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TODAY'S VERSE

1 Corinthians 15:57-58 "But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." (NIV)

Hamilton Happenings

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 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!

Three Things You Should Know

1 Tweedy, a cockatiel belonging to Safiya Hashimi in Buena Park, CA, flew the coop and got stuck in a tree. Safiya's brother didn't hesitate to climb the tree to rescue the lost bird but he found himself stuck in the tree along with the bird. An Orange County Fire Authority team was called in and firefighter Shane Allan wasted no time in climbing his ladder to reach the boy and the bird. As the Fire Authority put it, Allan "proved that saving two birds with one ladder isn't just a figure of speech."

2 Eighty-two-year-old David Lorenzo, a 1964 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, lost his Class Ring while playing golf 54 years ago at the Uniontown Country Club, near Pittsburgh. As he put it to reporters, the ring "survived combat, but it couldn't survive my golf game." Along came 70-year-old Michael Zenert. Nearly five and a half decades later he was playing golf at the Uniontown club and found the ring on the fourth green. Zenert searched and found that it was Lorenzo's ring and traveled to Florida to return it to him. The two of them met at the National Naval Aviation Museum at Naval Air Station Pensacola return the ring to Lorenzo. As Zenert put it, "I just knew I couldn't send this in the mail. I knew it had to be personally delivered."

3 It's mating season for tarantulas in Colorado and the town of La Junta has its share of the spiders – enough to draw tourists from all over the country. In fact, in recent years the town has created a tarantula festival to celebrate the annual event when the arachnids seek their mates. It may sound creepy, but these super spiders aren't as scary as you might think and, in fact, they are an important part of the ecosystem, according to Cara Shillington, a biology professor at Eastern Michigan University. "When you encounter them, they're more afraid of you. Tarantulas only bite out of fear," she said.

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! .

This week, we take a look at the beginning of the most holy time for Christians – preparing to celebrate the birth of Christ and the beginning of Advent. We thought it might be helpful to share some facts and numbers for this holy period.

First, Advent is a four-week season in the Christian church year that is marked by the lighting of an Advent candle on each of the four Sundays before Christmas. Many Christian churches, including Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Episcopalians, Lutherans and many Protestants celebrate Advent.

4 The four themes of Advent are hope, peace, love and joy, and each week of Advent focuses on one of these themes.



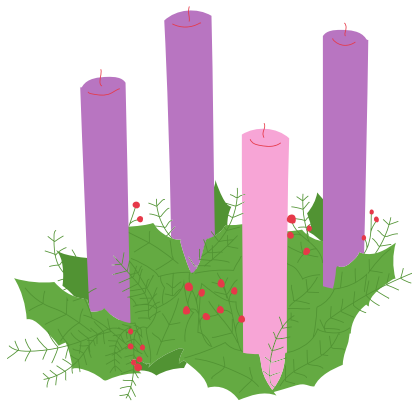
1st Week Hope: The first theme of Advent

2nd Week Peace: The second week of Advent focuses on peace

3rd Week Love: In week three, love is celebrated

4th Week Joy: The theme of the last week of Advent is joy

24 The number of days in the Advent calendar. These begin on Dec. 1 and go until Christmas Eve, Dec. 24.



1 The entire season is about awaiting the arrival of one day – Christmas. The actual name itself originates from the Latin version of Adventus.

Giving Tuesday Encourages People to Donate to Causes



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

The Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville, which is getting donations matched up to \$20,000 on Giving Tuesday by George Kristo and Tim and Beth Meister, is among many charities that are raising money on Giving Tuesday.



BETSY REASON
Columnist

Today is Cyber Monday. And that means that it's only one day until Giving Tuesday, and I would like to applaud George Kristo and Tim and Beth Meister, all of Noblesville.

The first \$20,000 in donations to the Boys & Girls Club's "Limitless Possibilities" campaign will be generously matched thanks to Kristo and the Meisters. The Club's goal is to reach and surpass the \$43,000 raised on Giving Tuesday in 2023.

Since retiring from his being executive director of Hamilton County Council on Alcohol & Other Drugs, Kristo has hopped onboard with fundraising campaigns that benefit organizations that are close to his heart.

Tim Meister, a wealth adviser, and his wife, Beth Meister, who has been heavily involved for many years with the BGCN, of which she is a board member, enjoy giving back to the community where they raised their family.

"Together, we are making a meaningful impact and creating positive change," BGCN executive director Becky Terry said in a press release to The Times. "Our heartfelt thanks go out to each and every donor for their kindness and commitment to providing youth with opportunities to succeed and excel. Kids today need people to see their potential and help them achieve it, and the Boys & Girls Club is the perfect place to do that." **See BETSY Page A4**

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Research shows smokers are actually happiest when they are trying to quit.

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



TODAY'S QUOTE

"My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others."
Bob Hope

TODAY'S JOKE

Back in the day, a czar lived in Russia named Rudolph the Red. One day he was taking in his vast kingdom from a palace window. His beautiful wife was sitting in the room reading. The czar said to her, "I'll put another log on the fire. It has begun to rain." The wife didn't even stop reading. "It is far too cold to rain," she said. "You must be mistaken." Rudolph the Red exploded! "I am Rudolph the Red. I rule all of Russia. And if Rudolph the Red knows anything, Rudolph the Red knows rain, dear!"

OBITUARIES

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Stephen, Moffett Craig Named Grand Marshals for 2024 Holiday in Lights Parade



Photo courtesy City of Noblesville

Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen said Stephen (left) and Moffett Craig have supported the community for years.

Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen has announced that long-time Noblesville business owners Stephen and Moffett Craig will serve as the grand marshals of the Holiday in Lights Parade. The 2024 Holiday in Lights Parade, sponsored by Hare Chevy and your Central Indiana Chevy Dealers, begins at 6:30 p.m. Saturday.

“Over the years, the Craigs have supported the public through their business and countless hours of community service,” Jensen said. “I’m excited to recognize Stephen and Moffett for all of the things they’ve done during their lifetime and wish them the best as they approach the next chapter in their lives.”

“We were shocked and elated when asked to be grand marshals. We couldn’t ask for anything better as the beginning of our retirement,” Stephen said.

The Craigs, owners of Adrienes Flowers & Gifts in Noblesville, are retiring at the end of the year. The downtown business has been in Moffett’s family for 45 years.

“It’s the right time,” Stephen said. “We’ve been overwhelmed by the outpouring from Noblesville to our announcement. It’s been special and we look forward to being grand marshals this year.”

In addition to the Craigs and 50+ participating groups, Santa Claus will be joining the parade as the last entry. To encourage the holiday spirit, the Holiday in Lights Parade includes awards for the best holiday-themed entry, best use of lights, and most hometown-inspired. Parade registration is open until Monday, December 2. Entry forms can be completed online at www.cityofnoblesville.org/parade

Carmel Sets Up Letters to Santa

The holidays have arrived and we are here to help you and your family prepare. Write your letter to Santa and please don’t forget to include your name and return address, then drop it in one of our four custom-made mailboxes placed around Carmel for a direct delivery to Santa and his elves at the North Pole.



- Midtown Plaza - outside of Sun King (351 Monon Blvd.)
- City Center - corner of Hotel Carmichael (1 Carmichael Square and Veterans Way/Hanover Place)
- Indiana Design Center - at Santa’s House (200 S. Range Line Rd.)

Not sure where to drop your letter? Reggie the Elf will show you a way in [this YouTube video](#).

Don’t delay - letters will be accepted from Tuesday, Nov. 26 through Sunday, Dec. 15.

Mailbox Locations:

- Arts & Design District - next to The Carmel Arts Council Children’s Art Gallery
- (40 W. Main St.)

Christkindlmarkt Announces Winners



From left to right: Travis Jerde (Kulturrecke Program Coordinator, IGHS), Sandra Richardson (VP of Cultural Programs, Carmel Christkindlmarkt), Abiola Olutayo (2nd Place winner), Maria Adele Rosenfeld (CEO & President, Carmel Christkindlmarkt), Sam Vrtismarch (3rd Place winner), Brian Griesemer (President, IGHS), Ellen Rozmaryn (1st Place winner), Sheena Zhao (Director of Corporate Sponsorships, Carmel Christkindlmarkt), Leah Hess (Cultural Events Manager, Carmel Christkindlmarkt)

CARMEL, Ind. (November 25, 2024) – The Carmel Christkindlmarkt team and the Indiana German Heritage Society (IGHS) Kulturrecke committee have chosen the winners of the 2024 Kulturrecke Docent Scholarship Program, sponsored by the Indiana German Heritage Society (IGHS).

The first-place winner and recipient of the \$1,000 scholarship is Ellen Rozmaryn, Carmel High School, Class of 2027.

Rozmaryn developed a love for German culture as a child living in Munich. A third-year high school German student in Carmel, she has excelled academically and earned a gold medal on the Level 2 National German Exam. She actively participates in local German cultural initiatives, such as volunteering on the new Carmel-Seiffen Sister Cities Committee. Her essay focused on the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Indianapolis, highlighting its connection to German

immigrant contributions, its significance as a symbol of freedom and unity, and a special place for Rozmaryn’s family during the holidays.

The second-place winner and recipient of the \$500 scholarship is Abiola Olutayo, Fishers High School, Class of 2027. Olutayo became passionate about German culture during a trip to Germany, which inspired a love for Christmas markets. She has volunteered for the Carmel Christkindlmarkt docent program and is the leader of her school’s German club. She plans to pursue a German major in college. Her essay focused on specific German celebrations in Indiana. She took a special interest in local-specific foods, music, and art expressions at these events, reflecting the immigrants who founded these communities.

The third-place winner and recipient of the \$250 scholarship is Sam Vrtismarch, Carmel High School, Class of 2025. Vrtismarch is a Carmel

High School IB German student in his fifth year of German study. He has participated in two exchange programs in Germany, and his family has hosted a German exchange student in Carmel. Sam’s essay explored the role of beer brewing in Indianapolis, highlighting its historical significance and recent resurgence, and analyzed the impact of prohibition on German-American culture.

The Kulturrecke Docent Scholarship Program is an opportunity for high school and college students to get involved in the Carmel Christkindlmarkt and partner with us in bringing history and cultural awareness to Carmel, Indiana. In addition to the scholarship prizes, docents will attend special appearances requested for various events around the Market throughout the season.

Background: The Carmel Christkindlmarkt partnered with the Indiana German Heritage Society to bring our guests the

Kulturrecke in 2019. A space to explore Indiana’s rich German-American history, this museum allows guests to learn how German immigrants contributed to the State of Indiana through business, education, architecture, and Christmas traditions.

As part of this experience, the Kulturrecke Docent will be present in the hut to welcome visitors and provide helpful and interesting facts found in the Kulturrecke.

2024 Essay Question: German immigrants have significantly contributed to the culture and traditions in the State of Indiana. In 500 words, describe a German cultural tradition that you see alive in the state today and why you think it has remained an impactful part of Hoosier living history.

To learn more about the Kulturrecke Docent Scholarship Program, please go here: <https://www.carmelchristkindlmarkt.com/get-involved/kulturrecke-docent-program>

GOP Will Show Courage or Go to Hell

Noblesville’s Congressional Representative, Republican Victoria Spartz, has long been known for being outspoken. After the recent elections, she didn’t mince words on where she thinks her party needs to go. “Aristotle once said that courage is the first of human qualities because it is the quality which guarantees the others. The American people gave us another chance to restore our Republic, but it might be our last chance,” Spartz said. “If my



Photo Courtesy Rep. Victoria Spartz Staff

party betrays the American people and does not show courage to stand up to the DC 'money machine' and address the looming fiscal calamity, we will not deserve another chance.”

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Less Than Perfect Still Undecided



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

So I'm doing a show after all. The problem with me (and I might not be alone in this) is that I have a hard time imagining anything between close to perfect and nothing at all.

I'd been planning to do a first show featuring material from my columns, and it was overwhelming. A fully realized show involves a lot of preparation and getting every detail down all at once. A close-to-perfect show requires a ton of rehearsal and usually a lot of help from others to make it happen.

When I got a grasp of what "close to perfect" would involve, I realized I had set myself up for an almost impossible task. I do this with other things, large and small.

I want to stop eating sweets. But then I eat one small sweet and ruin my perfect record of no sweet eating, so I might as well have a piece of cake. What does it matter? Perfect isn't possible.

I was thinking the same way about this show. I knew I would be completely crazy if I tried to memorize 9,000 words and perform for the first time in almost five years in front of a full house with music and light cues and costume changes and a video crew catching every less-than-perfect moment. It was too much. I felt enormously relieved when it didn't come together.

But after I got to Mexico, a new idea started to emerge. What if I tried the less-than-perfect approach? What if I didn't memorize 9000 words, but only a few hundred, and read the rest? What if I did an abbreviated sample of the show, stayed in one costume, skipped the music, and invited a few friends to come and see it for free? I would still get some video to use for promotion. It would be less than perfect, but it would happen, and I could

make the next performance a bit better. And so on. As soon as the less-than-perfect idea took hold, everything fell into place in a moment. Now I'm doing a show after all.

It's just a baby show. I'm advertising it as a "soft opening," as a "no bells or whistles" show. It will be only 30 minutes long, and I will have a videographer I just met in town, named Alejo, come to the theater to videotape. And I am very happy I am doing it.

The theater was delighted to host me. Alejo was eager and professional and affordable. Rehearsing the script was easy and stress-free because I knew I did not have to keep all those words in my head. If I needed them, they were right there in front of me.

And, best of all, it all started to sound like fun. What had seemed like a terribly scary and ambitious thing turned into a fun experiment.

"Perfection is the enemy of progress," Winston Churchill famously said. I would also add that nothing close to perfection is even possible unless I am first willing to be less than perfect.

So I am embracing less than perfect today.

And here's the funny thing: The people coming to see my less-than-perfect show seem excited. Getting in on something in the early stages, with a few bumps in the road, when everything is not all smooth and shiny, can be fun. It's new. It's fresh. It's a little scary. It's less than perfect.

I'm thinking there's a lot in my life that would be better less than perfect. I'm thinking a less-than-perfect life might be the best life of all.

Till next time,
Carrie



DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

The recent election required a great deal of decision making. Of course, there are still a small number of undecided people out there. I don't mean about the election—it's too late for that. I mean whether they are going to waste their time finishing this article.

I let my wife make half the decisions in our home. We both agree that this fosters a better relationship and makes for a happier marriage. She told me to say that.

"Dick, I decided to change our next vacation. Instead of the Bahamas we are now going to cruise Antarctica."

"Gee, don't you think I should have been consulted on that decision?"

"Everything evens out in the end. When you change the oil, I let you decide on the brand. So, when I change our vacation plans, we are even. For example, I know you have expressed feelings on the milk I bring home from the supermarket.

"Yes, I prefer 2 percent to 1 percent."

"See? Now you made another big decision today. A good marriage is based on both of us making an equal number of choices. I have to rush off now and pick up the new car I decided we're getting for you. To be fair, tonight you can pick out which re-run of Law and Order we will watch. This is why we have been together for 44 years.

Quite frankly, I don't really like making decisions. I hate the pressure. Last Sunday, for example, I was in the kitchen deciding on breakfast. Should I pop an English muffin in the toaster to see if green mold is flammable, or run out to the store to get some fresh bagels?

Bagels, it is.

Which car to take? If I take my car, I have to

get gas, but if I take my wife's car, she'll ask me to stop at the car wash. And there, they always ask me what kind of freshener I want. Another decision.

I head for the bagel shop in my wife's Prius. Nuts. She is also low on gas. Will it be Shell or Marathon? Marathon is usually cheaper, but at Shell I have had more luck with the lottery tickets.

I pick Shell. Okay, now I have 25 lottery tickets to choose from. More decisions. Anything but that stupid crossword puzzle scratch-off.

Now which bagel shop? There are three places to buy bagels near my house: Bearded Bagel, Panera Bread, and Einstein Bros. I started to break into a sweat. I hadn't planned for this outing to be so stressful.

I'm no genius, but I opt for Einstein.

Things got worse. What kind of bagels did I want? (Blueberry, garlic, poppyseed, asiago, to name a few.) One of each, I said. Did I want a shmeat on them? There were 12 choices, which gave me about 144 options, if I bought a dozen. No toppings. Did I want them sliced? Yes, slice half of them. My anxiety was building. Then I stared at the coffee choices. I decide no coffee. I was jumpy enough.

I had a headache. I needed a pharmacy. CVS or Walgreens? This was easy. They are both pretty adept at over-the-counter meds. I went to CVS and requested something for my throbbing head.

"Bayer, Tylenol, Advil, Motrin, or Aleve?" asked the druggist.

This was too much for me. I headed home. It was time to see what my new car looked like.

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

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Project: Hamilton County Special Projects 2025
Bid Package: 02 Boiler Replacement
Scope of work: Boiler replacements in the Hamilton County Historic Courthouse and Community Corrections Buildings. A total of 4 boilers (provided by owner) and associated piping and equipment to be replaced as well.
Contractor Bids: Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of Hamilton County, Indiana, during its regularly scheduled meeting in the Commissioners' Courtroom will receive sealed bids for items as listed below. These sealed bids must be forwarded by registered mail or delivered in person to the Hamilton County Auditor, located in the basement of the historic courthouse at 33 North 9th Street, Suite L21, Noblesville, Indiana 46060 prior to 12:30 p.m. on December 9th, 2024. After 12:30 p.m. bids may be delivered to the Commissioners Courtroom located on the 1st floor of the Judicial Center up to the time of the noticed bid opening. All bids will be opened and read aloud beginning at 1:45 p.m. on Monday, December 9th, 2024.
Project Information: To request project documents (bid form, drawings, scope of work, etc.), please email HamiltonCountyBids@skender.com and access will be provided.
Subcontractor walkthrough: Contact Mitch Imler at HamiltonCountyBids@skender.com to schedule.
Questions: All questions and correspondence should be directed to HamiltonCountyBids@skender.com.
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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
Sealed proposals for 181st Street and Wheeler Road Roundabout Project will be received by the City of Westfield, Indiana, at the Westfield Public Works Building, 2706 E. 171st Street, Westfield, Indiana, 46074 until 11:00 a.m., local time, on Thursday, December 19th, 2024. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bids received later than the above time and date will be returned unopened. No conditional bids will be considered.
Project generally includes Roadway reconstruction measures to convert the existing intersection into a roundabout. Project generally includes roadway reconstruction with curb and gutter, curbed medians, storm sewers, multi-use path, sidewalk, curb ramps, pavement markings, signing, and lighting
Bids shall be properly and completely executed on the Proposal Form obtainable at the office of the Owner. Each bid shall be accompanied by Form 96 Contractor's Bid for Public Works, including Non-Collusion Affidavit as prescribed by the State Board of Accounts, completely filled out, signed, and notarized as required by the statutes of the State of Indiana, Section III of Part II of Form 96 titled "Contractor's Financial Statement," and acceptable bid security. The bid security shall be a certified check made payable to the Owner or satisfactory bond by an incorporated surety company in good standing and qualified to do business in the State of Indiana in an amount equal to 5% of the bid, said deposit being for the purpose of ensuring the execution of the contract for which bid is made. Any bid not accompanied by the above required items shall be deemed to be a non-responsive bid by the Owner.
No consideration for escalation on prices can be considered; therefore, contractors are advised to not include any such escalation clauses in their proposal for this project.
The Contractors to whom work is awarded shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond and a Payment Bond, each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price, and they shall be acceptable to the City of Westfield, Indiana.
No bidder may withdraw their proposal within a period of 60 days following the date set for receiving bids. The City of Westfield, Indiana reserves the right to retain the three lowest bid proposals for a period of not more than 90 days, and said proposal shall remain in full force and effect during said time. The City of Westfield, Indiana further reserves the right to waive informalities and to award the contract to the lowest and most responsible bidder or bidders, all to the advantage of the City of Westfield, Indiana, or to reject all Proposals.
The Contract Documents and drawings will be available to all interested parties from: Repro Graphix, 437 North Illinois Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204 or at eplanroomreprographix.com.
Please direct all questions regarding this project to Michael Pearce, City of Westfield, Department of Public Works, 2706 E. 171st Street, Westfield, IN 46074, (317) 473-2917, mpearce@westfield.in.gov
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↓ BETSY

From Page A1

Girls Club is here for that reason.”

In 2023, the Club served 2,086 local youth, ages 5-18, with its after-school programs.

“Our services cost over \$1,000 per child, but its cost to families is \$75 per year, and \$10 per year for teens,” said Abigail Stutesman, director of Club operations and a full-time employee of 24 years.

Donations can be made by calling the Club, dropping off a donation, or donating online at www.BGCNI.org. Janus Developmental Services in Noblesville is also asking for your Giving Tuesday dollars.

Janus provides individuals with disabilities the opportunity to participate and contribute within the community. One of Janus’ newest programs, Community Outreach, has sparked the joy of giving back to the community for Janus participants, who are able to help deliver for Meals on Wheels and volunteer at two different food pantries. They help out at Good Samaritan Network and helped out at Ginger’s Cafe in Noblesville making sack lunches for the Noblesville football team, according to Jerry Jamison, Janus’ development and communications director. Janus clients also get work experience at the Capabilities Cafe in the lower level of the Hamilton County Government & Judicial Building. Make a Giving Tuesday donation at www.janus-inc.org.

Giving Tuesday -- which comes after Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday -- is annually the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving and is a global day dedicated to giving back, celebrating philanthropy worldwide. A day to support your favorite charitable organizations.

And there are a lot of choices in Hamilton County.

-At Same As U, which provides full-day programming for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities that promote lifelong learning, executive director and mom Jennifer Sell, said Giving Tuesday is an opportunity to highlight the nonprofit’s mission, engage with current and new supporters and humbly ask for support, at sameasyou.org.

-Agape Therapeutic Riding Resources, which is always in need of volunteers, is a therapeutic equine nonprofit that offers therapeutic riding lessons to assist in the cognitive, physical, emotional and social well-being of children and adults with disabilities. Agape in 2023 served more than 1,442 individuals through therapeutic riding, equine-assisted learning programs and mobile mini visits. Donate on Giving Tuesday at agaperiding.org/give.

-The Point Theater (formerly Christian Youth Theater Indy), which offers theater classes for kids all over the county and area, is asking the community to donate with donations to be matched for Giving Tuesday. Visit www.cytindy.org/gt2020, the Facebook page or call executive director Laura Baltz at (317) 340-6225.

-Noblesville Schools Education Foundation is geared up for Giving Tuesday, asking the community to give back to teachers, nurses and school staff through the Education Foundation at <https://www.noblesvilleschools.org/>. The NSEF is a nonprofit organization established in 1987 to promote, sponsor, fund, organize, and implement programs and to assist individual educators in the pursuit of excellence in education within the public school system in Noblesville.

-Noblesville Creates (formerly Nickel Plate Arts) depends on Giving Tuesday to receive much-needed

donations for community-wide events, including Fairyville, Comic Book in a Day and Maker Faire; monthly First Fridays featuring the work of local artists, writers and musicians; rotating art exhibits around the county; artist development, including classes and retail opportunities; championing resources for artists, art organizations and art patrons; enriching lives; and growing a diverse artist network.

-The Humane Society for Hamilton County is also challenging the community to donate to help pay for animals’ daily care and save lives. Make a donation at hamiltonhumane.com or call the shelter at 317-773-4974.

-The Indiana Parkinson Foundation, which is based in Noblesville and started in 2009 when Noblesville farmer Don Waterman, then in his 50s, was diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease. His granddaughter, Addie (Waterman) Cunningham is program director. The Foundation asks the public to “please donate to make a difference for people with Parkinson’s” with donations to go to IPP’s The Climb, a program that provides unique exercise to those with the disease, with Hamilton County locations in Carmel and Noblesville. “Now we’re able to see lives change daily through our exercise program, The Climb, through our support systems that we provide both for caregivers and for those living with the disease, and our educational events,” Cunningham said. Visit <https://www.indianaparkinson.org/>.

-Noblesville Society of St. Vincent dePaul Thomas & Sondra Sheehan Center, which houses a food pantry and NobleCause resale store, accepts donations at <https://svdpnoblecause.com/>. The more than 30-year-old nonprofit feeds the working poor and food insecure population of Hamilton County with resale

shop open 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, and donations accepted, weather permitting, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

-Noblesville Preservation Alliance accepts donations at <https://noblesvillepreservation.org/>. Checks may also be mailed to Noblesville Preservation Alliance, P.O. Box 632, Noblesville, IN 46061.

-Noblesville Main Street encourages giving at <http://noblesvillemainstreet.org/>. Donations directly support the people, places and experiences happening in downtown Noblesville.

-Prevail, a more than 30-year-old victims’ assistance group that educates to prevent crime and abuse, and is building a new center on Noblesville’s west side, encourages donations at <https://prevailinc.com> and is thankful to all of its supporters.

-While the Noblesville Brewfest each September raises funds for Forest Park Aquatic Center, an Olympic-size competition pool with diving well, the pool is always seeking donations from the community to make improvements and to operate the pool. Mail checks to Forest Park Aquatic Center at P.O. Box 10, Noblesville, IN 46061.

-Meals on Wheels of Hamilton County, which delivers more than 56,800 meals annually to all eight communities in the county, invites the community to consider donating or volunteering on Giving Tuesday at www.mealsonwheelsshc.org.

-Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County also still needs monetary donations this holiday season, for its upcoming Christmas giveaway, at www.gsnlive.org.

-Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank, which supports local pantries, is accepting donations at



Photo courtesy of Janus Developmental Services

Janus Developmental Services provides individuals with disabilities the opportunity to participate and contribute within the community, including at the Capabilities Cafe (above) in the lower level of the Hamilton County Government & Judicial Building, and is among many charities that are raising money on Giving Tuesday.

www.hchfoodbank.org/.

-Donate to Habitat for Humanity, which builds affordable homes for deserving families, at www.habitathamiltoncounty.org.

-Donate to Hamilton County Theatre Guild’s The Belfry Theatre for the future of Hamilton County’s 60-year-old theater and its scholarships at <https://thebelfrytheatre.com/>

-Donate to Basile Westfield Playhouse, which built a new playhouse in 2020 in downtown Westfield, at www.westfieldplayhouse.org/

-Donate to Legacy Keepers Music, which provides music for the annual summer String-Time Concerts on the Square series at the Hamilton County Courthouse lawn, by mailing donation checks to Legacy Keepers Music, P.O. Box 243, Noblesville, IN 46061-0243.

-Donate to the more than 70-year-old Hamilton County Artists’ Association, the original and only juried fine arts organization in the county at <https://www.hcaa-in.org/> or mailing checks to Hamilton County Artists’ Association, The Birdie Gallery, 195 S. Fifth St., Noblesville, IN 46060.

-Donate to Conner Prairie, a place that inspires people to experience and learn about science, history, art and nature and a place where the past is used to connect, learn and grow, and be an inspiration for the future. Support Conner Prairie through a donor membership or in honor of a loved one at connerprairie.org

-Donate to Noblesville Cultural Arts Commission, which puts on the annual Noblesville Shakespeare in the Park, Vintage Film Series and Band Concerts, at www.noblesvillearts.org/

-Donate to Hamilton County Historical Society, which sponsors the Santa House on the Courthouse Square, at <https://www.hamiltoncooinhs.com/>.

-Giving Tuesday is also a vital fundraising day for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society for its mission to cure blood cancer and improve lives, at givenow.lls.org.

-The American Heart Association is triple matching every dollar donated until funds run out, at heart.org.

-All gifts to The National Park Foundation will be matched up to \$500,000 until midnight on Giving Tuesday at give.nationalparks.org.

-Hand, which addresses the housing needs of low- and moderate-income individuals and families, is flipping the script, and giving back by celebrating top donors of 2024, at handincorporated.org.

And don’t forget Tri Kappa’s Red Stocking Fund, which will kick off in this Wednesday’s edition of The Times and continue each week through the holidays, and provides needs for Noblesville school children.

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

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Carmel Sets Holiday Lights Recycling Drive

Carmel residents have the opportunity to make this holiday season truly green by recycling holiday lights instead of throwing them away. Now through Friday, Jan. 10, the community can recycle used and unwanted holiday lights by taking them to White's Ace Hardware & Garden Center at 731 South Range Line Road. The recycling drive is sponsored by Carmel Clay School's Green Teams, Carmel Utilities, the City of Carmel, Technology Recyclers and White's Ace Hardware & Garden Center.

offer cannot be used in conjunction with any items already on sale, previously purchased items, other coupons or in-store discount programs. Offer valid through Dec. 16, or while supplies last.

Carmel Utilities recommends using EnergyStar-rated LED lights as they reduce energy usage by 75% compared to conventional lights. Not only will you save in energy costs and lower your carbon footprint, LED lights also have the following advantages:

- Safer: LEDs are much cooler than incandescent lights, reducing the risk of combustion or burnt fingers.
- Sturdier: LEDs are made with epoxy lenses and are much more resistant to breakage.
- Longer Lasting: The LED lights last 25 times longer than conventional lights.

For more information about the Holiday Lights Recycling Drive, please contact Kelli Prader with the Marketing & Community Relations department at (317) 571-2494.

Since the start of the collaborative program in 2011, more than 17 tons of holiday lights have been recycled. Recycling inoperable or inefficient holiday lights keeps those items out of landfills, which reduces the long-term carbon impact on our environment.

White's Ace Hardware & Garden Center is offering 10 percent off the purchase of new light-emitting diode holiday lights when you drop off an old set to recycle. This offer is only valid towards the purchase of LED holiday light sets. This

The Times

Zionsville Gets Economic Shot in Arm

Local and regional leaders in Zionsville today announced the allocation of a \$4 million READI 2.0 allocation to support the development of the town's South Village, a 160-acre development area south of the heart of downtown Zionsville that will expand the town's center and improve access to and through the town for residents, business owners and visitors.

Governor Eric J. Holcomb established the now \$1.25 billion READI program in 2021, and it has since been nationally recognized for its success. READI 2.0, which was part of the governor's 2023 Next Level Agenda and approved by the Indiana General Assembly, allocates another \$500 million to regions across the state to accelerate shovel-ready projects and programs that are expected to transform Indiana communities, attract talent and improve quality of life for Hoosiers in the short and long term. READI 2.0 funding allocations were awarded in April to 15 regions representing all 92 Indiana counties.

"In Indiana, Hoosiers are investing in their communities in unprecedented ways thanks to collaborative

planning and new initiatives like READI," said Ann Lathrop, chief strategy officer at the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. "Zionsville's South Village development will transform the town, increasing its culture and vitality while creating new opportunities to attract business, residents and visitors alike."

Zionsville's South Village public private partnerships have the potential to invest nearly \$538 million in the area. The projects will bring new life to the area south of the Brick Street Business District with plans that include offices, green space and new trails for a pedestrian-friendly experience, connections to the Big 4 rail trail, public restrooms, new parking, restaurants and shops, as well as places for new neighbors to call Zionsville home. The initiative will support the cultural and economic vitality of the community by stabilizing an unused area of the town, creating land areas for future development, expanding the town's destination assets and attracting new office and residential development, corporate citizens and

visitors.

READI funds are being used to support the development, with a \$1.9 million READI 1.0 award being allocated toward design and engineering for the planned infrastructure improvements and the \$4 million READI 2.0 award will support infrastructure developments. in the South Village. Specifically, the community will build two new roundabouts and road connections at Main Street/1st Street and Main Street/Sycamore Street to fix traffic and safety problems, construct a new pedestrian path along the north side of Sycamore Street from 1st Street to Lions Park, and make pedestrian safety improvements to and through the South Village development.

"Our traffic grid was designed more than 150 years ago to accommodate railroad traffic in and around Zionsville, before automobiles were even invested," said Zionsville Mayor John Stehr. "This funding will not only upgrade and modernize our traffic pattern, but will also set the stage for meaningful, responsible growth in our South Village area."

READI 1.0 has awarded \$487 million to 353 unique projects and programs across the state, yielding \$12.6 billion invested (26:1 investment leverage ratio) in quality of life, quality of place and quality of opportunity initiatives. READI 2.0, which secured additional funding awarded by the Lilly Endowment Inc., is allocating another \$750 million to accelerate community development investments statewide. This funding is expected to attract a minimum 4:1 match of local public and private funding, yielding at least \$3 billion invested to increase the vibrancy and prosperity of Hoosier communities.

Zionsville is part of the central Indiana READI region – led by CIRDA – that was awarded \$45 million in READI 2.0 matching funds to accelerate quality of place, quality of life and quality of opportunity initiatives across nine counties. The region is focused on promoting the development of walkable and connected living, innovation and recreational districts that serve as magnets for talent attraction and innovation and provide links to arts, culture and recreation.

Noblesville Auxiliary Steps Up For Boys & Girls Club



Photo courtesy Noblesville Boys & Girls Club

On Friday, the Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville Auxiliary presented the organization with a check for \$80,000 for a recent playground refresh that added a new, safe turf surface. Funds were raised at the Auxiliary's annual auction, Slam Sip \$pend, which took place in March at Harbour Trees in Noblesville. Last March's event raised \$200,000 to support the turf project and "fund the fun" for many other Club projects. Over 300 members currently attend the Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville each day after school. Since the early 1980s, the Club's Auxiliary group has raised millions in imperative funds to support the mission of the organization.

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Police Make Arrest in School Threat

Last Wednesday, around 1:30 a.m., the Indianapolis office of the Federal Bureau of Investigations contacted the Noblesville Police Department with information regarding a threat that was made on social media. The threat specifically targeted Noblesville East Middle School located at 1625 Field Dr. NPD investigators immediately notified school officials and apprised them of the threat and the limited details that were available at the time. Classes were canceled for the day as investigators worked with the FBI to determine the source of the threat.

Later that day, FBI investigators were able to locate crucial information pertaining to the case and identified a possible suspect. Investigators from the NPD petitioned for and were subsequently granted a search and arrest warrant for a residence in the 800 block of Noble Run. Investigators were able to locate the suspect and property believed to be evidence in the criminal investigation.

The suspect is a juvenile and a 7th grade student at NEMS. The juvenile was taken into custody by NPD investigators and transported to the Hamilton County Juvenile Detention Center on a preliminary charge of Intimidation* (I.C. 35-45-2-1) a Level 6 Felony.

The NPD would like to thank the FBI for their expertise and communication throughout this investigation. Their assistance was instrumental in locating the alleged suspect. We would also like to thank the Noblesville Schools for their assistance.

Noblesville Schools also released a statement. "We have zero tolerance for any activity that threatens the safety of our schools. We want to thank the FBI and the Noblesville Police Department for their swift action in addressing this incident. We appreciate our strong partnership with law enforcement and the peace of mind this news brings for our community."

NFD Responds to Residence Fire



Photo courtesy Noblesville Fire Department

Shortly after 7 a.m. last Tuesday, a resident of the 5000 Block of Montview Way opened the door to their garage after smelling smoke in the home. The garage was full of smoke and fire, immediately causing the homeowner to back away. The two adults who live at the home safely exited before calling 911. The Hamilton County Dispatch Center dispatched fire, law enforcement and EMS units. Upon arrival, Noblesville Fire Department crews could see large amounts of smoke and fire coming from the home. Crews were able to locate the seat of

the fire in the garage quickly. The fire was marked under control a short time later. The homeowner who opened the garage door was treated for minor burns on scene. The Noblesville Police Department, Carmel Fire Department and Westfield Fire Department assisted NFD. Fire investigators have not released the cause of the fire. As the weather continues to cool, the NFD wants to remind residents to use caution with space heaters. Space heaters should never be left alone in a room, plugged into a power strip, and not be used within three feet of flammable objects.

Heights Frosh Graduate ACTS



Photo courtesy Hamilton Heights Schools

Front row from left, AJ Smucker, Illiana Bowyer, Quinn Thompson, Fiona McDonald and Will Monnin. Back Row from left, Maggie Herrington (Purdue Extension ACTS Leader), Aleah Trump, Nora Trees, Celeste Wiegman, Selah Heuer, Ben Butor, Jubilee James, Lori Watson (class sponsor) and Kathleen Bohde (Purdue Extension ACTS).

Eleven Hamilton Heights High School freshmen were among the 31 graduates of the Hamilton County A Chance to Serve (ACTS) Class of 2024. This leadership program, created and sponsored by the Purdue Extension/Hamilton County, offers freshmen the opportunity to participate in five, day-long training sessions their first semester of high school. Graduates then get to apply those skills coupled with real-time learning experiences by serving as a member of a local board for two years.

Lori Watson, HHMS freshman guidance counselor, serves as the coordinator for the program. Illiana Bowyer, Ben Butor,

Selah Heuer, Jubilee James, Fiona McDonald, Will Monnin, AJ Smucker, Quinn Thompson, Nora Trees, Aleah Trump, and Celeste Wiegman will begin their first year of board service for the following organizations: ACTS Impact, Hamilton Heights Educational Foundation, Our Town Cicero, Breathe Easy, and Indiana Center for the Prevention of Youth Abuse and Suicide.

Congratulations to these aspiring leaders of tomorrow who are getting a jump start today. Learn more about this exciting youth leadership program at extension.purdue.edu/county/hamilton/acts.html.

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GMC Terrain

Whether you're looking for an affordable compact sedan, sleek electric crossover, new-age muscle, efficient hybrid or high-flying luxury SUV, you'll want to check out these advanced new vehicles arriving for 2025.

Nissan Murano

The future-sleek mid-size crossover takes on styling cues like sleek arching forms, thin LED lamps, and dual 12.3-inch screens from the Ariya EV. Add massaging front seats, hands-off driving, 21" wheels, color-shifting "Murano Glass" dashboard finisher. Under hood is a 2.0-liter variable-compression turbo engine kicking 241 horsepower.

Base price: \$40,000

GMC Terrain

Despite truck-inspired cues, the smallest GMC crossover shows its softer side with a two-tone roof, 15"

touchscreen, flatscreen gauges, heated seats, and crash avoidance tech. Bang skidplates with the AT4 off-road package. A 1.5-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine with 175 horsepower enables 1,500 lbs. towing. All-wheel-drive is available.

Base price: \$30,000

Toyota Crown Signia

Imagine a big Prius crossover with Lexus luxury and 39/37-MPG city/highway. Enjoy digital gauges, 12.3-inch touchscreen, and JBL audio. It's plenty peppy given a 2.4-liter four-cylinder engine and total system 240 horsepower. All-wheel-drive and 2,700 lbs. towing can easily pull a couple of jet-skis to and from the lake.

Base price: \$45,000

Ram 1500 Ramcharger

Equal parts gas and electric, this powerful hauler has 145 miles EV range, can recharge 50 miles in 10 minutes,

and packs a 3.6-liter V6 generator to extend range. Generating 663 horsepower, it runs 0-60 mph in 4.4 seconds and tows 14,000 lbs. Every luxury and safety system is available, including Active Driving Assist for hands-off touring.

Base price: \$65,000

Chevy Equinox EV
GM's entry-level electric crossover is sleek and stylish with available contrasting roof, 21-inch wheels, and giant infotainment screen. Travel up to 319 miles per charge and enjoy 288 horsepower for quick acceleration. Add 77 miles in 10 minutes. Add heated seats, heated steering wheel, and hands-free highway driving with Super Cruise.

Base price: \$35,000

Dodge Charger Daytona
America's electric muscle car debuts. Top Scat Pack versions conjure an unholy 670 horsepower, running 0-60 mph in 3.3 seconds. Charge 20-80% in 27 minutes. A head-up

display, digital gauges, glass roof, and adaptive suspension impress. Drift or Donut Modes to do as expected. A trumpeted exhaust brings classic exotic sounds.

Base price: \$60,000

Lincoln Navigator

It's all about the face and panoramic display screen. Comfy up with heat and massage seats and custom scents. Use Google Assistant to control climate, nav, and audio. Genuine wood, 28-speaker Revel audio, and hands-free driving add luxuries. Tap the 440 horsepower 3.5-liter twin-turbo V6 to tow 8,700 lbs. of pleasure barge or mobile cabin.

Base price: \$85,000

Honda Prologue

Looking like a next-gen Pilot crossover, it's an illusion. Honda tweaked the independent suspension and approved safety tech, but it's essentially a Chevy Blazer EV with a 296-mile range and up

to 288 horsepower. Fast charge 65 miles in 10 minutes. Wireless CarPlay/Auto, phone charging, heated front seats, and 19" wheels come standard.

Base price: \$47,500

Mazda CX-50 Hybrid

Dressed to impress, it taps a Toyota hybrid powertrain beneath its broad shoulders. Hybrids shares the RAV4's electrified powertrain for 219 horsepower, standard all-wheel-drive, and 38-MPG. The light chassis, quick steering, and sumptuous interior are pure Mazda. Get it with Bose audio, red interior, and panoramic sunroof.

Base price: \$35,500

Kia K4

This compact sedan is sassy with its future-tech lighting, bulging fenders, and crisp bodylines. The roomy interior boasts 30 inches of displays, Harman Kardon audio, and heated/ventilated seats. Choose from a 147 horsepower 2.0-

liter four-cylinder or 190 hp 1.6-liter turbo four.

Safety is enhanced with automated emergency evasive steering.

Base price: \$22,000

Storm Forward!

Send questions and comments to Casey at AutoCasey@aol.com. Follow him on YouTube [@AutoCasey](https://www.youtube.com/@AutoCasey).

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