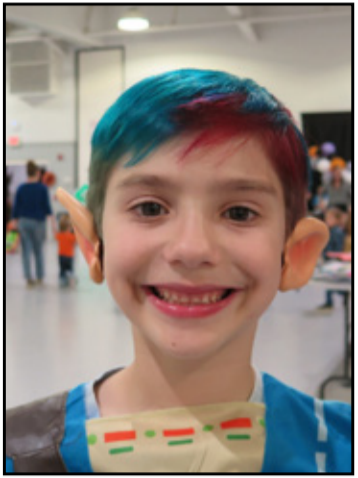


**TODAY'S VERSE**  
Galatians 2:20 I am crucified  
with Christ: nevertheless I  
live; yet not I, but Christ liveth  
in me: and the life which I  
now live in the flesh I live by  
the faith of the Son of God,  
who loved me, and gave him-  
self for me.



**FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY**  
People who call our community their own.  
What makes Levi Bates smile?  
"Kittens," said the then 8-year-old,  
a then third-grade homeschooler.  
He was dressed up -- from head to  
toe, including his faked pointed ears  
-- as Link from the action-adventure  
game, "Legend of Zelda: Breath of  
the Wild," and was found attending  
the 2022 Hamilton County 4-H  
Junior Leaders Halloween Party at  
the 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville.  
Could he hear better wearing the  
large rubber ears? "No, it's just part  
of the costume," he said grinning.  
He has a sister, Quinn Bates, then  
11, who was with him and dressed  
as a witch at the Halloween party.  
Their parents are Richard and  
Stephanie Bates. Levi likes to play  
outside, "pretty much run around  
and make noise." Favorite school  
subject? "I do really like Science."  
Favorite food? Chicken. Favorite  
movie? "One of my favorite movies  
is 'Sonic.' I also like 'Spiderman.'"  
This year's Junior Leaders Halloween  
Party will be 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday,  
with Halloween carnival, haunted  
house and hayride. The event offers  
games, refreshments and fun. Read  
today's Betsy Reason column for a  
list of Halloween events.

**And Another Thing...**  
**1. CAMP BOW WOW@ NOBLESVILLE CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING**

Camp Bow Wow®, the leading doggy day care and boarding franchise, will host a grand opening celebration in Noblesville on TODAY! from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 17661 Cumberland Road, Noblesville. The fun-filled event will feature dogs for adoption and a variety of on-site vendors and activities, including: Free treats from Three Dog Bakery for the first 50 attendees, Training demonstrations from Pawssitive Progress Training, Food from Tijuana Flats Food Truck, \$10 microchipping and free DAPPV vaccinations from Homer's Helpers, Customizable license plates from Pet Friendly Plate, Free caricature drawings of pet parents and pups, Camp tours every half hour, Raffle prizes, including a prize basket and custom portrait of the winners' dog. Adoptable dogs from: Animal Protection League, Prison Greyhound's, Taffy's Touch Senior Dog Rescue, Furever We Love, Madison County Humane Society, Pet Friendly, Indiana Sheltie Rescue, Homer's Helpers

**2. Volunteers Needed:**  
The Westfield-Washington Historical Society is in need of volunteers to host the opening of the Museum and Barker Cabin. The Museum and Barker Cabin are open Saturdays from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. For those who have not volunteered for one or the other, training will be provided. Please consider helping the Historical Society by volunteering to be a Museum or Barker Cabin host. We need two volunteers for Saturday 23rd immediately. Text Jeff Beals at 317-460-4844 or email jbeals@wwhs.us to be scheduled.

# The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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## Boomer Bits

### Ask Rusty - About Federal Taxation Of Social Security Benefits

Dear Rusty: Why are my Social Security benefits being taxed at all? The Social Security FICA payroll taxes taken out of my paycheck while I was working were paid with taxable income. Signed: Disgruntled Taxpayer

Dear Disgruntled Taxpayer: Many Americans share your belief that federal taxation of Social Security benefits is unfair because we pay into the program through payroll taxes on our taxable earnings. Unfortunately, Congress took a different view in 1983 when taxation of Social Security benefits was first enacted at a time Social Security was having financial issues. Congressional logic back then was that a beneficiary only personally pays 50% of the Social Security contributions made (the other half is paid by the employer) so, since your Social Security entitlement was only half paid for by you and the other half by your employer, the portion of your benefit attributable to your employer's contributions should be taxable. So, it's that other half - the portion of your



ASK Rusty  
Social Security Advisor

#### Social Security Matters

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

benefit which resulted from employer contributions - which the 1983 Congress decided should be taxed. So, starting in 1984, if a beneficiary's overall annual income from all sources exceeded \$25,000 for a single filer or \$32,000 for those filing married-jointly, half of that person's Social Security benefits became part of their income taxable by the IRS.

That was how it worked until 1993 when a new and different Congress added another threshold which, if exceeded, resulted in up to 85% of Social Security benefits received during the tax year becoming taxable. The logic used for the 1993 law was that beneficiaries, on average, would only personally pay for about 15% of the lifetime

benefits they would eventually receive, leading that Congress to conclude that if your combined income from all sources exceeded the higher threshold (\$34,000 for single filers and \$44,000 for those filing married-jointly), up to 85% of your benefits should be taxable. Please understand that I'm not defending nor endorsing those historical Congressional views, but I have researched why Social Security benefits are taxable at all, and the above is what I've learned from that research.

For information, the Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC), has long advocated for eliminating fed-

See RUSTY Page A6

## New AARP Scorecard Report Finds Systemic Gaps in Indiana in Support for Family Caregivers

AARP's new Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Scorecard finds that more than three years after the COVID-19 pandemic began, care provided in the United States for older adults and people with disabilities is painfully inadequate. The report finds that major gaps persist in every state, including Indiana, especially related to support for family caregivers.

Ranking #27 in the country, Indiana has made improvements to care options for older adults, including a dimension that is new to the Scorecard - Community Integration. However, the report also shows there is still much more to be done to keep up with the rapidly changing needs of an aging population.

"The need to strengthen long-term care became very apparent during the pandemic," said Sarah Waddle, AARP Indiana State Director. "In the years since the last Scorecard, Indiana has made progress in nine indicators towards meeting the long-term care needs of Hoosiers and their families. But we need to accelerate our efforts and AARP's Scorecard shows that there are more roads to getting older residents the very best care that they deserve."

Over the last three years,

states improved care options for adults, people with disabilities and family caregivers, those providing unpaid care to loved ones, despite many realities that profoundly challenged our long-term care system. Major gaps persist in every state especially around support for family caregivers, the long-term care workforce and equitable long-term supports and services for all.

Additional key findings from the report include:

#### Choice of Setting and Provider

• While dozens of states experienced declines in the number of care choices that help support families managing caregiving, Indiana saw several performance indicators increase including a significant growth in the supply of assisted living facilities and a slight expansion in the supply of adult day services.

• Nationally, there has been a surge in older adults receiving long-term care at home, rather than in nursing homes and other institutions. For the first time, more than half (53%) of Medicaid LTSS spending for older people and adults with physical disabilities went to Home and Community-Based Services

See AARP Page A6

## "Grandma, Help!" Emergency Scams On Rise

Emergency scams, sometimes called "grandparent scams," prey on the willingness of an unsuspecting, worried individual to help friends and family in need. Often, they will impersonate their targets' loved ones, make up an urgent situation, and plead for help... and money. Social media sites allow scammers to look up information and offer plausible stories. They may even incorporate nicknames and real travel plans into the con to convince their targets.

#### How the scam works:

Emergency scams are about a family member or friend in a dire situation. You get a call, email, or social media message from someone claiming to be a distressed family member. They may say they've been arrested while traveling overseas, or there was an accident, medical emergency, or other calamity. They provide convincing details, such as family names and school details.

A common version is the "grandparent scam," where the con artist contacts a grandparent claiming to be their grandchild and asking for money. The plea is so persuasive that the grandparent wires money to the scammer, only to find out

See SCAMS Page A6

## The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset  
RISE: 7:41 a.m.  
SET: 7:33 p.m.



High/Low  
Temperatures  
High: 83 °F  
Low: 58 °F



#### Today is....

- The Start of Sukkot
- Orange Shirt Day
- International Thunderbirds Day



#### What Happened On This Day

- 2005 Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten publishes controversial cartoon. The Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten published a controversial cartoon of the Prophet Muhammad. The publication led to riots and protests in many parts of the world.
- 1960 Premier of The Flintstones. The animated series The Flintstones premiered on TV. It was set in the stone age and it detailed the lives of the Flintstone and Rubble families. It ran for 6 years until April 1 1966.
- 1949 Berlin airlift ends. After 15 months of airlifting supplies to Berlin, the Berlin airlift led by American forces came to an end. The Berlin Blockade was an international crisis where the Soviet Union blocked access of Western countries into Berlin.



#### Births On This Day

- 1928 Elie Wiesel Romanian/American author, Holocaust survivor, Nobel Prize laureate
- 1924 Truman Capote American author

#### Deaths On This Day

- 1987 Alfred Bester American author
- 1955 James Dean American actor

### INSIDE TODAY

Service Directory.....A5  
Home.....A6  
Travel.....A7

### HONEST HOOSIER

The Happenings sang Will I See You in September. Well, maybe, but not again until 2024 . . . the Good Lord willing! See YOU, September!



### TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Instead of sitting down and watching the tube after a meal, take a 20-minute walk.  
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



### TODAY'S QUOTE

"Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall."  
-F. Scott Fitzgerald

### TODAY'S JOKE

An older couple was asked how they enjoyed retirement. The wife piped right up - "twice as much husband, half as much pay."

### OBITUARIES

Patrick A. "Pat" Robinson, jr.

The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank **KERWIN & CHERYL KAUFMAN** for subscribing!



WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

58/80 WINDY AND SUNNY LATER	58/83 A.M. FOG, BUNNY & WARM	58/84 A.M. FOG, BUNNY & WARM	58/86 HAZY AND WARM	59/87 RECORD HIGH 90 / 1984	59/88 RECORD HIGH 90 / 1981	64/85 RECORD HIGH 87 / 2004
FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU

## OBITUARIES

### Patrick A. "Pat" Robinson, jr.

May 9, 1940, Thursday, September 28, 2023

Patrick Alexander "Pat" Robinson, Jr., passed away on September 28, 2023, at Hoosier Village Health Center, in Zionsville, Indiana. He was born in Richmond, Virginia, on May 9th, 1940, to Mary West Terry and Patrick Alexander Robinson, Sr. Along with his younger brother, Lucian Dabney Robinson, the family spent Pat's childhood on a tobacco farm in Charlotte County in southern Virginia. After graduating from Randolph-Henry High School in 1957, Pat enrolled in Virginia Polytechnic Institute, served in the Corps of Cadets and marched in the famed Eighty-Tigthy Regimental Band. He graduated in 1961 with a degree in agricultural economics. Pat served in the US Marines after college. Exiting the Marine Corps in 1962, Pat began a long career in agriculture, where he became a leader in the field for large firms including Ciba-Geigy, Mobil, and American Cyanamid. In 1963, Pat married Susan Mann in Virginia. As his career took them from Frederick and Baltimore, Maryland, to Easton, Pennsylvania, and eventually to Carmel, Indiana, they had three children: Patrick (1964), Melissa (1968), and James (1970). In 1980, Pat married his beloved wife Mary Ellen Shubert, and welcomed Natalie (1981), and Mary Beth (1985) to their growing family in Carmel. Pat and his family were active and lifelong members of the Orchard Park Presbyterian Church in Carmel, where Pat served many roles, including Deacon, Elder, and Old Goat.

Pat was known for an unflinching and insatiable work ethic. As a teen he could be found measuring tobacco fields from five in the morning until the sun went down. The same drive and determination permeated Pat's life and work for the rest of his life. Indeed, he continued working tirelessly in retirement, building a thriving second career in residential housing. Along the way, Pat found time to earn his pilot's license, and for a short time owned a small aviation company in Indianapolis.

Pat loved attending his children's and grandchildren's events and activities, cheering them on through sporting events, music performances, and 4-H competitions. He and Mary loved to travel, and especially enjoyed their trips to Bonita Springs in Florida in his later years.

Pat is survived by his wife Mary, his children Patrick III (Dani), Melissa (Kim), James (Jennifer), Natalie Mathiebe (Craig), and Mary Beth Fischer (Marcus), as well as his grandchildren Alexandra (Corey), Patrick IV (Dani), Grace, Sylvia, Fynn, Henry, Nash, Mitchell, Miles, Sonoma, Cora, Chase, Blakesley, and Mary Kate, and great-grandchildren Agnes, Hadley, Lainey, and Patrick V.

Funeral Services are planned for 1:00 p.m. on Monday, October 2, 2023, at Orchard Park Presbyterian Church, 1605 East 106th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. Visitation will be held from 11:00 a.m. until the time of services. Interment with Military Rites will follow at Oak Hill Cemetery in Lebanon, Indiana. Myers Mortuary in Lebanon, Indiana is handling the arrangements.

Memorials may be directed to Joy's House and Orchard Park Presbyterian Church.

Online condolences: [www.MyersMortuary.com](http://www.MyersMortuary.com)



## October Filled With Halloween Activities



### BETSY REASON From The Editor's Desk...

Hey ghosts and goblins, it's almost time to turn up your calendars for October, so we share Halloween activities for the month.

1. Kids ages 10 and younger are invited to wear their Halloween costumes and come with their families to the annual Hamilton County +9 4-H Junior Leaders' free Halloween Carnival, Haunted House and Hayride from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville. Formerly known as the Junior Leaders Community Halloween Party, the event offers games, refreshments and fun.

2. Tickets are available now for the 40th anniversary of Headless Horseman outdoor Halloween program every Thursday through Sunday, Oct. 5-29 at Conner Prairie in Fishers. Take the haunted hayride to see the Headless Horseman, stroll the Trail of Terror in the corn field, enjoy the Magnificent Midway, Barrel Train Rides, Sleepy Hollow Marionette Show, fortune telling, live music performances, magic show, food, and more. Reserve hayride times and buy admission tickets in advance at [connerprairie.org](http://connerprairie.org).

3. Bring the family to Noblesville Main Street's First Friday Fall Fest and Soup Cook-Off from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Oct. 6 in downtown Noblesville, featuring live music, shopping, hayrides, trick-or-treating and more. Soup cook-off contestants include Ninth Street Bistro, Alexander's on the Square, Gateway Vegetable Farm, The Nesst, Syd's Bar & Grill, Texy Mexy and Uptown Cafe. Also, Main Street is hosting annual Scarecrow Decorating Contest is taking entrants at [noblesvillemainstreet.org](http://noblesvillemainstreet.org).

4. Kids dress in costume and participate in Trunk or

Treat at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 6 with a free movie, "Hocus Pocus," to start at 8 p.m. outdoors at the Noblesville Moose Lodge. Bring chairs and blankets for the movie.

5. Dress up in your horror or Halloween costume and enjoy three rounds of Horror & Halloween Trivia at 8 p.m. Oct. 7 at Nippers Grill & Tap in Carmel.

6. Create a Creepy Halloween Tree during a Paint Night from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Oct. 13 at Kiln Creations in downtown Noblesville, with fee charged. Reserve tickets in advance at [kilncreations.net](http://kilncreations.net)

7. Bowl a lucky strike during Pinheads' Halloween Bash beginning at 10 a.m. Oct. 14 at the bowling center. Join to play Cosmic Bowling with princesses, superheroes and villains. Photo opportunities with your favorite characters. Pizza, lemonade and desserts. Check in at 9:45 a.m. for bowling shoes and lane assignments.

8. Halloween trick-or-treating is on Oct. 14 and 21 at Hamilton County Parks & Recreation's White River Campground in Noblesville.

9. Dare to visit Little Haunt on the Prairie at Ghoul Creek Park 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Oct. 19 at Hamilton County Parks & Recreation's Cool Creek Park in Westfield/Carmel. Spooky, yet age-appropriate Halloween activities from preschool and older. Dress in costumes, enjoy nature interpretation, entertainment, hayride, food for purchase, trick-or-treating, craft stations, spooky nature trail, Halloween games, live owls with Take Flight Wildlife, marshmallows at a campfire ring and more. Cost is \$5 per person, under age 2 free. In addition, please bring a nonperishable or canned food item to donate to Amanda Strong Food for the Needy.

10. Celebrate Halloween at the annual family-friendly and pet-friendly Boo 'n' Brew Fall Festival from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Oct. 21 at Clay Terrace in Carmel. Trick-or-treating at 2 p.m., live bands Stella Luna & the Satellites at



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Kids ages 10 and younger are invited to wear their Halloween costumes and come with their families to the annual free Hamilton County+9 4-H Junior Leaders' Halloween Carnival, Haunted House and Hayride from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville. Formerly known as the Junior Leaders Community Halloween Party, the event offers games, refreshments and fun.**

2 p.m. and Toy Factory at 4 p.m., horse-drawn hayrides at 2:30 p.m., beer garden, Silly Safari animal shows at 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m., pet costume contest at 3 p.m., pumpkin patch, aerialists, pet zone and more.

11. Attend the annual Halloween Kids Night from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Oct. 23 at Noblesville Jim Dandy, with a coloring contest, face painting and kids activities.

12. Bring canned food donations and enjoy crafts, games, story and treats during a "Trick or Eat" Halloween Food Drive from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Oct. 24 at Delaware Township Trustee Office in Fishers. Dress in costume. All ages welcome.

13. Join Carmel Runners Club Halloween Run and Walk at 6 p.m. Oct. 25 at Bier Brewery Carmel, plus vote on various runs or walks.

14. Test your Halloween knowledge during Halloween Trivia night at 7 p.m. Oct. 25 at Pinheads and Alley's Alehouse in Fishers, with prizes to win and free to play.

15. Enjoy Halloween Trunk or Treat at 5 p.m. Oct. 27 at Heritage Woods of Noblesville.

16. Ultimate Halloween Hits aficionados will want to attend Halloween Music Bingo at 7 p.m. Oct. 27 at Pinheads and Alley's Alehouse in Fishers. Prizes to win and free to play, with all ages welcome.

17. Dare to take the

fourth annual Cicero Haunted Trail on Oct. 27 and 28 at Red Bridge Park, with kid-friendly hours 4:30-7:15 p.m. and frightening hours 7:30-10 p.m. All proceeds benefit Cicero Parks. Seeing sponsors.

18. Board the Nickel Plate Express for Trick or Treat on the Rails vintage 1956 train at 2 p.m. Oct. 28. Embark on a 65-minute journey down the historic Nickel Plate Road while dressed in your Halloween costume. Children can collect candy from a few special characters during the ride. Tickets include a pumpkin donut and fresh apple cider. Visit [www.nickelplateexpress.com](http://www.nickelplateexpress.com).

19. Celebrate Halloween 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 28, at the Nickel Plate District Amphitheater during a Boo Bash with live music and entertainment, food trucks, games and activities for kids. Costumes encouraged.

20. Visit Noblesville High School's Trunk or Treat night 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 28 in the parking lot at Noblesville High School.

*-Betsy Reason writes about people, places and things in Hamilton County. Contact The Times Editor Betsy Reason at [betsy@thetimes24-7.com](mailto:betsy@thetimes24-7.com). Official Trick-or-Treat hours on Oct. 31: 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Noblesville; 5-8 p.m. Arcadia, Carmel and Westfield; 6-8 p.m. Cicero, Fishers and Sheridan.*

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➔ Meeting Notes

# Carmel Board Of Public Works And Public Safety Meeting

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

1. MINUTES
  - a. Minutes from the September 20, 2023, Regular Meeting
2. BID OPENING AND AWARD
  - a. Bid Opening for City-Wide Trash and Recycling Service; John Duffy, Director of Utilities
  - b. Bid Opening for 96th Street Tree Clearing; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer
  - c. Bid Opening for 116th Street Multi-Use Path from Michigan Road to Towne Road; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer
  - d. Bid Award for 20-ENG-06 Multi-Use Path Along Haverstick Road from 96th Street to 99th Street; United Construction Services, LLC; (\$885,000.00); Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer
  - e. Quote Award for 20-13DM 10555 Westfield Blvd Residential Structures Demolition; Denny Excavating, Inc.; (\$54,725.00); Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer
3. PERFORMANCE BOND REDUCTION APPROVAL REQUEST
  - a. Resolution BPW 10-04-23-01; Bond Release for Mulberry Lane Project; Erosion Control; Homes by McKenzie, Inc.
4. CONTRACTS
  - a. Request for Amended Sublease and Management Agreement; 2019 Clay Public Safety Project - Fire Administration Building and Museum Project; 210 Veterans Way; Chief David Haboush, Carmel Fire Department
  - b. Request for Goods and Services; Clark Dietz,

- Inc.; (\$142,121.00); 20-ENG-06 Multi- Use Path Along Haverstick Road from 96th Street to 99th Street - Construction Inspection; Additional Services Amendment; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer
- c. Request for Goods and Services; Denny Excavating, Inc.; (\$54,725.00); 20-13DM 10555 Westfield Blvd Residential Structures Demolition; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer
  - d. Request for Goods and Services; RQAW Corporation; (\$240,771.75); 106th & Westfield Blvd RAB - Construction Inspection; Additional Services Amendment; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer
  - e. Request for Goods and Services; United Construction Services, LLC; (\$885,000.00); 20-ENG-06 Multi-Use Path Along Haverstick Road from 96th Street to 99th Street - Construction; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer
  - f. Request for Goods and Services; Shuck's Welding & Fabrication; (-\$31,961.00); 22-STR-03 Trailers; CO# 1; Matt Higginbotham, Street Commissioner
  - g. Request for Goods and Services; Jack Doheny Companies, Inc.; (\$507,348.35); Truck Mounted Sewer Cleaner Contract; John Duffy, Director of Utilities
5. REQUEST TO USE CITY STREETS/PROPERTY
    - a. Request to Use Carter Green and Rolling Closure of City Streets; Carmel

- High School Swim Team Olympic Trials Pep Rally; June 14, 2024; 7:00 AM - 11:00 PM; Meg Gates Osborne, City of Carmel
- b. Request to Use City Stage; OktoberFest Celebration; October 6, 2023; 8:00 AM - 11:00 PM; Meg Gates Osborne, City of Carmel
  - c. Request to Use Council Chambers; Neighborhood Annual Meeting; November 14, 2023; 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM; Dana Stout, Traditions on the Monon - Carmel
  6. OTHER
    - a. Request for Replat; Carmel Mid-Town; Connor Strege, Kimley Horn
    - b. Request for Consent to Encroach and Variance; 803 Rosemary Gardens - Freeland Way; North End Land Development, LLC, Property Owners
    - c. Request for Secondary Plat; Five-Ten Subdivision; Tom Lazzara, Custom Living USA
    - d. Request for Lane and Sidewalk Closure; 720 S Rangeline Road; Chris Harrod, Zinga's
    - e. Request for Open Pavement Cut; 530 2nd Avenue NE; Centerpoint Energy
    - f. Request for Stormwater Technical Standards Waiver; Merchants Bank - 210 3rd Avenue SW; Nicholas Justice, CEC, Inc.
    - g. Request for Grant of Perpetual Storm Water Quality Management Easement; IEC Building Addition - 11805 Pennsylvania Street; Indiana Electric Cooperatives, Property Owners
  7. ADJOURNMENT

# Carmel Common Council Meeting October 4

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
  1. Approval of Minutes
    1. September 18, 2023 Regular Meeting
    2. Claims
      1. Payroll \$3,477,781.01
      2. General Claims \$4,523,989.22
    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. Third Reading of Ordinance Z-683-23; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Establishing the Conner Prairie Innovation District Planned Unit Development District; Sponsor: Councilor Aasen. Remains in the Land Use and Special Studies Committee (10/16/23 Meeting Date).
 

Synopsis: Ordinance Establishes the Conner Prairie West Innovation District Planned Unit Development Ordinance (the "Conner Prairie PUD"). The Ordinance would rezone the real estate from S-1 Residential and Legacy PUD (Ordinance Z-501-07) to a Planned Unit Development district allowing the expansion of the Conner Prairie Museum onto the site in a style and character as depicted on the attached Concept Plan and Character Imagery.
    13. PUBLIC HEARINGS
      - a. First Reading of Ordinance D-2678-23; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Establishing the Appropriations for the 2024 Budget; Sponsor: Councilor Worrell.
 

Synopsis: Establishes 2024 appropriations for the City of Carmel.
      14. NEW BUSINESS
        - a. First Reading of Ordinance D-2679-23; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of

- the Carmel City Clerk for the Year 2024; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Finkam, Campbell, Worrell, Ayers and Aasen.
- Synopsis: Establishes 2024 maximum salaries for employees of the Carmel City Clerk.
- b. First Reading of Ordinance D-2680-23; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of the Carmel City Court for the Year 2024; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Aasen and Worrell.
 

Synopsis: Establishes 2024 maximum salaries for employees of the of the Carmel City Court.
  - c. First Reading of Ordinance D-2681-23; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Fixing Salaries of Appointed Officers and Employees of the City of Carmel, Indiana, for the Year 2024; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Campbell, Finkam and Worrell.
 

Synopsis: Establishes 2024 maximum salaries for employees of the Executive branch.
  - d. First Reading of Ordinance D-2682-23; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Fixing Salaries of Elected Officials of the City of Carmel, Indiana, for the Year 2024; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Campbell, Finkam and Worrell.
 

Synopsis: Establishes 2024 salaries for Carmel's elected officials.
  15. AGENDA ADD-ON ITEMS
  16. OTHER BUSINESS
  17. ANNOUNCEMENTS
  18. ADJOURNMENT

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Letters

# Both Major Parties Hurting Senior Citizens

Dear Editor,  
 Finally, some people working in the Indiana Statehouse helped me get an answer for why ambulance companies started charging a \$900 response charge when a person does not go to a hospital.  
 What I learned is that HB 1112 and HB 1314 were passed on March 8, 2022 by a vote of 50 to zero in the Senate and a vote of 96 to zero in the House. Governor Eric Holcomb signed the bills into law on March 18, 2022. In other words, both Democrats and Republicans helped ambulance companies to make more money and hurt senior citizens, the disabled, and the unfortunate.  
 Ambulance companies were complaining that changes to health insurance reimbursement rates meant that private ambulance companies had to charge more. They complained that they did not get a government tax subsidy like ambulance services run by cities, towns, counties, townships, or the like.  
 The legislators believed them and gave the private ambulance companies power to charge up the bills in various ways. Did the legislators demand that the private ambulance companies open their books to show what they were saying was true? Did the Indiana Department of Revenue start auditing private ambulance companies to assure the legislators that ambulance company executives and lobbyists were telling the truth? I doubt it. Why should legislators seriously question those lobbying the legislators with fine wining and dining?  
 It used to be that a private ambulance company would agree to

provide free response and check services in order to get a contract to serve a community. Now, a call to check a senior citizen who fell or is dizzy will cost a response charge of \$900 if the senior is not taken to the hospital. That will have a chilling effect on calls for ambulances to help people. People will start to be reluctant to call an ambulance.  
 Also, it opens a big problem for everyone in Indiana. If someone thinks that you look sick when you are just tired, the person can call for an ambulance and make you incur a \$900 response charge bill. That is not fair to anyone in Indiana.  
 I don't believe that private ambulance companies were hurting for money. They get so much money from the federal government for taking people under Medicare and Medicaid. If I were an Indiana state legislator, I'd want to force ambulance companies to show their books to prove what they claim. What they pay the employees and executives of the ambulance companies should be public knowledge just as the salaries of Fire Chiefs and Firemen is available to the public.  
 Charging senior citizens and the disabled a \$900 response charge to help them is cruel, mean, and greedy. Some seniors and disabled people barely get \$1,000 per month for living expenses. If the governor cares about seniors and the disabled, he would call a special session of the legislature to outlaw the \$900 RESPONSE CHARGE. If the governor does not care about correcting this bad law, then we will know what kind of governor he really is.  
 Woodrow Wilcox Dyer, Ind.

# Attorney General Todd Rokita Reminds Hoosiers To Use Caution As The Air Turns Crisp To Avoid Scams This Fall Season

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita warns Hoosiers to avoid scams this fall. It's the time of year for scammers to crawl out of the woodwork and find new victims.  
 "As families plan for fall break, remember scammers are just waiting for Hoosiers to let their guard down," Rokita said. "Don't fall for their clever schemes - if a deal seems too good to be true, it probably is. Hoosiers can protect themselves and their assets by asking the right questions and doing their research before making any big plans."  
 Hoosiers can avoid common travel scams by following these simple tips:

- Check the Better Business Bureau ratings and research the name online to see if there are any allegations of scams.
  - Read the fine print in the contract before you sign it. It will tell you about the conditions under which the operator can change or cancel the trip and the rules and penalties for cancellation.
  - Pay by credit card. It gives you more protection than cash or checks.
  - Use good judgment when sharing about your trip on social media. Consider changing your online privacy settings while on your trip.
  - Lock your valuables, including personal information, in your trunk or a hotel safe.
- If you believe you have been the victim of a scam, file a complaint at [www.indianaconsumer.com](http://www.indianaconsumer.com).

# Noblesville Lions Add Another New Member



Photo courtesy of Noblesville Lions  
 On Sep 27th the Noblesville Lions Club added new member Krays Keller. Krays is sponsored by Lion Steve Shaw, and was inducted by Lion Julia Kozicki, Lion District 25D Governor. Pictured, Lion Steve Shaw, Lion Krays Keller, and Lion Julia Kozicki

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## Noblesville And Zionsville Lions Testing at Hazel Del Elem.



Photo courtesy of Noblesville Lions

On Monday, Sep 25th, the Noblesville and Zionsville Lions conducted Acuity Testing at Hazel Del Elem. This is testing required by the State of Indiana, and saves time for school nurses. Any discrepancies noted in the students are passed along to the parents. This is a Lions Club effort at schools in Noblesville, and chaired by Noblesville Lion Steve Shaw. Pictured, Lions Dan Dumbauld, Terry Lee Dawson, Lee Ann Balta, Josh Kozicki, Chery Helton, Walt Scheid, Vicki Neddenriep, and Steve Shaw



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**AARP** From Page A1

(HCBS). This is up from 37% in 2009. HCBS includes support for home health care aides, respite services, assistive technology and home modifications and other services. Here in Indiana, the state made marginal progress with 23% of Medicaid LTSS spending going toward HCBS. This still remains severely below the national average.

• Across the states, the average annual per person cost of home care in 2021 was \$42,000.

**Affordability and Access**

• Eleven states, including Indiana, had state policies that improved presumptive eligibility for Medicaid HCBS at the time of data collection, making it possible for people to go home to receive care after being in the hospital rather than having to be admitted to a nursing home while their eligibility for Medicaid payments is being determined.

**Support for Family Caregivers**

• Indiana went from 51st to 39th in Support for Family Caregivers, with the improvement being driven by growth around nurse delegation.

• Indiana nurses are able to delegate 15 out of 22 of the listed tasks. It's important that information gathering continues in order to guarantee that education for Hoosier nurses around delegation continues and that it is happening across the entire state.

• In order for Indiana to improve its support for family caregivers, it is going to take more than just action from the Governor's administration. The Indiana General Assembly will need to address various policy areas that may include nurse scope of practice and paid family leave.

\*\*\*

**Recommendations**

Below are key recommendations from the report and AARP that would strengthen support for long-term care and aging at home:

• Prioritizing saving time, money, and increasing support for the 48 million family caregivers, who are the backbone of the long-term care system, providing over \$600 billion in unpaid care, such as tax credits and other mechanisms to address health and financial needs.

• Investing in all aspects of Home and Community-Based Care infrastructure, such as increasing support and training for home health aides and home visits, supporting the ability to access and use medical devices and equipment, and updating key Medicaid regulations and payment models.

• Bolstering the nursing home and in-home care workforce, with improved recruitment and training, increasing pay,

and expanding the ability of trained nurses, aides, community health workers and other paraprofessionals to take on some aspects of care. States can choose to enact and enforce staffing and related care standards.

• Addressing inequities by investing to close the staggering gaps in access to quality care and facilities and staffing shortages.

• Building multisector plans for aging, coalitions and age-friendly health systems, and consider the wider needs to allow individuals to live independently in their homes and communities, such as having affordable and accessible housing and transportation, improved community design, and comprehensive emergency preparedness plans.

• Ensuring every state in the nation has a sound emergency preparedness plan to support nursing home residents, in particular, in times of crisis – including natural disaster.

The Scorecard includes a series of 50 indicators focused on 1) affordability and access; 2) choice of setting and provider; 3) safety and quality; 4) support for family caregivers; and 5) community integration, using data from a variety of publicly available sources, such as the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, American Community Survey, and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The LTSS Scorecard is funded by AARP Foundation with the support of The SCAN Foundation, The Commonwealth Fund, and The John A. Hartford Foundation and has been updated every three years since 2011.

To view the full Scorecard and state-by-state information visit [www.ltsschoices.aarp.org](http://www.ltsschoices.aarp.org).

\*\*\*

**State Rankings:**

• Tier One: 1: Minnesota; 2: Washington state; 3: District of Columbia; 4: Massachusetts; 5: Colorado.

• Tier Two: 6: New York; 7: Oregon; 8: Hawaii; 9: Vermont; 10: New Jersey; 11: California; 12: Rhode Island; 13: Connecticut; 14: Maryland; 15: Wisconsin; 16: Maine.

• Tier Three: 17: Delaware; 18: Nebraska; 19: North Dakota; 20: New Mexico; 21: Pennsylvania; 22: Arizona; 23: Iowa; 24: New Hampshire; 25: Illinois; 26: Alaska; 27: Indiana; 28: Virginia; 29: Utah; 30: Kansas; 31: Michigan; 32: Ohio; 33: Montana; 34: Texas; 35: Idaho.

• Tier Four: 36: South Dakota; 37: Arkansas; 38: Missouri; 39: Georgia; 40: Wyoming; 41: North Carolina; 42: Kentucky; 43: Florida; 44: Nevada; 45: Louisiana; 46: Oklahoma.

• Tier Five: 47: Tennessee; 48: Mississippi; 49: South Carolina; 50: Alabama; 51: West Virginia.

**SCAMS** From Page A1

their family member was safe and sound later. This scam can also work in reverse, where the "grandparent" calls their grandchild pleading for help.

Recently, the FTC has warned that scammers are using voice cloning techniques to imitate the voices of loved ones. The technology enables con artists to copy the voices of persons close to you from videos they may find on social media or other sources. They can then use tools to imitate the voice of your loved one and have it appear to say whatever they wish in a call. Some voice cloning efforts may be crude, and others very sophisticated – either way, this adds to this scam's confusing and frightening aspect.

Tips to spot this scam:

- Resist the urge to act immediately, no matter

how dramatic the story. Verify the situation with other family and friends, but first hang up or close the message and call your loved one directly. Don't call the phone number provided by the caller or caller ID. Ask questions that would be hard for an impostor to answer correctly.

- Know what your family members are sharing online. You may not have control over your family's social media accounts but familiarize yourself with what they share online.
- Don't wire any money if there is any doubt about the call. If a person wires money and later realizes it is a fraud, the police must be alerted.

For more information: To report a scam, go to BBB Scam Tracker. Learn more about all types of impostor scams.

**RUSTY** From Page A1

eral taxation of Social Security benefits or, at the very least, raising the thresholds at which benefits become taxable. The income thresholds for taxing Social Security benefits were established in 1983 and 1993, but those thresholds have never been adjusted for inflation. When taxation of Social Security started in 1984, less than 10% of beneficiaries

paid income tax on their benefits, whereas today that percentage is over 50% and growing. If you want to add your voice to those who oppose federal taxation of Social Security benefits, you may wish to contact your Congressional Representative to do so. And it is worth noting that eleven U.S. states, to varying degrees, also levy income tax on Social Security benefits.

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# WEEKEND

## In The Home

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## Set Children Up for **DAY CARE SUCCESS**



Photos courtesy of Getty Images

### FAMILY FEATURES

**L**ong days of school, first trips to day care or even a return from a period of at-home care can be difficult or downright nerve-wracking for parents and children alike. This new adventure can bring challenges from keeping children healthy to supporting their nutrition and more. Sending a little one to day care can even result in maternal separation anxiety.

To help alleviate some of the anxiety and parental concerns, the childhood nutrition experts at Gerber teamed up with Dr. Whitney Casares – a board-certified practicing pediatrician and creator of “Modern Mommy Doc” – to share these tips for families preparing their little ones for child care.

### Keep Important Factors Top of Mind

As part of appreciating the milestone of the first time at day care, Casares encourages parents to remember that, while daunting, day care means new experiences, new friends and opportunities for growth, fun and healthy development. As part of the transition, she suggests paying attention to critical factors like sleep, nutrition, illness prevention and emotional development.

### Support Their Immune Systems

Offer little ones a diverse array of nutritious foods during the transition to day care. A diet rich in fruits, vegetables and whole grains is essential for building immune systems. Additionally, iron-rich foods like iron-fortified baby cereals, eggs, beans and meat are critical for a strong body. Caregivers should frequently wash hands and focus on good sleep hygiene.

### Put Nutrition on the Menu

When packing lunch boxes for a day of care, it's important to keep nutrition in mind. Once children transition to finger foods, Casares recommends snacks from Gerber like Peach Puffs, Fruit and Veggie Melts and Wonderfoods Superfood Hearts, which come in a variety of flavors and include vital nutrients to optimize health.

### Be Prepared for Separation Anxiety

Not all infants and toddlers experience separation anxiety, but many can, so it's good to be prepared. Casares encourages parents to pack a familiar swaddle blanket in infants' diaper bags to help ease those anxieties. Some toddlers benefit from having a beloved stuffed animal or blanket with them. Try introducing these transitional objects to little ones early so they smell and feel familiar when drop-off comes around.

### Pack the Essentials

While nutritious foods, like Gerber Fruit and Veggie Pouch Blends, are certainly near the top of the list, there are plenty of other essentials to pack for each day. Don't forget to add breast milk or formula, bottles and extra nipples alongside snacks and meals. Also remember to pack extra sets of clothes, diapers, wipes and those anxiety-soothing must-haves like blankets and stuffed animals.

### Prepare for Appetite Changes

It's common for children's appetites to decrease during their first few days of child care as they may eat a little less while growing accustomed to their new environment and surroundings. There's no need to worry – parents can adapt to these changes by understanding they're often a natural part of the transition. While you may find little ones are hungrier before and after day care, this behavior should ease over time. If it doesn't, schedule an appointment with your pediatrician to be sure babies stay on track.

To find more childhood nutrition advice, visit [Gerber.com](http://Gerber.com).



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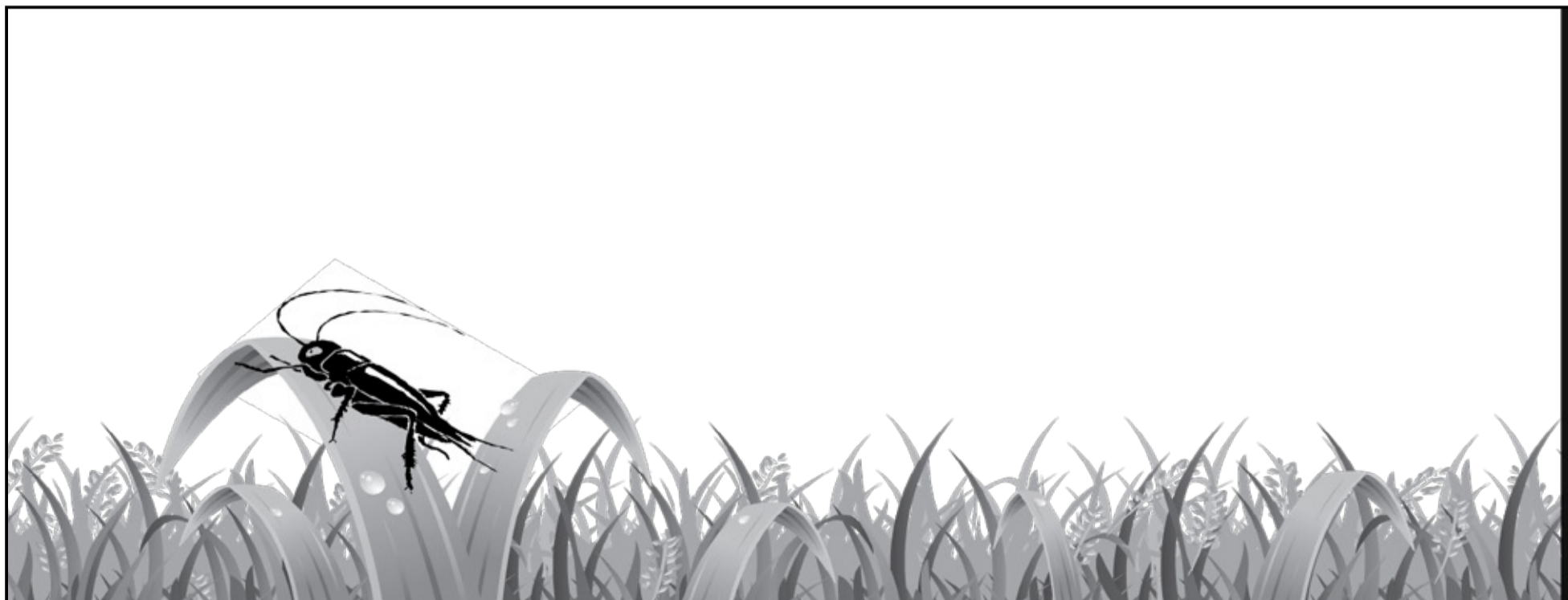
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