

FRIDAY, JULY 22, 2022

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TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Mostly sunny.
Tonight: Partly cloudy.

HIGH: 90 LOW: 69



paulpoteet.com



(From left) Mia Gordon, Livy Crocker, Amaya Smith, Mason Yeater, and Liv Keslin rehearse for 30 Reasons.

30 Reasons Not to Be in a Play

Come laugh & learn why you should stay in the audience

By STU CLAMPITT
news@readthereporter.com

Think you want to be in a play? Think again, laughing boy!

Main Street Productions is staging 30 Reasons Not to Be in a Play at Basile Westfield Playhouse, 220 N. Union St., starting July 28. The Reporter spoke to Director Tanya Haas about all the reasons you belong in the audience, not on the stage.

"The show opens with most of the cast members coming out," Haas said. "Each is a different narrator basically saying, 'You make think that it's really fun to be in a play, but we're here to tell you that it's a really bad idea,' then they proceed to tell you all of the horrible reasons why you shouldn't be in a play, which are obviously ridiculous and over-the-top."

It took Haas two years to get this show on stage because she had planned it for the summer of 2020. Fortunately, even the pandemic was not able to stop the high comedy audience



Photo courtesy Rob Slavin, Indy Ghost Light Photography

Owen Hilger, Clayton Crocker, Livy Crocker, Mason Yeater, Blake Fortier, Amaya Smith, Anastasia Hobbs, Quinn Yeater, Sammy Geis, Tatyana Hobbs, Liv Keslin, Ella Crites, Harrison Coon, and Annalisa Schuth practice their lines for 30 Reasons.

es have waiting for them in this summer youth production. All COVID-19 could do was delay the laughs a little.

"In 2019 I heard from some friends that they were looking for a youth show for the summer of 2020 at [Basile] Westfield Playhouse," Haas said. "They were typically doing non-musical shows to separate themselves from a lot of the other community theaters who do musicals in the summer. I came across this show and just reading through it was making me laugh out loud. I've had two years to plan all of the insanity that goes along with this show. I think it has definitely lived up to my vision of crazy."

Get Your Tickets

When: July 28 to Aug. 7. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday shows at 7:30 p.m. Sunday shows at 2:30 p.m.

Where: Basile Westfield Playhouse, 220 N. Union St., Westfield

In-Person cost: \$17 for adults 18 and older, \$15 for seniors 62 and older, \$15 for students with ID, and free for active military personnel and veterans with ID.

Where to buy: Go to westfieldplayhouse.org/showtickets or call (317) 402-3341 for tickets. Online reservations will close two hours before each show.

Playhouse doors open one hour prior to showtime.

This show will have 19 young actors ranging in age from seven to 18.

See 30 Reasons . . . Page 2

Pleasant Street bridge to get OK; fairgrounds master plan, Unified Development Code also on tap

A final step toward construction of the new Pleasant Street bridge over White River will be taken Monday. County Commissioners in regular session will sign off on plans that call for the \$16 million bridge, the link in the Pleasant Street Corridor, bypassing downtown Noblesville.

The county, under state law, is responsible for building major bridges anywhere in the county. The county and city of Noblesville are

COLUMNIST



FRED SWIFT
The County Line

cooperating on the east-west corridor project. The city will bid Phase 1 of the overall project in mid-September. Utility relocation will begin this fall.

Phase 1 extends from South 10th Street to River Road with the vital link between the bridge, a 644-foot-long span. It is probably the longest such structure undertaken in Hamilton County, according to Highway Director Brad Davis. (Editor's note: The 146th Street bridge over White River is four lanes, while the Pleasant

Street bridge will be three lanes.) The bridge will include a multi-use path as part of the Midland Trace Trail.

The second phase of the city's project will take the new corridor west and north to meet Hague Road at State Road 32. Phase III will involve improvements to existing Pleasant Street from 10th Street to State Road 37.

On Aug. 3, the Hamilton County Council will hold a public hearing on a proposed \$47 million bond to finance the bridge, along with other bridge improvements including the planned interchange bridge at 146th and Allison-

ville Road. That project is scheduled to start in the spring of 2023.

Another county project may take a step forward Monday when commissioners consider approval of a master plan design contract for upgrading the 4-H fairgrounds. Mussett, Nicholas and Associates will work with The Veridus Group in designing new facilities and renovating some others as well as planning for more parking and other improvements at the 4-H fairgrounds, 2003 Pleasant St., Noblesville.

See County Line . . . Page 3

Major projects begin to move at County Council

Hopefully, everyone is enjoying their summer. The July County Council meeting was lengthy but much of the agenda was devoted to basic appropriations for grants, reduction in funds as we close them out, and changes to personnel that require action by Council. I am not going to discuss those general actions.

I am going to use this time to highlight a few items including mileage reimbursement, two interlocal agreements, the introduction of a county bridge improvement bond program, and lastly a rather lengthy conversation about appropriations of ARPA funds for projects. It is important to remember that these monthly Council meetings are just the public facing part; there are many other meetings, emails and correspondence taking place behind the scenes to move items forward.

COLUMNIST



KEN ALEXANDER
Council Minutes

See Major Projects . . . Page 3

Celebrate 25 years of Gregory Hancock Dance Theatre in Carmel

The REPORTER

Gregory Hancock Dance Theatre (GHDT) will celebrate their 25th Anniversary Season by presenting highly entertaining past and present artistic works from GHDT's 25 years of dance theatre repertoire. Season tickets will be available for the four concerts at The Tarkington at the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel beginning July 29 by calling The Center's Fifth Third Bank Box office at (317) 843-3800.

Known for masterful productions with moving storytelling, theater and dance, this season, GHDT will tell the company's story

through repertoire created in the early years as well as recently produced works. Mr. Hancock has curated the archives to share his choreographic and thematic stories with audiences. Sweeping musical scores, electric and thrilling dance combined with emotional and poignant theatre await audiences as GHDT explores and celebrates its journey over 25 years.

25th Season Celebration
The Tarkington
7 p.m. on Aug. 26 & 27

This production has been curated by Executive Artistic Director Gregory Hancock

to link together theatrical tales from throughout GHDT's rich 25-year history and will tell the collective story through moving, poignant and memorable theater, thrilling movement, and beautiful music.

There's No Place Like Home
The Tarkington
7 p.m. on Oct. 28 & 29

Returning to the stage this October is an original, full-length autobiographical work created and choreographed by Executive Artistic Director Gregory Hancock. A unique adaptation of

See Dance . . . Page 2



Photo courtesy Joe Phillips

Hello,
Hamilton
County

paulpoteet.com

Thanks for reading The Reporter!

Main Street Productions, Inc. Presents

30 reasons NOT to be in a Play

By Alan Haehnel

Directed by Tanya Haas

July 28th - August 7th, 2022

Thursday, Friday, Saturday Shows at 7:30 pm,
Sunday Shows at 2:30 pm

Basile Westfield Playhouse
220 North Union St., Westfield, IN - (317) 402-3341
For reservations, call or visit our website:
www.westfieldplayhouse.org

mylogoshop.com

30 REASONS

“Obviously, there is a very wide array of experience levels among that large of an age span,” Haas told The Reporter. “Five of the cast members have never done anything on stage. Some of the older kids have quite a bit of experience. We have a young lady who is 11, but she is a profession-

al-level actress.” Some kids are playing several characters. There are different characters for every ‘Reason’ in the show. “I did ask the five oldest members of the cast if they would keep an eye on the younger ones in case they needed help or encouragement,” Haas said. “They have been very good about mentoring the younger kids. Despite the big age gaps, everybody gets along very well, and they are having a ton of fun.” Getting some of the young actors to be open to the over-the-top way Haas wanted them to act was a bit of a problem in the beginning, but she told The Reporter is has all come together even better than she hoped.

“They have definitely warmed up more to the physical comedy from the beginning of rehearsals to now,” Haas said. “I told them to get as big and crazy as they can possibly get because that’s the nature of this show. It’s utterly ridiculous. It’s supposed to be utterly ridiculous and the more over-the-top they can be with it, the funnier it’s going to be. They have definitely taken a strong hold of that philosophy and run with it.”

DANCE

The Wizard of Oz, this adventure will travel through the exotic world of India with a boy from Kansas. On his quest for enlightenment, he will encounter characters from the Hindu pantheon of gods and goddesses.

The Nutcracker
Pike Performing Arts Center
Dec. 2 & 3

This magical student production portrays Klara as a homeless orphan girl who discovers the true meaning of the season through the gift and giving spirit of another homeless person. The Nutcracker is a family favorite and is sure to add joy and cheer to the holiday season.

New World Dances
The Florence
Weekends Feb. 11-26, 2023

This collection of original works by Executive Artistic Director Gregory Hancock was created during the pandemic and performed mostly for film on unique stages throughout the community. These masterful works will now be presented for live audiences for the first time at GHDT’s new black box theatre, The Florence.

Illumination
The Tarkington
7 p.m. on April 7 & 8, 2023

Throughout the many works in GHDT’s repertoire are those rooted in faith, love, connection, and hope. During the spring season of holiness and reflection, Mr. Hancock has collected works of faith and light to tell our common spiritual search for the divine.

Director’s Choice
The Tarkington
7 p.m. on June 9 & 10, 2023

With over 150 pieces spanning 25 years, Executive Artistic Director Gregory Hancock selected and designed this production with works that still resonate with him in a deep and meaningful way. A variety of musical styles, electric and passionate movement with varied and connected themes, GHDT and Mr. Hancock invite you to peek into the heart of their artistic work to guide you to find our connection to each other through our shared human experiences.

Gregory Hancock Dance Theatre is the resident, professional dance company at The Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel. Learn more at gregory-hancockdancetheatre.org.

from Page 1

from Page 1

Get Your Tickets

Get your tickets at TheCenterPresents.org,
by calling the box office at (317) 843-3800,
or by going to GregoryHancockDanceTheatre.org.

- \$49 – single tickets for adults
- \$39 – single tickets for students for Tarkington performances
- Season tickets available for Tarkington performances starting July 29 – 10 percent discount off regular tickets: Four performances – \$176.00 for adults; \$140 for students

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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FIRST PIECES

And to learn that they both went to college just a half hour away from where I grew up was incredible. I hoped that they had graduated and gone on to live good lives. I thought about the sacrifices they both must have made. Having a child out of wedlock in the early 70s was a bigger deal than it is today, and I imagine potentially shameful, especially if they both had Catholic families.

I thought about the other decision they could have made, and a lump formed in my throat. My birth parents could have chosen to have had an abortion and spared themselves a lot of pain. Instead, they made a brave choice to keep me and give me up for adoption in order

to give me a better life. Suddenly they became very real in my mind and my heart. I hoped that my birth mother at least had been able to finish her sophomore year before her pregnancy was obvious, since she gave birth to me in the summer.

So, I had learned where I got my physical features. I found out that I am mostly German, which was thrilling to finally know. And I knew that both parents had at least been healthy at the time of my birth. I wish I could have obtained more information about each of their medical history, but I had to be content with what I had found at the moment. I told my husband and some close friends what I had learned, and they were thrilled for me.

After some thought, I decided to share what I learned with my mother. I stressed to her how important it was to try to get some medical history for me and my sons.

"I'm not going to find out any identifying information, Mom," I said on the phone one day. "I just really wanted to learn about my background and see if there are any medical issues to be concerned about." After I shared the bits and pieces of information, I hoped to hear some sort of excitement from her. Instead Mom's voice sounded high and shaky.

"This doesn't really change anything, you know," she said. "We're still your family." I had to hold

back a sigh.

"Of course, Mom," I replied. "This is just something I had to do. I've never known my real history before, and of course I want the best for my boys." She went on to quickly change the subject, and I realized that her feelings on the topic were still the same after all those years. I had secretly hoped she would now encourage me to find out more information.

But I had gone through enough emotionally and mentally, and was content – at the time – to have obtained the first few missing pieces of the puzzle that was my background. An interesting conversation three years later, however, changed all of that quickly.

COUNTY LINE

from Page 1

The County Plan Commission will offer a new Unified Development Code for rural areas covered by Hamilton County zoning. Planning Director CJ Taylor will present the code, approved by the Plan Commission.

In a related issue, commissioners will consider a recommendation from the plan commission that calls for denial of a solar farm in the northeastern part of the county.

A Chicago-area firm,

Doran Renewables, has proposed placing thousands of solar panels on tracts of leased ground. The plan met opposition from area farmers. Doran is also asking for tax abatements.

County Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt said the county does not oppose solar energy, and in fact has been a leader in using this source of energy, but the scope of the Doran plan exceeds local expectations and offers no property tax benefit.

**Paul Poteet...
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MAJOR PROJECTS

If you remember the comments from the June Council meeting, there was a desire to increase the mileage reimbursement rate to combat the impact of inflation on our staff. The Council was interested in helping but noted that there were a number of tax issues with reimbursing greater than the current Federal reimbursement rate (\$0.585 per mile). As I stated in June, it was our understanding that the rate was about to be changed, and then later in June the Federal government increased the mileage reimbursement rate. As our ordinance states that we follow the Federal rate for reimbursement, there was no need to adopt a new rate, so we acknowledged the change and moved on with the meeting.

Interlocal agreements are generally agreements between two government bodies regarding responsibilities of each that may include sweat equity or financial arrangements. The two projects we discussed in early July deal with the County's responsibility to provide and maintain bridges which is statutorily directed.

The interlocal agreement with Noblesville is in regard to the new Pleasant Street project that includes a large bridge over the White River. Noblesville is pushing forward with this project and is bidding this project later this year. The Pleasant Street bridge is a project that has been planned for some time and this interlocal caps the County's financial obligation on this bridge.

The interlocal with Fishers is due to the Cumberland Road thoroughfare project that they are beginning that includes the improvement of a county bridge. This bridge was a priority project for the County as it had been damaged recently. This is a great project for the County as Fishers was able to get Federal grant money for this project which reduced our cost for the bridge.

One of the two big items on the agenda was the introduction of the County Bridge Improvement Bond program. We already mentioned one of the large projects associated with this, Pleasant Street. Another project identified was an improvement at the intersection of 146th Street and Allisonville Road. There was discussion regarding the

project costs and how we were accounting for inflation. In essence, the project budgets built-in project cost escalation. The rate of inflation that we are accounting for is greater than in years past, but it is being accounted. Additionally, we have Federal funds coming in on the Allisonville and 146th Street project, which was not stated in the meeting but was clarified after Council by the highway department. In total, this bond captures important projects for the community, and it utilizes the capacity within our Major Bridge Fund to cover debt service which prevents any increase in your county tax levy.

The last major issue I want to address is the ARPA grant program. When these monies first started coming in from the federal government, the County created a program and a small committee to review the applications and give recommendations to the Council. These ARPA dollars are helping some projects move forward that would not have been able to move without some unique financial gymnastics. In that way, ARPA has been a good thing, but there is always another side. Money often brings out the worst in people, and I've seen this grant program turn into a cancer that divides people and creates anger and animosity.

The Baker's Corner project has had more visibility than any other project I have ever been involved with on Council. It was identified as a transformational project and came with matching funds from the state and others to make this a reality. Scope, timing, budget and the contractor had all been defined. It was time to appropriate the remainder of the ARPA dollars. My motion for the funding was not approved due to concerns about financial controls. The proposal from our developer/contractor partner dictates that the project cannot exceed the defined budget. We already have estimates that have been presented to everyone, but there are lingering concerns. Those concerns are trust.

There is a division between the Commissioners and the Council. Despite our disagreements, we are all trying to work for the benefit of our community.

from Page 1

Our representation in these committees is one way that we are working together, but one Councilor went so far as to say that we should eliminate the committees. This would slow down everything which would be contrary to creating government efficiency, one of the missions I am on.

I will continue to fight to improve the workflows. We are making strides forward, but it takes time to make a change and a thick skin to manage it through the political world.

If items mentioned above are of interest, please reach out to me or any member of the County Council. As always, I am thankful that the Hamilton County Reporter for publishing my Council updates and a special thanks to you, the readers, and residents of Hamilton County, for reading it and being engaged in the discussion. Our County is better because of you all. I welcome your questions at ken.alexander@hamilton-county.in.gov.

Ken Alexander is serving in his first term on the Hamilton County Council, representing District 4, which includes Adams and Washington townships, and part of Clay Township. He currently serves as the Vice President of the County Council.

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.

WHERE: SCHOOLHOUSE 7 CAFE (12125 CYNTHIANNE RD., FISHERS) ADMISSION: \$10 PER PERSON CASH OR CHECK DONATION. WRITE CHECKS TO HUMANE SOCIETY FOR HAMILTON COUNTY. BEER, WINE, FOOD AVAILABLE. OUTDOOR SHOW. BRING LAWN CHAIRS.

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**From the desk of Heights
Supt. Dr. Derek Arrowood**

Update No. 87
School is right around the corner, with a full slate of activities the week leading up to the first day of school on Tuesday, Aug. 9. Freshman Orientation is set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug.



2, HHMS Connect Day is from noon to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 3, MacBook Pickup for Returning Students (grades 10 to 12) is on 1 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 4, and the Back-to-School Open House at HHES takes place from 4 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 7.

The community is invited to attend the ninth annual Prayer Breakfast on Friday, Aug. 5 at the Middle School Caf  beginning at 7 a.m. A light breakfast will be served between 7 and 7:30 a.m. with music provided by the Cicero Christian Church Worship Team. This year's speaker is Scott Swan, News Anchor at WTHR Channel 13. The event is hosted by the Heights Area Pastors in conjunction with HHSC.

I would like to give a shout out to Faith Hittle, a 2022 Heights graduate, who was recently crowned as Miss Hamilton County 4-H Fair 2022 Queen, and senior Grace Allee as second runner-up. Both young ladies

embody the poise, servant spirit, and heart to make positive contributions and a difference through their involvement in 4-H, at school, and in the community. Congratulations!

Leanne Moore, HHHS and Spanish teacher, recently completed the process to teach dual language courses. She earned her credentials through The National Board of Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) of Excellence in Teaching (CELL) at the University of Indianapolis. She is a member of the National Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and is currently working on her HLC requirement. Congratulations!

Our friends at Ignite Center 4 Community in Noblesville are hosting a special program to help parents recognize signs that their child could be experiencing mental health struggles. This timely program, led by Sandy Conner, MA, LCAC, takes place from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. next Tuesday, July 26 at the Center, located at 698 N. 10th St., Noblesville. [Click here](#) to register to attend.

Our latest HHSC Monthly Update was posted on Monday. Learn about our HHSC Bookmobile, the amazing things our Tech Staff does over the summer, the winners of the Hamilton

Heights Youth Assistance Impact awards, the success of the HHEF Golf Outing, students who qualified for the State Track Meet, staff members earning advanced degrees, and celebrating our recent retirees. Check it out at [hhschuskie.org](https://www.hhschuskie.org) or [YouTube](#).

The Indiana Department of Health (IDOH), in partnership with the Hamilton County Health Department, is hosting back-to-school immunization clinics this summer at eight locations through its Start Smart campaign. The clinics, open to children age 5 and older, provide easy access for required and recommended school immunizations prior to the start of the 2022-23 school year. A list of immunizations required for school can be found [here](#).

Families will not be charged at the site of the clinic but should provide insurance information if available. [Click here](#) to access the map showing dates, times, and locations of community immunization clinics in Hamilton County and around the state.

We look forward to providing an inspiring, engaging environment rich in opportunities for all our students to learn and grow in the year ahead.

#WeAreHuskies

Indy-area nonprofits can submit applications for Arago Honors nonprofit innovation awards

The REPORTER

Indianapolis-based Meridian Foundation an-

nounced Monday that applications are open for a recognition program that celebrates innovation by nonprofits. Arago Honors awards \$10,000 in unrestricted funds to nonprofits that can demonstrate a history of creatively solving problems and enacting community change.

Recipients of the eight inaugural 2021 Arago Honors were focused on projects involving food insecurity, health, aging assistance, early learning education, workforce development, new business acceleration, art entrepreneurship, and racial equity. Honorees included: CICOA Aging and In-Home Solutions; Early Learning Indiana; GANGGANG; Launch HOPE Foundation; PATTERN; Society of St. Andrew; Spirit & Place; and The Milk Bank.

"The Arago Honors originated from an idea to recognize and pay tribute to nonprofits for thinking outside the box to solve complex community challenges," Meridian Founda-

tion Founder Donna Oklak said. "Our hope is that this funding helps accelerate nonprofit program innovation and reinforces for the organizations honored the importance and significance of the work they are doing to change the lives of individuals, families and the community."

Arago Honor award applications are due by 11:59 p.m. on Aug. 15. Nonprofit organizations are encouraged to review their eligibility requirements on the Meridian Foundation's [website](https://www.meridianfoundation.org). Applicants must be a nonprofit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and be based in Marion County or the six donut counties of Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Morgan, or Shelby. Applicants may self-nominate or apply on their own behalf. Honorees will be announced in November 2022. To find information on how to apply, visit [indymeridianfoundation.org](https://www.meridianfoundation.org).

About the Meridian Foundation

Founded in 2019, the Meridian Foundation aims to support, accelerate, and celebrate nonprofit innovation in central Indiana. For more information about the Meridian Foundation or the Arago Honors program, visit indy-meridianfoundation.org.

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



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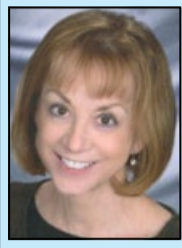
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Don't give up on those New Year's resolutions!

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." – C.S. Lewis

Well, we are just past that mid-point in our "New Year's Resolutions" we made just about six months ago. Some of you probably were gung-ho about those, noting the goals you have identified in one, or many, categories including career, family, financial, fitness and health, hobbies, etc. Some of you may have been more casual about your 2022 resolutions, with just a mental note and a wait-and-see attitude. However, I venture to say that we all had some ideas as we completed our holiday to-do lists and focused on the year ahead about what we wished to change, improve, omit, or add to our lives. What can happen – and often does happen – is that within a few months after we get excited about those resolutions, we begin to realize that we have not yet started to make those changes. Or perhaps we did be-

COLUMNIST



SHARON McMAHON
Be Well

gin to (take your pick) incorporate a better eating plan, start an exercise program, schedule more time with the family, begin a job search, enroll in classes, etc. but as often happens, life intervenes, and we just run out of steam. Of course, we have endured something the past couple of years none of us expected – the pandemic of which we are all just so very tired of and is still lingering, unfortunately. The only upside is that we have renewed appreciation for the health of ourselves and our loved ones. In regard to those resolutions – don't give up! Although we are a little past the half-way point, it is still 2022! Why not revisit those resolutions and goals, re-evaluate, and consider your options? When we are at the beginning of a nice, shiny new year it is very easy to be a bit starry-eyed regarding those changes. In particular, those of us "of a certain age" sometimes back off from making, or even considering, changes. I find in working with clients on their health and fitness goals that the wish for speedy results in both the way they look and feel can possibly undermine the continued quest to reach their goals. Those who stay focused and realize that a "quick fix" (and don't we get bombarded with those ads!) will never be the answer to obtaining a more fit and healthy body will most likely reach their fitness goals. I believe that as long as we, regardless of our age, make a commitment to setting the goals and dreaming the dreams we will find that we can achieve much of what we desire. Here is a suggestion, and something I have done which I find helpful. Find a photo (you know what I mean, one of those "hard copy" photos that you can actually hold in your hand...) of yourself at an age when you felt *optimistic, healthy, and excited about the future*. That may be when you were 8, 12, 15 or 25, it doesn't matter. Put that photo in a frame where you will see it every day. That person is YOU! It is never too late to take a deep breath, review that "list" you made six months ago and go forward. We all want to be happy, and we often believe that attaining whatever our goals or resolutions may be will offer that to us. I hope you continue your quest to better your life in whatever categories you believe need the most work. Another of my favorite quotes is offered by Eleanor Roosevelt: "*Happiness is not a goal ... it's a by-product of a life well lived.*" I hope you live well and healthy, and that the second half of 2022 is a good one for you, keeping your goals in front of you and moving toward them in a realistic, focused, and positive way. Happy Last Half + of the New Year!

Sharon McMahon, CNWC
The opinions expressed in this article are not intended to replace advice of your personal physician or licensed health professional. Please consult your physician for any issues you may have related to nutrition or fitness activity.

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Letter to the Editor

Mothers & their children need more support

Dear Editor:

The abortion issue will soon be discussed in our Indiana Legislative session on Monday, the 25th of July. **Reading both articles from Senators Ford and Walker** highlights what Hoosiers can expect from the upcoming session.

In Senator Walker's article he ended it with a Background finale of Indiana's current law.

At the very bottom was the statement, "criminal penalties for those who coerce a woman to have an abortion." How many Hoosiers are aware of this?

On this issue, I pondered who these persons would be to coerce a woman to get an abortion; most likely it would be the other side of the equation of this pregnancy – the father. Others involved could also be

parents of an underaged girl.

But let's look through the lens of the father who is involved. Why would he support ending the life of his baby? Would it be he was "found out" by his peers and family or would it be an 18-year of responsibility, or both? A lot of fathers of unwanted babies "hit the road" and run away from supporting the mother and child.

I would suggest our Indiana lawmakers include within this new bill that the father of the baby must support the mother and child at least 50 percent if the mother of the child decides to continue her pregnancy.

As Hoosiers, we must turn the tide of opinion of abortion availability to support-ability of the mother and unborn child.

Mari Briggs
Sheridan

Letters to the Editor do not reflect the opinions of The Reporter, its publisher or its staff. You can submit your own Letter to the Editor by email to News@ReadTheReporter.com. Please include your phone number and city of residence. The Reporter will publish one letter per person per week.

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.



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Carmel Clay Public Library Foundation announces Guilded Leaf visiting writers

The REPORTER

The Guild of the Carmel Clay Public Library Foundation has announced which authors will take part in the 18th annual Guilded Leaf Book and Author Events. The six novelists are Jennifer Coburn, Iman Hariri-Kia, Lynda Cohen Loigman, Kristina McMorris, Kyle Mills, and Katherine Reay.

The Guilded Leaf opens with the Book & Author Evening on Wednesday, Oct. 19. For the first time, this evening event will take place at the Main Library. Attendees will enjoy book talks, signings, and an on-line auction along with appetizers, wine, and craft beer. At the Book and Author Luncheon at the Ritz Charles on Thursday, Oct. 20, the authors will share

insights into their lives and their writing. Book signings, a raffle, and the online auction will also be part of the luncheon festivities.

“We’re especially excited to be holding this year’s evening event at the Main Library,” Foundation Director Elizabeth Hamilton said. “It will be a chance for guests to experience the expanded library while sharing a terrific evening with other book lovers and six fantastic novelists.”

The Guilded Leaf events are the Carmel Clay Public Library Foundation’s signature fundraising events. Individual tickets for each event are \$70, and corporate tables are available for \$1,200. Tickets may be purchased at carmelclaylibrary.org/guilded-leaf.



Photo provided

For the first time, the Guilded Leaf Book & Author Evening will take place at the Main Library in Carmel.

The Foundation funds all programs and events presented by the Carmel Clay Public Library. More information about the Foundation is available at carmelclaylibrary.org/foundation.



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Rule changes on DNR properties take effect

The REPORTER

Several rule changes that affect DNR properties took effect Wednesday, with the Natural Resources Commission, Attorney General’s Office, and Governor’s Office having recently approved them.

Changes include the following:

- Stands or blinds (including portable ground blinds) are allowed to be left overnight on DNR properties if the blind or stand is legibly marked with the name, address and phone number of the owner or the owner’s customer identification number issued by the DNR.
- Trail/game cameras can be placed on properties managed by the Division of Fish & Wildlife, as well as on state forests, and state recreation areas as long as the camera is legibly marked with the owner’s name, address, phone number or customer identification number issued by DNR. Placement of the camera must not damage a tree.
- The placing of bait for wildlife is prohibited on any

DNR property. Exceptions are granted for bait or food placed for wildlife management as authorized by DNR, the result of authorized agricultural operations on the property (like tenant farming) or a bird feeder placed by a DNR employee. The definition of bait includes (1) a food that is transported to and placed for consumption, including but not limited to piles of corn and apples placed on the property; (2) prepared solids or liquids manufactured and intended for consumption by livestock, wild deer or birds, including, but not limited to, commercial baits and food supplements; (3) salt; and (4) mineral supplements.

- The collection of shed antlers without a permit is allowed, except on dedicated Nature Preserves.
- Via a permit, magnet fishing is allowed on public waters on DNR properties as long as the magnet is able to be carried and retrieved by hand. Individuals will need to contact the respective property office to get a permit for magnet fishing on a DNR property.

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Carmel’s Monon Boulevard & Midtown Plaza project get national recognition

Submitted

The Monon Boulevard and Midtown Plaza project was among 12 developments in cities across America to earn national honors by the Urban Land Institute’s (ULI) **2022 ULI Americas Awards for Excellence**. The Carmel project received Honorable Mention.

After being named a finalist earlier this year, ULI judges visited Carmel to see the development in person and to meet with Carmel Redevelopment officials. The judges noted: “Monon Boulevard and Midtown Plaza is a bold example of strategic investment in visionary public space as a catalyst for economic development, public engagement, civic pride, celebrations, artistic expression and personal and environmental wellbeing.”

Under the vision and guidance of Mayor Jim Brainard, the Carmel Redevelopment Commission began working on plans for Midtown in 2011, transforming a former struggling industrial area into one of the City of Carmel’s biggest attractions. Construction of the project, led by City Engineer Jeremy Kashman, included widening the Monon Greenway from 12 feet to 140 feet, adding new dedicated lanes for cycling, buffer zones, sidewalks, green spaces, one-way streets with additional parking on either side of the trail and the new

Midtown Plaza urban park. The City’s investment in public infrastructure and redevelopment efforts have led to more than \$850 million of new private investment around Midtown.

“We are honored to achieve this prestigious national honor,” Mayor Brainard said. “The expanded Monon Boulevard is now a major epicenter of activity in Midtown, which connects the Arts & Design District and our new downtown at City Center. Residents and visitors have found the area to be a great place to visit, dine, shop or simply gather with friends and neighbors over a cup of coffee or an adult beverage. We have also programmed many events including live music, special events and a variety of entertainment on our big screen television that overlooks the Plaza.”

Midtown has previously been awarded the 2018 Congress for New Urbanism Charter Award as well as the 2021 International Making Cities Livable Award.

“This has been a lengthy effort that goes back to my predecessors, Les Olds and Corrie Meyer,” Director of Redevelopment Henry Mestetsky said. “They’ve given me the opportunity to continue growing this transformative district. Growth that includes two new projects approved by City Council – the \$133 million AT&T site redevelopment and the

partial-workforce housing Concourse project.”

The ULI Americas Awards for Excellence program evaluates projects across several factors, including achievements in marketplace acceptance, design, planning, technology, amenities, economic impact, management, community engagement, innovation and sustainability. The program is open to projects in the ULI Americas region that are substantially complete, financially viable and in operation.

This year, 68 projects and programs from across the Americas region were

submitted for the competition. From this impressive field, the 11-member jury composed of development, finance, planning, urban design, architecture, and landscape architecture experts selected 21 finalists. After speaking with the teams behind these projects and visiting all of them, the jury chose 10 winners and two honorable mentions.

The public can view the winners, finalists, and submissions at the 2022 ULI Americas Awards for Excellence [gallery](#).

The 2022 ULI Americas Awards for Excellence winners are:

- EPIC – Hollywood, Calif.
- Essex Crossing – New York
- Homekey LifeMoves | Mountain View – Mountain View, Calif.
- HopeWorks Station North – Everett, Wash.
- Indigenous Peoples Experience at Fort Edmonton Park – Edmonton, Alberta
- Meyer Memorial Trust Headquarters – Portland, Ore.
- PopCourts! – Chicago
- St. Pete Pier™ – St. Petersburg, Fla.
- Taylor Street Apartments and Little Italy

- Branch Library – Chicago
 - Truax Lofts – San Diego
- Two additional projects received special mentions:
- Helios Education Campus – Phoenix
 - Monon Boulevard and Midtown Plaza – Carmel

The Awards for Excellence program is the centerpiece of ULI’s efforts to identify and promote best practices in all types of real estate development. For more information about the ULI Americas Awards for Excellence, visit uli.org/aae. For more information about the ULI Global Awards for Excellence, visit uli.org/gae.



Photo provided by City of Carmel

Representative Victoria Spartz

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Meddling mischievous miscreants march along after Monon mayhem



Photo provided by City of Carmel

The six individuals pictured above are wanted for **Criminal Mischief** after causing damage to a street sign in the area of 145 Elm St., Carmel, at approximately 9:31 p.m. on Thursday, July 14. If you have any information on these people, please call Officer A. Parshall at the Carmel Police Department at (317) 571-2500 or call Crime Stoppers of Central Indiana at (317) 262-2477 (TIPS). Please reference CPD case number 2022-00044250.

American Structurepoint offers tips for protecting your home or business

The REPORTER

A new American Structurepoint *Making Our Point* podcast reveals how homeowners and business owners can plan ahead to protect their structures/property.

Protecting structures is more important than ever as severe weather disasters are occurring more frequently. In 2021 alone, a study found that extreme weather impacted more than 14.5 million U.S. homes – approximately one in 10 homes – causing nearly \$57 billion in damage. American Structurepoint's forensic engineers and investigative team help businesses and property owners to proactively manage and maintain their facilities and respond quickly in the aftermath of damages.

Just like you would for your body, people should get a "checkup" of their home or business. Hiring a professional engineer or architect to conduct a periodic struc-



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ture "checkup" gives property owners the information they need to plan and budget for maintenance repairs such as roofs, windows, and doors. These checkups, otherwise known as property condition assessments, are also strongly recommended before purchasing a commercial property so business owners are educated about the property's current condition and can plan adequately for the future.

American Structurepoint Investigative Group leader and professional engineer Greg Susemichel, and the leader of American Structurepoint's Illinois investigative practice, Charles Gasser, share a few key insights in the podcast, including:

- Homeowners, commercial building owners, and property managers should **walk their properties at least twice a year** looking for changes to the conditions of their buildings. If they see concerns, they should call a qualified professional to assess their property.

- **Every five years**, homeowners and commercial and institutional building owners should consider **hiring a professional engineer or architect specializing in condition assessments** to evaluate their building. Such assessments will provide a snapshot of the overall condition of the structure and its components to help keep a home or

business running smoothly and reduce surprise repairs, which often lead to business or productivity loss.

- Every day, structures endure environmental stress even when we can't see it. Weather including wind, rain, ultraviolet rays, heat, cold, and events such as tornadoes, snow, and ice storms take a toll on structures, and it is often unseen. All these stressors wear down a structure over time.

- Consistent roof inspections pay off. A roof accounts for approximately 10 percent of a structure's overall cost yet leads to approximately 90 percent of its problems.

- Forensic engineering is a great career choice for civil engineers, structural engineers, and architects with an appetite for solving complex problems and studying a building's components.

To learn more about how American Structurepoint's Investigative Group can help in the aftermath of severe weather, structural failures, or other building performance problems, please listen to the podcast episode titled "Tips to Protect Your Home or Business." You can find the podcast at structurepoint.buzzsprout.com, under the "Company" tab on structurepoint.com, or on any of your favorite podcast streaming platforms such as Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, Amazon Music, Stitcher, and more.



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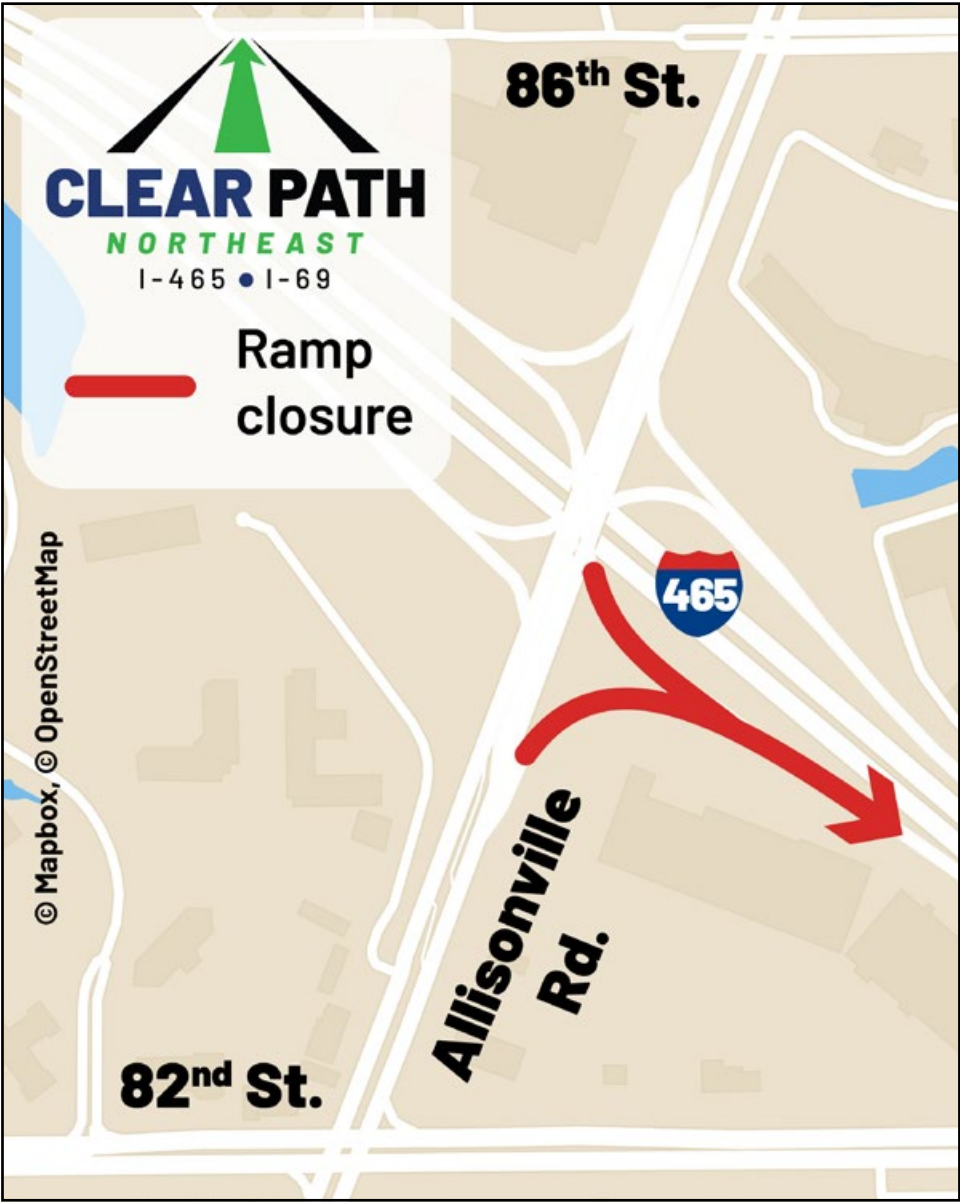
Noblesville First United Methodist Church

You are invited to join the contemporary worship service in Celebration Hall (Door 2, 7). The service is offered at 11 a.m. every Sunday and features high-energy contemporary praise music from the LIVE Praise Band, scripture readings, a sermon message, engaging prayer time, and weekly Holy Communion, prayer rails, and candle lighting. Everyone is welcome to join each Sunday.

List your group's events on

The Reporter's Events Calendar!

READTHEREPORTER.COM/EVENTS



I-465 repaving includes ramp & lane closures

Long-term traffic changes to begin in August

The REPORTER

Motorists in the Castleton and Fishers areas should expect short and long-term traffic changes on Interstate 465 near the Allisonville Road and I-69/Binford Boulevard interchanges.

Short-term restrictions

If weather cooperates, ongoing work to repave the I-465 shoulders will temporarily close one eastbound lane and two ramps over the next two weekends.

The anticipated work will close the Allisonville Road on-ramp to eastbound I-465 July 22 to 24 and July 29 to 31. The eastbound I-465 exit ramp to Binford Boulevard is also expected to close July 29 to 31. The closures are scheduled to begin around 9 p.m. each Friday.

One lane of I-465 east-

bound will be closed between Keystone Avenue and I-69/Binford Boulevard the same two weekends.

If weather conditions prevent the scheduled work from occurring new dates will be announced.

Long-term traffic changes coming

A second long-term ramp closure is expected in early August to make room for construction and help keep interstate traffic flowing during construction. The Allisonville Road on-ramp to eastbound I-465 will close in August and remain closed through 2024.

The northbound Binford Boulevard on-ramp to I-465 westbound closed earlier this month and will remain closed for the duration of the Clear Path project through 2025. This closure makes room for construc-

tion, allows crews to work safely and keeps traffic flowing by limiting entry onto westbound I-465.

Motorists can expect traffic to shift in August to rebuild I-465 and add lanes between the White River and I-69/Binford Boulevard. The left lane of I-465 westbound will be separated by concrete barriers as a temporary express lane for cars only with no access to exit ramps.

Motorists can also expect traffic from I-69 southbound to westbound I-465 to shift to a temporary ramp in August. The ramp is expected to be in use through 2025.

For schedule updates, motorists are encouraged to follow the project on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and subscribe to email and text message alerts at ClearPath465.com.

Remove invasive species, get free native trees

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Invasives Partnership (HIP) and Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) want to help you replace your invasive landscape vegetation with native species that support a diverse, healthy environment.

Via a trade-in program, county property owners can show proof of removal of an invasive species on their properties within the county and receive up to three, three-gallon native trees or shrubs for free.

Over 80 percent of invasive species growing in Indiana are thought to have come from the landscape trade. Many popular landscape trees and shrubs such as Callery pear species and

burning bush easily escape landscape cultivation and take over nearby right of ways, roadsides, and natural areas. These infestations cause erosion, animal habitat degradation, and loss of important native plant species.

While many property owners may not see their specimen spreading, birds delight in the high-sugar berries of invasives like Asian bush honeysuckle and burning bush, then deposit the seeds in natural areas as they fly. To encourage homeowners to remove these species from their properties, the SWCD is offering a trade-in program. Successful applicants will be able to choose from the over 35 native tree and shrub species available in the SWCD's fall native tree sale.

Landscape plantings of Callery pear species, burning bush, Japanese barberry, and Norway Maple are the preferred species for removal, but you can apply when removing other invasive species listed on the Official Indiana Invasive Species Council Invasive Plant List. Trades are limited to one per address.

Learn more and apply at hcinvasives.org.

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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.

PREVAIL

Celebration of Hope

Saturday, August 27, 2022

The Renaissance in Carmel at 11925 N. Meridian Street

EVENT SCHEDULE

6:00	Host Bar and Silent Auction
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Sen. Young discusses legislation to increase affordable housing across United States

The REPORTER

During a Senate Finance Committee hearing held Wednesday, U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.) discussed the impact of the affordable housing crisis on Indiana communities and the importance of passing the Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act he introduced with Senator Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.).

Senator Young shared concerns from Hoosiers about the affordable housing crisis.

"I have to tell you, as I travel across the state of Indiana, I hear from every community about the importance of affordable housing and about the challenges they are experiencing right now," Young said. "This shortage is of course being exacerbated by the current inflation challenges more broadly impacting the country."

Sen. Young's Affordable



Young

Housing Credit Improvement Act would seek to expand and strengthen the nation's most successful affordable housing program – the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) – to address that shortage by building more than two million new affordable units over the next decade and ensuring the program better serves a variety of at-risk and underserved communities.

"We can rally around solving difficult challenges together," Young said. "This housing affordability crisis, it's striking how it impacts various demographic groups, geographic areas. It doesn't really seem to discriminate a lot. The brunt of this crisis falls on a diverse population. It's so important we support programs and ideas that meet the needs of these varied communities."

[Click here](#) to watch the full video of the senator's remarks.

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace, not by eating ceremonial foods, which is of no benefit to those who do so. We have an altar from which those who minister at the tabernacle have no right to eat.

Hebrews 13:7-10 (NIV)

William Ralph "Bill" Nicholson November 4, 1948 – July 20, 2022

William Ralph "Bill" Nicholson, 73, husband of Linda Wessel Nicholson, passed away on July 20, 2022, at the Frankfort Regional Medical Center. Born on November 4, 1948, in Richmond, Ind., he was the son of the late Ralph Henry Nicholson and Joellen Turner Nicholson.

A 1967 graduate of Taft High School in Hamilton, Ohio, he received his bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Kentucky in 1979. Bill was a partner and operator of Kentucky Precast and Construction Materials from 1985 until 1999 where he enjoyed not only working with honest, hard-working employees, but also countless contractors across the Commonwealth of Kentucky. He was a member of the KY Highway Contractors Association and enjoyed golf and spending time on Lake Cumberland.

Including Linda, his wife of 52 years, survivors include his children, Christopher (Laura) Nicholson and Melissa (Robert) Wiedo, both of Lawrenceburg, Ky., nine grandchildren, Brayden, Camden, Makenna, Lauren, Caleb, Aiden, Abby, Savannah, and Abigail, his beloved Golden-doodle "Sam," his sisters-in-law, Pam Hursh (Mike Letourneau), Sandy (Bruce) Dalton, and Jan Scheyer, and Linda's cousin, Carol (Dallas) Horn.

No public services will be held at this time. Cremation was chosen.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Ritchie & Peach Funeral Home. Condolences to the family may be expressed at ritchieandpeach.com.



Lawrence "Larry" M. Kehoe July 6, 1964 – July 18, 2022

Lawrence "Larry" M. Kehoe, 58, Carmel, passed away on July 18, 2022 at home, surrounded by his loving family, after a short and brutal battle with cancer, during which he showed his lifelong qualities of bravery and fearlessness.

Born on July 6, 1964, to Lawrence and Rose Kehoe in Rockaway Township, N.J., Larry graduated from Morris Knolls High School in 1982. He worked in Quality Control at Howmet Austenal in Dover, N.J. In 1988, Larry joined the rest of his family in Indianapolis, where they moved the previous year.

Larry studied political science and economics at Indiana University and graduated with an honors degree in 1993. He worked in the insurance industry for 20 years specializing in casualty claims and overseeing third party adjustment of large retention programs. The St. Paul, Boy Scouts of America, and Indiana Lumbermens Mutual benefited from his keen mind. Larry was passionate about his work and loved what he did for a living, no matter what that was. He was always admired by his coworkers and clients, no matter the job.

Since 1994, Larry was happily married to the former Christy Korson and they had two beautiful children, Aidan and Moira. Larry and Christy moved from Denver, Colo., where their children were born to Dallas, Texas, and finally back to Indiana in 2001.

Larry loved politics, local and federal. He loved spending time with his friends and his kids. He loved the Indianapolis Colts, where he and Christy were season ticket holders for many years. He had an interest in everything going on around him and a wonderful way of staying in touch with people – friends and family from childhood, high school, college, Denver and Dallas. He was a true example of what hard work and perseverance could do.

In his own words, Larry said: "I'm very lucky to have been married to and been with Christy for over 30 years. She's got a great sense of humor and is my rock. We have two great kids who might make us crazy sometimes but whenever we need them, they are always right there. I've had a great life with friends ... I also had the best parents, sisters and brother anyone could have. My grandparents, aunts and uncles, and so many cousins of all levels have all been great examples and friends to learn from and have fun with. I just have to reiterate how lucky I've been. I've had a full life."

Larry is survived by his beloved wife, Christy, and their children, Aidan and Moira. He is also survived by his parents, Lawrence and Rose Kehoe; sisters, Laura and Joanne (Michael Beck); and brother, John (Rebecca). He will be forever missed by his many nieces and nephews, friends, in-laws, and extended family in New Jersey and Indiana and all over the country.

Visitation will be from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 24, 2022, with a rosary at 4:45 p.m. at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville. Funeral Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, July 25 at St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 10655 Haverstick Road, Carmel, with a luncheon reception for all attendees immediately following. Interment will be at a later date.

The family requests that contributions in Larry's memory be made to Little Sisters of the Poor St. Augustine House (Indianapolis) or Indianapolis Ten Point Coalition as these were two charities which he greatly admired and supported.

Condolences: randallroberts.com



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Like softball? Go to Grand Park next week!

Alliance Fastpitch championship series coming to Westfield

By **RICHIE HALL**

sports@readthereporter.com

Many of the best young softball players in the country will be at Grand Park starting next week for what promises to be one of the highest quality tournaments of the year.

The Alliance Fastpitch will host its Championship Series 16U and 18U event in Indiana, with action beginning on Sunday, July 24 and continuing through the championship games on Sunday, July 31. The majority of the games will take place at Grand Park and at Championship Park in Kokomo, with the championship contests set for Purdue University's Bittinger Stadium and at Championship Park.

A total of 164 teams across the two age divisions will participate in the Championship Series event. The teams will come from all across the United States.

"At least 30 states are represented," said Alliance Fastpitch CEO Jami Lobpries. "We have a very large West Coast presence." There will also be a large Texas presence, with over 20 teams. The tournament is international, with a team from British Columbia, Canada competing.

The Alliance Fastpitch is a young organization, having started in the Summer of 2020. This is only the second year of the tournament. The Alliance Fastpitch describes itself on its [website](#) as "a national co-opetition of fastpitch teams and stakeholders working together to grow our sport."

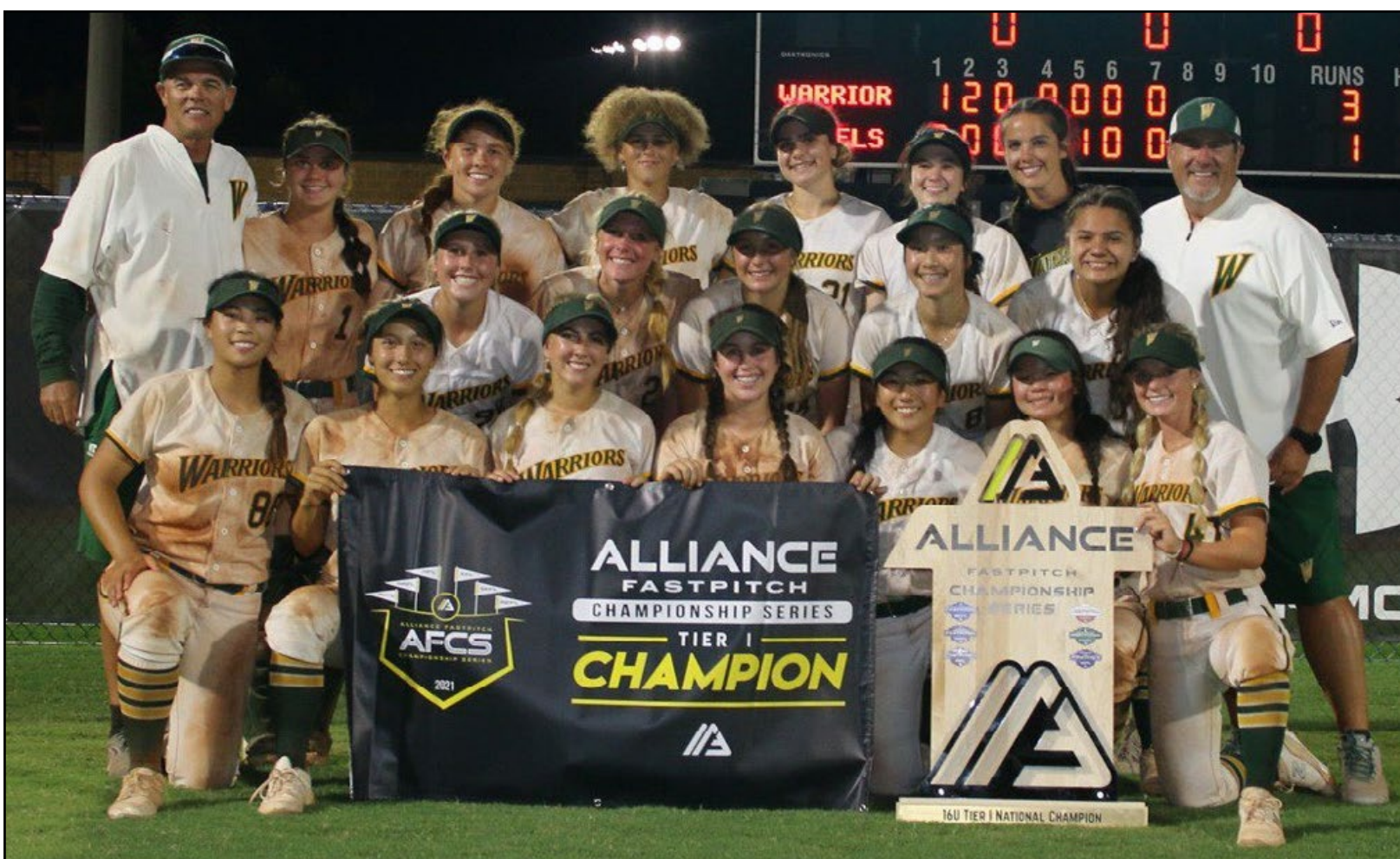
There are eight member leagues across the United States, with all 50 states represented. Indiana is part of the "Heart of America Fastpitch League," which features 14 states (the most of any league). All 12 Midwestern states are part of the league, along with southern states Oklahoma and Arkansas.

"These are all kids that play competitively year-round," said Lobpries. "Many of these kids have either already signed or they committed to play in college." Lobpries herself played college softball at Texas A&M University, helping the Aggies to two appearances in the Women's College World Series.

The tournament begins with the organization's All-Star game, which features the top 40 high school senior players in the country, on Sunday. The game will be played at Kokomo Municipal Stadium and will be national televised on ESPNU.

"Last year, we had over 43,000 viewers of that game," said Lobpries.

Once tournament play begins on Monday, action will shift to Grand Park and Championship Park. Michael Tucker, the vice-president of Bullpen Ventures, which operates the baseball/softball side of the parks, said that teams will be playing on 21 diamonds at Grand Park and eight diamonds of Championship Park. In addition, the Noblesville Field of Dreams at Hazel Dell Elementary School will have three fields in action Wednesday.



Photos courtesy Jami Lobpries / Alliance Fastpitch

The Alliance Fastpitch will be coming to Grand Park next week for its Championship Series 16U and 18U tournament. A total of 164 teams from all across the country, including one from British Columbia, Canada, will participate in the tournament. Pictured are last year's 18U champion, Athletics Mercado (top) and the 16U champion, Warrior Academy (above).

"At its peak, it will be 32 diamonds," said Tucker.

Lobpries said that the facilities are one of the reasons Alliance Fastpitch chose Grand Park as one of its tournament sites. The organization is also hosting concurrent tournaments in Southern California for 14U players, with 10U and 12U teams competing in Oklahoma City. The three sites will rotate different age groups each year.

Because of the size of the tournament, Lobpries said it's "super important to have that many fields. It's great to have all those fields in one location for college coaches."

Another reason Alliance Fastpitch chose Grand Park is the people of Hamilton County.

"They've been first class," said Lobpries. "That's also an important reason why we want to continue to bring back this event every year."

"We've worked very closely with the people at Grand Park," said Lobpries. "They've been fantastic. We've worked with Hamilton County Sports Commission and the City of Kokomo. The accessibility is very nice, very convenient. These fields, they're some of the best in the country. And our California kids are going to

get some culture with the agriculture."

"That's what we strive for," said Tucker. "We strive to the Disney World of athletic complexes."

Tucker said that hearing about people having good experiences at Grand Park goes "a long way." He also said that making sure the experiences are positive comes down to execution — "we can plan all we want, but if we don't execute, the planning is wasted," he said. "We feel like we not only plan, but we execute as well as anyone else in

this industry."

Tucker is also happy to showcase softball. He said Grand Park is mainly a baseball facility in the spring and the summer, so "it's exciting for us to have some softball be in town. We've been meeting with the Alliance twice a month for the last six months planning this event."

Blake Hibler, the President of Bullpen Tournaments, said that Grand Park has been working on preparing for the tournament for the last nine months.

"We had to buy enough home run fencing to put fences up on every Diamond," said Hibler. "We've had to work with our CVB's to ensure our fans have a great experience. We've also had to assist to get additional facilities to host."

Hibler also said that the people who are at Grand Park every day get to enjoy it, so it's "always refreshing to take someone around the park for the first time," he said. "It reminds you how great of a place Grand Park is. It was built to make memories for our youth."

Lobpries also wanted fans to know that Alliance Fastpitch has a long-term commitment to Grand Park and Hamilton County. "We want this to be a home for a very long time," she said.

The public is welcome to attend the tournament, and can purchase a tournament pass for \$60; that allows access to all the facilities and all the games played during the entire weekend. The July 31 championship games at Purdue and Kokomo will be free and open to the public.

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Early look at Colts wide receiver battle

Don't miss Carmel USA Wrestling's annual golf outing

By CHARLIE CLIFFORD
WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](#)

On Tuesday, the Indianapolis Colts officially set up shop for training camp at Grand Park Sports Campus in Westfield ahead of the 2022 season.

The arrival of four-time Pro Bowl quarterback Matt Ryan is the top story as he begins work in late July for the first time without an Atlanta Falcons helmet.

Ryan's spring with the Colts was impressive, picking up accolades from every corner of the organization for his leadership, accountability, and accuracy on the field.

Ryan's wide receiving core is arguably the most unproven

unit in the AFC. Third-year standout Michael Pittman Jr. and fifth-year veteran Keke Coutee are currently the lone wide receivers on Indianapolis' roster with over 400 career receiving yards.

When sizing up the rest of the competition, one of the Colts' youngest pass catchers eager to prove himself this season is 2021 seventh-round selection Mike Strachan.

However, Strachan likely will have to play catchup in the early going at Grand Park.

A source tells News 8 that Strachan is expected to miss the start of training camp on Wednesday as he continues to work back to full strength from an undisclosed injury.

In June, **the former NCAA D-II wide receiver from the Bahamas** was injured for the team's mandatory minicamp and spent all three days watching from the sidelines. Following a stellar training camp as a rookie, complete with **multiple highlight-reel grabs**, Strachan broke training camp on the 53-man roster and tallied two receptions in the Colts' season-opening loss against Seattle.

Following Week 1, Strachan spent most of the season inactive on game days and did not record a catch for the remainder of the season.

Including Strachan, here are the career receiving numbers that the Colts' wideouts bring into the 2022 season (excluding

rookies):

- Parris Campbell: three seasons; 15 games played; 34 REC, 360 YDS; 2 TDs.
- Keke Coutee: four seasons; 25 games played; 84 REC, 946 YDS; 4 TDs.
- Ashton Dulin: three seasons; 43 games played; REC, 18 REC, 243 YDS; 2 TDs.
- DeMichael Harris: two seasons; 10 games played; 10 REC, 79 YDS; 0 TDs.
- Deshaun Watson: two seasons; nine games played; 2 REC, 21 YDS; 1 TDs.
- Michael Pittman Jr.: two seasons; 30 games played; 128 REC, 1,585 YDS; 7 TDs.
- Mike Strachan: one season; six games played; 2 REC, 26 YDS, 0 TDs.

The REPORTER

Carmel USA Wrestling Club will host its 2022 Golf Outing on Friday, July 29 at Eagle Creek Golf Club in Indianapolis.

Players will enjoy 18 holes on the Sycamore Course, range balls, box lunch, and unlimited beverages (beer, water, pop). Prizes will be awarded to the top two teams, as well as individual hole contest winners. For more information on the Golf Outing, visit the club's website [here](#).

Meanwhile, the club's July 17 cornhole tournament was postponed due to weather. A re-schedule date will be announced in the near future.

Thanks for reading!

Browns DT Sheldon Day kick-starts Indy home-building initiative

By KATIERA WINFREY
WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](#)

Indianapolis native and Cleveland Browns defensive tackle **Sheldon Day** is putting a plan into play: building homes on Indianapolis' east side.

Growing up in the community, he's seen it change over the years. So, he hopes this new initiative helps boost community revitalization.

Plans to build homes in the historic Martindale-Brightwood neighborhood and other Indianapolis communities started as an idea between siblings sitting around a dinner table.

Homeownership disparities have major impacts in minority and low-income communities. Property-tax increases push out longtime residents. As the homes are completed, the hope is that the narrative shifts and the statistics change.

It's easy to spot empty lots and board-ups around Indianapolis east-side communities. But instead of leaving them as is, Day and his siblings David Day and Yolanda Dawson are trying to change that.

Sheldon said, "I want to pour back into my community because this is where I'm from. So, really, they kind of ignited a fire in me. While I am here, I can make true community impact."

The Day family and multiple community partners are purchasing empty lots and building homes around the Martindale-Brightwood neighborhood. So far, 14 homes are under construction with the goal of reaching 65 new homes.

David said, "Once again, this was a sibling opportunity that we did in leveraging my brothers' experience in his platform, tied in with my ministry, being a pastor at Love Fellowship Ministries."

Dawson said, "For me as a single parent, the whole thing was having stability for my family and my kids, you know, so they can grow up in a community and feel like friends we meet today, we get to be friends for a lifetime."

For seven years, Sheldon has applied his skills on the NFL gridiron, but this community is a field of its own. This is where he hopes he and his family can really leave a mark. "Hopefully, we grow this and take over all of Indianapolis, and really say the Day family did this, and we can really leave our legacy."



Day



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[carmellions.org](#)

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MLB standings

Thursday's games Texas 8, Miami 0 Houston 3, N.Y. Yankees 2 Houston 7, N.Y. Yankees 5	Detroit 7, Oakland 2 Oakland 5, Detroit 0 Late game San Francisco at L.A. Dodgers
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American League				
East	W	L	PCT.	GB
N.Y. Yankees	64	30	0.681	-
Tampa Bay	51	41	0.554	12.0
Toronto	50	43	0.538	13.5
Boston	48	45	0.516	15.5
Baltimore	46	46	0.500	17.0
Central	W	L	PCT.	GB
Minnesota	50	44	0.532	-
Cleveland	46	44	0.511	2.0
Chicago White Sox	46	46	0.500	3.0
Detroit	38	56	0.404	12.0
Kansas City	36	56	0.391	13.0
West	W	L	PCT.	GB
Houston	61	32	0.656	-
Seattle	51	42	0.548	10.0
Texas	42	49	0.462	18.0
L.A. Angels	39	53	0.424	21.5
Oakland	33	62	0.347	29.0

National League				
East	W	L	PCT.	GB
N.Y. Mets	58	35	0.624	-
Atlanta	56	38	0.596	2.5
Philadelphia	49	43	0.533	8.5
Miami	43	48	0.473	14.0
Washington	31	63	0.330	27.5
Central	W	L	PCT.	GB
Milwaukee	50	43	0.538	-
St. Louis	50	44	0.532	0.5
Pittsburgh	39	54	0.419	11.0
Chicago Cubs	35	57	0.380	14.5
Cincinnati	34	57	0.374	15.0
West	W	L	PCT.	GB
L.A. Dodgers	60	30	0.667	-
San Diego	52	42	0.553	10.0
San Francisco	48	43	0.527	12.5
Colorado	43	50	0.462	18.5
Arizona	40	52	0.435	21.0

WNBA standings

Thursday's games Washington 78, New York 69 Los Angeles 85, Atlanta 78	Late game Indiana at Las Vegas
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Team	W	L	PCT.	GB
Chicago*	20	6	0.769	-
Las Vegas	18	8	0.692	2.0
Connecticut	17	9	0.654	3.0
Seattle	17	9	0.654	3.0
Washington	17	11	0.607	4.0
Los Angeles	12	14	0.462	8.0
Atlanta	12	15	0.444	8.5
Dallas	11	14	0.440	8.5
Phoenix	11	16	0.407	9.5
Minnesota	10	17	0.370	10.5
New York	9	17	0.346	11.0
Indiana	5	23	0.179	16.0

* Clinched Playoff Berth



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