

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2022

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CARMEL | FISHERS | NOBLESVILLE | WESTFIELD



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Sunny.  
Tonight: Clear.



HIGH: 91 LOW: 68

# Carmel PD Deputy Chief removed

*Bickel demoted in wake of complaints of inappropriate behavior, external investigation*

## The REPORTER

Carmel Police Chief Jeff Horner has removed Joe Bickel from his position as Deputy Chief and has recommended to the Carmel Police Merit Board that Bickel be dismissed from the Carmel Police Department (CPD).

This action was taken due to multiple allegations of inappropriate behavior. Upon learning of the allegations, Mayor Jim Brainard immediately ordered an external investigation

and Bickel was suspended.

“It is important that our employees, citizens and business owners have complete faith and trust in those who serve our community, especially those who are entrusted with our safety and security,” Mayor Brainard said.

The investigation uncovered a pattern of troubling behav-



Bickel

ior. The allegations included claims that Bickel groped the breast of a female employee, attempted to forcibly kiss a different female employee, and kissed the hand and neck of another female employee at a work-related event.

It is also claimed that Bickel attempted to use his position of authority within the Department

to influence a CPD employee to violate a Departmental standard operating procedure for the benefit of a family member.

The evidence gathered in the course of the investigation led to Chief Horner's recommendation to the Carmel Police Merit Board that Bickel be dismissed from the Department. State of Indiana Police Merit Law requires that Bickel retain his

See Bickel . . . Page 2

## Another story, fake news

When I was in high school, we had Sunday dinner every Sunday at Grandma's house.

She was a wonderful cook. She always had two kinds of meat, homemade bread with apple butter, Jell-O salad with carrots and cabbage included, and a berry pie. I can still taste her ground-cherry pies. My mother was first in her class in college and sewed many of our clothes, but Grandma was the cook. I often volunteered to mow grass for her or gather items from the garden or orchard. I would arrive early enough not to miss the next meal.

While things were getting ready, I always went into the front room and marveled at the large German Bible brought from the old country. I couldn't read the German until I took that class in college because all the German neighbors left the German language behind to prove their loyalty to America during the war.

Later, when I inherited the family Bible from my aunt and really examined it, I discovered that it was published in Toledo in 1880 and not brought from the old country at all. I had created my own fake news.

I also read the *Reader's Digest* magazines as cooking finished. Grandma had saved all the *Reader's Digests* from the 20s. The Digest was started in 1922 by DeWitt Wallace and grew to more than 16 million readers in 17 languages. She had several hundred issues saved by the time I was old enough to read.

It was interesting to read a 1920s article that predicted by 1967 the world would be out of oil. Other articles talked about the coming ice age although they conceded it would be a mini-ice age. Of course, we have not run out of oil – except at the local gas pumps – and the mini-ice age that was coming has turned into global warming. The Population Bomb written in 1968 predicted worldwide famine in the 1970s due to overpopulation.

Fake news, or maybe just human error.

It was *Reader's Digest* that reported it is not what we don't know that hurts us. It is what we 'know' that just really isn't true. Be a Berean: search out the truth from all the competing voices.

Educational material and not legal advice, written by the team at Adler attorneys. Email [andrea@noblesvilleattorney.com](mailto:andrea@noblesvilleattorney.com) with questions or comments.



COLUMNIST

RAY ADLER  
Ask Adler

# Sheridan's own Kali Baker awarded annual Rotary Club scholarship



Photo provided by Sheridan Rotary

Sheridan Rotary members welcomed special guest Kali Baker to their meeting this past Tuesday evening. Baker just graduated from the Sheridan Community School Corporation and was the recipient of the annual Sheridan Rotary Club's scholarship award. She will continue her education at Purdue University this fall and is leaning towards a major in business. Sheridan Rotary offers its congratulations to Baker and continued success in her life. Pictured here with Baker is Sheridan Rotary President Steve Martin.

# Bob Daugherty, 50 years through a lens

*Cicero Kiwanis will welcome veteran photojournalist*

## The REPORTER

Bob Daugherty will be a guest of the Cicero Kiwanis at their breakfast meeting at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 23 at the Red Bridge Park Community Building.

According to Peggy Georgi, “Bob's journey into the world of journalism and becoming an award-winning photographer is nothing less than inspiring.”

Below, in Bob's words, are a few highlights of his journey, career, awards, and recognitions.

My family moved from Kentucky to Marion out of economic necessity when I was 12.

My father was a poor share-cropper, and like many others, migrated north to the factories. My career in journalism began when I was about 11 years old. I had a swell deal with GRIT,

a weekly newspaper published somewhere in Pennsylvania. I received a small bundle of tabloid-sized newspapers by mail each week. I would make the rounds to farm fields near East Fork, Kentucky, and call on my steady customers.

One such customer told me he couldn't read, but that he sure liked the many pictures in the newspaper. I gave that some thought. Maybe pictures were the universal communication. Maybe this insight from an illiterate farmer was my motivator ... I spent about 50 years communicating with my camera. I actually started my newspaper career full-time at age 16 on the Marion (Indiana) *Chronicle-Tri-*



Daugherty

bune while in high school. In the interest of full disclosure, which was unfortunately the extent of my formal education.

I did marry an IU grad, who was an elementary principal and who has tolerated me for the past 55 years.

I worked on the *Chronicle* for about five years before being invited to the *Indianapolis Star* in 1960. I joined Associated Press Indianapolis bureau in 1963. I moved to Boston for only nine months in 1966. I then was then shipped to Washington.

That was where I wanted to be.

There I held the position of staff photographer until 1979 and chief photographer until

1991. I assumed position of Assistant Chief of Bureau/Photos until 1997. Became the first director of the newly formed AP State Photo Center in 1997.

I retired in 2007 after 43 years with the Associated Press and a 50-year career in journalism total.

During my AP career: Accompanied President Nixon on his historic visit to China. Covered the Watergate hearings and President Nixon's resignation. Covered 37 Kentucky Derbies. Covered 22 political conventions and 23 Masters golf classics. Photographed nine presidents (during or after their term in office (Ike, Truman, JFK, LBJ, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan, and George H.W. Bush);

See Daugherty . . . Page 2



988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline is here

## The REPORTER

988 is the new three-digit dialing code connecting people to the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline where compassionate, accessible care and support is available for anyone experiencing mental health-related distress.

# Register now for Options Schools' Fueled by School 5k in Westfield

## The REPORTER

Options Schools will hold the first-ever Fueled by School 5k on Saturday, Aug. 13, at its Options Westfield campus located at 17721 Gunther Blvd., with the 5k set to get underway at 8:30 a.m.

The 5k walk/run will benefit the Options/In Education Foundation, which directly supports Options Schools students in a number of areas, including college scholarships, student services, materials and

much more to help them pursue the Options motto of “Belong. Believe. Achieve.”

With participants welcome to walk or run in the 5k, the route will start and finish at the Options Schools Westfield campus, near State Road 32 and Carey Road.

Click here to register for the event.

The registration packet for 5k participants will include a comfy race shirt, finisher's medal, a digital

finisher certificate, Mylaps timing, pacing and live results, along with post-race snacks and drinks. The cost to register for the Fueled by School 5k is \$33 through July 31, with the price increasing to \$39 on Aug. 1.

Unable to attend the event on Aug. 13? There is also a Virtual 5k registration option, which allows interested participants to complete a 5k on their schedule in August,



Photo provided

See Fueled . . . Page 2

Options Schools opened its Westfield campus in June 2021.



Main Street Productions, Inc. Presents

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By Alan Haehnel

Directed by Tanya Haas

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BICKEL

from Page 1

position with the Department and his merit rank until a decision is made by the Carmel Police Merit Board.

“I am disappointed that one of the key leaders in our police department did not uphold the high standards of conduct expected of those in positions of authority,” Brainard said. “All levels of our law enforcement team should reflect the excellence of our nationally-recognized and accredited Police Department, especially those who were chosen to set the example for all to follow. I fully support Chief Horn-er’s decision to recommend Bickel’s termination be-cause doing so is necessary to maintain the integrity and reputation of our Carmel Police Department.”

Further details of the matter will not be released in order to protect the iden-tity of the victims who made the complaints.

DAUGHERTY

from Page 1

several Summer Olympics since 1976, including 2008 Beijing Olympics; Count- less Gemini, Apollo and Space Shuttle launches and many astronaut recover-ies at sea. Three months in Saudi Arabia covering Des-ert Storm. Several Baseball World Series and several Super Bowls.

My era was what we re-ferred to as the 'golden age of journalism.' Newspapers struggle to survive. Staff cuts, salary cuts, a shrinking news hole and fewer days of publication are just a few techniques newspapers use to survive. Some have not.

Received Oliver Gram-ling Achievement Award (top AP employee award), 1999 (\$10,000)

Received White House News Photographers life-time achievement award, 2009. Received Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame, 2015.

FUELED

from Page 1

and still receive a registra-tion packet that includes the T-shirt and finisher’s medal.

Founded in 2002, Op-tions Schools are free, public charter schools serving stu-dents in grades 6 through 12 students in 134 school dis-tricts across Indiana. With a high-quality, individualized approach to education, Op-tions Schools specializes in providing students with an inclusive environment, unparalleled support, and a student-to-teacher ratio of 15-to-1. With brick-and-mortar campuses in Nobles-ville and Westfield, Options also offers additional pro-grams in virtual and in-per-son formats serving students across the state.

Having opened in June 2021, the newest cam-pus of Options Schools in Westfield continues serving grades 6 through 12 stu-dents in a brand-new build-ing. The campus provides students with the same indi-vidualized approach to edu-cation and small class sizes that have become synony-mous with Options. Options Westfield was relocated from Carmel in the sum-mer 2021. In 2002, Options Schools began serving stu-dents in Hamilton County through its Carmel campus. The Options Noblesville campus opened in 2006.

Options Schools provide a personalized approach to learning to help students earn the Indiana Department of Education High School Diploma of their choice (General, Core 40, Honors, etc.). Options is accredited by the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), Na-tional Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and AdvancED.

**Registration for the event will be open until Aug. 12.** Options is also still welcoming sponsors and volunteers interested in supporting the Fueled by School 5k and Options In Education Foundation.

For more information about the Fueled by School 5k and to register, visit [Facebook.com/optionscharterschools/events](https://www.facebook.com/optionscharterschools/events).

PREVAIL

Advocating for Victims of Crime & Abuse

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:

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# GOP chair announces leadership shakeup

By **STU CLAMPITT**  
news@readthereporter.com

On Sunday evening, Hamilton County Republican Party Central Committee Chair Mario Massillamany announced Teresa Ayers was replacing Lisa Everling as Vice Chair, effective that night.

The full announcement appears above right.

The Reporter spoke with Massillamany about his reasons for this change and his vision for the Hamilton County GOP.

"My priorities are to make sure we are an open, big-tent party – that we allow for all views to be heard and that we do not try to exclude certain people or certain groups from the Republican Party," Massillamany told The Reporter. "We are a big-tent party. We are for low taxes, limited government and fiscal responsibility. We want to make sure that government does all the things to help us but not intrude in our lives."

According to Massillamany, Ayers' family has been active in the Republican Party for over 50 years. He said Ayers has been attending breakfast clubs, Lincoln Day Dinners, fall dinner dances, volunteered for Victoria Spartz, volunteered at CarmelFest for the GOP, and is on the Carmel-Clay GOP Club Board.

"She is, I believe, 38 years old – not that that matters – but our goal is to focus on bringing in younger people to get more engaged and involved in the county party, and she will do a good job of helping with that," Massillamany said.

Massillamany spoke very highly of Everling's service to the party during her time as vice chair.

"I really appreciate all the work that she [Everling] has done," Massillamany said. "I

## Email Subject: Changes to Hamilton County Republican Party Central Committee

"Effective immediately, Teresa Ayers will assume the role of Hamilton County Republican Party Vice Chair. I appreciate the work Lisa Everling has done to support the party, however in order to ensure the priorities and vision I set forth upon being elected are advanced, I made the decision to realign.

"Please join me in congratulating Teresa and thanking Lisa for her work for the party!"

**Mario Massillamany, Chair**

## About Teresa Ayers

According to a Wednesday afternoon email from Denise Moe, "Teresa Ayers grew up in Carmel. She attended Carmel High School then received her bachelor's degree from Virginia Intermont College where she also played soccer and ran track and cross country. Teresa is very passionate about her community involvement. In addition to being the Hamilton County Vice Chairman [sic], Teresa serves on the Carmel-Clay Republican Club board. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends."



Ayers

know that she is focused on a brand-new business. She started a new company with Andrew Dollard, and she is interested in running for Westfield [City] Council."

Massillamany said one of his reasons for replacing Everling was about her potential run for a seat Westfield City Council.

"When I was elected to the Hamilton County Central Committee as a chairman, a lot of the precinct committeemen wanted to make sure that when we are elected on the central committee that we don't hold other offices," Massillamany told The Reporter. "I have respectfully asked all of my central committee not to hold other offices or to resign or to move on if they want to run for other offices. I think it's hard if you're on central committee to also be running in a Republican primary against other Republicans and then for us as the Republican Party to say we are being neu-

tral. I know Lisa wants to run for Westfield [City] Council. I know she's starting a new business. She has a lot of exciting things coming down the pipeline."

Everling told The Reporter she has not made either an official decision or a public announcement about running for a seat on Westfield City Council. She does serve as one of three Westfield GOP board members, as treasurer for Hamilton County Republican Women and as a board member for Nickel Heritage Railroad, which operates the Nickel Plate Express train.

"I've got nothing but great things to say about Lisa," Massillamany said. "She did a great job. I should never be the one to try to stop her from doing great things for Westfield."

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Due to COVID-19 uncertainties, event details may change based on information provided by health officials.

Thanks to Hamilton County Parks & Ashlin Hadden Insurance

Concert series partners:

## County Republicans meet for breakfast at Peterson's in Fishers



Reporter photo

The Hamilton County Republican Party held its monthly Breakfast Club meeting on Wednesday at Peterson's, 7690 E. 96th Street, Fishers. Republican candidate for Hamilton County Prosecutor Greg Garrison and conservative candidate for Hamilton Southeastern school board Tiffany Pascoe were kind enough to take a moment to pose for the Reporter's camera during the breakfast.

# Janet Hart Leonard

Meet Janet...

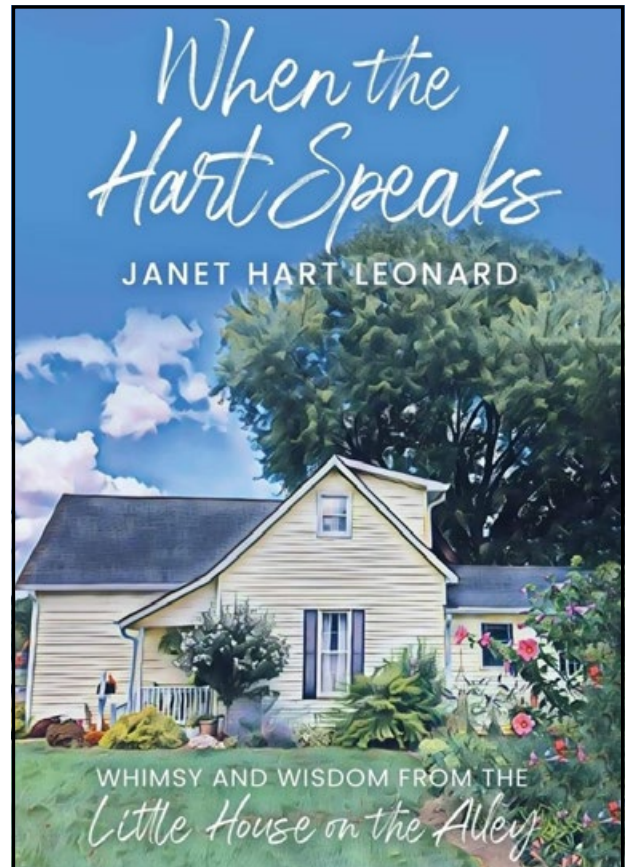
Janet's book is available now!



As soon as you meet Janet you'll realize she's the dear friend you've always longed to have. She's what you'd call a hometown girl, living in Noblesville her entire life she can show you all the best spots in town for a delicious cup of coffee or yummy sweet treat.

Janet would love the opportunity to meet you and chat. Plan on coming to one of her upcoming speaking engagements or reach out to schedule a date for her to join your group or organization.

[www.JanetHartLeonard.com](http://www.JanetHartLeonard.com)



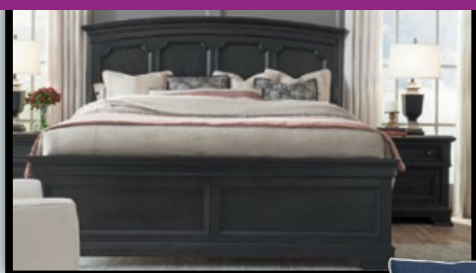
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# Months of hard work pay off at Janus



Photo provided by Janus Developmental Services

With the help of Green Tree Plastics, Janus Developmental Services was able to turn thousands of plastic caps into two awesome outdoor benches. Janus staff and participants worked hard for months collecting and sorting through the plastic caps. When they reached their goal, the caps were delivered to Green Tree Plastics where the benches were created. Now, everyone is enjoying the new seating and can take pride in the hard work they put into making them.



# Westfield Washington Public Library unveils new website, branding, logos

## The REPORTER

The Westfield Washington Public Library (WWPL) has launched a new website. “It’s been more than a decade since we last updated the website,” WWPL Director Sheryl Sollars said. “It desperately needed a refresh. We wanted something a bit cleaner, more relevant, and sophisticated. It will also be a lot easier for our staff to edit and update.”

Kristin Pruis, a brand strategist and designer, led the redesign effort which also includes a new brand with a fresh logo, color palette, and fonts.

“The old website was a bit cumbersome,” Pruis said. “The new website offers a more modern user experience which should allow users to access programs, catalogues, and data-

bases easier.”

The new website – [wwpl.lib.in.us](http://wwpl.lib.in.us) – will also offer a page dedicated to construction of the new library at the southwest corner of Westfield Boulevard and Park Street. Groundbreaking on the new library could happen late this summer or early fall. Construction of the new website was funded in part through the American Rescue Plan Act.

**About Westfield Washington Public Library**

WWPL’s mission is to fostering exploration, discovery, and growth, and its vision is to be the cornerstone of lifelong learning in Westfield and Washington Township. For more information on the Westfield Washington Public Library visit [wwpl.lib.in.us](http://wwpl.lib.in.us).



Sollars



Pruis

## Thanks for reading THE REPORTER

# Westfield Chamber & DWA launch new association management software, city business directory

## The REPORTER

The Westfield Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Westfield Association (DWA) have announced a new partnership with GrowthZone, an association management software company based in Nisswa, Minn. Association Management Software offers member-based organizations the tools to run day-to-day operations and provide enhanced services to their members.

The new software will give the Chamber and DWA the latest member data management tools, reporting, financial management, and website control. Chamber Partners and their employees will notice a better user interface, event registration tools, payment options, communication tools, and overall ability to engage with the Chamber and DWA.



Additionally, the new software comes with an enhanced directory that will give businesses and residents one location to see a complete list of the companies that operate and service Westfield.

“It is no secret that Westfield is growing. In fact, the number of businesses here now has nearly doubled in 10 years,” Westfield Chamber CEO Steve Latour said. “To meet the needs of our growing community, the Chamber and DWA Board of Directors set out to find a new database/software that would not only meet our current needs but help us flourish in the decades to come.”

According to Latour, chambers of commerce are more vital than ever. Westfield Chamber Partners get members-only perks, exclusive advertising and networking opportunities, and a whole lot of exposure for

themselves and their company or organization. Participating in the Westfield Chamber gives you visibility, credibility, access to discounts, learning and networking opportunities, and a voice at the table.

Westfield Chamber officials say they are confident this new software can move its delivery of events, services, and networking opportunities to the next level. To learn more about joining the Westfield Chamber, please email [info@westfieldchamberindy.com](mailto:info@westfieldchamberindy.com).

**About the Westfield Chamber**

Founded in 1981, the Westfield Chamber is located 20 miles north of Downtown Indianapolis. Westfield is home to nearly 1,000 businesses and nearly 50,000 residents. The Chamber supports local businesses, unites key stakeholders, and leads collaborative efforts.

Schoolhouse 7 Cafe & Hamilton County Reporter present a Humane Society for Hamilton County Fundraiser! A unique mix of live music and funny stories.

# Will Read and Sing For Food

Thursday | Aug. 11 | 7:30 p.m.

## Featuring Musician Jason Wilber

For 24 years, singer-songwriter Jason Wilber toured and recorded with Grammy-winning legend John Prine until Prine’s death from Covid in 2020. Bloomington-based, he has graced stages from the Grand Ole Opry to Red Rocks to Radio City Music Hall to Austin City Limits.

## Humorist Scott Saalman

Hamilton County Reporter columnist Scott Saalman is creator & host of the arts-award-winning Will Read And Sing For Food, which has raised over \$165,000 for worthy causes in Indiana.



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July 29-30 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

# LOCAL NEWS LOCAL SPORTS Hamilton County Reporter



# Honky Tonk Angels sing on B&B stage

It's summer, and that typically means a rollicking musical provided by Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre. The Stark family's issue this year is a country music themed journey – Ted Swindley's song-filled *The Honky Tonk Angels*. This show is the tale of three disparate women from California, Texas, and the hills of West Virginia, who all decide that their lives need a break and a breakout.

Each one's dream is to head to Nashville, Tenn., to try their luck and their skills at a country music experience. When Fate allows the three to meet on their Nashville bound bus, they hit on the idea of forming their own singing group – The Honky Tonk Angels.

Bridgette Ludlow plays unhappy double-wide trailer housewife Angela, Shelbi Berri is cast as Darlene – the WV hills girl, and Kaylee Verble takes the role of the slightly more sophisticated Californian by way of Texas, Sue Ellen. These three actresses do a wonderful job telling their stories, but the thrills of the production are due to their amazing performances of the show's many country songs.

The trio provides an array of absolutely stunning blended harmonies, along with solo performances that range from comic to poignant. Ms. Verble, whose noted lead performance in B&B's *42nd Street* won a 2019 Mitty Award from



Photo courtesy Julie Curry / Beef & Boards  
(From left) Shelbi Berry as Darlene, Kaylee Verble as Sue Ellen, and Bridgette Ludlow as Angela in B&B's *The Honky Tonk Angels*.



**COLUMNIST**  
**KEN KLINGENMEIER**  
*A Seat on the Aisle*

ASOTA, plays her CaliTexan Sue Ellen with a brassy edge in such solo numbers as "9 to 5" and "Cornell Crawford." Ms. Ludlow, whose local lead performance in *The Color Purple* won her a 2021 Mitty Award, does some fine comic work in Angela's "Harper Valley PTA" and "Barroom Habits" before crooning a lovely "Almost Persuaded."

Shelbi Berry, in the first lead performance I have witnessed from her, possesses a remarkable vocal range – with the ability to belt a phrase smoothly followed by a sublime voicing of heart-breaking effect. Her "Coal Miner's Daughter" coupled with "Ode to Billy Joe," offered early in the program, set the stage for what is a noteworthy performance throughout – which includes an enchanting "Angels Among Us."

As I wrote previously, the threesome's trio

work is as good as you might ever experience. "I Will Always Love You," "Amazing Grace," "I'll Fly Away" and "Sittin' on the Front Porch Swing" are all memorable in the 30-plus song "score."

The performers are aided by the clean precision of the band, led by Musical Director Kristy Templet. Jeff Stockberger directs with good balance, accompanied by Doug King's boot-scootin' choreography. Terry Woods' costume design is on the mark and Ryan Koharchik's lighting of Michael Layton's set design is significant.

Bottom line: *The Honky Tonk Angels* is an entertaining journey – chock full of remarkable performances by three very talented ladies who know their way around crafting a song.

*The Honky Tonk Angels* continues at Beef and Boards Dinner Theatre through Aug. 14. Find show times and reservation info at [beefandboards.com](http://beefandboards.com) or call the box office at (317) 872-9664.

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Come enjoy the great variety and atmosphere



# Do you want to be a Christian and a Christian alone?



As a country, state and county we will soon enter into another contentious political season. Are you a Democratic, Republican, Libertarian or unattached? To whom do you give your allegiance? What determines your political allegiance? Rest easy this is not a political ad nor is it intended to promote any party or candidate. I want us to think for a moment about what brings us to that conclusion.

When we consider our religious affiliation, what leads us to make that decision? This decision is far more significant than making a commitment to a political party or candidate. If God is who He says He is and Jesus is His Son, it behooves us to surrender and submit to Him and Him alone! God will not accept divided devotion and thus we would call on all men to worship Him and Him alone. Repeatedly in the Old Testament, we read of commands to worship Him and Him alone. Enshrined in the Law was the command to "worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God" (Exodus 34:14). Paul warned of the danger of provoking God to jealousy (1 Cor. 10:22).

Why not leave any commitment to a church founded by men, not provoke God to jealousy and seek to be a Christian and a Christian alone? Is that idea intriguing? Does it seem reasonable? Let's investigate that together.



**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



# Lowry kicks off state senate bid in Westfield



Photos provided  
Josh Lowry, Democratic candidate for State Senate District 21, held his campaign kickoff Wednesday night at Asa Bales Park in Westfield. “We know Indiana is a ‘state that works,’ but my campaign is focused on making Indiana a state that works for families,” Lowry said. “We held our launch at a Westfield park to invite families to participate in that mission. Our state can do more to provide for its families: better paying jobs, early childhood education, strong public schools, and affordable healthcare accessible to all.” Families braved the heat to support the candidate and get a burger and hot dogs. More information can be found at [LowryForIndiana.com](http://LowryForIndiana.com).



Reporter photo by Stu Clappitt  
American Structurepoint VP of Indiana Sales Mike McBride’s winning move in the “Head or Tails” competition netted him \$1,000 in prize money. Lisa Everling missed it by one coin toss.

## Gift of giving from Noblesville Soirée keeps on giving

**The REPORTER**  
American Structurepoint Vice President Mike McBride keeps the gift of giving rolling from the Noblesville Soirée.  
The event benefited five local organizations including The Cooper House, Senior Citizens Organizations, Inc., VFW Post 6246 in Noblesville, the Noblesville Youth Sports Alliance, and the Noblesville American Legion.  
McBride won \$1,000 during the game “Heads or Tails.” After spending some time with Kyle and Brooke Howe, the founders of The Cooper House, an organization that provides support and encouragement for families and children touched by foster care, he was inspired to donate the game winnings to this inspirational organization.  
“At American Structurepoint, our mission is to improve the quality of life for the people and communities we serve, and The Cooper House is consistent with our corporate mission by providing a safe environment for children and families involved in the foster system,” McBride said. “I was thrilled to be a part of the Soirée and support all of the incredible local groups that help create a stronger Noblesville and Hamilton County.”  
McBride presented the check to Brooke and Kyle Howe.  
“In meeting and talking with them, their passion and energy for their mission really spoke to me and this is evident in everything they do,” McBride said. “It’s exciting to see such important work being done close to home, and I look forward to hearing many stories of the lives touched through their efforts in the future.”  
Indiana has roughly 6,200 licensed foster parents and nearly 13,000 children in the foster care system, many of whom are awaiting a home. Visit [IndianaFosterCare.org](http://IndianaFosterCare.org) to learn more about becoming a foster family or to support those in the foster care system.



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# Nickel Plate shows its Primeval patriotism



Photo provided by Nickel Plate Express  
This past Saturday, our friends at Nickel Plate Express (NPX) loaded up passengers for the Patriotic Express. It was a family-friendly 65-minute train ride with refreshing lemonade and some homemade apple fry pies from Wilson Farm Market. While passengers were boarding, Engineer Jake Garvey hopped on a dinosaur to promote NPX's new partnership with Primeval Brewing and their new Nickel Plate Light beer. Well done, DinoJake! We can't wait to see what antics you have planned for the Irish Express.



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# Representative Victoria Spartz Constituent Services



**Help with Federal Agencies**  
I can help you when dealing with federal agencies, including:

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- Veterans benefits
- Passport assistance
- IRS questions



**United States Flag Requests**  
Obtain commemorative flags flown over the United States Capitol from my office.



**Military Academy Nominations**  
High school students in our district may contact my office to request a nomination to attend one of our nation's service academies.

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**Carmel Office**  
**(317) 848-0201**

**[www.spartz.house.gov](http://www.spartz.house.gov)**



# Are HSE schools getting back on track after COVID?

Have our kids started to catch up and recover from COVID learning loss? Are our schools working hard to help our students regain, recover, and succeed academically? Or are our schools focusing on all the wrong things? Let's look at some data.

The 2022 ILEARN Data was recently released by the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE). You can view current and past data for ILEARN, ISTEP, SAT, AP and many other scores on the IDOE website at [in.gov/doe/it/data-center-and-reports](https://www.doe.edu/data-center-and-reports). It is important to know how your school district performed with respect to other similar school districts. Since HSE has historically been a high performing school district, it makes sense to compare HSE scores with the top 20 performing schools on the 2022 ILEARN test. See the charts at right for a comparison.

For us old timers who have lived in Fishers for many years, it is a bit concerning to see Hamilton Southeastern Schools near the bottom of these charts in both Math and English/Language Arts. Historically, HSES typically places in the top five academically performing school systems along with West Lafayette Community School Corporation, Carmel Clay Schools, and Zionsville Community Schools. Another interesting take-away from this data is how well Brownsburg Community School Corporation has performed on the ILEARN tests. Comparing and contrasting HSE and Brownsburg schools may yield some interesting facts.

Another way to see if your school district is strong and performing well is to look at and compare data from individual schools within your district. A strong per-

GUEST COLUMNIST



KELLIE KELLY

forming school district will have little variation between schools, and all schools will demonstrate academic excellence. Charts showing the 2022 ILEARN data for all schools in the HSE district appears at right.

ILEARN is taken in grades three through eight, so schools included are elementary, intermediate, and junior high schools.

As you can see from the data, there are very large differences between individual schools.

This is concerning, and HSES should offer analysis and explanation for the differences as well as plans to help increase scores in the poorer performing schools.

So, by looking at 2022 ILEARN data we can compare school districts and compare individual schools within the HSE district, but there are still a lot of unanswered questions.

How do we determine if there has been any recovery from COVID learning loss? One way is to look at scores for the same group of students before and after COVID. We have three years of data for ILEARN, 2019, 2021, and 2022. This is not a lot of data, so any conclusions drawn will need to be validated when more data is available. But, let's look at what we have.

We have enough ILEARN Data to compare scores for the graduating classes of 2026, 2027, and 2028. We can compare more classes next year when more data is available. The blue bars in the charts below represent the number of students before COVID who were not proficient in Math or English/Language Arts (ELA) according to the 2019 ILEARN Data. We can clearly see with the orange bars which represent 2021

2022 ILEARN Math Results		2022 ILEARN English/Language Arts	
School District	Math %	School District	ELA %
Brownsburg Community School Corp	74.7	Brownsburg Community School Corp	71.1
Barr-Reeve Community Schools Inc	70.9	Diocese of Evansville	71
Carmel Clay Schools	69.9	Carmel Clay Schools	67.7
Southeast Dubois Co Sch Corp	68.8	Zionsville Community Schools	66.6
North Spencer County Sch Corp	68.3	North Spencer County Sch Corp	66.4
Diocese of Evansville	67.9	Diocese of Lafayette Catholic Sch	66
Zionsville Community Schools	66.3	The Oaks Academy	65.9
West Lafayette Com School Corp	66.1	Southeast Dubois Co Sch Corp	65
The Oaks Academy	65.8	West Lafayette Com School Corp	63.7
Diocese of Lafayette Catholic Sch	64.6	North West Hendricks Schools	62.6
Wa-Nee Community Schools	64	Penn-Harris-Madison School Corp	61.3
School Town of Munster	63.7	School Town of Munster	61
Westfield-Washington Schools	63.2	Wa-Nee Community Schools	60.5
North West Hendricks Schools	62.7	Westfield-Washington Schools	60.3
Plainfield Community School Corp	61.8	Valparaiso Community Schools	60.1
Valparaiso Community Schools	61.5	Hamilton Southeastern Schools	60
Liberty-Perry Community Sch Corp	60.8	Plainfield Community School Corp	59.1
Hamilton Southeastern Schools	60.8	Center Grove Community School Corp	58.3
Center Grove Community School Corp	60.7	Barr-Reeve Community Schools Inc	58
Penn-Harris-Madison School Corp	60.1	Liberty-Perry Community Sch Corp	52

Graphics provided

These charts show ILEARN statistics for the top 20 school systems in Indiana.

ILEARN data that each graduating class in both Math and ELA showed an increase in students who were not proficient. A reasonable explanation for the increase would be due to COVID learning loss. If schools are working to remedy the COVID learning loss, then we would expect to see with the 2022 ILEARN data that the number of students not proficient is decreasing and approaching the 2019 pre-COVID levels.

If we look at the chart for ELA, this is exactly what we see happening. The gray bars which represent 2022 ILEARN data show fewer students who are not at proficiency than the 2021 data. However, the data for Math tells a different story. There is very little difference between the orange and gray bars for Math for each class. This means that the number of HSE students not at proficiency in math for the graduating classes of 2026, 2027, and 2028 has not changed. According to this data there has been no recovery from COVID for Math.

See those charts below.

My purpose in presenting this data is to start some conversations. What can be done to improve academic excellence in our schools? What can be done to address COVID learning loss, especially for Math? What can be done to return HSE schools to the top of the charts when compared with other high performing school districts?

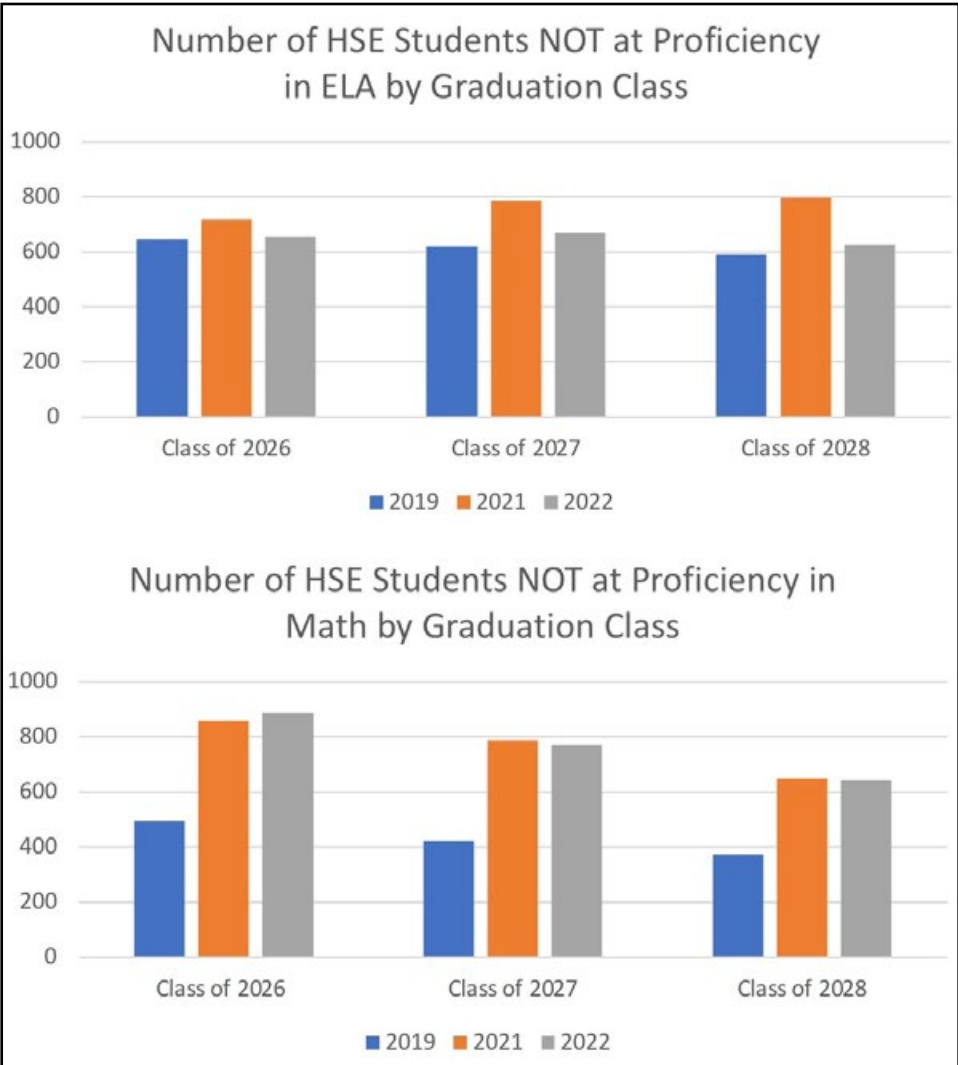
School board elections are approaching. Your vote will make a difference. If you are concerned about the academic performance of HSE schools, then please vote for candidates who want to return all HSE schools to high levels of academic excellence.

2022 ILEARN English/Language Arts	
School District	ELA %
Geist Elementary School	71.8%
Fall Creek Elementary School	68.1%
Harrison Parkway Elementary School	67.9%
Fall Creek Junior High	67.0%
Cumberland Road Elem School	64.3%
Hoosier Road Elementary School	64.0%
Southeastern Elementary School	63.6%
Hamilton SE Int and Jr High Sch	63.2%
New Britton Elementary School	61.3%
Riverside Intermediate School	60.7%
Fall Creek Intermediate School	59.4%
Brooks School Elementary	59.2%
Thorpe Creek Elementary	59.2%
Fishers Junior High School	58.4%
Lantern Road Elementary School	57.9%
Riverside Junior High	57.0%
Sand Creek Intermediate School	49.8%
Durbin Elementary School	49.2%
Sand Creek Elementary	46.6%
Fishers Elementary School	45.0%

2022 ILEARN Math	
School District	Math %
Fall Creek Elementary School	82.6%
Geist Elementary School	80.5%
Southeastern Elementary School	73.1%
Lantern Road Elementary School	72.9%
Brooks School Elementary	72.5%
Hoosier Road Elementary School	70.6%
Riverside Intermediate School	70.3%
Cumberland Road Elem School	70.2%
Thorpe Creek Elementary	70.0%
New Britton Elementary School	68.9%
Harrison Parkway Elementary School	68.5%
Durbin Elementary School	62.9%
Fall Creek Intermediate School	62.1%
Sand Creek Elementary	58.6%
Fall Creek Junior High	57.2%
Hamilton SE Int and Jr High Sch	56.7%
Sand Creek Intermediate School	54.1%
Fishers Junior High School	52.2%
Fishers Elementary School	49.1%
Riverside Junior High	44.0%

Graphics provided

These charts show ILEARN statistics each school within the HSE district.



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HCSO  
BICYCLE  
RODEO  
2022

THE HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE BICYCLE TEAM WILL BE HOSTING A BICYCLE RODEO AT FOREST PARK ON THURSDAY JULY 28TH FROM 2 P.M. TO 5 P.M. THE EVENT IS DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN AGES 4 THRU 12.

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT.





# Cast, crew readying for The Belfry's *Frozen Jr.*

## Submitted

The Belfry Theatre presents the Apprentice Players' production of Disney's *Frozen Jr.* July 28 to 31 at The Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville.

The musical – an enchanted modern classic that brings Elsa, Anna and the magical land of Arendelle to life onstage, features 39 kids ages 5 to 18 and is directed by James H. Williams. The show features the memorable songs from the animated film, with music and lyrics by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez, plus five new songs written for the Broadway production.

Five performance times are 7:30 p.m. on July 28, 29 and 30, and 2 p.m. on July 30 and 31.

Here's the cast: Young Anna, Ellie Long; Middle Anna, Addie McMillan; Anna, Gracelynn Hymen; Young Elsa, Miranda McConnell; Middle Elsa, Chloe Butz; Elsa, Remi Shirayanagi; Hans, Nick Sizelove; Kristoff, Cavan Doyle; Queen, Miriam Schaffer; King, Nolan Campbell; Sven, Vincent Lomelin; Pabbie, Lilah Cross; Oaken, Drake Lockwood; Weststone, Ben Ohning; Bulda, Bucky Ohning; Bishop, Estia Wallace, and



Photo provided by The Belfry Theatre

**The cast of The Belfry Theatre's Apprentice Players' production of Disney's *Frozen Jr.* have been busy rehearsing at En Pointe Indiana Ballet in Noblesville readying for five live performances of the musical, July 28 to 31 at The Ivy Tech Auditorium in Noblesville.**

Olaf, Jonny Wallace.

Ensemble features Harper Altman, Chloe Butz, Nolan Campbell, Coraline Coston, Lilah Cross, Fiona Deutsch, Lexianne Duvall, Freya Edwardson, Hadley Held, Charlotte Jamriska, Avery Kite, Kaley Kite, Kelsey Lewis, Aria Lockwood, Drake Lockwood, Ellie Long, Peyton Martin, Miranda McConnell, Addie McMillan, Austin Mitchell, Dallas Mitchell, Ben Ohning, Bucky Ohning, Sadie Ohning, Camryn Oukada, Miriam Schaffer, Claire Shonkwiler, Elena

Shonkwiler, Nick Sizelove, Blake Summers, Lila Summers, Estia Wallace, Jayna Wallace, and Kiki Wallace.

Production crew includes: director, James H. Williams; assistant director, Courtne Janikowski; co-producers, Katie Ohning and Betsy Reason; choreographer, Belinda Jernigan and Jeanne Wade; music director, Denise Johnson; student choreographer, Katelyn King; stage manager mentor, A. Mikel Allen; youth stage manager, Cassidy Henson; costumers, Norma Floyd and Shannon Rice;

Hair and makeup, Dorinda Pena; props, Heidi Moranski; light designer, Brian Coon and James H. Williams; sound engineers, Drew Benedetto and Beck Buchanan-Schwanke; set designer, Jay Ganz; set construction, Marty Martin and Jon Dosman; set painting, Rebekah Martin; light board operator, Clay Howard; Stage Crew, Laiken Charpie, Chloe Oukada, Lydia Schaffer, Lizzie Schultz and Coen Summers; and parent coordinator, Emily Allan.

Tickets are \$15 at [belfrytheatre.com](http://belfrytheatre.com).

## First Internet Bank CEO David Becker appointed to Next Level Indiana Fund Investment Board

### The REPORTER

David Becker, Indiana Technology & Innovation Association (ITIA) Board Chair as well as Chairman and CEO of Fishers-based First Internet Bank, has been appointed to serve on the Next Level Indiana Fund Investment Board.

The **Next Level Indiana Fund** was created by the Indiana Legislature in 2017 to make investments in Indiana venture capital funds and Indiana companies using \$250 million of allocated state funding.

Becker was appointed to the Next Level Indiana Fund Board by Speaker of the Indiana House of Representatives Todd Huston, following a new law passed during the 2022 legislative session that added additional appointments to the Board.

"The Next Level Indiana Fund is a critical economic development resource to attract more venture capital to Indiana, support the creation of new Indiana venture capital funds and accelerate growth of Indiana-based, innovation-driven companies," Becker said. "I look forward to joining the Board and supporting the goals of the Fund to fuel Indiana's tech and innovation industry."

During this year's legislative session, ITIA supported legislation to expand the Next Level Indiana Fund Investment Board by adding two voting members with direct experience and knowledge in venture capital investment appointed by the Speaker of the House and the Senate President Pro Tempore. These additional appointments became



Becker

for business in 1999 as an industry pioneer in the branchless delivery of banking services. He has a 40-year career of creating successful entrepreneurial companies in financial services technology ("fintech") and software-as-a-service (SaaS), having created and sold five Inc. 500 companies.

Becker is also a founding member and the current Board Chair of ITIA, the statewide group of technology and innovation-driven companies and partners that seeks to elevate the role the

law as part of **Senate Enrolled Act 361**.

Becker founded and serves as Chairman and CEO of First Internet Bancorp's subsidiary, First Internet Bank, which opened for business in 1999 as an industry pioneer in the branchless delivery of banking services. He has a 40-year career of creating successful entrepreneurial companies in financial services technology ("fintech") and software-as-a-service (SaaS), having created and sold five Inc. 500 companies.

Becker is also a founding member and the current Board Chair of ITIA, the statewide group of technology and innovation-driven companies and partners that seeks to elevate the role the

tech community plays in shaping Indiana public policy.

"David Becker is a pioneer of Indiana's technology industry with vast knowledge and experience in venture capital investing, both as a founder of multiple companies and as an investor," ITIA Executive Director Jennifer Hollowell said. "David is supremely positioned to serve in this capacity and help guide Next Level Indiana Fund activity to generate the greatest impact for our state and Indiana's tech industry."

Becker also serves on the Board of TechPoint, Central Indiana Community Foundation (CICF) and Central Indiana Corporate Partnership (CICP).

For more information about the Indiana Technology & Innovation Association (ITIA), visit [Indiana-Technology.org](http://Indiana-Technology.org).

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## — SHERIDAN —

### NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of Sheridan Civil Town, Hamilton County, Indiana, that the proper legal officers of the Town of Sheridan, at their regular meeting place at 300 East 6th Street, Sheridan, IN, at 6:00 P.M., on the 2nd day of August 2022, will consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year.

GENERAL FUND FIRE DEPARTMENT 1101	\$55,705.60
Total	\$55,705.60

Taxpayers appearing at such meeting shall have a right to be heard. The additional appropriations as finally made will be referred to the Department of Local Government Finance. The Department will make a written determination as to the sufficiency of funds to support the appropriations made within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a certified copy of the action taken.

Elizabeth Walden, IAMC, CMO, CMC  
Clerk-Treasurer Town of Sheridan

R1051

7/21/22, 7/25/22

### NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CONCERNING THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF UNOBLIGATED LOCAL INCOME TAX REVENUES BY THE SHERIDAN TOWN COUNCIL AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Notice is hereby given by the Sheridan Town Council (the "Council"), that the Council will consider the following appropriation of unobligated local income tax revenues on deposit in the General Fund which has been determined to be necessary and which is in addition to all appropriations provided for in the existing budget and levy. Such revenues will, pursuant to this additional appropriation, be utilized to amend the salaries of the firefighters with the Sheridan Fire Departments.

Notice is further given that the Council, on August 2, at the hour of 6:00 p.m. local time, in the Sheridan Community Center, 300 E 6th St, Sheridan, IN 46069, will receive and hear remonstrations from persons interested in or affected by the proceedings pertaining to the proposed appropriation of unobligated local income tax revenues and will determine the public utility and benefit of the proposed additional appropriation. At the time fixed for the public hearing, or at any time prior thereto, any person interested in the proceedings may file a written remonstrance with the Secretary of the Council. At such hearing, which may be adjourned from time to time, the Council will hear all persons interested in the proceedings and all remonstrances that have been filed. After considering this evidence, the Council will take final action with respect to such additional appropriation.

Dated: July 19, 2022  
Elizabeth A. Walden, IAMC, CMO, CMC  
Clerk-Treasurer of the Town of Sheridan

R1052

7/21/22, 7/25/22

### NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of Sheridan Civil Town, Hamilton County, Indiana, that the proper legal officers of the Town of Sheridan, at their regular meeting place at 300 East 6th Street, Sheridan, IN, at 6:00 P.M., on the 2nd day of August 2022, will consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year.

GENERAL FUND 101	\$560,420.00
Total	\$560,420.00

Taxpayers appearing at such meeting shall have a right to be heard. The additional appropriations as finally made will be referred to the Department of Local Government Finance. The Department will make a written determination as to the sufficiency of funds to support the appropriations made within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a certified copy of the action taken.

Elizabeth Walden, IAMC, CMO, CMC  
Clerk-Treasurer Town of Sheridan

R1060

7/21/22, 7/25/22

### NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CONCERNING THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF UNOBLIGATED LOCAL INCOME TAX REVENUES BY THE SHERIDAN TOWN COUNCIL AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Notice is hereby given by the Sheridan Town Council (the "Council"), that the Council will consider the following appropriation of unobligated local income tax revenues on deposit in the General Fund which has been determined to be necessary and which is in addition to all appropriations provided for in the existing budget and levy. Such revenues will, pursuant to this additional appropriation, be utilized to purchase land from the Sheridan Community Schools.

Notice is further given that the Council, on August 2, at the hour of 6:00 p.m. local time, in the Sheridan Community Center, 300 E 6th St, Sheridan, IN 46069, will receive and hear remonstrations from persons interested in or affected by the proceedings pertaining to the proposed appropriation of unobligated local income tax revenues and will determine the public utility and benefit of the proposed additional appropriation. At the time fixed for the public hearing, or at any time prior thereto, any person interested in the proceedings may file a written remonstrance with the Secretary of the Council. At such hearing, which may be adjourned from time to time, the Council will hear all persons interested in the proceedings and all remonstrances that have been filed. After considering this evidence, the Council will take final action with respect to such additional appropriation.

Dated: July 18, 2022  
Elizabeth A. Walden, IAMC, CMO, CMC  
Clerk-Treasurer of the Town of Sheridan

R1061

7/21/22, 7/25/22

### NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CONCERNING THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF UNOBLIGATED LOCAL INCOME TAX REVENUES BY THE SHERIDAN TOWN COUNCIL AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Notice is hereby given by the Sheridan Town Council (the "Council"), that the Council will consider the following appropriation of unobligated local income tax revenues on deposit in the General Fund which has been determined to be necessary and which is in addition to all appropriations provided for in the existing budget and levy. Such revenues will, pursuant to this additional appropriation, be utilized to purchase land for the extension of the Monon Trail project.

Notice is further given that the Council, on August 2, at the hour of 6:00 p.m. local time, in the Sheridan Community Center, 300 E 6th St, Sheridan, IN 46069, will receive and hear remonstrations from persons interested in or affected by the proceedings pertaining to the proposed appropriation of unobligated local income tax revenues and will determine the public utility and benefit of the proposed additional appropriation. At the time fixed for the public hearing, or at any time prior thereto, any person interested in the proceedings may file a written remonstrance with the Secretary of the Council. At such hearing, which may be adjourned from time to time, the Council will hear all persons interested in the proceedings and all remonstrances that have been filed. After considering this evidence, the Council will take final action with respect to such additional appropriation.

Dated: July 18, 2022  
Elizabeth A. Walden IAMC, CMO, CMC  
Clerk-Treasurer of the Town of Sheridan

R1062

7/21/22, 7/25/22

## — COUNTY —

### HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners have called a special meeting with the American Rescue Plan Act Committee for Monday, July 25, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. The meeting will be held in Conference Room 1A located in the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, Indiana 46060. Purpose of this meeting is to discuss the allocation of ARPA funds. Meeting may be accessed virtually by dialing 1.219.225.8177 Conference ID 341690907#.

/s/ Robin M. Mills  
Hamilton County Auditor

R1055

7/21/22, 7/25/22



**Saturday, August 27, 2022**

The Renaissance in Carmel at 11925 N. Meridian Street

### EVENT SCHEDULE

- |             |                             |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>6:00</b> | Host Bar and Silent Auction |
| <b>7:00</b> | Dinner                      |
| <b>7:15</b> | Program and Live Auction    |
| <b>9:00</b> | Dancing with Dave & Rae     |

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# Democratic State Senator J.D. Ford reacts to proposed abortion legislation

Submitted

On Wednesday, Republican Senators outlined their abortion legislation plans and which committee it will be assigned to. State Senator J.D. Ford (D-Indianapolis) offered the following statement:

“The legislation the supermajority offered today is extreme and way out of step with Hoosiers. The legislation offers the bare minimum exceptions for rape, incest, and life of the moth-

er. Unfortunately, it strictly regulates a woman’s right to choose and doesn’t include expectations for the health of the mother. I will strongly oppose this legislation. The right to privacy is one of the most important in a free society and I trust women to make this deeply personal decision, not the Government.”



Ford

State Sen. Ford represents Indiana Senate District 29, which encompasses Boone County's Eagle Township, Hamilton County's Clay Township, and Marion County's Pike and Wayne townships. For more information on Sen. Ford's legislative agenda or other State Senate business, call 1-800-382-9467 or visit [indianasenatedemocrats.org/s29](http://indianasenatedemocrats.org/s29).

# Republican State Senator Kyle Walker supports “balanced approach” on abortion policy

## Walker opposes first trimester ban, supports exceptions in certain cases

Submitted

The Indiana General Assembly is scheduled to meet for a Special Session beginning Monday, July 25 to consider Gov. Eric Holcomb’s proposal to provide inflation relief and to address abortion policy following the U.S. Supreme Court’s overturning of Roe v. Wade on June 24.

“I have given this a significant amount of thought and I’ve listened to women and parents of all ages about their views on the issue. Their stories, some heartbreaking, have helped shape my position,” said State Senator Kyle Walker, who represents Fishers and part of Lawrence. “With the overturning of Roe v. Wade, I believe we must strike a balance for pregnant women to make their own health decisions in the first trimester of pregnancy and also provide protections for an unborn baby as it progresses toward viability outside the womb, while making exceptions for rape, incest, health of the mother and cases of fatal fetal anomaly.”

Current Indiana law allows for abortion up to 20

weeks postfertilization. Walker says he supports reducing the time period to 12 to 15 weeks, around the first trimester.

Providing further background for his position, Walker explained, “In the past several weeks I’ve had mothers and fathers share their heart-wrenching stories with me and I firmly believe we should not force a mother to carry a baby to term that her doctor knows won’t live outside the womb. In some cases, an early delivery is the only way the parents are able to spend a few minutes with their baby while he or she is still alive.”

Regarding other proposals, Walker says he supports increasing funding and resources for women during pregnancy and after the birth of their child, as well as expanding the [Safe Haven Baby Box](#) program and increasing the adoption tax credit. He also supports expanding access to birth control, including emergency contraception.



Walker

However, Walker says he opposes requiring rape or incest victims to file a police report, which he believes further victimizes the woman. He also opposes criminal penalties for health professionals and

mothers. “This is one of the most defining votes I’ll cast, and I wanted to share my position with constituents in advance,” Walker said.

Background

Indiana’s current law already includes informed consent requirements, parental consent requirements for pregnant minors, regulation of drug induced abortions, a ban on partial birth abortion procedures, a ban of abortions undertaken due to race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, a diagnosis of Down syndrome or other disability, a prohibition of the use of taxpayer funds for abortion except for emergencies, and criminal penalties for those who coerce a woman to have an abortion.



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Donna Bussell

Meeting Notices	
Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners have called a special meeting with the American Rescue Plan Act Committee at 10:30 a.m. for Monday, July 25, 2022, in Conference Room 1A at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the allocation of ARPA funds. The meeting may be accessed virtually by calling (219) 225-8177 and entering Conference ID 341690907#.	The Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District Board will meet at noon on Monday, July 25, 2022, in the Commissioners’ Courtroom at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.
The Adams Township Board will meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, July 26, 2022, at the Adams Township Trustee’s Office, 201 S. Main St., Sheridan. The agenda includes an update on the new fire truck, the 2023 budget, discussion on the Community Building, the Sheridan Youth Assistance Denim & Lace fundraiser, and a Town of Sheridan resolution.	The Noblesville Police Merit Commission will meet in an executive session at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, in the Council Chambers Conference Room at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St., Noblesville, pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(6)(A). With respect to any individual over whom the governing body has jurisdiction, to receive information concerning the individual’s alleged misconduct. The Commission will hold a public meeting at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, in the Council Chambers at Noblesville City Hall.

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# TODAY’S BIBLE READING

*Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.” So we say with confidence, “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?”*

Hebrews 13:4-6 (NIV)



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## 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**  
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# Hamilton County Sports

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## Sports Editor Richie Hall

Sports@ReadTheReporter.com

Twitter: @Richie\_Hall



Photo by John Spugnardi / Courtesy Bellarmine Athletics

Recent Carmel graduate Peter Suder is adapting well to his first practices at Bellarmine University. The Greyhounds star committed to the Knights program in April and began participating in practices and camp with the team in June.

## Carmel grad starting college hoops at school where team plays without ego

By RICHIE HALL

sports@readthereporter.com

Peter Suder was a star from Day 1 at Carmel High School. He was a starting player as a freshman and was a leader for the Greyhounds over the next four years.

Now, Suder is starting over again in college. He committed to Bellarmine University in Louisville, Ky., this past April, and has been participating with the team in summer workouts. He spoke to the Reporter a few days ago, and is already adapting well to college basketball, in addition to enjoying his new teammates and coaches.

Suder said he was drawn to play for the Knights by how "the coaches teach, how unselfish the basketball is," and how everyone has just one goal – to win games.

"They recruit guys who care about basketball, who want to win," said Suder. "Just overall great guys."

And it didn't take long for Suder to start liking his teammates, as they were welcoming to him from

the start. He got to know several of the players, including graduate student Juston Betz (the team's top returning scorer), senior Bash Wieland, redshirt senior Garrett Tipton and juniors Eli Roberts and Zac Jennings.

"They've been amazing to me since my official visit," said Suder. "I just really like it here."

Suder graduated from Carmel on May 26, then had a few days off before moving in to Bellarmine on June 5. He's one of three freshmen on the team, including his roommate, Michael Bova. The other freshman is a walk-on player, Zach Reed, who went to Brebeuf Jesuit but is also from Carmel. "They're all good guys," said Suder.

Once her began practices, Suder quickly realized how fast the tempo of college basketball is. He also got to experience a shot clock, something not used in Indiana high school basketball. But Suder said the coaches "have been great" about helping them adjust, saying they are "just trying

to get us freshmen more involved in practice drills" so they can get used to the new tempo.

The Knights programs is in a period of adjustment as well. Bellarmine is making the transition from Division II to Division I, beginning the four-year period of moving up at the start of the 2020-21 season. Scott Davenport has been the Knights' coach since 2005, and he has mentored the Knights through a highly successful period in Division II.

Starting in 2009, Bellarmine qualified for the NCAA D-II tournament every year until it began its transition to Division I, which was the longest streak of tournament appearances at the time. Bellarmine also won the Great Lakes Valley Conference tournament four times. The Knights claimed the D-II national championship in 2011 and reached the Final Four three other times. Bellarmine's final Division II season was the 2019-20

school year, and with a 20-8 record, the Knights qualified for the tournament, but it was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since Bellarmine is in the midst of transitioning to Division I, it has not been eligible for the NCAA tournament the past two seasons. The Knights also switched to the ASUN Conference effective with the 2020-21 season. In its first Division I year, Bellarmine finished 14-8, then improved to 20-13 in its second D-I season. The Knights also won the ASUN Conference tournament to finish their 2022 campaign. (The automatic NCAA tournament bid went to Jacksonville State, the regular season champion.)

"People didn't expect them to win," said Suder. But he credits the team's unselfish play and a tough non-conference schedule for helping it to have the success the Knights have had.

"They play UCLA, Kentucky, Clemson," said Suder.

He acknowledged that it's "going to be difficult to win some of those games," but it will prepare the Knights for conference play.

Post-season success is something of which Suder is well aware. While at Carmel, Suder was part of two Class 4A state championship teams, as a freshman and a junior. Suder's sophomore year was the COVID-19 year, so the IHSAA post-season finished with sectionals, but not before he helped the Greyhounds to another Sectional 8 crown. Suder was named a 2021 Indiana Boys Junior All-Star and as a 2022 Indiana All-Star for his senior season.

In addition to beginning college basketball practices, Suder also got his first taste of college academics, taking a summer class: American Pop Culture.

"It's something you've just got to take," said Suder. "Some of the coaches were just like, you might as well

take an easy class" just to get it out of the way – "You don't want to jump into anything too quickly," said Suder, who will double major in sports administration and psychology.

"Two weeks ago, I met with our counselor," said Suder. "He made a schedule. I'm pretty sure some of the guys do it on their own, but we're incoming freshmen and we're new. He helped us out with that."

Suder said his summer consisted of straight practice and camp between June 5 and July 1, then he had a few days off for the holiday. He returned to Bellarmine on July 10 and will be there for a few more weeks before returning to Carmel on July 28.

"They definitely break it up well," said Suder.

After a three-week break, Suder will return to Bellarmine as a full-fledged college freshman. His journey with the Knights will begin in earnest.

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