The Times of Noblesville presents...

# Iceland's Magical Northern Lights

Hosted by Dick Wolfsie

March 18 - 24, 2025



For more information contact Collette

1-800-581-8942

Please refer to booking #1232517

### **TODAY'S VERSE**

Acts 2:38 Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

# Hamilton Happenings

Have you caught Melissa Shaw's exciting podcasts on The Times' website yet? Melissa interviews different people from around the community and gives viewers interesting insights on their personalities, their businesses, their community involvement and their lives. Check it out! You can find it at www.thetimes24-7.com!

# Three Things

#### You Should Know

Attorney General Todd Rokita has sued an Indianapolis man and associated businesses involved in schemes to defraud real estate investors — alleging that Herbert Whalen continued to engage in the management of property for investors despite lacking a real estate broker license, as required by law, and hiding prior convictions. Hoosiers are encouraged to contact the Office of the Indiana Attorney General about any suspected scams or scam attempts. Consumers can file a complaint by visiting indianaconsumer.com or calling 1-800-382-5516.

High school athletes and teams representing schools from across the state scheduled to participate at 2024 Indiana State High School Clay Target League State Tournaments June 22-23 at the Indiana Gun Club in Fortville. A total of 383 athletes from 24 high school teams are taking part.

June 10 marks the 100th birthday of the American Heart Association, the nation's oldest and largest voluntary organization dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke. Since the Association was founded in 1924 deaths in the United States from cardiovascular disease have been cut in half.

# IIMES

**NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA** 

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# **Boomer Bits**

#### **Ask Rusty - Medicare Increase Results** in Loss of Social Security Benefits



Rusty

**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 and I have taken a Social Security "Cut" -- no 3.2% raise for us, due to something called "IRMAA," based on our income. We actually took, together, a \$400 a month cut. As far as I can tell from what they told me, we are means tested and were too successful, so our Medicare premiums were much higher, which resulted in our reduced Social Security for 2024. Have you sorted this out? And, if so, can I appeal this disgusting situation? Signed: Baffled Senior

Dear Baffled: We're very familiar with the "Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount" – not so affectionately called "IRMAA." IRMAA catches many Social Security beneficiaries by surprise, not only higher earners such as you, but also those who make large withdrawals from a taxdeferred account. who sell property, or who have any other kind of sudden large bump in their taxable income. Essentially, if your income is over certain thresholds for your IRS

filing status, you pay a higher "IRMAA" premium for your Medicare Part B (coverage for outpatient services) and your Part D (prescription drug coverage). And since your Medicare premium is automatically deducted from your Social Security payment, your net monthly Social Security payment goes down.

Any COLA added to your Social Security benefit is often consumed by an IRMAA increase to your Medicare premiums. And, to further complicate matters, your Medicare premium for the current year is determined by your income from two years prior, which means your 2024 Medicare premiums were determined by your 2022 income.

The IRMAA thresholds are different depending on your income tax filing status, but assuming you file your taxes as "married/jointly," your combined 2022 income had to be more than

See RUSTY Page A3

#### **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day June 15**



HSU, MD, **MBA** COLUMNIST

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, observed on June 15, signifies our collective struggle against the mistreatment of older adults. Elder abuse is a community and

societal issue that reminds us to promote respect and dignity for older adults.

Elder abuse refers to intentional or neglectful acts by a caregiver or a trusted individual that cause harm to an older adult. It can come in the form of physical, emotional, neglect, and financial mistreatment - the latter being the most prevalent and easily executed through scams or fraud targeted at older adults. A

■ See ABUSE Page A3

#### **Keep Up With Grandkids**

(NAPSI)—One of the greatest joys-but potentially biggest challenges-for many grandparents is time spent with the grandkids. Whether yours are toddlers or teens, keeping them entertained requires a level of fitness that might include everything from lifting a child to chasing them at the playground to competing in a round of golf. For grandparents seeking an enriching and active experience with their grandkids, it's important to engage in everyday fitness routines that can help:

■ See KIDS Page A3

#### Main Street First Friday, Ice Cream Express, Eagles **Tribute, Westfield Comedy**



Photo courtesy of The Dead Squirrels

**Noblesville Main Street** presents First Friday's Front Porch Music Festival Takeover at 4-8 p.m. today, with live music by The Dead Squirrels.



**BETSY REASON** Columnist

Make plans to attend Noblesville Main Street's First Friday Front Porch Music Festival event, a Nature Play Day at Potter's Bridge Park and ride the Ice Cream Express

to Arcadia. Also, Basile Westfield Playhouse comedy, "You Can't Take It With You" is on stage through Sunday, and Federal Hill Concerts at the Commons kick off season with Eagles tribute band. Find these and more happenings in The Times' list of 20 things to do this weekend and beyond:

1. Join Hamilton County Parks' Nature Play Day at 10 a.m. today at Potter's Bridge playground picnic area, all free with preregistration required at myhamilton countyparks.com

**■** See BETSY Page A4

## **Applications Open for Ambassadors**



To learn more about how to become a Miller Ambassador, go to https://www.noblesville schools.org/community/millerambassadors

Applications are open now for the Noblesville Schools Miller Ambassadors parent and community leader program.

See OPEN Page A5

#### TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Cigarette smoke exposure is a risk factor for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)...

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



Robert Franklin "Frank" Rhode Treena Gordon

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



#### TODAY'S QUOTE

"When you teach your son, you teach your son's son." **Talmud** 



#### **TODAY'S JOKE**

Where do birds stay on summer vacation? Someplace cheep!



# **OUR GENERATION**

with the Times

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

Click to WATCHROW

Be sure to subscribe so you don't miss a single interview!





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# **OBITUARIES**

## Robert Franklin "Frank" Rhode

January 15, 1970 - May 31, 2024

Robert Franklin "Frank" Rhode, age 54, passed away at his mother's home in Kirklin, Indiana on Friday morning, May 31, 2024. Born January 15, 1970 in Lafayette, Indiana, he was the son of Kenneth Eugene Rhode and Carolyn Lynn (Lewis) Rhode-Kercheval.



After graduating from McCutcheon High School in Lafayette, Indiana, Frank continued his education at Purdue University, where he earned his Associate Degree in Business.He worked as a welder with Wabash National in Lafayette for several years and later hired on as a forklift operator with Subaru.

He was currently attending Apostolic House of

Frank was the family "wild child". He lived life on his terms and faced every adventure head on at 100 mph. He had a love for music and was always up for a concert. He also had a great appreciation for outdoor adventures, be it camping, hunting, fishing, or just hanging out on the boat all day. Another of his favorite things was watching the Indianapolis Colts play. Win or lose, they were his team, season after season, without fail.

Family was the most important thing in Frank's life. Any occasion for family and friends to get together was his perfect recipe for happiness, especially if good food was involved.

Frank is survived by his parents, Kenneth Eugene Rhode and Carolyn Lynn (Lewis) Rhode-Kercheval; son, Justin Kai Rhode of Lafayette; 3 granddaughters, Aubrie Elliott, Mia Rhode, and Kaylin Rhode; 2 brothers, Shannon E. Rhode of Frankfort, and Joseph N. Rhode (Breanna) of Kirklin; half-brother, Michael Shane Houston of Kirklin; sister, Patricia L. Rhode (Steve) of Lafayette; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Alicia Marie Elliott-Rhode; maternal grandparents, Robert and Zell Lewis; paternal grandparents, William and Leona Rhode; and by his stepfather, Larry James Kercheval.

Graveside services will be held at 1:00 pm on Thursday, June 6, 2024, at Tippecanoe Memory Gardens, 1718 W. 350 N., West Lafayette, IN.

In lieu of flowers, Memorial Contributions may be presented to the American Cancer Society.

## Thank you for reading The Times



# **OUR GENERATION**

WAFETHOW

Melissa Shaw's interview with Steve from Adrienes Flowers & Gifts

and be sure to subscribe so you don't miss a single interview!

#### **Treena Gordon**

December 12, 1959 - June 1, 2024

Treena Mae (Fosnight) Gordon, age 64, of Sheridan, Indiana, peacefully passed in her home, surrounded by her loving family. Born December 12, 1959 in Noblesville, Indiana, she was the daughter of Richard Harold Fosnight and



Linda Louise (Kelshaw) Fosnight.

Don't worry about being different and standing out from the crowd! Rather, stand proud and stand tall, and appreciate the majestic beauty of your uniqueness. Treena was true to her uniqueness and very self-assured. She was a lover of babies, sunflowers, giraffes, a good romance, Diet Pepsi, chocolate, but most of all, her family. If you were lucky enough to know her, you quickly learned that she was sharp-witted, hard-headed, and always spoke the truth. T loved in her own way, and was often willing to lend a helping hand.

Treena met her husband, Sonny Jay Gordon, while delivering papers for the Indianapolis Star. Sonny fell hard for Treena's commanding confidence, sarcastic nature, wild wit, and helping heart. Their love grew into a 33-year marriage. Sonny, alongside their family, built Treena her dream home. Surrounding the property, she cultivated beautiful flower gardens; she especially loved creating walls of sunflowers and tending to her vegetable garden. For most of their marriage, Treena graciously cared for her mother-in-law, Elsie, who came to live with them shortly after they said "I Do". Treena and Elsie were quite the pair, and quite the comical duo. Treena's helpful heart shined bright during her time caring for Elsie

Beyond her marriage, family was a central part of Treena's life. She often gathered with her aunt Louise, sisters, and cousins, and welcomed caring for her nieces and nephews. She was all in when it came time to cuddle babies or play with toddlers. Treena comes from a large family, and one of her favorite pastimes was hosting family gatherings during the summer. She enjoyed traveling with her husband and aunt. Treena thrived in the familiarity of her routine and surroundings and was happiest in her home with

Treena was a mother of two sons, Robert Eldridge and Matthew Eldridge. She became a mother early in life and made many sacrifices for her children. Her boys were her pride and joy. She loved them deeply. As they aged, her nurturing love transitioned into tough love.

Her sons reflect her sharp wit and sarcastic nature. Both of Treena's sons married, and she was blessed with four grandchildren: Morgan, Lucas, Landon, and Spencer Eldridge. She delighted in each of them and doted on them as often as she could. She was part-time caregiver to Landon and Spencer during their toddler years, and brought them as much joy as they brought

Treena lived life her way. She loved, she grieved, she created, she nurtured, she stood firm, and she was uniquely herself. She will be greatly missed, but forever treasured.

Treena is survived by her husband, Sonny Jay Gordon; 2 sons, Robert Shannon Eldridge (Brandy Ann Kaufman) of Noblesville, and Matthew Wayne Eldridge (Sadie) of Sheridan; 4 grandchildren, Morgan Eldridge (fiancé, Nathan Ritz), Lucas Eldridge, Landon Eldridge, and Spencer Eldridge; Brothers, Richard Verne Fosnight (Pamela) of Sheridan, Freddie Eugene Fosnight (Robin) of Sheridan, and Teddie Fosnight of Sheridan; sisters, Beverly Ann Jones (Bryan) of Westfield, Benita Louise Johnson (Jeff) of Noblesville, and Donna Marie Smith (Garry) of Westfield; brother-in-law, Mark Edwards of Sheridan; many nieces and nephews; and by her mother, Linda Louise (Kelshaw) Fosnight.

She was preceded in death by her father, Richard Harold Fosnight; brother, Sammie Jay Fosnight; and sister, Wanda Kay Askren-Edwards.

A celebration of Treena's life will be held from 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm on Saturday June 8, 2024, at Sonny and Treena's home, 4303 W. 176th Street (State Road 32), Sheridan, Indiana.

Treena will be laid to rest in a private ceremony at Eagle Creek Cemetery in Westfield, Indiana.

#### NFD Flying High With UAV



The new drone could quickly drop a flotation



Photos courtesy NFD

#### Winds up to 30 mph won't keep the new NFD drone grounded.

Perhaps no one is better assessing a fire than trained firefighters - except for maybe birds. Seeing things from the proverbial bird's eye view might be a game changer in knowing how to best battle a blaze.

Thanks to a new addition to the Noblesville Fire Department fleet, the city now has that capability.

NFD recently added an unmanned aerial vehicle to its firefighting arsenal. Commonly known as a drone, the UAV provides firefighters with information previously difficult or impossible to achieve.

The drone is capable of flight times exceeding 40 minutes per battery set (continuous operations by switching batteries), maximum speed over 51 mph, the ability to fly in wind speeds exceeding 33 mph, and operating between -4 to 122 degrees F.

The drone is rated at IP55, so it can be flown in most of Indiana's weather, including rain, snow, and fog. The drone records in up to 4K video from 3 cameras: wide-angle, 200x zoom and thermal (infrared).

Depending on the mission, the drone can also be equipped with a loudspeaker, searchlight, or drop system capable of delivering a variety of items in an emergency (such as a flotation

device). The pilots all possess FAA Remote Pilot licenses ("Part 107"). The drone can be used to provide information on large structures before an incident, quickly identifying the location of a fire from above, search and rescue, structural collapse, water rescue, HAZMAT, fire investigation and technical rescue. Not only is this information available to the incident commander on scene, it can also be streamed to a command post off-site to provide more comprehensive situational awareness within seconds of arrival.

The drone will act as a force multiplier for firefighters, allowing them to quickly make better informed decisions to serve our community while increasing firefighter safety. Previously, Hamilton County Fire Departments have partnered with their police departments or the Emergency Management Agency for aerial support.

Department spokesperson said NFD is thankful to be the first fire department in Hamilton County to organically have a drone available, especially with the technology and safety it will bring to the community. The drone program is an extremely costeffective way to provide resources previously only available to the largest cities in the United States.

We appreciate readers!

#### RUSTY From Page A1

\$206,000 to cause IRMAA to apply in 2024. With income between \$206,000 and \$258,000, each of your Part B premiums would be \$244.60 (instead of the standard \$174.70), and your Part D premium (if you have Part D) would incur another \$12.90 on top of your regular Part D premium amount. IRMAA premiums further increase on a sliding scale, and those with income of \$750,000 or more would pay a maximum Medicare Part B premium of \$584/month and would incur another \$81 per month added to their normal Part D premium. Thus, as you have noted, Medicare premiums are, indeed, "means-tested."

Can you appeal "this disgusting situation?" Well, you can always appeal any Social Security determination, but appealing IRMAA will only be successful if you can prove that the income they used to determine your 2024 Medicare premium was incorrect, or if you can convince them to use a more recent year with a lower income to calculate your Medicare premium. If you believe you can be successful, you should call Social Security (1.800.772.1213) to formally appeal the IRMAA premium, or you can submit form SSA-44 to appeal based on a "lifechanging event."

I know that understanding how IRMAA works won't soften your dismay, but I can only explain the rules and how they work. Your 3.2% COLA increase for 2024 was used to offset some of the IRMAA Medicare premium increase caused by your higher income, and it is IRMAA which caused your net Social Security payment to go down. FYI, your Medicare premiums are recalculated each year, so if your income goes down to below the IRMAA threshold for your tax filing status, then your Medicare premium will revert to the standard amount for each year.

I hope this clarifies why your Social Security payments went down and why you didn't see your COLA increase, but the AMAC Foundation is always available to answer any questions you may have about Social Security.

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 nonprofit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/ programs/socialsecurity-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amac foundation.org.

## ABUSE

significant step towards preventing this abuse is equipping older adults and their caregivers with knowledge and resources to help prevent abuse.

The National Council on Aging estimates that approximately 5 million older adults are abused every year in the United States yet only one in 14 cases is reported. Research findings estimate that older victims of financial fraud lose roughly \$30 billion a year.

For older adults, defending against such abuse begins with awareness. Identifying potential frauds and cons such as lottery scams, identity theft, or email phishing schemes is crucial. Older people should be wary of unsolicited calls and emails, particularly those requesting personal information, money transfers, or unusual payment methods such as gift cards and any of these requests that are communicated with extreme urgency.

The use of technology can also help people safeguard their financial assets. Enabling bank alerts for large transactions, using apps with realtime tracking of account activity, and setting up direct deposits for checks

From Page A1

can minimize potential abuse. Equally pivotal is safeguarding essential documents and updating estate planning documents regularly.

Staying connected with family, friends, and community can deter potential abusers. However, social isolation became a growing issue for many older adults, especially during the pandemic. It's crucial for all people across our lifespan to leverage technology to maintain relationships and stay active within our communities, reducing the risk of exploitation significantly.

Further, older adults must also feel informed and supported to report any instance of potential abuse. Fear or embarrassment can often deter individuals from reporting abuse. Support from community, family, and authorities is key to reassuring older adults that they're not alone and that reporting is indeed a step towards prevention.

To report elder abuse, older adults or individuals concerned about them can reach out to the following resources:

·Adult Protective Services (APS): APS

agencies serve as the primary agency responsible for receiving and investigating reports of elder abuse.

·Local Law Enforcement: In situations where an older adult is in immediate danger, contacting local law enforcement is vital.

·National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA): This is a resource for information on elder abuse prevention.

·ElderCare Locator: Connects you to services for older adults and their families: 1-800-677-1116.

·Long-Term Care Ombudsman: These are advocates for residents of nursing homes, board, and care homes, assisted living facilities, etc.

With a collaborative strategy in place, **Anthem Blue Cross** and Blue Shield works in tandem with healthcare providers to detect early signs of elder abuse. We have taken great strides to implement caregiver education programs, because in many cases, the caregivers are the first line of defense in recognizing indicators of abuse. We are not just advocating prevention, but actively invested in providing solutions to

help prevent elder abuse.

Our health plans are

designed to support older adults by addressing the social drivers that can impact health, including social isolation - a significant risk factor for elder abuse. Our community members benefit from the resources and support services beyond traditional healthcare services that our plans can provide, including, for example, access to nutritious meals, safe and stable housing, and transportation. We continue to partner with organizations, nonprofits, and government agencies, aiming to create a safer, more supportive society where older adults are valued and included, and their rights are protected.

Older adults are valuable members of our society, and it is important we help ensure their safety, security, and wellness. As we observe World Flder Abuse Awareness Day, let us commit not only to raise awareness but also to actively work towards prevention strategies.

Eugene Hsu, MD, MBA, is Senior Medicare Clinical Officer for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield



#### **KIDS**

- maintain muscle mass.
- preserve cardiovascular health,
- · fortify flexibility, and

Functional fitness training can help with these goals.

#### What is Functional Fitness?

"Functional fitness uses multiple muscle groups and movements to help train muscles, joints, limbs, and nerves to all work better together for everyday tasks, like lifting groceries from the car, or outmaneuvering the grandkids," says Jaynie Bjornaraa PhD, MPH, PT, who is vice president of rehabilitation services and fitness solutions at American Specialty Health Fitness.

#### From Page A1

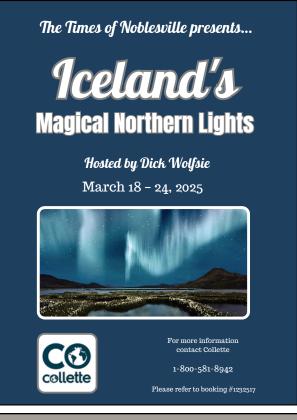
Examples of functional fitness exercises include lunges, squats, and planks. "Lunges help improve balance and make the legs stronger," says Dr. Bjornaraa. "Squats help strengthen the muscles used in sitting, standing, or lifting heavy objects safely. Core training, like planks, helps strengthen the lower back, hips, and abdominal muscles. A strong core provides a stable base when lifting, standing, or performing the chores of everyday life." There are many ways to incorporate functional fitness into an everyday fitness routine. For example, online workout classes such as Pilates, yoga, or strength training can provide easy access to beginner, intermediate, or

advanced exercise routines.

Gyms offer in-person classes plus access to most any kind of fitness equipment you may need to practice functional fitness, from mats and free weights to fitness balls and exercise bands. If cost is a factor in joining a gym or fitness classes, programs such as the Silver&Fit® Healthy Aging and Exercise Program, which is available through certain Medicare Advantage plans, offer no-cost or subsidized low-cost access to thousands of standard name-brand gyms and YMCAs, in addition to premium boutique studios around the country. These programs may also include online access to fitness video classes such as dance,

cardio, tai chi, Pilates, strength training, yoga, and others that teach proper form and technique. Nearly five million participants use the Silver&Fit program to help them stay fit.

"Functional fitness offers terrific health benefits for everyone, no matter your age or fitness level," added Dr. Bjornaraa. "I encourage my friends, family, and clients to engage in some kind of functional fitness exercise every day to maximize the benefits." If you're ready to try some functional fitness exercises but aren't sure where to begin, you may care to check out a functional fitness exercise video called "3 Functional **Exercises Using Only** Body Weight."



#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

NHEMNIMIES

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# CITY OF FISHERS CITY COUNCIL

CITY COUNCIL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CASE VAC-24-4

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY SUBMIT COMMENTS BY GOING
TO: https://townoffishers.formstack.com/forms/public\_meeting\_comment\_form
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the City
of Fishers City Council at 7:00 PM on Monday, June 17, 2024 at Launch Fishers
Theater 12175 Visionary Way, Fishers IN 46038.

PECULISET At that hearing the public will be invited to offer comment on

Issue 66 Tim Timmons, Publisher Report address changes to circulation@thetimes24-7.com

Annual Online Subscription: \$42

REQUEST: At that hearing, the public will be invited to offer comments on the following request ("Proposal"): Case # VAC-24-4 - Request to vacate right-of way within the Kimberlin's Addition to Fishers Station. Subject site is generally located at the intersection of E 116th Street and Lantern Road, with common address of 8775 E116th Street.

LOCATION: Generally located at the intersection of E 116th Street and Lantern Road, with a common address of 8775 E 116th Street.

The case file about this project is available for public review in the office of the Department of Planning and Zoning, located at Fishers City Services Building, 3 Municipal Drive, Fishers, IN 46038. The meeting agenda with room location details and case related information will be posted on the City's website fortyeight (48) hours in advance of the meeting specified above. If you have specific questions or want to provide written contacts to the case planner directly, please

City of Fishers Planning & Zoning Department planning@fishers.in.us (317) 595-3155 www.fishers.in.us/notice

Petitioner: Karen Collins TL21564 6/7 1t hspaxlp

18877 PRAIRIE CROSSING DRIVE Noblesville Over 2,700 square feet of living space in this 4BR, 2.5BA home in the heart of Noblesville. New flooring, HVAC, roof, water heater...home is move in ready!

Listed at \$344,900

16715 BIRDBROOK ROAD

Noblesville

4 BR, 2.5 BA with office and loft, gourmet kitchen,

3-car garage, finished basement, beautiful pond lot.

Listed at \$572,400



4 BR, 2.5 BA charming home situated in a delightful setting on a cul de sac in Country Lake Estates! Listed at \$400,000



Easy living! 2BR, 2BA low maintenance home, updated kitchen, office, two sided fireplace and sunroom. Listed at \$300,000





1485 CENTRAL AVENUE Noblesville 2 BR, 2 BA ranch on a corner lot in the

heart of Noblesville. New detached garag and large fenced yard. Listed at \$209,900

# BETSY

2. Noblesville Main Street presents First Friday's Front Porch Music Festival Takeover at 4-8 p.m. today, with live music by The Dead Squirrels and merchant promotions through downtown Noblesville, previewing the Front Porch Music Festival set for Aug. 24.

3. Ride the Ice Cream Express Fridays from Hobbs Station in Forest Park to the Arcadia Train Depot for a tour and ice cream treat, 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Fridays, tonight, and June 14, 21 and 28, with reservations at nickelplateexpress.

4. Sample craft beer at the 12th annual History on Tap festival 5-10 p.m. today at Conner Prairie in Fishers, with tickets \$65 at the door, \$15 for designated drivers.

5. Experience live theater during Main Street Productions' "You Can't Take It With You," a comedy directed by Nicole Amsler, now through Sunday at Basile Westfield Playhouse with shows at 7:30 p.m. today and Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday with tickets at basilewestfieldplay house.org

6. Enjoy live music with Marrialle Sellars at 6:30 p.m. today, David & Pamela Ackerman at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jamie Owens at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Booze Hounds Bluegrass at 1 p.m. Sunday, Jennifer Mlott 6:30-9:30 p.m. June 14, The Molter Brothers at 1 p.m. June 15, The Pope & Guitarlos Show at 6:30 p.m. June 15, all at Spencer Farm Winery in Noblesville; Euchre Night 7 p.m. Mondays at Syd's Bar and Grill in downtown Noblesville; Jason Salyers tonight, Rhino Down on Saturday, Ghosts on Maple on June 15, Open Mic Night for solo acoustic acts with sound provided 7-9 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday (June 13 and 27) and Sam King on June 22 at Primeval Brewing Co., in

downtown Noblesville; Ghosts on Maple on June 8 at Grand Junction Brewing Co.

in Westfield.

From Page A1

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

8. Noblesville Farmers Market is open for the season 8 a.m. to noon Saturday (with live entertainment) 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.

9. Partake in Cicero Kiwanis BBQ Chicken Dinner from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at **United Family** Wesleyan Church on Washington Street in Cicero. Dinner features half a BBQ chicken, baked beans, slaw and water. The community may preorder chicken dinners online.

10. Enjoy Concerts at the Commons at Federal Hill Commons on Saturdays at 7 p.m. featuring: The Eagles Project (Eagles tribute), this Saturday; Parrots of the Caribbean (Jimmy Buffett tribute), June 22; 16 Candles Band ('80s music), July 13; No Fences (Garth Brooks tribute), July 27; Crush (Bon Jovi tribute), Aug. 10; Tennessee Whiskey (Chris Stapleton tribute), Aug. 24; Hi Fidelity ('80s rock), Sept. 14; and Chicago Rewired (Chicago tribute), Sept. 28.

11. Fishers Parks' Free Tuesdays at Nickel Plate Amphitheater 7-9 p.m., featuring Soul Pocket, June 11; The Nauti Yachtys, June 18; Uptown Funk, June 25 (8 p.m. during Spark!Fishers); Toy Factory, 8 p.m. July 4 with fireworks to follow; The Brothers Footman, July 9; Karma, July 16; 2nd Wind, July 23;

GrooveSmash, July

12. Summer Family Concert Series at the Gazebo are 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays at the Civic Square in Carmel, featuring Living Proof, June 12; Toy Factory, June 19; 45RPM, June 26; Country Summer, July 10; The Doo, July 17; Stella Luna & the Satellites, July 24; My Yellow Rickshaw, July 31; Aug. 7, Rick K & The Allnighters, Aug. 7; The Nauti Yachtys, Aug. 14; GrooveSmash, Aug. 21; The Bishops, Aug.28; Blue River Band, Sept. 4; Endless Summer Band, Sept. 11, with free admission and seating on lawn, with lawn chairs, blankets and picnicking invited.

13. Enjoy the Noblesville Summer Concert Series 7-9 p.m. Thursdays at Dillon Park featuring: Groove Smash, June 13; The Bishops, June 20; Jai Baker 3, June 27; Dave and Rae, July 11; The Doo Band, July 18; Endless Summer Band, July 25.

14. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs for Cool Creek 30th Anniversary Music Series, which has kicked off for the season at Cool Creek Park in Westfield featuring entertainment at 7 p.m. select Fridays: 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 myhamilton countyparks.com

15. The Little Beauty Carousel in Carousel Corner is open in Forest Park in Noblesville. Also, 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

16. Kiln Creations in downtown Noblesville offers lots of classes, including wheel class at 2:30 p.m. every Saturday, Summer Art Camps available

starting in June, with more details at kilncreations.net

17. See a Model T Ford car driven in and disassembled and then reassembled and driven out during Central Indiana Vintage Vehicles' 34th annual Father's Day Car Show at 1:30 p.m. June 16 at Forest Park in Noblesville. featuring 250 antique and special interests cars, about 10,000 spectators and food service from Noblesville Lions Club. Open to cars built prior to 2000 and/or customized/altered. Registration is 9 a.m. to noon for \$10 per vehicle with awards For Best of Show, Best Interior, Best Engine and Best Paint, plus 10 additional awards at 2:30 p.m. Proceeds go to the Elysian

Foundation to benefit

the residents of Normal Life of Sheridan, a homebased program for severely brain injured.

18. Noblesville Main Street's Music & All That Jazz continues with concerts this Saturday, An Evening with Sara's Soiree (Music Lounge); July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 14 and Oct. 12. Noblesville Street Dance is July 20.

19. Celebrate the official opening of Geist Waterfront Park with Fishers Parks' Luau 6-9 p.m. Saturday, with island music, games, a Polynesian drum workshop, Samoan baton twirling, lei making and more at this park on Olio Road.

20. If you love strawberry shortcake, attend St. Michael's

Episcopal Church 46th annual Strawberry Festival 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 15 on the **Hamilton County** Courthouse Square in downtown Noblesville. Attend Noblesville Creates' free Hatchfest 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 15, in conjunction with the Strawberry Festival, at the Hamilton County Courthouse Square in downtown Noblesville, showcasing local artisans and craftsmen.

-Betsy Reason writes about people, places and things in Hamilton County. Contact The Times Editor Betsy Reason at betsy@thetimes24-7.com. For a complete list of all Hamilton County events, go to VisitHamiltonCounty. com/Events.



Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven or Indy's Ghost Light Photography

Experience live theater during Main Street Productions' "You Can't Take It With You," a comedy now through Sunday at Basile Westfield Playhouse.



Photo courtesy of Nickel Plate Express

Ride the Ice Cream Express Fridays from Hobbs Station in Forest Park to the Arcadia Train Depot for a tour and ice cream treat.



# 2024 Fall Ball Season

When: August 17th/18th - October 5th/6th, 2024

- 7 game season to be played on weekends
- Weekday games may be scheduled based on interest or in the event of rainouts
- Single-elimination tournament played the weekend of Oct. 5 & 6

Where: Noblesville Babe Ruth Facility - Logan and Emmerson Fields Forest Park, Noblesville

Who: Everyone - 7th-8th Grade and 9th-12th Grade (based on 2024-2025 School Year Enrollment)

7th - 8th Grade Rec League

- 9th 12th Grade Rec League
- \* Note: Post HS players are not eligible for Fall Ball • There is no Travel Division for the 2024 Fall Ball season

Cost: \$90 per individual registration (plus processing fee applied at checkout)

> Note: Registration does not include jersey or hat. Teams are free to choose their own jerseys/hats (if desired), but the cost is not included with the registration fee.

> > How Do I Register?

www.noblesvillebaberuthbaseball.com

The Times of Noblesville presents...

# Iceland's **Magical Northern Lights**

Hosted by Dick Wolfsie

March 18 - 24, 2025





For more information contact Collette

1-800-581-8942

Please refer to booking #1232517

## **Beckwith Wants Tax Relief for Farmers**

Micah Beckwith, Republican candidate for Lt. Governor, announced that he will lead the effort to lower the tax burden on Indiana farmers. "Our small farmers are being driven out of business by foreign nations such as China with their buying up farmland which is increasing the value of the property and the corresponding taxes. These higher property values are squeezing our local farmers right out of their homes and farms. Agriculture is critical for the wellbeing of Indiana's economy. Hence, we need to help our local farmers by reducing property taxes. That's why I am proposing my second tax relief plan today," said Beckwith, who is the only candidate for Lt. Governor with agricultural experience.

Beckwith plan is to:
• Reduce the

- Reduce the agriculture tax rate from 2% to 1%.
- Stop taxing farmers with buildings at a commercial rate of 3%.
- Help lock in the tax rate at the point of purchase for farmers.
- The reductions will only apply to American owned farms.

"These common sense reforms are long overdue. Why should our local farmers who have fed us and the nation for decades lose their land because the



**Micah Beckwith** 

Chinese are driving up prices? It should not be happening. We can fix this situation by lowering their tax burden," said Beckwith. "Having grown up and worked in the agriculture industry, I will be a fierce advocate for helping our local farmers. I know their issues and problems. I am the candidate best equipped to help them," added Beckwith.

Beckwith recently announced his plan to end property taxes for seniors and veterans and freeze property taxes at the point of purchase. His tax relief plan includes:

- Ending property taxes for seniors over the age of 65 who have lived in Indiana for over 10 years.
- Ending property taxes for veterans who served our nation for 10 years
   Capping property
- taxes at the same level as when the home was purchased.

"I will be the proactive Lt. Governor Hoosiers deserve," said Beckwith.

# Noblesville Named Tops in Nation for STEM

Noblesville Schools has been nationally recognized as a 2024 Project Lead the Way Distinguished District for providing broad access to transformative Science, Technology, Engineering and Math learning opportunities for students.

They are one of only 20 school districts in the nation to receive the honor, putting them in an elite, top 1 percent group nationally. All 10 of the district's schools were also recognized as Distinguished Schools, with Noblesville High School and Noblesville East Middle School receiving the top national honor for the

In addition to dozens of traditional math and science courses,

seventh year in a row.

Noblesville Schools offers 17 different PLTW courses across all grade levels with students exploring robotics, biomedical, cybersecurity, aerospace engineering, construction, energy, weather and much

The Distinguished recognition honors schools committed to increasing student access, engagement, and achievement in their PLTW STEM programs. To be eligible for the designation, schools had to offer a variety of PLTW STEM courses and have a significant portion of students participating in them, while students had to demonstrate mastery in the content and continuation in the programming.

# OPEN

Miller Ambassadors is an engaging, year-long learning experience for select Noblesville community leaders and school district parents to enjoy a deeper understanding of Noblesville Schools.

Program participants are exposed to all facets of running a district, including

## From Page A1

business management, academics, student services, operations and more.

With more than 160 graduates, Miller Ambassadors are partners in sharing Noblesville Schools' vision throughout the community.

# **County Councilman Details May Efforts**



MARK HALL Hamilton County Timesheet.
This column
is a report
of work
done on
behalf of
the people
of Hamilton

Welcome to

the

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 p.m. 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.

In addition to County Council public and RDC meetings, May's work included a joint meeting with the Commissioners, a county financing and debt strategy meeting, attending a Council Commissioner Joint session, a Regional Development Commission meeting, attending RDC vendor interviews and selection meetings, attending a Board of Commissioners public meeting, attending a Noblesville City Council meeting, meeting with the firm recruiting our next Director of Tourism, and attending a Cicero Town council meeting.

This month, along with other RDC members, consultants, and county officials, I participated in the vendor interview and selection process for the Police & Fire Training Center project. It was pretty much as you'd expect, study their proposals, analyze their answers to written questions we'd sent them, check their references on similar projects and then I spent time checking their reputations by speaking with some of my friends that had prior business relationships with the finalists. Each company had 45 minutes to make their pitch and answer questions. Having been on the other side of the table in these things I have a certain appreciation for all the work, preparation and nervous anxiety that goes into preparing to be interviewed for a large project.

As a taxpayer, I appreciate the frank, open, back and forth discussion vetting each proposers' strengths and vulnerabilities. After the grilling of the two finalists was complete, as one of five votes awarding this RDC contract, I felt

good about the discussion we had and how we arrived at a decision to award the contract. It was the first time I had been a part of a contract award like this. Experiencing "how the sausage gets made" gives me an appreciation for what the Commissioners go through regularly in making similar award decisions. This is a \$20,000,000 project, paid for by a county TIF district, and it was approached, vetted and awarded with a tremendous level of fiscal prudency, detail and oversight.

May's personnel committee meeting was moved to a poll of the members. Items included a position reclassification and two new hires in the Emergency Management Department. These changes were based on a review internally and an outside review by the county's independent benefits and compensation vendor. The Finance committee did not meet in May.

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. I was a part of an in-depth county finance strategy meeting this month. Topics included, public market bond financing practices, policies and strategies to minimize interest costs to the taxpayers, future major projects financing and implementing procedures to maintain our present AAA bond rating. The presentation included an impact analysis of rising interest costs allowing the full council to better decide if we use cash or debt to pay for projects. This month there were several taxpayer requests. In the interest of space and brevity, two constituent's requests are highlighted in this month's column. Usually, requests require research with a county department, securing the correct answer and then following up with the taxpayer. May's first request was asking how to remonstrate against the County Utility District. Essentially, their questions boiled down to how can an individual citizen express concerns over the size of the utility district and apprehensions about being required to connect to a utility in the future. The second request, a constituent reached out,

sion vetting each exasperated over their sers' strengths property taxes and their latest assessment.

the grilling of the assessment.

A citizen needed assistance in getting

their voice and

concerns heard by the elected officials who control the Utility District.

The resolution was twofold, first, reassurance to speak their mind to those in power and second, when and how to do so. It may seem as though elected officials are difficult to reach, and the reality is we are, given the schedules we have, but that's the job. My encouragement was to show up, come to the public meetings, they are all published in advance on the county website, write letters and emails, schedule meetings with elected officials. Public opinion really does matter, be heard.

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, 47 percent of their property tax bill goes directly to the schools, 41 percent goes to City Government, 10 percent to County Government and the remainer to the Libraries and Solid Waste.

During the RDC bid process I began asking vendors to provide a cost saving estimate if the county implemented an owner-controlled insurance program, commonly referred to as OCIP. During May, we learned that the county may qualify for such a program. If so, this could represent a savings for the taxpayers in that it allows the county to better manage certain risks and costs for vendors under a standardized larger

county insurance risk program.

Bringing cost savings like this and paying attention to details on spending is what I ran for office on. It's why you hired me to do this work and I'm happy to report back to you about what is going on.

This month, it was an

honor to represent you at the Gaylor Electric National Headquarters grand opening, on WIBC radio, at the Noblesville Youth **Assistance Shining** Stars student recognition dinner, at a transitional housing planning meeting with local agency leaders, at the ABC Prep Academy signing day ceremonies and in meetings with Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen, and with State Senator Scott Baldwin.

This is my time sheet. This is where my time went during month seventeen. There are many projects in the queue for 2024 and beyond, 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@hamilton county.in.gov with questions, feedback or if you would like to talk about county

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.

business.



## How Can College Hall Continue to Bypass Drew Brees?



THOMPSON the team's

Columnist

on May 30.

Drew Brees' 15 seasons in New Orleans not only earned the city a Super Bowl championship but established the quarterback's credentials to become a first-ballot Pro Football Hall of Fame selection when he becomes eligible in 2026.

The best

player in New

history was a

unanimous

selection for

Hall of Fame

Orleans Saints

Brees, who is the lone player honored by the Saints in 2024, was a twotime NFL Offensive Player of the Year and 13-time Pro Bowl quarterback who retired with the secondmost passing vards (80,358) and passing touchdowns (571) in NFL history.

Those numbers are on top of what Brees accomplished at Purdue. He still holds the Big Ten record for career passing yards (11,792) and graduated with two NCAA records, 13 Big Ten marks and 19 Purdue standards. Yet with those numbers I just listed, there's one Hall of Fame whose doors are closed to Brees.

This week's College Football Hall of Fame ballot once again does not have Brees, a black mark on this so-called organization which has been a vagabond shrine since being founded in 1951 by the National Football Foundation. An investigation by the New Jersey attorney general into the finances of the Hall of Fame's foundation in the late 1960s resulted in cancellation of plans to build a permanent shrine at Rutgers. Next stop, New York City. That is until that state's attorney general launched his own investigation.

Kings Mills, Ohio - home of Kings Island amusement

park - was the next destination in 1978 with the hope that visitors to the park would also want to visit the hall of fame. When that wish failed to work out by 1992, South Bend won the bid to become the permanent home. Well, permanent lasting until it closed in September 2012.

The Hall of Fame's current home in Atlanta cost \$68.5 million when it opened on Aug. 23, 2014.

The College Football Hall of Fame's first requirement for enshrinement is a player earing first-team All-American recognition by an organization recognized by the NCAA and utilized to comprise consensus All-America honors.

Brees' lone first-team All-America honor came from Gannett News Service in 2000, which does not fall into either of the Hall of Fame's criteria. Brees, however, did win the Maxwell Award that is presented annually to the best allaround college football

Brees easily fulfills the second and third Hall of Fame requirements.

- He played his final game at Purdue during the 2000 season; the Hall of Fame has a 10-year waiting period. If they played pro football, an athlete must be
- retired to be eligible. A player's postfootball record as a citizen also is weighed. "He must have proven himself worthy as a citizen, carrying the ideals of football forward into his relations with his community and fellow man. Consideration may also be given for academic honors and whether or not the candidate earned a college degree."

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Just ask the people of New Orleans what Brees did for their proud city in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Additionally, the Brees Dream Foundation has contributed more than \$500 million to charitable causes globally. Its mission statement is to improve the quality of life for cancer patients and provide care, education and opportunities for children and families in need.

Brees was named the 2000 Academic All-American Player of the Year and ironically, a recipient of the National Football Foundation's post-graduate scholarship.

The lone exception to the first-team All-America rule to date is another well known quarterback. Fran Tarkenton led the nation in passing in 1960 at Georgia but all that got the future 18-year NFL star was second-team All-America honors. SEC Player of the Year Jake Gibbs of Mississippi swept first-team honors that season. Gibbs would go on to be a catcher with the New York Yankees.

Granted an exception by the National Football Foundation, Tarkenton was elected in 1987.

Since the Joe Tiller National Football Foundation Chapter received its charter in 2004, the group has helped five Purdue players and one coach earn induction: quarterback Mike Phipps (2006), quarterback Mark Herrmann (2010), running back Otis Armstrong (2012), coach William "Lone Star" Dietz (2013), defensive tackle Dave Butz (2014) and defensive back Rod Woodson (2016).

Record-setting wide receiver Taylor Stubblefield once again

is on the Hall of Fame ballot. The consensus 2004 first-team All-American set the NCAA record for career receptions (316) and led the Big Ten in receptions three consecutive seasons (2002-04).

Stubblefield and former Lafayette Jeff/Purdue quarterback Doug Downing will be inducted into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame on Sunday during the Tiller Chapter NFF Honors Brunch at the Purdue Memorial Union. Brees also was elected but will be honored at a later date.

Purdue All-American wide receiver Larry Burton fell off the 2025 ballot, having exceeded the requirement that a player must have played their final game within the past 50 years. Burton's hopes now fall to the Football Bowl Subdivision and Divisional Veterans Committees.

Eligible Purdue consensus All-Americans yet to make an appearance on the College Football Hall of Fame ballot are tight end Dave Young, who played his final game in 1980; punter/kicker Travis Dorsch (2001) and defensive end Ryan Kerrigan (2010).

Young, who died at age 64 in 2023, was the first tight end in college football history to lead the nation in receptions (6.1 per game) in 1980. Dorsch won the 2001 Ray Guy Award as the nation's best punter. Kerrigan set the Big Ten record and matched the national standard with 14 fumbles forced to go with 33.5 sacks and 57 tackles for loss.

Wide receivers Rondale Moore and David Bell will not be eligible until 2030 and 2031, respectively unless both are still playing in the NFL.

Purdue consensus All-Americans before 1974 who are not in the Hall of Fame are running back Ralph "Pest" Welch (final game in 1929), tackle Elmer Sleight (1929), end Paul Moss (1932), running back Duane Purvis (1934), end Dave Rankin (1940), end Bernie Flowers (1952), middle guard Chuck Kyle (1968) and Burton.

Unfortunately for Purdue's winningest football coach Joe Tiller, his career mark of 126-92-1 (.577 winning percentage) falls just shy of the 60 percent standard set by the College Football Hall of Fame. Going 25-25 over his final four seasons at Purdue after posting a 62-37 mark over his first eight years dropped Tiller's winning percentage below 60.

The 2025 Hall of Fame ballot also includes Purdue offensive coordinator Graham Harrell for his accomplishments at Texas Tech and former Indiana University standouts Antwaan Randle El and Vaughn Dunbar.

The electorate consists of more than 12,000 NFF members and surviving Hall of Famers. Retired coaches Nick Saban and Urban Meyer seem a certainty for election.

-Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the Lafayette Journal & Courier and an awardwinning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many vears.



The Times of Noblesville presents...

Iceland's Magical Northern Lights

Hosted by Dick Wolfsie



March 18 - 24, 2025



For more information contact Collette

1-800-581-8942

Please refer to booking #1232517

We appreciate readers!

# he



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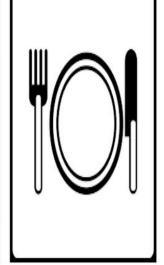
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# **FEATURED BUSINESS**



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# Career Readiness Day Instills Sense of Possibility

HH Schools extended a special thank you to community partners for taking the time to inspire and support our students on their journey of self-discovery: Century 21, Bender Homes, Herrman Veterinary Clinic, T2 Utility Engineers, Snapchat Engle's Tree Moving, Riverview Hospital, IU Health North Hospital, Red Gold, ATI Physical Therapy, Blackmore & Buckner Roofing, Wild Loaf Bakery, Southwest Airlines, Vesprille Family Farm, Hamilton County 9-1-1 Dispatch, Beck's Hybrids, HHSC Transportation Department, Eskew Law Firm, Lifetime Financial Growth, Sunbelt and Indianapolis Metro Police Department (IMPD).







Photos courtesy Hamilton Heights Schools

Steve Becker, an Agricultural Scientist at Beck's Hybrids in Atlanta, explains his role and function to Miss Fleck's 2nd grade class.

Hamilton Heights **Elementary School** recently hosted their 5th Career Readiness Week that drew in 26 professionals from various industries. From an agricultural scientist and school driver to a pediatric nurse and an engineering consultant designer students got an up close and personal visit with professionals in a diverse array of fields. These individuals shared personal insights into their work, their experiences, educational requirements, why they enjoy what they do, and what led them to choose their

Lisa Long offers 4th graders in Mrs.
Zimmerman's class details about equipment she uses as a pediatric nurse with students.

particular career.

This experience really resonated with the students as they thought about the many types of jobs and career paths ahead. Learning about them now helps spark their interest, instill a sense of possibility and see their limitless potential.

"The day was really about broadening horizons and instilling a sense of curiosity in our students," said Tricia Rudy, HHES Counselor, who helped organize the day along with K-4 teachers and community members. "It was a way we could give them a snapshot of opportunities

Barrie Summers, a bus driver with Heights, shares details about her work with Ms. Holt's 2nd grade class.

where they could see themselves using school and personal skills in a diverse array of career paths."

"The support within our community is what made our Career Readiness Week a success," added Rudy, emphasizing the importance of active engagement from both the community and families in shaping student success. We look forward to partnering with these community members again as we expand the program and incorporate the Reaching New Heights initiative. It's great to see kids learn about the careers that they can have in their own community and around the world."

#### **Noblesville Creates Welcomes June Artists**

Noblesville Creates is welcoming Chicqiela Elbert-Velazco and Susan Morgan's Visual Odyssey of Two Old Women exhibit among its other artists of the month in June. Details on Visual Odyssey of Two Old Women, as well as information on the June artist exhibit dates and receptions, are available below.

#### STEPHENSON HOUSE: Chicqiela Elbert-Velazco and Susan Morgan

Artwork created across a lifetime documents not only a progression of skills and ideas, but of the journey of life itself. Artists Chicqiela Velazco and Susan Morgan came to this realization after reflecting upon their portfolios. Their shared exhibit, The Visual Odyssey of Two Old Women revolves around their coming of age growing up on farms in middle America. Their entirely unique work mirrors experiences with cultural and social norms from the 1950's through today.

Chicqiela is a retired art teacher from the **Anderson Community** School Corporation. Chicqiela earned her bachelor's and master's degrees at Ball State University in Art Education. Her career spanned from 1976 to 2006 and today she continues to teach art at various non-profit organizations. Susan obtained her bachelors in fine arts from Anderson University in 1981, and a masters degree from Ball State University in 1990. She went on to lead a career as an art teacher for grades K-12.

Both artists have led similar artistic careers, but their work is very different. Chicqiela's drawings, paintings, and photographs showcase a passion for farming, family, and animals. The style of her work tends to oscillate between representational and abstract realism. Her process varies as well. She may work from her sketches and photographs, or work intuitively to define images emerging from rubbed textures called "frottage."

On the flip side, Susan's "artistic endeavors are illustrative with a \$2.75 side of graphical humor." She notes that she learned survival skills growing up with eight older siblings. Art helped her cope with the chaos. Acrylic paints allow Susan the freedom to work quickly and accommodate her "incredibly short attention span." Her work is executed fast, on a big scale, and utilizing lots of color.

The Visual Odyssey of Two Old Women shows how two artists can share both similarities and differences in personalities, experiences, and creative language. The full exhibit can be seen in the Stephenson House June 7th through the 29th, Wednesday through Friday from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Visitors can meet Chicqiela and Susan during their June First Friday reception from 6-9 p.m.

Exhibit Dates: June 7 to 29, 2024 Reception Date: June 7 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Noblesville Creates campus)

## NOBLESVILLE CITY HALL: Art in Bloom

In celebration of spring and the annual Indiana Peony Festival on May 18, Noblesville City Hall will adorn their gallery space with beautiful blossoms and blooms of art.

Noblesville City Hall is open to the public Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Exhibit Dates: May 3 to June 28, 2024

## MEYER NAJEM: Claudia & Friends

See the full exhibit, Claudia & Friends from April 12 through June 29. This exhibit is viewable at the Meyer Najem 2nd floor gallery, located at 11787 Lantern Road in Fishers, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Exhibit Dates: April 12 to June 29, 2024

#### FOUR DAY RAY: Liz Hamstra

The full exhibit, *Into the Kaleidoscope*, can be seen at Four Day Ray Brewing, located at 11671 Lantern Road in Fishers, Sunday and Monday from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., and Friday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

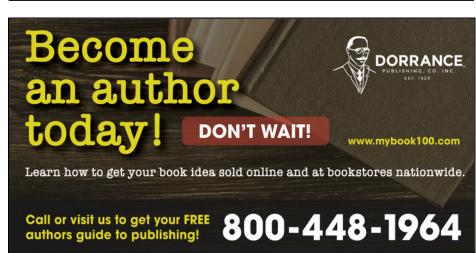
Exhibit Dates: April 5 to June 29, 2024 Reception Date: June 25 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (Four Day Ray Brewery Fishers)

# TIMES Visit us online: thetimes24-7.com









#### Pleasant Street Tunnel Mural Unveiled

A mural depicting Noblesville scenes and historical elements has recently been painted on the new pedestrian tunnel as part of the Reimagine Pleasant Street project. The city worked closely with local artists Corey and Casey Wilkinson of Wilkinson Brothers, Inc., to commission a custom mural along the north side of the project's pedestrian trail.

The mural highlights the message of connectivity, from past and present, in all modes and from every corner of the City of Noblesville. The mural on the north end of the pedestrian tunnel links three trails: Riverwalk, Midland Trace, and Nickel Plate. This mural reaches beyond the trail connectivity, as various elements highlight the story of our community connection, including the historic interurban electric streetcar, star brick-lined streets, a train on the Midland Railway, and the engagement of the White River, among others. The plum trees

pay homage to the

Prairie, while the

surrounding historic

peonies tie together

neighborhood of Plum



The city says the mural highlights the connection of past and present Noblesville.

the celebrations of the present.

"Reimagine Pleasant
Street is more than just
a road project," said
Noblesville Mayor Chris
Jensen. "This project is a
reflection of our
connected community,
and we're excited to see
this mural come to life
as part of our
commitment to highlight
the beauty and
character of
Noblesville."

"We've always respected Noblesville as a hardworking, creative community that knows how to have fun," the Wilkinson brothers said. "For many years, we've played in its waters, ridden its trails and enjoyed its downtown – we hope this mural shows our appreciation and prompts some

of concrete relief

murals, designed by

and prompts some end smiles from passersby." Cor and Two additional public art loo installations in the form

Noblesville native Phoebe Davis-Dearth, adorn the south walls surrounding the pedestrian tunnel, reflecting Noblesville and Indiana's heritage, including the state flower, a peony, and the state bird, a cardinal.

"We have a vibrant art scene in Noblesville, and these unique murals reflect the rich history of our city and Hamilton County," said Noblesville Community Development Director Sarah Reed. "This quality of place effort will have a lasting impact for our community and will encourage the continued efforts to grow public art in public spaces.

The first phase of the project, which is the segment from River Road to 11th Street, is planned to be completed by the end of this year.

Construction for Phases 2 and 3 has begun, and we look forward to the entire corridor being open to traffic by the end of 2025.