

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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TODAY'S VERSE

Isaiah 59:19 So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.



FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Tom Smith smile? "Being on stage," said the Westfield resident, who is currently performing in *The Belfry Theatre's* holiday comedy, "The Man Who Came to Dinner," a play on stage today through Sunday at Noblesville First United Methodist Church. "The coolest thing about the show is that my grandson, Drake (Smith) is in the show with me." Smith most recently co-produced *The Belfry's* "How the Other Half Loves," with director Nicole Amsler. The Marion, Ind., native and Ball State University graduate caught the theater bug just a few short years ago after retiring from the FBI. He started out acting, then moved into producing. He has played a drunken choir director in "Our Town" at The Belfry and, before that, a drunken custodian in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" at The Belfry and a drunken dime-store owner in "Picnic" at Westfield Playhouse. He played a drunken handyman in "Hide and Seek" at Carmel Community Players, a drunken priest in the Fringe Short Play Festival, and a drunken newspaperman in "More Light" at the Nickel Plate Arts. He portrayed the narrator, an adult John Boy Walton, in Westfield Playhouse's production of "The Homecoming: Waltons' Christmas Story" and the narrator in Westfield Playhouse's "The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance." His first lead acting role was as Grandpa Jack in Buck Creek Players' "The Unexpected Gift." He also played Judge Taylor in Booth Tarkington Civic Theatre's "To Kill A Mockingbird." He played Bud Abbott during Noblesville Preservation Alliance's "Best of 1930s and 1940s Comedy" radio show reenactment. He produced Main Street Productions' summer youth production in 2022 at Basile Westfield Playhouse, where he is on the board of directors. He loves acting with kids and attending their shows. "That's what makes me smile. I religiously follow the careers of the kids that I work with to see what happens to them," said Smith, a mentor for Westfield Playhouse Youth Advisory Council. He has produced several Westfield shows, including "The Monologue Show" youth production in summer 2020 and the sold-out Playhouse holiday 2021 musical, "White Christmas." Westfield's current show, a holiday comedy, is "Inspecting Carol," opening tonight.

And Another Thing...

1. NPT Night Lights kicks off December 1!

Head downtown as Fishers Parks lights up the night on the Nickel Plate Trail to celebrate the coming winter and holiday season! Through the month of December, enjoy NPT Night Lights, a light display along the downtown portion of the Nickel Plate Trail, presented by Centier Bank! Come out from 6 to 8 p.m. December 1, 2, or 3 as the trail gets activated with food, music, photo opps, and more! Plan a night downtown with friends or family to start your holiday festivities for free! Access to the Nickel Plate Trail is always free, and no registration or RSVP is required for NPT Night Lights. Lights will turn on dusk nightly through the end of December.



Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven of Indy Ghost Light Photography

Tyler Acquaviva of Zionsville and Jennifer Poynter of Carmel rehearse a comical moment for Main Street Productions' holiday comedy, "Inspecting Carol," opening tonight at Basile Westfield Playhouse.



Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven of Indy Ghost Light Photography

Scott Prill of Carmel plays Ebenezer Scrooge for Main Street Productions' holiday comedy, "Inspecting Carol," opening tonight at Basile Westfield Playhouse.

Westfield's 'Inspecting Carol' Comedy Is Not Your Average Christmas Show



BETSY REASON
From The Editor's Desk...

If you're a fan of the beloved holiday favorite, "A Christmas Carol" and love the concept of the brilliant laugh-out-loud comedy, "Noises Off" -- a play within a play -- then add "Inspecting Carol" to your holiday show list.

Folks who are looking for something different, something they haven't seen elsewhere, will want to put this holiday show on their calendar. "Inspecting Carol," by Daniel Sullivan, is on stage, opening tonight with a special opening-night ticket price of \$13 per person. The show continues through Dec. 10 at Basile Westfield Playhouse.

The holiday comedy, directed by Kelly Keller of Fishers, is Main Street Productions' second show of the season, which follows the highly popular "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street" musical directed by Andrea Odle of Noblesville. Brandi Davis, vice president

Want TO GO?

What: Main Street Productions presents the holiday comedy, "Inspecting Carol."

When: Opening tonight, Nov. 30-Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. Sundays.

Where: Basile Westfield Playhouse, 220 N. Union St., Westfield.

How much: \$17 for adults, \$15 for ages 17 and younger (with identification) and 62 and older, free to active military and veterans with identification. Special holiday rate \$13 for opening night only.

Reservations required: Call 317-402-3341 or visit www.westfieldplayhouse.org/

of arts for the Playhouse, is the show's producer, and described the storyline as "'A Christmas Carol' meets the Government Inspector meets 'Noises Off' in this hilarious hit."

A man who asks to audition at a small theater is mistaken for an informer of the National Endowment of the Arts. Every-

See BETSY Page A6



Photo courtesy of Cicero Lions

From left to right...Hailey Hall - Hamilton Heights Honor Society Member, Isaac Kuhn - Hamilton Heights Honor Society President, Lisa Badgley-Hamilton Heights Special Education Instructional Assistant, Kathy Wilson - Board Member, Kiwanis Club of Cicero

Kiwanis Club Of Cicero Donates \$3k

Every child deserves to experience the joy of opening a present on Christmas morning. The Hamilton Heights Angel Tree Program helps provide gifts for those children who otherwise might not have anything to open on Christmas morning.

Since 2006, a tree has been put up in in each school and "angel tags" are created and placed on the trees by Honor Society and Angel Tree committee members. Each tag contains information about a child and

See KIWANIS Page A6

Tis The Season, To Remember Those In Need



MARK HALL
The Timesheet

The need is growing, more and more people stop by the pantries every week to pick up meals.

As much as we hope this would not be the case, the reality of people's situations dictates otherwise. Thankfully, more people support our mission to provide meals to hungry neighbors too. Each time we ask for help, neighbors step up. I am grateful that we live in a special place with generous caring neighbors, people who are never shy about helping those in need.

The most recent example was from a few weeks ago. We are excited to report the results from the FeedingTeam.org first "Choo Choo Chew" train bingo fundraising event. Almost eighty brave souls joined a dozen volunteers on October 13th for a train ride from Noblesville's Hobb's Station to Atlanta where we disembarked, feasted on a

See MARK Page A6

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:47 a.m.
SET: 5:24 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 54 °F
Low: 30 °F



Today is...

- Computer Security Day
- National Mousse Day
- National Personal Space Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1982 Michael Jackson's Thriller is released worldwide. Thought to be the best-selling album of all time, the album, which had 9 tracks, won 8 Grammy Awards, including the award for Album of the Year in 1984.
- 1947 Civil War in Palestine. Also known as the Civil War in Mandatory Palestine, the conflict began the day after the United Nations General Assembly voted on a resolution that provided a partition plan for Palestine.
- 1939 The Winter War begins. The 4-month long war between Finland and the Soviet Union began after the USSR invaded Finland and bombed Helsinki. The conflict ended on March 30, 1940, with the two countries signing the Moscow Peace Treaty.



Births On This Day

- 1874 Winston Churchill English politician, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Nobel Prize laureate
- 1835 Mark Twain American author

Deaths On This Day

- 2007 Evel Knievel American motorcycle stuntman
- 1900 Oscar Wilde Irish author, poet, playwright

INSIDE TODAY

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TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

If you're inactive and overweight, get tested for diabetes. 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



HONEST HOOSIER

You know, getting old hasn't been a shock. How quickly it happened certainly was.



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. "A good newspaper is a nation talking to itself." -Arthur Miller

TODAY'S JOKE

A reporter is interviewing a citizen who just turned 107. The reporter asked: What's the best thing about being 107? The interviewee smiled - "no peer pressure."

OBITUARIES

None



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



WTHR 13 7 DAY FORECAST

30/54 WINDY, 10% CHANCE	43/48 A WET DAY	42/48 CLOUDY, 30% CHANCE	39/48 CLOUDY, 40% CHANCE	34/42 RAIN, 50% CHANCE	32/40 CLOUDY, 40% CHANCE	28/38 CHILLY
THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED

New Podcast, The Omnibus Show

The Omnibus Show is a new podcast hosted by Dave Gibbs "for people who love interviews of interesting and accomplished people, and who are life learners." Today's episode of The Omnibus Show will feature Luxury Real Estate agent and business owner Carrie Holle.

In this episode, Holle discusses her pragmatic and fascinating career. She also discusses getting into the industry and insights on purchasing homes and selling properties.

Holle, a distinguished figure in the Indianapolis real estate scene, is the founding agent of Compass Indianapolis and the visionary owner of one of the most high-achieving luxury real estate teams in Central Indiana, The Carrie Holle Group.

With an illustrious career, her listings have graced the pages of esteemed publications such as the Wall Street Journal, USA Today, People Magazine, and Mansions Global. She has received prestigious distinctions such as being the first founding broker of Compass Real Estate Indiana and being named the #1 Mid-Size Team in Volume in Indiana by Real Trends.

Listings that she has handled have included several multi-million dollar homes, including that of NASCAR driver Tony

Stewart in Southern Indiana. Throughout her 30-year career, she has been a dependable resource for numerous local developers and builders who seek her consultation on multi-million dollar projects. Her extensive experience and deep understanding of the industry have established her as a trusted advisor, enabling her to consistently provide strategic guidance that leads to success in the ever-evolving realm of real estate development. Her latest business projects have allowed her to expand to the international market.

You can learn more about Holle at <https://wearecarmelrealestate.com/>

Coming up on December 4 will be producer, photographer and publicist Amy Pauszek. As a true lover of indie films, Pauszek has worked as a key producer and publicist in several feature films, shorts, TV, and commercials.

Pauszek is also a freelance photographer for magazine and newspaper publications and provides still photography for many local and syndicated television productions.

Visit www.TheOmnibusShow.com for the audio podcasts and YouTube channel for more information and to sign up for the newsletter.



Photo courtesy of Hamilton Heights Schools

Students who chose the session with HHSC SRO Deputy Kevin Neal gained insight into what happens during a traffic stop. Deputy Neal is pictured during a mock traffic stop helping students learn what to expect and how to properly respond during an interaction with a law enforcement officer in this scenario.

New Husky Skills Program A Hit

Last Thursday, close to 75 students took advantage of the new Husky Skills Training program to attend the first of four Husky Skills sessions that will take place during the extended Student Resource Time (SRT) period each quarter this year. The daily SRT period is 30 minutes except on Thursdays when it is one hour and 35 minutes. SRT is designed to offer students time for schoolwork during school hours. However, not all students need to use the time for schoolwork.

When brainstorming ideas on how to maximize learning opportunities during the Thursday SRT period, the high school administrative team consisting of Mitch Street (Assistant Principal/Dean of Students), Whitney Gray (Assistant Principal) and Jarrod Mason (Principal) came up with an idea that was a hit with students - mini sessions on life skills that aren't taught in the classroom.

For the first session, students could choose from several offerings which included Basic Automotive Care (Jarrod Mason, HHHS Principal), Traffic Stop Behavior/Expectations (HHSC SRO, Hamilton County Sheriff Department), Cooking 101/Meal Prep and Planning (Linda McClure), Floriculture/Designing a Small Floral Arrangement (Sandy Fern and Pat Simmons) and All Things Games (Led by HHHS teacher's Travis Kauffman and Brad Batman). These specialty sessions were taught by Heights' staff and members of the community. Students weighed in and shared additional suggestions for the next round slated for Thursday, December 14.

"I attended the Cooking 101 class today because I thought it would be fun and informative," said sophomore Emma Trees. "I liked that I not only enjoyed my time in the class but also took away some new lessons I can use later



Photo courtesy of Hamilton Heights Schools

Students learned the finer points of flower arranging in the Floriculture and Floral Design session led by Sandy Fern and Pat Simmons. This was one of five mini sessions offered as part of the new Husky Life Skills program.

in life. If there is a chance to take another class next quarter I will definitely sign up!

"We were pleased with the interest and response from our students," said Mitch Street, in what he thinks could expand beyond a quarterly offering. "They enjoyed the variety of sessions offered, hands-on learning opportunity,

and the takeaways. It was a great use of the time to engage students in areas that can provide lifelong value. We already have Sewing and Taxes 101 sessions planned for the next quarter and will expand upon the classes already carried out this past time. We are also looking at a soundboard engineering intro class."

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Former Rep. Sean Eberhart Pleads Guilty To Felony Charge

By Whitney Downard
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Former Shelbyville Rep. Sean Eberhart pleaded guilty to a felony charge Tuesday before U.S. District Judge Matthew P. Brookman, admitting his role in a gambling corruption case.

The plea to conspiracy to commit honest services fraud can include accepting bribes or kickbacks related to one's public service and includes a maximum punishment of five years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine and three years of supervised release.

Though federal prosecutors indicated that Eberhart didn't act alone, no others have yet been

named or charged. No sentencing hearing has been scheduled and he remains free.

The charges stretch back to his lawmaker days, when Eberhart accepted a lucrative job opportunity with a major gaming company in exchange for his legislative support of a bill to relocate two casinos from Lake Michigan to "other areas beneficial to Spectacle (Entertainment)," according to a release from the U.S. Attorney's Office.

An unidentified owner at Spectacle offered Eberhart a job at the company with a salary of "at least" \$350,000 and an equity stake.

Eberhart was a member of the House Public Policy Committee, which heard the bill, until his retirement last year. Due to lawmaker intervention, transfer fees for moving the casinos were reduced from \$100 million to \$20 million and included beneficial tax incentives — a win for Spectacle, which wanted to move the casinos to Terre Haute and Gary.

Spectacle ultimately lost the license due to finance issues.

Restitution in the case is \$60,000 — the legislative salary for Eberhart — alongside a \$100 fee for a mandatory special assessment.

In the courtroom at the Indianapolis Birch

Bayh Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse., U.S. Attorney Brad Shepard read several text exchanges between Eberhart and unnamed co-conspirators from early 2019 in which Eberhart said he wanted "to make it right" for the unidentified Spectacle owner.

According to an informational document outlining the state's evidence, Eberhart pushed language to eliminate the \$100 million transfer fee entirely and pushed for a 20% tax rate "that would save Spectacle tens of millions of dollars."

The Senate and House ultimately disagreed on portions of the bill, sending it to a conference committee that threatened

to tank the bill. Eberhart, via text with an unnamed person, discussed a female lawmaker holding up the bill.

That unnamed person said the unidentified Spectacle owner "is losing his mind." Eberhart responds, "Tell him stay calm. We are going to let the bull simmer tonight."

He also said he talked to the female lawmaker "3 different times. Told her I couldn't believe she would let the bill die because of hold harmless language."

"Just told (unidentified Spectacle owner) to hold tight," he concluded.

In another exchange about the unnamed person's hangover, Eberhart said "We got work to do and 2 casinos

to open... Meeting with (unidentified Spectacle owner) later this week."

With an offense level of 21 — slightly reduced due to his "acceptance of responsibility" — Eberhart could serve between 37 and 46 months, according to the 2016 sentencing guidelines.

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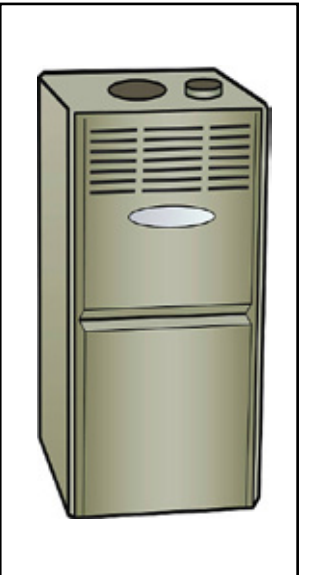
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BBB Business Tip: How To Create A Sustainable And Scalable Sales Strategy

Even if you have the best products or services on the planet, you need to sell them, or you won't make any money. A well-designed sales strategy that centers on increasing trust and transparency for your business could be what sets you apart from competitors. Thankfully, you don't need a big budget to market and sell your products effectively. Here are five ways to create a sustainable and scalable sales strategy for your small business without breaking the bank.

1. Cultivate customer relationships and loyalty. According to HubSpot, increasing your customer retention by five percent "can increase company revenue by 25-95%." Retaining customers involves a dedicated focus on relationship-building. When you nurture your customer relationships, they're more likely to spend at your business, and in many cases, they'll recommend your products or services to others because of their faith in how you do things.

Cultivating this kind of loyalty requires you to be responsive to your customers' needs. Take advantage of one-on-one interactions and go above and beyond whenever possible. Read and respond to customer reviews, and if customer disputes arise, always work to find a solution. Additionally, consider using online survey tools to gather customer feedback or emails to send useful tips, deals, and advice. When you actively work to create a conversation, you're showing you care about your customers.

2. Leverage the power of the internet. As digital marketing continues to be part of our online activity, BBB has just introduced a suite of digital tools for Accredited Businesses to bolster their online presence. Using these tools to reach more potential customers leverages your time and resources to generate more sales. Whatever online tool you use, remember to add a personal touch to your interactions whenever possible. Ensure your website is user-friendly, speak to your customers' needs, and hone your unique voice in messages crafted for your audience.

Allow customers to get in touch in multiple ways (e.g., direct messages (DMs), phone, email, live chat) and provide outstanding pre- and post-sales customer service. Technologies such as chatbots and messaging apps are making it possible to have one-on-one interactions with customers in an efficient and scalable way so you can leverage the power of conversations to make more sales.

3. Offer a free trial or samples. "Try before you buy" is still a great way to get prospects to experience your products or services before they make a purchasing decision. Not only will you be able to attract more potential customers, but you can also reduce the number of refund requests or customer complaints.

When you offer a free trial or sample, you can collect prospects' contact

information to build your mailing list and continue communicating with them. To get the most out of this strategy, design a follow-up email sequence so you can educate potential customers about your products, provide more value, nurture relationships, and eventually close sales.

4. Upselling, cross-selling, and bundling. Since your customers are already buying something on your website or in your store, it doesn't take much more effort to recommend other products they may like based on the items they're purchasing. Upselling, cross-selling, and bundling are powerful ways to increase order values, profit margins, and customer satisfaction. When a customer is in a "buying" state of mind, this is an opportunity to introduce other products that might interest them. The key is to be authentic and relevant when pitching to their needs. Be thoughtful about these strategies as you work to create the best customer experience possible. These techniques also give you the opportunity to forge trust with your customers. If they like the additional items, they're more likely to come back and buy more. This can be a great way to increase the average customer lifetime value.

5. Incentivize with loyalty and referral programs. Encourage your customers to buy more or refer their friends to your business with incentives. A loyalty program can help you strengthen brand affinity, improve customer engagements and increase repeat purchases from existing customers. If you have a click-and-mortar (e-commerce and brick-and-mortar) business, make sure customers can track their loyalty points seamlessly across all channels to avoid frustration and abandonment.

You should also reward loyal customers for telling their friends about your business with a referral program. To run a successful referral program, make it easy for your customers to spread the word for you. For example, give them ideas on how to share their experience with your business on social media. Lastly, be transparent about the terms and details of your referral program so you can deliver a mutually beneficial and satisfying experience to your loyal customers.

Find your sweet spot: There's no one-size-fits-all sales strategy for small businesses. A sustainable and scalable sales strategy depends on many factors, such as your business model, industry, target market and location. As always, the best sales strategy is to put your customers first so you can provide the products and services that best meet their needs.

To learn more ways to improve your business practices, go to bbb.org and visit the BBB Small Business Resources page. You can also visit bbb.org/get-accredited to learn how to stand out as BBB Accredited business.

What's So Bad About Concrete Anyway?

EARTHTALK

Dear EarthTalk: Why is concrete production bad for the planet? Are there sustainable options?

Concrete is undeniably one of the largest contributors to environmental degradation around the world, not just because it is used to pave over nature but also because of its huge production and distribution carbon footprint. Creating concrete involves extracting raw materials like limestone, which releases large amounts of carbon dioxide (CO₂) into the atmosphere. And the production process is energy-intensive, requiring high temperatures at the factory and transportation of heavy materials for hundreds of miles.

Indeed, the concrete industry is responsible for a whopping eight percent of global CO₂ emissions, making it one of the world's worst climate villains. The chemical reaction involved in producing concrete generates nearly one ton of CO₂ for every ton of concrete produced. These emissions significantly contribute to climate change, exacerbating global warming and its associated consequences. Moreover, the extraction of raw materials for concrete causes habitat destruction, landscape alteration, and can deplete water reserves and other natural resources. The demand for sand, a key component in concrete, has led to illegal and environmentally destructive mining practices around the world as well.

In response to environmental concerns, researchers and innovators are actively seeking more sustainable alternatives to traditional concrete. One promising alternative gaining traction is "green concrete" which uses alternative materials like fly ash, slag or silica fume as partial replacements for cement, concrete's primary ingredient. Additionally, incorporating industrial by-products like recycled glass or plastic in the mixtures can enhance the final product's sustainability. Advancements in technology have also led to the development of novel construction materials like geopolymers, which relies on industrial

waste by-products to create a durable, eco-friendly alternative. These substitutes often offer comparable or even superior performance to traditional concrete while greatly reducing carbon emissions during production.

Another sustainable approach involves exploring "biomimicry," drawing inspiration from nature to create materials that imitate natural processes. Some researchers are investigating the use of bio-based materials like hempcrete, made from hemp fibers and a lime-based binder, which possess impressive insulation properties and a smaller environmental footprint compared to conventional concrete.

Additionally, advancements in construction techniques, such as 3D printing using recycled materials, offer innovative ways to reduce waste and energy consumption in building construction. These methods have the potential to revolutionize the construction industry by minimizing resource extraction and energy usage while offering greater design flexibility. While these sustainable alternatives show promise, widespread adoption and implementation require further research, development, and investment to scale up production and make them economically competitive with traditional concrete.

The detrimental environmental impact of concrete requires urgent action. Exploring and investing in sustainable alternatives is crucial to mitigate the environmental damage caused by construction activities and pave the way for a more sustainable and eco-friendly future in the construction industry.

-CONTACTS: The Concrete That Helps The Climate, <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20230309-how-carbon-negative-concrete-can-help-the-climate>; Why Is Concrete So Damaging To The Environment? <https://www.fairplanet.org/story/concrete-climate-change-environmental-injustice/>.

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.

relax & enjoy



THE TIMES

Where Do We Go From Here?



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

The Noblesville Times is approaching its 120th year – and the current caretakers (that would be our little company) have been at the helm for the past 15 years. That just doesn't seem possible – until I look in the mirror and see what little hair I have left isn't the same color it was when we started. (And no, I am not planning on changing this column photo anytime soon!)

To be sure, it's been hectic, but pretty sure the times ahead look even more so.

As I have been out and about – some of you have shared some thoughts and suggestions on the paper you have made your own. One of the big things is that you have been appreciative of our decision not to raise prices. After all, how many businesses can say they've gone this long without a price hike?

(Sorry to say, but in 2024, that's likely to change!)

The biggest point of conversation is frequency of publication. As much as I may hate it, some of you tell me you just don't have time to read a paper every day . . . and as much as I hate to hear that, heck, I understand. I'm a newspaper guy and even I don't have time to read a paper every day.

So what to do about that? Do we reduce the number of days per week we publish our Online Edition? A few of you have suggested that – and added that adding more content and improvements on those days would make it a better read.

I won't say I disagree – but we'd like to hear from more of you. Would you prefer fewer days with more content on the day or days we do publish an Online Edition? (Oh, fear not Print Edition subscribers – no changes are planned to the Wednesday schedule!)

If I may then, I'd like to ask a favor – let me know what you think? You can share your thoughts on our schedule, our content, the state of the Colts or any little thing you like. Whatever you write, I always enjoy hearing from you (yes, even those of you who take me to task every now and then).

Honest!

OK, before wrapping this up, let me add one more thing about feedback. In short, the more the better. So I'd like to ask a favor from all eight or nine of you reading this. Would you share this column with some of your friends and neighbors? We'd like to hear their thoughts on frequency and content. Maybe they'll take a look and say – hey, I'd like to start subscribing to this paper. Right here and right now! Tell them all they have to do is e-mail me – timmons@thetimes24-7.com and because they are your friend – we will give them a great discount and get them started.

If all eight or nine of you did that, think what could happen! We could add a bunch more subscribers. And more subscribers mean more eyeballs – which means more advertisers – which means more jobs created – which means more local news coverage – which means more subscribers and more advertisers – which means more money donated back into the community. Our community. They one we live in.

See how this works? Kind of like the shin bone connecting to the knee bone, right?

Hey, a guy can dream, can't he?

-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.

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Experience The Magic Of The Season Over The Next Two Weeks At Feinstein's In Carmel

It's a magical time of the year at Feinstein's with holiday shows, breakfast with Santa, and an actual magic show. It's an unforgettable time, sure to make memories for the whole family.

Do you enjoy sleight of hand, witty banter and mysteries of the mind? Then you'll love DECEPTION: An Evening of Magic and Lies on Thursday, November 30. This show starts at 7:30 pm and is for anyone over 10 years of age. It is a magic and mind reading show, hosted by magician David Ranalli.

David creates an unforgettable evening. Guests are invited into an intimate, industrial space where surprises lurk in every corner. Perfect as a date night, group event, and for the hardcore magic fan.

Meet Jolly Saint Nick for breakfast on Saturday, December 2, Sunday, December 3, and Saturday, December 9. Beginning at 8 am and continuing throughout the morning (visit the website to check out available times), breakfast With Santa allows you and your little ones to make holiday memories at Feinstein's at Hotel Carmichael. Enjoy a holiday breakfast which includes an appetizer for the table (1 per 4 people), personal choice of one entrée, and one dessert for the table, plus pictures with Santa — included in the ticket price. There will be alcoholic beverages available for purchase during the event. Also, there will

be a live singer crooning Christmas classics while children are escorted onto the stage to take a picture with jolly St. Nick!

Wednesday, December 6, and Thursday, December 7, Broadway legend Franc D'Ambrosio takes the stage performing his favorite holiday songs in CHRISTMAS IN CARMEL. D'Ambrosio joyously celebrates the music and magic of the holidays. The moment Franc steps up to the microphone, you will immediately get into the spirit of the season with classics like "Here Comes Santa Claus" and "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas." You'll enjoy hearing Broadway standards such as Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" and "My Favorite Things" from The Sound of Music, followed by Franc's Nativity Medley, including "The Little Drummer Boy," "Do You Hear What I Hear?" and his heart-stopping rendition of "O Holy Night."

Like a parting gift tucked under the Christmas tree, Franc leaves you with the songs that made him famous -- "The Music of the Night" from The Phantom of the Opera, and "Speak Softly Love" from Godfather III. There may be no place like home for the holidays, but there's no one like Franc D'Ambrosio to guide you there. Both shows begin at 7:30 pm.

Experience an unforgettable evening with New York City-based

vocal group T.3 with THE OPTION UP TOUR. This show is on Saturday, December 9. T.3 is made up of Liam Fennecken, Jim Hogan and Brendan Jacob Smith who have appeared in musicals such as School of Rock, Waitress and Kimberly Akimbo. The #tiktoktenors gained popularity on social media platforms with covers of Disney, Broadway, and Pop songs. Their videos have amassed over 20 million views since they debuted with their viral version of "Into the Unknown" from Disney's Frozen 2.

Get ready to immerse yourself in a night filled with music, excitement, and pure fun.

On Sunday, December 10, jazz up your Sunday with JAZZ BRUNCH - CHRISTMAS featuring Blair Clark. Join Feinstein's for a jazzy Christmas brunch with the amazing Blair Clark, where great music and food collide. Experience Clark's captivating vocals that have thrilled audiences worldwide. Clark has also collaborated with Grammy winners and legends like Evelyn "Champagne" King.

Feinstein's at Hotel Carmichael is located at 1 Carmichael Square, Carmel, IN, 46032. Contact Hotel Carmichael at 317-688-1947.

Consider having your Corporate gatherings at Feinstein's. Feinstein's events are great activities for this. For groups of 10 tickets or more, email sales@hotelcarmichael.

Gov. Holcomb Appoints Elise Nieshalla As The New State Comptroller

Governor Eric J. Holcomb announced today that he has selected Elise Nieshalla as the next State Comptroller. Nieshalla will replace State Comptroller Tera Klutz whose resignation is effective Nov. 30.

"Elise is a dedicated and proven public servant who has committed much of her professional life to bettering her community through service," Gov. Holcomb said. "She has shared her financial expertise to help steer and shape the bright future of Boone County which gives me great confidence she'll do the same serving Hoosiers as our next State Comptroller."

Elise Nieshalla serves as the president of the Indiana County Councils Association (ICCA), president of the Boone County Council and is the chairwoman of the Association

of Indiana Counties' 2023 Legislative Committee.

In her role as president of ICCA, Nieshalla works closely with state legislators to address tax and fiscal concerns for county and local government. She also leads the association's partnerships with the state's financial agencies to offer members training and resources to support best practices in local finance and budgeting.

As the president of the Boone County Council, Nieshalla assists in managing and appropriating a \$51 million budget, reviewing revenue projections and planning for the county's financial future.

"My appreciation runs deep for the strong financial standing of our state and the integrity in which the State Comptroller's Office is run," Nieshalla said. "It is truly my privilege to receive Governor

Holcomb's appointment to serve our great state and local units of government by upholding the highest standards of fiscal responsibility and offering tremendous Hoosier service."

Nieshalla was one of the founding members of the Hoosier Leadership Series and was tasked with overseeing education and tax policy for the program. She is a graduate of the Richard G. Lugar Excellence in Public Service Series and was named 2018 Indiana County Councilor of the Year.

Nieshalla earned her bachelor's degree from Oral Roberts University and a master's degree from Indiana University. Nieshalla and her husband Chris, reside in Zionsville where they raised their four children.

Elise Nieshalla will be sworn in Dec. 1, 2023.

Attorney General Todd Rokita Calls For Care And Prudence In Pursuing Justice In Delphi Murder Case

Attorney General Todd Rokita said this week that all parties involved in the Delphi murder trial must work together to ensure the pursuit of justice stays on track.

Abigail Williams, 13, and Liberty German, 14, were slain in 2017. Police arrested a suspect in 2022.

"These families deserve justice and closure for these heinous, heartbreak-

ing murders," Rokita said. "Abby and Libby deserve justice. If this matter ever comes to the appellate court system, we will take immediate action, as we do in all our other cases, to see that the rule of law is upheld."

Rokita submitted a brief to the Indiana Supreme Court this week aimed at helping clarify legal issues in this case.

"We are simply ad-

vising the court on our understanding of the law, case law in particular, and seeking to assist the court in adjudicating a writ before it," Rokita said. "Our office respects the authority and integrity of all legal and law-enforcement professionals involved in this case. Ultimately, our main interest is ensuring the proper and fair administration of justice."

Fishers Honored As An Indiana Clean Communities By State

Environmental Program Now Open to Counties, Cities and Towns Statewide

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) has named Fishers as one of six Clean Communities in the state.

From April 2021–November 2023, Fishers and five other municipalities were pilot participants for the program that replaced the Indiana Clean Community Challenge. Using feedback from pilot program communities, IDEM retooled the program to accept a broader range of projects, encourage cooperation and partnerships with residents and businesses and reduce time-consuming paper-

work requirements.

Fishers earned silver-level status and was honored for their participation and accomplishments at the Indiana Clean Community Program annual meeting and program kickoff on Wednesday, Nov. 28. Beech Grove, Brown County, Richmond and Zionsville earned Silver Status; Merrillville earned Bronze Status.

The Fishers Department of Planning and Zoning leads the city's Clean Team. The city council, Fishers Parks and Recreation, Department of Public Works, and Stormwater Division also assisted

during the pilot phase.

The Fishers Department of Public Works created self-sustaining, eco-friendly ponds that supply better quality water to sports fields and turf and reduce chemical usage. City parks use a water recycling system that saves approximately 100,000 gallons daily. The city of Fishers is also designated as a Tree City USA.

IDEM invites municipalities and community partners interested in participating in the new Indiana Clean Community Program to learn more at on.in.gov/cleancommunity.

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BETSY From Page A1



Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven of Indy Ghost Light Photography

The cast of Main Street Productions' holiday comedy, "Inspecting Carol," takes the stage beginning tonight for eight performances at Basile Westfield Playhouse.

body caters to the bewildered wannabe actor, and he is cast in a role in "A Christmas Carol." Then everything goes wrong.

The farce, written in 1991, features several Hamilton County residents playing some over-the-top characters, including a stage manager who plays Martha Cratchit (Jennifer Poynter of Carmel), an insane director (Tanya Haas of Carmel), Inspector Betty (Debbie Underwood of Westfield), a semi-douchey guy who plays many of the male roles (Gregory Vander Wyden of Westfield), and

a middle-aged man whose wife left him and who plays Ebenezer Scrooge (Scott Prill of Carmel).

This is Keller's second time directing at the playhouse. He directed two of six original one-act plays during the 2022 Christmas at the Playhouse.

Keller, who hails from South Band, performed on stage in his first community theater production, "It's a Wonderful Life" for Mud Creek Players nine years ago in nine small roles. Theater has been a hobby ever since. "I've been involved in every aspect

of theater from being on stage acting, to tech, to producing to directing and everything in between." His wife, Tanya Keller, is stage manager and helped decorate the set for this production. His daughter, Erin Keller, a professional real estate photographer, took the cast and crew photos.

The remainder of Basile Westfield Playhouse's season includes: "Lost in Yonkers" by Neil Simon, directed by Jen Otterman and produced by Ka'Lena Cuevas, Feb. 8-18; "That Championship Season" by Jason Miller, directed by

Lori Raffel and produced by Jen Otterman; April 4-14; "You Can't Take It With You," by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart, directed by Nicole Amsler and produced by Ka'Lena Cuevas, May 30-June 9; and "The Lion The Witch and The Wardrobe" summer youth production, directed by Brandi Davis and produced by Bill Miller, July 18-28.

-Betsy Reason writes about people, places and things in Hamilton County. Contact The Times Editor Betsy Reason at betsy@thetimes24-7.com.



Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven of Indy Ghost Light Photography

Brad Burns in a comical moment in Main Street Productions' holiday comedy, "Inspecting Carol," opening tonight at Basile Westfield Playhouse.



Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven of Indy Ghost Light Photography

Members of the cast Jeff Haber and Tanya Haas rehearse a comical moment for Main Street Productions' holiday comedy, "Inspecting Carol," opening tonight at Basile Westfield Playhouse.

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MARK From Page A1

mega-sized charcuterie board, and spent the next ninety minutes playing Bingo for prize baskets valued up to \$800, donated for this inaugural event. Thank you to all the sponsors, donors, volunteers, train staff and riders who made the evening a great success. FeedingTeam.org raised over \$7,000 to purchase food for neighbors here in Hamilton County.

Now that the holiday season is in full swing let's spend a few minutes reflecting on those in need in our county. We could write the next dozen columns describing examples of people who shop, donate and volunteer with us. Here is one current example. A few weeks ago, we had the opportunity to speak at the Sheridan Kiwanis meeting. That evening, one of the members told the story of observing an older woman shopping at a pantry as he watched. He described what he saw as this frail lady gingerly picked through a pantry, selected two cans of food, and slowly walked away clutching them tightly to her body as if they were precious to her survival, which they may have been. It's not our place or purpose to know her story. We exist to be a food source to neighbors. Her story, and similar ones, happen behind the scenes every week at dozens of pantries right here in Hamilton County.

This holiday season, as we celebrate the blessings in our lives, as we make memories with family and friends, please take a moment, and remember our neighbors that are less fortunate and those that are in need. In the spirit of the season, consider a selfless act of kindness to our neighbors. Thank you. With over 47,000 food challenged neighbors in Hamilton County, www.Feedingteam.org is a reg-

istered 501C3 not for profit organization that provides outdoor 24x7x365 no questions asked, free food pantries throughout the county. The pantries exist, to meet the food insecurity needs of GAP families, neighbors that may not qualify for public assistance and could use a few meals before payday. The pantries serve as many food-challenged neighbors as possible, and our hearts are with those that, like my family, could not always make ends meet.

Thank you for supporting the pantries. We love serving with so many neighbors across Hamilton County. In future columns we will share more stories about how your generosity served neighbors in times of need. The face of hunger in Hamilton County is not what you may think.

In practical terms this straightforward way to help neighbors is having a real impact on lives, families, and our communities. Thank you. A few meals can change the course of a person's life. A can of green beans means so much more when you have nothing to feed your kids. Would you like to get involved? Volunteer opportunities are available. We are evaluating new pantry locations. If you think you have a potential area location, please contact us. www.feedingteam.org facts - 57 pantries, over 10,000 meals in September 2023, over thirty volunteer families. Mark & Lisa Hall are the Founders of The Feeding Team. They may be reached at lisa@feedingteam.org and mark@feedingteam.org or 317-832-1123.

- Mark Hall is a successful businessman, husband, father and grandfather. He is serving his first term on the Hamilton County Council.

KIWANIS From Page A1

lists ideas for gifts they would like to receive.

The Kiwanis Club of Cicero holds an annual "Angel Tree Roadblock" and this year raised a record amount from the generous citizens who call our communities home. "Because of the generosity of our community members, the Cicero Kiwanis

raised \$3,000, allowing us to donate \$1,000 to each school's Angel Tree program," said Kathy Wilson, Board Member of the Kiwanis Club of Cicero. The money raised by the Kiwanis Club of Cicero goes to cover the cost of purchasing presents for any tags left on the tree when the program closes.

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THE TIMES

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Jeffersonville High School has a prominent theatre program that has sent seven shows to the International Thespian Festival in Nebraska, one which continued to the Fringe Festival in Scotland

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10
Clark

Number Stumpers

- How long ago did shipbuilding begin in Jeffersonville?
- What percentage of the county's population is made up of Jeffersonville residents?
- What is the population density of the county?
- How old is Clark County?

Answers: 1. 199 years 2. About 42.75% 3. About 293/square mile 4. 217 years

Did You Know?

- The total land area of Clark County is 376.45 square miles.
- Jeffersonville, the county seat, has an estimated population of 47,124 people.
- Clark County was founded in 1801 and is the second oldest county in Indiana.
- The county has a population of approximately 110,232 people.
- In 1819 the first shipbuilding took place in Jeffersonville and had a major impact on the county's economy.

Got Words?

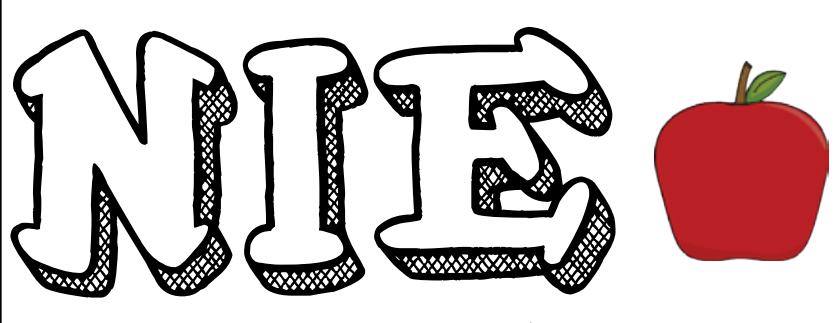
Clark County has had numerous economic opportunities because of its proximity to the Ohio River. Since it was found, the county has played a major role in trade. How do you think a variety of trading opportunities benefits and hurts a community?

Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

- SELJFOVERENFIL
- IOHO EIRVR
- RLKAC UYTCNO
- EDRAT
- ILGNIPSUIDHB

Answers: 1. Jeffersonville 2. Ohio River 3. Clark County 4. Trade 5. Shipbuilding



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