

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**

John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. A made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

## Hamilton Happenings

The Street Dance from the good folks at Main Street and the city makes its annual return on Saturday, July 20 in a celebration of our hometown pride through food, shopping, and of course, an endless night of live music. For this year only, experience Street Dance in its new location of Federal Hill Commons - just a short hop across the River from Noblesville Square!

## Three Things You Should Know

- Companies prioritizing DEI in their mission and values are encouraged to apply for the 2024 Jackson Lewis Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Champion Award. The recognition is part of the Indiana Chamber of Commerce's annual Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Summit. Companies can apply through Aug. 29 at [www.indianachamber.com/deiaward](http://www.indianachamber.com/deiaward).
- Pork Riblets have been named Indiana Pork's "Taste of the Fair" food at the 2024 Indiana State Fair. They will be served at the three Indiana Pork tents for \$11 from Aug. 2-18. The signature food, which features a smaller portion of traditional pork ribs, is paired with three unique sauces: Hot Honey, Nelson's Red Sauce, and Citrus Explosion. Indiana Pork has three tents located on the Indiana State Fairgrounds. Tents can be found in front of the West Pavilion, Indiana Farm Bureau Fall Creek Pavilion, and near Pioneer Village.
- Organizations and communities can now apply for grants to support developing and expanding public rifle, handgun, shotgun, or archery ranges through the DNR's Shooting Range Grant program. Projects may include new range construction or expansion of existing range facilities. The deadline is Oct. 1. Grants are awarded based on the respective letters of intent. Applicants selected must provide 10% of the total project cost. Letters of intent must be emailed to Sam Whiteleather at [swhiteleather@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:swhiteleather@dnr.IN.gov).

# The TIMES



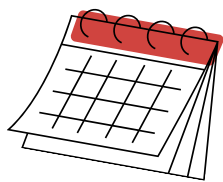
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**BTN** By The Numbers, a look at what's in the news... by the numbers. These are just numbers, not suggestions that they mean more or less than what they are. We do not suggest that one number is connected to another. These are simply facts with no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

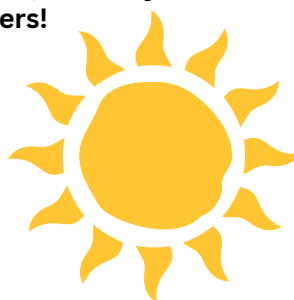
Last week, we took a quick look at summer weather by the numbers. A lot of people asked about other relevant summer numbers, so today we're taking a look at the overall wonderful world of summers!

**94** The number of days of summer this year. It began on June 20 - less than a month ago - and comes to an end on Sept. 22.



**69**

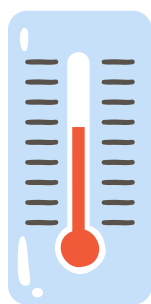
That's the number of days we have left until that first day of fall.



**16** The number of days until the first day of school for Noblesville students - July 31.



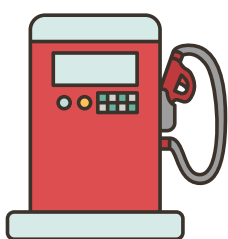
**50** Sorry to tell you this kids, but back in the day, this would be the number of days until the first day of school. We used to go back on the day after Labor Day - which would be Sept. 3 this year.



**86** The average high temperature in both July and August in central Indiana.

**\$3.92**

Average price of gallon of gas in Indiana now - just in case you are getting ready to hit the road for a summer vacation getaway!



**3** According to our friends at Tripadvisor, the top three international summer vacations this year are Cancun, Cabo San Lucas and Punta Cana. And in the U.S., U.S. News & World Report says it's Glacier National Park, Yellowstone and San Diego. We're wondering, what happened to Brown County?

**6** For those who aren't fans of the summer weather - this is how many months until January when the average high temperature is a chilly 34 degrees!

**TODAY'S HEALTH TIP**

If you're over 60, talk to your doctor about getting a shot to prevent shingles.

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



**TODAY'S QUOTE**

"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time."

Thomas Edison

**OBITUARIES**

None

**TODAY'S JOKE**

What do world-class sprinters eat before the finals?  
Nothing. They fast.

## Sights, Sounds, Smells of 4-H Fair, Despite Construction



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

Hamilton County Extension Homemaker Silvernotes members Diana Stanton (left) and her daughter-in-law, Emily Wilhelm, work together to make and serve elephant ears during the 2023 Hamilton County 4-H Fair. The Silvernotes' booth returns to this year's Fair, July 18-22, in Noblesville.



**BETSY REASON**  
Columnist

We love the Hamilton County 4-H Fair and look forward to it every year. Maybe it's the smell of the horses and cows and pigs that fill the barns. Or the thousands of 4-H'ers projects that are judged and on display to the public. Or maybe the delicious food that's being served by 4-H'ers, Extension Homemakers and other groups.

There is just something magical about the 4-H Fair. If you've driven by the 4-H Fairgrounds this week, you've probably noticed that big tents are set up, animal barns are open and the parking lot is bustling with 4-H'ers checking in their 4-H projects for this year's Fair.

But you've also probably noticed that there is a lot of construction work at the 4-H Fairgrounds. The O.V. Winks Building, Annex Building and Centennial (picnic) Pavilion have been demolished, with a big pile of rubble remaining and, in their place, a new Bicentennial Pavilion is under construction as part of Silos@37, the re-imagined 4-H Fairgrounds and Event Center.

On Sunday afternoon, we went to the Fairgrounds and checked in our daughter Addie's 4-H projects. The projects that usually are displayed in the O.V. Winks and Annex buildings were

➔ See BETSY Page A3



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## OUR GENERATION with the Times

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

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## Summer Update From Hamilton Heights



**DR. ARROWOOD**  
Guest Columnist

I hope that you are enjoying a wonderful summer! We have been busy in the district preparing for the new school year which starts on Tuesday, August 6 – less than a month away!

Hamilton Heights Elementary School is in the process of preparing to become an Indiana Purple Star School. This designation honors schools that have displayed a significant commitment to service members, veterans, and students and families connected to our nation's military. It also lets military parents know, whether they are on Active Duty, in the National Guard, Reserves, or no longer actively serving, that a school is dedicated to helping their child gain the educational skills necessary to be college-, work- and life-ready. It additionally indicates that a school supports the social and emotional wellbeing of military kids adjusting to new schools and the absence of a parent during deployment.

To help us join the distinguished ranks of Indiana schools recognized as Purple Star Schools, we need input from our military parents. If you are serving in the military and work at Heights or have children attending Heights, click here to complete the short questionnaire. Thank you for your time and assistance with this endeavor.

I am pleased to share Hamilton Heights Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2024 honorees who include Tony Cook ('69), Hamilton Heights' Undefeated Football Team ('70), Tracey (Money) Million ('88), Zack Bardonner ('98), and Austin Etherington ('11). A special luncheon followed by the induction ceremony is set for 12 p.m. on Saturday, October 5 at Hamilton Heights High School, 25802 SR 19, Arcadia, Indiana. Inductees will be given a metal display and their names and pictures proudly displayed in the Athletic Hall of Fame in the Athletic Center. Tickets for the ceremony and lunch are \$10. Contact Mitch Street for more information and/or tickets at [mstreet@hhschuskies.org](mailto:mstreet@hhschuskies.org) or 317-984-3551 ext. 1092.

If your child uses Heights' transportation and you have changes (i.e., address, are attending before or after care, or will no longer be riding the bus) or have questions related to your child's bus route, now is the time to contact our Transportation Department at 317-984-8404. Bus routes are currently being created to best optimize service, ride time, and efficiency based on bus capacities, stop locations, and the number of students at each stop. Our drivers will be contacting parents of bus riders the first week of August to ensure an accurate count of riders, pick up and drop of points, and approximate times for their riders to help us better serve the families in our district.

As a reminder, the Hamilton County Health Department will be hosting a back-to-school vaccination clinic at Hamilton Heights Middle School on July 31 from 1 – 6 p.m. as part of the Husky Connect Day. Click here to register and learn more about what you need to know about your child receiving a vaccination at this event.

The community is invited to attend the 11th annual Prayer Breakfast on Friday, August 2 at the Middle School Café beginning at 7 a.m. A light breakfast will be served with the program beginning at 7:30 a.m. Music will be provided by the Cicero United Family Wesleyan Church with Pastor Allen Gross. This year's speaker is Chuck Lofton, a well-known and award-winning meteorologist and feature reporter for WTHR-TV in Indianapolis. He has been a part of the 13News Sunrise team since the very first show in September 1985. Kindly bring Capri Sun pouches or individual juice bottles to donate to the Hamilton Heights' Backpack program. The event is hosted by the Heights Area Pastors in conjunction with HHSC.

Enjoy the rest of your summer. See you in August for the start of another incredible school year!  
#WeAreHuskies

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

## Meijer Opens New Store in Noblesville; Donates \$10K to Youth Baseball



Photo courtesy Meijer

The 90-square-foot store is located at the intersection of Little Chicago Road and State Road 32.

Meijer's new 90,000-square-foot grocery store in Noblesville opened last week, bringing fresh, convenient grocery shopping to the Promenade of Noblesville. Located at the intersection of Little Chicago Road and State Road 32, the store's condensed footprint offers a food-focused shopping experience, as well as all the essential categories a customer might need for a quick trip or weekly restock, including produce, dry grocery, fresh meat cut daily, bakery equipped with in-store cake decorators, full-service deli, pharmacy, health and beauty, baby, pets, consumables, cards, party and floral.

"As we celebrate our 90th year as a family owned retailer, we're excited to bring our shopping experience to customers in Hamilton County for added convenience near home," Executive Chairman Hank Meijer said. "Our longevity as a company wouldn't be possible without team members like the ones here in Noblesville, who have worked so hard to prepare this store for opening."

The new store features convenient digital shopping solutions, including Shop & Scan, which allows shoppers to scan barcodes via a

mobile app and bag their items as they shop to make checkout convenient. The store also offers deep discounts on surplus food via the Flashfood app, an expanded area for Meijer Home Delivery and Pickup services, and mPerks rewards to help customers earn on every dollar spent.

The new Noblesville Grocery store is the third Meijer Grocery format store and the 43rd Meijer store in Indiana. The retailer has invested heavily to serve Indiana since opening its first store in the Hoosier state in 1994, and now employs more than 10,000 team members statewide, in stores and in its manufacturing facility in Middlebury. Noblesville Grocery Store Director Travis Bernath and his team welcomed customers with a round of applause, later followed by a ribbon-cutting event, featuring remarks from Meijer President & CEO Rick Keyes and Hank Meijer. Bernath demonstrated the store's support of the community by presenting a \$10,000 donation to Noblesville Youth Baseball to install a new water station at the organization's facilities and provide fresh fruit to athletes on game days.

The week before, the store team donated \$15,000 to Fueled for School, an organization working to eliminate hunger and provide access to nutritious food for students in Hamilton County.

"Investing in the communities we serve is a top priority, and we begin that process long before the doors of a new store open," Keyes said. "We look forward to seeing this store further our purpose of enriching lives in the communities we serve, not just by offering convenient shopping solutions and positive economic impact, but also as a strong and active community partner."

Meijer donates at least 6 percent of its net profit to charitable organizations annually, and each of its stores works with local food banks and pantries to help fight hunger. Since 2008, the retailer's Simply Give program has generated more than \$90 million for its food pantry partners throughout the Midwest. The Noblesville Grocery store is partnering with Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank for the fall campaign, which runs through Sept. 28. Continuing the retailer's ongoing efforts to ensure accessibility for all

customers, the store features new larger, height-adjustable changing tables in the family restrooms for the added convenience and dignity of customers with disabilities and their caregivers. As in all Meijer stores, the Noblesville Grocery store also offers free access to Aira, an app-based service that provides live navigation assistance to blind and low-vision customers using the camera of their smartphones.

A Meijer Express gas station adjacent to the store opened on June 14, featuring a unique addition not found in other Meijer Express stations, serving hot, ready-to-eat prepared food all day long. Breakfast selections include breakfast sandwiches, burritos and pizza, and lunch and dinner options feature a menu of quesadillas, burritos and burrito bowls, along with a variety of sandwich offerings, Meijer Crafted meals and multiple ready-to-eat or made-to-order pizza options. The gas station also offers a wide variety of convenient drinks and snacks including fresh, hot coffee, cold drinks, healthy snacks, candy and chips.

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a single interview!

Thank you for reading  
**The Times**

# BETSY

From Page A1



The Times photos by Betsy Reason

## The Hamilton County 4-H Fair will open Thursday alongside the fenced construction area of the new event center at 2003 E. Pleasant St., in Noblesville.

checked in at the Exhibition Center.

Despite the construction, the 4-H Fair, which opens Thursday and continues through July 22, will carry on this year as usual.

I'm told all of the 2023 4-H Fair food vendors will return for the 2024 4-H Fair.

"Exactly the same, just new locations," said Bernie Huber, program assistant at Purdue Extension of Hamilton County.

"It will be a scavenger hunt this year to find your favorites," she said.

What does that mean?

"There is a new layout. Picnic tables will be under two tents and spread around the grassy food court areas. Food vendors are all around the Exhibition Center where all exhibits will be this year, except animals and crops," Huber said, noting that the food court locations have changed numerous times and weren't listed in the Fairbook's map. "That's because it changes

constantly. Made layout proposal No. 13," she said.

Homemakers will serve breakfast and dinner each day in the Exhibition Center dining room as usual. But there will be no tables for eating in the Exhibition Center's Hall B, just exhibits. And one kitchen for all food vendors to share.

What else? There will be an entertainment tent in the commercial area for bands and special events.

Huber said, "The word this year is 'flexibility.'"

*-Betsy Reason writes about people, places and things in Hamilton County. Contact The Times Editor Betsy Reason at [betsy@thetimes.com](mailto:betsy@thetimes.com) 24-7.com.*

*Reason is a nine-year 4-H'er from Henry County. Her daughter is one of 51 10-year Hamilton County 4-H'ers who were recognized Friday night during the Hamilton County 4-H Queen Pageant. The Times is recognizing all of the 10-year members starting on page A7 in today's edition.*

## WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE 4-H FAIR?

The Hamilton County 4-H Fair kicks off Thursday and continues through July 22 at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds in Noblesville with the annual livestock auction on July 23.

### Here's what's on the menu and the schedule:

In the 4-H Commons Area, Hamilton County Producer groups will serve grilled cheese (11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday); Joint Producers Barbecue usually featuring ribeyes and hamburgers; rabbit brats, BBQ and burgers; turkey burger; pork loin, brats, BBQ and burgers; lamb burgers, brats, kabobs and BBQ; and waffle fries and corn on the cob, (11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday through July 22 and 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. July 23); Rabbit Poultry Producers Barbecue, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday; Pork Producers Barbecue, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; Sheep Producer Barbecue, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday; Beef Producers Barbecue, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 22.

Fishers Baptist Church will offer gyros and lemon shakeups. Hamilton County Silvernotes will serve handmade elephant ears. Fishers United Methodist Church will serve pork tenderloin, fruit cobbler and ice cream. First Christian Church will serve corn dogs, sloppy Joes, shrimp, chicken nuggets, breadsticks. North Circle Church will serve funnel cakes and fried Oreos. Husky Dawg Wrestling will sell walking tacos. Noblesville H&H 4-H Club will sell novelty candy, but no chocolate. Ice Guys will serve SnoCones.

Hamilton County Junior Leaders Stand will offer Coke and Powerade, pizza, hot dogs and chips.

Hamilton County Farm Bureau will serve milkshakes and milk.

Inside the Exhibition Center, Hamilton County Extension Homemakers in their dining room will offer daily specials: Thursday, a variety of sandwiches; Friday, chicken and noodles; Saturday, a variety of sandwiches; Sunday, beef and noodles; with other food available daily through Monday. Breakfast served 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday through Sunday, and 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. on July 22.

### Highlights of the fair:

-Thursday -- 4-H bucket calf show, 8:30 a.m. with 4-H Dairy show to follow; 4-H senior llama showmanship, 9:30 a.m.; crops judging; and horse & pony English show and poultry show, all at 10 a.m.; tractor driving contest at 1 p.m.; llama pack obstacle course at 1:30 p.m.; Extension Homemakers flower show at 1-9 p.m., Kids Crafts (birdhouse decorating) at 2 p.m.; blood drive sponsored by Hamilton County 4-H Council and Versiti Blood Center of Indiana from 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Providence Wildlife live animal demo at 5 p.m.; Pygmy Goat Show at 4 p.m.; Do-Si-Squares square-dance exhibition at 5 p.m.; Rabbit Ambassadors at 6 p.m.; and Clogging exhibition at 7 p.m.  
 -Friday -- Rabbit show and beef grooming contest at 8:30 a.m.; 4-H chicken barbecue contest at 9 a.m.; intermediate llama showmanship at 9:30 a.m.; horse and pony western show at 10 a.m.; sheep fitting contest at 10:30 a.m.; Indiana Wild Animal demo at 11 a.m.; llama obstacle course at noon; meat goat show and kids crafts (sand craft) at 1 p.m., blood drive from 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. (donors receive free milkshake and Indiana State Fair ticket); llama costume contest at 5 p.m.; beef barbecue and leaping llamas at 6 p.m., sewing and consumer clothing revue at 7 p.m.; walk-a-llama at 7:30 p.m.; Bracken DJ & Sound Co. at 8 p.m.

-Saturday -- 4-H public speaking contest at 8:30 a.m.; swine show at 9 a.m.; llama junior showmanship at 9:30 a.m.; horse and pony dressage show at 10 a.m.; 4-H demonstration contest at 11 a.m.; antique tractor pull at 1 p.m.; llama field obstacle at 1:30 p.m.; kids crafts (watch it grow) at 2 p.m.; Extension Homemakers food and craft show at 3 p.m.; cat show and dog drill team demo at 5 p.m.; horse and pony contesting show at 6 p.m., homemade ice cream contest at 6:30 p.m.; youth swine exhibition and Walk-a-Lama at 7 p.m.; The Grace Scott Band at 8 p.m.

-Sunday -- Sheep wool judging at 9:30 a.m.; non-denominational community worship service, horse & pony hunter and jumper show and sheep show at 10 a.m.; pocket pet show at noon; Caravan Classes kids crafts noon to 4 p.m.; lawn and garden tractor contest and walk-a-llama at 1 p.m.; Gilbert Family Gospel Band and youth pedal tractor pull at 2 p.m.; parents' llama show at 2:30 p.m.; kids crafts (Insects made my ice cream Sundae) at 3 p.m.; youth sheep exhibition at 4:30 p.m.; antique tractor parade, food and microwave champion auction at 5 p.m.; pet parade also at 5 p.m. (note change of time from previous years) and Farmer Olympics at 6 p.m.

-Monday -- Beef show at 9 a.m.; 1/16th tractor pull at 9:30 a.m.; horse and pony versatility show and llama youth judging at 10 a.m.; youth talent shows at 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.; Royal Showmanship at 3 p.m. and Supreme Showmanship at 7 p.m.

-Tuesday -- Livestock auction at 5:30 p.m.

For more information, visit [extension.purdue.edu](http://extension.purdue.edu)

## Community First Offers Free Shred Days in Noblesville, Westfield



Photo courtesy Community First Bank

### Westfield's event is July 25 with Noblesville on Sept. 24.

Community First Bank of Indiana (CFB) is hosting two Free Shred Days in Hamilton County open to the community.

The Westfield event will be held on Thursday, July 25 from 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. at its branch located at 707 East State Road 32. Freewill donations will be welcome to support Student Impact of Westfield.

The Noblesville event will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 24 from 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. at its branch located at 17661 Village Center Drive in Noblesville. Freewill donations will be welcome to support Family Promise of Hamilton County.

For both events, all are welcome to drive through the branch parking lot to drop off boxes of documents to be securely shredded with PROSHRED® Security. There is a

limit of 5 boxes to be shredded per vehicle, and the event will end once the shred truck is full. All documents will be shredded on-site and 100% of the paper is recycled and eventually made into other paper products. Three-ring binders cannot be shredded.

Over time, unused documents like medical records, credit card statements, and bills can build up in a home or office and pose a security threat. Ensuring that all of these items are properly disposed of by using document shredding can prevent this personal information from falling into the wrong hands. Community First Bank's Free Shred Days are a part of the bank's commitment to supporting its communities.

Find the event details at [CFBindiana.com/shred](http://CFBindiana.com/shred).

## Noblesville Lions Elect New Officers



Photo courtesy Noblesville Lions

At the July 10 meeting the Noblesville Lions inducted the new 2024-25 officers. The new year began July 1 and runs to June 30 each year. New officers include President – Jeff Kozicki, 1st Vp – Hayden Parsons, 2nd Vp – Julie Davis, Secretary – Steve Shaw, Treasurer – Cheryl Helton, Membership – Walt Scheid, Marketing/Communications – Jake Doll, Tail Twister – Josh Kozicki, Lion Tamer – Jen Carr, Chaplain – John Grimes, Service Chairperson – Kim Luckey, Fund Raising Chair – Jeff Kozicki, LCIF Coordinator – Julia Kozicki, Board of Directors – Joe Arrowood, Joe Connerley, Krys Keller and Mark Bachar

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1-800-581-8942

Please refer to booking #1232517

# Iceland's Magical Northern Lights



# Rewriting My Story **Wolfsie's Pillow Talk**



**CARRIE CLASSON**  
The Postscript

I've been working on a script with a producer named Eli.

I'm going to perform a

show made from pieces of columns I've written over the years. I've been looking for themes and ideas and stringing them together, and I thought I'd done a pretty good job, so I sent off a draft to Eli.

"This is not what we talked about!" Eli told me.

I was hurt. When we first spoke, I wasn't sure what to write. I had a lot of ideas about different things. But, since then, I'd read a bunch of books about how to write a script properly, and everything I read said I needed to be focused. I needed to know exactly what topic I wanted to talk about and stay on track.

Staying on track is sometimes hard for me when there are so many enticing bunny trails along the way. So I'd spent the last few weeks tossing out all the stray ideas. I made the whole thing one streamlined thesis, and I was pretty pleased with myself—until I talked to Eli.

"You were going to write about all kinds of things, not just one subject!" he went on, not sounding happy with me at all.

"Well, yes," I admitted, "but that was before I understood how important it was to find one main topic and stick to it and..."

"I like the other idea better!"

I didn't know what to say. I don't know Eli very well, but I respect him a lot. I thought he'd be pleased I had done all this research and was so much better organized.

"But the 'other idea' wasn't really an idea!" I told him. "I just had a picture in my head of a lot of stories about different things that may or may not be

connected."

"I like that better!" he said.

So then I had to think. And I've been thinking ever since.

Because Eli wants this script to be something bigger than a few funny stories. He doesn't want a single, easy-to-digest theme. Eli wants the whole shebang. He wants me to tell a story about how I see the world and why. He wants me to take the happy and funny and sad and the painful and mix them in a way that makes sense of them as a whole.

And he's made me realize that we are all storytellers, telling ourselves our story every day.

We take stories from our youth and struggles we've had as adults and heartache and disappointments and moments of indescribable joy, and we make sense of them in a way that defines us—to ourselves. All the happiest parts and all the hardest parts and every part in between, all the things that happened to us and what we thought about them afterward and how they changed us and become the story of who we are.

And Eli is right.

There is no point in trying to tell one piece of the story. The advice from the books I read would be great if I had some terrific new idea about how to do something faster or cheaper or more efficiently—but I don't have any ideas like that.

I just have this idea that it's good to embrace our stories—because they are ours, because we have the power to tell them in a way that allows us to change and grow. We can use our stories to make the rest of our lives a little better and more compassionate.

So now I'm rewriting my story for Eli—and for me.

*Till next time, Carrie*



**DICK WOLFSIE**  
Funny Bone

About this time last year, Mary Ellen and I spent our anniversary downtown at a charming

little bed and breakfast. It was our way of celebrating 43 years since we fell in love. To commemorate this, I fell out of bed.

I did not expect it to happen again, but it has occurred several times in the last year or so—once with me almost ending up in the ER after hitting my noggin. This confirmed Mary Ellen's longtime assertion that I should have my head examined. After my most recent crash landing, we knew something had to be done.

Mary Ellen purchased an inflatable bed bumper rail from a company called hiccapop. When the box arrived, I thought hiccapop was one of those fancy energy drinks my wife buys. By the way, I know the "h" in hiccapop should be upper case, but no words in their instructions are capitalized. not one. they think that is clever. i don't. i think it's pretentious.

The hiccapop bed rail is a five-foot-long cylindrical pillow. When you blow it up, it looks like a long white log. You stick it under your fitted sheet on the side of the bed to prevent your potential plummet to the floor. The accompanying instructions make it clear that this is really intended for toddlers who have made the transition from a crib to a real bed, a transition I made during the Truman administration.

One woman writes on Amazon: The hiccapop keeps my son safe. I no longer have to worry about the little guy falling out of bed. It's a relief to know my six-year-old is protected.

(Note to readers: Reread that review and substitute the word husband for son, then substitute old man for little guy. Then, replace the number six with the number 77. See how

humiliating this whole predicament is for me?)

Nettie, our housekeeper, came this week. She told Mary Ellen she wasn't going to clean in the bedroom because it looked like I was napping.

"Oh, that's not my husband. That's his hiccapop."

"Well, whoever he is, I can't vacuum until he gets out of bed."

The hiccapop business is very consumer oriented. "If you ever need parts, we will send them to you free of charge," the company declares in its instructions. Question: Have you ever needed to replace parts in a pillow? They provide a warranty for the pillow "...even if your dog chews it accidentally." I have no clue what that means. Barney, our old Beagle, once chewed up Mary Ellen's brand-new shoes. "Why don't you scold him?" Mary Ellen asked me.

"Because it wasn't his fault. He ate them accidentally."

Finally, concerned about having their other baby hiccapop product ideas ripped off, the company issued this warning in their accompanying brochure: "To you beef-witted design pirates, do NOT copy our stuff, or we will sue you." I have never heard that expression, but there's nothing more threatening than a well-placed meat metaphor.

By the way, the product really works. I have not rolled off the side of the bed since we installed the bumper, but I may have to return it and get a new one. I'm still a restless sleeper with a lot of nervous energy. Because of that, I chewed into my hiccapop one night while sleeping and it deflated.

Mary Ellen forgave me. I told her it was an accident.

*— Dick Wolfsie spent his career sharing his humor, stories and video essays on television, radio and in newspapers. His columns appear weekly in The Times. E-mail Dick at Wolfsie@aol.com.*

## FOR THE RECORD

### NOBLESVILLE SCHOOLS

AGENDA / REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CENTER BOARD ROOM  
18025 River Road  
Noblesville, Indiana  
Monday, July 15, 2024  
6:00 P.M.

The items on this agenda are being addressed with the best interests of Noblesville Schools' students as the prime consideration.

I. CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – MOMENT OF SILENCE

II. RECOGNITIONS

• Spring Athletics / NHS

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA TOPICS

The purpose of this comment period is to allow the public an opportunity to share input with the

Board about current agenda topics, pursuant to Policy H225, Public Comments and Concerns.

IV. CONSENT

By single motion, the board approves/adopts the following items or actions which reflect application

of Board Policy and Indiana Code. Any items marked "Consent" may be moved from the list at the

option of a board member or the superintendent and acted on separately.

§ Claims

§ Contracts, Agreements, Sponsorships

§ Donations

§ Minutes / June 2024

§ Personnel / Personnel Addendum

V. ACTION

By individual motions, the board approves/adopts the following items or actions which reflect

application of Board Policy and Indiana Code.

§ Background Checks

§ Advertise Budgets

§ Policy Adoption

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT – NON-AGENDA TOPICS

The purpose of this comment period is to allow the public an opportunity to share input with the

Board about non-agenda topics, pursuant to Policy H225, Public Comments and Concerns.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The school board president asks for a motion to adjourn.

### CLAY TOWNSHIP BOARD

Tuesday July 16, 2024  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CLAY TOWNSHIP BOARD  
6:00 P.M.  
Community Room  
John W. Hensel Government Center  
10701 N. College Avenue, Carmel, Indiana

#### AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Public Comments
- IV. Approval of Minutes
  1. Minutes from the May 21, 2024 Regular Meeting Board Meeting
- V. Action Items
  - A. Resolution No. 2024-07-16-01 Additional Appropriations
- VI. Information Item
  1. Renee Butts – Carmel Fire Department
  2. Update on Township assistance
  3. Update on projects
- VII. Financial Questions from Board
- VIII. Board Comments
- IX. Announcements
  1. Next Meeting September 17, 2024 – pre budget hearing
- X. Adjournment

*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.*



## 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

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# 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

# 2024 Mercedes-Benz G550 is Absolutely Ridiculous – And Charmingly Glorious for It



**CASEY WILLIAMS** Auto Reviews

The Mercedes-Benz G550 is absolutely ridiculous! Originally introduced forty-five years ago as the military-ready Gelandewagen, it looks like a Jeep, pampers like an S-Class and costs more than a Maybach. It has steel cargo plates on its roof, for goodness sakes! G-Wagens found favor with celebrities like Cindy Crawford and Tina Turner. One even carried The Pope. But, what does my family think of it?

We're on our way from Indianapolis to Clifty Falls State Park, near the Ohio River to find out.

The G550 looks like the shipping container an EQE electric crossover rides in, but gleams with round LED headlamps, 18-inch matte black wheels, black logos, and rear-mounted spare tire. My eyes flutter in disbelief as we sling our weekend luggage and imbibe onto the cargo compartment's cherry wood floors. We clink shut the vault and go around front.

The flat doors click open to opulence glorified by Nappa leather, twin

screens, ash wood, and the reek of wealth. My daughter conjures "The 10 Spot" on satellite radio, powers open the sunroof and rocks out to the deep Bermester audio system. It's pretty sweet. There's no wireless Apple CarPlay, and I only find old-school USB-B ports, so connecting my new iPhone proves tricky. Daughter doesn't care as she discovers our heated and ventilated seats with massagers. I have a heated steering wheel too. This is going to be a good ride.

Navigation routes us out of our neighborhood, across city streets, and onto I65 South. It's been 22 years since I last drove a G-Wagen. It looks the same, but is slightly wider for side impact performance. It also gained an independent front suspension, rack-and-pinion steering, and an air suspension. Three locking differentials remain should we confront a goat. Automatic emergency braking, lane keep assist, and blind spot warning systems protect our flanks.

It's surprisingly sublime on the Interstate, but we soon route through tight two-lanes to the state

park. This is not a conveyance you toss into a corner casually. This witch will twitch if you go in hot, but driven with respect, it won't embarrass its patron. It simply pulverizes rough pavement while occupants hover on an electronically controlled cushion of air.

I cackle when I step into the 416 horsepower 4.0-litre Biturbo V8 engine, sending its fortitude to the four-wheel-drive system through a 9-speed automatic transmission. It makes quick work of short straights, tossing carnal luxuries from curve to curve with indecent vigor. There's always a yearning rumble beneath your feet, but brace yourself for 13/16-MPG city/highway.

Having finally arrived, the G550 looks natural lurking through forest and resting outside the inn. It's exactly the kind of ride you should take to a rustic inn as it gets you there in comfort and welcomes adventure. You sense the inherent tight maneuvering and excellent visibility for off-roading translate to tight garages too.

It's all a bit weird. Closing the door sounds

like a 1970 S-Class. Clink! The engine channels AMG. Roar! Its tippy in corners, but the chassis delights. Wafy! It's all so endearing. I look at my daughter as we drive to a nearby café. She's rocking out with wind in her hair, looking like a YouTube influencer. She grins at me, "Slay!" I think that means the G550 has her approval.

It should. The G550 starts at \$143,000, but two packages that include massage seats, leather-wrapped dash, black logos and...Cherry wood floor add nearly \$38,000! All in, this specimen snatches \$188,650 - more than a Maybach GLS three-row SUV. But unlike vehicles they may lease and toss, I suspect owners will keep and cherish their G550s.

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

- Likes**
- Endearing charm
  - Hedonistic comfort
  - Biturbo V8
- Dislikes**
- Phone connections
  - Fuel economy
  - Breathtaking price

**2024 Mercedes-Benz G550**  
Five-passenger, 4WD SUV  
Powertrain: 4.0-liter TTV8, 9-spd trans  
Output: 416hp/450 lb.-ft. torque  
Suspension f/r: Adaptive Ind/Ind  
Wheels f/r: 18"/18" alloy  
Brakes f/r: disc/disc  
0-60 mph: 5.6s  
Fuel economy: 13/26 mpg city/hwy  
Assembly: Graz, Austria  
Base/As-tested price: \$143,000/188,650

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# 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

# FOR THE RECORD

## CARMEL COMMON COUNCIL

MEETING AGENDA  
 MONDAY, JULY 15, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.  
 COUNCIL CHAMBERS/CITY HALL/ONE CIVIC SQUARE

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. AGENDA APPROVAL
3. INVOCATION
4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
5. RECOGNITION OF CITY EMPLOYEES AND OUTSTANDING CITIZENS
6. RECOGNITION OF PERSONS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL
7. COUNCIL AND MAYORAL COMMENTS/OBSERVATIONS
8. CONSENT AGENDA
  - a. Approval of Minutes
  1. July 1, 2024 Regular Meeting
  - b. Claims
    1. Payroll - \$3,742,535.53
    2. General Claims - \$1,993,582.28
    3. Retirement - \$110,204.16
    4. Wire Transfers - \$39,099,019.84
  9. ACTION ON MAYORAL VETOES
  10. COMMITTEE REPORTS
    - a. Finance, Utilities and Rules Committee
    - b. Land Use and Special Studies Committee
  - c. All reports designated by the Chair to qualify for placement under this category.
  11. OTHER REPORTS – (at the first meeting of the month specified below):
    - a. Carmel Redevelopment Commission (Monthly)
    - b. Carmel Historic Preservation Commission (Quarterly – January, April, July, October)
    - c. Audit Committee (Bi-annual – May, October)
    - d. Redevelopment Authority (Bi-annual – April, October)
    - e. Carmel Cable and Telecommunications Commission (Bi-annual – April, October)
    - f. Economic Development Commission (Bi-annual – February, August)
    - g. Library Board (Annual – February)
    - h. Ethics Board (Annual – February)
    - i. Parks Department (Quarterly – February, May, August, November)
    - j. Climate Action Advisory Committee (Quarterly – March, June, September, December)
    - k. All reports designated by the Chair to qualify for placement under this category.
  12. OLD BUSINESS
    - a. Fourteenth Reading of Ordinance D-2696-23; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Adding Chapter 8, Article 4, Section 8-44 to the Carmel City Code; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Worrell and Aasen. Remains in the Finance, Utilities and Rules Committee.  
 Synopsis:  
 Establishes a speed limit of 20 miles per hour within roundabouts.
    - b. Third Reading of Ordinance Z-690-24; An Ordinance establishing Non-Dwelling Short Term Rental Use-Specific Standards and Definitions in the Unified Development Ordinance; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Worrell and Minnaar. Remains in the Land Use and Special Studies Committee.  
 Synopsis:  
 This ordinance establishes non-dwelling short-term rental use-specific standards to address pool, backyard, accessory buildings, and other structures or facilities rentals.
    - c. Second Reading of Ordinance D-2716-24; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Amending Chapter 5, Article 1, Section 5-3(b)(2) of the Carmel City Code; Sponsor(s): Worrell, Snyder and Aasen. Remains in the Land Use and Special Studies Committee.  
 Synopsis:  
 Ordinance amending alcohol prohibition on certain sections of the Monon Greenway.
    - d. Second Reading of Ordinance D-2718-24; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, establishing a designated outdoor refreshment area; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Worrell, Snyder, Aasen. Remains in the Land Use and Special Studies Committee.  
 Synopsis:  
 Ordinance establishes a designated outdoor refreshment area in the City’s central core pursuant to Indiana Code § 7.1-3-31.
  13. NEW BUSINESS
    - a. Resolution CC-07-15-24-01; A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Approving a Transfer of Funds in the 2024 Information and Communication Systems Department Budget; Sponsor: Green  
 Synopsis:  
 Transfers \$49,000.00 to cover expenses incurred in the Consulting Fees line item within the 2024 Information and Communication Systems Department Budget.
    - b. First Reading of Ordinance D-2719-24; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Authorizing the Issuance of Economic Development Tax Increment Revenue Bonds to Support the Proscenium III Project, and Authorizing and Approving Other Actions in Respect Thereto; Sponsor: Aasen  
 Synopsis:  
 Ordinance authorizes the issuance of developer TIF bonds by the City of Carmel, Indiana, to finance improvements to support the development of the Proscenium III Project.
    - c. First Reading of Ordinance D-2720-24; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Adopting an Investment Policy Authorizing the Investment of Public Funds Pursuant to IC 5-13-9-5.7; Sponsor: Taylor  
 Synopsis:  
 This ordinance adopts a City investment policy.
    - d. First Reading of Ordinance D-2721-24; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Amending the 2024 Salary Ordinance; Sponsor: Aasen  
 Synopsis:  
 This ordinance amends the 2024 salary ordinance to add the position of Asset Management Systems Coordinator (AMS Coordinator) to the Carmel Engineering Department 2024 salary budget and adjust the salary of the Chief Infrastructure Officer.
  14. AGENDA ADD-ON ITEMS
  15. OTHER BUSINESS
  16. ANNOUNCEMENTS
  17. ADJOURNMENT

**NOBLESVILLE FIREFIGHTER MERIT COMMISSION**  
 The City of Noblesville Firefighter Merit Commission will meet in executive session on Wednesday, July 17, 2024; Wednesday, July 24, 2024; and Monday, August 5, 2024. All three Executive Sessions will take place at 4:00 p.m. in the courtroom of the Public Safety Building, 135 South 9th Street, Noblesville, Indiana. The Executive Sessions will all be held pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9), with respect to any individual over whom the governing body has jurisdiction, to discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees.

There will be public meetings of the Firefighter Merit Commission in the same location at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 17, 2024; Wednesday, July 24, 2024; and Monday, August 5, 2024.

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# Leadership Unveils Class of 2025

**ABOUT HCLA**

Hamilton County Leadership Academy (HCLA) unites, inspires, and empowers confident leaders from varied industries to support Hamilton County. The 10-month program provides those who work or live in Hamilton County with unique access to knowledge, community leaders, and local organizations. HCLA graduates gain a deeper knowledge and understanding of the county; create meaningful, life-long connections with their peers, HCLA alumni, and community leaders; and are inspired and empowered to drive and amplify community impact. Learn more at [www.hcla.net](http://www.hcla.net).

The Hamilton County Leadership Academy has selected 35 individuals who reside or work in Hamilton County to participate in its 10-month community leadership program.

“There is such excitement each year as the buzz begins on who will be a part of the next cohort,” HCLA Executive Director Diana Coyle said. “HCLA leadership is thrilled to welcome this phenomenal group into our legacy. We can’t wait to see their competency and connections grows they interact with one another, Dean Megan Wiles, class speakers, and community partners.”

HCLA is pleased to officially announce the Class of 2025 and welcome them into the folds of HCLA’s over 30-year legacy in Hamilton County:

- McKenzie Barbknecht | Duke Energy
- Kari Berger | Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation
- Renee Butts | Carmel Fire Department
- Jeremy Coons | Edward Jones
- Heather Fisher | ThriveVista
- Marc Griffith | The Veridus Group Inc.
- Scott Hazel | Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office & Dedicated Shield
- James Hellmann | City of Noblesville
- Matt Husband | State Farm Insurance
- Joshua Icenogle | Gaylor Electric
- Rachel Kartz | Ivy Tech Community College - Hamilton County Campus
- Alicia Klingerman | Family Promise of Hamilton County
- Ashley Knott | Westfield Washington Schools & Westfield Education Foundation
- Steve Latour | The Farmers Bank
- Melissa Lawson | Citizens Energy Group
- Chandler Lawson
- Flynn | Church Church Hittle + Antrim
- Michele Leach | Moisture Management
- Thomas McClelland | CarDon & Associates
- Dustin Mikesell | Riverview Health
- Jessica Minor | accessABILITY
- Molly Mrozowski | Hamilton East Public Library
- Amanda Mumphrey | Bondry Consulting
- Beth Myers | Delaware Township
- Ashanti Ordone | Gifted & Talented Academy Inc.
- Catherine Pallotta | American Structurepoint
- Bob Rice | Hamilton Southeastern Schools
- Todd Roberts | Beck’s Hybrids
- Michelle Schmidt | Noblesville Youth Assistance
- Justin Schuhmacher | Indiana Estate & Elder Law
- Hadleigh Smith | Invest Hamilton County
- Danielle Stiles-Polk | Hamilton County Community
- Foundation
- Pooja Thakkar | Bankable, Powered by Flagship
- Sloane Thompson | Recovery Cafe Hamilton County
- Jeff Worrell | City of Carmel

Each year, HCLA selects participants through a highly competitive application process. Class members are selected based on their community engagement, desire to learn and grow through the HCLA program, passion for making an impact through leading and serving in Hamilton County, and unique perspectives and knowledge they will bring to the learning environment. Earlier this year, HCLA announced that Megan Wiles would serve HCLA as the Class of 2025 Dean. HCLA will kick off its Class of 2025 cohort experience in mid-August with a two-day opening retreat.



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# The Times Congratulates Hamilton County's 10 Year 4-H Members



Daughter of Christian and Jennifer Adams, **Valerie Adams** is a ten year member of Sheridan Ag. Valerie has served as a club officer and a 2023 Pork Ambassador. She has earned several champions and Grand Champions in her projects. Valerie was an FFA chapter officer all four years at Sheridan High School. She was a Hamilton County Bicentennial Ambassador for 2022-2023, a 2022 Hoby Ambassador, and a member of the high honor roll. Valerie will study animal science at Purdue University.

**Zach Bales** is a ten year member of Sheridan Ag. Zach has exhibited projects in Fine Arts, Photography, Poultry, and Woodworking. He is a National Honor Society member and made first team Senior All-State, Academic All-State, and AllConference for football at Sheridan High School. He also wrestled and played baseball. Zach will pursue a degree in biology and plans to become a Physician's Assistant.



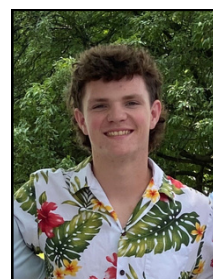
**Kara Bennett** is a dedicated ten year member of Winners Unlimited. She has served in each leadership position and is the current president. She has participated in many different projects including Arts & Crafts, Fine Arts, Photography, and Scrapbook to name a few. Some of her most memorable moments include winning several Grand Champions with her scrapbooks, having her drawing selected as the cover for the 2024 4-H Handbook, winning the photo cutout board competitions with her club, playing charades with her club mates, and starting and finishing new projects one week before they were due to prove her mom "wrong." Kara has earned her Certified Nursing Assistant license, earned a Hoosier Star as acting Editor in Chief for her school's yearbook, and been recognized by the Noblesville School Board for her sports photography. She has received academic awards, including a Merit award and an induction into the Quill and Scroll International Honor Society. Kara will study nursing at Indiana University.

Son of Jeff and Kim Bryant, **Bryce Bryant** is a ten year member of Stringtown Pikers. He exhibited ten years in the Forestry project, earning reserve champions, champions, Grand Champions, and state fair special merits. Bryce participated in the 4-H Foods Auction for Food Preparation and Preservation, adding to his college savings. He also earned a champion in Health and a Grand Champion in Sportfishing. Bryce was on the honor roll and a two-time state qualifier with BPA at Morristown Jr. Sr. High School. Bryce played varsity tennis for three years, earning MVP with his doubles partner. He was also chosen All-Conference for baseball. Bryce will study marketing at the Purdue University Daniels School of Business.



**Cole Burkman** is the son of Rick and Kristen Burkman. He was a member of Westfield Whiz Kids and Sheridan Ag. His proudest achievements are Grand Champion in Small Engines, two Grand Champions in Sportfishing, reserve champions in Foods and Woodworking, and exhibiting ten years of Foods. He also enjoyed working in his club's corn booth to raise money for 4-H. Cole wants to thank his parents and 4-H leaders for supporting him. Cole's high school honors and activities include Robotics: Indiana State Runner-up, Excellence Award, Innovation Award, and ranked top 1% in the World; varsity baseball, Baseball Mental Attitude Award, band, varsity tennis, Cum Laude Academic Award, Tennis Academic All-State, and AP Scholar Award. He will graduate from Park Tudor and study engineering in college.

A ten year member of Friends Forever, **Samuel Clark** is the son of Chris and Leslie Clark. Spending time at the 4-H Fair is Sam's favorite highlight. Sam and his sisters won the "Muddy Chicken" contest one year at the fair and it was lots of fun! Sam enjoyed participating in Construction Sets and Fine Arts, particularly pencil drawing. Sam has competed at the USATF national competition seven times, earning 3rd place in javelin in 2023. He was a recipient of the Charles "Coach" Milburn Award from Body in Training Track Club. He also earned the Timothy Award for Scripture Memory. Sam plans to become a paramedic before training to be a firefighter.



Son of Chris Conrad and Melissa Stout-Conrad, **Quinn Conrad** is a ten year member of Forest Hill. Quinn completed more than 100 projects and enjoyed Arts & Crafts, Collections, and Recycling the most. He had a great time attending Camp Shakamak, 4-H Roundup, Teens as Teachers Conference, and many 4-H programs at Purdue University. Quinn enjoyed Junior Leaders and is also proud of being part of Clover Gaming since its startup. He attended Science of Games at Purdue and continued with it as it grew. Quinn is a 2024 National Merit Finalist, a College Board AP Scholar, and received the National Cyber Scholar Award. Quinn was part of National Honor Society, E-sports Team, Machine Learning Club, played piano and was a founding member of the Coding Club at Noblesville High School. He participated in Life Teen through Our Lady of Grace Church. Quinn is enrolled in the Purdue University Honor's College to study computer science.

A ten year member of Friends Forever, **Aaron Crawford** is the son of Dean and Johanna Crawford. His favorite project was Leathercraft. Aaron also exhibited projects in Electric and Foods, earning a state fair entry with his muffins and a champion for his leather belt. He plans to continue his leathercraft skills by making gifts for people. Aaron is active in his church youth group and runs the cameras for the church services. He also enjoys climbing, bouldering, collecting knives, and outdoor activities.



Daughter of Jeff and Christy Denault, **Amelia Denault** is a ten year member of Carmel H4. A favorite memory is helping at the 4-H Cat Show. Amelia loved her time with Junior Leaders, running the Haunted House at the Community Halloween Party and helping with the Junior Leader Shack at the 4-H Fair. She has served as treasurer, vice president, and president of her club. Amelia graduated with honors from North Central High School. She spent six years on the Central Indiana Equestrian Team, where she represented her team at Zones and Regionals. Amelia enjoyed high school and community theatre, participating in productions both on and off the stage. Amelia will attend St. Mary of the Woods College to focus on equine studies.

A ten year member of Heartland 4-H'ers, **Jake Drummond** is the son of Brent and Molly Drummond. Jake participated in Beef, Crops, Shooting Sports, Swine, and Tractor Maintenance. He served as a Pork Ambassador and presented at Ag Day. Jake competed at the state fair Tractor Driving contest several times. His most memorable accomplishment is winning the State Shotgun Contest and attending the National 4-H Shooting Sports Contest in Grand Island, Nebraska. Jake is a member of SCTP (Scholastic Clay Target Program), NSCA (National Sporting Clays Association), Frankton Antique Tractor Club, and the Central Indiana Antique Tractor & Engine Association. He received his Eagle Scout Award in 2022. Jake is a Hamilton Heights High School graduate and will attend the John Deere Tech Program at Vincennes University.



**Grace Fox** is the daughter of Kevin and Lori Fox and a ten year member of Mudsockers. She has served as secretary, vice president, and president of her club and also earned a state fair entry in Home Environment. Grace was an AP Scholar and part of the International Baccalaureate Program at Fishers High School. She graduated Magna Cum Laude. She also participated in National Honor Society, orchestra, and Mock Trial. Grace received the Outstanding Attorney Award at the state competition. She plans to study neuroscience and psychology.

**Madelyn Garber** is the daughter of Clinton Garber and Holly Lawson-Garber and has completed more than 40 projects as a ten year member of Southeastern 4-H'ers. Her favorites were Swine and Sewing Nonwearable, where she earned high honors every year. Madelyn graduated from Fishers High School with academic honors and the International Baccalaureate degree. She played on the school and Munciana club volleyball teams, was a member of National Honor Society, Model UN, Million Meal Movement Club, newspaper staff, Publications Club, and was the student section photographer for football season. She plans to attend the University of Kansas to study journalism and sports management and minoring in marketing.



A ten year member of Clover Kids, **Taylor Gerardot** is the daughter of Anthony and Amy Gerardot. Taylor has served as recreation leader for Clover Kids, and she exhibited projects in Cake Decorating, Foods, Photography, and Sewing. Taylor was a leader in the Gardening Club at Fishers High School and a member of National Honor Society. She enjoyed playing soccer in a club league and for school, where she earned Defensive Player for the season. Taylor plans to pursue professional flight.



**Grayson Gladura** is the son of Aaron and Rebecca Gladura and a ten year member of Carmel 4-C's. Grayson has exhibited in Aerospace, Arts & Crafts, Collections, Construction Sets, Electric, Photography, and Woodworking. He earned a reserve champion in Woodworking and a champion and state fair entry in Electric. Outside of 4-H Grayson is an Eagle Scout and he has run in several half marathons. He is a graduate of Highlands Latin School and plans to study aviation.



Daughter of Mike and Teri Gollner, **Ellie Gollner** is a ten year member of Giddy Up Gang and Harey Hoppers. Ellie has had a lot of great experiences completing ten years of Dog Obedience, Horse & Pony, and Rabbits. She showed several special rabbits, including Heidi, her first Dutch rabbit that she exhibited at the 4-H Fair. Ellie later showed two of Heidi's babies after learning how to help a doe make a nest. Ellie also exhibited Netherland Dwarves and received Best of Variety and reserve champion. Ellie excelled in Dog Obedience, winning reserve champion with her Great Dane. Her next dog, Boomer, loved attending Dog Obedience meetings and performing in the Dog Show. Ellie showed quarter horses as well, trying out different disciplines and classes over the years. 4-H has been very memorable and has shaped who Ellie is. She is a Guerin Catholic High School graduate and will study psychology.

A ten year member of New Heights, **Tatym Green** is the daughter of Nick and Sandy Mosbaugh and Todd Green. Teaching young 4-H'ers the intricacies of handling Boer goats initially sparked her passion for agriculture and mentoring. As she delved into showing Pygmy Goats and Beef Cattle, her dedication to sharing knowledge only grew. Winning the title of Senior Meat Goat Showman in 2022 alongside her goat Reba was a crowning achievement that affirmed her commitment to excellence. Above all, the camaraderie, shared passion, and the joy of guiding others defines the essence of her 4-H journey, fueling her determination to empower the next generation of agricultural enthusiasts. Tatym earned the Star Greenhand Award in 2021, an Agriculture Departmental Award in 2022, and was a Hoosier Degree Recipient in 2023. She is a graduate of Hamilton Heights High School and will study agricultural communications at Purdue University.



**Sam Harpham** is the son of Jeff and Heather Harpham. He is a ten year member of Harey Hoppers. Some of his accomplishments include winning six Best in Show awards at the county fair and Best in Show at the Indiana State Fair twice. Sam is the secretary of the Hamilton Heights High School Honor Society Chapter. He has been an active student board member of the Hamilton Heights Education Foundation for four years. He captained the varsity soccer team his senior year. Throughout his time playing soccer, he achieved making the Academic All-State team twice. Sam will further his education in college as he studies electrical engineering.

A ten year member of Clover Kids, **Meghan Haws** is the daughter of Matthew and Denise Haws. 4-H has allowed Meghan to meet many amazing people. She enjoyed serving as a 4-H Camp Counselor, participating in the 4-H Queen Pageant, and completing the Shotgun project alongside her dad. Meghan earned the SAGE (Set a Good Example) award at Hamilton Southeastern High School and placed 8th nationally in agricultural communications at the 2022 National FFA Convention. She wants to study agricultural communications or public relations.



**Avery Hayden** is the daughter of Collin and Nicole Hayden and a ten year member of Harey Hoppers.

**Camryn Herring** is the daughter of Craig and Kelly Herring and a ten year member of Westfield Cloverleaves.



Son of Gary and Debbie Higginbotham, **Timothy Higginbotham** is a ten year member of Friends Forever. He has exhibited projects in Basic Crafts, Collections, Constructions Sets, Creative Writing, Electric, Fine Arts, Robotics, Shooting Sports, and Travelogue, earning reserve champion, champion, Reserve Grand Champion, and Grand Champion awards. Timothy's favorite project was Photography, in which he earned multiple champions, Reserve Grand Champions, Grand Champions, and state fair merits. He has enjoyed his opportunities to learn and compete in 4-H. Timothy earned regional and national championship awards in Team Policy Debate and in seven different categories of Public Speaking and the Highest Core Value Character Award. He plans to study law and advocacy.

**Katie Hoffmeister** is the daughter of Julie Hoffmeister and a ten year member and vice president of the Heartland 4-H'ers. She has been actively involved in the Poultry project and competed in Royal Showmanship twice. She was an annual Ag Day presenter. Katie has also exhibited in Arts & Crafts, Dog Obedience, Horse & Pony, Pygmy Goats, Sheep, and Strawberries. She was in Junior Leaders and helped out with the Mini 4-H program. Katie is an active member of the Hamilton Southeastern High School FFA and livestock judging team. She placed 4th in the state with her FFA Poultry Proficiency in 2023. Katie plans to attend Western Kentucky University to pursue a degree in agricultural education.



A ten year member of Carmel 4-C's, **Owen Holt** is the son of Tony and Karen Holt. Owen showed his dog, Izzy, for three years and exhibited Arts & Crafts for seven years. Owen earned a champion in his dog showmanship class in 2017. In 2019 and 2023 he earned champions for his colored pencil drawings. In 2020 he earned a reserve champion colored pencil. Owen will major in hospitality and tourism.

**Cooper Jaeger** is the son of Keith and Lisa Jaeger. He spent his first three years as a member of the Horry County 4-H program in South Carolina and the remaining seven years as a member of Friends Forever. Cooper is most proud of his four Grand Champions (two in Weather and one each in Wildlife and Sportfishing) and two Reserve Grand Champions in Weather. He enjoyed playing soccer for ten years and in that time his team won the state championships twice. Cooper was named to the state All-Star and national All-Star teams. Cooper will be attending the University of South Carolina Beaufort to study marine biology.







A ten year member of Carmel 4-Star 4-H'ers, **Charlie Kaufman** is the son of Chris and Sally Kaufman. Charlie exhibited projects in Aerospace, Construction Sets, Electric, and Robotics. He led a SPARK club discussion about game innovation and earned several state fair entries for Public Speaking. Charlie was active in Scouts BSA, earning his Eagle Scout, Order of the Arrow, and Firecrafter. He is a 2nd Dan black belt in taekwondo. Charlie was also a VEX Robotics state qualifier and held the highest programming score in 2020. He is a graduate of Harrington Academy Homeschool and plans to study computer engineering.

**Dru Kelly** is the son of Toby and Jennifer Kelly and a ten year member of the Mudsockers. Dru completed Hunter Education and competed in Shooting Sports Shotgun. He also exhibited projects in Cake Decorating, Fine Arts, and Photography, earning four champions and one Reserve Grand Champion in Fine Arts. Dru contributed to his club by working in the 4-H Fair food booth. He spent one year at J. Everett Light Career School studying animation and film production and one year at ABC Prep Academy learning all the trades. He has certifications in communication, critical thinking, teamwork skills, time management, and OSHA. Dru is currently a student at ABC prep academy.



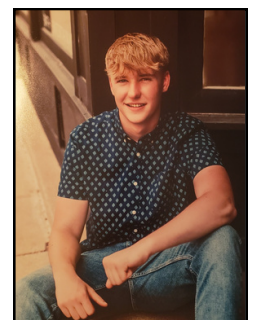
A ten year member of Harey Hoppers, **Josephine Kile** is the daughter of John and Kendra Kile. Josie has completed 35 projects, including Dog Obedience, Poultry, Rabbits, and others. She placed 4th in the state fair Rabbit Ambassador contest her first year, earned a Grand Champion in Foods, and was awarded the state fair Sweepstakes for her rabbit poster. In 2017 Josie won the Rabbit Ambassador Contest at the 4-H Fair and state fair. Her proudest moments were winning five National Rabbit Awards and scoring a 100 on the showmanship test at the 4-H Fair. She has won Best of Breed, champions, and reserve champions. Josie is a graduate from Mission Christian Academy. She plans to study marketing. Josie is thankful for her years in 4-H that have taught her about interpersonal skills, responsible animal care, and project management.



Son of Doug and Connie Kolb, **Eli Kolb** is a ten year member of Sheridan Ag. He has held several offices including president. Eli competed in the state fair Tractor Driving Contest many times and has earned many breed champions with Swine. He also earned back-to-back Grand Champion Steers in Beef Cattle. Eli was the 2023 Reserve Grand Champion Supreme Showman. Eli played football at Sheridan High School. A few of his accolades include Academic All-Conference, All-Conference Running Back, Academic All-State, All-State Running Back, and Region 8 Indiana All-Star. Eli plans to study ag business.



**Ty Kremer** is the son of Jeff Kremer and a ten year member of Mudsockers. Ty enjoyed spending time with other 4-H'ers at 4-H Camp Shakamak, RoundUp, and the 4-H Fair. Some of his favorite memories include winning Grand Champion Gilt his first year in 4-H, annual water fights, tossing the football, helping younger 4-H'ers with their projects, and the fun Farmer Olympics. Ty also served as a Pork Ambassador. Ty was a member of National Honor Society and graduated in the top five in his class at Eastern High School. He was selected as soccer team captain for two years and was awarded the Connor Wagler Character Award. Ty plans to study finance at Purdue University.



Son of Chris and Chandra Manges, **Drew Manges** is a ten year member of Fishers Showstoppers. Drew started out in 4-H with Models and Photography, adding Microwave and Beef Barbecue the next year. This led to many memorable times cooking and grilling for his family and neighbors. Drew's highlights include winning Beef Barbecue and shaking Chef Dan's hand, and participating with fellow 4-H'ers in the Foods Auction. Drew plays the viola in the Symphony Orchestra at Hamilton Southeastern High School. He is part of the Cadet Teaching program, National Honor Society, Spell Bowl Team, tutored with Rebecca's Garden, coached several youth baseball teams, and graduated Summa Cum Laude. Drew will pursue a secondary and post-secondary history education teaching degree at Indiana University.



A ten year member of Carmel 4-C's, **Katherine McCauley** is the daughter of Chris and Clarice McCauley. Katherine's grandma wanted her to learn how to sew. Each year her grandma would help her sew. They would shed a few tears, but each year they would "get it done." In 2023 Katherine won Grand Champion Dress Revue. When she looked for her grandma in the crowd, she was beaming. It was definitely her highlight. Katherine participated in National Honor Society, Peer Mentoring, and varsity soccer and lacrosse at Cathedral High School. She earned high academic honors and was selected Academic All-State for lacrosse and Academic All-State for soccer. Katherine plans to study biology and wants to work in the medical field.



Son of Terry McConkey and Joan McConkey, **Caleb McConkey** is a ten year member of Westfield Cloverleaves. He began his 4-H experience with Llamas, winning 1st place in the obstacle class. He later transitioned to 3D design and printing in the Computer project. 4-H has been a great time! Caleb was a WGI Winter Winds World Champion, a two-time Scholastic A State Champion, and a two-time Open A Winter Winds State Champion. He graduated from Westfield High School and will study mechanical engineering technologies at Purdue University.



**Addie McMillan** is the daughter of Charlie McMillan Jr. and Betsy Reason and a ten year member of Mudsockers. Her favorite 4-H project is Photography. She is currently three-time president and past vice-president and secretary of her club. In 2023, Addie won the Youth Talent Contest at the 4-H Fair and was invited to sing the National Anthem at the 2023 Supreme Showmanship Contest. She won Grand Champion in Arts & Crafts in 2023 for her hand-spun woven scarf. Addie is a 2024 honors graduate from Noblesville High School, where she was in NHS Singers and a Thespian Officer. She is a youth volunteer of Conner Prairie, where she is a Youth Agriculture Captain, 1836 costumed interpreter, pottery apprentice, and team captain and weaver competing annually in the state fair Sheep-to-Shawl contest. She is the 2024 Distinguished Young Woman of Hamilton County. Addie plans to attend Ball State University.



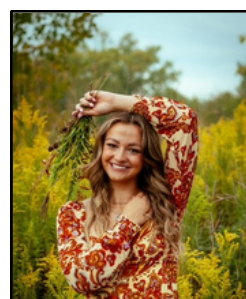
A ten year member of New Heights, **Peyton McNew** is the son of Angie McNew. He held many offices in his club and worked at the New Heights' Walking Taco stand at the 4-H Fair for many years. Peyton is a graduate of Noblesville High School and will study finance at Indiana University.



**Hans Moore** is the son of Stephen and Wendy Moore and a ten year member of Fishers Showstoppers. Hans enjoyed Mini 4-H and went on to exhibit 4-H projects in Arts & Crafts, Construction Sets, and Foods. He ran cross country and track all four years at Fishers High School. Hans will study architecture at the University of Cincinnati.



A ten year member of Harey Hoppers, **Natalie Newman** is the daughter of Dustin and Elizabeth Newman. A few of Natalie's highlights include serving as Harey Hoppers Club President for two years, winning the state Rabbit Ambassador Contest, traveling to Oregon for a national rabbit show, and her time spent at the 4-H Fair each summer. Natalie was a member of National Honor Society and in the top ten percent of her class at Hamilton Heights High School. She qualified for the state BPA contest all four years of high school. Natalie will attend the University of Cincinnati.



**Grady Piel** is the son of Ryan and Missi Piel and a ten year member of White River Blue Ribbon. Grady's favorite projects include Beef Cattle and Ag Tractor Driving. He earned 5th overall Beef Steer and won many Grand Champions with Ag Tractor. He has competed in the Area Tractor Driving Contest all ten years and advanced to the state fair contest many times. Grady will attend Parkland College to study diesel power equipment technology.



Son of Dan and Cheryl Popiela, **Johnathan Popiela** is a ten year member of Sheridan Ag. Johnathan has completed ten years in Foods and Forestry, and nine years of the Microwave project. Outside of 4-H, he has been a member of the Sheridan High School marching and pep bands playing the clarinet. Johnathan was also a member of the Spanish Club. He will study landscape architecture at the University of Minnesota.



A ten year member of Fishers Showstoppers, **Samuel Poynter** is the son of Charlie and Tamara Poynter. He has enjoyed his 4-H experience exhibiting in Electric and Small Engines. A few highlights include Grand Champion Electric, Grand Champion Small Engines and several state fair entries. Samuel often uses his learned skills in everyday life. While attending Hamilton Southeastern, he was a member of National Honor Society and advanced to the state finals with DECA. He was honored for student of the month and achieved Summa Cum Laude honor roll all four years. Samuel will attend Purdue Polytechnic School to study construction management technology.

**Audrey Ratcliffe** is the daughter of Darren Ratcliffe and Rebecca Gordon. She is a ten year member of Stringtown Pikers. Through 4-H, Audrey learned that she is a really good speaker. She qualified for the state fair Public Speaking Contest three times and won once. Audrey is a graduate of Noblesville High School. She plans to take a gap year and then attend Indiana University to study business.



Daughter of Darren Ratcliffe and Rebecca Gordon, **Evelyn Ratcliffe** is a ten year member of Stringtown Pikers. From Cake Decorating to Llamas, Evelyn has loved 4-H and learned a lot. Beef Barbecue was her favorite project and she is now a master at grilling. Evelyn is a graduate of Noblesville High School. She hopes to attend Butler or Indiana University.

A ten year member of Jackson Hotshots, **Hank Rhinebarger** is the son of Mark Rhinebarger and Elana Stevens. Hank was a member of the 2023 Indiana State 4-H Shotgun Grand Champion Team and the 2023 4-H National Shotgun Team. He is a graduate of Hamilton Heights High School.



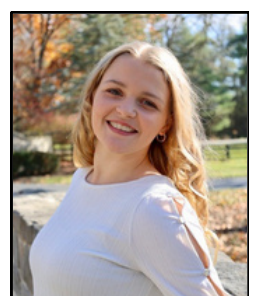
Daughter of Ted Rutowski, **Rylyn Rutowski** is a ten year member of Clover Kids. Rylyn has exhibited projects in Foods and Photography. She was a member of National Honor Society and graduated Magna Cum Laude from Fishers High School. Rylyn will study criminal justice at the University of Cincinnati.

**Kassidy Schakel** is the daughter of Chris and Dawn Schakel and a ten year member of Jackson Hotshots. She was the 2023 Supreme Showman. Additional awards include 2022 Reserve Supreme Showman and 2023 Indiana State Fair Reserve Supreme Breeding Ewe. Kassidy played four years of varsity softball and two years of varsity basketball at Hamilton Heights High School. She will study animal science at Iowa State University.



A ten year member of Husky 4-H'ers, **Jenna Schnarr** is the daughter of Joshua and Desiree Schnarr. She completed ten years of the Garden and Swine projects, along with exhibiting sheep and goats. Jenna competed on the county livestock judging team one year. Jenna is very active in FFA at Hamilton Heights High School, competing in Livestock Skill-A-Thon and judging teams for seven years. She is an ambassador for championdrive.com assisting in reporting for national sheep shows. Jenna plans to study at Redlands College to participate in the livestock judging team and study ag business. She wants to transfer to Oklahoma State University to earn her degree in agronomy.

**Chesed Thifault** is the daughter of Chris and Carrie Thifault. Chesed is a ten year member of Friends Forever. Her favorite projects are Child Development and Food Preparation. Her most memorable experience is the Friends Forever Curriculum Sale. Chesed learned creative skills, child character development skills, and social skills in 4-H. Chesed's plans are to attend Boyce College in Louisville Kentucky to study elementary education.



Daughter of Nathan and Allison Weinrich, **Juliana Weinrich** is a ten year member of Carmel 4-C's. Her favorite 4-H highlights include attending the Carmel 4-C's club meetings and going to 4-H Camp. In addition to training her dogs in Dog Obedience, Juliana had lots of fun with Cake Decorating and Foods projects, earning many reserve champions. Her absolute favorite thing was visiting the Hamilton County 4-H fair with her family and looking at all the projects. Juliana received the National Honor Society award, varsity swim award, and was an academic scholar at Carmel High School. She will study biology at Indiana University.

A ten year member of Llama Trekkers, **Amelia Wiggins** is the daughter of Brian and Melinda Wiggins. She has completed ten years in Arts and Crafts and eight years in Llamas. Amelia has also participated in Construction Sets, Dog Obedience and Agility, Llama Craft, Photography, and Shooting Sports Archery. Amelia has achieved many honors, especially with her artwork and in Llamas, even succeeding at the state fair level many times. She has also volunteered with the Mini Llama project and Ag Day. Amelia has been recognized for a School Merit for Exceptional Student Performance, achieving her Bronze and Silver Award in Girl Scouts, and was recognized (along with 3 others) by the City of Noblesville as an inspirational artist for the roundabout sculpture at the intersection of Field drive and Cumberland Road. She is a graduate of Noblesville High School and hopes to study fine/studio art or experimental design.



**Parker Williams** is the son of Jesse and Libby Williams and a ten year member of Sheridan Ag. His greatest memories have been made in the barns, showing Dairy Cattle, Goats, Poultry, Sheep and Swine. Parker attended Sheridan High School, where he has earned varsity letters in football, basketball, wrestling, and golf. After graduation Parker will attend Purdue University, majoring in ag business.

**Ethan Zeller** is a ten year member of Southeastern 4-H'ers. He is the son of Andy and Angela Zeller and Erica and Bryan Cooper. Ethan has focused on the Swine project and has also exhibited in Beef Cattle, Hay, and Sheep. He has exhibited two Grand Champion Gilts, two Reserve Grand Champion Gilts, and various breed champions. Ethan also attended 4-H Camp. He was a member of Junior Leaders and served as a Pork Ambassador, spending countless hours behind the scenes helping with Pork Producer activities and the Exhibition Swine Show. He is lucky to have exhibited animals alongside family and lifelong friends. Ethan is a graduate of Hamilton Southeastern High School.



Daughter of Mark and Becky Zerr, **Chloe Zerr** is a ten year member of Llama Trekkers. 4-H has given Chloe an amazing opportunity to connect with her community and teach people about llamas. She has helped with Walk-A-Llama at the 4-H Fair, led a small group in her club, and helped with Mini 4-H Llama workshops. Chloe is a graduate of Noblesville High School and will study zoology at Ivy Tech.