

# Westfield Schools names new Director of Operations

## Middle school principal moves to central office

By AMY ADAMS  
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Last night at the Westfield Washington Schools (WWS) board meeting, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations Brian Tomamichel announced that Mike Hall, current principal of Westfield Middle School, will assume the role of director of operations at the central office effective July 1.

The current Director of Operations, Dr. Joseph Montalone, will retire after 19 years with the district. Montalone served as principal of Shamrock Springs Elementary School and opened Maple Glen Elementary School before becoming director of operations six years ago.

"We can't say enough, Joe,

about all you have done for the district over the last 19 years, 28 years in total in education in various roles," said Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Safety Chris Baldwin. "We thank you for all you've done for the students and the staff and the parents of Westfield schools, and you'll be missed."

In honor of Montalone's final board meeting, Superintendent Dr. Paul Kaiser announced the new Dr. Joe Montalone Award that will celebrate Westfield Washington Schools team members who "advance a culture of positivity within and across the Shamrock communi-



Hall

ty" and will be given annually at the May school board meeting.

"When I was asked to come up to the position of director of operations six years ago, I looked at it as an opportunity to serve even more students and staff," Montalone said. "It's been an honor. It's never been a job. I'm surely going to remember every human being. I'm not going anywhere. I'm not moving anywhere because there is no place I would rather be."

Mike Hall comes into the position with 14 years of educational leadership experience in WWS. When he was named principal of Westfield

Middle School, Hall was serving as principal at Monon Trail Elementary School and in a dual role as assistant principal at Carey Ridge Elementary School and Maple Glen Elementary School.

"It was just an awesome way to start my career in Westfield," Hall said.

Mike's wife, Angie Hall, works as a special education teacher at Shamrock Springs Elementary School. They live in Westfield with their children, Graham and Grace, who both attend WWS.

Hall received his Master of Education degree from Indiana Wesleyan, his Master of Business Administration with a

See Hall . . . Page 2

# Red Skelton:

## "What the Pledge means to Me"

The REPORTER

Today is Flag Day, held on June 14 each year to commemorate the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress.

Ron Moore reached out to The Reporter to suggest we run Red Skelton's explanation of the Pledge of Alliance on Flag Day this year. Originally broadcast on The Red Skelton Hour on Jan. 14, 1969, below is the full text of Skelton's pledge explanation, which he credits originally to one of his elementary teachers in Vincennes, Ind.

I remember this one teacher. To me, he was the greatest teacher, a real sage of my time.

He had such wisdom. We were all reciting the Pledge of Allegiance one day, and he walked over.

Mr. Lasswell was his name.

He said, "I've been listening to you boys and girls recite the Pledge of Allegiance all semester, and it seems as though it is becoming monotonous to you. If I may, may I recite it and try to explain to you the meaning of each word?"

See Pledge . . . Page 2



Photo by Glenn Embree / Courtesy mptvimages.com

# Nonprofit hosts summer fundraiser to revive Indiana's famous electric railway heritage

The REPORTER

The nonprofit Hoosier Heartland Trolley Co. (HHTC) will hold a summer fundraiser, "High-Speed Electric Cocktails & Trivia," from 3 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 24 at Hunt Club Distillery, 3774 State Road 47, Sheridan.

Each guest will receive one complimentary cocktail and a chocolate pairing from the South Bend Chocolate Company. The event will also include a small museum exhibit from Indiana's electric railways, a raffle, trivia, a presentation, and live music immediately following. Hand-rolled cigars and additional cocktails will be available for purchase along with souvenirs.

"Proceeds will support our interurban car restoration, which thanks to a Heritage Support Grant provided by the Indiana Historical Society and made possible by Lilly Endowment, Inc., will allow the car to move under its own power this summer for the first time in 80 years," HHTC President Cameron Nichols said.

HHTC is Indiana's only nonprofit working to preserve and revive the state's electric railway heritage for education, tourism and economic development.

Tickets are \$30 each and must be purchased in advance at [hoosiertrolley.org](http://hoosiertrolley.org). A \$20 upgrade for a laser-engraved Glencairn tasting glass is available. All guests must be 21 years of



Photo provided

An interurban pauses at a rural stop in 1940. Cars like this one once traversed central Indiana, including Hamilton County.

age or older.

HHTC preserves several rare artifacts, including three of Indiana's last interurban cars, which were the electric train precursor to today's interstate highways. The organization has also saved the last Indianapolis streetcar, an 1860s mule-drawn Indianapolis streetcar, and an 1898-built electric locomotive from Singer's South Bend sewing machine cabinetry works. These artifacts are the core of a developing electric heritage railroad project where the community will be able to experience,

enjoy and learn from an industry that transformed the state into what we know today.

"Events such as this allow our organization to further our community-centered, educational mission for generations to come," Nichols added.

About the Hoosier Heartland Trolley Company

The Hoosier Heartland Trolley Company is an Indiana nonprofit 501(c)(3) founded in 2018 to save the last remaining railroad cars representing Indiana's rich electric railway heritage. The organization exists to spark

imagination in people across all walks of life regarding the art, science, culture, technology, and economic empowerment of Indiana's world-renowned electric railway industry from the 20th century. The company is developing the state's only electric heritage railway to immerse Hoosiers in authentic transportation experiences as a community asset for education, economic development, and tourism.

More information regarding preservation efforts, news, and development can be found at [hoosiertrolley.org](http://hoosiertrolley.org).

# Fishers Community Center at Johnson Farms coming to Hoosier Road

The REPORTER

Fishers city officials announced on Tuesday plans to build the 105,000 square-foot recreation-focused Fishers Community Center at Johnson Farms on Hoosier Road near 121st Street.

"As we strive to build a culture of health in our community, a vital component of this is creating a place where our community can come together to care for their overall well-being," Fishers Mayor Scott Fadness said. "With this new community asset, we not only offer a place for health, fitness, and recreation, but also a place to gather and socialize with the friends, family, and neighbors, which we know is equally important in fostering a strong quality of life in our community."

Art Johnson, the current owner of the property, shared his excitement in becoming part of Fishers' next chapter.



Fadness



Zimmerman

See Community Center . . . Page 2

# Nickel Plate Arts to celebrate first "HATCH Fest"

The REPORTER

HATCH Fest, the event formerly known as Maker Faire, will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 17, including the time-honored St. Michael's Strawberry Festival, the Noblesville Cultural Arts District Juneteenth Celebration, and SERVE Noblesville's FUN Fest, and Team Bloodsport's robot battles, giveaways, and interactive activities.

HATCH – which stands for Hamilton County Arts, Technology, Craft, and Heritage – is a multi-faceted festival celebrating all that makes Hamilton County such a wonderful place.

Artisans, makers, and craftspeople from Noblesville and surrounding areas will have amazing, one-of-a-kind creations to sell and area cultural groups, nonprofits, and businesses will be on display around the Courthouse Square with activities, demonstrations, performances, and more.

See HATCH . . . Page 2



# Westfield shows up to jam with Toy Factory at Grand Junction Plaza



Photo provided by Westfield Welcome

The band Toy Factory was hosted by Westfield Welcome on Friday, June 9 for the Jams at the Junction concert series at Grand Junction Plaza. Make plans to see Living Proof at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 14. More information can be found at [WestfieldWelcome.com/events](http://WestfieldWelcome.com/events).



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SCAN ME

HALL

from Page 1

focus on educational leadership from University of Indianapolis, and his education specialist degree from Oakland City University. He has worked 21 total years in education, beginning as a fourth- and fifth-grade teacher in Lawrence Township in Marion County, then serving as an assistant principal at Anderson Community Schools.

“I get choked up when I first think about moving on,” Hall said. “The piece I will cherish and carry with me is that I know so many kids that walked through the door at the middle school. I’ve known some of those kids since they were five years old.”

As the director of operations, Hall will serve as the district safety leader and will be responsible for heading the foodservice team, the custodial operation, and the transportation department across all 10 buildings.

“We all know that if those things don’t function at a high level, then the schools don’t function,” Hall said. “It’s not lost on me the importance of this role. It’s certainly a different challenge to what I’ve had for the last 20 years.”

In his new position, Hall will report directly to Tomamichel.

“I’ve seen Mike progress from an elementary principal to a leader at our second biggest school,” Tomamichel said. “I’m looking forward to seeing him continue to grow as a leader and as a difference maker in our district. I’m excited to see Mr. Hall continue to make an impact on our students and

staff, and I know he’s going to bring that passion and hard work to the Administration Center.”

A position for the WMS principal was posted on the WWS website.

“We’re looking for someone to continue the tradition of leadership that the past leaders have provided in that building,” said Kaiser. “Some to continue the progress we’ve made and to work with a great teaching staff.”

Anyone interested in the middle school principal position can apply at [appt-track.com/wws/onlineapp](http://appt-track.com/wws/onlineapp).

“I’m confident that at the end of the day, Dr. Kaiser and his team will select an amazing principal to come in and lead the middle school and create the experience that the kids will have,” Hall said.

About Westfield Washington Schools

Westfield Washington Schools is one of the fastest growing school districts in the state of Indiana. With an “A” rating from the Indiana Department of Education, WWS enrolled nearly 9,200 students in 2022-23 across six elementary, one intermediate, one middle, and one high school. The district employs roughly 1,200 staff members. Westfield High School is ranked in the top 3 percent nationally by *U.S. News and World Report* and has a graduation rate of 98.3 percent with 86 percent of its graduates continuing onto higher education.

For more information on Westfield Washington Schools visit [www.k12.in.us](http://www.k12.in.us).

PLEDGE

I: me, an individual, a committee of one.

PLEDGE: dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self-pity.

ALLEGIANCE: my love and my devotion.

TO THE FLAG: our standard, Old Glory, a symbol of freedom. Wherever she waves, there is respect because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts freedom is everybody's job.

OF THE UNITED: that means that we have all come together.

STATES: individual communities that have united into 48 great states.

Forty-eight individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose, all divided with imaginary boundaries yet united to a common purpose, and that's love for country.

OF AMERICA

AND TO THE REPUBLIC: a state in which sovereign power is vested in representatives chosen by the people to govern. And government is the people and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

FOR WHICH IT STANDS

ONE NATION: mean-

ing, so blessed by God.

INDIVISIBLE: incapable of being divided.

WITH LIBERTY: which is freedom, the right of power to live one's own life without threats, fear, or some sort of retaliation.

AND JUSTICE: the principle or quality of dealing fairly with others.

FOR ALL: which means, boys and girls, it's as much your country as it is mine.

Since I was a small boy, two states have been added to our country and two words have been added to the Pledge of Allegiance: UNDER GOD

Wouldn't it be a pity if someone said, “That is a prayer,” and that would be eliminated from schools, too?

Click here to see Red Skelton speak these words on his television program.

Editor's note: The phrase "Under God" was added to the Pledge of Allegiance in 1954. Skelton's explanation of his personal connection to the Pledge of Allegiance was into the Congressional Record on two separate occasions. It also won him 42 awards. Skelton died in 1997 at the age of 84.

COMMUNITY CENTER

“My family has been part of this community for generations, and I am excited to be a part of Fishers’ legacy and have our land serve as a central spot in the community for gathering and recreation for years to come,” Johnson said.

The new community center was designed based on input from residents. In 2021, a steering committee chaired by Fishers City Councilor Todd Zimmerman (At-Large) was formed to identify and prioritize community needs and how they could be served by an indoor facility. Nearly 3,500 residents completed a survey to share the amenities they most desired in this facility. Top items like a dog park, indoor playground, indoor walking/running track, and aquatics facility were included in the design, while other items like fine arts classes and performing arts were included in the new

City Hall & Arts Center currently under construction in the downtown Nickel Plate District.

“What I hope for residents to get out of this center is a sense of place and community,” Zimmerman said. “More than the sports or athletics of it, this is a place to bring our residents together. It’s also a place that is welcoming to all, from our neighbors in the surrounding communities to out of town visitors exploring Fishers for the first time.”

The Center will offer both memberships and day passes with discounts for Fishers residents, while featuring free amenities accessible to both residents and non-residents, including a large indoor playground, indoor track for walking and running, and café.

The main level of the center will include a 5,300 square-foot indoor playground, aquatics facility with

a lap pool and zero-depth entry warm water pool with a waterslide and play features, an 18,600 square-foot gymnasium featuring three basketball courts, which can also be converted into volleyball and pickleball courts, clinical rooms and offices for the Fishers Health Department, childcare facility, multipurpose rooms, public gathering spaces, a café, and more. The second level will feature a large fitness and wellness center, including a spin studio and group exercise rooms, along with an indoor track for walking and running. A roof terrace to host outdoor exercise and gatherings is planned for future phases.

Through collaboration with community stakeholders like the Fishers Advisory Committee on Disability, accessibility features such as adult companion care rooms with adult changing tables, a zero-depth entry

pool, water wheelchair, and accessible fitness equipment were added to the facility. The community center will also house Outside the Box’s adult day program to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The Center is estimated to not exceed \$60 million and will be paid for through city-issued bonds following a build-operate-transfer agreement that is slated to end in 2026. City leadership does not anticipate the Fishers City Tax rate to increase as a result of financing this project.

The project resolution will be presented to the Fishers Finance Committee today and to the Fishers City Council on June 19 for approval.

The project is anticipated to break ground this fall and open in spring 2025. To learn more about the project, visit [ThisIsFishers.com/CommunityCenter](http://ThisIsFishers.com/CommunityCenter).

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Thanks for reading!

HATCH

This summer festival is growing and changing in response to one key fact discovered by Nickel Plate Arts over the years: making is about a lot more than arts and crafts. So many of the artists and craftspeople who have been a part of this event in the past create art inspired by their own cultural experiences. The local arts community is constantly making new pathways to expand and celebrate Hamilton County’s culture.

“FUN Fest is where we get to celebrate all things Noblesville and showcase our number one asset that makes our town so undeniably awesome: our people!” SERVE Noblesville Executive Director Patrick Propst said. “From Rob-

erts Settlement to the community members who are represented by the 50-plus languages spoken in our high school, FUN Fest is a chance for us to meet, celebrate, and learn about the beauty of life when shared alongside one another.”

Special this year: Ellie Clark and Curtis Honeycutt, members of Team Bloodsport, a robot combat team featured on the Discovery Channel show *BattleBots*.

Support local emerging entrepreneurs, explore local culture, do some Father’s Day shopping, celebrate Juneteenth, and grab some strawberry shortcake at this free family-friendly event.

Learn more at [NickelPlateArts.org/hatchfest](http://NickelPlateArts.org/hatchfest).



Photo provided

Formerly known as Maker Faire, the new HATCH Fest is sure to be a boon for artisans, makers, and craftspeople alike across Hamilton County.

About Nickel Plate Arts

Nickel Plate Arts is an umbrella nonprofit organization that creates and coordinates arts and cultural experiences across communities in eastern Hamilton County and the sur-

rounding areas to improve the quality of life for residents, strengthen local economies and enrich experiences for visitors. Nickel Plate Arts is a project of Hamilton County Tourism, Inc.

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Photos provided by Tim Rathz  
**Mary & Pat Rathz sure enjoy their food! Who doesn't love making messes?**

# It's a jungle out there

In my opinion, one of life's greatest pleasures is going out to eat. When I find a restaurant with good food and service to match, I consider that to be a successful night.



**COLUMNIST**  
**TIM RATHZ**  
*Forty-something in Fishers*

Like many couples, my wife, Megan, and I thoroughly enjoy indulging in a weekend night out on the town. Our favorite pastime is people watching. We crane our necks to see what they ordered and how they are interacting. Is the conversation juicy? Are they staring at their phones and ignoring each other? Do they have kids with them who are behaving less than desirable?

Oh yes, we spent many years judging those parents whose kids were noisy or messy. If they were sitting on their tablets, watching a show or a movie, we would look at each other as if to say, "Oh, for shame." Never will our children behave in that manner. They will have civilized conversations at the dinner table. They may even have British accents, even though we are not British. They will say "please" and "thank you" and fit the word "indubitably" into at least three sentences over the course of the night. They will use finger bowls and crumb brushes. They will be the epitome of perfection. Yes, the Rathz children will be the example

for all to follow. Well, the years passed and finally God decided we were worthy to be blessed with children of our very own. First came Mary, my little girl. About two years later came Pat, my mini-me. When they were newborns, we would try to take them out to dinner with us. For the most part, it was incredibly successful. Turns out, babies sleep ... a lot. Even when they would cry, it was to be expected. They were still babies after all.

Then something happened that was completely unexpected. Mary turned two. Then two years later, Pat dared to do the exact same thing. That means that we are currently just over two years deep into a four-year stint of trying to survive the Terrible Twos and Threenager time periods.

Before anyone gets the wrong idea, I want it said that I love my kids more than I could possibly express. They are the best of me, and I know Megan feels the same way. Every child passes through this stage that makes parents want to rip their own cardrums out. Its nature, and possibly karma.

Now, back to how we pictured our perfect restaurant angel children. We still go to restaurants with them. They have to learn how to behave somehow, so we

figured practice makes perfect. But nowadays, instead of watching other tables, we are the ones with the audience. I feel like we are the orangutans in the glass box at the Indianapolis Zoo. Oh, and that whole never having tablets at the dinner table thing? We now own a pink tablet for Mary and blue one for Pat. They have *Paw Patrol*, *Peppa Pig*, and *Bluey* on speed dial. We no longer have any need for a crumb brush. Now we need a crumb push broom. By the time we're finished with our meals and ready to go home, there are hunks of food on the ground that we didn't even order.

So, our children are noisy and messy, and half the time Pat has a toddler meltdown that would make a *Real Housewife* blush. They do have tablets and toys and other distractions that allow Megan and I a short break. They do not have British accents, other than the occasional "cheeky" quote from *Peppa Pig*. They do say "please" and "thank you", but never "indubitably." They may not always be the example for all to follow, but they are perfect to me, and I wouldn't have them any other way.

The moral of the story is ... when our table at the restaurant looks, feels and even smells like a zoo, at least I am with my orangutans.

*Tim Rathz can be reached at 40somethinginfishers@gmail.com. Follow on Facebook or Instagram.*

## Hamilton County Veteran Resource Fair to be held July 8

### Submitted

The Hamilton County Veterans Corporation (HCVC) and the Hamilton County Bicentennial Commission will hold a Military & Veterans Celebration & Resource Fair from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, July 8 at the Noblesville Schools Community Center, 1775 Field Drive, Noblesville. The event will be free to attend.

Veterans, Active Military, their families, and the general public of Hamilton County are invited to this Veteran Resource Fair where visitors will learn about all the federal, state, and local resources available to the Military Veteran community, most of which



are also available to all residents of Hamilton County.

Additionally, the event will honor those heroes who were lost at sea when the USS Indianapolis sank 78 years ago this July.

HCVC will inform guests of the great work being done to eliminate suicides in Hamilton County through the Stronger Veterans Stronger Communities Coalition, which

will launch the Governor's Challenge and Ask the Question here in Hamilton County this July.

Military and Veterans who attend will also be given a challenge coin commemorating the event.

For more information, please visit [HamiltonCountyVeterans.com](http://HamiltonCountyVeterans.com) and click the "July 8, 2023 HC Veteran Celebration" link on the left side of the page.

## Mackenzie Bennett of Fishers makes Dean's List at UW-Oshkosh

### The REPORTER

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh officials have released the names of students who qualified for the Dean's List and Honor Roll in spring 2023 across its three campuses (Fond du Lac, Fox Cities and Osh-

kosh).

Mackenzie Bennett of Fishers was named to the Dean's List.

The term grade-point average (GPA) requirement for University Honor Roll is 3.3; the term GPA requirement for Dean's List

is 3.75 out of a possible 4.0. To qualify, a student must have been enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits. There can be no individual grades below a "C" and no incomplete or non-reported grades at the time the process is run.



Reporter photo by Nik Roberts

## Armed man robs Noblesville bank

### By GREGG MONTGOMERY

WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](http://wishtv.com)

An armed male robbed a bank Monday morning in downtown Noblesville, police say.

The robbery happened just after 10:15 a.m. Monday at the Chase Bank, 198 Logan St. That's just outside a shopping complex anchored by a Kroger grocery that's west

of State Road 19 and the White River. The male took an undisclosed amount of money.

The male fled westbound in a black Dodge Charger or Challenger car, said Lt. Bruce Barnes, the public information officer for Noblesville police.

No one was hurt in the robbery.

Barnes said no other information about the robbery was being released as of Monday afternoon.

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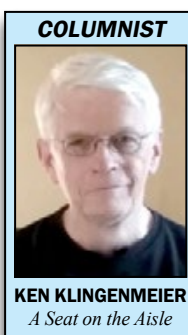
**The Reporter**



# Director has expert's eye for tragicomedy

Tracy Letts' *August: Osage County*, the 2008 recipient of the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, opened at the Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago in August 2007 before having its Broadway premiere in December of that same year. Director Brent Wooldridge brings the tragicomedy to vivid life in Westfield Playhouse with a sharp cast and an expert eye for the many defining moments in the script.

The story concerns the torridly dysfunctional



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

Weston family. Having just lost their husband/father-in-law Beverly Weston, whose singular appearance begins the show, a widowed Violet Weston is visited by her sister and daughters

with their assorted partners and offspring. Secrets are the common denominator in the group, as each individual struggles to make it through the caustic atmosphere which is largely due to the volatile Violet – an incorrigible, added,

pill-popping addict suffering from mouth cancer.

A most striking trait about this wonderful production is the realistic rendering of the characters and their actions (and reactions) as presented by these fine actors. The power and realism of Lett's story is realized fully in the power and reality of the portrayals. Director Wooldridge has led his charges to build a remarkably honest world filled with remarkably dishonest people. The resulting effect is striking and at times very disturbing.

The hardworking cast is led by Sally Carter as Vio-

let, a difficult role which she carries to great heights. Ms. Carter is "in the moment" to a profound degree, giving herself over fully to the portrayal in both manner and appearance. It truly is a captivating acting job and Ms. Carter is to be congratulated for it.

Joining her at the forefront of the story is Molly Belner as Violet's oldest daughter, Barbara. Ms. Belner's turn is wrought with a power of character that is deeply impressive. Barbara's frustrations with her own life's circle find higher levels as she takes on the new crises in her return to her childhood home and Ms. Belner evokes a commanding performance.

A full list of remarkable characterizations is offered by an extraordinary team of skilled performers. Their well-honed ensemble work is a key factor in the compelling storytelling here. Everyone plays off their acting partners with keen and correct levels. This is especially evident in the famous dinner table scene where mother Violet launches into her rampage of "the truth." The scene evolves into a chaotic frenzy which is somewhat frightening in its realities.

All this action is played out on an exceptional multi-tiered set design by Ron Roessler, with precise set decoration by Ian Marshall-Fisher and Pam Jensen. Addie Taylor's costume designs are extensive and appropriate. The lighting and sound designs by Eric Matter and Duane Mercier, respectively, are essen-



Photos by Rob Slaven / [IndyGhostLight.com](http://IndyGhostLight.com)

(TOP) Molly Belner (center) as Barbara Fordham (with Jeff Peabody as Bill Fordham to her right). (ABOVE) Sally Carter as Violet Weston.

tial cogs in the production. Brent Wooldridge, with support from producer Ka'Lea Cuevas, has brought together a wealth of skilled and proficient crew and cast members – the result being one of the most exceptional productions of the 2022-23 theatre season.

**Bottom line:** It would be impossible for me to point out all the noteworthy performances I saw in this show because the entire cast of 13 is notable and worthy of praise. It's rare to see such an even amount of acting talents given over in a large-scale community theatre production, but MSP's offering has that quality to a high degree. Lett's award-winning cre-

ation has found an equal. I enjoyed it thoroughly. Very highly recommended!

*August: Osage County* runs at the Basile Westfield Playhouse, presented by Main Street Productions, through June 18. Curtain times are Thursday/Friday/Saturday at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2:30 p.m.. Tickets may be purchased at [westfieldplayhouse.org](http://westfieldplayhouse.org).

It must be noted that a legitimate warning about content is issued for these performances. Certain language and actions may be disturbing to audience members at times. Suggested for age 18 or older.

Read more great play reviews from *A Seat on the Aisle* at [asota.wordpress.com](http://asota.wordpress.com).

## Church Church Hittle + Antrim forms association with Burrus & Sease

### The REPORTER

Church Church Hittle + Antrim, Hamilton County's oldest law firm, and Burrus & Sease, Boone County's oldest law firm, have formed a new association to leverage over 200 years of legal expertise. The firms celebrated the expansion of their combined legal foot-

print in Zionsville and the surrounding areas with an open house and ice cream social last week.

Community members and leaders of local organizations were in attendance for the event on June 8, including Zionsville Chamber of Commerce members, Boone County judicial officers, Boone County Council members, Zionsville Community School representatives, and many other valued community members.

"Roger, Beth, and I were delighted to meet with our friends and neighbors in Zionsville to learn more about how we can support them regarding any legal services," said Andrew Manna of Church Church Hittle + Antrim. "While CCHA Law has established a strong foundation in Hamilton County, we have a lot to offer to the surrounding communities and look forward to new opportunities to serve the people of Boone County."

The two firms will work collaboratively from Burrus & Sease's current office space, located at 410 W. Oak St. in downtown Zionsville. Burrus & Sease is an established firm that has been serving the Zionsville community for over 70 years, and its leadership looks forward to offering additional services with the support of CCHA Law's full-service legal offerings. The two firms will continue to serve clients in estate and trust planning and administration, real estate law, business law matters, family law, school law, personal injury, litigation, and mediation.

"A primary goal for our merger has been to ensure our clients' legal needs are served well in the future,"

Beth Sease said. "We value the relationships we have built with our clients and have already seen that our colleagues at CCHA share our commitment to put clients first and to do so with excellence, experience, and sophistication. We haven't moved or had to compromise who we are - instead, we have a deeper bench of skilled colleagues to collaborate with as we serve our clients and our community."

The association brings together powerhouse talent in the legal field including

- **Steven David**, who served 16 years as the Judge of the Boone County Circuit Court and 12 years as a Justice on the Indiana Supreme Court

- **Leslie Craig Henderzahn**, who served as President of the Indiana State Bar Association and has been recognized as Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers, Top Attorney in the Midwest, and Indiana Super Lawyer

- **Andrew Manna**, national thought leader and speaker on K-12 school law matters

- **Roger Burrus**, licensed Board Certified Trust and Estate Lawyer by the Trust and Estate Specialty Board, serving Zionsville for 41 years and 40-year-member and past president of the Boone County Bar Association, Zionsville Lions Club, and Zionsville Chamber of Commerce

- **Beth Sease**, who served on the Community Foundation of Boone County for eight years and is active on the Professional Advisory Leadership Council at the Central Indiana Community Foundation and the Indianapolis Estate Planning Council, among many others.

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By Tracy Letts

Directed by Brent Wooldridge

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# The cruisers have been packed!

On Saturday, June 3, folks from across Hamilton County came together to Pack the Cruisers! Thank you, Hamilton County, for helping provide over 14,895 meals for local Summer Lunch programs. Nine Kroger stores, seven police departments, and the Sheriff’s Department came together with Summer Lunch programs organizers to provide needed food for kids. This was the seventh year for Pack the Cruiser locally, and together 15,207 pounds and \$5,332 was donated. Thank you to all the Kroger store personnel, police officers, and program volunteers who helped with this effort. Thank you to the Summer Lunch program providers who take on a huge responsibility every summer. For additional information about Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank, please visit [hchfoodbank.org](http://hchfoodbank.org). (Photos provided by Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank)



Westfield kids helped “Pack the Cruiser” at the Spring Mill Road Kroger with Open Doors Food Pantry and the Westfield Police Department.



Noblesville worked together to “Pack the Cruiser” at the Noble Crossing Kroger with Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank and the Noblesville Police Department.



Fishers residents “Packed the Cruiser” at three Kroger stores with Fishers Youth Assistance and the Fishers Police Department.

## Progress update on Noblesville’s Reimagine Pleasant Street project

**Submitted by City of Noblesville**  
Reimagine Pleasant Street – a transformational infrastructure project in Noblesville and Mayor Chris Jensen’s top priority – recently passed the seven-month mark, with a more visible phase beginning.  
Progress is evident as utility relocation is largely complete. Crews are installing storm sewers to handle both current and future water drainage needs. The foundation for the new White River bridge has been set, and crews are installing retaining walls. Construction of two new roundabouts on Eighth Street began June 5 with a 150-day closure of Eighth Street between Washington Street and Mulberry Street. Pleasant Street between Sixth Street and Ninth Street, which includes the alley between Eighth and Ninth Street at Pleasant Street, is also temporarily closed.  
Upon reaching this new construction phase, Mayor Jensen shared an update on the construction progress.  
“From the beginning, I promised that we were all in this together and that the needs of the community would be central to the project,” he said. “We’re delivering on those promises thanks to the city staff and project team’s approach to managing this complex project.”  
Jensen pointed to three elements of the project that best illustrate this point: historic preservation efforts, stakeholder engagement, and pedestrian connectivity.  
**More than a bridge**  
Bridging the White River is a critical component to making an east-west con-

nection in the city. Construction of the new bridge required the removal of the 200-foot, two-span steel truss bridge that once carried the Midland Railway over the White River. In collaboration with Indiana’s State Historic Preservation Officer, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and local historic consulting parties, the project team developed a plan to carefully remove and disassemble the historic bridge built in 1893 for future use. The City of Noblesville then formed a partnership with Conner Prairie to store the bridge while a final location is determined and as plans are developed for the bridge to be refurbished and reassembled.  
“The care and attention we devoted to preserving the historic bridge and our partnership with Conner Prairie is just one example of the project’s focus on preserving history,” Jensen said.  
As a portion of the project encroaches on the city’s historic Plum Prairie Historic District, the city has committed to include several enhancements to preserve the historical integrity of the district. The project team collaborated with local residents and other interested parties and historical preservation groups, as well as the Indiana State Historic Board of Preservation, to create historical signage in and around the district. The city also committed to funding a residential façade grant program for residents to improve exterior details of their buildings. The program provides \$150,000 over

three years for improvements to the city’s historic districts, with \$75,000 specifically designated to the Plum Prairie Historic District.  
**Engaging the community**  
Reimagine Pleasant Street will be completed in three phases, and the project includes construction of six new roundabouts, three bridges, and connections to three major regional trail networks. The project also includes landscaping and other pedestrian enhancements such as high-visibility roadway crossings and three new pedestrian tunnels.  
Jensen acknowledged that the project has required tough decisions at times and “with such a large road project going through an established part of our town, some impact is unavoidable.”  
Noblesville city officials committed to an open, engaged process to ensure all stakeholders had a voice in the planning and are kept well-informed about both the progress and impact of construction. During the planning stage, the city held more than 100 resident, business, and public meetings. As construction commenced, the city launched a website, [reimaginepleasantst.com](http://reimaginepleasantst.com), social media channels, regular communication to impacted homeowners and businesses, and a monthly newsletter. The project team also meets regularly with a group of community leaders to enlist both their opinions and their help in spreading important news.  
Jensen said a good gauge of the effec-

tiveness of the project’s community engagement was the 2023 Indiana Peony Festival, held on May 20.  
“This is a signature event for not only our community but for the state and region,” he said. “We worked very hard with the organizers to anticipate any potential disruptions from our project. The event was a great success, as always.”  
**True connectivity**  
The Reimagine Pleasant Street project provides a critical east-west connection for the city of Noblesville that is expected to alleviate traffic on State Road 32 through the city’s urban core. The new connection will provide an alternate, less congested route for residents in and around Noblesville to access the city and downtown businesses from SR 37 and SR 32.  
The Pleasant Street project also completes a key trail network connection in Noblesville by linking the Riverwalk Trail, Midland Trace Trail, and Nickel Plate Trail. This network will enhance pedestrian and bicycle connectivity through the heart of downtown Noblesville and link directly to many neighborhoods as well as surrounding communities in Hamilton and Marion counties.  
Toward that end, the pedestrian tunnel has been installed, which is a critical piece of that trail connectivity.  
“Connectivity, mobility, and access cannot mean just cars. We’re way beyond that as a city and our community expects more,” said Jensen. “The completion of the pedestrian tunnel is physical evidence of the importance we place on quality-of-life initiatives.”



Jensen





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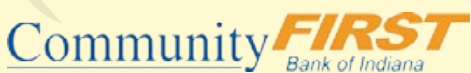
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# Duke Energy upgrades equipment to improve service in Carmel

## The REPORTER

Duke Energy is strengthening part of its electric grid in Carmel to improve reliability and reduce power outages.

The company is making upgrades to 14 transmission poles from its Homeplace Substation on East 111th Street to East 116th Street near Carmel Central Park. Wood poles are being replaced by steel poles that are stronger, more reliable, and about five to 10 feet taller than the existing poles.

In the next few weeks, crews will begin work to install temporary construction access and clear vegetation in the utility easement prior to the pole work. These

practices are approved by internationally recognized tree care associations. The easement must be clear of vegetation to allow for safe access during construction and safe operation of the line once energized. Duke Energy has been working in partnership with local officials on work that will take place on municipal property.

After the easement is cleared, construction will begin to install the new transmission poles. Customers may see electric utility equipment in the area of



LaBarr

the line improvements, including utility bucket trucks, utility pole setting equipment, and specialized material handling equipment. While work is underway, the Interurban Trail between East 116th Street and Central Park Drive East will be temporarily closed. The project is expected to conclude by the end of the year.

"This important work is part of a smart, multi-layered energy grid improvement strategy to help improve electric reliability and resiliency and strengthen the electric grid against severe

weather and other impacts," Duke Energy Government and Community Relations Manager Mark LaBarr said. "Making the right investments today means that the energy grid customers and their families depend on will be better, more reliable and more responsive in the future."

Residents who have questions about the project can email [MidwestTransmission@duke-energy.com](mailto:MidwestTransmission@duke-energy.com) or call (800) 820-9362. For more information about Duke Energy's work to provide safer, more reliable, and secure energy for its customers, visit [duke-energy.com/our-company/Infuture](http://duke-energy.com/our-company/Infuture).

## AG Todd Rokita doubles down on TikTok lawsuit

## The REPORTER

Attorneys at Cooper & Kirk joined Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita on Tuesday in his ongoing fight to hold TikTok accountable for collecting personal data from app users – information that is then accessible to the Chinese Communist Party.

The Office of the Indiana Attorney General **filed an amended lawsuit** against TikTok on Tuesday.

"The district court's criticisms of the initial complaint were misguided and unfounded," said David Thompson of Cooper & Kirk, the state's lead outside counsel. "Is it considered 'irrelevant posturing' to express concern that Americans may be unknowingly posing for CCP facial recog-

nition files?"

"Even journalists at left-leaning CNN have now accepted the credibility of testimony that the Chinese Communist Party accessed the data of TikTok users on a broad scale, and for political purposes," AG Rokita said. "Recent sworn testimony from a former employee of ByteDance, TikTok's Beijing-based parent company, reveals the depths of their deception."

Such testimony provides just one example of TikTok's practices – despite the company sparing no expense to deny it to Congress, the media, and American consumers.

"TikTok has engaged



Rokita

in a massive PR campaign in which their statements and omissions paint a false, deceptive and misleading picture for Indiana consumers that there is minimal risk of the Chinese government accessing and exploiting their data," Thompson added.

In December 2022, AG Rokita led the way by filing two separate lawsuits against TikTok – both related to false claims made by the company about its video-sharing app. This week, he amended the state's data-privacy complaint against TikTok to reflect the recent revelations that TikTok users' data is subject

to Chinese law and may be intercepted by the Chinese government.

Previously, TikTok removed the state's case to federal court, but on May 23 the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana agreed with AG Rokita's office that the case should proceed in state court. The district court criticized the complaint as "posturing."

"Not only do TikTok's false, deceptive and misleading practices blatantly violate Indiana law – but they also endanger individual Hoosiers," AG Rokita said. "Too many U.S. policymakers put their heads in the sand while the Chinese Communist Party steals data and uses it to advance its own strategic agenda."

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# Enjoy Arcadia’s Farmers Market all summer long



The Arcadia Farmers Market takes place from 5 to 8 p.m. on Thursdays from June to September at the corner lot at Main and West streets. Let the kids play at the Splash Pad while you shop the Farmers Market and pick up dinner at the food truck.

Photos provided by Town of Arcadia

# Senator Braun leads bipartisan bill to fix part of Medicare billing structure, saving billions

### The REPORTER

On Monday, U.S. Senators Mike Braun (R-Ind.), Maggie Hassan (D-N.H.), and John Kennedy (R-La.) introduced their bipartisan bill to fix part of the Medicare billing structure that allows hospital systems to charge high hospital rates for care received at off-campus outpatient facilities.

Due to Medicare’s billing structure, even if care is received at an off-campus outpatient facility, it can be billed as though the care was provided at the main hospital campus. This means the higher hospital rate is charged.

This issue has become more prevalent as more and more small physician-owned practices and off-campus facilities are acquired by larger hospital systems. In 2020, the Congressional Budget Office **estimated** that taxpayers will pay close to \$40 billion in excess costs to Medicare due to exorbitant facility fee payments over the next decade.

This billing practice is allowed to happen due to a provision in the 2015 Bipartisan Budget Act. This law established “site-neutral” payments under Medicare for services received at off-campus outpatient departments, but exempted most hospitals.

fix this billing issue and provide more transparency on where care is actually provided and billed.



Braun

Senator Braun and Senator Hassan’s Site-based Invoicing and Transparency Enhancement (SITE) Act would end the 2015 Bipartisan Budget Act site-neutral exceptions, prevent off-campus emergency departments from charging higher rates than on-campus emergency departments when standalone emergency facilities are located in close proximity to a hospital campus, require that health systems establish and bill using a unique National Provider Identifier number for each and every off-campus outpatient department, direct the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) to treat outpatient departments as subparts of the parent organization and to issue these subparts unique provider identifiers, and remove liability for services rendered for payers that are not billed in accordance with this section’s requirements.

The bill will use the savings from this fix to help fill the nursing shortage by creating a graduate nursing education program that would provide payments for training costs.

“Hoosiers know our health care system is broken,

A solution is needed to **See Medicare . . . Page 9**

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# I dedicate this next dance . . .

*"If I could steal one final glance, one final step, one final dance with him I'd play a song that would never, ever end, 'Cause I'd love, love, love to dance with my father again."*  
— Luther Vandross



SHARON MCMAHON  
Be Well

I love to dance. It is one of my favorite activities. Dancing is beneficial for your flexibility, balance, coordination, aerobic conditioning, and your brain! I have spent a lifetime of dancing. Ballet and tap when younger, clogging and swing dance as an adult, with some cha-cha thrown in there ... all fun and helpful in my fitness quests. I credit my dad for my interest and love in dancing – as well as his patience in teaching me!

As a young girl, around eight or so, I took baton twirling lessons from a Noblesville High School student. Noblesville was a small town then and many of my friends also took lessons from her. I would walk to the high school after my grade-school class was dismissed so that she could give my lesson in the NHS gym, which is currently part of the Ivy Tech building. I always

managed to arrive before she made it downstairs from class and I would find a booth in the “canteen” and wait patiently. In the meantime, teenage boys and girls would arrive in the canteen, turn on the jukebox and start dancing (1958!) so it was like my own *American Bandstand*! I was mesmerized and knew that is what I wanted to do as well. I knew that my parents went out dancing, so I demanded to also learn!

Swing dance steps are pretty basic, with a variety of moves depending on whether it is Western Swing or East Coast Swing. My dad was a great dancer (and very patient!) and he taught me well. Of course, during my teenage years and young adult years I thought I was “too cool” for that! However, after marriage and children I longed to swing dance again and I have a great long-time dance partner in my husband Bruce! Again – great exercise and lots of fun! And remember, thanks to line dancing you do not need a specific partner! There are organizations in every community that offer line dancing lessons and gatherings.

Sunday is Father’s Day, and I miss my dad, as many of you do as well. He was a great dancer, a fun and loving father, a good provider, and generous person. I have not seen him, or my mother, since I was 19 years old as I lost them in a traffic accident. My younger brother has also endured that loss. Dancing therefore remains a strong connection to my dad, and I treasure my time with him.

I understand that not everyone has or had a good relationship with their father. However, most people have somewhere along the way had a father figure in their life. That person may be a stepfather, grandfather, uncle, teacher, coach, or other



Photo provided by Sharon McMahon  
Sharon’s father instilled within her a love of dance.

mentor who meant a great deal to them. If that person is living, let him know how much he has meant to you, and if he is not, reflect on his mentorship and your good times with him.

And – if you are not a dancer, try it! Just put on some music and move, it is good for body AND soul!

*Happy Father’s Day to all those special Dads who make such a difference!*  
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.*

# Good dads change the world

Being a dad is the most important thing I’ll ever do in my life. I love my four-year-old daughter with all my heart, and I receive more joy from being with her than anything else I do.



ADAM AASEN  
Carmel Convo

With Father’s Day this Sunday, let’s take a moment to thank all the involved fathers out there in the world. You’re making a big difference in the lives of children, and you make the world a better place.

In the United States, more than 18 million children – or one in four children – live without a biological, step, or adoptive father in their home (or homes for shared custody divorced dads), according to the Census Bureau. For this 25 percent of children, they

are twice as likely to drop out of school and more likely to commit a crime, abuse drugs or alcohol or end up living in poverty as an adult. Furthermore, 63 percent of youth suicides are from fatherless homes and 90 percent of all homeless and runaway children are from fatherless homes.

But just living in a home with a dad isn’t enough. Being a good dad means spending quality time with your kids.

Here in Carmel, we have numerous things to do with your kids on a daily basis, many of which are free.

Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation boasts more than 700 acres of land throughout Carmel, including 20

parks and greenways. My daughter and I love going to the playgrounds at Central Park, Founders Park, River Heritage Park, Carey Grove Park, West Park, Meadowlark Park and more. In the summer months, kids love playing in the playground splash pads or swimming at the Monon Community Center Waterpark. You could also take a nature walk with your kids or play basketball or pickleball at public courts. Find out more at [carmelclayparks.com](http://carmelclayparks.com).

The City of Carmel hosts numerous free events you can take your children to, including free outdoor movies at Midtown Plaza on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Gazebo concerts on Wednesdays and gallery walks in the Carmel Arts & Design District on the second Saturday of each

month. For a complete annual calendar, visit [carmel.in.gov/our-city/experience/events-and-festivals](http://carmel.in.gov/our-city/experience/events-and-festivals).

You could pop into the Carmel Clay Public Library to grab some books or movies. Find out about their events and activities at [carmelclaylibrary.org](http://carmelclaylibrary.org).

Many of Carmel’s restaurants are kid-friendly too and it’s not hard to have a great time grabbing a bite at Sun King and then letting the kids play on the Astro-Turf at Midtown Plaza on a sunny day.

Happy Father’s Day to all the dads out there. I hope you have fun spending time with your children and grandchildren, enjoying all the amenities and events in Carmel.

Adam Aasen is a City Councilor representing Carmel’s Southeast District.

# Centier Bank welcomes Mark Weddle to its Carmel mortgage team

**The REPORTER**  
Michael E. Schrage, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Centier Bank, recently welcomed Mark Weddle as Mortgage Loan Officer, based out of the bank’s Carmel Office at 244 E. Carmel Drive.

Weddle joins Centier with over 20 years of experience in the mortgage industry, including owning his own mortgage broker-

age. After spending time working for big banks, the Indianapolis resident said he’s delighted to join a community bank that can provide custom, tailored experiences to clients.

“Besides the great products, speedy processing, and client experience, the cor-

porate culture at Centier is second to none,” Weddle said. “I’m looking forward to helping assist my clients during homebuying season. I can’t wait to share in their joy as they prepare to move into their new homes!”

For more information about Mark Weddle, email



Weddle

[mweddle@centier.com](mailto:mweddle@centier.com) or call (812) 653-8664. For more information about Centier Bank, go to [centier.com](http://centier.com).

# MEDICARE

and one problem we can fix right now is services at off-campus outpatient facilities being billed to Medicare at higher hospital rates,” Sen. Braun. “Fixing this problem will save taxpayers 40 billion over the next decade, and this bill will apply some of those savings to fixing our nursing shortage by creating a new program to pay for training.”

**More information**  
The SITE Act would ensure that Medicare reimburses care fairly for off-campus services, regardless of who owns the provider. Specifically, the bill would:

- End exceptions to the 2015’s Bipartisan Budget Act site-neutral payment requirements, which exempted most facilities from fair billing requirements.
- Prevent off-campus emergency departments

from charging higher rates than on-campus emergency departments when standalone emergency facilities are located in close proximity to a hospital campus.

- Require that health systems establish and bill using a unique National Provider Identifier number for each and every off-campus outpatient department.
- Direct HHS to treat outpatient departments as subparts of the parent organization and to issue these subparts unique provider identifiers.
- Remove liability for services rendered for payers that are not billed in accordance with this section’s requirements.

Patients across the country also face barriers to health care access due to staff shortages. Health care providers across the coun-

try are struggling to hire and retain qualified nurses to staff their facilities, and hundreds of thousands of new nurses will need to be trained over the next decade to meet our evolving health care workforce needs. The SITE Act would respond to these needs by reinvesting savings from this bill into a national nurse training program, which would:

- Create a graduate nursing education program to provide payments for qualified advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) training costs.
- Support a network of regional partnerships between hospitals, clinical training sites, and schools of nursing.
- Create 20,000 training positions per year, phased in over six years.
- Appropriate \$100 million for the program.

from Page 8

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### Meeting Notices

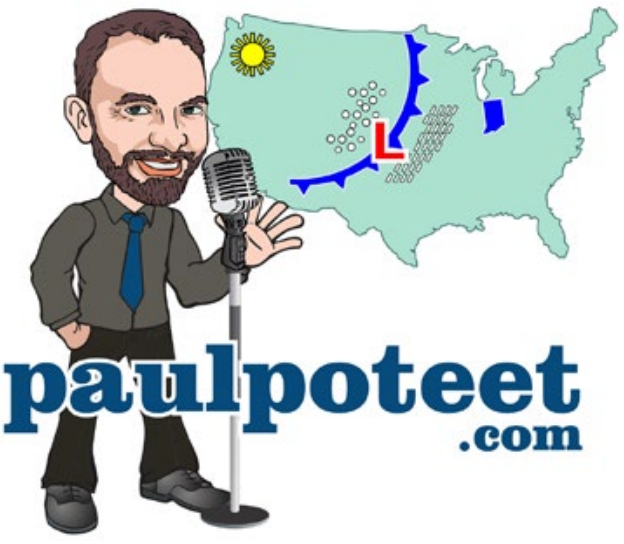
The Hamilton County Parks & Recreation Board will meet in an executive session at 5 p.m. on Monday, June 19, 2023. A regular board meeting will follow at 6 p.m. in the HCPR Administration Building, 400 Lafayette Road, Noblesville.

The Noblesville Park Board Meeting has been changed from 6 p.m. on Wednesday, July 5, 2023, to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at the Forest Park Lodge.

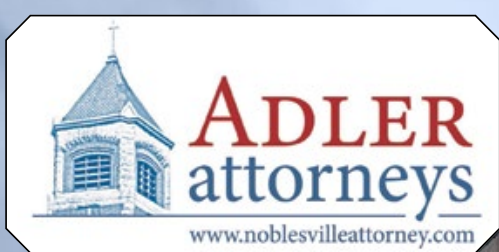
The Sheridan Public Library Board of Trustees will meet in an executive session at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, July 19, 2023, pursuant to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9) to discuss a job performance of an individual employee.

A regular meeting will follow at 6 p.m. in the Community Room of the library, located at 103 W. 1st St., Sheridan.

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



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Laura Reichert

June 26, 1958 – June 11, 2023

Laura Reichert, 64, Noblesville, passed away on Sunday, June 11, 2023, at her home in Noblesville. She was born on June 26, 1958, to Wilbur “Bill” and Marjalee (Tiedeman) Dankert in South Bend, Ind.

Lori worked as a pharmacist for over 40 years, with 35 years at IU Health University Hospital. She was an avid outdoors woman and adventure seeker who loved photography, skiing, camping, biking, and hiking.

Lori was a constant reader who loved animals and playing board games. She was very artistic and loved music and playing guitar. Most of all, Lori loved her family.

She is survived by her husband, Jim Reichert; mother, Marjalee Dankert; sons, Mike Reichert and Jon Reichert; brother, Stephen (Bobbi) Dankert; nephews, Kyle Dankert, Mitchell Dankert, and Zachary Dankert; and her son-in-law, Thomas Easterday.

Lori was preceded in death by her father, Bill Dankert; brother, David Dankert; grandparents, Eunice & Lyman Tiedeman.

Visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. on Friday, June 16, 2023, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville. An additional visitation will be held from 10 to 11 a.m., with funeral services at 11 a.m., on Saturday, June 17, 2023, at the funeral home. Burial will immediately follow the service at Sunset Memory Gardens Funeral Home and Cemetery in Kokomo.

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

Thomas Brady Brown

September 11, 1969 – June 6, 2023

Thomas Brady Brown, 53, Indianapolis, passed away on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at his home. He was born on September 11, 1969, in Edina, Minn.

“Tom” held a finance degree from Indiana University and was active in the stock market, advising many friends. He was very adventurous – his “heart” was in Alaska. Much of his time was spent there until his health prevented it. He worked in the canneries and on fishing boats, and finally his last position before returning to Indiana was as a tug boat captain. His favorite hobby was fishing, and he and a large group of friends were avid fans of The Grateful Dead.

He is survived by his parents, Thomas Frederick Brown and Mary Elizabeth (Nix) Brown (Betty); sister, Kelli Eleanor Conkin (Brown); brother, Patrick Ramsay Brown; and nieces and a nephew, Ryan Conkin and Rachael and Elijah Brown.

Visitation will be held from 10 to 11 a.m., with services at 11 a.m., on Saturday, June 24, 2023, at Noblesville First United Methodist Church, 2051 Monument St., Noblesville.

The Brown family has entrusted Randall & Roberts Funeral Home with Thomas’ care.

Memorial contributions may be made to the National Kidney Foundation of Indiana, 911 E. 86th St., Suite #100, Indianapolis, IN 46240 ([kidneyindiana.org](http://kidneyindiana.org)); or First United Methodist Church, 2051 Monument St., Noblesville, IN 46060 ([noblesvillefirst.com](http://noblesvillefirst.com)).

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



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Donna Busse

Marge A. Clymer

June 30, 1949 – June 11, 2023

Marge A. Clymer, 73, Noblesville, passed away on Sunday, June 11, 2023, at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis. She was born on June 30, 1949, to Arthur John and Josephine Jeanice (French) Brown in St. Joseph County, Mich., where she lived and attended school in Three Rivers and Constantine.

Marge worked in interior design as a furniture sales consultant. She was an avid Miller Backer and enjoyed gardening, music, and going to concerts. Marge loved decorating, and arts and crafts.

She is survived by her son, Troy Owen (Rebecca) Clymer; brother, Allen Brown; sister-in-law, Christy Smagala; nieces, Allison Hoffman and Cary Smagala; nephew, Steve Smagala; and cousin, David Wood.

In addition to her parents, Marge was preceded in death by her husband, James Hutton Clymer; and her stepfather, Joe Geibe.

Visitation will be from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., with services at 12:30 p.m., on Friday, June 16, 2023, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville. Burial will be at Our Lady of Peace Cemetery in Indianapolis.

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

Diane Lott

March 29, 1961 – June 10, 2023

Diane Lott, 62, McCordsville, passed away on Saturday, June 10, 2023, at her home surrounded by her loving family after a short, courageous battle of rare and incurable stomach cancer. She was born on March 29, 1961, to Robert and Betty (Komers) Duke in Indianapolis.

Diane was a wedding planner and owned Diane’s Creations. She previously worked for the Delaware Township Trustee’s Office, as a transcriptionist for the Fishers Police Department, as an assistant to the Fall Creek Township Trustee Assessor, and as Executive Assistant at Heartland Church for years. Diane was a 15-year member of Heartland Church. She enjoyed photography, flowers, gardening, and birds, especially hummingbirds. Diane was the Team Mom and official team picture taker for her children’s activities. She was always helping and giving, and she helped organize the Special Santa for 15 years for families of Hamilton Southeastern Schools. Most of all, Diane loved, supported, and spoiled her grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband of 43 years and high school sweetheart, Brian Lott; parents, Robert & Betty Duke; daughters, Shauna (Alan) Harman, Christina (Tyler) Cooper, and Brittany (Brian) Taber; grandchildren, Leon and Oliver Harman, Hayden Lott, Makenna Spiegel, Damian Taber, Steven Taber, Raymond Taber, and Akira Taber; sisters, Debbie Shockley, Denise (Chuck) Jones, and Dana Green; and her brother, Robert “Rob” (Kathy) Duke.

Diane was preceded in death by her grandparents, William & Geneva Duke and Bradley & Francis Komers.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 17, 2023, at Heartland Church, 14900 E. 126th St., Fishers, with Pastor Dr. Darryn Scheske officiating. Innnichement will be in Heartland Church Resurrection Memorial.

Memorial contributions may be made to Good Samaritan Network, 12933 Parkside Drive, Fishers, IN 46038 ([gsnlive.kindful.com](http://gsnlive.kindful.com)); or Water is Life, c/o Rotary 6560 Foundation Inc. – WaterIsLife Account, P.O. Box 141, Noblesville, IN 46061-0141 ([app.donaide.com/public/org-profile.html?c=1129](http://app.donaide.com/public/org-profile.html?c=1129)).

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

TODAY’S BIBLE READING

*Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”*

*He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”*

*And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”*

*The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”*

Genesis 3:8-12 (NIV)

William Lawrence “Bill” Bentley

July 6, 1939 – May 31, 2023

William Lawrence “Bill” Bentley, 83, Logansport, Ind., passed away on Wednesday, May 31, 2023. He was born on July 6, 1939, to Chester and Mary Alice (Reel) Bentley in Noblesville.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Chester Sr. and Mary Alice (Reel) Bentley; brothers, Chester Jr., David, and Keith; sister, Brenda (Bentley) Purser; children, Matthew Bentley and Mark Campbell; and his wife, Mary Alice (Underwood) Bentley.

Bill leaves behind his beloved partner of 22 ½ years, Betty Campbell; sons, William Scott (Jenny) Bentley of Noblesville, Joe (Sherry) Krutz of Logansport, and Dale Campbell of Logansport; daughters, Amy (Jeff) Mulvaney of Tipton, Kim (Roy) Goins of Royal Center, Ind., and Cyndi (David) Kropff of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; brother, Terry (Deborah) Bentley; grandkids, Anthony (Sandra) Mulvaney, Jeffrey (Cassandra) Mulvaney Jr., Matthew Mulvaney, Shelby (Brandon) McKibben, Alexander Bentley, Alyssa Kropff, Dylan Bentley, Emma Malott, Sam Malott, Shawn McPeak, Stephen McPeak, Shaella Strayer, Zack Hoover, Dustin Strayer, Jeremy Strayer, and Jacob Strayer; great-grandkids, Cheyenne Mulvaney, Eli Mulvaney, Ryllyn Malott, Luca L Malott, LaShawn Buchanan, and Natalia Buchanan; and many nieces and nephews.

Bill graduated from Noblesville High School with a GED in 1985. Prior to this, he served his country in the United States Army from 1957 to 1962. He fought in the Korean Conflict and Berlin Flare-up, then served out the remainder of his military career in Berlin, Nuremberg, Germany. He also served on the Noblesville Police Department Reserves in the 70s and early 80s for five years. He worked at Central Soya for 12 years, Indiana Developmental Training Center as a Maintenance Supervisor (all the kids there called him Grandpa) for five years, and retired from the Noblesville School System after 11 years in maintenance.

He enjoyed working with his hands and using his imagination, constantly making things with this or that. He also enjoyed making items out of wood. Bill was, as he liked to say, “A jack of all trades, master of none.”

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with a Celebration of Life service at 1 p.m., on Saturday, June 24, 2023, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan St., Noblesville.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to The Disabled Veterans ([help.dav.org](http://help.dav.org)).

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



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# 2023 BICENTENNIAL JUNE EVENTS

## WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

### FIND THE OLDEST TREE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

June 1, 5-8 p.m., and June 2, 5-7 p.m.

Grand Junction Plaza | FREE

Hear about the winners of the Westfield Green Together contest! See posters about tree contestants and pick up a driving-tour map. Hear stories about what life might have been like when the trees were planted.

### A DAY IN THE LIFE "ROCKS!"

June 2, 5-7 p.m., Grand Junction Plaza | FREE

Join Student Impact for a Pioneer-themed event of games, food and activities focused on a day in the life of a student in the 1830s in Hamilton County.

### MAINSTREET PRODUCTIONS' WESTFIELD FOUNDERS

June 3, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Basile Playhouse

220 N. Union St., Westfield | FREE

Performances dramatize the lives of some of Westfield's founding families. Refreshments served. Performances run every hour beginning at 1 p.m.

### WEEKENDS AT BARKER CABIN

June 3, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Westfield Washington

Historical Society, 130 Penn St., Westfield | FREE

Find out how things got done during the time when the Barker family lived in their cabin in the 1830s. Ribbon-cutting and ceremony for the recently restored home is at 10 a.m., followed by old-fashioned cooking, demos by interpreters, the Rusty Muskets Band, a re-enactor show and car show. Food trucks, vendors, pony rides and more for families!

### HISTORIC DOWNTOWN WALKING TOUR

June 3, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Cave & Co Printing (tour starting point), 104 W. Main St., Westfield | FREE

Join the Westfield Preservation Alliance on a self-guided walking tour of Westfield's Downtown National Register Historic District. Use the FREE mobile app "U R HERE - Historic Westfield, IN."

### FAMILY HISTORY AND ART ACTIVITY DAY

June 23, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Westfield Washington Public Library, 338 W. Hoover St., Westfield | FREE

Speakers discuss genealogy topics, including getting started, Quaker records, military records, and information on how to use Ancestry.com and Indiana State Library sources. Take part in local arts and crafts demonstration fair. During the week leading up to the program, the library will host a vintage board game tournament. (Sign up for parts of the event on the library's website.)



## WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP SIGNATURE EVENT

### WESTFIELD BASH!

June 1, 5-8 p.m.; June 2, 8-10 a.m. and 6-9 p.m.,

Grand Junction Plaza, 225 S. Union St., Westfield | FREE

June 1, 5-8 p.m. At the Westfield Farmer's Market, enjoy free entertainment, dozens of vendors and Westfield Washington Schools' American Pie concert ("Coming Back to Indiana").

June 2, 8-10 a.m. Enjoy the Westfield Fire Department's Pancake Breakfast on Park Street and check out vintage vehicles! (Cost for breakfast.)

June 2, 6-9 p.m. Before they head out on their international tour, Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band takes the stage at Grand Junction Plaza! Local artist Kassey King opens for this FREE concert.

### COOL CREEK BICENTENNIAL CONCERT

June 30, 6-9:15 p.m., Cool Creek Park, 2000 E. 151st St., Westfield

\$5 to attend | See Stella Luna and the Satellites during the Cool Creek Bicentennial Concert!

### HAMILTON CO. BICENTENNIAL TRAVELING EXHIBIT

#### Westfield:

June 3-9, Westfield Playhouse, Union St.

June 10-16, Westfield Wash. Historical Society, Penn St.

June 17-23, Westfield Wash. Public Library, Hoover St.

June 24-30, Washington Township Trustee, Greyhound Pass

FREE | Learn about all five of our Bicentennial themes: Arts, Diversity/Inclusion, Education, Historic Preservation, and Parks/Environment. Contact the hosting organization for information on when the exhibit is open to the public.

### ALSO IN JUNE

### WE THE FREE?: PEOPLE OF COLOR - MOVEMENTS AND IDENTITY

June 29, 7-8:30 p.m., Roberts Chapel, 3102 E. 276th St, Atlanta

FREE | Three history scholars whose academic research has provided rich insight into the under-told story of free people of color headline a panel discussion at Roberts Settlement. Learn about Indiana's free people of color — their Southern roots, migration, settlement in Indiana and faith. (RSVPs required. A live stream of the event will be available. Visit HamCoTurns200 for details and registration.)

Access the entire **2023 Bicentennial Event Lineup**  
and get event/program details: **[HamCoTurns200.com](https://hamcoTurns200.com)**

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Boys Golf

# Once again, Guerin Catholic & Westfield neck & neck for state title

By **RICHIE HALL**  
[sports@readthereporter.com](mailto:sports@readthereporter.com)

**CARMEL** – Last year’s IHSAA boys golf state finals between Guerin Catholic and Westfield finished with just one stroke separating the state champion Golden Eagles and the runner-up Shamrocks.

The two teams picked up where they left off Tuesday, in the first round of this year’s state finals at Prairie View Golf Club in Carmel. Guerin Catholic is in front with a team score of 291, with Westfield in second place with a 293.

Both teams now have the state championship in their sights, with second-round play beginning at 8 a.m. today. The Golden Eagles and the ‘Rocks will be paired with Valparaiso, in third place with a 303, when play begins this morning.

Guerin Catholic senior Jacob Modleski played an outstanding round of golf to lead the way for his team. Modleski scored a five-under par 67, making six birdies during his first round. He nearly had first place all to himself going into today’s action, but Valpo’s Aidan Guterrez, the defending individual state champion, made a birdie on 18 to finish with a 67 and tie for the lead.

Modleski had finished his round about an hour and a half after Guterrez did, and he also finished it strong with back-to-back birdies on 17 and 18.

“My goal today was to pick good targets and swing very aggressively,” said Modleski. “And I think I did that really well. I think it showed up on the card. It doesn’t always show up on

the card, but today it did. I definitely am excited, looking forward to tomorrow. It should be a really fun day.”

Golden Eagles junior Leo Wessel is part of a six-way tie for fifth place after Round 1, with a one-under par 71. Wessel had four birdies for his round. Senior Zach Theime’s round of 74 included three birdies, while freshman Eli Wessel and sophomore Owen Nielsen both carded 79s, with one birdie each.

The Shamrocks were led by sophomore Jake Cesare, who drained three birdies on his way to a one-under par 71, putting him in that large tie for fifth place. Senior Alec Cesare made four birdies while finishing even at 72, and sophomore Will Harvey totaled a 73 with two birdies. Seniors Cam Kooi added a 77 and Matt Shull totaled a 79.

“Five over 293 is a great score for Prairie View and the state finals,” said Westfield coach Josh Bryant. “Tomorrow will be a different day, different setup. We’ve played with Guerin a lot this year and have gone back and forth and I’m sure it’s going to be fun with those guys, as well as Valpo, HSE and Bloomington South.”

Southeastern and Bloomington South are tied for fourth place after the first day, as both scored 304s. Royals junior Nate Benson was his team’s low man with a 74, making a birdie on the first hole and the 18th hole.

Sophomore Kai Warner scored a 75, making three birdies, while senior Cole Starnes had one birdie during his round of 76. Senior Lane Zedrick’s score



Reporter photo by Richie Hall  
**Guerin Catholic’s Jacob Modleski, shown here with Golden Eagles’ assistant coach Greg Havill, is on top of two leaderboards after Day 1 of the IHSAA boys golf state finals on Tuesday. The Golden Eagles lead Westfield by two strokes going into today’s second round, while Modleski is tied for the individual lead at five under par.**

of 79 included two birdies, and freshman Mattingly Upchurch had two birdies in his round of 80.

Noblesville scored a 315, placing the Millers 11th after the first round. Seniors Cooper Claussen and Will Perkins and junior Alex Peck all had 78s for Noblesville. Claussen and Perkins both drained two birdies, while Peck made one. Senior Drew Decker scored an 81, while junior Brady Mangin totaled an 85, with one birdie.

Carmel junior Mason Price had an amazing round, scoring a one-under par 71 to put him in the fifth-place tie. Price had two eagles during Tuesday’s play, both on par-five holes. He eagled the third hole, then repeated that feat on the 13th hole. Price also made three birdies.

Play begins today at Prairie View at 8 a.m. A list of the tee times for county players is shown at right.

Hamilton County tee times	
First Tee	
8:09 a.m.	– Mason Price, Carmel
9:03 a.m.	– Lane Zedrick, Hamilton Southeastern
9:12 a.m.	– Mattingly Upchurch, Hamilton Southeastern
9:21 a.m.	– Nate Benson, Hamilton Southeastern
9:30 a.m.	– Kai Warner, Hamilton Southeastern
9:39 a.m.	– Cole Starnes, Hamilton Southeastern
9:48 a.m.	– Owen Nielsen, Guerin Catholic; Will Harvey, Westfield
9:57 a.m.	– Zach Thieme, Guerin Catholic; Matt Shull, Westfield
10:06 a.m.	– Eli Wessel, Guerin Catholic; Cam Kooi, Westfield
10:15 a.m.	– Leo Wessel, Guerin Catholic; Jake Cesare, Westfield
10:24 a.m.	– Jacob Modleski, Guerin Catholic; Alec Cesare, Westfield
10th Tee	
9:48 a.m.	– Brady Mangin, Noblesville
9:57 a.m.	– Drew Decker, Noblesville
10:06 a.m.	– Cooper Claussen, Noblesville
10:15 a.m.	– Will Barnes, Noblesville
10:24 a.m.	– Alex Peck, Noblesville

See Golf . . . Page 13



(Above left) Westfield’s Cam Kooi talks with his father Jeff Kooi after finishing his first round at Prairie View on Tuesday.



Reporter photos by Richie Hall  
(Above right) Hamilton Southeastern’s Nate Benson led the Royals during their first round of play.

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As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man. Prov. 27:19

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# Westfield Library Foundation to host Pickleball Tournament

## The REPORTER

The Westfield Library Foundation will host a Pickleball Tournament on Thursday, Aug. 17 at the Bridgewater Club in Westfield. Organizers hope to raise \$40,000 in support of the Westfield Washington Public Library.



Downey

"We are very excited to host what we hope will become an annual tournament," says Erin Downey, executive director of the Westfield Library Foundation. "Pickleball is so popular we thought a fundraising event built around a tournament would be something new and fun for our community."

Registration for the round-robin style tournament

opened on Monday, June 12. The tournament will be capped at 48 teams of two (96 individuals).

There will be two morning and two afternoon sessions. Those interested in playing can register at [westfieldlibraryfoundation.com](http://westfieldlibraryfoundation.com).

Five sponsorship levels, ranging from \$5,000 to \$750, are also available. Anyone interested in sponsoring the tournament is encouraged to contact Erin Downey at [edowney@wwpl.lib.in.us](mailto:edowney@wwpl.lib.in.us).

*About Westfield Library Foundation*

The Westfield Library Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization supporting innovative programs and services for



the Westfield Washington Public Library and its patrons through major gifts,

bequests, corporate sponsorships, naming rights and private donations.

## Tennis

# Two area girls take part in North/South All-Star Cup

## The REPORTER

Two area girls tennis players played in the 25th Annual North/South Senior Tennis All-Star Cup, which took place last Sunday at Community Sports & Wellness in Pendleton.

Westfield's Alana Raymond and Zionsville's Natalie Black both played for the South team. In the first round, Raymond played at No. 1 singles and dropped her first-round match to Claire Meyer's New Albany 6-4, but still earned a point for the South team. Black teamed with Delta's Janet Wegener at No. 1 doubles to take on the Oldenburg Academy team of Evelyn Storm and Mimi Wilder and won 6-2, picking up two points for the South team.

Raymond and Black played at No. 1 doubles in the second round, then tied with Franklin Community's Ailyn Hendricks 5-5 and Oldenburg Academy's Evelyn Storm in the second round, with both teams earning a point.

Both players returned to their original positions for the third round. Raymond played Meyer again, winning 10-8 and earning two points for the South team. Black and Wegener re-teamed for the third round, playing Hendricks and Storm and winning 10-8, with both teams scoring a point.

The North team won 27-25. All players were honored at the conclusion of the meet.

# Sogility partners with Indiana Impact SC

## The REPORTER

Indiana Impact SC of McCordsville and Sogility are happy to announce a partnership to help continue the development of their players in a unique and exciting environment.

Sogility is a soccer training center based in Westfield utilizing world-class training technology used by large clubs like FC Barcelona and Manchester City. This center is perfect for players who want to improve their

technical skills in dribbling, touch, passing, and shooting.

"We are excited to add Indiana Impact SC to the Sogility family. We look forward to helping their players develop and grow," states the CEO of Sogility, Jimmy Carson.

"We are very excited to partner with Sogility to strengthen our player development in a unique and proven method. In addition to offering exceptional skills training, we look



forward to our players developing through Sogility's technology-based training process," said Indiana Impact SC Executive Director, Chris "Coach Fuzzy" Steeno.

For more information on the partnership between Indiana Impact SC and Sogility contact Sam

Wade, [sam@sogility.net](mailto:sam@sogility.net).

*About Sogility*

Sogility's mission is to increase soccer players' skills, confidence, and physical development with personalized training through the use of technology and individualized data monitoring. Learn more at [sogility.net](http://sogility.net).

## GOLF

from Page 12

### At Prairie View

**Team scores:** Guerin Catholic 291, Westfield 293, Valparaiso 303, Hamilton Southeastern 304, Bloomington South 304, Evansville North 307, Zionsville 309, Tipton 309, Columbus North 310, Center Grove 313, Noblesville 315, Leo 318, Chesterton 320, Floyd Central 323, Homestead 325, Penn 326, Evansville Memorial 339, Northridge 355.  
**Individual leaders:** Jacob Modleski (Guerin Catholic) 67; Aidan Guterrez (Valparaiso) 67.  
**Other Guerin Catholic**

**scores:** Leo Wessel 71, Zach Thieme 74, Owen Nielsen 79, Eli Wessel 79.

**Westfield scores:** Jake Cesare 71, Alec Cesare 72, Will Harvey 73, Cam Kooi 77, Matt Shull 79.

**Southeastern scores:** Nate Benson 74, Kai Warner 75, Cole Starnes 76, Lane Zedrick 79, Mattingly Upchurch 80.

**Noblesville scores:** Cooper Claussen 78, Will Barnes 78, Alex Peck 78, Drew Decker 81, Brady Mangin 85.

**Carmel score:** Mason Price 71.

# SPORTS SCHEDULE

## Wednesday, June 14 BOYS GOLF

State finals (round 2), 8 a.m. at Prairie View

Please email schedule changes or corrections to [sports@readthereporter.com](mailto:sports@readthereporter.com).

## Hoosier Weather Daddy?



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**Monday June 19 - 6:00 pm**  
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**Monday June 19 - 8:15 pm**  
Noblesville Babe Ruth 16 -18 League Championship

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