

➡ TODAY'S VERSE

Matthew 6:9-13 Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. (The Lord's Prayer)



➡ FACES OF
HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Jeremy Luna smile? "Inside of school, it's my students. I love hanging out. My job is being a disciplinary/attendance guy, but I really enjoy connecting with the kids..." said the 48-year-old Noblesville resident of his job as Dean of Students at Noblesville High School. He was easily spotted using a megaphone while supervising the crowd during the final regular-season home NHS boys varsity football game in 2021 at Beaver Materials Stadium. Why does he use a megaphone? "Humor, levity, but mostly crowd control. It's hard when there's 700 kids; it's hard to yell loud enough. So this thing helps me, at least get their attention, maybe not control them but get their attention." Luna was born and raised in Muncie and graduated in 1993 from Wapahani High School, then played college baseball and studied elementary education at University of Central Missouri. He even played baseball in the college world series twice. He had already known his wife, and they had started dating, then they moved to North Carolina where his parents had moved, and he became a teacher and baseball coach, then an administrator. They moved about 15 years ago to Noblesville, overseeing "attendance, discipline, school culture, making sure the kids do what they're supposed to do most of the time." Mr. Luna is always a lot of fun, and he has agreed to offer a "Duct Tape Mr. Luna to the wall" silent auction item in the NHS fall musical, "Chicago" silent auction, live now at nhscpo.org/

And Another Thing...

1. Holiday Woes

Some folks are already tired of seeing Christmas displays in store, several of which have been up for almost a month now. According to the travel experts at Family Destinations Guide, their survey shows that Hoosiers think Dec. 3 is the first day of the holiday season that really feels like Christmas is beginning. Indiana's neighbors, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois and Kentucky, all chose a day later, Dec. 4. The very first date in the survey was New Mexico's Dec. 1 and the latest was Rhode Island's Dec. 14. The survey, done by Google, has 3,000 participants.

2. Giving Back

Everyone knows about Black Friday and Cyber Monday, but have you heard about Giving Tuesday? Giving Tuesday is a Worldwide Day of Charitable Giving held on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving, Nov. 29. It's a great way to give back to your community during the holiday season. The Westfield Youth Assistance Program is excited to announce that donor George Kristo, has agreed to match donations up to \$12,500 this year! This means that your donation will double in value! Here is what your donation can do:

- \$20 - A hat, gloves and a scarf to keep a youth warm this winter
- \$60 - One therapy session for an uninsured or underinsured youth*
- \$100 - A week-long summer day camp experience for one youth*

To donate to the Westfield Youth Assistance Program for Giving Tuesday, visit westfieldyouth.kindful.com and select 'Giving Tuesday' as the campaign. Visit youthassistance.org/westfield to learn more about the Westfield Youth Assistance Program.

*Amounts based on average cost of items

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

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The Times photo courtesy of Betsy Reason

Old Town Noblesville resident Amy Thornton Shankland was found at the new Barnes and Noble bookstore, where she will sign copies of her new book, "Interviews by a Clueless White Woman," at noon Saturday.

'Clueless' Old Town Author Says New Book Helps Us Learn About Each Other



BETSY REASON
The Times Editor

When I visited the newly reopened and redesigned

Barnes and Noble booksellers in Noblesville, I ran into longtime acquaintance Amy Shankland.

But I shouldn't have been surprised to see her in a bookstore, because she loves to read and is a published author. And the new bookstore promotes local authors.

She shared with me the news of her latest book, "Interviews by a Clueless White Woman," penned under the name, Amy Thornton Shankland, and she was excited to be lining up book signings.

And in fact, her next book signing is from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday at that very Barnes

and Noble re-opened store in Noblesville.

"I decided to write this book because I am clueless. I wanted to learn about other struggles, people of color, people of different sexual orientations, people of different religions and abilities. I thought if I talk to these people, I would learn a lot about their struggles and open up my eyes. Not only would I learn a lot, I hoped to publish this book and help others learn a lot, because we're not talking to one another. If we have differences, these walls go up,

➡ See BETSY Page A8

Holiday Season is Taking Off at Nickel Plate Express; Make Sure You're On Board

Hamilton County residents will be hearing holiday train whistles over the next six weeks as Nickel Plate Express (NPX) kicks off the annual, incredibly popular Reindeer Rides beginning Nov. 19.

NPX will be running Reindeer Rides for a fourth, sold-out season. The unique 75-minute ride offers families a unique opportunity to share holiday cheer, with cookies, hot cocoa,

holiday lights and even a visit from Santa himself.

Train run every Friday, Saturday and Sunday through the season. NPX estimates 10,000-plus passengers will ride the Reindeer Express in 2022.

New this year: An enhanced experience as riders board from the new Hobbs Station at Forest Park Depot, constructed by City

➡ See EXPRESS Page A8

Hamilton County Launches New Community Ambassador Program



Invest Hamilton County and the Hamilton County Leadership Academy (HCLA) have launched a new community ambassador program. The partnership, called HAMILTON CONNECTION will highlight personal stories of HCLA alumni and allow those Connectors to help personalize the things that make Hamilton County a place to live, work, learn and thrive. Fifteen HCLA alumni have

signed on as Connectors through the first year.

"Our alumni network is excited to be community connectors for those new to Hamilton County, interested in relocating here, or looking to identify new ways to engage where they reside or work," said Diana Coyle, Executive Director of HCLA.

➡ See AMBASSADOR Page A8

➡ INSIDE TODAY

Tim Timmons.....A2
Meeting Notices.....A2, A5, A6, A7
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➡ OBITUARIES

None



➡ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Smoking leads to face wrinkles. 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

OK, I'm starting my diet today. No, I'm not trying to lose weight - just trying to open up a bit more space for next Thursday!



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



➡ TODAY'S QUOTE

"You've got to wake up every morning with determination if you're going to go to bed with satisfaction."

- George Lorimer

➡ TODAY'S JOKE

Why are the birds flying south for the winter? Because it beats the heck out of walking!



Enjoy Santa Claus, Sip & Shop Small at Carmel City Center

Join the Shops at Carmel City Center on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 12-3 p.m. for the last Holiday Sip & Shop Small event for the year! Visitors can pick up the perfect gifts for everyone on their list by shopping with the locally owned merchants at Carmel City Center while sipping on wine and gingerbread cookie cocktails at four of the participating Shops.

Complimentary wine tastings and gingerbread cookie cocktails will be available at Bath Junkie, Be.You.tiful NAILS, beauty+grace and The Imperial Spa. Participating Shops will have special holiday promotions.

Kits & Kaboodle Classic Toys will have a Reading Hour at 11am with Mrs. Claus! Local Author, Angie Karcher will be reading her Indiana Holiday book "Santa's Gift" which is perfect for anyone ages 3-104. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing. Complimentary cookies will also be available.

Uplift Intimate Apparel: Shop from a selection of items at 50% off and receive a gift with purchase.

Linden Tree Gifts: Receive a raffle entry for a Taste of Linden Tree gift with any purchase.

Lily & Sparrow

Boutique: Receive 15% clothing and shoes during the event.

Endeavor Boutique: Enjoy 20% off a purchase of \$70 or more.

Out of the Blue Polish Pottery: Enjoy 10% off all bakeware during the event.

During the event, visitors can enter to win a \$75 gift certificate at Forever Gallery, Linden Tree Gifts and Uplift Intimate Apparel when they visit those shops.

Santa Claus will also



make an appearance at Carmel City Center on two occasions this holiday season! Children of all ages can visit with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 2-5 p.m. at Hey Little Diddle BABY, at 736 Hanover Place, Suite 100F.

Santa will make another appearance on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 12-3 p.m. at Kits & Kaboodle Classic Toys at 723 Hanover Place. Parents are encouraged to bring their cameras to capture the special moment. Santa will bring an early present to all children after their visit with him, while supplies last.

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.

The Pilgrimage to the Holy Land Begins . . .



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

Like a lot of you, I'm a mutt. My ancestors came from all over, but the majority came from the land of shamrocks and leprechauns, Ireland.

So it was that I've always wanted to travel there. Specifically, I yearned to go to County Kilkenny and County Wicklow and see if I can run into some cousins.

I was determined, first chance I got, to head to Ireland.

Next week, we leave for Israel, the Holy Land.

What happened?

Well, about a year or so ago things began to change. No, I don't like Ireland any less. I have not rebelled against my ancestors. For the regular eight or nine of you who read these scribbles, the change of heart took place well before the open heart surgery. I can't point to a specific event or time, but my faith started to take a more important role in my day to day life. My lovely wife of almost 40 years Linda and I now pray before meals. It's drawn a few looks – some good,

some uncomfortable – in public. There are other things, too.

First, some background. I was raised Catholic.

My grandmother had a trace of an Irish accent and was devout in her faith. I remember she would sweep off the porch and offer it up to God. I went to Our Lady of Grace grade school back when it was on 11th St., not too far from Hayden's Drugstore. I became an altar boy when Fr. Graham was the priest there and I'm sure would've stayed in that school system if junior high and high school had been offered.

When I went to college, I attended mass, albeit less frequently over time. And when I got married, my wife and I were from different (but similar) religions. We tried several different things because it was important to us that our children be raised in a church. One child was baptized in the Catholic faith and the other as a Lutheran.

Over the years, little by little, faith became less important. I never really stopped believing. I just stopped believing in prioritizing it.

I very much wish I could now write an explanation of when or why that changed. I can't. Maybe it's just age. A lot of folks seem to get more interested in a relationship with God as they get older.

Anyone who knows me

knows I love quotations. More than a year ago I ran across one that stuck out. What if you woke up today with only the things you thanked God for yesterday?

Age? A quote? Maybe it's that simple. I honestly don't know.

All I do know is that my faith, my humanity, are more important to me now. Maybe, and I'm by no means an expert on the Bible and its teachings, it's a bigger picture? Just look around the world today and you can see things are off kilter. I'm not condemning – not my intent. But I sincerely believe we are on a bad path. Maybe it's important some of us stand up and share what we believe?

Let's be clear though. There's no attempt to convert anyone, or even to tell you that one way is right and another way is wrong. That's way above my pay grade.

I've mentioned Pastor Allen Jackson in this space before and he said something that resonated with me. If you believe in God, then you know there is going to come a time when you will stand face to face with Him and be accountable for every sin you committed, every bad thought, word or deed. It's a daunting – no, make that terrifying – prospect.

And it's incredibly individualistic. So no dear friends, I am not at all about telling you what to believe or not. I am simply

ply doing what my faith, my heart and my brain tell me is the right thing to do.

That's what led to the switch in travel plans, and we depart for Israel Saturday. It's the trip of a lifetime – and if it means I never get to Ireland now, so be it. Truth to tell, we probably shouldn't spend the money on this – there's a recession and a very unsure future. We're doing it anyways.

I've reached out to the Israeli consulate to ask if I can do some interviews and photography while there. I don't know what connectivity will be like, but I will try to send back some thoughts and pictures. If that doesn't work, I'll share when we return. And I'll try not to make it as bad as sitting through some of the relatives' vacation slide shows back in the 1960s.

I don't know much more than that. It's a pilgrimage and I guess by definition that means the outcome isn't known. I'll do my best to bring you along, if you like. It starts Saturday.

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 ttimmons@thetimes24-7.com

➔ Meeting Notice

Hamilton County Sheriff's Merit Board

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Merit Board has rescheduled its November meeting to Nov. 30, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. The Merit

Board will meet in the main conference room of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office at 18100 Cumberland Rd., Noblesville. The Hamilton County Sheriff's Merit Board is a body established under Indiana Code 36-8-10-3, and County Ordinance.

➔ Meeting Notice

Hamilton County Safety Committee

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5(a) The Hamilton County Safety Committee

will meet at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 17, 2022, at the Hamilton County Highway Department, 1700 S. 10th St., Noblesville. The purpose of this meeting is for discussion of safety issues.



Employment Opportunity

The Town of Sheridan, Indiana is seeking qualified applicants for the position of **Street Superintendent**. This position is a department head level position comprised of several upper-level management and leadership duties. Candidates should have knowledge, skill, and experience in leading, planning, controlling, and managing operations of municipal streets and public works. The full job description is available at www.sheridan.org.

The Town of Sheridan offers benefits of health, vision, and dental insurances along with pension and deferred compensation retirement programs. The salary range for this position is \$56,000 to \$58,000.

Interested applicants can submit a cover letter and resume to Todd Burtron at tburtron@taftlaw.com or via United State Postal Service to Town of Sheridan, 506 South Main Street, Sheridan, Indiana 46069 Attn: Street Department job posting. Please submit resumes no later than close of business on Friday, December 2, 2022.

NOW Hiring



LIGHT DELIVERY ROUTE

Early Wednesday morning newspaper delivery route available!

This does NOT include home delivery. It is delivering to post offices mostly.

Must have insurance, reliable transportation and a clean driving record.

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Shop Fishers & Giving Tuesday Celebrations Return This Month

The City of Fishers' annual small business celebration returns this holiday season with the Shop Fishers: Holiday Series, kicking off on Small Business Saturday on Nov. 26, and running through Dec. 31. This year's celebration also includes a special Giving Tuesday event on Tuesday, Dec. 29.

During the Shop Fishers: Holiday Series, the community is encouraged to show their support for local while enjoying special deals and promotions at nearly 70 participating shops and restaurants around the city. Deals range from a percentage off your purchase, to buy one get one free, to discounted gift cards, and more. For the full list of deals, visit [ThisIsFishers.com/ShopFishers](https://thisisfishers.com/ShopFishers).

For the second year, a Giving Tuesday event will be held in conjunction with the celebration. Several Shop Fishers businesses have partnered with local nonprofits that serve the Fishers community to give back during the global day of giving on Nov. 29.

Participating nonprofits include Best Buddies Indiana, HamCo Love, Hamilton County Coats for Kids, Hamilton Southeastern Education Foundation, HopeAnchor&Crew, Humane Society for Hamilton County, Indiana Women in Need, Nickel Plate Arts, Second Helpings, The Cooper House, The O'Connor House and Youth Mentoring Initiative.

Businesses participating in the Shop Fishers: Holiday Series include:

- 101 Beer Kitchen*
- ACo



- Agave Bar and Grill
- Ali'i Poke
- Another Broken Egg Cafe
- As You Wish Cleaning
- BluePeppermint
- Boutique
 - Blush Salon Boutique*
 - Bruster's Real Ice Cream*
 - Chao Vietnamese Street food
- Clean Eatz Fishers*
- Conner Prairie
- Consigned by Design
- CoolRevolution PJs*
- Cynthia's Hallmark
- Earl B's Catering
- El Camino Real
- Exotika Beauty
- Finery Bridal Boutique
- Fishers Cryotherapy
- *Fishers Test Kitchen
- Fishers Woodworking
- Fishers YMCA
- Fit Chicks!*
- Four Day Ray
- Brewing*
 - Handel's Homemade
- Ice Cream
 - High Frequency Arts*
 - Hiro Hibachi Express
- and Sushi
 - Honor Yoga*
 - HopeAnchor & Crew*
 - Jack's Donuts Fishers
 - MashCraft Fishers
 - Mathnasium of Fishers*
 - McNamara Florist
 - Midwest Balloon
- Rides
 - MJ Layne
 - Moody's Butcher Shop
 - Mornings Breakfast
- and Brunch
 - MOTW Coffee & Pastries LLC
- Nicey Treat
- Nighthawk Gliders
- Ohanalulu
- Paradise Shaved Ice & Ice Cream Shop
- Parks Place Pub*

- Peterson's
 - Pinheads
 - Entertainment Center
 - Play It Again Sports
 - Porch Pots Direct
 - Prodigy Burger Bar
 - Rise n Roll Bakery
 - River Glen Country Club
 - Roman & Leo*
 - Samano's
 - Schoolhouse 7 Café
 - Shine Design Home*
 - Spavia Fishers
 - Sun King Fishers
 - Small-Batch Brewery
 - The Anxiety Relief Center
 - The Hot Room
 - The W Nail Bar
 - Twigs & Tea
 - Unplug Soy Candles
 - Verde Flavors of Mexico
 - VisionQuest Eyecare
 - Wasson Nursery
 - Wishes Dance Studio
 - Ztech Design LLC
- *Indicates businesses supporting a nonprofit during Giving Tuesday on Nov. 29.*

For the full list of deals, visit thisisfishers.com/ShopFishers. Follow the City of Fishers on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and at #ShopFishers for event details and special giveaways.

About The City of Fishers:
The City of Fishers is a suburb of Indianapolis, Indiana, located in Hamilton County and was named #1 Place to Live in the US by Money Magazine in 2017. With a population of 91,832 (2017), Fishers is one of the fastest growing communities in Indiana and has received national accolades for entrepreneurship, livability and safety under the leadership of Mayor Scott Fadness.

BBB Scam Alert: Don't Be Fooled By Fake Package Delivery Scams

Online shopping has become more of a necessity lately rather than an occasional luxury. Naturally, this opens more opportunities for scammers to take advantage of the situation to fool consumers into giving out their personal information. This type of scheme also happens frequently during the holiday season.

How the Scam Works:

A call, email or text from someone claiming to be a mail carrier or a parcel delivery service saying that they were unable to deliver a package to your home. If you don't remember ordering anything that needs to be delivered, the caller may try to convince you the package is a gift from a friend or relative. The caller may sound friendly and professional, making the scam harder to spot. The email messages also look legitimate - containing official logos and using professional language.

However, things get suspicious quickly. The caller will ask you to verify personal information or give them your credit card information to reschedule the delivery. Email messages may ask you to click on a tracking link for your mystery package. When you click, you may download malware onto your computer that gives con artists access to any personal information and passwords. No matter the method of contact, the package doesn't exist. Sharing your personal



information puts you at risk of identity theft.

How to Avoid Package Delivery Scams:

- **Be wary of unsolicited communications.** Package delivery companies will never contact customers unsolicited via telephone call or text. Instead, depending on the carrier and whether the customer signed up for notifications, an email may be sent to a secure online account.

- **Track all packages.** Keep track of online purchases and expected deliveries. Request tracking numbers in anticipation of when they'll arrive. Having the information on hand makes it difficult for scammers to fool you with the claim of a fake package delivery.

- **Never give personal information to strangers.** Even when the caller is friendly, always use caution when asked for personal information. Hang up, look up the official customer service number, and directly contact the company to confirm their request. Whenever possible, use the customer

service contact information or chat function within the account at the company.

- **Never click on links in unsolicited emails.** Links in emails can download malware onto your device. Don't click links in emails from people you don't know or from companies you haven't done business with or have asked to be contacted by. Be wary of official-looking emails; popular brands can easily be spoofed.

For More Information:

To learn more about shipping fraud, see FedEx's website, U.S. Postal Service and UPS's online resource center. For more tips on how to protect yourself from scams, go to BBB.org/ScamTips.

If you've been the victim of a phishing scam like this one, report it to BBB.org/ScamTracker. Your report can help others protect themselves from similar cons.

About BBB Serving Central Indiana:

The Better Business Bureau has empowered people to find businesses, brands and charities they can trust for over 110 years. In 2021, people turned to BBB more than 200 million times for BBB Business Profiles on 6.3 million businesses and Charity Reports on 25,000 charities, free at BBB.org. Local, independent BBBs can be found across the United States, Canada, and Mexico, including BBB Serving Central Indiana, which was founded in 1916 and serves 46 counties.

Stepping Down but Not Out

Though President Mitch Daniels is stepping away from the presidency of Purdue University at the end of December, he will not be going away entirely. At the requests of President-elect Mung Chiang, Purdue's board of trustees and the Purdue Research Foundation Board of Directors, Daniels will remain for now as PRF chair – in an unpaid, voluntary capacity. The PRF Board of Directors on Wednesday (Nov. 16) voted unanimously to amend PRF's bylaws to open up the possibility for this designation.

Daniels will remain in a role in which he helped oversee record results for number of U.S. patents and corporate partnerships through the PRF. The organization has also expanded to lead economic development through the Discovery Park District at Purdue project, entrepreneurial ecosystem tech transfer/commercialization, and the creation of the Purdue for Life Foundation under his chairmanship.

President-elect Chiang initiated conversation with the PRF Board of Directors in early October.

“As I continue past the midpoint of the six-month transition period, I am increasingly convinced, through the listening tour across a wide range of important topics, that I would like to dedicate the first year of my service as the president to the

students, faculty, and staff on our campuses,” Chiang said.

Chiang continued to say, “In the meantime, there are several other projects of significance and urgency, mostly in the purview of PRF. I sincerely submit this recommendation for the PRF board to consider the continuation of Mr. Daniels as chairman of the PRF board.”

The PRF Board of Directors and Chiang approached Daniels, asking if he would consider remaining as chair.

“Agreeing to this arrangement took some thought,” Daniels said. “On one hand, I believe firmly that a person leaving a job like mine should leave completely, making certain never to intrude on his successor's activities.

Daniels went on to say, “I'll be careful to observe that rule. But given what Purdue means to me and the strong urging of the president-elect and the trustees, I'm willing to extend for a time, as a volunteer, my PRF participation. Now and always, I'll do anything Purdue asks of me.”

Key assignments for PRF Chairman Daniels in 2023 include:

- Continuing the ongoing economic development pipeline and growth of Discovery Park District at Purdue.

- Serving as liaison to the state legislature and Indiana government as Purdue establishes an independent presence in

Indianapolis.

- Optimizing the programs and governance of PRF in light of the substantial growth in the scope and scale of this nonprofit corporation.

“With President Daniels at the helm, we saw record-breaking innovation and commercialization, a full transformation of the State Street corridor, exponential growth in economic development and expansion of Discovery Park District at Purdue, and crucial partnerships that resulted in significant investment in our community,” said Brian Edelman, president of Purdue Research Foundation.

Edelman continued to say, “We are honored that President Daniels has accepted this request. He is a tireless champion of our mission and a visionary leader; this amendment fortifies our commitment to Purdue, and we will continue the momentum toward the next giant leaps.”

PRF bylaws previously provided that the president of Purdue University serves ex-officio as the chair of the PRF Board of Directors. Based on Chiang's recommendation, the PRF board amended the bylaws where its board chair may be either the president of the university or an individual designated by the president. Chiang said that on Jan. 1, when he becomes president of Purdue University, he will designate Daniels as the PRF board chairman.

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Duke Energy Provides Aid for Customers, Communities with Nearly \$100K in Grants

As communities continue to feel financial strain due to the rising cost of basic necessities, the Duke Energy Foundation is investing nearly \$100,000 to support nonprofits dedicated to helping those in need in Indiana.

“Our customers are feeling the weight of inflation and rising costs in nearly every aspect of their lives,” said Stan Pinegar, president of Duke Energy Indiana.

“We know the prices for goods and services are straining our customers’ pocketbooks. This funding will go directly to our local community partners to provide resources for those who need it most.”

The United Way of Monroe County is one of 18 Indiana-based organizations that received grant funding through the Duke Energy Foundation. The nonprofit is using the funds to purchase \$50 gas cards that will be dispersed to more than 200 low-income households in Monroe, Brown, Lawrence and Orange counties to help offset transportation expenses. The gas cards will be distributed alongside packets of information detailing additional resources and financial support available.

“Inflationary pressures are creating greater challenges for people in need in our community,” said Randy Rogers, president and CEO of United Way of Monroe County.

“With the support of partners like Duke Energy, we’re extending a helping hand to people who are facing turbulent times by helping offset their travel expenses and increasing their financial stability.”

Grants were awarded to the following organizations:

- § Anchor House (Ripley County)
\$4,000 to purchase food and supplies and to support operational expenses at the Anchor House Family Assistance Center and Pantry and the Anchor House East Shelter
- § Area IV Agency in Lafayette (Tippecanoe County)
\$11,000 to support the organization’s work to intervene in urgent or crisis situations to ensure low-income populations maintain safety and stability in their homes
- § Catholic Charities in Terre Haute (Vigo County)
\$11,000 to serve seniors and low-income populations



in the Wabash Valley area by providing for basic needs and helping them to remain in their homes

§ Coordinated Assistance Ministries (Howard County)
\$6,000 to provide basic needs and services for people experiencing homelessness

§ Ecumenical Assembly of Bartholomew County (Bartholomew County)
\$3,000 to provide basic needs and services for people experiencing homelessness

§ Family Promise of Hendricks County (Hendricks County)
\$5,000 to support work to transition families experiencing homelessness into permanent housing

§ Generations, Area 13 Agency on Aging & Disability (Knox County)
\$5,000 to support nutritious, home-delivered meals for local residents through Meals on Wheels

§ Heart of Indiana United Way (Henry County)
\$3,000 to support their Friend-to-Friend Utility Assistance Fund, which helps struggling local families reduce their utility bills

§ HOPE Family Care Center (Hamilton County)
\$1,000 to support health care clinic expenses, including lab fees, dental services, vaccinations and prescription medication assistance for uninsured and underinsured residents

§ Interchurch Food Pantry of Johnson County (Johnson County)
\$5,000 to purchase food for residents in need

§ LifeSpan Resources (Floyd County)
\$11,000 to support specialized transportation services for elderly and disabled residents through their ‘Rides to Go!’ program

§ LifeTime Resources (Dearborn County)
\$2,000 to support their operations and maintain affordable services for their clients

§ Mama’s Cupboard (Hamilton County)
\$1,500 to provide supplies for their food pantry

§ PACE (Knox County)
\$6,000 to provide for basic needs for 30 low-

income residents

§ Samaritan Caregivers (Howard County)
\$5,000 to support the purchase of food and household items, as well as delivery expenses, for 45 low-income seniors

§ Stony Creek Township (Madison County)
\$1,500 to provide assistance for disadvantaged residents

§ United Way of Monroe County (Monroe County)
\$11,000 to purchase gas cards that will be dispersed to more than 200 low-income households to help offset transportation expenses

§ Westfield Washington Township Trustee (Hamilton County)
\$4,000 to provide financial relief for up to 40 families who are struggling to pay their utility bills

Duke Energy continues to support its customers in need, connecting them with available assistance and offering tools and resources to help them manage their bills. Year to date, Duke Energy has contributed nearly \$450,000 in energy bill assistance through its Share the Light FundSM. The company has also extended interest-free payment plans for eligible customers to six months. Visit duke-energy.com/HereToHelp to learn more.

About Duke Energy Indiana:

Duke Energy Indiana, a subsidiary of Duke Energy, provides about 6,300 megawatts of owned electric capacity to approximately 880,000 customers in a 23,000-square-mile service area, making it Indiana’s largest electric supplier.

About the Duke Energy Foundation:

The Duke Energy Foundation provides philanthropic support to meet the needs of communities where Duke Energy customers live and work. The Foundation contributes more than \$2 million annually in charitable gifts to Indiana and is funded by Duke Energy shareholder dollars. More information about the Foundation and its Powerful Communities program can be found at duke-energy.com/Foundation.

Stop, Drop, and Pass the Rolls!

Attorney General Todd Rokita invites Hoosiers to visit IndianaUnclaimed.gov to see if they have more than just casserole waiting this holiday.

“The last couple of years, Americans have been burdened with increases in their grocery bills, so extra cash in your wallet is a little gravy on top,” Attorney General Rokita said. “My office is committed to serving the people and protecting their individual liberty. Getting unclaimed property back in the hands of Hoosiers is a top priority.”

Thanksgiving is perhaps one of the most widely celebrated holidays of the year, so let’s give ‘em pumpkin’ to talk about this season. In 2021, Attorney General Rokita’s office returned over \$48 million in unclaimed property to its rightful owners. This year alone, the Office has returned over \$50 million. This holiday combines



Attorney General Todd Rokita

some of our favorite things – no work, no school, the company of good family and friends, and of course, tons of great food. But while you’re sitting around the table, it’s also a good time to ask loved ones about assets.

- Here’s how to make sure your property doesn’t go unclaimed:
- Keep a record of all bank accounts.
- Record all stock certificates and be sure to cash all dividends received.
- Record all utility

deposits, including telephone, cable, and electricity deposits.

- Cash all checks promptly.
 - Update your address with all businesses when you move.
 - Talk to loved ones about any safe deposit boxes you own.
- Once unclaimed property is in its custody, the Unclaimed Property Division at Attorney General Rokita’s office conducts outreach efforts to locate the rightful owners or heirs.

Individuals and/or businesses have 25 years to claim money once it is reported to the Unclaimed Property Division.

Over \$700 million remains to be claimed, so it’s time to put away the leftovers and find something else to be thankful for at IndianaUnclaimed.gov or text CLAIM to 46220 to search your name, family, or business.

CCHA Welcomes Three New Attorneys

Church Church Hittle + Antrim (CCHA) is pleased to welcome three new attorneys to the firm.

Hannah Gahimer will join the Employment Litigation, School Law, and Family Law practice groups. Peter Hutson will join the Business Services and Real Estate practice group. Finally, Sloan Schafer will join the Business Services and Tax practice groups.

“We are excited to welcome three additional, very talented attorneys to our clients,” said CCHA Managing Partner Alex Pinegar. “With great education behind them and a bright future ahead, each will bring a fresh perspective and possess a sincere interest in their clients’ outcomes.”

All three attorneys recently passed the Indiana bar exam and were admitted to the Indiana bar last month.

Schafer attended Indiana University’s Robert H. McKinney School of Law, while Gahimer and Hutson attended Indiana University’s Maurer School of Law in Bloomington. All three



Hannah Gahimer



Peter Hutson

recently served as law clerks at CCHA, as well.

About CCHA:

Founded in 1880, CCHA is the oldest law firm in Hamilton County, Indiana. As a full-service law firm, CCHA provides myriad legal services to clients across a wide variety of practice areas including: complex litigation, personal injury, governmental entity and municipal law, education, business formation and representation, divorce and family law, estate planning and administration, real estate law, criminal law, labor and employment law, mediation services and appellate litigation.



Sloan Schafer

Church Church Hittle + Antrim serves clients across the state with offices in Noblesville, Fishers, Fort Wayne, Tipton, Merrillville and Westfield.

Learn more about CCHA at cchalaw.com or at [vimeo.com/721170726](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=721170726)

NFPA Urges Caution When Preparing Thanksgiving Feast

As Thanksgiving nears, the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) urges added caution when preparing the holiday feast, as Thanksgiving Day represents the leading day of the year for home cooking fires. Between three and four times as many cooking fires occur on Thanksgiving Day as a typical day of the year.

“Thanksgiving is a hectic holiday, with multiple dishes cooking and baking at the same time, along with lots of guests, entertaining, and other distractions in the home that can make it easy to lose sight of what’s on the stove or in the oven,” said Lorraine Carli, vice president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA.

Carli continued to say, “Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home cooking fires, so we strongly encourage people keep a close eye on what they’re cooking and to minimize the likelihood of getting distracted.”

NFPA data shows that cooking was the leading cause of reported home structure fires and civilian fire injuries and the second-leading cause of civilian fire deaths and direct

property damage, on annual average between 2015-2019. On Thanksgiving Day alone, an estimated 1,400 home cooking fires were reported to U.S. fire departments in 2019, reflecting a 228 percent increase over the daily average.

“The good news is that the vast majority of cooking fires are preventable,” said Carli. “By taking simple steps and precautions to minimize the likelihood of having a cooking fire, everyone can enjoy a festive, fire-safe Thanksgiving.”

Following are tips and recommendations from NFPA to help people cook safely this Thanksgiving:

- Never leave the kitchen while cooking on the stove-top. Some types of cooking, especially those that involve frying or sautéing with oil, need continuous attention.
- When cooking a turkey, remain at home and check it regularly.
- Make use of timers to keep track of cooking times, particularly for foods that require longer cook times.
- Keep things that can catch fire like oven mitts, wooden utensils, food wrappers, and towels at least three feet away from the cooking area.

• Avoid long sleeves and hanging fabrics that can come in contact with a heat source.

• Always cook with a lid beside your pan. If you have a fire, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner. Do not remove the cover because the fire could start again. Let the pan cool for a long time. Never throw water or use a fire extinguisher on the fire.

• For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed. Only open the door once you’re confident the fire is completely out, standing to the side as you do. If you have any doubts or concerns, contact the fire department for assistance.

• Keep children at least three feet away from the stove. Kids should also stay away from hot foods and liquids, as steam or splash from these items could cause severe burns.

In addition, NFPA strongly discourages the use of turkey fryers that use cooking oil, which can cause devastating burns. For a safe alternative, NFPA recommends purchasing a fried turkey from a grocery store or restaurant or buying a fryer that does not use oil.

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Thanks for reading The Times!

Kurt Wanninger Announces Run for Westfield City Council

Kurt Wanninger, long-time Westfield leader and resident, has announced his run for Westfield City Council, At Large in May, 2023.

Wanninger is hopes to bring to the council his experience and leadership in the public and private sectors, his commitment to hard work and decades of serving the Westfield community.

His mission is to build trust in local government and be an advocate for the citizens of Westfield. If elected, Wanninger intends to focus on putting Westfield residents first by restoring confidence, respect and support among the city council, being transparent and accountable with taxpayers' dollars and approaching the city's imminent growth with intention and strategy.

"Westfield's success is important to me; I have always put "Westfield First" and will continue to do so as a city council member. I know in my heart that we have the potential to be an even greater, unified city," said Wanninger.

Wanninger has experience in both the private and public sectors. He served as the Public Works Director with the City of Westfield from 2002-12 and has extensive knowledge of the city's infrastructure. In addition, he has worked with one of the largest water providers in the United States on the executive team, providing leadership in the operations and engineering department.

During this time, he managed multi-million-dollar projects and implemented programs and solutions across multiple states that resulted in increased efficiencies, reduced costs and cost savings.

Wanninger is currently a Senior Project Manager for an engineering firm. He serves on the board of directors for the Open Doors Food Pantry of Washington Township as Vice President. He has volunteered with Open Doors for the last 20 years.

Wanninger is also a past president, and current treasurer of the Rotary Club of Westfield. He has actively served on his subdivision residential HOA board since 2000.

Wanninger and his wife Tami have two adult children, Samantha and Josh, who are both Westfield Schools graduates. Together, the family values the importance of hard work, volunteering, family time and traveling.



Kurt Wanninger

Indiana Earns Top Award for Financial Reporting. Again.

The State of Indiana received the highest award for financial reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for the 29th consecutive year due to the work provided by Indiana's financial team lead by Auditor of State Tera Klutz, CPA.

GFOA awarded Indiana the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the state's 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial report (ACFR), which is prepared by the Auditor of State and audited by the State Board of Accounts.

"The Certificate of Achievement from the GFOA is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and a huge accomplishment by our team," said Klutz.

"Compiling this annual report requires an extremely high level of detail, accuracy and persistence in gathering information. Year after year, Indiana continues to showcase our talent for responsible reporting."

The in-depth report accounts for all the state's financial data for all of Indiana's funds. The report also includes other financial, demographic, economic and statistical information.

"Indiana's ACFR is one of the main components used by the nationally recognized statistical rating organizations to review and analyze Indiana's financial condition, and assign a credit rating," Klutz added.

"The state's credit currently has a AAA rating, which means lower costs for borrowing and reassures Hoosiers that Indiana's financial health is strong."

To view the 2021 ACFR and previous reports, visit in.gov/auditor/annual-comprehensive-financial-report/



Photo courtesy of Gloria Del Greco

HamCo Altrusa Gives Back by Giving Books

Altrusa International of Hamilton County Indiana, Inc. recently donated six sets of books to Hamilton County Head Start for Make A Difference Day. These books will be utilized by students, parents and school staff. The presentation was made by club members Donna Prather, Pam L'eal, Carol Rader, and Joanne Kemp. Altrusa is a community service organization which helps to support the local Head Start, Tools for School, County Libraries, Prevail and Veterans. Anyone interested in joining them for local Altrusa community service projects can reach them by contacting Past President Joanne Kemp at joeykemp@msn.com or current President Sharon Porter at sharonporter@justnoteworthyevents.com

Meeting Notice

Hamilton County Election Board

The Hamilton County Election Board will convene a public meeting at 10 a.m. today in the Conference Room of the Hamilton County Clerk's Office pursuant to Indiana Code 5-14-1-5.5.

The purpose of the meeting is to review Provisional Ballots and/or Military Ballots received, and to address other election business. The Election Board will also certify Final Election Results for the Nov. 8, 2022 General Election.

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Centier Bank Named Best Bank to Work for in Indiana, 7th in Nation

Michael E. Schrage, CEO and Chairman of Centier Bank, has announced that Centier Bank has been recognized as the #7 “Best Bank to Work For” in the United States, and once again the #1 in the state of Indiana by American Banker.

For the past 10 years, Centier Bank has ranked alongside community banks and other financial institutions across the country. The 90 banks in the U.S. that made this year’s list were selected through two different surveys managed by the Best Companies Group. The first survey measured employee satisfaction in eight different categories, including communication, happiness with role and relationship with supervisor.

Overall, the average score of positive responses for the banks that made the list was 91%, compared with 83% for the institutions that didn’t make the cut.

In past years, areas like volunteerism and benefits were a focal point in determining bank rankings. However, the nationally-renowned American Banker Magazine took a closer look this year at employees who are also looking for an opportunity



for career advancement, a welcoming workplace environment and strong leadership.

American Banker highlighted Centier Bank’s unique servant heart culture, as well as the bank’s nontraditional benefits intended to help with employees’ holistic well-being, such as health and wellness coaching, free on-site medical clinics for workers and their families, and daycare and college tuition reimbursement.

“Our Servant Heart Culture means serving customers and communities in the most selfless way possible to enrich their lives,” Schrage said. “To be recognized by American Banker for the 10th consecutive year informs us that we are leading best practices that impact the banking industry, while also challenging us to keep that momentum and remain a Best Bank to Work For in the years ahead.”

According to American Banker, the survey and awards program is designed to identify and honor banks with the best cultures for helping employees thrive.

“The banks recognized on this list are trying hard to create workplaces that employees want to join,” said Chana R. Schoenberger, Editor-in-Chief of American Banker. “Especially during this moment when companies are experiencing a shift in how, where, and how much employees work, banks are paying attention to how they can best retain their people.”

Chrisanne Christ, Senior Partner in Human Resource Development at Centier Bank, said this year’s ranking as the number 7th Best Bank to Work For in the country is validating that Centier Bank associates feel cared for and nurtured as a part of the Centier Bank family.

“It is heartwarming to know that Centier associates feel valued and taken care of, which motivates them to come to work each day and give our clients the best banking experiences possible,” Christ said. “We genuinely hope each of our associates thrive and flourish

while they are working for Centier Bank—and we aim to pave the way for continued growth and expansion for everyone—professionally and personally.”

Centier Bank recently surpassed the \$6.4 billion assets milestone and was one of the largest banks on the list, with only three other Indiana-based banks being named. The distinction follows similar workplace accolades from the Indiana Chamber of Commerce (Hall of Fame), Forbes, the Urban League of Northwest Indiana, and The Times of Northwest Indiana, to name a few.

For more information on American Banker’s rankings and to see the full list of award recipients, visit americanbanker.com. For a list of Centier Bank’s current job openings, go to centier.com/careers.

About Centier Bank: Centier Bank is Indiana’s largest private, family-owned bank, having served hometown banking across communities since 1895. With a purpose of enriching lives through financial guidance for an even better tomorrow, Centier Bank currently has 58 retail locations, serving in 35 communities across 11 counties with 947 associates.

\$3.1B Opioid Settlement Reached with Walmart

The state announced this week a \$3.1 billion tentative settlement with Walmart to resolve allegations that the company contributed to the opioid addiction crisis by failing to appropriately oversee the distribution and dispensing of opioids at its stores.

“The opioid crisis has devastated far too many Hoosier families,” Attorney General Rokita said. “We continue working aggressively to hold accountable those companies whose actions have contributed to the opioid epidemic. Further, we are committed to bringing much needed funding to fight the drug crisis in Indiana.”

Indiana’s tentative share of the prospective settlement is approximately \$53 million.

Besides the monetary settlement, the proposed agreement requires significant improvements in



Attorney General Todd Rokita

how Walmart’s pharmacies handle opioids.

Rokita was one of 16 attorneys general who assisted in negotiating this proposed deal with Walmart, along with attorneys representing local governments.

This proposal comes on the heels of similar announcements by CVS Health and Walgreen Co., each of which would pay approximately \$5 billion in proposed settlements to resolve claims.

Meeting Notice

Carmel Clay Board of Parks and Recreation Finance Committee

The Finance Committee of the Carmel Clay Board

of Parks and Recreation will meet on Monday, Nov. 28, 2022 at 4 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Administrative Offices of Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation, 1411 E. 116th St., Carmel. The purpose of the meeting is park business.

Thanks for reading The Times, Hamilton County!

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USDA Previews Crop, Revenue Loss Assistance for Ag Producers

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack yesterday announced plans for additional emergency relief and pandemic assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). USDA is preparing to roll out the Emergency Relief Program (ERP) Phase Two as well as the new Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program (PARP), which are two programs to help offset crop and revenue losses for producers. USDA is sharing early information to help producers gather documents and train front-line staff on the new approach.

“We have worked diligently to help agricultural producers bounce back from devastating natural disasters as well as the coronavirus pandemic through an extensive suite of programs,” said Vilsack.

“No matter how well we design these targeted efforts, we often find that some producers fall through the cracks or were harmed more severely than their neighbors.”

Vilsack went on to say, “These new programs apply a holistic approach to emergency assistance – an approach not focused on any one disaster event or commodity but rather one focused on filling gaps in assistance for agricultural producers who have, over the past few

years, suffered losses from natural disasters and the pandemic.”

ERP Phase Two will assist eligible agricultural producers who suffered eligible crop losses, measured through decreases in revenue, due to wildfires, hurricanes, floods, derechos, excessive heat, winter storms, freeze (including a polar vortex), smoke exposure, excessive moisture and qualifying droughts occurring in calendar years 2020 and 2021.

PARP will assist eligible producers of agricultural commodities who experienced revenue decreases in calendar year 2020 compared to 2018 or 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. PARP will help address gaps in previous pandemic assistance, which was targeted at price loss or lack of market access, rather than overall revenue losses.

Emergency Relief Program Phase Two:

ERP is authorized under the Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act, which includes \$10 billion in assistance to agricultural producers impacted by wildfires, droughts, hurricanes, winter storms and other eligible disasters experienced during calendar years 2020 and 2021.

Phase Two builds on

ERP Phase One, which was rolled out in May 2022 and has since paid more than \$7.1 billion to producers who incurred eligible crop losses that were covered by federal crop insurance or Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program.

ERP Phase Two includes producers who suffered eligible losses but may not have received program benefits in Phase One. To be eligible for Phase Two, producers must have suffered a loss in allowable gross revenue as defined in forthcoming program regulations in 2020 or 2021 due to necessary expenses related to losses of eligible crops from a qualifying natural disaster event.

Eligible crops include both traditional insurable commodities and specialty crops that are produced in the United States as part of a farming operation and are intended to be commercially marketed. Like other emergency relief and pandemic assistance programs, USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) continues to look for ways to simplify the process for both staff and producers while reducing the paperwork burden. The design of ERP Phase Two is part of that effort.

In general, ERP Phase Two payments are expected to be based on the

difference in certain farm revenue between a typical year of revenue as will be specified in program regulations for the producer and the disaster year.

ERP Phase Two assistance is targeted to the remaining needs of producers impacted by qualifying natural disaster events, while avoiding windfalls or duplicative payments. Details will be available when the rule is published later this year.

Deadline for Emergency Relief Program Phase One:

Producers who are eligible for assistance through ERP Phase One have until Friday, Dec. 16, 2022, to contact FSA at their local USDA Service Center to receive program benefits. Going forward, if any additional ERP Phase One prefilled applications are generated due to corrections or other circumstances, there will be a 30-day deadline from the date of notification for that particular application.

Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program:

PARP is authorized and funded by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021.

To be eligible for PARP, an agricultural producer must have been in the business of farming during at least part of the 2020 calendar year and had a certain threshold

decrease in allowable gross revenue for the 2020 calendar year, as compared to 2018 or 2019. Exact details on the calculations and eligibility will be available when the forthcoming rule is published.

How Producers Can Prepare:

ERP Phase Two and PARP will use revenue information that is readily available from most tax records. FSA encourages producers to have their tax documents from the past few years and supporting materials ready, as explained further below. Producers will need similar documentation to what was needed for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) Phase Two, where a producer could use 2018 or 2019 as the benchmark year relative to the disaster year.

In the coming weeks, USDA will provide additional information on how to apply for assistance through ERP Phase Two and PARP. In the meantime, producers are encouraged to begin gathering supporting documentation including:

- Schedule F (Form 1040); and
- Profit or Loss from Farming or similar tax documents for tax years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 for ERP and for calendar years 2018, 2019

and 2020 for PARP.

Producers should also have, or be prepared to have, the following forms on file for both ERP and PARP program participation:

- Form AD-2047, Customer Data Worksheet (as applicable to the program participant);
- Form CCC-902, Farm Operating Plan for an individual or legal entity;
- Form CCC-901, Member Information for Legal Entities (if applicable); and
- Form AD-1026 Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELCO) and Wetland Conservation (WC) Certification.

Most producers, especially those who have previously participated in FSA programs, will likely have these required forms on file. However, those who are uncertain or want to confirm should contact FSA at their local USDA Service Center.

In addition to the forms listed above, underserved producers are encouraged to register their status with FSA, using Form CCC-860, Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, Beginning and Veteran Farmer or Rancher Certification, as certain existing permanent and ad-hoc disaster programs provide increased benefits or reduced fees and premiums.

➡ Meeting Notes

Carmel Common Council

Meeting Agenda
Monday, Nov. 21, 2022 at 6 p.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall, One Civic Square

1. Call to Order
2. Agenda Approval
3. Invocation
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Recognition of City Employees and Outstanding Citizens
6. Recognition of Persons Who Wish to Address The Council
7. Council and Mayoral Comments/Observations
8. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Oct. 17, 2022 Regular Meeting
 - b. Nov. 3, 2022 Special Meeting
 - c. Nov. 9, 2022 Special Meeting
 - B. Claims
 - a. Payroll: \$3,272,439.20
 - b. General Claims: \$3,262,318.71
 - c. Wire Transfers: \$3,707,649.19
 - 9. Action on Mayoral Vetoes
 - 10. Committee Reports
 - A. Finance, Utilities and Rules Committee
 - B. Land Use and Special Studies Committee
 - C. All reports designated by the Chair to qualify for placement under this category.
 - 11. Other Reports (at the first meeting of the month specified below):
 - A. Carmel Redevelopment Commission (Monthly)
 - B. Carmel Historic Preservation Commission (Quarterly – January, April, July, October)
 - C. Audit Committee (Bi-annual – May, October)
 - D. Redevelopment Authority (Bi-annual – April, October)
 - E. Carmel Cable and Telecommunications Commission (Bi-annual – April, October)
 - F. Economic Development Commission (Bi-annual – February, August)
 - G. Library Board (Annual – February)
 - H. Ethics Board (Annual – February)
 - I. Public Art Committee (Annual – August)
 - J. Parks Department (Quarterly – February, May, August, November)
 - K. All reports designated by the Chair to qualify for placement under this category.
 - 12. Old Business
 - A. **Resolution CC-09-19-22-02:** A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Carmel Amending Resolution CC-12-21-20-04; Sponsor(s):

Councilor(s) Aasen, Campbell, Finkam, Rider, and Worrell. **Remains in the Finance, Utilities and Rules Committee.**

- a. **Synopsis:** Resolution amends prior Council Resolution approving 2021 Redevelopment District Bonds to add certain Palladium projects to the eligible project list.
- B. **Second Reading of Ordinance Z-677-22:** An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel Rezoning 4 parcels located along 1st Avenue SE to the C2/Mixed Use District; Sponsor: Councilor Rider. **Returning from the Land Use and Special Studies Committee.**
 - a. **Synopsis:** This ordinance rezones 4 parcels located along the west side of 1st Avenue SE, between 1st Street SE and Supply Street to the C2/Mixed Use District for the purpose of facilitating redevelopment.
- C. **Resolution CC-10-17-22-02:** A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Carmel to Petition the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance to Adjust the Levy Limit of the City for Budget Year 2023; Sponsor: Councilor Worrell. **Returning from the Finance, Utilities and Rules Committee.**
 - a. **Synopsis:** The resolution would authorize petitions to the Department of Local Government Finance to adjust the City’s 2023 property tax levy by up to \$420,000 (amended amount by the Finance, Utilities and Rules Committee). The basis of the adjustment would recovery of a property tax shortfall.
- 13. Public Hearings
 - A. **Second Reading of Ordinance D-2651-22:** An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel for the Purpose of Establishing Councilmanic Districts. Sponsor: Councilor Worrell. Sent to the Finance, Utilities and Rules Committee (11/15/22 Meeting Date).
 - a. **Synopsis:** Amends and replaces Article 1, Section 3 regarding the establishment of Councilmanic districts.
 - B. **First Reading of Ordinance D-2650-22:** An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel Vacating a Platted Utility Easement Within the Old Meridian and Main Redevelopment Project; Sponsor: Councilor Finkam.
 - a. **Synopsis:** Vacates a platted utility easement located within Petitioner JR Farmer Finance SC,

LLC’s Old Meridian and Main Redevelopment Project.

- C. **First Reading of Ordinance Z-678-22:** An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel Updating References to Certain Street Types and Definitions in the Unified Development Ordinance; Sponsor: Councilor Rider.
 - a. **Synopsis:** This ordinance updates references to certain street types and related definitions in the Unified Development Ordinance to match the Street Typologies and Thoroughfare Plan prescribed in the updated Carmel Comprehensive Plan.
- D. **First Reading of Ordinance D-2649-22:** An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel Authorizing and Approving an Additional Appropriation of Funds from the Operating Balance of the General Fund to the 2022 Community Relations and Economic Development Department Budget; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Aasen and Finkam.
 - a. **Synopsis:** This ordinance appropriates \$7,000 in grant funds that were received from the Indiana Arts Commission.
- E. **First Reading of Ordinance D-2648-22:** An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel Authorizing and Approving an Appropriation of Funds from the Non-Reverting Sidewalk Program Fund (Fund #925); Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Rider and Finkam.
 - a. **Synopsis:** Appropriates \$50,000.00 in the Non-Reverting Sidewalk Program Fund to fund grants for the City’s Sidewalk Repair Grant Program.
- 14. New Business
 - A. **Resolution CC-11-21-22-02:** A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, to Limit the Rate for Taxes Payable in 2022 and Authorize Necessary Temporary Borrowing Among City Funds; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Worrell, Aasen and Finkam.
 - a. **Synopsis:** A resolution finding that the City’s 2023 property tax rate should not exceed 0.7877, which is the same as the 2022 rate, recommending how the DLGF should allocate the 2023 property levy among City funds; and permitting temporary borrowing among funds during 2023.
 - B. **Resolution CC-11-21-22-01:** A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Carmel

Approving the 2023-2024 Contract with the Carmel Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 185; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Worrell and Aasen.

- a. **Synopsis:** Approves the contract between the City of Carmel and the Carmel Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 185 that will be effective from January 1, 2023 through Dec. 31, 2024.
- C. **Resolution CC-11-21-22-05:** A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Carmel Approving the 2023-2024 Contract with the Carmel Professional Firefighters Association; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Worrell and Aasen
 - a. **Synopsis:** Approves the contract between the City of Carmel and the Carmel Professional Firefighters Association that will be effective from January 1, 2023 through Dec. 31, 2024.
- D. **First Reading of Ordinance D-2646-22:** An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel Amending Chapter 8, Article 2, Section 8-8 of the Carmel City Code; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Worrell and Finkam.
 - a. **Synopsis:** Ordinance amending the setting of street signs standards

E. **First Reading of Ordinance D-2647-22:** An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel Amending Chapter 8, Article 3, Section 8-20 of the Carmel City Code; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Worrell and Finkam.

- a. **Synopsis:** Ordinance amending speed limit(s) on City street(s)
- F. **First Reading of Ordinance D-2657-22:** An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel Amending Chapter 2, Article 2, Section 25 of the Carmel City Code; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Rider, Worrell, Aasen, Finkam and Nelson.
 - a. **Synopsis:** Amends the definition of “public art,” and clarifies that only permanent public art acquisitions will be subject to review by the Carmel Public Art Advisory Committee.
- G. **Resolution CC-11-21-22-03:** A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Carmel Approving a Transfer of Funds Between the 2022 Common Council Budget and the Non-Reverting Sidewalk Program Fund (Fund #925); Sponsor(s):

Councilor(s) Rider and Finkam

- a. **Synopsis:** Transfers \$50,000 from line item 4122000 – City’s Share of Health Insurance within the 2022 Common Council budget into the Non-Reverting Sidewalk Program Fund (Fund #925) in order to fund the Carmel Sidewalk Grant Program.
- H. **Resolution CC-11-21-22-04:** A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Carmel Approving a Transfer of Funds Between the Grant Fund (CRED)(#900) and the General Fund (#101); Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Aasen and Finkam
 - a. **Synopsis:** Transfers \$7,000.00 from the Grant Fund (CRED)(#900) to the General Fund (#101) in order to appropriate grant funds received from the Indiana Arts Commission.
- 15. Agenda Add-On Items
- 16. Other Business
 - A. Approval of CRC Purchase of 311 W Main Street
 - B. City Council Appointments
 - a. Carmel Audit Committee (Term Expires 1/1/24, two-year term); One appointment.
 - 17. Announcements
 - 18. Adjournment

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➡ Meeting Notice

Hamilton County American Rescue Plan Act Committee

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) the Hamilton County

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Committee will meet on Friday, Nov. 18, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. in Conference Room 1A in the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, One Hamilton County

Square, Noblesville. The meeting is to discuss the American Rescue Plan Act and other county business as needed. The meeting may be accessed virtually by dialing 1.219.225.8177 Conference ID, 50598913#

➡ Meeting Notice

Carmel Clay Parks and Recreation Finance Committee

The Finance Committee of the Carmel Clay Board of Parks and Recreation will meet on Monday, Nov. 28, 2022 at 4 p.m. in the Conference Room at

the Administrative Offices of Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation, 1411 E. 116th St., Carmel. The purpose of the meeting is park business.

BETSY

From Page A1

and I want my story, my book, to hopefully bring those walls down and invite more conversation and better understanding between people who are different from one another.”

She started researching for her book at the end of December 2020, and reached out and conducted Zoom interviews, one-on-one, over the next four months, then created the draft and submitted last summer to Warren Publishing and “Here I am a year later,” Shankland said.. “They chose it, and I was shocked. They only accept 20 percent of their submissions.”

The book has 16 third-person stories, written from the interviews, and more than 300 pages, and is suggested for teens and older. “There are some very sensitive subjects,” she said, including “homophobia, stories about rape, it’s not a light book.”

The book is written using first names only but some names have changed.

Why read the book? “To increase understanding of others.... Diversity, equity and inclusion is not just something where you set a goal and learn everything and you stop. This is something that I hope helps all of us on our journeys to understand people better.”

Shankland, who was born in Cincinnati and raised in Mishawaka, moved here in 1998 after falling in love with Old Town Noblesville while visiting her brother.

“I convinced my husband (John) that we’ve got to live here. And I’ve been thrilled ever since,” Shankland told me three years ago. She and her husband have two sons, Jonathon, 21, senior at

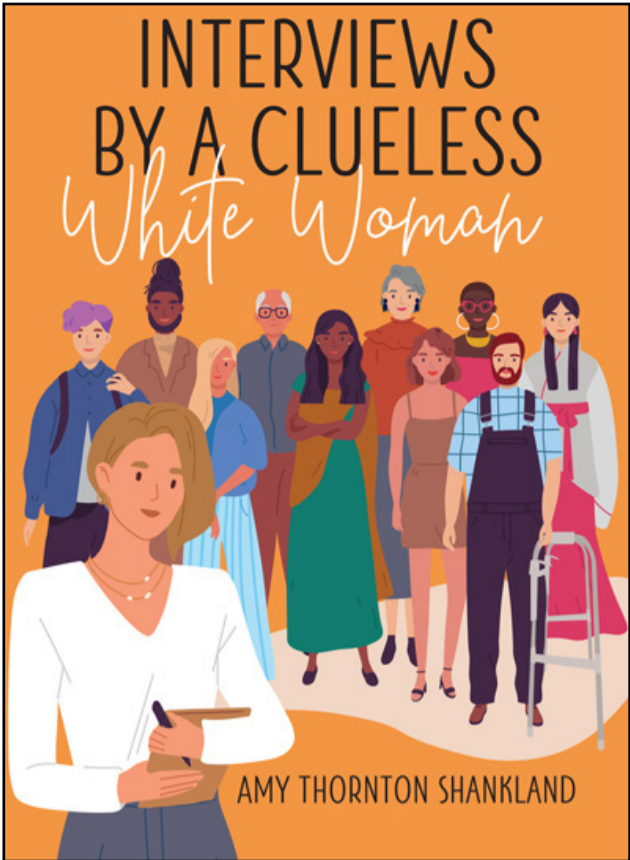


Illustration provided by Amy Thornton Shankland

“Interviews by a Clueless White Woman” book by Amy Thornton Shankland, a resident of Old Town Noblesville.

IUPUI, studying video game design, and Jacob, 20, junior at Ball State University, studying video and film.

When I first met Shankland many years before that, she was hoop dancing; sometimes I’d see her hoop dancing, with hula hoops, at Forest Park. She even self-published a book called “Hoop Mama,” released in 2013. She still does hoop dancing to stay fit.

At the time, she was grant coordinator and Sustain Noblesville chairperson for the City of Noblesville. I would chat with her when I visited City Hall.

A fellow journalist, she earned a degree in Journalism and English from Indiana University.

But even before college, she was always obsessed with writing.

Shankland has written columns for The Noblesville Times in the past and now for the Reporter. She was a freelance writer for Indy’s Child and also was the editor of her church bulletin for nearly a dozen years.

When the City of Noblesville eliminated her position, she didn’t let it get her down, she wrote. But thought of the opportunity as a chance to become an author and a grant consultant.

She wrote another book called “Joy to You and Me (At Work!) about bringing joy to the workplace. Then she became office coordinator for Hamilton County Soil & Water Conservation District in 2016.

The new book is No. 4 for Shankland. Her first book, “Hoop Mama,” was self-published. The

second two books (Joy in the Workplace and How to Lighten Your Mental Load) were written for women and published by Tell Tale Publishing.

The author and grant consultant became involved with Noblesville Main Street after being recruited to help with grant writing. She then went on to be named Main Street’s 2018 Board Member of the Year award. “By serving on Noblesville Main Street’s board, it’s helping me make a difference for that downtown,” she said.

She’s now a grant consultant full time for six years. She got started learning about how to write grants when she worked for Agape Therapeutic Riding Resources in Cicero 21 years ago and they sent her to IUPUI School of Philanthropy on her second day to learn how to do grant proposals. “Grants are so competitive, if you don’t know what you are doing, you need to get training ... If you can’t get training, or don’t have time or ability, you can turn to a grant consultant ... who can help you rise to the top of the pile.”

As far as her new book, she said, “I hope, with all my heart, that this can be a tool for many of us to learn about others and start talking to other people and learning about other people’s stories. Because I think the more we do that, the more that we’re doing to stop being so hostile toward each other and our eyes are going to be open and hopefully we’ll have a more peaceful world.”

Shankland is donating 10 percent of proceeds from her book to Agape.

Contact Betsy Reason at betsy@thetimes24-7.com

EXPRESS

From Page A1



of Noblesville.

“We are so excited to welcome passengers from across the state to experience our beautiful depot and the magic of the holidays on the Nickel Plate Express,” said Director Emily Reynolds.

“Hobbs Station – decorated for the season – is a shining beacon for our operations, and we couldn’t be more thankful for our partnership with the City of Noblesville. The station is game changing asset for our operations this year.”

Reindeer rides are sold out, there are a few remaining tickets for Holiday Cheers, the adult version of Reindeer Express – offering adults a holiday experience with

cookies, hot cocoa and adult beverages.

For information about the many kinds of NPX excursions, 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.

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AMBASSADOR

From Page A1

“A key part of what makes HCLA a great program is it dives deep into our community which makes our alumni the perfect group to help others do the same.”

Through Invest Hamilton County’s website, those interested can access Connectors’ stories, experiences and personal snapshots to learn more about the Hamilton County community. If the stories spark additional interest and a desire for further conversations, individuals can reach out to Hamilton Connectors through a variety of social media channels to engage in conversations about topics like volunteering, employment, and/or community events.

"If you Google search

any community in our County you will see amazing articles about the quality of our schools, parks, roads, health and employment," said Mike Thibideau, President/CEO of Invest Hamilton County.

“What this program does is personalize those accolades, showcase the diversity of experiences that make our community great, and provide an opportunity for immediate connection.”

Thibideau also looks forward to the Connectors engaging with other similar programs in the Indy Region.

Visit investhamilton-county.com/work/hamilton-connection to learn more about the Hamilton Connection program and

to see profiles of participating HCLA Alumni.

About Invest Hamilton County:

The Hamilton County Economic Development Corporation (dba Invest Hamilton County) is an economic development organization focused on talent attraction, retention, development, and quality of life initiatives throughout Hamilton County, Indiana. Their office works with stakeholders from throughout the community to help local residents, businesses and communities address barriers to economic vitality.

For more information, visit investhamiltoncounty.com

About HCLA:
HCLA is a 10-month


program for professional and community leaders who live or work in Hamilton County. Class sessions cover a wide variety of topics that affect the operations of the county, participants receive learning in the areas of government, education, criminal justice, arts, culture, business, industry and much more.

Graduates of the program have a deeper knowledge and understanding of Hamilton County, create meaningful life-long connections with their peers, HCLA alumni and community leaders and gain clarity around how to lead and make an impact in their backyard.

For more information, visit hcla.net


relax & enjoy

THE TIMES




HONEST HOOSIER

Christmas in the Park is going on now in Clay County. You can see lighted displays in beautiful Forest Park!



ndiana

acts un



11

11

Clay

Number %

÷ Stumpers

- How many years has it been since Clay County established it's first courthouse?
≥
- What is the population density of Brazil?
≤
- How many more square miles of land is there in the county than water?
≥
- What percentage of land in the County is made up of Brazil?
≤

Answers: 1. 190 Years 2. About 2,192 people/sq mi 3. 354.76 square miles 4. 1.03%

Did You Know?

- Clay County occupies 2.78 square miles of water and 357.54 square miles of land.
- The county contains six towns, one city and 43 unincorporated communities.
- Brazil, the county seat, has an estimated population of 8,110 and 3.7 square miles of land.
- Clay County was found in 1825 and named in honor of Henry Clay.
- The county has had four different courthouses since 1828.

Got Words?

Since 1828 Clay County has built four courthouses in two different locations. The last time the courthouse was built it was relocated to a more central area in the county. Why do you think it is important that courthouses are in the center of the town?


Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

- UOOURTHSCE
- RABZLI
- HEYRN YACL
- UCMTIEMNSO
- ALCY CTUNOY

Answers: 1. Courthouse 2. Brazil 3. Henry Clay 4. Communities 5. Clay County

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THURSDAY

Indiana the Strong

Thursday, Nov. 17, 2022

A10

Co-Alliance Cooperative Invests \$15 Million

Indiana-based agriculture and energy cooperative Co-Alliance has broken ground on a liquid chemistry with liquid fertilizer loadout building at their Mt. Summit Ag Center. The \$1.5 million investment is phase one of the project, and will provide faster, more efficient, and environmentally friendly product distribution to farmers within a 25-mile radius of the facility. Herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides will all be housed and distributed through this facility.

That building is projected to be done and operational by early March 2023.

Phase two, which is a \$13.5 million investment, includes a dry fertilizer hub and rail spur. The dry hub, which will hold 26,000 dry tons, and rail spur will be completed and operational by the end of September 2023, providing reliable product supply for local growers and other Co-Alliance retail locations in the eastern Indiana trade area.

“Co-Alliance is committed to helping today’s farmers be more successful and to preparing for our future farming generations. This investment will allow better service and support to these farm families,” remarked Kevin Still,

Co-Alliance President & CEO. “As operations and scale evolve for farm families, so does our cooperative business and our ability to meet the needs of a changing industry.”

Co-Alliance has sixteen agronomy locations in east central Indiana that will benefit from this improved technology. In addition, these improvements will allow for employment opportunities for local residents.

Royce Cook, Mt. Summit Ag Center Manager is excited about the opportunities this investment brings local farmers. “We must be more efficient to keep pace with the farmers of this generation. This is a visible investment to show our members we’re going to be here for the next generation.”

Co-Alliance Cooperative is a member-owned supply and marketing operation delivering innovative solutions for farmer-members and customers across Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan specializing in agronomy, propane, fuels, grain, seed, hog production and feed. The customer-focused company strives to deliver on its collective mission to lead with people and technology, grow profitably, give back locally, and remember its cooperative roots.

Indiana Receives \$150,000 In Funding For Employment

Indiana’s proposal to develop statewide Learning Employment Record (LER) systems has been fully funded for \$150,000 from the National Governors Association (NGA). LER systems are digital resumés that show individuals’ skills, educational experiences and work histories.

LERs may make career pathways more accessible and equitable by providing jobseekers with detailed, verified and secure records of their skills, as well as educational experiences and work histories. This information can better match employers with potential employees.

“It’s a tremendous win for Indiana to receive funding to develop Learning Employment Record systems,” said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery. “As our state’s economy continues to evolve, it’s critical for Hoosier employers to have a pipeline of workers with the right skills and credentials. And we are excited about the opportunity to develop an effective tool that provides Hoosiers with the opportunity to record, present

and share relevant skills, achievements and credentials to employers.”

Indiana has several initiatives already underway that can speed the development of LERs in the state, including the Commission’s Indiana Credential Registry and e-Transcript initiatives, the Indiana Department of Education’s development of the Indiana Graduates Prepared to Succeed (GPS), the Indiana Economic Development Corporation’s Workforce and Talent initiative, the Indiana Chamber of Commerce’s Institute for Workforce Excellence and Western Governors University’s Indiana Achievement Wallet.

Indiana is one of only two Midwestern states, and six states overall, to receive an NGA grant – the other states include Arkansas, Colorado, North Dakota, Virginia and Washington. Representatives from the Governor’s Office, Indiana Department of Education, Indiana Economic Development Corporation, Western Governor’s University and the Indiana Chamber of Commerce join the Commission in leading this work.



relax & enjoy

THE TIMES

Purdue Global Honors 16 Students With Inaugural First-Generation College Student Scholarships

Almost half of Purdue Global students are the first in their family to attend college. Nicole Hanson is one and, like her fellow students, she is rightfully proud.

“I am honored to be a first-generation college student in my family,” said Hanson, who is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration – procurement. “I hope to prove to my son that it’s never too late to get a college education.”

Hanson, from Hazel Park, Michigan, is one of 16 Purdue Global students honored Tuesday (Nov. 8) – First-Generation College Student Day – with inaugural First-Generation College Student Scholarships. Recipients received up to \$500 toward their Purdue Global tuition and fees. The number of recipients is based on the funds raised annually (\$8,000 this year).

“This scholarship means a lot because, as

a first-generation student in my family, it not only shows how ambitious I am, but it also shows that no matter how busy your life may get, you can still make time for your goals,” said another scholarship recipient, Chanell Cabezas, a Tamarac, Florida, resident who is working on an Associate of Applied Science degree in criminal justice. “This scholarship has helped me financially. I am a mother to three children, so it has made it easier on my family. I appreciate being selected by Purdue Global as a first-generation student. I am so proud of myself and everyone else that is reaching their goals.”

The scholarship recipients and their majors:

- Michael Bronish, Lorain, Ohio, BS cybersecurity
- Chanell Cabezas, Tamarac, Florida, AAS criminal justice
- T’era Clyde, Columbus, Georgia, BS legal support and services

- LaChrishia Diffenderfer, Trout Run, Pennsylvania, BS health science
- Viktor Hadjiev, Pingree Grove, Illinois, BS psychology – industrial/organizational psychology
- Nicole Hanson, Hazel Park, Indiana, BS business administration – procurement
- Brianna Keller-Fields, Kokomo, Indiana, BS psychology – applied behavior analysis
- Caitlin Kelly, Houston, BS human services in youth/family services and administration
- Nicole Kozma, Dearborn Heights, Michigan, BS psychology – addiction
- Marissa Matukaitis, Mount Carmel, Pennsylvania, BS psychology – applied behavior analysis
- Shannon McMahon, Iowa City, Iowa, BS business administration
- Morgan Medina, West Bend, Wisconsin, BS criminal justice – forensic psychology
- Adi Reich, San Diego, BS health science

- Giorgio Russo, Miami, BS business administration
- Stormy Speirs, Rowland Heights, California, BS human services in youth/family services and administration
- Zach Weitzel, Macungie, Pennsylvania, BS psychology

“We are proud of all our first-generation students and to have them as part of the Purdue Global family,” Chancellor Frank Dooley said. “Today, we are pleased to honor 16 students with our inaugural First-Generation College Student Scholarship. Each of these students has demonstrated tremendous perseverance and persistence in their pursuit of a college education while balancing everything else that life has thrown at them. Congratulations to them on this accomplishment. This is just a start, and we will continue to work to identify ways to support our first-generation students.”

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THURSDAY

Indiana *the* Strong

Thursday, Nov. 17, 2022

A11

Survey Compares How Consumers, Nutrition Experts Assess Healthy Foods

The average consumer seems to think about nutrition in a way that's similar to experts, according to the Consumer Food Insights Report.

The survey-based report out of Purdue University's Center for Food Demand Analysis and Sustainability assesses food spending, consumer satisfaction and values, support of agricultural and food policies, and trust in information sources.

This month's report highlights nutrition, which shows specific dietary changes that people think would most improve overall health and compares these results to another academic survey that posed the same set of questions to research experts.

"Given that people are often exposed to conflicting messages about nutrition, these results seem encouraging," said Jayson Lusk, head and Distinguished Professor of Agricultural Economics at Purdue, who leads the center. "For example, one week, news might break that a certain food will extend your life, then the next week, you'll hear that it will shorten your life."

However, it appears that most people tend to

understate both the good and the bad.

"Most Americans eating more fruits and vegetables is almost certainly a good thing, but over 30% of respondents were unwilling to choose this answer. Similarly, most Americans eating more sugar would be a bad thing, but over 40% of respondents did not recognize this fact," Lusk said.

Purdue experts conducted and evaluated the survey, which included 1,200 consumers across the U.S.

Additional key results include:

Consumer perceptions of current food inflation track closely with gas prices.

The report's measure of national food insecurity is at its lowest point of 2022 so far.

Households with young children and single parents face the highest food insecurity rates.

Consumers expect to pay higher prices for Thanksgiving turkey compared to 2021.

Americans largely think eating more fruits and vegetables, more proteins, and more home-cooked items would improve the health and life expectancy of the U.S. population.

This month's report also suggests that consumers are reducing their discretionary food spending as prices continue to increase.

"The decline in food away from home spending, coupled with steady food at home spending, is a logical set of behaviors for consumers who are having to figure out how to balance their budgets," Lusk said. "And still, we don't see signs of extreme hardship, as indicated by an encouraging food insecurity rate."

"I noticed that gas prices and our food inflation expectations measure ticked up this month after both declining for several months," he said. This reinforces the conventional wisdom that consumers often use gas prices as one of the strongest measures to determine how they feel about the economy.

Across several topics, the researchers found that issues such as environmental and social sustainability are more important to consumers with children.

"I don't have a great explanation for this phenomenon," said Sam Polzin, a food and agricultural survey scientist for the center and the report's co-author. Although declining to

speculate, he noted that having kids at home is a unique stage in life.

"This is one more way in which parents are set apart," Polzin said.

He further noted that the section on food security (Figures 13-15) underscores which households are most at risk should the nation face new economic shocks. This month's report shows that single parents are most likely to be food insecure (32%) and to take part in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (31%). Those rates are over double that of households without children.

"The vulnerability of single parents is well-established," Polzin said.

Lusk further discusses the report in his blog.

The Center for Food Demand Analysis and Sustainability is part of Purdue's Next Moves in agriculture and food systems and uses innovative data analysis shared through user-friendly platforms to improve the food system. In addition to the Consumer Food Insights Report, the center offers a portfolio of online dashboards.

Spring Mill Inn to Close for Major Renovations

Spring Mill Inn at Spring Mill State Park will close for major renovation beginning Nov. 13, as announced in March. Reopening is expected in 2024.

The park's activity center, Gus Grissom Memorial, trails and other facilities are all still open for guests to enjoy.

The 73-room inn is structurally sound but needs significant work that requires extended closure of the entire facility, including the Millstone Dining Room, conference facilities, and overnight lodging.

Funding for this project is provided through an infusion of dollars to address deferred maintenance needs in Indiana State Parks and other DNR properties by Governor Eric J. Holcomb and the Indiana General Assembly.

The primary goal of the project is modernization of all mechanical systems while retaining the historic, natural look and feel of the public spaces and guest rooms. The work includes replacement of water lines, fire alarms, sprinklers, and HVAC. The project also includes renovating windows and doors, making accessibility upgrades, as well as making additional guest room furnishing and bathroom upgrades, and replacing the existing swimming pool with a splash pad.

"Complete closure of one of our most iconic



Indiana State Park inns for more than a year is a difficult decision," said DNR Director Dan Bortner. "However, the modernization of the inn's 'behind the scenes' safety and comfort systems is best accomplished with this approach."

"When guests can return, they will appreciate the improvements from the moment they check-in at the new centrally located welcome desk to their renovated rooms."

All inn associates will remain employed during the renovation, working in other areas of the park or at other inn locations. The inn will maintain an office with telephone and electronic communications inside the park to answer questions, make day-to-day contacts, and conduct future sales meetings. Its location will be announced once established.

The Spring Mill Inn opened in 1939. Indiana State Parks' other six inns will be open and available for overnight lodging, conferences, weddings and receptions, and other events. Information is at IndianaInns.com.

Additional information is at on.IN.gov/springmill-sp or at on.IN.gov/spring-mill-inn.

The Humane Society of the United States Helps Shut Down Alleged Cockfighting Operation in Wells County

The Humane Society of the United States is assisting the Indiana Gaming Commission with the seizure of more than 100 roosters and hens from an alleged cockfighting operation in Wells County, Indiana. The Wells County Sheriff's Office, Indiana State Police, Ossian Police Department, Bluffton Police Department and Indianapolis Animal Care Services also assisted on-scene.

Law enforcement served search and seizure warrants on a residential property around 1 p.m. on Nov. 3. At least 100 roosters, hens and chicks were found living outside or throughout multiple structures on the property, in makeshift pens and enclosures. Dozens of chickens were housed in a dilapidated barn, in filthy conditions so dusty that responders needed masks to avoid inhaling particles. Corpses and body parts of deceased animals were found throughout the property, including in a pit where roosters and hens in various states of decomposition were floating in



stagnant water.

The birds were identified by animal fighting experts as Asil chickens, a breed commonly used in cockfighting and selectively bred to be aggressive with other birds. Asil chickens are known for their tall stature, intelligence and tendency to bond with their caretakers.

Some of the birds were found to have abrasions with feather loss on their head, chest or legs. An apparently bloodstained arena was found on the property. Animal fighting experts on scene characterized it as a suspected cockfighting pit. More than 20 chairs were situated around the pit and cigarette butts littered the ground, indicating spectators would gather as roosters were staged against each other

to fight.

"The lives of chickens bred for cockfighting are heartbreaking, and the only way to spare animals from these horrors is to end this cruel criminal activity," said Samantha Morton, Indiana state director for the Humane Society of the United States. "We are honored to work with the Indiana Gaming Commission and all the agencies involved in getting these birds out of this nightmare situation."

"We will not tolerate animal fighting in our community," said Wells County Sheriff Scott Holliday. "I appreciate all the agencies involved in this thorough investigation and response."

Cockfighting is a criminal industry in the U.S. that profits from violent cruelty to animals. It involves pitting two animals to fight—often to the death—for the purpose of profit, gambling and purported entertainment. Even birds who aren't outright killed during the fights suffer terribly. Common injuries include punctured lungs, broken bones and pierced

eyes, yet the birds are forced to continue to fight. Animal fighting is often associated with other criminal activities such as drug trafficking, gang activity and illegal weapon sales.

The assistance of the Humane Society of the United States was requested by the Indiana Gaming Commission as part of a new two-year contract for the HSUS to aid with animal fighting cases. The HSUS assisted with animal handling, scene documentation and expertise in identifying cockfighting paraphernalia.

The HSUS transported the animals to a safe location where they will be further examined by an avian veterinarian and cared for while the court process determines custody. Due to the high likelihood of the birds' spreading infectious diseases such as avian flu to humans and commercial flocks, chickens rescued from cockfighting situations are typically not permitted to be adopted out, leaving agencies little choice but humane euthanasia.

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A12

Duke Energy Foundation Grant Allows HIRE Program to Better Prepare Individuals, Businesses for Successful Employment After Incarceration

For 10 years, the Hoosier Initiative for Re-Entry program (HIRE) has been working to change the lives of those being released from incarceration by preparing them for and connecting them with jobs.

Now, a \$250,000 grant from the Duke Energy Foundation will help further that work through educational opportunities for formerly incarcerated citizens and businesses, alleviating barriers to successful employment and developing new partnerships.

“We are so appreciative of this support from the Duke Energy Foundation, which will allow us to help more releasing citizens find success through employment, while also supporting Hoosier businesses in need of quality workers,” HIRE Director Carrie Heck said.

The Duke Energy Foundation provides grants to organizations with the goal of helping strengthen and uplift communities throughout Indiana with grant funding highlighting vibrant economies, climate resiliency and justice, equity and inclusion.

“Workforce issues remain a challenge for employers across the state and building a strong pipeline of talent has never been more critical,” said Duke Energy Indiana President Stan Pinegar. “The Indiana Department of Correction’s HIRE program is a step in the right direction in addressing some of those



needs by providing formerly incarcerated Hoosiers with training for in-demand skills to meet the needs of local employers.”

The grant, which runs through August 2023, will help HIRE focus on:

Direct client services: educational opportunities to skill up HIRE’s client workforce to meet business needs, including clean energy installation, and partnering with non-profits to assist with barriers formerly incarcerated citizens face, such as housing and transportation

Direct business services: assisting with recruitment, retention and hiring, and providing training on how to best work with individuals to promote success

Re-entry focused alliances: develop partnerships to support successful re-entry and long-term employment

Grote Industries, a Duke Energy customer based in Madison, Ind., has partnered with the Indiana Department of Correction through their HIRE program to provide opportunities for permanent employment to women returning to the workforce. Over the last five years, the company has hired 20 women from the Madison Correctional Facility, of which 11 are still em-

ployed at Grote Industries. They have held a variety of roles within the company, including serving as metrologist, production leader, and buyer. Prior to coming onboard, each of the women received training in production and materials handling through the Indiana Department of Correction and Ivy Tech.

“We’ve greatly appreciated the collaboration between the Indiana Department of Correction, Ivy Tech and our team at Grote,” said Grote President and CEO Dominic Grote. “Through the HIRE program, we’re able to bring trained employees onboard to help us continue our growth, the community gains contributing residents, and these women earn the opportunity to get back on the path to self-sufficiency and a healthy life.”

“HIRE has made a huge difference in the lives of thousands of citizens re-entering local communities after incarceration. This Duke Energy Foundation grant will help us serve even more Hoosiers and change more lives,” Indiana Department of Correction Deputy Commissioner of Re-Entry Chris Blessinger said.

ABOUT HIRE:

The Hoosier Initiative for Re-Entry (HIRE) program was created in 2012 to help people with past involvement with the legal system reintegrate into society and to create career paths to give them the opportunities to improve their lives in a sustainable way through work. HIRE focuses on placing clients into employment that will give them a livable wage and career path for success.

HIRE Stats
Nearly 17,000 Hoosiers have been connected with jobs through the HIRE program since 2012

HIRE partners with more than 9,000 businesses across the state, helping them recruit skilled, quality workers

On average, HIRE clients earn \$15.80 per hour – up from \$8.93 in 2012

Top employment fields: manufacturing, warehouse, construction, food services, maintenance

Duke Energy Foundation

The Duke Energy Foundation provides philanthropic support to meet the needs of communities where Duke Energy customers live and work. The Foundation contributes more than \$2 million annually in charitable gifts to Indiana and is funded by Duke Energy shareholder dollars. More information about the Foundation and its Powerful Communities program can be found at duke-energy.com/Foundation.

Indiana FFA Students Gather to Serve at State Leadership Conference

Only about one percent of the nation’s population is actively enlisted to serve in one of the country’s Armed Forces at any given time. Interestingly, only about one percent of the nation’s population is actively engaged as a farmer, producing the food required by our country and the rest of the world. Those two roles of service and sacrifice collided this month when more than 200 local FFA chapter members gathered for the annual FFA Foundations In Reaching Excellence (FIRE) Conference.

The FIRE Conference takes place over two weekends in November each year, and focuses on leadership development workshops and activities. The Conference also places high value on a coordinated service project. The theme for 2022 was Top Gun, and students from all over Indiana gathered in Trafalgar at the state camp. This year, the project was to pack snacks and other convenience items into dozens of care packages bound for our country’s active duty military personnel stationed around the world.

“This event is always a highlight among our annual sponsorships at Ceres,” said Laurel Mann of Ceres Solutions, as she addressed the students before the service activity began. “Like you, our company believes in giving back, and we’re pleased to partner with FFA students as they show appreciation for the members of our Armed Forces with this project.” As one of the state’s largest farmer-owned cooperatives, Ceres Solutions partners

financially and donates volunteer hours within FFA at the state level and local chapter level. Ceres is an enthusiastic supporter of FFA’s mission to help Indiana students grow premiere leadership skills and build potential for future career success.

The FIRE Conference is open to any Indiana high school junior and senior FFA member. Participation helps older FFA members learn to take their leadership abilities to the next level for their local chapters, become mentors for younger members, and create a vision for themselves after their high school career is finished. The Indiana FFA is the largest Career and Technical Student Organization in Indiana with over 12,000 members as part of 209 local FFA chapters across the state.

Ceres Solutions is a 100% farmer owned cooperative. Ceres is a leading supplier of agronomy inputs, seed, technology, information, diesel fuel, gasolines, retail station services, lubes, propane gas, feed, animal nutrition support and more. With outlets in 37 Indiana and Michigan counties, the organization is proud to invest in each team member, as well as making investments in our local communities and our youth through 4-H, FFA, academic scholarships, hunger relief and more. To learn more about Ceres Solutions, please follow us on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn or visit our website at www.ceres.coop. Customer stories are featured at www.centered-onyou.coop.

BBB Warning: Protecting America’s Veterans From Scams

Before President Eisenhower’s proclamation establishing Veterans Day in 1954, Nov. 11 was known as Armistice Day, a celebration acknowledging the end of fighting during World War I at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11, 1918 (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month). In recognition of the sacrifices and honor due to military veterans, official ceremonies take place in the memorial amphitheater built around the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. with the laying of a presidential wreath, often directly from the hands of the sitting U.S. president.

In addition to defending the country, the military community also must also defend themselves against predatory business tactics, con artists and government impostors. According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), veterans and military retirees have lost more than \$87.8 million to fraud, with a median loss of \$750, since 2018.

According to data generated by BBB Scam

Tracker, US veterans have reported being scammed out of \$3 million dollars since last Veteran’s day.

To help protect Indiana veterans from falling victim to scams, BBB provides the following tips:

- Do your research. The first line of defense is often the strongest. Spend the time to research a company before purchasing their services or goods. Review business profiles on BBB.org and check government websites if the service is required to be licensed, such as interstate moving companies or companies using pesticides.

- Avoid aggressive selling tactics. Companies and businesses that pressure consumers to immediately contract their services without allowing time to obtain quotes or estimates from competitors should be handled cautiously. While companies must follow up with potential customers and clients to achieve success, aggressive selling tactics may signify that the company is not invested in the consumer’s interests.

- Beware emotional appeals. Exercise care when engaging with businesses that use targeted emotional reactions to entice donations or contributions from consumers. Consumers should focus on what an organization is doing to address an issue with an emotional appeal, not just the fact it exists. For example, donations to assist homeless veterans are very popular surrounding the Veterans Day holiday. However, it should be apparent what the organization is doing to impact homeless veterans and its effect. Consumers can use BBB’s Wise Giving Alliance to find a list of accredited charities on Give.org.

- Never wire money to strangers. Money that is sent via wire transfer is extremely difficult to track and nearly impossible to have reimbursed. BBB recommends using a credit card for online purchases whenever possible. Charges on credit cards are easier to dispute and be refunded when engaging with a business that does



not provide the purchased service or goods.

Visit BBB.org/Military for more tips and resources to protect active-duty and veteran service members from engaging with fraudulent businesses.

The FTC provides resources focused on military consumer protection at MilitaryConsumer.gov.

Current and prior military service members who have been victims of a scam are encouraged to report their experience to BBB Scam Tracker. Information provided may prevent another person from falling victim.

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