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TODAY'S VERSE

Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Hamilton Happenings

It's that merry time of year! Santa and Mrs. Claus will be visiting the Sheridan Public Library from 9:30 -11:30 a.m. Saturday, 7. Bring your list and enjoy some Christmas cheer! Santa will be handing out craft bags with wooden toys and books (available while supplies last)., thanks to the Carmel Kiwanis who donated the toys. Enjoy the Holiday Workshop with hot chocolate, donuts, fun games, reindeer food making station, family photo opportunity and more!

Three Things You Should Know

- 1 Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb recently honored Clay Robbins, chairman and CEO of Lilly Endowment, Inc., with the 2024 Schem Award. The Schem Award is presented annually by the Governor to recognize an individual whose lifetime of excellence and moral virtue has brought credit and honor to Indiana. Robbins is a lifelong Hoosier, having been born and raised in Indianapolis. A member of the first graduating class at Perry Meridian High School, he graduated from Wabash College in 1979, where he was a religion major and a Lilly Scholar.
- 2 New data reveals Anthony Richardson as the NFL's worst fumbling player, with the Las Vegas Raiders as the NFL's worst fumbling team. Conducted by JeffBet, the study analyzed fumble data across all NFL teams and players for the current season. Kirk Cousins, Cooper Rush, Baker Mayfield and Justin Fields round out the top five.
- 3 It took her 35 years but an unidentified woman in Washington state recently found out that "feeding raccoons may create undesirable situations," according to the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Some 100 of the critters recently surrounded her home demanding food and scaring her, she said. As the experts put it, "feeding raccoons may create undesirable situations and often lose their fear of humans and may become aggressive when not fed as expected."

The TIMES

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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Tri Kappa Kicks Off Red Stocking Fund

The 19th annual Tri Kappa Red Stocking Fund campaign begins this week, just as the last of the money raised last year is being used by the Noblesville Township Trustees Office and schools raised \$13,500 last year to ensure the children of Noblesville have shoes, clothing, school supplies and shelter, as well as medicines and other necessities. In the last 19 years, more than \$231,800 has been raised to support this community fundraiser.



The Times photo by Betsy Reason

Noblesville Township Trustee Theresa Caldwell (left) and Tri Kappa Red Stocking Fund chairperson Kim Claussen invite the community to donate to this year's Tri Kappa's Red Stocking Fund.

The Red Stocking Fund is an initiative to raise funds for Noblesville students and families who are in need. Tri Kappa is pleased to provide this source of funds for Noblesville Schools and the Noblesville Township Trustee to use at their discretion.

This critical campaign was able to distribute over \$13,500 last year to ensure the children of Noblesville have shoes, clothing, school supplies and shelter, as well as medicines and other necessities.

The Beta Epsilon Chapter of

Tri Kappa Sorority and The Times newspaper have once again joined forces to promote the Red Stocking Fund. The Times provides a donation form once a week asking for readers to respond. Your donation will give you an opportunity to submit a greeting in the paper to wish someone a Merry Christmas, honor a loved one or celebrate your family. The amount is not published and any amount is certainly appreciated. A donation form can be found in today's newspaper giving everyone a chance to become involved with this worthwhile project.

"This project would not be possible without The Times and the Noblesville Township Trustees Office,"

See FUND on Page A2

Playhouse Comedy Inspires During Holidays



Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven of Indy Ghost Light Photography

Jim LaMonte (from left) of Indianapolis, Dylan Acquaviva (on floor) of Zionsville, Nathaniel Taff of Noblesville, Megan Fridenmaker of Fishers and Barb Weaver of Noblesville are featured in Main Street Productions' holiday comedy, "Greetings!" Dec. 5-15 at Basile Westfield Playhouse.



BETSY REASON Columnist

"Greetings!" is not a typical holiday show. "There is discussion about different beliefs and whether people who believe different things can both be right," said Barb Weaver of Noblesville, who was cast in Main Street Productions' holiday comedy opening Thursday at Basile Westfield Playhouse. "Greetings!" continues through Dec. 15.

Tickets are still available.

"I play the mom, which comes fairly naturally for me," said Weaver, a real-life mom of two grown children and who sings in her church choir. "I feel that my character is trying to be open minded while figuring out how to reconcile some unsettling experiences into what she believes ... "I think this show will inspire some great discussions."

The play is set in the 1990s and takes place on

Christmas Eve in Pittsburgh at the home of a devout Catholic couple Emily and Phil Gorski.

"Phil is a cranky, unhappy man who gave up his dreams of being a professional baseball player when their second son, Mickey, was born. When it was determined that Mickey was 'intellectually challenged,' Phil realized to be a good father he needed to live a stable life. His wife has

See BETSY on Page A3

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

If you snore loudly or appear to stop breathing while sleeping, you may have sleep apnea.



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

OBITUARIES

Mary Helen Bouse Paul Phillip Walton Marilyn June Welch

TODAY'S QUOTE

"One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room on Christmas day. Don't clean it up too quickly." Andy Rooney

TODAY'S JOKE

What does Santa call lazy reindeer? Delicious.

A Few of Jerry's Favorite Things



PAULA DUNN From Time to Thyme

If you're a regular reader of this column, you know that it traces back to Jerry Snyder and HER Times column.

When Jerry's eye problems began to keep her from easily seeing her computer screen, I volunteered to do her typing for her. That led to me taking over Jerry's column space in the Times after she passed away.

Jerry was an old friend of my mother's. Although she was some years younger than Mom, they both grew up in Noblesville back when it was still considered a small town and they ran in the same social circles.

They also shared a love of experimenting with new recipes.

When I told Jerry's daughter, Lisa Hayner, I was trying to come up with column ideas for December, she offered to give me some of Jerry's favorite cookie recipes to share for the holidays and I jumped at the chance.

Lisa said her mother and "absolutely everybody" was making the following "delicious and extremely decadent" bar cookies in the mid-1970s. The name reminds me of a dessert that was popular in Noblesville about that same time, The Next Best Thing to Robert Redford.

Hello Dollies/ 7-Layers

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

Melt 1 stick margarine in pan, then add in layers: 1 C. graham cracker crumbs 1 C. chopped pecans 1 C. chocolate chips 1 C. butterscotch chips 1 small can shredded coconut

Pour a 15 oz. can of Eagle Brand condensed milk over the top.

Bake 25 minutes.

According to Lisa, nearly all of Jerry's recipes have someone's name attached. Jerry knew Deveda Beattie from the Salhoma Home Economics Club and undoubtedly got this recipe from her.

Deveda Beattie's Dream Date Bars

See PAULA on Page A5



The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank RON & MARLENE BURROUGHS for subscribing!

OBITUARIES

Marilyn June Welch

November 12, 1950 - November 27, 2024

Marilyn June Welch, age 86, of Sheridan, Indiana, passed away on Sunday morning, November 24, 2024, at Copper Trace of Westfield, Indiana. Born September 14, 1938, in Columbus, Indiana, she was the daughter of the late Ransom and Bertha Waltz.



Marilyn had both an incredible work ethic and a true love for people. Throughout her life she was blessed to be able to be a part of many wonderful groups. During harvest time, she helped bag seed corn at Cooperative Seeds; when it started getting busy out at Stuckey's Farm Market, she'd head there for the season. In between, she would clean houses. Marilyn was an excellent seamstress and was the go-to person for alterations and mending around the Sheridan community.

She attended Six Points Church in Sheridan. Her faith guided every facet of her life. She was also a member of the Sheridan Jr. Women's Club and the Red Hat Society. For many years, Marilyn was an active member of the Sheridan Adult Booster Club. During her tenure with the booster club, she made all the banners that hung in the old gymnasium. This was no small task, as there was much banner hanging done during those years.

No matter how busy life got, Marilyn always made time for family. When there was an important family moment, the gathering spot was wherever Marilyn happened to be. She loved being the host for any occasion. It gave her a reason, not that she ever needed one, to cook for those she loved. She loved to bake and decorate cakes (especially birthday cakes). When the boys were young, she was a cub scout leader, and when she became a grandmother, it became all about the grandkids. She loved following everything that they were involved in.

Marilyn had many loves in her life (like butter pecan ice cream), but cold weather was definitely NOT one of them. She and her husband were snowbirds who welcomed their trips to Florida with open arms. No matter where they were located during the year, Marilyn could always keep a close eye on her favorite programs. IU and Pacers games were always at the top of the list, but nothing, absolutely nothing, got in the way of her game shows. The day's schedule was set by The Price is Right, Wheel of Fortune, and Jeopardy. She also enjoyed watching golf and racing. She was an avid cat lover and never tired of watching the birds come and visit the homeplace. The hummingbirds and finches were her favorites.

Marilyn is survived by her 2 sons, Greg G. Welch of Sheridan, and Chris L. Welch (Vicy) of Sheridan; 8 grandchildren, Nick Welch (Brenda), Doug Welch (Amber), Garrett Welch, Owen Welch, Hannah Adams (Jack), Kathryn Topalian (Jonathan), Brittany Waitt (Jack), and Cooper Welch; 9 great-grandchildren, Nicholas Welch, Aaron Welch, Adryan Welch, Caliegh Welch, Kami Dinius, Taylan Dinius, Wheldyn Welch, Sullivan Topalian, and Theodore Topalian; several nieces and nephews; and by her feline BFF, Baby.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ransom and Bertha Waltz; son, Dean Welch; daughter-in-law, Beth Welch; granddaughter, Adrienne Welch; 7 siblings, Miriam, Bryon, Peggy, Leroy, Russell, Lila, and her infant sibling; and by her husband, Robert Eugene Welch on March 30, 2004. Together they were wed on July 17, 1954.

Services will be held at 1:00 PM on Monday, December 2, 2024, at Kercheval Funeral Home, 306 E. 10th Street, Sheridan, Indiana, with visitation from 10:00 am until the time of service. Burial will follow at Wright-Bethel Cemetery in Waugh, Indiana. Pastor Scott McDermid will be officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be presented to the Nicaragua Resource Network, 16162 Carey Rd, Westfield, IN 46074.

Paul Phillip Walton

June 16, 1939 - November 27, 2024

Paul Phillip "Cap" Walton, age 85, passed away unexpectedly at his home in Terhune, Indiana, on Wednesday morning, November 27, 2024. Born June 16, 1939, in Sheridan, Indiana, he was the son of the late James and Opal Mae (Stroup) Walton.



Cap was a mixture of tinkerer and work-a-holic, combined with enough ornery to keep things interesting. Cap truly made a mark on the community. He attended Sheridan High School, and soon after went to work for Jerry Childers Construction Company in Sheridan. For 40 years, if Jerry's crew was on a jobsite, Cap was there too. He'd probably forgotten more about building things than most people will ever come to know. Though many tinkerers have a shop where visitors can see their handiwork, or scrapbooks full of pictures of their creations (both good and bad), for Cap, his work takes a little more effort to show. His legacy of work is our community. The buildings that our businesses call home, the houses we see every day, and the places that when you see a picture of them, you blurt out "hey, I know where that is", all have a little bit of Cap Walton (and Jerry Childers Construction) in them. He was very proud of his work, and loved pointing out the churches, houses, and businesses (including Kercheval Funeral Home) that he had the pleasure of working on over his career. Cap was part of a generation that valued quality and craftsmanship above anything else. In addition to his years in construction, he worked as a machinist with Exide Battery in Frankfort for 14 years.

An avid outdoorsman, Cap loved spending his free time camping, hunting, fishing, and generally being in nature. He also enjoyed following the Sheridan Blackhawks. When working and playing hard wore him down, Cap found the best way to relax, was to plop down in front of the TV and watch some old westerns or action movies.

Of the many interests he had in his life, his true passion was his family. He never tired of following his grandchildren's adventures. And as proud as Cap was of his family and their accomplishments, teaching his son-in-law "everything he knows", most definitely tops the list.

Cap is survived by his loving wife, Viola (Cooper) Walton. She and Cap were married on November 17, 1962. Also surviving are his son, Paul Wayne Walton (Jennifer) of Scircleville, Indiana; 2 daughters, Lisia Lynn Johnson (Lonnie) of Terhune, and Teresa Ann Walton of Noblesville; 8 grandchildren, Brandy Gregory, Jerry Johnson, Ashley Walton, Cody Walton, Amber Brown, Aubrey Blount, Devin Walton, and Brooke Walton; 14 great grandchildren; 2 sisters, Vicky Moore (Charles V.) of Sheridan, and Mary June Snodgrass (Fred) of Pickard; sister-in-law, Coleen "Cookie" Walton of Sheridan; and many, many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Opal Mae (Stroup) Walton; 2 brothers, James Junior Walton (and wife, Edith), and George William Walton; and 3 sisters, Ruth Hancock (and husband, Glen), Betty Doty (and husband, Marvin), and Gloria Devol (and husband, Ronnie).

Services will be held at 7:00 PM on Thursday, December 5, 2024, at Kercheval Funeral Home, 306 E. 10th Street, Sheridan, Indiana, with visitation from 4:00 PM until the time of service. Pastor George Cooper will be officiating.

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Mary Helen Bouse

May 5, 1926 - November 22, 2024.

Mary Helen Bouse, age 98, passed away peacefully at her home in Sheridan, Indiana, surrounded by her loving family and caregivers, on Friday evening, November 22, 2024. Born May 5, 1926, in Otterbein, Indiana, she was the daughter of Elzer and Edna Faye (Holder) Read.



Mary was a 1944 graduate of Lebanon High School. She spent most of her career working in a secretarial and office manager capacity for various companies in the Lebanon area, including Commercial Filters, Economy Insurance, and several accounting firms in town.

When she had some time to herself, she loved getting lost in the pages of a good book. However, watching Jeopardy was the next best thing. She also enjoyed a few sports on TV, including golf (as long as Tiger Woods was playing) and watching the Kansas City Chiefs.

Mary was a woman of strong faith and devotion to her family. She was a wonderful cook, and there was nothing she enjoyed more than cooking for her family. She was still preparing family dinners well into her 90s. Traveling, especially to warmer places, was also another fun family adventure. The beaches of Florida were among her favorite destinations.

Mary is survived by her 3 sons, Michael McLaughlin (Sharon) of Bradenton, Florida, Jeff McLaughlin (Robin) of Lebanon, and Steve McLaughlin of Sheridan; daughter, Linda McLaughlin of Frankfort; grandson, Ben McLaughlin of Chicago; great-granddaughter, Elle McLaughlin of Lebanon; brother, Jack Read (Alice) of The Villages, Florida; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Elzer and Edna Faye (Holder) Read; sister, Virginia Cory; grandson, Curtis McLaughlin; and daughter-in-law, Denise McLaughlin.

Private family services are being planned. Mary will be laid to rest at Crown View Cemetery in Sheridan, Indiana.

FUND From Page A1

Kim Claussen, Red Stocking Fund Chairman, said. "This gives every school a source to turn to if a need is apparent.

Kyle, Laura, Cooper, Nick and Caroline.

Theresa Caldwell took office as the newly elected Trustee in January 2023, replacing retiring Trustee Tom Kenley.

Both Tri Kappa and *The Times* newspaper donate their efforts, allowing 100 percent of the donations to be used for the children and families of Noblesville."

"I think it's a special way for people to help their community, and its fun for people to see their names in the newspaper." said Claussen, who has been a Tri Kappa for 26 years.

"Giving back to the community is important to me," she said. Claussen graduated from Noblesville High School and has lived in Noblesville for 41 years. She has a husband, Marc, and children,

Tri Kappa is a statewide philanthropic sorority promoting charity, culture and education. The Beta Epsilon Chapter of Tri Kappa is one of more than 140 chapters throughout Indiana serving the needs of others in many ways for over hundred years in Noblesville. The Red Stocking Fund is just one of the fundraisers in which the local chapter donates their time. All proceeds are distributed to help others in our wonderful community.

Donations will be collected through Christmas. Checks may be mailed to Noblesville Red Stocking Fund, P.O. Box 162, Noblesville, IN 46061. With any donation, please make sure to include the message/greeting you would like printed in the newspaper.



↓ BETSY From Page A1

always blamed herself for her husband having to run a grocery store instead of being a major-league baseball pitcher," said the show's director Jeremy Tuterow.

On Christmas Eve, the couple's older son, Andy, arrives with his new fiancée Randi Stein. "Randi is of Jewish heritage but thinks of herself as an atheist. As we learn, not only does she not believe in God, there is very little of anything she will accept on faith, While Phil and Randi battle, Emily and Andy serve as peacemakers," Tuterow said, further explaining the synopsis.

"Though Mickey is mentally handicapped and has issues verbalizing his thoughts, Mickey is the center of everyone's attention," he said. "A 'spirit' has taken over his body, and this spirit brings much light and hope to this troubled family."

While this synopsis "sounds potentially heavy," Tuterow said the lighthearted holiday play by Tom Dudzick "has survived in regional and community theaters for almost 30 years." "Greetings!" was Dudzick's first play and was produced off-Broadway at the John Houseman Theatre, starring Darren McGavin. The show has since become a holiday favorite.

Weaver, who has been involved in theater since age 10, has been on stage in 50 theater productions, including at Westfield Playhouse, The Belfry Theatre and at her church, plus she has worked backstage in the tech booth for another dozen or more.

Weaver, now in her 51st show, is among the small cast of five local community theater veterans. She portrays Emily, a nervous yet sweet mother who desires her family to come together but doesn't know how to get it done. Jim LaMonte of Indianapolis, as Phil, "is able to keep the bitter and closed-minded Phil from seeming too nasty," Tuterow said. Teenager Dylan Acquaviva of Zionsville portrays Mickey, the youngest son who is "mentally handicapped but in a twist brings the family much light and hope." Nathaniel Taff of Noblesville plays the role of Andy, the oldest son, Mickey's brother, a cynical New York advertising type who brings home girlfriend Randi, played by Megan Fridenmaker of Fishers, who serves as a foil to Phil, and who "seems like a breath of fresh air, but we soon learn that she has issues of her own," Tuterow said.

Tuterow, an Anderson native, has been involved in community theater for 18 years, as an actor, director or somewhere behind the scenes and lived in Daleville before moving to Indianapolis in 1990. By day, he is director of practice operations for

Adult & Child Health. Tuterow, LaMonte and Billy Brook did the set construction as well as Tuterow and LaMonte the set decorations, with floor by Susanne Bush.

Tuterow said he chose this show "because it's a feel-good play that is enjoyable, warm and funny and not your typical community theater Christmas show. It takes place on Christmas Eve, there's a Christmas tree in the living room, and there's a lot of talk about religion." He went on to say that "essentially," the play is about "self healing and finding the ability to love oneself in order to love others."

All of the cast members like the play's meaning.

"I think this is a good show because it can be relatable to a lot of people," Taff said. He loves his role as Andy, "a guy who is anxious about bringing his atheist girlfriend to meet his very religious parents."

Taff said, "Everyone's nervous about bringing a new partner to meet the parents, especially around the holidays where an awkward conversation could ruin a good time. And I love that 'Greetings!' encourages hearing new ideas and trying to think a little differently if it will help you feel happy and bring you closer to people."

Taff, a 2012 Noblesville High School graduate, didn't get into theater until college at Indiana University Kokomo where his acting teacher directed "Pride and Prejudice," Taff portraying the role of Sir William Lucas. "I only had three lines, but I've been hooked on acting since," he said. "Greetings!" is the fifth theatrical production for Taff, who majored in English literature and is a kindergarten teacher with Indianapolis Public Schools.

In "Greetings!" he said, "My favorite scenes so far have been the ones where I get to be awkward and react to being interrogated by the parents. There are a lot of great chances for humor and small ways to show the audience that my character is uncomfortable."

Megan Fridenmaker of Fishers, who plays Randi Stein, Andy's fiancée, "couldn't be more different than the rest of Andy's family," she said. "Whereas the Gorskis are devout Catholics, Randi is an atheist and fundamentally disagrees with their beliefs."

But Fridenmaker loves the role. "Randi has been one of the more challenging roles I've tackled. She's prickly, hard-headed, and a little confrontational. But that doesn't mean she doesn't have depth or heart. In my interpretation, I try to

balance both to portray her as authentically as possible."

Fridenmaker likes the play. "'Greetings!' isn't your standard holiday show, despite being set on Christmas Eve. It's full of twists I don't think the audience will see coming. I certainly didn't when I read the script for the first time."

She is originally from Kentucky and moved here three years ago for work. She's a writer in her day job.

Jim LaMonte calls "Greetings!" a fun holiday play that is funny, poignant with sharp dialogue and witty banter." He said, "I feel audiences will be most impressed with the believable chemistry from the actors. I love the character of Phil, a flustered, quirky guy, tripping over words as he becomes more frustrated with his situation. Some would call him a grouch, but we also get to see his softer, hopeful side that he doesn't show that often."

LaMonte said, "This show highlights the dynamics of the family holiday. They can be comforting and sweet for some, but for many, it comes with its own special brand of stress and headaches."

He's been acting and directing in the area for more than 25 years. More recently, LaMonte directed Main Street Productions' "Mothers and Sons" in 2022 and was cast in MSP's "August: Osage County" in 2023 both at Westfield Playhouse. By day, he is operations manager for the Marion County Treasurer.

The youngest cast member is 14-year-old Dylan Acquaviva, a freshman at Zionsville Community High School. "My role in 'Greetings!' is two fold. One of them is an autistic boy named Mickey, who is very cheerful and brings a childhood joy to the household. The other is a higher being named Lucious who, through Mickey's body, appears to settle a debt."

Acquaviva said, "I bring my own interpretation for Mickey by playing him happy. He seems like a joyous character to me. I like to play Lucious as a highly intelligent spirit."

The teen said, "This is a good holiday show because it leaves people feeling good. There are some heated moments, but there is resolve and a happy ending."

He added, "I like that this isn't a traditional holiday show; those are easy to find. This one has some funny moments, intense moments, but delivers a good message nonetheless."

"Greetings!" is the teen's first show at Basile Westfield Playhouse, but it's not his first time on stage. He has been seen locally in "Elf" and

"A Christmas Story" productions at Civic Theatre in Carmel; in "A Christmas Story" and an understudy in "The Sound of Music" at Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre; and in the musical comedy, "Anything Goes" at his high school. Up next, he's playing the role of Captain VonTrapp in "The Sound of Music"

in February at The Point Theater (formerly CYT Indy).

He is the son of Michael and Lauren Acquaviva. "Dylan auditioned because Jim (LaMonte) reached out, but upon a further dive into the script we felt like this character would really help develop him as an actor," his mom said.

She added, "He's never played a 'differently abled character,' and he really wanted to do the role of Mickey and do it well."

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

Want TO GO?

What: Main Street Productions presents "Greetings!" holiday comedy by Tom Dudzick and directed by Jeremy Tuterow.

When: Dec.5-15, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. Sundays.

Where: Basile Westfield Playhouse, 220 N. Union St., Westfield.

How much: \$17 for adults, \$15 students (with identification) and 62 and older, free to active military and veterans with identification.

Reservations required: Call (317) 402-3341 or visit www.westfieldplayhouse.org/



Jeremy Tuterow



Nathaniel Taff



Barb Weaver



Jim LaMonte



Megan Fridenmaker



Dylan Acquaviva



Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven of Indy Ghost Light Photography

Megan Friedenmaker of Fishers (from left) and Barb Weaver and Nathaniel Taff, both of Noblesville, rehearse for Main Street Productions' holiday comedy, "Greetings!" opening Thursday and continuing through Dec. 15 at Basile Westfield Playhouse.



Photo courtesy of Rob Slaven of Indy Ghost Light Photography

Nathaniel Taff of Noblesville, Jim LaMonte of Indianapolis, Dylan Acquaviva of Zionsville and Barb Weaver of Noblesville rehearse for Main Street Productions' holiday play, "Greetings!" opening Thursday and continuing through Dec. 15 at Basile Westfield Playhouse.

Let's Hear it for President Trump



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

Looking for a lucky lottery number? Try 47. Donald J. Trump becomes the 47th president of the United States in just 47 days . . . and it'll take less than 47 seconds for those on the left to lose their minds after reading those last few words.

Pardon me while I giggle.

Look, I have made no secret about it. I am not a fan of The Don. He's the kid everybody wanted to punch in high school (back in the days when a simple fight didn't necessitate a SWAT team, expulsion and counselors for the traumatized witnesses). He's rude. He has made statements about women that were horrible. He's not a nice person.

I hope he does great as our next president.

Truth to tell, he wasn't so hot last time. As No. 45, he allowed the national debt to climb . . . and climb . . . and climb. By the time he left office, the boat anchor that is hanging around our great-grandchildren's' necks had grown by more than \$8 trillion dollars. To be fair, about 45 percent of that came about because of the onset of the pandemic, but even before that, the guy who said he was going to drain the swamp was doing anything but.

Maybe that pays dividends this time around.

I don't like, I love the fact that he's bringing in Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy to head up a new group called the department of government efficiency. Both men know how to make money and run companies. Remember, Ramaswamy isn't just a political hack. The Cincinnati native started a pharmaceutical company and is said to be worth \$950 million. Musk is the richest man on the planet. Together, if they can't find better ways to spend our tax dollars, then nobody can.

(Oh, and sorry – but don't hand me that tired old line about not giving the rich tax breaks and how investing in the middle class builds wealth. Last time I looked, us folks in the middle class aren't creating lots of jobs and

opportunities that lead to growth and prosperous times. It's bothersome that over generations people haven't figured out it's just a tired line used by Democrats to appeal to the middle class – because there are a lot more voters in that demographic than the rich one.)

I also like the cabinet Trump is trying to assemble – and my blood pressure goes up when I see the efforts to either block it or stall – even resorting to bomb threats, for goodness sakes! What the hell happened to the idea that both parties were supposed to work together for the good of the country? The only thing I see now is that the main goal of each party is twofold – stay in power and keep the other one out.

How flipping pathetic! (Trust me, if I could use a stronger F word there, I would.)

This is why I am enthusiastic about 47. It matters not if I like the guy or not. What matters is that he may be one of the few people who might be able to pull off change – real change. If he learned from the mistakes he made the first time, and if he now can recognize the landmines being planted and can avoid stepping on them then maybe, just maybe, he can turn this mess around.

Actually, I am counting on the man's ego in that regard. Trump wants everything he touches to be the best ever, the greatest. Well, Don – if you want to go down in history that way, here's your big hairy audacious goal; eliminate the national debt. Anything else leaves your legacy as just another guy who sat in the Oval Office.

Two cents, which is about how much Timmons said his columns are worth, appears periodically in The Times. Timmons is the chief executive officer of Sagamore News Media, the company that owns The Noblesville Times. He is also a proud Noblesville High School graduate and can be contacted at ttimmons@thetimes 24-7.com.

Chamber Orchestra Presents Christmas Extravaganza

The White River Chamber Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Keith Kunda, will present its eighth annual "Christmas Extravaganza" on Sunday at 7:30 p.m. at Legacy Bible Church, 13490 Howe Road, Fisher.

Children of all ages and adults will enjoy the variety and quality of music. Tickets are \$30 for adults and admission is free for children under the age of 18. Tickets can be purchased at FishersMusicWorks.org or at the door. Parking is free.

Two annual traditions are included: Sleigh Ride and an audience Sing-Along. Christmas songs of many genres round

out the program, including a rousing Celtic overture. The overall program features a wide variety of seasonal music, presented by the 45-piece orchestra. Featured singers are Master's Men (male quartet) and vocal newcomer, Dr. Laura Krell (soprano). In addition to the orchestra pieces, audiences will also enjoy a selection performed by the White River Orchestra Brass.

The White River Chamber Orchestra is the professional orchestra of Fishers, under the auspices of Fishers Music Works, is now in their tenth year of outstanding orchestral performances.

Noblesville Lions Helps with Turkey Trotters



Photo courtesy Noblesville Lions

On Thanksgiving Day, your Noblesville Lions Club helped keep the runners in the Noblesville Turkey Trot race refreshed with water. The race was well attended in both running and watching. From left, Dale Unger, Josh Kozicki, Jen Carr, Bruce Moss & wife with corgi, Steve Shaw and Gene Beck. Missing in photo was Jeff Kozicki.

NOW Hiring



LIGHT DELIVERY ROUTE

Early Wednesday morning newspaper delivery route available!

This does NOT include home delivery. It is delivering to post offices mostly.

Must have insurance, reliable transportation and a clean driving record.

Send resume and vehicle information to jobs@thetimes24-7.com.

PAULA

From Page A1

Combine:

- 1/2 C. butter
- 1/4 C. brown sugar
- 1 1/4 C. sifted flour

Preheat oven to 325 degrees, Grease a 9-inch square pan. Blend butter, brown sugar and flour and spread on bottom of pan. Bake for 20 minutes.

- 2 egg whites
- 1 1/4 C. brown sugar
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 2 tbs. flour
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 C. chopped dates
- 1 C. chopped nuts

Beat egg whites until stiff. Beat in brown sugar, salt, baking powder, flour and vanilla. Fold in dates and nuts. Spread mixture over baked crust. Bake at 325 degrees for 40 minutes. Cut into squares while warm.

The final recipe comes from Jerry's Westbrook Village neighbor, W. S. "Rip" VanWinkle. Rip had been an army cook during the Korean War. Jerry thought that his cookies, which he shared with his friends and neighbors, were the best cookies

she'd ever eaten.

- Rip's Cookies
- 2 1/2 C. all purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 sticks of margarine, softened
- 3 eggs
- 1 C. crunchy peanut butter
- 1 C. brown sugar (packed)
- 1 C. granulated sugar
- 2/3 C. chopped pecans
- 2/3 C. chocolate chips

Mix flour, soda and salt, and set aside. Cream margarine and sugars, then add eggs and peanut butter, mixing well. Add dry ingredients and mix well. Stir in pecans and chocolate chips. Roll into small balls about the size of a teaspoon and press with a fork. Bake at 325 degrees on an air-bake cookie sheet for about 11 minutes.

Paula Dunn's From Time to Thyme column appears on Wednesdays in The Times. Contact her at younggardenerfriend@gmail.com

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Revolutionary War Patriot Elic Coverdale Honored

Horseshoe Prairie Chapter, DAR, commemorated the life and patriotic service of Eli Coverdale with a program and plaque at Bethel Church Cemetery last month. Special guests were Mr. Robert Goode, 4th great-grandson of Eli and Margaret Passwater Coverdale; and Mrs. Elaine Sholty, Indiana State DAR Regent, who delivered remarks at the ceremony.

Del., he later became a resident of Hamilton County. Coverdale died of burns having fought a brush fire on his farm in Wayne Township in April, 1853, when he was over 96 years of age.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) is a women's service organization whose members can trace their lineage to an individual who contributed to securing American independence during the Revolutionary War.

Today's DAR is dynamic and diverse, serving the community through service, education, and historical preservation. Do you have a patriot in your family? Visit www.dar.org or contact Shirley Hunter Smith at Shirley1776@yahoo.com.

Volunteers from the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) posted colors, Mr. Don Vermillion played the bagpipes, an Honor Guard from The Noblesville Navy Club Ship 29 fired a rifle volley salute, and Mr. David Bechtel played taps, followed by the audience singing *God Bless America*.

Eli Coverdale served our country at the age 15. Born in Sussex,



Photos courtesy Horseshoe Prairie Chapter, DAR

Robert Goode, 4th great-grandson of Eli and Margaret Passwater Coverdale



Horseshoe Prairie Chapter DAR members, SAR Volunteers and Robert Goode (in brown with brown hat).

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Dear Community Patron, The Beta Epsilon Chapter of Tri Kappa of Noblesville along with *The Times of Noblesville* newspaper will be sponsoring the 19th annual Noblesville Red Stocking Fund. In 2023, we collected over \$13,500.00, thanks to the generosity of so many citizens of Noblesville. We are asking you to consider making a donation in 2024 for this very worthwhile cause. Donations collected last year were distributed through the Noblesville Trustee's Office as well as to each school to aid the students in our community. The Trustee's office was able to provide Shoe Carnival and Kohl's vouchers for over 100 children. Money was also used to help some families with utility and other home bills. Since 2006, over \$231,800 has been collected and distributed to children and families of Noblesville. Donations will be collected from now through December 25th and will be used throughout 2025 to help those who are less fortunate in Noblesville. There are no administrative fees; both Tri Kappa and *The Times* newspaper donate their efforts, allowing 100% of the donations to be used for the children and families of Noblesville. If you would like to contribute, please print your name, donation amount (this will remain anonymous) and the short message you would like printed in the newspaper. *The Times* newspaper will publish weekly in December the names of contributors and their holiday message. Submit the form below with your check or money order payable to **Noblesville Red Stocking Fund** and mail to the P.O. Box listed below. Whether your donation is given in memory or honor of a loved one, in lieu of Christmas cards, in celebration of your family or even an anonymous donation; every dollar contributed will certainly help. All donations are welcome. Thank you for considering a donation,

Thank you for your generous donation and sharing your message with Noblesville.

Kim Claussen
Red Stocking Fund Chair
Beta Epsilon Chapter, Inc.
of Tri Kappa

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