

# The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

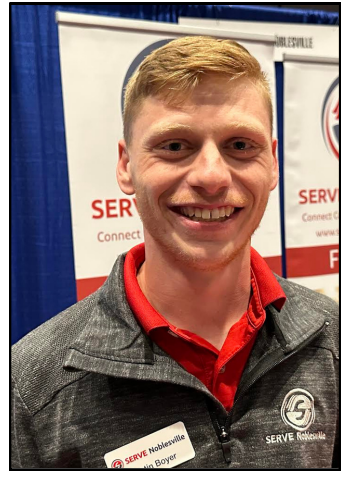


NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

50¢ WWW.THETIMES24-7.COM

**TODAY'S VERSE**

*Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.*



**Faces of Hamilton County**

People who call our community their own

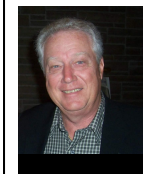
What makes Austin Boyer smile? "Everything in the community. I love Noblesville so much," said the Noblesville resident. He was born in Noblesville, attended Hazel Dell Elementary School and Noblesville West Middle School and graduated in 2018 from Guerin Catholic High School and in 2022 from Franklin College, with a degree in business management. He is a property and casualty insurance agent at Gordon Insurance in Noblesville, where his mom, Dawn Boyer, is a longtime employee hired by Dick Gordon. Most recently, Austin Boyer (and Jack Mosley) were awarded Rookie of the Year Agency from Smart Choice Insurance Brokerage network. Austin Boyer was found volunteering for Serve Noblesville booth at the 2023 Noblesville Chamber of Commerce's Noblesville Taste of Business. "Seeing all of this and all of the people here from Noblesville, I just enjoy it," said Boyer, who has volunteered with Serve Noblesville for more than a year. Serve Noblesville, which has grown from 100 to 1,200 volunteers, is a partnership of neighbors, faith groups, businesses and organizations whose goal is to connect compassionate neighbors by organizing community events to create a sense of pride. He helped the nonprofit roll out a new Serve Neighbor Membership this year. For more info, visit [www.servenoblesville.com](http://www.servenoblesville.com). Join in Serve Noblesville's inaugural Serve Celebration 6-9 p.m. Jan. 5 at Mojo Up Sports Complex in Noblesville. Families are invited to play, compete and test skills.

**And Another Thing...**

It got pretty scary in Nashville and Indianapolis last week when pranksters posted photos on Facebook of lions on the loose in those two cities. The photos were shared "thousands of times." The posts were scary but "incredibly false," according to the authorities in each city. They noted that the pictures were eight years old and were taken in South Africa way back when. Hey, it seems to us this is just another reason to get your news out of your favorite LOCAL NEWSPAPER!!! Just saying!

## Boomer Bits

**Ask Rusty – If My Wife Claims Now, Will It Hurt My Social Security Amount?**



**ASK Rusty**  
Social Security Advisor

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

**Dear Rusty: I am 69 years old, and my wife turned 70 early this year. I am still working full time. My wife is not working, but she got a letter from Social Security saying she should take her Social Security as soon as possible.**

**My question is: since my wife has reached her full retirement age, can she take her SS without it affecting mine when I claim? I plan to work at least another year, depending on how the economy goes (I may have to work longer if it doesn't get better). I have IRAs and a 401k to pull from when I retire. Signed: Anxious Husband**

**Dear Anxious:** The reason your wife received a letter from Social Security (SS) suggesting she claims now is because her benefit reached maximum some time ago at age 70. Thus, there is no reason for her to wait beyond age 70 to claim. By delaying past age 70 your wife is losing money so she should apply as soon as possible. I suggest your wife call Social Security at 1.800.772.1213 (or your local office) right away to request an appointment to apply for her benefits and she should be sure to request six months of

➔ See RUSTY Page A5

**What to Know About RSV**

*North American Precis Syndicate*

You may remember the old saying, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." That's never been more true than it is right now about good health and older adults, especially when it comes to protecting yourself during what is commonly known as respiratory disease season (fall through early spring). Last year saw the devastating effects of an increase in COVID, flu, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and pneumonia on the wellbeing of older Americans. Fortunately, most people had access to vaccines for all but RSV last year. And in good news for this year, for the first time ever, there is a vaccine approved by FDA for preventing RSV in older adults.

**The Problem**  
RSV is a serious respiratory

➔ See RSV Page A5

**Movement is Medicine, Especially As You Age**

*North American Precis Syndicate*

Because physical activity and healthy aging go hand in hand, getting started with a fitness program included in your health plan can do more than help you maintain your health as you age. "Movement truly is medicine," says Dr. Jaynie Bjornaraa, physical therapist, fitness professional, adjunct professor, and senior vice president of rehabilitation services and digital fitness solutions at American Specialty Health (ASH). Dr. Bjornaraa oversees the Silver&Fit® Healthy Aging and Exercise program for ASH, ensuring that its members get evidence-based recommendations when starting their fitness routines. She helped develop the program's onboarding feature, which

sets members on individual fitness journeys based on their needs. Fitness levels, exercise goals, and personal preferences all factor into a tailored 14-day workout plan. "Research has shown that active movement is the best way to prevent and improve chronic disease. And the great thing about exercise is that it benefits your cognitive health—memory and mood—as much as it affects your physical well-being," according to Dr. Bjornaraa. She offers this short list of other benefits a thoughtful fitness program can provide:

**1. Improved Health**  
Being physically active can reduce your risk of disease, strengthen your bones and muscles, help you manage weight, and boost your mental well-being.

**2. Preventive Care**  
Physical fitness can help prevent certain high-risk scenarios such as serious injury from falls, which is the leading cause of accidental death in older adults.

**3. Social Interaction**  
Some programs offer links to connect with clubs and free group fitness classes online for various types and levels of workouts.

**4. Health Rewards**  
Incentives for tracking your activity though a fitness program can earn various awards as well help you work with your medical provider to better manage any chronic disease.

**5. Personal Coaching**  
Connecting with a health coach during regularly scheduled sessions through a fitness-focused plan can help you achieve a variety of wellness goals.

➔ See MOVEMENT Page A5

**TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

If you're over 50, make sure to see your doctor for screening for colon cancer.

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)



**OBITUARIES**

West, Edward Lee

The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank **MICHAEL/CHRISTINE MERCHANT** for subscribing!

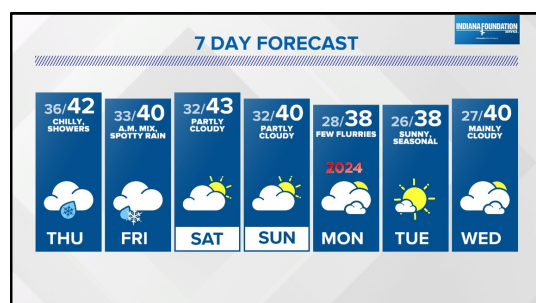


**TODAY'S QUOTE**

"New Year's resolutions anyone can keep: Read less, gain weight and spend more time at work." Unknown

**TODAY'S JOKE**

What do you call it when Santa's throat is red and inflamed? Tinsel-it is!



**Brick Room Bringing Laughs to Noblesville**



Photo courtesy of Eric Sablan of The Brick Room Comedy Club

The Brick Room Comedy Club owner and creative director Eric Sablan brings live comedy every weekend and a family-friendly show on New Year's Eve to downtown Noblesville.

**Want to GO?**

**What:** The Brick Room Comedy Club presents New Year's Improv Weekend.

**When:** Old Saints (team of comics) and Pat Eaton at 8 p.m. today and Old Saints and Jesse Barben at 8 p.m. Saturday with a Family Friendly New Year's Eve Improv Show at 6:30 p.m. Sunday.

**Where:** 942 Maple Ave., Noblesville.

**How to get tickets:** [thebrickroom.cc](http://thebrickroom.cc)

**What else:** Improv class series begin Saturdays in January.



**BETSY REASON**  
Columnist

The Brick Room Comedy Club's Eric Sablan said opening a comedy club in downtown Noblesville just felt right.

"It came out of nowhere. When we saw the space, the town, the Square. It's a great town for comics to see. They always love it. We love it," said the owner and creative director of The Brick Room that opened nearly two years ago at 942 Maple Ave., between Ninth and 10th streets.

Since opening, the intimate, independent club brings in entertainment every weekend. All kinds of comedy takes place in the space, from stand-up and improv to sketch and storytelling and even live podcast recordings, plus corporate shows and customized parties.

Sablan, 40, has a background in theater, sketch and improv.

So why did he choose comedy?

➔ See BETSY Page A3

## OBITUARY

### Edward Lee West

Oct. 26, 1936 – Dec. 24, 2023

Sue thought he was cute as she saw him singing in a quartet. He thought she was pretty as she sat in the congregation at Brookside Evangelical Church in Indianapolis. That was 1957. Isn't that basis enough for a marriage?

Up times, down times, happy and hurtful times. They made it. Sixty four years and beyond.

Ed indulged in cars and drag racing with his father, Earl and brother, Doyle, before his own family life took over. He continued to enjoy his brother's hobby as it expanded. Until he forgot.

Kids added another dimension to his life; Gregory and Elizabeth. And then grandkids came along. Will, Madeline, Justin and Benjamin. Entirely different experiences being a father and our Poppy.

He loved and felt responsible to the church and especially the choir whether it be at Brookside Church in Indianapolis in his youth and where he was married or at Noblesville First United Methodist Church later. Whenever asked Ed was there to sing. Many friendships joined, many now only remembrances as the years passed with its toll. He grew strength from singing in choirs, groups of all sizes and especially enjoyed the Merry Folk group with the every Sunday night practices at Mary and Gordon Resler's home. Later his dulcet voice served in mens' a cappella groups. Until he forgot.

He was a relatively quiet man though he thoroughly enjoyed being around others. At home celebrations of any kind he would set the dining room table and continually ask if there was enough food or are there enough gifts for, name any name.

One passion remained: softball. Playing for years on teams from grade school until just a few years ago, traveling here and there. But he always came back and never forgot his family and his church.

Arsenal Technical High School carpentry classes prepared him unknowingly for remodeling and quasi building houses. Five of his own. Starting with the house purchased in 1959 from his grandmother's estate for \$7,000 with a hand pump in the kitchen. After panelling the kitchen with Philippine mahogany (that's right) and Sue painting the old footed bathtub feet with gold fingernail polish, they started their married life.

They moved on when son, Gregory and daughter, Elizabeth, entered the scene. Gregg was soon the occupant of the newly finished attic in the next house. Ed drew plans and built a garage and added rooms in the modest little white house. Screened in porch, the whole bit. Then it was painted green then it was painted yellow with white shutters. Done with Sue's constantly changing exterior decor ideas, Ed moved the family to a red brick house with city water. No more painted siding and no more a malfunctioning water pump especially timed with diaper pile ups.

Following that, several other locations with design and structural changes, their family life also changed. Different church, school districts, different kids' activities. School bands! Ed, with another person remodeled a school equipment bus for the band. He then drove it and stayed the week with the band as they practiced for the State Fair competition. Oh, what fun and good days those were accompanying daughter, Elizabeth to band camp and multiple band competitions in the early 1980s. Later on with fewer home and work responsibilities he returned to softball. He made more friendships as he travelled with the teams. He enjoyed traveling with the Silver Foxes but never thought of leaving Indiana. Roots were here. He never forgot home.

Then on to more recreation. Still music but a different kind. Every Tuesday night at a local jazz club. Swing dancing lessons didn't quite work out so well but the music was enjoyed. How he loved taking that weekly trek cross town for dinner and music.

Until he forgot.

Late 1990s Ed finally got a 1938 Desoto that he always wanted. In between car shows it sat in the garage so it wouldn't get dirty. He took it to cars shows with son, Gregg, and brother, Doyle, and at least once took it to the Noblesville Square. He loved car shows. He loved cars. The highlight was when he and Gregg attended the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Festival each Labor Day weekend. He even liked pursuing car dealer lots then coming home expressing his latest infatuation to a very disinterested Sue.

Until he forgot.

Dedication, dependability, and responsibility describe Ed West. Whether it be his family, his church choir or his career. His banking career spanned years in Operations and Trust Departments at Merchants National Bank, succeeded by National City National Bank and finally PNC.

Ed showed his love through his acts of service and generosity. You knew Ed cared for you although he did not always use words to express his feelings.

Services will be held Friday, December 29, 2023, at Noblesville First United Methodist Church, 2051 Monument Street, Noblesville IN, 46060. Visitation 10am - noon. Service following at noon. Burial will be at Memorial Park Cemetery in Indianapolis.

Condolences: www.randalloberts.com



## FOR THE RECORD

### CITY OF NOBLESVILLE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

The City of Noblesville Board of Zoning Appeals will meet on the following dates in 2024.

Regular meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Council chambers at City Hall, 16 South 10th Street, Noblesville, Indiana.

January 2, 2024  
February 5, 2024  
March 4, 2024  
April 1, 2024  
May 6, 2024  
June 3, 2024  
July 1, 2024  
August 5, 2024  
September 3, 2024  
October 7, 2024  
November 4, 2024  
December 2, 2024

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## FOR THE RECORD

### CITY OF NOBLESVILLE COMMON COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE

The City of Noblesville Common Council Finance Committee will meet on the following dates in 2024. Meetings will be held in room A213 at City Hall, 16 S. 10th Street, Noblesville, IN at 8:15 a.m., unless noted otherwise.

January 4, 2024  
January 18, 2024  
February 8, 2024 – Mayor's office conf room #2  
February 22, 2024  
March 7, 2024  
March 21, 2024  
April 4, 2024  
April 18, 2024  
May 9, 2024  
May 23, 2024  
June 6, 2024  
June 20, 2024  
July 3, 2024  
July 18, 2024  
August 8, 2024  
August 22, 2024  
September 5, 2024  
September 19, 2024  
October 10, 2024  
October 24, 2024  
November 7, 2024  
November 21, 2024  
November 27, 2024 – A214  
December 12, 2024

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## FOR THE RECORD

### CITY OF NOBLESVILLE PLAN COMMISSION

The City of Noblesville Plan Commission will meet on the following dates in 2024. Regular meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Council chambers at City Hall, 16 South 10th Street, Noblesville, Indiana.

January 16, 2024  
February 20, 2024  
March 18, 2024  
April 15, 2024  
May 20, 2024  
June 17, 2024  
July 15, 2024  
August 19, 2024  
September 16, 2024  
October 28, 2024  
November 18, 2024  
December 9, 2024

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## FOR THE RECORD

### CITY OF NOBLESVILLE COMMON COUNCIL AND BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY

The City of Noblesville Common Council and Board of Public Works and Safety will hold regular meetings on the following dates in 2024. The Board of Public Works and Safety meets at 9:00 a.m. and the Common Council meets at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Regular meetings are held in the Council Chambers in City Hall at 16 S. 10th Street, Noblesville, IN. January 9, 2024

January 23, 2024  
February 13, 2024  
February 27, 2024  
March 12, 2024  
March 26, 2024  
April 9, 2024  
April 23, 2024  
May 14, 2024  
May 28, 2024  
June 11, 2024  
June 25, 2024  
July 9, 2024  
July 23, 2024  
August 13, 2024  
August 27, 2024  
September 10, 2024  
September 24, 2024  
October 15, 2024  
October 29, 2024  
November 12, 2024  
November 26, 2024  
December 3, 2024  
December 17, 2024

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## FOR THE RECORD

### NOBLESVILLE PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

The Park Board meets monthly at the Forest Park Lodge at 6:00 pm. The dates for 2024 are listed below.

January 10, 2024  
February 7, 2024  
March 6, 2024  
April 10, 2024  
May 1, 2024  
June 5, 2024  
July 10, 2024  
August 7, 2024  
September 4, 2024  
October 2, 2024  
November 6, 2024  
December 4, 2024

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## FOR THE RECORD

### NOBLESVILLE POLICE MERIT COMMISSION

City Council Chambers Noblesville City Hall 16 South 10th Street Noblesville, IN 46060 Third Wednesday of the Month @ 5:00pm

January 17, 2024  
February 21, 2024  
March 20, 2024  
April 17, 2024  
May 15, 2024  
June 19, 2024  
July 17, 2024  
August 21, 2024  
September 18, 2024  
October 16, 2024  
November 20, 2024  
December 18, 2024

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# ↓ BETSY

From Page A1

“I’m a pretty private person. Comedy allows me to be expressive in public, and I really enjoy making people feel emotions,” Sablan said this week.

He was born and raised 2,000 miles away, in the San Diego area, and graduated from Junipero Serra High School, a Catholic college preparatory school in San Mateo, Calif.

First time on stage?

“I was 14 and was in a theater sports improv competition,” he said.

When did he discover that he was good at comedy? “I really took to it when I was 26. I was in an improv troupe in San Diego and quickly realized I need to move to get the training I needed to get where I wanted to be,” he said.

“I was a theater major. At the time, theater didn’t have a lot of space for diversity, so I went to improv.” He trained for five years at The Second City, a nearly 65-year-old improvisational comedy enterprise, the oldest improv theater troupe to be continually based in Chicago, and at the iO Theater, a more than 42-year-old improv theater and training program in Chicago.

He also has a background in ComedySportz, which matches two teams of improv performers competing in rounds, using improv games and performing scenes. (By the way, Noblesville High School started a ComedySportz High School League improv training during the 2022-23 school year with NHS teacher Connor Buhl as its advisor).

“We actually teach Chicago-style long-form to teens in the area,” Sablan said.

At The Brick Room Comedy Club, Sablan said, “The comedians come from either submissions or comics I meet or see while I am out on the road.”

As far as The Brick Room, he said, “We have had nothing but positive reviews of the Room itself.”

He gets a lot of requests to perform there. “Luckily, we have a lot of house regulars who have headlined all the other shows around the city (of Indianapolis) and are always willing to step in and help.” Sablan said, “I’m blessed with a lot of talented friends. You’ll never see the same show two weekends in a row. We don’t have the same headliners more than twice a year with the exception of special reasons, of course. I try to rotate even the hosts and guests on a nightly basis.”

For those who have a desire to learn comedy, The Brick Room is offering two improv eight-week series classes -- basic (for newcomers) and long-form (for folks who’ve completed level 1-3 elsewhere) -- beginning Saturdays in January at the Club. Operating the club and performing comedy near and far are Sablan’s livelihoods. But what makes him smile the most? “My son and wife. Seeing them celebrate life is the best thing.”

The husband and father, by day, gets to be home with his 8-year-old son, Hank, who he takes and picks up from school. “It’s amazing,” Sablan said. His son is on the autism spectrum and has attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. The dad enjoys being able to be home to watch his son grow. His wife, Sharlie Patch-Sablan is a licensed mental health counselor in the same



Photo courtesy of Eric Sablan of The Brick Room Comedy Club

### The Brick Room Comedy Club owner and creative director Eric Sablan finds fun in comedy as well as everything he does.

building as the comedy club. Switching back to The Brick Room, who is the club’s audience and how is attendance?

“We’ve been growing our following organically for a little under two years now. We’ve cultivated a wonderful group of regulars who have since gone on to watch more comedy around the country and coming back and telling me who they saw and if it was good or not. It’s been so fun.” But he also said, “Getting people in the building is a challenge during some points of the year with all that goes on in Hamilton County.”

This weekend, The Brick Room Comedy Club presents a New Year’s Improv Weekend with Old Saints (team of comics) and Pat Eaton at 8 p.m. today and Old Saints and Jesse Barben at 8 p.m. Saturday. He said families can join the fun on New Year’s Eve for an interactive improv family-friendly show for all ages, with games that the audience can join in, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Sunday. Sablan encourages the community to come see for themselves. Come enjoy a good laugh.

*-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).*

### Traffic Alert for Cyntheanne Road

Motorists in northern Hamilton County should be aware that Cyntheanne Road between Strawtown Avenue and 226th Street is under lane restrictions for drilling in the area. The estimated project completion date is Monday. As always around work areas, please use caution.



Please visit us online: [thetimes24-7.com](http://thetimes24-7.com)

# Ring in the New Year, Find Ways to Enjoy Holiday Break

Ready to celebrate the New Year? Have extra time on your hands due to winter break? Here’s The Times’ list of 20 things to do this weekend and beyond:



1. Federal Hill Commons temporary Ice Plaza in Noblesville is open daily, hours 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturdays through Noblesville Schools holiday break; 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sundays; special holiday hours 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 31. Rates are \$13, \$11 for ages 12 and younger.
2. 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 display 5-11 p.m. nightly through December.
3. Enjoy White River Christian Church’s free musical light display 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. nightly through Dec. 31 in the south lawn of the church on Allisonville Road in Noblesville.
4. The Brick Room Comedy Club presents New Years Improv Weekend with Old Saints (team of comics) and Pat Eaton at 8 p.m. today and Old Saints and Jesse Barben on Saturday at 8 p.m. with a Family Friendly New Year’s Eve Improv Show at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 31 (\$10) at The Brick Room Comedy Club on Maple Avenue and Ninth Street in downtown Noblesville. Visit [thebrickroom.cc](http://thebrickroom.cc) for tickets.
5. Experience live music with Donny Coyle at 7 p.m. today, The Dead Squirrels on Jan. 5, Sam King on Jan. 6, Chris Baird on Jan. 12, Clara Hasket on Jan. 13 at Primeval Brewing in downtown Noblesville.
6. Enjoy live music with Jai Baker 3 at 8 p.m. today at Four Finger Distillery North in Westfield, Saturday at Wolfie’s at Geist, and Jan. 4 at Syd’s Bar & Grill in Noblesville.
7. Travel to the countryside to hear live music with Jeff Brown at 7 p.m. Saturday, David and Pamela Ackerman on Jan. 20, Nora Reese on Jan. 27, The Juan Douglas Trio on Feb. 3 at Spencer Farm Winery in Noblesville. Visit [spencerfarmwinery.com](http://spencerfarmwinery.com).
8. Enjoy live music by Bomar and Ritter at 7 p.m. Saturday at Sugar Creek Vineyard on Old Meridian Street in Carmel.
9. Enjoy live music featuring Jeff Brown on Saturday, and Disagreeable on Saturday at Grindstone Public House in Noblesville.
10. Celebrate New Year’s Eve with the Pickle Stompers starting at 9 p.m. Dec. 31 at Syd’s Bar & Grill in downtown Noblesville.
11. Celebrate New Year’s Eve at the Noblesville Moose Lodge at 8 p.m. Dec. 31 featuring Left of Center band. Free with valid membership card and \$10 nonmembers, with champagne toast and party favors with dinner of steak, past and regular menu until 9 p.m. by Serendipity Catering.
12. Hop aboard the Nickel Plate Express for an array of excursions, including upcoming New Year’s Eve Masquerade Express at 8 p.m. Dec. 31 (\$200 per person/\$350 per couple). Tickets at [nickelplateexpress.com](http://nickelplateexpress.com)
13. Ring in 2024 with Wicked 4Play band and party dance songs at 9:30 p.m. Dec. 31 at Joe’s Grille in Westfield.
14. Usher in the New Year with a Disco Party beginning at 9 p.m. Dec. 31 at Daniel’s Vineyard in McCordsville. Tickets are \$100, \$75 early bird. Visit [danielsvineyard.com](http://danielsvineyard.com).
15. Ring in the New Year with Bellbottom Cowboys with premium open bar, open pool tables, champagne toast at Kip’s Pub at 96th and Allisonville Road for \$60 presale, \$70 at the door at [kipspubindy.com](http://kipspubindy.com).
16. Spend New Year’s Eve with the NYE Jam with Lisa Frank and the Trapper Keepers beginning at 9:30 p.m. Dec. 31 at Ale Emporium in Castleton.
17. Shop the New Year’s Day Sale at Always in Stitches from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 1.
18. Join in Serve Noblesville’s inaugural Serve Celebration at 6-9 p.m. Jan. 5 at Mojo Up Sports Complex in Noblesville invites families to play and compete and test skills at 10 different games, including an inflatable obstacle course. Come comfortably dressed and wear sneakers. Food stations. Fundraising goal of \$20,000 will go to the mission of Connecting Compassionate Neighbors. Tickets are \$50 for adults, \$20 students, free to ages 3 and younger.
19. Make create art on Lisa Frank night 6 to 8 p.m. Jan. 5 at Kiln Creations in downtown Noblesville. Sign up at [kilncreations.net](http://kilncreations.net).
20. Westfield Winter Market opens on Jan 6 and is open 9 a.m. to noon every Saturday through March 9 in downtown Westfield.

*-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).*



We appreciate our readers!

### NHS Earns 4 State Titles in 2023

Noblesville High School has achieved tremendous athletic success in its history that spans over a century in high school sports, which is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the student-athletes and coaches. Their commitment to excellence has resulted in a legacy of championship-winning programs that have brought pride and recognition to both Noblesville High

School and the Noblesville community. In 2023, Noblesville High School earned state championships in Girls Soccer, Boys Soccer, Girls Track & Field and Unified Track & Field. Plus, in 2023, NHS senior Hannah Alexander earned a state championship in Girls Track & Field for the Discus. Congratulations Millers!

### FOR THE RECORD ADAMS TOWNSHIP BOARD

The Adams Township Board is scheduled to meet today at 10:30 a.m. at 201 S. Main St. in Sheridan. The only item on the agenda is encumber money for cost sharing.

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# State Unemployment Rate at 3.7%

Indiana's unemployment rate in November stands at 3.7%, according to the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. By comparison, the national unemployment rate for November stands at 3.7%.

In addition, Indiana's labor force participation rate stands at 63.3% for November, remaining above the national rate of 62.8%. This rate is the percentage of Hoosiers 16 and older that are either working or actively looking for work.

Those not in the labor force include, primarily, students, retirees and other non-working populations, such as individuals unable to work due to a disability or illness, or adults responsible for their family's childcare needs.

Indiana's total labor force stands at 3,423,256 - an increase of 1,613 from the previous month.

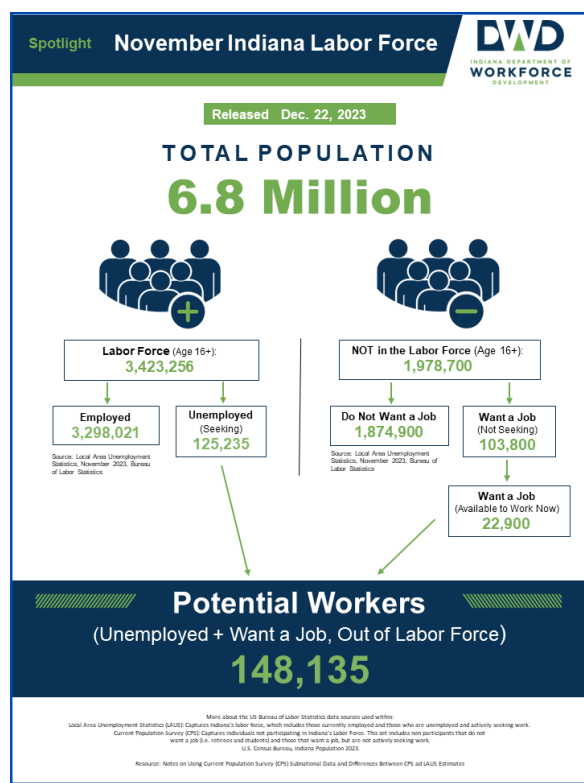
"Indiana's employment data for November shows the state remains in a strong position," said DWD Commissioner Richard Paulk. "Private employment has set state records for two consecutive months which shows

employers still have hiring needs and more individuals are landing new jobs. Whether it's job creation, talent acquisition or upskilling the labor force, Indiana is home to unprecedented opportunity for workers and employers."

Private sector employment in Indiana increased by 500 jobs over the last month, resulting in a gain of 40,800 jobs from this time last year. Indiana's November private employment stands at 2,859,100, which is a new private employment peak.

Industries that experienced job increases in November included Private Educational and Health Services, which grew by 2,300 jobs, and Trade, Transportation and Utilities, which increased by 1,200 jobs.

As of Dec. 18, 2023, there were 103,265 open job postings throughout the state. In November, 15,164 unemployment insurance claims were filed in Indiana. Individuals looking for work, training or career information are encouraged to visit [in.gov/dwd/job-seekers](http://in.gov/dwd/job-seekers).



# Noblesville, Fishers Included in Humanities Grants

Noblesville and Fishers are among more than 50 cultural institutions, libraries, universities and nonprofit organizations across the state have received grants from Indiana Humanities to provide public humanities programs in their communities this year. Projects supported by Indiana Humanities funding included a bilingual storytime at the Goshen Public Library; a panel discussion exploring Free People of Color (FPOC) who came to Indiana during the early pioneer period (1820-1849) and established communities such as Roberts Settlement in Hamilton County; a video about coastal change in Michigan City; and more.

"By awarding these grants, Indiana Humanities has supported both new and returning programs and projects that continue to bring Hoosiers together across Indiana for critical discussions about racial equity, environmental change and local literature," said George Hanlin, director of grants at

Indiana Humanities. "It's been an outstanding year for humanities programming across the state and we're thrilled to have played a role in these opportunities for Hoosiers to engage with one another."

Indiana Humanities awarded 45 Action Grants, 11 Historic Preservation Education Grants, nine INcommon Grants, and six Wilma Gibbs Moore Fellowships totaling approximately \$225,000. Indiana Humanities will offer approximately \$240,000 in grants in 2024, including three new offerings that will enhance accessibility efforts, support research related to Native American studies and help Hoosiers commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 2026. Additional details about the new grants will be announced early next year. The statewide nonprofit plans to offer webinars about its offerings and anticipates holding in-person grant workshops later in the year around the state to provide additional information about the grant guidelines and application instructions.

*Thank you for subscribing!*

<p><b>16698 Birdbrook Road Noblesville • \$589,900</b></p> <p><b>PENDING</b></p> <p>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. <b>BLC#21949379</b></p>	<p><b>11256 Winding Wood Ct. Indianapolis • \$239,900</b></p> <p><b>SOLD!</b></p> <p>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. <b>BLC#21945183</b></p>
<p><b>18865 Wimbley Way Noblesville • \$289,900</b></p> <p><b>NEW PRICE!</b></p> <p>This 3 BR, 2 BA ranch is located in family friendly Fairfield Farms. Huge great room w/doors leading to covered patio &amp; fenced backyard, kitchen w/pantry, dining area &amp; all appliances stay, new windows, water softener &amp; HVAC in 2020. Fence, roof &amp; gutters 2021. <b>BLC#21949582</b></p>	<p><b>10717 Upland Way Noblesville • \$349,900</b></p> <p><b>SOLD!</b></p> <p>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. <b>BLC#21949680</b></p>

*Happy New Year from Peggy & Jennifer!*

**Jennifer** **Peggy**

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COPAYS AND DEDUCTIBLES MAY APPLY

## MOVEMENT From Page A1

**6. Cost Savings**  
Fitness-focused plans often include low-cost access to fitness centers and exercise videos for a wider variety of workout choices.

**7. Quality of Life**  
A thoughtfully designed program will help members develop a workout plan, which can help you stay mobile and maintain their independence.

Even for individuals who don't currently engage in fitness activities, Dr. Bjornaraa says it's never too late to start. "You can be 80 years old," she said. "Whenever you decide to start an exercise routine, you'll notice the health improvements quickly add up. However, starting slow and staying consistent is the key to building fitness levels and a

good program can help you steadily reach your goals." It's important that your health plan supports your long-term health—and fitness. If you're considering adding fitness to your routine, be sure to work with doctors before starting any new exercise regimen. Finally, once you've started a fitness plan, make the most of it. Stay committed to a lifestyle of fitness. Regular attendance in exercise classes and engaging in your wellness will go a long way to help you maintain and improve your health.

*Dr. Jaynie Bjornaraa is a physical therapist, fitness professional, adjunct professor and senior vice president of rehabilitation services and digital fitness solutions at American Specialty Health*

## Geist Half Marathon Returning to Fishers

The City of Fishers has announced the return of the 16th annual Geist Half Marathon, 10K & 5K, presented by Meijer, on Saturday, September 14, 2024.

Operated by the City of Fishers in partnership with Vision Event Management, the family-friendly race showcases the beauty of Geist Reservoir with stunning water views, tree covered trails, and scenic waterfront bridges. With three race distances to choose from, the race series is accessible for all ages and abilities. All race participants receive a race shirt, medal, and access to the post-race party.

New in 2024, the City will bring back the popular 10K race and reimagine the VIP and after party experience. The revamped VIP Perks package includes reserved parking, signature apparel exclusively for VIPs, private gear check, an

extra drink ticket, and access to the Recovery Zone after the race. This new VIP experience will be integrated into the public post-race party, with VIP participants receiving an additional drink ticket while they celebrate alongside family and friends. VIP registration is available for an additional \$49.

Public registration will open at GeistHalf.com on Sunday, December 31 for a two-day New Year's promo before prices increase on January 2. During the promo, which runs from December 31 through January 1, registration will be the guaranteed lowest price for 2024—\$24.99 for the 5K, \$31.99 for the 10K, and \$52.99 for the half marathon. Virtual registration is also available.

"I'm thrilled to continue to establish the footprint of the Geist Half Marathon as Central Indiana's most scenic race series in

in the early fall," said Ginny Zimmerman, Culture of Health Ambassador for the City of Fishers and Race Director of the Geist Half Marathon Race Series. "Our team is grateful to the community of previous board members, race organizers, and past participants who have equipped us with insight to maximize our planning efforts. The course has historically been the right combination of challenging and beautiful, capturing panoramic views of the water along tree-covered trails. With the success of last year's race under our feet, bringing back the 10K was an easy decision to provide more distance options to participants. The 5K is a great opportunity for first-timers, families, and fitness enthusiasts alike to embrace a healthy sense of community and accomplishment. We're most looking forward to engaging with the

community and finding more unique ways to put Fishers, Indiana on the map for active living." The City of Fishers is recruiting hundreds of other community volunteers to help host this large-scale event. From packet pickup and runner services to on-course entertainment and course marshals, numerous volunteer opportunities are available. Register to volunteer at VolunteerFishers.com. To learn more about the event and register for the race, visit GeistHalf.com. The City of Fishers is recruiting hundreds of other community volunteers to help host this large-scale event. From packet pickup and runner services to on-course entertainment and course marshals, numerous volunteer opportunities are available. Register to volunteer at VolunteerFishers.com. To learn more about the event and register for the race, visit GeistHalf.com.

## RUSTY From Page A1

retroactive payments (SS will pay up to 6 months retroactively). If your wife has a "my Social Security" online account, she can also apply online at [www.ssa.gov/apply](http://www.ssa.gov/apply), but she should be sure to request six months of retroactive benefits in the "Remarks" section of the online application. Because your wife is more than six months past age 70, getting 6 months retroactive benefits will not reduce her age 70 benefit amount. Nor will your wife claiming her benefits now negatively affect your Social Security when you later claim. Even though you plan to continue working, likely beyond 70 years of age yourself, you should not wait beyond age 70 to claim for the same reason – your benefit will reach maximum when you are 70. You can apply for your benefits up to 4 months in advance, and specify you want benefits to start in the month you turn 70. If you haven't already done so, you may wish to create your own "my Social Security" online account now at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount), which will make it easier for you to apply online at [www.ssa.gov/apply](http://www.ssa.gov/apply) when the time comes next year. Applying online is, by far, the most efficient way, but you need to have

your online account set up first to do so. Just so you know, there is no need to worry that you won't get credit for work income earned after you have applied for your benefits. Even after you are collecting benefits, Social Security will automatically review your earnings each year when that info is received from the IRS (after you file your income tax return). If your most recent earnings are higher than those in any of the 35 years of lifetime earnings used to calculate your benefit when you claim, Social Security will automatically increase your monthly payment amount. In other words, you shouldn't delay past age 70 to claim Social Security because you're working – you'll still get credit for those earnings, automatically. So, I suggest that your wife take fast action to apply for her Social Security benefits to avoid losing any more money, and that you plan to apply for your benefits to start when you turn 70. There is no financial advantage to waiting beyond age 70 to claim, even if you continue working.

*- Russell Gloor is a National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens*

## RSV From Page A1

virus whose full toll on seniors is just now being recognized. Each year, RSV results in up to 160,000 hospitalizations among people aged 65 and over and leads to as many as 10,000 deaths in older people in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It can also prove serious for anyone with chronic conditions such as asthma, COPD, heart or other lung problems, certain autoimmune conditions and those receiving chemotherapy or radiation treatments. It is easily spread from contact with a contaminated surface as well as through the air (when someone infected sneezes or coughs), so anyone at any age can get it.

**A Solution**  
RSV vaccines are now approved and available throughout the U.S. and the cost is covered fully for Medicare beneficiaries. These vaccines can truly protect your health across your lifespan as they are now available for adults aged 60 years or older, as well as for infants through

maternal immunization.

### What Else You Should Know

It is always a good idea to review your health plan. When contacting Medicare, make certain that you are contacting the actual government agency itself. Only government agencies can use the .gov ending and the best number to use to reach trained Medicare experts is 1-800-633-4227. It's easy to remember—it's 1-800-Medicare. The National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP) created a resource outlining the five things to know about RSV to help get the word out about this important opportunity to protect the health of older adults. English and Spanish versions can be found at <https://www.nanasp.org/vaccines>.

It's a good idea to talk to your pharmacist or healthcare provider about whether you should get the RSV vaccine, and any other recommended vaccines.

## FOR THE RECORD CITY OF NOBLESVILLE ROADS COUNCIL COMMITTEE

The City of Noblesville Roads Council Committee will meet on the following dates in 2024. Meetings will be held in room A213 at City Hall, 16 S. 10th Street, Noblesville, IN at 8:00 a.m., except where noted.

- January 12, 2024
- February 2, 2024
- March 1, 2024
- April 12, 2024
- May 3, 2024
- June 7, 2024
- July 12, 2024
- August 2, 2024
- September 6, 2024
- October 4, 2024
- November 1, 2024
- December 6, 2024 (in the Council conf. room)

*FOR THE RECORD is a public service and regular feature in The Noblesville Times. It is designed to tell you what is scheduled to happen and what actually does happen in meetings paid for with your tax dollars. The Times encourages all citizens to take an active role in being involved in local government.*



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