

➔ TODAY'S VERSE

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.



➔ FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Rori Anderson smile? "Highlights from Day 1 of our buying trip," said the Noblesville resident and owner of The Linden Tree in downtown Noblesville. "Lots of color coming for spring plus some classic and elegant neutrals." Her business moved in June from the north side of the Hamilton County Courthouse Square to a new location at 210 N. 10th St., located just two blocks from the former Linden Tree. Anderson is the fourth owner of The Linden Tree. Carol Ryan opened the store 38 years ago and operated the store about 15 years. Linden Petit was the second owner and operated the store for about seven years. Then Debbi Smith was the third owner, who was closing the store in 2008. Smith had a full-time job and wasn't in the store all of the time. "I walked in there to shop, and it was closing," Anderson recalled. "So I called my husband, and he came over. We made an offer to buy it. I didn't have a clue what I was doing." She had never been in sales or owned a business. "I'm a high school math teacher," said Anderson, who also worked in real estate for many years, and then part time in an office after she had kids. "I had no retail experience -- zero," she said. Fifteen years have passed. Now, it's time for customers to get introduced to a new building, with an elevator. Anderson encourages folks to stop in during the next two events: Linden Tree Holiday Open House and Christmas Preview 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. today, with food samples, gift with \$40 purchase and rooftop cash bar; and the 2023 Get Happy Holiday Party Nov. 4-12. The Carmel Linden Tree will have its annual Sip and Shop 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday. Also, Noblesville Main Street's First Friday Holiday Open House is 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. with merchants open late this Friday night in downtown Noblesville.

And Another Thing...

1. Giving Tuesday Underway

We are so excited to announce the launch of our 2023 Giving Tuesday campaign. This year's Giving Tuesday is held on November 28, and our goal is to raise \$15k during this year's campaign. This annual day of giving is a time to step back from the chaos of the holiday season, and to take a moment to think about how you can give back to your community. Donations to WYAP will allow us to continue to offer our services to Westfield youth, including mentoring, tutoring, and connections with mental health counseling, camps, enrichment activities and more!

2. 146th St. & Allisonville Rd. Interchange

Please be advised, beginning on or after Friday, a full closure of Allisonville Road north and south of 146th Street will be in place between Chelsea Drive to 146th Street and Sowers Drive to 146th Street around 9pm for the installation of storm sewer.

# The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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## The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset  
RISE: 8:16 a.m.  
SET: 6:45 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures  
High: 52 °F  
Low: 30 °F



Today is...

- All Souls' Day
- International Stout Day
- National Men Make Dinner Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1982 Ronald Reagan signs a bill to create Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The day, observed every year on the third Monday of January, commemorates the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. a leader of the African-American Civil Rights Movement.
- 1938 Canadian Broadcasting Corporation established. Officially known as CBC/Radio-Canada, the network is Canada's public radio and television broadcaster.
- 1917 Balfour Declaration. Originally sent as a letter on this day to Baron Rothschild from British Foreign Secretary Arthur James Balfour, it declared BRitish support for a Jewish state in Palestine. The letter was eventually added to Sevres peace treaty.



Births On This Day

- 1865 Warren G. Harding American politician, 29th President of the United States
- 1755 Marie Antoinette Austrian wife of Louis XVI of France

Deaths On This Day

- 1966 Peter Debye Dutch/American physicist, chemist, Nobel Prize laureate
- 1950 George Bernard Shaw Irish writer, Nobel Prize laureate



Photo courtesy of the City of Noblesville

Mayor Jensen delivering his 'State of the City' Address.

## Noblesville Mayor Jensen Delivers Fourth 'State Of The City' Address

Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen delivered his annual "State of the City" address to over 600 guests at the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce luncheon Tuesday afternoon at the Embassy Suites Conference Center in Noblesville. Noblesville Common Council President Aaron Smith introduced Mayor Jensen. In his address, Jensen reflected on the successes of his first four years in office and

championed what is ahead for Noblesville, including major infrastructure projects, downtown preservation, and quality-of-life investments for the city. After his speech, Mayor Jensen welcomed Pacers Sports & Entertainment CEO Rick Fuson for a fireside chat to discuss the new home of the Indiana Pacers G League franchise at Innovation Mile.

Key highlights from the

speech include:

- An enhanced emphasis on public safety, which accounted for 50.1 percent of the recently approved 2024 operational funds budget, including the expansion of the NobleAct Program and the hiring of new sworn officers, firefighters, and a third therapy K9.
- The City of Noblesville

➔ See CITY Page A5



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

In Noblesville, political signs are on display now through Election Day.

## Almost Time For Municipal Voting



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

Here in Noblesville, it doesn't really feel like election time.

Only a few politicians have political signs scattered in yards throughout the city. And voters aren't rushing to early voting to cast their votes.

If you don't live in a city or town in Hamilton County, you won't vote in the Nov. 7 Municipal Election unless you're in the Sheridan or Hamilton Southeastern School District because there is a school referendum (which is a good reason to get out and vote).

In Noblesville, of the 12 political seats up for election, sadly all except for three Noblesville Common Council District At-Large seats are unopposed. But only four candidates -- three Republicans and one Democrat (Paula Gilliam, who has run several times for offices) -- are running for the three At-Large

➔ See BETSY Page A5

## Christmas Tree Raffle Kicks Off At Westfield Library

Tickets are now on sale for the Westfield Library Foundation's annual Christmas Tree Raffle. This year patrons will have three trees to choose from -- all designed by Erin Downey, the Foundation's executive director, who also happens to be an interior designer.

"The holidays are a hectic time of year," says Downey. "Let us do the tough work for you. Raffle winners will have their trees shrink wrapped and ready for pick up the first week of December so they can be enjoyed throughout the month."

All three trees are up on display at the Westfield Washington Public Library. The Winter Wonderland tree is sponsored by Meijer. The Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas tree is sponsored by IPEP. And the Squishmallow Christmas tree is sponsored by TCC Gives.

Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$10 at the library's circulation desk or online [www.westfieldlibraryfoundation.com](http://www.westfieldlibraryfoundation.com). The raffle will close on Thursday, November 30th and winners will be drawn on Friday, December 1st. The Westfield Library Foundation hopes to raise \$5,000 to go toward library programming and services in the new year.

## ➔ INSIDE TODAY

- Service Directory.....A4
- EarthTalk.....A4
- Tim Timmons.....A4
- Indiana Facts & Fun.....A7

## ➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Make a grocery list and only buy what's on it. 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 [thetimes24-7.com](http://thetimes24-7.com)



## ➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

In celebration of our beginning our 20th year as a media company, we're sharing some famous quotations about newspapers this month. "Newspapers are to the body politic what arteries are to the human body, their function being to carry blood and sustenance and repair to every part of the body" -Henry Ward Beecher

## ➔ HONEST HOOSIER

It's Main Street's First Friday Holiday Open House tomorrow - 5-9 p.m. See you there! That means I can get the neighborhood gang ready to go out and decide at the last minute to go off on my own.



## ➔ TODAY'S JOKE

Why are all the reporters hanging out at the ice cream shop? They're looking for the scoop.

## ➔ OBITUARIES

None



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



13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST  
26/45 BREEZY BUT CHILLY  
30/52 BRIGHT AND WET  
36/60 BREEZY, HOT AT COLD  
44/63 "WILD ONLY" POSSIBLE  
53/67 BREEZY AND WINDY  
FALL BACK  
52/58 TURNING BAKY  
43/56 COULD BE WEY STAY

## Cookies With Characters Returns Next Month!

Register soon for this unique character experience, filled with games, crafts, cookie decorating, and more at the Historic Ambassador House! Choose a session\* on either Saturday, December 16, or Sunday, December 17.

Registered guests will enjoy decorating cookies, a visit from the Grinch and Cindy Lou Who, and other Whoville fun and games! All parents and children, regardless of age, must be registered to attend. Children 2 and under are free to attend with registration. Pre-registration is required for all attendees. No walk-

ups will be permitted. Registration is non-transferable to other available dates/times.

\*Important note: When picking your time slot, please keep in mind that your start time is when you will arrive. Similar to other timed-entry experiences, this helps us control the flow of the event. You will not be limited to one hour at the event. The following time slots will be available each day on a first-come, first-served basis: 11 a.m. to noon, noon to 1 p.m., 1 to 2 p.m., and 2 to 3 p.m.

Registration opens Monday, November 6.

## Humane Society For Hamilton County To Host Holiday Gala

The Humane Society for Hamilton County's (HSHC) 17th annual Tinsel & Tails Holiday Petacular will take place on November 16. This festive event is from 6-9 p.m. at the 502 East Event Centre in Carmel. Tickets and tables are still available for purchase at TinselandTails.com.

Tinsel & Tails is HSHC's largest fundraiser of the year, supporting the shelter's annual operating expenses. The highlight of the evening is a video presentation, followed by the featured animals and their humans walking a runway that spans the ballroom. A silent auction, seated dinner, and 'Golden Ticket Raffle' are also part of the evening's festivities.

"This is more than just a fundraiser," explained Lily Pesavento, Community Engagement Manager for HSHC. "This is an opportunity for us to share with the public

some of the year's most remarkable stories of rescue and redemption. It's a celebration of our work and a heartfelt thank you to our supporters."

Those who are unable to attend can donate at TinselandTails.com or bid in the silent auction opening on November 9th at tinselfromhome.com.

Tinsel & Tails is proudly sponsored by Canine Cloud Nine, Cosmo's Superior Foods, Smitten Kitten Cat Cafe, Centier Bank, Ed Martin Automotive, Republic National Distributing Company, VCA Animal Hospitals, Curran Architecture, Woodford Reserve, Fetch Pet Insurance, Current Publishing, Round Room Holdings, LLC., Paws & Play Dog Resort & Training Center, Delta Faucet Company, PODS, Four Day Ray Brewing, Tito's Handmade Vodka, 502 East Event Centre, Strategic Wealth Designers, and Hupp Jewelers.

## 4-H Junior Leader Poinsettia Sale

Need more than snow to get in the holiday spirit? Then consider purchasing poinsettias from the Hamilton County 4-H Junior Leaders. Plants are only \$10 each and are available in red, white, ice crystals, and shimmer surprise. Supplied by Heartland Growers in Westfield, poinsettias are guaranteed to have at least seven bloom stems and will stand approximately 15 inches tall. November 14, 2023 is the last day to place your order. Start your holiday shopping by ordering yours today. Enter your order online at <https://bit.ly/Poinsettias2023>. Paper forms are available by calling the Purdue Extension

Hamilton County Office at 317-776-0854 or by visiting our website at [www.extension.purdue.edu/county/hamilton](http://www.extension.purdue.edu/county/hamilton).

Poinsettias must be picked up in Hall A in the Exhibition Center on the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds, 2003 Pleasant Street, Noblesville, on Wednesday, December 6, 2023, between 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Payment will be collected upon pick-up.

For more information about Junior Leaders or the 4-H Program in Hamilton County, contact Purdue Extension Hamilton County at 317-776-0854 or visit our website at [www.extension.purdue.edu/county/hamilton](http://www.extension.purdue.edu/county/hamilton).



Photo courtesy of HHS

Hamilton Heights High School brings home the first Golden Shovel Award with a first and third place in this inaugural heavy equipment competition for high school students taking the civil construction graduation pathway. Pictured (l-r): Ethan Halverson, Logan Hickman, Devon Alsop, Corbin Collins, Ryan Swingley (ESP Associates, Support), Nate Williams, Kevin Sheets (HHHS Instructor), Jake Drummond, Kendall Flanders, Chad Flanders (Beaty Construction, Support) James Zachary, Eric Holmes (Rieth Riley, Coach), Emily Bay (Rieth Riley Marketing Manager), Isabel Morrow, and Tate Blackketter (Gradex, Coach).

## Hamilton Heights Wins Inaugural Golden Shovel Award

Last week, students from Hamilton Heights High School and Garrett High School had the opportunity to compete in the first of what is expected to be an annual event, the Golden Shovel Competition. Hosted by MacAllister Machinery Company in Indianapolis, construction trades education students from both districts had the opportunity to show their skill and knowledge in this inaugural heavy equipment construction skills competition.

According to Charlie McCullough, Communication Specialist for Indiana Constructors, Inc. and Work IN Roads, the competition centered around the Civil Construction Pathway education program and marks a significant milestone in civil construction education and Indiana's commitment to build Indiana's infrastructure. The Golden Shovel Competition is designed to bridge the gap between high school students and the construction industry directly. Offering a platform to showcase the excitement of construction to students and connect with potential employers.

"The event, backed by some of the biggest contractors in the civil construction industry, were present to see the students in action," said Kevin Sheets, Hamilton Heights High School Construction Trades Education Teacher. "Students earned points through a variety of skill tests that included working as a team to survey a 20 x 20-foot square lot that was 8 inches tall. They performed a job hazard analysis and a complete equipment check, loaded up a dump truck with dirt, unloaded it on the site, leveled and graded the lot within one inch of specs, and returned the lot to its original condition. Despite what team earned enough points to take a top spot, all participants had the opportunity to showcase their skills and learn a lot from the experience."

Hamilton Heights sent four teams of three students per team. Two teams were comprised of upper-class students, and two teams were comprised of

freshmen and sophomore students. At the end of the day, the team comprised of Jake Drummond, Kendall Flanders, and Nate Williams won first place and the team comprised of Isabel Morrow, Ethan Halverson, and Logan Hickman placed third.

"I am really proud of our students," added Sheets. "They put an incredible amount of time into preparing for every possible scenario prior to this hands-on competition and it showed. Ryan Swingley (ESP Associates), who served as the onsite surveyor for Heights, said our boys know about hard work and have a lot of passion for it. He was spot on. They have passion, take ownership, learn from past successes and mistakes and are competitive. All our teams worked hard and showed they know their stuff in this field."

"It was great to see the students take a math principal, the Pythagorean Theorem ( $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ ) and bring it to life in a real-world application," said Ryan Swingley with ESP Associates, and a director of the Indiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors (ISPLS). "It was a win for everyone involved. For students, the event gave them the opportunity to move dirt with a specific purpose. They utilized their classroom instruction and optical and laser measuring equipment to know how much material to move to make the pad perfectly level. For surveyors, the event was a unique opportunity to take students to the next level - show them what surveyors do."

Junior Ethan Halverson, who is interested in a career in the trades, said the event really sparked his interest in the civil construction industry - specifically asphalt roadwork. "I felt prepared, my team was prepared to handle whatever came our way, and at the end of the day, we did well," said Halverson, whose team placed first in this year's competition.

"It was a great experience," said Junior Isabel Morrow, who is interested in pursuing a career as a

residential electrician. "It wasn't your average off-site school function. It was a cool experience serving as a leader, working with our coaches, and interacting with the industry professionals. It also opened my eyes to careers in the heavy equipment industry. Morrow's leadership and work in the field was noticed. After the event, she was approached by an industry professional offering up an opportunity to work as a project manager for a local construction company.

"This competition was a great way for students to showcase their skills and highlight what is taking place in the civil construction pathway program in school districts across the state," said Emily Bay, Marketing Manager for Rieth-Riley Construction, Co., who has been helping to grow this pathway at Hamilton Heights for the past four years. "This competition drew in the top players from the industry, teachers from other schools, and contractors there in support of this event which is expected to grow in size and scope in the years to come. It was exciting to see the students who were able to participate this year take the lead, handle equipment, and work as a team to manage a project. It's a great path forward in our industry for students looking for good paying jobs with great career opportunities beyond graduation. With the new federal infrastructure bill there will be even more opportunities in the heavy highway industry well into the future."

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Tate Blackketter, Project Manager for GRADEX, enjoyed the opportunity to Coach Hamilton Heights' Team 2 at the first Golden Shovel Competition. "It was very exciting to be a part of this event," said Blackketter, who hopes to be considered as a coach for one of Heights' teams next year.

Blackketter first got involved with Heights after he learned about the district's outdoor classroom, the Sandbox. At just 24, Blackketter, backed

by a degree in Building Construction Management from Purdue University, is extremely passionate about the civil construction field. "When I was in high school I didn't have any exposure to this field or heavy equipment operation so giving it a spotlight is important because it is as critical to our infrastructure as any other type of construction," he explained. "It is rewarding to work with students at both the high school and college level helping them learn about the many avenues for a worthwhile and meaningful career with or without a college education."

Junior Cooper Doucette, a student in Sheets' Civil Construction class, attended the event with other classmates, said, "It was pretty cool to watch the teams operate the different machines and work together to prepare the site to the specs given. I learned a lot from just being there, watching, and talking to the different professionals who were there."

James Zachary, also a junior in the same class who also attended the event, agreed. "It was cool," said Zachary Bonus! "One of the professionals at the event, Ryan Swingley, had a connection to a local surveying company that may have an opportunity for an internship over the summer," he added.

"We owe a great debt of gratitude to our industry partners who have played a major role in helping our students grow their skill and knowledge in the trades," Sheets added. "They have been engaged, involved, and present in our classroom and at the Sandbox. They share their time, equipment, and expertise and it is paying big dividends in enhancing the educational value of our students. Chad Flanders (BEATY Construction), Eric Holmes (RIETH-RIETH-RIETH Construction, Co., Inc.), Ryan Swingley (ESP Associates, Inc.), and Tate Blackketter (GRADEX) are a few of our industry partners who have been outstanding mentors and attended competition."

# The Times

Public Notices Deadline:  
11:00 a.m.

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## Facts Being Left Out In Conversations



**TIM TIMMONS**  
Two Cents

Scatter shooting while wondering whatever happened to Arlene Francis . . .

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**WHAT'S**  
**THE** old saying about those who live in glass houses? Most days we put out a couple of newspapers with a lot, I mean A LOT, of words. So I shouldn't be throwing any stones about mistakes.

Sometimes I just can't help myself.

Here are a couple of examples of things that got momentum on social media recently. Did you hear about the wife of Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Olena Zelenska? She reportedly went on a million-dollar-plus shopping spree in fancy-schmancy New York shops.

With her husband begging the U.S. government for money to fight the Russians, you can imagine that didn't set very well with a lot of folks. Social media went wild, people passionately screaming how wrong it was for her husband to be asking for U.S. taxpayer dollars while his wife was buying stuff you and I couldn't afford in a lifetime.

Except it didn't happen.

Then there's the one about NFL star Travis Kelce and musical superstar Taylor Swift. The two apparently are dating and Swift has gone to some of Kelce's KC Chiefs games. Out of that came the social media report that Travis' mom didn't like Taylor . . . and that set off big fireworks. Taylor's fans - called Swifties - verbally ripped Kelce's mom. How could anyone not like their beloved Taylor? It went on and on.

Did anyone stop and get the facts? Of course not. From all the quotes and videos this reporter found, Kelce's mom never said any such thing.

Or how about protests on college campuses today ripping Israel? No, I'm not talking about the lunacy

that comes from Rashida Tlaib, Ilhan Omar, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Ayanna Pressley (and we could throw Indiana's Andre Carson in there as well), I'm talking about college professors, schools and students taking ill-informed stances regarding the Israel-Hamas war.

Are their two sides to this issue? At least. The Palestinian people and Israelis have a long history of conflict and it's a fair debate if you want to argue the rights and wrongs from that region for the past couple thousand years. But nothing, and I mean nothing, justifies what the terror organization Hamas did on Oct. 7 - killing men, women, children and babies.

Never mind that a Hamas official walked off a BBC interview when he was asked why the terrorist group killed innocents. He started out saying that Hamas conducted a military operation and added he could "confirm and assure again and again that there was no command to kill any civilians." He added that Hamas "had no intention or decision to harm civilians."

But the interviewer, God bless him, kept pointing out the fact that civilians - a lot of them - were indeed killed. Hamas' own cameras recorded the atrocities.

What'd the official do? Ripped off the microphone and stormed out the door.

Did that slow down the campus protests? Not even close.

The sad truth is that we have become a soundbite society - forget the facts. The lessons of yesteryear are mostly lost. We've tossed God out of our schools, common sense out of the public square and facts from our arguments.

And we are worse off for it.

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**TODAY IS** Nov. 2 and we're only three weeks from Thanksgiving. I hope you don't mind, but this year we are giving our employees a little extra time off and we are not publishing a Thanksgiving or Black Friday newspaper. We'll be back

on Saturday, just in time to ramp up the countdown to Christmas!

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**FORGIVE THE** old sportswriter in me, but the fact that the Colts are finding new ways to lose games is driving me nuts (OK, OK, it's only a short walk).

When rookie sensation Anthony Richardson went down with a season-ending shoulder injury, so did most reasonable expectations for the season. However, after the Colts beat the Titans on Oct. 8 to

improve to 3-2, some of us started to think that perhaps all was not lost. Even after Jacksonville thumped us the following week to even the record at 3-3, we didn't give up. After all, Jax just seems to have our number, right?

But then came Cleveland and New Orleans, two very winnable games. And then came a flurry of turnovers and two losses . . . and very questionable play calling. Could anyone explain how two of the best running backs in the NFL get basically left out of the game plan when the outcome was still in doubt? Sigh.

Next up is Frank Reich's Carolina Panthers. If the Colts manage to lose that one, then could someone call Duke Tatum and ask for a 2023 version of Lord Help Our Colts?

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**SOME OF** you remember Arlene Francis, right? She was an actress and entertainer who also was a regular on a slew of 1960s game shows - including What's My Line, the Match Game, Password and To Tell the Truth. She was pretty, witty and wise . . . to swipe a phrase. She passed away at the age of 93 in 2001.

*Two cents, which is about how much timmons said his columns are worth, appears periodically in the times. Timmons is the chief executive officer of sagamore news media, the company that owns the noblesville times. He is also a proud noblesville high school graduate and can be contacted at timmons@thetimes24-7.com*

out how to delete that information before you get rid of a computer or a cell phone.

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**Security Freeze**  
• As a parent or legal guardian, a security freeze is one tool you can use to restrict certain access to your minor dependent's credit report. Should you request a security freeze be placed on your minor dependent's credit report, a credit report is created for the minor and then frozen.

• Once a security freeze is placed on your child's credit report, it restricts certain access to it, including by fraudsters who may be trying to open a new account using the child's ID.  
• Security freezes are free but must be placed separately with all 3 national credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion). You'll need to provide copies of documentation that verify your ID; the minor dependent's ID; and your relationship to them.

If your child's identity is hacked, report and close the fraudulent accounts, freeze your child's credit, and contact Rokita's office by visiting gov/attorneygeneral or calling 1-800-382-5516. You also may report suspected cybercriminal scams to the FBI at www.ic3.gov or IdentityTheft.gov.

credit card, they can be completely denied due to unprotected data and greedy hackers."

Rokita and the Federal Trade Commission, offer the following tips to protect your child from identity theft:

Ask questions before giving anyone your child's Social Security number - even if it the child's school, ask these questions:

- Why do you need it?
- How will you protect it?
- Can you use a different identifier?
- Can you use just the last four digits of the Social Security number?

**Protect documents with personal information**

• If you have documents with your child's personal information, like medical bills or their Social Security card, keep them in a safe place, like a locked file cabinet.

• When you decide to get rid of those documents, shred them before you throw them away. If you don't have a shredder, look for a local shred day.

• Delete personal information before disposing of a computer or cell phone.

• Your computer and phone may contain personal information about your child. Find

## Is Ebony Going Extinct & What Can Be Done?

**EARTHTALK**

**Dear EarthTalk: I hear that ebony is going extinct in the wild. Is there anything we can do to conserve what's left and are there alternatives we can use instead?**

Ebony wood is frequently used in furniture and musical instruments because of its exceptional hardness, density, fine texture and extremely dark hue. The immense demand for this valuable hardwood has led to overexploitation and illegal logging. Meanwhile, the culling of the biggest trees has meant successive generations are smaller and smaller—and ebony trees are slow growers to begin with. Regenerating an ebony forest after it's been cut could take upwards of a century.

Ebony grows mainly in central Africa and southeast Asia, and is critical for economies heavily reliant on natural resources. Insufficient environmental regulations make it disturbingly easy for illicit logging groups to operate in remote forests. Without proper management, loggers typically target physically superior trees, leading to the weakening of the genetic pool of the remaining trees. On a larger scale, the loss of ebony trees carries adverse consequences for local ecosystems. These trees provide sustenance

to wildlife; their fruits feed monkeys and apes, while their leaves support animals like elephants.

If you decide to buy a product containing ebony, look for certifications from the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or the Program for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC). Wood that is certified by these groups is sourced from forests that are managed in a manner that safeguards biodiversity, supports the well-being of local communities and laborers, and maintains economic sustainability. Fraudulent certification labeling is on the rise among ebony vendors trying to deceive eco-conscious consumers into purchasing their products. To verify the authenticity of a certification, search the FSC and PEFC databases.

Above all else, abstaining from purchasing ebony is the most effective way to prevent your contribution to its overexploitation. Fortunately, there are many other types of wood that may suit your color, durability and texture preferences.

Katalox, or Mexican Royal Ebony, is a non-threatened species with natural dark hues ranging from reddish-brown to nearly pitch black. It has a medium-fine texture and actually surpasses ebony in hardness. Black palm, another non-threatened species, has a speckled appearance with

lighter-brown streaks amidst its dark coloring. It's another species that is unthreatened, making it especially sustainable. It is less dense and more susceptible to insect attacks, so for projects needing resistance, exploring other materials might be wise. A third option, black-dyed wood veneers, offers customizability and affordability. Typically, the base panels are made of a common lighter-colored hardwood, such as maple, oak or beech, that have undergone a dyeing process to replicate the deep black color of ebony.

Understanding the ecological implications of ebony wood and exploring sustainable alternatives is essential for responsible consumer choices and the protection of our natural resources.

*-CONTACTS: Forest Legality Initiative: Ebony, https://forestlegality.org/risk-tool/species/ebony; Ebony: Dark Outlook For Dark Woods, https://www.wood-database.com/ebony-dark-outlook-dark-woods/; Rare Woods USA: Katalox, https://www.rarewoodsusa.com/species/katalox/; Wood Database: Black Palm, https://www.wood-database.com/black-palm/.*

*EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at https://emagazine.com. To donate, visit https://earthtalk.org. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.*

## Alzheimer's Association Highlights Unique Challenges Facing Dementia Caregivers And Tips For Supporting Them

During National Family Caregivers and National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month in November, the Alzheimer's Association is highlighting the unique challenges facing Alzheimer's and dementia caregivers and urging caregivers to take care of their own health. Currently, there are more than 216,000 caregivers in Indiana providing care to more than 110,000 living with Alzheimer's.

Caring for those living with Alzheimer's or other dementia poses special challenges for family caregivers. As dementia symptoms worsen, caregivers can experience increased emotional stress, depression, anxiety, and new or worsened health problems. Caregivers often experience depleted finances due to disruptions in employment and paying for health care or other services.

"Caring for a person with Alzheimer's takes longer, lasts longer, is more personal and intrusive than most other diseases, and takes a heavy toll on the health of the caregivers themselves," said Natalie Sutton, executive director, Alzheimer's Association Greater Indiana Chapter. "During the course of the disease, caregiving tasks escalate and become more intensive. Alzheimer's and dementia caregivers are often managing multiple conditions, including memory loss, comorbidities, loss of mobility, reduced communication skills and behavioral and personality changes."

Across the country,

59% of dementia caregivers report high to very high emotional stress due to caregiving and 38% report high to very high physical stress due to caregiving. Seventy-four percent of dementia caregivers report they are "somewhat concerned" to "very concerned" about maintaining their own health since becoming a caregiver. In Indiana, 57.3% of dementia caregivers report having chronic health conditions, and more than one-third (34.1%) report experiencing depression.

To help caregivers balance competing priorities while maintaining their overall health and well-being, the Alzheimer's Association offers these tips:

• Find time for yourself. It's normal to need a break from caregiving duties. No one can do it all by themselves. Consider taking advantage of respite care or help from family and friends to spend time doing something you enjoy.

• Become an educated caregiver. Understand the disease, its progression and accompanying behavioral and physical changes. Know resources in your community that can help.

• Build a support network. Organize friends and family who want to help provide care and support. Access local caregiver support groups or online communities, such as ALZconnected, to connect with other caregivers. If stress becomes overwhelming, seek professional help.

• Take care of yourself.

Try to eat well, exercise and get plenty of rest. Making sure that you are healthy can help you be a better caregiver.

• Avoid caregiver burnout. Sustained caregiver stress can lead to caregiver burnout - a state of physical, emotional and mental exhaustion. The Alzheimer's Association offers a Caregiver Stress Check to help caregivers identify and avoid caregiver burnout.

• Accept changes. Eventually your loved one will need more intensive kinds of care. Research care options now so you are ready for the changes as they occur.

• Know you're doing your best. It's normal to lose patience or feel like your care may fall short sometimes. You're doing the best you can. For support and encouragement, consider joining an online or in-person support group.

"As difficult as it may be, caregivers need to make their health and well-being an equal priority," continued Sutton. "Maintaining your health can help you be a better caregiver. No caregiver should face this disease alone. The Alzheimer's Association is here to help."

The Alzheimer's Association provides local support and programs to families facing this devastating disease, including a 24-7 Helpline staffed by master's level clinicians and specialists who are available 365 days a year and can help families navigate a variety of disease-related issues. Call 800-272-3900.

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**BETSY** From Page A1

seats. For the other nine seats in the City, some might ask if there is even a reason to go vote, with only one name appearing on the ballot next to each open position. Being that these candidates are guaranteed to be elected.

In Westfield, of the nine open seats, 11 candidates are running for office. Westfield City Council District 4 has two candidates running for one seat, and City Council At-Large has three candidates vying for one seat. Six seats are unopposed.

Arcadia has two seats up for election, Cicero has four seats open, Sheridan has four seats, all unopposed. Funny, the smallest town in Hamilton County, Atlanta, Ind., has a Democrat and a Republican running for Atlanta Town Council District 2.

In Fishers, there is a little more competition, with only three of 12 seats unopposed. A Democrat and a Republican are running against each other in seven of the races. And five is the most number of candidates vying for an office, for City Council At-Large.

In Carmel, the races are a little more interesting.

For 11 seats, there are 21 candidates. Only three races are unopposed. For Carmel City Council At-Large, three Republicans and two Democrats are vying for a total three seats.

The Carmel Mayor's race may get the most attention due to three mayoral candidates, a Republican, a Democrat and a write-in Independent. And the race will probably be the most watched.

There are 78 candidates -- 58 Republicans and 19 Democrats and one write-in -- running for election. Remember, in Hamilton County, 45.4 percent of voters voted Democrat in the last presidential election, and 52.2 percent voted Republican, and 2.4 percent voted Independent. In Carmel, President Joe Biden won the City in 2020.

Any registered voter can cast their ballot on Nov. 7, which is next Tuesday. Hours are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

*-Betsy Reason writes about people, places and things in Hamilton County. Contact The Times Editor Betsy Reason at [betsy@the-times2407.com](mailto:betsy@the-times2407.com), or 3170555-9999*

**State Treasurer Daniel Elliott Announces Massive Investment In Israeli Bonds**

Indiana State Treasurer Daniel Elliott announced today that he has authorized the largest known purchase by a State in the USA since the beginning of the Israel-Hamas war. "Israel is our most important ally in the world. This investment reflects the confidence that I have in the Israeli people and the Israel economy," said Elliott. "Israeli bonds have provided high rates of returns for investors, even outperforming their American counterparts. Historical data and suggests that this is a great opportunity for Hoosier taxpayers."

As Indiana's Chief Investment Officer, Elliott oversees the investment of nearly 17 billion dollars

of state assets and sits on the boards of multiple state agencies that oversee state funds.

"October 7th remains one of the darkest days in the history of the world. Yet, I remain confident that Israel will prevail over the forces of evil. This bond purchase reflects the confidence we have in Israel's victory and the strength of their marketplace."

Indiana currently holds \$65 million dollars in Israel Bonds. After today's purchase, the state will hold \$100 million dollars in Israel Bonds. This is an increase of nearly 55%.

The Treasurer of State is authorized by statute to invest in Israeli bonds by the General Assembly.

**CITY** From Page A1

and Pacers Sports & Entertainment will break ground on the Noblesville Event Center in November. This arena will be the future home of the Indiana Pacers G League franchise, as well as hosting community events, conferences, entertainment, and sporting events.

• Reimagine Pleasant Street celebrates one year after breaking ground, showing significant progress with the opening of the new roundabouts along Eight Street -- on budget and ahead of schedule.

"This year marked significant progress for our community, and we're excited to unveil our plans for 2024. As our community experiences continuous growth, ensuring public safety remains the leading priority for my administration," said Mayor Jensen. "I look forward to working with our Council to continue investing in our community through infrastructure projects like Reimagine Pleasant Street, as well as creating partnerships with innovative businesses who are prepared to grow and invest in our workforce."

**Downtown, Culture, and Recreation**

The city is proactively investing in mixed-use developments that integrate housing, retail, and quality-of-life enhancements for residents. With projects like East Bank, Village at Federal Hill, Nexus Apartments, and Lofts on Tenth, residents of these communities will enjoy convenient access to scenic trails and retail options while enjoying the advantages of residing near diverse cultural and recreational attractions, including the Bridge of Flowers. This unique transformation of the Logan Street Pedestrian Bridge provides direct access to downtown shopping and dining. Noblesville is also home to the Ruoff Music Center, which generated \$2.6 million in tax revenue and over \$40 million in overall annual economic

impact, including the creation of 1,500 seasonal jobs, in 2023.

**Reimagine Pleasant Street**

The Reimagine Pleasant Street project is a multi-year initiative to improve east-west connectivity and accessibility for the community. The project, a partnership between the City of Noblesville and Hamilton County will provide Noblesville residents, local businesses, and key stakeholders with many improvements that will enhance mobility and public safety while also honoring the urban character and historic features of the project area.

Approaching the one-year anniversary since breaking ground, Reimagine Pleasant Street has shown significant progress for phase one, including setting the beams for the 645-foot-long bridge over the White River and paving the new roundabouts along Eighth Street. The roundabouts are set to open ahead of schedule in early November.

"This project is a game-changer for Noblesville, and my administration has been committed to engaging the community and meeting our current and future needs from the beginning," Jensen said. "I'm happy to say this long-awaited project is within budget and on schedule, and I want to thank everyone involved for their work to continue advancing this forward."

**Investment in Public Safety**

Public Safety is the number one priority for Jensen's administration. The NobleAct Program is a mental health crisis and substance abuse response program that utilizes mental health police officers, community paramedics, therapy K9s, and mental health clinicians to provide linkage to community services and divert those in crisis away from the criminal justice system. The program adds a

third therapy K9 and an in-house licensed clinical social worker.

**Innovation Mile**

Innovation Mile encompasses close to 600 acres and fronts Interstate 69. It is a work, live, play, engage, and learn campus designed to drive sustainable economic growth in Noblesville. In September, Innovation Mile broke ground on the Indiana Joint Replacement Institute, a \$28 million, 40,000 sq. ft. surgery center facility and medical office building dedicated to hip and knee replacements.

On Nov. 6, Noblesville will partner with Pacers Sports & Entertainment to break ground on the Noblesville Event Center. The 3,400-seat, 120,000 sq. ft. arena will be the home to the Indiana Pacers G League franchise, the second most prominent men's basketball league in the world. The venue will also host community events, conferences, entertainment, and other sporting events.

"Innovation Mile will become a dynamic business and technology hub that will serve as an anchor for revolutionary thinking and a gateway for innovation, leveraging and catalyzing long-term growth opportunities and reinvestment in the City of Noblesville," said Jensen. "We have great partners in BorgWarner, Indiana Joint Replacement Institute, and Pacers Sports & Entertainment, and I look forward to bringing more companies to our city as this campus will be at the forefront of our city's future."

Noblesville Economic Development Department continues to bring industries to Noblesville in life science innovation, health technology, advanced manufacturing, wholesale trade, and professional, technical & financial services to meet the demand for a highly skilled workforce.

Other highlights of Jensen's State of the City speech include:

- The Indiana Community Cares grant program

will enable communities to invest in proactive and sustainable community paramedicine initiatives designed to assist and rehabilitate at-risk Hoosiers while reducing public safety expenses. The goal is to incentivize municipalities to invest in community paramedicine programs that will improve wellbeing outcomes and ultimately be a cost-saving measure for our state.

• The Promenade, a partnership with Justus Companies, will help transform the western gateway of Noblesville. Currently under construction, the development will be home to the Meijer grocery store as well as Promenade Trails, which will feature cottages and a 55 and older community.

• Midland Pointe is a master plan development featuring residential, retail, restaurants, and direct access to the Midland Trace Trail. This project is part of the city's overall effort to enhance its western gateway and tie quality of place to economic and workforce growth.

• One of the key pillars of Mayor Jensen's administration is to protect and enhance the historic downtown. The city and JC Hart will open East Bank in mid-2024. Located on the east bank of the White River, this development will bring new rental and retail units to invigorate the downtown and activate prime real estate along the White River.

Federal Hill is experiencing significant improvements and growth with the addition of Federal Hill Apartments, adding more residential units near downtown Noblesville. This development, a partnership with Old Town Companies, will feature Bocado, a new Mexican restaurant, as well as Indie Coffee Roasters. It will increase public parking with the addition of the Federal Hill Parking Garage, almost doubling the public parking spaces available around the park.



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The trees of Brown County are awful pretty this time of year. Worth the trip over!

# I ndiana

# Facts Fun



# 07

Brown

## Number

## %

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## Stumpers

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

## %

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

÷

## Did You Know?

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

## Got Words?

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

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## Word

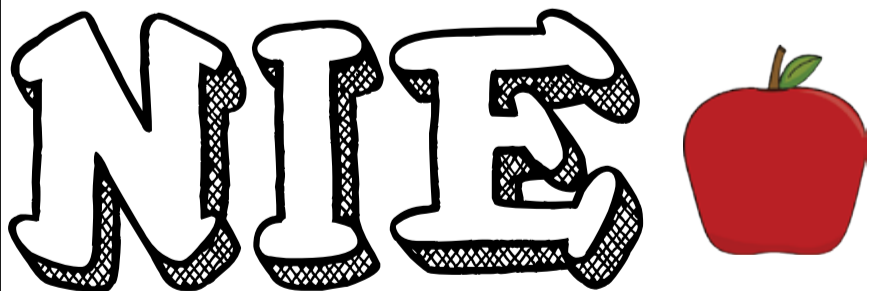
## Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

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

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

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# THURSDAY

## Indiana *the* **Strong**

Thursday, November 2, 2023

A7

### Indiana Gubernatorial Hopeful Brad Chambers Emphasizes Online Safety For Kids In First Proposal

By **Casey Smith**  
 Indiana Capital Chronicle

Gubernatorial candidate Brad Chambers launched his first campaign ad in September. His latest ad highlights online safety for Hoosier kids. (Screenshot from Brad Chambers ad)

Indiana gubernatorial contender Brad Chambers released his first policy proposal Wednesday with an emphasis on increasing online safety for Hoosier children.

Chambers, who is vying for the 2024 Republican nomination for Indiana governor, said he wants to require stricter age verification, enhance online data protections and ensure age-appropriate classroom instruction “on the benefits and dangers of social media and other online activity,” among other proposals.

“Today’s online environment is an increasingly dangerous place,” Chambers said in a statement. “Its harmful effects are real and well-documented, yet career politicians have failed to act as Big Tech prioritizes monetization of Hoosier children over their safety, privacy and well-being.”

“As governor, I’ll work collaboratively with the Legislature to implement this plan and give Hoosier parents the tools they need to keep their children safe online,” he continued.

Chambers’ “Safe Online Plan” is highlighted in his latest six-figure ad buy that will begin airing on television statewide as early as Wednesday, according to a campaign news release.

The announcement came one day after the state attorney general’s office sued Meta in federal and state courts, alleging the company knowingly designed and deployed harmful features on Instagram and its other social media platforms that purposefully addict children and teens.

Specifically, the plan seeks to require stricter age verification for the use of digital platforms such as social media, as well as websites that distribute or display pornographic material.

Chambers said he would do so by consulting with online industry experts and the state legislature “to determine the most reliable age verification system to ensure children are protected and

parents are empowered to manage and monitor the online presence of their minor children.”

Although age 13 is generally the required minimum age for access to social media platforms, Chambers pointed to recent studies indicating that roughly 40% of the nation’s youth between the ages of eight and 12 report using social media.

“Currently, social media, gaming platforms and websites that distribute or display pornographic material simply require users to check a box or fill in a birth date with no way to verify and confirm the user’s age,” Chambers’ plan says.

The candidate also proposed a “multi-pronged approach” to enhance and expand online data protections for Hoosier users under the age of 18.

The “Safe Online” plan would limit geolocation tracking for verified youth social media accounts only to applications that allow parents or guardians to know the location of their children.

To prevent cyberstalking and cyberbullies, it also requires verified youth social media accounts to be automatically set to “private” mode

so unknown users cannot view a child’s social media activity.

Companies found in violation of the Safe Online plan’s data protection provisions would be subject to penalties.

Chambers is also seeking to enforce penalties on online companies that fail to prevent Hoosier children from accessing pornographic material and other inappropriate adult content online.

He further promised to work with the Indiana Department of Education to ensure “age-appropriate” classroom instruction on the dangers of social media and other online activity.

*A lifelong Hoosier, Casey Smith previously reported on the Indiana Legislature for The Associated Press. Internationally, she has reported on water quality across South America. She holds a master’s degree in investigative reporting and narrative science writing from the University of California/Berkeley’s Graduate School of Journalism. She previously earned degrees in journalism, anthropology and Spanish from Ball State University, where she now serves as an instructor of journalism.*

### Indiana’s Favorite Ghoul Sets Sights On Unclaimed Property

With Halloween just around the corner, Indiana icon Sammy Terry is partnering with the Attorney General’s Office to remind Hoosiers to search for unclaimed treats at [IndianaUnclaimed.gov](http://IndianaUnclaimed.gov).

Sammy Terry, the longest running TV horror host in the world, is featured in radio and TV ads this fall to reunite Hoosiers with their unclaimed property.

“We’re honored to work with Sammy on this ghoulish holiday,” Attorney General Todd Rokita said. “Losing money is a real nightmare, but reclaiming your hard-earned money is safe, secure and free if you visit [IndianaUnclaimed.gov](http://IndianaUnclaimed.gov).”

In 2022, Rokita’s office returned more than \$62 million in unclaimed property to its rightful owners. This year, the office has already returned more than \$61 million, and over \$700 million is still waiting to be claimed.

turns a wicked \$1 million every week to Hoosiers across the state,” Terry said. “Text SAMMY to 46220 and search your name for any unclaimed, pleasant nightmares waiting to be claimed by you!”

Unclaimed property is any financial asset with no activity by its owner for an extended period of time. This can include unclaimed wages or commissions, money orders, safety deposit box contents, savings and checking accounts, refunds and overpayments.

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 state.

Visit [IndianaUnclaimed.gov](http://IndianaUnclaimed.gov) or text SAMMY to 46220 to search your name, family or business.

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