

FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2022

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TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Mostly sunny.  
Tonight: Partly cloudy.



HIGH: 90 LOW: 64



Talented young actors from areas such as Fishers, Westfield, Zionsville, and Indianapolis will dazzle audiences with their performances of *The Little Mermaid Jr.* tonight through Monday in Carmel. (From left) Izzy Ellis as Ariel, Sadie Cohen as Ursula, Evan Cohen as Flounder, and Jackson Mullen as Sebastian.

# Go under the sea in Carmel

## "The Little Mermaid Jr." is staging for six days only

By **STU CLAMPITT**  
[news@readthereporter.com](mailto:news@readthereporter.com)

Young actors ages 9 to 14 will bring to life Disney's *The Little Mermaid Jr.* for audiences of up to 500 people for only six performances in Booth Tarkington Civic Theatre, 3 Carter Green, Carmel, starting tonight at 7 p.m.

Based on one of Hans Christian Andersen's most beloved stories, Disney's *The Little Mermaid Jr.* is an enchanting look at the sacrifices we all make for love and acceptance. In a magical underwater kingdom, the beautiful young mermaid, Ariel, longs to leave her ocean home – and her fins – behind and live in the world above. But first, she'll have to

defy her father, King Triton, make a deal with the evil sea witch, Ursula, and convince the handsome Prince Eric that she's the girl whose enchanting voice he's been seeking.

"We began rehearsal May the ninth and we rehearse four

### Get Your Tickets

Tickets prices start at \$19.50.  
TONIGHT, June 24 at 7 p.m.  
Saturday, June 25 at 2 and 5 p.m.  
Sunday, June 26 at 2 p.m.  
Monday, June 27 to Wednesday, June 29 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.  
Tickets can be purchased at [civictheatre.org](http://civictheatre.org) or by calling the box office at (317) 843-3800.

days a week, a couple hours a day," Director Brent Marty told The Reporter. "It spreads it out for them, but that's what's needed to put on this big of a show."

This will be Marty's 22nd production with Civic Theater. "We do a show every summer, so it is well-known in the community," Marty said. "These kids came out to audition in early April and I had around 100

See *Mermaid* . . . Page 2

# Carmel reveals city's biggest tree

## The REPORTER

The City of Carmel has found the biggest tree in the city, and it's a sycamore!

The Carmel Urban Forestry Committee invited residents to submit entries for their biggest trees in a month-long contest centered on this year's Arbor Day. The city gathered measurements and inspected the entries to identify the biggest tree in Carmel.

The winning entry comes from the Wong family on Cool Creek Drive, who submitted their big tree that measured 271.8 inches in circumference, almost 60 inches larger than the runner-up tree on Canary Court.

Carmel has been recog-

nized as a Tree City USA for 27 years and a Tree City Growth Award winner for more than 20, for the city's dedication of preserving and increasing the number of trees in the community. This is due primarily to an aggressive street tree program that, last year, added 600 more trees to city streets and boulevards.

"I wanted to create a way to make our residents more aware of our mature urban forest," Mayor Jim Brainard said. "This contest helped them see how many large old trees exist in our community and reminded them of this valuable asset."

For the first time, the City's Urban Forestry Com-

mittee celebrated Arbor Day with the Big Tree Contest. The city launched this contest in March. A total of 142 entries were received in 10 species categories. The largest tree was determined from those species' finalists. The winner was announced at the Carmel Farmers Market's first weekend in May.

Carmel's Environmental Planner and urban forestry expert, Daren Mindham, said the contest increased residents' interest in the urban forest and the large trees in Carmel. The plan is to continue this contest in the future.

For more information visit [carmelurbanforestry.com](http://carmelurbanforestry.com).



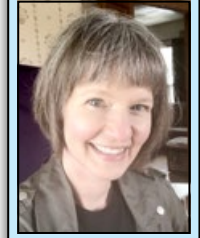
Photo provided by City of Carmel  
Lilly, Landon, and Nola Wong stand in front of their big sycamore tree.

# Choosing adoption as my own path to motherhood?

I only brought up my biological parents to my mother one more time, and this was right after I graduated college. For some reason, she told me that if I were to ever search for them it would break her heart.

At the time, this wasn't a big deal to me. I figured I had my wonderful family and a good life. I didn't need to learn anything about the people who gave birth to me. I had even told my brother the same thing once during a walk when I was a teenager. Mark was surprised to hear this because he had assumed I would be curious. But I felt confident that I didn't need to do any digging into that part of my life.

COLUMNIST



AMY SHANKLAND  
*Perfectly Imperfect*

All of that changed, however, after I had my first child years later.

I had some great experiences after college, and some not-so-great ones. The latter category included my first marriage, which lasted only three years. Some people are mature and ready for marriage at age 22. I wasn't one of them. I had yet to understand the challenges of living with someone who was less than perfect. And my ex-husband's way of dealing with someone who was also less than perfect – me – was to be verbally abusive.

Thankfully we didn't have kids and were able to go our separate ways fairly easily back in 1996. That's when I went on to have many adventures. These included skydiving, white water rafting in West Virginia, dating a man who loved motorcycles and riding all over Indiana on one, playing the lead in an Agatha Christie play in a local community theater, and simply experiencing life as a single 20-something. I had a decent career as a customer service representative, played volleyball in a nearby adult recreation league, and lots of friends.

Volleyball, in fact, helped me find my best friend and current husband, John. We met on the court when I was 27, dated for a year, bought an old Victorian house in Noblesville, and got married in it in the fall of 1998. Unlike my first husband, John was positive, easygoing, and ready to have children right away. He was a hard worker who drove many hours in a tow truck for a living. In fact, that's where we planned our wedding. If I didn't ride along with him in the tow truck at times, I would have rarely seen him.

God had other plans as far as the timing of our children. I imagined getting pregnant right away and having my first child at age 28. But a whole year went by with no luck. My OB-GYN put me on a medication to help with my fertility. As we approached the 18-month mark, John and I decided to stop trying. We didn't want to spend thousands of dollars on infertility treatments and have our marriage torn apart by constantly focusing on trying to get pregnant.

"I just want a baby to love and raise," Jack said. "We can even adopt one if you want."

See *Adoption* . . . Page 2

# Noblesville Lions induct 2022-23 officers

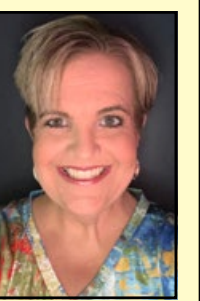


Photo provided  
On Wednesday evening, the Noblesville Lions Club inducted new officers with the help of Scott Smith, District Governor. Those inducted were President Gordon Resler, First Vice President Walt Scheid, Second V.P. Kim Luckey, Secretary Julia Kozicki, Treasurer Jeff Kozicki, Steve Craig, Membership; Jake Doll, Marketing Communication; Mark Bachar, Tail Twister; Tim Baker, Lion Tamer; John Grimes, Chaplain; and Board Members Joe Arrowood (one year), Gary Hipes (one year), Steve Shaw (two years) and Bob Minton (two years). Congratulations to all and great work!

# Noblesville art teacher earns national recognition

**The REPORTER**  
Congratulations to Noblesville's North Elementary art teacher Lisa Fritz on being named a National Art Education Association Crayola Creativity Ambassador.

Fritz is the only honoree in Indiana and was chosen based on her creative teaching and art leadership.



Fritz



# Arcadia Village Apartments

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Water, sewage and weekly trash pickup included in rent.

*"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"*



### 317-984-5863



## MERMAID

auditioners. We have a cast of 32. I've got kids from Fishers, Westfield, Zionsville and Indianapolis."

Marty said he considers himself lucky to have the level of talent he does from these young actors.

"We have a good talent base, and the kids are easy to work with," Marty said. "They take direction well. They pick up songs and learn their lines pretty quickly. Mainly the challenges are getting them to understand that they are in a big room in a big theater, so they have to project their voices and learn how blocking onstage works. They have to learn all their stage direction and all those basics that come with being an actor."

This show gets full support of the Civic Theater production team, offering kids an experience they would find had to find anywhere else.

"We have full sound design, full set design, costumes all built specifically for each actor, a make-up artist and wig artist," Marty said. "It is an actual production, which is the thing we bring to this age group that not a lot of other companies are able to do, which makes it a special experience for the kids."

Marty told The Reporter the families supporting his actors deserve a great deal of the credit for how well this show is coming together.

"I want to give a shout-out to the parents and families of these kids," Marty said. "They invest a lot of time and gasoline getting them to rehearsals and making sure they are working at home which makes my job so much easier. It is wonderful to have the support of the families who really believe in what their kids are doing and believe in our program enough to bring them here."

With only six days of performance available, you need to get your tickets before they are gone. Tickets start at \$19.50 and can be purchased at [civictheatre.org](http://civictheatre.org) or by calling the box office at (317) 843-3800.

## ADOPTION

Obviously I agreed with him. How amazing would it be if we adopted a child much like my own parents did 29 years ago? The thought of giving an unwanted child life with two loving people who desperately wanted to be parents thrilled me.

But of course, adopting a child involves money. John and I made an OK living, but we lived paycheck to paycheck like so many other people. While looking at our options, we were surprised to discover that adopting a biracial baby was less expensive than a Caucasian baby. When we asked our contact at the adoption agency why this was the case, she replied, "That's because people don't want them very often."

That information broke our hearts. John and I didn't care what the baby looked like. We just wanted a little one to love and to raise. So, after talking with family members, friends, and neighbors, we decided to sign up to adopt a biracial baby. We paid the adoption orientation fee, went to our first class, and waited for the next step.

from Page 1

from Page 1



### PUBLIC RESTROOM

Open your camera and scan this code



[Patronicity.com/ArcadiaRestroom](http://Patronicity.com/ArcadiaRestroom)

## YOU can help Arcadia have a public restroom!

Arcadia is partnering with the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority for a **Creating Places** crowd funding campaign to raise money this May and June for public restrooms in downtown Arcadia. Our goal is \$15,000, to be matched by **Creating Places**, for a total of \$30,000!

Donations of any amount are welcome.


To learn more, scan the QR code, visit our web site at [www.arcadiaindiana.org](http://www.arcadiaindiana.org), or simply email [amys@greenavenue.info](mailto:amys@greenavenue.info)



## Hello, Hamilton County!



Paul makes weekends fun  
Click to play video




I was born and raised right here in Noblesville. I grew up in a home without domestic violence or assault - it wasn't something I saw, or even heard about. But when I was introduced to Prevail of Central Indiana, I was shocked by the number of individuals who are affected by domestic violence. In 2018 alone, Prevail helped more than 4,000 clients in Hamilton County (nearly 80 percent of clients are women and children). Domestic violence and abuse are hard topics to discuss, so you don't often hear about them. But at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, we're breaking the taboo and raising awareness for Prevail, an organization that helps families in Hamilton County.

- Mike Bragg, GM of Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville

### To help Hamilton County families affected by domestic violence and sexual abuse, you can donate the following items:

- Individually packaged snacks
- Lysol
- Hand sanitizer
- Disinfecting wipes

Drop off items at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, 14701 Tom Wood Way.



## Once you take charge, there's NO GOING BACK

### ID.4 Electric SUV



## RESERVE YOURS TODAY!

at Tom Wood Volkswagen Noblesville\*

\*See dealer for details.



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[TomWood.com/Careers.htm](http://TomWood.com/Careers.htm)



### TOM WOOD Volkswagen NOBLESVILLE

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[TomWoodVolkswagenNoblesville.com](http://TomWoodVolkswagenNoblesville.com)



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# Congress must fix organized retail crime wave

Local news outlets across Indiana have been flooded with ominous images of shattered windows, **closure signs** on local businesses, and nameless figures smashing in display cases. But what you don't get to see is the overwhelming impact these crime sprees are having on Indiana's communities.

In 2019 alone, there were **5,331** robberies reported in Indiana, ranking as the 16th-highest robbery rate in the nation. The organized retail crime (ORC) wave is draining Indiana's businesses. According to a

GUEST COLUMNIST



JIM MERRITT

study done by the Retail Industry Leaders Association, Indiana has lost **\$1.8 billion** to organized retail crime, contributing to nearly **\$70 billion** of retail loss nationwide.

While organized retail crime has become a billion-dollar issue in Indiana, the state budget spent on policing doesn't reflect the severity of the problem. The state of Indiana spends less per capita on police and corrections than any other state in the nation, spending only **2.48 percent** of its annual budget. As the lowest per capita spender in the nation, there

is a clear disproportion between the monetary havoc ORC is wreaking in Indiana and the amount of resources being spent to address it.

ORC-related investigations are already taxing enough for local police forces at the scene of the crime and now, with the number of stolen goods showing up online, the impact of organized retail crime is trickling up to the federal level, involving everyone from the FBI to the FTC in some cases.

Thankfully, Congress has a unique upcoming opportunity to address this issue in Indiana and across the country by passing H.R. 5502, the Integrity, Notification, and Fairness

in Online Retail Marketplaces for Consumers (INFORM Consumers) Act; a provision currently being considered as a provision in the Bipartisan Innovation Act. As the omnibus package undergoes committee conference scrutiny, it's essential that the INFORM Consumers Act doesn't slip through the cracks.

The INFORM Consumers Act would require online marketplaces to verify the contact information of certain high-volume, third-party sellers and provides consumers with the ability to report suspicious activity through a hotline. These are

straightforward steps that can be taken to disincentivize criminals from stealing goods in the first place and curb the appeal of organized retail crime. Additionally, this bill would ensure that small businesses selling online aren't subject to an arduous state by state patchwork of bills trying to address this issue with varying selling standards and compliance regulations. It's a common-sense policy that stands to benefit law enforcement, consumers, retail, and online businesses alike.

Not only is H.R. 5502 a universally beneficial bill, it's also a bipartisan blue

moon that even has organizations with typically opposing policy priorities – like National Retail Federation and TechNet – aligned in support.

Passing H.R. 5502 is the best first step in combating the mess organized retail crime is making in Indiana and across the country. Congress should ensure the INFORM Consumers Act is included in the Bipartisan Innovation Act before it reaches the president's desk.

*Jim Merritt is a former State Senator and former Indianapolis Mayoral Candidate.*

## Why your electric bill is higher and where you can get help

Hoosiers are paying more at the grocery and gas pump and may be noticing higher electric bills as well. We want to share background on what's driving Duke Energy electricity costs and what we're doing to help.

Since mid-2021, costs for coal and gas to produce the energy that powers Indiana homes, businesses and assembly lines have increased significantly. Fuel accounts for a significant portion of our electric costs, averaging as much as 30 percent of a total bill. That's why when there are volatile energy markets, it can have a big impact.

In fact, Duke Energy Indiana is seeing the highest sustained prices for fuel that we have witnessed in a decade. Global demand and tight fuel supplies, as well as labor shortages at coal mines and railroads, are affecting the cost of the power we

GUEST COLUMNIST



STAN PINEGAR

produce as well as what we purchase in the energy markets. We also have been working to overcome supply chain challenges to ensure we have sufficient supplies of fuel available for summer and winter – the times of highest electric demand.

These are not permanent rate increases. Fuel costs rise and fall, and we pass those costs to our customers with no markup, so customers pay what we pay. Our priority is to purchase fuel at the best possible price, through steps such as long-term contracts and using a diversity of suppliers. To lessen the impact on customer bills, we are spreading recovery of some of these fuel costs over a longer period to reduce the rate impact.

Unfortunately, we expect the bill impact will continue to increase throughout the year. If you are struggling financially to pay your

electric bill, contact us at (800) 521-2232. We can discuss payment plans and resources for help.

We also recommend tools such as High Bill Alerts and Budget Billing that can help customers to manage their bills. Financial assistance also is available through our Share the Light Fund, where eligible customers can receive up to \$300 in energy bill assistance. You can find more information on these programs at [duke-energy.com/home/savings/lower-my-bill-toolkit](https://duke-energy.com/home/savings/lower-my-bill-toolkit).

We have found that many of our customers are missing out on state and federal assistance programs for which they are eligible. To learn more, visit [benefits.gov/benefit/1535](https://benefits.gov/benefit/1535).

We know that higher electric bills can be a hardship for many, and we want to connect customers to resources for help.

*Stan Pinegar serves as the President of Duke Energy Indiana.*



### ALPACA ADVENTURE PROGRAM SUMMER REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

**For more information and registration - scan QR code**



**What is the Alpaca Adventure Program?**

The Alpaca Adventure Program is an innovative program designed to promote the mental, emotional, and social well-being of teens through alpaca-assisted activities. This program provides teens with the unique opportunity to observe and interact with alpacas while focusing on mindfulness, stress reduction, self-esteem, empathy, social interactions, and personal growth.

**Session 1:**  
**June 13-17, 2022**  
**MON, WED, FRI**  
**10am-12pm**

**Session 2:**  
**July 11-15, 2022**  
**MON, WED, FRI**  
**10am-12pm**

**Location**

Stone Farm, 14950 Little Eagle Creek Ave, Zionsville IN 46077

**Who can participate?**

Teens 12-19 years of age

**Cost**

\$150 for a 6-week session or a 1-week minicamp

**Required Forms + More information**

Please visit our website at: [www.chriscenterpaws.com](https://www.chriscenterpaws.com)

# Are You Troubled, Anxious or Dismayed?



**We live in a troubled world and trying times.**

Crime is on the rise. The economy is teetering. Gas prices are up. Inflation rages. Crime is on the rise. There are lots of things to shake the foundation of our lives. Where can we turn for help and stability? God and God alone holds the key!

**Isaiah 41:10 “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”**

At the **Stony Creek Church of Christ**, we assemble on Sundays and Wednesdays to seek a better understanding of Jesus and His ways. You are encouraged and invited to join us for those studies or call for a private study.



## Stony Creek Church of Christ

**“First Century Christianity in the Twenty First Century”**

15530 Herriman Blvd., Noblesville

(317) 219-5852

Sunday Bible Study 10:00 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm



# Beck's supports Team Rubicon in third annual 5K

### The REPORTER

Beck's, the largest family-owned retail seed company in the United States, held its third annual 5K on June 11 at the company headquarters in Atlanta. Beck's 5K promotes health and wellness among Beck's employees and their families, customers, seed dealers, and the community.

From a combination of in-person and virtual participants, a total of 391 people registered for the race. Through registrations, sponsorships, and generous donations, Beck's 5K generated \$32,061.17 in proceeds to benefit this year's charity, Team Rubicon.

Team Rubicon was selected as the 2022 charity by Beck's family of employees. Team Rubicon is a veteran-led humanitarian organization that serves global communities before, during, and after disasters and crises.

"Upon receiving the check, we were astounded by the support generated for Team Rubicon," said Todd Hollingsworth, Indiana state administrator for Team Rubicon. "These funds will directly support families and the resources needed in response to humanitarian crisis and disasters."

In addition to registering and personal donations, participants could show support to loved ones by purchasing tributes for display in honor of veterans or those currently in active duty.

"It was a beautiful morning to bring together employees, friends, and the community to support

Team Rubicon," said Bethany Gremel, director of culture and brand experience at Beck's. "We are happy to support an organization focused on serving others and fostering community."

The event was open to all ages. In addition to the 5K run/walk, children ages 3 to 11 had the chance to participate in a Kids Fun Run. Tyler Cook, 23, Elwood, was the overall winner with a time of 18:56. Behind him was Emilio Leal, 15, Indianapolis, with a time of 19:45, and Trey Mettler, 20, Peru, Ind., with a final time of 20:07. For a full list of finishers, visit [runsignup.com/Race/IN/Atlanta/Becks5K](https://runsignup.com/Race/IN/Atlanta/Becks5K).

Over the last three years, Beck's 5K Run/Walk has generated over \$88,000 in proceeds that have directly benefited three different charities.

Beck's thanks these generous sponsors who made this year's event a success:

**• Gold Sponsors:** AVC Auto, Keen Project Solutions, Indy Powersports, Ice-Miller, Cook Plumbing, MJ Insurance, Symetra, ADP, Reynolds Farm Equipment, Ryan FireProtection, Inc., Roberts Glass & Service, Hearn Construction, Inc., Corteva, Brad Howell Ford, AgriNews, Dusty's Outdoor Media, Trailhead Media, Bayer, Peterson Corn Genetics, and Syngenta

**• Silver Sponsors:** Dan Young, Shepherd Financial, Financial Center, Nyhart, QBE Insurance, CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen LLP), Fidelity Investments, Illinois Foundation Seeds, Inc., Anthem, Behlen Building, and



(Above) Team Rubicon was presented a check for \$32,061.17. (Below) The Top 3 finishers were (from left) Emilio Leal, Tyler Cook, and Trey Mettler.

### Systems

**• Bronze Sponsors:** Cintas, Nationwide, Big Dogs Smokehouse BBQ, Athleticco, McGavic Outdoor Power, Napa Premier Parts – Tipton, and Fussner Farms

**• Additional Sponsors:** Changing Footprints, DJ Godzillest, Dodd Technology, Van Diest Supply Company, HRPro, Shoup's Country Foods, Murray's Body Shop, Needler's (Tipton), Lindsey Cuneo - State Farm, Base Culture, The Wyman Group, Dodd Technologies, and The Love Bug - Food Truck

For more information about Team Rubicon and their relief efforts, visit [teamrubiconusa.org](https://teamrubiconusa.org).



Photos provided

**Anthony Road reopens to all traffic**

Effective immediately, Anthony Road between State Road 38 and 216th Street is open to all traffic. Some incidental work may still be ongoing.

Motorists should continue be cautious while driving through this site. Your continued patience during construction is appreciated. Safe travels!

# Sen. Braun urges White House to 'Buy American' in bipartisan letter

### The REPORTER

U.S. Senators Mike Braun (R-Ind.) and Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.) on Thursday sent a bipartisan letter to President Biden, urging him to implement federal Build America, Buy America (BABA) policies.

In the letter, the Senators emphasized the importance

of full and timely implementation of BABA to advance "Made in America" policies and addressed the federal agencies that have proposed waivers of BABA requirements, writing:

"As the Senate's strongest supporters of federal Build America, Buy America

(BABA) policies, we write to express our opposition to the repeated use of blanket waivers by your Administration designed to avoid these domestic preference requirements. While Congress in recent years has taken significant steps to strengthen BABA, these blanket waivers threaten to undermine these protections, resulting in billions of dollars of infrastructure funds failing to reach American workers."

The Senators continued: "We remain skeptical of lengthy excuses [by departments like Housing and Urban Development (HUD)] claiming these provisions are too complicated to enforce. Other federal departments like the U.S. Department of Agriculture have been successfully administering Buy America preference requirements for water infrastructure projects for years. These departments incorporate the same products and materials as those used in many of the projects receiving HUD's federal financial assistance."

The Senators concluded: "Each waiver that unnecessarily undermines or delays BABA implementation erodes the market signal Congress intended to send with the BABA and results

in missed opportunities to create America jobs and strengthen our national security."

[Click here](#) to read the full letter.

### Background

• Last month, Sen. Braun **questioned HUD Secretary Marcia Fudge** on the agency's use of waivers and requested data on the agency's use of American made products during a hearing for President's FY 2023 HUD Funding Request and Budget Justification on the Senate Appropriations Committee.

• Title XI of the Infrastructure, Investment, and Jobs Act (IIJA) made significant improvements to our Buy America laws, including the Build America, Buy America Act, which requires agencies to complete an in-depth review of BABA applicability across all eligible programs, among other improvements to U.S. law.

• To date, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Interior, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Education, the Treasury Department, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Department of Transportation have all proposed waivers of BABA requirements.



Braun

**1ST ANNUAL RAMBO RIDE**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 25th 2022**

**BENEFITS THE ARCENIO (RAMBO) RUMBAOA JR SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

**STARTS & FINISH AT HAMILTON COUNTY L4416**  
399 S. 14th St. Noblesville, IN 46060

Registration 10:30-12:00  
Kick stands up 12:30  
Pre Registration available up till May 15th

**STOP DESTINATIONS:**  
Jackson Fire: 508 W. Main St. Arcadia 46030  
Harley Davidson of Kokomo 335 S 00 EW, Kokomo 46902  
Elwood Fire Department: 1505 S. B St. Elwood 46036  
East Madison Fire Territory: 207 E. Main St. Chesterfield 46107  
Hamilton County Local 4416

**T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE WITH PRE REGISTRATION FOR \$25 WITH LIMITED AVAILABILITY THE DAY OF**

**Meeting Notices**

The Arcadia Town Council will hold a special meeting to discuss the 2023 town budget at 4 p.m. on Monday, June 27, 2022, at Arcadia Town Hall, 208 W. Main St., Arcadia.

The Jackson Township Board will meet to conduct general township business at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 13, 2022, at the Trustee's Office, 506 W. Main St., Arcadia.

The Westfield Washington Schools Board of Trustees will meet for a non-public executive session from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b)(9) to discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees. This subdivision does not apply to a discussion of the salary, compensation, or benefits of employees during a budget process.

A work session to discuss strategic planning will follow from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the North Conference Room at Westfield Middle School, 345 W. Hoover St., Westfield.

The Carmel Clay Schools Board of Trustees will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, June 27, 2022, at Clay Middle School, 5150 E. 126th St., Carmel.

The Westfield Building Corporation will meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, in the Assembly Room at Westfield City Hall, 130 Penn St., Westfield. You can also watch the meeting online at [youtube.com/user/Cityof-WestfieldIN](https://youtube.com/user/Cityof-WestfieldIN).

**Send Meeting Notices to:**  
[Notices@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:Notices@ReadTheReporter.com)



# Celebrating diversity at Carmel Farmers Market

*Mayor's Advisory Commission on Human Relations sponsors booths from Ukrainian Society, Chinese Community, along with Carmel's sister city groups from Latvia & China*

## The REPORTER

A splash of added diversity will be part of the Carmel Farmers Market on Saturday, June 25, as visitors are encouraged to visit special booths at the market – cultural displays by the Ukrainian Society of Indiana, Indianapolis Chinese Community Center and two of Carmel's Sister City groups – Jelgava (Latvia) and Xiangyang (China). The booths are being added as part of the Celebration of Diversity at the Carmel Farmers Market and will be in the grass area along the western edge of the center walkway of Carter Green.

In the spirit of education and community building, the booths will feature cultural art, costumes, crafts, education, food and music related to each of the organizations featured at the special booths. This effort was initiated by the Mayor's Advisory Commission on Human Relations.

"For any community to thrive, it is paramount that we get to know each other and learn each other's cultures," Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard said. "The Carmel Farmers Market, which already brings together a diverse crowd every Saturday morning, is the perfect place to provide this cross-cultural opportunity."

Here are the groups joining the Farmers Market on Saturday:

### Carmel-Jelgava Sister City Committee

The Carmel-Jelgava Sister City Committee was established in May 2022. The partnership with Jelga-



Photo provided by City of Carmel  
Representatives from the Xiangyang, China Sister City Committee.

va, Latvia comes at a very important and pivotal time in history where the support for freedom and democracy in the world is under siege.

The mission of the Committee is to foster international cooperation and understanding within and between the cities and citizens of Carmel and Jelgava. The Carmel-Jelgava Sister City Committee will promote and develop an active exchange of people and ideas in areas including education, culture, arts, music, dance, government, business and tourism while building relationships and friendships that will last for a lifetime and beyond.

When you stop by their booth, you'll enjoy illustrations of the choir and dance festivals that occur in Latvia

each year.

### Carmel-Xiangyang Sister City Committee

The mission of the Carmel-Xiangyang Sister City Committee is to foster international cooperation and understanding within and between the cities of Carmel and Xiangyang, China and to promote Chinese culture, education and business exchange in the Greater Carmel area.

To fulfill this mission, the Committee develops and promotes cultural and education programs as well as, cross-city exchanges and networking opportunities for individuals, groups and organizations in areas such as business, technology, healthcare, housing and urban development, environ-

ment, arts, culture, tourism and education.

The Committee will have Chinese music and dance performances on the center sidewalk of Carter Green at 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.

See Carmel . . . Page 6

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Rain location will be at **NSPIRE Church**  
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## 20 Hamiton Co. students graduate from Indiana Connections Academy

### The REPORTER

More than 600 students recently graduated from Indiana Connections Academy, a **tuition-free full-time public virtual school** as part of the Class of 2022, including these students from Hamilton County:

- **CARMEL:** Madelyn Bennett, Audrey Hiatt, Andrew Mullinix and Aubrey Posluszny
- **FISHERS:** Jacob Hale, William Kirchhofer, Hayden Lee and Jack Turner
- **NOBLESVILLE:** Buell Babcock, Tarquin Dunn, Samuel Elder, Sean Fair, George Heliotis, Kayla Hill, Anne Lingren, Emilio Mendoza-Ortiz, Ellie Mo-

reland and Christopher Page

• **WESTFIELD:** Jordan Greene and Tatiana Salazar

Indiana Connections Academy provides students with the continuous support of highly-skilled teachers and a **curriculum** that focuses on both academics and helping to build fundamental life skills. This combination fosters an environment for students to gain the confidence they need to thrive in today's modern world. With the ability to work anywhere in Indiana as long as there is an internet connection, students hail from small and large cities across the state. In total, over the last 10 years, more than 4,000 students have now received a diploma from Indiana Connections Academy.

For more than a decade, Indiana Connections Academy has served thousands

of students, including traveling athletes, high-ability students and students with health issues, special needs or circumstances that require the flexibility of online learning. Those who enroll in the school join a collaborative community of their fellow students and educators that provides a welcoming, distraction-free learning environment.

Enrollment for Indiana Connections Academy's 2022 - 2023 school year is now underway for students in grades K-12. Interested families are encouraged to attend one of the upcoming **online information sessions** to find out if virtual school is the right fit for their students. For more information about Indiana Connections Academy, visit [IndianaConnectionsAcademy.com](http://IndianaConnectionsAcademy.com).

## CARMEL

from Page 5

### Indianapolis Chinese Community Center, Inc. (ICCCI)

Indianapolis Chinese Community Center, Inc. (ICCCI) is the largest Chinese American Organization in the greater Indianapolis area. Established in 1995, ICCCI is a not-for-profit community organization, solely supported and run by volunteers.

ICCCI comprises the Chinese School and the Cultural Activity Group. ICCCI Chinese School offers Chinese language classes, culturally relevant music/choir, musical instrument, dance, art, and martial art classes, etc.

ICCCI Activity Group comprises lion and dragon dance, folk dance, choir, Kung Fu, TaiJi and sports teams.

The mission of ICCCI is to provide continuous improvement to what is essential to the social awareness, health and well-being of the Chinese community, as well as citizens of all ethnic backgrounds in central Indiana who enjoy Chinese culture and language. ICCCI provides high quality and inclusive educational, health, cultural and social service programs that contribute to a vibrant, multi-cultural landscape in Carmel and central Indiana. Inclusion, involvement, and improvement are ICCCI's core values.

### Ukrainian Society of Indiana, Inc.

Ukrainian Society of Indiana, Inc. is a nonprofit organization aimed at serving Ukrainian Hoosiers and friends of Ukraine through celebrating Ukrainian traditions and forging connections

between Indiana and Ukraine.

The Society holds cultural events, festivals, and workshops, and strives to continuously raise awareness of Ukraine's history and heritage. It also pursues civic objectives of forging relationships between people of Ukraine and Hoosiers through sister city initiatives and participates in the Midwest Crisis Response coalition organized by Consulate General of Ukraine in Chicago.

Founded in March of 2022, the Ukrainian Society of Indiana has already made a significant impact in the local community and welcomes everyone to join as members and volunteers so the group can continue to do this important work.

The Society will demonstrate the Chumak, a popular folk dance from Ukraine, at 10:30 a.m. Visitors to the Market are welcome to stop by their booth and join in the dance.

\*\*\*

Please stop by these booths in the grass area along the western edge of the center walkway of Carter Green to learn about the organizations and the many cultures in Carmel.

### About the Mayor's Advisory Commission on Human Relations

The Mayor's Advisory Commission on Human Relations was established in November 2009 to advise the mayor and recommend ways to better recognize the contributions of all Carmel residents to our great quality of life and identify any obstacles that may prevent full citizen participation in all of our city's civic and other activities.



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## Dwayne Edward Keys November 5, 1966 – June 22, 2022



Dwayne Edward Keys, 55, Indianapolis, passed away on Wednesday, June 22, 2022, at his home. He was born on November 5, 1966, in Indianapolis.

Dwayne participated in workshops and day services. He liked putting puzzles together, taking walks, and playing Yahtzee. In his younger years, Dwayne enjoyed roller skating. He loved drinking coffee and sipping on Pepsi.

He is survived by his sisters, Corless (Charles) Poulter and Darla (Terry) McAlister; brother-in-law, Richard Carson; and nephews and niece, Kyle Poulter, Luke Carson, Kaitlyn (Joshua) Ewigleben, and James McAlister.

He was preceded in death by his father, James Keys; mother, Mae (Tines) Keys; and sister, Sandra Carson.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan St., Noblesville. Visitation will be from noon to the time of service at the funeral home. Burial will be at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Autism Society of Indiana, 1800 N. Meridian St., Suite 103B, Indianapolis, IN 46202, or at [autismsocietyofindiana.org](http://autismsocietyofindiana.org).

Condolences: [randallroberts.com](http://randallroberts.com)

## Richard “Dick” Berton Hill November 6, 1936 – June 21, 2022



Beloved husband, father and grandfather Richard “Dick” Berton Hill, 85, passed away on June 21, 2022. An avid supporter of the Colts, Purdue and Carmel athletics (and IU too, but only if he had a grandson on the team), he was happiest attending his grandchildren’s hockey, football, basketball and soccer games.

Born on November 6, 1936, to Virgil and Violet Hill, he was preceded in death by his parents and siblings Evelyn Shoemaker, Harold “Bud” Hill and Delores Clements. He is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Sharon; children, Jack (Erin) Beery, Brad (Jennifer) Beery and Kim (Troy) Jessee; and grandchildren, Ryan, Britton, Lauren, Bryce Beery, Ashley Jessee and Jessica Jessee.

He graduated from Westfield High School where he lettered in football and basketball, attended Purdue University and later served in the U.S. Air Force. After being honorably discharged, he worked in the engineering departments of Stokely Van Camp and the City of Carmel.

Private family services will be held from noon to 2 p.m. on Friday, July 1 with a Celebration of Life at Muldoon’s, 111 W. Main St., Suite 100, Carmel.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Carmel Dads’ Club, 5459 E. Main St., Carmel, IN 46033, or by making a donation at [carmeldadsclub.org](http://carmeldadsclub.org).

Leppert Mortuary – Carmel Chapel is assisting with arrangements. To share a memory, please visit [leppertmortuary.com](http://leppertmortuary.com).

## TODAY’S BIBLE READING

*Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you endured in a great conflict full of suffering. Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. You suffered along with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions. So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded.*  
*Hebrews 10:32-35 (NIV)*

## Phyllis Joan (Beam) Baird July 17, 1929 – June 19, 2022



Phyllis Joan (Beam) Baird, 92, Sheridan, passed away on Sunday, June 19, 2022, surrounded by her loving family. She was born on July 17, 1929, to the late Bernard and Juanita (Bess) Beam in Tipton County.

Phyllis was a graduate of Sheridan High School, Class of 1947.

While in high school, she met the man she spent the rest of her life with at the Café on Main Street, and on July 4, 1947, the two were married. They were at each other’s side until Jack preceded her in death on August 21, 1993.

Jack and Phyllis were spiritual people and regularly attended Reach Church, which is now Fuel Church. They raised their four children with their same values and beliefs. Phyllis worked a few different jobs until settling in at Marsh Supermarket for 16 years. She worked between the Carmel and Westfield locations, where she enjoyed helping and talking to the customers.

Phyllis was very involved in her church and would go on trips with her church group. When she was home, she enjoyed cooking, especially for her family, and she liked being outside working in her flower garden.

Phyllis will be greatly missed by her three daughters and a son, Paula (John) Hobbs, Patty Baird, Butch Baird and Pam (Ed) Zetterberg. She was a loving grandmother to Craig (Mindy) Duffer, Chrissy (Chris) Carden, Misty (Nathan) Blair, Tony (Jaimie) Zetterberg, Brett Baird and Remington Baird. Phyllis was a proud great grandmother to 11, and a sister to Babe Durbin.

Preceding Phyllis in death is her husband, Jack; her brother, Dennis “Sonny” Beam; a sister, Judy Beam-Morris; and a brother-in-law, Forest Durbin.

The family has arranged for a private graveside service. Donation may be made to Alzheimer’s Association at [alz.org](http://alz.org) in memory of Phyllis.

Everyone is invited to sign the online guestbook, leave a condolence, or leave a memory for the family to read at [fisherfunerals.com](http://fisherfunerals.com).

Fisher Family Funeral Services is honored to be entrusted with Phyllis’s Care.

## Joe Kirsch named Horizon Bank’s new Market President for Central Indiana

### The REPORTER

Dan Hampton, Horizon Bank’s Regional President – Central Indiana, has announced the recent addition of Joe Kirsch as the new Market President for Central Indiana.

Kirsch will play an integral role in growing Horizon’s presence in central Indiana through his community involvement and leading the bank’s experienced and professional commercial lending team. He is located at the Horizon Bank office at 302 Alabama St., Indianapolis.

Kirsch has over 28 years of financial experience. His roles have included Regional President; Market Executive; Private Banking &

Wealth Management; Retail and Small Business Lending.

Kirsch earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Butler University and his Master of Business Administration from Indiana Wesleyan. He is a Wealth Management Specialist and a Graduate of ABA School of Commercial Lending.

Kirsch was named *Indianapolis Business Journal’s* 40 under Forty and was a Finalist for Junior Achievements Indiana’s Best and Brightest. He is a former Travel Baseball / Basketball Coach and former Board Member with Jordan YMCA. He is also a Founding Champion with Indy chapter of Conscious Capitalism.



Kirsch

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## HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

### Contact Information

#### Phone

765-365-2316

#### Email

[News@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:News@ReadTheReporter.com)

#### Web Address

[ReadTheReporter.com](http://ReadTheReporter.com)

#### Publisher Stu Clampitt

765-365-2316

#### Sports Editor Richie Hall

[Rhall1977@gmail.com](mailto:Rhall1977@gmail.com)

Twitter: @Richie\_Hall

#### Public Notices

[PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com)

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Kirk Green/File photo  
Sheridan coach Bud Wright was named the 2022 National Football Coach of the Year by the National High School Athletic Coaches Association, receiving that honor during the association’s national convention in Altoona, Iowa. Wright is pictured with his team during their game with Carroll last October; the Blackhawks won that game to clinch the Hoosier Heartland Conference championship.

# National spotlight for Coach Bud Wright

The REPORTER

Larry “Bud” Wright from Sheridan High School has been named 2022 National Football Coach of the Year by the National High School Athletic Coaches Association.

The announcement came during The National Coach of the Year Awards Banquet

at the National High School Athletic Coaches Association’s national convention at the Prairie Meadows Event Center in Altoona, Iowa.

Coach Wright was nominated for this national honor by Indiana’s high school coaches’ association and was selected as the National Coach of the Year from the

eight Coach of the Year finalists who advanced in this competition from across the nation. This selection was based on longevity, service to high school athletics, honors, championship years, and winning percentage. The nominees and finalists are evaluated by experts in the field of

coaching using a sport-specific rubric to assign points in each category.

The National High School Athletic Coaches Association is the oldest coaches association formed by coaches, for coaches, in the nation, and has been recognizing national coaches of the year since 1978.

**Bud Wright by the numbers**

**Years coaching:** 58 (57 at Sheridan)

**Record:** 436-207 (435-204 at Sheridan)

**State championships:** 9 (1980, 1984, 1987, 1988, 1992, 1998, 2005, 2006, 2007)

**State runner-up appearances:** 2 (1994, 2008)

**Regional titles:** 14

**Sectional titles:** 19

## Big changes coming to IHSAA basketball tournament format

Regional, Semi-State formats to switch beginning next season

The REPORTER

On Thursday, the Executive Committee of the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) voted to make a significant change to the format of the annual boys and girls basketball state tournaments.

In its final meeting of the 2021-22 school year, the group of school principals and athletic directors voted 15-2 to make the regional round a single game and the semi-state round a two-game format beginning with next winter’s tournaments. The previous format of a two-round regional and a single semi-state game had been in place since 2002.

This spring, Commissioner Paul Neidig conducted a survey of principals, athletic directors, boys and girls coaches, and 73.4 percent of those 781 respondents voted in favor of the change with at least 70 percent in all four groups approving.

Regional pairings will be drawn and announced at the same time as the traditional sectional pairings with two regional championship games being played at the same site and potentially from different classes.

Another new wrinkle includes conducting an additional blind draw and announcing the semi-state pairings the day after the regional championship games on [IHSAAtv.org](https://www.ihsaatv.org).

“We really like the potential of a high-energy atmosphere at the semi-state level with a chance to advance to the state championship games the following week at Gainbridge Fieldhouse, the home of the Pacers and Fever,” Neidig said. “This new format will

double the number of teams who play a week longer in the tournament and should create a lot of excitement in those communities and will be financially beneficial for those communities that serve as host sites.”

Tournament host sites will be approved by the Executive Committee later this fall.

Also from the meeting:

- The Executive Committee formally approved full membership for Dugger Union, Evansville Christian and Purdue Polytechnic. Those schools become officially eligible to compete in IHSAA state tournaments beginning this fall.
- The Committee approved modified restrictions on Indiana schools competing against schools from beyond the 300-mile travel limit. IHSAA schools will now be able to participate against out-of-state schools from beyond the 300-mile limit as long as they are in good standing with their state association, the venue is within the 300-mile limit, is and is sanctioned by the NFHS and IHSAA. Also, Indiana schools may now host out-of-state schools in Indiana from beyond the 300-mile limit as long as they are a member in good standing with their own state association and the event is sanctioned by the NFHS and IHSAA.
- A proposal to raise ticket prices in several sports including football and basketball sectional games from \$6 to \$7 was also approved as well as raising an official’s stipend by \$10 at all levels as well as bumping their mileage from 25 cents to 50 cents per mile.



Reporter photo by Richie Hall  
Indiana Pacers fans filled the Midtown Plaza in Carmel to watch the NBA Draft at a party for Pacers season ticket holders Thursday night. Fans gave a nice cheer to Bennedict Mathurin, who was selected by the Pacers as the sixth overall pick in the 2022 NBA Draft.

## Pacers select Bennedict Mathurin with sixth pick in the 2022 NBA Draft

The REPORTER

The Indiana Pacers selected Bennedict Mathurin with the sixth overall pick in the 2022 NBA Draft Thursday evening.

Mathurin, a 6-6 guard out of the University of Arizona, earned Second Team All-America honors and was

the Pac-12 Player of the Year after averaging 17.7 points, 5.6 rebounds and 2.5 assists per game as a sophomore in 2021-22.

“We’re very excited that we were able to select Bennedict with the sixth overall pick in the Draft tonight,” said Pacers President of Bas-

ketball Operations Kevin Pritchard. “This is a player that we have targeted for quite some time because we believe he has the ability to contribute immediately and become a key part of our foundation moving forward.”

“As I mentioned after the NBA Draft Lottery, we in-

tend to aggressively and proactively explore all options that we feel are in the best interest of our team, both in the short- and long-run. We will continue to be diligent in our efforts to improve across the board, not only over the course of this evening but throughout the offseason.”

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# Miller lacrosse player headed to Colorado



Photo courtesy Noblesville Athletics  
Noblesville's Jacob Purvis has committed to play lacrosse at Colorado State University - Pueblo. (Front row, from left) Chris Purvis (father), Jacob Purvis, and Kim Purvis (mother). (Back row, from left) Griffin Smith (Noblesville Boys' Lacrosse Assistant Coach), Bailey Purvis (sister), and Mark Milam (Noblesville Boys' Lacrosse Head Coach).

## MLB standings

Thursday's scores		Seattle 2, Oakland 1	
Miami 3, Colorado 2		N.Y. Yankees 7, Houston 6	
Atlanta 7, San Francisco 6		Boston 6, Detroit 2	
L.A. Dodgers 10, Cincinnati 5		N.Y. Yankees 5, Tampa Bay 4	
Pittsburgh 8, Chicago Cubs 7, 10 innings		Baltimore 4, Chicago White Sox 0	
Minnesota 1, Cleveland 0		Late games:	
Milwaukee 6, St. Louis 4		Philadelphia at San Diego	

American League				
East	W	L	PCT.	GB
N.Y. Yankees	52	18	0.743	-
Toronto	39	30	0.565	12.5
Boston	39	31	0.557	13.0
Tampa Bay	37	32	0.536	14.5
Baltimore	32	39	0.451	20.5
Central	W	L	PCT.	GB
Cleveland	36	29	0.554	-
Minnesota	39	32	0.549	-
Chicago White Sox	33	35	0.485	4.5
Detroit	26	43	0.377	12.0
Kansas City	25	43	0.368	12.5
West	W	L	PCT.	GB
Houston	43	26	0.623	-
Texas	33	35	0.485	9.5
L.A. Angels	34	38	0.472	10.5
Seattle	32	39	0.451	12.0
Oakland	23	48	0.324	21.0

National League				
East	W	L	PCT.	GB
N.Y. Mets	45	26	0.634	-
Atlanta	41	30	0.577	4.0
Philadelphia	36	34	0.514	8.5
Miami	32	36	0.471	11.5
Washington	25	47	0.347	20.5
Central	W	L	PCT.	GB
Milwaukee	40	32	0.556	-
St. Louis	40	31	0.563	-
Pittsburgh	29	40	0.420	9.5
Chicago Cubs	26	44	0.371	13.0
Cincinnati	23	46	0.333	15.5
West	W	L	PCT.	GB
L.A. Dodgers	43	25	0.632	-
San Diego	44	27	0.620	0.5
San Francisco	38	31	0.551	5.5
Arizona	32	39	0.451	12.5
Colorado	30	40	0.429	14.0

## WNBA standings

Thursday's score	Late games:
Dallas 94, Indiana 68	Washington at Seattle
Minnesota 100, Phoenix 88	Chicago at Los Angeles

Team	W	L	PCT.	GB
Las Vegas	13	3	0.875	-
Chicago	11	5	0.688	2.0
Connecticut	12	6	0.667	2.0
Seattle	10	6	0.625	3.0
Washington	11	8	0.579	3.5
Atlanta	8	8	0.500	5.0
Dallas	9	9	0.500	5.0
New York	7	10	0.412	6.5
Los Angeles	6	9	0.400	6.5
Phoenix	6	12	0.333	8.0
Minnesota	4	13	0.278	9.0
Indiana	5	14	0.263	9.5

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As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man. Prov. 27:19  
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**Logan Street Signs & Banners**  
presents 11th Annual  
FREE 2022 Friday Nights Outdoor Movie In Your Car at Hamilton County Fairgrounds  
June 24th  
**BEETLEJUICE** (1988 -PG)  
FREE Movies for the public, starts approx 9:15 pm.  
Bring your blankets, chairs and refreshments, sit in front of the screen or Watch movies in Your Car and listen on the FM radio  
Visit Wafford Theater Facebook page for info and weather alerts  
We Thank the following Partners:  
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Noblesville Trophies, Noblesville Park Department,  
Noblesville Chamber of Commerce, Hamilton County Fairgrounds,  
Noblesville Township Trustee's Office, Noblesville Diversity Coalition

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