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TODAY'S VERSE

Psalm 19:14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

Hamilton Happenings

Just a reminder, there will be no Noblesville Times Print or Online Edition on Wednesday, Jan. 1 in observance of New Year's Day. The Times will publish the regular Monday and Friday Online Editions.

Three Things You Should Know

1 As holiday packages made their way to doorsteps across America, porch pirates were certainly looking to intercept them. New data reveals nearly half of Americans now have been victims of package theft. According to the annual package theft report by Lombardo Homes, package theft continues to be a problem with 92 percent of Americans expecting holiday deliveries. The average stolen package now costs Americans \$228, up from \$219 in 2023.

2 With New Year's parties looming, a recent survey says that those events can be a professional minefield. It's the one night when questionable dance moves, overshared gossip and a little too much eggnog can collide in full view of your colleagues - and, worse, your boss. Career experts at resume.io ran a survey of 3,000 managers in Indiana and found that drinking too much, not showing up at all and flirting with co-workers were the top three offenses. You've been warned!

3 The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced the final approximately \$300 million in assistance to distressed direct and guaranteed farm loan borrowers under Section 22006 of the Inflation Reduction Act. Since President Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act into law in August 2022, USDA has provided approximately \$2.5 billion in assistance to more than 47,800 distressed borrowers. This latest \$300 million in assistance is scheduled to go to over 12,800 distressed direct and guaranteed Farm Loan Programs borrowers.

The TIMES

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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Boomer Bits

Ask Rusty - How Are Medicare Premiums Determined



ASK Rusty
Social Security Advisor

Social Security Matters

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Dear Rusty:

Please explain the Medicare premium increase based on income reported to Social Security? For those of us that waited to draw Social Security until age 70, and who are still working - drawing a salary, and planning to retire at age 75 after RMDs kick in at age 73 - how do we make sure that Social Security reports our earnings accurately, so we don't wind up with increased Medicare premiums? Why not charge increased Medicare premiums when we are younger, instead of waiting to sneak up on us when we are older?

Signed: Confused about Medicare Premiums

Dear Confused:

I believe you are referring to Medicare's "Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount," or "IRMAA." IRMAA increases

the Medicare Part B (and Part D) premium amounts for those whose combined income from all sources exceeds specified levels for their IRS tax filing status. Social Security (and Medicare) get your earnings information from the IRS and use your reported IRS income (on your income tax return) to calculate your Medicare premium each year. But there is a twist - they use your reported combined income (also known as your "MAGI" or "Modified Adjusted Gross Income") from 2 years ago to determine your current year's Medicare premium. For example, they will use your 2023 MAGI to determine your 2025 Medicare Part B premium (and your Part D premium if you have Part D). So, if your income reported to the IRS on your tax return

See RUSTY Page A3

Return Power to Patients to Slash Costs

By Sally C. Pipes

America's health bill will surpass \$7.7 trillion by 2032. That's equivalent to one in every five dollars flowing through the economy.

To address this crisis, we must make health care work like other sectors of our economy, rather than the bloated, over-regulated mess it is today. And that will require giving patients more control over their healthcare dollars.

See COSTS Page A3

Tennis Healthy Sport for Boomers

Everyone knows that exercise is healthy, and that playing sports is one of the best -- and most enjoyable -- ways to maintain optimal weight, boost mental wellbeing, and improve strength, balance, and flexibility.

But what is the "healthiest" sport? Does it really matter which activity folks pick, so long as they're exercising?

See TENNIS Page A3

Heights Team Steps Up for Ukraine



Photo courtesy Hamilton Heights Schools

Yvetta Naylor, a teacher at Hamilton Heights Middle School, is pictured helping pack meals at the 4th Annual International Disaster Emergency Services (IDES) Meal Pack. Courtesy photo.

The 4th Annual International Disaster Emergency Services Team Meal Pack, sponsored by the Hamilton Heights School Corporation Wellness Team, packed, and boxed 12,144 meals for families in need in Ukraine. The annual event brought students, staff, and some of their families to pack and box meals for this special service project after school last week.

Emily Beechler, Secondary Instructional Coach at Hamilton Heights Middle and High Schools and Wellness Coordinator for the district, has helped spearhead the event since its inception. "It's a privilege and honor to support a local ministry that serves with heart, soul, and resources that make a life-changing impact around the world," she said.

The Noblesville-based International Disaster Emergency Service (IDES), founded in 1973, is a 501c3 non-profit that seeks to meet the physical and spiritual needs of suffering people throughout the world by partnering with Christian Churches / Churches of Christ and their missionaries. IDES serves in three focus areas around the world: Disaster Response, Development, and Disciple-Making.

See HEIGHTS Page A6

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Applying heat to an injury the first few days can actually make it worse.

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



OBITUARIES

None

The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank DIANNE CLAYTON for subscribing!

TODAY'S QUOTE

"Make New Year's goals. Dig within, and discover what you would like to have happen in your life this year. This helps you do your part. It is an affirmation that you're interested in fully living life in the year to come." Melody Beattie

TODAY'S JOKE

A good New Year's resolution is to stop hanging out with people who ask about New Year's resolutions.



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Westfield Lions Put a Bow on 2025

At their annual Christmas Dinner and Program Night held on Dec. 19 at the Wyndham Hotel, the Westfield Lions presented several awards to well-deserving Lions. Prior to the awards portion of the meeting, the Lions were served dinner by the Westfield H.S. Foodies and entertained by the Westfield H.S. Signature Sound Choir.



Jeff Larrison presents Tracy Rogers with his 2nd Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship Award.



Dave Sobczak received Lifetime Membership Award from Bob Benson.

Photos courtesy Westfield Lions

After the Signature Sound Choir, Lion President Bill Nesbitt presented Perfect Attendance pins to 24 Lions. This included a 50-year perfect attendance pin for Ted Engelbrecht and a 55-year pin for Bob Benson!



Westfield H.S. Signature Sound Choir provided the entertainment.

The Club's signature fundraising event is their semi-annual Texas Hold 'em "Poker for Sight" tournament. This year tournament chair, Mike Birk, recognized three Lions for their outstanding efforts to make the tournament the biggest and best in the Midwest. Lion Don Collins received the "Tournament Star" award for his work collecting donations for each tournament's "high hand" 50/50 pots. On average, Collins raises about \$2000 per tournament with his hard work.



Mike Birk presents Ted Engelbrecht with a Lions Poker for Sight Special Recognition Award.



Mike Birk presents Bob Benson with a Lions Poker for Sight Special Recognition Award.

received the Westfield Lions Club "Life Membership Award" for the countless hours he has put into developing the plans for their clubhouse renovation project and shepherding the project through the regulatory and permitting phases. Sobczak is also serving as the construction manager for the project, which is nearing completion. When finished the Westfield Lions will arguably have the nicest Lions clubhouse in the state.

A second Westfield Lions Club Life Membership was presented to Jeff Larrison for his years of service as the Club's secretary. Since

serving as Club president in 2010, he has been the Club's secretary. In addition, he has served as the Indiana Lions District 25D Cabinet secretary four times. Larrison currently chairs the WHS SOS Club committee, Avenue of Flags committee, Dictionary Project committee, and the Club's Union Street Ecology Tour committee.

The Westfield Lions are proud to serve their community and are actively looking for people interested in joining them in making a difference in Westfield. For information on the Club and how to become a Lion, go to www.westfieldlions.org

The top award a Lion can receive is the Melvin Jones Fellowship (MJF), named after the founder of Lions Clubs International. Lions earning additional MJFs after their initial award receive Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship (PMJF) awards. This year the Westfield Lions presented the first two 2-time PMJFs in the Club's 94-year history. Lions Tracy Rogers and Mike Birk were the recipients of the award. Rogers is recognized as the lead "pit boss" at the poker tournaments and Birk continues to elevate the quality of each tournament and drive repeat business.

The last two awards presented at the meeting were also new awards for the Westfield Lions Club. Lion Dave Sobczak

Sen. Walker Shares Update



KYLE WALKER
Guest Columnist

With the arrival of winter weather in Indiana, road conditions are likely to become a factor in our daily commutes to work, taking kids to school and running errands.

During a winter weather event, snowplows will be out to clear snow and ice from roadways.

The Indiana Department of Transportation asks motorists to follow these safety measures when driving near a snowplow.

- Give plows room to work.
- Be patient, as snowplows travel below the posted speed limit.

- Keep an eye out — while you may see snowplows, they may not always see you.

When winter weather hits, motorists are asked to clear snow and ice from your car, inspect your vehicle, leave plenty of time to reach your destination and keep a basic survival kit in your car with items like winter travel gear, ice scraper/snow brush, jumper cables and road flares.

ATTENTION LOCAL
Students: Page for the Indiana Senate

The Indiana Senate is accepting applications for the 2025 Senate Page Program.

Through the full-day program, students in

grades six through 12 have the opportunity to tour Indiana's Statehouse, including an executive branch office, listen to debates from the Senate floor, help staff with age-appropriate tasks, and meet their state senator.

The Senate Page Program begins in January and will run through early April. Positions fill quickly, so it's important to apply early.

For more information or to submit an application, go to <https://www.indianasenaterepublicans.com/kyle-walker>

State Sen. Kyle Walker represents District 31 which includes portions of Hamilton and Marion counties.



Providing an affordable and positive baseball experience for all young men ages 13-18

The 2025 Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball Season begins April 14, 2025 and ends on June 17, 2025.

There will be two Leagues: 13-15 year old Competitive League and 16-18 year old Competitive League.

Both 13-15 League and 16-18 League will begin play on April 14, 2025. A double-elimination tournament will be played June 8-17, 2025.
** Note: Dates subject to change due to weather or unforeseen circumstances.*

Registration Fee: 2025 Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball registration fee is \$199 (plus processing fee applied at checkout) and includes team jersey, hat, and 2 tickets to the Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball League Pancake Breakfast/Picture Day scheduled for April 26, 2025 from 8 am-11 am at the Forest Park Inn.

Team/Player photos will be taken at the Pancake Breakfast. Additional tickets for the League Pancake Breakfast will be available at the door for \$5 each.

Player Evaluations: 13-15 year old players new to Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball or 13-15 year old players wishing to re-enter the team draft need to attend the player evaluation session scheduled for March 16, 2025 from 2 pm-4 pm at Noblesville High School.

Register today at:
noblesvillebaberuthbaseball.sportsengine-prelive.com

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Two From County Join Indiana Chamber Board

A Noblesville and Carmel man are two of the 24 new directors on the Indiana Chamber of Commerce Board.

Nathan Stallings, president at Matrix Integration of Noblesville and Bob Kuzman, SVP of

member and government relations at MISO of Carmel will begin 2025 on the state board. They were officially installed during the Chamber's fall board meeting in November and are scheduled to serve three-year terms through fall 2027.

Kroger Holiday Hours

Kroger is adjusting its schedule for the holidays, allowing associates to celebrate the holidays with their families.

December 31 – Most stores close at 10 p.m.

- Pharmacies close at 6 p.m.

- The Little Clinic sites close at 4 p.m.

January 1 – Stores operate on normal schedules.

- Pharmacies and clinic sites will be closed.

↓ RUSTY From Page A1

in 2023 is correct, Social Security will use that amount to determine next year's Medicare premium.

IRMAA uses a sliding income scale to determine your Medicare premium. If you filed your 2022 taxes as "married/jointly" and your combined income for that year was \$206,000 or less, for 2024 you are paying the standard Medicare Part B premium of \$174.50, and there is no additional amount added to your Part D premium. But if your MAGI as a married couple was over \$206,000 your Medicare premiums will be more – e.g., MAGI up to \$258,000 makes your Part B premium \$244.60 and results in a Part D supplement of \$12.90 per month. And so on - as your MAGI further increases, so will your Medicare premiums until you reach the maximum. MAGI over \$750,000 means a Part B premium of \$594/month and a Part D supplement of \$81/month. Thus, Medicare premiums are "means-tested" (those with higher income pay higher premiums).

A word about "MAGI" – MAGI starts with your Adjusted Gross Income on your tax return, to which is added any non-taxable interest you may have had, and 50% of the Social Security benefits (if

any) you received during the income tax year. The total of those three amounts is your MAGI, from which your Medicare premium is determined for the forthcoming year.

So, if your 2023 combined income (your "MAGI") as a couple was under \$206,000 you will pay the standard 2025 Medicare premium which, for Part B, will be \$185/month. If your 2023 MAGI as a married couple is more than \$206,000, you will pay higher Medicare premiums in 2025 due to IRMAA.

Why not pay higher Medicare premiums when we are younger? Well, that's because IRMAA only applies when you are enrolled in Medicare, and your premium relates to your income while receiving Medicare benefits.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. Russell Gloor is the, National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

↓ COSTS From Page A1

Because massive government programs like Medicare reimburse providers so little, hospitals and doctors charge private insurers higher rates to make up the difference. Private health plans pay hospitals 254% of what Medicare would have paid, on average.

Private insurers pass their higher costs onto patients in the form of soaring premiums, deductibles, and restrictions on what's covered.

Obamacare's many mandates have encouraged consolidation throughout the healthcare marketplace.

Hospitals are getting bigger, too, in order to gain negotiating leverage with insurers. The 10 biggest U.S. healthcare systems now manage more than 1,200 hospitals, or about 20% of our country's total.

All that consolidation reduces competition and nudges costs higher.

To top it all off, nobody knows exactly how much anything costs until they get hit with the bill. As of February 2023, three-quarters of hospitals still failed to publish their prices, despite federal rules requiring them to do so.

It's time to end this madness.

The first move should be to create a regulatory environment that incentivizes providers to disclose cash prices in a clear and usable fashion. Enforcing price transparency rules would help.

But so would empowering consumers to make real choices. If patients are responsible for spending their own healthcare dollars, they will naturally become more price-conscious.

That's where health savings accounts and health reimbursement arrangements come into play. HSAs allow consumers to set aside money tax-free, which they can use to pay for health care as they see fit. When people have control over their healthcare dollars, providers have to

compete for their business. Over time, that leads to better quality and lower costs.

Congress should consider allowing Medicare beneficiaries to contribute to HSAs. Lawmakers should also raise the limits on what people can contribute to an HSA each year.

Health reimbursement arrangements allow employers to give their employees tax-free money for medical costs or insurance premiums.

Employers may prefer them to traditional health insurance plans because they're a defined cash benefit. Employees may like HRAs because they can pick the health insurance plan that meets their needs -- or use the money to pay for care from a provider of their choosing, not their insurer's.

Finally, policymakers should relax rules that reduce the supply of health care. Scope-of-practice regulations limit what services nurse practitioners and physician assistants can provide -- even when those providers are fully qualified.

A 2018 study found that patients treated by nurse practitioners had lower rates of hospital admission, readmission, and inappropriate emergency department use than those treated by physicians. Allowing NPs and PAs to practice more independently would effectively expand the supply of providers -- and thereby cause prices to fall.

We don't have to let health spending spiral out of control. Common-sense, market-based reforms could unleash the power of competition to lower costs -- and deliver savings for taxpayers and patients alike.

Sally C. Pipes is President, CEO, and Thomas W. Smith Fellow in Health Care Policy at the Pacific Research Institute. Her latest book is False Promise, False Promise: The Disastrous Reality of Medicare for All (Encounter 2020). Follow her on X, formerly Twitter, @sallypipes.

↓ TENNIS From Page A1

Contrary to conventional wisdom, it does matter. A recent study tracked more than 8,000 people over a quarter century to determine which activities offered the greatest health benefits. And there was a clear standout: tennis.

Tennis added 9.7 years to a typical player's life, compared to that of a sedentary person. The only sport that came close to this was badminton, which added 6.2 years of life.

As a physician who previously served as the chief medical officer of the NCAA, US Open, and chaired two high-level forums for the International Olympic Committee, I've noticed for decades that tennis offers people who want to get and stay healthy the most "bang-for-their-buck" when it comes to time, effort, and actual bucks.

Tennis is ideally orchestrated to keep your heart healthy. The high-intensity intervals of activity elevate your heart rate, enhance blood flow, and strengthen cardiovascular health. Just three hours on the court each week could reduce the risk of death from cardiovascular disease by 56%, and the risk of death from all causes by 47%.

Aerobic exercise, by comparison, reduced all-cause mortality by just 27%. Remarkably, running and soccer had no effect on people's risk of death.

Playing tennis is associated with greater bone mineral density in the femurs, hips, and spine. Tennis players have "significantly greater" upper body musculoskeletal function than their inactive counterparts.

Even those new to the sport could reap its benefits. As one review notes, "numerous studies have identified

better bone health not only in tennis players with lifelong tennis participation histories, but also in those who take on the sport in mid-adulthood."

Tennis also improves mobility, flexibility, and balance. Returning a serve, or positioning yourself for a precision volley, engages the whole body. Each burst of movement -- stretching, accelerating, or pivoting -- leads to improved coordination.

The confidence that comes from engaging skillfully with a physical task -- sometimes referred to as physical literacy -- is another reason to take up the game. 80% of players reported improvements in self-esteem after regular trips to the court.

Tennis is also one of the few lifelong sports that can be played cheaply and conveniently. Visit any tennis court -- there are roughly 250,000 of them nationwide -- and it's common to see folks playing into their 70s and 80s.

Any exercise is better than no exercise. But if folks are looking to maximize their health gains, now and for decades to come, I always tell them to go pick up a racquet and head to their local tennis court.

Brian Hainline, MD is Chair of the Board and President of the United States Tennis Association and recently transitioned from the NCAA as their Chief Medical Officer. He co-chaired the International Olympic Committee Consensus Meetings on both Pain Management in Elite Athletes and Mental Health in Elite Athletes. Brian is a Clinical Professor of Neurology at NYU Grossman School of Medicine. This piece originally ran in the Duluth News Tribune.



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Purdue Loses Frank Kendrick After Four-Week Battle with Cancer



KENNY THOMPSON
Columnist

The man who played a key role in recruiting Glenn Robinson, Cuonzo Martin and a host of other Purdue basketball standouts in the 1990s died Dec. 18 in his hometown of Indianapolis after a four-week battle with an aggressive sarcoma.

Long before he brought his charismatic recruiting skills to Gene Keady's coaching staff, Kendrick enjoyed a Hall of Fame playing career at Indianapolis Tech and Purdue in the early 1970s. Arriving in West Lafayette just before freshman eligibility was granted by the NCAA, Kendrick recorded 28 double-doubles during his three-year career.

Kendrick was one of the stars of Purdue's 1974 NIT championship team, back in the days when the NIT wasn't just programming filler for ESPN. Eighth-ranked North Carolina was the first school vanquished by the Boilermakers on their path to the title in Madison Square Garden.

The high point of Kendrick's basketball career came a year later when he earned an NBA championship ring with the Golden State

Warriors. Kendrick proudly wore that ring the rest of his life, and it was quite a selling point on the recruiting trail when he joined Gene Keady's staff in 1990.

Robinson, Martin, Brandon Brantley, Roy Hairston, Chad Austin and Brad Miller bought Kendrick's sales pitch. They contributed to three consecutive Big Ten championship teams from 1994-96. Then came Jaraan Cornell and McDonald's All-American Mike Robinson, starters on the 2000 Elite Eight squad.

Kendrick's love affair with Purdue endured a bitter separation when NCAA sanctions led to his departure in 1999. Time healed his wounds, and the reconciliation was complete when Kendrick was inducted into the Leroy Keyes Purdue Athletics Hall of Fame in 2016.

"I was very emotional, and I cried," Kendrick told the Journal and Courier's Sam King upon the news of his election. "There's not many things I can say I love. I love my family and I love Purdue. Purdue is family."

Kendrick also was elected to the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in 2002.

Portal insanity
Among major college football schools, only

Ball State, Tulsa and Kent State had lower rated defenses in 2024 than the Purdue football team.

So why then have three of the eight Boilermaker starters with eligibility in 2025 been snapped up by College Football Playoff schools?

Safety Dillon Thieneman is the biggest loss, heading to Oregon for a likely significant payday and a better chance at finishing 11-1 than 1-11.

Former Carmel standouts Will Heldt and Cole Brevard are also out the door in West Lafayette. Heldt made history as the first transfer portal signing at Clemson. Brevard is headed for Texas.

Also in the portal but yet to find a new football home are defensive backs Nylan Green, Kyndrich Breedlove and Botros Alisandro, plus defensive lineman Jamarius Dinkins.

Linebacker Hudson Miller (so far) is staying with new head coach Barry Odom.

Was it poor coaching or players who didn't fulfill expectations which led to 2024 being arguably the worst defense in Purdue history? Something to watch in 2025.

Purdue's offense will also have a lot of new

faces in the 2025 starting lineup. Gone is five-year starting center Gus Hartwig, whose eligibility has been exhausted. The same goes for quarterback Hudson Card, and offensive linemen Corey Stewart and DJ Wingfield. Guard/tackle Marcus Mbow has entered the NFL Draft.

The transfer portal has found new homes for tight end Max Klare (Ohio State), tackle Mahamane Moussa (Louisville), tight end Drew Biber (Minnesota) and wide receiver Jahmal Edrine (Virginia). Wide receiver Shamar Rigby is also in the portal.

The last man standing is running back Devin Mockobee, who enters his senior season as one of 14 Boilermakers with more than 2,000 career rushing yards.

Welcome to the club
Three former Purdue basketball standouts recently joined Kendrick in the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame as part of the Class of 2025.

Wilburn Cummins' election comes on the 100th anniversary of leading Frankfort High School to the state championship. One of the state's first great scorers, Cummins totaled 1,140 points as a Hot Dog, including a school-record 49 points against Owensville on Dec. 11, 1923. This feat is more impressive considering this was the era when a jump ball took place after every made basket. Under Piggy Lambert at Purdue, Cummins earned first-team All-Big Ten honors in 1927 after leading the league in scoring at 10.3 points in 12 conference games.

Another great scorer was Troy Lewis, who put up 1,966 points while helping Anderson go 68-11 during his three-year varsity career. Lewis shared the 1984 Indiana Mr. Basketball honor with Delray Brooks. A McDonald's All-American, Lewis joined Todd Mitchell and Everett Stephens in West Lafayette to help the Boilermakers win back-to-back Big Ten titles in 1987 and 1988.

All three were inducted into the Leroy Keyes Purdue Athletics Hall of Fame with their coach, Gene Keady, in 2010.

Lewis is one of six men in Purdue history to score more than 2,000 points (2,038) and is a member of the school's Centennial All-Time Men's Basketball Team.

Forest "Jake" Weber of Plainfield amassed 1,384 points during his four-year high school career before helping Purdue win the 1940 Big Ten championship. He played two seasons of pro basketball after World War II with the Indianapolis Kautskys of the National Basketball League in 1945-46 before moving on to the New York Knicks and Providence Steamrollers of the Basketball Association of America. The 6-6 Weber started in the Knicks' opener on Nov. 1, 1946, which is now considered the first game in NBA history.

Silver Anniversary class
The 18-man Silver Anniversary team announced by the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame includes four former NBA/NFL athletes and a couple of Purdue players.

The team was selected based on outstanding accomplishments as a senior basketball player 25 years ago.

Mr. Basketball Jared Jeffries (Bloomington North) went on to play at Indiana University before spending 11 seasons in the NBA with Washington, New York, Houston and Portland.

Zach Randolph (Marion) set the school record for rebounds (1,068) and put up 1,607 points while helping the Giants win a state championship his senior year. After one season at Michigan State, Randolph began a 17-year NBA career that saw him total 18,578 points and 10,208 rebounds during stops with Portland, New York, the Los Angeles Clippers, Memphis and Sacramento.

Andre Owens (Perry Meridian) made collegiate stops at Indiana and Houston before spending parts

of two NBA seasons with Utah and the Indiana Pacers.

John Standeford (Monrovia) played briefly for the Indianapolis Colts after a record-setting career as a wide receiver at Purdue. He set Monrovia career records for points (1,899) and steals (190). At Purdue, Standeford was a freshman All-American for the 2000 Big Ten champions. He set then-Big Ten records for receiving yards (3,788) and receiving touchdowns (27).

Brett Buscher (Chesterton) and Austin Parkinson (Northwestern) would become teammates at Purdue under Gene Keady. Buscher scored 1,365 points over four varsity seasons, including his freshman year at Whiting. Parkinson scored 1,667 points and set a school record with 678 assists. He is now the women's head basketball coach at Butler.

The other honorees were Michael Bennett (Brebeuf, Ball State), Braden Bushman (Mississinewa, Wright State), Ron Dokes (South Bend Riley, Duquesne), Steve Drabyn Jr. (LaPorte, Belmont), Mark Drake (Shelbyville, Alaska-Anchorage), John Hamilton Jr. (Greenfield-Central, Weber State), Adam Mark (Bremen, Belmont), Mickey McGill (Rossville, Indianapolis), Bryant Northern (Jeffersonville, Louisville), Shane Power (Andean, Iowa State/Mississippi State), Corey Seegers (Columbus North, Morehead State/Saint Joseph's College) and Aaron Thomas (Northridge, Robert Morris).

The Men's Silver Anniversary Team members will be honored at the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame's 63rd Men's Awards Banquet on March 19, 2025.

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

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Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts January Highlights



Mac McAnally with special guest Jon Strahl
8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10
The Palladium
Printing Partners
Encore Series
Tickets from \$25

A longtime member of Jimmy Buffett's Coral Reefer Band, songwriter, singer and instrumentalist Mac McAnally has written dozens of hits for artists including Alabama, Kenny Chesney and Sawyer Brown and has recorded with Toby Keith, Linda Ronstadt, George Strait and Dolly Parton. He has won the Country Music Association's Musician of the Year title a record-setting 10 times and is a member of the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame, the Mississippi Musicians Hall of Fame and the Alabama Music Hall of Fame. His solo recording career began with the Top 40 single "It's a Crazy World" and has grown to 14 album releases. Local blues-rock singer-songwriter Jon Strahl will open the show with an acoustic set.



Let's Sing Taylor: A Live Band Experience
Celebrating Taylor Swift
2 and 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11
The Palladium
Printing Partners
Encore Series
Tickets from \$35

Let's Sing Taylor is the ultimate tribute to the music of Taylor Swift. We can show you incredible things, including the most faithful and lively covers of Queen Taylor's expansive and sacred catalog. Taking the country by storm, we're bringing the communal experience of celebrating Taylor's music in a live setting to Swifties near and far. So, let the games begin. Calling all Swifties to sing your hearts out and sport your Taylor-inspired attire.



Yesterday and Today: The Interactive Beatles Experience
8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18
The Palladium
Katz, Sapper & Miller
Pop/Rock Series
Tickets from \$25

Yesterday and Today is a unique and innovative tribute to the Beatles. Led by brothers Billy, Matthew and Ryan McGuigan, the band members perform as themselves and leave the song choices completely in the hands of the audience. Concertgoers are

invited to fill out request cards listing their name, their favorite Beatles song, and the reason that song is important to them, which creates a narrative for the evening. Every show is different, every show is interactive, and every show proves that the Beatles' music truly is the soundtrack to our lives.



The Evolution of Joni Mitchell starring Lauren Fox
8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24
The Tarkington
Katz, Sapper & Miller
Pop/Rock Series
Tickets from \$40

Inspired by Reckless Daughter, David Yaffe's biography of legendary songwriter Joni Mitchell, performer Lauren Fox created this captivating and enlightening journey through Mitchell's life and music. Throughout the performance, Fox and pianist/narrator Jon Weber use excerpts from the book to tell the stories behind classic songs including "Both Sides Now," "Big Yellow Taxi," "Chelsea Morning," "Woodstock," "The Circle Game," "A Case Of You," "Free Man in Paris," "Hejira," "Night Ride Home" and "Turbulent Indigo." From early folk to folk-rock, jazz and pop, Mitchell continually evolved and pushed the envelope, defying critics and blazing a trail for women in music for decades to come.



Heart of Afghanistan featuring the Fanoos Ensemble
8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25
The Tarkington
Telamon Passport Series
Tickets from \$35

With music banned in their home country, the Fanoos Ensemble's Heart of Afghanistan carries the flame of the nation's rich and complex cultural heritage, from its pre-Islamic Buddhist period to the modern era. The ensemble features Afghan singer and TV star Ahmad Fanoos on vocals and harmonium, his sons Elham Fanoos on piano and Mehran Fanoos on violin, and Sohail Karimi on tabla. The program will include Afghan folk music, traditional odes based on Sufi poetry, and the iconic hits of Afghan pop singer Ahmad Zahir. Heart of Afghanistan is a production of American Voices.



Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis
with special guest the Noblesville High

School Jazz Band
7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26
The Palladium
Drewry Simmons
Vornehm Jazz Series
Tickets from \$35

Dedicated to preserving America's jazz heritage, the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra returns to the Palladium with more than a dozen of the finest soloists, ensemble players and arrangers in jazz music today. Founded in 1988 and led since 1991 by world-renowned trumpeter and artistic director Wynton Marsalis, the big band spends over a third of the year on tour, performing a vast repertoire that ranges from new commissioned compositions to rare historic works, including compositions and arrangements by Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Thelonious Monk and other greats. Opening the show will be the Noblesville High School Jazz Band under the direction of Peter Luttrell.

OTHER JANUARY EVENTS INCLUDE:

Child & Adult Music Class: Home on the Range

Fridays, Jan. 3 through Feb. 7; 9:30 a.m. sold out, 10:30 a.m. still available
 The Palladium
 Sponsored by Westfield Veterinary Care
 Cost: \$72 for six sessions
 Musician-educator Michelle Marti of ShooBeeLoo Music & Movement shares themed songs and stories for ages 18 months to 5 years.

Peanut Butter & Jam: Singing, Rhythm and Movement with Sarah Scharbrough

10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 4
 The Studio Theater
 Tickets: \$10 per child, includes up to two free adult admissions
 Professional musician and songwriter Sarah Scharbrough offers an interactive performance for kids and families. Designed for children ages 1-7, Peanut Butter & Jam sessions engage young children in the arts.

Songwriting: Melody and Lyrics

6-9 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 21 through Feb. 18; performance 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21
 The Palladium
 Cost: \$150 for five class sessions and performance
 Aimed at seasoned writers and fresh voices alike, the course explores the elements of songwriting and provides opportunities for participants to co-write and collaborate with other musicians. Led by local singer-songwriters Kristen Bales and Joshua Powell, each session will include instruction, songwriting breakout sessions, peer/instructor feedback and an opportunity to share work. The course will culminate in a public "songwriters in the round" performance Feb. 21.

Luminaries: The Music and Lives of African American Classical Composers

2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 28
 The Palladium
 Tickets: \$10, includes light refreshments
 African American composers have made important contributions to the world of classical music, often incorporating lush harmonies from jazz, hymns and spirituals. Along with their beautiful pieces, they also have interesting lives and accomplishments to discuss. Join saxophonist Trevor Conerly and pianist Andrew Brown as they perform several rich musical pieces while highlighting the stories of their composers.

Live at the Center: Jennie DeVoe

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 29
 The Palladium and online
 Livestream: Free (pay-what-you-can, no minimum)
 On-site: \$10 (pay-what-you-can, \$10 minimum)
 Jennie DeVoe is a soul-blues-Americana singer-songwriter and a longtime pillar of Indiana's original music scene. She has released several studio and live albums on her own Rubin the Cat Records label, including three produced by John Parrish (PJ Harvey, the Eels, Tracy Chapman). She has performed across the country, opening for artists including Bonnie Raitt, Joe Cocker, Lucinda Williams and Ray Charles. Her music has been licensed for TV shows and national ad campaigns. DeVoe also provides voiceovers for local advertisers and often performs the National Anthem for major public events.

About Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts
 The mission of the nonprofit Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts is to engage and inspire the Indiana community through enriching arts experiences. Its campus in Carmel, Indiana, includes the 1,500-seat Palladium concert hall, the 500-seat Tarkington proscenium theater and the black-box Studio Theater. Allied Solutions Center presents and hosts hundreds of events each year, including the Center Presents performance series, featuring the best in classical, jazz, pop, rock, country, comedy and other genres. Educational and experiential programming for all ages includes children's concerts and camps, book clubs, lectures and music classes. Allied Solutions Center is home to the affiliated Great American Songbook Foundation and provides space and support services for six resident arts companies. More information is available at TheCenterPresents.org.

Sheridan Public Library January Events

Babies + Toddlers:

Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27 at 10:30 a.m. Discovery Time (up to 3 years)

Preschool:

Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29 at 10:30 a.m. Little Learners Story Time (ages 3-6)

Jan. 10 at 10:30 a.m. Parachute Play (ages 3-6)
 Jan. 28 at 6 p.m. PJ Story Time (ages 3-6)

Grades K-5:

Jan. 16 at 3:30 p.m. Winter Lego Challenges
 Jan. 30 at 3:30 p.m. Sled STEAM Challenge

Grades 6-12:

Jan. 7 at 3:30 p.m. Creating on Canvas; following video to create a painting
 Jan. 21 at 3:30 p.m. Boba + Books

Adults:

Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29 at 11 am Needle Crafters
 Jan. 9, 23 at 3 p.m. Adult Bingo (Sponsored by Robert Owen)
 Jan. 15 at 5:30 p.m. Sheridan Readers; The Women by Kristen Hannah
 Jan. 20 at 6 p.m. Pinners (Pinterest Group)

All Ages:

Jan. 1-Feb. 28 Register on Beanstack for Winter Reading Challenge
 Jan. 9 at 6 p.m. Family Bingo Night; free event, fun prizes
 Jan. 24 at 11 a.m. Homeschool Meetup

SPL will be closed on Jan. 1st for New Year's Day
 For more information on programming and services, please visit: <https://sheridan.lib.in.us>

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Festival of Ice and Carmel Winter Games



Photos courtesy City of Carmel

On Saturday, Jan. 18 watch ice carvers work their magic. It's at Carter Green from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Carmel's annual winter events are back-to-back in January starting with the Festival of Ice presented by Allied Solutions and the Carmel Winter Games.

one of the participating Carmel Fire Department crews during the cook-off from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Saturday.

On Sunday, Jan. 19 the competition kicks into high gear with the ice carvers returning for the grand finale speed carving competition from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The People's Choice sculpture competition winners will be announced at the end of the event.

We are excited to welcome both veterans and newcomers to the list of carvers:

- Titus Arensburg - Newark, Ohio

- Joe Autry - Clarksville, Ind.
- Aaron Costin - Nebo, N.C.
- Zachary Crossman - Tampa, Fla.
- Shannon Gerasimchik - New Bremen, Ohio
- Ben Goebel - Whitmore Lake, Mich.
- Jim Houser - Huntington, Ind.
- Stephan Koch - Daleville, Ind.
- Jon Price - Atlanta, Ga.
- Dan Rebholz - Addison, Ill.
- Duane Shemlhaus - Antioch, Ohio
- Matthew Stoddart - Nicholasville, Ky.
- Aaron Whitten - Commerce Township, Mich.



Taste-test and vote for your favorite chili from one of the participating Carmel Fire Department crews during the cook-off from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 18.

On Saturday, Jan. 18 the ice carving begins at Carter Green from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Watch sculpting professionals create unique ice masterpieces then participate in the People's Choice sculpture voting from noon – 5 p.m.

Are you a fan of chili? Taste-test and vote for your favorite chili from



Carmel Winter games offer fun non-skating competition Friday, Jan. 24 and Saturday, Jan. 25 at The Ice at Carter Green.

What kind of competition? "Human curling" on inner tubes, an ice trike relay and "human hungry hippo" using laundry baskets to fetch hundreds of bouncing balls!

The annual event kicks off Friday at 6 p.m. with the Hometown Hero-Olympics featuring good-spirited competition among a number of City departments including team members with the Fire Department, Police Department, Information and Communication Services and more.

On Saturday, the skate-less competition on ice begins at

noon and will feature corporate teams and teams consisting of family and friends. In addition to Saturday's action on the ice, The Ice at Carter Green will feature a 'Meet the Mascots' session on the ice from 1 - 3 p.m.

The rules and requirements are as follows:

- Teams must have from 4 to 8 members
- Each individual event during the Games must include at least 4 representatives from each team
- Teams must commit to participate in all three events for the full duration

- The fee to register is a one-time \$300 fee per team
- The winners of the 2025 Carmel Winter Games will choose from one of the following Carmel-based organizations to receive the winning proceeds

- Carmel Clay Historical Society
- Carmel Food Pantries
- Carmel Youth Assistance Program
- Heroes Club
- Prime Life Enrichment Center
- The Children's TherAplay Foundation

HEIGHTS From Page A1



Photo courtesy Hamilton Heights Schools

Staff and students from Hamilton Heights gathered for fellowship and service assembling and packaging 12,144 meals as part of the 4th Annual IDES Meal Pack in partnership with the Noblesville-based nonprofit, International Disaster Emergency Service (IDES). The meals will be sent to Ukraine for families in need. Courtesy photos.

Gov.-elect Braun Sets Key Appointments

Gov.-elect Mike Braun today announced 20 appointments to lead various state agencies and departments as his administration prepares to take office in January 2025.

The appointments include:

- Steve Russo, Executive Director of the Indiana Public Retirement System
- Holly Lambert, Insurance Commissioner
- Lindsay Hyer, Executive Director of the Professional Licensing Agency
- Thomas Fite, Director of the Department of Financial Institutions
- James Michaels, Superintendent of the Indiana School for the Blind
- Dr. David Geeslin, Superintendent of the Indiana School for the Deaf
- Dr. Lindsay Weaver, Commissioner of the Indiana State Department of Health
- Steve Cox, Director of the Indiana Broadband Office
- Dan Huge, Chairman of the Indiana Finance Authority
- Don Lamb, Director of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture
- Lloyd Arnold, Commissioner of the Department of Corrections
- Alan Morrison, Director of the Department of Natural Resources
- Kevin Garvey, Commissioner of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles
- Mitch Roob, Secretary of the Family and Social Services Administration
- Jake Adams, Department of Veterans Affairs

- Fred Glynn, Executive Director of the Office of Community and Rural Affairs
- Brandon Clifton, Indiana Department of Administration Commissioner
- Pete Miller, Executive Director of the Indiana Management Performance Hub
- Kent Abernathy, Indiana Department of Transportation Commissioner
- Adam Krupp, Director of the Department of Child Services

- Secretary of Transportation and Infrastructure, Matthew Ubelhor
- Superintendent of the Indiana State Police, Anthony Scott
- Adjutant General of Indiana, Brigadier General Lawrence Muennich
- Lieutenant General, Micah Beckwith
- Chief of Staff, Joshua Kelley

The following senior staff positions have also been named:

- Jason Johnson, Deputy Chief Of Staff, Legislative Affairs
- Jessica Wedgewood, Deputy Chief Of Staff, Operations
- Patrick Price, Governor's Legal Counsel

These appointments are in addition to the previously announced cabinet members:

- Secretary of Business Affairs, Mike Speedy, will also serve as the head of the Department of Labor
- Secretary of Commerce, David Adams, will also serve as head of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation
- Secretary of Education, Dr. Katie Jenner, will also serve as head of the Department of Education
- Secretary of Energy and Natural Resources, Suzanne Jaworowski
- Secretary of Health and Family Services, Dr. Gloria Sachdev
- Secretary of Management and Budget, Lisa Hershman, will also serve as the Director of the Office of Management and Budget
- Secretary of Public Safety, Jennifer-Ruth Green, will also serve as the Director of Homeland Security

About Governor-elect Mike Braun: Governor-elect Mike Braun of Jasper, Indiana, is a homegrown entrepreneur who has spent his life creating opportunities and getting results for Hoosiers. Mike believes deeply that personal freedom and opportunity will create a pathway to prosperity for all Hoosiers. As Indiana's 52nd Governor, Mike Braun is developing a team to help him build an administration that puts Hoosiers in the driver's seat and limits government to its proper role.

Mike Braun is a Main Street job creator, husband to Maureen (48 years), father of four and proud grandfather of seven. When Mike is not hard at work for the people of Indiana, he enjoys spending time on his tree farms where he also focuses on his passion for conservation.

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