

FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2026

ARCADIA | ATLANTA | CICERO | SHERIDAN | TIPTON
 CARMEL | FISHERS | NOBLESVILLE | WESTFIELD



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Mostly sunny.
 Tonight: Mostly clear evening.
 Partly cloudy overnight.



HIGH: 75 LOW: 59



Chuck Goodrich named next Indiana Secretary of Commerce

The REPORTER

On Thursday, June 18, Indiana Governor Mike Braun confirmed that Hamilton County businessman and former Noblesville State Representative Chuck Goodrich will be Indiana's next Secretary of Commerce.

The announcement comes following David Adams's plan to step down from the post on June 30, which is a **cabinet-level position** in state government.

"I'm proud to announce today that Chuck Goodrich will be picking up the torch as Secretary of Commerce to continue

region-led growth to attract and grow great job opportunities and higher wages in Indiana," Gov. Braun said.

Goodrich is a business leader who has spent his career signing the front side of a paycheck, and he will be a tremendous leader for our mission to make life more affordable for Hoosiers, grow jobs, and raise wages."



Goodrich



Braun

According to Goodrich, his experience as a leader in business, a three-term State Representative, and as a workforce development advocate in the construction industry, higher education, and state workforce policy equip him the right set of tools to lead the state's commerce offices and agencies.

"I'm grateful to Governor

Braun for the opportunity to serve Hoosiers in this role," Goodrich said. "I've spent my career building a company in Indiana, hiring Hoosiers, and investing in the workforce that makes growth possible. Indiana is building, growing, and moving forward. Businesses already here will keep growing, and job creators across the country will see what we already know: a workforce and a business environment like nowhere else. Indiana is open for business."

See Goodrich . . . Page 2

A smile is the only requirement

Libraries are often known as places filled with books, knowledge, and quiet spaces where stories come alive. But every once in a while, they remind us that their true magic goes far beyond the shelves.

Last week, I had the joy of attending Foundation Night at the Stacks, hosted by the Hamilton East Public Library Foundation, an after-hours fundraising event designed entirely for adults, bringing together entertainment, creativity, connection, and community support in one unforgettable evening. Although this was the second year of hosting the event, it marked the first year the Library Foundation independently organized the fundraiser on its own, and it beautifully showcased what community spaces are truly meant to do: bring people together.

The evening was full of energy. Familiar faces were everywhere – friends, city leaders, community partners, Noblesville Schools representatives, volunteers, and residents who came together to support an institution that quietly supports all of us year-round.

As someone who never misses an opportunity to support our library in both big and small ways, I found myself fully immersed in experiencing everything the evening had to offer. One activity that unexpectedly stayed with me was creating impromptu bookmarks decorated with colorful stickers and meaningful one-line messages.

See Smile . . . Page 3



POOJA THAKKAR
Taste of Community

One door closes, but another one opens

By CASH CAMPERELLI

Husky 4-Hers Club Reporter

On June 10, the Husky 4-Hers had their last meeting of the year. But just because our year has ended doesn't mean that we should be sad.

In fact, we had a lot to celebrate this year.

We looked at all our memories of the year through our scrapbook, made by Macy Booth, and then went on to celebrate our seniors who were graduating this year. Out of the nine seniors who graduated, three received our club's \$500 scholarships: Addison Mann, Lauren Happel, and Abby Martin. After each told us what school they planned to go to and what their favorite part of 4-H was, we started the meeting out with our usual business.

After the pledges, Colton Hoane gave the Secretary's report, and Stella Hartwick did the Treasurer's report. (Be sure to buy our grilled cheese sandwiches at the 4-H Fair this year! You support our club by doing this, and we do lots of charitable things with the money.)



Photos provided by Husky 4-Hers Club

The Cicero Fire Department spoke to the club about equipment firefighters use.

Sophia Camperelli and Matthew Duprey did a Health and Safety Demonstration on how to stay safe around the pool (how convenient), such as not running around the pool.

Bellamy Fouch and Levi Small led us in singing "Happy Birthday" for the last time this year to our members celebrating a birthday.

Then we got to the trivia question. The question was "When was 4-H started?" The correct answer was 1936, and Sophia Camperelli won that.

See Husky 4-Hers . . . Page 3



Hamilton Southeastern Schools accepting applications for community engagement program

Submitted by HSE Schools

Hamilton Southeastern Schools is accepting applications for the 2026-27 HSEngaged cohort, a community engagement program designed to provide participants with a comprehensive, behind-the-scenes look at the operations of one of Indiana's largest school districts.

The program brings together parents, residents, business owners and community leaders interested in learning more about public education and the work that supports more than 20,000 HSE students.

Since its launch in 2021, HSEngaged has provided participants with direct access to district leaders and staff through monthly sessions focused on topics such as academics, school finance, student services, school

safety, transportation, facilities, and communications.

Participants selected for the 2026-27 cohort will attend monthly meetings from August through April at schools throughout the district.

"HSEngaged gives community members a chance to see beyond the headlines and gain a deeper understanding of the work happening across our schools," said Emily Pace Abbotts, Director of School and Community Relations at HSE Schools. "Participants hear directly from district leaders, visit our schools and engage in conversations that help build informed and meaningful connections to HSE Schools."

Applications are due by noon on Tuesday, July 7, and participation is limited.

Recent participant feedback



Photo provided by HSE Schools

Recent participants in the HSEngaged program agree the experience is both informative and encouraging.

includes:

- "I felt that HSEngaged was an excellent experience. Every staff member who spoke was engaging, passionate and well-informed."
- "It is encouraging to see what HSE is doing for our children. This is a wonderful program."
- "I learned a lot through

HSEngaged and have used the information I gained in conversations throughout the community to help others better understand school-related issues."

Applicants will be notified of their status by July 31.

For more information, including the meeting schedule and application, visit hschools.org/hsengaged.

The Farmers Bank marks 150 years of community banking

Submitted

On Wednesday, June 17, The Farmers Bank celebrated its 150th anniversary, marking a century and a half of service, trust, and commitment to the communities it calls home.

Founded on June 17, 1876, in downtown Frankfort, Ind., The Farmers Bank opened its doors at a time when Rutherford B. Hayes was preparing to become President of the United States, the telephone had just

been invented, and America was celebrating its Centennial.

Over the past 150 years, the bank has witnessed extraordinary changes in technology, transportation, commerce, and society, while remaining steadfast in its commitment to helping individuals, families, businesses, and communities thrive.



A legacy 150 years in the making

What began as a local community bank serving Clinton County has grown into a financial institution with more than \$1 billion in assets, serving customers across central Indiana. Through generations of economic growth, national challenges, world-changing events,

and community milestones, The Farmers Bank has remained rooted in the belief that banking is ultimately about people.

The significance of the milestone is difficult to overstate. Over the course of 54,785 days, The Farmers Bank has helped customers purchase homes, start businesses, grow farms, save for college, prepare for retirement, and navigate life's

See Farmers . . . Page 2

Local election office catches 10 fake voter signatures on Ballard campaign petition

The REPORTER

Former Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard's campaign for Indiana Secretary of State is under fire after one of the campaign's volunteers allegedly submitted 10 fake voter signatures in Hamilton County.

Ballard is running as an independent but under the Lincoln Party label, and more than 37,000 verified voter signatures are required for him to appear on the ballot in November's general election. The campaign has collected more than 35,000 signatures as of press time.

Hamilton County Election Office officials confirmed the identity of the volunteer and have referred the matter to law enforcement.

Hamilton County Republican Party Chairman Mario Massillamany is calling for prosecution of the volunteer, as well as an investigation by the Indiana State Police.

"We were made aware of this when the [Hamilton County] Election Office referred this to state police," Massillamany told The Reporter. "We're asking that both State Police and the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office not only to investigate but also prosecute this to the fullest extent of the law."

Ballard responded following calls for an investigation into who he characterizes as a "rogue individual" involved with his campaign.

"This is the system working exactly the way it's supposed to," Ballard said. "It's why all signatures are verified by the counties and why each signature gatherer has to sign each petition sheet attesting to the validity of the signatures on it. The campaign is committed to following all state and federal election laws. As soon as we learned of this issue, we ended this rogue individual's association with the campaign. The 10 signatures in question represent 0.02 percent of the more than 35,000 signatures our team has already turned in."

See Signatures . . . Page 3



Massillamany



Ballard

Commerce secretary getting \$90K special adviser position to Gov. Braun

By KARA KENNEY
WISH-TV | wistv.com

Indiana's Secretary of Commerce David Adams is leaving his post on June 30 to become a senior adviser to the governor on the life sciences initiative.

Indiana's I-Team has learned Adams' current salary is \$275,000.

As a special adviser to the governor, Adams will receive a \$90,000 salary, Indiana's I-Team has learned.

Indiana's I-Team asked the Governor's Office for a job description for "Senior Advisor to the Governor on the Life Sciences Initiative," and we are still waiting to hear back.

Indiana's I-Team is working to reach David Adams for comment.

He was appointed as Indiana secretary of commerce, a member of the Republican governor's cabinet, in January 2025.

His special adviser role is through December 2026, according to the governor's office.

"When I asked David Adams to become Indiana's Secretary of Commerce, I charged him with building

a more aligned, more accountable approach to economic growth," Braun said in a statement.

"Over the last 18 months, he has not only delivered on that mission, but he established the foundation for Indiana's next generation of economic opportunity."

This is Braun's second pick for a special adviser position.

As Indiana's I-Team has reported, Braun also appointed former Department of Child Service (DCS) director Adam Krupp to a special adviser position on child welfare at a salary of \$210,000.

Lawmakers and taxpayers have blasted the newly created special adviser position for ex-DCS director Krupp, which pays \$210,000.

It's not clear if Krupp's adviser position has an end date.

Indiana's I-Team caught up with Braun after a news conference.

Kara Kenney: "Governor, you just talked about efficiency and account-



Adams

ability. Why give Adam Krupp a position, and how do you hold him accountable if there's no job description?"

Braun: "It's easy to hold you accountable. He left because he had a personal issue."

Since becoming Indiana's secretary of commerce, the Governor's Office says Adams has led the state's efforts to align and reorganize economic development, workforce development, entrepreneurship, innovation, tourism, and regional growth strategies under a unified vision.

"The opportunity to serve Indiana across three administrations has been one of the greatest honors of my career," Adams said in a statement. "I am proud of what we accomplished together and am grateful to Governor Braun for the opportunity to help complete the next phase of the \$1 billion Life Sciences Initiative. My focus over the coming months will be helping to ensure the initiative is positioned for long-term success."

Indiana's I-Team reported in 2023 that Adams stepped down from his role as Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Commissioner under Gov. Eric Holcomb after only eight months on the job.

At the time, Adams explained he was brought in as DWD commissioner to help with the legislative session.

"We needed to help the Governor get through his legislative agenda which we successfully did," said Adams. "I was brought in Sept of 2022 to really focus on the legislative process. Because of my experience having managed the Public Employees Retirement Fund, having us go through the legislative process was an important aspect to this."

A big part of DWD is unemployment insurance, but Adams said his skills are more geared toward improving Indiana's workforce and helping businesses find skilled workers.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wistv.com/news/i-team/commerce-secretary-to-take-90k-special-adviser-position-to-gov-braun.

Speaker Todd Huston calls Goodrich an "exceptional choice"

Submitted by Office of Speaker Todd Huston

Indiana House Speaker Todd Huston (R-Fishers) issued the following statement today following the appointment of former State Rep. Chuck Goodrich as Indiana Secretary of Commerce.

"Chuck is an exceptional choice to lead Indiana's economic development efforts," Huston said. "Chuck is a successful and visionary business leader who knows what it takes to start and grow a company. He's also a passionate public ser-

vant who comes to the table with innovative ideas and the energy and determination to act on them.

"When he served in the House, Chuck was instrumental in the effort to make high school more relevant to today's jobs and inject career experiences into the classroom.

"I am excited to work with Chuck in this new capacity to build on Indiana's strong economic progress, attract new investment and expand opportunity for Hoosiers across our state."



Huston

OneZone congratulates Goodrich on appointment as Secretary of Commerce

Submitted

OneZone Chamber congratulates Chuck Goodrich on his appointment as Indiana's next Secretary of Commerce by Governor Mike Braun.

Goodrich will lead the state's economic development efforts, bringing decades of business leadership and a strong commitment to growing Indiana's economy.

As the longtime CEO of Gaylor Electric and a former state representative, Goodrich has demonstrated a passion for workforce development, innovation, and creating opportunities for Hoosier businesses and communities. His experience in both the private and public sectors positions him well to advance Indiana's economic competitiveness.

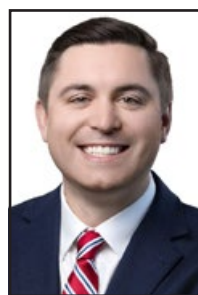
"Chuck has always been a champion for Indiana businesses and economic growth," OneZone Chamber President & CEO Jack Russell said. "His leader-

ship, vision, and collaborative approach make him an outstanding choice to serve as Indiana's next Secretary

of Commerce. We look forward to working alongside him to strengthen our state's economy and create new opportunities for businesses across Hamilton County and all of Indiana."

OneZone Chamber leadership and staff say they have enjoyed working with Goodrich throughout his career, and they appreciate his commitment to fostering a pro-business environment. The Chamber looks forward to partnering with the Secretary of Commerce's Office to support entrepreneurship, workforce development, business attraction, and continued investment in communities throughout the state.

OneZone Chamber wishes Goodrich well on continued success in serving the people and businesses of Indiana.



Russell

GOODRICH

Hamilton County Republican Party Chairman Mario Massillamany says the appointment is great news for Indiana's job market.

"I think this is not only a great position for him,"

Massillamany said, "but also for the state in bringing jobs and job creation. It's also a great platform for him to get a higher profile so he can run for governor."

Goodrich currently

serves as the CEO of Gaylor Electric, one of the largest merit-shop electrical firms in the country. Since becoming president of Gaylor Electric in 2014, the company has developed more than 4,000 jobs.

from Page 1

FARMERS

most important moments. The institution has also invested millions of dollars and countless volunteer hours into supporting local organizations, schools, nonprofits, and community initiatives throughout central

Indiana.

"One hundred fifty years is an extraordinary achievement, but this milestone is not about the bank itself. It is about the people who have made it possible," The Farmers Bank President and

CEO Chris Cook said. "Every customer who entrusted us with their financial future, every employee who chose to serve others, every director who provided leadership, and every community that welcomed us has played a role in this story. While much has changed since 1876, our purpose remains the same: to care, ed-

ucate, serve, and inspire. We are deeply grateful for the trust placed in us over the past 150 years and honored to celebrate this historic day alongside the communities we proudly serve."

For more information about The Farmers Bank and its continued commitment to the community, visit thefarmersbank.com.

from Page 1

Thanks for reading!

AMERICA 250 IN WESTFIELD

RED, WHITE, & BLOOM FARMERS MARKET
 JULY 2 | 5-8 P.M.
 GRAND JUNCTION PLAZA
 225 S. UNION ST.

PRESENTED BY
 COMMUNITY HEALTH NETWORK

westfieldin.gov/farmersmarket

FREEDOM PARADE & KICKOFF CONCERT
 JULY 3 | 6-9 P.M.
 N. UNION STREET &
 GRAND JUNCTION PLAZA

PRESENTED BY
 MEIJER

westfieldin.gov/america250

WESTFIELD ROCKS THE 4TH

PRESENTED BY
 Community Health Network

SATURDAY, JULY 4 | 4-10:30 P.M.
 FIREWORKS BEGIN AT 10 P.M.

DROPLIGHT GRAND PARK SPORTS CAMPUS
 1900 GRAND PARK BLVD.

westfieldin.gov/rocksthe4th

HUSKY 4-H'ERS

from Page 1

Demos were next, and they were a couple of good ones. Colton Hoane and Leah Happel did a demonstration on getting your animal ready for the fair. They provided helpful tips such as what criteria to use when selecting animals, along with some of the things you should use when showing/raising animals for show.

After them, Teagan Stroh finished the demonstrations for the night by teaching us about dog obedience and Australian Shepherds. She showed us some of the training leads she uses and told us some facts about Australian Shepherds. Did you know that Australia Shepherds are not from Australia, but North America?

Then we heard from our guest speakers, Battalion Chief Darren Collar and his firefighting crew from the Cicero Fire Department, who came to talk to us about the parts of a fire truck. We learned about RIT packs, which are used to rescue firefighters when they're in trouble, and how they use extraction tools to

move metal so they can get to people.

But for some of us, we didn't just get to see the equipment: we got to feel it.

I got to put on a jacket that firefighters wear (it's heavy!), and Lauren Happel got to go up in the fire truck's extendable ladder. When asked how she felt about this, here is what she said: "Great, Cash, So Great!" Once she came down, we ended the meeting with snacks and drinks.

And with that, I give you the final edition of "The Dirt" for the year. This month, we asked 4-Her's what their favorite part of the year was, and here's what they said:

- "Being able to see all of the different people, and what they do, and why they do it." – Colton Hoane

- "My favorite part of the year was going up in the fire truck 100 feet in the air." – Lauren Happel

- "My favorite part of the year was getting to tell all the kids about Camp Shakamak with Lisa Hanni and encourage kids to branch out!" – Addison



Photos provided by Husky 4-H'ers Club

(ABOVE LEFT) Cash Camperelli tries on a fireman's jacket, which, according to him is quite heavy. (TOP CENTER) Seniors Abby Martin, Addison Mann, and Lauren Happel each received a scholarship. (TOP RIGHT) Colton Hoane and Leah Happel explain how to get your animal ready for the 4-H Fair. (ABOVE CENTER) Lauren Happel with Sophia Camperelli, who won the Trivia Contest. (ABOVE RIGHT) Teagan Stroh, her mom, and her dog, Cody.

Mann closes for our club with our new chapter is opening for the opportunity for new And so, while one door seniors leaving, a whole them, and for our club with leadership to rise.

SMILE

from Page 1

Surprisingly, that simple craft became one of the most meaningful parts of the night.

As people sat nearby creating their own bookmarks, conversations naturally unfolded. I met so many incredible individuals sharing different phases of life they were navigating. What fascinated me most was watching people pause and carefully choose a single phrase that resonated deeply with them – words they felt described exactly what they needed in that season of life.

It reminded me how powerful small moments can be.

Sometimes, acknowledging someone doesn't require solving their problems or offering perfect advice. Sometimes, it simply means giving someone a

quiet moment where they feel seen, heard, and understood.

I may not know what someone is carrying. I may not be able to change what they are going through. But for that brief moment, while sharing something as simple as a bookmark, I could acknowledge them, cheer for them, and appreciate them for simply showing up.

Those bookmarks became more than paper and stickers.

They became quiet reminders that no matter what season of life we are in ... we keep going anyway.

Another unforgettable part of the evening was visiting the caricature artist. As he sketched my portrait, I asked him how amazing it was that such a simple form of art creates opportunities

for people to connect – and all he really asks from them is a smile.

His response stopped me. "It sounds easy," he said, "but smiling is not easy for so many people. People carry a lot, and sometimes a smile is the hardest thing they can offer."

It was such an eye-opening reminder that not every day feels the same for everyone. What we often see as simple can sometimes require tremendous effort from someone going through difficult times.

Nearby, I met Kristen, the owner of Orangily, who was serving creative non-alcoholic beverages. She shared how her goal is helping people become great hosts – creating memorable experiences where family and friends gather, connect, and enjoy some-

thing everyone can share together.

I also discovered family board games like "Taco Cat Goat Cheese Pizza," which had me laughing and stumbling over the words more times than I'd like to admit.

Maybe that was the beauty of the entire evening.

Couples holding hands. Friends laughing out loud. Community members recognizing one another. People simply allowing themselves permission to have fun.

The feeling felt incredibly familiar.

It reminded me of growing up in India, where community was never something we scheduled on a calendar. Neighbors gathered without invitations, families lingered over conversations, children played



Photo provided

while adults shared stories, and laughter often became the background music of everyday life. We didn't always need a reason to come together – sometimes being present with one another was reason enough.

That evening reminded me that whether across miles or across cultures, the

heart of every community remains the same.

Sometimes, all people are truly looking for is a place to belong ... and perhaps, a reason to smile.

Pooja Thakkar is working to build cultural connections. You can read her column each week in the pages of The Reporter.

SIGNATURES

from Page 1

Additionally, Massillamany encourages election officials in all Indiana counties to review all signatures submitted by the Ballard campaign, and he says the Indiana Election Division should flag and audit petition pages submitted by the

same volunteer across multiple counties.

"The irony cannot be overstated," Massillamany said in a statement. "Greg Ballard is running for the very office charged with protecting Indiana's elections, and a volunteer on his

campaign has been caught committing election fraud. If you cannot run an honest petition drive, you have no business running the office that safeguards our elections ... I am urging every county election officer in Indiana to put the Ballard

campaign's petition pages under a microscope. Where there is one forged page, there may be many more."

Massillamany warns Hoosiers to exercise caution if approached to sign any ballot access petition. Voters should verify who is

asking them to sign, ensure their information is recorded accurately, and never sign a partially completed form. Blank fields give a dishonest collector the opportunity to fabricate information after the fact.

"If someone approach-

es you with a petition, ask who they are and who they represent," Massillamany said. "Make sure every line is filled in before you sign. Hoosiers deserve to know their name and signature are being used honestly – not to commit fraud."

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SCAN our QR code here



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HOPE, HEALING, & EMPOWERMENT

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Prevail's 40th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, August 1, 2026

5:30 PM - 10:30 PM

The Ritz Charles | Carmel, IN

Presented by:



Honoring four decades of hope, healing,
and empowerment

Join us for a special evening celebrating our legacy of transformation. This milestone event will recognize the unwavering supporters who have stood with Prevail since the beginning and the lives changed through their dedication.

Enjoy dinner, survivor-led stories, dueling pianos, a diamond drop, and an exciting auction—all while making a lasting impact.

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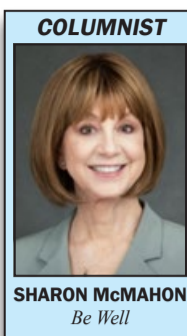
Let's celebrate fathers & father figures this Sunday

Father's Day: two words that can evoke feelings across the emotional spectrum.

For some it is a time of celebration and gathering; for others possibly a feeling of recent loss or estrangement.

For most of us who have lost our fathers it is a time of reflection and, hopefully, of mostly good memories. Some of those fathers were/are biological, some perhaps a "second" dad, or perhaps a grandfather, uncle, or other father figure.

If you are a "stepdad" – or I prefer "second dad" as my husband Bruce was for years until he adopted my sons as adults – you have a very important job to do to find the place in the lives of your children where you can share your wisdom, lend an ear when needed, and love them even when they misbehave or try your nerves! And regardless of how you find



SHARON McMAHON
Be Well

yourself placed in the family unit, your leadership skills will make all the difference for your family in the years ahead.

There will be celebrations, cookouts, dinners out, and enjoyable gatherings

for many this Father's Day. For those who have lost their father or father-figure since last June, it is a more subdued day with reflection and, hopefully, celebration of a meaningful life. Personally, I was very gifted to have a wonderful Dad who taught me the importance of reading, treating others with humanity and respect, and having fun and who was a person of great integrity. His legacy lives on in my memory and the way I endeavor to live my life.

Braiding my long hair, trips to the Blue Ribbon Dairy for ice cream, teaching me to swim and ride a bike without training



Photo provided by Sharon McMahon

wheels, endless trips taking me to friends' houses for parties, helping me with homework (especially math) cutting my steak hoping that would entice me to actually eat it (he could not process that I was a closet vegetarian!) and waiting up for me to be returned home safely from a date – just a few of those precious Dad memories which make me smile.

Knowing that I will once again see my dad in the future realm is an uplifting and happy thought so this Sunday, June 21, I will lift my

glass to say "Happy Father's Day, Daddy."

Dads, you have an important job to do so be patient with yourselves, reach out for help or counseling if needed, and let your family know that you are committed and motivated to lead a strong family unit through this sometimes-uncertain world. Let your legacy be celebrated and treasured. And warm wishes to all you fathers, father-figures and fathers-to-be this Sunday!

Sharon McMahon
– still Daddy's girl!

Bell tapped to fill vacant Cicero Town Council seat



Photo provided by Emily Pearson

Three of the four Cicero precinct committeeman gathered on Wednesday, June 17 to fill a ballot vacancy for an At-Large spot on the Cicero Town Council. Clayton Bell was elected to fill the position. Hamilton County GOP Secretary Beth Sheller (left) is shown here with Bell following his selection.

Veterans' stories will take you beyond the headlines on June 26

Submitted by Tina Mangos

Local veteran organizations will hold an old-fashioned storytelling event to celebrate America's birthday and learn about our military history from 2 to 4 p.m. Friday, June 26 at the Carmel American Legion Post 155, 852 W. Main St.

Hear personal stories (with PowerPoints and visuals) from five veterans who will share their experiences or those of family members, some going back to the Revolutionary War.

To name a few, stories include: women in the military since the '70s, changes in technology and commu-

nication, rescuing prisoners of war, various assignments in worldwide locations, using military training in civilian endeavors, and more.

Enjoy home-baked birthday cake, social engagement, and displays.

Westfield Mayor Scott Willis, who is a retired Marine Colonel, will share his illustrious U.S. Marine experience that spanned the globe. Carmel City Councilman Tony Green served over a decade as an active-duty pilot for the U.S. Air Force.

Some of the families' stories include: World War II cartography, prisoner of war in Korea, Vietnam, fighting with George Wash-

ington and Daniel Boone, being awarded "Kentucky Colonel" during the Civil War, and more ... stories you don't get in school.

Display tables will offer more visuals, such as letters written to a POW in Korea by then-Senator John F. Kennedy, Western Union telegrams a wife received as MIA notifications, a guitar that survived WW2 and was a connection to home, with which a meaningful song will be played by the storyteller.

The moderator, Kathryn Lerch, directs the Legacy Initiative Project at Park Tudor, is on the board of the WW2 Roundtable, has many publications on mil-

itary history, and has received numerous awards for her historiography.

Collaborating on this event are:

- Carmel Mayor's Commission on Veteran Affairs
- Carmel VFW Post 10003
- Carmel American Legion Post 155
- Clay Township Military Museum and Library

It's a free event, but registration is required at tinamangosarts.com.

We have many heroes and sources of inspiration in our community, but one will never know unless you take the time and interest to hear their story.

Advancing Westfield Foundation opens nonprofit grant applications

Submitted by City of Westfield

The Advancing Westfield Foundation has announced that applications for grant funding are now open through July 31.

The Advancing Westfield Foundation serves as a conduit for Mayor Scott Willis's initiatives, including the funds raised from the net proceeds of the Mayor's Grand Gala to nonprofit organizations within the Westfield community.

The mission of the Advancing Westfield Foundation is to support the efforts of nonprofit partnerships, ensuring sustainable support for a wide range of vital services for youth, adults, seniors, veterans, and dis-

abled community members.

The foundation board includes community members representing various corporate, nonprofit, and community partners. Board members are Eric Douthit, Kristy Murphy, Allison Van Natta, Danyelee Easterhaus, Pete Emigh, Mike Rudolph, and Mitch Frazier.

Applications for grant funding will be available through July 31. Grant applications may only be submitted by 501(c)(3) accredited organizations that operate in and/or serve the Westfield community. Grant requests may be made for up to \$50,000.

Applications and additional information can be found at AdvancingWestfieldFoundation.org.

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CSI: Hamilton County

From crime scene to courtroom



Photo provided by Emily Pearson

The Northern Hamilton County GOP's June 15 dinner was slightly different than normal meeting fare. Dubbed "CSI: Hamilton County" the event focused on what happens and who is involved from the time a crime is committed through the courtroom process. Speakers from the Sheriff's Office, Coroner's Office, Prosecutor's Office, as well as Superior Court candidates all took part in educating attendees. (FROM LEFT) Chris Evans, Dustin Dixon, Jeff Jellison, Danica Eyley, Brandi Pass, and Mark Hall.

Noblesville's own Steve Wariner embraces his 'Flip Side' as visual artist

The REPORTER

GRAMMY Award-winning artist and Noblesville native Steve Wariner is showcasing his "flip side" as a visual artist.

What few know is that he has been drawing and painting for as long as he's been making music, and he's pursued these parallel passions for the majority of his life. Painting is his sanctuary and his escape, and now, at 71, he will stage a stunning 60-piece solo art exhibit that spans more than 30 years of his artistic work.

The country music star has performed professionally since his teens and is widely admired for his emotional vocals, songwriting, and virtuoso guitar playing, landing him membership in the Musicians Hall of Fame, Nashville Songwriter's Hall of Fame, and Kentucky Music Hall of Fame.

Simultaneous to his music career, Wariner has devoted his time and talents as a gifted visual artist whose

prolific output includes paintings in acrylic, oil, watercolor, and encaustic.

Monthaven Arts and Cultural Center in Hendersonville, Tenn., will shine a spotlight on Wariner's visual art in *The Flip Side: Paintings by Steve Wariner*. The solo exhibit, on view June 21 through July 26, is his largest to date and will feature 60 of his works.

Wariner's willingness to take risks in the pursuit of art and music has become something of a guiding principle. For him, perfectionism is the enemy of creativity.

"I learned a long time ago that you have to write 50 songs to get 10 good ones, and the same is true of painting," he said.

Wariner makes a point of painting every day, taking time off only when he has to prepare for a concert. He will typically spend a couple of days working on a watercolor. Other media require more time.

Wariner's watercolor



Photo provided

style is loose and spontaneous, resulting in images he refers to as "washy." His preferred subjects often reflect the people and places he has seen during his many travels as a musician. Rural landscapes, seascapes, portraits, and guitars often figure prominently in his paintings. Another focus are his paintings of family and musicians, like the watercolor "Happy New Year, Dad" depicting his father's band onstage at

the Noblesville American Legion, ringing in 1963.

The Flip Side: Paintings by Steve Wariner is an expansive and eclectic mix of visual art works, spanning decades and subjects connecting viewers to Wariner and his stories beyond his impactful music, filling them with curiosity and a sense of peace.

"I don't want to be limited to just one thing," he said. "Versatility is my style."

Letter to the Editor

Carmel reader disappointed with his state legislators

Dear Editor:

I'm writing to express my disappointment with our Republican state legislators who represent Carmel (Danny Lopez, Hunter Smith, and Scott Baldwin) for their refusal to condemn Lt. Gov. Beckwith's hateful rhetoric towards my neighbors in the Islamic community and Gov. Braun's declaration of Nuclear Family Month.

Carmel is a diverse community, which is part of what makes it an attractive place to live. As such, we have many members of the Muslim and LGBTQ+ communities who call Carmel home. With our legislators' silence on these attacks against our neighbors, they have failed their most important duty as elected officials: standing up for their constituents. This behavior is dangerous.

Beckwith's comments encourage Hoosiers to hate and dehumanize members of our community, only adding to anti-Muslim sentiment across the country.

Gov. Braun's proclamation of June as Nuclear Family Month encourages unnecessary division while arguing that LGBTQ+ families and single-parent households, like the one I grew up in, are somehow unworthy of recognition or respect.

Indiana is not a hateful state. Our elected leaders should explicitly reject their peers' inflammatory language, stand up for their constituents, and choose courage over capitulation. Our local Republican legislators, by remaining quiet, empower their party to further divide and marginalize instead of addressing the real issues facing Hoosiers.

We deserve better.

William Clontz
Marine Corps Veteran
Carmel

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.



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Fishers' own Reagan Kurcinka awarded \$5,000 Indiana Donor Network Foundation scholarship

The REPORTER

Four Indiana high school and college students have been awarded a combined \$25,000 in educational scholarships for their 2026-27 academic years from Indiana Donor Network Foundation.

Among those students is Reagan Kurcinka of Fishers, who was awarded a \$5,000 scholarship.

When she was 10, Reagan Kurcinka's father died from cancer. She describes herself as a miniature version of her dad.

"We'd go to the library on the weekends. We'd watch football games together. He watched *Scooby Doo* with me every night," she recalled. "Even when he was in the hospital undergoing treatment, I'd visit him all the time. The nurses

knew me by name."

As a young girl, Kurcinka's dad instilled in her a strong sense of helping others. He taught her how to save money to buy food to donate at the family's church every week. He taught her that blood donation saves lives. Through his death, she learned how powerful helping someone with gifts of life can be.

Kurcinka's father was a cornea donor to restored sight to two people.

"There's something poetic about knowing part of my dad exists in the world. His eyes are still out there, getting to see even more special moments than he did before he died," she said. "Knowing this pushes me to leave the most positive impact everywhere I can. My dad is still a part of my life,

living through me in the lessons and impact he left on me and those around him."

About the Scholarship Fund

Indiana Donor Network Foundation established its scholarship fund in 2005 to provide educational scholarships for family members of Indiana residents who are organ and tissue donors, living donors, transplant recipients or people waiting for lifesaving transplants.

These scholarships were made possible due to the generosity of financial contributions made by Indiana Donor Network employees and supporters of Indiana Donor Network Foundation.

Each recipient has a personal connection to donation, either to someone whose life was saved when

they received a transplant or to a loved one who became an organ and tissue donor. Scholarship winners often become advocates for donation by helping raise awareness and support in their communities.

Despite age or medical history, anyone can sign up to be a donor at [Donate LifeIndiana.org](https://www.donatelifeindiana.org). Learn more about Indiana Donor Network at [this link](https://www.donatelifeindiana.org).

Indiana Donor Network's mission is to save and enhance the quality of life through organ and tissue donation and transplantation. Its vision is to be a leader in organ and tissue recovery. Founded in 1987, the organization coordinates donation in 85 of the state's 92 counties and serves transplant hospitals throughout the U.S.



Photo provided
Reagan Kurcinka of Fishers was awarded a \$5,000 Indiana Donor Network Foundation scholarship.

State regulators approve \$70M increase for AES, less than utility originally sought

By NIKI KELLY & LESLIE BONILLA MUÑOZ
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Editor's note: While AES primary serves Indianapolis, the utility does provide services to some areas of Hamilton County.

The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission voted 3-1 Wednesday to approve a \$71 million electricity rate increase for AES Indiana customers.

That is about 37 percent of what the utility initially requested and lower than a [settlement agreement proposed](#) in October.

Neither Gov. Mike Braun nor consumer advocates are happy with the outcome.

"My top priority is affordability, which is why I am deeply disappointed by the IURC's approval of another AES rate increase," he said. "Hoosiers have spent years tightening their belts and making tough financial decisions. It's time for utility companies to do the same."

Members of the commission didn't explain their votes Wednesday. IURC Chair Andy Zay focused his remarks on the process.

"There's a lot of eyes on this order and what we're doing today," he said. "What is before you on the floor is a nearly a year's worth of work, evidence, deliberations, and considerations that bring us to this moment in this decision. None of this was taken lightly. I want to thank my colleagues for the patience and working through this amongst the auspice of affordability, which is certainly a hot topic now, as well as the resiliency, reliability that we see in this increased demand in electricity."

The Office of Utility Consumer Counselor last year recommended that state regulators [deny AES Indiana's request](#) for a \$193 million base rate increase – instead proposing a \$21 million reduction in current rates.

"The AES rate order issued today is an outrage and Hoosiers deserve better!" Counselor Abby Gray said in a statement Wednesday. "Governor Braun has made

it clear that ratepayer affordability is a priority, far more than just a 'hot topic' as described by the chairman of the IURC today. This order fails the governor's call to overhaul how utilities are regulated in order to lower bills for ratepayers."

Gray's office represents Hoosier ratepayers in regulatory cases.

"The order approves a substantial profit margin for shareholders in addition to a rate increase for customers," she continued. "It even requires ratepayers to pay approximately \$3 million to AES lawyers and experts."

AES Indiana provides electricity service to about 490,000 homes and businesses in Indianapolis and some nearby areas.

The utility originally sought \$193 million in rate increases. The previously proposed settlement agreement dropped that to \$91 million, while the final, approved settlement agreement lands at \$71 million.

Three IURC members supported the increase: Zay, David Veleta, and David Ziegner.

Commissioner Bob Deig voted no. A fifth member, Anthony Swinger, recused himself because he worked on the case previously when he was on the consumer counselor's office staff.

Ben Inskeep, program director for ratepayer advocacy group Citizens Action Coalition, said utilities across the country often ask for a larger increase than they need, knowing that regulators will disallow "roughly half" of it.

"The latest AES Indiana fuel adjustment clause proceeding shows AES Indiana is actually not only earning all of their allowed profit but over-earning by \$19 million their return amount," he said. "They're already extremely financially successful at this moment in time, so it's rather bizarre to even get an extra \$71 million dollars approved here."

Inskeep also noted that the increases will fall disproportionately on residential customers over commercial and industrial users.

Brandi Davis-Handy, president of AES Indiana,

said the company has maintained some of the lowest rates in the state for more than a decade "through disciplined planning and a focus on efficiency. We applied the same approach here by working closely with stakeholders to make balanced decisions that keep the system reliable, limit customer impact, and align with the state's energy pillars."

AES said for a typical residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours per month, the increase will be less than \$5 per month per phase. Phase one rates will be implemented in July 2026 and phase two rates will be implemented in January 2027.

The final order says the utility "will not seek to implement a change in basic rates and charges as a result of its next base rate case before January 1, 2030."

A new law, however, requires all utilities to file a multi-year rate case in 2029, though implementation wouldn't happen until 2030.

This story was published on Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at [indianacapitalchronicle.com](https://www.indianacapitalchronicle.com).

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Duke Energy presents HATCH Fest

Don't miss St. Michael's Strawberry Festival on the Square

Submitted

What does the future look like when it honors the past?

On Saturday, June 20, Noblesville Creates invites the community to discover the answer at HATCH Fest, presented by Duke Energy. Taking over the historic Noblesville Courthouse Square from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., this free community festival celebrates the people, ideas, and traditions that continue to shape Hamilton County.

HATCH stands for Hamilton County Arts, Technology, Craft, and Heritage, and the festival brings those four pillars to life through interactive experiences, live entertainment, artisan vendors, demonstrations, and cultural programming throughout downtown Noblesville.

This year's event places a special emphasis on the intersection of innovation and history. Visitors can explore robotics demonstrations and technology-focused activities, discover handcrafted works from local makers and entrepreneurs, and engage with heritage-centered experiences that celebrate the stories and cultures that have helped build the community.

As part of the day's programming, HATCH

Fest will commemorate Juneteenth through live performances, community engagement, and readings of the Emancipation Proclamation on the courthouse steps, creating opportunities for reflection, education, and celebration.

Featured experiences throughout the festival include:

- More than 100 local artisans, makers, and creative entrepreneurs
- Interactive technology and robotics demonstrations
- Heritage-focused exhibits and cultural programming
- Juneteenth commemorative performances and readings
- Youth entrepreneurs showcasing their businesses and creations
- The beloved St. Michael's Strawberry Festival running alongside the event

Live music and entertainment throughout the day

"HATCH Fest celebrates the idea that communities thrive when creativity, innovation, and heritage work together," said Victor Dandridge of Noblesville Creates. "Whether you're inspired by emerging technology, local history, entrepreneurship, or the arts, HATCH Fest is an opportunity to experience how those



Photo provided

threads come together to strengthen our community."

Presented by Duke Energy, HATCH Fest reflects a shared commitment to innovation, education, and community engagement while highlighting the creative energy that makes Hamilton County a vibrant place to live, work, and create.

Admission is free and open to all ages.

For additional information, visit noblesvillecreates.org/hatchfest.

HATCH Fest Schedule of Events

Opening/Welcome – 11 to 11:15 a.m.

Ivan the Gem – 11:15 a.m. to Noon

Midday Check-In – Noon to 12:15 p.m.

Ivan the Gem – 12:15 to 1 p.m.

Tina Rose & The Locals – 1 to 1:45 p.m.

Emancipation Proclamation Reading (by Edan de Rosier) – 1:45 to 2 p.m.

Tina Rose & The Locals – 2 to 2:45 p.m.

Emancipation Proclamation Reading (by Edan de Rosier) – 2:45 to 3 p.m.

A Girl and A Guy – 3 to 4 p.m.



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The Weller Rainbow

It's Wednesday afternoon. Usually I would have this column written by now, and be proofreading and editing it. Yes, I do actually do that.

However, I just returned from a long vacation late last night and am behind this week. I thought about skipping another week, but I know that the three to seven of you out there who like these columns are missing me, so I'm plodding ahead.

My vacation was to beautiful Colorado. This is important because Colorado is a Weller state. The stuff is everywhere. It was on the shelves of every bar and liquor store we visited (we visited quite a few). In other states, like Indiana (of course), it is very difficult to obtain and can be quite expensive. This is pertinent because the abundance of Weller there allowed me to purchase the two remaining bottles that were needed to complete my collection – a collection that I've been working on for years.

For those who may not be aware, Weller bourbon is considered to be the "original wheated bourbon." The makers replace the usual rye in bourbons with wheat. Wheated bourbons have become the backbone of the Buffalo Trace empire* with the flagship being Pappy Van Winkle. Many bourbon enthusiasts refer to the Weller line of whiskeys as "the poor man's Pappy." In reality, all of Buffalo Trace's bourbons come from the same mash-bill. This is an oversimplification, but I like to think of it like Duff Beer from *The Simpsons*. That's not really a fair statement, but I'm going to go with it.

Weller comes in six different iterations, each with a different color label. They are: Special Reserve (green label, 90 proof), Antique 107 (red label, 107 proof), Full Proof (blue label, 114 proof), Single Barrel (orange label, 97 proof), 12 Year (black label, 90 proof) and C.Y.P.B ("Create Your perfect Bourbon. White label, 95 proof). Hence, "The Weller Rainbow."

I'm going to say something now that might be controversial. I also know that at the very beginning of these columns I stated that I would not be negative. However, I have to be honest. None of these Wellers are worth the hype or the price.



JON SMYRNIS
Bourbon Psychosis

There. I said it. Again, as always, taste is subjective. They are good, solid, bourbons, but \$300 to \$1,000 a bottle? No. Luckily, I was able to procure most of my collection at MSRP.

Beyond a shadow of a doubt, the best is Weller Antique 107 – deep, rich, and sweet with notes of vanilla, butterscotch, and caramel, and with a long, cinnamon-y, 107-proof finish. A great sipper, it makes a wonderful cocktail as well. The green label Special Reserve? Absolutely horrible! I'd rather drink Old Crow. It has a very bitter taste and finish to me. I even tried it as a mixer ... nope. What one has to remember is that Weller used to be a bottom-shelf bourbon before craziness took over the bourbon world – craziness that seems to be here to stay.

I've tried all of the others, except for the Single Barrel, and as stated above, good, but not extraordinary. So, why did I jump on the bandwagon and strive for the "Rainbow" collection? Easy: I'm part of the craziness. In the bourbon world, it seems to be the thing to do. Once one gets a couple of these "rare" bottles it just gets into your blood to finish the search. It's the same reason people climb mountains: because they are there.

Now that I've achieved The Rainbow, what do I do with it? Well, drink them, of course. I can see a Weller tasting party sometime in the future. Or, for now, save them and see what life brings. Dunno. We'll have to see.

If you've caught "rainbow fever," more power to you. It's addictive trying to achieve a full collection of anything. Bourbon is no different. I hope my honest review doesn't dissuade you. Despite the mixed review, it is rewarding looking at "my precious" bottles of Weller. Until next time – cheers!

*The topic of Buffalo Trace is huge. It seems to be the Mecca of Bourbon. I'm going to cover it in depth, eventually. Today, just sticking with Weller.

Jon Smyrnis is a lifelong Indianapolis area resident. He enjoys traveling, hiking, biking, kayaking, dining out, and, of course, fine cocktails and great bourbons.

Celebrate America's 250th birthday with White River Wind Symphony's 'Sounds of America' concert

The REPORTER

The White River Wind Symphony will present its 10th annual Sounds of America concert at 4 p.m. Sunday, June 28 at Legacy Bible Church, 13490 Howe Road, Fishers.

This year's special theme, in celebration of the 250th birthday of the United States of America, will be a musical history of our nation through song and narration. This is a quality performance for only \$20

for adults, and children under 18 are free. Group discounts are also available for purchase [online](#).

Featured soloist will be Julie Lyn Barber performing the "Sandy Patti" version of "The Star-Spangled Banner" and a trumpet trio – Keith Whitford, Rich Jeffries, and Darlies Jones – performing the premiere of a new arrangement of "God of Our Fathers" by conductor Dr. Keith Kunda, written specifically for

this concert. Also included in the concert will be the White River Symphony Chorale performing a 12-minute mini-musical titled What Price Freedom? accompanied by the wind symphony, which is the professional concert band in Fishers.

This special event will also include two narrators, plus Dr. Mike Linville reading important documents from our nation's history.

Dr. Kunda, conductor, said, "This concert will be the culmination of three years of planning of content and personnel. Everyone will leave with a new appreciation for the gift we have been given to live in the United States of America."

Tickets are available at [FishersMusicWorks.org](#) or at the office of Legacy Bible Church, 13490 Howe Road, Fishers, on weekdays.

Festival world premiere of Jimmy to open 35th Heartland Film Festival on Oct. 8

Submitted

Heartland Film is honored to announce that the Opening Night film for the 35th Heartland Film Festival will be the Festival World Premiere of *Jimmy*, the untold true story of Jimmy Stewart starring KJ Apa.

The Heartland Film Festival, presented by Alamo Drafthouse Cinema at The Square, is scheduled to run from Oct. 8 to 18, with screenings at venues around Indianapolis. The Festival World Premiere of *Jimmy* will take place on Thursday, Oct. 8, at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, 650 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Many of the *Jimmy* film team are scheduled to attend the Festival World Premiere screening, including:

- Director/Producer Aaron Burns
- Actors KJ Apa (Jimmy Stewart), Max Casella (Frank Capra), Kara Killmer (Lady Julia), Marc Malkin (Glenn Miller), Karolyn Grimes (Actress)
- Producer and Casting Director Angela Sullivan
- Producers Jack McClintock & David Cook
- Executive Producer Kelly Stewart Harcourt
- Screenwriter Justin Strawhand

The festival will also partner with the Jimmy Stewart Museum to display original pieces from their collection.

The Heartland Film Festival

has a long-standing relationship with The Stewart Family Foundation. Every year, the festival presents the Jimmy Stewart Legacy Award along with a \$5,000 cash prize to one film in the lineup that best embodies the on- and off-screen legacy of Stewart; a film that demonstrates the triumph of the human spirit through determination and the defiance of odds, humble vulnerability and courage in the face of adversity.

"No performance has moved me more than Jimmy Stewart's portrayal of George Bailey in *It's a Wonderful Life*," Heartland Film's Artistic Director Greg Sorvig said. "Stewart remains an enduring American icon, hero and screen legend. We're honored to open the Heartland Film Festival with *Jimmy*, the story behind the role that defined his legacy."

The film is the untold true story of America's most beloved actor and the iconic role that saved him, focusing on the most transformative season in Jimmy Stewart's life – from winning the Academy Award® for Best Actor in *The Philadelphia Story* to enlisting and becoming a combat pilot in the U.S. Army Air Corps at the beginning of World War II. He flew 20 missions over Europe, rising to the rank of colonel by the end of the war, only to return home broken and disheartened. Then George

Bailey and *It's a Wonderful Life* came calling. Burns & Co. Entertainment, in partnership with Fathom Entertainment, will release *Jimmy* nationwide on Nov. 6 with a traditional theatrical release.

"We're thrilled to have the Festival World Premiere of *Jimmy* at the Heartland Film Festival ahead of its nationwide release," Producer Angela Galgani Sulivan said. "Jimmy Stewart's spirit has long been celebrated at Heartland, and

for good reason. He was a Hollywood legend, but at his core, he remained a small-town Pennsylvania kid shaped by service, humility, faith, and community. There's no more fitting place to introduce his story to the world."

Tickets for the Opening Night of the Heartland Film Festival will be available starting Thursday, Aug. 27, at [HeartlandFilm.org](#). The full festival schedule and tickets will be available on Thursday, Sept. 17.

— TIPTON —

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TIPTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS CO-V-12-26 DeWitt

Notice is hereby given that the Tipton County Board of Zoning Appeals, on the 1st day of July 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the 1st Floor meeting room of the Tipton County Courthouse, 101 East Jefferson Street, Tipton, Indiana, will hold a public hearing to consider the following:

CO-V-12-26: Adam DeWitt, owner and petitioner, requests two (2) development standard variances to reduce the rear yard setback requirement from 50 feet to 44 feet and to increase the maximum lot coverage from 10% to 17%, for a room addition in the AG-Agricultural zoning district

The property is more fully described as:
Part of the South Half of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 33, Township 23 North, Range 4 East, more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Northwest corner of the South Half of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 33, Township 23 North, Range 4 East of the Second Principal Meridian, thence running South 304 feet to the place of beginning, thence running North 89°56'00" East a distance of 150 feet, thence running South a distance of 80 feet, thence running South 89°56' West a distance of 80 feet to the place of beginning, containing 0.275 acre, more or less, in Tipton County, Indiana.

ALSO:
Part of the South Half of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 33, Township 23 North, Range 4 East, Tipton County, Indiana, described as follows: Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Half; thence South 304.00 feet along the West line of said Half; thence North 89°56'00" East 150 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 89°56'00" East 50.00 feet; thence South 80 feet; thence South 89°56'00" West 50.00 feet; thence North 80 feet to the point of beginning, containing 0.09 acre more or less
Commonly known as: 6561 N 400 W, Sharpville, IN 46068
Parcel No.: 80-03-33-200-004.010-005

Interested persons desiring to present their views upon this case will be given an opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned time and place or comments or objections shall be submitted in writing to the Planning Office at 101 East Jefferson Street, Tipton, Indiana 46072 prior to 12:00 p.m. on the day of the hearing.

The proposal may be viewed in the Planning Office prior to the hearing. The hearing may be continued from time to time.
Tipton County Board of Zoning Appeals
R8109 6/19/26, 6/22/26

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TIPTON COUNTY PLAN COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that the Tipton County Plan Commission will hold a public hearing on July 2, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., in the 1st floor meeting room of the Tipton County Courthouse, 101 Jefferson Street, Tipton, Indiana, to consider the following proposed amendment to the Tipton County Ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR DATA CENTERS
1. "Data Centers" are defined as: A facility or facilities used predominantly for the storage, management, processing, and transmission of data, including server farms, cloud computing facilities, artificial intelligence processing facilities, and related digital infrastructure. Data centers include buildings and related mechanical and electrical equipment designed to support these activities.

This ordinance will apply to the entire jurisdiction of the Tipton County Plan Commission.
The proposals may be viewed in the Plan Commission Office at 101 East Jefferson Street, Tipton, Indiana prior to the hearing. Please call 765-675-6063 should you have any questions.

Interested persons desiring to present their views regarding the proposed amendment, either verbally or in writing, will be given an opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned time and place; or comments or objections shall be submitted in writing to the Plan Commission Office prior to 12:00 p.m. on the day of the hearing.

The hearing may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary.
After the hearing, the Plan Commission may act on the proposed ordinance. The hearing identified above is the opportunity to express concerns and ask questions on the proposed ordinance.
Tipton County Plan Commission
R8110 6/19/26, 6/22/26

Meeting Notices

The Carmel Clay Schools Board of Trustees will meet at 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 24, 2026, at the Carmel Clay Schools Educational Services Center, 5201 E. Main St.

Each year, the Hamilton County Reporter requests government entities to notify us of public meetings as their Open Door Law notification under I.C. 5-14-1.5-5. The Reporter publishes these notices as a public service in our Tuesday through Friday digital editions. Meeting notices for Open Door Law compliance can be sent to PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com.

Say hello to summer with a free milkshake at Wayback Burgers

The REPORTER

Summer officially kicks off this weekend, and Wayback Burgers is giving guests a sweet way to celebrate.

On Saturday, June 20, the burger brand is bringing back its popular Free Shake Day, offering guests a free 12-ounce vanilla milkshake at participating locations nationwide – no purchase necessary.

The celebration doesn't

stop there. Beginning Friday, June 26, Wayback Rewards members can enjoy Half Off Shake Fridays every week through July 31, making it even easier to cool off with one of Wayback Burgers' signature hand-dipped shakes all summer long. Join at [waybackburgers.com/rewards](#).

Locally, Wayback Burgers is located at 13588 Bent Grass Lane, Suite 101, Fishers.

Don't just ride the rails ... Bike them!

Forest Park Rail Adventure
An 8-mile round trip rail bike ride starting at Hobbs Station in Forest Park.

White River Family Cruise
Enjoy this short, scenic rail bike ride from Hobbs Station in Forest Park.

NickelPlateExpress.com/railbike-rides

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

VENGEANCE ON THE MIDIANITES

The Lord said to Moses, "Take vengeance on the Midianites for the Israelites. After that, you will be gathered to your people."

So Moses said to the people, "Arm some of your men to go to war against the Midianites so that they may carry out the Lord's vengeance on them. Send into battle a thousand men from each of the tribes of Israel." So twelve thousand men armed for battle, a thousand from each tribe, were supplied from the clans of Israel. Moses sent them into battle, a thousand from each tribe, along with Phinehas son of Eleazar, the priest, who took with him articles from the sanctuary and the trumpets for signaling.

They fought against Midian, as the Lord commanded Moses, and killed every man. Among their victims were Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur and Reba—the five kings of Midian. They also killed Balaam son of Beor with the sword. The Israelites captured the Midianite women and children and took all the Midianite herds, flocks and goods as plunder. They burned all the towns where the Midianites had settled, as well as all their camps. They took all the plunder and spoils, including the people and animals, and brought the captives, spoils and plunder to Moses and Eleazar the priest and the Israelite assembly at their camp on the plains of Moab, by the Jordan across from Jericho.

Moses, Eleazar the priest and all the leaders of the community went to meet them outside the camp. Moses was angry with the officers of the army—the commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds—who returned from the battle.

Numbers 31:1-14 (NIV)

'Under attack': FBI report shows concerning impact of AI-generated scams

By **KARA KENNEY**
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

A new FBI report shows Artificial Intelligence (AI) is making it easier for criminals to steal your money and your identity.

In 2025, the FBI received more than 22,000 complaints tied to AI-related scams in 2025, with reported losses totaling about \$893 million.

AI-linked investment scams alone accounted for more than \$632 million in losses, according to the report.

Thomas Hutchings of Fort Wayne has experienced these AI scams first-hand. He runs businesses with his wife.

"We have rentals for the Fort Wayne Housing Authority, and we had enough savings that we decided to build a home, a containerized home," said Hutchings.

Hutchings received an email about his container home from the Fort Wayne Board of Zoning Appeals including an attached \$4,900 invoice for his application review, fees and assessment.

"I read the whole thing, the email, and thought it was really suspect," said

Hutchings. "We had already paid our \$500 fee to the county. I went ahead and went back in and examine the email addresses that it was sent from, and it wasn't from.gov or.in.gov or anything."

In fact, the email was actually from a "USA.com" email address.

"I called the county immediately, and they said, 'Oh no, this is a scam,'" said Hutchings.

Hutchings did not fall for it, but many people do.

The FBI's 2025 Internet Crime Report shows the FBI received 32,000 complaints about government impersonation scams totaling \$798 million in losses.

Kara Kenney with Indiana's I-Team sat down with Timothy O'Malley, FBI's Special Agent in Charge of the Indianapolis office.

Kenney: *It's like we are under attack.*

FBI: *You are, bottom line. You're under attack every day.*

The bad guys are using AI to make their attacks personal, like the scammers knowing Thomas Hutchings had a container home.

They're also using AI to compose realistic texts, emails, calls, and voice-

mails as well as using it to clone your voice.

"They can pull voices off of social media, they can pull voices from phone calls," said O'Malley. "They can generate a whole conversation just with a very short sample of someone's voice. They can generate through AI a very legitimate sounding duplicate or clone of that person's voice to say, hey, this could be a call to a grandparent."

For example, a grandparent receives a call from a person that sounds like their grandchild in trouble – but it's actually an AI-cloned voice.

The FBI report ranks Indiana 12th in the country in complaints filed per citizen.

"I think we're a target-rich environment," said O'Malley. "We have a population of people that are generally trusting. Very happy to see that our reporting is up. That's not a negative thing, that's a very good thing. Our folks know what to do."

AI-related scams are getting cheaper, better and more widespread.

"It's a volume game," said O'Malley. "If you get one out of 100 out of 1000—they're successful."

Kenney: *What is the FBI doing about this problem?*

FBI: *Number one, we're doing things like this, we're talking to you, we're talking to the public, we're trying to get the word out. We investigate this stuff, and we try to pull people accountable. When we identify folks who are scamming others, we pursue this very heavily.*

Thomas Hutchings says AI is eroding our trust, so you can no longer trust what you see and hear.

"Don't click on anything if it's you've heard if it's too good to be true," said Hutchings.

Tips to protect yourself

- **Verify Directly:** If you get a suspicious email, text, or phone call (even if it appears legitimate), hang up or ignore it. Go directly to the source by calling a known, trusted number, or check the agency's website independently.

- **Establish a Secret Safe Word:** Scammers can clone a loved one's voice using just a short audio clip from social media. Create a unique code word or phrase with your family to verify any emergency distress calls.

- **Never Pay via Untrusted Methods:** Avoid wiring money, buying cryptocurrency, or purchasing gift cards to pay off sudden demands or "emergencies."

- **Use Defensive Tools:** Consider using protective software or mobile applications like **Truecaller** to block and filter scam calls and texts.

- **Limit Social Media Details:** Scammers use AI to mine public posts for hyper-personalized information to make their scams believable. Tighten your social privacy settings and limit what you share.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/under-attack-fbi-report-shows-concerning-impact-of-ai-generated-scams.

The Reporter's policy on obituaries

The Hamilton County Reporter does not charge families for publishing obituary notices in our pages. Every obituary appearing in online editions Wednesday through Saturday also appears in our Monday print editions. In order to continue to offer this as a community service, we ask that obituaries not exceed 500 words. The limitations of space may not allow for longer ones to appear in print.

Submit obituaries under 500 words online at ReadTheReporter.com/obitform.

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REPORTER SPORTS FRIDAY

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CARMEL, FISHERS, GUERIN CATHOLIC, HAMILTON HEIGHTS, HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN, NOBLESVILLE, SHERIDAN, UNIVERSITY, WESTFIELD

‘Enjoy the experience:’ Golden Eagles baseball plays in state finals today

By **RICHIE HALL**
sports@readthereporter.com

It’s not every day that a high school team gets to make history, even at a relatively young school.

Guerin Catholic’s baseball team is in the midst of making history, as the Golden Eagles have been preparing this week to play in the IHSAA state championship game for the first time ever. Guerin Catholic will play Andean in the Class 3A state finals at 4:30 p.m. this afternoon at Victory Field.

Dave Schrage, who spent 38 years coaching college baseball before coming to the Golden Eagles program in 2025, said he wanted his players to enjoy the experience.

“They’re creating so many great memories,” said Schrage. “When they come back for their high school reunions, and 20 years from now when they’re talking to their kids, they’ll be like, ‘I was in the state championship game. I got that opportunity to play in Victory Field.’”

“In fact, I got a few of



Guerin Catholic sophomore pitcher Jayce Cunningham talks with coach Dave Schrage during Tuesday's Golden Eagles' practice. Guerin Catholic plays in the Class 3A state championship game today, taking on Andean.

my players that I coached in college that had played in Victory Field that texted me today and said, ‘Coach, I got some advice for you,’ so they even remember. That was 10, 12 years ago.

It’s just a great year to create memories for them.”

Guerin Catholic was founded in 2004 and became IHSAA tournament eligible in the 2006-07 school year. The baseball

team finally broke through with its first sectional and regional championships in 2025, then repeated at both levels this season.

See Finals . . . Page 12



Richie Hall / File photo
Guerin Catholic senior Ian Taylor leads the Golden Eagles in runs scored with 44 and in home runs with nine.

GC seniors reflect on their journey

By **RICHIE HALL**
sports@readthereporter.com

When the Guerin Catholic senior baseball players run on to Victory Field this afternoon to play in the Class 3A state championship game, it will be the culmination of a four-year wait.

Tate Troxell, the University of Alabama-bound Golden Eagles pitcher, is one of those seniors that played varsity for Guerin Catholic as a freshman. While speaking with The Reporter on Tuesday, Troxell listed several more seniors that also played all four years.

“Ian [Taylor] and Karson Smith were varsity full-time starters,” said Troxell. “And Nolan Ratcliff and Grant Bears got some at-bats during the year.”

In other words, the GC baseball seniors have played with each other for a while. And not just in high school. Troxell said he and his teammates have been playing together in travel ball leagues “in our youth days, so we’ve known each

other for a long time,” giving them a bond and chemistry that’s lasted.

“We’re all really close teammates and brothers,” said Troxell. “We have good bonds and we trust each other. Whether I’m on the mound or Karson Smith is at bat, each of us trust each other to do our jobs in our situations.”

Taylor is one of the team’s leading hitters, batting at a .420 clip. He has scored the most runs (44) for the Golden Eagles, along with 35 RBIs and 34 hits, including a team-leading nine home runs. Smith is on top of the RBI list with 41.

Guerin Catholic’s top hitter is junior Carson Kail, with a .432 average. Junior Ben Canada has the most base hits with 37, 17 of them doubles.

“All of our guys are super motivated,” said Taylor. “Everybody here, for the most part, is going to play college baseball, and if they’re not already, they

See Reflect . . . Page 12



Troxell

Ace in the hole – twice!

Father & son make holes-in-one on same day

The REPORTER

The family that plays golf together, stays together.

And every once in a while, makes holes-in-one together.

That’s what Joel Kirsh and his son and Trevor Kirsh did on a recent outing to the Bridgewater Club. Joel and Trevor were playing a family round with Joel’s other son Harrison Kirsh, and both Joel and Trevor made a hole in one during their round.

Trevor made his ace first, on the second hole.

He said he will “always remember how pure the shot felt, and how I looked at my dad after it rolled for a few feet and disappeared out of my sight.”

“With No. 2 being up on a hill, and the pin tucked back right, I knew I had hit

a good shot but I wasn’t sure how good,” said Trevor. “I shot a look to my dad who said it was a good shot but he did not think it was in the hole.

“When we pulled up to the green, we didn’t see a ball and I wasn’t sure if I’d rolled off but I did ask my brother to check the hole. When he confirmed my Callaway ball with blue markings was in there, I was honestly shocked and didn’t know how to react.”

Not too much later, the group came to the 11th hole.

“On Hole 11, as soon as I hit my shot, I felt like it was a great swing, and both of the boys said, ‘I think that could be in the hole,’” said Joel. “Trevor immediately began recording on his phone our reactions, as well as recording Harrison



Photo provided

A family golf outing at the Bridgewater Club turned memorable for Joel Kirsh and his sons. Joel and Trevor Kirsh both made holes-in-one on the same round, with Trevor acing No. 2 and Joel making it on No. 11. Pictured: Trevor Kirsh, Harrison Kirsh, Joel Kirsh.

sprinting up the fairway to the green. We were all in shock and, of course, had an amazing celebration on

the green on 11. It was truly a miracle.”

See Ace . . . Page 12

HOLE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
BLACK	348	182	390	553	557	374	405	175	447	343	431	208	589	437	362	183	533	443	481
GOLD	336	175	367	530	545	366	395	166	419	329	423	170	561	412	329	159	496	415	448
MEMBER	322	155	351	519	515	345	367	153	408	313	382	156	521	375	308	150	479	395	403
WHITE	314	146	335	503	498	328	352	134	396	300	373	131	494	342	289	132	463	363	374
SILVER	276	130	310	423	419	306	332	102	338	263	324	107	436	281	252	110	424	322	303
GREEN	276	130	310	388	419	233	286	102	288	243	294	107	362	281	252	104	392	322	303
YELLOW	17	3	7	15	11	9	5	13	1	2	16	10	8	14	18	12	6	4	
MEN'S HANDBOOK	4	3	6	5	4	5	3	5	5	4	7	5	4	4	5	5			
HARRISON	4	3	6	5	4	5	3	5	5	4	7	5	4	4	5	5			
JOEL	4	3	6	6	5	3	5	5	5	5	5	4	7	6	5				
TREVOR	6	0	6	6	6	5	3	3	6	3	7	5	6	4	6	5			
PAR	4	3	4	5	5	4	4	3	4	3	6	4	3	5	4	4	3	5	4
WOMEN'S HANDBOOK	15	7	3	13	11	9	1	17	5	4	18	6	12	10	16	2	8	14	

Photo provided

The Kirsh family scorecard after their big day.

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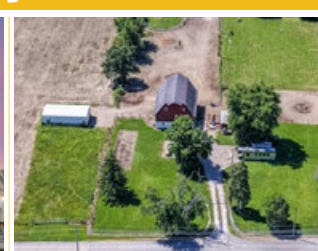
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SPORTS SCHEDULE

Friday, June 19

BASEBALL

Class 3A state championship
Guerin Catholic vs. Andean, 4:30 p.m.

Please email schedule changes or corrections to sports@readthereporter.com.

Crockett signs with Basket Costa



Photo provided

Westfield basketball star and recent University of Michigan graduate Alyssa Crockett will continue her career on the professional level. Crockett signed with Basket Costa, an Italian league. Crockett had played for the Wolverines for the past four years, appearing in 107 career games. She is one of six Michigan women's players to make four NCAA tournaments.

Track & Field

HSE mixed 4x400 team takes second at Nike Nationals

The REPORTER

Four Hamilton Southeastern track & field stars made an impact in the Mixed 4x400 relay during the first day of the Nike

Nationals on Thursday at Eugene, Ore.

The Southeastern Track Club relay team of Kallen Hoeft, Anissa Lammie, Jaxson Wanza

and Chloe Senefeld finished second in the race with a time of 3 minutes, 30.01 seconds. Coastal Georgia Track Club won the race in 3:28.14.

The Nike Nationals continue through Monday, with several more county athletes competing. Read The Reporter for updates.

Girls Basketball

IBCA/IHSAA Girls Teams Showcase starts today

The REPORTER

Many of the top high school girls basketball teams in Indiana will be in Fishers this weekend for the 2026 IBCA/IHSAA Girls Team Showcase, which takes place today and Saturday.

A total of 117 varsity teams are scheduled to compete in the showcase, a full list of teams is available at this link. Games will take place at Fishers High School and Hamilton Southeastern High School.

Seven Hamilton County teams will play in the event. A list of teams and their schedules now follows.

Carmel

Friday, 10:10 a.m. vs. Charlestown, FHS Auxiliary 1
Friday, 12:30 p.m. vs. Silver Creek, FHS Auxiliary 2
Saturday, 10:10 a.m. vs. Greensburg, FHS Auxiliary 2
Saturday, 1:40 p.m. vs. Norwell, FHS Main Gym

Fishers

(all games at FHS Main Gym)
Friday, 11:20 a.m. vs. Castle
Friday, 1:40 p.m. vs. Jennings County
Saturday, 10:10 a.m. vs. Norwell
Saturday, 12:30 p.m. vs. Greensburg

Guerin Catholic

Friday, 11:20 a.m. vs. Sullivan, HSE Auxiliary 5
Friday, 1:40 p.m. vs. Connersville, HSE Auxiliary 3

Saturday, 12:30 p.m. vs. Seeger, FHS Auxiliary 6
Saturday, 2:50 p.m. vs. Parke Heritage, FHS Auxiliary 4

Hamilton Heights

Friday, 9 a.m. vs. New Palestine, HSE Auxiliary 1
Friday, 11:20 a.m. vs. Jasper, HSE Auxiliary 3

Hamilton Southeastern

(all games at HSE Main Gym)

Friday, 12:30 p.m. vs. Fort Wayne Snider
Friday, 4 p.m. vs. Whitko
Saturday, 11:20 a.m. vs. Roncalli
Saturday, 2:50 p.m. vs. East Central

Noblesville

Friday, 10:10 a.m. vs. South Knox, HSE Auxiliary 1
Friday, 12:30 p.m. vs. Purdue Poly Englewood, HSE Auxiliary 5

Saturday, 1:40 p.m. vs. Heritage Christian, HSE Auxiliary 6
Saturday, 4 p.m. vs. Lafayette Jefferson, HSE Auxiliary 1

Westfield

Friday, 1:40 p.m. vs. Center Grove, FHS Auxiliary 2
Friday, 4 p.m. vs. Belmont, FHS Auxiliary 4
Saturday, 11:20 a.m. vs. Northridge, FHS Main Gym
Saturday, 2:50 p.m. vs. Franklin Community, FHS Auxiliary 2

REFLECT

from Page 11

really want to. It's big in practice. We take it very seriously, the hitting and the buying in to what the coaches are telling us situ-

ationally."

Troxell leads a very successful pitching roster. He is 8-0 with a 1.23 earned-run average and a team-leading 88 strikeouts.

Senior Luke Gremel-spacher holds a 1.13 ERA and 41 strikeouts, while senior Harrison Haq is 4-0 with 50 strikeouts. In fact, none of the GC pitchers has a loss on their record.

Troxell said that during the season, "me or Luke Gremel-spacher will throw a game a week, and it's really all hands on deck from there, whoever's been throwing it good recently. Collyn Price, he's been throwing really good out of the bullpen. You could look to see him to get some innings if needed."

The senior class played at Victory Field when they were freshman for a regular-season game with Heritage Christian, giving them a taste of what it's like to compete on the big stage. As for the players who didn't have that experience, Troxell is confident they'll be able to handle things.

"I don't think the lights will be too bright on that stage," said Troxell. "We just played at Jasper with a huge crowd this year against Gibson Southern. Last year, we played at Jasper against Jasper and they brought 4,000 people to the game, so we've played in these environments and shown that we can step up in [these] situations. It really doesn't have me nervous at all."

ACE

from Page 11

"My dad's hole-in-one will always stand out to me more than mine, probably because I was 50 times more excited for him," said Trevor. "We also saw his roll in the hole, after knowing I had one earlier."

"Needless to say, our fa-

vorite memory – and one that will likely be impossible to top – was having both Trevor and me achieve our first holes-in-one during the same round on the same day," said Joel. "Having Harrison there to join in the experience made it even more special."

FINALS

from Page 11

The Golden Eagles' season ended last year at the Jasper semi-state, but GC returned to Ruxer Field this spring and took care of business, beating Providence 3-0 in the semifinals and Gibson Southern 4-2 in the championship.

Guerin Catholic entered the postseason ranked No. 2 in the Indiana Baseball Coaches Association's Class 3A poll. The only team ahead of the Golden Eagles is Andean, making this afternoon's game a 1 vs. 2 matchup.

Despite his long college coaching career, Schrage at age 65 will be the young coach in this game. The 59ers are coached by Dave Pishkur, who at 73 will be finishing his 45th year as Andean's mentor.

The 59ers have won nine state championships, which ties them with Lafayette Central Catholic for the most in IHSAA history. Andean has also won 12 semi-state titles, 18 regionals and 33 sectionals.

Schrage said Pishkur is a "legend – I mean, he's won a million games." Pishkur's win-loss record is 1182-310.

"They have a great tradition," said Schrage. "They've won it so many times and we're the new kid on the block."

Schrage said that "the first three innings of this game are going to be really important." He noted that Andean tries to get out to an early lead to send the message, "Hey, you got to catch us. We're the team, we're the champions."

"We're going to try to get out in front of them," said Schrage. "We're visitors, we get to hit first, so hopefully we can jump out in front."

The 59ers have two players batting over .400. Senior outfielder Luke Gobben holds a .418 average and leads in runs scored with 35. Junior Aiden Gnat, a first baseman/outfielder, bats .404 and leads in RBIs with 37 and base hits with 40, including 14 doubles.

Senior pitcher Kaden Maxwell is unbeaten at 6-0 with a 2.00 earned-run average. Andean has another undefeated pitcher, sophomore Ian Funk, who is 7-0 with a 1.52 ERA. He leads in strikeouts with 52, followed by Maxwell with 47.



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