of 25 Halloween happenings through Oct. 31.

1. Visit Little Haunt on the Prairie at Ghoul Creek Park at 5 p.m.-8:30 p.m. today at Cool Creek Park in Westfield. Spooky, yet age-appropriate Halloween activities will be offered for children ranging from preschool to school ages and their families. You are welcome to come in your costumes and enjoy nature interpretation, entertainment, a hayride, food for purchase, and activities for the little ones as they trick-or-treat their way through this spooky event.

2. Enjoy eight more spooktacular nights of the 39th annual Headless Horseman at Conner Prairie, which continues Thursdays-Sundays, through Oct. 29 in Fishers. Explore the mystery of Amsel Farm and an 11-acre haunted corn maze, enjoy sweet treats at the Apple Store, operated by the Conner Prairie Alliance, celebrating its 40th.

3. Attend the 14th annual Free Pumpkin Give-away at 4:30 p.m. Friday at Red Bridge Park in Cicero, with face painting, games and goodies.

4. Children can enjoy trick-or-treating in the Plaza at 5:30 p.m. Friday at Grand Junction Plaza.

5. Join the Ghosts & Goblins 5K/2K Run/Walk at 9 a.m. Saturday at Carmel High School.

6. Visit Noblesville's Russell Farms Pumpkin Patch which offers rides to the pumpkin patch 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, through Oct. 30, with other guest hours 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Wednesdays-Fridays,

with admission including hayrides, scavenger hunt, straw maze, corn maze, wall mazes, corn hole, horse shoes, petting zoo, miniature golf, slides, bridge fun, High Striker challenges, toddler bounce house, games, rides, pedal tractors, concessions, country store and more.

7. Enjoy free hayrides to pick pumpkins until 5:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, through Oct. 30 at Spencer Farm in Noblesville.

8. Gatewood Vegetable Farms has pumpkins and is open daily.

9. The 10th annual Boo 'n Brew Fall Festival is 2 p.m. Saturday at Clay Terrace, 14390 Clay Terrace Blvd., Carmel.

10. Kids with Type 1 Juvenile Diabetes and their families may join in for an afternoon of Halloween fun during the Diabetes Youth Foundation's annual Halloween Monster Mash 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday at 505 E. 211th St., in Noblesville, featuring themed games, trick-or-treating, costume contest and more.

11. Join the annual Family Fall Festival from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at Redeeming Love Church on Conner Street in Noblesville.

12. Kids Halloween Night is 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday at Noblesville Jim Dandy, featuring kids activities, face painting and coloring contest for bucket of candy prize. Kids eat free off of the kids menu with adult purchase of \$9 or more.

13. Participate in Day of the Dead Wine and Canvas event from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Oct. 26 at Bica Cafe in downtown Noblesville, with \$5 off with Bica5 promo code, register at wineandcanvas.com.

14. Drop by in costume from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 27 at Carmel Clay Public Library for a walk-through Halloween Celebration for kids.

15. Join in the community-wide trick-or-treat event at Grand Junction Plaza in downtown Westfield at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 28 then gather on the Great Lawn for Movies in the Plaza at 7:30 p.m. featuring "Hocus Pocus." Next movie is "Elf," Dec. 2.



The Times photo courtesy of Betsy Reason

Former Hamilton County 4-H leader Linda McCarty (left) and volunteer Georgia Roudebush serve refreshments to Dawn Moos (4-H Dog project co-leader) and family during the 2022 Hamilton County 4-H Junior Leaders' Community Halloween Party earlier this month.

16. Kids participate in a Trunk or Treat event at 6 p.m. Oct. 28 at Noblesville Moose Lodge.

17. Join the Boo Bash from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 29 at Nickel Plate District in Fishers Amphitheater in Fishers, with more than 60 local vendors offering safe trick-or-treating around the Fishers Municipal Complex. Teal Pumpkin Projects booths provide non-food items for children with food allergies and special needs, food, drink and treat trucks, games and more. Costumes encouraged.

18. Enjoy Trick-or-Treat on the Rails, a 65-minute adventure down the rails, from 2 p.m. to 3:05 p.m. Oct. 29-30 on the Nickel Plate Express. Wear your best costume for a Halloween costume contest. Also,

19. Enjoy a free Fall Festival at 3 p.m. Oct. 29 at Harbour Shores Church in Noblesville.

20. Bring your little ghouls and goblins to a free Trunk-or-Treat event from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 29 in the parking lot of the First Presbyterian Church of Noblesville at 1207 Conner St. Enjoy treats, make-n-take craft, music, and a brown-bag hot dog dinner. In case of inclement weather, activities will move inside.

21. Noblesville families are invited to attend a Trunk-or-Treat event organized by Noblesville High School Thespian Troupe and Drama Club, with the help of NHS clubs, sports teams, faculty and staff, NHS Theatre

parents and Noblesville businesses, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Oct. 29 in the NHS Parking Lot by Gate 1 (by the flagpole), also with games, stories and a concession stand.

22. Celebrate Halloween during Noblesville Preservation Alliance's entertaining evening exploring murder ballads music genre during "Murder in Noblesville" from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Oct. 29 at Preservation Hall, with tickets \$10 each at preservationhall.org/

23. Kids can participate in Trunk or Treat at 4 p.m. Oct. 30 at Noblesville First United Methodist Church, with free games, inflatables and candy in the church parking lot, and prizes for the spookiest, silliest and most creative.

24. Dress up your pet for Sundown Gardens' annual free Pet Costume Contest on Oct. 30 at Sundown Gardens in Westfield. Just show up between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., the winner will be announced on Halloween. Also, Oct. 30 is last day for pumpkin patch and hayrides.

25. The official trick-or-treat hours in Noblesville are 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Oct. 31, with Noblesville Police Department having extra patrols for additional safety. Other communities' trick-or-treat hours: Arcadia, Carmel and Westfield, 5-8 p.m.; Atlanta, Cicero, Fishers and Sheridan, 6-8 p.m.

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

PARADES From Page A1

a new format. On Dec. 3 at 2 p.m., as part of the Home for the Holidays Tours, a new signature route will follow the traditional Christmas Parade route through downtown Noblesville.

Citing declining attendance at the Christmas Parade in the years leading up to its cancellation in 2020 and a strong community response to the Home for the Holidays Tours, Jensen said that, "As the community evolves, plans have to grow and change."

"We understand the importance of tradition, and I think this is a great way of bringing our community together, celebrating the holidays and keeping our traditions alive."

The Christmas Parade, last held in 2019, was cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic and replaced the last two years by the Home for the Holidays Tour, featuring local

first responders, not-for-profits, community groups and local businesses. Held over two weekends, this year's event dates and locations are still being finalized. Routes will be finalized in the coming weeks.

One notable change Mayor Jensen announced was that this year's Christmas Parade would be open to not-for-profits and community organizations but not local businesses. Jensen cited this as, "A great opportunity for organizations to get involved in the community."

While routes are being finalized, the City is asking for constructive feedback on these plans. Comments and questions can be sent to Communications Manager Robert Harrington. A portal with information and routes will be available on the City's website once plans are finalized.

EXPRESS From Page A1



donate and then visit with Santa.

Emily Reynolds, NPX Director, said that, "I have always been passionate about giving back to the community. This opportunity to work with Toys for Tots is a perfect chance for Nickel Plate Express to help others during the holiday season."

For information about the variety of NPX excursions - from the Reindeer Rides to special dining experiences - visit nickelplateexpress.com.

About Nickel Plate

Express: Nickel Plate Express is a program of the Nickel Plate Heritage Railroad, a charitable nonprofit that operates the historic Arcadia Depot and offers entertainment and educational excursions on historic train equipment out of Forest Park, Noblesville. The 12.5 miles of Nickel Plate track is owned by the Hoosier Heritage Port Authority and runs from Noblesville through Cicero and Arcadia to Atlanta in northern Hamilton County.

Advertisement for DIRECTV TV. Text includes: "DON'T JUST KINDA TV DIRECTV", "ACCESS TO 10,000+ SHOWS AND MOVIES ON DEMAND", "THE MOST LIVE SPORTS IN 4K HDR", "SIGN UP AND GET DIRECTV AND GET FIRST 3 MONTHS OF HBO MAX, CINEMAX, SHOWTIME, STARZ AND EPIX INCLUDED!", "Contact your local DIRECTV dealer! 888-885-8931".

Advertisement for THE TIMES. Text includes: "relax & enjoy", "THE TIMES". Image of a teacup.

Advertisement for real estate. Text includes: "Dreaming of a new home?", "find it here! thetimes". Image of a bird on a nest.

Advertisement for real estate. Text includes: "Buy. Sell. Rent. Lease.", "THE TIMES classifieds." Image of houses.

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07
Brown

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1. How many citizens in the county do not reside in Nashville
≥
2. How many square miles of the county is not covered in forestland?
≤
3. What percentage of land does Brown County State Park consume?
≥
4. How old is Brown County?
≤

Answers: 1. 14, 175 citizens 2. 78.66 square miles 3. About 7.8 % 4. 182 years

Did You Know?

- Brown County was founded in 1836 by Jacob Brown and is 316.63 square miles.
- The county seat, Nashville, has an estimated population of 1,067.
- Nearly 90% of the land in the county is covered in forests making it the county with the highest concentration of forestland.
- Brown County State Park is considered the 24th largest state park in Indiana with 24. 6 square miles.
- The county is one of the least populated in Indiana with only an estimated 15,242 individuals.

Got Words?

Brown County is shaped by the immense amount of forestland it contains. Because of their state park, citizens have access to lodges, swimming pools, cabins and miles of trails. How do you think the land in Brown County impacts both the residents and visitors?

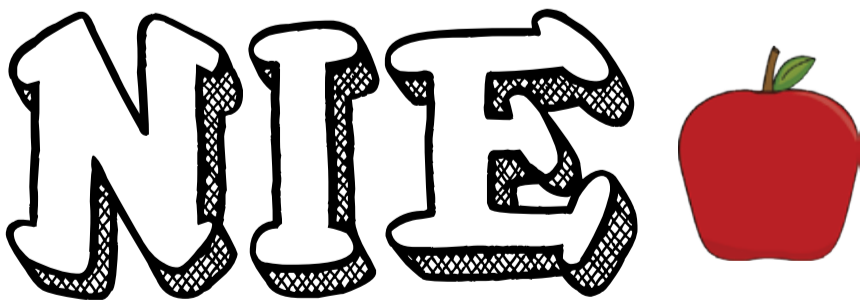
Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

1. ONBWR CONYUT
2. TRESLNDAOF
3. AVNLHLIES
4. AOJCB NWROB
5. KPAR

Answers: 1. Brown County 2. Forestland 3. Nashville 4. Jacob Brown 5. Park

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THURSDAY

Indiana the Strong

Thursday, Oct. 20, 2022

A10

CenterPoint Energy Offering Bill Assistance and Energy-Saving Resources as Energy Market Prices Remain on the Rise

CenterPoint Energy is encouraging customers to take action now to help manage natural gas bills for the upcoming heating season. The company's Indiana North natural gas territory today announced customers will likely see an incremental increase in their natural gas bills when compared to those of last winter, assuming normal winter weather, due primarily to natural gas market conditions. The volatility of natural gas prices continues to impact utilities across the state and country, but customers can take advantage of CenterPoint Energy's array of payment assistance options as well as energy-saving tips and energy efficiency programs to help mitigate the impact to bills.

This year based upon expected natural gas commodity costs and normal winter weather, customers can expect to pay on average \$135 a month, over the 5-month heating season of November through March. By comparison, last year's average bill amount for the 5-month period was around \$130 a month.

"With the increase in natural gas prices, assuming our region experiences normal weather this heating season, customers should expect an incremental increase in their bills," said Ashley Babcock, Vice President, Indiana and Ohio Gas. "While energy market prices have continued to rise over the last year, offsets such as the completion of the recovery of charges associated with Winter Storm Uri will likely help customers not experience the significant increase of last winter season."

CenterPoint Energy utilities are not allowed to markup, nor profit, from the purchase and sale of natural gas. Natural gas is a commodity bought and



sold in a national deregulated market and prices fluctuate daily due to supply and demand pressures. Only gas costs actually incurred and approved by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission are recovered from customers. CenterPoint Energy purchases natural gas on behalf of its customers and then passes those costs on to customers through the gas cost adjustment, which is listed on the bill as "Gas Cost Charge."

Natural gas continues to be the most affordable heating source. In fact, CenterPoint Energy gas customers who heated their homes with natural gas last year saved up to \$1,152 compared to those who heat with propane and up to \$307 to \$1,244 compared to those who heat with an electric heat pump or electric furnace, respectively.

It is important to remember bills will vary by customer depending on the size and age of the home, number of gas appliances, number in the household, thermostat settings and levels of insulation. Customers are encouraged to still implement energy efficiency measures and find ways to use less natural gas to lower bills even further.

CenterPoint Energy has in place several tools to help customers manage their energy bills.

- Energy Assistance Program (EAP): State and federal utility assistance dollars are available for income-eligible customers. Those that fall

within 60 percent of state median income should visit their local community action agency to sign up for the EAP. To apply for the EAP, customers should call 1-800-872-0371 to locate their nearest community action agency. Customers may also apply any time at the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority website at www.EAP.ihcda.in.gov <<http://www.EAP.ihcda.in.gov>> .

- Universal Service Program (USP): All eligible natural gas heating customers who apply and qualify for EAP will automatically be enrolled in the USP, which provides additional gas bill reductions that range from 15 to 32 percent of the total bill received (not including EAP benefits) in the months of December through May. The USP, which has been in place since 2005 is the result of a collaborative effort by CenterPoint Energy, Citizens Energy Group, the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor, Citizens Action Coalition and a group representing industrial customers.

- Due Date Extension and Payment Arrangement: These are two free offerings which are available to customers in need of a special payment plan on a temporary basis in order to keep service connected and manage energy costs.

- Energy efficiency resources: CenterPoint Energy offers energy efficiency tips, appliance rebates and energy-saving

tools to help customers lower their natural gas bills. All Indiana residential and small commercial natural gas customers are eligible. Visit www.centerpointenergy.com/smartsavings <<http://www.centerpointenergy.com/smartsavings>> or call 1-866-240-8476 for a list of rebates, qualifying appliances and energy efficiency tips.

- Budget Bill: Under this billing plan, a customer's estimated costs for a year of gas service are spread in equal monthly bill amounts for the year. This leveling of monthly bill amounts reduces the need to pay the full amount in the winter and spreads some of those higher bill charges into the non-heating months. Amounts are adjusted each summer for actual costs, and the customer's credit or amount due rolls into the next Budget Bill payment for the next 12-month period. Customers can enroll for free on www.centerpointenergy.com <<http://www.centerpointenergy.com>> or by calling 1-800-227-1376.

"We recognize the financial hardships our customers may be facing this heating season, and we want to encourage them to contact us for options to assist in managing costs prior to their first high bill of the heating season," said Babcock. "Additionally, customers needing further financial assistance can apply for programs available through our local community action agencies and local non-profits."

IDEM Has \$3.5M for Clean Air Projects

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) announced Round 4 of the DieselWise Indiana with Volkswagen Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Option program's grant funding which will distribute awards ranging from \$50,000 to \$1,000,000. Total available funding for this round is \$3.5 million.

Grant money will be awarded to clean air projects that significantly reduce diesel emissions from nonroad vehicles or equipment across Indiana. IDEM is specifically encouraging potential project partners from southern Indiana due to the lack of applications from this region in the previous rounds of the program, with the hope and intent of realizing meaningful diesel emission reductions equitably across Indiana.

Example projects include installing idle reduction technology on locomotives, replacing diesel-powered switcher

locomotives with all-electric locomotives or railcar movers, replacing existing diesel-powered marine engines with new clean-diesel powered engines, and replacing diesel-powered cargo handling equipment with new electric alternatives.

Projects from Rounds 1 through 3 included replacing a diesel-powered switcher locomotive with an all-electric shuttle wagon, replacing two landfill compactors with much newer clean-diesel machines, and replacing old diesel-powered terminal tractors with new all-electric alternatives serving the same purpose. These projects will result in notably better air quality for those that live and work around these areas.

Public and private entities may submit applications, and the Request for Proposals (RFP) deadline is Dec. 16, 2022. Application information can be found at www.idem.IN.gov/airquality/dieselwise.

A Conversation With Brian Lamb and Mitch Daniels Set for Oct. 24

In Oct. 2012 as Purdue University's president-elect, Mitch Daniels sat down for a public conversation with C-SPAN founder and Purdue alum Brian Lamb. Now, 10 years later, Daniels will once again join Lamb for a wide-ranging conversation on the university's engaging recent history and other topics of importance to our country and higher education.

The special "Conversation with Brian Lamb," hosted by the Center for C-SPAN Scholarship & Engagement, will take place Oct. 24 in Stewart Center's Fowler Hall on Purdue's campus. Doors will open at 6 p.m., and the event will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The hourlong talk with Daniels will cover his past 10 years at Purdue and what might lie ahead for higher education and beyond.

The event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited and registration is required; attendees must show their e-tickets at the door. To register and receive a ticket, go to bit.ly/ConversationCCSE.

Daniels will step down as the university's president, effective Jan. 1. He took the reins at Purdue in January 2013 after completing his second term as Indiana's governor. Mung Chiang, Purdue's executive vice president for strategic initiatives and the former John A. Edwardson Dean of Engineering and, will serve as the uni-

versity's next president.

At Purdue, Daniels prioritized student affordability and reinvestment in the university's strengths. Purdue has held tuition unchanged from 2012 through at least the 2022-23 academic year, breaking with a 36-year trend. Simultaneously, room rates have remained steady, meal plan rates have fallen about 10% and student borrowing has dropped 32%, while investments in student success and STEM research have undergone unprecedented growth. It is less expensive to attend Purdue today than it was in 2012. During the Daniels decade, higher education nationally has undergone significant changes, with no end to the challenges on the horizon.

In recognition of his leadership as both a governor and a university president, Daniels was named among the Top 50 World Leaders by Fortune magazine in 2015 and was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2019.

The "Conversation with Brian Lamb" event is sponsored by the Center for C-SPAN Scholarship & Engagement and the Brian Lamb School of Communication in Purdue's College of Liberal Arts and is a featured part of the national CCSE Research Conference.

For more information contact Andrea Langrish, CCSE managing director, at centerforspan@purdue.edu.

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Duke Energy Foundation Awards Over \$250K in Grants

The Duke Energy Foundation has awarded 20 grants totaling more than \$250,000 to Indiana-based organizations undertaking a wide range of environmental initiatives across the state, including projects to enhance Indiana parks, protect vulnerable habitats, support clean water, and expand outdoor recreational and educational opportunities.

"We're pleased to partner with local nonprofits and organizations across our service territory to enhance the quality of life of our customers and communities," said Stan Pinger, president of Duke Energy Indiana. "From planting trees to creating community gardens and nature trails, we hope to make a positive impact through meaningful and sustainable projects that make Indiana a desirable and vibrant place to live."

Over the last five years, the Duke Energy Foundation has awarded more than 70 grants totaling nearly \$1 million to organizations across Indiana for projects that support environmental stewardship.

This year, grants were awarded to 20 Indiana-based organizations to support conservation and educational programs in Boone, Clark, Decatur, Fayette, Franklin, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Henry, Jackson, Jefferson, Monroe, Owen, Putnam, Ripley, Rush, Tippecanoe, Vigo and Wabash counties.

- **Alquina Blue Arrows Park (Fayette County)**

\$10,000 for planting of trees and native pollinators, installing new fencing and providing educational opportunities

The grant will support efforts to make Alquina Blue Arrows Park more bird-, butterfly- and bee-friendly by adding more native pollinator plants to landscaping that borders the park shelter, walking trail and historical monument. The funds will also support the purchase and planting of native trees on the property, as well as educational opportunities for visitors highlighting the importance of biodiversity and protecting native species. Finally, the grant will support the purchase and installation of split rail fencing to act as both a safety barrier and aesthetic enhancement to the park.

- **CanopyBloomington (Monroe County)**

\$15,000 for tree planting in economically disadvantaged areas

CanopyBloomington has identified several economically disadvantaged areas within the city of Bloomington that lack tree canopy cover. This grant funding will support the planting of new trees in these areas, as well as their long-term maintenance and care.

- **City of Rushville (Rush County)**

\$15,000 for tree planting to commemorate bicentennial

To commemorate its bicentennial year, the city of Rushville intends to plant 200 new trees across the community. The project symbolizes the city's commitment to a cleaner, greener future for the next 200 years. The new trees will aid in the enhancement and preservation of public green spaces and assist in the reduction of carbon and storm water runoff, improving soil quality.

- **City of Seymour (Jackson County)**

\$10,000 for tree planting near Freeman Field Recreational Complex

The grant will support the planting of trees near the Freeman Field Recreational Complex, a 67-acre site used for sports and recreational activities. The trees will act as a natural wind barrier, while also providing shade and helping with drainage. The project will help advance the city's goal of planting two trees for every tree that's removed due to storms or disease.

- **Decatur County Community Foundation (Decatur County)**

\$15,000 for new playground, improvements to memorial walking trail

The grant will support improvements to a 0.6-mile walking trail established in memory of Travis Wenning, who lost his fight with cancer at the age of 6. The trail runs along the south perimeter of St. Mary's Parish campus. The funding will support the installation of a new playground, which will feature equipment that resembles tree stumps, logs and boulders that reflect the natural environment. The grant will also help fund the planting of native trees, as well as the placement of stones around the base of existing trees to prevent erosion and control weeds.

- **Franklin County**



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- **Community Foundation (Franklin County)**

\$10,000 for expansion, maintenance of community gardens

The grant will support the expansion and continued maintenance of several community and pollinator gardens across Franklin County. The gardens are frequently used for educational purposes highlighting food preservation and preparation, the planting and maintenance of gardens, pest control, and the planting of crops. The funds will also be used to upgrade seating and walking areas within the gardens.

- **Healthy Communities of Henry County (Henry County)**

\$10,000 for Wilbur Wright Trail development

The grant will support phase three of construction on the Wilbur Wright Trail. The new 2.6-mile trail segment will extend from southwest of Mooreland to the northeast side, providing an opportunity for the public to walk, run and bike along a tree-lined path. The project aims to increase residents' quality of life and help individuals reach their fitness goals.

- **Keep Noblesville Beautiful (Hamilton County)**

\$10,000 for pollinator garden and sculpture

The grant will support the installation of a kinetic butterfly sculpture and pollinator garden in a roundabout at 191st Street and Little Chicago Road in Noblesville. By utilizing this underserved green space, Keep Noblesville Beautiful seeks to not only beautify the community, but to promote the pollination of native plants and the important role they play in climate resiliency. The project also aims to remind pedestrians and drivers of their connection to nature.

- **Lake Monroe Water Fund (Monroe County)**

\$15,000 for healthy woodlands and clean drinking water

The grant will help support live staking along the banks of Clay Lick Creek, a process that

involves taking cuttings from woody plants and sticking them into the ground to help remediate soil erosion. The funds will also support the planting of native trees and shrubs adjacent to the creek to help stabilize the soil and create a habitat for birds and insects. The effort aims to improve water quality in the lake, which is the sole drinking water source for 150,000 Bloomington-area residents and businesses. The project is adjacent to CYO Camp Rancho Framas, providing an opportunity to educate campers about water conservation and sustainability.

- **Louisville Grows (Clark County)**

\$15,000 for tree planting in Jeffersonville and Clarksville

The cities of Jeffersonville and Clarksville are partnering with the nonprofit Louisville Grows to help increase the tree canopy in low-income neighborhoods near I-65. The grant will help purchase approximately 200 shade trees, which will be selected and planted by volunteers with expertise in urban forestry. The project aims to establish a thriving tree canopy, create aesthetic appeal and provide ample shaded areas.

- **Manchester University (Wabash County)**

\$10,000 to establish garden spaces on campus

Manchester University's Environmental Studies Program and Center for Environmental Resilience and Social Engagement are currently implementing a campuswide conservation management strategy that focuses on actions and infrastructure that are resilient to climate change, support biodiversity conservation and provide accessible green space to northeast Indiana. Phase one of the project is focused on transforming the campus grounds into an agroecology teaching, research and community outreach space. This grant funding will be used to establish garden spaces on campus grounds that

demonstrate best practices for climate-resilient food production and for combating issues of food insecurity.

- **Parks Foundation of Hendricks County (Hendricks County)**

\$5,000 for Williams Park ecological enhancement

Brownsburg Parks and Recreation has collaborated with community members and partners to restore critical areas of Williams Park, a 77-acre park that hosts approximately 20,000 visitors each year. The grant funds will be used to implement phase one of the park's ecological enhancement plan, which includes transitioning turf in the park's central median into a pollinator prairie mix. The project will help the park save on long-term turf management expenses, reduce their fuel consumption and enhance the park's biodiversity.

- **Penny Trails (Hancock County)**

\$13,561 to increase parking at Eagle Station

The grant will fund efforts to expand parking and trail access at 400 West Eagle Station. The expanded parking lot will accommodate additional cars and school buses and allow visitors to easily access a recently constructed outdoor classroom and educational signage.

- **Ripley County Community Foundation (Ripley County)**

\$25,000 for tree planting, installation of water bottle filling stations and trash/recycling receptacles

The grant will fund the planting of trees and native plants in pollinator gardens and near trailheads. The funds will also support the purchase and installation of water bottle filling stations and trash and recycling receptacles.

- **The Nature Conservancy (Jefferson, Putnam and Owen counties)**

\$10,000 for ecological enhancement

The grant will support reforestation efforts at Pennywort Cliffs Nature Preserve in Jefferson County, Big Walnut Nature Preserve in Putnam

County and Green's Bluff Nature Preserve in Owen County.

- **Tree Lafayette (Tippecanoe County)**

\$15,000 for tree planting in Lafayette

The grant will support the planting of 40 trees along the streets of Lafayette in spring 2023. Many of the trees will be planted in underserved or low-income neighborhoods within the community.

- **Vigo County 4-H Council (Vigo County)**

\$8,000 for tree planting at Vigo County Fairgrounds

The grant will fund the purchase and planting of a variety of trees at the Vigo County Fairgrounds, contributing to beautification efforts on the property and creating an inviting space for fairgoers and visitors.

- **Vigo County Parks and Recreation Department (Vigo County)**

\$15,000 for osprey and eagle nesting platforms

The grant will fund the purchase and installation of two nesting platforms for eagles and ospreys at the top of two retired electric transmission towers at the Wabashiki Fish & Wildlife Area in West Terre Haute.

- **Westfield-Washington Education Development Foundation (Hamilton County)**

\$15,000 for Shamrock Outdoor Learning Lab

The grant will support the Shamrock Outdoor Learning Lab, a green space that provides experiential learning opportunities for local schools, businesses and civic organizations to learn about water and soil conservation.

- **Zionsville Parks Foundation (Boone County)**

\$14,970 for ecological enhancement at Zionsville Golf Course

The grant will support work to convert 3.53 acres of grass at Zionsville Golf Course into native plantings. The project will not only attract and support pollinators and other wildlife, but also reduce the amount of mowing required, thus reducing the golf course's carbon footprint. Additionally, the grant will support the installation of signage to educate the community about the habitat restoration project and underscore the importance of supporting pollinator-friendly plants.



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