

# The Southside Times



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FREE • Week of December 21-27, 2023

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THIS WEEK on the WEB

UIndy receives \$750,000 grant to help Hoosier students with literacy

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**THIS WEEK on the WEB**



Many of the artists featured still live and produce their work from within Iran, where their creative expression can lead to jail time. (Image courtesy of the Indianapolis Public Library)

**Central Indiana's 'Iran in Revolt' art exhibit unveils struggle for freedom**

The Indianapolis Public Library is presenting an art exhibit to spread awareness of the Zan, Zendegi, Azadi (Woman, Life Freedom) Movements in Iran and the Iranian people advocating for human rights through peaceful demonstrations. "Iran in Revolt" will be hosted in the Central Library's Yellow Gallery from Dec. 29, 2023, through Jan. 22, 2024, and a reception is scheduled for Jan. 13, from 1-4 p.m.

[myiconmedia.com/central-indianas-iran-in-revolt-art-exhibit-unveils-struggle-for-freedom](http://myiconmedia.com/central-indianas-iran-in-revolt-art-exhibit-unveils-struggle-for-freedom)



UIndy is one of 28 Indiana colleges and universities that received grants from Lilly Endowment to support efforts that integrate Science of Reading-aligned principles into teacher preparation programs. (Photo courtesy of the University of Indianapolis)

**UIndy receives \$750,000 grant to help Hoosier students read faster and better**

The University of Indianapolis has received a \$750,000 Lilly Endowment Inc. grant through the Advancing the Science of Reading in Indiana initiative. The grant will support curriculum changes in the university's College of Education and Behavioral Sciences to meet changing statewide requirements for both education majors and current teachers.

[mycionmedia.com/uindy-receives-\\$750,000-grant-to-help-hoosier-students-read-faster-and-better](http://mycionmedia.com/uindy-receives-$750,000-grant-to-help-hoosier-students-read-faster-and-better)

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## Messages to the Mayor: Happy retirement

"I would like to thank Mayor Buckley for his steadfast support for the Department of Public Works during his 12 years of service. Mayor Buckley always promoted the purchase of new equipment with enhanced safety features for DPW while proposing ordinances that gave employees better pay and benefits during his time as Mayor. Mayor Buckley will be missed and should be commended for leaving the Department of Public Works in far better shape than he found it."

*Brad Meriwether, director of Public Works*

"Mayor Buckley has always been a strong leader. It didn't matter what was at hand, whether it was someone that had a complaint that needed to be heard or an issue that needed to be addressed, he would find the time to give you his undivided attention.

Four years ago, we were devastated that we weren't going to be able to give my people a Christmas like I have always done in the past years, because of Covid, so, after giving it some thought I decided to start a window decorating contest for the businesses on Main Street. My people could drive safely down Main Street and that would hopefully take them back to their childhood days when store fronts would be all decked out for the holidays. Buckley jumped in like he always does and put the information on his monthly home mailers and got the word out to the community. He did the same for our Christmas parade as I started that for the same reason.

Thank you, Mayor Buckley for 12 years of coming to the Senior Center at the drop of a hat to be an usher for our Queens, crowning our Kings, swearing in our new board members, cooking hundreds of hotdogs on the grill for our block parties, packing up holiday meals for shut-ins, being a guest speaker at the last minute, your donations and sponsorship."

*Stephanie Bramlett, director of Elton H. Geshwiler Senior Citizens Center*

"Mayor Buckley always did what he thought was best for the citizens and future of Beech Grove. It wasn't always the most

popular but proved to be the right decision. He led by conviction and took care of the city's employees.

Mayor Buckley, thank you for giving me the opportunity to lead an amazing group of professionals. Under your supervision, we were able to advance the department and make it the touchstone for law enforcement across the state. Thank you for your example and friendship. Enjoy retirement. You have left the city better than when you started."

*Michael Maurice, chief of police, Beech Grove Police Department*

"Mayor Buckley leaves our city in a wonderful position. I'm honored to follow in his footsteps. More importantly, I'm honored to call him a friend. If you drive through the city in Beech Grove, you'll see work that's been done in his three terms as mayor: some big projects such as the Franciscan trail, roundabouts, small projects like stormwater projects, countless sewer projects that you can't see but the homeowners they see that, they feel and notice that. He's donated countless dollars, he's done things behind the scenes that we'll never know of, and he'll never mention because that's not why he did it. The big projects are great, but he's helped more people than we'll ever know."

*- Jim Coffman, Mayor-elect, Beech Grove*

"He supports Main Street and surrounding businesses like no other. He's all about the people and the kids. He travels Main Street every day. When you go down Main Street, you can see him walking it, whether he's picking up trash or just talking to another business (owner or employee). If something happens in the community, any event whether it be at the park, the community center, the police stations, he always starts with Main Street and supporting the businesses. He always stuck with Main Street businesses to order cookies or coffee from the coffee shop. He used the resources right here before he ever goes outside of Beech Grove. It brought people together. It just makes the community stronger."

*Tammy Hanna, owner of The Tea Room at Rustic Root*



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# 12 years as mayor, a lifetime of service to the community

## Beech Grove community bids farewell to Mayor Dennis Buckley as he steps down from office, into retirement



(Left) Craig Wiley, Beech Grove city attorney, Mayor Dennis Buckley and Former Beech Grove Mayor J. Warner Wiley. | (Middle) Middle Mayor Dennis Buckley and representatives from Franciscan Health dedicate the Franciscan Trail. | (Right) Clerk Treasurer and Mayor-Elect Jim Coffman and Mayor Dennis Buckley are pictured during their campaign in 2019. | (Cover) Beech Grove Mayor Dennis Buckley speaks at the groundbreaking for the new police station in 2022. The station celebrated its completion and opening in 2023. (Photo by Nicole Davis) | (Cover Inset) Mayor Dennis Buckley. (SST File Photo)

By Nicole Davis

Members of the Beech Grove community gathered on Dec. 17 to bid farewell to Dennis Buckley, who has chosen to retire after serving three terms as mayor.

Beech Grove looks a lot different than it did 12 years ago. When Buckley started as mayor, the city had \$220,000 in its general fund. Going into 2024, it will have nearly \$7 million in that same fund. But the budget isn't the only thing Buckley and his team have improved. He has prioritized everything from employee benefits to stormwater projects and economic development, to create an overall better community for its residents, employees and visitors.

A lifelong resident of Beech Grove, Buckley served on the Beech Grove Fire Department for 30 years, retiring as its chief in 2009.

"I ran for mayor because I wasn't happy with the direction of the city," Buckley said. "I had two choices – I could sit at home and complain, or I could do something, so I chose to run for mayor – and I won. Then everything I complained about became my problem. We started the first day of 2012. I walked in the office with no previous meeting with any mayor or anybody. There was not one piece of paper in this room. The drawers were empty. The telephone was disconnected, and the computer was wiped out. There was one key laying on the desk.

We were broke. We weren't going to make payroll. We scraped it together and made it."

### 12-Year Highlights

The city's transformation began with Main Street. The road used to be higher than the building thresholds so every time it rained, water would flood into the structures. The road was lowered by 18 inches and the street design changed to allow for efficient parking. The construction took 10 months to complete.

At the time, there were 28 vacant buildings along Main Street. Now there are only one or two at a given time. Beech Grove has actually gained 125 new businesses within its city since then.

"When I purchased Eckstein Shoe Store, we took possession Jan. 2, 2012, the day after Buckley took office," said Jim Coffman, current Beech Grove clerk-treasurer and mayor-elect. "I remember calling him as then Mayor-Elect Buckley and said, 'I purchased the shoe store, I was hoping we could work together as mayor and business owner. Little did I know, eight years later we would be working together in city

government. In the beginning, Main Street was struggling. In 2012 when he took office, there were a lot of empty store fronts. Fast forward 12 years, we now have the beautiful police station as a gateway to Main Street, storefronts are full, parking lots are full. I think that's due to his work as mayor, the team he's built around him and the work he's done the last 12 years."

Buckley said stormwater projects have been a big highlight of his time served as mayor. His personal favorite accomplishment was along N. 9th Avenue and Buffalo Street. Even normal rain used to flood the houses in that area with all the water in the neighborhood flowing to that one spot. He said he's looking forward to the McFarland Creek drainage project that is

expected to take place this spring, solving the flooding issue in that area.

St. Francis was the talk of the town in 2012. Franciscan Health closed the hospital in Beech Grove three months after Buckley became mayor; 1,500 jobs lost in the city.

"The city did a lousy job preparing for that because they informed the city five years

prior to that that they were going to close," Buckley said. "The city didn't do anything. They closed and the building became vacant. They tried to repurpose it because tearing it down was expensive. In the meantime, we started having problems with people getting into the building. I told them I no longer support redevelopment and I wanted them to tear it down. They did tear it down and to their credit, they did it right. The problem was the building was gone but the ties to it were still there. People had an emotional attachment to that building."

At the same time, Beech Grove had been awarded funding for a trail system to run through the city and make it more walkable. Buckley spoke with the Franciscan CEO about purchasing the naming rights to that trail, continuing its legacy within the city. They did, and that greenway became the Franciscan Trail. Around the same time, as demolishing the former hospital, Franciscan Health redid one of its buildings and brought back nursing services to Beech Grove. The development of Franciscan VNS Home Care brought more than 400 jobs back to the city. To this day, Buckley said the former St. Francis hospital is a topic of conversation among residents.

Buckley takes pride in his community and is often spotted in his free time walking down Main Street picking up trash. It's what drove him to look into the

"I ran for mayor because I wasn't happy with the direction of the city"

— Dennis Buckley



Indiana Department of Environmental Management's Clean Community program. After surveying the city, Buckley discovered they were 65 percent of the way to meeting the Clean Community standards. He and his team developed a recycling program for residents, started a paper shredding and recycling event that currently happens four times a year and more, earning them the title of being a Clean Community approximately six years ago. Last year, IDEM revamped and strengthened its standards, but Beech Grove still earned the title as one of only six communities in the state.

In 2021, the city merged its fire department with Indianapolis Fire Department. This allowed Beech Grove to build its EMS and police departments. This year, the police department celebrated the opening of its new police station, sitting at the beginning of Main Street.

"The biggest project we worked on together is probably the biggest project the city has undertaken in over 50 years," said Michael Maurice, chief of police. "That would be the new police department and training center. He gave the parameters of the project and then allowed my team and I to build a truly special building. This project set the department on great footing for many years to come. He never micromanaged but made sure we did it right. I think we accomplished that.

In the past 12 years, the city has paved more than 90 roads and has received \$20 million in grant funding. The value of properties has increased: In 2012, the city's assessed value was \$325 million. It is now \$673 million.

Employee pay has increased along with health insurance benefits. The police department and EMS staff are among the highest paid in that profession in Marion County. All of this has led to a strong employee retention rate, with the majority of department heads in Buckley's administration having been with him since

the beginning. Not only were no jobs or wages lost during the COVID-19 pandemic, but the city has hired 50 new employees through the course of 12 years. There has been a 3% pension base increase for 11 years for retirees. The list of accomplishments goes on and on.

### Preparing for Retirement

Buckley knew when he ran for his last term as mayor that it was his final one.

"You should only be mayor for so long," he said. "I believe the optimal time is three terms. The first term, a mayor doesn't know what they're doing, they're learning. The second term, you line up what you want to get done. The third term, you see it get done. There comes a time when you better take a stop back. Three terms was enough for me."

From the beginning of this most recent term, Buckley began looking at who could replace him as mayor. When Coffman was elected as clerk-treasurer, Buckley believed he found his successor, even before Coffman decided to run for mayor.

"If you want to be mayor because you want the power or authority you are going to fail," Buckley said. "But if you want to be mayor and you want to serve, to be a servant, that's really good. The mayor, that's a title. I'm not any better than anybody else. You have to keep it in perspective. That's why Jim will do well. He has that same keel. Jim has been with me since day one of this term. Every decision, he's been sitting right there with me. My goal was you won't see any difference. Jan. 1, it will be business as usual."

Buckley said the city has many projects to look forward to in 2024, including extending the greenway to around the high school, stormwater projects and more.

"Thank you," he said. "Especially to those who voted for me and gave their trust to me to lead this city. I appreciate it very much and I took it very seriously."



Mayor Dennis Buckley and Clerk Treasurer and Mayor-Elect Jim Coffman stand next to the Safe Haven Baby Box installed in the fall of this year.



One highlight to the city during Mayor Buckley's term was the creation and installation of the hornet, representing Beech Grove City School's mascot, at the roundabout on Churchman Avenue.



Beech Grove Mayor Dennis Buckley and Chief of Police Michael Maurice celebrate the groundbreaking of the new police station. The station opened in 2023. (Submitted photos)



Beech Grove Seniors Director Stephanie Bramlett, and Mayor Dennis Buckley.

*Happy Holidays!*

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## PHOTO of the WEEK



The Beech Grove High School choir performs prior to the start of the lunch at December's Greater Beech Grove Chamber of Commerce holiday luncheon. For more information on the chamber and upcoming events, visit [beechgrovechamber.org](http://beechgrovechamber.org). (Photo by Mark Gasper)

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*“Seeing is believing, but sometimes the most real things in the world are the things we can’t see.”*

The Polar Express

## HUMOR



## Top 10 holiday dating mistakes

By Torry Stiles

10. Ask if she REALLY should eat that second piece of pie.
9. Questioning the family policy regarding Santa Claus.
8. Failing to notice that he/she is wearing an entry to an ugly sweater contest and not a legitimate costume decision.
7. Visiting the Jewish parents and blowing out those candles.
6. Throwing shade on your date's opinion of cranberry sauce.
5. Gifting anything that had been “un-monogrammed” from the ex's closet.
4. Bringing half a bag of Doritos to the family pitch-in. Not the Cool Ranch ones, even.
3. Pointing out that the mayor was right in Jim Carrey's Grinch movie and that the Home Alone kid would be in CPS if this was real.
2. He pays for your tattoo. You have your old boyfriend's name put on.
1. Admitting that the horse-and-buggy romantic ride is because your license got suspended.

## BELIEVE IT!

**Our nation has all sorts of arcane, nonsensical laws on the books. Each week, we'll share one with you ...**

In Missouri, it is not illegal to speed.

Source: [stupidlaws.com](http://stupidlaws.com)



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- 5 Christmas dinner fare
- 8 Pine, at Christmas time
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- 14 Riley verse
- 15 "Enough!" in MONROE County?
- 17 Make revisions to a Southside Times story
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- 54 Ala. neighbor
- 55 High card
- 56 1/6 of an oz.
- 57 \_\_\_ Moines
- 58 Tupperware topper
- 59 Indiana National Guard

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- 63 Mike Braun's pos.
- 64 Casino game
- 65 Student's assignment in PORTER County?
- 66 "Enough!" in a text
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- 68 Units of force
- 69 Chest muscle, briefly
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- 6 Increases
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- 16 Clears the blackboard
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- 22 Arm's length
- 30 Assailed
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- 33 Brat
- 37 Some ISO players
- 38 Work dough
- 39 Rebuff
- 40 "Itsy-bitsy" critter of song
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- 42 Like a yenta
- 45 Approach
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- 47 Positions (troops)
- 50 "To the end of the block and back! C'mon!"
- 51 Well-recognized
- 54 I-65 roadside warning
- 60 Sooner State (Abbr.)
- 62 Jailbird
- 63 IndyCar decal letters

**DOWN**

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- 2 Shine
- 3 Top-tier celeb
- 4 Southside Tennis match parts

## A Festivus airing of grammar grievances

### GRAMMAR GUY

By Curtis Honeycutt

I do my best to put a positive spin on grammar. After all, having a solid grasp of the English language can help you get ahead in life. I'll take that truth to my grave.

However, I occasionally receive visits in the night from holiday hoodlums. In fact, just the other night, I recorded this conversation between the Grammar Grinch and Syntax Scrooge. These guys are the Statler and Waldorf of word nerdery. I recorded them airing their grammar

Grievances. Frank Costanza would be proud.

**Scrooge:** I can't believe people still add apostrophes on their holiday cards. "Season's Greetings from the Miller's?!" The Miller's what? The Miller's dog?

Never add an apostrophe to your last name on a holiday card!

**Grinch:** I know, right? Kids these days — going to heck in a holiday handbasket. Just the other day, I heard a few street youths dropping "to be" from their sentences! I heard one say, "The clothes need washed!" The next thing you know, they'll drop Shakespeare from English lit!

**Scrooge:** To be, or not to be.

**Grinch:** Preach.

**Scrooge:** I like the idea of Festivus. That "Seinfeld" show had a lot going for it. Now, it's time for the feats of strength.

**Grinch:** Thanks for that fruitcake, by the way. Talk about "feats of strength" — that thing is tougher than a brick. It's not the least bit moist!

**Scrooge:** Ewwww... did you have to say

"moist"?

**Grinch:** I tell it like it is.

**Scrooge:** How about this one — a whole 'nother!

**Grinch:** Oh, brother.

**Scrooge:** I know the Instagram hipsters are saying this. I saw a video reposted from a TikTok reposted from a VHS tape in which a crazy uncle said, "That's not my president! He's a whole 'nother type of crazy!" What is the world coming to?

**Grinch:** Did you just end your sentence with a preposition?

**Scrooge:** Allow me to rephrase that: What is the world coming to, you jerk?

**Grinch:** Touche.

**Scrooge:** Mr. Grinch, I'd like to raise

a glass of heavily rummed eggnog to you and all the word nerds out there. Let's quaff heartily to taking over the world with good grammar!

**Grinch:** Hear, hear! You're making my heart grow three sizes over here. Happy Festivus, old friend. A donation has been made in your name to The Human Fund.

**Scrooge:** Better than socks, I suppose. Happy Festivus, ol' buddy. Watch your use of the passive voice.



Curtis Honeycutt is a wildly popular syndicated humor columnist. He is the author of *Good Grammar is the Life of the Party: Tips for a Wildly Successful Life*. Find more at [curtishoneycutt.com](http://curtishoneycutt.com).

## Thanks for the memories

### HUMOR

By Dick Wolfsie

Each year I devote two columns to review what I wrote about during the previous 11 months. For example, last winter I wrote about a cruise we took to Puerto Rico. Getting on the ship's elevator required us to scan our room card. I kept swiping but the elevator door didn't open. A fellow passenger walked by. "You're scanning the hand sanitizer," he told me.

One night I carried the TV remote onto the veranda outside our room that overlooked the ocean. The device slipped out of my hand when the ship rocked, and it landed in the Atlantic.

"That's never happened before," said the steward. "What were you doing when you dropped it?"

"I was channel surfing," I told him.

I made reservations for our trip to the nation's capital to attend a college reunion. Mary Ellen asked me to call and confirm that our hotel was close enough

to walk to some of the area highlights.

"How far are you from the White House?" I asked the clerk.

"About 3,000 miles," he told me.

I booked a hotel in Washington, all right. In Seattle, Wash.

I was frustrated that a website rejected some new passwords, so I just ran my fingers haphazardly across the keyboard. VERY STRONG, said the prompt. Please remember to write it down. But I had no idea what I had typed. Was it K\$DFJHG%\$ or was it YQW%KW?0&? Then I tried something simpler. I tried HERCULES, but it was rejected as WEAK. Then I tried SAMPSON. This time it said VERY WEAK. The people at this website have not read their mythology. But it did answer the age-old question of who was stronger.

I asked an AI program to draft an essay on why Dick Wolfsie was not funny, just to see what it would produce. My wife was not impressed when she read it.

"Dick this is outrageous; it's full of inaccuracies. You didn't bore people for 30

years on TV?"

"Thank you, Mary Ellen."

"Wasn't it closer to 40?"

With all the Artificial Intelligence warnings, my wife is paranoid that someone might steal one of our identities. Recently I called Mary Ellen to get her Social Security number for a form I was filling out. That's when she gave me a little quiz to be sure it was me .... like, what's your brother's name? What was the name of your first dog? She still wasn't convinced.

"Mary Ellen, you may ask one more question. Make it a good one."

"OK, Dick — or whoever you are — when we got married, we stayed in a magnificent vacation spot in Big Sur, California. You said it was the most romantic, glorious hotel you had ever been in, and it was a weekend you would never forget. What was the name of the hotel?"

"I don't have a clue."

"OK, it's definitely you."

This past spring, we went downtown to a cute little Bed and Breakfast to cele-

brate our wedding anniversary. The owner took us upstairs to show us the room, which was very quaint. There was one tiny bed. I'd say it was a double bed. But barely.

"Do you like your accommodations?" asked the proprietor.

"I love it," said my wife, "but where is my husband going to sleep?"

The woman winked at me. "This is your romantic anniversary. I'm sure you will make it work."

"Even on our honeymoon, this wouldn't have worked," said Mary Ellen.

A few more next week.



Dick Wolfsie lives in Indianapolis with his wife of 43 years. Dick is usually in the basement trying to think up something funny to write. He can be reached at: [wolfsie@aol.com](mailto:wolfsie@aol.com).



## 5 tips to making a good effort for home organization for 2024

### REAL ESTATE

By Dawn Whalen

Whalen Realty Group at F.C. Tucker Company

Home organization is hard. Many strive to have a semi-organized home, but the fact is, having a spouse, partner, kids, pets, roommate or parent share a living space makes keeping a residence more difficult to clean and declutter. In order to get the most from home organization, it's important that everyone in the home is on board with the idea and is willing to put forth some effort in the process.

The following five tips lead to the discussion of tackling home organization and breaking the process down into manageable tasks.

#### Where it hurts most

Identify the biggest struggle areas when it comes to organizing and write them down. This should be a long, semi-specific list that includes all the areas that can be improved with organization. For example, the list could include not enough room for shoes by the front door; stuffed animals are overtaking a child's bedroom; the closet isn't big enough for two people's stuff; or there's nowhere to charge the family devices when not in use, etc.

Once the list is complete (it can always be changed), select a few areas that need immediate attention or can make a big impact. These do not need to be the most difficult tasks but keep it manageable so as to not get overwhelmed. Break big tasks into smaller ones by conquering one piece of furniture at a time versus an entire room.

#### Set manageable goals – it cannot all be done at once!

Not everyone loves to clean or organize, but in the end, it does provide a level of stress relief. Look at the list of areas to clean out and prioritize them for what works best for you, either by the month, quarter or

year. From there, identify which area(s) to start and set an attainable goal. For example, cleaning out two cabinets in the master bathroom is easier to do than organizing the entire bathroom and closet in the master. For closets, consider organizing shoes and then moving onto dresses, sweaters, slacks or other items. Set goals that are achievable and not overwhelming and give yourself time to complete the task(s).

#### Keep, toss, donate

It seems that throughout an average year, there is no shortage of stuff that enters the home, but an equal amount isn't leaving the home. Some days it feels like things just multiply overnight. As you start tackling different areas to organize, there are three words to keep in mind: keep, toss and donate. Make a pile for each word, a pile of items to keep, items to toss and items to donate. This allows you to declutter and start moving things out of the space. For kids' spaces, it might help to break the keep pile down one more level into keep/save for later. Kids always have a few special animals, toys or books they want to keep but don't really want to sit out all day. Those could possibly be stored in a bin under the bed or in a closet.

#### Storage solutions

Boxes, bags and closet organizers are friends. After cleaning out space, it's time to organize. Depending on the area, storage bins or boxes may be a good solution, or it could be better suited for clear, plastic bags. Regardless, bags and boxes that are see-through allow you to see what's inside and you can add a label to the top and/or sides to quickly identify what's in the box. For example, in a home office, all markers could go in clear bag, pens and pencils in another, small ink cartridges in a small box and paper in a box or file shelf. Some people prefer to color-code or match boxes with a room and that's great too.

Another great solution is the hanging closet organizer. These allow extra vertical space, which is great for hanging accessories and soft items, such as scarves, hats, gloves, leashes or any other non-heavy items. Closet organizers can hold a good amount of weight, but we don't suggest actually storing weights on one.

#### Command center

Having a central command center has become almost a necessity for families. This is a place where keys, phones, tablets, school computers, calendar and notes are kept. It's like a drop zone for stuff. If having enough plugs or USB charging stations is an obstacle, check out any hardware store for plugs that might solve the problem. Updating to USB plugs might be great for keeping many electronics charged and in one place. If wires are getting in the way, look at twist ties or other options for taming wild cords. A whiteboard is also a good addition so people can write notes or reminders that may get lost or ignored in a text. Think about what items are needed on a daily basis and how a command center could help.

Organizing or cleaning the home is regularly one of the top five most popular New Year's resolutions. Meet your cleaning goals by keeping them within reach and breaking them down into small tasks. By this time next year, your home could be the envy of friends and neighbors.



Dawn Whalen is the owner of Whalen Realty Group, at the F.C. Tucker Company, and has worked in residential real estate for more than 17 years. She's a licensed realtor, broker, is a member of MIBOR, and is the founder of Whalen's Heroes, which provides funding to purchase service animals for veterans. She can be reached at Dawn@whalenrealtygroup.com.

### AROUND TOWN

#### Peterman Brothers offers tips for winter electrical safety

Peterman Brothers, a leading HVAC and plumbing company serving the Greater Indianapolis area, advises area residents to take steps now to ensure safe, reliable operation of their home's electrical systems during the holiday season. "We want customers to be able to enjoy this time of year without worrying about excessive energy costs or creating unnecessary risk of a fire or power outage," said Chad Peterman, president of Peterman Brothers. "Taking a few easy preventive steps now and following best practices throughout the season can help them have peace of mind and focus on spending meaningful time with family and friends."



Peterman recommends homeowners take the following steps for a safe and comfortable winter:

**Inspect your system:** Take a few minutes to check your home's electrical outlets and circuit breaker for signs of excessive wear or damage. Spend additional time monitoring cords and appliances.

**Avoid overloads:** Limit your use of extension cords and opt for power strips with surge protection over multi-outlet adapters.

**Unplug holiday lights:** Make sure holiday lights and other decorations are disconnected when you're not at home. Never leave them on unattended.

**Invest in a generator:** A home generator can provide backup power and peace of mind in case of weather-related or other winter power outages.

**Schedule a professional tune-up:** Electrical systems are complex and potential problems may not always be apparent. A trained professional can inspect your home's system and identify potential issues, provide preventive maintenance service and recommend new equipment or upgrades.

For more information about Peterman Brothers, call (260) 201-3070 or visit petermanhvac.com.



### AROUND TOWN

#### Southside real estate market is active

The residential real estate markets in Greenwood and Southport were active in November. According to F.C. Tucker Company, the average sale price for a home in Southport decreased 3.6% to \$230,573, and the average sale price for a home in Greenwood decreased 0.4% to \$273,430, compared to November 2022. Southport homes left the market one day, or 4.3%, faster compared to this time last year, and Greenwood homes remained on the market 14 days, or 56%, longer than this time last year.

# NIGHT & DAY

## LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT ENTERTAINING

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### BEECH GROVE

##### Creating Intentions: A Vision Board Workshop

• Join us for an inspiring and interactive event and dive into the power of intention setting through the art of vision boarding. This in-person workshop is designed to help you manifest your dreams and goals for the upcoming year. Limited spots available. | When: Dec. 30 and Jan. 13, 12 - 3 p.m. Jan. 12, 6 - 9 p.m. | Where: Art of the Heart, 3224 South Emerson Ave., Beech Grove. | Info: artoftheheartindy.com/upcoming-events

**Luminary for Peace** • The Mayor's Faith Based Roundtable is conducting this event to promote Peace in the Streets and to put down the guns. They will light 50 candles in honor of those killed by handguns this year in Marion County. | When: Dec. 23, 6:30 p.m. | Where: Steps of City Hall, 802 Main St., Beech Grove. | Info: Mayor's office, (317) 803-9111

#### CENTER GROVE

**Pet Photos with Santa** • Get a professional photo with Santa for \$10 and enjoy giveaways, hot chocolate, shaved ice and pup cups. Proceeds support Leann's Animal Rescue. | When: Dec. 23, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Where: Carefree Club, Inc., 1202 Leisure Lane, Greenwood. | Info: facebook.com/LeannsRescue/events

#### GARFIELD PARK

**Conservatory Crossing** • Come enjoy our winter wonderland! See the Conservatory decked out in its holiday best with a brilliant display of poinsettias, model trains and village, and thousands of twinkling lights. Fee: \$5 per person, \$12 per family (2 adults max), 2 and under are free. | When: Nov - Dec. 31, Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sundays 1-5 p.m. | Where: Garfield Park Conservatory, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis. | Info: garfieldgardensconservatory.org

**Exploring Canva** • Learn how to use the free online graphic design tool Canva. Create a custom digital design for greeting cards, business cards, flyers, and more. Share your designs online or by printing them. | When: Dec. 30, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Where: Garfield Park Branch library, 2502 Shelby St., Indianapolis. | Info: indypl.org

#### GREENWOOD

**Live Nativity at First Baptist** • Enjoy a live Nativity at First Baptist Church of Greenwood. This is a drive-through event. | When: Dec. 22, 7 - 9 p.m. | Where: First Baptist Church of Greenwood, 1589 Averitt Road, Greenwood. | Info: facebook.com/FBCGreenwood/events

**Cookies and Ornaments with Santa** • Enjoy a DIY holiday ornament workshop. Tickets are \$35 and include five ornaments and all materials needed. | When: Dec. 23, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Where: Board & Brush, 200 W. Main St., Greenwood. | Info: boardandbrush.com/greenwood/events/diy-ornament-workshop-12-10-2023-11am-1pm/

**Southside Art League Super Christmas Sale** • Come view and purchase a variety of art in every price range, plus greeting cards. The gallery is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday each week. | When: Through Dec. 30. | Where: Southside Art League, 299 E. Broadway St., Greenwood. | Info: southsideartleague.org

**New Years Noon Confetti Countdown** • Let's ring in the New Year together! (A little early since the library is closed on Sunday, but it will be fun just the same...) Join us for a family activity in The Studio from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. (drop in anytime), a scavenger hunt in the Kids Department all day, and a countdown at noon filled with colorful confetti! | When: Dec. 30, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Where: Greenwood Public Library, 310 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. | Info: greenwoodlibrary.us

**New Year's Eve Celebration** • Tickets, which cost \$20, are on sale now for this 18 and older event which features reserve seating and, snacks, party favors, a champagne toast, and music from Evajo and Keith. Music starts at 8:30 p.m. Attendees may bring their own side dish. | When: Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. | Where: Greenwood Moose Lodge, 813 W. Smith Valley Road, Greenwood. | Info: facebook.com/gml2079/

#### PERRY TOWNSHIP

**Kids' New Year's Party** • Ring in the New Year at UNO! This family friendly event features balloon drops at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m., goodie bags for the kids & ginger ale toasts. Registration required. | When: Dec. 31, 4 - 7 p.m. | Where: Uno Pizzeria & Grill, Indianapolis. | Info: facebook.com/unosouthportroad/events

### AN OPTION

#### Newk's Eatery

As you do last-minute Christmas shopping with no time for a sit-down meal, pick up a quick sandwich while running errands or take home a pizza, soup or salad for your family at Newk's Eatery in Greenwood Springs Shopping Center. You can even pick up a \$50 gift card for a loved one and enjoy a \$10 bonus reward, valid Jan. 1-March 31, 2024, perfect for a chilly day when all you want is a bowl of soup. Options include the Lobster Bisque, Loaded Potato, Tomato Basil and Chicken and Dumplings. Enjoy a 10-inch pizza; try the Nick's Q, with chicken and the restaurant's signature white BBQ sauce, bacon, mozzarella and chili oil topped with jalapenos and a white BBQ sauce drizzle. Customer favorite sandwiches include the Chicken Salad and Mac and Cheese, while salad lovers pick the Greek salad. Enjoy one of their layered cake slices.

"When I'm having lunch with friends, this is my go-to choice," stated a Tripadvisor reviewer. "It's so much better than the local chains for soup/sandwiches/salads."

**Hours:** Daily, 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Address: 1279 Emerson Ave., Suite A-1, Greenwood. For more information, call (317) 300-0728 or go to newks.com



All I want for Christmas is ... a perfectly toasted Newk's Club. (Photo courtesy of Newk's Eatery)

#### Phyllis Dumm's 100th birthday

Please join us as we celebrate Phyllis Dumm's 100th birthday. No RSVP is required. The celebration will take place on Friday, Dec. 29, 2023 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Sycamore room located at Greenwood Village South's Pavilion building. The address is 183 Smock Drive, Greenwood, 46143.

Phyllis is a longtime Southside resident who taught fourth grade at Abraham Lincoln Elementary for many years. Please feel free to pass her celebration event onto others!



### AROUND TOWN

#### Breakfast meetings draw increased attendance

Attendance has been steadily increasing at the meetings of The U.S.S. Indianapolis Memorial Branch of the Fleet Reserve Association (FRA). With a number in the low teens at the Dec. 4 meeting including a new member who came bearing gifts. Upcoming events include Monday, Jan. 8, FRA Meeting at 6 p.m. at Greenwood VFW (First Monday is a holiday) and Tuesday, Jan. 9, FRA Breakfast at 9 a.m. at Denny's. The Navy/Marine Corps/Coast Guard Veterans group, Fleet Reserve Association, FRA Branch 130, The USS Indianapolis (CA 35) Memorial Branch meets the first Monday of each month at the VFW Post in Greenwood. For more information, visit fra130indy.org



★★★★★ • PG • Drama, Family, Fantasy • 2 hours, 10 minutes

## It's a Wonderful Life

### A timeless classic thanks to ... copyright laws?

#### MOVIE REVIEW

By Bradley Lane

Originally released in 1946, Frank Capra's *It's a Wonderful Life* is a holiday staple in houses across America and is widely celebrated as a classic. However, this was not always the case; in fact when it was originally released it only did moderately well and did not garner much notice from critics of the time. So, how did a supposedly mediocre film from the 1940s become a modern Christmas tradition? It all has to do with copyright laws.

In 1974, 25 years after it initially released, due to a paperwork error, the copyright of the film expired, and it entered the public domain. Effectively, this meant that anyone could distribute the film without having to pay royalties to the studio that produced the film. Instantly, television studios across the U.S. began broadcasting it every

holiday season. It was this paperwork error that led to a disappointment of a film to becoming what it is today, a critical and audience darling that has bonified classic status.

For the uninitiated, *It's a Wonderful Life* is a story about the life of George Bailey, played by the incomparable Jimmy Stewart. George is a lifelong resident of Bedford Falls, and throughout the first and second acts he is introduced as consistently selfless. Even going so far as to give up on his own goals and dreams to help others in his community. However, this begins to wear on George in his middle age and he finds himself in a deep depression wishing to God that he'd never had been born. In response, an angel, played with

timeless charm by Henry Travers, shows him what Bedford Falls would look like if he hadn't been born.



*It's a Wonderful Life* is my favorite Christmas film of all time despite being released more than 50 years before I was born. The reason being is that, unlike the yearly hallmark Christmas films or even theatrically released holiday films, *It's a Wonderful Life* goes beyond the platitudes and clichés that permeate the genre. The film explores themes of family, community, class struggle and loss in a convincing and realistic way. The pacing of the film reinforces these ideas by using the majority of the film to tell the story of George's life. We have a deep appreciation for George and have even

been exposed to his flaws. This means we too experience the disorientation and terror George feels when he wakes up in Pottersville and he loses everything.

Ultimately, the film is about more than a season, it's about the culmination of a life. The people we touch every day without even realizing it. So, remember this holiday season, "no man is a failure who has friends." *It's a Wonderful Life* is available to stream on Amazon Prime Video. -5/5 stars



Bradley is a Beech Grove High School alumnus and has been enamored by film for as long as he can remember. He recently graduated from IUPUI, with a degree in Media and Public Affairs with a minor in Film. Bradley can be contacted at [blane2214@gmail.com](mailto:blane2214@gmail.com).

## SPOTLIGHT

### Blue Skies

Taking a trip via airport soon? Check out Indianapolis' newest art installation. The new Blue Skies suspended art sculpture is on display now at the Indianapolis International Airport (IND), making it the first permanent art installation in the terminal since it opened more than 15 years ago. "The Indy airport's commitment to local artists and public art is soaring to new heights this year," said Mario Rodriguez, executive director of the Indianapolis Airport Authority. "Suspended more than 65 feet in the air from the terminal roof structure, this new public art piece will welcome nearly 9 million visitors to the Indy airport each year and many more for years to come." Blue Skies is the brainchild of Indianapolis artist and soon-to-be Herron graduate Brenna McCarty. McCarty was selected earlier this year to create the art, a unique 40-foot by 100-foot hanging sculpture, in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of The International Center supported by a \$120,000 grant from the Brooks and Joan Fortune Family Foundation. The suspended sculpture is composed of hundreds of acrylic spheres, intricately arranged and set at various lengths with hues of blue, to embody the ideals of togetherness and worldwide connectivity. The spheres are a lighter hue the farther out from the middle, "creating an impactful sense of movement and energy that parallels a busy airport where individual paths cross, and people come together to either return home or embark on their next journey," McCarty explained. The permanent art installation is located in public access pre-security of the terminal, suspended above the escalators and stairs leading from the Ticketing Hall into Baggage Claim. McCarty shared what she anticipates travelers will experience when viewing Blue Skies, "I hope it will represent a 'send off' and a 'return home.' I hope this brings a tranquil moment, a space for stillness, serenity and peace — like a breath of fresh air." For more information, visit [IND.com/PublicArt](http://IND.com/PublicArt).



"Blue Skies" art by Brenna McCarty. (Photo courtesy of the Indianapolis International Airport)

**Virginia M. Ashman**

Virginia M. Ashman, 92, died Dec. 16, 2023. Survivors: six children; 18 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren; six great-great-grandchildren; three brothers. Predeceased: husband, Robert; two great-grandchildren; brother. Visitation: 10 a.m. to noon, Thursday, Dec. 21, G. H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home; Mass of Christian Burial: 1 p.m., Holy Name Catholic Church.

**Tracey William Becraft**

Tracey William Becraft, 58, Indianapolis, died Dec. 11, 2023. Survivors: daughters, Sara McGauhey and Ashley Smith; five grandchildren; siblings, Sandra and Steve. Predeceased: granddaughter, Payton; siblings, Mark, Charles Becraft, Jr., Debbie Gibson; nephew, Dustin; niece, Rachel. Visitation: 12:30-2:30 p.m. service, Friday, Dec. 22, G.H. Herrmann East Street Funeral Home.

**Barbara L. Belt**

Barbara L. Belt, 73, Beech Grove, died Dec. 15, 2023. Survivors: husband, William Belt, two stepchildren; brothers, David Dean Burchette, James Ronald (Jean) Burchette; several grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and sister, Judith West. No services scheduled. Wilson St. Pierre.

**Elizabeth "Liz" A. Burgess**

Elizabeth "Liz" A. Burgess, 74, Indianapolis, died Dec. 14, 2023. Survivors: husband, Donnie; children, William (Jenny) and Deborah Johnson; grandchildren, Levi (Tapanga), C.J., Jonah, Ethan, Natalee, Samuel, Matthew, Andrew and LilliAnn; two great-grandchildren; six nieces and nephews. Predeceased: sister, Gloria; niece, Lori; sisters-in-law, Shirley and Pam. Forest Lawn Funeral Home.

**Gregory Michael Coffing**

Gregory Michael Coffing, 69, died Dec. 12, 2023. Survivors: wife, Benny; mother, Randy; children, Matthew (Shannon), Sara (Dereck) Webb, Kristen (Matthew) McCarrick, Nick (Kelsey); stepchildren, Barbie (AJ) Brown, Roscoe (Theresa) Baxter; 14 grandchildren; six siblings. Predeceased: father, Gordon. Visitation: Thursday, Dec. 21, 1-3 p.m. service, Forest Lawn Funeral Home.

**Ethan J. David**

Ethan J. David, 18, Indianapolis, died Dec. 10, 2023. He was born to Dustin David (deceased) and Nikkia Weaver and adopted by James Vickous and Kelly Pruitt (survives); other survivors: eight siblings; grandparents. Predeceased: aunt, Jennifer Brown; uncle, Michael David. Visitation: Friday, Dec. 22, 2-6 p.m., Forest Lawn Funeral Home.

**Dennis L. Hobson**

Dennis L. Hobson, 70, Greenwood, died Dec. 11, 2023. Survivors: wife, Linda; mother, Vernie White; children, Shannon Hobson, Ashley Cole, Cory Hobson; stepchildren, Chris Clemens, Janine Nichols and Leslie Carr; 13 grandchildren. Arrangements handled by G.H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home.

**Patricia Ann (Barth) Hoffman**

Patricia Ann (Barth) Hoffman, 93, died Dec. 15, 2023. Survivors: sister, Donna Ziliak; children, Cindy (Jeff) McDaniel, Jan Baele, Pam (Jim) Goff and Missy (David) Hathaway; daughter-in-law, Jane; 15 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; extended family/friends. Predeceased: husband, Bob; son, Jeffrey; son-in-law, Dr. Joseph Baele. Wilson St. Pierre Franklin Township Chapel.

**Doris Irene Hopper**

Doris Irene Hopper died Dec. 16, 2023. Survivors: children, Kathi (Mike), Kent; grandchildren, Sarah (Tim), Derek; and two great-granddaughters, Audrey and Leona. Arrangements handled by G.H. Herrmann Greenwood Funeral Home.

**Beatrice Hunter**

Beatrice Hunter, 75, Indianapolis, Port Richey, Fla., died Dec. 14, 2023. Survivors: two sisters; two brothers; children, Richard, Charles, Nicole; 12 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren. Predeceased: husband, Charles. Visitation: Thursday, Dec. 21, 4-8 p.m., Singleton & St. Pierre Funeral Service & Crematory. Funeral service: Friday, Dec. 22, 1 p.m., funeral home.

**Teresa Maxine Patterson**

Teresa Maxine Patterson, 61, of Beech Grove, passed away Dec. 15, 2023, at her home surrounded by loving family. She fought a courageous battle with cancer. She was born on June 7, 1962, in Indianapolis, to Gilford and Mildred Cravens Threet. She was a graduate of Hamilton Southeastern High School and attended Ivy Tech in Indianapolis. She was a certified Medical Coder. She enjoyed adult coloring books in order to help with her stress, baking her sweets, reading, going to many live concerts, watching the Indianapolis Colts and especially enjoyed her weekend road trips with her husband. She was a member of the Noblesville Moose Lodge and Daughters of the American Legion of Fishers, Ind. Survivors include her husband of 35 years, Timothy Patterson; her son, Zachary; her mother, Mildred. She was preceded in death by her father, Gilford Threet. Visitation and a funeral service was on Tuesday, Dec. 19, at G. H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home. She will be laid to rest at Concordia Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Wheeler Mission or the American Cancer Society. Please share memories, photographs and online condolences with the family at ghherrmann.com

**Robert R. Rust**

Robert R. "Bob" Rust died Dec. 13, 2023. He married Linda Lou Diekman. Survivors: sons, Randy (Laura), Brad (Julie); four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren. Visitation: Thursday, Dec. 21, noon to 2 p.m. service, Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service & Crematory, 481 W. Main St., Greenwood. Burial at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

**James E. Wainscott**

James E. Wainscott, 81, Greenwood, died Dec. 15, 2023. Survivors: children, Jamie (John) Zeilinga, Jimmy Wainscott; grandchild, Melanie (Jacob); four great-grandchildren; and brothers, Phil Wainscott and Mike Creed. Predeceased: wife, Jona; granddaughter, Sara Lynn. Visitation: Friday, Dec. 22, 2-5 p.m. service: Wilson St. Pierre Funeral Service & Crematory-Greenwood Chapel.

**John White**

John White, 88, Danville, died Dec. 12, 2023. Survivors: wife, Cindy; sister, Margie (Joe); brother, Roy; daughters, Debbie (Terry), Kathy and Julie (Darin); son, Ron (Catherine); eight grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. Predeceased: six brothers; two sisters; granddaughter, Caitlin. Arrangements handled by G. H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home.

**Mary Rosalee Therese Wilson**

Mary Rosalee Therese Wilson, 83, Indianapolis, died Dec. 11, 2023. Survivors: husband, Boyle; daughters, Lisa (Aaron) Spencer and Holly (Joe) Martin-Lewellyn; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; sister, Judy Ardizzone. Preceded in death: brother, Robert Miller, son-in-law, Chris Martin. Arrangements: G. H. Herrmann Madison Avenue Funeral Home.

**IN OUR SCHOOLS****Center Grove holds Topping Out ceremony for academic pavilion**

Center Grove Schools hosted a Topping Out ceremony for the newest addition to Center Grove High School. The addition is an academic pavilion which will include 18 classrooms, a collaboration space, and a secondary food court to serve the district's growing student enrollment. "Our school corporation has been growing steadily," said Rich Arkanoff, Ed.D., Center Grove Schools superintendent. "We are now at slightly over 9,500 students and 2,900 of them are right here in this building, so we really need this space. These new classrooms will provide much-needed space for those students and those who will follow them here." The new addition is three stories and 50,000 total square feet. It is located on the west side of the high school, adjacent to the school's natatorium. The addition is scheduled to be completed in spring 2025.

**AROUND TOWN****Gov. Holcomb appoints Greenwood resident to state board**

Governor Eric J. Holcomb today announced several appointments to various state boards and commissions, including Private Investigator & Security Guard Licensing Board. The governor made one new appointment to the board, who will serve until Oct. 31, 2027: Laura Brown, of Greenwood, executive coordinator at Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP.

*Basic death notices (up to 50 words) are printed free of charge. Personalized Obituaries exceeding 50 words will be charged at a rate of \$12 for the first 60 words and 10 cents for each additional word. Full-color photographs may be included for an additional \$10. Families/estates or funeral directors are encouraged to send obituaries and photos to [news@ss-times.com](mailto:news@ss-times.com). Information received by noon Tuesday will be published Thursday, space permitting.*

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[concordia-cemetery.com](http://concordia-cemetery.com)



\* Copies of The Southside Times are available each week in this church's office or lobby.

† CATHOLIC

† **Good Shepherd Catholic Church** • 2905 S. Carson Ave., Indpls. | Ph: (317) 783-3158. | Rev. Jeffery Moore, Sac. Minister. | Sat. Mass: 4:30 p.m. | Sun. Mass: 9 a.m. | Ordinarate Rite 11:00 a.m. | Completely Handicapped Accessible. | All Welcome!

**Holy Name of Jesus** • 89 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. | Ph: (317) 784-5454. | Rev. Robert Robeson. | Worship Times & Anticipation Sun.: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. | Sat. Mass: 5 p.m.

**Saints Francis & Clare Catholic Church** • 5901 Olive Branch Road, Greenwood. | Ph: (317) 859-4673. | Fr. Steve Giannini. | Sat. Anticipation Mass: 5:30 p.m. | Sun.: 7, 8:45 & 11:30 a.m.

† CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

**Sixth Church of Christ, Scientist** • 7625 McFarland Road. | Ph: (317) 888-3204. | Sun.: 10 a.m. | Sun. School: 10 a.m. | Wed.: 7 p.m. | Reading Room Hours Wed.: 5:30-7:00 p.m.

† LUTHERAN

**Calvary Lutheran Church and School** • 6111 Shelby St., Indianapolis | (317) 783-2000 | info@clcs.org | clcs.org | Sat: 6:30 p.m. | Sun: 8 & 10:45 a.m. | Sunday School: 9:25 a.m. | Ladies Bible Study: Wed. 10am | Womens Bible Study: Wed. 6pm | Engaging People in Christ through Connecting, Learning, Caring and Serving.

\***Concordia Lutheran Church and Preschool** • 305 Howard Road, Greenwood. | (317) 881-4477. | Worship Sun.: 9:30 a.m. | Mon.: 6:30 p.m. | concordia-lcms.com.

† NON-DENOMINATIONAL

**Tallwood Chapel Community Church** • 5560 S. Shelby St., Indpls. | Ph: (317) 787-5595. | The Gospel is a seed - come grow with us. | Worship with us Sundays 10:30 a.m. Wed. 7 p.m. Prayers are with you during this time. | BIBLE CHURCH, Ministry of HOLY WORD.

† SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

**Southside Seventh-Day Adventist** • 4801 Shelbyville Road, Indpls. 46237 | Ph: (317) 786-7002. | Services Sat.: 10:45 a.m. | Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m. | southsideadventist.org.

† SOUTHERN BAPTIST

**Calvary Baptist Church** • 200 Sunset Blvd., Greenwood. | Ph: (317) 881-5743. | Sr. Pr. Dave Cook | Sun.: 10:30 a.m. | Sunday School: 9 a.m. | Something for All Ages.

**Garfield Park Baptist Church** • Meets at 2560 Villa Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46203 | Interim Rev. Dr. Mark Hetrick | Sunday worship at 11am | Sunday school at 9:30am | Wednesday bible discussion at 6:30pm | Ph: (317)-784-7068

**Southwood Baptist Church** • 501 S. 4th Ave., Beech Grove | Ph: 317-786-2719 | Proclaiming Christ because we care. | Pastor John C. Jones II | Sunday worship 10:45am. | Sunday school 9:30am

† SPIRITUALIST

**The Spiritualist Church of Indianapolis** • 3020 S. Meridian St. Ste. E & F, Indianapolis 46217. | Sun.: 6:30 p.m. | TSCOI.org.

† UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**St. John's United Church of Christ** • 7031 S. East St., Indpls (U.S. 31, Southport Road). | Ph: (317) 881-2353. | Sunday Worship: 10:30a.m. | Sunday School: 10:30a.m.

† UNITED METHODIST

**Edgewood United Methodist** • 1820 E. Epler Ave. | Ph: (317) 784-6086. | Rev. Kevin Davis. | Sun. Worship: 9 a.m. | Sunday School: 10:15 a.m. | edgewoodumc-indy.org. | "The Church for The Next 100 Years." | We are on 📍

**Rosedale Hills United Methodist** • 4450 S. Keystone Ave., Indpls. | Ph: (317) 786-6474 | Email: officerhumc@att.net. | Senior Pastor Amy Lee. | Sun.: 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School: 10:45 a.m. | rosedalehillsumc.com.

† DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

**First Christian Church of Beech Grove** • 405 Main Street, Beech Grove, IN 46107 | (317) 786-8522 | In Person on Sundays at 10:30 or Zoom, same time: 121 813 648



Weekly Devotion



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

ROMANS 15:13

Christmas is right around the corner, and we are reminded in many ways that this is the season of joy. We see twinkling lights and beautiful decorations everywhere we look, and we hear wonderful music everywhere we go. Joy to the world, the Lord has come! But for many this is a season of sadness because many are without hope. We cannot separate joy from hope any more than we can separate Christmas from salvation through Christ! Those who don't know the joy of sins forgiven long for peace and joy as they search for happiness in a dark and dying world. They know moments of happiness based upon their ever-changing circumstances, but this happiness is fleeting and can be stolen away when our circumstances change for the worse. It is not uncommon for many people to struggle with sadness because of

Seasonal Affective Disorder, or SAD. It is a type of depression that results from shorter days with less daylight. The good news is that on the day of this publication the increasing darkness of night gives way to the returning of the increased hours of light! But there is an even greater light that breaks all cycles of depression, and it is the light of the world we know as Jesus Christ. The name alone means "God Saves!" As we light each candle of the Advent wreath may we be reminded that the gifts of hope, peace, joy and love are not found beneath a Christmas tree but instead are received when we believe that Christ came to bring salvation to you and to me..

God bless and go and have a great day.

*Pastor Dan Bailey is the chair of the Mayor's Faith Based Round Table for the City of Beech Grove, who believes in its mission statement to "Strengthen the Community with Christ's Love." He is a lifelong resident of Southside with his wife, four children and five grandchildren. He has also been a criminal investigator for the last 30-plus years for the Public Defender Agency.*



Our community.  
Our stories.

Every week, we aim to share the best of the Southside community sharing the stories of people who make a difference every day.

What stories in the community deserve to be told? What community Icons deserve recognition for what they do for Southside residents and organizations?

Forward your suggestions to Nicole Davis at [nicole@icontimes.com](mailto:nicole@icontimes.com)

The Southside Times

**Legal/Public**

**Auction**

PUBLIC NOTICE AUCTION OF PROPERTY BY Nick's Packing And Storage LLC. Public auction of personal property including household goods, furniture, non-perishables, belonging to the following persons: Kristine Kelley, Tisha Reynolds, Glenda Rolles, Annie Clay, Jernard Cley On Thursday December 28, 2023 at 6:30PM The location for the auction is: Mike Heimel Auction Services 59 N. 2nd Ave, Beech Grove, IN 46107 PURUSANT TO IC 32-31-4-4, IC 32-31-4-5, IC 26-1-7-210(B)(5)

**AROUND TOWN**

**Jefferson & Mary Shreve make \$100K donation to Friends of Indy Animals**

Former Indianapolis Mayoral Candidate and City-County Councilor Jefferson Shreve and his wife, Mary, made a \$150K donation to the Indianapolis animal welfare community. The Shreves donated \$100K to Friends of Indy Animals, the 501(c) (3) organization supporting Indianapolis Animal Care Services (IACS). In addition to this contribution, the Shreves also donated \$10K to five Indianapolis animal welfare nonprofits: Friends of Indianapolis Dogs Outside, Four-Legged Ranch, Indy Neighborhood Cats, Lucci's Bully House Rescue and Rosie's Southside Animal Rescue. "During my campaign, I pledged to contribute my mayoral salary to IACS, if elected," stated Shreve. "This commitment was not just a campaign promise; it reflected a genuine dedication to the well-being of animals. While I did not win the election, I am pleased to fulfill this commitment through today's donation. I also acknowledge the tireless efforts of individuals running animal rescue organizations in our city. Their hard work in keeping strays off the streets and pulling animals from IACS ultimately reduces the population at our city's shelter." The Shreves' donation to Friends of Indy Animals is specifically earmarked for addressing critical 24-hour medical emergencies at IACS. Emergency medical care constitutes the most substantial portion of Friends of Indy Animals' budget and represents its most pressing need. Mary and Jefferson Shreve's dedication to animal welfare spans over a decade. They adopted a rescue dog, Shelby, and consistently make annual contributions to nonprofit organizations such as FIDO and Rosie's Southside Animal Shelter.

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D	Y	N	E	S	P	E	C	A	R	E	S	

**Puzzle Time Answers**  
SEE PAGE 7

**Answers to HOOSIER HODGEPODGE:**

**Parts:** CLIFF, FACE, GORGE, LEDGE, RIDGE, SUMMIT;

**Breads:** BAGUETTE, FOCACCIA, RYE, SOURDOUGH, WHITE;

**Sections:** FICTION, HISTORY, HUMOR, TRAVEL;

**Bills:** GAS, RENT, WATER;

**Counties:** TIPPECANOE, TIPTON;

**Auditor:** ELISE NIESHALLA

4	2	9	1	3	6	5	7	8
3	7	6	8	2	5	4	1	9
5	8	1	4	7	9	2	6	3
1	6	2	3	8	7	9	4	5
8	9	4	2	5	1	6	3	7
7	3	5	9	6	4	8	2	1
9	5	7	6	1	2	3	8	4
2	1	8	5	4	3	7	9	6
6	4	3	7	9	8	1	5	2

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**ON CAMPUS**

**Robert Dake inducted into Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi**

Robert Dake, of Greenwood, was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Dake was initiated at University of Maryland Global Campus. Dake is among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10% of seniors and 7.5% of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10% of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

**Michael Hazelbaker set to graduate from University of Georgia**

Michael Alan Hazelbaker is among the more than 2,900 candidates for graduation in the University of Georgia's Class of 2023 who was celebrated during Commencement exercises this week. Hazelbaker, of Greenwood, is a candidate for a MS Forestry and Natural Resources. The ceremony was Dec. 15. For more information, visit commencement.uga.edu.

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**AROUND TOWN**

**Fill out the Fountain Square Drainage Improvement survey**

The Indianapolis Department of Public Works (DPW) is currently in the design process for the Fountain Square Area Drainage Improvement project coming in 2025. The engineering team is open to input from residents and business owners. The project is designed to relieve flooding concerns around the intersections of Virginia Avenue, Prospect Avenue, Shelby Street and Morris Street. The project includes a new trunk line separate storm sewer extending along Shelby Street from Pleasant Run Creek to the south to Woodlawn Avenue to the north. The storm sewer will be sized to accommodate future connections from adjacent areas that are currently served by a combined sewer system. The project will include rolling closures, but all lanes in the closed areas will be restricted. (Meaning, there will not be thru-traffic.) The plan does include much needed improvements to the bike path and also currently removes some turn lanes and 11 parking spots along Shelby Street. Fill out the survey here at forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.

**FIRST Indiana Robotics brings FIRST Tech Challenge competition to Greenwood**

FIRST Indiana Robotics announced the FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) competition in Greenwood on Saturday, Dec. 16. This event will gather talented and innovative students from across the region to showcase their engineering and robotics skills. FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) events are known for their intensity and excitement. Teams spent their seasons designing, building, and programming their robots to compete in this year's game. During the competition, attendees will witness the incredible creativity and determination of these young minds. With a unique and challenging game theme unveiled each year, these students apply their knowledge, teamwork, and passion to build robots that can conquer the game's challenges. The Greenwood community and all surrounding areas are invited to attend the event and witness the outstanding achievements of these young engineers and innovators. The competition will occur at Center Grove Middle School North, 202 N Morgantown Road, Greenwood, and doors will be open from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, visit info@indianafirst.org.



*First Baptist*  
**BEECH GROVE**

Celebrating 111 Years of Worship

*Celebrate the reason for the season.*  
*The birth of Jesus the Savior of mankind.*

**Christmas Worship Service**  
**Sunday, December 24**  
**10:30am**

First Baptist Church of Beech Grove  
5521 Churchman Ave

Luke 2:11  
For unto you is born this day  
in the city of David, a Savior which is Christ the Lord



# *The* Southside Times

**The presses have been steadily running for the past 95 years!**



***Celebrating***