

# The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

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**TODAY'S VERSE**  
Romans 12:1 "Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship." (NASB)



**FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY**

People who call our community their own.

What makes Jan Borchherding smile? "Spending time with my husband, Greg, and sharing robust laughter over our private jokes ... our children and new granddaughter and cherished friends ... gardening and enjoying the beautiful flowers my son taught me to grow ... bringing a smile to others ... waking up to a snowy morning ... these all make me smile." The Noblesville woman was found rehearsing for The Belfry Theatre's holiday play, "The Man Who Came to Dinner," which continues through Sunday at the Noblesville First United Methodist Church Celebration Hall stage. She plays the roles of Mrs. McCutcheon and Harriet. She is a pharmacy technician who retired from Riverview Hospital. Jan has been married to husband, Greg, for 43 years and has three children, James, Mark, and Carolyn, and a delightful daughter-in-law, Elizabeth, and one granddaughter. Greg moved from Cincinnati to Fort Wayne to work at GTE. "We lived there for four years then transferred to Noblesville." She took a long break from theater after getting married and raising kids. Her first show after the hiatus was The Belfry's "To Kill A Mockingbird" in 2014, as Miss Maudie Atkinson. Most recently, Jan portrayed Lily Belle in Main Street Productions' "The Curious Savage" at Basile Westfield Playhouse. Other favorite roles were Mrs. Webb in "Our Town" and Sister Agnes and the Folk Singer in "The Lilies of the Field" at The Belfry; and Mary Bailey in "It's a Wonderful Life Live Radio Show" for Carmel Community Players. Her passions? "Theater, music, doting on my granddaughter and advocating for the marginalized and disenfranchised in our country." For tickets to Jan's current Belfry show, visit www.thebelfrytheatre.com

**And Another Thing...**

**1. Santa's Mailbox starts the day after Thanksgiving!**

Running through Friday, December 15, drop off your letters to Santa in the special mailboxes at the following locations: Nickel Plate Trail (near 116th Street & Switch Plaza at the swings), Ambassador House at Heritage Park (10598 Eller Road) Santa's elves and the Fishers Parks team will make sure your letter gets to Santa, and you'll receive a letter in return from the big man himself! Don't forget to include a return address on your letter. Can't drop off your letter in person? Email Santa through Friday, December 22, at [santa@fishers.in.us!](mailto:santa@fishers.in.us)



Photo courtesy of the City of Noblesville

**Experience Lights Over Seminary presented by the City of Noblesville and Noblesville Preservation Alliance during this walkable light display, opening 5:30-7 p.m. today with a ceremony in Seminary Park at Hannibal and 10th Street in downtown Noblesville.**



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

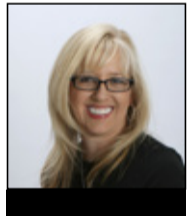
**Abigail Phillips of Noblesville in 2021 asks Santa for a Pixie Fairy and a unicorn with wings, among the items on her holiday wish list with Santa at Hamilton County Historical Society's Santa House on the Square, open now through Dec. 24 in downtown Noblesville.**



Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven of Indy Ghost Light Photography

**Noblesville's Bucky and Sadie Ohning sing "Silent Night" in The Belfry Theatre's "The Man Who Came to Dinner Play," which features an array of cast members, including Daniel Dale Clymer and Melissa Reid, at 8 p.m. today and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at Noblesville First United Methodist Church.**

**Deck the Downtown, Seminary To Light Up, Nighttime Parade, More**



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

Today, head downtown Noblesville for Noblesville Main Street's Deck the Downtown and Midnight Madness with shopping and trolley rides to Lights Over Seminary Park ceremony, ice skating, carriage rides, and more. Share your holiday wish list with Santa at the Santa House on the Square. On Saturday, shop at the Holiday Market experience the inaugural Holiday in Lights Parade through downtown Noblesville. All weekend, watch live community theater with holiday comedies put on by The Belfry Theatre and Basile Westfield Playhouse. Here's The Times' list of 30 things to do this weekend and beyond:

1. Deck the Downtown and

Midnight Madness from 5 p.m. to 11:45 p.m. today during Noblesville Main Street's First Friday events. The night, sponsored by Duke Energy, features shopping and dining downtown, trolley rides to Noblesville's Lights Over Seminary Park, ice skating at Federal Hill Commons and holiday programming at Hamilton County Artists' Association Birdie Gallery and Noblesville Creates (formerly Nickel Plate Arts).

2. Santa listens to gift lists at the Santa House on the Square on select dates in downtown Noblesville, courtesy of Hamilton County Historical Society. Hours are 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. today; 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; noon to 3 p.m. Sunday and Dec. 10; 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Dec. 8, 14, 15, 21, 22; noon to 5 p.m. Dec. 9, 16, 17, 23; and noon to 4 p.m. Dec. 24. Stop by to visit Santa, snap a photo, and consider a donation that goes toward making this Santa House

➔ See BETSY Page A6

**Stand-Out Moments And Experiences From November**



**DEREK ARROWOOD Guest Column**

It's been an awesome month to be a student at Hamilton Heights Middle School. While there is always something going on that inspires, challenges, and motivates our students, two recent experiences stand out. Earlier this month the school welcomed a handful of local companies and organizations to serve as mock interviewers to give 8th grade students insight and experience into the interviewing process. Over 170 students participated in a mock interview that left them more prepared and confident for their first real job interview.

The experience was led by Connor James, HHMS Business and Preparing for College and Careers Teacher. Special thanks to the following companies and organizations who helped make the event a success: Ryan Fire Protection (Kerry Hamlin/Brittany Knight), Will Power Excavation (Will Schuler/Mitchell Winningham), L & M Gardens (Lloyd Long), and HMSC (Rebecca Nickless/Megan Kinney/Ken Watson/Kathleen Davidson).

This week fifth grade students are participating in BizTown hosted and facilitated by Junior Achievement. While exploring and working in BizTown, students can discover careers, build financial skills, collaborate with classmates, exercise civic duties, invest in the community, and more. Through this immersive and interactive experience, led by Heather Greider and the other fifth grade teachers, students learn about how business and city government work, the opportunity to operate bank and credit unions, manage restaurants and other retail businesses, public utilities, and higher learning venues. They take away an understanding and readiness about a healthy economy, workforce, and financial literacy.

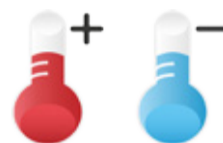
We are rolling out our RAIS-Eright (formerly SCRIPS) gift card fundraiser to support our MOSAICS program. MOSAICS is a special program of the Hamilton-Boone-Madison Special Services Cooperative located at Hamilton Heights High School. It serves students with significant social/emotional and behavioral challenges that interfere with their ability to progress in their home school district. Participating retailers can be found here. To purchase a gift card email Kim Luckey, MOSAICS Director/Middle School Teacher @ [kluckey@hhschuskies.org](mailto:kluckey@hhschuskies.org). Orders are due by Saturday, December 3.

If you were a member of the Hamilton Heights Band and Color Guard your senior year you won't want to miss this year's annual Band and Color Guard

➔ See ARROWOOD Page A6

**The Daily Almanac**

Sunrise/Sunset  
RISE: 7:48 a.m.  
SET: 5:24 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures  
High: 53 °F  
Low: 43 °F



**Today is...**

- Rosa Parks Day
- National Cookie Butter Day
- World AIDS Day



**What Happened On This Day**

- 1943 Tehran Conference ends. The Tehran Conference between the US, the UK, and the Soviet Union ended with the three countries deciding to open up a second front against Germany in France, and the Soviet Union agreeing to declare war against Japan.
- 1919 Nancy Astor becomes to the first woman to join the British House of Commons. Nancy Witcher Langhorne also known as Nancy Astor became the first woman to join the British House of Commons.
- 1918 Kingdom of Iceland established. The Kingdom of Iceland was established with the signing of the Act of Union with Denmark.



**Births On This Day**

- 1970 Sarah Silverman American comedian, actress, singer
- 1945 Bette Midler American singer-songwriter, producer, actress

**Deaths On This Day**

- 1947 Aleister Crowley English magician, author
- 1135 Henry I of England

**INSIDE TODAY**

- Dick Wolfie.....A4
- Ken Thompson.....A3
- Business.....A7
- Voices.....A8

**TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

See your dentist regularly - dental disease can contribute to a number of health problems like heart disease. Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Times and online at [www.thetimes24-7.com](http://www.thetimes24-7.com).



**TODAY'S QUOTE**

"I believe . . . I believe . . . It's silly, but I believe."  
-Susan, Miracle on 34th Street

**TODAY'S JOKE**

What goes Ho Ho Whoosh, Ho Ho Whoosh? Santa going through a revolving door!

**OBITUARIES**  
Larry Eugene Wagoner  
Jualela Ballard

The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank **TRACY and STEVEN LINE** for subscribing!



## OBITUARIES

### Larry Eugene Wagoner

December 13, 1947, Saturday, November 11, 2023

Larry Eugene Wagoner, age 75, of Sheridan, Indiana, passed away on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2023. He was born December 13, 1947, in Lebanon, Indiana, the oldest of 4 children, to the late Ray Leon, and Mae (Dunn) Wagoner.

Larry attended Whitestown High School until the age of 17. It was at this point in his life that the call to service was too strong for him to ignore. In 1964 he enlisted in the United States Navy, proudly serving his country during the Vietnam War aboard the USS Casa Grande in the Mediterranean. When Larry returned stateside, he entered the workforce. Working in a variety of industries throughout his career gave him a unique outlook on most situations. From working for a furniture company to hiring on with Purdue University as part of their landscaping and athletic field maintenance crew (with stints as both a truck driver and highway billboard installer tucked in the middle), Larry saw a little bit of everything.

Larry had an incredible zest for life. He loved the outdoors and spent as much time as he could enjoying the beauty of God's creation. He enjoyed hunting and fishing, hitting his favorite (secret) spots looking for mushrooms, hiking, and biking along the Monon Trail, as well as collecting rocks with fossils in them that he would find along his journeys out into nature. There was also never a bad time for a scenic drive or sitting around the fire pit looking up at the stars. He had an appreciation for most types of music, especially rock & roll, Motown, and contemporary Christian, with a little jazz and big band thrown in for good measure. Of all Larry's interests in life, none gave him more pleasure than sitting down with his C.R.S. Euchre buddies at Spice-wood. Larry believed in a life of service, not only to his country, but to those in the community he was proud to call home. For the past 7 years, he faithfully volunteered with the Open Arms Food Pantry at the Sheridan Church of God. He would serve in many different roles within the group, but one of his favorite parts was helping to fill boxes for Operation Christmas Child through Samaritan's Purse. Larry never met a stranger, a gift that served him well throughout his life. He loved talking with everyone who came in to visit the pantry. He loved hearing someone's good news but was also a dedicated prayer warrior when needed. Most of all, Larry was a friend. In 2019, Larry was baptized at the Six Points Church in Sheridan, and later began attending Heart-Pointe Church in Hortonville. He enjoyed participating in Bible study groups, as well as church trips to the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter. There were many pastors, family, and friends that walked with Larry on his spiritual journey. Each one held a special place in his heart, as well as a different role in helping him stand on his own faith. One such instance was when Pastor Steve Martin gifted him a large-print Bible. He never realized how much he couldn't see... until he could.

Larry is survived by 2 daughters, Jennifer Baumgardt (Chris) of Lafayette, and Richelle Wagoner of Lafayette; 2 grandchildren, Ashton Baumgardt, and Emma Baumgardt; brother, Steven Wagoner (Pam) of Lebanon; many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews; and by his best friend and loving companion, Deborah (Inman) Savage of Sheridan.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ray Leon, and Mae (Dunn) Wagoner; sister, Kay Wagoner-Black; brother, Joe Wagoner; and by his granddaughter, Kayla Wagoner.

A celebration of Larry's life will be held at 4:00 PM on Saturday, December 2, 2023, at the Sheridan Church of God, 707 W. 2nd Street, Sheridan, Indiana, with visitation from 3:00 PM until the time of service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be presented to the Open Arms Food Pantry (c/o the Sheridan Church of God), or to the Veteran's Organization of your choice.



### Jualela Ballard

December 7, 1939, Saturday, November 25, 2023

Jualela Ballard, age 83, of Sheridan, Indiana, passed away on Saturday morning, November 25, 2023, at Countryside Manor in Anderson, Indiana. Born December 7, 1939, in Wheeler, Texas, she was the daughter of the late Ivory L. and Charles (Reynolds) Ramsey.

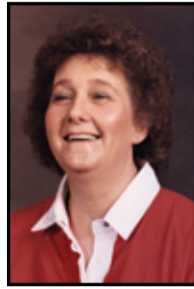
She was a 1958 graduate of Sheridan High School, and Past President of the Ladies Auxiliary for the Sheridan American Legion. For a short time, Jualela worked for Biddle Manufacturing before shifting her focus to her family. In her eyes, there was nothing more important.

When the kids were younger, Jualela tried living in Florida for a while. The call of the Hoosier state was strong, and the family soon migrated back to Indiana. She loved to travel, and her family members were her favorite travel companions. Every year they would make the annual pilgrimage to Nashville, Indiana. Although Jualela loved country music, it was the King of Rock and Roll that really captured her attention. Her most cherished possession was likely the life-sized poster of Elvis that adorned her living room wall. As Jualela always considered herself "the Queen" of her family, it was fitting to have the King there as well. Elvis wasn't the only thing that got her heart racing; cheering on her Indianapolis Colts was another favorite pastime. Family was everything to Jualela, and even though you aren't supposed to have favorites when it comes to family, she did: her grandchildren. The grandkids took precedence over anything and everything.

Jualela is survived by her son, Tracy Ballard (Randa) of Anderson; stepson, Hobart Dale Ballard, Jr.; stepson-in-law, Gary Scherer of Lapel; daughter, Penny Ballard-Roudebush (Jeff) of Kirklin. 2 grandchildren, Ryan Patrick Ballard, and Ashley Ballard (Mike Montag); 4 step grandchildren, Gavin Isbell, Josh Isbell, Misty Leicht (Adam), and Chad Roudebush (Beth); 4 great grandchildren, Logan Dale Patrick Ballard, Trinity Maleah Ann Ballard, Myaha Elaine Ballard, and Emily Jean Montag; and 4 step great grandchildren, Seth Leicht, Keylyn Leicht, Cael Roudebush, and Jamison Roudebush.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ivory L. and Charles (Reynolds) Ramsey; brother, John T. Ramsey; sisters, Maxine Ramsey, and Willa Dean Cathcart; stepdaughter, Marsha Ballard Scherer; brother-in-law, Joe Cathcart; niece, Carla Ann Weaver; and by her husband, Horbert Dale Ballard on July 19, 2005. Together they were married in 1962.

Services will be held at 1:00 PM on Saturday, December 2, 2023, at Kercheval Funeral Home, 306 E. 10th Street, Sheridan, Indiana, with visitation from noon until the time of service. Burial will follow at Crown View Cemetery in Sheridan. Pastor VJ Stover will be officiating.



## Four Probation Graduates Receive Wall Of Change Distinction

Probation Services' Program Serving as Motivation for Others

The Hamilton County Courts' Department of Probation Services celebrated four individuals Wednesday, October 18 at its annual Wall of Change Celebration in the Jury Assembly Room at the Government & Judicial Building in Noblesville. The department nominates individuals who have made meaningful, positive changes to their lives while on probation.

"A lot of people hear about probation when someone has violated their terms," says Paul McGriff, Assistant Director of the Department of Probation Services. "But the vast majority of people complete probation and there are many clients making big, difficult changes to better their lives and their community. Their accomplishments deserve to be celebrated."

April (Burgess) Beaty and Kerry Gregory were among those honored for their achievements. Beaty struggled with an addiction to methamphetamines for more than 20 years. She says getting arrested was the best thing that ever happened to her.

"The six months I spent in jail saved my life," Beaty says. "I had lost everything and was on a path of total destruction. After getting sober and being released, probation held me accountable. Never in a million years did I think I could be where I am at now." Beaty is a full-time student at Ivy Tech with dreams of becoming a therapist in addiction rehabilitation. She owns her own home and has reestablished relationships with her three grown children. "April was an obvious

candidate for the Wall of Change due to her complete 180 from the beginning to the end of her supervision," says Austin Paschal, the probation officer who nominated April for the Wall of Change. "She made many difficult, positive changes to all aspects of her life, and plans to use her experiences to help change the lives of others."

Kerry Gregory began smoking marijuana in the fifth grade. He eventually became addicted to painkillers, lost his job, and became estranged from his family. An arrest for dealing drugs led to his turnabout. "Addiction took me to the darkest place," Gregory says. "I couldn't see the light and didn't think I could get out of it. I want others suffering from substance use disorders to know they're just a few decisions away from a better life. All you have to do is shut the door to your past and believe in the process. I have everything I could ever want and that didn't seem possible a couple years ago."

"Kerry's goal from the first time I met with him was to be on the Wall of Change," says Andrea Joines, the probation officer who nominated Gregory for the Wall of Change. "He has accomplished so much in the time we've worked together. He believes that knowledge is power and uses the skills he has learned to make better decisions."

Fifteen individuals have now received the Wall of Change Award. Everyone awarded with the honor has a plaque hanging in the lobby of the Department of Probation Services.

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*It may be frosty outside, but inside, it's a great time to be in a new home.*

**16698 Birdbrook Road Noblesville • \$589,900**  
**PENDING**  
Stunning 5BR, 4.5BA in Essex of Noblesville. Custom designed with in-laws quarters on main level, kitchen with quartz, butler's pantry, premium lot w/pond view, walk-out basement, 3-car garage plus storage, a must see to appreciate all this home has to offer. BLC#21949379

**11256 Winding Wood Ct. Indianapolis • \$239,900**  
**PENDING**  
This open concept condo is move-in ready, 2 BR, 2 BA. Family room with gas fireplace, eat-in kitchen with granite counters, breakfast bar, tile floor, pantry, appliances stay, main BR ensuite with walk-in tile shower, large 2-car garage, patio with retractable awning. BLC#21945183

**18865 Wimbley Way Noblesville • \$289,900**  
**NEW PRICE!**  
This 3 BR, 2 BA ranch is located in family friendly Fairfield Farms. Huge great room w/doors leading to covered patio & fenced backyard, kitchen w/pantry, dining area & all appliances stay, new windows, water softener & HVAC in 2020. Fence, roof & gutters 2021. BLC#21949582

**10717 Upland Way Noblesville • \$349,900**  
**PENDING**  
Welcome to this lovely 4 BR, 2.5 BA home, kitchen with center island and newer SS appliances, spacious family room with gas fireplace, park-like backyard with maintenance free deck, auto-retractable awning, paver patio, basketball court and cute she shed. BLC#21949680

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# Part 7 Of A Series Celebrating 100 Seasons Of Purdue Football At Ross-Ade Stadium



**KENNY THOMPSON**  
Columnist

Purdue football entered its darkest era following the resignation of College Football Hall of Fame coach Jim

time in three months, hoping to inspire his team. Mills' keys to success - "Desire, Sacrifice, Discipline and Preparation" - were on the chalkboard in the Boilermakers' meeting room.

Everett completed 17 of 23 passes for 257 yards and three touchdowns. Woodson made 20 tackles and returned an interception 55 yards for a touchdown that gave Purdue a 28-17 lead.

It also helped that Ohio State quarterback Mike Tomczak lost track of downs on the game's final drive. Tomczak threw a fourth down pass out of bounds at the Purdue 34 with five seconds to play.

**Nov. 22, 1986: Purdue 17, Indiana 15** - Boilermaker fans remember this as the Rod Woodson game.

In his final game as head coach, Leon Burnett had a couple of surprises ready. First was the switch from black jerseys worn during warmups to gold shirts with Old Oaken Bucket emblems on the sleeves.

The second was unleashing Woodson on offense. Playing nearly the entire game at running back, wide receiver and his usual cornerback position, Woodson also ran back punts and kickoffs.

Woodson rushed for a Purdue season-high 93 yards on 15 carries and caught three passes for 67 yards. On defense, Woodson made 10 tackles.

"I don't know about you guys but I've seen a lot of football and I've never seen a young man play a game like that," Burnett said afterward. "I wouldn't trade anybody in the country for Rod Woodson."

### Top players of 1980s Ross-Ade

**Rod Woodson** - The Fort Wayne native joined Bob Griese as the only Boilermakers to be enshrined in the College Football and Pro Football halls of fame in 2016.

He was a consensus All-American and runner-up for the Jim Thorpe Award as a senior. Woodson is one of only four players in Purdue history to be selected first-team All-Big Ten three times.

**Scott Campbell** - When he graduated from Purdue in 1983, Campbell was the Big Ten's second all-time passing leader, trailing his predecessor Mark Herrmann.

Campbell threw for a record 516 yards against Ohio State in 1981 and finished his career with 7,636 yards and 45 touchdowns.

**Jim Everett** - After waiting his turn for three seasons, he became the only Purdue quarterback to lead his team to victories against Notre Dame, Ohio State and Michigan in the same season (1984).

Everett led the nation in total offense in 1985 with 3,589 yards.

In two full seasons as the starter, Everett threw for 7,411 yards and 43

touchdowns. His seven 300-yard passing games in 1986 set a school record.

**Steve Bryant** - The junior college transfer led the Big Ten in 1981 with 60 receptions and 11 receiving touchdowns. His 971 receiving yards were good for second place.

In his two seasons at Purdue, Bryant caught 110 passes for 1,863 yards and 14 touchdowns.

**Rodney Carter** - The running back led the nation with 98 receptions in 1985, going for 1,099 yards and four touchdowns.

In four seasons, Carter rushed for 1,149 yards and 10 touchdowns. He also caught 176 passes for 1786 yards and five scores.

**Cris Dishman** - Converted from wide receiver to cornerback, Dishman would intercept nine passes in his Purdue career and go on to play in the NFL for 13 seasons.

**Fred Strickland** - The linebacker led the Big Ten as a senior with 130 tackles and never finished out of the top four in the conference during his three seasons as a starter.

He left Purdue for a 12-year NFL career with the record for solo tackles (321) and second in school history in total tackles (479).

**Calvin Williams** - One of the few bright spots in the coach Fred Akers era, Williams caught 138 passes for 1,855 yards and 17 touchdowns.

Williams went on to play seven seasons in the NFL, all but one with the Philadelphia Eagles.

### Bucket thoughts

In retrospect, COVID was the worst thing that could have happened to now former Indiana football coach Tom Allen.

No, as far as anyone knows, Allen wasn't among the millions to contract the disease. Instead, he was able to take advantage of its impact on his Big Ten peers.

With Michael Penix's heroics, the Hoosiers upset No. 8 Penn State 36-35 in overtime in the abbreviated 2020 season opener. After a win at Rutgers, next to fall was No. 23 Michigan 38-21. After a 14-6 win at No. 16 Wisconsin, Indiana closed the regular season at 6-1. An Outback Bowl loss to Mississippi didn't dampen the enthusiasm and support for Allen, who received a seven-year contract that bumped his salary to \$4.9 million annually. It also included a buyout of \$20.8 million if IU elected to fire Allen before Dec. 1, 2023. One more season would have dropped the buyout to approximately \$8 million.

But Penix left for the University of Washington, where he has guided the Huskies to a 12-0 regular season in 2023. The Hoosiers haven't come close to the expectations created from 2020, posting a 9-27 record with three consecutive Old Oaken Bucket

losses to Purdue.

As the nice person he seems to be, Allen gave Indiana a financial break when the school fired him this past Sunday. Allen will be paid \$15.5 million over two installments not to coach any more.

In retrospect, 2020 was a fluke - not just for Indiana but for the traditional powers the Hoosiers knocked off that season. Penn State is 28-10 in the three seasons since posting a 4-5 mark in 2020. Michigan went 2-5 in 2020, putting Jim Harbaugh on the hot seat. Whether it's coincidence or the impact of the recently discovered illegal spying on opponents, the Wolverines have gone 37-3 since then and are almost certainly making the College Football Playoffs for the third consecutive season. Wisconsin was the only name school on the IU 2020 schedule to have a winning record (4-3) and has been an OK program since (23-15), transitioning from Paul Chryst to Luke Fickell as head coach.

Now, the losingest football program in NCAA major college football will have to find someone who can coach, recruit and overcome the obstacles of NIL, which should stand for "Now It's Legal" when it comes to writing big checks to recruits and other schools' players. The cash Indiana has laid out to fire Allen and former basketball coach Archie Miller (another \$10.35 million) could have been used to lure better players to Bloomington.

As for Purdue, a 4-8 mark in Ryan Walters' first season is less disappointing when you factor in how little talent Jeff Brohm left behind on his way to Louisville. The offensive line suffered two major injuries to its most promising duo (Marcus Mbow and Mahamane Moussa) and was forced at times to use four-year starting center Gus Hartwig at right tackle. The receiving corps also battled injuries, as did quarterback Hudson Card. The only bright spots on offense were Tyrone Tracy successfully making the switch from wide receiver to running back and sophomore Devin Mockobee overcoming fumble issues to rush for a team-high 811 yards and six touchdowns.

Westfield graduate Dillon Thieneman is almost certainly a Freshman All-American, especially after winning the Big Ten's Thompson-Randle El Freshman of the Year award. On Monday, he received his fifth Big Ten Freshman of the Week honor and was selected second-team All-Big Ten.

Thieneman is Purdue's seventh Freshman of the Year, joining quarterbacks Brian Fox (1988) and Eric Hunter (1989), running back Corey Rogers (1991), safety Stuart Schweigert (2000) and wide receivers



Photo courtesy of Purdue Athletics

### Rod Woodson

Rondale Moore (2018) and David Bell (2019).

Thieneman's accomplishments include breaking Schweigert's freshman record with six interceptions. The safety also broke Rod Woodson's freshman record for solo tackles with 74. Thieneman leads all freshmen in interceptions, solo tackles and tackles (106).

Sophomore Nic Scourton led the Big Ten with 10 sacks, but was only given second-team All-Big Ten honors. Purdue also had the Big Ten runner-up in that category, Kydran Jenkins (7.5). Jenkins has announced he will use his COVID year to return in 2024.

Purdue's victory over Indiana was its 300th in Ross-Ade. The first was also against the Hoosiers in 1924.

Walters has been public about his program's need for NIL support, even stating at one point he'd rather have NIL funds than better facilities. Will Purdue's well-heeled boosters climb down from the moral high horse to give their coach the financial wherewithal to pick up quality offensive and defensive linemen, linebackers, cornerbacks, receivers and a kicker? Or will they stubbornly insist that they'd rather lose while doing things "the right way?"

There is no more "right way" of doing things with a weak NCAA worn down by losing court battle after court battle. Plus, there's the spectre of other schools coming in with blank checks to buy Purdue's best players. One doesn't have to look too far south of the Ohio River for two programs that aren't restricted by rules or ethics.

### Purdue basketball makes history

On Monday, Purdue became the first Big Ten men's basketball program ranked No. 1 in the Associated Press poll for three consecutive seasons.

Eight other schools also

have been ranked No. 1 in at least three straight seasons: UCLA, Duke, Kentucky, Kansas, Gonzaga, Virginia, North Carolina and Villanova.

The Boilermakers earned that milestone by once again winning a prestigious November tournament, this time the Maui Invitational. Reigning National Player of the Year Zach Edey was the tournament MVP and was joined on the all-tournament team by Westfield's Braden Smith. Edey also was selected Big Ten Player of the Week for the seventh time in his career, matching Glenn Robinson's school record.

Purdue's victories over No. 11 Gonzaga, No. 7 Tennessee and No. 4 Marquette mark only the second time in the last 40 years a school has defeated teams ranked in the top 15 of the AP poll on three consecutive days. Connecticut accomplished a similar feat in the 2011 Big East tournament on the way to winning the national championship.

Fifth-year senior guard Lance Jones sank what is believed to be the longest shot in school history when his 80-footer beat the halftime horn against Marquette.

**Hall of Famers**  
Former Indiana player/coach Dan Dakich and a member of Purdue's 1969 national runner-up team have been elected to the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame.

Dakich starred at Andean, where he was a first-team All-State selection and an Indiana All-Star in 1981.

Evansville Bosse graduate Larry Weatherford was an Indiana All-Star in 1967 before scoring more than 1,100 points at Purdue.

- Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the Lafayette Journal & Courier and an award-winning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many years.

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# Indiana Teachers Union Presses Reticent State Lawmakers To Reopen Budget In 2024 Session

ISTA's president said millions more are needed for the school funding formula, textbooks and teacher retention.

By Casey Smith  
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Indiana's largest teacher's union is calling for better collective bargaining, increased pay for support staff and more say over curriculum in the upcoming legislative session.

Indiana State Teachers Association (ISTA) President Keith Gambill said Tuesday that Hoosier educators are also seeking new social and emotional learning support for students.

"These priorities ... reflect what educators need to create better learning environments for their students, and better working environments for all educators," Gambill said during a news conference, where he released the union's 2024 legislative priorities.

The General Assembly reconvenes Jan. 8. Although Republican legislative leaders have said they do not plan to reopen the state budget during the short session, ISTA's latest agenda includes multiple funding requests that total at least \$540 million.

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## More money for traditional public education

ISTA will advocate for a \$500 million increase to basic tuition support for traditional public schools in the 2025 fiscal year — the second year covered by Indiana's current biennial budget. Gambill said that amounts to a boost of 7.98% compared to what schools are currently on track to receive.

Under current law, K-12 public schools are projected to see average per student funding increases of 1.7% next year.

"While we recognize the 2024 legislative session is not a budget year, we are calling on legislators to reopen the budget to fix several inadequacies that require immediate attention," he said. "If we want Indiana to be a leader in the region or country, we're going to have to do right by our schools."

He emphasized, too, that the legislature needs to earmark more money in the second year of the biennium to "fully fund" the cost of textbooks and curricular materials.

State lawmakers dedicated \$160 million in the new state budget to eliminate textbook and curriculum fees, starting with the 2023-24 academic year. While the new law

was championed by state officials, school districts are still on the hook to pay for those materials.

The ISTA leader said the union is aware of "several" school districts that are "concerned" about their ability to pay for textbooks in the 2024-25 school year. Gambill said more data needs to be collected before ISTA can recommend an exact dollar for curricular fees.

"If schools are forced to either make changes in staffing or other programming in order to fully fund the textbooks, then we're not getting the best for our students," he said. "It shouldn't be upon them — and not born on the backs of school employees — to make that happen."

Gambill said while charter and voucher schools benefited from significant funding boosts in the 2023 session, traditional public schools still lack "appropriate" appropriations.

"We have over 90% of all Hoosier families send their children to a traditional public school, and if you look at the way that that funding was distributed this past year, that was not equal, especially when you look at the amount that was increased for voucher schools," he said.

ISTA is also continuing to lobby for professional pay benefits and support for parent educators, bus drivers, food service workers and other "vital support staff." Gambill said Indiana also "must recognize the commitment of our retired teachers and public employees" by giving a 2% cost of living adjustment for Indiana's retired educators.

"We certainly know that the state has the surplus available," he continued. But he said ISTA has not outlined a specific location in the budget for lawmakers to draw on the requested dollars.

\*\*\*

## Better support systems for students

To address ongoing gaps in social and emotional learning support for students, Gambill said the union is proposing a three-year pilot program focusing on student wellbeing. The ask comes with a \$20 million annual price tag.

The pilot seeks to reduce student-to-staff ratios by hiring additional guidance counselors, social workers and school psychologists. The initiative would span from elementary to high

school and involve 30 school districts. Gambill said the goal is to address physical and mental health issues — and if successful — could later be applied statewide.

ISTA is further seeking to restore discipline as a mandatory discussion item, or under restored collective bargaining rights. Gambill said doing so would help teachers better address student disciplinary issues that have become more common since the pandemic.

In recent years, the Republican legislature has rolled back collective bargaining rights.

To improve student discipline, the union also called for statewide class size data to be gathered, and for a grant program to be created to hire additional teachers. Gambill said ISTA is also seeking to establish a task force to improve student behavior.

After a slew of so-called "culture war" issues in the 2023 session precipitated into new laws — like those concerning the use of pronouns in classrooms and the ability for Hoosiers to challenge books in school libraries — Gambill said it's not fully clear how teachers have been affected.

"It's a little bit different from school district to school district as to how they're interpreting the law and in which ways they're moving forward. We're still learning from that," he said. "But we also know that we have to continue to address the social-emotional welfare of our students, and we believe that in doing so, that will have an impact in other areas such as absenteeism and behavior within the classrooms."

Gambill said educators are hoping "those types" of hot-button bills don't return in 2024.

"The challenge really has not been with our parents at large. The challenge has been those who have preconceived notions of what is actually occurring in the classrooms, oftentimes without having a student attending the class," Gambill noted. "When you look at the school communities, and the engagement with parents in the classrooms, and when we're speaking directly about the parents who have students attending the classes, those connections have been and remain very strong."

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## Bargaining and teacher recruitment

More broadly, the teachers union is continuing to press for restored and expand collective bargaining rights, in addition to mandatory discussion.

Lawmakers stripped Hoosier educators of the right to collectively bargain over working conditions like class sizes and schedules under a 2011 law. The topics that teachers can currently bargain over during the fall bargaining window are salaries, wages and benefits, including pay increases.

Gambill said ISTA's membership is calling on policymakers to allow teachers to negotiate working hours, influence and determine class size and caseloads, and provide input on textbooks, teaching methods and student support.

Educators should also "have the freedom to teach accurate, age-appropriate lessons about America, from our greatest triumphs to our darkest moments," according to ISTA's legislative agenda.

Recruitment and retention of educators of color will additionally require more state funding, Gambill said.

"Students should not have to look much further than their own classes to find mentors or materials with roots in their own community. Our public schools should reflect the cultural diversity and identity of the communities they serve," he said.

As part of that effort, ISTA wants to see more paraprofessionals become licensed teachers. Enhanced mentoring programs for educators of color and increasing funding for professional development "with a focus on Black, Indigenous and all educators of color" will also help, Gambill said.

The union also hopes lawmakers will establish a statewide commission to address diversity in staffing and support pipelines to teach.

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# Grounds For A Law Suit



DICK WOLFSIE  
Funny Bone

The other day my wife and I stopped at a Panera's for a quick bowl of soup. "Do you want an apple with that or an

apple?" said the cashier.

I was confused, but the cashier explained that they were out of rolls and that little joke seemed to amuse the customers. I was not amused. You can't dunk an apple in your last drop of creamy tomato soup. I wanted a hunk of sour dough bread. Minutes later, a manager came over and said they just found a piece. I probably should have asked exactly where they found it. I'm not into gluten-free, but I'm a big fan of germ-free.

A similar thing happened to me at a Starbucks many years ago. I walked into one of their coffee shops, the one on the corner of whatever street I was on and asked for a cup of coffee. The clerk looked a little sheepish and said:

"I'm sorry for the inconvenience, but we are presently out of coffee."

There was a glimmer of hope in the word "presently," suggesting that this was not a permanent state of affairs. I'm no Wharton School MBA, but being out of java could impact profits.

He stared at me for about six seconds, which in the world of high-octane caffeine is a creepy amount of time to have eye contact. He explained that they needed to make a fresh pot, which would have been a totally acceptable justification if I had stopped at June Cleaver's unexpectedly before the Beave got home from school.

The grumpy old man in me started to percolate.

At the time, nothing like this had ever happened before. Never had the clerk at Staples said, "Sorry, but we're out of, um, staples." Never had the woman at Barnes and Noble ever said, "I'm

sorry, sir, we have no books today, but we are printing up some fresh ones even as we speak." And a Panera's would never run out of bread. Or so I thought.

"Do you only make a pot at a time?" I asked the barista.

"Yes, that's our new approach to delicious coffee. We brew it fresh when we need it. And because of you, we need it."

"Okay, I don't have a brain like Einstein's (Although they ran out of coffee, once too), but it seems to me if the one pot is getting low, you could start another pot so when people like me come in and desperately need an over-priced libation, it's ready to go."

"Not a bad idea, sir. Let me check our new employee manual about that. In the meantime, would you like a scone?"

"Were they baked today?"

"Oh, I'm not sure, but the good news is that they can't get any harder than when they are fresh."

I was very sleepy and spacey, my normal state before purchasing a hot cup of coffee. I needed a pick-me-up. I made my way down the street to a sweets shop.

"I'd like a coffee ice cream cone." I told the young man behind the counter.

"Sir, I'm sorry, but we don't have any ice cream."

"How can you stay in business without having any ice cream?"

"Because this is Wild Birds Unlimited."

That never happened, of course, but the story is based on an old joke that I have always wanted to work into a column.

Well, that's it for this week. I'm a writer, and guess what? I am out of words.

- Dick Wolfsie spent his career sharing his humor, stories and video essays on television, radio and in newspapers. His columns appear weekly in The Paper of Montgomery County. E-mail Dick at Wolfsie@aol.com.

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Meeting Notes

# City Of Carmel Board Of Public Works And Safety Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, December 6 - 10 a.m.

Council Chambers City Hall, One Civic Square  
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

1. MINUTES

a. Minutes from the November 15, 2023, Regular Meeting

2. BID OPENING AND AWARD

a. Request For Proposal Opening for Renewable Natural Gas Conversion; John Duffy, Director of Utilities

b. Bid Award for 23-STR-09 Tarkington Lighting; Matt Higginbotham, Street Commissioner

c. Quote Award for 23-STR-11 Asphalt Repairs; Matt Higginbotham, Street Commissioner

3. CONTRACTS

a. Resolution BPW 11-01-23-03; A Resolution Requesting Financing, Construction and Dedication of Certain Infrastructure or Other Impact Zone Improvements in Lieu of and as a Credit Against the Payment of Parks and Recreation Impact Fees ("PRIF") and Approving a PRIF Credit Agreement; Pedcor Community Development Corporation - Penn One Eleven; (\$4,706,248.00); Henry Mestetsky, Director of the Department of Redevelopment - TABLED ON 11/1/23

b. Resolution BPW 11-15-23-04; A Resolution Requesting Financing, Construction and Dedication of Certain Infrastructure or Other Impact Zone Improvements in Lieu of and as a Credit Against the Payment of Parks and Recreation Impact Fees ("PRIF") and Approving a PRIF Credit Agreement; KRG Hamilton Crossing, LLC - Hamilton Crossing; (\$4,882.00 per unit); Henry Mestetsky, Director of the Department of Redevelopment - TABLED ON 11/15/23

c. Resolution BPW 11-15-23-05; A Resolution Requesting Financing, Construction and Dedication of Certain Infrastructure or Other Impact Zone Improvements in Lieu of and as a Credit Against the Payment of Parks and Recreation Impact Fees ("PRIF") and Approving a PRIF Credit Agreement; Buckingham Realty and Development Corporation - Gramercy Carmel Marketplace; (\$4,084,508.00); Henry Mestetsky, Director of the Department of Redevelopment - TABLED ON 11/15/23

d. Resolution BPW 11-15-23-06; A Resolution Requesting Financing, Construction and Dedication of Certain Infrastructure or Other Impact Zone Improvements in Lieu of and as a Credit Against the Payment of Parks and Recreation Impact Fees ("PRIF") and Approving a PRIF Credit Agreement; Old Town Companies, LLC - Midtown Blocks 4 & 5; (\$4,882.00 per unit); Henry Mestetsky, Director

of the Department of Redevelopment - TABLED ON 11/15/23

e. Resolution BPW 11-15-23-07; A Resolution Requesting Financing, Construction and Dedication of Certain Infrastructure or Other Impact Zone Improvements in Lieu of and as a Credit Against the Payment of Parks and Recreation Impact Fees ("PRIF") and Approving a PRIF Credit Agreement; CD Carmel Old Meridian, LLC - Old Meridian Apartments; (\$1,391,370.00); Henry Mestetsky, Director of the Department of Redevelopment - TABLED ON 11/15/23

f. Resolution BPW 12-06-23-07; A Resolution Requesting Financing, Construction and Dedication of Certain Infrastructure or Other Impact Zone Improvements in Lieu of and as a Credit Against the Payment of Parks and Recreation Impact Fees ("PRIF") and Approving a PRIF Credit Agreement; Old Town Companies, LLC - Magnolia II; (\$704,364.00); Henry Mestetsky, Director of the Department of Redevelopment

g. Resolution BPW 12-06-23-08; A Resolution Requesting Financing, Construction and Dedication of Certain Infrastructure or Other Impact Zone Improvements in Lieu of and as a Credit Against the Payment of Parks and Recreation Impact Fees ("PRIF") and Approving a PRIF Credit Agreement; KG Monon, LLC - Valentina; (\$4,882.00 per unit); Henry Mestetsky, Director of the Department of Redevelopment

h. Resolution BPW 12-06-23-09; A Resolution Requesting Financing, Construction and Dedication of Certain Infrastructure or Other Impact Zone Improvements in Lieu of and as a Credit Against the Payment of Parks and Recreation Impact Fees ("PRIF") and Approving a PRIF Credit Agreement; Edward Rose Development, LLC - ICON on Main; (\$1,406,016.00); Henry Mestetsky, Director of the Department of Redevelopment

i. Resolution BPW 12-06-23-10; A Resolution Requesting Financing, Construction and Dedication of Certain Infrastructure or Other Impact Zone Improvements in Lieu of and as a Credit Against the Payment of Parks and Recreation Impact Fees ("PRIF") and Approving a PRIF Credit Agreement; Village Housing Corporation, LLC - Monon Square South; (\$4,882.00 per unit); Henry Mestetsky, Director of the Department of Redevelopment

j. Resolution BPW 12-06-23-11; A Resolution Requesting Financing, Construction and Dedication of Certain Infrastructure or Other Impact Zone

Improvements in Lieu of and as a Credit Against the Payment of Parks and Recreation Impact Fees ("PRIF") and Approving a PRIF Credit Agreement; Birkla Investment Group, LLC - Civic Square Condos; (\$4,882.00 per unit); Henry Mestetsky, Director of the Department of Redevelopment

k. Resolution BPW 12-06-23-12; A Resolution Requesting Financing, Construction and Dedication of Certain Infrastructure or Other Impact Zone Improvements in Lieu of and as a Credit Against the Payment of Parks and Recreation Impact Fees ("PRIF") and Approving a PRIF Credit Agreement; Birkla Investment Group, LLC - South Rangeline; (\$4,882.00 per unit); Henry Mestetsky, Director of the Department of Redevelopment

l. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Dinges Partners Group, LLC; (\$50,870.00); Attack Digital Fire Training Panel; Chief David Haboush, Carmel Fire Department

m. Resolution 12-06-23-01; Request for Acknowledgement of Contract between City and Vendor; Meltwater News US Inc; (\$16,000.00); Meltwater Engage Profiles, Insights & Social Media; Additional Services Amendment; Nancy Heck, Director of the Department of Community Relations

n. Resolution 12-06-23-03; Request for Acknowledgement of Contract between City and Vendor; Aadvanced Limousines, LLC; (\$38,154.00); IndyTrolley Holiday Trolley Services; Additional Services Amendment; Nancy Heck, Director of the Department of Community Relations

o. Resolution 12-06-23-05; Request for Acknowledgement of Contract between City and Vendor; Arctic Zone Iceplex, LLC d/b/a Carmel Ice Skadium; (\$243,896.00); Arctic Zone Ice Rink Services; Additional Services Amendment; Nancy Heck, Director of the Department of Community Relations

p. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; HWC Engineering, Inc.; (\$84,500.00); Road Work Improvement; Additional Services Amendment; Mike Hollibaugh, Director of the Department of Community Services

q. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Mobycon, Inc.; (\$25,000.00); Masterclass Training and Travel Expenses; Additional Services Amendment; Mike Hollibaugh, Director of the Department of Community Services

libaugh, Director of the Department of Community Services

s. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Vermeer of Indiana, Inc.; (\$86,698.99); Chipper Purchase; Mike Hollibaugh, Director of the Department of Community Services

t. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; CRE Consulting, LLC; (\$17,850.00); 22-ENG-02 116th Street Path - US 421 to Towne Road; Parcels 16-19, 31-32 Appraisals; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer

u. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; CrossRoad Engineers, P.C.; (\$25,000.00); 2022 Bond Projects ROW Services - Supplemental Fee; Additional Services Amendment; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer

v. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; CrossRoad Engineers, P.C.; (\$3,750.00); 20-ENG-13 Veterans Way - City Center to Walnut and Duke Dist. Relocation - Supplemental - Booster Pump & Spray Nozzles; Additional Services Amendment; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer

w. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Specialized Land Services, Inc.; (\$12,960.00); Buying Services; Additional Services Amendment; Jeremy Kashman, City Engineer

x. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; GovernmentJobs.com, Inc., d/b/a NEOGov; (\$3,250.00); Professional Services Online Training; Additional Services Amendment; Lisa Hartz, Director of Human Resources

y. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Pabulum Group, LLC; (\$2,400.00); Consulting Services; Lisa Hartz, Director of Human Resources

z. Request for Agreement between City and Business Associate; WellnessIQ; Business Associate Agreement; Lisa Hartz, Director of Human Resources

aa. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; AVI Systems, Inc.; (\$76,544.91); AV Repair; Additional Services Amendment; Timothy Renick, Director of Information and Communication Systems

bb. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Cultivate Geospatial Solutions, LLC; (\$45,000.00); Digital Twin for Monon Trail from Main Street to Elm Street; Additional Services Amendment; Timothy Renick, Director of Information and Communication Systems

cc. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Cultivate Geospatial Solutions, LLC; (\$25,000.00); GeoHub; Additional Services Amendment; Timothy Renick, Director of Information and Communication Systems

dd. Resolution 12-06-23-04; Request for Acknowledgement of Contract between City and Vendor; Park Place Technologies; (\$10,652.06); San Nodes/Tape Library ESX Host Maintenance; Timothy Renick, Director of Information and Communication Systems

ee. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Bayliss & Co., LLC; (\$2,500.00); Consulting for Public Art; Additional Services Amendment; Mayor James Brainard, Mayor's Office

ff. Resolution 12-06-23-06; Request for Acknowledgement of Contract between City and Vendor; C.L. Coonrod & Co.; Service Agreement 2024; Mayor James Brainard, Mayor's Office

gg. Acknowledgement of Sister City Agreement between City of Carmel, Indiana, USA and City of Cortona, Arezzo, Italy; Mayor James Brainard, Mayor's Office

hh. Acknowledgement of Sister City Agreement between City of Carmel, Indiana, USA and City of Jelgava, Latvia; Mayor James Brainard, Mayor's Office

ii. Acknowledgement of Sister City Agreement between City of Carmel, Indiana, USA and City of Kurort Seiffen, Free State of Saxony, Germany; Mayor James Brainard, Mayor's Office

jj. Acknowledgement of Sister City Agreement between City of Carmel, Indiana, USA and City of Rueil-Malmaison, Hauts-De-Seine, France; Mayor James Brainard, Mayor's Office

kk. Acknowledgement of Sister City Agreement between City of Carmel, Indiana, USA and City of Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India; Mayor James Brainard, Mayor's Office

ll. Acknowledgement of Sister City Agreement between City of Carmel, Indiana, USA and City of Xiangyang, Hubei Province, The People's Republic of China; Mayor James Brainard, Mayor's Office

mm. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Bo-mar Industries, Inc.; (\$10,000.00); Annual Maintenance Agreement; Matt Higginbotham, Street Commissioner

nn. Request for Purchase of Goods and Services; Ott Equipment Service, Inc.; (\$41,422.02); Balancer & Tire Changer; Additional Services Amendment; Matt Higginbotham, Street Commissioner

oo. Resolution 12-06-23-02; Request for Acknowledgement of Contract between City and Vendor; All Star Paving, Inc.; (\$83,649.98); Asphalt Rejuvenation for East Main Street & Gray Road; Matt Higginbotham, Street Commissioner

4. REQUEST TO USE CITY STREETS/PROP-

ERTY

a. Request to Use/Rolling Closure of City Streets; Ghosts & Goblins 5k/2k; October 26, 2024; 6:00 AM - 12:00 PM; Jennifer Penix, Carmel Education Foundation

b. Request to Use Civic Square Gazebo/Lawn; Sister Cities Christmas Tree Viewing;

December 15, 2023; 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM; Andris Berzins, Carmel Sister Cities

c. Request to Use Carter Green & Restrooms Adjacent to Hotel Carmichael, Closure of Loop Around Carter Green; Carmel Pride Festival; June 30, 2024; 6:00 AM - 11:00 PM; Martina Queijo, Carmel Pride

d. Request to Use/Rolling Closure of City Streets, Civic Square Gazebo/Lawn, Civic Square Fountain Area & Restroom; 2024 Indiana Women's Running Festival; August 31, 2024; 6:00 AM - 1:00 PM; Todd Oliver, Carmel Road Racing Group

5. OTHER

a. Request for Secondary Plat; Five-Ten Subdivision; Tom Lazzara, Custom Living USA - TABLED on 10/4/23 - REMAINS TABLED

b. Request for Waiver of BPW Resolution No. 04-28-17-01 and Lane Restriction;

Installation of New Wood Mid-Span Pole in ROW; East Main Street; Duke Energy

c. Request for Waiver of BPW Resolution No. 04-28-17-01 and Lane Restriction; Installation of New Wood Mid-Span Pole in ROW; Towne Road and Harleston Street; Duke Energy

d. Request for Consent to Encroach and Variance; 1053 Serenity Court; John Rinehart & Rebecca Wanick, Property Owners

e. Request for Consent to Encroach and Variance; 14010 Grannan Lane; Thomas & Sally Manning, Property Owners

f. Request for Grant of Perpetual Storm Water Quality Management Easement; Rosie's Gardens - 10402 N. College Avenue; Parknorth II, LLC

g. Request for Secondary Plat; Kingswood Extension; Jennifer Milliken, Ice Miller

h. Request for Stormwater Technical Standards Waiver; 1151 W 116th Street; Brian Brown, Stoeppelwerth & Associates

i. Request for Stormwater Technical Standards Waiver; 4130 W. 131st Street; Brian Brown, Stoeppelwerth & Associates

j. Request for Stormwater Technical Standards Waiver; Midwest Eye Institute at The Bridges - NW Corner of Illinois Street & 111th Street; Kylie Bright-Schuler, American Structurepoint

6. ADJOURNMENT

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**THE TIMES classifieds.**

**BETSY** From Page A1

event possible.

3. Experience Lights Over Seminary presented by the City of Noblesville and Noblesville Preservation Alliance during this walkable light display in Seminary Park at Hannibal and 10th Street in downtown Noblesville. The opening night is 5:30-7 p.m. today with official lighting at 6 p.m. Enjoy carolers, hot chocolate and reading of "Twas The Night Before Christmas" by Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen. Lights Over Seminary display runs 5-11 p.m. nightly through December.

4. Experience the magic of the 2023 Carmel Christkindlmarkt daily through Dec. 24 at Carter Green next to the Performing Arts Center of Carmel. Enjoy traditional German food, shop handmade German goods under the twinkling lights at this one-of-a-kind holiday experience, ice skate on an outdoor rink, visit German artists at work, find fun in the kids corner, enjoy live entertainment, with free admission.

5. Federal Hill Commons temporary Ice Plaza is open through Dec. 22 in Noblesville, with hours 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays; 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday through Dec. 22; 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, starting Dec. 23 through Noblesville Schools holiday break; 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sundays; special holiday hours 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 24 and 31. Rates are \$13, \$11 for ages 12 and younger. Also take private 15-minute carriage rides through downtown Noblesville.

6. "White Christmas" will be shown during Movies in the Plaza at 5:30 p.m. today at Grand Junction Plaza in Westfield.

7. Experience Merry Prairie at Conner Prairie, where visitors can explore Historic Holidays and immerse in the magic of Prairietown by candlelight 5:30-9:30 p.m. now through Dec. 17 and Dec. 21-22 at the Fishers living history park. Ride a vintage carousel, enjoy the thrill of Polar Bear Plunge tubing hill and warm by a fireplace while showing off your sock-skating skills at Frosty's Sock Skating Rink, plus pose for a selfie with Santa. Plus, reserve your seats for Breakfast with Santa Dec. 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17. Tickets for all at [www.connerprairie.org](http://www.connerprairie.org)

8. Experience live community theater during Main Street Productions' "Inspecting Carol," a holiday comedy directed by Kelly Keller of Fishers, 7:30 p.m. today and Saturday, next Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and 2:30 p.m. Sunday and Dec. 10 at Basile Westfield Playhouse. A man who asks to audition at a small theater is mistaken for an

informer for the National Endowment for the Arts, everybody caters to the wannabe actor, and he is given a role in the current production, "A Christmas Carol." Tickets at [www.westfieldplayhouse.org](http://www.westfieldplayhouse.org)

9. Enjoy live community theater during Hamilton County Theatre Guild's Belfry Theatre holiday production, the comedy, "The Man Who Came To Dinner," at 8 p.m. today and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at Noblesville First United Methodist Church, with tickets at [www.TheBelfryTheatre.com](http://www.TheBelfryTheatre.com).

10. Experience live music with Middle West tonight, Jason Salyers on Saturday, Don Clarkson on Dec. 8, The Dead Squirrels on Dec. 9, Hill and Oaks on Dec. 16, John Beatrice on Dec. 22, Sam King on Dec. 23, Donny Coyle on Dec. 29 at Primeval Brewing in downtown Noblesville.

11. Bring your pet for professional pet photos with Santa Paws NHS Band Director Eric Thornbury 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Saturday at Tractor Supply Co. with a \$20 donation to the band.

12. Shop at the Holiday Market 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville, where 75 local creators and curators will sell their wares. Admission is \$5, free for children under 13.

13. Hamilton County Historical Society, located in the Sheriff's Residence and Old Jail, invites members and the community to the Historical Society's annual meeting and dessert reception at 2 p.m. Saturday at Noblesville Preservation Alliance's Preservation Hall on Logan Street in Noblesville. County historian David Heighway will present a program, with Historical Society members to pay \$5 and the public for \$7.

14. Downtown Westfield Association's Westfield in Lights adds ice skating to Grand Junction Plaza event, from 3-6 p.m. Saturday, featuring outdoor activities, games, food, live entertainment, live llamas, visits with Frosty, Rudolph and Mrs. Claus, with a tree-lighting celebration at 5:50 p.m. Free trolley service will operate with stops at Christ United Methodist Church, Westfield Intermediate School and Grand Junction Plaza.

15. Hop aboard the Nickel Plate Express for an array of excursions, including upcoming Holiday Cheers Express for 21 and older Friday nights through Christmas, Reindeer Express on Saturdays and Sundays through Christmas, tickets at [nickelplateexpress.com](http://nickelplateexpress.com).

16. Enjoy Arcadia's eighth annual Christmas Tree Lighting with Christmas Market from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday.



Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven of Indy Ghost Light Photography

**Experience live community theater during Main Street Productions' "Inspecting Carol," a holiday comedy of a play within a play of "A Christmas Carol," this weekend and next weekend at Basile Westfield Playhouse.**

17. The City of Noblesville's Holiday in Lights Parade at 6:30 p.m. Saturday through downtown Noblesville that starts at 16th and Harrison streets and ends at Federal Hill Commons on Logan Street.

18. Travel to the countryside to hear live music with The Molter Brothers on Saturday, Jennifer Mlott on Dec. 9, all at 7 p.m., at Spencer Farm Winery in Noblesville. Visit [spencerfarmwinery.com](http://spencerfarmwinery.com). Also, enjoy live music featuring Jeff Brown on Saturday, Craig Thurston on Dec. 7 and 21, John Gilmore on Dec. 9, Dead Squirrels on Dec. 16, Jeff Brown on Dec. 23, and Disagreeable on Dec. 30 at Grindstone Public House in Noblesville.

19. Celebrate at Hamilton County's Bicentennial Bash from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday at Ivy Tech Hamilton County Campus in Noblesville. This free open house-style event includes free food, live music, short film, raffle with a canned food drive, art show in partnership with Nickel Plate Arts, displays from nonprofits, more.

20. NHS Singers varsity mixed show choir will sing with Noblesville's very own Sarah Scharbrough McLaughlin, world-class performer, songwriter and worship leader, during two Christmas performances, at 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday at The Studio at The Performing Arts Center of Carmel. Tickets at [thecenterpresents.org](http://thecenterpresents.org)

21. Watch Hamilton County Community Band Christmas Concert at 7 p.m. Sunday at Noblesville High School Auditorium.

22. Make reservations for Noblesville Chamber of Commerce's annual Holiday Luncheon, combined with the State of the Schools presentation by Noblesville Schools Superintendent Daniel Hile and will feature Noblesville High School's varsity mixed show choir, the NHS Singers, with student musicians, and kicking off with North Elementary's Hand Chime Choir, on Wednesday at Noblesville Schools Community

Center. Public invited. Reservations at [noblesvillechamber.com](http://noblesvillechamber.com).

23. Shop at the Stony Creek Holiday Market from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday at Stony Creek Elementary School in Noblesville, supporting Stony Creek graduates pursuing a career in education.

24. Noblesville Choirs Holiday Concerts at 7 p.m. Dec. 8 and 2 p.m. Dec. 9 at Noblesville High School with \$10-\$16 reserved tickets at [noblesvillechoirs.org](http://noblesvillechoirs.org)

25. Enjoy live theater at Attic Theatre's "White Christmas" musical on Dec. 8-9 at Ivy Tech Hamilton County Campus in Noblesville, at [theattictheatre.com](http://theattictheatre.com)

26. Experience "Moon Over Buffalo," a fast-paced hilarious screwball comedy Dec. 8-17 by Carmel Community Players at The Cat in Carmel, with tickets at [carmelplayers.org](http://carmelplayers.org)

27. Immerse yourself in the magic of the holiday season with the return of Noblesville Preservation Alliance's Holiday Home Tour from 5-8 p.m. Dec. 9 with tickets at [preservationhall.org](http://preservationhall.org).

28. Noblesville First UMC will have its annual Christmas Festival of Music & art at 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Dec. 10 at the church, featuring the Chancel Choir, Janus Choir, Orchestra and art for sale by Janus artists.

29. Shop the Alley Art Market for works by local artists and markers 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 16 at the Lacy Arts Building in downtown Noblesville.

30. Enjoy "An En-Pointe Christmas" during EnPointe Indiana Ballet's holiday performances at 2 p.m. Dec. 16 and 17 at Noblesville High School with tickets at [www.enpointe.yapsody.com](http://www.enpointe.yapsody.com).

*-Betsy Reason writes about people, places and things in Hamilton County. Contact The Times Editor Betsy Reason at [betsy@thetimes24-7.com](mailto:betsy@thetimes24-7.com). Moving to 2024: Originally scheduled Legacy Keepers Music's Dec. 2 Classical Guitar Series is postponed until spring 2024 due to the downtown holiday parade*

**ARROWOOD** From Page A1

Alumni Night on Friday, December 22 at Hamilton Heights High School. Register here to attend a night of fun, playing music, sharing memories, and special holiday dinner.

Speaking of fun, members of the Hamilton Heights High School Honor Society are hosting Cookies with Santa on Saturday, December 9 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the High School Media Center, Entrance B. Details can be found here.

As a reminder, our synchronous E-Learning Day

is this Friday, December 1. Students do not report to school and will attend classes virtually.

Thank you for your partnership with students, staff, parents, and community. It is through these strong relationships that we realize the healthy and continued growth of our children, our schools, and our community. #WeAreHuskies

*- Dr. Derek Arrowood is the Superintendent of the Hamilton Heights School Corporation.*

**31 Indiana Community Projects Approved In First Round Of Federal Government Cyber Security Grant Program**

Governor Eric J. Holcomb announced today that Indiana was one of the first states awarded funding from the federal government's State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP) to support statewide cybersecurity programs. The first round of local projects that support cybersecurity improvements were approved to receive a portion of a \$20 million grant program that Indiana was awarded in 2022.

"The State of Indiana is doing its due diligence to maintain the highest level of cyber security necessary to protect Hoosier data," Gov. Holcomb said. "Indiana is committed to leading the way by improving its cybersecurity posture and protecting our critical digital infrastructure."

The Indiana Office of Technology and its partner, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, which respectively chair and co-chair, Indiana's SLCGP Committee, have received federal approval for the state and local cybersecurity plan, and are actively working to implement the strategy.

The federal government created the SLCGP program through the Investment Infrastructure and Jobs Act (2021) and tasked the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to deliver the appropriated financial assistance to state and local governments to help them improve their cybersecurity posture.

Indiana's SLCGP Planning Committee, comprised of staff from state and local government, higher education

and related association partners, voted to support the first round of projects to purchase cybersecurity protection for communities across the state.

This project is the first of many steps already taken to help reduce cyberattacks and protect Indiana's digital services.

At Gov. Holcomb's direction in prioritizing cybersecurity statewide, IOT has been traveling the state meeting with community leaders to learn about the landscape of cybersecurity resources and policies in local government, participating in nearly 100 listening sessions or conferences. IOT is leading an increased effort to partner state and local resources to jointly improve cybersecurity across all levels of government through policies and free or discounted services. Examples include cybersecurity risk assessments, cybersecurity awareness training, hosted websites, secure email and office productivity suite.

Hundreds of local governments are already taking advantage of these services, providing immense value for Hoosier taxpayers. Through the no-cost cybersecurity awareness training for local government staff, IOT has provided more than \$500,000 in value for local government.

To keep local government informed about new programs or SLCGP funding opportunities, IOT hosts a monthly townhall. Details on the townhall meetings, as well as additional cybersecurity and digital government tools are available at <https://www.in.gov/iot/local-government-services/>.



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# FRIDAY Business Notes and NEWS DAY

Friday, December 1, 2023

A7

EMAIL, news@thetimes24-7.com U.S. MAIL, 54 N. 9th St., Noblesville, IN 46060 ONLINE, www.thetimes24-7.com

## Crawfordsville KOA Journey Recognized With Major Award During Annual Convention

Kampgrounds of America, Inc. (KOA), the world's largest system of open-to-the-public campgrounds, is pleased to announce that the Crawfordsville KOA Journey campground has earned the KOA President's Award. This prestigious award was presented Thursday, November 16 at Kampgrounds of America, Inc.'s Annual International Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The KOA President's Award is presented to those campgrounds meeting exceptional quality standards and who receive high customer service scores from their camping guests. KOA surveys hundreds of thousands of campers each year regarding their KOA camping experience.

"Our campground owners and thousands of dedicated employees are essential to providing the superior level of outdoor hospitality KOA guests expect and it's an honor to recognize this hard work," said Toby O'Rourke, president and CEO of Kampgrounds

of America, Inc. "Our President's Awards are driven by camper feedback and an extensive annual review process. These award-winning KOA owners have made the right investments in their campgrounds and their staff to provide the best outdoor experience in North America."

Campers are an enthusiastic group of travelers with growing expectations, according to recent research conducted by Kampgrounds of America, Inc. The company's research found that 53% of campers had already booked at least one camping trip for 2024 compared to just 13% of leisure travelers. This enthusiasm could be tied to the satisfaction campers experienced during their camping trips this year; 58% of campers state that their 2023 trips thus far have exceeded expectations.

To find out more about this KOA campground or the more than 500 KOAs across the U.S. or Canada, visit [www.KOA.com](http://www.KOA.com).

### About Kampgrounds

### Of America

Kampgrounds of America has been the definitive leader in outdoor hospitality for more than 60 years. United under the mission of "connecting people to the outdoors and each other," the company consists of two unique brands: KOA and Terramor Outdoor Resorts. KOA, the world's largest system of privately-owned, open-to-the-public campgrounds, consists of more than 500 franchised and owned campgrounds. With unrivaled brand visibility, KOA also offers campground owners and operators unparalleled support in campground education, design, recruitment, marketing and technology. Terramor Outdoor Resorts, a glamping venture, opened its first flagship property in Bar Harbor, Maine in 2020. Literally meaning "Love of Land," the brand focuses on delivering a refined and upscale outdoor experience. For more information, visit [KOA.com](http://KOA.com) and [TerramorOutdoorResort.com](http://TerramorOutdoorResort.com).

## BBB Tip: A Parental Guide To Safe And Efficient Holiday Shopping From CARU

To ensure a safe and secure online holiday shopping experience, the Children's Advertising Review Unit (CARU) has crafted a set of recommendations for parents and guardians to make informed purchasing decisions this season.

Creating a thoughtful shopping list. Every year, major retailers compile their lists of the hottest toys and gifts for the season. However, consumers should approach lists like the "Hottest Toys of 2023" with a critical eye. Stores and online retailers create these lists based on their expectations of what will sell well. What's important to note is what these lists don't reveal. For instance, the inclusion of a connected toy on such a list does not imply an endorsement of the toy's safety or its privacy and data collection practices.

To help you select a toy with data collection and privacy practices that align with your comfort level, it's essential to read the company's privacy policy. A robust privacy policy should:

- 1) Clearly outline what information the toy collects from its users, including children.
- 2) Specify who is responsible for collecting or accessing the gathered data.
- 3) Describe how this information is stored.
- 4) Explain the purpose and manner in which this information is used.
- 5) Detail the parental rights you have in terms of reviewing or removing this information.
- 6) Depending on the data collected from children, some connected toys may require parental consent before children can use the toy.

The simplest way to find apps and connected toys that comply with the federal privacy law, the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), is to find a company affiliated with an FTC-approved Safe

Harbor program, such as CARU's COPPA Safe Harbor. If you encounter a website or app displaying the CARU seal, rest assured that its privacy practices adhere to the COPPA Rule.

Distinguishing between naughty and nice purchases. Online shopping hinges on the accuracy and accessibility of product information available online. Therefore, it's crucial to review product details, thoroughly understand how the product works and what is included and learn what you might still need to purchase. Be attentive to accessories that must be purchased separately, such as batteries or clothing for dolls. CARU also recommends you consider the safety and appropriateness of the toy with your child in mind.

We recommend reviewing the product packaging for details and operating specifications that may be inadvertently omitted from the website. Since online depictions of products may not always be clear, many online shoppers find it beneficial to read reviews or watch videos for a closer look. It's essential to be aware that reviewers, influencers, bloggers, and others might receive compensation or free products in exchange for posting reviews.

Part of CARU's mission is to protect children from deceptive or inappropriate advertising, including product labeling and paid promotional online reviews. Keep an eye out for advertising disclosures and use this as an opportunity to educate your children about potential material connections and how they may affect the credibility of the review.

Good things come in age-appropriate packages. Age recommendations may not be as readily apparent when shopping online, so it's crucial for parents to look closely for them. Toys designed

for teenagers might be unsafe for younger children or require adult supervision.

Moreover, connected toys meant for older children and teens may collect personal information, such as audio and video, without obtaining parental consent. The companion apps for connected toys may also have unsuitable information privacy and data collection practices for children, including tracking and behavioral advertising, or they may link to sites unsuitable for children, such as social media.

Bah! Humbug! Even in secure payment and transaction environments, purchasing gifts online may expose your personal and financial information to cybercriminals. Be cautious about a website's security if you plan to share your personal information.

You better watch out... While waiting for your special deliveries, be aware that phishing attacks have been on the rise. Exercise caution when opening emails that appear to be from stores or resemble tracking information. Verify the legitimacy of the email addresses before clicking any links. If you feel nervous or suspicious about an email, refrain from clicking on anything within it. Instead, refer to the original order confirmation email or visit the company's website to check the order status. During the holiday season, it's also a good practice to monitor your credit card statements for any suspicious activity.

For more information and to learn how to protect yourself, Google "BBB 10 Steps to Avoid Scams". If you spot a scam, whether you have lost money or not, report it to BBB's Scam Tracker at [BBB.org/ScamTracker](http://BBB.org/ScamTracker) and the FTC at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](http://ReportFraud.ftc.gov). Your story can help protect consumers from similar scams.

## What To Look For When You Need A Law Firm

(StatePoint) Let's face it, no person or business gets a thrill out of hiring a law firm. Fortunately, peer-reviewed rankings have simplified the process.

Best Lawyers, which has been tracking trends and innovations in the legal industry for more than four decades, serves as a trusted resource for identifying what it takes to be a preeminent law firm in the United States. Their recently released 14th annual rankings of Best Law Firms, found at [bestlawfirms.com](http://bestlawfirms.com), provides keen insight, not only into the most successful law firms, but also the key factors to keep an eye out for when going through the reliably trying task of retaining counsel.

Here is some of Best Lawyers' advice:

1. Does the firm use the latest technology?

Right now, even the legal profession is abuzz about generative Artificial Intelligence (gen AI) tools. With its ability to parse information more quickly, gen AI offers the immediate potential to automate routine tasks

such as research; summarizing long, complex content; and writing first drafts of simple documents such as NDAs. All of which can save both time and money.

And smart firms are closely watching regulations and any risks that this new technology may bring, all while using it for the benefit of the firm and its clients.

2. What do other legal experts think about the way they do business?

There are better options available than just word of mouth when choosing legal representation. After all, hiring a law firm isn't like choosing which novel to download next. Through Best Lawyers' research process, a firm's performance is assessed by its peers, ultimately helping consumers make better-informed decisions.

Why is this important? At its heart, a robust peer-review process like Best Lawyers' asks legal professionals to answer this key question: "If you had a legal issue and could not represent yourself, what firm would you hire?" This peer-review

method is critical, and offers a straightforward way to help identify the most trusted firms.

3. Does the law firm embrace diversity?

Today's leading law firms know that to be successful, the makeup of their staff should represent the communities they serve. Inclusion is a necessary element of well-rounded representation because a team with different backgrounds and experiences will bring diverse points of view to solving clients' unique and complex challenges.

Fortunately, in recent years there has been an uptick in law firm diversity. In 2023, 21.6% of attorneys were members of traditionally underrepresented ethnic groups, according to an American Lawyer survey. That's up more than 20% from the same survey just three years prior.

As a consumer, consider asking a law firm about its diversity track record. In fact, the best law firms will not only expect the question but welcome it.

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