

The TIMES



NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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TODAY'S VERSE

Matthew 24:34-35 Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass

Hamilton Happenings

The Hope Clinic in Cicero, along with the Hamilton County Health Department, are offering a free Mobile Health Screening on Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Hope Family Care Clinic, 270 W. Jackson in Cicero. Walk-ins available for the following services: Blood Pressure, Cholesterol, HIV testing, Blood Sugar, Hepatitis C testing, A1C, Triglycerides Testing. The HIV & Hep C test results may take up to 20 minutes.

Three Things You Should Know

1 Ivy Tech Community College and the Indiana Department of Correction are offering two programs for federal Pell Grants for prison education. If approved, people incarcerated in Indiana state prisons will have the opportunity to access need-based financial aid for high-quality education and training. For the first time in nearly 30 years, students enrolled in approved prison education programs are now eligible for federal Pell Grants under the FAFSA Simplification Act. Indiana is one of the first states to participate in the expansion of Pell Grants for incarcerated individuals.

2 Travelers sometimes leave things behind at the end of a train trip, things like a book or a pair of glasses. But this guy forgot to take his bag containing some \$30,000 in cash when he detrained at his stop on the Long Island Rail Road recently. As fate would have it, the team at New York's Metropolitan Transportation Authority found the bag, discovered the cash and lost no time in tracking down the owner, contacting him and saving his day.

3 A mystical cow roams the banks of Lake Thunderbird in Norman, Okla.; it's known to locals as Thundercow. When a local resident, Natalie Bevell, came across the mystery cow for the first time she was baffled. As she told the reporters at KOCO-TV, "I was like, 'You know what, I can post on the neighborhood Facebook page just to kind of put out an alert,' and when I did that, that's when I started getting post after post in response telling me, 'Oh, hey, that's just Thundercow'."

BTN

By The Numbers, a look at what's in the news . . . by the numbers. These are just numbers, not suggestions that they mean more or less than what they are. We do not suggest that one number is connected to another. These are simply facts with no extraneous details, bias or slanted reporting. To borrow (and perhaps mangle a bit) a quote from legendary fictional detective Joe Friday, it's just the numbers, ma'am!

Lieutenant governors are in the news. Micah Beckwith is a candidate for the office currently – and is bucking tradition a bit. Usually, the governor picks who the lieutenant governor will be. Beckwith says he wants to bring more accountability to the office and work for Hoosiers instead of one person in the governor's chair. And of course the current sitting lieutenant governor, Suzanne Crouch, is one of the people running for governor this time. We hope you enjoy a little bit about lieutenant governors in Indiana . . . By The Numbers!

52

The number of Lieutenant Governors in the history of the great state of



Christopher Harrison

Indiana. The first one was Christopher Harrison in 1816, and the current one, 208 years later, is Suzanne Crouch.

3

How many Lieutenant Governors who belonged to the Whig Party. We also had one from the Jacksonian Party, two from the Jeffersonian Republican Party, one from the Democratic Republican Party and one Independent. Since 1843, they have all been either a Republican or Democrat.

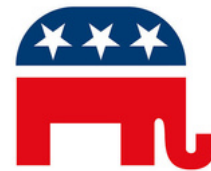
17

The number of Democrats who have held the office. However, none have since Katherine Davis from 2003-05.



27

The number of Republicans who have held the office, including the last four in a row – Becky Skillman, Sue Ellspermann, Eric Holcomb and Crouch.



\$18,780.13

The required filing fee when Micah Beckwith tossed his hat in the ring last week.



Micah Beckwith talks to officials in Jay County about Indiana politics.



A large crowd of enthusiastic supporters for Micah Beckwith gathered at the Statehouse last week in their support for Beckwith's campaign to become Indiana's next lieutenant governor.

Let The Times Help You Promote Political Campaign



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

While it's only two weeks until the Hamilton County Election Office begins to send out absentee ballots, there are only four weeks until early voting begins for the May 7 Primary Election.



BETSY REASON
Columnist

Two weeks from today, the Hamilton County Election Office will begin sending out absentee ballots for the May 7 Primary Election.

With 556 candidates who have filed to run for office in Hamilton County, candidates have no time to waste. Voters will soon be bombarded with candidates' direct mail, media ads, cell phone texts, social media and more. Candidates will be knocking on doors and trying to make contact with early voters. And, in tradition, politicians have already started having fundraisers and asking for yard space to display political signs. During the days leading up to the election, The Times is thrilled to be offering political candidates a media outlet to promote their campaigns. As editor and columnist of almost 10 years with the Times -- and in light of The Times' recent transition from five publication days a week to three publication days a week - I am not only writing my front-page newspaper column but also helping get the word out about The Times' political advertising specials leading up to the May Primary. For candidates, a political ad in The Times can reach a proven demographic that has a strong track record of voting. Think about that for a second. Newspaper readers vote. Candidates' advertising can showcase their campaign facts to share what their campaign is about and why voters should vote for them.

The Times is offering political advertising packages in an array of ad sizes and publication frequencies. Whether you have a budget that affords a large presence in advertising with more frequency, or you're financing your own campaign and you just want to make sure voters know who you are, The Times is here for you. I can provide candidates with pricing and also sell and schedule political ads alongside The Times' advertising sales executive Melissa Shaw, who has recently returned to The Times. We're both offering The Times' political candidate advertising specials, and Melissa is also offering candidates a podcast interview with her for every Times political advertising

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

When you read a food label, make sure you determine how many servings are in the package.

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



TODAY'S QUOTE

"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow."
Audrey Hepburn

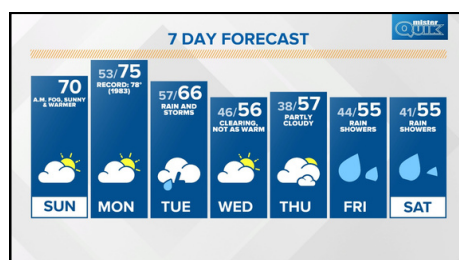
TODAY'S JOKE

The boss told the gym trainer he burned up 1,500 calories that morning. She told him that was good and walked away. His workout partner asked him how he did it and he smiled and said he burnt the cake he had in the oven!

OBITUARIES

Doyle Essig
Sandra Lees

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



OBITUARIES

Sandra Letitia Sherman Lees

April 5, 1936 - February 29, 2024



Sandra "Sandy" Lees went to her eternal home on February 29, 2024 in Midwest City, Oklahoma. Mrs. Lees was born on April 5, 1936 to Paul and Alice Sherman in Noblesville, Indiana. She grew up on a farm, where she developed her love for nature and especially horses. It was while she attended high school in Noblesville that she began dating the love of her life, Julius "Jude" Lees. She graduated in 1954, and she and Jude were married on July 8, 1955, after which they left for the adventure of Jude's career in the Air Force. They lived in Texas, Montana, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Utah during those years, raising three sons. Upon Jude's retirement from the service in 1973, they returned home to Noblesville. Once they were settled again, she began working for the Noblesville Public Library, and continued working there for 20 years, until her retirement. She was an active member of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Noblesville, where she grew up and was married. She was a faithful Christian who was involved in a Disciples of Christ church wherever she lived. She was most recently a member of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Midwest City. She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star Radiant Chapter in Noblesville, where she served as a Past Honored Queen of Job's Daughters, Worthy Matron, District Deputy, and Grand Representative to Scotland. In 2009, Sandy and Jude moved to Midwest City, Oklahoma.

Sandy was a talented soprano who sang solo and with choirs for many years. She was known by all as a loving and giving person. She loved giving gifts and celebrating those she knew and loved. She loved holidays and celebrations and worked to make them special. She was a loving mother and a wonderful sister, mother-in-law, aunt, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend. She was a curious life-long learner. A visit with Sandy and Jude often included an interesting trip to a museum, and books and magazines were always present in their home. After raising three hungry boys, she never broke the habit of feeding people, and she always remembered a favorite dish.

She leaves behind her devoted husband Julius, sons Roderick (Cathleen) of Midwest City, OK; Norman (Evelyn) of Noblesville, IN; and Eric (Stephanie) of Plainfield, IN; nine grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, her brother Ivan (Cathy) Sherman, two nieces and their families, and many other relatives and friends that she held close to her heart. She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister-in-law, Delores Sherman.

Services will be held on Saturday, March 9 at Noblesville First Christian Church, 16377 Herriman Boulevard, with visitation from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; an Eastern Star service at 12:30 p.m.; and a memorial service at 1:00 p.m. Interment will be at Highland Cemetery, 11171 Hoosier Road, Fishers.

Doyle Essig

May 2, 1942 - February 23, 2024

Doyle Jacob Essig, age 81, of Conover, North Carolina, formerly of Noblesville, Indiana, passed away on Friday, February 23, 2024, at Cardinal Health Center in Lincoln, North Carolina. Born May 2, 1942, in Noblesville, Indiana, he was the son of the late Fred and Mary L. (Smith) Essig.

Doyle was a 1961 graduate of Sheridan High School. Shortly after graduation he put in his application with Riverview Hospital in Noblesville, taking the first steps of what would become a wonderful 33-year adventure. Though much of his time at Riverview was spent as an orderly, he wasn't defined by just his title. Whenever he saw a need, he was there to lend a hand. Doyle never had the "it's not part of my job" mindset. Each day he went from department to department, doing what he did best - helping where he could, and making the workday a little easier for everybody on shift.

Doyle had many interests outside of work. This led him to become involved in various clubs throughout his life, including membership in the Good Sam Club, National Handyman Club, National Cooking Club, and National Gardening Club. He was also a dedicated member of the Moose Lodge #540 in Noblesville.

His gentle spirit and strong sense of faith helped him live a life dedicated to caring for others. He will be greatly missed by everyone who had the pleasure of working with him and having him be a part of their life.

Doyle is survived by his cousins, Charles Smith, Donna Dillow, Anna Belle Robertson, and Mary Mkiels (Jerry). Mary and her husband, Jerry, were Doyle's devoted caregivers for many years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Mary L. (Smith) Essig; brother, Royce M. Essig; and by his cousin, Phillip Smith.

Private family services will be held at Kercheval Funeral Home in Sheridan, Indiana. Doyle will be laid to rest at Boxley Cemetery in Boxley, Indiana.



County Enlisting Help of Machine-Learning to Update Maps

The Hamilton County Geographic Information System (GIS) Office has launched a groundbreaking initiative that will help better map the county. For the first time ever, its annual update will integrate machine learning (AI) into land cover data layers, providing county departments and local governments with more detailed information from which to do their work. Joan Keene, GIS Director, emphasized the project's pioneering nature, stating, "This project will be transformative, enhancing data accuracy and supporting informed decision-making across the county." The 2024 Orthophotography, Lidar, and Basemap Update Project will:

- Offer ultra-high-resolution imagery crucial for urban planning and emergency services,
- Provide detailed elevation data essential for 3D modeling and flood risk analysis,
- Utilize advanced AI to automate mapping of land cover features, and

·Introduce 3D hydrography data for enhanced water resource management.

"The use of AI will help us better map changes in both man-made infrastructure and the natural environment," Keene adds. "Plus, it will provide unprecedented detail for those in emergency management and community planning while also aiding in flood risk analysis and precision agriculture." The project, initiated in January, will start delivering maps in May. When complete, the data will also be shared with county officials, city partners, and relevant stakeholders as well as the Indiana Geographic Information Office (IGIO) and the Indiana Geographic Information Council (IGIC). To this end, a series of informational webinars will be scheduled to educate GIS users in local government on the nuances of the new geospatial data products and ensure their effective utilization.

Local Man Earns Business Honor

Joseph K. Kaiser, CLU, APMA a Private Wealth Advisor with Kaiser, Rush, Cook Wealth Advisors a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC in Indianapolis, has qualified for the company's Circle of Success annual recognition program and will be honored for this achievement in 2024. To earn this achievement, Kaiser established himself as one of the company's top advisors. Only a select number of high-performing advisors earn this distinction. He has 41 years of experience in the financial services



industry. As a private wealth advisory practice, Kaiser, Rush, Cook Wealth Advisors provides financial advice that is anchored in a solid understanding of client needs and expectations and provided in one-on-one relationships with their clients. For more information, visit www.ameripriseadvisors.com/joseph.k.kaiser

THE TIMES

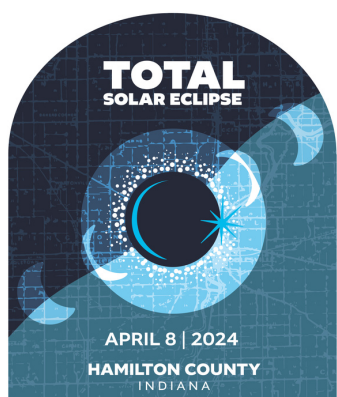
Local Group Sets Eclipse Art Festival

Noblesville Creates is set to host an Eclipse Art Festival on April 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in celebration of the total solar eclipse, occurring on April 8. The festival will be held on Noblesville's Courthouse Square to celebrate the eclipse, share artwork created by local artists, and create art with community members. The festival will include interactive art

projects led by Noblesville Creates and their local arts organizations, including Gal's Guide Library, The Belfry Theatre, Hamilton County Artists' Association, Caravan Classes, Fishers Arts Council, and more. There will also be artists booths at the festival where attendees can browse for eclipse-themed art and mementos,

such as posters, t-shirts, stickers, tumblers, and more, crafted by Hamilton County Artists like Stuart Sayger, Craig Mullins, Barbara Howrey, Karli Gray, Devonna Miltenberger, and others. Additional product details will be added to the eclipse page on the Noblesville Creates website. A special item that

will be available for purchase is a limited edition "Betty and Veronica Friends Forever Sleepover" comic, featuring two different covers by local artist Stuart Sayger, in partnership with Archie Comics and sponsored by Hamilton County Tourism. One cover is set at Conner Prairie, the other at Noblesville Creates. Only 200 copies of each cover will be available. Order now for shipping or pick-up options, or grab yours during the eclipse weekend. Copies of the comics are available for \$20 unsigned, \$25 signed, or get both signed covers with certificates of authenticity for \$50.



Nothing Else to Do



DICK WOLF
Funny Bone

When I retired from television three years ago, I hoped to relax and have nothing to do.

But I did have stuff to do. Lots of stuff. I was busier than ever. So, I decided last week that I would set out a day where I had absolutely nothing to do. Zero. Nada. That was my goal. Today looks good. I have nothing to do. Absolutely nothing. What a great feeling. I don't know where to put myself. But putting myself somewhere is doing something, so I better be careful. I am home alone, right now. I am two weeks ahead on my weekly humor column. No bills to pay. We have no dog to walk. All my laundry has been folded and put away. I think I've done it. But I am a little bored. "Dick, why don't you read a book or watch a movie on TV?" you might say. But you see, if I read or watch movies then I am doing something. That's been my way of avoiding what needs to get done. If I read a book when I have nothing to do, what will I do when I really have to do something and I don't want to? I'm losing you, aren't I? Don't stop reading now. Do you have anything better to do? I am so excited about this that I am going to brag about my situation. I'll call one of my busiest friends. I know he'll be jealous. "Bob, it's Dick. What are you doing?" "Nothing, what about you?" "Hey, that's exactly what I'm doing. And I thought I was the only one who was that lucky." "Dick, when I say

nothing, I don't really mean nothing. I'm paying some bills, shopping online, doing some laundry, cleaning out the car and selling items on eBay so Cathy and I can donate more money to the homeless mission." "You call that nothing? That's a lot of something. Don't you know anything about nothing? I am really doing nothing. I mean absolutely nothing." "Do you want to come over here and do something together?" "No, Bob, that's the whole point. I don't want to have anything to do with you." "Well, you don't have to get nasty about it." I tried another friend... "Mikki, it's Dick. Guess what? I have nothing to do." "So, take a nap." "A nap? You consider a nap nothing? A good nap is a commitment. An actual event. A nap is not nothing. Trust me. If I were sleepy right now, a nap would be something to do. Geez, can't I find one friend who knows something about nothing?" I called my wife. She was out shopping. Doing something, of course. I decided to rub it in. "Mary Ellen, it's me. I wanted you to know I am home right now and I have absolutely nothing to do." "You're home in a house that has several burnt-out light bulbs, a broken smoke detector, a dishwasher to be unloaded and a dirty litter box...and you say you have nothing to do? I'm glad you called. Get moving, time to get things done. Boy, did that backfire. Now, all of a sudden I have like four things to do. I guess I better get started. After all, I have nothing else to do.

State Health Department Honors Fishers Facility

Allisonville Meadows Assisted Living has received a deficiency-free annual state inspection. A perfect, deficiency-free rating is the best state survey score a senior care community can receive, a stellar achievement seldom accomplished. Operated by American Senior Communities at 10410 Allisonville Road in Fishers, this senior

care community offers assisted living apartments, memory care and respite care along with outpatient therapy. The Indiana State Department of Health inspects such communities to assess compliance with state standards of care, such as adequacy of staffing, quality of care and cleanliness of the community.

BETSY

From Page A1

package that either of us sell. The Times publishes Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays with each of those online editions emailed to subscribers' email inboxes and a print edition of Wednesday's paper mailed to subscribers and available at our downtown Noblesville office on the east side of the Hamilton County Courthouse Square. Readers are also invited to send in their Letters to the Editors in support of their candidates. Just make sure letters have a contact name, email and phone number, so our publisher Tim Timmons can call and verify. While March 18 will be the first day for the Election Office to send out absentee ballots, there are many more important dates for voters:

-March 23 is the deadline for the county election board to mail primary election absentee ballots to voters who have previously filed an approved application.

-April 8 is the deadline at the voter registration office's close of business for a voter to apply to register or transfer registration or at midnight for a voter to complete and submit a voter registration application online.

-April 9 is the first day a voter may early vote in the office of the circuit court clerk or satellite office.

-April 18 is the first day a confined voter, a voter caring for a confined person at a private residence or a voter with disabilities may vote an absentee ballot before an absentee voter board at the voter's residence or place of confinement.

-April 25 at 11:59 p.m. is the deadline for circuit court clerk to receive an absentee ballot application from an applicant requesting delivery of an absentee ballot by mail.

-April 27 and May 4 are the Saturday that the office of the circuit court clerk must be open for at least seven hours to permit early voting.

-May 6 at noon is the deadline for circuit court clerks to receive absentee ballot applications, to receive federal post card applications from military and overseas voters, and to early vote.

-May 7 is Primary Election Day with the polls open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

So, please let us help you promote your political campaign with an advertisement in The Times while helping inform your voters.

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

County Recognized for Quality Reporting

Hamilton County Auditor Robin M. Mills announced that the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to Hamilton County for its annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended Dec. 31, 2022. The report has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the highway standards of the program, which

includes demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the report. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

Micah Beckwith Officially Files

Micah Beckwith officially filed with the Indiana Republican Party to be a candidate for Lt. Governor at the June Convention. When filing, Beckwith paid the \$18,780.38 filing fee. "During these turbulent times, the people of Indiana deserve a Lt. Governor who is more than a ceremonial appointment or yes person," Beckwith said. "They need a proactive Lt. Governor who will fight for our constitutional rights, lead the war against the woke culture and get the politics out of the classroom."

Furthermore, it is time to make Indiana a leading conservative state like Florida. That's why today I am formally filing to run to be your next Lt. Governor." Beckwith filed the paperwork at the Indiana Republican headquarters Friday. "As a pastor, husband, and father, I am worried about the future of our state and nation," Beckwith said. "Our way of life is being threatened from within by the woke culture. Families are suffering due to high inflation and high property taxes. Our children are being radicalized in our schools. And crime is on the rise. We need leadership in Indianapolis that has courage, energy and determination to put our state on the right path. We need all conservative hands on deck in Indianapolis." Beckwith has been traveling the state since last summer talking and recruiting delegates. He considers it a long job interview with the people. "Unlike other states, our Lt. Governor has significant responsibilities and can help set the agenda. Hence, our Lt. Governor should answer to more than one person. My candidacy ensures that the next Lt. Governor will answer to the people," said



Beckwith. "I am stepping forward to do my part in saving our state and build a brighter future for every child. "We can do this." Beckwith has built a strong grassroots following. He raised all the money for filing fee in small increments. Beckwith is a pastor, devoted husband, proud father, and small business owner. He and his wife, Susan, and their 2 children have been serving Hamilton County and surrounding areas for over 15 years. He is a graduate of Huntington University with a degree in business and economics. Currently, Beckwith teaches a high-school constitutional literacy class for a Christian school in Carmel. He also co-hosts the popular podcast "Jesus, Sex and Politics" with Pastor Nathan Peternel. Beckwith is an inspirational speaker and has served as the keynote speaker for several not-for-profit and community groups and over the past year has toured the state as an advocate for healthcare freedom. He currently serves in leadership positions for several organizations, including: Noblesville Campus Pastor for Life Church, Executive Director of Indiana Family Action PAC, Co-Founder of Indiana Coalition Conservatives, Indiana Chairman of U.S. Term Limits, and Executive Director of Hoosier Leadership Series. For more information, go to www.MicahBeckwith.com

We appreciate our readers!

NOBLESVILLE BABE RUTH BASEBALL

Providing an affordable and positive baseball experience for all young men ages 13-18

The 2024 Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball Season begins April 8, 2024 and ends on June 18, 2024.

There will be two Leagues: 13-15 year old Competitive League and 16-18 year old Competitive League.

Both 13-15 League and 16-18 League will begin play on April 8, 2024. A double-elimination tournament will be played June 10-18, 2024.
* Note: Dates subject to change due to weather or unforeseen circumstances.

Registration Fee: 2024 Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball registration fee is \$199 and includes team jersey, hat, and 2 tickets to the Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball League Pancake Breakfast/Picture Day scheduled for April 20, 2024 from 8am-11am at the Forest Park Inn.

Team/Player photos will be taken at the Pancake Breakfast - more information will be sent closer to the event date. Additional tickets for the League Pancake Breakfast will be available at the door for \$5 each.

Player Evaluations: 13-15 year old players new to Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball - or 13-15 year old players wishing to re-enter the team draft - need to attend the player evaluation session scheduled for March 9, 2024 from 2pm-4pm at Noblesville High School.

Register today at:
noblesvillebaberuthbaseball.sportsengine-prelive.com

Sponsorships are still available, please reach out to nbrbcommunications@gmail.com for more info

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Heights Salutes School Bus Drivers



Barrie Summers and her daughter Devon

Hamilton Heights schools recently celebrated School Bus Driver Appreciation Day by spotlighting the valuable contributions of its drivers and transportation department make to the district.

From bus and student safety to route planning and maintenance, it takes good communication and a strong, coordinated effort between Heights' personnel, parents, police, and highway departments to provide Heights' roughly 1,200 bus riders safe and timely travel.

In addition to daily routes, drivers also cover athletic event trips, educational field trips, and other school-sponsored activities. With a fleet of some 40 school buses, Heights' bus drivers bring over 360 combined years of safe driving experience to our district. They are friends and neighbors who live and work in the community. They are also the first people Heights' students and parents see in the morning and the last they see in the afternoon. Some of Heights drivers have been driving for Heights for more than 30 years. For example, Linda Hodgin has some 35 years of experience driving a school bus for Heights. Hodgin, who subbed for two years before a full-time driver job became available, only planned to drive while her own kids were in school. Soon one of her grandsons will be riding the bus to school! "Driving a bus is a good job," she said. "Oh you will have some rough days. But the good ones outweigh the rougher ones by far." For Hodgin, it's all the people that she meets that help make her job one she really enjoys. Kim Brown, who was let



Linda Bragg

go from her corporate job after 30 years and has been a Heights' bus driver for 6 years, agrees. "Heights provided training and it was close to home," said Brown, whose husband, Jody, has been driving for Heights for eight years. "I wanted something that wasn't so many hours. The best part of the job is the hugs I get along with getting to watch the kids grow from year to year." Brown said the most difficult part is driving and having discipline problems you can't see or do anything about. This is where parents can help make a difference in terms of behavior, manners, and respect. These positive behaviors carry on to the bus and at school helping to make students' school day healthier, happier, and more successful. Rodney Cummings, who has been driving for Heights for 20 years, says it's the kids and the people he works with that he likes best about his job. "Being a bus driver is more than a job," explained Cummings, who loves his job, and it shows. "It's an adventure. It truly is an adventure. Day in day out. You never know what you're going to get from the kids. They're full of totally different personalities on a daily basis. And for the most part, it's always a positive experience. So if you want your summers off and you want an adventure – this is the job and the place for you!" Linda Bragg, a driver for Hamilton Heights for nine years, said it's a secondary job that allows her to still clean houses – something she has been doing for over for over 25 years. For Bragg and the other drivers, it's a role that you earn through



Rodney Cummings

training, lots of testing and hard work – to earn their CDL, hired for the privilege to drive a school bus, and accept the responsibility to get students to and from school and events safely. A highlight of the day for Bragg is when the kids show that they care and appreciate her. "Another plus is the beautiful sunrise and scenery most days bring," she added. Bragg said the most difficult part is driving and having discipline problems you can't see or do anything about. This is where parents can help make a difference in terms of behavior, manners, and respect. These positive behaviors carry on to the bus and at school helping to make students' school day healthier, happier, and more successful. Rodney Cummings, who has been driving for Heights for 20 years, says it's the kids and the people he works with that he likes best about his job. "Being a bus driver is more than a job," explained Cummings, who loves his job, and it shows. "It's an adventure. It truly is an adventure. Day in day out. You never know what you're going to get from the kids. They're full of totally different personalities on a daily basis. And for the most part, it's always a positive experience. So if you want your summers off and you want an adventure – this is the job and the place for you!" Linda Bragg, a driver for Hamilton Heights for nine years, said it's a secondary job that allows her to still clean houses – something she has been doing for over for over 25 years. For Bragg and the other drivers, it's a role that you earn through

Fishers Gets \$30,000 Grant

The Fishers Department of Fire and Emergency Services has partnered with the Fishers Health Department to reduce the number of emergency calls received due to accidental falls, which has nearly doubled since 2019. Falls comprised 20 percent of the department's ambulance transports in 2023. The two departments recently collaborated to receive a \$30,000 Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) grant from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security for their new Fishers Fall Prevention Program. The Fishers Fall Prevention Program launched in November 2023 with the goal of helping residents age safely at home. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, falls are the leading cause of unintentional injury in adults 65 and older. One in four older adults

report falling each year. Led by the Fishers Health Department's Social Worker and Community Health Advocates, residents 65 and older are eligible to apply to Fishers' new program to receive free support which includes home visits, fall prevention education, assistance with necessary in-home modifications, and referrals to community partners as needed. "Falls in the home are the leading cause of injury in Fishers," said Division Chief Joe Harding from the Fishers Department of Fire and Emergency Services' EMS Division. "For several years, our first responders have recognized that these are often preventable events, but we lacked resources to assist the individual. Last year our Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) team collaborated with the Fishers Health Department to

provide in-home assessment and intervention, which launched the new Fishers Fall Prevention Program. We quickly identified that there was a lack of funding for low- or fixed-income residents to purchase or install mobility devices on their own. These grant dollars will help us close the gap and help to keep our residents safe in their own homes." The departments will work together alongside organizations such as the Shepherd Center of Hamilton County and Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County to identify residents in need of financial support. Residents interested in learning more about the Fall Prevention Program can contact the Fishers Health Department Social Work program at 317-463-4361 or email socialwork@fishers.in.us for more information.

Tri Kappa Week



Tri Kappa Week was last week and Tri Kappa Chapters across the state focused on Food Insecurity in Indiana. Each chapter across the state made their own contributions. Beta Epsilon Chapter of Noblesville went to Teter Organic Farm and helped to plant seedlings for the coming year. In the first photo, from left, are Jennifer Jacobi, Jennifer Warner, Beth Lively, Joan Lawrence, Mary Burns and Sherry Miller. In the other photo, from left, are Martha Kirsch, Beth Lively, Jennifer Jacobi and Jennifer Warner.

Photos courtesy Tri Kappa

Pro Spikers Make Fishers Home Court

Indiana's first professional volleyball team, Indy Ignite has revealed that the Fishers Event Center will become their official home court. This new, state-of-the-art venue in Fishers, Indiana, will host all Indy Ignite home games once they begin play in January 2025. The announcement Wednesday morning took place at the Fishers Event Center, followed by an exclusive hard-hat tour of the future home of Indy Ignite. At the event, Fishers Mayor Scott Fadness, Pro Volleyball Federation CEO Jen Spicher, Indy Ignite Co-Owner Jim Schumacher, Former Husker Volleyball Player Kenzie Knuckles, and Indy Ignite General Manager Mary Kay Huse spoke about the team and

the fierce competition they will bring to the Indy region. "Indy Ignite is proud to represent not just Indianapolis—but the entire, region-wide volleyball community that makes Indiana one of the best states in the sport," said Huse. "From the Fishers Event Center, our team will be able to serve the thousands of young athletes in Central Indiana, giving them everything they need to have an incredible night with their families—great food, easy access, and of course, the world's greatest volleyball players in action." Slated to open in November 2024, the Fishers Event Center will be the largest mid-size event center in the region, seating crowds of up to

7,500 people. This brand-new facility is part of a \$550 million expansion to the Fishers District, one of the region's largest shopping, living, and dining destinations. Before Indy Ignite games, fans can explore the walkable, 40-acre Fishers District and enjoy a variety of high-end restaurants within minutes of the arena. The Fishers Event Center will also feature its own exclusive sports bar, VIP courtside lounges, and dedicated family suites for guests to watch the game in private. Indy Ignite will share the venue with the ECHL Indy Fuel hockey team and the recently announced Fishers Freight Indoor Football League team. Together, these pro sports teams will bring

over a hundred events to Fishers each year, creating new opportunities for exciting, fast-paced fun for the whole family. "We are beyond excited to welcome Indy Ignite and the Pro Volleyball Federation to the Fishers community," said Fadness. "The Fishers Event Center is set to become an epicenter of entertainment for the entire region, and Indy Ignite is going to spark a new chapter for sports in our city. We look forward to cheering them on as they revolutionize the world of volleyball from right here in our own backyard." Several local volleyball teams joined the announcement, representing clubs and high schools across the

Indianapolis region. This included the nationally-ranked Hamilton Southeastern High School Girls Volleyball Team that won the Indiana State Championship in both 2022 and 2023. In their speeches, Mary Kay Huse and Jen Spicher addressed the athletes in the audience and emphasized that Indy Ignite is their team—made to inspire young women like them to pursue their dreams. "Central Indiana is an undeniable hotbed for both men's and women's volleyball, where thousands of talented athletes first learn to love the game," said Spicher. "These incredible young ladies deserve an opportunity to continue their careers on the professional stage, and

that is our core mission and vision at Pro Volleyball Federation. We are so proud to welcome Indy Ignite to the league, as we continue to disrupt the status quo and bring pro volleyball to passionate sports communities like Indianapolis." Pro Volleyball Federation began play in January 2024 with seven teams competing for a place in the four-team Pro Volleyball Federation Championship in May. Indy Ignite will be one of three expansion teams to debut in January 2025—with season ticket deposits available now! Visit IndyIgniteVB.com to secure your season tickets and become a member of the exclusive Indy Ignite Founders Club today.

2024 Buick Encore GX Travels from Indianapolis to Memphis in Search of Patsy Cline



CASEY WILLIAMS
Auto Reviews

On March 5, 1963, Country music legend Patsy Cline, along with her manager Randy Hughes plus fellow Opry stars Hawkshaw Hawkins and Cowboy Copas, crashed their small single-engine plane into a valley about seventy miles east of Memphis, near Camden, Tennessee. Cline was just 30 years old. With a little extra time on my way to Memphis in the 2024 Buick Encore GX, it was time to pay my respects.

Elegant Youthful Style

Before hitting the roads from Indianapolis, I stopped to give the little Buick a good look. Its sporty ST trim seems a perfect complement to young and energetic Cline. It's a class act, eschewing trite tacked on portholes for chic Euro styling that starts with a wide grille flanked by tucked headlamps

under squinty boomerang driving lights. Sophisticated body sculpting disguise the vehicle's tall narrow proportions. Our vehicle glimmered in brave Copper Ice Metallic paint over 18" black alloy wheels. Most trim on the ST is blacked out for a sinister vibe. It's as young and fresh inside where the dash is dominated by a sweeping twin-screen "Virtual Cockpit" for driver gauges and infotainment. It's slick, but wirelessly connects devices via Apple CarPlay and Android Auto. Wireless charging is available too. There's no Bose audio, but Cline's songs boomed loud on the highway. Gray seat stitching, thick flat-bottom leather-wrapped steering wheel, and satin silver accents added touches of elegance. Leatherette seats were all-day comfortable and can be easily cleaned should kids (or fallen Big Macs) necessitate a quick wipe-down. Unlike Cline and her compatriots, I travel

with a full contingent of safety gear. The Encore GX ST comes standard with rear cross traffic alert, lane change alert, and side blind zone alert. Adaptive cruise, automatic emergency braking, and lane departure warning are available.

Spirited Turbo Performance

Putting steam into its step across Indiana cornfields, between Kentucky horse farms, and through Tennessee hills was a 1.3-liter turbocharged three-cylinder engine, connected to the front wheels through a continuously-variable transmission. Putting numbers too it, the engine delivers 155 horsepower and 174 lb.-ft. of torque. All-wheel-drive is available on the Encore GX, but our front-drive model is lighter on its wheels and provides the best fuel economy rated 29/31-MPG city/highway. I wouldn't normally like a continuously variable transmission, but it combined peacefully with the turbo to carry

the Encore through hill and dale with glee. On paper, the compound crank rear suspension wouldn't seem especially sophisticated either, but engineers tuned the suspension for a perfect balance of long-distance comfort and crisp handling. Whether storming tight sweepers on the Interstate, or swooping through rough two-lane curvy roads to the crash site, the suspension, steering, and short wheelbase indulged my will for spirited driving.

It's a solemn valley where the plane returned to earth, so I roll in with all due respect. Looking at the Encore along the trail that leads to a memorial of the tragedy, the little crossover glistens in dappled sunlight. It's difficult to comprehend the unspeakable tragedy that unfolded in this wooded valley over sixty years ago. On the flight back to Nashville, Hughes became

disoriented in the clouds and unwittingly spiraled their Piper Comanche into the treetops, ending the careers and lives of all aboard. No matter the terrain or speed, the Encore GX ST was a primo way to make quick work of long miles and a very somber side trip. And, hitting its target market of young sophisticates, the Encore GX ST comes with a very affordable price. Base Encore GX starts at \$25,600 with the ST rising from \$26,800. If you want something even more affordable,

and sportier still, check out the similar Buick Envista crossover coupe that starts at just \$22,400. Competitors include the similar Chevy Trax, Honda HR-V, Mazda CX-30, Kia Seltos, Nissan Kicks, and Hyundai Kona.

Storm Forward!

Send comments to Casey at AutoCasey@aol.com; follow him on YouTube @AutoCasey.

2024 Buick Encore GX ST
Five-passenger, FWD Crossover
Powertrain: 1.3-liter T4, CVT
Output: 155hp/174 lb.-ft. torque
Suspension f/r: Ind/Compound crank
Wheels f/r: 18"/18" alloy
Brakes f/r: disc/disc
Must-have features: Style, Turbo
Fuel economy: 29/31 mpg city/hwy
Assembly: Bupyeong, Korea
Base/As-tested price: \$25,600/\$26,800

Likes	Dislikes
· Bold style	· CVT
· Turbo engine	· Basic chassis
· Value price	· Limited options

The Times SERVICE DIRECTORY

<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">AUTOMOTIVE</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">FUNERAL SERVICES</p> <div style="background-color: #800000; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">BUSSELL FAMILY FUNERALS</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Serving Hamilton County and surrounding areas</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">BussellFamilyFunerals.com</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em; margin: 0;">Donna Bussell Owner/Director</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em; margin: 0;">1621 E. Greyhound Pass Carmel, IN 46032 317-587-2001</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">FUNERAL SERVICES</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">RESTAURANTS</p> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Jim Dandy Restaurant</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Since 1964</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em; margin: 0;">Online Ordering is HERE! Visit our new website at www.jdrest.com to order now! Sign up for our email list to receive weekly deals and specials!</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em; margin: 0;">Monday - Saturday 6:30 AM - 9 PM Sunday 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0; font-weight: bold;">2301 E. Conner Noblesville 317-773-3288</p> </div>
<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">FUNERAL SERVICES</p> <div style="background-color: #e67e22; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Indiana Funeral Care</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">indianafuneralcare.com</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em; margin: 0;">Indianapolis (317) 636-6464 8151 Allisonville Rd. Indianapolis</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em; margin: 0;">Greenwood (317) 348-1570 2433 E Main St. Greenwood</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">HOME SERVICES</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">FEATURED BUSINESS</p> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">Online Ordering is HERE! Visit our new website at www.jdrest.com to order now! Sign up for our email list to receive weekly deals and specials!</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 5px 0;">Monday - Saturday 6:30 AM - 9 PM Sunday 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM</p> <p style="font-size: 1.1em; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">2301 E. Conner Noblesville 317-773-3288</p> </div>	

We appreciate our readers!

PUBLIC NOTICES

Hamilton County, Indiana Cash & Investments Combined Statement - 2023 Page 1. Table with columns: Local Fund Number, Local Fund Name, Beg Cash & Inv Bal Jan. 1, 2023, Receipts, Disbursements, End Cash & Inv Bal Dec. 31, 2023. Rows include Governmental Activities, various fund names like 'After Settlement Collections', 'Sheriff's Inmate Trust', etc.

County Sets Solar Eclipse Webinar

Hamilton County has created an educational webinar about the Total Solar Eclipse for Monday, March 11 at 6 p.m. The hour-long discussion will highlight the major events being planned for the area, plans for emergency preparedness, the potential tourism impact, and important safety tips. The webinar will feature a lineup of local experts including: William Turner, Carmel High School Planetarium - Providing educational perspectives and astronomical insights.

Jim Ginder, Hamilton County Health Department - Addressing safety precautions during the eclipse. Emily Latty, Hamilton County Parks and Recreation - Sharing details on eclipse-related events and merchandise. "Hamilton County agencies have been planning for this event for well over a year now," says Tammy Sander, Hamilton County's Communications Director. "We're so excited about this rare astronomical event and we can't wait to share everything we have planned with the community." Participation is free and open to all. Those interested in attending can register at https://bit.ly/49tC8MM

Shamrock Drop Returns to Westfield

Get ready for a day of Irish-inspired festivities as the Shamrock Drop event, presented by Indiana Members Credit Union, returns to Grand Junction Plaza on Saturday, March 16 from 12 - 2 p.m. This family-friendly celebration promises a vibrant atmosphere filled with live Irish music, St. Patrick's Day-themed carnival games, delicious food, and an opportunity to win fantastic prizes. Shamrock Drop is free to attend, offering a number of attractions such as live Irish music, games, crafts, airbrush tattoos, and the Indiana Members Credit Union Cash Cube. Attendees can immerse themselves in the spirit of St. Patrick's Day while enjoying these exciting activities. New this year are St. Patrick's Day-themed carnival games as a paid attraction. Participants can win prizes like shamrock glasses, necklaces, toys, and more. Lucky Loot Cards are available for purchase, with a 5-game card priced at \$10 or a 10-game card at \$20. To sweeten the deal, participants who pre-purchase their loot

online will enjoy a \$2 or \$5 discount. But the highlight of the day is undoubtedly "The Drop." This year, all attendees have the chance to participate in the Shamrock Drop prize drawing for free. Upon arrival, head inside the cafe building, where you can write your name on a shamrock and drop it into the big cauldron. At 1:30 p.m., our Lucky Leprechaun will randomly select five shamrocks from the cauldron, and those fortunate winners will take home a pot o' gold filled with amazing prizes and gifts generously donated by local Westfield businesses. Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in style at Grand Junction Plaza with the Shamrock Drop event. Join us for an unforgettable day of fun, music, games, and the chance to win fantastic prizes, all thanks to the generous support of Indiana Members Credit Union and our local business partners. For more information, please visit westfieldwelcome.com/shamrock-drop.

Wayne-Fall Lions present check to HSE / Fishers FFA



Photo courtesy of Wayne-Fall Lions Club

The Wayne-Fall Lions Club on Feb. 24 hosted a free-will donation chicken and noodle dinner to celebrate the end of National FFA Week. The FFA members served dinners of chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes, green beans, dinner rolls furnished by "Simply From Scratch" and desserts provided by the FFA members. The Lions Club was able to present the Hamilton Southeastern / Fishers FFA with a check for \$1,204 that was received in donations! In the attached picture: Wayne-Fall Lions president Dave Barker (from left) and Lion treasurer Rick Larrison present a check to Hamilton Southeastern/Fishers FFA vice president Eliza Uliczny and FFA president Meghan Haws.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Hamilton County, Indiana Cash & Investments Combined Statement - 2023 Page 2						
	Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg Cash & Inv Bal Jan. 1, 2023	Receipts	Disbursements	End Cash & Inv Bal Dec. 31, 2023
Governmental Activities	4920	Hamilton Weights and Measures Fund	\$2,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,100.00
	5364	Payroll Withholding - Wage Garnishments	\$93.11	\$37,846.07	\$37,846.07	\$93.11
	6000	Settlement	\$0.00	\$735,386,355.71	\$735,386,355.71	\$0.00
	6023	CVET Agency	\$0.00	\$954,348.00	\$954,348.00	\$0.00
	6041	Weed Lien Collections	\$265.42	\$11,924.03	\$11,924.03	\$265.42
	6042	Sewage Collections	\$0.00	\$555,162.71	\$555,162.71	\$0.00
	6051	Financial Institution Tax	\$0.00	\$857,264.47	\$857,264.47	\$0.00
	7101	State Fines and Forfeitures	\$57,443.00	\$108,552.29	\$149,181.50	\$16,813.79
	7102	Infraction Judgements	\$64,890.90	\$380,518.42	\$389,057.27	\$56,352.05
	7103	Overweight Vehicle Fines	\$0.00	\$669.50	\$669.50	\$0.00
	7104	Special Death Benefit	\$1,285.00	\$8,185.00	\$8,245.00	\$1,225.00
	7105	Sales Disclosure - State Share	\$17,480.00	\$94,890.00	\$98,110.00	\$14,260.00
	7106	Coroners Training & Con't Education	\$1,935.00	\$8,803.50	\$9,781.00	\$957.50
	7107	Interstate Compact - State Share	\$250.00	\$3,187.50	\$3,187.50	\$250.00
	7108	Mortgage Recording Fees - State Share	\$6,150.00	\$31,280.00	\$32,647.50	\$4,782.50
	7110	DLGF Homestead Property Database	\$286.71	\$359.39	\$447.28	\$198.82
	7113	Child Restraint Violations Fines	\$300.00	\$1,325.00	\$1,350.00	\$275.00
	7115	Forrest Restoration Fund	\$0.00	\$312.50	\$312.50	\$0.00
	7202	Inheritance Tax	\$113,749.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$113,749.57
	7301	Education Plate Fees Agency	\$0.00	\$5,737.50	\$5,737.50	\$0.00
	7303	Riverboat Revenue Sharing	\$0.00	\$1,953,925.25	\$1,953,925.25	\$0.00
	7330	LIT Certified Shares	\$0.00	\$253,333,205.00	\$253,333,205.00	\$0.00
	7331	LIT Public Safety	\$0.00	\$25,333,321.00	\$25,333,321.00	\$0.00
	8110	14.218 FY CDBG	\$0.00	\$60,950.00	\$60,950.00	\$0.00
	8113	14.218 FY16 CDBG	\$0.00	\$11,100.78	\$11,100.78	\$0.00
	8138	93.788 Justice Partners Addictions Response	\$81,071.52	\$0.00	\$77,008.76	\$4,062.76
	8141	20.509 CY20 HCE Operating Grant	\$31,679.92	\$0.00	\$12,230.00	\$19,449.92
	8151	14.218 FY19 CDBG	\$0.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.05
	8203	10.553 Child Nutrition Program - Breakfast	\$875.76	\$8,849.67	\$8,324.94	\$1,400.49
	8204	10.555 Child Nutrition Program - Lunch	\$1,635.96	\$14,916.83	\$14,316.89	\$2,235.90
	8221	20.205 FHWA Reimbursement Fund	\$0.47	\$470,046.92	\$388,266.92	\$81,780.47
	8250	15.631 USFWS Wildlife Habitate Improvement	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
	8266	14.218 FY2020 CDBG	\$150,995.00	\$0.00	\$150,995.00	\$0.00
	8270	20.526 2021 Janus Transportation	\$48,960.00	\$374,600.00	\$239,378.00	\$184,182.00
	8271	14.218 FY21 CDBG	\$0.02	\$136,666.00	\$136,666.00	\$0.02
	8274	20.507 2022 HCE Operating Grant	\$267,641.56	\$1,605,473.75	\$1,609,126.92	\$263,988.39
	8275	93.354 Workforce Dev. CoAg	\$493,293.60	\$0.00	\$354,229.89	\$139,063.71
	8276	97.067 FY 2021 SHSP EOC	-\$6,360.35	\$55,748.00	\$49,387.65	\$0.00
	8277	97.067 FY 2021 SHSP Soft Target	\$0.00	\$230,125.00	\$230,125.00	\$0.00
	8282	93.074 22/23 PHEP Grant	\$11,024.81	\$129,263.91	\$118,200.47	\$22,088.25
	8283	93.136 Overdose Fatality Review Board (22)	-\$2,500.00	\$10,000.00	\$7,500.00	\$0.00
	8284	16.606 FY2020 SCAAP Grant	\$7,484.16	\$57,333.00	\$6,587.82	\$58,229.34
	8285	21.027 Health Elevated Lead Grant	\$2,070.35	\$9,464.98	\$2,650.00	\$8,885.33
	8286	21.027 FY22 DMHA Community Catalyst ARPA	-\$19,993.90	\$68,117.12	\$87,606.85	-\$39,483.63
	8287	93.354 Workforce Development CoAg	\$137,500.00	\$412,500.00	\$269,851.57	\$280,148.43
	8288	93.354 Workforce Development CoAg Testing Supplemente	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
8290	14.218 FY2022 CDBG \$1,085,620	\$0.00	\$772,704.29	\$772,704.29	\$0.00	
8292	97067 FFY2022 SHSPG Non Priority	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$37,371.74	-\$37,371.74	
8302	20.703 FY23 HMEP Professional Development	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	
8303	97.042 FFY EMPG Soft Target	\$0.00	\$19,900.00	\$19,900.00	\$0.00	
8304	20.608 2023 DUI Task Force Grant	\$0.00	\$28,351.86	\$28,351.86	\$0.00	
8305	20.600 2023 CITLI	\$0.00	\$172,405.94	\$172,405.94	\$0.00	
8306	20.703 HMEP LEPC Tabletop Exercise	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	
8307	16.606 FY2021 SCAAP Grant	\$0.00	\$26,165.00	\$24,337.68	\$1,827.32	
8308	97.042 FFY 2022 EMPG-Salary	\$0.00	\$89,827.62	\$89,827.62	\$0.00	
8314	93.268 Immunization CoAg & Vaccines	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,464.34	-\$6,464.34	
8315	14.218 FY23 CDBG \$1,102,310	\$0.00	\$19,460.49	\$19,460.49	\$0.00	
8895	93.563 Title IV-D Incentive	\$88,591.49	\$52,697.00	\$82,988.01	\$58,300.48	
8897	93.563 Prosecutor IV-D Incentive-Post Oct '99	\$383,942.12	\$79,279.00	\$104,754.31	\$358,466.81	
8899	93.563 Clerk IV-D Incentive-Post Oct '99	\$567,579.62	\$52,697.00	\$11,443.50	\$608,833.12	
8901	14.218 FY19 CDBG-CV	\$0.00	\$540,985.83	\$540,985.83	\$0.00	
8903	93.268 CARES Act Epidemiology Grant	\$125,240.49	\$0.00	\$107,520.33	\$17,720.16	
8906	16.034 Coronavirus Emergency Supplies	\$1,063.29	\$30,189.89	\$31,253.18	\$0.00	
8907	21.03 Emergency Rental Assistance Cares	\$2,484.38	\$0.00	\$2,484.38	\$0.00	
8908	97.036 FEMA Public Assistance Program	\$0.00	\$245,154.92	\$245,154.92	\$0.00	
8950	21.207 ARPAAAAA Coronavirus Local Fiscal	\$46,661,812.11	\$0.00	\$13,930,040.24	\$32,731,771.87	
8952	21.023 Emergency Rental Assistance Program	\$2,008,701.79	\$1,220,315.73	\$1,423,074.21	\$1,805,943.31	
9113	Mobile Nature Trailer (Duke Energy)	\$14,500.00	\$0.00	\$14,500.00	\$0.00	
9122	2014 Foreign Language Interpreter	\$0.00	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$0.00	
9140	CY21 DOC Grant Ct Recidivism Reduction	\$68,117.02	\$0.00	\$68,117.02	\$0.00	
9146	19 Veterans Court - Problem Solving	\$821.59	\$0.00	\$821.59	\$0.00	
9153	2020 Veterans Court Treatment	\$6,273.12	\$0.00	\$6,273.12	\$0.00	
9154	2020 Problem Solving Court - Vet	\$1,155.00	\$0.00	\$1,155.00	\$0.00	
9158	2021 Community Crossing Grant	\$409,347.44	\$0.00	\$16,645.48	\$392,701.96	
9161	Next Level Trail S Seven Nation Community	\$633,652.19	\$0.00	\$241,188.24	\$392,463.95	
9163	FY22 Court Recidivism Reduction Grant	\$15,921.30	\$0.00	\$15,921.30	\$0.00	
9164	FY22 Pre Trial Supervision Grant (In Supreme Crt)	\$140.34	\$0.00	\$140.34	\$0.00	
9165	2021 Veterans Treatment Court Grant	\$1,538.53	\$0.00	\$1,538.53	\$0.00	
9166	21 Problem Solving Court - Drug	\$2,831.00	\$0.00	\$2,831.00	\$0.00	
9167	21/22 Juvenile Detention Alternatives	\$22,619.83	\$0.00	\$22,619.83	\$0.00	
9170	2022 Veterans Treatment Court	\$22,691.09	\$0.00	\$19,511.33	\$3,179.76	
9172	Law Enforcement Training Grant ICJI	\$31,000.00	\$15,500.00	\$4,290.00	\$42,210.00	
9173	2023 Problem Solving Court Grant	\$6,400.00	\$0.00	\$5,801.00	\$599.00	
9174	2022 Community Crossing Grant	\$2,414,195.69	\$0.00	\$2,414,195.69	\$0.00	
9176	2023 Veterans Problem Solving Court	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	
9178	22/23 Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative	\$17,690.81	\$20,891.82	\$20,220.61	\$18,362.02	
9301	FY23 Community Corrections DOC Grant	\$0.00	\$2,555,935.01	\$2,555,935.01	\$0.00	
9302	CY23 DOC Court Recidivism Reduction Grant	\$0.00	\$159,344.00	\$126,541.36	\$32,802.64	
9303	2023 Pre-Trial Supervision Grant	\$0.00	\$92,033.00	\$81,852.02	\$10,180.98	
9304	23/24 Juvenile Detention Alternatives	\$0.00	\$37,876.54	\$12,888.70	\$24,987.84	
9305	2023 Veterans PSG 04/01-12/31/23 \$10,000	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$2,155.38	\$7,844.62	
9306	2023 Shepherd's Center VASIA Guardianship	\$0.00	\$114,000.00	\$115,845.11	-\$1,845.11	
9307	2023 Problem Solving Drug Court Grant	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	
9308	2023 Community Crossings Grant	\$0.00	\$1,431,298.69	\$0.00	\$1,431,298.69	
9402	CY24 DOC Court Recidivism Reductions Grant	\$0.00	\$15,921.30	\$0.00	\$15,921.30	
9409	2024 Veterans Treatment Court Grant	\$0.00	\$56,900.00	\$0.00	\$56,900.00	
		Total All Funds	\$470,492,950.76	\$1,468,305,801.39	\$1,448,089,702.75	\$490,709,049.40

TL21273 3/4 It hspaxlp

Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District, Hamilton County, Indiana Cash & Investments Combined Statement - 2023						
	Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg Cash & Inv Bal Jan. 1, 2023	Receipts	Disbursements	End Cash & Inv Bal Dec. 31, 2023
Governmental Activities	1053	Solid Waste Management Fund	\$2,967,143.20	\$1,680,949.51	\$1,450,415.77	\$3,197,676.94
	1054	Levy Excess Fund	\$221.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$221.47
	1055	Rainy Day Fund	\$299,140.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$299,140.91
		Total All Funds	\$3,266,505.58	\$1,680,949.51	\$1,450,415.77	\$3,497,039.32

TL21272 3/4 It hspaxlp

Donuts in the Middle of the Day



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

While a person may buy a cake here in Mexico seven days a week from early morning to late at night, getting any other kind of dessert is more challenging. There is a bakery I walk by every day. Everything is fresh and in bins. Customers pick up a metal tray and tongs and select what they want, then bring it up to the counter. The tray is returned to the pile. The tongs are hung neatly with the other tongs. It is a great system, except that the tray holds a lot of baked goods—probably more than I should eat on any given day. But a problem has occurred. I meet with a wonderful group of writers on a rooftop, and they have been kind enough to agree to read the first half of my new book. The first half (slightly more than half, actually) is 149 pages, so this is a generous thing for them to do. I want to bring treats, naturally. I thought apple empanadas would be best, as they are my favorite. But the meeting is at 2 in the afternoon, and the empanadas only appear at 2, promptly at 2, and never one minute before. “I don’t suppose I could pick any up at 1?” I asked the nice girl at the counter. She shook her head sadly. No. They were only available at 2. “What do you have that I could buy at 1?” I inquired. She pointed to the bread. Somehow, showing up at the meeting with a bag of dinner rolls was not what I was imagining. “What about donuts?” I asked. The girl’s eyes widened as if I was really asking far too many questions, and she referred me to a baker standing in the back. I explained to the baker (to the best of my ability) that I had a meeting at 2 and I would love to bring “sweets” to the

meeting. The meeting, I added, was with Americans. (There will also be several Canadians, but I decided not to complicate things.) I could tell he sensed the problem. This man looked as if he’d been baking things long enough to have heard of the eccentricities of Americans. “So, no empanadas before 2?” I wanted to confirm. No, he shook his head sadly. That could not be done. “Cookies?” They come out later yet. “Donuts?” He seemed to find this amusing. Donuts are never available before 5. “Maybe you could buy empanadas the day before?” he suggested. “Would they still be hard?” I asked (because I couldn’t remember how to say “soft”). “They would be soft by the next day,” he admitted. I was stymied. I asked Pepe at my hotel, “Why do you eat donuts at night?” “Oh! They are good with hot chocolate or coffee after dinner. When do you eat them?” “Usually in the morning,” I told him, feeling a little foolish as I admitted. “In the morning?” “Yes.” I could tell Pepe was filing this away as yet another inexplicable thing he had learned about gringos while working at the hotel. The meeting is next week, and I still do not have a good solution. I will probably take the baker’s advice and buy empanadas a day early. They will be a little “suave,” as he said, but they will still be delicious. And, as long as I’m buying things a day ahead, I may throw in some donuts. We’ll sit there on the roof, a bunch of happy idiots, eating donuts in the middle of the day.

Till next time,
Carrie

To see photos, check out CarrieClassonAuthor on Facebook or visit CarrieClasson.com.

Westfield Mayor Sets Town Hall

Mayor Scott Willis has scheduled his first Town Hall for Thursday, March 21, from 7-8:30 p.m. at Wood Wind Golf Club (2302 W 161st Street). This event will provide an opportunity for residents to connect with Willis and learn more about the vision for the future of Westfield as part of his on-going community engagement efforts. This town hall aims to foster an open dialogue, allowing citizens to gain insights into the mayor's plans and initiatives for the city. Residents are encouraged to actively participate by asking questions, sharing concerns, and engaging in discussions that will contribute to the continued growth of

Westfield. "Transparency and open communication are one of the main pillars of my administration in advancing Westfield," Willis said in a release. "We believe that an informed and engaged community is extremely important and just as I did when I was on city council, I will continue to host town hall events. The only difference you will see is that now we are moving them throughout various parts of the city." If there are specific topics residents would like to see covered, please email communications@westfield.in.gov.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Hamilton County Airport Authority, Hamilton County, Indiana Cash & Investments Combined Statement - 2023						
	Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg Cash & Inv Bal Jan. 1, 2023	Receipts	Disbursements	End Cash & Inv Bal Dec. 31, 2023
Governmental Activities	1023	Airport Authority	\$2,262,121.50	\$1,145,215.99	\$677,848.30	\$2,729,489.19
	1024	Hamilton County Public Building Corp Lease	\$135,800.15	\$497,100.00	\$422,000.00	\$210,900.15
	1025	Hamilton County Airport Authority Capital	\$641,890.56	\$132,866.87	\$422,161.12	\$352,596.31
	1030	Rainy Day Fund	\$16,796.47	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$16,796.47
	1034	AIP-30	\$13,476.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,476.75
	1038	AIP-34	\$40.00	\$665,365.87	\$665,405.87	\$0.00
	1039	AIP-35	\$0.00	\$147,999.75	\$147,999.75	\$0.00
	1040	AIP-36	\$0.00	\$3,939,767.29	\$4,893,697.94	-\$953,930.65
	1042	AIP-37	\$0.00	\$1,487,421.69	\$1,524,018.50	-\$36,596.81
	1045	1045-INDOT Airport Monitoring Equipment	\$0.00	\$810.00	\$810.00	\$0.00
		Total All Funds	\$3,070,125.43	\$8,016,547.46	\$8,753,941.48	\$2,332,731.41

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Mark Hall's County Council Timesheet



MARK HALL
Hamilton County Council

Welcome to the Timesheet. This column is a report of work done on behalf of the people of Hamilton County. It's to be informative too, a place to learn about projects and how our county government works. As your employee, it's important that you know what is being worked on as transparently as is possible in government. You hired me as your County Councilman, and my hope is that you'll choose to be informed by regularly reading this column, getting involved, and by asking questions. Council meetings are at 7:00 PM the first Wednesday of every month at the judicial center in downtown Noblesville. Meetings are also available to watch online for those unable to attend in person. Here is where my time this past month has been spent. Like many of us, February's work was interrupted by Influenza A, yep, I caught the Flu. Personally, I missed an entire week of work. Yuck! Glad that's over. February's work concentrated on Finance, The Regional Development Commission, the County Utility District and researching upcoming proposed projects for both the full council as well as the RDC. February's personnel committee meeting was cancelled. Normally, personnel requests are voted on as they occur, first, in the personnel committee and then at the next regular council meeting using a recommendation from the committee. The finance committee meeting included a detailed presentation of, and much discussion about, the county's cash position. We were also briefed on the increase in interest income over budget and the final county tax rate as approved by the Department of Local Government and Finance. The county is in a strong financial position, our tax rate went down slightly, we have the 6th lowest tax rate in the state and continue to maintain the best possible bond rating, AAA. You may recall from a few months ago, the 2024 budget, for the first

time in a few years, contributes to the rainy-day fund. The challenge ahead will be to balance the expense of upcoming projects with keeping our reserves strong. I spent time this month studying the County Utility District. Of particular interest is how it works, why it was necessary and then learning how important it is as a means of protecting the water sources (aquifers) we have in the area. Water is increasingly becoming a challenge for counties throughout Indiana and for Hamilton County to stay competitive. Reviewing the proposed Police and Fire Training Center plans along with the financing options has taken a good amount of time. This project is being revisited from a few years ago. This proposed project would be funded with existing county TIF district money. Along with updated functionality this new development has the support of our public safety leadership around the county. After much review, I am in favor of the project, provided we can successfully fund the construction and provided ongoing operational and maintenance costs are paid for independent of county funds. In addition to the County Council public meetings, February's work included attending our first 2024 Finance Committee meeting, watching a Board of Commissioners public meeting, attending a Noblesville City Council meeting and a Cicero Town council meeting. This month there were two constituents service requests. Usually, requests require research with a county department, securing the correct answer and then following up with the taxpayer. February's taxpayer questions were regarding the 2024 budget and the county tax rate. A constituent expressed concern after reading in the paper that higher than expected county investment income would be moved into existing budgeted line-item expenses. The 2024 budget included a substantial budgeted amount of investment income and thanks to our County Treasurer the investment income numbers exceeded the anticipated budgeted

income. Those excess funds will be held in the county general account until appropriated. The second request was for information regarding the county tax rate and where on the county auditor's web page our rates by township could be found. The taxpayer wanted to compare the county tax rate with that of Noblesville School District. This month, it was an honor to represent you at the Westfield Small Business Networking meeting and at the Judge Andrew Bloch robing ceremony. This is my time sheet. This is where my time went during month fourteen. There are many projects in the queue for 2024 and while my job is primarily the financial oversight of the county budget it is important to understand the Board of Commissioners priorities and balance them with the stewardship of taxpayer dollars. That is the job, and I am excited to do the people's business. As a taxpayer myself, and listening to so many of you, our employers, it's important for the taxpayers to have access to all the information you want. I work for you and although you may not choose to do a deep dive into what your County Council does, it's important that you can always do so. Feel free to contact me at 317-832-1104 or mark.hall@hamiltoncounty.in.gov with questions, feedback or if you would like to talk about county business.

Mark Hall is a Hamilton County Councilman and the Founder and CEO of TLX, Talent Logistix. He writes a monthly column in The Times detailing his work as a county councilman.



Carmel Sets Barrier-Free Theatre Performance



On March 16-17, Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation will hold its sixth annual Barrier-Free Theatre performance in honor of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. This year's performance, titled *Mystery at the Rider Mansion*, will be held at the Monon Community Center on Saturday, March 16 at 6 p.m. and Sunday, March 17 at 2 p.m. An American Sign Language interpreter will be provided for the Saturday show.

Barrier-Free Theatre is a form of drama therapy that empowers individuals with and without disabilities to create and perform original stories together. The entire creative process takes around eight months

to complete. "All aspects of creating and performing the show are inclusive," said Sarah Fenster, CCPR Barrier-Free Theatre director. "For the past three years, we have invited an interested cast member to guest direct a scene in the show, and we also have an inclusive stage crew working backstage. It's amazing to be a part of such a talented, supportive community."

The Mystery at the Rider Mansion story revolves around deep-seated jealousy and family conflict. Take a seat at the table for a Thanksgiving dinner full of romance, betrayal, and a twist you won't see coming. *"Mystery at the Rider Mansion* is unique

because its story and characters were created by the actors themselves," shared Fenster. "Whether or not you know any of the actors, you will come away with a better understanding of the people on stage, their experiences, and their abilities."

Tickets are \$12 each and are available for purchase online or in person at the Monon Community Center. Availability is limited. All proceeds support CCPR's adaptive programs.

For more information about Barrier-Free Theatre or adaptive programming, contact CCPR Inclusion Program Supervisor Kelvin Solares ksolares@carmelclayarks.com.

FOR THE RECORD

EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING NOTICE

CARMEL FIRE PENSION BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024
AT 1:00 P.M.
CARMEL LAW DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM
1 CIVIC SQUARE
CARMEL, IN 46032.
For the discussion of records classified as confidential by state or federal statute.
IND. CODE §§ 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(7)

MEETING NOTICE

CARMEL FIRE PENSION BOARD OPEN MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024
1:15 PM OR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE EXECUTIVE SESSION (WHICHEVER IS LATER)
CARMEL LEGAL DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM
1 CIVIC SQUARE
CARMEL, IN 46032.

MEETING NOTICE

LAND USE AND SPECIAL STUDIES COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024
AT 6:00 P.M.
CARMEL CLAY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD ROOM, SECOND FLOOR
THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO DISCUSS CITY BUSINESS AS ASSIGNED, INCLUDING:
a. Special Study of the Carmel Unified Development Ordinance - Discussion/Planning Session

For The Record is a public service and regular feature in The Paper of Montgomery County. 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 Paper encourages all citizens to take an active role in being involved in local government.



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Local students honored

A host of local students have achieved various honors at their colleges. The Times is proud to recognize these wonderful achievements.

Alabama
The University of Alabama's student-run Capstone Agency created communications plans for several charities pro bono. Two Hamilton County students were recently recognized for taking part in work being done there. Congratulations to Emily Crousore and Sydney Lawhead, both of Fishers.

Ball State
Several local students were recently named to Ball State University's third annual "Top 100 Students" list. This award recognizes 100 outstanding junior and senior undergraduates who represent the best of Ball State.

Top 50
Carson Brooks of Noblesville, College of Sciences and Humanities; Nathan Ritz of Noblesville, College of Architecture and Planning; Lily Bushey of Cicero, College of Architecture and Planning; and Archana Sathyamurthy of Sheridan, College of Architecture and Planning.

Top 100
Gizelle Smedley of Noblesville, College of Sciences and Humanities; Eliza Eisenmann of Fishers, College of Health; KC King of Fishers, College of Fine Arts; Jaden Sparks of Fishers, College of Sciences and Humanities; Carlie Merriweather of Carmel, College of Sciences and Humanities; and Jacob Young of Carmel, College of Communication, Information, and Media.

Bradley University
Eleven Hamilton County students were named to Bradley's Dean's List for Fall 2023. To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must achieve a minimum 3.5 grade point average for the semester on a 4.0 scale. They are: Jeffrey LaGrou of Noblesville, Clara Bodinus of Noblesville, Lauren DeRolf of Noblesville, Lauren Duell of Noblesville, Joshua Goldstein of Westfield, Ainsley Richmond of Fishers, Josephine Qualls of Fishers, Audrey Crusier of Fishers, Claire Bittinger of Carmel, Graci Graves of Carmel and Cara Nowlin of Carmel.

Bryant University
Kyle Fedorcha of Carmel has been named to Bryant University's Deans' List for Fall 2023 in recognition of academic excellence. To earn a place on the Deans' List, students must have a GPA of 3.4 or better for at least 12 semester hours of work.

Coastal Carolina
Hope McDonald and Kendall Powell, both of Carmel, earned a spot on the President's List for the Fall 2023 semester at Coastal Carolina University. Students who made the President's List have achieved a 4.0 grade point average during the semester.

Emerson College
Three students from Carmel were named to Emerson College's Dean's List for the Fall 2023 semester. The requirement to make Dean's List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for that semester. The three are: Ethan Gold, majoring in Writing, Lit and Publishing and a member of the Class of 2025; Arthur Mansavage, majoring in Design/Technology and a member of the Class of 2026; and Ahni Brown Harbin, majoring in Writing, Lit and Publishing and a member of the Class of 2027.

Fairfield University
Kyla M. Berg of Fishers received Dean's List Honors for the Fall 2023 semester. In order to be placed on the Dean's List, students must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours in a semester, have no outstanding or incomplete grades for that semester, and have attained a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better.

Fairleigh Dickinson University
Simon Emilio Centeno Infante of Westfield has been named to the Honors List for the Fall 2023 semester. To qualify for the Honors List, a student must carry a 3.5 or better grade point average out of a possible 4.0 and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 letter-graded hours (four courses).

Grove City College
A team of Grove City College students, including Luke Gilligan of Fishers, won first place at the recent Techstars Startup Weekend Pittsburgh with their proposal to create a place-based dating app. Gilligan's team developed a pitch that overcame all the competitors. Their idea, called Meet Cute, is a dating app that connects people based not on looks or personality, but on where they like to go - restaurants, parks, and other destinations.

Manchester University
Several local students earned a place on the Fall 2023 Dean's List for their academic achievements. At the end of each semester, the Office of Academic Affairs publishes the list. Undergraduate students earning a semester grade point average of 3.5 or higher who have completed at least 12 semester hours with no more than three hours of Pass/Not Pass grades are included on the

Dean's List. Students with more than one hour of Incomplete (I) or Not Recorded (NR) grades at the end of the semester are not eligible for the Dean's List. The Hamilton County students are: Anna Jozsa of Cicero, Sport Management; MaLeea Shields of Arcadia, Nursing; Ian Bowron of Fishers, Business Management & Communication Studies; Griffin Garwood of Fishers, studying Exercise Science & Fitness; Jax O'Haver of Fishers, Exercise Science & Fitness; Lachlan Sharp of Fishers, Software Engineering; Karl Bergsma of Carmel, studying Accounting; Clay Stults of Carmel, Software Engineering; Gillian Thompson of Carmel; Peace Studies; and Madison Stamm of Fortville, Early Childhood Elementary Education.

University of Maryland
Yashwan Kalainesan of Carmel was named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at University of Maryland Global Campus. To be eligible for the honor, a student must complete at least six credits during the term, earned a grade point average of at least 3.5 for the term, and maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.5 at UMGC.

Missouri State University
Samantha Hietpas of Fishers recently graduated with a Bachelor of Science, Animal Science from Missouri State University. She was part of the group that earned 1,417 degrees for the fall semester. The commencement ceremonies took place Dec. 15, 2023, at Great Southern Bank Arena.

Phi Kappa Phi
Erin Osborne of Carmel was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Osborne was initiated at Hillsdale College. Osborne is among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Rochester Institute of Technology
Emma Pickering of Fishers was named to the Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology for the fall semester of the 2023-2024 academic year. Emily is in the exercise science program. Full-

time degree-seeking undergraduate students are eligible for Dean's List if their term GPA is greater than or equal to 3.400; they do not have any grades of "Incomplete", "D" or "F"; and they have registered for, and completed, at least 12 credit hours.

Trinity Christian College
Kara VanDyke of Fishers was recently earned Dean's List honors for Fall 2023. The Dean's List is Trinity Christian College's highest academic honor. It is recognized for traditional undergraduate students who achieve a semester GPA of 3.5 or better in 12 or more credits with grade points.

Tufts University
Claire Castor and Angela Chen, both of Carmel, were recently named to the Tufts University dean's list for the Fall 2023 semester. Dean's list honors at Tufts University require a semester grade point average of 3.4 or greater.

Thank You For Reading The Times



CFD Awarded International Accreditation Again



Pictured first row: Denise Snyder, Accreditation Budget Administrator. Second row (left to right): Accreditation Assistant Retired Chief Gary Dufek; Planning Chief Joel Heavner; Deputy Chief Jason Wendzel; Deputy Chief Lucas Ray; Mayor Sue Finkam; Fire Chief David Haboush; CFAI Commission Chairman Steve Dirksen; Peer Team Leader Neil Rosenberger. Third row: President Carmel Professional Firefighters J.C. Mitchell, Captain Mark Gugel.

The Carmel Fire Department has received Accredited Agency status with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International for meeting the criteria established through the CFAI's voluntary self-assessment and accreditation program for a third time. The lengthy process consists of industry best practices and standards and assists CFD in developing programs for continuous improvement. "I'm very proud of all members of the Carmel Fire Department for achieving accreditation for the third time," said Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam. "Their dedication, commitment and caring results in providing the highest level of service possible to our community." The CFD is one of only 326 agencies to achieve accredited agency status globally and one of only four in the state of Indiana. CFD was accredited by CFAI after initially being accredited in August of 2013, then re-accredited in March of 2019. The CFD submitted documents for reaccreditation in August of 2023. Upon submission, a peer team consisting of four individual members of the fire service from across the country was assigned to review. Additionally, on December 3 - 7, 2023, the peer team visited Carmel to verify and validate the information submitted

was indeed proven to be accurate. During the four-day visit, the peer team members conducted 28 interviews including meeting with outgoing Mayor Jim Brainard, then Mayor-elect Sue Finkam, Hamilton County Public Safety Communications, Carmel Controller, Carmel Utilities, Carmel Information Systems and one of CFD's mutual aid partners. "The process of accreditation requires a joint effort, and our department takes immense pride in accomplishing it," stated Chief David Haboush of CFD. "CFD is dedicated to collaborating with the community to ensure a safe and pleasant environment for residents, employees, and visitors of our city." The CFAI is dedicated to assisting the fire and emergency service agencies throughout the world in achieving excellence through self-assessment and accreditation to provide continuous quality improvement and the enhancement of service delivery to their communities. The CFAI process provides an agency with an improvement model to assess their service delivery and performance internally, and then works with a team of peers from other agencies to verify and validate their completed self-assessment.

Lions Get Look At Major Project

At the last meeting in February, the Noblesville Lions were treated to Lion Mike Imbler, District 25D Eyeglass Recycling Chairman, speaking to the club outlining specifics of a project for the international organization. A lot of Mike's information contained updated activities and statistics. The Lions Club screens for eye glasses in many schools, and have found a 23 percent student failure. Around the world, 1 in 4 students cannot see properly, and a big reason the Lions Club collects glasses for recycling. Also, many countries do not make eye glasses and rely on the Lion's recycling efforts. Last year the 25D division alone collected 45,000 pairs of glasses. The 25D division has small cardboard boxes available for businesses to collect used glasses



from customers; which are picked up by the Lions Club when full. Suggested businesses that can help are funeral homes, banks, nursing homes, grocery stores, etc. If your business is interested in a box, contact any Lion member. Lion Vice President Jeff Kozicki, left, and Mike Imbler.

NHS Job Fair



Photo courtesy Noblesville Schools

Calling all local employers in need of staff! Noblesville High School and Noblesville West Middle School will both be holding student hiring fairs this May. Employers interested in participating can email the contacts below with questions or to register. For NHS, the job fair is scheduled for May 2 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. To register or ask questions, email: hireamiller@nobl.k12.in.us. At the Middle School, the fair is May 15 from 9:30 to 11:30 in the morning. For questions or to register: john_cooper@nobl.k12.in.us



Providing an affordable and positive baseball experience for all young men ages 13-18

The 2024 Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball Season begins April 8, 2024 and ends on June 18, 2024.

There will be two Leagues: 13-15 year old Competitive League and 16-18 year old Competitive League.

Both 13-15 League and 16-18 League will begin play on April 8, 2024. A double-elimination tournament will be played June 10-18, 2024. * Note: Dates subject to change due to weather or unforeseen circumstances.

Registration Fee: 2024 Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball registration fee is \$199 and includes team jersey, hat, and 2 tickets to the Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball League Pancake Breakfast/Picture Day scheduled for April 20, 2024 from 8am-11am at the Forest Park Inn.

Team/Player photos will be taken at the Pancake Breakfast - more information will be sent closer to the event date. Additional tickets for the League Pancake Breakfast will be available at the door for \$5 each.

Player Evaluations: 13-15 year old players new to Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball - or 13-15 year old players wishing to re-enter the team draft - need to attend the player evaluation session scheduled for March 9, 2024 from 2pm-4pm at Noblesville High School.

Register today at: noblesvillebaberuthbaseball.sportsengine-prelive.com

Sponsorships are still available, please reach out to nbrbcommunications@gmail.com for more info

Carmel Park Chief Honored

Michael Klitzing, Director/CEO of Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation, received the 2024 Richard Lawson Award for Professional Excellence from the Great Lakes Park Training Institute Board of Advisors. Since 1953, the Lawson Award has been presented annually to individuals who exemplify continued and significant contributions to the parks and recreation profession in the Great Lakes region. The GLPTI is an annual conference that brings together park professionals to explore trends, network, and recognize outstanding people and projects. It is operated by the GLPTI Board of Advisors and Indiana University faculty and staff at the Eppley Institute for Parks and Public Lands.



Photo courtesy Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation

Under Michael Klitzing, Carmel parks have been recognized as one of the best and most innovative park and recreation agencies in the nation.

“It is a tremendous honor to accept the Lawson Award,” Klitzing said. “I aspire to reach the incredible standards set by past recipients, many who served as my mentors in the field of parks and recreation.” Klitzing is a seasoned park and recreation professional with more than 25 years of experience in the field. Under Klitzing’s leadership, CCPR has become recognized as one of the best and most innovative park and recreation agencies in the nation, receiving the National Gold Medal for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2014 and 2020, the highest honor for a

municipal park and recreation agency. CCPR is nationally accredited, employs 650+ people, and serves 17 million visitors annually. CCPR has also received national, regional, and state awards for the design of its parks and facilities, outstanding programs, excellence in providing services to people with disabilities, and commitment to environmental stewardship. Klitzing is an active member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and served as the Conference Program Committee Chair and Local Host Committee Co-Chair for the association’s 2018

conference hosted in Indianapolis. That same year, Klitzing received NRPA’s National Distinguished Professional Award, presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the parks and recreation field through leadership, research, advocacy, community outreach and program development. In 2021, Klitzing was elected to the Board of Directors for the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration. In 2023, Klitzing was appointed to a three-year term on the Eppley Institute for Parks & Public Land’s National Advisory Board.

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