

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2026

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Sunny, hot and humid.
 EXTREME HEAT WARNING
 THROUGH FRIDAY.
 Tonight: Mostly clear.



HIGH: 95 LOW: 74



Main Street Productions presents *Voices of America*

250 years of the country's story to be told during July 4th weekend

The REPORTER

Main Street Productions (MSP) will present *Voices of America: An Oral Interpretation Performance*, a special America 250 presentation on Friday, July 3 as part of the City of Westfield's Independence Day celebration at Grand Junction Plaza.

Beginning at approximately 8:10 p.m., the free performance traces 250 years of the American story through the voices of three pivotal historical figures: John Adams, Harriet Tubman, and John F. Kennedy.

Directed by Jen Otterman, the performance features oral interpretations adapted from the historical speeches and writings of each featured figure. The evening will open with an introduction by MSP President Teresa Skelton, setting the stage for a journey through America's founding, the enduring pursuit of freedom, and the continuing call for progress. Historical costumes are designed by Linda

Findley Grow.

Rather than simply historical reenactments, the performances explore the ideas, hopes and challenges that continue to define the American experience. Though spoken in different centuries, the words of Adams, Tubman, and Kennedy remain connected by a shared pursuit of liberty, opportunity, and progress.

"One of the things I love about this performance is that it invites audiences to experience these voices as real people, not just historical figures in a textbook," said Ka'Lena Cuevas, MSP Vice President of Arts, and producer of the performance. "We hope audiences hear the humanity behind these voices and are reminded that the American story has always been one of courage, perseverance, and possibility."

The cast features Thom Johnson as John Adams, Jada Moon as Harriet Tubman, and Matt



Photo by Rob Slaven / IndyGhostLight.com

(From left) Thom Johnson as John Adams, Jada Moon as Harriet Tubman, and Matt McKee as John F. Kennedy will tell America's 250-year-old story during a special performance on Friday, July 3 at Westfield's Grand Junction Plaza.

McKee as John F. Kennedy.

The performance is free and open to the public. It is present-

ed by Main Street Productions in partnership with Westfield Parks & Recreation.

Getting to know you

I'm blessed with an incredible church family. I look forward to seeing them every week. One wonderful man, whom I'll call "Alan," makes me smile whenever I see him. But not for any reasons you may think.



COLUMNIST

AMY SHANKLAND
Perfectly Imperfect

Alan and I are lecturers – or readers – in the Catholic church. This means we read the first or second readings during the service along with something called the Universal Prayers and the general announcements. Two of us normally volunteer each time, although if a reader can't make it, one of us can cover everything. Our training told us to always be ready for both readings.

When I first met Alan a few years ago, he kind of scared me. Whenever we would both go to sign in to show we were there to volunteer, he would scowl and we'd have the same brief conversation.

"I don't really think you're the second reader," Alan would say.

"Oh ... but that's what I'm listed as right here and on the schedule that's sent out every quarter," I would reply.

"Yes, I know ... but according to the app, I'm the second reader."

"Oh ... I don't have that yet ... I just prepare both readings and figure I'll do whatever they need," I would say sheepishly. "But if you want me to be the first reader, I'll be happy to do it."

Alan would then begrudgingly say he'd do the first reading (in his British accent that always intimidated me.) I would later come home and see my husband John and say, "Alan hates me." I was determined to change the situation.

See *Know You . . .* Page 2

Lantern glorifying America's 250th anniversary stops in Hamilton County

The REPORTER

Hamilton County residents had the opportunity to experience a unique piece of American history this past weekend as Indiana's Revolutionary Lantern made stops across the county as part of the America 250 celebration.

The lantern, which represents the signal displayed in Boston's Old North Church on April 18, 1775, traveled throughout Hamilton County June 26 to 28, appearing at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, the Time Traveler's Ball at Coxhall Gardens, the Arcadia Train Depot, the Spark!Fishers Parade, and the Westfield Washington Public Library.

Throughout the weekend, the Hamilton County Historical Society encouraged residents to preserve family memories and personal experiences by sharing them with local historical organizations.

"History isn't just found



(ABOVE LEFT) Josh Tousey as Paul Revere at the Time Traveler's Ball in Carmel. (ABOVE RIGHT) Anne Coffey, Interpretation Coordinator at Conner Prairie, escorts the lantern (an Honorary Grand Marshal) during the Spark!Fishers Parade.



Photos provided

in books and archives," Hamilton County Historian Jessica Layman said. "It lives in the memories of the people who experienced it. By recording and preserving family stories today, we ensure that future generations understand not

only what happened in Hamilton County, but how it felt to live, work, celebrate, and build a community here."

The Hamilton County stop was part of a statewide initiative led by the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution and the

Indiana America 250 Commission. Ten symbolic lanterns are traveling to all 92 Indiana counties before being permanently displayed at the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis as part of the state's commemoration of America's 250th anniversary.

We're partying all weekend long!

The REPORTER

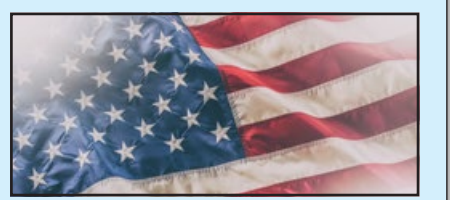
Here at Hamilton County's Hometown Newspaper, we're getting the party started a bit early – and by that, we mean there will not be a Friday, July 3 edition.

This will ensure our people have the chance to enjoy as much of America's 250th birthday as possible, and we know our readers will, too.

No fear: The Reporter will publish the Week in Review on Monday, July 6.

As always, thank you for reading. Your support makes this newspaper the success that it is, Hamilton County.

Happy Independence Day!



Rick & Lori Owen celebrate their semicentennial of love

Submitted by
Corey Burkhardt

As America celebrates its 250th birthday, our family is celebrating another extraordinary milestone. Please join us in honoring the marriage of Rick and Lori (Edwards) Owen for their Golden Anniversary.

Married on July 3, 1976, in Carmel, they began a life together of many memories, ups and downs, and incredible blessings. They were gifted with three beautiful daughters, Corey (Brian) Burkhardt, Cassie Owen Mata, Christie Ixba, and eight wonderful grandchildren. This goes to show how love, dedication, and endurance can solidify even two of the most strong-willed and stubborn individuals God created. Loving each other then, today and for a lifetime.

Here's to our deeply cherished and dearly loved



Photo provided

parents, Rick and Lori proving that true love (and – 50 years golden, still a little holy stubbornness) shining bright, and still can last a lifetime!

Life-long memories fostered at ALA Hoosier Girls State

By AIDA KARIM
news@readthereporter.com

Tomorrow's leaders are shaped through formative high school experiences.

Each year the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) hosts a week-long summer camp for girls entering their senior year of high school. ALA Hoosier Girls State (ALAHGS) centers around instilling leadership and patriotism through a mock election process on the city, county, and state level, with subsequent party divisions and other nuances of the real political process.

The program isn't exclusive to just girls, with an ALA Hoosier Boys State hosted yearly, following the same structure and basic organization.

The Reporter spoke with Kayla Aba, Alisha Kundi, and Madeline Wiemeyer, all girls who attended the 2026 ALAHGS season.

School student and the 2026 ALAHGS governor, said she chose to run on the state level, vying for governor and successfully securing the position.

"I tried and pushed myself to do what I wanted to do. I didn't wanna have any regrets," Aba said.

Aba said another central reason why she chose to run was because she wanted to show people leadership comes in many different forms.

She said, "You don't have to fit a certain box, anybody can be a leader, and everybody is a leader in their own way."

According to Kundi, delegate and Carmel High School student, she chose to run for a state-level position as well.

"Even though I lost, I feel like I didn't truly lose anything because I came back home with a lot more friends and connections all over the state," Kundi said.



"It gave me a new perspective and I think I can apply it to future endeavors."

Wiemeyer, a delegate and Fishers High School student, said she ran for County Circuit Court Judge and County Federalist Party Chairman.

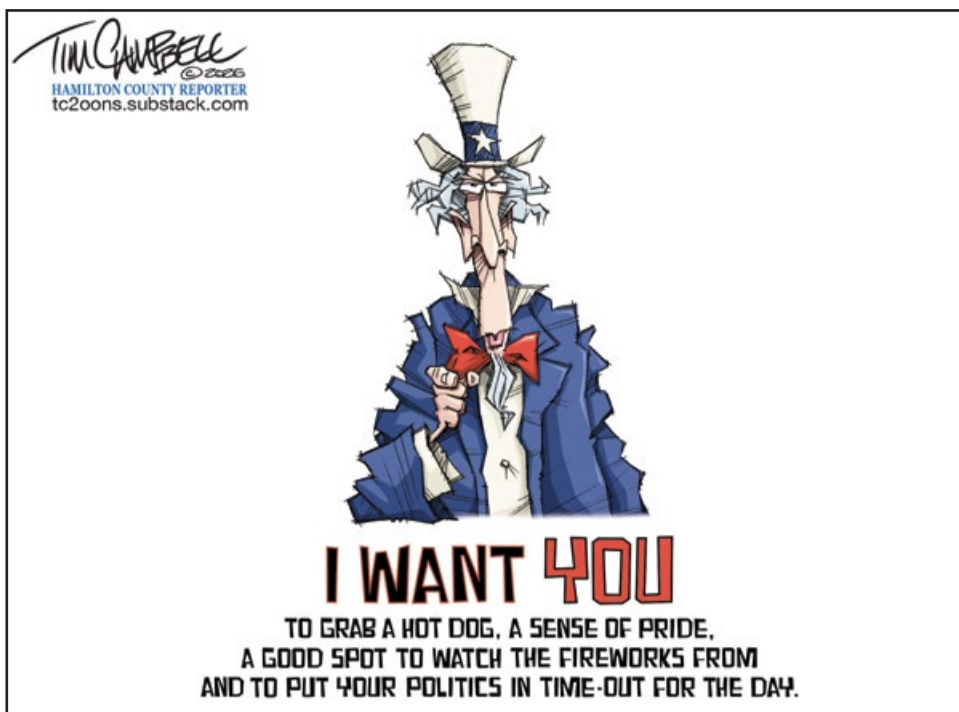
Wiemeyer said with her role as party chairman, "In different state meetings, I would be one of the voting delegates, which was a fun experience."

Friendship

Aba, Kundi, and Wiemeyer all attested to the significance of building new friendships at ALAHGS with girls from incredibly different communities.

According to Aba, she learned how to be a better

See *State . . .* Page 2



KNOW YOU

I first downloaded the app and figured I'd follow what it said over anything else. When I saw I was volunteering with Alan a few weeks later, I vowed I'd get things right. So, when I saw Alan that Saturday evening, I cheerfully announced, "Okay, I'm the second reader, and you're the first - right?" He smiled and nodded.

What happened next surprised me. We stood and talked for a while. I learned he was a solo churchgoer like me. Alan has also been

taking care of his wife, who is mostly homebound due to health issues, for a few years. Due to her situation, she is no longer able to attend church.

The more we both volunteered together, the more I got to know Alan. I discovered he has a great sense of humor. He surprised his wife by converting to Catholicism decades ago before their wedding. Alan also agreed to be interviewed for my new book, *Happy and Solo at Church - Light Your Fire and Wor-*

ship with Joy.

This got me thinking. I approached Alan after church one evening with a question.

"Would you and your wife like a homemade lasagna delivered to your house some evening?" His eyebrows lifted in surprise, and he slowly smiled.

"Why, yes," he responded, in the accent I have now grown to love, "That would be delightful."

I was honored to deliver a lasagna to Alan's house a few weeks later and get to know his beautiful wife. I wished I could have stayed longer, as she's one of the best listeners I've ever met.

Now, I look forward to seeing Alan each week. He's a terrific reader, and a snappy dresser - he often wears a pink sport coat and tie and looks like something from a *GQ* magazine cover. Alan even joked with me about arm wrestling to take back the book of gospels after mass last Saturday.

As I left that evening, I laughed to myself. What a dramatic difference in our interactions. First impressions are so often wrong. I'm thrilled I got to know Alan.

If there's someone in your life you don't know well whom you feel isn't a fan of yours, try getting to know them a bit better. Show 'em a little love and care. You may surprise yourself and make a new friend.

Amy Shankland is an empty-nester, writer, and fundraising professional living in Noblesville with her husband John and two dogs. You can reach her via email at amys@greenavenue.info.

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ICPYAS celebrates 25 years of protecting Indiana's children

Community invited to celebrate at 'Treasure Our Kids Trivia' on Sept. 17

The REPORTER

For 25 years, the Indiana Center for Prevention of Youth Abuse and Suicide (ICPYAS), formerly known as Chaucie's Place, has worked to protect children, strengthen families, and build safer communities across Indiana through prevention education.

Since its founding in 2001, ICPYAS has reached hundreds of thousands of children, parents, educators, youth-serving professionals, and community members with evidence-based programs designed to prevent child abuse and neglect, promote healthy relationships, and reduce youth suicide. What began as a local organization has grown into a statewide leader in prevention education, equipping communities with the knowledge and skills to recognize warning signs, respond appropriately, and create environments where children can thrive.

"As we celebrate 25 years, we're reflecting on how much has been accomplished while recognizing

how much work still lies ahead," ICPYAS Executive Director Melissa Peregrin said. "Prevention changes lives. Every child who learns about personal safety, every adult who knows how to recognize and respond to abuse, and every young person who feels seen and supported brings us one step closer to a safer Indiana."

To commemorate this milestone, ICPYAS is inviting the community to join the celebration at Treasure Our Kids Trivia, a college football-themed trivia night on from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17 at BASH in Carmel.

Guests are encouraged to wear their favorite college team apparel, gather friends or coworkers, and enjoy an evening of food, drinks, raffles, and spirited competition - all while supporting ICPYAS's mission.

Proceeds from the event will support ICPYAS's prevention education programs, helping the organization continue its work with schools, youth-serving organizations, parents, and professionals

throughout Indiana.

"Treasure Our Kids Trivia is more than a fundraiser," Peregrin said. "It's an opportunity to celebrate the incredible community that has supported this mission for the past 25 years and to invest in the next 25 years of protecting Indiana's children."

Tickets are \$75 per person, and sponsorship opportunities are still available.

For tickets, sponsorship information, or to learn more about ICPYAS, visit IndianaPrevention.org.

About ICPYAS

The Indiana Center for Prevention of Youth Abuse and Suicide (ICPYAS), formerly Chaucie's Place, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing child abuse, neglect, and youth suicide through education, training, and advocacy. Serving communities across Indiana, ICPYAS equips children, families, educators, and professionals with the knowledge and tools needed to build safer, healthier environments where every child can thrive.

STATE

from Page 1

team player and supporter to her friends through activities like making posters and campaigning alongside other girls.

"Girls State made me connect with so many different people, people that I have nothing in common with," Aba said. "The things I would talk their ears off about if they lived in Carmel, I literally didn't speak of because I didn't need to. We connected on literally so many other things."

According to Kundi, she thinks the program shows that you don't truly need to know someone for years to have a significant connection. "Just having one thing in common or just knowing a little bit about someone else is enough to create lasting friendships," Kundi said.

Improvements
Although Kundi and Wiemeyer said they enjoyed their experience overall, there are areas where structural improvements could be made.

According to Kundi, much of the program focuses on election success. That idea inherently encourages many girls to be disappointed with themselves even

though the process is incredibly subjective.

Kundi said she would hate it if other girls took away significant discouragement from the experience, particularly if it were one of their first times putting themselves out there, speaking to a crowd of hundreds of people, only to be met with failure.

According to Wiemeyer, the first couple days at the camp were very confusing for her and many other girls.

"It's a lot of information. They're condensing six years of politics and elections in just a couple of days," Wiemeyer said. "Making those explanations more clear or providing definite rules and their descriptions would help."

Advice
Aba said she strongly encourages any girl who's on the fence to sign up for ALAHGS. She said she didn't know if any of her current friends would attend, but she still signed up and made some of the most important connections of her life.

Kundi said she encourages girls not to treat it like a competition, with you

against someone else, but just treat it as a whole group experience where all of you guys are doing this together.

Wiemeyer said she believes girls need to push themselves, both socially and within elections, to make the most out of ALAHGS.

"You're living with people in these dorms and nobody knows each other, but you all grow such a strong connection," Wiemeyer said. "That only happens if you put yourself out there and allow yourself to talk to new people and get outside your comfort zone."

All Indiana high school students currently in their junior year are eligible to register for ALA Hoosier Girls State or ALA Hoosier Boys State. Each student is typically sponsored by a local community member, covering a significant portion of the fee. Students should consult their school teachers or administration for more information.

According to Aba, "It was one of the best experiences of my summer and probably one of the most memorable moments of my life."

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
19000 GRAND PARK BLVD.
westfieldin.gov/rocksthe4th



FRIDAY \$5 Adults
 12 & under FREE
 Concerts start at 7 pm Gates open at 6 pm



Mellencougar:

America 250 Celebration

July 10



Cool Creek Park
2000 E. 151st St., Carmel

Scan the QR code to purchase tickets or by going to myhamiltoncountyparks.com.

Crowdfunding campaign launches Friday for Cicero's Community Park playground

\$50K goal to receive matching grant through CreatINg Places initiative

The REPORTER

Cicero residents and visitors will soon enjoy a farm-themed playground in Community Park for ages 5 to 12 thanks to an IHCD CreatINg Places crowdfunding campaign launching, Friday, July 3.

CreatINg Places is a program of the **Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority** (IHCD). The Town of Cicero is leading the campaign.

"We're thrilled to be participating in the CreatINg Places program once again," Cicero Parks Superintendent Jim Hunter said. "We're confident our community will help us raise our goal so we can receive a matching grant from IHCD to build this new playground by the fall."

If the campaign reaches its \$50,000 goal by Sept. 3, the town will receive a matching grant of \$50,000 from IHCD's **CreatINg Places** program.

Visit patronicity.com/ciceroplayground for



Photo provided

Cicero's new farm-themed program planned for Community Park.

project details and to donate. You can also stop by the Cicero Parks' booth in Community Park during the Lights Over Morse Lake festival on Friday starting at 1 p.m. to donate and learn more.

The CreatINg Places

program is available to projects located in Indiana communities. Non-profit entities (with 501c3 or 501c4 status) and Local Units of Government are eligible to apply.

Eligible projects must have a minimum total de-

velopment cost of \$10,000, where the recipient will receive \$5,000 in IHCD matching funds should they successfully raise \$5,000 through Patronicity. IHCD will provide matching grant funds up to \$50,000 per project.

Hamilton County communities receive millions in road funding

The REPORTER

Hamilton County communities will receive millions in road construction funding through the **Community Crossings Matching Grant Program** (CCMG).

In Senate District 20, \$2 million will go to improve roads and bridges, according to State Sen. Scott Baldwin (R-Noblesville), and in Senate District 31, more than \$2.3 million will go to similar projects, according to State Sen. Kyle Walker (R-Lawrence).

The CCMG, established by the Indiana General Assembly in 2016, aims to advance community infrastructure projects, strengthen local transportation networks, and improve Indiana's roads and bridges. Since its enactment, the program has awarded more than \$2 billion in state matching funds for local construction projects.

This additional round of awards is being issued following the passage of **Senate Enrolled Act 179**.

In Senate District 20, Carmel and Hamilton County each received \$1 million.

"The Community Crossing Grant Program is a great opportunity for local communities to improve the roads and bridges Hoosiers and visitors use for work and pleasure," Baldwin

said. "I look forward to seeing the improvements made with these funds and the positive impact on quality of life in our community."

In Senate District 31, the following communities received grants:

- Fishers received \$977,427.67
- Hamilton County received \$1 million
- Lawrence received \$353,797.48

"Indiana is known as the Crossroads of America, which emphasizes the need to maintain our roads and

bridges," Walker said. "The Community Crossing Grant Program is a great way for local communities to improve local transportation networks, and I am pleased to see communities in Senate District 31 take advantage of this opportunity."

Through the program, the Indiana Department of Transportation matches up to \$1 million annually when localities invest in road and bridge repairs. Counties with populations fewer than 55,000 and cities and towns with populations fewer than 12,500 receive an 80 percent/20 percent match, while counties with populations greater than 55,000 and cities and towns with populations greater than 12,500 receive a 50 percent/50 percent match.



Baldwin



Walker

Fishers Police help keep littlest passengers safe

Submitted

The Fishers Police Department held a free car seat check event on Tuesday, June 30, but the mission extends beyond helping local families.

Nearly a dozen Child Passenger Safety Technicians

from across central Indiana also completed their recertification, ensuring they can continue providing lifesaving car seat education and inspections in their communities.

Fishers Police offers free car seat checks every other

Tuesday morning by appointment, helping parents and caregivers make sure their smallest passengers are riding as safely as possible. You can schedule an appointment online anytime at police.fishersin.gov.



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VICTORIA SPARTZ
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I can help you when dealing with federal agencies, including:

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- Veterans benefits
- Passport assistance
- IRS questions



US Flag Requests

Obtain commemorative flags flown over the US Capitol from my office.



Military Academy Nominations

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



US Capitol and White House Tour Requests

My office can help arrange tours throughout our nation's capital.

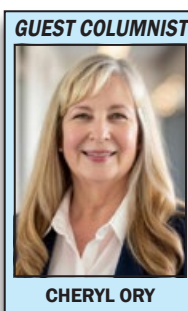
West District Office: (317) 848-0201

East District Office: (765) 639-0671

www.spartz.house.gov

A heat wave's dangerous impact on seniors

Now that the temperature is finally feeling like a true Indiana summer, I encourage us all to check on the seniors in our families and neighborhoods. Many seniors are unable to protect themselves from excessive heat, physiologically or socially, and a helping hand could even save a life.



GUEST COLUMNIST
CHERYL ORY

haustion poses significant risks for elderly individuals due to their decreased ability to regulate body temperature and the presence of chronic health conditions. Heat exhaustion occurs when the body loses excessive amounts of water and salt, often due to prolonged exposure to high temperatures or strenuous activity in hot weather.

Blood circulation and sweat glands change as we age, making them less efficient at cooling our bodies. Obesity, being overweight or underweight, significant changes in body weight, and cardiovascular, lung, or kidney disease can add

to the risk. Medications can also interfere with the body's temperature regulation and fluid balance. And seniors living without air conditioning or fans will be more susceptible to heat injury.

Seniors who live by themselves are particularly vulnerable, which is why a friendly knock on the door to ask how they're doing can be so helpful. Walk into the home with well-intentioned curiosity. Come for the visit but be an active observer while you're there.

From my career spent caring for seniors, I've learned to spot several telling signs. You may be surprised at what you can learn from looking into someone's refrigerator, for example. If they drink bottled

water, monitor how many bottles are inside to see if they're drinking enough. If the food inside is going uneaten or spoiling, it may be a sign that the heat is reducing their appetite. Ensure they have access to cooling fresh foods available with high water content, like juicy melons and other fruits and vegetables.

Check the temperature of the home. Is it warm? Is the air conditioning working? Are fans on? Look at the thermostat and ask yourself how the home feels.

Does it appear they're living life within a five-foot radius of their favorite chair? Social isolation can bring its own problems during severe weather. Warning signs include piled up laundry, excessive sleep,

and neglected rooms in the home. These are observations worth asking about.

Checking in can be especially difficult for adult children who don't see their parents as often as they once did. So call on the community, like a neighbor or church members, to add watchful eyes.

And if the living conditions are no longer appropriate, a change in the living situation may be worth considering. Many senior living communities offer attractive amenities, and importantly, these communities support social interaction to combat the isolation of living alone

in later years. The seniors living amongst us have created the wonderful world we all enjoy today. As danger grows from prolonged exposure to this heat wave, we owe it to them to check in and see if they need our help.

Cheryl Ory, RN, ASN, CDP, is Vice President of Clinical Services for Traditions Management, Inc. a Carmel-based business that manages over 2,500 units of senior living throughout the Midwest and Florida. Cheryl brings over 25 years of expertise in assisted living clinical operations management and consulting.

Braun urges Hoosiers to "Drive Sober or Don't Drive" as State Police launch C.A.R.E. Blitz to target impaired driving

Submitted by Office of Gov. Mike Braun

As Hoosiers prepare to celebrate America's 250th Independence Day, Governor Mike Braun and the Indiana State Police (ISP) are urging the public to make safety a priority throughout the holiday weekend.

With millions of Americans expected to travel and celebrations taking place across Indiana, officials are highlighting the increased risks that come with holiday travel – particularly impaired driving.

"Hoosiers are looking forward to celebrating America 250 with friends and family, but holiday weekends bring added haz-

ards that everyone needs to be aware of," Gov. Braun said. "If you're drinking this weekend, don't drive. It's a risk not only to yourself but to families on the road."

Last year, 1,865 crashes occurred statewide over the Fourth of July holiday period, resulting in 620 injuries and 23 lives lost. Of those crashes, 92 involved alcohol or drugs.

The Indiana State Police is participating in the statewide Combined Accident Reduction Effort (C.A.R.E.) blitz, coordinating with law enforcement partners across



Braun

Indiana. The initiative includes additional patrols focused on crash causing behaviors such as speeding, violating the hands-free law, unsafe lane movement, and following too closely. A major component of the enforcement effort is identifying and removing impaired and dangerous drivers from Indiana roadways.

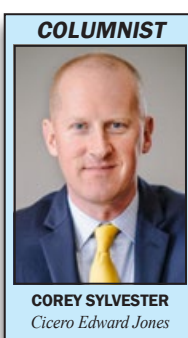
AAA projects that nearly 62 million Americans will travel more than 50 miles over the holiday weekend. With this increased volume, officials are urging Hoosiers to fol-

low lifesaving practices:

- Plan ahead and designate a sober driver before celebrations begin.
 - Intervene if someone attempts to drive after drinking.
 - Use taxis, ride sharing services, or sober friends for transportation.
 - Always buckle up – your seat belt is the best defense against an impaired driver.
 - Report suspected impaired drivers by calling 911 immediately.
- As the state comes together to celebrate the nation's semiquincentennial, officials emphasize that drunk driving is 100 percent preventable.

Debunking five Social Security myths

Social Security is often one of the most important income sources in retirement. Yet widespread myths about how it works can lead to confusion, unnecessary worry and poor planning decisions. Here's the truth behind five of the most common misconceptions.



COLUMNIST
COREY SYLVESTER
Cicero Edward Jones

payroll tax or adjusting retirement ages. Lawmakers have tools to address this.

Myth 2: Social Security will cover all your retirement needs.

Think of Social Security as a financial foundation, not the full building. According to the Social Security Administration, benefits replace only about 40% of pre-retirement income for a median earner. That means you'll likely need to account for most of your retirement income yourself. Building a strong personal savings strategy now can help close that gap.

Myth 3: You lose benefits permanently if you keep working.

Not true. Social Security does have an "earnings test" that can temporarily reduce benefits for people who claim early and keep working. If your earnings exceed a set annual cap – which changes each year

– Social Security will withhold a portion of your benefits. But once you reach full retirement age, the Social Security Administration adjusts your monthly check higher to repay those withheld amounts over time.

Myth 4: An ex-spouse's benefits come out of your own.

If you were married for at least 10 years and are currently unmarried, your former spouse may be eligible to collect on your earnings record, or you may be able to collect on theirs. Divorced spouse benefits can be up to 50% of the other person's full retirement benefit. But those payments don't affect yours. Your monthly benefit is not reduced by anything paid to an ex-spouse or even a current spouse.

Myth 5: Social Security benefits are no longer taxed.

Recent legislation caused some confusion here. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act did not eliminate taxes on Social Security benefits. If your combined

income exceeds certain thresholds, you'll still owe taxes on a portion of your benefits.

The law also created a temporary deduction (available through 2028) for people 65 and older. Eligible taxpayers can deduct \$6,000 per qualifying filer if their modified adjusted gross income is \$75,000 or less for singles or \$150,000 for couples. The deduction phases out at \$175,000 for singles and \$250,000 for joint filers. The more you understand Social Security, the more control you have over your retirement outcome. Grounding your decisions in facts rather than assumptions can make a meaningful difference in your long-term financial security.

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Enjoy this short, scenic rail bike ride from Hobbs Station in Forest Park.

NickelPlateExpress.com/railbike-rides

Community News

Quilt Connection Guild invites you to 'Chain of Quilts' show

The Quilt Connection Guild will host "A Chain of Quilts" show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, July 24, and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 25 at Calvary Lutheran Church, 6111 Shelby St., Indianapolis.

There will be quilt demonstrations both days, along with quilts on display, handmade goods, quilt vendors appetizing refreshments, and fun.

Admission is \$8.

— WESTFIELD —

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received:

By: Meyer Najem Construction LLC, Construction Manager as Constructor for City of Westfield Redevelopment Commission

For: 18160 Market Court Redevelopment Project

Deliver to: Meyer Najem Construction
11787 Lantern Rd Unit 100, Fishers, IN 46038

Date & Time: July 17th, 2026 at 10:00am (local time)

Bids received after that time will be returned unopened. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

All work for the complete construction of the project shall be performed under the form of contract set forth in the Bidding Documents. One copy of the bid forms shall be submitted on forms provided in the project manual and shall be executed in accordance with the current edition of the Indiana Board of Accounts Form 96 - "Contractor's Bid for Public Works," with a financial statement complying with Section III of Form 96, and a satisfactory Bid Bond or certified check pursuant to I.C. 36-1-12-4.5, payable to Meyer Najem Construction, LLC. Bid Security shall be in the amount of not less than 5% of the total base bid price. Should a successful Bidder withdraw their Bid, fail to provide the required payment and performance bonds, or execute the contract, Meyer Najem may then declare the Bid Security forfeited as liquidated damages. Reference the Bidders Check List for all other items required at the time of bid.

Bids shall be placed in a sealed envelope plainly labeled to indicate the following:

Addressed to:

Meyer Najem Construction
11787 Lantern Rd Unit 100, Fishers, IN 46038

Attn: 18160 Market Court Redevelopment Project
Bid Package Number & Name

Name and return address of the Bidder

All bid proposals shall be in full compliance with the bid documents. To obtain access to the bid documents please reach out to the below contact. Invitations inclusive of the Bid Documents will be sent out via Meyer Najem Construction, LLC's SmartBid - Document Management Software.

A Pre-Bid Meeting is scheduled for **July 9th, 2026, at 9:00am** local time at 18160 Market Court Westfield, IN 46074. Attendance at the pre-bid meeting will be considered in determining bidder responsiveness.

For all questions, please contact Wes Williams, wwilliams@meyer-najem.com, at Meyer Najem, the Construction Manager as Constructor.

Meyer Najem Construction, LLC, as Construction Manager as Constructor for City of Westfield Redevelopment Commission

R8190 7/2/26, 7/6/26, 7/10/26, 7/13/26

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advised that the Westfield-Washington Township Plat Committee will meet at 11:00 a.m., Monday, July 13, 2026, at the Westfield City Services Center, 2728 E 171st St, Westfield, Indiana, or in a virtual format viewable at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofWestfieldIN>, for the purposes of holding a public hearing on the following petitions:

•2604-ODP-02 & 2604-SPP-02; Towne Road Crossing; Generally located at the south side of SR 32, west-adjacent to Little Eagle Creek.; Towne Road Crossing Developer, LLC, represented by Weihe Engineers, Inc., requests Overall Development Plan and Primary Plat review for two hundred seventy-eight (278) residential lots and three (3) commercial blocks on 143.24 acres +/- within the Towne Road Crossing Planned Unit Development (PUD) District.

•2607-ODP-05 & 2607-SPP-07; 199th & Monon; 219 East 199th Street; OE Trillium, LLC by Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc. requests Overall Development Plan (ODP) and Primary Plat (SPP) review for a fourteen (14) lot single-family subdivision on 7.10 acres +/- in the 199th & Monon Planned Unit Development (PUD) District.

Specific details regarding the requests may be obtained from the Westfield Community Development Department, 2728 E 171st Street, Westfield, Indiana or by calling (317) 804-3150, option 5.

Written suggestions or objections relative to the requests may be filed with the Secretary of the Committee at the Westfield Community Development Department, 2728 E 171st Street, Westfield, Indiana at or before the hearing. Oral comments concerning the proposals will be heard at the aforementioned public hearing. In the case of a virtual meeting, written comments concerning the proposals can be provided before and during the aforementioned public hearing by emailing planners@westfield.in.gov. Such hearing may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary.

Westfield-Washington Township Plat Committee

Westfield Community Development Department

2728 East 171st Street, Westfield, Indiana 46074

www.westfieldin.gov

R8193 7/2/26, 7/6/26

— CICERO —

Legal Notice

Board of zoning appeals

The Cicero/Jackson Township Board of Zoning Appeals will meet on July 16th, 2026 at 7:00 PM in the Cicero Town Hall located at 70 N Byron Street, Cicero, Indiana 46034, in order to hear the following petitions:

Docket No. BZA-0726-20-R3

A Development Standards Variance application has been submitted regarding the property located at 22111 N Mill Creek Road, Cicero, IN 46034 seeking relief from Article 7.5 Accessory Structure Standards AS-02 of the Cicero/Jackson Township Zoning Ordinance in order to: allow an accessory structure in the front yard. Whereas Article 7.5 AS-02 states that an accessory structure shall only be to the side or rear of the primary structure.

Docket No. BZA-0726-21-R3

A Development Standards Variance Application has been submitted regarding the property located at 22111 N Mill Creek Road, Cicero IN, 46034 seeking relief from Article 7.22 Architecture Standards (AR) of the Cicero/Jackson Township Zoning Ordinance in order to: not use brick or natural cut stone on an accessory structure.

Project Address: 22111 N Mill Creek Road, Cicero, IN 46034

Legal Description: Acreage 5.35 Section 10, Township 19, Range 4

Parcel number: 03-06-10-00-00-010.000

The petition may be examined at the office of the Cicero/Jackson Township Plan Commission, 331 E. Jackson St., Cicero, IN 46034.

Interested parties may offer an oral opinion at the Hearing. Comments or letters may be mailed to Cicero/Jackson Township Plan Commission at PO Box 650, Cicero IN, 46034. Comments may also be emailed to publiccomments@townofcicero.in.gov.

Comments must be received by 10:00am on the Monday prior to a scheduled meeting day.

The Hearing may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary.

Petitioner's Name: James & BJ Currier

Date: June 30th, 2026

R8217 7/2/26, 7/6/26

National Democrats take notice of Lindsay Gramlich's campaign for Indiana House District 39

Submitted

On Wednesday, July 1, the **Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee** (DLCC) named Lindsay Gramlich's campaign for Indiana House District 39 as one of the **Top Ten Races for July**.

The DLCC is the official Democratic Party committee charged with identifying the best opportunities to build Democratic power in state legislatures, and their Top Ten program features 10 of the most competitive and important state legislative races in the nation.

"National Democrats are taking notice of our race and our potential to flip this seat," Gramlich said. "I'm honored to be included in

this group of incredible Democrats as we look to grow Democratic representation and shift the balance of power."

Gramlich has been a longtime community advocate and brings with her over 16 years of experience in leadership and philanthropy in central Indiana. Currently, she serves as the President and CEO of Girls Inc. of Greater Indianapolis, a nonprofit leadership organization dedicated to helping girls realize their full potential, and has also worked in various capacities at the Children's Museum of Indianapolis. She is a



Gramlich

2026 recipient of the *Indianapolis Business Journal's* prestigious "Forty Under 40" award, which recognizes young professionals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and achievement in their careers, and was voted one of Indy's Most Pivotal Leaders in 2022.

"State legislatures have become ground zero for addressing the affordability crisis, protecting our voting rights, and fighting against GOP extremism," Gramlich said. "Now more than ever, it's important we elect Democrats to these chambers who will listen to their con-

stituents and work to build a better future for our state and our country."

About Lindsay Gramlich

Lindsay Gramlich, a Carmel resident, community leader, and nonprofit CEO, is running to represent District 39 in the Indiana House of Representatives. With over 16 years of experience in Central Indiana philanthropy, she currently serves as the President and CEO of Girls Inc. of Greater Indianapolis, a youth nonprofit organization. She is a graduate of DePauw University and Indiana University, and lives in Carmel with her husband, three children, and two rescue dogs. Learn more about her campaign at Lindsay-Gramlich.com.

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SOFT CLOSE BEGINS: Saturday, July 11th @ 6pm

PREVIEW DATES: Tuesday, Thursday, Thursday, July 8th from Noon - 6pm

PICK-UP DAYS: Monday, July 13th from Noon - 6pm

Tuesday, July 14th from Noon - 6pm

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Letter to the Editor

Noblesville reader questions official narrative surrounding school operating referendum

Dear Editor:
Noblesville Schools is insulting our intelligence. The six truths they don't want the voters to know – Vote NO on the Noblesville School Operating Referendum.

The school board wants you to believe their new operating referendum is a harmless "\$2.30 a month" adjustment on a \$350,000 home. That is a flat-out deception. They are hiking the maximum tax rate from 37 cents to 57 cents – a massive 54 percent increase in their legal taxing authority.

Let's be completely clear: this is a spending problem, not a revenue problem.

1) Noblesville already spends over \$15,600 per student. That is roughly \$2,000 above the Indiana state average, and a massive \$4,000 MORE per student than Carmel Clay and Zionsville – two of the highest-rated school districts in the entire state. Carmel and Zionsville achieve elite academic results while managing budgets with fiscal restraint. Noblesville demands a massive tax cap hike just to outspend them.

2) When you strip away their fuzzy math, the actual rate increase alone authorizes a tax of roughly \$32.70 a month on a \$350,000 home. That is nearly \$400 a year in new tax authority, not the pocket change they are advertising.

They are burying these numbers in fine print while Noblesville families are already drowning in historic inflation. Look at the hard facts:

3) The "\$2.30" Lie:
To get that fake figure, referendum leaders are subtracting your state-issued tax relief from their new tax hike and counting on you not noticing the shell

game. A 54 percent rate hike on top of today's hyper-inflated home values is a massive tax increase, no matter how they try to hide it.

4) Massive Tax Windfalls:
From 2018 to today, local home values shot up by an average of 70 percent to 80 percent on the county tax rolls. Because our home assessments surged, the school district's baseline property tax revenues already automatically exploded.

5) Fewer Students, Higher Spending:
Since 2018, student enrollment has dropped by over 500 kids, and demographers predict it will plummet by another 500 or more by 2030. Yet, their per-pupil spending has surged by a staggering 35 percent. They are managing a shrinking student body but demanding a larger blank check.

6) The State Relief Cash Grab:
Noblesville Schools is reaching directly into your pocket to cannibalize and take away – and then some – the tax relief you just asked Indiana legislators to give you. The Statehouse passed Senate Enrolled Act 1 to grant homeowners up to a \$300 annual tax credit to ease the pain of inflation. This local school board is instantly wiping out those savings and demanding even more of your money on top of it.

The school board has fewer children to teach and more baseline revenue than ever before, yet they still expect taxpayers to foot the bill.

Vote NO on the Noblesville School Operating Referendum.

Demand honesty, real fiscal responsibility, and an end to the deception.

Toby Eiler
Noblesville

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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IBJ names honorees for 2026 Nonprofit Excellence Awards

Submitted

IBJ Media, the locally owned publisher of *Indianapolis Business Journal*, *Inside Indiana Business*, and *The Indiana Lawyer*, announced on Tuesday, June 30 the honorees for its 2026 IBJ Nonprofit Excellence Awards.

Now in its second year, the IBJ Nonprofit Excellence Awards recognize high-performing nonprofit organizations, partners, and leaders across Indiana, and in partnership with the awards' sponsor KSM, will contribute a total of \$120,000 to select honoree organizations.

"Nonprofits play an essential role in addressing some of the greatest challenges and pursuing many of the greatest opportunities facing Indiana," said Nate Feltman, IBJ Media's CEO, owner and publisher. "In partnership with KSM, the IBJ Nonprofit Excellence Awards recognize the tremendous impact nonprofit organizations, their leaders and partners are having across Indiana."

IBJ and its partners will recognize honorees at the IBJ Nonprofit Excellence Awards at 3:30 p.m. Aug. 4 in Indianapolis at the Indiana Roof Ballroom, 140 W. Washington St. This is a ticketed event.

2026 Honorees

Nonprofit of the Year

- Large (annual budget of \$25 million or more): Damien Center (will receive \$50,000)
- Medium (annual budget between \$5 million and \$24 million): Foster Success (will receive \$35,000)
- Small (annual budget under \$5 million): Orr Fellowship (will receive \$25,000)

Distinguished Recognition

- for Nonprofit of the Year-Large**
 - Aspire Indiana Health
 - Children's Bureau, Inc., DBA Firefly Children and Family Alliance
 - Indiana Sports Corp.
- Distinguished Recognition for Nonprofit of the Year-Medium**
 - HVAf of Indiana Inc.
 - Indianapolis Urban League
 - The Arc of Indiana
- Distinguished Recognition for Nonprofit of the Year-Small**
 - Girls Incorporated of Greater Indianapolis
 - Indiana Latino Institute
 - Mitch Daniels Leadership Foundation

New Nonprofit of the Year

- In Pursuit Of (will receive \$5,000)

Volunteer of the Year

- Grace Otey, HVAf of Indiana, Inc. (will receive \$5,000 for her organization)

Inc. (will receive \$5,000 for her organization)

Nonprofit Executive of the Year
 • Large: Fred Glass, Gleaners Food Bank

• Small: Larry Smith, Fathers and Families Center

Philanthropist of the Year
 • Frank Basile

Fundraising Event of the Year
 • Rev, supporting Indiana University Health Foundation

• Best Collaboration Between a Business and Nonprofit
 • Cummins Inc. & Edna Martin Christian Center

In-kind Supporter of the Year
 • Shiel Sexton

Business Supporter of the Year
 • Audiochuck

New Nonprofit Program of the Year
 • Healthy Beginnings at Home, a partnership between Indiana University & CareSource

Board Member of the Year
 • Dan Evans, Indiana Biosciences Research Institute

• Brad Holtz, The Indianapolis Public Library Foundation
 • Anthony Warren, Goodwill Legacy Group

[Click here](#) to learn more about the event and to purchase tickets.

AG Rokita responds to Supreme Court ruling in birthright citizenship case

Submitted by Office of AG Todd Rokita

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita issued the following statement on the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *Trump v. Barbara* that the Fourteenth Amendment "guarantees citizenship to children born of parents unlawfully or temporarily present in the United States."



Rokita

not a suicide pact. It does not require the U.S. to recognize birthright citizenship; it has never required the U.S. to recognize birthright citizenship. SCOTUS got this seriously wrong, and its decision will have damaging consequences.

That makes our work combating illegal immigration more important than ever."

Nicholas Viola of Fishers graduates from The College of New Jersey

The REPORTER

The College of New Jersey's commencement ceremonies took place May 21 and 22, and one Hamilton County student is among

the graduates. Nicholas Viola of Fishers received and Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering. Congratulations!

Letter to the Editor

Shaffer questions official numbers on Carmel's loss of revenue from tax cuts

Dear Editor:
 Last year the state provided property tax refunds of up to \$300 for Indiana taxpayers. For weeks since, Carmel city officials have said that act will mean \$10 million less in revenue to the city. This is patently untrue. There are up to 40,000 property tax accounts on file in Hamilton County with Carmel addresses on them. At \$300 apiece, that would mean a reduction of \$12 million – not \$10 million. But Carmel gets just 39 percent, and the schools, township, county, and library share the rest. Carmel would get \$4.68 million in this optimized scenario since it is unlikely that all 40,000 qualify for the \$300. So why not just tell us the truth? And why not tell the truth about \$1.6 billion in debt and the \$102 million debt repayment due this year?
Bill Shaffer
 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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HMD Motorsports announces partnership with TREMBLE Carmel

Submitted

HMD Motorsports announces a new partnership with TREMBLE Carmel, a high-intensity, low-impact fitness studio located in Carmel. The partnership brings together two organizations committed to performance, discipline, and continuous improvement, while strengthening connections within the local community.

Founded in South Florida, TREMBLE has quickly emerged as one of the fastest-growing fitness concepts in the country. Combining Pilates-inspired movements, strength training, and cardio-based conditioning, TREMBLE's approach to training emphasizes the discipline and physical preparation required to perform at a high level, qualities that directly translate to motorsports. As HMD Motorsports continues its pursuit of excellence on and off the racetrack, the team recognizes a strong alignment between the physical demands placed on elite racing drivers and the perfor-

mance-focused philosophy that defines the TREMBLE experience.

The partnership will create opportunities for both organizations to engage with new audiences through collaborative marketing initiatives, community events, social media campaigns, and exclusive promotional offers. Fans and members can expect unique experiences throughout the season, including potential driver appearances, behind-the-scenes content, and special activations designed to bring the worlds of motorsports and fitness together.

"We are thrilled to be entering this partnership with HMD Motorsports," said Victoria Glascock, Owner of TREMBLE Carmel. "At TREMBLE, we believe in pushing limits, embracing challenges, and creating an environment where people can become the strongest version of themselves. Those values align perfectly with what HMD Motorsports represents on the racetrack. We are excited to introduce



our members to the world of INDY NXT and create experiences that bring our communities together while inspiring people to pursue their fitness goals and perform at their best."

Mike Maurini, Team President of HMD Motorsports, added, "We're excited to welcome TREMBLE Carmel to the HMD Motorsports family. Driver performance extends far beyond race weekends, and physical fitness plays a critical role in success behind the wheel. Beyond the fitness aspect, we are proud to partner with a local business that shares our passion for community engagement and excellence. We look forward to building something special together both at the

racetrack and throughout Central Indiana."

As part of the partnership, TREMBLE Carmel will be represented on track with branding featured on HMD Motorsports' INDY NXT by Firestone entries, as well as cars fielded by Technical Partners Cusick Morgan Motorsports and Strategic Allies AJ Foyt Racing. The collaboration reflects HMD Motorsports' continued commitment to building meaningful relationships with local businesses while expanding its presence throughout the Indianapolis area.

For more information on HMD Motorsports visit HMDMotorsports.com or email info@hmdmotorsports.com.

Some of the best family memories happen under a sky full of fireworks

The REPORTER

Join Good Samaritan Network "Up On The Roof" this July 4 for a patriotic night to remember. Enjoy the best view anywhere from on top of the Noblesville Parking Garage at 225 N. 9th St.

This Independence Day, gather your family, load up the car, and experience a July 4 celebration unlike any other. Imagine watching fireworks burst across the horizon while sharing laughter, snacks, photos, and unforgettable moments with the people you love most.

Only one vehicle ticket

(donation-based) needed per car, up to eight people max. (Optional "snack/food" ticket available.)

Advance online registration is required at [this link](#) by 8 p.m. Friday, July 3.

Garage entry starts: 8:30 p.m., with the fireworks at dark. Everything will end by 11 p.m.

Your participation helps strengthen Good Samaritan Network's ability to serve vulnerable neighbors, making your July 4 celebration both memorable and meaningful.

Learn more at gslive.org.

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

THE TRANSJORDAN TRIBES

The Gadites and Reubenites said to Moses, "We your servants will do as our lord commands. Our children and wives, our flocks and herds will remain here in the cities of Gilead. But your servants, every man who is armed for battle, will cross over to fight before the Lord, just as our lord says."

Numbers 32:25-27 (NIV)

Conner Prairie & INvets each receive grant from Duke Energy Foundation

The REPORTER

Two local organizations will receive America250 grants from the Duke Energy Foundation – grants that will help them support Hoosier veterans and other community-driven projects.

These grants will support:

- **Conner Prairie** – \$15,000 to expand access to high-quality programming and meaningful civic engagement during its America 250 Civic Season.
- **INvets**, serving Hamilton, Henry, and Madison counties – \$5,000 to help

pay for a tool that will streamline the veteran hiring process, expand visibility of opportunities, and ensure better alignment between veteran talent and employer needs.

These grants close out the Duke Energy Foundation's America250 initiative that was launched to recognize America's 250th anniversary. Throughout this year, organizations have received grants supporting projects that celebrate Indiana history and revitalize local parks and shared commu-



nity spaces, as well as help veterans gain job-ready skills and build pathways to in-demand civilian careers.

About the Duke Energy Foundation

The Duke Energy Foundation provides nearly \$30

million annually in philanthropic support to meet the needs of communities where Duke Energy customers live and work. The Foundation is funded by Duke Energy shareholders. Learn more at foundation.duke-energy.com.

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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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<p>ON THE WATER!</p> <p>SOLD! 7389 E 209TH ST. NOBLESVILLE</p> <p>Fantastic waterfront condo on Morse Reservoir's secluded Waterscape side! 3BR, 2BA boat dock #104, fireplace, and deck offer year-round fun, relaxation, and scenic waterfront living with beaches and kayak storage.</p> <p>Improved Price \$449,900</p>	<p>IMPROVED PRICE!</p> <p>JUST LISTED! 20971 Shoreline Unit 410 NOBLESVILLE</p> <p>Enjoy low-maintenance waterfront living in this gated 2BR, 2BA Morse Lake condo. Features include fresh paint, new carpet, boat slip, two garage spots, storage, and stainless kitchen. Luxury meets convenience.</p> <p>Listed at \$339,900</p>	<p>IMPROVED PRICE!</p> <p>ACTIVE 6178 NORTH WOODHAVEN DR. MCCORDSVILLE</p> <p>This turnkey 3BR, 2BA ranch in McCordsville features fresh paint, granite counters, and LVP flooring. Enjoy the new wood privacy fence and covered deck. Community pool and playground are steps away!</p> <p>Listed at \$309,900</p>	<p>PENDING! 18532 ORIENTAL OAK COURT NOBLESVILLE</p> <p>Beautiful 4BR, 2BA 2 half baths in Oakmont of Noblesville. Home is situated on over half an acre (.68) wooded lot featuring a screened porch and finished basement along with a three car tandem garage. This move-in ready property awaits you.</p> <p>Listed at \$559,900</p>	<p>SOLD! 365 BEECHWOOD DR. NOBLESVILLE</p> <p>Unbelievable value in this stunning 4BR brick home with basement on a private 0.49-acre cul-de-sac lot. Features new carpet and appliances, no HOA, and a fenced, gardener's backyard. Walkable to downtown Noblesville. Act fast, this property is amazing!</p> <p>Listed at \$324,900</p>	<p>SOLD! 5527 BRUCE BLVD. NOBLESVILLE</p> <p>Move-in ready 3BR, 2.5BA home in Hazel Dell Woods features a main-floor primary bedroom, open-concept kitchen, loft, finished garage, and a park-like backyard patio. The neighborhood includes a pool, playground, and trails to Hazel Dell Elementary.</p> <p>Listed at \$359,900</p>	<p>PENDING! 2707 Kilgobbin Cres BROWNSBURG</p> <p>Beautifully maintained 4BR, 3BA home in Birch Run at Wynne Farms. Features an open kitchen, gas fireplace, main floor bedroom/office, spa-like primary suite, large backyard with fire pit, 3-car garage, and community pool on the B&O Trail.</p> <p>Listed at \$449,900</p>
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REPORTER SPORTS THURSDAY

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

Boys Golf

Cesare comes back, reaches Amateur top 10

By RICHIE HALL
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INDIANAPOLIS — Westfield's Jake Cesare finished as the top Hamilton County player at the Indiana Amateur Championship, which finished Wednesday at Broadmoor Country Club in Indianapolis.

Cesare took sixth place overall with a 10 under par 206 over three rounds. He scored 70 for the third round, totaling four birdies, including back-to-back birdies on the last two holes.

It was a remarkable result considering Cesare hadn't played since last year's Amateur after having surgery.

"I sat out for six months, couldn't really swing and it was tough," said Cesare. "The fall was rough. I just sat there and putted and chipped a lot."

Cesare said Broadmoor was a "good test" for someone coming back on to the playing circuit.

"You got to hit fairways out there and you got to really know where the pins are at," said Cesare.

Cesare played with 2014 Hamilton Southeastern graduate Johnny Watts (see related story) and another 2010s county star. Michael Walters graduated from Carmel in 2015 and played college golf at Marian University. He finished tied for seventh with a nine under 207, carding a one under 71 for the third round with four birdies.

"I just like the competitive nature and I really enjoy meeting new people all the time," said Walters. "We get out here, we get the competitive juices flowing, and then it's always nice seeing some people that I always played with growing up," said Walters.

Fishers' Cole Starnes



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

Carmel's Michael Walters finished tied for seventh at the Indiana Amateur Championship Wednesday at Broadmoor Country Club.

was also part of the seventh-place tie, as he totaled 207 for the tournament. Starnes scored a three-under 69 for his third round, making five birdies.

Two more county players tied for 10th place with scores of eight under par 208. Noblesville's Connor McNeely soared into the top 10 after a seven under 65 for his third round. McNeely drained eight birdies during Wednesday play.

Carmel's Clay Stirnsman scored 73 in the third round and also finished with 208

for the tournament. Stirnsman made two birdies during the third round.

A list of scores for Hamilton County golfers now follows.

6. Jake Cesare, Westfield 68-68-70=206, T7. Cole Starnes, Fishers 67-71-69=207; Michael Walters, Carmel 69-67-71=207, T10. Connor McNeely, Noblesville 74-69-65=208; Clay Stirnsman, Carmel 65-70=73=208, 14.



Cesare

Andrew Rhodes, Westfield 69-71-69=209, T15. Nicholas Dentino, Carmel 67-71-72=210, T19. Tyler Marucci, Noblesville 70-71=70=211, T29. Robert Wuethrich, Westfield 74-70-68-70=214, T42. Drew Shafer, Carmel 73-74-70=217; Dane Starnes, Fishers 72-72-73=217; Bobby Delagrang, Carmel 71-71-75=217, 65. Matt Haneline, Fishers 75-71-78=224.



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

Johnny Watts (right) finished fourth at the Indiana Amateur Championship this week. Watts is a 2014 Hamilton Southeastern graduate and played at Ball State University, then spent a few years playing professionally. Watts is pictured with his father John Watts.

'Older player' Watts placed fourth at Indy Amateur

HSE & Ball State grad having more fun

By RICHIE HALL
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INDIANAPOLIS — Here's a message to the young golfers of today: if you keep playing, you'll eventually become one of the elder statesmen.

It happens sooner than one would realize. Not too long ago, Johnny Watts was fresh out of Hamilton Southeastern High School. Watts would go on to play at Ball State University and spend a few years in the professional ranks.

Today, Watts lives in Fort Wayne, is married with children and has a sales job, but he still has his golf game intact. He proved that by finishing fourth at the Indiana Amateur Championship, which concluded Wednesday at Broadmoor Country Club in Indianapolis.

"I've turned into the older player out here, seeing a lot of the high schoolers and college players, reminiscing on how it was back when I was in high school," said Watts.

Even at age 30 — which is not old, of course — Watts can still keep up with the youngsters. After a first-round score of 70 on Monday, Watts vaulted into the top 10 with a seven-under par score of 65. He followed that up on Wednesday with a final-round total of 67, five under par.

For the tournament, Watts finished 14 under par with a score of 202. He made seven birdies in his final round and 17 for all three rounds. Watts also eagled hole No. 12 during the second round.

"Definitely got off to a bit of a slow start on Monday," said Watts. "There are

a lot of birdies to be had out there, so we knew coming in the last two days that we had to go as low as we could. It was a lot of fun playing the back nine pretty well coming down the stretch."

Watts graduated from Southeastern in 2014 and went on to play at Ball State, graduating from there in 2018. After that, he joined the PGA Tour Latinoamérica, playing on that tour from 2018 to 2020. (PGA Tour Latinoamérica merged with PGA Tour Canada in 2024 to form PGA Tour Americas.)

"It was a lot of fun, a lot of travel," said Watts. "But it was a grind, too. It's not as glamorous as it seems on TV. When you're at that level, you're sharing hotel rooms with friends and eating fast food and trying to save money wherever you can."

After his pro days were finished, Watts reapplied for amateur status. Doing so meant a two-year wait where he could not play any tournaments, so he was happy to get back.

"It's a lot more fun now when it's not my livelihood and I can actually play a little looser and know that my paycheck is not dependent on how I play on the golf course," said Watts.

Watts is a family man now. He married in 2023 and has two children, ages 2 and 6 months, and works in medical sales. Watts also finds time to play in tournaments, saying his job "allows me to play some golf here and there."

"I'll play in a handful of events now throughout the year, this being probably the largest of the year," said Watts.

Baseball

Six county players on Prep Baseball Indiana All-State teams

The REPORTER

Hamilton County baseball players got quite a bit of attention from Prep Baseball Report Indiana.

The website announced its All-State teams on Wednesday and had six local

players on its various lists, beginning with five county players on First Team.

The five first team players begin with senior Tate Troxell from Guerin Catholic, who helped the Golden Eagles to the Class 3A state

championship in June. Troxell is headed to the University of Alabama.

Three infielders made the First Team list: Guerin Catholic junior Ben Canada, Noblesville senior Aidan Reynolds and University

senior Beckett Suh. Guerin Catholic senior outfielder Ian Taylor also was named to the First Team.

University senior outfielder Ryan Castetter received Second Team All-State honors.

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Swimming

Hart, Grieshop dominate 10 & under Enchanted Forest swims

The REPORTER

The future of Noblesville swimming looks bright, as two young athletes from Noblesville Swim Club dominated the youngest age groups at the Enchanted Forest Swim Meet last week at Forest Park.

Nolan Hart swam in the Boys 8 and under division, while Oliver Grieshop competed in the Boys 9-10 category. Both swimmers won seven events over the weekend.

In the Girls 9-10 category, Westfield Aquatics' Anna Parenteau won four events. Southeastern Swim Club's Kaydence Pitts picked up two victories, in the 50 and 100 breaststrokes.

Here is a list of top-five finishers from Hamilton County swim clubs.

Girls 8 and under
Friday
200 individual medley: 2. Adley Barker (Southeastern

Swim Club) 3:33.53, 3. Willa Duke (Noblesville Swim Club) 3:43.62, 4. Nora Conner (NOB) 4:09.35.

200 freestyle: 2. Duke (NOB) 3:08.56, 3. Piper Thompson (NOB) 3:48.37, 4. Sadie Griswold (Westfield Aquatics) 3:48.43, 5. Conner (NOB) 3:50.73.

Saturday
100 breaststroke: 2. Barker (SSC) 1:57.69, 3. Duke (NOB) 1:59.12, 4. Jaclyn Huff (WA) 2:07.79, 5. Griswold (WA) 2:20.82.

50 freestyle: 2. Barker (SSC) 39.21, 3. Huff (WA) 41.54, 4. Duke (NOB) 41.77, 5. Sloan Von Dross (NOB) 43.61.

50 backstroke: 2. Duke (NOB) 47.11, 3. Barker (SSC) 48.06, 4. Conner (NOB) 52.73, 5. Thompson (NOB) 52.94.

100 butterfly: 2. Barker (SSC) 1:54.34, 3. Duke (NOB) 2:00.08, 4. Thompson (NOB) 2:17.48, 5. Huff (WA) 2:21.71.

Sunday
50 butterfly: 2. Duke (NOB) 52.05, 3. Von Dross (NOB) 56.00, 4. Griswold (WA)

56.35, 5. Conner (NOB) 59.68.
100 backstroke: 2. Duke (NOB) 1:40.60, 3. Conner (NOB) 1:52.56, 5. Huff (WA) 1:54.92.

50 breaststroke: 2. Duke (NOB) 58.73, 3. Conner (NOB) 1:00.38, 4. Griswold (WA) 1:03.09, 5. Von Dross (NOB) 1:05.48.

100 freestyle: 2. Duke (NOB) 1:29.41, 3. Huff (WA) 1:35.26, 4. Von Dross (NOB) 1:40.86.

Boys 8 and under
Friday
200 individual medley: 1. Nolan Hart (NOB) 3:44.26, 2. Ben Myers (SSC) 4:03.02.

200 freestyle: 1. Hart (NOB) 3:23.74, 2. Fox Foley (SSC) 3:41.38, 3. Myers (SSC) 3:45.69, 5. Vaughn Culback (NOB) 4:10.58.

Saturday
100 breaststroke: 1. Hart (NOB) 2:05.11, 3. Myers (SSC) 2:29.73, 4. Hulback (NOB) 2:51.58.

50 freestyle: 1. Hart (NOB) 41.17, 3. Foley (SSC) 43.05, 5. Myers (SSC) 47.24.

50 backstroke: 1. Hart (NOB) 45.91, 2. Myers (SSC) 50.60, 4. Foley (SSC) 55.22.

100 butterfly: 1. Hart (NOB) 1:50.42, 2. Myers (SSC) 2:21.26, 3. Foley (SSC) 2:45.00.

Sunday
50 butterfly: 2. Hart (NOB) 49.07, 3. Myers (SSC) 52.30, 4. Theo Smith (NOB) 57.89, 5. Foley (SSC) 59.33.

100 backstroke: 1. Hart (NOB) 1:42.59, 2. Myers (SSC) 1:47.14, 4. Foley (SSC) 1:59.04, 5. Smith (NOB) 1:59.76.

50 breaststroke: 1. Foley (SSC) 1:00.02, 2. Hart (NOB) 1:03.08, 4. Myers (SSC) 1:06.46, 5. Smith (NOB) 1:26.76.

100 freestyle: 1. Hart (NOB) 1:34.23, 3. Myers (SSC) 1:45.67, 5. Foley (SSC) 1:50.81.

Girls 9-10
Friday
200 individual medley: 1. Anna Parenteau (WA) 3:00.69, 4. Kaydence Pettis (SSC) 3:24.06, 5. Ella Mishler (NOB)

3:29.36.
200 freestyle: 1. Parenteau (WA) 2:39.18, 4. Mishler (NOB) 2:56.73, 5. Pettis (SSC) 3:03.53.

Saturday
100 breaststroke: 1. Pettis (SSC) 1:27.99, 2. Parenteau (WA) 1:33.22, 4. Maddie Tam (WA) 1:46.23, 5. Kate Corder (WA) 1:53.03.

50 freestyle: 2. Parenteau (WA) 32.59, 5. Pettis (SSC) 35.47.

50 backstroke: 1. Parenteau (WA) 37.21.

100 butterfly: 3. Parenteau (WA) 1:31.20.

Sunday
50 butterfly: 2. Parenteau (WA) 35.77, 3. Tam (WA) 37.10.

100 backstroke: 2. Parenteau (WA) 1:21.86, 5. Pettis (SSC) 1:34.47.

50 breaststroke: 1. Pettis (SSC) 38.68, 2. Parenteau (WA) 42.68, 4. Tam (WA) 47.42.

100 freestyle: 1. Parenteau (WA) 1:11.12, 5. Ella Mishler (NOB) 1:19.56.

Boys 9-10
Friday

200 individual medley: 1. Oliver Grieshop (NOB) 2:59.77, 4. Decker Hulback (NOB) 3:36.49, 5. Griffin Teske (NOB) 3:45.53.

200 freestyle: 1. Grieshop (NOB) 2:39.24, 4. Teske (NOB) 3:12.42.

Saturday
100 breaststroke: 1. Grieshop (NOB) 1:37.18, 4. Teske (NOB) 1:59.78.

50 freestyle: 1. Grieshop (NOB) 33.54.

50 backstroke: 2. Grieshop (NOB) 40.25, 4. Hulback (NOB) 43.74.

100 butterfly: 1. Grieshop (NOB) 1:27.33, 5. Hulback (NOB) 2:04.79.

Sunday
50 butterfly: 2. Grieshop (NOB) 38.01.

100 backstroke: 2. Grieshop (NOB) 1:27.70, 5. Hulback (NOB) 1:36.39.

50 breaststroke: 1. Grieshop (NOB) 44.48.

100 freestyle: 1. Grieshop (NOB) 1:12.18, 4. Teske (NOB) 1:26.63.

Motorsports

Edwards dominates feature on opening night of BC39 at IMS

Submitted by IMS

Checkout time came early Tuesday night for Drake Edwards at The Dirt Track at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Edwards drove from the fourth starting spot to the lead on Lap 7 and never trailed thereafter to win the 30-lap Stoops Star Spangled Showdown feature in the No. 40D Chase McDermand Racing car. It was the second career USAC NOS Energy Drink Midget National Championship victory for Edwards, from Peoria, Arizona.

"It's pretty surreal," Edwards said. "Very cool to be standing here. I knew there was a shot coming to the smaller tracks, but I felt pretty solid all night long. So, I think it's really cool."

Kevin Thomas Jr. finished a distant second in the No. 14 4 Kings Racing car on the 1/5th-mile dirt oval, followed by pole sitter Gavin Miller in the No. 97 Keith Kunz-Curb-Agajanian Motorsports entry. Zach Wigel was fourth in the No. 1 Pat O'Dell car, with BC39 rookie Jake Swanson rounding out the top five in the No. 14K 4 Kings Racing entry.

The 30-lap feature was the climax of the opening night of the two-night BC39 Presented by Avanti Windows & Doors, which will culminate in a 39-lap feature paying \$20,039 to win Wednesday night on the track inside Turn 3 of the storied IMS asphalt oval.

There were only two suspenseful moments for



Photo courtesy IMS

Edwards, 23, the 2024 USAC Western States Midget Rookie of the Year. The first came on Lap

6 when Edwards, charging toward the front, drove into the rear of teammate Briggs Danner in the No. 40x Chase McDermand Racing car in a duel for second place behind Miller. Edwards continued, but Danner spun and triggered a caution period.

"First and foremost, I want to apologize to Briggs," Edwards said.

On the Lap 7 restart, Edwards drove under Miller in Turns 3 and 4 to take a lead he would never surrender despite multiple caution periods.

Edwards stretched the lead to 4.2 seconds over Thomas — a huge gap on a short track — by Lap 22 as he could place his car on any spot of the dirt oval and find speed almost at will.

"I was just watching him up there," Thomas said

The BC39 feature event took place on Wednesday night and finished too late for press time. A full story will appear in a later edition of The Reporter.

of Edwards. "Honestly, I know he's pretty talented, but I was like, 'There ain't no way he makes 30 laps without a crash.' It's pretty remarkable, and they had a great race car. He did a phenomenal job."

Leading by approximately four seconds, Edwards rocketed around thick lapped traffic on the high line of the oval in the last 10 laps. But Thomas' prediction of possible calamity for Edwards almost came true with three laps to go in the second dramatic moment on his drive to Victory Lane.

Edwards approached a lapped car that changed lines in Turn 3 and 4, and he had to slow quickly to avoid a collision. But Edwards safely navigated that near-miss and cruised to the victory in a car owned by McDermand, who cruelly lost a BC39 victory with less than two laps remaining in 2024 when his car got hung up in ruts in Turn 4 while leading.

"I didn't know where to go half the time," Edwards said. "But luckily we made it through there pretty good, and I felt like I got through them all right."



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