

■ TODAY'S VERSE

Psalms 89:1 I will sing of the mercies of the LORD for ever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations.

■ HAMILTON HAPPENINGS

Times columnist and retired Senior Pastor Bonnie Zickgraf, will be the guest speaker at Emmanuel United Methodist Church on June 29 at 10 a.m. Pastor Zickgraf will speak on “Fruit of the Rebel.” Any and all are invited to come and hear God’s word. Emmanuel United Methodist is located at 16000 Cumberland Rd., Just off State Road 37 in Noblesville.



Infamous Hoosier John Dillinger was born on yesterday’s date in 1903. He’s buried in Indiana’s most famous cemetery, Crown Hill on 38th Street in Indianapolis.

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

“We cannot solve problems with the kind of thinking we employed when we came up with them.”
— *Albert Einstein*

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

What do you call a fish wearing a bowtie?
Sofishticated!

The TIMES



NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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BY THE NUMBERS

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!

It’s summer storm season and last week, we had another strong storm that barreled through the Hoosier state. Among others, Duke Power worked overtime. They shared a few of the details with us and we’re sharing with you.



The storm carved a wide path of destruction across Indiana, including right here at home. Photos courtesy of Duke Energy

70 Wind gusts reached as high as 70 mph in the storm. That was strong enough to take down some trees, power lines and poles.

500 Duke Energy brought in more than 500 additional crew members to supplement its statewide workforce and respond to the hardest hit areas. Outages were widespread across nearly all of the 28 districts the company serves in Indiana.



IMPORTANT SAFETY TIPS

Safety is the company’s first concern after every storm. Duke Energy offers these safety guidelines:

- Always avoid downed electric lines and assume they are energized. Remember also that electric current can pass easily through standing water.
- Don’t drive over – and don’t stand near – downed electrical lines.
- Never replace a fuse or touch a circuit breaker with wet hands, or while standing on a wet or damp surface.
- If your home or business is flooded, Duke Energy cannot reconnect power until the electrical system has been inspected by a licensed electrician. If there is damage, an electrician will need to make necessary repairs and obtain verification from your local building inspection authority before power can be restored.
- More tips on what to do before, during and after a storm can be found at duke-energy.com/safety-and-preparedness/storm-safety.

100,000

The number of power outages caused by the June 18 storm. Duke had all but 17,000 back up by mid-afternoon the next day.

HOW TO REPORT OUTAGES

Duke Energy customers who experience an outage during a storm can report it the following ways:

- Visit duke-energy.com on a desktop computer or mobile device.
- Use the Duke Energy mobile app (download the Duke Energy App on your smartphone via Apple Store or Google Play).
- Text OUT to 57801 (standard text and data charges may apply).
- Call Duke Energy’s automated outage reporting system at 1.800.343.3525.

28

Outages were widespread across nearly all of the 28 districts Duke Energy serves in Indiana.



■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1. The NFIB Small Business Optimism Index increased by three points in May to 98.8, slightly above the 51-year average of 98. Expected business conditions and sales expectations contributed the most to the rise in the index. The Uncertainty Index rose two points from April to 94. Eighteen percent of small business owners reported taxes as their single most important problem, up two points from April and ranking as the top problem. The last time taxes were ranked as the top single most important problem was in December 2020.

2. A new study has revealed the most influential women’s basketball coaches, with Indiana’s Stephanie White placing fourth. Women’s betting community, BettingLadies.com, analyzed the number of distinct webpage mentions for every current WNBA basketball coach to identify the most influential and talked about. White finished behind Becky Hammon, Cheryl Reeve and Sandy Brondello. Fans may recall that in 1995, White was honored as Indiana Miss Basketball and received national recognition as the Gatorade and USA Today National Player of the Year. She began her coaching career as an assistant at Ball State, Kansas State, and the University of Toledo. She served as an assistant coach for the Chicago Sky and the Indiana Fever and was promoted to head coach in 2015. Now, 10 years later, she’s back.

3. Not everyone is waiting until 65 to hit pause on work. A growing number of Americans are stepping off the career treadmill earlier, though not permanently. And our friends at CareerMinds, a global outplacement and career development firm, surveyed 3,007 workers to find out where they’d most like to spend their micro-retirement. Guess what? Two places in Indiana – Valparaiso and Connorsville – finished 124th and 144th nationally. Hilo and Kauai Hawaii finished one-two, with Delray Beach, Fla. third.

Noblesville Rotary Club BrewBQ Event Information

Saturday, Aug. 9 from 4-9 p.m. at Federal Hill Commons

We are still accepting Sponsors and all event information can be found at www.noblesvillerotaryclub.org/brewbq

Tickets: Advance tickets are available for \$65 each and designated driver tickets are available for \$50. Tickets will also be available for \$75 at the gate on the day of the event if not sold out. Tickets include unlimited BBQ, sides, beer, wine, and live music from 4PM-9PM. The designated driver ticket features water and soda instead of beer. Tickets can be purchased at <https://event.ontaptickets.com/events/noblesville-brewbq-2025>

BrewBQ Back For 9th Year In Nob City

“We’re excited to formally announce the 9th annual Noblesville BrewBQ to be held on Saturday, August 9th at Federal Hill Commons! This is a fun charitable event that allows the community to come together to support a great cause, while also sharing their love of BBQ, live music and beer,” said Jeff Chinn, President of the Noblesville Rotary Club.

This is not only a fun event for the community to enjoy BBQ, brews and music, but proceeds go to support local students who attend Ivy Tech Hamilton County Campus with scholarship funds. We are passionate about providing opportunities in these technical fields of study, especially with Noblesville’s focus on economic development.

“Ivy Tech Hamilton County cherishes our partnership with the Noblesville Rotary Club. The annual BrewBQ is a great event that brings the community together around great food and great times while also supporting Rotary’s efforts of providing scholarships to local students. We are thankful for this long-standing relationship with the Noblesville Rotary Club and look forward to many more years to come.” – Dr. Rachel Kartz, Chancellor at Ivy Tech Hamilton County

Details: The BrewBQ holds a BBQ tasting contest with an opportunity for attendees to taste some of the best BBQ around. The contest will feature an immense array of unique recipes, from BBQ’ers across Noblesville and Indiana alike. Live music throughout the evening will be played by local bands including Strawbury Jam and That’s What She Said. Beer will be on tap from several local vendors. The Bier Brewery will be back this year and has won multiple medals at prestigious brewing

See **BREWBQ Page 2**



54 N. 9th St. Noblesville IN 46060
Main: 317-773-9960
thetimes24-7.com

■ Adopt a Pet **BOOTS**

Boots is a hand-some, intelligent, kind-hearted cat. This 6-year-old male Domestic Shorthair has been available for adoption at the Humane Society for Hamilton County (HSHC) since 8/29/24. He might seem like a bit of a shy guy at first, but once he gets to know you, be prepared for endless days of gentle hugs and cuddles. To meet Boots, please schedule a meet and greet by filling out an adoption application at hamiltonhumane.com/adopt.



Party on the Patio Returns in Westfield

Party on the Patio, hosted by the Downtown Westfield Association (DWA), is BACK with double the entertainment and double the fun! Presented by RIVET Coffee Bar and Roastery & Jan’s Village Pizza, this exiting event will take place on Tuesday, July 29 at 337 Jersey Street from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.!



Party on the Patio returns this summer for the same beloved tradition with a twist! We’re thrilled to bring together two staples of our downtown community for a night of cocktails or mocktails, amazing food, and great company! As we go through this time of transition in Westfield, it’s our mission to show love and support for our downtown businesses. Proceeds during the 2025 Party on the Patio series will go towards initiatives uplifting the incredible business community of Downtown Westfield.

Put on your walking shoes, brush up on updated construction maps, and we’ll see you on July 29 for a Westfield double feature!

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SRO of the Year



Photos courtesy Noblesville Schools

Congratulations to our very own Noblesville Police Department Sergeant Jason Shonkwiler on being named School Resource Officer of the Year by the Indiana School Resource Officer Association!

A man devoid of original ideas



Dick Wolfsie
Columnist

For the past 25 years, my wife has been crucial to my success as a humorist. She’s complained about my napping, sense of direction, and messiness. She’s told me how scatterbrained I am. She has been the well I went to when I needed material for my weekly feature. I don’t know what I’d do without her.

Lately, however, I have started to lose a little confidence in her ability to irritate me. We may need to talk to somebody professionally. She’s not hitting the right buttons.

Last weekend, she was about to select a movie from Netflix that we could watch together, a Sunday night tradition. I knew this was potential grist for the humor mill. “She’s going to pick out a chick flick,” I thought. “What a great story that will make: a husband forced to watch an old movie that no self-respecting man could possibly enjoy.” The column was half-written in my head when she grabbed the TV remote.

“How about this one, Pulp Fiction. That sounds like a good one.”

“No, Mary Ellen, that’s a horrible selection! You hate violence. How about a movie that’s all character development, exquisite cinematography and no bad language. Something that will bore me to death.”

“No, let’s do Pulp Fiction. I want to make you happy.”

“No. I don’t want to be happy. I want you to make me miserable, force me to sit through something unbearable.”

The next night, things got worse. We decided to grab a bite to eat. My wife always wants to go to some place a little bit fancy. I always make a case for fast food. Then Mary Ellen calls me cheap, a skinflint. Great humorous essays are made from this common marital conflict. It’s foolproof.

back inside. You’ve been gone only ten minutes.”

“I saw exactly what I wanted as soon as I walked into the store.”

“No, no! You have to try on dozens of shoes. And not be happy with any of them. Then you’ll come out to the car an hour later and say we must return tomorrow night.”

“You know, Dick. I’m on to you. You want me to behave in a certain way so you’ll have a topic for a column about our marriage. Without me, you’re an empty shell, a man devoid of original ideas, a writer without a muse.”

“Oh, thank you, thank you. I was afraid I was never going to make that deadline.”

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

“Okay, Dick. How about Steak ‘n Shake? I’m really in the mood for a greasy burger.”

“No, you’re not in the mood for a burger. You’re just dying for grilled salmon or scallops, like at a fancy seafood place. Come on! Work with me! Call me a tightwad. I can’t get a column out of you eating a hamburger.

“Nah, a burger sounds good. But first, I need to stop by Designer Shoe Warehouse and look for a new pair of sandals for the summer.”

Saved! This would take her at least two hours. I would wait in the car where I could fill out my entire 2024 tax extension, and I could get a good start on War and Peace. But ten minutes later...

“Hi, Dick, I’m back. Do you like these shoes?”

“No, I hate them. Go

BREWBOQ
Continued from Page 1

competitions, including The Indiana Brewers’ Cup, the Great American Beer Festival, and the World Beer Cup.

We are excited to announce that Primeval Brewing in Noblesville is also returning! “We love being part of the community and are super excited to be able to serve beer this year at the Rotary Clubs’s BrewBQ!” said Primeval Owner Tim Palmer. Northbrook Brewing is also returning for a second year! For those who enjoy wine, Spencer Farms Winery will be returning this year as a local favorite alternative to beer. Non-alcoholic beverages will also be on hand.

Sponsorships: Gold Sponsors include Noblesville ACE Hardware, Meyer-Najem Construction, Community First Bank of Indiana, Thieneman Construction, Bell Techlogix, Noblesville Boom and

many more. “Community First Bank is proud to sponsor the Noblesville BrewBQ and support Rotary’s scholarships for local students. We value giving back and our volunteers love connecting with the community at this event”, said Allison Hopkins, AVP PR and Communications Officer for Community First Bank of Indiana.



An exciting new feature this year includes a multitude of door prizes provided by several local vendors. Donated items are featured from Clutch and Kindle, Smith Jewelers, Car Wash King, Debbie’s Daughters, Indiana Peony Festival, Rivet Coffee, Providence Home and Garden and more!

FAQs

Are there ID or minimum age requirements to enter the event?
Must be 21 with valid ID to attend. (Guests under 21 will not be permitted inside the gate)

How can I contact the organizer with any questions?
Email Carrie Dixon:
carrie@cdi-cares.com

What’s the refund policy?
Since this is a fundraising event to benefit Ivy Tech Hamilton County Campus in Noblesville, tickets are non-refundable. Rain or shine. Any and all donations to the cause are much appreciated. Noblesville Rotary Charitable Fund is a 501(c)3.

What should I bring to the event?
Bring a valid photo ID and your ticket if purchased in advance. You may also bring lawn chairs to the event.

What can’t I bring to the event?
Coolers, pets, outside food or beverages.

What kind of beer will be served at the event?
Beer will be provided by The Bier Brewery, Primeval Brewing, Northbrook Brewing and Upland Brewery. Wine will be provided by Spencer Farms Winery.

How will the BBQ contestants be judged?
Judging will be by a panel utilizing a blind judging method with a winner for ribs and a winner for chicken. There will also be an overall People’s Choice winner utilizing a Grill Team Passport card for every attendee.

Looking at an empty space



Carrie Classon
The Postscript

This week was spent with the familiar sensation that I have no idea what I am doing.

I just started rehearsals for a show about my column and the origin story for my first novel, **Loon Point**, that comes out next February. There is a lot of work to do before the show will be performed anywhere, but this week we took the first step.

My director, Cheryl, and I are meeting in an old church that has been converted into a community center. The room we are in doubles as a dining hall for funerals and a kitchen for the food shelf. The floors are linoleum tile, and there is the familiar smell of cooking.

We started, as all plays start, by looking at an empty space and imagining how to fill it.

“I don’t think we need a chair,” Cheryl said.

We had talked about having a chair, and now we had a folding chair sitting in the middle of the stage. The chair looked as if it was about to do something very important and, since I wrote the script, I knew that it was not.

“I say we get rid of the chair,” Cheryl said, with more conviction.

I folded up the chair and hustled it offstage. The chair, formerly the star of the show, had been officially fired.

But Cheryl liked the hat stands I had brought and agreed we needed two of them. She liked the stool, and we added a small table—except we didn’t have a small table. So we used the same old folding chair, now conscripted into playing the role of a table. (Don’t worry if you are confused. I’m sure the chair was, too.)

Then we silently looked at what had suddenly turned from a dining hall into a stage. “I’d like you to read the script and move around,” Cheryl told me.

This is the part I hate.

I have no natural instincts when it comes to movement. I have vivid recollections of every dance class I took as a young person. I was flexible, and classes always began with floor exercises. I would see the face of the dance teacher light up as they assumed I was a dancer, and I would dread what was coming. I would stand up and start to move, and the teacher would immediately realize they had made a mistake—I was absolute-

ly not a dancer. In fact, I had enormous difficulty following the simplest instructions. The notion of “body memory” was alien to me. I had a bad case of body amnesia.

But I did as Cheryl asked. I read the script aloud, and I moved when I felt I should move. Cheryl took notes with a very serious look on her face (even during the parts that I hoped were funny), and when I finished, I knew a show had started.

I came home surprisingly tired. “How did it go?” my husband, Peter, asked.

I wanted to say that I felt as if the linoleum floor of the old dining hall had ceased to exist, and we’d entered a new world—yet I had returned to my old home. I felt as if I was doing the thing that was always hardest for me, a thing that could never be done perfectly, and—when it was done best—only lasted for a moment. I wanted to say I felt as if I’d taken part in a small miracle. And I had no idea what I was doing.

“It went well,” I told him. Because it had.

Till next time, Carrie

Sen. Walker Shares Update



Sen. Walker
Guest Columnist

Summer is almost officially here, and there’s so much happening across District 31! In this update, you’ll find news on Fishers’ latest national recognition, can’t-miss summer concerts (including some free shows), details on the upcoming Spark!Fishers celebration and the impressive achievements of local students at the state level.

We’re looking for volunteers to walk with us in the Spark!Fishers parade at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 28. It’s a fun way to show support for Team Walker and be a part of one of the best independence day celebrations in the state! You can click here to get in touch with us and let us know if you’re available.

I hope you and your family have a wonderful start to the summer!

FISHERS NAMED One of the Best Places to Live in the Country

The city of Fishers has earned another accolade! U.S. News & World Report recently ranked Fishers as the fourth best place to live in the coun-

try — a recognition of the city’s vibrant economy, strong schools and outstanding quality of life.

Congratulations to Mayor Scott Fadness and everyone who has helped make the city such a great place to live!

CELEBRATE Independence Day in Fishers

One of the best Independence Day celebrations is just around the corner!

Spark!Fishers returns June 24-28 with a full week of fun leading up to Independence Day. The celebration features a street fair, live music a 5K run/walk, a patriotic parade and one of the best fireworks shows in the area. There’s something for everyone—including great food, vendors and activities for all ages.

Team Walker is looking for volunteers to walk with us in the parade at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 28. We’ll meet up at 5:15 p.m. If you’re interested, click here to get in touch with us, and we’ll follow up with location information. We’d love to have you join us!

DISTRICT 31 Students Shine at State Athletic Events

Congratulations to the athletes from Hamilton Southeastern High School and Lawrence North High School on incredible finishes at recent state-level events. The Hamilton Southeastern boys lacrosse team captured back-to-back state championships, the Lawrence North boys track and field team claimed their fifth state title — and first since 2003 — and the Hamilton Southeastern girls track and field team had an impressive state runner-up finish. I’m so proud of these athletes for their hard work and dedication!

SUMMER Sounds Across District 31

Summertime means concerts, and there are plenty in and around District 31 for you and the family to check out! You can catch bands at the Nickel Plate District Amphitheater, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and tribute acts at Conner Prairie and bands at nearby Holliday Park at the Rock the Ruins series.

Don’t miss the sounds of summer near you!

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



2025 Range Rover Sport PHEV Wafts To Grandma’s And Back On A Cushion Of Electric Lush With Space For Ham And Sides Of Wealth



Casey Williams
Columnist

My 93-year-old grandmother lives on the near side of Illinois and doesn’t get out much, so my family decides to spend Easter with her. I slave over a hot laptop to conjure up a Honey Baked Ham and fixin’s. All we need is our version of Uber Eats. Range Rover provides that in the 2025 Sport Autobiography...plug-in hybrid. It’s bougie, but it delivers.

Sport or not, it looks immense feasting on its power plug in my driveway. While buffed and sleek with a floating black roof and retractable door handles, it keeps iconic Range Rover style epitomized by a flat hood, thick slanted rear pillars and gently sloping roof. Our Autobiography edition looks especially naughty painted Carpathian Gray with black and bronze accents – all over 23” dark wheels with carbon inserts.

My grandma’s neighbors will think some Hollywood potentate arrived – nothing subtle here.

But royalty would ride proud behind screens for instruments and infotainment hung like art pieces on the precisely stitched dash. I’d prefer knobs for volume and tuning, but haptic feedback and vastly simplified menus are improvements. They work with the wide head-up display and plethora of crash avoidance systems. This princely chariot has off-road cruise control, but no hands-off system. Sacrifices.

Long hours swipe by riding atop soft leather thrones with heat, ventilation, and massagers up front; heat and ventilation behind; and while gripping a beautifully stitched heated steering wheel. A sueded headliner, panoramic glass roof, and saturating Meridian audio system add pleasures – as do four-zone automatic climate con-



trol and noise cancelling headrests. A refrigerated console compartment keeps my sodas cold.

Clicking heels onto the Interstate, it’s clear this will be more like traveling by private jet than primitive Jeep. There is a Sport mode that tightens the adaptive air suspension, steering, and throttle for those who want to throw the Range Rover’s 5,000 lbs. around, but I thought Comfort mode would be more sensible as it wafts like a Bentley. The Terrain Response System configures its powertrain for varying conditions like mud and snow.

I’ll save you all of the analogies to power, smoothness, and silence, but it’s all evident. The gas portion is a 3.0-liter inline six-cylinder engine connected to an eight-speed automatic transmission and torque-vectoring all-wheel-drive. Add the hybrid system and I giggle rapaciously as the big truck leaps up the on-ramp with 542 horsepower and 590 lb.-ft. of torque. 0-60 mph comes and goes in 5.3 seconds. Good riddance, peasants!

We’re clearing cornfields at a dizzying pace, but this Range Rover

is also happy as a city dweller. Coming off the plug, it travels up to 53 miles before the engine fires up. A replenish via DC fast charger takes an hour (or about 6 hours by 240v charger). Expect a frugal 53-MPGe. That, and you get a HEMI’s worth of power and torque. Rear steering allows it to maneuver in and out of tight garages like a truck half its size.

My grandmother has about 15 acres of fields and trails on the Vermillion River, and I’m tempted to try getting it stuck, but instead stick to being sensible. She enjoys her fast feast...and so do we.

Range Rover Sports weren’t always as suitable for visiting Grandma as tackling trails, but this one revels in doing both. It’s pricey, though. Base Range Rover Sports start at a cheeky \$83,700, but our Autobiography plug-in reaches \$128,865. If this isn’t your cup of Earl Grey, consider the Mercedes-Benz GLE 450e, BMW X5 xDrive50e, and Audi Q5 plug-in hybrid.

Storm Forward!

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

LIKES	DISLIKES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Lush interior■ Iconic design■ Wafty performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Touchscreen utility■ Princely price■ Flashy presence
<p>2025 Range Rover Sport PHEV Five-passenger, AWD Crossover Powertrain: 3.0-liter I6, Hybrid Output: 542hp/590 lb.-ft. Suspension f/r: Elect Ind/Ind Wheels f/r: 23"/23" alloy Brakes f/r: disc/disc 0-60 mph: 5.3s EV range: 53 miles Fuel economy: 53-MPGe Assembly: Solihull, UK Base/as-tested price: \$83,700/\$128,865</p>	



Thank you for reading The Times!

Stepping up Our Game



Mark Hall
Guest
Columnist

Every month, hundreds of people shop from Feeding Team pantries around Hamilton County and Central Indiana. Non-perishable meals will always be our primary mission. When we began this ministry in 2019, we never imagined what it would become. Now as we begin a new chapter that we never thought possible, we are humbled to bring new ways to address neighbors' food insecurity here in our special part of Indiana.

We are excited to share some Feeding Team updates as we step up our game in response to wildly increased demand at the pantries. By the time you read this month's column, the 78th pantry will be in service. The intensity of pantry use continues to amaze us with neighbors shopping from pantries at all hours of the day and night. Dozens of families every week shop from and donate to the pantries. The hard realization we've come to over the past six years is that we can't solve our neighbors' hunger challenges, rather, we can make a dent in remedying the problem.

As a new program, The Feeding Team now offers open pantry pick-up including perishable food on the first and third Thursdays of the month at our offices at 485 Sheridan Road in Noblesville from 10-12. This allows families to pick up normal stock that is in pantries plus veggies and perishables when available. On the first day, six families stopped by the office for the new pick-up service.

As our second new program, last Saturday in partnership with Gleaners Food Bank, The Feeding Team launched the return of the drive-through food pickup in Northern Hamilton County for our area neighbors. This food distribution is planned to continue, weather permitting, every 2nd Saturday morning of each month from 10-12 at Hamilton Heights High School 25802 IN State Road 19, Arcadia, IN 46030, and every 4th Tuesday afternoon of

the month from 4-6 PM beginning July 22nd, at Harbour Shores Church, 8011 E. 216th Street in Cicero. This is a big step for us and is one of our attempts to address a tremendous need.

With these new food distribution channels, we hope that this will also adjust the level of food maintained in pantries leaving more for other hungry neighbors who can't take advantage of these new options.

Our plan is simple. Provide as many meals as we can, for people in need, and recruit enough volunteers to make that possible. Yes, we need your help. We've made volunteering easy and with so many opportunities it's simple to plug into serving local neighbors. Saturday the combined group of volunteers from The Feeding Team, the Noblesville Lions and the Westfield Lions provided meals to almost 200 families as they drove through the food pick-up line.

One of the leading indicators for Feeding Team pantry locations is proximity to families living in areas with larger use of free or reduced meals in schools. Gap families, those that have enough to get by, unless and until something unexpectedly happens, may or may not be receiving meal assistance for their children at school. Knowing this data, we respond with programming to fill this new hunger gap in our communities.

If you want to help, please send an email to lisa@feedingteam.org, call our office, or message us on Facebook to get details and sign up. We share our experiences to share moments of helping with you, our supporters. Without you, this doesn't happen.

Imagine the moment for a second, the joy of helping a neighbor who can't make ends meet. Many of us have been there. Many are still there. Many will be there in the future. That is why we exist. It's not often that we have encounters like this one. It happens more than you'd think, more than we'd like, and while we know that hunger and poverty will never go away, we can make a dent in it. Together we can help feed hungry

neighbors here in our communities.

With over 44,000 food challenged neighbors in Hamilton County, www.Feedingteam.org is a registered 501C3 not for profit organization that provides outdoor 24x7x365 no questions asked free food pantries throughout the county. The pantries exist, to meet the food insecurity needs of GAP families, neighbors that may not qualify for public assistance and could use a few meals before payday. The pantries serve as many food-challenged neighbors as possible, and our hearts are with those that, like my family, could not always make ends meet.

Thank you for supporting the pantries. We love serving with so many neighbors across Hamilton County. In future columns we will share more stories about how your generosity served neighbors in times of need. The face of hunger in Hamilton County is not what you may think.

In practical terms this straightforward way to help neighbors is having a real impact on lives, families, and our communities. Thank you. A few meals can change the course of a person's life. A can of green beans means so much more when you have nothing to feed your kids. Would you like to get involved? Volunteer opportunities are available. We are evaluating new pantry locations. If you think you have a potential area location, please contact us.

www.feedingteam.org facts – 78 pantries, 14,000 meals a month are provided, over thirty volunteer families. Mark & Lisa Hall are the Founders of The Feeding Team. They may be reached at lisa@feedingteam.org or 317-832-1123.

Mark Hall is a Hamilton County Councilman and the Founder and CEO of TLX, Talent Logistix. Feeding Families outdoor Free Food pantries is the corporate charity of his company. Mark and his wife Lisa founded the food charity program the team after living with food insecurity as a young married couple with kids.

WYAP Tutor Applications Open for 2025-26 School Year



The Westfield Youth Assistance Program is seeking K-6 licensed educators (or IAs who are currently in a WWS Elementary School or at WIS) to provide one on one tutoring sessions for students who need additional support with Math & Literacy!

They are also accepting retired educators, admin, or recently out of the classroom educators...as long as you have or have had a license!

Things to Know:

Applications must be completed in their entirety before mid-August. Sessions begin the week of Labor Day. There will be a total of 27 one-hour sessions over the course of the school year. 14 in semester one and 13 in semester two. Sessions conclude the last week of March. Sessions must only take place at the Westfield Washington Library. No exceptions. We are ONLY in need of tutors who can transport their youth to and from their home for the session. For this, we will require a copy of your



driver's license and auto insurance. This will also require an extended background check (at no cost to applicant). For gas compensation, we will provide a \$100 gift card. Your one-hour sessions will be on either Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, as early as 3:30 p.m. for elementary youth and 4:30 p.m. for WIS youth for pickup from home. The last possible session block is 6:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m., as the library closes at 8 p.m. (Very few youth have availability Thursday from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.—this is only possible for elementary

youth because the library closes at 5 p.m.). The day/time of the session will be consistent for all 27 sessions. We will match you with a youth who shares your availability. If your schedule permits, you may work with more than one youth. Both paid and volunteer positions are available. Compensation is \$50/session and checks are mailed at the conclusion of each semester. If you have any additional questions, please contact Megan Contreras at megan.contreras@hamiltoncounty.in.gov.

Heights Superintendent Shares Year-End Message



Dr. Derek Arrowood
Guest
Columnist

As another school year comes to a close, I want to express my deepest gratitude for your unwavering support of Hamilton Heights School Corporation. Our success is rooted in the strength of our families and community, and we simply couldn't do what we do without your involvement. Whether you're volunteering, staying engaged in your child's learning, attending events, or reaching out with questions and insights—you play a vital role in shaping the overall educational experience for our students. Your care, commitment, and connection with our schools make a meaningful difference and is truly appreciated.

I am pleased to share that Connor James, CTE Business and Preparing for College and Careers Teacher, and Reaching New Heights Contact at HHMS, has been selected as our Teacher of the Year. Connor, Erin Spaulding (HHES, Kindergarten Teacher) and Landi Lockwood (HHHS, Science Teacher), were this year's building level nominees. Honorees for the Building Level Support Staff of the Year were Natalie Watson Barnett (HHES, Instructional Assistant), Joelle Bolen (HHMS, Instructional Assistant), and Lori Rickey (HHHS, Instructional Assistant). Tyler Stewart, (HHSC Facilities Manager) was recognized as the first

District Level Support Staff Member of the Year. Connor will represent Hamilton Heights at the Indiana Teacher of the Year competition in Indianapolis in the fall. Congratulations!

Speaking of congratulations, Hamilton Heights High School Athletics Department has been honored with the 2024-25 Hospitality Award by the Fall Creek Officials Association! This prestigious recognition highlights the welcoming and positive experiences IH-SAA officials have while officiating at Hamilton Heights. Kudos to Athletic Director Kurt Ogden and Athletic Department Administrative Assistant Leigh Ann Moffatt whose dedication and hard work continue to set the bar in sportsmanship and hospitality.

When it comes to setting the bar in leadership and excellence in education, Dr. Bret Bailey, Principal of Hamilton Heights Middle School and Vice President of the Indiana Association of Assistant Principals (IASP), continues to do just that. Recently, Bret was featured on the IASP BEST of Series podcast with Dr. Tiffany Barrett, where he shared powerful reflections on the past year. As an exceptional educator and administrator, he exemplifies the very best in public education, inspiring those around him with his dedication and vision. Listen to his insightful conversation here.

Mother Nature may have delayed the event by a week, but nothing could dampen the enthu-

siasm and support for the Hamilton Heights Educational Foundation's 36th Annual Golf Scramble! A huge thank you to HHEF Board President Melissa Martin, the HHEF Board, our generous sponsors, dedicated volunteers, and enthusiastic players who came together for a fantastic day on the green—combining fun with a meaningful purpose. We are truly grateful for the work of the Foundation and the lasting impact it has on students' lives.

As we transition into summer, I encourage you to find ways to help your child maintain both their academic skills and the valuable relationships they've built with peers. Whether it's a trip to the library, meeting up with friends at the pool or lake, or diving into a family learning project, these activities keep minds engaged and friendships strong. #WeAreHuskies

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

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