

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
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TODAY'S VERSE

Matthew 7:7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Hamilton Happenings

Westfield in Lights, presented by the Downtown Westfield Association, returns to Grand Junction Plaza (225 S. Union Street) on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 3 - 6 p.m. The event features outdoor activities, carnival games with winter themes, food vendors, retail merchants, and live entertainment.

Three Things You Should Know

1 Indiana real estate rallied to 6,670 home sales in October, up 5 percent from 2023, while new pending sales (6,669) finished 7 percent ahead of last year according to data released by the Indiana Association of Realtors. Mortgage rates inched higher in October but still remained more than a half-point below their 2024 peak, keeping more buyers in a market that also featured the most homes for sale statewide in nearly five years. 8,684 homes were also listed in October (up 8 percent versus 2023), so Indiana's overall supply of available homes increased for the seventh straight month to 15,410 average daily listings. More homes were for sale on a typical day than last October in 74 of 92 counties.

2 BadCredit.org recently conducted a study of five years of teen birth data to identify which counties in America have the highest and lowest rates of teen births. The study found that, overall, the number of teen births across the whole country has dropped by 6 births per 1,000 people over five years. In Indiana, the five counties with the most improved rates were Parke, Fountain, Lawrence, Perry and Fayette.

3 Cabinet manufacturer, Fabuwood surveyed 3,000 respondents to delve deeper into the role kitchens play beyond cooking. The findings reveal that Indiana kitchens are not only places of nourishment but also places where significant life choices are made. Remarkably, the survey uncovered that Indiana kitchens witness an astonishing 254 million life decisions annually - that's 4,900,309 decisions each week. Nice to think that families are putting down the electronics long enough to have a conversation!

The TIMES

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

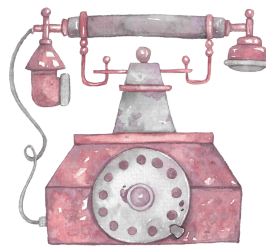
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BTN

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

11-18-63

On this date 61 years ago, the first push-button telephone went into service. For a few in our reading audience, it represented a giant change. Our older readers remember growing up with crank telephones where you turned a crank on the phone to connect to an operator. Then rotary dial phones came along and calls could be made directly to a specific person or place without assistance. And in 1963, the push-button phone came along through the Bell telephone company (remember Bell?).



29%

In 2022, a survey from the Centers for Disease Control found that 29 percent of U.S. adults lived in a house with a landline phone.

90%

On the other hand, our friends at cnet report that 90 percent of U.S. adults lived in a house with a landline in 2004. Think about that for a second. That was only 20 years ago!



97%

According to the Pew Research Center, 97 percent of Americans own a cellular phone of some kind.

270

How many minutes a day on average Americans spend on their mobile phones.

144

That's how many times a day we check our phones.



11.6

That's how old most kids are when they get their first phone. By age 15, most American kids have one.



59%

That's the percentage of the world's Internet traffic that comes through phones.

Noblesville Celebrates, Thanks Our Veterans



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

Vietnam veteran and U.S. Army specialist Bill Prater, 74, of Noblesville, donned an American flag pin on his hat and displayed an American flag in his flannel shirt pocket, alongside the VFW's past Loyalty Day Queen Cheryl Hale (left), 76, Noblesville, and others listening and watching the annual Veterans Day Ceremony at the Hamilton County War Memorial.



BETSY REASON
Columnist

Last Monday was a beautiful, sunny day to celebrate Veterans Day at the Hamilton County War Memorial in Noblesville.

Dozens of folks, including families, Girl Scouts, friends, neighbors, local American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars members, many donning military caps, gathered to honor veterans on this special day.

I recognized many folks in the crowd.

Past American Legion commander of Post 45 Rickie Woods, 75, of Noblesville watched and listened from his mobility scooter. Woods, who served in the U.S. Army from 1967-68 in Vietnam, once told me he never misses a Veterans Day ceremony.

World War II veteran Jules Goudy, 99, Noblesville, who served in the U.S. Army 1943-46, stood watching the ceremony with his son, Joel Goudy, 60, of Noblesville, and friends Steve Passwater, 77, a 1965 Noblesville High School grad who served in the Army 1967-69, and Jim Macy, 86, a 1956 NHS grad who served in U.S. Naval Aviation 1958-62. Jules Goudy was among 86 veterans on a Sept. 14 Indy Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., to tour the veterans memorials.

➔ See BETSY Page A4

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Stretching and strengthening exercises go a long way in helping to prevent falls in the elderly.

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



TODAY'S QUOTE

"These are the stakes. To make a world in which all God's children can live, or to go into the dark, we must either love each other, or we must die."

Lyndon B. Johnson

OBITUARIES

None

TODAY'S JOKE

Forgive us, but we're in the spirit of Christmas so we're starting the Yule jokes a little early this year (hey, with all the strife in the world, can't we all use some holiday cheer!)

What do you call Rudolph with lots of snow in his ears?
Anything you want, he can't hear you!

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STEM Experience Coming to Grand Park



Grand Universe, an innovative and immersive STEM Learning Experience, announced plans for a 66+ acre multi-use development near Grand Park.

The development, comprised of four districts, will be a dynamic destination for learning, recreation, and leisure. It will offer educational value, entertainment, local and tourism appeal, a hotel, observatories, and cultural spaces centered around science, space, engineering, and technology. Investment for Phase 1, which includes the science and space center, includes more than \$300 million. Future investments could total north of \$700 million.

The Grand Universe District will contain a state-of-the-art science and space center for learning and exploration, as well as a STEM pavilion with related events and amenities. At 170,000 square feet, the Grand Universe Center for Science and Space Exploration will feature one of the world's largest full-dome planetariums, which will create a 360-degree theatre experience.

The Resort District will include a space-themed hotel and a state-of-the-art convention center, providing visitors with accommodations, dedicated parking, and access to all Districts, events, amenities, and the Monon Trail.

The Town Center

District will include commercial and mixed-use properties, creating spaces integrating retail, office, and high-density multi-family uses.

The Sports Entertainment District will include sports, art, and entertainment viewing facilities with outdoor plazas and dining. It is also expected to include a creek park with natural elements and open spaces to accommodate a number of trails.

“Grand Universe has been dreamed and talked about for years and it's great that we are one step closer to making this project a reality,” stated Mayor Scott Willis. “This project will be a tremendous asset to the Grand Park area, offering an exciting new space where residents and visitors can come together to dine, connect, and explore.”

Grand Universe has partnered with The Hagerman Group, Browning Day Architects and Jarbo Marketing to develop this extraordinary project.

This was introduced at the November 11 Westfield City Council meeting and will have a public hearing at the December 2 Advisory Plan Commission (APC) meeting at 7 p.m. at City Hall. The City Council and Redevelopment Commission will consider tax increment financing to assist with infrastructure costs in February 2025

Westfield Library Expands Spanish-Language Book Collection



Anuar Velazquez

The Westfield Library Foundation recently purchased 172 new Spanish-language books for the Westfield Washington Public Library as part of an effort to promote literacy and cultural representation among the city's growing Hispanic population.

Anuar Velazquez, a board member of the Westfield Library Foundation and a dedicated advocate for the community, emphasized the importance of this investment. “Increasing the representation of authors and books in Spanish is crucial for our Spanish-speaking students and citizens, including those learning the language. When people read in a language spoken at home, it not only boosts literacy but also instills pride in their cultural identity.”

Velazquez, who is himself a first-generation immigrant, is passionate about ensuring that families



Erin Downey

feel welcomed and empowered. “My journey has inspired me to find ways to connect with these families. I know firsthand how transformative access to resources can be,” he said.

The new books are for the young and old, with a focus on children, to ensure that families can engage with literature together. “We are committed to making the library a welcoming hub,” said Erin Downey, Executive Director of the Westfield Library Foundation. “We hope this new collection fosters inclusivity and allows communities that may have felt marginalized to see themselves in the stories they read.”

In addition to the new collection, the library has recently enhanced its outreach efforts to Spanish-speaking families by offering English language classes and Spanish story times.

‘Surviving the Holidays’ Seminar Thursday

When you're grieving the death of a family member or friend, you may dread the holiday season. Thoughts of social gatherings, family traditions and obligations leave you anxious and overwhelmed. Have you lost a loved one or know someone that will find it difficult to face the coming holidays?

Our GriefShare Surviving the Holidays seminar, held Thursday in Wesley Hall of Noblesville First United Methodist Church (Enter Door #7) from 7-9 p.m., is open to anyone who is experiencing grief after the loss of a loved one. Our program offers practical, actionable strategies for making it through the holiday season.

At this two-hour seminar, you'll view a video featuring advice from people in grief who've faced the

holidays after their loss. Facilitators that have experienced grief-filled holidays, will lead us in discussion of how to manage all holidays and special dates in your life now.

To learn more information about GriefShare – Surviving the Holidays, contact Coleen Albright (coleen.albright58@gmail.com) or call the church office at (317) 773-2500. First United Methodist is located at 2051 Monument St. in Noblesville.

Our program is free and no registration is necessary. Invite your family, friends and neighbors that are struggling through grief. All attendees will receive a Holiday Survival Guide filled with practical tips, encouraging words, journaling ideas, and exercises for daily help through the holiday season.

Report Gives Average Monthly Costs for Noblesville

Doxo, a personal finance bill pay company, recently issues a report that shows Noblesville residents spend an average of \$106 a month on mobile phone bills.

The report found that, on average, Americans spend \$121 per month on their mobile phones. Specifically for Noblesville and Indiana doxo's data shows that:

- Noblesville residents spend \$106 per month on Mobile Phone Bills.
- The average amount spent on Mobile Phone Bills in Indiana is \$119.
- 94% of households in Noblesville pay for Mobile Phone services on a monthly basis.
- Noblesville residents spend \$2,159 a month, or \$25,911 a year on the ten most essential household bills which is 2% higher than the national average of \$2,126.

In addition, Doxo said monthly mortgage costs in Noblesville are \$1,508, rent is \$1,223, car loans are \$389, utilities run \$292, health insurance \$89, auto insurance \$217, life insurance \$98 and cable and internet \$94.

Doxo's proprietary and comprehensive dataset – based on actual bill payments across 97% of U.S. zip codes and 45 bill pay service categories, enables precision much greater than typical survey-based estimates of market size and consumer spend. The doxo Household Bill Pay dataset provides resolution at the national, state, county and city levels, enabling the deepest and most complete picture of the essential financial obligations of U.S. Households.

Doxo says it offers an innovative, transformative way to pay bills for consumers, billers and financial technology providers. The company was founded on the simple idea that there should be an easy and more secure way for consumers to pay all of their bills through a single account, with any payment method, on any device. For more information on Doxo, go to <https://www.doxo.com/w/about/company/>

Noblesville Creates' Annual Market Opens Nov. 28

Noblesville Creates' annual holiday celebration, “Gifted: Handmade Wonders,” returns Nov. 28 at the historic Judge Stone House Gallery on the Noblesville Creates on 8th campus. This cherished event offers an opportunity to discover unique, locally crafted gifts while supporting Hoosier artists.

Shoppers can expect an impressive selection of handcrafted items across a range of mediums, from woodworking and stoneware to textiles and more. With every purchase, 80 percent of the sale price goes directly to the artist, while 20 percent supports Noblesville Creates—allowing visitors to make a meaningful investment in the creative community.

The “Gifted: Handmade Wonders” exhibit runs from Nov. 28 to Dec.28. Visitors can shop in-person or online, with purchases available for pick-up during gallery

hours: Wednesday through Friday, noon to 5 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Among the many artisans, J.C. Woody's World of Woodturning and Darlene Patterson of Patterson Pottery will return with their popular wood pieces and pottery. Both have watched this holiday exhibit flourish over the years into a vibrant gallery adorned with Christmas décor, string lights, and over 1,000 handmade items.

Make Noblesville Creates on 8th a holiday shopping destination starting November 28. Choose from a wide selection of holiday cards, ornaments, pottery, woodenware, jewelry, hand-knit items, home décor, holiday art, and more. All artwork is ready to be gifted, making it easy to find the perfect piece for everyone on your list.



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Other Mothers



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

Over the weekend, Felix met his three other mothers.

Felix is our cat, and we adopted him from Mexico. We are now back in Mexico for the first time since we adopted him and, of course, Felix is with us.

When my husband, Peter, and I first discussed adopting a cat, I had in mind some needy little creature who would cuddle on my lap when I read. Instead, we got Felix.

Felix was a street cat for two years before he was scooped up by his foster mothers. He was very skinny when they found him. He is black and white, with silky fur and a sly grin, and he is not at all interested in sitting on anyone's lap. Instead, he likes to tear around the house like a maniac and play games with Peter and nibble my toes to show he cares. He's a good traveler, and he did not seem to mind either moving to the U.S. or getting in his backpack carrier and coming back to Mexico.

I had half-hoped there might be a mariachi band playing when we landed, congratulating Felix on his triumphant return. Instead, we were met by a customs official who made a photocopy of Felix's health records, took his temperature, and wished us all a pleasant visit.

Once we got to our little apartment surrounded by painted suns and got all our stuff back into the usual cupboards and cabinets, we contacted Felix's foster mother, Marcela, and told her we were back, and said we would love to have her over for cake.

Felix's foster mother works at the environmental preserve where Peter takes his long daily walk. She lives with her sister and her sister's daughter, and they all live with whatever animals they have collected and are caring for on that particular day. At present, there are two cats, four birds and eleven dogs.

"I think she spends all of her salary on animal food!" Marcela's boss told Peter. Marcela has a big heart. She was delighted to come with her sister and niece to our apartment for cake and to see how Felix was doing.

"Do you think they'll be surprised how big he is?" Peter asked.

"They'll think he's fat!" I said.

I was a little nervous because I knew that having them over for cake would be a challenge. They speak almost no English, and Peter speaks no Spanish, so I am the one who is supposed to be translating for everyone, and I do not speak enough Spanish to be a translator.

But it really didn't matter because no one was there to listen to me. They were there to visit Felix.

"Oh! He's big." That's what they all said—and even Peter understood that.

"He is!" I agreed. "Do you think he's fat?" The two women and the young girl all looked at Felix very seriously while eating their carrot cake.

"No," they all said, after a moment's consideration. They did not think he was too fat.

"But he is a little spoiled, don't you think?" I asked.

All three of them laughed and said, no, he couldn't be spoiled because he was a precious cat, and he deserved the best—and even Felix understood that.

So we finished our carrot cake, and the young girl played with her bubble machine, which looked like a camera but shot out bubbles, which Felix thought was very exciting.

"He has found a good family," Marcela said.

"We are all Felix's family now," I told her. And everyone agreed—especially Felix.

Till next time, Carrie

My Corrections Officer



DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

My proofreader, Heidi, quit about a year ago. Just as well. I was going to dump her anyway. She kept correcting me. Who needs that? Then my wife, Mary Ellen, took over the job. That was an easy transition for her; she has been correcting me for 45 years. I could get a little huffy with Heidi if we differed on a grammatical point. I can't react that way with my wife, who I now call my corrections officer.

Mary Ellen does a good job editing, but I downloaded an app called Grammarly as a backup in case Mary Ellen was out of town, or out of sorts. This is a form of AI. The program suggests different ways to improve my sentences when I write a column. I can accept their suggestion or dismiss it. Being a dismissive person by nature, I only occasionally take their advice. I can also yell at the screen without getting any backtalk, a luxury I didn't enjoy with Heidi or now with Mary Ellen.

Each month, I receive an analysis of my writing from the previous four weeks. My work is evaluated in several ways. For example, here's what they told me for September...

They said I used 9879 different words, even though my weekly column is only 500 words. I have no clue where that number came from. Then they said I didn't use enough unique words. I wasn't going to take that writing down (I mean, lying down), so I emailed the company.

Dear Grammar People:

The juxtaposition of ontological paradigms often precipitates a plethora of dialectical conundrums in the realm of epistemological inquiry. Consequently, elucidating such profound philosophical tenets of writing necessitates an erudite comprehension of

axiomatic principles and heuristic methodologies.

I sure told them. I just don't know what I told them.

They also informed me that in the six months I have used the program, they have identified 574 errors. This is obviously another mistake. Unless they had access to all my old seventh-grade book reports?

Also, I was informed that I did not use the question mark correctly. Do they think I am stupid. I hope not?

They did state that I was more productive than 78% of their users. How could that be? Like I said, I only write 500 words a week. What are these other people doing with this app? Name tags for their kids?

They commented that my writing was spreading joy. I knew I was spreading something, but this was a total surprise.

The program also scans the internet to see if someone plagiarizes my column. So far, no one has been that desperate, but (true story here) about ten years ago, I inadvertently learned that someone was stealing my column for a newspaper in Minnesota. The only thing the reporter changed was substituting his wife's name for Mary Ellen's. When I called the publisher to report this, he fired the guy and told the readers it was no big deal because "The guy wasn't that funny, anyway."

Finally, Grammarly informed me that "Your area of focus for next week is clarity." Okay, how's this? Cancel my subscription.

I hope that's clear enough.

— 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.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Request for Proposal / Qualifications ("RFQP").
In accordance with IC 5-23-5, the City of Westfield, Indiana ("City"), invites any and all qualified parties to submit a statement of qualifications and a proposal, to develop, construct, and furnish the new City fire department station #85 ("Project"), in Westfield, Indiana. The RFQP will be available on or after November 18, 2024, at the City or can be obtained by emailing Deputy Chief James Roberts at jroberts@westfield.in.gov or the City's Owner's Representative, Ken Alexander, at ken.alexander@braviaservices.com. Additional Project information outlining submittal requirements, scope expectations and selection criteria are thoroughly defined or attached as exhibits to the RFQP. A schematic estimate is requested with the response packet but only to understand the capacity of the responder's preconstruction abilities. Responses are to be delivered in person or electronically by 10:00 am EST on December 5, 2024, to be considered. All responses will be reviewed thoroughly and scored fairly in accordance with Indiana Code.
TL22041 11/18 11/20 11/27 2t hspaxlp

NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION
Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1, the Hamilton County Airport Authority Board will meet in Executive Session at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 21, 2024, in Beck's Hybrids Conference Room at the Indianapolis Executive Airport, 11329 E. St. Rd. 32, Zionsville, Indiana. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the purchase or lease of real estate IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(D).
TL22042 11/18 1t hspaxlp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND QUALIFICATIONS
THE CITY OF WESTFIELD
FIBER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT
INTRODUCTION
In accordance with IC 5-23-5, the City of Westfield (the "City") is issuing this Request for Proposals and Qualifications (the "RFQP") seeking proposals and statements of qualifications from qualified offerors for the development and construction of new utility infrastructure to support public facilities and planned development in the City (the "Development Area").
The public infrastructure to be developed and constructed a new fiber loop and related infrastructure and utility work (all such development and construction is referred to as the "Project"). The Project scope will be finalized during a scoping period with the selected development team. The selected development team must have the capability to design, construct, operate, and maintain the Project.
The City anticipates entering into a public-private partnership agreement with an offeror pursuant to IC 5-23 to provide the work, labor, equipment, and materials to develop and construct the Project within the budgetary and the time limitations required by the City. The selected offeror will be required to obtain a payment bond in an amount not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the final cost of the Project and a performance bond in an amount not less than fifty percent (50%) of the final cost of the Project.
Given the complexity, fast-paced nature, and the need for considerable coordination among those working on each phase of the Project, the City highly encourages a full-service approach to submitting proposals in response to this RFQP to include both design and construction services.
For the avoidance of doubt, in the context of this RFQP, the term "develop" as defined by IC 5-23-2-5.5 shall mean to install and construct the Project Infrastructure, and the term "construct" as defined by IC 5-23-2-4 shall mean the process of building and assembling the Project Infrastructure.
RFQP PROCESS, TIMELINE AND SCOPING PERIOD
The anticipated timeline for selection of a developer and execution of a public-private partnership agreement for the development and construction of the Project is as follows:

November 18	First publication of notice of the RFQP in the local newspaper
November 25	Second publication of notice of the RFQP in the local newspaper
December 3	Deadline to submit proposals via email by 3:00 p.m.
December 10	Most qualified offeror is selected by City's committee (the "Committee")
December 10	Scoping Period with selected offeror begins
As Long As Necessary	Scoping period deliverables are assembled by the selected offeror, to include budgeting, design, and coordination assistance
Upon Receiving satisfactory scoping period deliverables	Selected offeror notified of recommendation to award public-private agreement
7 days prior to public hearing	Notice of public hearing on recommendation to award a public private agreement published in local newspaper at least 7 days prior to public hearing and basis for recommendation available for inspection and copying at City hall.
7 days after notice is published	Public hearing held by City to consider the recommendation to award a public-private agreement to selected offeror and consideration and approval of the BOT agreement.

All offerors will be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revision of proposals; provided, however, offerors shall not contact any City official or employee during the period from the issuance of this RFQP until the most qualified offeror is notified of selection by Committee.

The final scope of the Project is to be determined in the scoping period described in the timeline above (the "Scoping Period"). The Scoping Period is anticipated to be a very intense and fast-paced process, with the goal of construction commencing no later than the Spring of 2025. The schedule will ultimately be determined during the Scoping Period, as it will be dependent upon several milestones coordinated by the City. Accordingly, during the Scoping Period, the selected offeror must be readily available, willingly share information, and actively engage with the City in order to finalize the scope, schedule, and costs of the Project. Proposals shall include the fees that would be charged, if any, for participating in the Scoping Period, as further discussed below. All data, information and materials collected, assembled, prepared, and exchanged during the Scoping Period shall be solely owned by the City, and, by submitting a proposal, offerors release all rights in any such items to the City and the City may use the information from the proposals and Scoping Period for its use and benefit.

As the Scoping Period concludes, the City will request that the selected offeror submit a final and best offer to include pricing to develop and construct the Project and then engage in further negotiations leading to a guaranteed maximum price ("GMP"), time schedule, and schedule of values for the development and construction of the Project. A recommendation to award an agreement to develop and construct the Project to the offeror with a GMP, time schedule, and schedule of values that is advantageous and acceptable to the City may then be made by the Committee to the City.

In the alternative, a recommendation may be made to award an agreement to develop and construct a distinct phase of the Project, including a recommendation to award an agreement for different phases of the Project to separate offerors, in which case each of the awarded offerors shall be expected to coordinate their work on the phase awarded to them with any and all other offerors accordingly.

The foregoing notwithstanding, the City reserves the right pursuant to IC 5-23-5-8 to terminate this RFQP process at any time without making a recommendation to award an agreement to any offeror.

Pursuant to IC 5-23-5-6, the Committee will not disclose the contents of proposals received in response to this RFQP prior to making a recommendation to the City regarding the award of agreements, if any. If this RFQP process is terminated without recommendation for an award as provided for above, then pursuant to IC 5-23-5-12 the City may, at its option, either return proposals to the offerors without disclosing the contents of the proposals, or it may retain the proposals in which case the contents thereof become subject to public disclosure.

All of the foregoing decisions by the City may be made at their sole discretion.

PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENTS; SUBMITTAL

Proposals in response to this RFQP must be submitted by electronic mail in Adobe PDF format no later than 3:00 p.m. on December 3, 2024 to the following e-mail address: clarsen@westfield.in.gov. Proposals received after 3:00 p.m. on December 3, 2024 will not be considered.

Proposals shall not exceed 20 pages in length, and shall include the following:

- Letter of Interest and General Information
 - o Provide a cover letter expressing the offeror's interest in the Project and including the offeror's general information including name, principal office address, and contact information for a designated point of contact, including telephone number and e-mail address.
 - Experience
 - o Include a general overview of the offeror's organization, including type of organization, company, and overview. If the proposal is submitted by a team or joint venture, include such information for each member thereof, including an organizational chart showing the various team members.
 - o Describe the offeror's experience working on construction projects with local government units in Indiana. Demonstrate the offeror's experience with projects of similar scope and scale. Include a description of at least three (3) such projects that the offeror has successfully developed and constructed.
 - o Identify key members of the offeror who will work on the Project, including a project manager with the availability, capacity, and experience to manage the Project.
 - o Provide references. Provide the telephone number and e-mail address of a reference contact for each of the projects described above.
 - Financial Capacity
 - o Demonstrate the offeror's responsibility and financial ability to develop and construct the Project in a timely and quality manner by providing information concerning the offeror's general financial and credit condition.
 - Project Approach
 - o Describe the offeror's approach to developing and constructing the Project within an aggressive time-period, including coordination with utility providers, and subcontractors. The Project schedule will ultimately be determined during the Scoping Period, and the information in this section will be for informational purposes only.
 - Scoping Period Fee
 - o Offerors may request a fee to defray their costs of participating in the Scoping Period if they are selected (a "Scoping Period Fee"), with the understanding that such a request and the amount requested is among the criteria upon which proposals will be evaluated. In such event, invoices from the selected offeror for the Scoping Period Fee shall not be submitted until the conclusion of the Scoping Period.
 - o The City will not pay a stipend or otherwise reimburse offerors for the costs of preparing and submitting a proposal, and all such costs will be at the sole cost and expense of each offeror.
 - Additional Information
 - o Offerors may include in their proposals any other information that they deem pertinent. Proposals need not contain Project pricing information, as that will be refined and determined during the Scoping Period and requested later in the Scoping Period process.
 - o Offerors will not be required to submit a bid bond, certified check, or other evidence of financial responsibility with the proposal.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals will be evaluated by the Committee. While scoping period fees will be an important factor in evaluating the offerors, the most important criteria will be the offerors' demonstrated ability to design, construct, and develop the Project. Upon receiving the proposals, the Committee will hold one or more meetings to discuss the contents of the submitted proposals, with the goal of selecting the most qualified offeror to participate in the Scoping Period. The deliberations of the members of the Committee are confidential.
TL22032 11/18 1t hspaxlp

Park and Poplar To Anchor West Side of Downtown Westfield

Old Town Companies introduced plans for Park and Poplar at the City of Westfield's council meeting on Monday evening. The project, estimated at \$125 million, is a mixed-used development that will anchor the west side of downtown Westfield.

Park and Poplar, situated at the southeast corner of Park and Poplar Streets, will feature a blend of retail and office spaces, a boutique hotel,

and brownstone apartments. The project will also feature a public parking garage and plaza with connectivity across the Midland Trace Trail to Park Street. This feature will enhance the pedestrian experience in downtown Westfield.

"This project will serve as a key anchor point, helping to enhance Park Street and Restaurant Row," stated Mayor Scott Willis. "It's important to emphasize that the

current restaurants and businesses will remain and that this project will address the current parking shortages in the area. We are excited to see continued investment in our downtown."

"Old Town Companies is proud to contribute to another place-making initiative in downtown Westfield. We believe this project will be a key component of Mayor Willis's plan to redefine

the downtown area," stated Jeremy Lollar, Vice President of Development at Old Town Companies.

Park and Poplar was introduced to Westfield City Council on Monday, November 11. It will have a public hearing at Advisory Plan Commission (APC) on Monday, December 2. The City Council is tentatively scheduled to vote on the project on January 27, 2025.

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

↓ BETSY

From Page A1

U.S. Army Vietnam veteran James Martin, 82, a former emcee of past Veterans Day and Memorial Day ceremonies of many years, who was on the same Indy Honor Flight recently with Goudy and retired U.S. Air Force Sgt. Mark Plecker, 81, of Noblesville, spoke about their Indy Honor Flight trip, "an incredible experience," Martin said, during the Veterans Day ceremony. He gave out applications for veterans interested in signing up for the amazing free one-day flight, for which there is a waiting list. (Read about Martin's trip in my column in the Nov. 6 edition of The Times.)

Vietnam veteran and U.S. Army specialist Bill Prater, 74, of Noblesville, who with his wife, Carrie, owned Kirk Hardware in downtown Noblesville for 20 years, wore an American flag pinned on his veterans hat, and displayed another American flag in his flannel shirt pocket, and listened to the ceremony along with others who leaned against the stone wall of the adjacent Old Jail & Sheriff's Residence. The VFW's past Loyalty Day Queen Cheryl Hale, 76, Noblesville, a member of the VFW of 15 years and the American Legion of 63 years and who grew up a Navy brat, her father, Emmett, serving during World War II, stood along with these veterans.

U.S. Navy veteran Ron Wilson, a 1964 NHS grad who served in Vietnam 1965-71, and who has been involved in veterans activities with the local VFW and American Legion along with the Navy Club Ship No. 29, for much of his adult life, held a Navy flag during the ceremony.

Others in attendance included Noblesville Chamber of Commerce president Bob DuBois, Hamilton County Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt of Westfield, Noblesville residents Marge Osler and Bob Crandall and many others were in attendance as was Alaina Shonkwiler of Noblesville, who was recently elected in the general election for Indiana House of Representatives District 29.

It is a tradition for the Noblesville mayor to say "thank you to all of those who served our country," said Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen, who spoke briefly and was joined by former Noblesville mayors Mary Sue Rowland and John

Ditslear.

"On behalf of 75,000 people who call Noblesville home, thank you for serving our country. Thank you for allowing us to live in a city that not only is free but a city that genuinely honors and supports our veterans," Jensen said. "Not every county Courthouse Square will have flags lining it on this day or Memorial Day. Not every city across our country will have a Fourth of July Parade that not only honors our veterans but has groups like the Navy Club serve as our grand marshals. But that is Noblesville. And I can tell you that I love that this ceremony falls every year about a week after a free and fair Democratic election, an election that we should not take for granted ... We saw for weeks on-end folks wrapped around this beautiful Judicial building exercising their God-given right that you all fought for to vote. Thank you for your service."

VFW chaplain James Eichelberger said the opening prayer and closing prayer for the Veterans Day ceremony, for which the new Noblesville American Legion Post 45 Commander Gil Soria was emcee.

Congresswoman Victoria Spartz of Noblesville is always a faithful guest at the Veterans Day service in her city of residence. She said to the veterans, "I want to thank all of you ... This is a very important day for me because I truly value people who are willing to put their lives on the line for our freedoms. You are true heroes of our country. You are what makes our Republic great ... I will always cherish and appreciate everything you've done ... I think we are going to have the greatest time ahead of us, and our children will inherit a better life than we did. That is what the American dream is about. We are the strongest Republic, the brightest Republic, the freest Republic that ever existed in the history of the world ... It is always my great honor to stand in front of you. You are real heroes. You make us stronger and tougher ... May God bless all of you. May God bless this great United States of America."

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



The Times photos by Betsy Reason

World War II veteran Jules Goudy (second from right), 99, Noblesville, U.S. Army veteran 1943-46, watches the Noblesville Veterans Day Ceremony at the Hamilton County War Memorial with his son, Joel Goudy (right), 60, of Noblesville, and friends Steve Passwater (second from left), 77, a 1965 Noblesville High School grad and Army 1967-69, and Jim Macy (left), 86, a 1956 NHS grad and U.S. Naval Aviation veteran 1958-62.

Past Noblesville American Legion commander of Post 45 Rickie Woods, 75, of Noblesville, sitting on his mobility scooter, bows his head for the prayer during the Veterans Day Ceremony on Nov. 11 at the Hamilton County War Memorial. Woods, who served in the U.S. Army from 1967-68 in Vietnam, once told me he never misses a Veterans Day ceremony.



Girl Scouts and families watch the Noblesville Veterans Day Ceremony on Nov. 11 at the Hamilton County War Memorial.



Veterans hold their military branch flags during the Noblesville Veterans Day Ceremony.

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FOR THE RECORD

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.

HAMILTON COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION

BOARD MEETING

Osprey Pointe Pavilion 19777 Morse Park Lane Noblesville, IN 46060

November 18th, 2024

5:00pm Executive Session

Land, Litigation & Personnel

6:00pm Board Meeting

1. Call to Order 6:00pm
2. Agenda Amendments
3. Public Comments
4. Approval of October 21st, 2024 Minutes

1. Finance Report
 - a. Approval Claims/Payroll/Transfers
 - b. Additional Appropriations
2. Committee Reports
3. Friends Report
4. Old Business
 - a. HC Farms Bids
 - b. Cool Creek Admin Modifications
 - c. Tubing Operations Update
 - d. Project Updates
5. New Business
 - a. Land Acquisition
 - b. Morse Beach Softball Contract
 - c. Aerial Adventure Update
 - d. White River Campground Off-Season Schedule
6. Director's Report
7. Deputy Director's Report
8. Additional Announcements

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

NOBLESVILLE SCHOOL BOARD

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, November 19, 2024 6:00 P.M.

Agenda

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

II. RECOGNITIONS

§ INSHAPE 2024 Physical Education Teacher of the Year

§ Hare Teacher Spotlight / Noble Crossing Elementary School

III. REPORTS

§ Building Spotlight / Noble Crossing Elementary School

Renee Cook, Principal

§ Noblesville Schools Demographic Study

Dr. Jerome McKibbon, McKibbon Demographic Research, LLC

IV. 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.

V. 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

§ Donations

§ Minutes / October 2024

§ Personnel

VI. ACTION

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

application of Board Policy and Indiana Code.

§ Bids / NHS Air Handler Replacement Project

VII. 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.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The school board president asks for a motion to adjourn.

This is a meeting of the School Board in public for the purpose of conducting the corporation's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There will be time for public participation as indicated under the Public Comment agenda item.

The next regular school board meeting of the Board of School Trustees of Noblesville Schools will be held on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at the Educational Services Center and commencing at 6:00 p.m.

CARMEL COMMON COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 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

a. Swearing-In of New Carmel Police Officer: - Travis Brady

6. RECOGNITION OF PERSONS WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

7. COUNCIL AND MAYORAL COMMENTS/OBSERVATIONS

8. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of Minutes

1. October 21, 2024 Regular Meeting

2. October 30, 2024 Special Meeting

b. Claims

1. Payroll - \$3,875,334.06

2. General Claims – \$3,617,796.40

3. Retirement – \$110,705.10 (October) and \$110,705.10 (November)

4. Wire Transfers – \$4,932,915.52

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. Economic Development Commission (Bi-annual – February, August)

f. Library Board (Annual – February)

g. Ethics Board (Annual – February)

h. Parks Department (Quarterly – February, May, August, November)

i. Climate Action Advisory Committee (Quarterly – March, June, September, December)

j. All reports designated by the Chair to qualify for placement under this category.

12. OLD BUSINESS

a. Fifth Reading of Ordinance D-2726-24; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Approving and Adopting a Third Amendment to Interlocal Agreement; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Snyder and Taylor. Remains in the Land Use and Special Studies Committee.

Synopsis:

Third Amendment to Interlocal Cooperation Agreement.

b. Third Reading of Ordinance D-2740-24; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Amending Chapter 2, Article 1, Sections 2-1, 2-3, 2-6, 2-10, 2-12, 2-13 and 2-14 of the Carmel City Code; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Green and Aasen. Remains in the Finance, Utilities and Rules Committee.

Synopsis:

Ordinance clarifying purpose and duties of components of government.

c. Third Reading of Ordinance D-2741-24; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Amending Chapter 2, Article 6, Sections 2-301, 2-302 and 2-303, of the Carmel City Code; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Green and Aasen. Remains in the Finance, Utilities and Rules Committee.

Synopsis:

Ordinance amending budget procedures of the City of Carmel.

d. Petition for Alley/Street Vacation or Order to Remove Obstructions; 40 East Main Street, Carmel, IN 46032; Carmel Library Associates, LLC, Property Owner. Remains in Land Use and Special Studies Committee.

13. PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. Resolution CC-11-18-24-06; A Confirmatory Resolution Designating an Economic Revitalization Area and Approving Tax Abatement for Qualifying Certain Personal Property – Alliance for Cooperative Energy Services Power Marketing, LLC; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Joshi and Worrell.

Synopsis:

A resolution confirming the designation of the real property located at 4140 W 99th Street, Carmel, Indiana as an economic revitalization area and granting a partial abatement of property taxes attributable to certain eligible equipment installed therein.

14. NEW BUSINESS

a. First Reading of Ordinance D-2747-24; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Establishing Lake City Bank as the Financial Institution for Public Monies of the City; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Green and Taylor.

Synopsis:

Ordinance establishes Lake City Bank as the financial institution for the City of Carmel depository of public monies.

b. Resolution CC-11-18-24-01; A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Approving a Transfer of Funds within the General Administration Department Budget (Fund #1205); Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Green and Taylor.

Synopsis:

Transfers \$182,000.00 within the 2024 General Administration Department budget.

c. Resolution CC-11-18-24-02; A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Approving a Transfer of Funds from the Carmel Police Department Budget (Fund 1110) into the Marketing and Communications Department Budget (Fund 1203); Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Green and Taylor.

Synopsis:

Transfers \$200,000.00 from the 2024 Carmel Police Department budget into the 2024 Marketing and Communications budget.

d. Resolution CC-11-18-24-03; A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, to Limit the Rate for Taxes Payable in 2024 and Certain Past Years and Authorize Necessary Temporary Borrowing Among City Funds; Sponsor: Councilor Taylor.

Synopsis:

A resolution authorizing appeal to the Department of Local Government Finance for permission to increase the City's 2025 ad valorem property tax levy in excess of the normal maximum allowable amount.

e. Resolution CC-11-18-24-04; A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Approving a Transfer of Funds within the Common Council Budget (#1401); Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Aasen, Taylor, Green, Snyder and Minnaar.

Synopsis:

Transfers \$109,400.00 within the 2024 Common Council budget.

f. Resolution CC-11-18-24-05; A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Creating an Affiliate Review Committee; Sponsor: Councilor Worrell.

Synopsis:

This Resolution authorizes the creation of a joint committee of the executive and legislative branches to evaluate the purpose, governance and tax structure and related fiscal and risk aspects of all nonprofit corporations and community development corporations that are affiliates of the City of Carmel.

15. AGENDA ADD-ON ITEMS

16. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Approval of 2025 Common Council Meeting Calendar and Deadlines

17. ANNOUNCEMENTS

18. ADJOURNMENT

MEETING NOTICE

CITY OF CARMEL

DORA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2024 AT 3:30 P.M.

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FOR THE RECORD

CARMEL PLAN COMMISSION

Tuesday, November 19, 2024 in-person meeting at 6 p.m. This meeting will also be livestreamed and recorded

- This meeting is open to the public and comments will only be allowed during the public hearing portion of the meeting.
- Please submit your written comments and concerns to bbutler@carmel.in.gov. Your comments will be forwarded to each Plan Commission member and made part of the docket.

Reports, Announcements & Department Concerns

a. Outcome of Projects at Plan Commission Committee

1. Docket No. PZ-2024-00028 PUD: Towne 146 PUD Rezone. Favorable Recommendation to PC
2. Docket No. PZ-2024-00099 DP/ADLS: Spring Mill Shops. Tabled to Dec. 3
3. Docket No. PZ-2024-00140 OA: Gramercy PUD Ordinance Amendment. Favorable Recommendation to PC

Public Hearings

a. Tabled to December 17 Docket No. PZ-2024-00173 PUD: Clay Cottages PUD Rezone.

The applicant seeks PUD rezone approval to allow a new neighborhood with a mix of housing options ranging from estate lots to single-family detached homes to attached paired homes. The site is located at 12411 Towne Rd. and is zoned S-1/Residence. Filed by Jim Shinaver and Jon Dobosiewicz of Nelson & Frankenberger on behalf of Taylor Morrison of Indiana, LLC.

Old Business

a. Docket No. PZ-2024-00028 PUD: Towne 146 PUD Rezone. Info Packet

The applicant seeks PUD rezone approval to allow a new neighborhood consisting of single-family homes and townhomes. The site is located at 2275 W 146th Street and is zoned S-1/Residence. Filed by Jim Shinaver and Jon Dobosiewicz of Nelson & Frankenberger on behalf of Lennar Homes of Indiana, LLC.

a. Docket No. PZ-2024-00140 OA: Gramercy PUD Ordinance Amendment. Info Packet

The applicant seeks approval to modify the existing PUD language to allow an urban residential development consisting of townhomes, multi-family, and neighborhood-oriented, mixed-use buildings. The 33-acre site is generally located at the southeast corner of City Center Drive and Kinzer Ave. (830 Golfview Drive) and is currently zoned PUD (Z-493-06 Gramercy). Filed by Jim Shinaver and Jon Dobosiewicz of Nelson & Frankenberger on behalf of Buckingham Properties, LLC.

NOBLESVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL COMMITTEE

The Noblesville Economic Development Council Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 4, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. has been moved from Room A213 to the Mayor's Conference Room #2 at City Hall, 16 South 10th Street.

NOBLESVILLE COUNCIL ROADS COMMITTEE

The Noblesville Council Roads Committee meeting scheduled for Friday, December 6, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. has been changed to 8:00 a.m. The Committee will meet in the Council Chamber Conference Room at City Hall, 16 South 10th Street.

CFB Steps Up for Veterans



Photos courtesy Community First Bank

Each year on Veterans Day, Community First Bank of Indiana closes its doors to customers, but its bankers are still hard at work. It's an annual tradition for the bank to serve local veterans by completing outdoor service projects and serving a hot meal. This year, the team raked leaves, washed windows, and cleaned gutters at the homes of 28 veterans. They also served a steamed bagel sandwich 'thank you lunch' in partnership with the locally owned Bearded Bagel at Carmel VFW Post 10003, in addition to completing a painting project for the VFW. This lunch was provided by the Community First Bank Casual for a Cause employee-funded program. Lainey Schroer, Director of Marketing, said, "Our team cherishes the chance to engage with our community on Veterans Day and give back to our local heroes. Veterans embody the essence of selfless sacrifice. Thank you to all our veterans for your service. You are immensely appreciated."

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2024 Toyota Tacoma Trailhunter Takes Us Back to The Future



CASEY WILLIAMS
Auto Reviews

As with a lot of car-loving kids from my generation, I was enamored with 1985's *Back to the Future* movie. But it wasn't about the DeLorean, which is super cool. No, I wanted Marty McFly's black jacked-up Toyota pickup. It's become so iconic in its own right that Toyota created a new concept version a couple of years ago. Perhaps that's why, here in the actual future, I'm enjoying the 2024 Toyota Tacoma Trailhunter.

It looks like a big bad beast jacked up on its off-road suspension, all-terrain tires, and bed side bars. The front is menacing with its snarling grille, angry LED headlamps, and black trim. Trailhunters get a bronze TOYOTA in the grille with matching 18" wheels. There's even a snorkel attached to the

passenger side pillar for fording deep streams! Around back, notice red tow hooks, trailer hitch receiver, and trailer wiring plugs. A power up/down tailgate seems like overkill, but the built in air compressor and power outlet come in handy for off-the-grid adventures.

Grab the steering wheel and heave yourself inside, because well, the step bars are mere decorations and it's a long way up. Land in the big plush SofTex "faux leather" seats with gold stitching - heated and ventilated up front. Once plopped, check the 14" touchscreen, head-up display, wireless phone charging, and modish gold-lined TOYOTA lettering on the dash. The shifter feels carved from solid Lucite. Connect devices wirelessly with Apple CarPlay or Android Auto and thump the JBL audio system until your head pounds. Four passengers fit better

than five, but there's space for your crew in the cab.

This pickup's "i-Force Max" powertrain makes a flux capacitor seem simple. It starts with a 2.4-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine and eight-speed automatic transmission, but that's the easy part. It's actually a hybrid with the electric motor placed between the engine and transmission. That allows the Tacoma to retain incredible off-road capability and the fortitude to tow up to 6,500 lbs. Total system output is a potent 326 horsepower and 465 lb.-ft. of torque. Fuel economy won't challenge a Prius, but is a respectable 22/24-MPG city/highway.

The Trailhunter package isn't about fuel economy; it's an all-terrain fiend. Sure, the fat tires and off-road suspension with remote reservoir soak up pavement like a chamois

going after water, but those are really to tackle trails and fields. It laughs at snow. The truck has a locking rear differential for traction, disconnecting sway bar for wheel articulation, hill start assist to grip hills, and crawl control that functions like an off-road cruise control. A big knob in the console controls the terrain management system, which configures the powertrain for virtually any condition from pavement to mud.

It's an all-capable hiking buddy, but you may want to take a trip back to 1985 when you read the Tacoma Trailhunter's price. Base Tacomas start at a reasonable \$31,500, but came to \$64,944 all-in with the hybrid powertrain, sumptuous interior, and all the off-road kit. Back in 2024, you might also consider the Chevy Colorado ZR2, GMC Canyon AT4, Nissan Frontier PRO-X,

and Ford Ranger Raptor. *Storm Forward!*

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

Send comments to

- Likes**
- Buff styling
 - All-road capabilities
 - Comfy front seats
- Dislikes**
- Tight rear legroom
 - Useless step bar
 - Lofty price

2024 Toyota Tacoma Trailhunter
Five-passenger, 4WD Pickup
Powertrain: 2.4-liter T4, Hybrid
Output: 326hp/465 lb.-ft.
Suspension f/r: Ind/Solid axle
Wheels f/r: 18"/18" alloy
Brakes f/r: regen disc/disc
Towing capacity: 6,500 lbs.
Fuel economy city/hwy: 22/24-MPG
Assembly: Guanajuato, Mexico
Base/as-tested price: \$31,500/\$64,944

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The Times of Noblesville presents...

Hosted by Dick Wolfsie

March 18 - 24, 2025

Iceland's Magical Northern Lights

For more information contact Collette

1-800-581-8942

Please refer to booking #1232517

Fishers Lights Up!

Head downtown as Fishers Parks lights up the night on the Nickel Plate Trail to celebrating the coming winter and holiday season! Through the month of December, enjoy NPT Night Lights, a light display along the downtown portion of the Nickel Plate Trail. Lights will turn on nightly at dusk through the end of December.

On Saturdays throughout the month, come to the trail and Central Green in front of the new Fishers City Hall to celebrate the season with us! Each Saturday, from 5 to 9 p.m., Fishers Parks welcomes the public for a winter festival that will include special light displays, live music, food trucks, shopping, Santa and roaming characters, and so much more! See activities for each weekend below:

November 30 - Kickoff Weekend

- City of Fishers annual tree lighting ceremony (6 p.m.)
- Santa and roaming holiday characters
- Live music
- Food trucks
- Shopping
- Photo opportunities

December 7 - Letters to Santa Weekend

- Letters to Santa and seasonal postcard activity
- Santa and roaming holiday characters
- Live music
- Food trucks
- Shopping
- Photo opportunities

December 14 - Winter Wonderland Weekend

- Fishers Police Department Winter Wonderland Walkthrough
- Santa and roaming holiday characters
- Live music
- Food trucks
- Shopping
- Photo opportunities

December 21 - Fire & Ice Weekend

- Live fire juggling shows at 6 p.m., 7 p.m., and 8 p.m.
- Santa and roaming holiday characters
- Live music
- Food trucks
- Shopping
- Photo opportunities

Access to the Nickel Plate Trail is always free, and no registration or RSVP is required for NPT Night Lights. Just show up!

FBI Wants Your Help in Endangered Child Investigation

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is seeking the public's assistance with obtaining identifying information regarding an unknown male who may have critical information pertaining to the identity of a child victim in an ongoing sexual exploitation investigation.

Photographs and an informational poster depicting the unknown individual, known only as John Doe 49, are being disseminated to the public and can be found online at the FBI website at <http://www.fbi.gov/wanted/ecap>.

Initial video of the unidentified male, John Doe 49, was first recorded by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and is believed to have been produced

on or before July of 2024. There is no EXIF (Exchangeable Image File Format) data embedded within the video file.

John Doe 49 is described as a White male between 45 and 65 years old, bald, with a dark goatee. He has at least five visual tattoos:

- the word Dabby on the right side of his chest
- 197 followed by possible additional unknown text on his left bicep
- additional tattoos on his left and right forearms and right bicep.

Anyone with information should submit a tip online at <https://tips.fbi.gov/>, or call the FBI's toll-free tip line at 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324).

The public is reminded no charges have been filed in this case and the pictured individual is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

This individual is being sought as part of the FBI's Operation Rescue Me and Endangered Child Alert Program (ECAP) initiatives. Operation Rescue Me focuses on utilizing clues obtained through in-depth image analysis to identify the child victims depicted in child exploitation material, while ECAP seeks national and international media exposure of unknown adults (referred to as John/Jane Does) who visibly display their faces and/or other distinguishing characteristics in association with child pornography images.

Carmel Parks Earns Improvement Award

Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation received the Excellence in Resource Improvement Award at this year's Indiana Park and Recreation Association (IPRA) state conference. This award recognizes a park and recreation agency for its exceptional management of an existing park, trail, natural area, recreation, or aquatic facility.

CCPR received the award for its accessible and sustainable design of River Heritage Park. Working closely with Weihe Engineers and United Construction Services, CCPR installed over a mile of new,

universally accessible nature trails through 30 acres of underutilized wooded property along the White River. The project required careful planning to ensure the proposed trail was designed using Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards and limit the ecological impact on the wetland forest.

"We are honored to accept the Excellence in Resource Improvement Award," said Michael Klitzing, Director/CEO of Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation (CCPR). "CCPR is dedicated to incorporating inclusive and sustainable design elements in all our parks."

In June 2001, River Heritage Park was dedicated as "Everyone's Playground." A park where individuals of all abilities could play and explore. This sparked CCPR's focus on making accessibility the standard for all parks and utilizing Universal Design, which ensures spaces are intentionally designed for accessibility. When River Heritage Park was reimagined in 2022, CCPR equipped the park with a new, wheelchair accessible, inclusive playground and a looping .75-mile immersive nature trail that is wheelchair friendly and overlooks the White River.

County Park Department Honored



Photo courtesy Hamilton County Parks and Recreation

From left, Chris Stice, HCPR Director; Jeff Spicer, Project Manager for Stantec; Brad Baldwin, DNR In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Program Director; Bruce Oldham, HCPR Deputy Director; Erica Foreman, HCPR Resource Development Specialist, Wil Rettinger, Park Development and Operations Strategist HCPR; Thomas Vlastic, HCPR Program Assistant; and Kyle Stocks, HCPR Facilities and Grounds Manager.

Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department proudly received the Clark Ketchum Conservation Award at the annual Indiana Park and Recreation Association conference. This prestigious honor recognizes outstanding achievement in conservation stewardship. HCPR earned the award for its transformative work on HC Farms, a 107-acre property in Westfield, that showcases the department's commitment to preserving natural resources and creating exceptional recreational opportunities to the community.

"We are truly honored to receive this award," said Chris Stice, Director of Hamilton County Parks and Recreation. "This award isn't just about what we've accomplished—it's about what lies ahead. We are committed to continuing our mission of conservation and

providing meaningful outdoor experiences for our community. This recognition inspires us to keep pushing the boundaries of what's possible in parks and recreation."

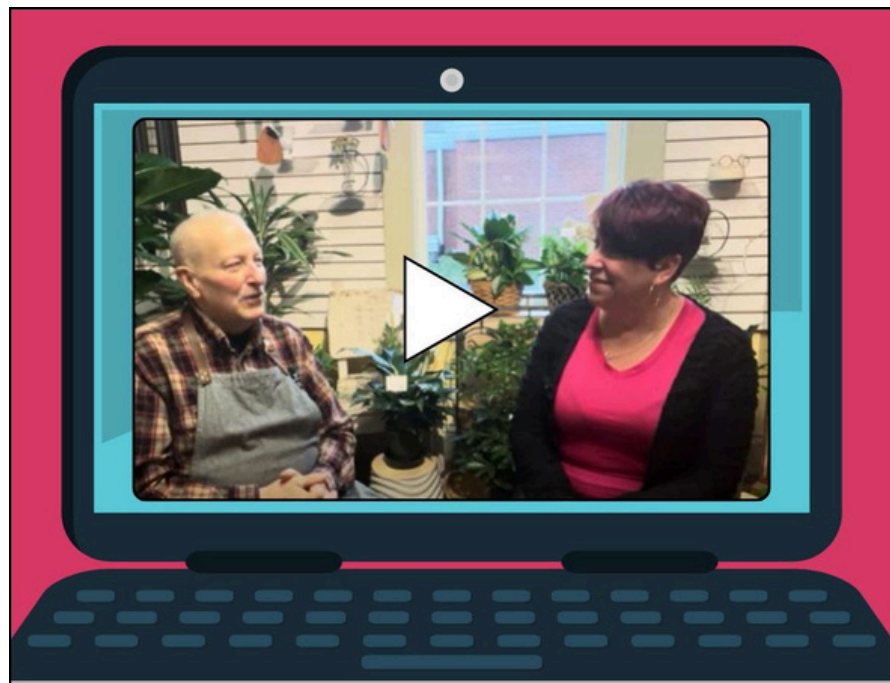
HC Farms is home to a diverse range of ecosystems, including seven streams, wetlands, and dramatic ravines with cliffs rising 30 to 40 feet. This topography is a rarity in Hamilton County and underscores the urgency of preserving this land, which was previously slated for luxury housing development.

In partnership with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and the National Park Service, HCPR secured more than \$2.8 million in funding through Indiana's In-Lieu Fee Program and the Land and Water Conservation Fund. These funds supported extensive restoration efforts completed by Stantec, a third-party entity. The restoration efforts included

conversion of farmland to wetland areas, stream rehabilitation, and invasive species management.

When it opens to the public in 2025, HC Farms will feature 2.5 miles of trails, including ADA-accessible routes, allowing visitors to explore prairies, wetlands, and old-growth forests. The project's success lies not only in its environmental impact but also in its community focus, creating a space for education, recreation, and connection to nature.

"When you walk through HC Farms, you can't help but feel a profound sense of peace and wonder," Stice said. "From the towering sycamores to the meandering streams, it's a place that showcases Indiana's natural beauty like no other. To know that our work will help protect and preserve this land for generations to come is incredibly humbling."



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