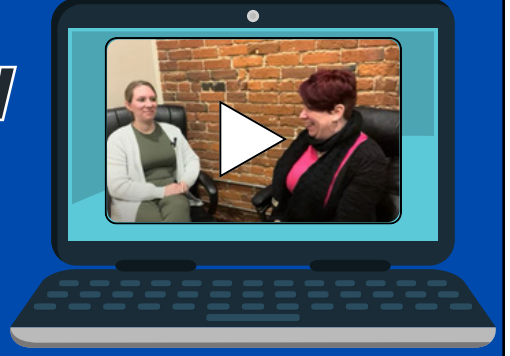


# OUR GENERATION

with the Times

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

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## TODAY'S VERSE

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

## Hamilton Happenings

Drivers on Allisonville Road may have trouble believing this, but the Hamilton County Highway Department advises that we can expect more frequent short duration intermittent stoppages along 146th Street. This is so the contractor can place asphalt material within the center work area. Please watch for flaggers within the construction zone and use extreme caution – and patience!

## Three Things You Should Know

**1** 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!

**2** The 2024 Chevrolet Corvette E-Ray 3LZ coupe – the quickest production Corvette in history – will lead the field to the green flag for the 108th Indianapolis 500 on May 26 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway. The Corvette E-Ray is the only sports car pairing two separate propulsion systems to provide naturally aspirated V-8 power with electrified responsiveness powered by eAWD, making it one like none. Arctic white exterior paint and two-tone jet black and natural interior accents, inspired by fighter jets, pair nicely with the Indianapolis 500 logos on the Pace Car

**3** Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita is co-leading a 25-state lawsuit that seeks to overturn an invasive new EPA rule that threatens the reliability of our power grid and will jack up utility costs for regular, everyday Hoosiers. "Hardworking Hoosiers and businesses depend on reliable energy at affordable prices," Rokita said. "They understand these draconian measures are chasing unrealistic goals and will do nothing to actually improve our already good air quality. They also know the importance of protecting the authority of state and local government against power-hungry unelected federal bureaucrats. This lawsuit is all about standing up for Hoosiers on all these counts."

# The TIMES



NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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## Boomer Bits

### Ask Rusty – Retirement Stymied by Social Security Rules



ASK Rusty Social Security Advisor

#### Social Security Matters

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

**Dear Rusty:**  
My wife passed away 4 years ago. I want to retire so called SSA and was told I can collect my own SS at 62, reduced by WEP. My wife's SS was greater than mine, but they said I do not qualify for hers at age 60 because of the GPO. This seems odd that I get zero for her, however I can collect mine at the two thirds reduction at 62. Is this true? This zero dollar amount places my retirement on hold for now. I was counting on her SS.

**Signed: Discouraged Widower**

**Dear Discouraged:**  
The Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) are two of the most confusing (and unpopular) of Social Security's myriad rules. From the way you describe your conversation with the Social Security

Administration, it doesn't appear to have concluded with you fully understanding how these provisions work, so allow me to elaborate.

WEP and GPO affect anyone who has a retirement pension from a federal, state, or local government agency which did not participate in Social Security, meaning neither the employee nor the employer paid into Social Security based on the employee's earnings. Obviously, you have such a pension, which means that WEP will reduce any Social Security retirement benefit you have earned from other employment where SS payroll taxes were withheld, and the GPO will affect any survivor benefit you are entitled to.

WEP affects only the SS

➔ See RUSTY Page A5

### What You Need to Know About Cholesterol

(Family Features) Understanding and improving cholesterol is important for people of all ages, including children and teens. Maintaining healthy cholesterol levels can help keep your heart healthy and lower your chances of getting heart disease or having a stroke.

➔ See KNOW Page A4

### 4 Tips to Get High Cholesterol Under Control

(Family Features) Heart disease is the nation's leading cause of death for men and women, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, but many people aren't aware they may be at elevated risk. More than 71 million adults in the United States have high low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol and nearly 50 million don't have it under control, which puts them at higher risk for cardiovascular events, such as heart attack and stroke.

What's more, nearly one-third (31%) of U.S. adults are

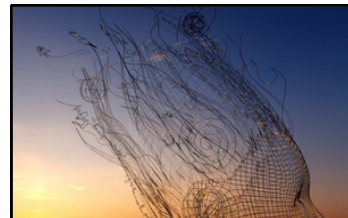
➔ See CONTROL Page A5

## CHS Students Lead Way on Art Project

In a first-of-its-kind collaboration, Carmel High School students are playing key roles in the design of the Carmel Redevelopment Commission's latest art acquisition, which will be on bold display within steps of the school.

Announced in December, Channels of Connection in Carmel, an illuminated sculpture, will be

positioned at the roundabout at Main Street and Lexington Boulevard. The dynamic piece features steel wires shaped into the head and neck of a student looking to the sky, hair blowing in the breeze. Designed by artist Casto Solano, who has work displayed in multiple U.S. and European cities, the artistic structure is slated for installation in the



summer of 2025.

In the meantime, CHS students are actively taking part in the look of the final

➔ See CHS Page A5

### Peony Fest, Plant Sale, Recycled Cycles, Bingo, Heritage Breeds, More



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

Workers prepare Wednesday for this weekend's Indiana Peony Festival at Seminary Park in Noblesville.



BETSY REASON Columnist

Celebrate the Indiana Peony Festival in downtown Noblesville, shop for bedding plants and perennials at Hamilton County Master Gardeners' annual Plant Sale in

Noblesville, find a refurbished bicycle at Recycled Cycles' annual sale, celebrate Heritage Breeds all weekend at Conner Prairie, test your luck at Tri Kappa sorority's Charity Bingo Night at the Moose Lodge, get a better night's sleep and support Noblesville High School Music Programs at the annual Mattress Fundraiser, and hear Noblesville First United Methodist Church's new pipe organ during its dedication for the community. Read more about happenings in The Times' list of 25 things to do this weekend and beyond:

1. Celebrate the Indiana Peony Festival by attending events in downtown Noblesville today and Saturday. The third annual 21-and-older Peonies in the Park fundraising event, sponsored by Church Church Hittle + Antrim attorneys at law, (\$150 tickets required) is 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. today at Seminary Park. The Indiana Peony Festival, presented by Smith's Jewelers, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday features more than 100 vendors offering adult beverages, apparel, art, florals, food and drink, jewelry, kids items and more. Enjoy a Brunch & Blooms brunch, sponsored by Godby Home Furnishings, and retail crawl 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday with free admission to the public. Festival shuttles are offered to and from Stony Creek Elementary, Firestone lot and Ivy Tech.

2. Laugh with comedian DJ Dangler tonight and Saturday night at The Brick Room Comedy Club on Maple Avenue and Ninth Street in downtown Noblesville. Visit thebrickroom.cc for tickets

3. Enjoy live music with Sean Moore tonight, Rhino Down on June 1, Sam King on June 22 at Primeval Brewing Co., in downtown Noblesville; Molter Brothers tonight, Ethan Olvey on Saturday, Steve Fulton on May 24, Strawberry Music Festival

➔ See BETSY Page A6

## TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Kids need a minimum of 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity daily.

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



## OBITUARIES

None

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



## TODAY'S QUOTE

"When one flower blooms, spring awakens."  
John O'Donohue

## TODAY'S JOKE

Why did the superhero flush the toilet?  
Because it was his doody

# Council Rep Accounts for April Efforts



**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 will 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.

The primary election season just ended and campaign signs, television, radio, newspaper advertisements, email and texts inundated us for what felt like months on end. Personally, I don't remember a primary election with more mailers than this one. I am grateful to just be doing the work and not have to campaign at the same time.

In addition to council and RDC meetings, April's work included Finance and Personnel committee meetings. Many hours were invested researching and evaluating the Regional Development Commissions public safety training center project, upcoming County Council projects, bond financing, county debt and the impact of pledging county certified shares for projects. April's personnel committee meeting dealt with several normal requests. Items included requests from the Sheriff and Auditor for position

reclassifications and combining two positions into one. In other business, a position within Buildings and Grounds was reclassified as was one position within Human Resources. These changes were based on a thorough review internally and an outside review by the county's independent benefits and compensation vendor. Lastly, authorization to hire a new leader for the Weights and Measures department was approved.

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 met and worked through detailed examinations of the county income, cash reserves, expected 2025 assessed values, and an initial look at expected 2025 expenses. The challenge ahead will continue to be balancing operating expenses with the cost of upcoming projects all while keeping our reserves strong and the tax rate one of the lowest in the state.

The Regional Development Commission met to review proposals received from vendors seeking to build the new Police and Fire Training Center. Serving as a member of the approval committee, we narrowed the proposals to two finalists and set a time to meet in person for vendor interviews.

In speaking with city elected officials we need to provide them with an initial operating expense budget for the training center by the end of July to allow them time to have budget allocations made for 2025 training center operating expenses. In addition to the County Council public meetings, April work included attending a Council caucus session, a Regional Development Commission meeting, watching a Board of

Commissioners public meeting, attending a Noblesville City Council meeting, and attending a Cicero Town council meeting.

This month there were three constituents service requests. Usually, requests require research with a county department, securing the correct answer and then following up with the taxpayer. April's first question was regarding Veterans benefits. Next, questions regarding property taxes, assessments, and deductions. Lastly, questions regarding a property tax credit in St. Joseph County.

A constituent needed assistance in securing their spouses veteran's disability benefits. The resolution was to connect them with the right folks in the county's Veteran's Service Office. One of the most frequent questions I get is "why are my property taxes what they are?". The question is often accompanied by a couple of adjectives. The resolution is almost always the same process. Have you appealed your assessment? Did you know that you can appeal it? Next, have you received all the deductions that you qualify for? In this case, meeting with members of the Assessors and Auditors team was the resolution to their question.

I showed the constituent that because they live in the Noblesville City tax district, forty-seven percent (47%) of their property tax bill goes directly to the schools, forty-one percent (41%) goes to City Government, ten percent (10%) to County Government and the remainder to the Libraries and Solid Waste. The third request was regarding a property tax relief program implemented in St. Josephs County. The research reveals that St. Josephs County is the first county in Indiana to implement a County Option Tax Credit. Authorized by the State Legislature, a County can implement

a credit for up to three years. In this case, two options offer credits based on how long a resident has lived in the home along with age and income restrictions. It is designed to limit the property tax liability increase to two percent annually for up to three years.

This month, it was an honor to represent you at the third annual Sherriff's Chaplaincy Breakfast, and in meetings with Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen, Ivy Tech Chancellor Dr. Rachel Kartz and with Noblesville Public Safety Director Chad Knecht. This is my time sheet. This is where my time went during month sixteen. 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.

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**LIONS INTERNATIONAL**

**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**

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**BEFORE THE HAMILTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD IN THE MATTER OF Bellewood Drain, Glen Oaks Arm 4130 W. 131st Street NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given of the hearing of the Hamilton County Drainage Board concerning the reconstruction of the Bellewood Drain, Glen Oaks Arm, 4130 W. 131st Street on May 28, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. in Commissioners Court, Hamilton County Judicial Center, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, Indiana. Construction and maintenance reports of the Surveyor and the Schedule of Assessments proposed by the Drainage Board have been filed and are available for public inspection in the office of the Hamilton County Surveyor.

Hamilton County Drainage Board  
 Attest: Lynette Mosbaugh  
 TL21510 5/17 1t hspaxlp

**BEFORE THE HAMILTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD IN THE MATTER OF Elijah Jay Drainage Area NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given of the hearing of the Hamilton County Drainage Board on the Elijah Jay Drainage Area on May 28, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. in Commissioners Court, Hamilton County Judicial Center, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, Indiana, and which construction and maintenance reports of the Surveyor and the Schedule of Assessments made by the Drainage Board have been filed and are available for public inspection in the office of the Hamilton County Surveyor.

Hamilton County Drainage Board  
 Attest: Lynette Mosbaugh  
 TL21511 5/17 1t hspaxlp

**BEFORE THE HAMILTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD IN THE MATTER OF Tamenend Drain NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given of the hearing of the Hamilton County Drainage Board on the Tamenend Drain on May 28, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. in Commissioners Court, Hamilton County Judicial Center, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, Indiana, and which construction and maintenance reports of the Surveyor and the Schedule of Assessments made by the Drainage Board have been filed and are available for public inspection in the office of the Hamilton County Surveyor.

Hamilton County Drainage Board  
 Attest: Lynette Mosbaugh  
 TL21512 5/17 1t hspaxlp

**BEFORE THE HAMILTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD IN THE MATTER OF Masthead Drain, Carefree Estates Arm NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given of the hearing of the Hamilton County Drainage Board on the Masthead Drain, Carefree Estates Arm on May 28, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. in Commissioners Court, Hamilton County Judicial Center, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, Indiana, and which construction and maintenance reports of the Surveyor and the Schedule of Assessments made by the Drainage Board have been filed and are available for public inspection in the office of the Hamilton County Surveyor.

Hamilton County Drainage Board  
 Attest: Lynette Mosbaugh  
 TL21514 5/17 1t hspaxlp

**BEFORE THE HAMILTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD IN THE MATTER OF William Thomas Drain NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given of the hearing of the Hamilton County Drainage Board on the William Thomas Drain on May 28, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. in Commissioners Court, Hamilton County Judicial Center, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, Indiana, and which construction and maintenance reports of the Surveyor and the Schedule of Assessments made by the Drainage Board have been filed and are available for public inspection in the office of the Hamilton County Surveyor.

Hamilton County Drainage Board  
 Attest: Lynette Mosbaugh  
 TL21513 5/17 1t hspaxlp

**Don't forget to renew your subscription!**

## FOR THE RECORD

Notice is hereby given that the Committee on Reorganization for Adams Township and the Town of Sheridan will hold a public meeting at the Sheridan High School Auditorium, 24185 Hinesley Rd. in Sheridan. The meeting will take place Monday, May 20, 2024, at 6 p.m.

### HAMILTON COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION

AGENDA  
 BOARD MEETING  
 Osprey Pointe Pavilion  
 19777 Morse Park Lane  
 Noblesville, IN 46060  
 May 20th, 2024  
 \*\*\*5 p.m. Executive Session-Land, Litigation & Personnel \*\*\*  
 6 p.m. Board Meeting

1. Call to Order 6:00pm
2. Agenda Amendments
3. Public Comments
4. Approval of April 15th, 2024 Minutes

1. Finance Report
  - a. Approval Claims/Payroll/Transfers
2. Committee Reports
3. Friends Report
  - a. Conservatory Capital Campaign Assessment RFP
4. Old Business
  - a. SKP Tubing Hill
  - b. HC Farms Master Plan
  - c. Recreation Impact Fee Study
  - d. Project Updates
5. New Business
  - a. Prather Park Playground Bid Opening
  - b. Sponsorships-HCT Grant
  - c. Legacy Memorials
6. Director's Report
7. Deputy Director's Report
8. Additional Announcements

ADA Notice: Hamilton County, will upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so that they can participate equally in Hamilton County's public meetings. For special accommodations for a meeting contact the ADA Facilities Coordinator/Safety & Risk Manager at (317)-770-1976 or dan.papineau@hamiltoncounty.in.gov at least two (2) business days prior to the scheduled meeting or event to request an accommodation. Hamilton County Parks and Recreation is committed to accommodating all individuals with special needs. If assistance is required at any county park event, program, or facility, please contact the administrative office at (317)-770-4400.

*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.*

**We appreciate our readers!**

## County Shelter at Critical Capacity

As the checkered flag waves for the most anticipated race in Indianapolis, a different kind of event is gearing up at the Humane Society for Hamilton County. In light of the shelter continuing to operate at critical capacity, HSHC recently announced its Indy 500-themed adoption event: The Greatest Spectacle in Adoptions.

From now through May 31, HSHC will transform into a pet adoption speedway, complete with themed decorations and adoptable dogs ready to join new families. This high-octane adoption promotion promises something for everyone, from seasoned pet enthusiasts to first-time adopters. Potential adopters will have the opportunity to meet a variety of dogs, each one a potential champion in their own right.

"Recently, we experienced a day with 22 intakes and zero adoptions – so, we're revving up our efforts to find loving homes for our adoptable dogs," Lily Darling, Community Engagement Manager, said. "A canine capacity crisis has become our daily reality. Our hope is to witness a sea of potential adopters begin visiting our facility, and a steady

stream of overlooked dogs finally going home. Many of these dogs have given up, and dozens more are on the brink. We have done all we can, so the rest is truly up to our community to step up and adopt a dog and drive off with their new family members."

Dog adoption fees through May 31 will be just \$33 – one dollar for every driver in this year's Indy 500. Adoptions will include a free one-month supply of flea, tick, and heartworm preventatives (courtesy of Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health USA Inc.), free Kongs, and poop bags (while supplies last). Additionally, all adopted\* dogs will come spayed/neutered, microchipped, and up-to-date on vaccinations, ensuring a smooth ride into their new homes.

To adopt a dog during The Greatest Spectacle In Adoptions, complete an application online at [hamiltonhumane.com/adopt](http://hamiltonhumane.com/adopt).

Things to bring when adopting:

- All human and canine family members in the home
- Pet policy (if you rent)
- Government-issued ID

## Westfield Library Launched Summer Reading Program

Registration for the Westfield Washington Public Library Summer Reading Program is now open. The eight-week program officially starts on Saturday, June 1 – the same day as the grand-opening of the library's new building. All ages are encouraged to participate.

"We're inviting everyone to spend more time at our new library this summer," says Sara Perry, the Summer Reading Program Coordinator. "Come meet new friends, cool off while reading a book, or participate in one of our hands-on activities."

Summer programming will kick off on June 1 with Feller Express' three life-size dinosaurs and traditional Mexican dance by Fuego Nuevo USA Ballet Folklorica de Indiana. A host of animal programs and science experiments are also planned for later dates as well as visits from musician Jim Gill, storyteller Professor Watermelon, and magician Daniel Lusk.

And back by popular demand, the library will host the ever-popular Whalemobile, a 43-foot-long model of a humpback whale as well as three Foam Parties. Space is limited for all programs and registration is required. Event registration can

be found on the library's event page.

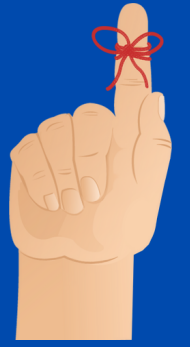
More than 3,000 Westfield residents – kids, teens, and adults – participated in last year's Summer Reading Program. They read a total of 2,875,881 minutes. This year's goal will be three million minutes.

"We hope to see everyone at the library this summer," says Sheryl Sollars, executive director of the Westfield Washington Public Library. "I think everyone will find a new favorite spot to sit and read in our new building. Plus, reading over the summer helps keep young minds sharp."

Registration for the Summer Reading Program can be found at <https://wwpl.beanstack.org>. Anyone who reads (or listens to) at least 40 hours between June 1 and July 31 will be entered into a drawing for the grand prize which includes an Adventures in Indiana gift basket with over \$350 in restaurant gift cards and family-friendly experiences. Prizes will also be distributed to participants throughout the program when they hit specific reading milestones. Special thanks to the Westfield Library Foundation and Friends of the Westfield Library for their financial support.

*Thank you for reading The Times!*

**Don't forget to renew your subscription!**



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**2301 E. Conner  
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## Ascension Gives Update on Cyber Attack

As most Hoosiers know, Ascension St. Vincent was hit with a ransomware cybersecurity attack. This week, an Ascension spokesperson released the following information. They also said that additional information can be found at <https://about.ascension.org/cyber-security-event>

### From Ascension:

All Ascension St. Vincent hospitals, physician offices, and care sites across Indiana remain open and operational. Despite the challenges posed by the recent ransomware incident, patient safety continues to be our utmost priority. Our dedicated doctors, nurses, and care teams are demonstrating incredible thoughtfulness and resilience as we use manual and paper-based systems during the ongoing disruption to normal systems.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate this unexpected situation. Rest assured, our commitment to the health and safety of our community remains our highest priority.

### Can I go to my doctor's appointment?

Ascension St. Vincent Medical Group doctor's offices and care sites are operating with normal business hours, and all scheduled appointments are proceeding as planned.

Due to the transition to manual systems for patient documentation, patients may encounter longer than usual wait times and some delays. To help with delays, patients should bring notes on symptoms and a list of current medications, including prescription numbers or bottles. In the event that appointments need to be rescheduled, an Ascension associate will contact patients directly.

### Can I get my prescription filled?

Ascension Rx retail pharmacies in Indiana cannot fill prescriptions at this time. Patients are being asked to bring their prescription list and prescription bottles to their appointment. We will work with patients to find an alternative pathway to get a fill at another pharmacy if ours is not an option. We apologize for the inconvenience.

### Are Ascension's urgent care centers open?

At this time, Ascension's urgent care centers are fully operating. Due to the transition to manual systems for patient documentation and care at certain centers, patients may encounter longer than usual wait times and some delays.

### Are Ascension's emergency rooms open?

All Ascension St. Vincent emergency rooms remain open and accepting walk-in patients. Certain hospitals are currently implementing a diversion process for ambulance services for specific medical cases to ensure they are triaged most effectively. Diversion is the practice of an ambulance potentially bypassing an Ascension location to another facility. It is a normal course of operation, a fluid practice, and is dependent on a number of factors, including case severity, service lines, and availability. We are in constant communication with Emergency Medical Services providers to ensure real-time updates on facility availability. If you are experiencing a medical emergency, please dial 911, and local emergency services will transport you to the most appropriate hospital emergency room.

### Can I still have my elective surgery?

Patients with upcoming scheduled elective surgeries should plan to arrive as planned unless otherwise notified. Should any rescheduling be necessary, a member of our care team will contact you directly. Due to the transition to manual systems for patient documentation, patients may encounter longer than usual wait times and some delays. To help with delays, patients should bring notes on symptoms and a list of current medications, including prescription numbers or bottles.

### Can I still have my non-elective surgery?

Patients with upcoming scheduled non-elective surgeries should plan to arrive as planned unless otherwise notified. Should any rescheduling be necessary, a member of our care team will contact you directly. Due to the transition to manual systems for patient documentation, patients may encounter longer than usual wait times and some delays. To help with delays, patients should bring notes on symptoms and a list of current medications, including prescription numbers or bottles.

### Will I be able to get my diagnostic imaging, other tests, and treatments?

Imaging, testing, and treatment are being offered at this time. Patients may experience delays, we are grateful for your patience. Should any rescheduling be necessary, a member of our care team will contact you directly.

## KNOW

From Page A1

High cholesterol usually has no symptoms. In fact, about 38% of adults in the United States are diagnosed with high cholesterol, according to the American Heart Association. Understanding what cholesterol is, the role it plays, when to get screened and how to manage it are important aspects of protecting your overall health and prevent a heart attack or stroke.

### Understanding Cholesterol

A waxy, fat-like substance created by the liver and consumed from meat, poultry and dairy products, cholesterol isn't inherently bad for you. In fact, your body needs it to build cells and make vitamins and other hormones. However, too much cholesterol circulating in the blood can pose a problem.

The two types of cholesterol are low-density lipoprotein (LDL), which is considered "bad," and high-density lipoprotein (HDL), which can be thought of as "good" cholesterol. Too much of the "bad" kind, or not enough of the "good," increases the risk of cholesterol slowly building up in the inner walls of the arteries that feed the heart and brain.

Cholesterol can join with other substances to form a thick, hard deposit on the inside of the arteries called plaque. This can narrow the arteries and make them less flexible – a condition known as atherosclerosis. If a blood clot forms, it may be more likely to get stuck in one of these narrowed arteries, resulting in a heart attack or stroke.

### Understanding Risk

Your body naturally produces all the LDL it needs. An unhealthy lifestyle can make your body produce more LDL than required. Behaviors that may negatively affect your cholesterol levels include lack of physical activity, obesity, eating an unhealthy diet and smoking or exposure to tobacco smoke.

In addition to unhealthy habits, which are the cause of high LDL cholesterol for most people, some people inherit genes from their parents or grandparents – called familial hypercholesterolemia (FH) – that cause them to have too much cholesterol and can lead to premature atherosclerotic heart

disease. If you have a family history of FH or problems related to high cholesterol, it's important to get your levels checked.

### Getting Cholesterol Checked

Adults age 20 and older should have their cholesterol and other traditional risk factors checked every 4-6 years as long as their risk remains low. After age 40, your health care professional will use an equation to calculate your 10-year risk of heart attack or stroke. People with cardiovascular disease, and those at elevated risk, may need their cholesterol and other risk factors assessed more often.

### Managing Cholesterol

If you have high cholesterol, understanding your risk for heart disease and stroke is one of the most important things you can do, along with taking steps to lower your cholesterol.

Often, simply changing certain behaviors can help bring your numbers into line. Eating a heart-healthy diet that emphasizes fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean or plant-based protein, fish and nuts while limiting red and processed meats, sodium and sugar-sweetened foods and beverages is one of the best ways to lower your cholesterol. While grocery shopping, look for the American Heart Association's Heart-Check mark to help identify foods that can be part of an overall healthy eating pattern.

Other lifestyle changes include losing weight, quitting smoking and becoming more physically active, as a sedentary lifestyle can lower HDL. To help lower both cholesterol and high blood pressure, experts recommend at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic exercise a week, such as walking, biking or swimming.

For some people, lifestyle changes may prevent or manage unhealthy cholesterol levels. For others, medication may also be needed. Work with your doctor to develop a treatment plan that's right for you. If medication is required, be sure to take it as prescribed.

Controlling your cholesterol may be easier than you think. Learn more about managing your cholesterol at [heart.org/cholesterol](http://heart.org/cholesterol).

## Good Samaritan Hits TopGolf for Charity

Good Samaritan Network has scheduled its 18th annual charity golf outing at TopGolf in Fishers. This community fundraising event is presented and coordinated by the Good Samaritan Network, along with its current sponsors.

Join in on the fund Sunday, June 23 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. (check-in 2:30 pm and buffet 3:30 pm) for this year's TOPGOLF CHARITY OUTING, which benefits Hamilton County residents served by the Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County, Inc., with shelter, holiday, and food assistance.

Each ticket includes three hours of TopGolf play at one of the predetermined bays, an All-American luncheon/buffet in the Signature Room, and the opportunity to participate in an on-site "Chance to Win!" drawing. Individual registrations (adult and youth) are available, including discounts for 18 years and under.

### A Family Event!

Are you looking for a fun activity to enjoy with your family, friends, or colleagues on a Sunday afternoon? Look no further than our annual TopGolf Charity Outing! Although lanes are limited, you can register up to six players per lane. So why not create a group, enjoy a fun-filled afternoon, and at the same time help other families? It's a great opportunity to bond, have fun, create lasting memories, and spend quality time with your loved ones or colleagues. Register today and make your Sunday afternoon unforgettable!

### Premier Golf Entertainment!

TopGolf is the premier golf entertainment complex where sports competitions meet your favorite local hangout. You can challenge your friends and family to addictive point-scoring golf games that anyone from the hopeful pro golfer to your neighbor's 7-year-old kid can play year-round. Just picture a 240-yard outfield with dartboard-like targets in the ground. The closer you get to the center or "bulls-eye" and the farther out you hit your microchipped balls, the more points you receive. It's not golf – it's TopGolf. Give

it a shot!

**Register now**, and remember to invite your friends to play. Individuals, groups, and organizations looking for more information or to register for this year's 18th Charity Golf Outing visit: [gsnlive.org/golfouting](http://gsnlive.org/golfouting).

### Sponsorships Available!

Suppose you're looking for a great way to support the underserved in Hamilton County while gaining valuable name recognition within the community. In that case, you won't want to miss out on this year's Top Golf Charity Outing! With four different sponsorship levels to choose from - including Gold Sponsor (includes 12 players), Silver Sponsor (includes 6 players), Bay Sponsor (includes 6 players), and Friend Sponsor (includes 2 players) - there's something for every budget and every level of involvement. Each sponsorship package includes a range of benefits, including three hours of play, an All-American Buffet, limited player registrations, name recognition, promotion materials display, "Chance to Win!" tickets, and more! So why wait? Sign up to become a sponsor today and positively impact your community! Visit: [gsnlive.org/golfouting](http://gsnlive.org/golfouting), for sponsorship details and to register as a player and/or as a sponsor.

### Can't Attend? Event In-Kind Donations Needed

The Good Samaritan Network also accepts a wide range of donations for the Charity Golf Outing. The options are endless, from vouchers, gift certificates, gift cards, various gift items, picnic baskets, houseware, and artwork or home decor. Donors can also consider donating electronics or tech gadgets, books or magazines, food or beverages, sports equipment or outdoor gear, and more. All of these items will be used in the "Chance to Win!" drawing, which is set to be a highlight of the day. Donors will receive receipts for their donations. If you want more information, contact the office at 317-842-2603, x200, or email [info@gsnlive.org](mailto:info@gsnlive.org).

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## ↓ RUSTY From Page A1

retirement benefit you earned elsewhere; WEP does not affect any surviving spouse benefit you might be entitled to from your wife. Rather, it is the GPO which affects your survivor benefit, again because of your state retirement (called a “non-covered pension” - one earned without contributing to Social Security). The GPO will reduce any surviving spouse benefit you might be entitled to by 2/3rds of the amount of your “non-covered” state pension. Depending on the size of your state pension, that reduction may entirely eliminate your surviving spouse benefit from your wife.

Under normal SS rules, a surviving spouse does not become eligible for survivor benefits until they reach age 60 (age 50 if disabled). Normally, a surviving spouse benefit claimed at age 60 is reduced by 28.5% and it is the GPO (not WEP) that will affect your survivor benefit whenever you claim it. However, even without GPO, your age 60 survivor benefit amount would be only 71.5% of the amount your wife was receiving (or entitled to receive) at her death. If you are already collecting your non-covered state pension when you claim your SS survivor benefit from your wife, then that reduced age 60 survivor benefit would be offset by 2/3rds of the amount of your state pension. And that (according to what Social Security told you) is what eliminated your age 60 eligibility for a surviving spouse benefit from your wife. If you don't claim it at 60 your survivor benefit will continue to grow until you

reach your full retirement age (FRA) of 67, but if 2/3rds of your state pension is more than 100% of your SS survivor benefit, you still won't get any surviving spouse benefit from your wife's record.

A further consequence of your non-covered state pension is that the SS retirement benefit you earned elsewhere will be reduced by WEP. WEP will reduce, but cannot eliminate, your Social Security retirement benefit. The WEP formula is complex but, generally, your WEP-based Social Security retirement benefit will likely be roughly half of what you would get if you did not have a state “non-covered pension.” You could claim your WEP-reduced SS retirement benefit as early as age 62 or, if financially feasible, delay longer to get a somewhat higher (but still reduced) amount.

Just FYI, your state employer had an obligation to fully inform you of the consequences of not contributing to Social Security while earning your state pension. It appears as though they may not have fulfilled that obligation.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. Russell Gloor is the, National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens. To submit a question, visit our website ([amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory)) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org).

## ↓ CONTROL From Page A1

not aware that having high cholesterol puts them at greater risk for heart attack and stroke, according to the findings of a recent study conducted by The Harris Poll commissioned by Esperion Therapeutics, Inc. The poll also revealed some inconsistent understanding about treatment options available for those with uncontrolled cholesterol. Fully 3 in 10 (30%) of those taking statins believe they are the only LDL lowering treatment available for those with high LDL cholesterol.

“In auto racing, the red flag means danger on the track, stopping the race immediately,” said Dr. JoAnne Foody, chief medical officer at Esperion. “We are launching a patient education program, ‘Wave the Red Flag,’ to encourage people with uncontrolled high cholesterol to have their levels checked right away and discuss appropriate treatment options with their health care provider.”

If your high cholesterol is uncontrolled, understanding how you can achieve greater control can reduce your risk for serious health conditions, including potentially life-threatening cardiovascular events.

Consider these tips to get high cholesterol under control.

**Talk with your doctor.** Speaking with your physician is an important first step to managing any health condition. Your doctor can help you understand the severity of your condition and whether a treatment plan should be moderate or aggressive.

**Check your progress.** Keeping tabs on your cholesterol can help you and your health care team gauge whether your treatment plan is working. If you don't have heart disease,

you may not need to check as frequently, but your doctor can recommend the appropriate intervals to help manage your cholesterol most effectively.

**Take medications as prescribed.** Statins are the medications most often recommended by treatment guidelines for the management of blood cholesterol, and nearly one-third (30%) of those taking statins believe they are the only cholesterol-lowering treatment available, according to the survey. However, even with maximal statin therapy, some patients with chronic disease do not meet recommended LDL cholesterol levels. Taking your medications regularly and as instructed helps your doctor determine whether additional therapies – including non-statin treatments – could be useful to help manage your blood cholesterol.

**Make lifestyle adjustments.** Your diet plays a major role in lowering LDL cholesterol. Limiting fatty foods, especially those that are high in saturated and trans fats, is key. Monitoring your overall diet and exercising can also help reduce your risk of high cholesterol. Even if you don't have high cholesterol, adopting more cholesterol-friendly habits can help prevent your levels from rising to unhealthy levels in the future.

To find additional information about managing your high cholesterol, talk to your health care provider and visit [WaveTheRedFlag.info](http://WaveTheRedFlag.info).

**Fast Facts About Cholesterol**

**What is cholesterol?** The liver creates a fat-like waxy substance called cholesterol. It serves useful purposes for the body, including producing hormones and helping digest food.

**How do you get high cholesterol?** The human body makes all the cholesterol it needs naturally, so any cholesterol you eat is cholesterol you don't need. However, it can be difficult to avoid because you can find dietary cholesterol in many common foods, including meat, seafood, poultry, eggs and dairy. Other non-dietary contributing factors include health conditions like obesity and diabetes, as well as family history and advancing age.

**What is a normal cholesterol level?** An average optimal level of LDL cholesterol is about 100 milligrams per deciliter (mg/dL). An average optimal level of high-density lipoprotein, or HDL, cholesterol is at least 40 mg/dL for men and 50 mg/dL for women. HDL cholesterol can actually lower your risk of heart disease and stroke.

Are there symptoms of high cholesterol? Unlike many health conditions, there are rarely any symptoms that your cholesterol is high. That's what makes regular screening so important.



Thank you for subscribing!

## Fishers Summer Concert Series Lineup Set

The Fishers Summer Concert Series, hosted by Fishers Parks, returns this summer with free community concerts on Tuesday nights, presented by 24/7 DINK, at the Nickel Plate District Amphitheater (NPD AMP, 6 Municipal Drive) in the heart of downtown Fishers.

Residents and visitors can also enjoy a special free performance on Fourth of July featuring Toy Factory accompanying the Fishers Parks'

fireworks show at the NPD AMP. The series will conclude with the return of the popular two-day Blues Fest on Labor Day weekend on Saturday and Sunday.

"We are thrilled to announce our 2024 summer concert lineup, offering an exciting mix of live music that embodies the spirit of Fishers," said Fishers Parks Director Marissa Deckert. "This season, residents can seize the summer by enjoying free concerts and celebrating

community spirit at the Nickel Plate District AMP. With several returning favorites and new artists alike, there's something for everyone to enjoy this summer."

The 2024 season lineup includes:

Free Tuesdays Concert Series

- Starting June 4 | 7 – 9 p.m. Free, no tickets required
- June 4 - Living Proof sponsored by Heritage Christian School
- June 11 - Soul Pocket
- June 18 - The Nauti Yachtys
- June 25 - Uptown Funk (8 p.m., followed

## ↓ CHS From Page A1

piece, submitting concepts that will inspire the tips of the sculpture's hair – various items or representations. Jennifer Bubp, CHS art department chair, said students are brainstorming ideas through collaborative mural drawings and individual drawing activities, as well as through a recent video meeting with Solano. Their sketches, poetry and short stories include sentiments about what they love about Carmel and Carmel High School.

“What an incredible privilege this is for our students to collaborate with an internationally recognized artist,” Bubp said. “My students and I were awestruck in our initial conversation with the artist's team.”

With the ideas from students being sent to Solano in the coming weeks, the CRC and CHS are planning virtual meetings with students and the artist to discuss the creative process, as well as key steps for the ultimate installation. Beyond the art students already taking part in the project, students studying engineering and technology will be engaged, as well.

Mayor Sue Finkam, who last month announced the formation of the Mayor's Advisory Commission on Arts, is staying closely engaged in the partnership and is pleased with the early progress.

“Student involvement makes it more than a sculpture; it makes it a Carmel story about the power of art and its ability to inspire our community,” Finkam said. Henry Mestetsky, executive director of the CRC, additionally touted the enduring impact of the project and others like it. “We know public art empowers economic development and public involvement builds our community. The sculpture does both, as it welcomes visitors to our education campus and our Arts & Design District,” he said.

Significantly, Bubp has seen her students' appreciation for public art expand and is confident the initiative will have an impact beyond the dozens of students already involved.

“Ultimately, we hope that all our students will be inspired by the artistic process in this collaboration project,” she said. “Because this sculpture will grace the landscape of our school, students will be able to look at this sculpture for years to come, knowing that their voices were considered in the design.”

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

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No outside alcohol is permitted at the NPD AMP. Vendors will be available on-site to purchase refreshments. Chairs and blankets are welcome. Learn more at [npdamp.com](http://npdamp.com).

## ↓ BETSY

From Page A1

12:30-9:30 p.m. May 25 featuring Nora Reese at 12:30 p.m., Indy Annie's Duo at 2 p.m., Aimee Eisenmann with Steve Donahoe at 4:15 p.m. and My Yellow Rickshaw at 6:30 p.m. at Spencer Farm Winery in Noblesville; Circle City Decons on Saturday, Tyler Robling on May 23, John Gilmore and Kelli Ray Yates on May 24, The Weekenders on May 25, and The Cold Hearts on May 30 at Syd's Bar and Grill in downtown Noblesville.

4. Hamilton County Master Gardeners' 25th annual Plant Sale is open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville.

5. Noblesville Farmers Market is open for the season 8 a.m. to noon Saturday and continues Saturdays through Oct. 12 at Federal Hill Commons in Noblesville. Special days include Kids Day on July 13, Aug. 10 and Sept. 14; and Art Day Sept. 7.

6. Recycled Cycles will have a used bicycle sale and donation day from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday at the group's repair shop at 810 E. Main Street in Westfield, at the top of the drive north of Big Hoffa's BBQ, with proceeds used to purchase parts to repair other bikes.

7. Conner Prairie will celebrate Heritage Breeds Week with all kinds of fun activities, including the textiles youth volunteers demonstrating spinning and weaving and highlighting wool from rare breeds 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and through May 24 at the outdoor living history museum in Fishers, with admission charged.

8. The Little Beauty Carousel in Carousel Corner is open weekends 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in May in Forest Park in Noblesville.

9. Make violet syrup, candied violets and a violet salad during Hamilton County Parks' "For the Love of Violets" program for ages 10 and older 1-3 p.m. Saturday at Taylor Center of Natural History at Strawtown Koteewi Park in Noblesville, free with required registration at myhamiltoncountyparks.com

10. Test your luck at Tri Kappa Beta Epsilon sorority chapter's Charity Bingo Night at 6 p.m. Saturday at Noblesville Moose Lodge No. 540, with tickets at Noblesville Tri Kappa Facebook page.

11. Get a better night's sleep and support Noblesville High School Music Programs at their ninth annual Mattress Fundraiser, one day

only, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday at NHS Gate 5 on display in the NHS main gym. Every purchase benefits the NHS Music programs

12. Attend Noblesville First United Methodist Church's Pipe Organ Dedication and Recital at 4 p.m. Sunday in the church sanctuary, with guest artist Martin Ellis, who served as organist and associate director of music at North United Methodist Church and at Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis before moving to Portland, Ore., and who will play a variety of musical selections, including his new work, "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing," for which the church's chancel choir will perform. A reception will follow.

13. Stop by the Noblesville Parks & Recreation Department office at Forest Park Inn weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. for a pet treat and a photo of your leashed pet.

14. Kiln Creations in downtown Noblesville offers lots of classes, including wheel class at 2:30 p.m. every Saturday, Charcuterie Board Paint and Snack at 6 p.m. Saturday, Paint with Cats at 4 p.m. May 23, Frozen Pond painting class at 6 p.m. May 24, Couples wheel classes at 6 p.m. May 31, Gudetama Night at 6 p.m. June 1, Summer Art Camps starting June 3, with more details at kilncreations.net

15. Experience live dance during Indiana Ballet Conservatory's "Phantom at the Opera" at 7 p.m. May 25 at Booth Tarkington Civic Theatre in Carmel, with tickets at indianaballetconservatory.org

16. Enjoy a cozy evening around the fire and a short, guided hike after dark during Hamilton County Parks' Spring Evening Campfire 8-9:30 p.m. May 25 for ages 6 and older at Taylor Center of Natural History at Strawtown Koteewi Park in Noblesville, free with registration required at myhamiltoncountyparks.com

17. Main Street Productions presents "You Can't Take It With You," directed by Nicole Amsler, May 30-June 9 at Basile Westfield Playhouse with shows at 7:30 p.m. May 30, 31, June 1, 6, 7, 8 and 2:30 p.m. June 2 and 9, with tickets at basilewestfieldplayhouse.org

18. Noblesville Lions Club's Grillin' on the Square 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. May 31 with pancakes served on the morning of June 1 with Noblesville Main Street's Duck Race on White River on June 1.

19. Cool Creek 30th Anniversary Music Series kicks off May 31 at Cool Creek Park in Westfield featuring entertainment at 7 p.m.: Mike and Joe, May 31; Turn to Stone, June 14; The Flying Toasters, June 21; BroCountry, July 12; Trippin Billies, July 19; and Der Polkatz, Aug. 2, with \$5 admission, free for ages 12 and younger, with tickets at myhamiltoncountyparks.com

20. Shop for the perfect finds at Noblesville Preservation Alliance's fifth annual Flea Market from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 1 on Logan and Clinton streets, 10th to 17 streets, in Old Town Noblesville, with a large sale at NPA's Preservation Hall. Be a vendor at your home for a \$25 donation, donate items to NPA to sell, shop for finds, bring your business or food truck with a \$50 donation. More details at preservationhall.org

21. Grab your lawn chair and head for the Hamilton County Courthouse Square for the annual free String-Time on the Square music series the first Saturday night of each month, with The Bahler Family Golden Age Band on June 1, New Augusta Bluegrass Band on July 6, Cornfields & Crossroads on Aug. 3 and raindate or TBD on Sept. 7, courtesy of Legacy Keepers Music thanks to Janet Gilray.

22. Join Hamilton County Parks' Nature Play Days, at 10 a.m. June 3 at Cool Creek Park Nature Play Area; June 4 at Prather Park playground; June 5 at Geist Park playground, June 6 at Strawtown Koteewi Park Taylor Center of Natural History; and June 7 at Potter's Bridge playground picnic area, all free with preregistration required at myhamiltoncountyparks.com

23. Put on your pajamas, grab your favorite teddy bear, pack a blanket and join Hamilton County Parks' Pajama-Rama at 7 p.m. June 7 at Cool Creek Nature Center in Westfield with free admission, but preregistration is required at myhamiltoncountyparks.com

24. Noblesville Main Street's Music & All That Jazz continues with concerts June 8, July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 14 and Oct. 12. Noblesville Street Dance is July 20.

25. Hamilton County Parks offers free guided tours of the Coxhall Mansion and Museum at 4 p.m. June 19 with registration online at hamiltoncounty.in.gov. Take a tour of the Children's Garden at Coxhall Gardens at 11 a.m. June 20, with free admission, but preregistration is required

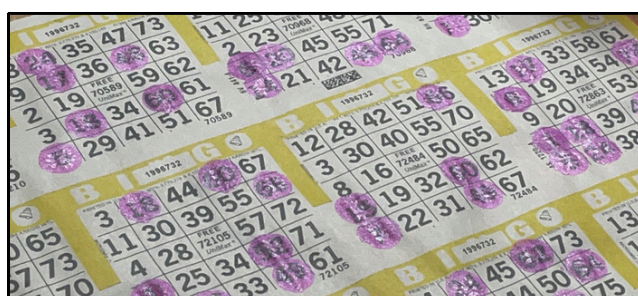
at myhamiltoncountyparks.com.

-Betsy Reason writes about people, places and things in Hamilton County. Contact The Times Editor Betsy Reason at [betsy@thetimes24-7.com](mailto:betsy@thetimes24-7.com). For a complete list of all Hamilton County events, go to [VisitHamiltonCounty.com/Events](http://VisitHamiltonCounty.com/Events). Hamilton County Tourism, in celebration of National Travel and Tourism Week May 20-24, will host a county-wide scavenger hunt with more info on [VisitHamiltonCounty.com](http://VisitHamiltonCounty.com). Hamilton County's Facebook and Instagram. Also, Indy Kids Sale, operated by Carmel's Lori Chandler, which sponsors a kids consignment sale each spring and fall at Finch Creek, is currently having an online consignment sale at [indykidssale.com](http://indykidssale.com).



Photo courtesy of Conner Prairie

Conner Prairie will celebrate Heritage Breeds Week with activities in the Animal Encounters Barn and textiles youth volunteers demonstrating spinning and weaving and highlighting wool from rare breeds, and more, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and through May 24 in Fishers.



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

Test your luck at Tri Kappa Beta Epsilon sorority chapter's Charity Bingo Night at 6 p.m. Saturday at Noblesville Moose Lodge No. 540.



Photo courtesy of Hamilton County Master Gardeners

Hamilton County Master Gardeners' 25th annual Plant Sale is open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville.



Photo courtesy of Recycled Cycles

Recycled Cycles will have a used bicycle sale and donation day from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday at the group's repair shop at 810 E. Main Street in Westfield, with proceeds used to purchase parts to repair other bikes.

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THE TIMES

# Zach Edey Improved His Chances in NBA Draft; Could Go Lottery



**KENNY THOMPSON**  
Columnist

Naysayers bleated time and again that the two-time National Player of the Year in college basketball, Purdue's Zach Edey, was "just tall," as if his height automatically made Edey a better player.

At the NBA Combine this week in Chicago, it was proven that Edey is tall. In shoes he stands 7-foot-5 with a nearly 7-11 wingspan.

It was also proven to many observers that Edey is quite nimble for a 299-pound athlete. While NBA scouts won't tip their hands as to who and what they liked about Edey and a handful of other prospects, several writers who cover the NBA came away believing the now Boilermaker legend confirmed he is a first round prospect when the draft takes place June 27.

ESPN draft analyst Jonathan Givony has Edey ranked 14th in the top 100 NBA prospects list for 2024. Givony notes that returning to Purdue for the 2023-24 season turned out to be a wise decision for Edey.

"Edey measured exceptionally well," Givony writes, noting that Edey also has a 9-foot, seven and a half inch standing reach. "But he also tested better than last year, shaving off time from last year's pro lane agility drill and measuring a solid vertical leap (26 inches) and three-quarter-court sprint time, showing the significant improvement he has made with his conditioning and mobility since electing to return to Purdue for his senior season

"He also put on a pretty impressive showing in shooting drills, hitting 3s off movement, spotting up and pulling up off the dribble, showing some real potential in that area as he has long insisted he possesses. Edey has quite a few fans around the NBA at this point, and there are plenty of executives who say they have him ranked as a lottery pick, or even as a top-10 prospect because of how well he rates in their analytics models." Sam Vecenie of The Athletic forecasts the New Orleans Pelicans to draft Edey 21st overall.

"He establishes position anywhere and everywhere on the court because of his size and strength, yet possesses remarkable touch around the rim," Vecenie writes. "He's somehow underrated in ball-screen actions. One could make the case that he's the best screen-setter in the country with the way he consistently crushes guards trying to get through and rolls to the rim for deep post-ups or easy buckets. Edey has improved defensively over his time in college. He's become a good, impactful drop-coverage pick-and-roll defender and takes up enough space to dissuade guard from driving and finishing around the basket.

"The issue with his fit in the NBA are obvious: He's a 7-4 supergiant who doesn't move particularly well laterally. Can he stop ballhandlers from turning the corner on him defensively? Can he get back in transition in the up-and-down NBA?" Vecenie's projection for Edey is based partially on the expected loss of Pelicans center Jonas Valanciunas to free agency. Oddly, Vecenie had Edey's hometown Toronto Raptors passing on him at No. 19 in favor of, quoting Vecenie, a "project."

If indeed Toronto chooses Baylor 6-11 center Yves Missi, who averaged 15 points less per game than Edey this season, I would not want to be the receptionist at Raptors headquarters the next morning answering angry phone calls.

Vecenie forecasts Indiana 7-footer Kel'el Ware to Milwaukee in the second round with pick No. 33 overall. Like Edey, that slot seems a bit low.

A second projection of Edey to the Pelicans comes from Kyle Irvin of sportingnews.com. "Just when you thought Edey's potential as an NBA prospect hit a ceiling, the two-time National Player of the Year proved everyone wrong during the NCAA Tournament," Irvin writes.

"Edey was even more dominant than usual on Purdue's run to the national championship, averaging 29.5 points, 14.5 rebounds and 1.8 blocks per game. He showed that

his conditioning and mobility improved tremendously, playing all but two minutes and 50 seconds from the Sweet 16 through the title game.

"With Pelicans center Jonas Valanciunas in the latter stage of his career, Edey could provide a similar dominant interior presence in relief."

Irvin also has Indiana center Kel'el Ware going 26th to the Washington Wizards.

"Ware is a rim-protecting center with a high ceiling who came on strong late in the season for Indiana," Irvin states. "He is a long, athletic and mobile lob-catcher who has a developing offensive game as a scorer."

Fit is also an important part of any NFL or NBA Draft. Garry Parrish of CBSSports.com, who was bullish on Edey and Purdue throughout its run to the national championship game, may have found the perfect NBA home for Edey. Parrish likes the New York Knicks to take Edey at No. 24.

"As incredible as Edey was at Purdue over the past two years, he remains a divisive NBA prospect with what appears to be a pretty big range," Parrish writes. "He could go in the lottery or slip into the 20s. Either way, Edey would be a sensible option for the Knicks if he's still available at this point in the draft considering they could be on the verge of losing Isaiah Hartenstein in free agency."

Kevin Sweeney of SI.com didn't make team selections, preferring to rank the 25 best players in the NBA Draft class. Edey fell in at No. 17.

"Is Edey the most natural fit in the modern NBA? Perhaps not. But you'd be hard-pressed to watch the film and not see someone capable of helping an NBA team in a defined role," Sweeney writes. "Edey has great hands, rebounds out of area at a high level, has proven to be very effective in drop coverage defensively and punishes almost everyone in one-on-one matchups down low.

"A popular comparison tossed around has been Boban Marjanović, but I think there are reasons to

believe Edey can have an even bigger impact. Remember, Edey has been playing organized basketball for just seven years and has continued to get better."

Ware was rated 22nd by Sweeney, who writes "in a weak draft, it becomes harder and harder to ignore Ware's immense physical gifts . . . especially after a productive sophomore season at Indiana.

"The 7-footer can run like a gazelle, is an effective shot blocker and has shown the ability to stretch the floor. His motor has come into question at times, and physicality-wise, Ware may struggle against NBA bigs. But at this point in the draft, it's worth the risk."

## Big Ten football schedules

To the surprise of just about no one who has followed Indiana football scheduling for the past several years, the Hoosiers' 2024 non-conference slate is ranked the easiest in the new 18-team Big Ten by Athlon Sports' Dan Lyons.

A 3-0 start is almost assured for first-year coach Curt Cignetti, who makes his debut Aug. 31 against FIU. Home games against FCS member Western Illinois and Charlotte look like gimmes. The Hoosiers were originally slated to play Jeff Brohm's Louisville squad but chose to buy out the remaining two games in the contract.

Thanks largely to Notre Dame's return to the schedule, Purdue's non-conference slate is ranked fourth behind USC, Michigan and UCLA. Indiana State is coming off a 1-10 season and Purdue will have a bye week before hosting the Fighting Irish on Sept. 14. A trip to Oregon State on paper seems daunting but the Beavers were gutted in the transfer portal following coach Jonathan Smith's departure for Michigan State. For now, this appears to be the pivotal game for second-year coach Ryan Walters. Go 2-1 and there appears to be a path to six wins and a bowl game after last season's 4-8 disappointment.

CBS announced this week it will come to West Lafayette for the Notre Dame game with a 3:30 kickoff time. Purdue has lost eight in a row to Notre Dame since a 33-19 victory in 2007.

The Oregon State game will be an 8:30 p.m.

Lafayette time kickoff on the CW network. It will be a surprise if the Indiana State opener is not a noon kickoff on the Big Ten Network.

When Notre Dame heads to Purdue it will be the first matchup against the Boilers for head coach Marcus Freeman as the team's head coach. Freeman was the defensive coordinator for Notre Dame in 2021 when the Irish beat Purdue by a 27-13 score. The return of Freeman and special teams coordinator Marty Biagi to West Lafayette is one of the few early highlights of what is becoming a typical weak Notre Dame schedule.

The season opener Aug. 31 at Texas A&M will get a lot of attention but the Fighting Irish won't be tested again until a home game against Florida State on Nov. 9. The "Notre Dame is back" hype will be at 10 on the 1-10 scale when it faces the Seminoles with an 8-0 record built on home games with Northern Illinois, Miami (Ohio), Louisville, Stanford and less than rugged away games with Georgia Tech and Navy.

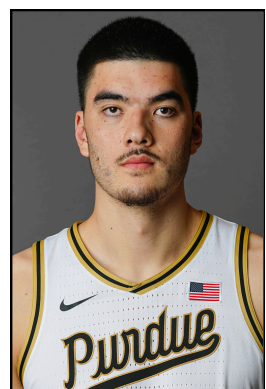
A home game with Virginia and a trip to Yankee Stadium to play Army almost ensures Freeman and Notre Dame at least 10 wins before traveling to USC for the regular season finale.

## Big Ten basketball scheduling

The price of remaining at 20 games in a now-18 team league became evident recently when the Big Ten announced its home-away, single home and single road game assignments for men's basketball.

Purdue's rivalry with Indiana is protected but only two other matchups will be played home and away, Michigan and Rutgers. Coming to Mackey Arena for single play home games are Maryland, Nebraska, Northwestern, Ohio State, UCLA, USC and Wisconsin. Trips to Illinois, Iowa, Michigan State, Minnesota, Oregon, Penn State and Washington complete the Big Ten schedule for Purdue.

The Boilermakers will host UCLA for the first time since Dec. 30, 2000. USC hasn't been to West Lafayette for a basketball game since 1939. I was in first grade the last time the Boilermakers went to Washington, Dec. 9, 1967. Indiana's other home-and-away games will be



against Ohio State and Penn State. Coming to Assembly Hall this winter will be Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Rutgers, UCLA and USC. Indiana must travel to Iowa, Michigan State, Nebraska, Northwestern, Oregon, Washington and Wisconsin.

## Noteworthy

A five-star cornerback in the class of 2025 has arrived at Purdue early after reclassifying to the 2024 class.

Tarrion Grant of Murfreesboro, Tenn., committed to the Boilermakers in January after cutting his list to Purdue, Virginia Tech, LSU, Oregon and Louisville. Tennessee, Alabama, Auburn, Florida and Texas A&M were among those to offer Grant. The 6-3, 175-pound Grant was rated the No. 1 player in Tennessee and the No. 10 cornerback nationally after being reassigned to the class of 2024 by 247Sports Composite. In the 2025 rankings, Grant was 36th overall in the 247Sports Composite. Grant becomes Purdue's third top 100 recruit in the 21st century, joining two-time Super Bowl champion George Karlaftis (27th) of the Kansas City Chiefs in 2019 and wide receiver Selwyn Lymon (49th) of Fort Wayne in 2005 . . .

Former Purdue running back Tyrone Tracy is one of 10 offensive players who could have an immediate impact as a rookie, according to ESPN.com writer Field Yates.

"Tracy was one of the more unique prospects in the class; after four seasons as a wide receiver at Iowa, he transferred to Purdue for two seasons and became a running back," Yates writes. "That versatility gives him a chance to be on the field and deployed early and often, especially amid a thin Giants backfield led by Devin Singletary. Tracy scored eight times last season and averaged 6.3 yards per carry."

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

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