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HOSTED BY DICK WOLFSIE | FEBRUARY 6 - 14, 2026



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■ TODAY'S VERSE

Psalms 88:2 Let my prayer come before thee: incline thine ear unto my cry.

■ HAMILTON HAPPENINGS

A new ministry, Widows of Hope, has begun at Emmanuel United Methodist Church. Pastor Bonnie Zickgraf is the ministry facilitator and a peer widow. The Rev. Jesse Mullins is the lead pastor. The group will meet on Fridays from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Come in Door No. 5 and go to the first main hallway on the left to the Community Room. Emmanuel is located at 16000 Cumberland Rd. in Noblesville. For urgent questions, contact the church or text at (863) 258-8079.



Happy 74th Birthday Eve to Hoosier rocker John Mellen-camp!

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I'll bet living in a nudist colony takes all the fun out of Halloween."
- Unknown

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

What did one Irish ghost say to the other Irish ghost?

Top o' the moaning to ya!

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!

The Indiana Fever concluded their season a few days ago when they fell in the deciding game five of the WNBA semifinals . . . in overtime . . . without their star player Caitlin Clark . . . and to a team that has won two of the last three WNBA championships.

4 Despite all the odds against them, the Indiana Fever became one of only four teams left standing in the WNBA – and came within inches of being in the final two.



24 The number of games the Fever won in the regular seasons this year. That was in a 44-game schedule, so the final record was 24-20. And they did that despite their best player and leading scorer Caitlin Clark being injured most of the season.



Caitlin Clark

3rd Where the Fever finished in the Eastern Conference of the WNBA.

22 As most sports fans know, that's the number worn by Caitlin Clark. Coincidentally, Fever Coach Stephanie White also wore No. 22 at tiny Seeger High School. Well, that's before she wore the No. 1 jersey as Miss Basketball in Indiana. White, 48 years old, looks like she could still get out on the court and play.



Stephanie White

1 That's the number of WNBA titles the Fever have won, that coming in 2012. The Fever reached a second finals in 2015 – but fell in five games. Tamkia Catchings, one of the greatest WNBA players of all time led the team to their lone title. Tamika was No. 24 on the court, and No. 1 in a lot of Indiana fans' hearts.



Tamika Catchings

14 out of 25

Yes, it may be hard to believe, but the Indiana Fever have been around for 25 seasons. And in that quarter century, they have won one WNBA title (2012) and reached a second finals in 2015. Actually, they have made the playoffs 14 times in those 25 seasons!



■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1. Attorney General Todd Rokita and Indiana Department of Environmental Management Commissioner Clint Woods are championing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's plan to repeal what they term burdensome and ineffective climate regulations for cars and trucks that hurt Hoosiers and the economy. Rokita said these regulations restrict Hoosiers' ability to access affordable, reliable vehicles and hurt Indiana's small businesses in the manufacturing and industrial industries. As Indiana's lead environmental regulator, Commissioner Woods emphasized IDEM's success in balancing air quality gains with economic growth.

2. Fall drives aren't just about the scenery - they're about the season itself, the one where "cuffing season" takes hold and couples start seeking cozy, cinematic escapes. There is a crispness in the air that encourages blankets, warm drinks, and lingering conversations with the windows cracked open. Gunther Volkswagen carried out a survey of 3,005 couples to gauge their opinions, based on past experiences, of the most romantic fall drives in Indiana. All the top 3 turned out to be in southern Indiana – Brown County State Park, the Ohio River Scenic Byway and Indiana's Historic Pathways.

3. Fall also means football and our friends at the social casino website McLuck has identified the best-rated stadiums in the U.S., with Clemson Memorial Stadium in South Carolina taking the top spot. However, one stadium in Indiana ranked in the top 10 nationally – and no IU fans, Despite Coach Curt Cignetti's amazing success, it wasn't Memorial Stadium. It's the house that Rockne built up in South Bend. Notre Dame Stadium puts Indiana in top 10 nationally, following Clemson, Kyle Field in College Station, Texas and legendary Lambeau Field in Green Bay.

Pleasant Street Project Getting Better Every Day

SR 32 and Hague Road are open to traffic as construction continues for the Reimagine Pleasant Street project in Noblesville. The entire intersection is anticipated to open to traffic in October 2025, weather permitting.

The intersection of SR 32 and Hague Road has been reconstructed to a multi-lane roundabout. Construction continues on Pleasant Street from River Road to the new roundabout.

"Opening State Road 32 and Hague Road is an important milestone for the Reimagine Pleasant Street project," said Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen. "We look forward to fully opening Pleasant Street to traffic later this year and celebrating the lasting impact it will have on our community."

As part of the construction, new pedestrian tunnels were installed under SR 32 and under Pleasant Street to provide safe crossings for the Midland Trace Trail and Hague Road Trail. Since this is an active construction site, trail users are advised that the pedestrian tunnels are closed until later this year.

Pleasant Street recently opened between 11th and 13th streets as part of the Phase 2 construction. Pleasant Street traffic from 16th Street to 19th Street is being maintained on the newly constructed eastbound lanes, while the contractor works to construct the new westbound lanes.

Pleasant Street remains closed from 13th Street to 16th Street for ground improvement work and construction of a new bridge over Wilson Drain. 19th street is closed for construction of the roundabout, and is anticipated to re-open to traffic mid-October.

When it opens to traffic this fall, Pleasant Street will provide a critical east-west connection from SR 32 to SR 37 for Noblesville.

For more information about the project, please visit www.reimaginepleasantst.com or follow the project on Facebook and X.

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ADOPT A PET REMI



Remi is one of the gentlest dogs we've met. This 5-year-old female Pit Bull Terrier has been available for adoption at the Humane Society for Hamilton County (HSHC) since 8/19/15. She'll thrive as the only pet, surrounded by the love and care of her very own family. Remi adores her people and shows it with snuggles, silly play sessions, and a loyalty that makes you feel like the most important person in the world. During the month of October, Remi's adoption fee is waived as part of HSHC's Wizard of Paws adoption event. Learn more at <https://www.hamiltonhumane.com/the-wizard-of-paws>, and visit Remi at the shelter anytime 12-5 pm daily (closed Wednesdays).

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Beckwith, OCRA Announce 5 Communities to Get Funding

The Office of Lt. Governor Micah Beckwith and the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs recently announced five Indiana communities will receive \$1,310,000 in Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Grants and Planning Grants through the Community Development Block Grant program.

Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation grants are used to empower communities to directly fund homeowners of low-to-moderate income to make needed repairs on their homes. While communities awarded Planning Grants will use the funding to develop plans for long-term planning efforts.

"These grants are more than just dollars - they build hope for future growth and prosperity," Lieutenant Governor Beckwith said. "By helping Hoosiers make essential repairs to their homes, we are strengthening communities and ensuring families can build better lives right where they are."

Communities awarded an Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Grant will establish a program to help fund low- and moderate-income homeowners make repairs on their homes. Eligible repairs include roof repair or replacement, ADA accessibility, heating and cooling replacement, lighting and electrical upgrades, and water heater replacement.

Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Grants are awarded to the following communities:

- The Town of Brookville is awarded \$350,000
- The Town of French Lick is awarded \$350,000
- Fayette County is awarded \$500,000

"The Owner Occupied

Rehabilitation program gives communities a boost in supporting vulnerable homeowners with necessary quality-of-life improvements. In addition, the Comprehensive Planning grant gives communities an opportunity to analyze their needs and identify next steps," OCRA Executive Director Fred Glynn said. "Congratulations to each of the five communities awarded for their hard work to earn this funding and improve the quality of life for their residents."

The Planning Grant program encourages communities to plan for sustainable community development with the aid of subject matter experts and community input. The applications being funded this quarter address comprehensive planning efforts.

Comprehensive Planning Grants are designed to aid communities in evaluating assets and identifying opportunities to address current needs in the following areas: land use, government capacity, public services, placemaking, economic development, housing, transportation, agriculture, natural resources and historic resources.

Comprehensive Planning Grants are awarded to two communities:

- The Town of Remington is awarded \$50,000
- The Decatur County is awarded \$60,000

Funding for OCRA's CDBG programs originates from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant program and is administered for the State of Indiana by OCRA.

For more information, visit in.gov/ocra/cdbg/.



INDOT Level Up 31 Project Begins

The City of Carmel encourages all residents and commuters to review the latest news release issued by the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) regarding the Level Up 31 project.

This is a multi-year, state-led project by INDOT to enhance the I-465/U.S. 31 interchange. Although not a City of Carmel initiative, it will significantly impact local traffic flow, particularly near the 106th Street and U.S. 31 corridor.

Phase 1 construction is scheduled to begin on or after Monday, Oct. 6 and includes key closures such as the southbound U.S. 31

ramp to 106th Street and the closure of eastbound 106th Street under U.S. 31. For detailed detour maps, project timelines and the full scope of work, please refer to INDOT's official news release: INDOT Level Up 31 Project Update.

All detour routes are posted on INDOT's LevelUp31.com website.

Sign up for Level Up 31 project alerts via email or text message at alerts.indot.in.gov.

Motorists are encouraged to visit INDOT.TrafficWise at 511in.org to monitor conditions.

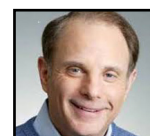
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Funny Business!



Dick Wolfsie
Columnist

There's a great deal of pressure on me to be funny. I feel it at church, at pickleball, and when

I run into people at the supermarket. This is what happens when you write a humor column for 25 years. At our book club, when I say something like, "I think the book has a good plot, but the main character's motives were not clearly drawn," Kim will look at me and say, "Dick, that wasn't amusing." And Kay will say, "I don't get it." Of course, sometimes I try to make a whimsical remark, and my wife will give me the evil eye and say, "NOT funny, Dick." I can't win.

Because people know that I am always looking for a topic for my next column, I'm afraid they won't take me seriously if I were to have a true emergency. Let's say I saw Mary Ellen get in my neighbor's car one morning, and she didn't return for two days, I'd call the police department, of course.

"Hello, Missing Persons Unit."

"Hi. This is Dick Wolfsie. I saw my wife jumping in my neighbor's car, and I haven't seen her in two days."

"Yes, Mr. Wolfsie, we all read your column. That's a very amusing premise. We here at Missing Persons are aware of the use of hyperbole to create a humorous and whimsical effect. By the way, we suggest three days. Those of us who have an ear for comedy know that a wife missing for two days just isn't catchy enough. You need the number three. Three is a funny number."

"I'm not trying to be funny, officer. I'm not writing a column. I believe my friend Alan may have run away with my wife."

"I think we know where you're going with this, Dick. Now you are going to say, 'And I really miss him.' Sorry, but that's an old joke and very predictable. However, humor does require a twist or surprise. So, the comic reversal here has potential. It just needs a little tweaking. You're on the right track. By the way, we are not the Missing Humor Bureau, but we are happy to help."

"Look, I am not writing a humor column. My wife has vanished. When she left the house two days ago, I saw her getting in Alan's Honda."

"What a waste of potential amusement, Dick. Try saying 'Buick' or 'Pontiac.' Good use of the K sound is what you're after here. Kangaroo is a funnier word than rabbit. Any first-rate humorist knows this. By the way, scrap the name Alan. No one can form a clear mental picture of what someone named Alan would look like. You need a Bubba or a Reginald. Think visually, for heaven's sake."

"Look, for the absolute last time, officer, I am not writing a story; I am not trying to be amusing. I'm fairly certain my wife has run off with my best friend. His name is Alan, not Bubba and not Reginald. I do not miss him. I miss her. I saw them leave together in a Honda. She's been gone a day. Now, doesn't that all seem a bit funny to you?"

"No, Dick, not the way you tell it."

Dick Wolfsie is a retired TV personality, author, speaker, teacher and all-around good guy. His award-winning column appears here weekly. If you'd like to learn more about joining Dick on an upcoming trip to Costa Rica, go to this paper's website and click on the Collette Travel ads.



Photo courtesy City of Carmel

The department got a \$400,000 grant, which will be boosted with a 10% match from CFD.

CFD Gets Grant

The Carmel Fire Department has been awarded federal funds to equip all fire stations with devices that enhance public health and safety for both firefighters and the public.

The \$400,000 grant, which will be boosted with a 10% match from CFD, was awarded through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to purchase and install Source Capture Exhaust Systems (SCES) for all emergency response vehicles.

The grant addresses a critical need identified during an internal risk and needs assessment by CFD which highlighted the absence of SCES as a threat to the health and safety of firefighters. Prior systems used

by CFD to reduce harmful particles became outdated due to technological changes in fire trucks and other vehicles. And, while the department additionally implemented other proactive measures in the interest of safety, the SCES fully reduces the risks associated with exhaust exposure.

"We have maintained a strong commitment to the wellbeing of our firefighters," Chief Joel Thacker said. "The grant funding is essential to further supporting the health and safety of our firefighters."

Installation of the SCES units is expected to be complete by March 2026 with personnel trained on the proper usage of the new systems.



2025 Nissan Z is the Alternative for Corvette Fans Who No Longer See One as an Attainable Aspiration

A base price of \$42,970 delivers a daily enjoyable sports car with epic performance



Casey Williams
Columnist

My best friend and I are both Corvette fans. He owned a 1976 “C3” for a few years and I currently own a 1989 “C4” that’s been in my garage for a quarter-century. For the past decade, he’s driven a Camaro with sights set on a new Vette. He called the other night complaining about how expensive Corvettes have become and he really didn’t want to spend that much. I suggested he look at the 2025 Nissan Z.

Corvette enthusiasts have to adjust their lens, but they’ll find a car exquisitely styled with classic cues taken from the original 1970 240Z. Starting at the front, ovoid headlamps recall round lamps set into the original’s fenders. The square lower grille and raised hood shape look familiar too. In side view, the long hood and sweeping roofline are classic, but modernized with 19-inch dark Rays wheels, angry sill extensions, and satin silver window trim. Wide taillamps recall earlier Zs. Classic logos add nostalgia. It’s especially fetching in Bayside Blue.

I love our car’s bright blue interior with sueded doors and seats. Aluminum pedals add a glint of sport while flatscreen gauges and 9-inch touchscreen with volume and tuning knobs keep it simple. Connect devices through wireless Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, or USBs below. An 8-speaker Bose audio system and heated seats amp the luxury while adaptive cruise, automatic emergency braking, blind spot warning, and rear cross path detection fortify safety. Gauges are clear, but I’d also prefer a head-up display.

I just wish it had a removable targa top to let in

some sunshine.

If I peeled away the body, you’d find basic architecture that dates back twenty years. You’d never know that by looking at the car...nor by driving it. The body structure is stiff, suspension motions firm, and steering quick. I’ve read complaints saying the suspension is a little soft. Maybe a little, but there’s the Z NISMO if you want to attack tracks. This one is more livable on long drives and is beyond the capability of most drivers anyway. To balance handling, the engine is shoved far back in the chassis.

There’s no V8, but few will complain about the 400 horsepower 3.0-liter twin-turbo V6, connected to our six-speed manual or optional automatic transmission. Shifts are precise and mechanical with a heavy clutch. I drove home from the airport in evening traffic, so it’s not a replacement for leg day, but some may tire on longer slogs. Fuel economy is rated 18/24-MPG city/highway, but I saw closer to 27-MPG during Interstate runs.

With my friend’s harping in mind, I whipped out the old inflation calcu-

lator. His 1976 Corvette had a base price of \$7,604 or \$43,171 inflation-adjusted. I knew prices rose quickly in the early ‘80s, so I also pegged a 1982 Corvette with an \$18,290 base price...or \$61,228 adjusted. My personal 1989 Vette retailed for about \$32,000 - \$83,367 today. A base 2025 mid-engine Corvette costs \$68,300. It’s expensive, but let’s keep perspective.

My buddy ended up buying a Ford Mustang with EcoBoost engine – a fine car with excellent handling and a plethora of technology. Good for him, but I’m thinking differently. If the Corvette ceased to be an attainable aspiration of the middle class, and I might argue it never really was affordable, then the Nissan Z is a killer bargain. It sports a base price of \$42,970, less than my buddy’s ‘76, and even at an as-tested \$55,985, is still a fraction of the “\$144,233” price of the ‘90s Corvette ZR1 it matches.

Storm Forward!

Send comments to Casey at AutoCasey@aol.com; follow him on YouTube @ [AutoCasey](#).

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0-60 mph: 4.5s
Fuel economy city/hwy: 18/24-MPG
Assembly: Tochigi, Japan
Base/as-tested price: \$42,920/\$55,985

When I’m Just a Little Anxious



Carrie Classon
The Postscript

I’ve been trying to meditate a bit more.

I am a little anxious, and meditation calms me.

It helps me not to fly off in six directions at once. “What have you forgotten to do?!” anxiety is always screaming at me, and since I’ve obviously forgotten it, I never have a good answer. Except meditation. Meditation is a good answer.

Meditation says, “Oh! Look at that. It’s an anxious thought.” Anxiety does not appreciate this, being relegated to a mere emotion, transitory and (let’s face it) not terribly important. It can’t really work itself into a full-blown panic with that kind of attitude.

So anxiety sulks off and—more often than not—joy takes root in its place.

That is the short answer as to why I’ve been marching off every week to the Episcopal church to sit in their chapel for an hour, looking at candles and stained-glass windows and the inside of my brain.

I tried another meditation group that meets on another night. This one involved some chanting

of religious text and a bit of meditation and then something that I’m sure has another name but I call “very slow walking.”

I honestly cannot think of anything less relaxing than walking much, much too slowly in a circle with other people who are also walking much too slowly, trying not to step on the heels of the person in front of me. It’s kind of tortuous.

These folks were all good at it, however, except for one older man, who apparently thought we were moving too slowly even for very slow walking, and passed each of us (on the right) as we went around the circle. Having this human equivalent of a red convertible screaming up behind me, passing and then zooming on to pass the next person was even more nerve-wracking than just slow walking. I was waiting for a collision to occur at the next turn.

Afterward, we all chatted about what was on our minds, and I discovered these people were all very kind and terribly serious. I don’t think I’ve ever been so serious in all my life. I felt rather shallow. They asked what was on my mind, and all I could think to say was that the room we were meeting in looked like a speakeasy, and they

all laughed, and I realized that was the first time anyone had laughed in an hour and a half—which is a very long time to go without a laugh for me.

So I probably do not belong in the slow-walking group, as nice as they are. But I will keep going to the silent meditation. The door to the sanctuary is left open a little, and I love the cool air wafting into the chapel. It smells like every old church I’ve ever been in, and I could not possibly tell you what that smell is—but it is calming.

I know that I could do this in my own home, and I am determined to try. At home, I listen to guided meditations, but after a while, those start to make me anxious as well. I start to wonder who the person who made the recording was, and who they had in mind when they made it. I worry, because it sounds as if they think whoever is listening really does not have their act together. I feel the need to reassure them. I want to say, “Hey! I’m not doing that badly!”

Because I’m not, most of the time. I’m just a little anxious.

Till next time,

Carrie

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Rokita leads 23-State Fight on Sex-Specific Bathrooms, Locker Rooms

Attorney General Todd Rokita is leading a 23-state coalition in filing an amicus brief with the U.S. Supreme Court, calling on the Court to stay a Fourth Circuit injunction blocking a South Carolina school's policy to maintain sex-specific bathrooms and locker rooms.

In the brief Rokita argues that policies requiring students to use facilities aligned with their biological sex are constitutional, reasonable, and essential for safeguarding student privacy and safety. The coalition challenges the Fourth Circuit's reliance on *Grimm v. Gloucester County School Board*, which wrongly mandated schools to allow bathroom access based on gender identity rather than sex.

"No child should fear for their safety or privacy when using a bathroom, changing in the lock-

er room, or showering after sports," said Rokita. "Forcing schools to mix boys and girls in these types of spaces shouldn't be allowed or tolerated, and we're going to continue fighting to stop it."

The Fourth Circuit's injunction stems from a challenge to South Carolina's law requiring sex-specific restrooms and locker rooms, claiming it violates the rights of a transgender student. The coalition's brief, citing the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *United States v. Skrmetti*, asserts that policies applied equally to all students regardless of sex comply with federal law and do not discriminate.

This effort builds on Indiana's leadership in a 25-state brief filed recently, supporting the Metropolitan School District of Martinsville in a similar Seventh Circuit case, rein-

forcing the right of schools nationwide to maintain sex-specific facilities.

The brief warns that the injunction endangers students by undermining privacy and exposes schools to liability for failing to maintain safe, sex-separated facilities. This case has far-reaching implications for schools nationwide, as similar policies face legal challenges in multiple states.

"Title IX and the Constitution empower schools to prioritize student safety and local control, not to force policies that disregard biological reality," Rokita added. "We won't surrender even a single inch on this issue because enabling this madness is destructive. We need to protect kids and ensure schools can make commonsense decisions without judicial overreach."

State Leads U.S. in Halting Bad Business Practices

At the end of August, Indiana became the first state to request a waiver from federal requirements to implement race and gender conscious components of the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program, as outlined in 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 26. If granted, the waiver requested by the Indiana Department of Transportation, would eliminate contract-specific DBE goals based on race, ethnicity or gender on federally assisted highway construction contracts.

The waiver request is prompted by a U.S. District Court preliminary injunction in the Mid-America Milling Company, LLC (MAMCO) v. U.S. Department of Transportation lawsuit. In the case, Indiana subcontractor Mid-America Milling Company, LLC, alleges the federal DBE program's statutes and regulations unlawfully discriminate.

"I am a firm believer in offering equal opportunity for all to compete and succeed. If granted, this waiver will further position Indiana as a state one would want to do busi-

ness with and as a place to grow your business," said Gov. Mike Braun.

Under the proposed waiver, INDOT would transition to a race- and gender-neutral implementation strategy. The new methodology for setting goals and certifying businesses would focus exclusively on the availability of economically disadvantaged small businesses within specific geographic and industry markets. Attorney General Todd Rokita is leading a 17-state effort in support of the request for a waiver from the discriminatory and unlawful race and gender-conscious requirements of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program.

"Forcing INDOT to prioritize contractors based on race or gender is unconstitutional and undermines fair competition," said Attorney General Todd Rokita. "Granting the waiver INDOT is requesting is well within the Department of Transportation's authority and would be a critical step toward ensuring that Indiana's transportation

projects are awarded based on merit, not arbitrary classifications, and aligns with our constitutional duty to uphold equal protection under the law."

To support small businesses during this transition, INDOT will continue to offer a variety of supportive services to DBEs across Indiana. These services include business development programming, virtual learning opportunities, and DBE forums and networking events.

The proposed waiver is requested for a three-year period, which aligns with the timing of INDOT's next Disparity Study, expected to be completed in 2028. The results of that study will be used to determine a new DBE goal based solely on economic criteria. During the initial waiver period, INDOT will collect and analyze participation data, continue to submit annual reports to the Federal Highway Association, conduct its full Disparity Study, and follow all federal rules and regulations implemented with respect to DBEs.

Celebrating Diwali 2025? Careful With Fireworks

As the holiday of Diwali approaches, the City of Carmel and Carmel Fire Department (CFD) remind all residents of the safe and legal use of fireworks within City limits. This year's official main day of Diwali is Monday, Oct. 20 with the City's event taking place on Saturday, Oct. 18.

To ensure a safe and enjoyable celebration for everyone, the Carmel City Code permits the use of consumer fireworks only during specific hours on designated days. A recent ordinance amendment, sponsored by Carmel City Councilor Dr. Anita Joshi, states that:

- Consumer fireworks may be discharged between 5 and 11 p.m. the day before and the day of the official Diwali holiday—Oct. 19 and 20.
- That means that firework use is not permitted on Saturday, Oct. 18, the day of the City's Diwali event.

the day of Diwali, aligns the celebration with other holidays and offers families more flexibility to safely enjoy their festivities," said Joshi.

"We understand that Diwali is a time of joy and celebration, and fireworks are a significant part of many traditions," said Fire Chief Joel Thacker. "Our goal is to help everyone celebrate safely and in accordance with City ordinances. It's important for residents to remember that the designated fireworks hours apply specifically to the official day before and day of Diwali."

CFD kindly reminds those who may choose to celebrate Diwali on a day other than Oct. 20, that the use of consumer fireworks is not permitted outside of the specified dates and times outlined in the Carmel City Code. Using fireworks on unauthorized days or times can result in fines.

Key reminders for Diwali fireworks use:

Dates: Sunday, Oct. 19 and Monday, Oct. 20, 2025

Time: 5 - 11 p.m. ONLY

(Use of fireworks prohibited on Saturday, Oct. 18)

- Fireworks are only permitted on your property or the property of someone who has approved your use of fireworks.
- An adult (18 years or older) must be present for anyone under the age of 18 to possess or use fireworks.
- Always have a water source (e.g., a bucket of water or hose) readily available.
- Never light fireworks in your hand.
- Be considerate of neighbors, especially those with pets or individuals who may be sensitive to loud noises.
- Report illegal fireworks use to the Carmel Police Department's non-emergency number (317) 773-1282.

The City of Carmel and Carmel Fire Department wishes all residents a safe and happy Diwali.



The Wizard of Paws! All Yellow Brick Roads Lead to the Humane Society

The Hamilton County Humane Society has a deal for the month of October that no Good (or Wicked) Witch could pass up. During this month, adoption fees are just \$31!

Lions, and tigers, and bears, oh wait!

It's just the pets at HSHC here to let you know **there's no place like home**. The cats and dogs at the shelter are following the yellow brick road in hopes that the Wizard of Paws will grant them a second chance at life outside the shelter.

Everyone at the shelter is hoping the low fees will

help them grant their pets' greatest wishes.

What's Included In Your Adoption?

- Spay/neuter and microchip
- One round of age-appropriate vaccinations/deworming
- A wellness exam at a participating veterinarian
- A starter bag of food

Things to Remember:

- All members of the household, canine and human, are required to meet potential dogs - bring everyone.

- Those interested in adopting a cat or dog are encouraged to complete an application in advance at hshcadoptions.com.
- Only human family members are required to meet potential cats.
- All adopters are required to present a government-issued ID.
- If you rent your home/apartment, please bring your pet policy with you. Reaching landlords can be difficult on weekends.

*Some exclusions may apply.

KENNY THOMPSON



With decades of experience as an award-winning sports writer and sports editor – most of it covering Purdue athletics – Kenny Thompson has a perspective and inside knowledge that few others have. Whether it's putting what's going on in the Big Ten in historical perspective or shooting straight from the hip on what's happening today, no one has a better take on Purdue and sports than Kenny!

Catch Kenny every Friday in The Times!

Lions, Lions, Everywhere!

Photo courtesy Noblesville Lions



Noblesville and Westfield Lions distributed food for Gleaner's on Tuesday, Sept. 23 to 170 families. From left: Tiny Eich, Rollin Cutter; Second row from left: Bob Ginder, Joe Connerly, Bruce Moss, Jerry Baker, Cheryl Helton, Jeanne Auffrey, Bill Nesbitt, Linda Williamson, Ron Williamson; Third row from left: Scott Willis, Ron Eich, Ron Sinicki, Jeff Kozicki, Andy Luckey, Linda Hallett, MarkHallett, Steve Shaw.



The Noblesville Lions welcomed Anna Welchel from the Indiana State Fairgrounds at the Sept. 24 meeting. Anna gave an engaging presentation about the Indiana State Fairgrounds, its history and the many events held throughout the year. The first Indiana State Fair was held in 1852, but it didn't have a permanent home in Indianapolis until the current fairgrounds were purchased in 1891. The fairgrounds include over 1.2 million square feet of event space on a 250 acre property. Over 400 events and 2 million visitors are hosted annually. Anna shared that the number one reason to attend the state fair is the food--both eating it and learning about it. She was recognized by Noblesville Lions President Walt Scheid for her presentation.



The Noblesville Lions served up lunch for guests of the Prevail, Inc. Autumn Fest on Saturday, Sept. 27. Stephen Craig as Stanley Lion gave a wave to everyone there.



From left: Steve Shaw, Bruce Moss, Gene Beck, Christy Oakes, Walt Scheid, Julia Kozicki, Lisa Rohe, Jen Carr, Tim Baker, Scott Willis, Jeff Dick.



Lion Christy Oaks danced with Pacers mascot Boomer while Lions Gene Beck, Mark Bachar, and Julia Kozicki looked on.

