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TODAY'S VERSE

Romans 5:3 - 5 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope; And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Hamilton Happenings

She L.E.A.D.S. 2025 Mayor's Conference, hosted by Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam is set for Feb. 20 at 502 E. Event Centre. The conference aims to empower women and middle school-aged girls in Carmel through Leadership, Empowerment, Advancement, Development and Service. "Women and young girls are the backbone of a thriving community," said Finkam. "She L.E.A.D.S. is a call to action to empower today's women and equip tomorrow's leaders. By fostering connections, providing resources, and showcasing women as role models, we ensure Carmel remains a place where all generations of women can thrive and lead." She L.E.A.D.S. bridges generations to create mentorship, professional growth and career exploration opportunities. The event's interactive programming presented in two engaging segments is designed to inspire attendees to dream big and achieve their goals. To register, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/city-of-carmel-she-leads-conference-tickets-1138519084229?aff=oddtcreator>

Three Things You Should Know

1 Former Indiana Governor and Purdue President Mitch Daniels has joined the Liberty Fund Board of Directors. Daniels was Purdue president from 2013-22 and governor from 2005-13. The Liberty Fund was founded in 1960 by Pierre F. Goodrich, an Indianapolis businessman and lawyer. Liberty Fund conducts its own educational programs to encourage research and discussion on the values and institutions of a society of free and responsible individuals. For more information about Liberty Fund, visit www.libertyfund.org

2 Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre's upcoming adult auditions for ages 19 and older are set and seeking to fill roles in Waitress, Heartbreak Hotel, Tootsie, A Beef & Boards Christmas and A Christmas Carol. Auditions are by appointment only and take Feb. 17 (Equity Principal Auditions) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with dance callbacks from 6-8 p.m., and Feb. 18 (Equity Chorus Call), from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with dance callbacks at 2 p.m. Those with an audition appointment should report to the lobby of Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre, 9301 Michigan Rd., Indianapolis 46268 to sign in. Check beefandboards.com or Beef & Boards' social media for updates. No phone calls, please.

3 Dr. Os Guinness, author, social critic and great-great-great grandson of Arthur Guinness, the Dublin brewer, will be the keynote speaker at this year's Indiana Leadership Prayer Breakfast scheduled on Tuesday, March 25 in Indianapolis. Guinness will address political, civic, business and faith leaders from across the state at the prayer breakfast, which began in 1964. Governor Mike Braun will bring greetings, state legislators will have varied roles, and the state president of FFA and a Girl Scout representative will participate in the service. And, for the 40th year, vocalist Everett Greene will sing "God Bless America" to conclude the event.

The **TIMES**



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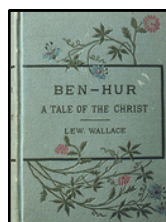
By The Numbers, a look at what's in the news . . . by the numbers. These are just numbers, not suggestions that they mean more or less than what they are. We do not suggest that one number is connected to another. These are simply facts with no extraneous details, bias or slanted reporting. To

borrow (and perhaps mangle a bit) a quote from legendary fictional detective Joe Friday, it's just the numbers, ma'am!

General Lew Wallace passed away on Feb. 15, 1905. In honor of the date, The Times takes a look at the author of one of the best-selling books of all time, Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ. By many accounts, it is one of the best sellers in history.

50,000,000

Not that many books throughout history have sold more than 50 million copies, but Wallace's Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ has.



Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ

\$600,000 Henry Wallace, son of Lew, opposed any sale of the film rights to his father's literary masterpiece. However, after he watched Birth of A Nation, he changed his mind. He set an initial price tag of \$1,000,000 in 1915 - and in 1921 he sold the rights for \$600,000.

5 The number of movies of Ben Hur. The first came in 1907 and was followed by other version in 1925, 1959, 2003 and 2016.

1 The number of Gen. Lew Wallace studies and museums in the world - and it's located less than an hour away in Crawfordsville. For anyone who has not been there, it is well worth the visit. You can see the study where Wallace wrote much of Ben Hur. You can tour the spacious grounds and ponder perhaps what the general himself pondered.

And of course there is a Carriage House and gift shop to visit. But don't get in a rush. A lot of work is ongoing right now and when it's complete, the museum will reopen - likely this spring.



General Lew Wallace Study & Museum

4-10-1827

The birth date of Gen. Lew Wallace. He was born in Brookville in the southeastern part of Indiana. In 1832, his family moved to Covington. In 1837, his father David became the sixth governor of Indiana and in 1853 Lew moved to Crawfordsville. Three years later he was elected to the State Senate. Wallace died in Crawfordsville in 1905.

7-9-1864 Wallace was not just an author. As a major general, Wallace was given great credit for saving Washington, D.C. during the Battle of Monocacy. It was on that date that Wallace's troops delayed Confederate forces sent to capture the nation's capital. Later, Ulysses S. Grant said that Wallace's work at Monocacy was "a greater benefit to the cause than often falls to the lot of a commander of equal force to render by means of a victory."

\$7 to free Admission prices to the Museum and Study range from \$7 for adults to \$5 for AAA or military, \$3 for students 13-18 with IDs, \$1 for students 7-12 with ID and free for the little ones 6 and under. What a deal!



Photo credit: Library of Congress Brady-Handy Collection
Gen. Lew Wallace

1 There is one marble statue of Lew Wallace in the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. It is in Statuary Hall. A copy of this statue can be found on the Study grounds.

February Jam-Packed for Noblesville Creates

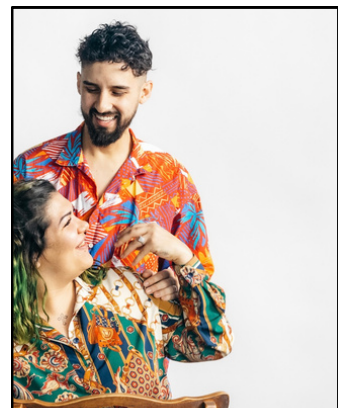


Photo courtesy Noblesville Creates

The artistic duo of Fernando and Sofia

This month, Noblesville Creates is showcasing artists Bobbi K. Samples and Nova Dream Space, along with the *From the HeART* exhibit at the Judge Stone House and the *Graphic & Illustration* exhibit at Four Day Ray. Additionally, the Hamilton County Artists' Association will present *Cabin Fever* at Noblesville City Hall. Details on exhibit locations, dates, receptions, and featured artists can be found below.

JUDGE STONE HOUSE: From the HeART

The arts can awaken passions during these cold, dark winter months. Do you yearn for warmer weather, have a beloved pet in your life, or find yourself falling in love with a particular subject?

The exhibit, *From the HeART*, will feature mediums of all kinds that explore matters of the heart.

You can view the full exhibit, *From the HeART*, now to March 1, in the Judge Stone House gallery. The Noblesville Creates on 8th campus is open Wednesday through Friday, noon p.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Exhibit Dates: Through March 1, 2025

STEPHENSON HOUSE: Nova Dream Space

The February Stephenson House exhibit, *Una llamada*

➔ See CREATES Page A4

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Keep high calorie snack foods out of sight - you'll eat fewer of them.

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



TODAY'S QUOTE

"Love is composed of a single soul inhabiting two bodies." Aristotle

TODAY'S JOKE

A couple married for 70 years was asked their secret. They smiled and said "A lot of love, a lot of patience and a lot of prescriptions!"

The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank **RONDA PODZIELINSKI** for subscribing!

HONEST HOOSIER

Hey, if I am ever in the hospital on life support, unplug me . . . wait a few seconds and plug me back in. Hey, it works with the computer!



The Times of Noblesville presents...

Iceland's Magical Northern Lights

March 18 - 24, 2025

Hosted by Dick Wolfsie



For more information contact Collette

1-800-581-8942

Please refer to booking #1232517

Heights Superintendent Shares Importance of Black History Month



DR. ARROWOOD
Guest Columnist

As we enter Black History Month, it is essential for us to reflect on and acknowledge the significant contributions and achievements of African Americans throughout our nation's history. This month serves as a dedicated period for us to explore and celebrate the rich heritage, culture, and resilience of the black community, which has played a fundamental role in shaping our country's fabric.

Black History Month goes beyond mere recognition. It offers a valuable opportunity for learning, understanding, and growth. It encourages us to engage in meaningful conversations about the struggles for civil rights, the remarkable achievements against the odds and the ongoing fight for equality and justice. By immersing ourselves in the stories and accomplishments of African American leaders, thinkers, artists, and everyday heroes, we gain a deeper appreciation of the diversity and strength that contribute to our collective American identity.

We are in the middle of National School Counseling Week and want to take this opportunity to honor the incredible and meaningful work our school counselors do each day. They play a central role on the school support team and are vital resources who work to ensure a healthy, positive, and safe school environment for students to learn, achieve school success, and plan for a career. We are grateful for the impactful role, service, and support provided by our school counselors - Nikki Wert and Tricia Rudy (HHES), Chelsea Pacheco and Sabrina Duncan (HHMS), Lori Watson, April Baugher and Jessica Cantlon (HHHS), and Patrick Magee (counseling intern). Thank you for all your

work in helping to build a positive school climate and changing lives, one day at a time.

On Tuesday, we kick off a spirit-filled week of Winter Homecoming activities. Each day at HHHS has a different theme: Tuesday is pajama day, Wednesday is anything but a backpack day, and Red or Pink out; Thursday is dress like the first letter of your name, and students will end the day with a Talent Show featuring high school student performances. Friday is the annual Orange and White Spirit Day. Students will enjoy the traditional senior/staff basketball game activities and a pep session.

The community is cordially invited to enjoy Hamilton Heights High School Drama Department's production of Emma! A Pop Musical, a modern twist on Jane Austen's timeless tale. Whether you're a devoted Austen fan or a newcomer to the world of musical theater, this musical promises an evening of entertainment, enchantment, and pure joy. Don't miss your chance to support this delightful celebration of love, pop culture, and the talented youth at Hamilton Heights. Three shows: Feb. 28 and March 1 at 7 p.m. and March 2 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$6 and can be purchased online in advance or at the door.

As we celebrate all things love and appreciation this month, let's make a conscious effort to ensure that Heights is a place where relationships are paramount. Where concern, compassion, empathy, respect, dignity, and wellbeing of all our students and staff carries the day. Think of the impact this can have on making our school and community a better place to live, learn, work, and play. #WeAreHuskies

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

Westfield, Library, Township Offer Help to Non-profits

The City of Westfield, Westfield Washington Township and the Westfield Washington Public Library are excited to announce a new partnership aimed at providing grant research and support services to non-profit organizations in Westfield. This collaboration will offer local non-profits complimentary access to Candid, a subscription-based service that helps non-profit leaders find grants from foundations and public charities.

The Westfield Washington Public Library will serve as a central access point as part of this initiative. Non-profits will have access to free services, including consultations, project planning assistance, guidance on building capacity and outreach and Candid, which will enable non-profits to build prospect lists from their database of nearly 300,000 grant makers and funders.

In addition to these services, non-profit organizations are encouraged to register for the Township's upcoming two-part Grant Writing Series, presented in partnership with Purdue Extension, on April 16 and May 14. This series will provide essential training on the grant writing process, offering valuable insights on how to craft compelling proposals and secure funding to support local initiatives. For more information, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/yuyj575x>.

"We are proud to partner with the library and township to offer these valuable resources to our local non-profits," said Westfield Mayor Scott Willis. "Supporting our non-profits is a priority for the city, and we believe this

partnership will provide them with the tools and knowledge they need to succeed."

Jamie Goetz-Mills, Westfield Washington Township Trustee, echoed these sentiments, adding, "This partnership represents a collaborative effort to help our non-profits grow, build sustainability and make an even greater impact on our community. We encourage all local non-profits to take advantage of this incredible opportunity."

The Westfield Washington Public Library will host information sessions about the available resources, with staff on hand to assist non-profits in navigating the services provided. Non-profit partners are invited to a launch event at the Westfield Washington Public Library (17400 Westfield Blvd.) on Feb. 11 at noon. To register for the event (encouraged but not required), visit <https://tinyurl.com/4wymf47y>.

The first learning session hosted and sponsored by the Westfield Washington Township will focus on Human Resources Training for non-profits. Sessions will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 11, and Tuesday, March 11, from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Westfield Washington Township office (17400 Westfield Blvd.). The February session will focus on compliance and infrastructure, while the March session will focus on recruiting and employment. Deep End Talent Strategies will be conducting the training for this series.

For more information, contact the Trustee's Office at (317) 574-9490.

Noblesville Resident Leads Farm Bureau Talent Program

Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance is excited to welcome Noblesville resident Roz Jester as the company's director of talent management.

Jester comes to Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance with a wealth of experience in human resources. Most recently, she was manager of global employee data at Salesforce and before that, she was manager of human resources at GEICO. As the director of talent management at Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance, she hopes to foster a culture of growth and empowerment by developing and supporting others.

"What excites me most about this role is the opportunity to work closely with people again after spending the last three years in the world of systems," Jester said. "I am deeply passionate about coaching and supporting others in



Roz Jester

achieving their career goals."

Jester lives in Noblesville and holds a bachelor's degree in music from the University of Oklahoma and is a Senior Certified Professional accredited by the Society for Human Resource Management. Outside of work, Jester enjoys reading and traveling with her husband Ty and their two children.

Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance has served Hoosiers for 90 years. It was organized in 1934 by Indiana Farm Bureau, Inc.

Baldwin Pens Public Safety Bill



Sen. Scott Baldwin

A bill authored by State Sen. Scott Baldwin (R-Noblesville) that seeks to increase public and police safety was heard in the Senate Committee on Corrections and Criminal Law today.

Senate Bill 281 prohibits the expungement of violent crimes from criminal records and allows law enforcement officials to have timely access to those records.

"For too long, Indiana has offered violent criminals the opportunity to expunge their records and regain access to firearms," Baldwin said. "This has

perpetuated a cycle of repeated violent offenses."

Current Indiana law allows local law enforcement agencies to view expunged criminal records, but many police officers are unable to see this information in real time from their vehicles, potentially putting them at risk during interactions with suspects.

"One of my main priorities is ensuring public safety for all Hoosiers," Baldwin said. "By allowing law enforcement officials access to all criminal records at the scene of a crime they will be prepared and able to do their job in an effective and safe manner."

Baldwin represents Senate District 20, which includes Noblesville, Carmel, Cicero and unincorporated areas of Hamilton County.

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Roaming Around



DICK WOLFSIE
Funny Bone

Thanks to an old friend, Bob Shopak, who, while researching a story about our high school alma mater, found online an old student newspaper where I had written a humor column —possibly the first I had ever attempted. Here it is, word for word. Be kind. I was barely 17 years old. My current comments about the piece are in parentheses. Typos and misspellings are as they were. Catch any?

ROAMING AROUND
By Dick Wolfsie
(September 5, 1964)

The state of New York has directed the New Rochelle High School history department that world history classes begin with the Roman Empire. Most teachers either conveniently forget this directive or shamelessly distort it. The truth is that Rome fell due to a traffic problem.

(This is a pretty good start. Reference to what was happening in the school system. Also, a good tease to the story.)

In the year 478 B.C., the problem created by thousands of chariots was unbearable. Maximus Speedlimit attempted the first solution to the problem —the license plate. Although many generals applauded the idea, the problem remained. Since Roman numerals were used exclusively, the plates were so long that everybody went into the snow plowing business.

(I should mention here that it hardly ever snows in Rome, and there was no Roman Empire in 478 BC. Also, Mary Ellen told me no one would get that joke. I wish she had told me that 61 years ago.)

Unable to cope with the traffic problem, one famous general invented the parking meters, but soldiers wearing those funny skirts had no pockets for coins and often had their chariots towed away.

(If I had that Google machine, I would have known that these skirts were called pteruges.)

The Romans then invented the stop sign. Traffic never moved. Romans waited for the

sign to say GO. As you can see, nothing helped. They revoked all junior licenses and painted a white line down the Apian Way. They started breeding horses with less car power.

(Not a bad joke. I like that one.)

Finally, in the year 476, the Romans pleaded to their friends, The Huns, for help.

“Dear Huney,” Maximus wrote, “Please come to our aid.” The Huns’ plan called for an unmarked chariot to catch traffic offenders, but when that did not work, they decided to march to Rome. They were then confused by the funny-shaped signs telling them to stop. They were frightened by a brigade of snow plows, and the white line down the Apian Way confused them.

Soon, their friendliness returned to hostility. They saw slave girls standing near the meters. Some of the generals thought that for a few coins, the girls would go somewhere and park with them. This misunderstanding touched off the Gallic War.

To sum up, our teachers are directed to teach that wars have an economic or political cause. This war didn’t, so history teachers are creating a false curriculum to adhere to all state requirements. It’s all baloney. The real cause was traffic.

(I know the column isn’t very funny, now. Not even then. I wonder if I have improved as a writer over 61 years. When Bob sent me the article, he mentioned reading my stuff weekly on the Internet. “You haven’t changed,” he said. “You’re the same Dick Wolfsie you’ve always been.”

Well, I guess that answers my question.

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

The Proof is on My Ankles



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

I don’t normally tackle controversial issues, but today I’m going out on a limb.

Baths are better than showers.

I don’t care what my husband, Peter, or my mother and father have to say on the subject. I don’t care about those people who take samples of bathwater and look at them under microscopes and tell you that you are bathing in miniscule amounts of dirt and microorganisms. They are all wrong, and I will tell you how I know.

I looked at my ankles.

When Peter and I stay in Mexico, I do not have a bathtub. I will admit, when the sun is shining and we are eating outside in February surrounded by the friendly staff at our hotel, I am not exactly hankering to get back to the gloom of the Midwest. I can go for days without being under a cloud, wearing shorts and sandals and eating fresh avocados every day. If it wasn’t for missing my family, I’d be happy just to stay, and I can’t honestly say I would miss much—except for my bathtub.

I love a hot bath. And baths are better. I have proof. The proof is on my ankles.

When I get home after a long stay in Mexico, I sit in the bathtub and give myself a good scrub, and the things that need scrubbing the most are my ankles. It would be only a slight exaggeration to say that they are filthy. And this is no surprise.

Anyone who has tried to properly scrub their ankles while standing in a shower should save their skills and become a yoga instructor. Or a stork. It is not physically possible. There are

creative ways to get one’s feet clean, but the ankles suffer in a shower. And before anyone tells me it doesn’t matter because ankles are covered by socks, I’d like to point out that this could apply to a lot of other body parts. It’s a slippery slope. If we’re going to be OK with dirty ankles, what’s next?

Baths are also much more relaxing. I don’t have to be worried about how much water is running down the drain while I wash. I can be concerned about the environment and the cleanliness of my ankles and my need to relax all at the same time. I can simply lie still in hot water and enjoy the sensation of nothing to do (other than wash my ankles, of course) and breathe in steamy air. It is the perfect way to relax after a long day. I get out of the bathtub, and I am never cold or rushed or bothered by the microscopic organisms I hear are rumored to be clinging to me. I am at peace. I have never felt truly peaceful getting out of a shower. (But then, how could I with dirty ankles?)

I realize I will not win this debate. There are houses that don’t even have bathtubs these days. I hear people say they are dangerous and take up space and no one has the time.

My feeling is that, if I run out of time for a hot bath, I need to reorder my schedule. I will always have time for a hot bath. I will have time on good days and bad. I will have time when I’m actually dirty and on days when I just need to feel warm and relaxed. I take a bath and feel as if I get out ready for a new beginning, each and every time.

And I have remarkably clean ankles.

Till next time, Carrie

Sen. Walker Shares Update



KYLE WALKER
Guest Columnist

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our Hoosier teachers, Indiana saw an impressive improvement in reading scores on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Our state’s scores improved from 19th to 6th in the nation among fourth graders and from 17th to 6th among eighth graders.

This improvement is due in large part to our state’s teachers who are working hard to help our students get back on track. I would also like to thank Dr. Katie Jenner, Indiana’s Secretary of Education, for her leadership in this effort.

In addition to funding increases for programs that promote literacy, in recent years, Senate Republicans have supported legislation that required schools to align curriculum to the Science of Reading and required teacher preparation programs to train new teachers in the Science of Reading.

In 2024, our caucus’s top priority was Senate Enrolled Act 1, which reemphasized the importance of Science of Reading, improved early identification and intervention for students struggling to read and, as a last resort, limited schools’ ability to promote students who can’t read by the end of third grade.

As we all know, the ability to read is foundational to academic success, and I am very pleased to see our students are making strong improvements.

FISHERS PARTNERSHIP to Enhance Economic Growth

The City of Fishers has partnered with Plug and Play Indiana and Launch Fishers to

support startup businesses. This collaboration aims to connect entrepreneurs with established corporations, investors and vital resources, to foster innovation, accelerate growth and build stronger businesses.

This partnership marks an exciting opportunity for Fishers, solidifying its reputation as a hub for innovation and entrepreneurship while driving the economic development for the local community.

SENATE CELEBRATES the Children’s Museum’s 100th Anniversary

This week, House Concurrent Resolution 14, which congratulates the Children’s Museum on its 100th anniversary, passed in the Senate.

Thank you for 100 years of education, history and influence. The museum continues to serve many visitors by creating an atmosphere of wonder like no other.

CELEBRATING BLACK History Month in Indianapolis February honors Black History Month, and the City of Indianapolis is putting on a variety of events to celebrate.

Residents can celebrate Black History Month by dining at several Black-owned restaurants in the city, attending museums and enjoying musical performances dedicated to celebrating Black History.

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

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Building new clean energy will lower Hoosiers’ bills & protect grid reliability.

MORE LOW-COST ENERGY NOW

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2024 Ford Ranger Raptor is the Heated Vest for Outdoor Enthusiasts and Urban Adventurers Who Want Comfort and Capability Whether They Need It Or Not



CASEY WILLIAMS
Auto Reviews

Let's discuss necessity. Probably like several of you, I got a heated vest for Christmas. I'm outside a lot, walking the Monon Trail in Indianapolis and shooting auto reviews. Is it necessary? No, but it sure makes cold weather more enjoyable. In that same vein, did Ford really need to make an all-capable Baja-ready Raptor version of the recently updated 2024 Ranger pickup? Nope, but I suspect you'll enjoy it.

A Tool of Work and Play

It's a pretty handsome with a black FORD grille, black fender extensions, 17" wheels and meaty all-terrain tires. Given 10.7" of ground clearance, it's handy to have black step plates. Around back, the truck's pre-wired for trailers, pre-hitched for pulling them and pre-sprayed with bedliner to protect its insides. Power outlets in the bedside are ready for tools of work and play.

There's no need for a heated jacket inside because our truck had heated leather front seats, thick heated steering wheel and dual-zone automatic climate control. Raptors glow up with red stitching, sueded dash and door tops and textured plastics to add allure. The deeply-bolstered seats hold you in when barreling across open desert...or just taking the on-ramp a little too fast. Four wide opening doors and wipe-down seats are ready for your little minions.

Flatscreen gauges and a 12-inch tablet-style touchscreen illuminate the interior while devices connect easily via wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto. B&O audio is full and crisp. After an easy set-up, just toss phones on the charging pad in the console to access your device seamlessly. You can swipe or click through stations on-screen, but I'd prefer a proper tuning knob next to volume. For safety, an in-dash brake controller keeps you flying straight. Automatic

emergency braking, lane keep assist, blind spot warning, and rear cross path detection systems help too.

Like my unnecessary jacket, the Ranger's off-road kit brings surprising comforts. For one, the active valve Fox shocks that absorb rough trails also provide a pleasingly compliant ride over city potholes and seemingly wafts down the Interstate. The fat tires help too. It's by far the nicest riding Ranger. Getting into gear is a bit confusing since the manual mode button is where your thumb wants to click the shifter – the release button is actually beneath the top – but once you find it, good times.

Turbo-four Engines Bring Capability

Unlike in the F-150 Raptor, there's no option of a V8 or twin-turbo V6. Instead, there's a turbocharged 3.0-liter V6 delivering 405 horsepower and 430 lb.-ft. of torque – routed to the full-time four-wheel-drive system through a 10-speed

automatic transmission. Feel free to click through gears with paddles behind the steering wheel. Lock in the front/rear differentials if terrain get serious. Fuel economy of 16/18-MPG city/highway is atrocious, but expected.

One of the best parts of the Ranger Raptor is its size. I live in the city with tight side streets and a small driveway. The F-150 Raptor is way too big. In fact, if you actually intend to use a Raptor off-road, its tighter dimensions are better. The Ranger offers all of its larger sibling's style and capability in a more usable package.

Unless you live half-way across a desert or high up a ragged trail, the Ranger Raptor is not about necessity, but it sure is enjoyable to use. It's not cheap, though. Rangers start at an affordable \$32,820, but ours came to a lofty \$59,305 all-in. Competitors include the Chevy Colorado ZR2, GMC Canyon AT4, Nissan Frontier PRO-4X,

and Toyota Tacoma Trailhunter.

Storm Forward!

Send comments to

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

@AutoCasey.

Likes

- Daily usability
- Turbo engine
- All-trail capability

Dislikes

- Gear selector
- Radio tuning
- Unnecessary price

2024 Ford Ranger Raptor

Five-passenger, 4WD Pickup

Powertrain: 3.0-liter TV6, 10-spd

Output: 405hp/430 lb.-ft.

Suspension f/r: Ind/Solid axle

Wheels f/r: 17"/17" alloy

Brakes f/r: disc/disc

Towing capacity: 5,500 lbs.

Fuel economy city/hwy: 16/18-MPG

Assembly: Wayne, MI

Base/as-tested price: \$32,820/\$59,305

↓ CREATES From Page A1

tropical, showcases the vibrant works of Nova Dream Space, the artistic duo of Fernando and Sofia. The interview below offers a deeper look into their creative journey and the inspiration behind their exhibit.

Fernando: I am an Ecuadorian-American artist. I grew up in Guayaquil, and in California, where I took my first art classes. I am an alum of the School of Art Institute of Chicago, with an emphasis in Painting and Drawing. I met Sofia during my time at SAIC, and in 2020, Sofia and I founded Nova Dream Space. We are an artist duo that aims to stop the pollution of our planet, especially the ocean, by bringing awareness to single-use plastics and other harmful practices.

Sofia: I am a graduate of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (Fall BFA Show 2017) with concentrations in Printmaking, Fibers, Painting, and Latin American & Caribbean Studies. My work is about the human connection to nature and transforming discarded materials. Fernando and I created Nova Dream Space envisioning spaces of collaboration with infinite possibilities.

What is your artistic process, and how has it changed over time?

Fernando: Over time, I

have drawn my inspiration from a variety of sources. Initially, I made works based on comics or cartoons, lyrics from a song, or a phrase from a movie. These things would catch my attention, and I would make art with that in mind. My current work is more conceptual, and I'm more sure of myself as an artist. Recent themes in my work include community, family, and personal responsibility to sustainability.

Sofia: For many years, I have been experimenting with various materials and techniques. As I have developed my artistic voice and style, I have a deeper understanding of how these materials relate to the viewer, and the message behind my work has become more clear. I used to paint paintings all in one sitting, but now I'm way more comfortable with developing an idea over time, letting my work grow with me, and working at a slower pace. I take inspiration from naturescapes and plant life from my travels.

How would you describe the theme of your showcase exhibit?

Our theme is about tropical vibes, the heat of the sun, sweet humid air, the smells on the street of spices and flowers, the music of many languages, roots so thick they burst

through the sidewalk, the beach, the Caribbean Sea, bright colors & patterns, and so much more.

What drew you to this theme in the first place? How is it significant to you?

We were drawn to the concept of creating a tropical escape from the harsh winter weather. February in Indiana is typically very grey, so we were inspired to present an alternative to the monotone palettes of the season. *Una llamada tropical* brings a fun and warm atmosphere to reenergize the community, while simultaneously highlighting the problem of pollution that is affecting tropical environments. By using discarded materials and surfaces, Nova Dream Space calls attention to wasteful packaging practices and overconsumption.

Visitors can view *Una llamada tropical* from February 7 to March 1, 2025, in the Stephenson House Gallery during the campus open hours. The Noblesville Creates campus is located at 107 S. 8th Street in Noblesville, and is open for exploration Wednesday through Friday, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You can meet the artists of Nova Dream Space,

Fernando and Sofia, at their free public reception on Saturday, February 8 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Noblesville Creates.

Exhibit Dates: Now through March 1

FOUR DAY RAY: Graphic & Illustration

Illustrations historically have been a visual method for humankind to expand on stories and history. Drawn and painted images can act as records, such as the cave paintings of Lascaux created around 15,000 BCE. In contemporary times, graphics and illustrations take the form of graphic novels, advertisements, and more.

Pieces from the exhibit, *Graphic & Illustration*, previously featured in the Judge Stone House on the Noblesville Creates on 8th campus, will be available to view at Four Day Ray in Fishers. These pieces feature work that is illustrative, artistically graphic, or a mix of both.

You can view the pieces from *Graphic & Illustration* through March 1, at Four Day Ray Brewing, located at 11671 Lantern Road in Fishers, Sunday and Monday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Friday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Exhibit Dates: Through March 1

MEYER NAJEM: Bobbi K. Samples

See the full exhibit, *Color in Silence*, from January 3 to March 28, 2025. This exhibit is viewable at the Meyer Najem 2nd floor gallery, located at 11787 Lantern Road in Fishers, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. You can meet Bobbi at her free public reception on Friday, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Meyer Najem.

Exhibit Dates: Now through March 28
Reception Date: Feb. 14 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Meyer Najem 2nd floor gallery)

NOBLESVILLE CITY HALL: HCAA

Enjoy the warmth of local fine art this February! The Hamilton County Artists' Association will be showcasing work from their juried members in the exhibit *Cabin Fever* at Noblesville City Hall through Feb. 27. Visitors can visit the gallery Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and meet the artists during the free open house reception Friday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Exhibit Dates: Through Feb. 27
Reception Date: Feb. 14 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. (at Noblesville City Hall)

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FOR THE RECORD

For The Record is a public service and regular feature in The Noblesville Times. It is designed to tell you what is scheduled to happen and what actually does happen in meetings paid for with your tax dollars. The Times encourages all citizens to take an active role in being involved in local government.

HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The February 10, 2025, Hamilton County Board of Commissioners meeting agenda may be accessed by clicking on this link: <https://secure2.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/agendas/>

HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

One Hamilton County Square, Suite 13
Noblesville, Indiana 46060

DATE: Wednesday, February 26, 2025

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Hamilton County Commissioners' Courtroom / County Council Chambers, First Floor, Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center, Noblesville, Indiana

Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Declaration of Quorum
3. Communication/Reports:
4. Approval of Minutes – January 22, 2025

5. Old Business:

6. New Business:

Docket No. BZA-RV-0002-02-2025

A variance concerning Article 05, C3, 4 of the Hamilton County Unified Development Ordinance in order to reduce side yard setback to 5 feet, whereas the minimum required side yard setback in the C-3 district is 50 feet.

Project Address: 12226 Greenfield Avenue, Noblesville, IN 46060

Parcel number(s): 12-11-15-00-00-006.000

Property is zoned: C-3

Size of property: 2.5 Acres

Owner: Mark and Judy Hanna

7. Director's Report:

8. Legal Counsel Report:

9. Next BZA Meeting - Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the Hamilton County Commissioners' Courtroom / County Council Chambers, First Floor, Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, Indiana

10. Adjournment

ADA Notice: Hamilton County will, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so that they can participate equally in Hamilton County's public meetings.

For special accommodations for a meeting contact Steven Rushforth - the ADA Facilities Coordinator / Safety & Risk Manager at (317-764-0417) or by email at steven.rushforth@hamiltoncounty.in.gov least two (2) business days prior to the scheduled meeting or event to request an accommodation

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY PUBLIC BUILDING CORPORATION

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Hamilton County Public Building Corporation (the "Corporation") will hold a special meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, Indiana 46060, to adopt Ordinance approving form and execution of Lease Agreement, approve the issuance of the bonds and transaction documents.

MEETING NOTICE

Carmel Home Place Advisory Board will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 11, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall, One Civic Square.

Noblesville Board of Public Works & Safety

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025 – 9:00 AM

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PETITIONS OR COMMENTS BY CITIZENS WHO ARE PRESENT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

BID OPENING: 2025 STREET REHABILITATION – CONTRACT I

CONSENT AGENDA

FOR APPROVAL

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 28, 2025
2. BOARD TO CONSIDER SECONDARY PLAT FOR TOWNHOMES AT STONY CREEK (JOYCEANN YELTON)

CONTRACTS/PURCHASES UNDER \$50,000 (APPROVED BY MAYOR OR DIRECTOR)

1. SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE BRAIN CENTER (CHIEF MATT MITCHELL)
2. SERVICE AGREEMENT RENEWAL WITH MICHAEL REUTER CONSULTING (JEFFREY SPALDING)
3. SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH STONE MUNICIPAL GROUP (JEFFREY SPALDING)
4. SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH KROHN & ASSOCIATES FOR FINANCIAL CONSULTING FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (AMY SMITH)
5. SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH PROS CONSULTING INC. FOR GOLF OPERATIONS ANALYSIS (SAVANNAH WINES)

NEW ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. BOARD TO CONSIDER SPECIAL PURCHASE OF STRETCHERS AND CARDIAC MONITORS (DIVISION CHIEF JAMES MACKY)
 2. BOARD TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION RB-13-25, A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATION TO NEGOTIATE WITH OFFEROR IN ACCORDANCE WITH IC-5-23 (NOBLESVILLE PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING PROJECT) (MATT LIGHT)
 3. BOARD TO CONSIDER POLICE STATION DESIGN CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH RQAW (MATT LIGHT)
 4. BOARD TO CONSIDER RENEWAL OF SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH NOBLESVILLE CREATES (AARON HEAD)
 5. BOARD TO CONSIDER FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT AT 984 LOGAN STREET (AARON HEAD)
 6. BOARD TO CONSIDER LEASE AGREEMENT WITH NOBLESVILLE MAIN STREET FOR 839 CONNER STREET (AARON HEAD)
 7. BOARD TO CONSIDER LEASE AGREEMENT FOR NOBLEMADE FOR SPACE AT 839 CONNER STREET (AARON HEAD)
 8. BOARD TO CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF A CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE (EVELYN LEES)
 9. BOARD TO CONSIDER MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH KEEP NOBLESVILLE BEAUTIFUL FOR 2025 PUBLIC PURPOSE GRANT (PATTY JOHNSON)
 10. BOARD TO CONSIDER AWARD OF QUOTE FOR PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FENCE (KRISTYN PARKER)
 11. BOARD TO CONSIDER PERMISSION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR LIFT STATION 2 INTERCEPTOR REPLACEMENT PROJECT (KRISTYN PARKER)
 12. BOARD TO CONSIDER SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HNTB CORPORATION FOR ENGINEERING AND INSPECTION SERVICES (KRISTYN PARKER)
 13. BOARD TO CONSIDER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH TRI STATE FORESTRY (DEON OCHOA)
 14. BOARD TO CONSIDER CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND PROJECT CLOSEOUT FOR 2024 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (MICHAEL POUCH)
- ADJOURNMENT

NOBLESVILLE COMMON COUNCIL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025 – 6:00 PM

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MEMORANDUM: JANUARY 28, 2025

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 28, 2025 JOINT MEETING WITH NOBLESVILLE SCHOOL BOARD

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JANUARY 28, 2025

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

PETITIONS OR COMMENTS BY CITIZENS WHO ARE PRESENT

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

MISCELLANEOUS

#1 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION RC-9-25, A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT (CHUCK HABERMAN)

#2 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION RC-10-25, A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT (CHUCK HABERMAN)

#3 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION RC-11-25, A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT (KAYLA ROBINSON)

#4 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION RC-12-25, A RESOLUTION APPROVING A REAL PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT (KAYLA ROBINSON)

PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED ORDINANCE

#02-01-25 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE #02-01-25, AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE PARK FUND TO SATISFY INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENT FOR THE 2025 CIVIL CITY ADOPTED BUDGET (TOM MACDONALD)

PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE #02-01-25

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PRESENTATION

#1 COUNCIL TO HEAR INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION FOR A PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR APPROXIMATELY 1,137 ACRES FOR A MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT THAT INCLUDES SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, TWO-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, TOWNHOMES, URBAN STYLE MIXED-USE, COMMERCIAL, AND OFFICE, TO BE KNOWN AS GATEWOOD LAKES PLANNED DEVELOPMENT, ADJACENT TO OLIO ROAD, 156TH STREET, CYNTHEANNE ROAD, AND 146TH STREET (ATTORNEY MATT PRICE)

NEW ORDINANCES FOR DISCUSSION

#03-02-25 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE #03-02-25, AN ORDINANCE TO RE-ESTABLISH THE FIRE CUMULATIVE CAPITAL FUND TAX RATE, AND

ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC HEARING (JEFFREY SPALDING)

#04-02-25 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE #04-02-25, AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING APPROXIMATELY 1,137 ACRES IN WAYNE TOWNSHIP;

RESOLUTION RC-7-25, ADOPTING A FISCAL PLAN FOR PROPERTY ADJACENT TO OLIO ROAD, 156TH STREET, CYNTHEANNE ROAD, AND 146TH STREET;

AND ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC HEARING (JOYCEANN YELTON)

MISCELLANEOUS, CONTINUED

#5 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION #RC-6-25, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CARRY-FORWARD OF ENCUMBRANCES FROM THE PRIOR

BUDGET YEAR (CAITLIN KESNER)

#6 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION RC-8-25, A RESOLUTION

APPROVING A TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY (JAYME THOMPSON)

COUNCIL COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT



**NOBLESVILLE
BABE RUTH
BASEBALL**

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

Looking for a part-time job that does not involve the words:

Would You Like Fries With That?

The Noblesville Times

is looking for clerical help. This could be the perfect job for part-time students all the way up to Baby Boomers looking for something to do.

Basic data entry skills are required. Experience with QuickBooks is a bonus.

E-mail jobs@thetimes24-7.com

Attorney General Office Issues Recall Warning

Attorney General Todd Rokita is alerting Hoosiers to important consumer protection concerns for products recalled in January. The office is encouraging consumers to take advantage of opportunities available to them to return, fix, dispose, or replace a purchased recalled item that could be harmful to their families.

“Hoosiers shouldn’t have to worry about faulty or dangerous items in their own homes,” Attorney General Rokita said. “Indiana residents deserve protection from products that, for whatever reason, are not reliable or may even cause injury. If you have one of the recalled products, stop using it and pursue resolution from the manufacturer.

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the following consumer products were recalled in January:

- Pearhead Recalls Infant Learning Toy Sets Due to Choking Hazard; Violation of Federal Regulations for Rattles
- AMX Global Recalls Portable Folding Stadium Seats Due to Fall and Injury Hazards
- Cozchique Tebbis, and Beeziac Girls Pajamas Recalled Due to Burn Hazard; Violation of Federal Flammability Regulations; Sold Exclusively on Amazon by Tupop
- AliExpress Recalls Multi Styler Hair Dryers Due to Electrocutation or Shock Hazards; Sold on AliExpress.com
- Greater Goods Recalls Digital Kitchen Scales Due to Ingestion Hazard; Violations of Reese’s Law Federal Safety Regulations for Consumer Products with Coin Batteries and Child Resistant Coin Battery Packaging
- Cabinet Health Recalls 4 oz. Refillable Medicine Bottles Due to Failure to Retain Child-Resistance; Risk of Child Poisoning
- Johnson Health Tech North America Recalls Matrix-Brand Training Cycles Due to Fall Hazard
- SHEIN Distribution Corporation Recalls Teckwe Hair Dryer Brushes Due to Electrocutation or Shock Hazard
- ChrisDowa Roller Window Shades Recalled Due to Strangulation and Entanglement Hazards; Violation of Federal Regulations for Window Coverings; Sold Exclusively on Amazon.com by Shaoxingkeqiao Nenghaozhenfang
- GiantMouse Recalls GM12 and GMP12 Folding Knives Due to Laceration Hazard
- Duluth Trading Company Recalls Children’s Holiday Pajama Sets Due to Burn Hazard; Violation of Federal Flammability Regulations for Children’s Sleepwear; Sold Exclusively by Duluth Trading Company
- NQDTPBOR Helmets Recalled Due to Risk of Head Injury; Violation of Federal Regulations for Bicycle Helmets; Sold Exclusively on Amazon.com by TPBOR
- Vornado Air Recalls VH2 Whole Room Heaters Due to Electric Shock and Fire Hazards; Sold Exclusively on Amazon.com
- Veyer Recalls WorkPro Office Chairs Due to Fall Hazard
- Ivy City Recalls Children’s Pajamas Due to Burn Hazard; Violation of Federal Flammability Regulations; Sold Exclusively by Ivy City
- Three61 Recalls Samurai Mini Smoke Alarms Due to Failure to Alert Consumers to a Fire; Sold Exclusively by HSN
- Polaris Industries Recalls Model Year 2024-2025 Ranger XD 1500 and Crew XD 1500 Recreational Off-Road Vehicles (ROVs) Due to Injury and Crash Hazards
- HallyBee Farmhouse Dressers Recalled Due Tip-Over and Entrapment Hazards; Violation of Federal Regulation for Clothing Storage Units; Sold Exclusively on Amazon.com by YKHallyBee

- Northern Tool + Equipment Recalls Adjustable Swivel Shop Stools with Backrests Due to Fall Hazard
- Lexmark International Recalls Specialty Printers Due to Fire Hazard
- Multi-Purpose Children’s Helmets Recalled Due to Risk of Head Injury; Violation of Federal Regulations for Bicycle Helmets; Sold Exclusively on Amazon.com; Imported by Wemfg
- SIG SAUER Recalls ROME05 Red Dot Firearm Sights Due to Ingestion Hazard; Violations of Reese’s Law Federal Safety Regulations for Consumer Products with Button Cell Batteries and Child Resistant Button Cell Battery Packaging
- Kawasaki Motors USA Recalls John Deere ZTrak Zero Turn Mowers with Kawasaki Engines Due to Fire and Burn Hazards
- Yaomiao Children’s Jewelry Sets Recalled Due to Risk of Lead and Cadmium Poisoning; Violations of the Federal Lead Content Ban and Federal Hazardous Substances Act; Sold Exclusively on Amazon by LordRoads
- Euqee Wintergreen Essential Oils Recalled Due to Risk of Poisoning; Violation of the Poison Prevention Packaging Act; Sold Exclusively on Amazon.com by DLWL-US

If you believe you recently purchased a recalled product, stop using it, and check its recall notice (linked above for all products). Then follow the notice’s instructions, including where to return the product, how to get the product fixed, how to dispose of the product, how to receive a refund for the product, or what steps must be taken to receive a replacement product.

To view recalls issued prior to January visit the Consumer Protection Safety Commission website.

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