

**OUR GENERATION**

*with the Times*

**Melissa Shaw's interview  
with Alison Voss from  
American Family Insurance**

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miss a single interview!



**TODAY'S VERSE**

Jeremiah 33:3 "Call unto me,  
and I will answer thee, and  
shew thee great and mighty  
things, which thou knowest  
not." (KJV)

*Hamilton  
Happenings*

Be sure to mark your calendars for Friday and Saturday, May 31-June 1 for the Noblesville Lions Club's Grillin' on the Square! There'll be pork chops, chicken, dogs and more – all guaranteed to be mouth-watering delicious! On Friday, things get going at 11 a.m. and last until all bellies are full at 8 p.m. And then come back Saturday morning for breakfast, 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance for Friday and \$6 in advance for Saturday. Kids and hot dogs only are a bit cheaper, and tickets the day of are a bit higher. See any Noblesville Lion for advance ticket purchase!

*Three Things  
You Should Know*

**1** This alligator managed to survive, thanks to brumation –the ability for reptiles to slow down their bodily functions. The critter had been trapped in a drainage pipe in Hilton Head, SC for some six months. According to wildlife expert Matt Kraycar, brumation "is basically like hibernation for reptiles. So as it gets cooler, they're going to shut their body down. So by doing that, he doesn't really need to eat as much as he typically would during the summer, and I'm sure there were still fish and turtles coming through those pipes as well, so it didn't look like he was starving by any means."

**2** Golden Retrievers come in light golden, golden, and dark golden. But Shamrock, a newborn retriever belonging to Carole DeBruler, owner of Florida's Golden Treasures Kennel, came into this world wearing a rather attractive light green coat. The pup's coloration was the result of biliverdin, a green bile sometimes found in the wombs of mother dogs, according to the experts. And, they say, Shamrock's coat will eventually bear the standard yellow color of retrievers.

**3** She lost her wedding ring on Galveston Island, TX but Deysi Maldonado was lucky enough to have the Galveston Island Treasure Hunters Club come to the rescue. But, as it turned out, it wasn't the metal detectors that helped find her band of gold. It was a couple who accidentally came across the ring. Caleb Brignac and his girlfriend were digging in the sand, came across a fishing net that was partially buried and, as fate would have it, when they pulled it out of the sand out came the diamond ring.

The **TIMES**



**NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA**

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**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!

**As we slide into a new week, many are still basking in the glow of another Mother's Day. From the newest moms who are holding their babies tight to the ones who are enjoying the cute tributes the kiddos made at school to the ones who have children grown and gone . . . mothers everywhere were honored yesterday – and deservedly so. Before we put Mother's Day 2024 to rest, here's one last look at the numbers behind the day that honors the most important woman in our lives!**

**1908**

The year when Anna Jarvis created a day to honor mothers. Interestingly, she later denounced it. She said it had become too commercial. Wonder what she would think today!

**300 BC**

According to History.com, the ancient Greeks and Romans held festivals to honor mother goddesses. Those gave way and Christians in the United Kingdom and parts of Europe set aside the fourth Sunday in Lent to call the faithful back to their mother church. That morphed into children presenting their mothers with flowers and adorations and thus our modern tribute to moms was born.

**1914**

That's the year Mother's Day became an official U.S. Holiday!



**1968**

Coretta Scott King, the wife of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., used Mother's Day that year to march in support of underprivileged women and children.

**84 percent**

The number of U.S. adults who were expected to celebrate Mother's Day.

**\$33.5 billion**

Speaking of commercialization, that's how much money the National Retail Federation expected to be spent on mom.



**And finally #1**

The place in our hearts Mom holds!

**Daughter, 17, Votes, Exercises Civic Duty**



**BETSY REASON**  
Columnist

I was so thrilled to learn that my 17-year-old daughter had registered to vote. And she was preparing to go to her polling site to vote on



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Betsy Reason's 17-year-old daughter, Addie, votes in the Primary Election last Tuesday at her polling site in Noblesville.**

Election Day. Her high school government teacher this semester informed students that they could vote in the Primary Election as long as they turned 18 by the General or

Municipal Election.

Addie turns 18 later this month.

Being the child of a journalist, she is and has been more aware of elections and political candidates than most kids her age. She has followed me to my polling site many times ever since she was little.

Being that she often tags  
➔ See BETSY Page A4

**TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

If you snore loudly or appear to stop breathing while sleeping, you may have sleep apnea.

Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts.



**TODAY'S QUOTE**

"The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that little extra."  
Super Bowl Winning Coach Jimmy Johnson

**TODAY'S JOKE**

A man bought a dozen bees, but he got 13. When he asked why the seller said the 13th was a "free-bee!"

**OBITUARIES**

None

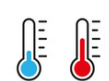
The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank **CARLA & GREGORY HORINE** for subscribing!



**The Daily Almanac**

**Sunrise/Sunset**

RISE: 6:30 am  
SET: 8:51 pm



**High/Low Temperatures**

HIGH: 78°F  
LOW: 60°F



**Today is...**

- Frog Jumping Day
- Top Gun Day



**What Happened On This Day**

- **1989** Thousands of students begin a hunger strike on Tiananmen Square in Beijing. The non-violent occupation of the square was part of anti-corruption and pro-democracy demonstrations. Some 3000 unarmed civilians were killed when the army cracked down on the protesters on June 3-4, 1989.
- **1940** Igor Sikorsky pilots his VS-300 helicopter's maiden flight. The helicopter was the first successful model to use the single vertical tail rotor that most helicopters feature today.



**Births On This Day**

- **1964** Stephen Colbert - American comedian, actor, talk show host
- **1850** Stevie Wonder American singer-songwriter, pianist, producer

**Deaths On This Day**

- **1975** Bob Wills American singer-songwriter
- **1832** Georges Cuvier -French biologist

## Superintendent Thanks Nurses For Their Service



**DR. ARROWOOD**  
Guest Columnist

Today is School Nurse Day, a part of a weeklong celebration of Nurse Appreciation Week. We are extremely fortunate to have a team of compassionate, committed, and highly skilled nurses serving our students and staff. Our school nurses are on the front lines every day providing comfort and care for students and staff while promoting health and wellness through information, outreach, prevention, and education, to name a few of their many responsibilities. Thank you for your tireless efforts, unwavering dedication, and compassionate service.

This is also Teacher Appreciation Week. Our teachers are the cornerstone of our organization and the driving force behind our students' achievements. Our educators, principals, instructional assistants, and support staff at Hamilton Heights continually go above and beyond the call of duty, in shaping our students' futures. We are extremely fortunate to have a district full of innovative, caring, passionate, and effective individuals who impact the lives of our students every day. I am in awe of

their dedication, expertise, and the love of learning they inspire in our classrooms. Thank you!

Speaking of teachers, Emily Beecher, HHMS Media Center Specialist, is a Top 10 finalist for the Classroom Quarterback Award and in the running for the Classroom Quarterback of the Year Award. Presented by the Indianapolis Colts and Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, the award recognizes teachers, administrators, nurses, and staff members who go above and beyond for their students, schools, and communities. Congratulations!

Hamilton Heights FFA was 1 of 7 FFA chapters chosen to participate in Indiana's first ever Make48 contest for FFA chapters, sponsored by Corteva. Quentin Derrer, Marshall Frye, and Lauren Happel participated in the contest over the weekend at the Fishers Maker Playground. Make48 is a 48-hour competition where teams are presented with a challenge and tasked to build a physical prototype, create a sales sheet, produce a 1-minute marketing video, and pitch their big idea to a panel of judges. Innovation and collaboration are key. No matter the outcome for the teams

participating, it's a win in terms of an incredible learning experience!

I want to give a shout out to Nate Press of E&B Paving, who took advantage of a perfect storm of opportunity on a current construction project taking place between E&B Paving and Irving Materials, Inc. (IMI). He hosted a group of HHHS CTE students for an interactive day of hands-on learning complete with a behind-the-scenes look at these two companies in action. Thank you for your partnership and support of our schools!

The end of the school year is exciting, but it can also create stress for some students and families. During Mental Health Awareness Month, we want to remind everyone that there are resources in the community that are available to help those struggling with mental health challenges.

Thank you for your continued commitment to our students every day and especially on those days that may be challenging. #WeAreHuskies

*Dr. Derek Arrowood is the Superintendent of the Hamilton Heights School Corporation. His columns appear periodically in The Times.*

## 11 From County Honored as National Merit Scholars

### Carmel High School

Yash S. Bhargava, Probable career field: Academia; Elena Ivanovna Budyak, Probable career field: Neuroscience; Kevin B. Hu, Probable career field: Applied Mathematics; Bolong Xia Huang, Probable career field: Computer Science; Melaina A. Munson, Probable career field: Medicine; Elizabeth J. Palmer, Probable career field: Computer Science; and Carson P. Szotek, Probable career field: Biology.

### Fishers

Nigel V. Cronin, Home School, Probable career field: Environmental Science; and Benjamin M. Samuelson, Fishers H.S., Probable career field: Computer Science.

### Noblesville

Samuel T. Weber, Guerin High School, Probable career field: Mechanical Engineering.

### Westfield

William S. Hessler, Probable career field: Physics.

When it came to recognizing winners in the National Merit Scholarships, Hamilton County stood tall. A total of 11 students were selected from a talent pool of more than 15,000 outstanding finalists. Those 11, Yash S. Bhargava, Elena Ivanovna Budyak, Kevin B. Hu, Bolong Xia Huang, Melaina A. Munson, Elizabeth J. Palmer, Carson P. Szotek, Nigel V. Cronin, Benjamin M. Samuelson, Samuel T. Weber and William S. Hessler are part of the honorees judged to have the strongest combination of accomplishments, skills, and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

These Scholars were selected by a committee of college admissions officers

and high school counselors, who appraised a substantial amount of information submitted by both the Finalists and their high schools: the academic record, including difficulty level of subjects studied and grades earned; scores from the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test; contributions and leadership in school and community activities; an essay written by the Finalist; and a recommendation written by a high school official. NMSC finances most of these single-payment National Merit \$2500 Scholarships. This year's National Merit Scholarship Program began in October 2022 when high school juniors took the PSAT/NMSQT, which served as an initial screen of

program entrants. Last fall, the highest-scoring participants in each state, representing less than one percent of the nation's high school seniors, were named Semifinalists on a state-representational basis. More than 16,000 Semifinalists had an opportunity to continue in the competition.

From the Semifinalist group, over 15,000 students met the very high academic standards and other requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition. By the conclusion of the 2024 program, more than 6,870 Finalists will have earned the "Merit Scholar" title and received a total of nearly \$26 million in college scholarships.

## Heights' Sophomore Earns Nancy Herndon Award of Excellence

Drew Hilton, a sophomore at Hamilton Heights, is the recipient of the 2024 Nancy Herndon Award of Excellence. This award, created by Herndon last year, is designed to recognize a student who shows excellence in dedication to school, community and the ideals of the Purdue Extension A Chance to Serve Program (ACTS).

Hilton was nominated by Carrie VanAlstine, a member of the Our Town Cicero Board which Drew has also served for the past year. Herndon, ACTS Emeritus, helps coordinate the ACTS programs in participating schools in Hamilton County.

"I am not surprised to hear that Drew won this award," said Lori Watson, HHHS Freshman Counselor. "He is always quick to volunteer and help in any capacity when I call on him at school. He has served on our Advisory Council, helped with tours and visits, and continues to be a leader in many areas. We are very proud of him here at Hamilton Heights."

"Drew is an excellent selection for this award," added Jarrod Mason, Principal. Hamilton Heights High School. "His involvement with ACTS has given him an avenue to use his talents for our community. We are proud of him and know he has great things ahead of him!"

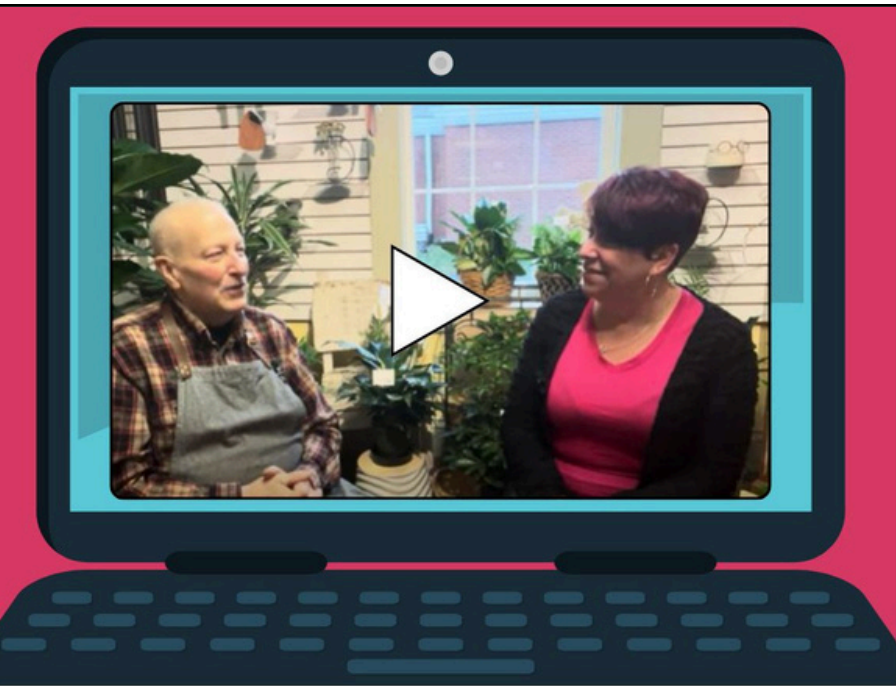
"The ACTS program is a wonderful collaboration between the Purdue Extension Hamilton County and local schools that give several members of our freshmen class a chance to meet and learn from great leaders in our community while interacting with student leaders from other schools," said Superintendent Dr. Derek Arrowood, Hamilton Heights School Corporation. "My favorite session is led by Hamilton County Historian David Heighway and involves a bus tour of North Central Hamilton County. I learn something new every time I get to participate in this session, and I know the students really enjoy it." This leadership



Photo courtesy Hamilton Heights Schools

**Hilton is pictured with Nancy Herndon at the Winter ACTS Graduation Banquet at the Hamilton County Fairgrounds.**

program, created in 1999, and sponsored by the Purdue Extension/Hamilton County, offers freshman the opportunity to participate in five, day-long training sessions their first semester of high school. Graduates then get to apply those skills coupled with real-time learning experiences by serving as a member of a local board for one year. The ACTS Youth Leadership Program involves over 60 students per year from schools throughout Hamilton County.



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with Steve from  
Adrienes Flowers & Gifts**

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### Letter to the editor - Why Was Recycling Closed on Election Day?

Dear Editor:

I read with interest your first article under your "Three Things You Should Know" in your May 6th issue speaking about offering grant money for the purpose of extending recycling efforts in our community. Hamilton County, and its local cities and towns must do more to help with recycling. I am speaking for families who do not have trash and recycling pick up.

go to recycle and driving from the Sheridan area is quite the distance especially dodging the road closures. Sheridan and Westfield schools used to offer this convenience along with the library in Westfield. These closer choices no longer exist.

The recycling area hours are not convenient losing four hours on Saturday and being closed on Monday. I mentioned this to two guys as to why they were not open on Mondays and they said we are open on Saturdays. I reminded them they could rotate the workers or, pun intended, to recycle their workers to work on Mondays. One guy did not like my suggestion.

I have always supported our county recycling center but as a taxpayer financially supporting this I expect the center to be there when county residents need it. Be open on Mondays and have a full day on Saturday to be available for Hamilton County residents.

On Election Day I drove to the Hamilton County Hazardous Waste area on Pleasant Street to recycle newspapers and the gates were closed with a sign using the excuse that it was Election Day. I do not understand why these gates were closed as every mechanical dumpster works on its own with no human Hamilton County employee needed. Two cars were behind me and when I left with my papers still in my car I noticed a car turning in from the East. Other Hamilton County residents had the same idea that the center should be open.

The Hamilton County Hazardous Waste area is the only place I can

Mari Briggs  
Sheridan

## Noblesville Lions Honor George Kristo



Photo courtesy Noblesville Lions

Lion Gene Beck, George Kristo and Lion VP Jeff Kozicki

**On May 8th the Noblesville Lions Club recognized George Kristo for his support of Lions Club. The club awarded him a W. T. Woods Fellowship through the Lions International Foundation. The name George Kristo should be well-recognized around Noblesville for his support of the many causes in the city and county area. The club deeply thanks George for his support.**

## Westfield's Memorial Day Ceremony - May 23rd

The community is invited to join the City of Westfield for a Memorial Day remembrance ceremony for those who have given their lives for our country. The ceremony will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 23 at the Fallen Hoosier Heroes Memorial at 401 N. Union Street.

"Memorial Day honors the courageous men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country," said Westfield Mayor Scott Willis. "We are forever grateful for their selfless sacrifices and the sacrifices of their families. We hope that you are able to join us to pay respects to

those we have lost."

Those interested in attending in person should arrive before the start of the program.

The ceremony will be emceed by Lisa Wilken, Air Force Veteran and Board member, Indiana Veteran Support Council and will feature a number of distinguished speakers, including Mayor Willis.

Parking is available at Christ United Methodist Church, located at 318 N Union Street, and will serve as a rain location in the event of inclement weather. There will be shuttle service available for those that need assistance.

## Library Board Selects New Director

The Hamilton East Public Library Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that Melissa Loiselle was appointed Library Director of HEPL by a unanimous vote at the May 8 meeting.



Melissa Loiselle

Starting in January of this year, HEPL's Board of Trustees began evaluating and interviewing candidates, with the aim of choosing our next Library Director, along with Organizational Architecture, a well-regarded executive recruitment and consulting firm. The Board of Trustees held an executive session on May 8th at 5:30pm and a public meeting followed at 7:00pm to provide updates to the search.

With an extensive background in libraries and education, Melissa brings a wealth of expertise and leadership to the HEPL team.

In Melissa's new role, she will oversee the executive administration of the library, working closely with the HEPL Board of Trustees and Leadership Team to drive innovation, discovery, equity, and access within our growing community. Her strategic vision and proven track record in libraries make her the ideal candidate to lead HEPL into the future.

"After the Board of Trustees' director search and selection process, I am confident that Melissa is the right person to lead HEPL into its next chapter. The Board of Trustees looks forward to

working with Melissa to achieve HEPL's strategic priorities," says HEPL Board of Trustees President, Craig Siebe.

Melissa holds a Master of Library Science from Indiana University and has 14 years of experience in the library field. Previously, Melissa was the Youth Services Manager of the Fishers Library before moving on to become the director of the Vernon Township Public Library. She rejoined HEPL as a Deputy Director in November 2023.

"As a longtime resident of Fishers, it is an honor to serve my community once again. I will work hard to ensure the Library exceeds the expectations of the people of Fishers and Noblesville," says Melissa Loiselle.

Melissa officially assumed the role on May 8, 2024, and she will report directly to HEPL's Board of Trustees. Please join us in welcoming Melissa to the HEPL team!

For media inquiries or interviews with Melissa Loiselle, please contact Kelsey Sweet at sweetk@hamiltoneastpl.org. We look forward to this next chapter in the life of Hamilton East Public Library.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Hamilton County Redevelopment Commission (the "Commission"), acting pursuant to IC 5-23, et seq. (the "Act"), will hold a public hearing at 8:30 AM, local time, on May 21, 2024, in the Commissioners Courtroom, Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 11 Hamilton County Square, Suite 157, Noblesville, IN 46060, concerning a recommendation to the Commission to award a public-private agreement for the development, construction, financing, operation, and/or transfer of a public safety training facility (the "Facility"), in accordance with the Act. Pursuant to the Act, the Commission requested proposals and qualifications for the development and delivery of the Facility. After review and analysis of proposals received, a recommendation has been made to the Commission to award the public-private agreement to Meyer-Najem Construction (the "Developer"). Copies of the proposals and a written explanation of the basis upon which the recommendation is being made can be viewed at the offices of the Hamilton County Auditor during normal business hours. The Commission's office is at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, and it can be contacted by phone at 317-460-3390. This notice of public hearing is required by Indiana Code 5-23-5-9. The public is invited to comment on any of the matters herein noted, and all taxpayers, residents or interested parties who appear will be given a reasonable opportunity to express their views on the recommendation.

Dated this 7th day of May, 2024.

TL21487 5/13 It hspajlp

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HOSTED BY MELISSA SHAW

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**Noblesville Lions Club Grillin' on the Square Under the Big Tent**

**Friday, May 31, 2024**  
Lunch/Dinner  
11:00 AM til 8:00 PM  
\$15 Advance \$16 At the Door \$8 Hotdog

**Saturday, June 1, 2024**  
Breakfast  
7:00 AM til 11:00 AM  
\$6 Advance \$7 At the Door \$5 Kids

Advance tickets available from any Lion

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## Waiting for Estefan



**CARRIE CLASSON**  
The Postscript

I ordered the sofa cover as soon as we adopted our new cat, Felix. The sofa in the little apartment my husband, Peter, and I rent in Mexico has seen better days, but we didn't want to be responsible for ushering it into an early retirement due to cat scratches. So I bought a beautiful turquoise handloomed bedspread from a woman across the street to use as a throw. And the job would have been done right then and there if I'd kept my mouth shut.

Instead, I asked the woman if she knew anyone who could hem the cover to the appropriate size, and she said she had just the man for me. Her husband told me to follow him down the street, and we stopped at a tiny grocery store and met Estefan.

Estefan is an older gentleman with a broad smile, and he was sitting at a sewing machine improbably parked in a tiny spot behind the beverage cooler. Estefan said he would be delighted to sew a sofa cover for us. He came to look at the sofa. He borrowed a tape measure from Peter, and he wrote a lot of numbers down on a pad of paper. Then he left with Peter's pen in his pocket.

A couple of days later, Estefan returned. He needed more measurements. And he returned Peter's pen. At this point, the fabric had some cuts in it, but he measured some more and left. We didn't see him for a week.

"How is the sofa cover coming?" I asked one day as he was minding the store.

"I need more measurements," he told me in Spanish. I would have liked more details, but Estefan does not speak a word of English, and I know very few sewing terms in Spanish.

When Estefan returned, he brought two pin cushions and the cover, which now had some stitching on it. Then he began to pull out

stitches and pin pieces together. I honestly could not tell what he was doing, but there were obviously some problems. Then he was gone for a long time.

"Is the sofa cover ready?" I asked.

"It is a very big job," he told me.

Two weeks went by, and I saw him on the street.

"How is the sofa cover?" I asked.

"Oh, good, good!"

In the meantime, we learned that Felix had no interest in scratching the sofa and, more surprisingly, he didn't mind having his nails trimmed with the fancy clipper I had ordered while we were waiting for Estefan.

A month passed.

"How's the sofa cover?" I asked every time I came into his store.

"It will be ready soon!"

More weeks passed, and Estefan came a couple more times. Each time, he brought the fabric and took more measurements.

"We will never see that sofa cover," Peter predicted.

Then I got sick. One day, I felt so bad I stayed in bed, and I heard Peter talking to someone at the door. When I got up, I saw we had the sofa cover—almost two months exactly from when we ordered it. Estefan had run out of fabric for the back and sewed on some gray-and-red plaid, which showed a little. It is quirky, like the rest of the apartment, and I love it.

"You were sick!" Estefan said when I was well enough to make it back to his store. He sounded very concerned.

"I am better now," I told him. "And the sofa cover is fabulous!"

Estefan smiled. It was worth waiting for.

Till next time,  
Carrie

## Breaking Bad



**DICK WOLFSIE**  
Funny Bone

The Wolfsies belong to a wonderful congregation. The Heartland Universalist Unitarian Church is warm and welcoming. I wouldn't fix a thing.

More to the point, I can't fix a thing; yet, that's exactly what they asked me to do. Last week, there was a sign-up sheet posted for some opportunities to spiff up different aspects of the building. My wife and I wanted to help, but while jotting down our names on a sign-up sheet to help in the garden, the new head of the building committee approached me looking for some additional help with some needed repairs.

"Say, Dick, can you help us replace a broken window?"

"Sorry, I don't have a clue how to do that."

"Any experience with electricity?"

"Bulbs. I can change bulbs."

"How about plumbing? Can you assist with that?"

"I don't have a prayer."

I had to be careful. I used to belong to a temple back in New York. Jewish people have a blessing for everything and I didn't want to find out that I did have a prayer for plumbing.

"How about just cleaning?" he asked.

My wife was on my side with this one. "He doesn't even know how to do that at home," she volunteered. Mary Ellen loves to volunteer. What a trouper.

Why is repairing things so difficult for me? Growing up, everyone in my family was more adept at this kind of stuff. My father, for

example, could fix anything. He'd go downstairs to his workshop with a broken vase or an electric can opener on the fritz and an hour later emerge from the basement to flaunt his success. How about some credit for me? Where would Dad have attained all that experience if I hadn't busted this stuff to begin with?

My mother was also skillful at repairing things. After all, she fixed dinner every night for 30 years. My brother was always in some kind of a fix. My uncle back in New York was accused of fixing an election for city councilman. And my sister? Well, she spent most of her free time fixing up her friends. Even our dogs were fixed. Fixing is in the Wolfsie blood. Everyone had some kind of repair skill but me. That's a tough fix to be in.

I used to have a great handyman. He installed our ceiling fan, rescreened the porch and patched up the leak in our roof. He charged \$50.00 an hour. "Unless you help me," he'd say, "then it's \$65.00." Now that he's gone, my wife's favorite expression is, "You need to call somebody." So I call the plumber, the electrician, the roofer, the computer repairman. Yes, I can't fix a darn thing, so I pay these guys at least 100 bucks an hour.

Here's a word of warning. If you are like me and can't fix anything, you will end up broke.

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

## ↓ BETSY

From Page A1



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

**Betsy Reason's 17-year-old daughter, Addie, proudly wore her "I voted" American flag sticker given out at the polling site after voting. A state allow allows 17-year-olds to vote in the Primary if they turn 18 by the General Election.**

along wherever I go, she has met politicians that include former and current mayors, state representatives, senators, the governor, commissioners, county and city councilors, state delegates, precinct committee persons, and various political candidates, many who know her by name when they see her out and about.

She has been a page at the Statehouse twice. She has helped her dad campaign for political offices.

Addie knows or is aware of most of the players.

Preparing for Election Day, she looked up her sample ballot online to familiarize herself with all the candidates and did her research.

Addie didn't want to early vote or by absentee paper ballot but instead wanted her first time voting to be on Election Day at her own polling site. Two days before Election Day, we talked about voting and asked her to go through the sample ballot again and write her picks in a notebook to take with her so that when she got to the polling site, she wouldn't forget or be unsure, with so many names on the ballot.

We went to the polling site together after school so we could vote at the same time. I think some of the poll workers might've been surprised to see a 17-year-old come in to vote. Addie showed her driver's license, and poll workers found her name on the registered voters list.

"They saw my birthdate, and they didn't know how to receive it, so I think I was the first one at that polling location that had been 17 ... I think they were a little surprised," my daughter told me.

Addie fielded more questions from others later in the day.

She credits her government teacher "Mr. Gunderson," for registering to vote.

"Basically, he brought it up in class, telling us to register," she said. A link to register to vote was easily accessible on a page in students'

Canvas, a web-based learning management Addie said, "I don't know how many people knew that they could vote in the primary when they were 17."

Hamilton County Election Administrator Beth Sheller said she doesn't know how many 17-year-olds are registered or took advantage of voting on Tuesday.

But she elaborated on the law. "State law allows a 17-year-old, who is eligible to vote in a Primary, to be able to nominate candidates for the November ballot and also to vote for political offices of precinct committeeman and state convention delegates.

Sheller said there is an exclusion for a 17-year-old voter when voting in the primary. "They cannot vote for a 'Public Question.' So, if we had a public question in a Primary Election, then we would have a separate ballot for 17-year-olds that excluded that question. (There was not a public question on the recent Primary ballot.) The reason is that these contests are not a nomination to put something on the ballot in the fall, but instead are actually deciding on the question."

Addie said some of her friends at school didn't know of the law. "I think it's a very low number (of 17-year-old voters), because I don't think a lot of people even know in the State of Indiana that it is a law," she said. Sheller was glad to hear that Addie voted. "It's a great thing to get out there so that more young people will be encouraged to vote," Sheller said.

Addie, who proudly wore her "I voted" American flag sticker given out at the polling site after voting, said, "It is a really cool opportunity to get to exercise your civic duty for your county and your state."

—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).

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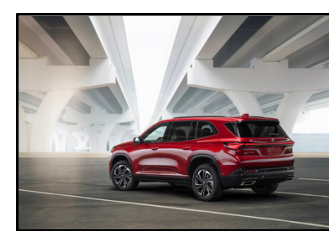
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The Times



# Indiana-Built 2024 Lexus TX, 2025 Buick Enclave are the Three-Row Crossovers Their Luxury Brands Need



Photos courtesy of Lexus

Photos courtesy of Buick

**CASEY WILLIAMS**  
Auto Reviews

Lexus was one of the first luxury automakers to introduce a crossover when it launched the stylish RX in the late 1990s. Through multiple generations, the RX has become an anchor of the brand. But Lexus never had a proper three-row crossover, essential for attracting upscale families and retirees. It needed a luxury version of the venerable Toyota Highlander, and for 2024, it gets exactly that.

### Long and Tall

Styling is a blend of Highlander and Lexus. The long and tall proportions are shared with the Highlander, which also shares its Princeton, Indiana assembly plant and platform, but details identify the TX as a Lexus. The brand's "spindle grille" is present, but more muted with body color slats and accented by sparkling LED headlamps under swoosh driving lights. The side view is highlighted by crisp body creasing, 20" wheels, and floating roof with chrome flourishes. Around back, check thin taillamps and LEXUS spelled across its foot-operated power rump.

If you've been in recent Toyota and Lexus models, the TX will feel like home. Flatscreen gauges and an intuitive 12.3" touchscreen convey information while devices connect wirelessly through Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, and console charging. It's pretty luxurious, too, with heated/ventilated front seats, heated/ventilated rear captain's chairs, and a heated steering wheel. Actual adults fit in the third-row. My daughter and I thoroughly enjoyed the Mark Levinson audio system and panoramic moonroof as we sang the Wonka soundtrack on the way to Grandma's. The flip-wrist gear selector was a pain at the carwash, but the TX is a welcoming space in which to travel.

Typical for Toyota and Lexus, Safety checks all the boxes for automatic emergency braking, blind spot warning, front/rear cross path detection, and lane keep assist. Add to that lane tracing and safe exit assist that prevents passengers from stepping into traffic. Go forth with confidence all you consider family will arrive safely.

### Plug or Not

You can get the TX as a hybrid or plug-in hybrid, but ours saunters forth with the base 2.4-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine that delivers 275 horsepower and 317 lb.-ft. of torque – enough to pull up to 5,000 lbs. of boat, RV, or classic car. Front-drive is standard, along with an 8-speed automatic transmission, but ours stepped up with all-wheel-drive for those snowy frozen mornings (or muddy path to the weekend cabin). Even without a hybrid system, the TX delivers a responsible 20/26-MPG city/highway.

I used the TX as would many of you. I carried my family on a long Interstate drive to visit relatives, picked up my daughter at school, dropped her at piano lesson, and drove through city traffic to get to the office. We collected groceries, picked up yard supplies, and took a nice Sunday drive in the country. The four-wheel independent suspension feels much like it would in a giant Toyota Camry, but it rumbled over rough pavement, rode comfortably, and handled itself with grace. That said, you never forget it's a big rig, designed more for carrying families than making haste in the

twisties.

Why it took decades for the inventor of luxury crossovers to hit the heart of the family travel is mysterious, but by sharing all Toyota learned from the Highlander while applying luxury and style demanded by Lexus customers, the TX350 mostly hits its mark. A base price of \$55,050 - \$69,044 as-tested – puts the TX against the Lincoln Aviator, Cadillac XT6, Acura MDX, Hyundai Palisade, Jeep Grand Cherokee L, and redesigned 2025 Buick Enclave.

### Preview – 2025 Buick Enclave

Buick has a long history of offering world-class, stylish and powerful flagship luxury models, and since XXX, that's extended to the three-row Enclave crossover. GM's near-luxury brand has big changes in store as it heads into its third generation.

In truth, this longer, wider, and taller Escalade is not completely new, but it sure looks it. Cribbing design cues from the smaller Encore and Envista crossover, the Enclave adopts their gaping grille, signature winged lighting, LED headlamps, and cross-car LED taillamps. It's decidedly sportier. Avenir models add walk-up lighting animation

and 22-inch wheels. Artful expressions of the red, white, & blue Buick family crest adorn both ends.

Interiors are dominated by a 30-inch-diagonal display screen that wraps from the instrument cluster to infotainment screen.

Artfully rendered, it provides access to the available 16-speaker Bose Audio system and devices connected through wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto. Going beyond the usual, front seats offer heat, ventilation, and massagers on Avenir trim.

The Enclave is the first Buick with GM's hands-off Super Cruise system that can be used on approved roads (mostly divided highways). And,

it will ride those roads with authority given a 2.5-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine delivering 328 horsepower and 326 lb.-ft. of torque. Tow up to 5,000 lbs. All-wheel-drive and an adaptive suspension system are available. Safety systems include blind zone steering assist, automatic emergency braking, and lane keep assist.

Sales begin later this summer with production coming from GM's crossover plant in Lansing, Michigan. Expect prices to start around \$45,000.

### Storm Forward!

Send comments to Casey at [AutoCasey@aol.com](mailto:AutoCasey@aol.com); follow him on YouTube @AutoCasey.

**2024 Lexus TX350 Luxury**  
Seven-passenger, AWD Crossover  
Powertrain: 2.4-liter T4, 8-spd trans  
Output: 275hp/317 lb.-ft. torque  
Suspension f/r: Ind/Ind  
Wheels f/r: 20"/20" alloy  
Brakes f/r: disc/disc  
Towing: 5,000 lbs.  
Fuel economy: 20/26 mpg city/hwy  
Assembly: Princeton, IN  
Base/As-tested price: \$55,050/69,044

Likes	Dislikes
· Roomy interior	· Analog suspension
· Mark Levinson audio	· Gear selector
· Turbo power	· Frumpy proportions

The Times

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# Finkam Calls for Support for Food Donations

Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam has taken a significant step in the fight against childhood hunger by joining the Mayors Alliance to End Childhood Hunger. In conjunction with this commitment, the mayor announced a contribution of \$5,000 from Elevate Carmel to the Merciful HELP Center in Carmel to support their summer meals program.

Launched in 2022, the Mayors Alliance to End Childhood Hunger is a non-partisan, nationwide coalition of mayors dedicated to eradicating hunger among children in their communities. By joining this alliance, Mayor Finkam is demonstrating a firm commitment to addressing food insecurity issues that affect children and families in Carmel and Hamilton County.

"I am proud to join the Mayors Alliance to End Childhood Hunger and the unacceptable reality of childhood hunger in our community," said Mayor Finkam. "No child should have to go to bed hungry, and by working together with other mayors and community organizations, like the Carmel Merciful HELP Center, we can make meaningful progress towards ending childhood hunger once and for all."

In addition to joining the alliance, Mayor Finkam advised Elevate Carmel to make a direct contribution of \$5,000 to the Merciful HELP Center. This donation will support the center's summer meals program, which provides nutritious meals to children who rely on school meals during the academic year. In addition, Mayor Finkam announced that she is partnering with Carmel PorchFest to solicit donations from attendees at Late Night on Main events. She will also challenge Carmel City employees to contribute as well.

To support the mayor and the community, local restaurateur Jeremiah Hamman also committed to matching the mayor's donation for the local nonprofit organization by raising funds through an upcoming wine/dinner event "Prime 47 and Prime Catering is proud to join the Mayor's Alliance to End

Childhood Hunger. During COVID, my wife Nessa and I learned just how many children are food insecure right here in our back yard. Being in the restaurant business, it would be irresponsible of us to not help serve these children in need," said Jeremiah Hamman, Founder/Managing Member of Prime 47. "We proudly offer an annual commitment working to end food insecurity in our Carmel schools and these children's lives."

The Merciful HELP Center is a vital resource for individuals and families in Carmel facing food insecurity and other challenges. In addition to providing meals, the center offers a range of support services, including feeding programs, providing clothing and shoes, furniture, housewares, back to school needs, vehicles, as well as social service referrals. "The Merciful HELP Center could not be more grateful for the efforts of Mayor Sue Finkam to raise awareness in our community regarding our Carmel Sumer Meals program! We are doing our best to alleviate childhood hunger in our very own city, all year long," said Jayne Slaton, Director - Registrar - Administrator Merciful HELP Center. "I am elated that Jeremiah Hamman of Prime 47 plans to match Elevate Carmel's generous donation as well. This is my 35th year serving in this community as the Director of the Merciful HELP Center and I have seen the need grow immensely over that time, but this is the first year that Carmel City leadership is really acknowledging the challenge before us. We must all join together and roll up our sleeves to keep childhood hunger at bay in our community." Mayor Finkam's participation in the Mayors Alliance to End Childhood Hunger and contribution to the Merciful HELP Center reflect Carmel's commitment to building a stronger, more resilient community where every child has the opportunity to thrive.

For more information about the Mayors Alliance to End Childhood Hunger, please visit <https://mayorshungeralliance.org/>.

# FOR THE RECORD

**THE NOBLESVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT PENSION BOARD**  
Executive Session  
Monday, May 13, 2024  
10 a.m. in the IAFF Local 4416 Hall at 399 South 14th Street in Noblesville. The Executive Session will be held pursuant to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(6) and (7), with respect to an individual over whom the governing body has jurisdiction and regarding records deemed confidential by law or classified as confidential by state or federal statute. A public meeting will follow the Executive Session, beginning approximately at 11:30 a.m.

**CARMEL POLICE MERIT BOARD**  
Merit Board Executive Meeting  
Agenda  
Carmel Police Merit Board  
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024  
TRAINING ROOM  
POLICE HEADQUARTERS/THREE CIVIC SQUARE  
4 p.m.  
NEW BUSINESS Receive Promotion Information  
Receive Hiring Information  
ADJOURNMENT

**CARMEL POLICE MERIT BOARD**  
Board MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024  
4:15 p.m. or Immediately Following the Executive Session (Whichever is Later)  
TRAINING ROOM  
POLICE HEADQUARTERS / THREE CIVIC SQUARE

**CARMEL SCHOOL BOARD**  
Monday, May 13, 2024  
6 p.m.  
Carmel Clay Schools  
Educational Services Center  
5201 East Main St., Carmel,  
1.1 Call to Order  
1.2 Roll Call  
1.3 Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag  
2.1 Young Artist Awards  
2.2 HiLite - Excellence in Journalism  
2.3 Pinnacle - Hoosier Star Finalist from the Indiana High School Press Association; First Class Rating from the National Scholastic Press Association  
2.4 CHTV - Intercollegiate Broadcast Systems Award and Indiana Association of School Broadcasters Award  
2.5 Best Faculty Advisor for Radio - Intercollegiate Broadcast Systems  
2.6 WHJE - Intercollegiate Broadcast Systems Award and Indiana Association of School Broadcasters Award  
3.1 Guidelines for Public Comment  
4.1 Approval of Consent Items  
4.2 Personnel Report  
4.3 Claims  
4.4 Payroll  
4.5 Approval of Gift Applications  
4.6 Minutes: Regular Session - April 15, 2024  
4.7 Minutes: Executive Session - April 16, 2024  
4.8 Minutes: Special Session - April 22, 2024  
4.9 Minutes: Executive Session - April 29, 2024  
5.1 Materials Adoption  
5.2 Change Orders - Carmel High School Greyhound Activity Center  
5.3 Change Orders - Carmel High School Natatorium Addition and Existing Natatorium Renovations  
5.4 Change Orders - West Clay Elementary Interior Renovations  
6.1 Monthly Financial Update  
6.2 Superintendent's Report  
7.1 Upcoming Meetings  
8.1 Adjourn Meeting

*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.*

**NOBLESVILLE SCHOOL CORPORATION**  
Executive Session Agenda Tuesday, May 14, 2024  
Noblesville Educational Services Center 18025 River Road, Noblesville, IN 46062 1:00 p.m. IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)  
Executive sessions may be held only in the following instances: \_\_\_ (1) Where authorized by federal or state statute. \_\_\_ (2) For discussion of strategy with respect to any of the following: \_\_\_ (A) Collective bargaining. \_\_\_ (B) Initiation of litigation that is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing. \_\_\_ (C) The implementation of security systems. \_\_\_ (D) The purchase or lease of real property by the governing body up to the time a contract or option to purchase or lease is executed by the parties. However, all such strategy discussions must be necessary for competitive or bargaining reasons and may not include competitive or bargaining adversaries. \_\_\_ (3) For discussion of the assessment, design, and implementation of school safety measures, plans, and systems. \_\_\_ (4) Interviews and negotiations with industrial or commercial prospects or agents of industrial or commercial prospects by the Indiana economic development corporation, the office of tourism development, the Indiana finance authority, the ports of Indiana, an economic development commission, the Indiana state department of agriculture, a local economic development organization (as defined in IC 5-28-11-2(3)), or a governing body of a political subdivision. \_\_\_ (5) To receive information about and interview prospective employees. \_\_\_ (6) With respect to any individual over whom the governing body has jurisdiction: \_\_\_ (A) To receive information concerning the individual's alleged misconduct; and \_\_\_ (B) To discuss, before a determination, the individual's status as an employee, a student, or an independent contractor who is: (i) a physician; or (ii) a school bus driver. \_\_\_ (7) For discussion of records classified as confidential by state or federal statute. \_\_\_ (8) To discuss before a placement decision an individual student's abilities, past performance, behavior, and needs. \_\_\_ (9) To discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees. This subdivision does not apply to a discussion of the salary, compensation, or benefits of employees during a budget process. \_\_\_ (10) When considering the appointment of a public official, to do the following: \_\_\_ (A) Develop a list of prospective appointees. \_\_\_ (B) Consider applications. \_\_\_ (C) Make one (1) initial exclusion of prospective appointees from further consideration. Notwithstanding IC 5-14-3-4(b)(12), a governing body may release and shall make available for inspection and copying in accordance with IC 5-14-3-3 identifying information concerning prospective appointees not initially excluded from further consideration. An initial exclusion of prospective appointees from further consideration may not reduce the number of prospective appointees to fewer than three (3) unless there are fewer than three (3) prospective appointees. Interviews of prospective appointees must be conducted at a meeting that is open to the public. \_\_\_ (11) To train school board members with an outside consultant and the performance of the role of the members as public officials. \_\_\_ (12) To prepare or score examinations used in issuing licenses, certificates, permits, or registrations under IC 25. \_\_\_ (13) To discuss information and intelligence intended to prevent, mitigate, or respond to the threat of terrorism. \_\_\_ (14) To train members of a board of aviation commissioners appointed under IC 8-22-2 or members of an airport authority board appointed under IC 8-22-3 with an outside consultant about the performance of the role of the members as public officials. A board may hold not more than one (1) executive session per calendar year under this subdivision.

**AGENDA / WORK SESSION NOBLESVILLE SCHOOLS**  
18025 River Road Noblesville, Indiana Thursday, May 16, 2024 10:00 A.M. The items on this agenda are being addressed with the best interests of Noblesville Schools' students as the prime consideration.  
I. CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – MOMENT OF SILENCE II. TOUR OF NOBLESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL The Board will be taking a tour to review various facilities. Noblesville High School 18111 Cumberland Road Noblesville, Indiana 46060 III. TOUR OF NOBLESVILLE EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL The Board will be taking a tour to review various facilities. Noblesville East Middle School 1625 Field Drive Noblesville, Indiana 46060 IV. PUBLIC COMMENT The purpose of this comment period is to allow the public an opportunity to share input with the Board about current agenda topics, pursuant to Policy H225, Public Comments and Concerns. V. ADJOURNMENT The school board president asks for a motion to adjourn.



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