

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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➔ TODAY'S VERSE

John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.



Faces of Hamilton County

People who call our community their own

What makes Abbi Yiesla smile? "The kids. They're just so funny, creative and great," said the teacher at White River Elementary School in Noblesville. She was found attending the Dec. 6 Noblesville Chamber of Commerce Holiday Luncheon and State of the Schools program at Noblesville Schools' Community Center. Students and guests had the opportunity to visit an interactive traveling STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) museum set up in the edge of the room. Yiesla was at the museum explaining the exhibit. "It will travel to all of the elementary schools so that all of the kids get the chance to do all of the activities," said the 2014 NHS graduate and one of the STEAM teachers at White River Elementary. Does she teach other classes? "Just STEAM," she said. Two of eight different STEAM stations were on display, including a giant marble run and a wind blower. This is Yiesla's second year teaching STEAM, she said. Yiesla, a Purdue University graduate, is married and has two girls. "I just like to be creative," she said. "That's why I chose STEAM; it's so fun. Everybody gets to have fun all of the time."

SERVE Noblesville Wraps Up 2023, Jumps into 2024

SERVE Noblesville, your friendly neighborhood dogooders, are bidding farewell to 2023 with a twinkle in their eyes and a bag full of holiday cheer. The past year has been better than a one-horse open sleigh, and SERVE Noblesville is here to spread the love and laughter with a wrap-up that's as funny and whimsical as a snowman trying to do the cha-cha. COME Together Week kicked things off, and we want to send a massive bear hug to the community for showing up in full force. This year, SERVE Noblesville introduced the "Longest Table," not to be confused with Uncle Dave's never-ending stories at family gatherings. No, this



table brought local nonprofits together for networking and support, creating a gathering of minds sharper than Santa's naughty-or-nice list. FUN Fest was, well, a blast! We celebrated the present and the growing diversity

within our community. It was so much fun that even Frosty dropped his top hat in excitement. The joy was contagious, and we tip our Santa hats to everyone who made

➔ See SERVE Page A2

Paula Recognizes 2023's Notable Nineties and Sensational Centenarians

We've come to the final column of the year, which means it's time once again to pay tribute to our Notable Nineties and Sensational Centenarians!



PAULA DUNN From Time to Thyme

If you're a new reader and aren't familiar with the Notable Nineties, it's something Jerry Snyder created several years ago when she was writing her column for the Times. Jerry started to notice that this county had a lot of residents in their 90s. She thought reaching that age was an achievement that called for some kind of special recognition, so she started the "Notable Nineties" list. After Jerry passed away, I kept her list going, and added the "Sensational Centenarian" designation (100+) to Nineties who've reached the century mark. You don't have to do anything special to get on the Notable Nineties list. Any Hamilton County resident who has celebrated their 90th birthday can be a Notable Ninety. If you're aware of someone 90 or older who'd appreciate seeing their name in print, let me know — at any time throughout the year. I'll add them to the list and recognize them in a column. My only stipulation is that someone specifically asks me to add a name to the list. It doesn't matter who makes the request. (Feel free to add yourself, if you want!) I just need to know I'm not giving away a person's age when they don't want it to be public knowledge. I've tried to keep the list current, but that's been getting harder and harder, especially with people moving out of the area, so I'm going to beg a little help this year. If, at any time, you become aware of a change that needs to be made to the list, please let me know about it. I'd also appreciate knowing when someone turns 100,

➔ See PAULA Page A6

Kindergartener's Artwork Featured on Holiday Card



Photo courtesy of Megan Hackman

Bentley Hackman, 5, a kindergartener at Noble Crossing Elementary, was recognized at the Dec. 19 Noblesville school board meeting for his artwork that was selected for Noblesville Schools' 2023 holiday card. He held his card design and smiled for photos with his art teacher, Sherry Wielgos, and his kindergarten teacher, Kim Small.



BETSY REASON Columnist

When Megan and Travis Hackman's 6-year-old son, Bentley Ray Hackman, submitted his artwork of a snowman for a contest at school, the family was pleasantly surprised to learn that the kindergartener's

design was chosen to use on Noblesville Schools' 2023 district-wide holiday card. A lot of folks likely have seen the card, which was printed and placed on the guest tables at this month's sold-out

➔ See BETSY Page A5

And Another Thing...

The City of Fishers annual, free tree recycling program returns this year at the following parks through Feb. 1:

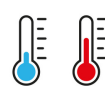
- Brooks School Park (11780 Brooks School Road)
- Cumberland Park (10580 Cumberland Road)
- Holland Park (1 Park Drive)

When dropping off your tree for recycling, look for the fenced drop-off area within the park's parking lot. Be sure to remove all decorations from the tree. Artificial trees will not be accepted.

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset

RISE: 8:09 am
SET: 5:29 pm



High/Low Temperatures

HIGH: 46°F
LOW: 33°F



Today is...

- Visit the Zoo Day
- National Fruitcake Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1845 Anesthesia used for the first time for childbirth. Dr. Crawford W. Long, an American physician, gave ether to his wife during the birth of their second child. The event revolutionized the use of anesthesia in medicine and surgery.
- 1821 Charles Darwin begins his journey on the HMS Beagle. It was during this 5-year long voyage that the English naturalist worked on his Theory of Evolution. He published the evidence supporting it in his 1859 book, On the Origin of Species.



Births On This Day

- 1822 Louis Pasteur-French chemist, microbiologist
- 1571 Johannes Kepler-German astronomer

Deaths On This Day

- 1985 Dian Fossey-American zoologist
- 1958 Harry Warner-Polish/American businessman, co-founded Warner Bros.

➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Eating right, exercising and getting adequate sleep often help fatigue.

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



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



➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

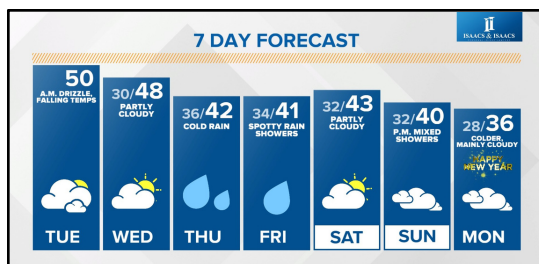
"Peace on earth will come to stay when we live Christmas every day."
Helen Steiner Rice

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

Who is the king of Santa's rock and roll helpers?
Elvis! (Thank you, thank you very much!)

➔ OBITUARIES

Mark Allen Whicker



OBITUARY

Mark Allen Whicker

July 22, 1952 – Dec 17, 2023

Mark Allen Whicker, age 71, of Sheridan, Indiana, passed away on Sunday evening, December 17, 2023. Born July 22, 1952, in Lebanon, Indiana, he was the son of the late Lawrence and Irma (Campbell) Whicker. He was a member of the Sheridan First Christian Church. At an early age, Mark took his first steps down the road of a



lifetime spent helping others. After losing his father, Mark made the decision to leave school at 15 so he could help his family financially. Some of his older siblings had already left home and had families of their own to provide for, leaving Mark to do the only thing he felt he could: pause his studies and help provide for the family. It was not an easy decision, but one that would serve as part of the foundation that his life was built upon.

Throughout his career, he worked at several places before finding the job that made him say "I'm home." Mark worked for the Sheridan Street Department for 25 years. A hard worker by nature, he rarely took a day off, came in early (and stayed late just as many days), never stopping until everything was done that needed done. In 2020, a bad auto accident forced him to retire as supervisor, earlier than he (and most of the town residents) would like to have seen happen. Mark truly loved serving the Town of Sheridan and all the wonderful people who call it home. Perhaps the best part of working for the town was getting to see and talk to the people he met while he was driving around Sheridan in his pickup truck. Longtime residents knew which truck was Mark's. He would always wave and was never in so much of a hurry that he couldn't stop and shoot the breeze with anyone that wanted to talk.

Everybody has a story, or memory, of how Mark was a part of their life. For some, it was his years at the Street Department, while others can't remember a time that they didn't know him (those individuals know the good stories). For many of our residents, though, they knew Mark as Santa. For over 55 years, Mark put on his red and white suit (two of which were made for him over the years by his grandmother) and stepped into the role he was born to play. There was nothing he loved more than seeing all the children, year after year. About 25 years into his Santa career, the only thing that could possibly make it better happened. His wife, Cindy, joined him as Mrs. Claus, and together, they helped make the wishes of the children of Sheridan, and the surrounding areas, come true. It was always a special moment when the next generation(s) got to experience the same Santa & Mrs. Claus that you saw when you were their age... and the looks on their faces when he knew their mom, dad, and grandparents' names. It is hard to describe what he meant to the children, but he was OUR Santa Claus, plain and simple. Work, and the holiday season, always kept Mark busy, however, when he had some time to himself, he loved spending it with his family. Taking the grandkids fishing, trying to instill his love for country music in them, and never missing an opportunity to let them know why God favors the L.A. Rams, the New York Yankees, and Sheridan Blackhawk Football, were just a few of his favorite things. He also loved collecting Coca Cola memorabilia, a 50 plus year obsession that helped fill an entire room at his house. It was his pride and joy, and he never stopped looking for that next piece to put in the collection.

Family was everything to Mark, and there was nothing that couldn't be achieved together. One of his proudest moments came in the form of earning his GED the same year that his son graduated high school. They both had each other's back, helping push one another across the finish line. Mark is survived by the love of his life, Cindy Ann (Alexander) Whicker. She and Mark were married in July of 1974, traveling the road of life side by side, through all its twists and turns. Also surviving are his grandsons, Drew Allen Whicker and Austin Matthew Whicker, both of Sheridan; great-grandchild, Easton Allen Whicker of Sheridan; brother, Frank Whicker (Debbie); sister, Tammy Cummins (Niles); his canine furbaby, Shadow; and by his brother and sister in law, Don and Lori Massey of Sheridan, whose helpfulness and kindness have been such a blessing throughout the years; as well as the hundreds of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence and Irma (Campbell) Whicker; brothers, Donald Gene, Jack, Lawrence, Lamar, and Jerry; sisters, Fern Keesling, Betty Parks, Mary Wallace, Serena Thomas, Sylvia Doty, Alice Smith, and Sandy Thomas; infant siblings, Michael Leon, Nellie Mae, and Glen Frederick; and by his son, Chris Allen Whicker, in 2019. Services will be held at 7:00 PM on Wednesday evening, December 27, 2023, at Kercheval Funeral Home, 306 E. 10th Street, Sheridan, Indiana, with visitation from 4:00 pm until the time of service. Rev. V.J. Stover will be officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be presented to the National Kidney Foundation, or to the Jack Griffin Children's Christmas Party c/o The Farmers Bank in Sheridan.

Mark truly loved serving the Town of Sheridan and all the wonderful people who call it home. Perhaps the best part of working for the town was getting to see and talk to the people he met while he was driving around Sheridan in his pickup truck. Longtime residents knew which truck was Mark's. He would always wave and was never in so much of a hurry that he couldn't stop and shoot the breeze with anyone that wanted to talk. Everybody has a story, or memory, of how Mark was a part of their life. For some, it was his years at the Street Department, while others can't remember a time that they didn't know him (those individuals know the good stories). For many of our residents, though, they knew Mark as Santa. For over 55 years, Mark put on his red and white suit (two of which were made for him over the years by his grandmother) and stepped into the role he was born to play. There was nothing he loved more than seeing all the children, year after year. About 25 years into his Santa career, the only thing that could possibly make it better happened. His wife, Cindy, joined him as Mrs. Claus, and together, they helped make the wishes of the children of Sheridan, and the surrounding areas, come true. It was always a special moment when the next generation(s) got to experience the same Santa & Mrs. Claus that you saw when you were their age... and the looks on their faces when he knew their mom, dad, and grandparents' names. It is hard to describe what he meant to the children, but he was OUR Santa Claus, plain and simple. Work, and the holiday season, always kept Mark busy, however, when he had some time to himself, he loved spending it with his family. Taking the grandkids fishing, trying to instill his love for country music in them, and never missing an opportunity to let them know why God favors the L.A. Rams, the New York Yankees, and Sheridan Blackhawk Football, were just a few of his favorite things. He also loved collecting Coca Cola memorabilia, a 50 plus year obsession that helped fill an entire room at his house. It was his pride and joy, and he never stopped looking for that next piece to put in the collection.

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SERVE From Page A1

it a truly unforgettable celebration. SERVE Week was the real MVP, with over 70 projects completed and a whopping 750 volunteers turning out like Santa's elves on a mission. Together, we painted, fixed, and spread more goodwill than Santa spreads Christmas magic. But wait, there's more! Thanks to the incredible support from the community and our partners, including Temperature Services and Hamilton County Youth Assistance, we were able to install a new furnace and air conditioner for a family in Sheridan. This snowballed into additional home repair work by Christmas in Action for another family in Westfield and a furnace installation by Caribbean Air. It's like a holiday miracle that keeps on giving!

As we bid adieu to 2023, SERVE Noblesville is gearing up for a spectacular SERVE Celebration on January 5th, 2024. Picture confetti cannons, dancing elves, and a party so lively that even Rudolph would join in. Well, maybe not quite that big but they are excited to introduce and invite the community to come join them in their first-ever, family-friendly fundraiser, SERVE Celebration. SERVE Noblesville is excited to bring the community together for a night with great food, fun, and competitive games for all ages while celebrating the bonds that make Noblesville the extraordinary place it is.

They invite everyone to join them at Mojo Sports Complex at Finch Creek on Friday, January 5th from 6-

9pm, where we'll feast, laugh, and create memories that will last longer than your Aunt Mildred's fruitcake. Tickets can be purchased in advance at www.servenoblesville.com. Sponsorships are also still available for businesses that want to offer some holiday cheer contact SERVE Noblesville at info@servevillage.org.

SERVE Noblesville extends heartfelt gratitude to over 60 businesses and organizations that offered support, and to the masses of neighbors who connected with others, making Noblesville and Hamilton County shine brighter than Rudolph's nose on Christmas Eve.

Here's to a whimsical end to 2023 and an even more magical 2024!

Christmas Chase Hits 3 Counties

A Noblesville woman was arrested on Christmas Day after police chased a suspicious vehicle through Hamilton, Madison and Tipton counties. Tammy J. Hunter was charged with reckless driving and resisting law enforcement with a vehicle, according to the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. It all started when police received a call about a suspicious vehicle near 226th and Cyntheanne Road at an abandoned residence. Police say that



deputies located the car and tried to conduct a traffic stop. The suspect failed to yield, according to the deputies and a chase began that lasted almost 20 minutes. Police say it ended

when the vehicle drove into a field in Tipton County near 296th and County Road 100 East) where the driver surrendered. No one was injured.

Noblesville Council Awards 'Stake in the Ground' To Deputy Mayor



The Noblesville Common Council recognized Deputy Mayor Matt Light as the 2023 Stake in the Ground honoree at their meeting last week. The "Stake in the Ground" Award is designed to recognize city employees – typically at the director level – who go above and beyond their job by "putting a stake in the ground" to be the best city employee and have a significant impact in serving constituents. Each councilor makes a nomination and then

all members vote on the award. "In addition to his tasks and responsibilities, Matt undertook two major projects this past year," said 2023 Common Council Vice President Darren Peterson, who presented the award on behalf of the council. "Matt was instrumental in the Noblesville Event Center breaking ground in November and working with Indiana Pacers Sports and Entertainment to secure the city as the new home to the team's G League

franchise." During 2023 Light also worked to finalize the city's acquisition of Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations property between Division and Pleasant streets. "With his due diligence, the city has acquired portions of the land, based on environmental analysis to be safe for redevelopment, that give us an opportunity to repurpose the site from its previous industrial use to serve the current and future needs of our growing community," Peterson said. Light was selected by Mayor Chris Jensen to serve as his deputy mayor and has served under the Jensen administration since it began on Jan. 1, 2020. "I'm fortunate to serve in a role where

FOR THE RECORD

Carmel Plan Commission RESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 2, 2024 Meeting Agenda

CAUCUS ROOMS
TIME: 6:00 PM
CARMEL CITY HALL, 2 ND FLOOR (DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM) ONE CIVIC SQUARE CARMEL, IN 46032
1. Docket No. PZ-2023-00014 PUD: Andrews PUD Rezone The applicant seeks PUD rezone approval to allow a new neighborhood consisting of 46 townhomes and 14 two-family dwellings. The site is located at 4411 E 146th Street and is zoned R-1/Residence. Filed by Jim Shinaver and Jon Dobosiewicz of Nelson & Frankenberger on behalf of Schafer Development, LLC.

Carmel Plan Commission COMMERCIAL COMMITTEE

The Commercial Committee will meet to review the following items:
1. Docket No. PZ-2023-00192 DP Amend/ADLS Amend: Driven Neuro Recovery Center. The applicant seeks site plan and design approval to redevelop this site for a new clinical medical use. The site is located at 1300 East 96th Street, the former Five Seasons Family Sports Club. It is zoned PUD (Five Seasons Z-619-16) and is not within any overlay district. Filed by Mark Leach of Faegre Drinker on behalf of the applicant, Sam Schmidt Foundation Inc. dba Conquer Paralysis Now.
2. Docket No. PZ-2023-00282 ADLS Amend: Capital Group Solar Canopies. The applicant seeks design approval for the installation of over 100,000 sq. ft. of solar canopies within the existing parking lots. The site is located at 12811 N. Meridian St. and 12911 N. Meridian St. It is zoned MC/Meridian Corridor and is not located within an overlay zone. Filed by Aaron Wilson of Solar One.

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES



DICK WOLFSIE Funny Bone

Here is part two of my yearly look back on the people, places and things that gave me ideas for my column. Most of the originals are posted on my Facebook page after they are published, so if you missed one you can check it out.

Thanks to the website that offers cooking tips. Here's one of their tips. Don't cook your asparagus with the rubber band still on the stems. Yes, if your spears are exceptionally chewy one night, I think you have discovered the culprit.

My appreciation to some quack doctor who said he invented a mobile app that would cure acne if you held the phone to your head. He was arrested for fraud. Asked if he would serve his sentence like a man, he said "Breaking out is not an option." He also said his wife was worried that even a short prison sentence would jeopardize their marriage. "She's my main squeeze," the dermatologist told everyone. Which is NOT something his PR agency wanted him to say.

In one column I celebrated Indianapolis' high ranking for cities with the most rats. The Crossroads of America (Indy's nickname) was rated 15th, indicating exactly what was crossing those crossroads. So, the rats were rated higher than the Cubs this year. Washington DC was rated fourth on the list with a half a million rats, 500,535 if you count Congress.

Carmel Student Makes President's List

Steven Leatherwood of Carmel was one of 340 named to the Union University President's List for the fall 2023 semester. The.

Thanks to my wife, who wanted to try a new Chinese restaurant. She found one online and ordered the food. I called back to know how long it would take to get there. "Where do you live?" I was asked. I told him the northside of Indianapolis. "Oh, about six hours. Sir, you are calling a Chinese restaurant in Canton, Ohio." "No problem," I said. "I love Cantonese food."

While eating breakfast one morning I noticed I had sliced my finger when cutting the bagel. I told Mary Ellen we had to go to the emergency room because of all the blood and white ooze coming from the injury. After some testing, the doctor told me it was cream cheese and jelly.

Kudos to a new chess website. Before venturing into this I wanted to assess the competition. Each player has a bio online. Cauty is an international grandmaster. The bio says he is very tricky and "might catch you with your pants down." I suggest you not play him on Zoom. My favorite was Zara. Her write-up says she is a good sport, loves animals, is a nonsmoker and wants to play with someone who likes romantic dinners. Hmmm, maybe she thinks she's on ChessMatch.com.

I was frustrated that I can never find the TV remote, so I tied a piece of dental floss around the device and connected it to the couch leg. Great results. I don't miss nearly as many shows and I have 34 percent less plaque.

In bad weather, I started jogging in Walmart and Costco, sometimes getting in as many as six miles on a rainy day. I only do Costco now. Walmart started charging me mileage.

Have a great 2024

President's List includes full-time students who achieve a 4.0 grade point average on a four-point scale.

Congress faces two shutdown deadlines with no action yet on spending

By Jennifer Shutt
Indiana Capital Chronicle

WASHINGTON — Congress is staring down a funding cliff in mid-January and a second one in early February, but neither of those deadlines have inspired House and Senate leaders to broker agreement on the dozen bills that were supposed to become law by Oct. 1. Appropriators are concerned the upcoming election year and competing legislative priorities have pushed their work to the back of the line, increasing the odds that Congress stumbles into a partial government shutdown in the new year. The lawmakers who work on funding bills are equally frustrated that leaders may simply lean on a third stopgap spending bill to keep the government funded for the rest of the fiscal year, throwing months of work on the dozen full-year spending bills out the window.

Senate Appropriations Chair Patty Murray, D-Wash., said in mid-December that using a stopgap spending bill, also called a continuing resolution, to fund the government for the entire fiscal year would be "unprecedented and reckless."

"We cannot just throw up our hands, act like nothing in the world has changed in the past 12 months, abdicate our responsibility to our constituents and box in our nation's future by putting the government on autopilot," Murray said.

Maine Sen. Susan Collins, the top Republican on the committee, has also rejected the idea of Congress using another continuing resolution, saying during a floor speech in late November the "temporary funding patches lead to harmful uncertainties, needless inefficiencies and wasted taxpayer dollars."

A full-year stopgap spending bill would cut defense spending by \$34.6 billion compared to what the Senate spending panel approved in its bipartisan bill, she said.

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, a Kentucky Republican, said Tuesday that using a continuing resolution to fund the government for the rest of the fiscal year is "unacceptable." "It's devastating, particularly for defense and we've got all of these wars going on," McConnell said. "So we need to reach an agreement on the topline and get about getting an outcome as soon as possible."

Spending levels in debt limit deal

Congress and the Biden administration agreed to spending levels for fiscal year 2024, which began back on Oct. 1, as well as fiscal year 2025 when they brokered the debt limit deal last summer.

The Senate Appropriations Committee wrote all 12 of its annual government funding bills to roughly that level and the committee approved them all following broadly bipartisan votes.

The House spending panel, however, wrote its bills more than \$100 billion below those levels and added in dozens of conservative policy changes that infuriated Democrats.

Those differing spending levels are among the many issues that have delayed the House and Senate from heading to conference committees to hammer out their differences.

Speaker Mike Johnson, a Louisiana Republican, said before that chamber left for a three-week winter break that he agreed the spending bills should be written to the funding levels in the debt limit law. But he argued the Senate bills are above those numbers.

"We're awaiting the other team, the other side, the other chamber to come forward with a number that we can agree upon that we write to," Johnson said.

"And that's the impasse and that's what we're waiting on. But the law is the law." Collins said Tuesday that her preference would be for the final bills to reflect the topline spending level in the debt limit law

"plus the side deal plus filling in with some emergency spending that" she and Chair Murray agreed to.

The stalemate has aggravated both Democrats and Republicans on the Senate and House committees, who say leadership needs to give them the green light to begin talks ahead of the Jan. 19 deadline for four spending bills and the Feb. 2 deadline for the other eight appropriations measures.

Arkansas Republican Rep. Steve Womack, chair of the Financial Services spending panel, said last week that congressional leaders should have told the committee weeks ago what the total spending level would be for the current fiscal year, known as the topline. "We're just in a bad spot. We've needed these topline numbers," Womack said. "I'm anxious to

go home for Christmas, but at the end of the day, I know if they gave us a topline today, we are just going to absolutely kill our staffs. These do not happen overnight."

'Chaotic' month predicted

Maryland Democratic Rep. Steny Hoyer, ranking member on the Financial Services spending panel, said January will be "chaotic" since the GOP leaders have "created a crisis." "They have created a chaotic, almost impossible situation for themselves and the country," Hoyer said.

A shutdown, he said, is "more likely than it should be because of the timeframe and because of the irresolution and the deep division within the Republican Party."

Kentucky Rep. Hal Rogers, the top Republican on the Commerce-Justice-Science spending subcommittee, said not having spending levels puts meeting the Jan. 19 and Feb. 2 deadlines in "severe jeopardy."

Rogers said he believes Speaker Johnson understands the importance of getting agreement on the spending levels, but said that is challenging at the moment.

"I think he fully understands that," Roger said. "But he's got to put together the votes to make that happen."

Montana Democratic Sen. Jon Tester, chair of the Defense spending subcommittee, said Congress should use the topline spending levels that were put in the debt limit law that Republicans and Democrats voted to approve.

"Toplines on appropriations, in my book, are set," Tester said. "They were agreed to and the speaker of the House voted for them

months ago. And to go back is really bad form, bad business, word is not your bond, very anti-Montanian."

Tester said he would work to get agreement between the Republican House and Democratic Senate on his bill before funding expires on Feb. 2, but said he wasn't sure that could happen.

"It's got me very worried because there are no presents to open in January," Tester said, alluding to the fact that Congress normally negotiates the bills ahead of the winter break.

The prospect of Congress using a stopgap spending bill to keep the government funded for the rest of the fiscal year doesn't appeal to Tester, who said "God forbid"

when asked about the possibility.

Oklahoma Republican Rep. Tom Cole, chair of the Transportation-HUD subcommittee, said using another stopgap spending bill, or a series of them, to fund the government — instead of passing the 12 full-year bills — is "very possible."

"In some ways, it's even the most likely, but it should not be the desired outcome," Cole said.

The odds of a partial government shutdown beginning next year are low, Cole said, though he didn't rule it out entirely.

Wisconsin Democratic Sen. Tammy Baldwin, chair of the Labor-HHS-Education spending subcommittee, said "there's still nothing from the House" that would allow the chairs and ranking members to begin conference talks.

Given the time crunch, Baldwin said, the best option would be for the House to pass the dozen government funding bills the Senate Appropriations Committee approved earlier this year on broadly bipartisan votes.



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↓ BETSY From Page A1

Noblesville Chamber of Commerce Holiday Luncheon and State of the Schools. The printed holiday card acknowledges the kindergartener's work with the words: "Artwork courtesy of Bentley Hackman, Noble Crossing Elementary." Bentley's mom is very proud of her son. She and her husband did not see the artwork that their son turned in for the contest until the Dec. 19 Noblesville School Board meeting, where Bentley was recognized with a certificate of Outstanding Achievement. She said, "I didn't know anything about this until I received the email from the school stating that his artwork was selected." The family was invited to attend the school board meeting so Bentley could be recognized.

"When I told Bentley, he couldn't even remember what he drew," his mom said. "I was a little concerned because he loves to draw things Halloween inspired. It's our favorite holiday. I was just hoping the artwork did not feature any ghosts, skeletons or tombstones." When Bentley was recognized at the Noblesville School Board meeting, he held his card design and smiled for photos with his kindergarten teacher, Kim Small, and his art teacher, Sherry Wielgos. Creating the artwork came natural for the kindergartener. "Bentley loves to draw," his mom said. "His maternal great-grandmother, Mary Krall, was actually an artist and taught classes in her local community. After passing, she had an art memorial named after

her. So maybe he received some of her creative genes." He also loves to craft. "He's always making things out of random stuff he finds around the house." What else? "Bentley is very active and loves to try new things. He's currently in swimming and basketball but has participated in flag football, baseball and more," his mom said. He is the second child in the family of six and has three siblings, Brody, 15, Briggs, 2, and Breeleigh, 6 months. Megan Hackman said, "I asked him what makes him smile, and he said, 'You.' And also 'Dad, Brody, Briggs, Breeleigh and Batman,' our dog." For Christmas, his list included a Rubik's Cube, toy Army men and Titanic Legos. He also has a new fascination with flags and has been drawing a

lot of different flags, with the American flag being his favorite. Even one of his snowman drawings that he brought home from school had the American flag in it, his mom said. Bentley's artwork was not only shared at the State of the Schools but also in Noblesville Schools administration building, and at the school board meeting, where a large version was projected on the wall for all meeting attendees to view. Plus, the card was distributed digitally to community partners, staff, parents and on social media this week, according to district spokesperson Marnie Cooke. Megan Hackman said Bentley's art teacher told the family that all Noblesville schools in the district were invited to participate in the design of the district's holiday card. The art classes worked on the design. Bentley's kindergarten art class, led by Ms. Wielgos, brainstormed about winter images with snowmen the image of choice. Then Bentley created a snowman artwork to be submitted. Besides drawing snowmen, building snowmen is a favorite snow activity in the Hackman household. Recently, when Noblesville received a little bit of snow, "he was out there trying to build a mini snowman," Bentley's mom said. Megan Hackman said Ms. Wielgos wrote in a note to the Hackman family: "Noble Crossing is very proud of Bentley and is thrilled to share his artwork with members of our school community."

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

Year End Ambitions and Reflections



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

It's the time of year when I look back and see where I've been and wonder where I'm going. On the shortest days of the year, I like to do a little recalibration. I take a look at what I had hoped to do and ways in which I want to change my thinking. Some years I have had major changes in the works—going back to school or starting a new career. Other years, my biggest ambition has been to finish off the last of the Christmas cookies before the year's end in case they have an end-of-the-year expiration date and pose a danger to those with a less robust constitution. This year is somewhere between the two. Part of becoming older and a bit more at peace with myself is looking at the new year a little differently. Instead of a series of challenges to overcome and changes to enact, I look at the new year with a renewed sense of wonder. Instead of looking at new mountains I'd like to conquer, I like to spend a little time questioning the things I do every day without thinking, and how those things could be better. Some are profound. Most are not. "I'm changing lipsticks," I tell my friend, Cheri. She does not seem to register that this is a major life event. "I only do this once every 10 years or so," I add, so she understands the enormity of the choice. "I had Thanksgiving dinner with a woman whose lipstick stayed on for the entire meal," I explained. "I want to be like her."

I got the sense Cheri did not think this end-of-year ambition was worthy of her attention. I decided not to tell her about my other goal: to

polish off all the dangerously old Christmas cookies. But I have a few other ideas for the new year as well. I just got word that an old friend of mine has a ruthless form of cancer. We have not been in touch for years, but he was a good friend in high school, and the prognosis is not good. It is so hard for me to imagine the youthful, cheerful, impossibly energetic person he has always been becoming so ill and facing anything so dire. And yet he is. And so could we all. And so, the biggest change I would like to make in the new year is to stop behaving as if I have all the time in the world. While I don't know how much time I have (and I hope it is still considerable), none of us knows. I'd like to be a little gentler on myself in this new year. I'd like to treat myself like a person who is not going to live forever—simply because I am not. Today would be a good day to write to my old friend and tell him I have nothing but wonderful memories of him. Today would be a good day to lay aside all my petty grievances against people who might think differently than I do or hold different beliefs. Today would be an excellent day to let go of any fears I have of being rejected or blamed or embarrassed. On the shortest days of the year, it's good to be reminded that my time is short as well. It's a good time to do the things that matter and the things that bring me joy. It's a perfect time to send out a little more kindness, eat a few more cookies and buy new lipstick. Till next time, Carrie

- Carrie Classon is a freelance writer and author and lives in New Mexico. Her columns appear each week.



Photo courtesy of Noblesville Schools
This artwork, by Bentley Hackman, 5, a kindergartener at Noble Crossing Elementary, was chosen in a school art design contest to be the district's 2023 holiday card.



Photo courtesy of Noblesville Schools

Bentley Hackman, 5, a kindergartener at Noble Crossing Elementary, was presented a certificate for Outstanding Achievement by Noblesville School Board for his artwork being selected for Noblesville Schools' 2023 holiday card.



THE TIMES

PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notices Deadline:

**11:00 a.m.
2 Business Days
Prior to Publication**

**legals@thetimes
24-7.com**

**Private Party Notices
Submitted After
Deadline
May Be Subject To
\$25.00 Fee In
Addition
To The Cost Of The
Advertisement**

2024 Meeting Schedule
Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5(c) the Hamilton County Solid Waste Board will meet the following dates in 2024:
Time: 12:00 noon, unless otherwise noted
Location: Commissioners' Courtroom
Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center
One Hamilton County Square
Noblesville, Indiana
Meeting dates and times are subject to change.
January 22, 2024 (Joint with Advisory Committee)
February 26, 2024
March 25, 2024
April 22, 2024
May 28, 2024 (Tuesday)
June 24, 2024 (Joint with Advisory Committee)
July 22, 2024
August 26, 2024
September 23, 2024
October 28, 2024
November 25, 2024
TL21075 12/27 1t hspaxlp

2024 Meeting Schedule
Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5(c) the Hamilton County Airport Authority will meet the following dates in 2024:
Time: 6:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted
Location: Commissioners' Courtroom
Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center
One Hamilton County Square
Noblesville, Indiana
Meeting dates, times, and location are subject to change.
January 10, 2024
February 14, 2024
March 13, 2024
April 10, 2024 (Indy Exec)
May 8, 2024
June 12, 2024
July 10, 2024
August 14, 2024
September 11, 2024
October 9, 2024 (Indy Exec)
November 13, 2024
December 11, 2024
TL21076 12/27 1t hspaxlp

Dear Community Patron, The Beta Epsilon Chapter of Tri Kappa of Noblesville along with *The Times of Noblesville* newspaper will be sponsoring the 18th annual Noblesville Red Stocking Fund. In 2022, we collected over \$14,800.00, thanks to the generosity of so many citizens of Noblesville. We are asking you to consider making a donation in 2023 for this very worthwhile cause. Donations collected last year were distributed through the Noblesville Trustee's Office as well as to each school to aid the students in our community. The Trustee's office was able to provide Shoe Carnival and Kohl's vouchers for over 100 children. Money was also used to help some families with utility and other home bills. Since 2006, over \$218,300.00 has been collected and distributed to children and families of Noblesville. Donations will be collected from November 22nd through December 25th and will be used throughout 2024 to help those who are less fortunate in Noblesville. **There are no administrative fees; both Tri Kappa and *The Times* newspaper donate their efforts, allowing 100% of the donations to be used for the children and families of Noblesville.** If you would like to contribute, please print your name, donation amount (this will remain anonymous) and the short message you would like printed in the newspaper. *The Times* newspaper will publish weekly in November and December the names of contributors and their holiday message. Submit the form below with your check or money order payable to **Noblesville Red Stocking Fund** and mail to the P.O. Box listed below. Whether your donation is given in memory or honor of a loved one, in lieu of Christmas cards, in celebration of your family or even an anonymous donation; every dollar contributed will certainly help. All donations are welcome. Thank you for considering a donation.

Kim Claussen
Red Stocking Fund Chair
Beta Epsilon Chapter, Inc.
of Tri Kappa

The TIMES
Serving Noblesville and Hamilton County for more than a century
Noblesville Red Stocking Fund

**Mail to: Noblesville Red Stocking Fund
PO Box 162, Noblesville 46061**

Please list your name, the amount of your donation and the message you would like printed for the donation you are giving.

Name of donor: _____
Message: _____
Amount _____ (Amount will not be published)

Thank you for your generous donation and sharing your message with Noblesville.

Visit our website www.thetimes24-7.com

PAULA

From Page A1

so I can recognize them as a Sensational Centenarian.

Happy New Year to everyone and especially to our Notable Nineties!

Betty Brattain

Charles Burkhardt

Barbara Cartwright

Evelyn Chance

Eunice Collins

Eileen (Hunter) Conaway

Jay Curnutt

Kathryn Mildred Dierdorf

Clifford Eckles

Gwen Galbreath

Don Garrison

Nancy Garrison

Bernice (Reel) Heiny

Glen Heiny

Peggy Hodges

Edgar Irion

Mary Johnson

Geraldine (Whelcher) Kinzer

Ernest Kitterman

Esther (Dick) Kronenberg

Nancy Lacy

Wilbur Lacy

Helen LeCount

Joan Love

Ruby Sanders

Randall Mendell

Phyllis (Guilkey) Mendenhall (100+!)

Joyce Menefee

Peggy Randall Merrill

Don Alan Meyers

Geraldine (Burwell) Miller

Ronald Miller

Rosemary (Leonard) Miller

Jane (Long) Morton

Pat Mosbaugh

Winona Moss

Marianna Mounsey

Helen Nelson

Pat (Guilkey) Paskins

Melford Pearson (100+!)

Nola Pyle

Cathy Rodgers

Jane Roudebush

Carol Rushton

Ivan "Sonny" Sherman

Iva Lou Sission

Ruth (Guilkey) Stoops

Marilyn Sutton

Carol A. (Roudebush) Swaynie

Katheryn Thompson (100+!)

Mary Waltz

Harriet (Guilkey) Wise

Peggy Yancey

Call Out for Artists with Disabilities

During the month of March, the Fishers Arts Council – along with the Fishers Advisory Committee on Disability and Ignite Studio at Hamilton East Public Library – is looking to exhibit artwork created by artists who live with developmental or intellectual disabilities. The artwork will be featured at Fishers Arts Council's Hub Gallery at the Collaboration Hub and Ignite Studio. This is a way to demonstrate the importance of art as we get "Fueled for the Future" during the month of March in the City of Fishers. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: Artists interested in participating must submit a request by 3 p.m. on January 26, 2024, to info@fishersartscouncil.org indicating their desire to participate or

fill out the online form at <https://www.fishersartscouncil.org/s> ubmit-your-work and select EXHIBIT March Disabilities Awareness from the drop down menu. For email submissions, please make your Subject Line: March Awareness and include the following in your email:

- Artist's name
- Full physical mailing address
- Phone number
- Email address
- One or two sample(s) of artwork in jpeg or pdf format. Please limit the file size of each image to 2MB or less. (Do not embed images in your email.)

ELIGIBILITY: Artists must:

- Have a developmental or intellectual disability

- Be a 2D visual artist,
- Be able to provide at least two (2) to six (6) pieces of family friendly art for exhibit,
- Agree that Fishers Arts Council or Ignite Studio may alter artwork for proper hanging and installation in the galleries if said artwork is not properly equipped for display.
- Artists may also be represented by organizations that serve individuals with disabilities.

Selection Process: Representatives from Fishers Arts Council will review submissions and select artists for the exhibit. Notification: Artists will be notified of their acceptance into the exhibit by February 2, 2024. Delivery: Artists will be required to deliver artwork to the Ignite Studio on Saturday, February 24, 2024, from 3-5 p.m. or Sunday, February 25, 2023 from 1-3 p.m. Questions: For more information, contact info@fishersartscouncil.org

Fishers Arts Council is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts organization whose mission is to support, advocate, and cultivate visual and performing arts opportunities that educate and/or enhance the lives of those who live, work, and visit Fishers, Indiana. Visit our art gallery space at the Collaboration Hub at Hamilton County Community Foundation, 11810 Technology Drive, Fishers, online at FishersArtsCouncil.org, or call us at 317-537-1670.

The Red Stocking Fund



Total to Date: **\$12,235**

Our Goal Is: **\$10,000**

2023 CONTRIBUTORS

Bonnie Uber

Chris Shelby and Family
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Mike and Lori Cain
Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years

Alice Douthit
With Love to my Westfield Grandkids
Nick (17) & Audrey (14)

John and Betty Gaus

Karen and Bill Huff

The Koziicki Family
For the children of Noblesville

Sandy Shaw
Merry Christmas

Wanda and Mark Dodd
In memory of Bill and Edith Thornberry
and Kenneth Dodd

George and Louise Wiles
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All

Bill and Sandy Spatta
Wishing you a very Merry Christmas filled with the joy, peace, and hope of Jesus.

Richard and Margaret Gordon
A Healthy Happy New Year

Mark and Verona Cook
Blessings to All

Don and Joan Gamble
In honor of our Grandchildren



BETA EPSILON CHAPTER, KAPPA KAPPA KAPPA, INC.

"What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store? What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more?"

Thank you to all our contributors for your generosity!

mail to:
Noblesville Red Stocking Fund
P.O. Box 162
Noblesville, IN 46061

NOBLESVILLE RED STOCKING FUND

Please list your name, the amount of your donation, and the message you would like printed in the paper.

NAME OF DONOR: _____


MESSAGE: _____

AMOUNT: _____ (Amount will not be published)

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THUR FRI SAT @ 7:15
CLOSED SUNDAY NEW YEARS EVE!

TIPTON ADULT \$5.00 CHILD \$3.00



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

SOLD!



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

SOLD!



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

Happy New Year from Peggy & Jennifer!



Jennifer **Peggy**

The Deakune Team

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317.439.3258 Peggy or 317.695.6032 Jennifer

Talk to Tucker REALTORS
F.C. TUCKER COMPANY