

■ **TODAY'S VERSE**

Ecclesiastes 3:14 I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it.

■ **HAMILTON HAPPENINGS**

The Noblesville High School Hire a Miller Career Fair is slated for Tuesday, March 24 at NHS. This may be especially attractive for employers who have job opportunities that may be filled by current or graduating NHS students. However, registration is required. The high school is partnering with Junior Achievement and the Noblesville Education Foundation to offer this employment fair. Additional details will be made available as the event nears. In the meantime, find out more information by contacting Josh Back with Junior Achievement (josh.back@jaindy.org) or hireamiller@nobl.k12.in.us.

The TIMES



NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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Valentine's Day 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!

Valentine's Day is Saturday – and while everyone is planning the perfect date night, evening out, special meal, heartfelt present or whatever . . . we here at your favorite online edition thought we'd sic our pack of intrepid reporters (OK, maybe that's just one lonely guy in front of a computer screen) on diving into all this romance and Cupid business and finding out what Valentine's Day really is all about . . . by the numbers!

\$29,100,000,000

Yes, you counted those zeros correctly – that's \$29.1 billion (with a big, ol' capital B) dollars that's projected to be spent this year on Valentine's stuff.

\$200

For those keeping score at home, that \$29 billion breaks down to just about \$200 per person, well, \$199.78.



\$13,300,000,000

And for those REALLY keeping score at home, about \$7 billion is being spent on jewelry and a little less than that on a special evening out. That leaves almost \$16 billion left. We're not sure we want to know what that's being spent on.

60 percent

How many marriages today that began online.

0 percent

How many marriages from those born before 1960 that began online . . . OK, OK, we know that's not true. It just seems that way.

33 percent

How much online dating activity goes up during the two week period leading up to Valentine's Day.

41 percent

About 4 in 10 people opt to buy flowers for Valentine's Day (we prefer red roses, by the way).

30 percent

According to our friends at WalletHub, about 30 percent of annual flower sales happen now.



13 and 11

The percentages, respectively, of men and women who would like to get chocolates for Valentine's Day.

2

And lastly, Cupid carries two kinds of arrows. One has a golden point, the other lead. If you get hit with the golden one, you are full of desire. Lead? Not so much.



225 The year St. Valentine was born in Terni, Italy. There were relics of him in the catacombs of a church in Rome. His skull has flowers around it and is displayed in the Basilica of Santa Maria in Cosmedin in Rome.



Don't forget Valentine's Day is this weekend. If you have a sweetie, do something nice. If you don't, do something nice anyway. The world needs more nice right now.

■ **QUOTE OF THE DAY**

"Love is that condition in which the happiness of another person is essential to your own."

Robert A. Heinlein

■ **JOKE OF THE DAY**

Did you hear about the boy and girl who met and fell for each other at the aquarium?

It was Guppy love!

■ **THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW**

1. The Just In Time Purdue Career Fair will be held Wednesday, April 15th, 2025 on Purdue University's campus. This career fair is open to all employers from all industries to recruit students from all of Purdue's college / majors. Last year alone, nearly 700 students from all majors attended this event! If you are looking to hire students for those 'just in time' internship/full-time summer opportunities, the Just In Time Career Fair registration is open and there is space for you. Register today!

- **Date:** Wednesday, April 15
- **Time:** 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; set-up time beginning at 8:30 a.m.
- **Location:** Purdue Memorial Union Ballrooms
- **Cost for Registration:** \$850
- **Registration:** <https://purdue-csm.symplicity.com/events/2026JIT>

2. Indiana just keeps growing. Global Polymers, a Kentucky-based small business and provider of recycled plastic products, plans to expand its operations in Charlestown, creating up to 30 new jobs by the end of 2030. The company will relocate its headquarters and operations to Indiana to position the businesses for growth. Global Polymers specializes in formulating and manufacturing recycled plastics and resins, leveraging innovative solutions to reuse and up-cycle perceived waste. The company will invest more than \$8.5 million to establish operations at 100 Quality Court, renovating and equipping a nearly 165,000-square-foot space to suit its needs and enable growth of its recycling and production capabilities. The company plans to move into its new Indiana facility and begin hiring yet this month. New positions are expected to offer average wages 125 percent higher than the Clark County average.

3. Indiana educators can now apply for the 2026 Natural Resources Teacher Institute, which will be June 15-19 at the Forestry Training Center at Morgan-Monroe State Forest. Hosted by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Purdue University Forestry and Natural Resources Extension, this week-long immersive professional development program will provide up to 18 educators with the knowledge, skills, and tools to effectively teach their students about forest ecology, research, and management in Indiana at no cost to them. Educational materials, meals, and housing are provided. Participants must attend all days of the program and fully participate in all activities, which include exploring public and private forest sites, touring forest industry facilities, and engaging in hands-on educational activities that they can adapt for their classrooms. All educators who attend will earn 30+ Professional Growth Points, as well as receive Project Learning Tree curriculum materials, a forestry tool kit, Indiana-specific field guides, and a stipend for developing and implementing a lesson plan. Learn more at dnr.IN.gov/forestry/programs/education/nrti. To request an application, contact Lexi Eiler, forestry education specialist, at leiler@dnr.IN.gov or (463) 253-8835.

Embrace Downtown Officially Kicks Off in Noblesville

Noblesville officials and community stakeholders recently broke ground ceremoniously on the Embrace Downtown project, which will improve infrastructure, enhance pedestrian safety, and introduce beautification upgrades throughout downtown Noblesville.

The multi-phase initiative is a long-term investment designed to create a more welcoming, accessible, and vibrant downtown for residents, visitors and local businesses.

"This groundbreaking ceremony marked the first step in preserving downtown Noblesville and making critical infrastructure upgrades to create a safe, accessible area for people to shop, dine, and visit," Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen said. "Embrace Downtown will further support Noblesville's growth by promoting a vibrant and healthy downtown economy."

During the first phase of the project (Phase 1A), construction will focus on underground infrastructure and streetscape improvements along Logan Street between Eighth Street and Ninth Street.

Noblesville leaders will also begin initiatives to support the business community throughout construction. Access to businesses will remain throughout the construction, and detours for vehicles and pedestrians will be clearly identified.

"We look forward to the lasting impact Embrace Downtown will have on our historic downtown square," Noblesville Main Street Executive Director Joshua Mason said. "We will continue to work with the project team to support our downtown business community and encourage visitors and residents to continue to shop, dine, and spend time in downtown Noblesville."

Phase 1A construction will begin at the intersection of Eighth Street and Logan Street. This closure is anticipated to last 45 days, weather permitting. Phase 1A construction includes new stormwater infrastructure, pavement, and a new sidewalk connecting Logan Street to Clinton Street.

Phase 1B construction will take place on Logan Street from Eighth Street to Ninth Street. This work will begin after Phase 1A is complete. Phase 1C construction includes sidewalk reconstruction along Logan Street. In addition to widening sidewalks, crews will be removing curbs, installing landscaping buffers, and other elements to cultivate a traffic-calmed environment to promote pedestrian safety and accessibility.

Overall construction is anticipated to be complete in November 2026.

Visit www.EmbraceDowntown-Noblesville.com to learn more about the project or follow the project on X and Facebook.

The TIMES

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 Main: 317-773-9960
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ADOPT A PET PENNY



Penny is a playful pup looking for her perfect match. This 3-year-old female Terrier Mix has been available for adoption at the Humane Society for Hamilton County (HSHC) since 11/9/25. Penny is a loyal companion with lots of energy to burn and a spirit that is always looking for a new adventure. If you're looking for a playful pup to spend your days with, Penny could be your girl. If you would like to meet her, please fill out an adoption application at hamiltonhumane.com/adopt, then stop by HSHC anytime 12-5 PM daily (closed Wednesday).

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Vol. 122 | Issue 15

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USPS Publication Number: 391140
Annual Print Subscription: \$89
Annual Online Subscription: \$42
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Brig Gen. Roger Deon, Commander of Army Reserve Aviation Command and Elizabeth Rosenacker, President of the Harrison-Symmes Memorial Foundation at the ceremonial wreath laying on Feb. 7, 2025.



Photos courtesy Andy Chandler

Since 1967, on the birthday of a U.S. President, a wreath is laid at the gravesite of that president by a high ranking military officer.

Great (John) Scott – The Harrison Horror Show



ANDY CHANDLER
 Columnist

To donate one's body to science is something we take for granted in the realm of end-of-life decisions. However, lost in today's world is a term seldom remembered: Resurrectionists. Today, we'd call them body snatchers. In the 1800s they were a business, and it was one incident involving them, and a future Hoosier President that would change this.

John Scott Harrison has the honor of being the only man who's the son of a U.S. President as well as the father to another. Both have Hoosier roots: our ninth president William Henry Harrison was Governor General of the Indiana Territory. Benjamin Harrison was our 23rd president.

Travel to North Bend, Ohio on the border with Indiana, and right up the hill from William Henry Harrison's Tomb is Congress Green Cemetery, a final resting place for many of the Harrisons. Curiously, what isn't there is John Scott Harrison's grave next to his wife Elizabeth. He's buried in William Henry Harrison's Tomb next to his mother, Anna. The reason is one of the stranger stories in American history.

When John died in May of 1878, the practice of exhuming bodies and sending them to medical schools for dissection was in full swing. During John's funeral it was observed that the body of recently deceased Augustus Devin, a family friend, had been resurrected. So the Harrisons supervised John's burial.

According to the President of the Harrison Symmes Memorial Foundation, Elizabeth Rosenacker: "Harrison's casket was

metal and lowered into a brick vault with thick walls and a stone bottom. Three flat stones, eight or more inches thick, were to cover the casket, the largest at the head and two smaller at the foot end. All three were cemented together. For several hours the grave was left open so the cement would dry. Finally, they covered the grave with dirt."

John Scott Harrison's sons, including future president Benjamin Harrison, set out to find the body of their friend, Mr. Devin. Their search brought them to The Ohio Medical College in Cincinnati. Armed with search warrants and accompanied by the constable, their investigation led them to a curious chute in the building. To their horror, it wasn't their friend Mr. Devin, whose body was hanging by a rope in that chute; it was the recently deceased John Scott Harrison.

We don't truly know the sons' initial reaction and due to a courthouse fire, we don't know the outcome of the civil suit the Harrisons filed against the College. However, future president Benjamin Harrison was a well connected lawyer, a Civil War General and also served as a Federal Solicitor. John Scott's grandfather, Benjamin the 5th, signed The Declaration of Independence. With those credentials and last name, justice was swift. To quote Ms. Rosenacker: "The real social impact from this grave robbing still affects us today. Less than two years after this happened to the Harrison family, the Ohio Legislature passed a statute which stopped the practice of the Resurrectionists. This statute had a penalty for body snatching which then led to a law for



Author inside the William Henry Harrison Tomb in North Bend, Ohio.



Congress Green Cemetery

people to give their bodies to science. Secondly . . . burial vaults were invented and used to prevent grave robbing."

Recently, Ohio History Connection wanted to verify the exact location of John Scott's remains. After removing a brick and drilling a hole for a fiber optic camera into the vault next to Anna, they found the metal casket with his name

plate. They placed a larger marker over the front.

He's still there.

Andy Chandler is a presidential historian and a museum archivist at Candles Holocaust Museum in Terre Haute and the Ernie Pyle WW II Museum in Dana Ind.



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2026 NISSAN LEAF TRADES UGLY DUCKLING STYLE FOR SUAVE CROSSOVER ELEGANCE – ALL WHILE INCREASING RANGE AND LUXURY
That, and it starts below \$30,000 with features that would astonish its ancestors



CASEY WILLIAMS
Columnist

It's Nashville, 2010, and I'm driving the first-generation Nissan Leaf at the press preview. It's smooth and quiet if a little wobbly under its ugly duckling styling, and impressive with a five-passenger cabin, hatchback cargo area and...100 miles range. Unfortunately, if I could predict the future, the similar-sized Chevy Bolt will soon go 250 miles. What's a Tesla?

Good memories, but it's been challenging times for the Leaf. Thankfully, an all-new model for 2026 vastly improves its cachet.

The old homely hatch transforms into a future-tech swan with compact crossover style channeling Nissan's larger Ariya EV. It's beautiful from its curved flush face through contrasting color roof and smoked taillamps. Squinty headlamps are browed by Ziggy driving lamps up front while muscular fenders cradle dark 19" wheels. Lots of black sculpted plastic disguises the Leaf's pudgy proportions. Check integrated roof rails and illuminated front badge.

Look close at the front fenders and you'll notice a door on each side. I knew the Leaf had a Tesla-style NACS plug, but when I opened the driver side door to recharge at home, it was the old style. "Like, what", I thought. Then, I realized the second door revealed a NACS plug. No adapters. No drama. Nice.

That's just plugging in. After, our Platinum+ edition claims 259 miles range, but other Leafs achieve 300 miles. Expect to recharge to 80% in about 35 minutes on a fast charger or completely on a 240v home charger in 6.5 hours. Using the back-up household charger will take all day, so don't.

Whether running to the office for a couple of

meetings, dropping my minion off at school, or picking up friends at the airport, the Leaf was a happy companion. Nissan rates output at 214 horsepower and 261 lb.-ft. of torque, which even with front-drive only, zipped the Leaf up to speed. It's not Tesla fast, but that's not really the point. The stiff body structure eked not a squeak, creak, nor rattle no matter the rough pavement. The drive mode selector changes sensitivity of the accelerator, but conjures no more power.

Ariya vibes continue inside with twin 14.3-inch screens, layers of rich materials, plush seats and climate controls flush-touched to the dash. It's all very artful, but also luxurious with Bose headrest speakers, hands-free liftgate, two rows of heated seats and a heated steering wheel too. Connecting phones is easy with wireless CarPlay, Auto and a clever wireless charging slot armrest extension. I marveled at the glass roof that turns from clear to opaque in theater that mimics a physical cover retracting or deploying. Cool.

Safety was not overlooked as our Leaf came with automatic emergency braking, lane departure

warning, rear auto brake and blind spot warning. I especially appreciated the head-up display and rain-sensing wipers. The swipescreen is easy enough to use, but I'd appreciate a proper tuning knob to keep eyes on the road.

The distance traveled by the Leaf over fifteen years and three generations is best measured by increased range, exquisite styling and everyday usability. It can also be measured in dollars.

That original Leaf wore a \$32,780 sticker before incentives. Inflation-adjusted, that's over \$48,000! For a car that went 100 miles on a good day and took forever to charge. By comparison, the 2026 Leaf starts at just \$29,990, rising to \$41,930 for our very well-equipped Platinum+. It's a pretty swell deal, but tough competitors include the Hyundai Kona Electric, Kia Niro EV, Subaru Uncharted, Toyota C-HR and reintroduced Chevy Bolt.

Storm Forward!

Send comments to Casey at AutoCasey@aol.com; follow him on YouTube @ [AutoCasey](https://www.youtube.com/AutoCasey).

LIKES	DISLIKES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BEAUTIFUL DESIGN LUXURY FITTINGS DUAL PORTS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RADIO TUNING NO AWD TOUGH COMPETITION

2026 Nissan Leaf Platinum+
Five-passenger, FWD Crossover
Powertrain: 2.0-liter T4, 8-spd
Output: 214hp/261 lb.-ft. torque
Suspension f/r: Ind/Ind
Wheels f/r: 19"/19" alloy
Brakes f/r: Regen disc/disc
Range: 259 miles
Recharge: 35 min to 80%
Fuel economy: 110/96 mpg-e city/hwy
Assembly: Sunderland, UK
Base/As-tested price: \$29,990/41,930

I Deserve to be a Gecko



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

I hate getting sick.

Maybe being in Mexico while I'm sick is marginally better than being sick back at home in the U.S. because it is warm here and I can sit out in the sunshine like a big, grumpy gecko and soak up the sun. I can put on my dark gecko sunglasses and take my scaly old self onto the roof where there are chairs that overlook the city. I can drink fresh-squeezed orange juice and, when I finish it, some kind person will ask me if I want another one.

"Yes! I want another one!" I want to say. "I want as many of these as it takes until I don't feel like a gecko anymore!"

I don't say that. I usually stop at one orange juice because that's the equivalent of about four oranges, which ought to be enough to frighten off any virus. Although with me they seem especially stubborn. And I know why.

My colds are stubborn because I get them through stubbornness.

I almost always get sick after I'm pushing, pushing, pushing myself to finish something and, as soon as it appears I have made it,

my body says, "OK! I did that for you. Now it's my turn!" And I am laid low.

I have done this all my adult life. Every major project, every sustained effort, whether it was finals in school or a season of theater or a particularly demanding presentation or, in this case, getting the first draft of a book shipped to my agent (thank you very much, body!), leads me to spend a few days afterward coughing and blowing my nose with a sore throat and a geckolike attitude.

(I'm not even sure why I'm picking on geckos. For all I know, they are cheerful creatures. But they look irritated and unattractive, which is how I feel, so I'm sticking with it.)

I have never solved this conundrum. I am honestly unaware that I am pushing myself past my limits. I monitor how much sleep I get, I exercise moderately, I eat healthy things. I do nothing that should cause alarms to go off and warn me I am transforming into a gecko in mere days.

After the project is completed, I feel a rush of euphoria, and I have at least six brilliant ideas I think I should start immediately.

I have this feeling, "Well, if I can do that, I can do ANYTHING!"

Cue the sore throat.

Usually within hours, my glands will swell, and I'll have trouble swallowing. By the next day, I have to breathe through my mouth, and I'm going through boxes of tissues. You know the drill. There is nothing unique or interesting about my transformation into a gecko.

I never become severely ill. I never get anything requiring medical assistance. I just get the most boring variety of knock-me-on-my-butt illness known, and I have to deal with it for a few days—days that last exactly as long as they are going to, no matter how much fresh-squeezed orange juice I drink.

And I don't have a solution. I wish I could end by saying, "Then one day, I discovered what my problem was! All I needed to do was..."

Because if I figured that out, I would share it with everyone.

Instead, my best advice to gecko self is: Find a warm spot. Sleep as much as possible. Be extra nice to people. And remember there is nothing so special about me that I don't deserve to be a gecko from time to time.

Till next time,

Carrie



NOBLESVILLE BABE RUTH BASEBALL

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

The 2026 Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball Season begins **April 13, 2026** and ends on **June 17, 2026**.
(You do not need to be a Noblesville resident as we welcome ball players from surrounding communities).

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 13, 2026. A double-elimination tournament will be played June 7-17, 2026.
**Note: Dates subject to change due to weather or unforeseen circumstances.*

Registration Fee: 2026 Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball registration fee is \$199 (plus processing fee applied at checkout) and includes team jersey and hat.

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 14, 2026 from 2 pm-4 pm at Noblesville High School. **More details to be provided at a later date.*

Register today at:
noblesvillebaberuthbaseball.sportsengine-prelive.com

Interested in supporting our young men and helping with continued upgrades to our facility? Sponsor opportunities are still available!
Email nrbcommunications@gmail.com for more information.

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!

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Just Horsing Around



DICK WOLFSIE
Columnist

cautious. I hope this warning is not too late.

According to lawmakers who pushed the bill through, there have been some setbacks. In one instance, a rider who was apparently intoxicated caused a four-car pile-up by galloping his horse through a red light. After a breathalyzer test, it was found that the rider was sober. However, the horse was tipsy. The horse refused the breathalyzer test and had to appear in court. The horse's lawyer claimed that the bartender who gave his client the fifth glass of ChardonNAY should also be held responsible. The bartender said it was hard for him to refuse a customer with such a long face, which shows that while wine may get better with age, some old jokes remain just as bad.

Well, the Super Bowl just concluded. After reading this, you might wonder if it's a good idea to write a humor column while paying attention to a sporting event at the same time. Look on the bright side: If the Colts had been in the Super Bowl, I would have watched more carefully, and this column would have been even more lame.

Dick Wolfsie is a retired TV personality, author, speaker, teacher and all-around good guy. His award-winning column appears here weekly.

Did you enjoy the Super Bowl? I'm not a big football fan, so when I watched the game, I tried to distract myself with other things. I don't knit, collect stamps, or play games on my phone. So, what did I do?

Because my column is published in several papers throughout the Midwest, including a senior publication in South Dakota, I receive a copy every month. I was leafing through it during the game. As I prepared myself with chips, salsa, and mini egg rolls, an article in the newspaper caught my eye. South Dakota has outdone Indiana in legislative innovation. A new law in the Mount Rushmore state resolves that while authorities will lock you up for driving your Chevy pickup after downing six pints of hard lemonades, it is now perfectly legal to ride your tricycle down Main Street even after having several Bloody Marys. Or is it Bloody Maries? Maybe Bloodies Mary? (Cathy, my proofreader, please help me out here.)

In an attachment to the bill, it is also legal in South Dakota to get

completely looped as long as you ride home on your mustang and not in your Mustang. Let me translate all this: You can be drunk on your horse or on your bike, but not in your car.

Why are Indiana lawmakers wasting time arguing about the I-69, ISTEP, taxes and zoning rules, while more progressive states have figured out the kind of legislative action that truly benefits the average citizen

I hope they pass a law like that here in Indiana because I can't tell you how many times I've had a few too many over at my favorite trough, then stupidly drove home in my Dodge Colt instead of getting my Clydesdale out of the garage.

In South Dakota, this law faced some criticism. Many Dakotans argued that some locals actually imbibe with their horses, and while most of the horses can handle their liquor, many of the less refined breeds—like Pintos—get pretty wrecked after just one glass of Merlot. If you're driving behind a Pinto, be very

PATCH Aims to Help Young Hoosier Women

Hoosiers have access to birth control at participating pharmacies across Indiana, providing an additional, convenient option for women aged 18 years and older seeking contraceptive care. Pharmacist-prescribed contraception is available through participating pharmacies statewide and can be especially helpful for women who do not have private insurance, live in rural communities, face language barriers, or do not have an established healthcare provider.

The Pharmacy Access to Contraceptives for Hoosiers (PATCH) project is a statewide initiative focused on increasing awareness of this option and supporting pharmacies in offering contraceptive services through trained pharmacists. While pharmacist-prescribed contraception is legal and available in Indiana, many residents remain unaware it is an option.

"For a lot of people, the pharmacy is the most accessible place they go

for healthcare," said Kate Riddell, pharmacist. "Being able to offer birth control there means patients can get clear information and care in a familiar place, without extra steps or long waits."

PATCH works with pharmacies across Indiana to provide training and implementation support that help pharmacists integrate contraceptive prescribing into everyday practice. Participating pharmacists can prescribe a range of hormonal birth control methods, including pills, patches, and injections.

The project also includes research to better understand how pharmacist-prescribed contraception is being used and how it can improve access to care across the state.

"As with many healthcare services, awareness plays a critical role in access," said Riddell. "When people understand what options are available to them and how those options work, it's easier for them to make

informed decisions about their care."

As part of its outreach efforts, PATCH has launched an educational video designed to explain how pharmacist-prescribed contraception works and what patients can expect. The video is intended as a public-facing resource and is available at www.indianapatch.org/service-delivery-resources.

PATCH's outreach efforts focus on reaching communities where access to traditional healthcare services may be limited, including rural areas and communities that benefit from information shared in multiple languages and trusted formats. Free resources — including a pharmacy finder and step-by-step guidance — are available on the PATCH website to help Hoosiers learn more and find participating pharmacies.

To learn more about pharmacist-prescribed contraception and the PATCH project, visit www.indianapatch.org.

Humane Society Offers Purrfect Valentine's Gift

Are you looking for the purrfect Valentine for your favorite animal lover? Give your loved one all the puppy kisses and kitten cuddles they crave . . . Plus, you can not only share a little extra love with a shelter pet in need — but you can help the good folks at the Humane Society of Hamilton County!

This fundraiser offers two sweet options just in time for Valentine's Day. The first is a Decadent Dinner for only \$75. This allows you to give a gift that gives back to the pets your loved one holds dear. With your purchase, a shelter pet will receive a lovely Valentine's dinner, and your loved one will receive an email with a personalized Valentine's letter from HSHC, including a special video of a

shelter pet receiving their Valentine's dinner.

Each Decadent Dinner Valentine comes with a special, large heart-shaped dinner reservation, just for them. And who knows . . . your heart might just be the extra touch of love that catches a potential adopter's attention.

The second is a Sweet Treat for just \$35. Everybody loves a sweet treat on Valentine's Day. With this Valentine, you can double the love! With your purchase, a shelter pet will receive a sweet dessert full of love, and your loved one will receive an email with a personalized Valentine's letter from HSHC, including a special video of a shelter pet receiving their Valentine's treat.

Each sweet treat Valentine comes with a small heart that we will place on a shelter pet's kennel. And who knows . . . your heart might just be big enough to catch a potential adopter's attention.

When you gift your loved one a special Valentine from HSHC, you could even help some of HSHC's most eligible four-legged bachelors and bachelorettes find their forever homes.

Orders must be placed by Thursday in order to receive your Valentine by Valentine's Day.

You can place orders at <https://www.hamiltonhumane.com/how-to-help/donate-1/valentines>

Carmel Campaigning for Arts & Design District Votes

The Carmel Arts & Design District has been nominated by a panel of experts for USA Today's 10 Best Arts Districts in the nation!

The city is certainly known for having some of the best galleries, restaurants, boutiques, the most unique public art and a dedicated community — so city officials say it's now time to show the rest of the nation. Winning this title isn't just about the accolade; it's about putting our local artists and small businesses on the national map.

Over the next two weeks, Carmel is asking everyone to vote for the things that make Carmel special.



Photo courtesy City of Carmel

You can vote once per day at <https://10best.usatoday.com/awards/best-arts-district/>.

Follow along on the Experience Carmel Facebook page and the City of Carmel Friday newsletter. You can vote once per day

through Monday, Feb. 16 at <https://10best.usatoday.com/awards/best-arts-district/>.

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Heights Superintendent Shares Update



DR. DEREK ARROWOOD
Guest Columnist

As we celebrate National School Counseling Week, we pause to recognize the extraordinary impact our school counselors make across Hamilton Heights each day. Their work reaches far beyond scheduling and guidance—they are essential members of our student support team, helping to create learning environments where every child feels safe, encouraged, and equipped to grow academically, socially, and emotionally.

Our counselors walk alongside students as they navigate challenges, discover their strengths, and plan for the future. Their compassion, expertise, and steady presence strengthen the culture of every building and help shape the overall well-being of our school community.

We are deeply grateful for the dedication and service of our counseling team: Tricia Rudy and Nikki Wert (HHES), Sabrina Duncan and Chelsea Pacheco (HHMS), and April Baugher, Jessi Cantlon, Jason MacLaughlin, and Lori Watson (HHHS). Your commitment to students and families makes a profound difference—one conversation, one connection, one day at a time.

We are also celebrating Black History Month. Our school community is committed to creating an inclusive learning

environment for all our students, regardless of race or ethnicity. Our students, staff, and community can benefit through culturally relevant teaching, learning, and activities centered around the rich cultural heritage, achievements, sacrifices, triumphs, and the essential role of African Americans in shaping our country. Please join us in embracing this opportunity for growth by engaging your children with meaningful conversations about Black History Month at home to better understand and appreciate the countless Black individuals who have given their gifts and their lives in pursuit of a society that is free, just, and equitable for all.

As we look ahead to School Resource Officer Appreciation Day on Thursday, February 15, we extend our sincere gratitude to our outstanding SRO team—Deputies Josh Ireland, Jon Tindal, and Kevin Neal. Their presence on our campuses reflects far more than security; it represents partnership, trust, and a daily commitment to the well-being of our students and staff.

Our SROs serve as a vital link between Hamilton Heights, local law enforcement, and the broader community. They are visible, approachable, and deeply engaged in school life—helping to maintain

a safe environment while also building meaningful relationships that support students' confidence and sense of belonging.

Beyond their protective role, they are mentors, advocates, and steady role models. The connections they form with students and staff leave a lasting imprint, shaping lives in ways that extend far beyond the school day. We are grateful for their dedication, professionalism, and heart for service. Their work strengthens our schools and enriches the experience of every Husky they support.

If you have a student preparing to begin their journey at Hamilton Heights, mark your calendar for this year's Kindergarten Roundup on Wednesday, February 25, from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Husky Hangout at the elementary school. Registration opens on Friday, February 20. Our Kindergarten educators provide an exceptional blend of engaging, inspiring, and fun learning experiences that build the foundation for success in school for our littlest Huskies. More information on what you need to do to begin your child's educational journey at Heights can be found at www.hhschuskiess.org.

Thank you for your partnership, involvement and support as we continue to make this school year a positive and engaging experience for every student. #WeAreHuskies

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

Rep. Lopez Shares First Half Statehouse Highlights

With the first part of the 2026 legislative session coming to a close, State Rep. Danny Lopez (R-Carmel) is preparing to carry six bills during what promises to be a busy second half. These bills cover topics including Medicaid, disability and home health services, hate littering, higher education, economic development tax credits and more.

“As the second half of the legislative session gets underway, my focus remains on practical commonsense solutions that make Indiana a better place to live, work and raise a family,” Lopez said. “That means continuing to strengthen protections for foster youth, advancing economic development and addressing public safety issues that impact everyday life in our communities.”

A breakdown of Lopez's sponsored legislation:

SB 15: Empowers foster youth by creating a Foster Youth Bill of Rights, which outlines the rights and responsibilities of youth in Indiana's foster care system, and provides a process under which it can be updated.

SB 160: Protects Hoosiers and their communities by making wearing a mask while committing a crime a sentencing aggravator and aims to fight the growing issue of hate littering in Indiana by making it a Class A misdemeanor to leave trash on another person's property with intent to cause fear.

SB 242: Adjusts the manner of distribution and the permitted uses for the Hamilton County Innkeeper's Tax to sup-



Photo courtesy Indiana House Republicans

State Rep. Danny Lopez presented House Bill 1033 on the House Floor last month at the Statehouse in Indianapolis.

port tourism and investment.

SB 254: Strengthens the board and primary missions of Ivy Tech Community College, the nation's largest single-accredited community college, as it pertains to workforce development. This legislation would update its governance structure while helping the university meet the evolving needs of the state's economy.

SB 264: Permits the Indiana Economic Development Corporation to adjust the use of Economic Development for a Growing Economy (EDGE) tax credits to incentivize existing Hoosier employers to retain their workers at higher salaries.

SB 275: A comprehensive Family and Social Services Administration bill that tightens the timeframe during which the agency must approve or deny requests for

increased services for individuals with disabilities. It also adjusts Medicaid eligibility for certain Medicare beneficiaries.

Additionally, Lopez's bill aimed at strengthening the governance and accountability of the Marion County Superior Court, HB 1033, will make its way through the Senate following an 88-2 vote in the House. HB 1177, a bill Lopez co-authored, addresses Indiana's growing child care challenge through expanded tax credits and incentives for employers who assist their employees with child care. It moves to the Senate for further consideration.

To learn more about these bills and to track legislation during the 2026 legislative session, visit iga.in.gov.

Lopez represents House District 39, which includes a portion of Hamilton County.

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!



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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

Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center
Commissioner's Courtroom
One Hamilton County Square
Noblesville, Indiana 46060
Monday, Feb. 9

AGENDA

(Agenda subject to change. Final agenda will be posted at the meeting.)

1:00 p.m. Executive Session - Conference Room 1A

1. Implementation of Security Systems IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(C)
2. Purchase or Lease of Real Estate IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(D)
3. Discussion of Pending Litigation IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(B)
4. Discussion of Personnel IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(7)

Notice Advisory: The public session start time of 2PM for the Board of Commissioners may have a delayed start due to an extended executive session.

2:00 p.m. Hamilton County Board of Finance

1. Call to Order Board of Finance - President Altman
2. Hamilton County Board of Finances 2025 Investment Report - Susan Byer

2:05 p.m. Call to Order - Commissioners Courtroom

Declare Quorum

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Executive Session Memoranda

1. February 9, 2026

Approval of Minutes

1. January 9, 2026 - Board of Commissioners Highway Meeting
2. January 12, 2026 - Board of Commissioner Meeting

Bid Opening

1. 2026 Annual Highway Bids
 - a. (IFB) Cat 1 Aggregates
 - b. (IFB) Cat 2 Bituminous Mixes
 - c. (IFB) Cat 4 Drainage Pipe
 - d. (IFB) Cat 5 Timber Structure
 - e. (IFB) Cat 6 Gasoline & Fuel
 - f. (RFP) Cat 8 Pavement Traffic Markings Maintenance
 - g. (RFP) Cat 9 Fertilization and Weed Control Services
 - h. (RFP) Cat 10 Tree Removal and Trimming Services

Plat Approval

1. Cicero Road Estates Secondary Plat
2. Myers Geist Road Estates

2:15 p.m. Highway Business

1. Road Cut Permits
2. Private Traffic Control Permits
3. Vehicle Exemption Permits
4. Acceptance of Bonds and Letters of Credit
5. Release of Bonds and Letters of Credit
6. Agreement/Supplements
 - a. Interlocal Agreement with Fishers - Right of Way for Roundabout at 131st Street and Brooks School Road
 7. Acceptance of Streets
 8. Concurrence with Traffic Study Correspondence
 - a. Carl Hitzemann - Stops Conditions at Anthony Road and Cal Carson Road - Jackson Township
 - b. Monica Houserman - Flashing Lights or Roundabout at 186th Street and Eagle-town Road - Washington Township
 9. Public Works Quotation Results
 10. Official Actions
 11. Correspondence
 12. Announcements
 - a. Bridge 148 - 161st Street over Kirkendall Creek - Public Information Meeting, February 24, 2026

2:20 p.m. Court Administration - Jill Acklin

1. Meal Authorization Request
2. 2026 Legal Self Help Center Attorney Contract
3. PTO Extension Request

2:25 p.m. Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs - Joshua Tolen

1. Discuss IC 10-17-1-9 for the County Veterans Service Officer Accreditation Standards

2:30 p.m. Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC) Division - Steven Rushforth

1. Ratification of Signature on 2025 OSHA 300A Summary Log
2. 2026 ADA Transition Plan Update Final - Resolution 02-09-2026-1 A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Hamilton County, Indiana, Adopting the ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan and the ADA Transition Plan Policy
3. Introduction of New Procurement Director

2:35 p.m. ISSD- Chris Mertens

1. For The Record Justice Cloud Annual Software Subscription Renewal
2. Quote for BMC Helix - Track-It! 2-Year Agreement Renewal Software & Support
3. People Driven Technology - 2026 One-Year FLEX-CC Renewal
4. People Driven Technology - Annual SmartNet Renewal
5. People Driven Technology - NetApp C30 w/SLP - 6-year Support
6. Word Systems (WSI) For the Record Upgrade

2:40 p.m. Clerk of the Circuit Court - Kathy Williams

1. MicroVote General Corporation Contract

2:45 p.m. Probation - Madonna Wagoner

1. Service Agreement Hamilton County Drug Treatment Court/Hamilton County Department of Probation Services - Peer Specialist Services

2:50 p.m. Human Resources - Sheena Randall

1. Ratification of Signature on VSP 2026 Renewal - Amendment for Lens

2:55 p.m. Hamilton County Emergency Operations - Chad Knecht

1. Network Solutions Consolidated Comms Building ACI Quote

3:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds - Steve Wood

1. Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Connectivity Pilot Project

3:05 p.m. Community Development Block Grant - Michelle Westermeier

1. Permission to Publish Request for Proposal (RFP) for Construction Management Services in Conjunction with the Hamilton County Home Repair Program
2. Permission to Publish Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Construction Contractor Services in Conjunction with the Hamilton County Home Repair Program

3:10 p.m. Hamilton County Coroner - Jeff Jellison

1. Radox Laboratories-US, Ltd. Contract

3:15 p.m. Hamilton County Emergency Management - Ryan Tennesen

1. Federal Signal Corporation Contract

3:20 p.m. Hamilton County Assessor - Kevin Poore

1. Proposed Contract for Assessment Software Conversion with X-Soft Government Financial Software Solutions

3:25 p.m. Commissioner Committee Reports

3:30 p.m. Attorney

3:35 p.m. Director of Administration

3:40 p.m. Sheriff

3:45 p.m. Auditor

1. 2025 Gross Wages for Hamilton County

2. Clerk's Monthly Report

3. Treasurer's Monthly Report

4. Acceptance of Bonds/Letters of Credit - Drainage Board

5. Release of Bonds/Letters of Credit - Drainage Board

6. Health Trust Monthly Expenditure Report

7. Liability Trust Monthly Expenditure Report

8. Payroll Claims

9. Vendor Claims & Liability Trust Reports

3:50 p.m. Work Session - Conference Room 1 A

1. Mental Health Commission Proposal - Steve Nation & David Berman

2. Noblesville Times - Tim Timmons

3. County Logo Discussion - Tammy Sanders

MEETING NOTICE

CARMEL FINANCE, UTILITIES AND RULES

COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026

AT 6:30 P.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS - SECOND FLOOR

CITY HALL - ONE CIVIC SQUARE, CARMEL

THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO DISCUSS:

A. Ordinance D-2772-25; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Adopting a New Article 8 Under Chapter 2 of the Carmel City Code; Sponsors: Councilors Aasen, Ayers, Minnaar, Snyder and Worrell.

Synopsis:

An ordinance adopting requirements for nonprofit organizations receiving public support from the City.

B. Analysis of Audit Committee

C. Analysis of Advisory Committee on Disability

D. Finance Department Review of Enterprise Resource Planning and Capital Asset Plan

HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF

ZONING APPEALS

One Hamilton County Square, Suite 13

Noblesville, Indiana 46060

DATE: Wednesday, February 25, 2026

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 - December 17, 2025
5. Old Business: Nothing pending
6. New Business:

DOCKET NO. BZA-RV-0001-02-2026

A variance concerning Article 03, 4 of the Hamilton County Unified Development Ordinance No. 07-25-2022-A as amended 07-10-2023 to allow construction of an accessory dwelling in the A-2(s) zone district.

Project Address: 16519 State Road 38 East Noblesville, IN 46060

Parcel number(s): 12-12-08-00-00-018.000

Property is zoned: A-2(s)

Size of property: 5.0 Acres

Legal description: Section 8, Township 18, Range 6

Owner: Neil Neuberger

7. Director's Report:

8. Legal Counsel Report:

9. Next BZA Meeting - Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 7:00pm in the Hamilton County Commissioners' Courtroom / County Council Chambers, First Floor, Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, Indiana

10. Adjournment

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