

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2026

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Partly to mostly sunny.
Tonight: Mostly clear.



HIGH: 87 LOW: 68



Cicero gives special recognition to four of its tireless volunteers

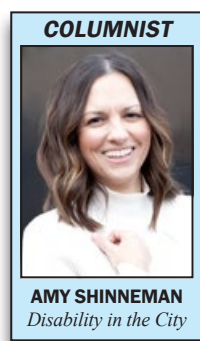


On Friday, July 3, Cicero Town Council President Joe Cox recognized Jackie Hayden, Amy Wolfe, Lisa Stokes-Bear, and Brian Bear for their volunteer service across several organizations. Cox presented plaques and read a proclamation from the Cicero Town Council proclaiming July 3 as Community Volunteer Recognition Day, acknowledging the sacrifice of personal and family time the four have given to serve others and improve the quality of life for Cicero residents. (ABOVE, from left) Thank you to Brian Bear, Jackie Hayden, Lisa Stokes-Bear, and Amy Wolfe for their ongoing commitment, leadership, and generosity. They have made a lasting and meaningful impact throughout the community.

Photo provided by Emily Pearson

Changing course

Last weekend, my husband and I went to the Jack Johnson concert at Ruoff Music Center. We did something we do not normally do and bought box seats. We had never sat there before and wanted to see if it would be an accessible experience.



AMY SHINNEMAN
Disability in the City

I did an accessibility review at Ruoff a couple of years ago for Hamilton County Tourism, but they have made some recent updates, and we wanted to check things out.

Ruoff still has their accessibility coordinator, Nate, working there. It was great to get to see him again and catch up. He does such a fantastic job assisting concertgoers with disabilities.

When we bought our seats, we had the accessible seat filter on and did our due diligence to make sure the seats were indeed accessible. We thought we had our bases covered, but we never truly know for sure if a place is accessible until we arrive.

When we finally got into the venue, after some long rain delays, we were eager to get to our seats and experience what we had paid for. When we showed the usher our tickets, she said, "You know that has stairs to get into it, right?"

We told her we did not know that, and we even checked that out before buying the tickets.

The staff at Ruoff could not have been more accommodating. They put us in some accessible seats until they could try and find an open and accessible box seat. It turns out, there are some box seats that are wheelchair accessible and do not have stairs.

Sadly, they were all taken, so they found us another spot where we had a good view and provided us with a server to check on us and get us what we needed, which was part of what we had paid for with the seats we originally purchased.

See Course . . . Page 2

A clean audit is earned by working hard every day

When I took office as Hamilton County Auditor, I inherited an organization with a long-standing reputation for sound financial management and accountability. That reputation was built by those who came before us, and my responsibility has always been to continue that tradition while ensuring the public's trust remains well placed.



TODD CLEVENGER
County Auditor

I am proud to share that Hamilton County has once again received a clean audit with no findings. This marks the second consecutive clean audit under my administration and the dedicated team I have the privilege of leading.

While I am incredibly proud of this accomplishment, I never want it to be viewed as routine.

A clean audit is not automatic. It is not something that happens because Hamilton County has experienced success in the past. Every audit begins with a clean slate, and every year we must demonstrate, through documentation, internal controls, accuracy, and accountability, that we are worthy of the public's trust.

The work that leads to a clean audit doesn't begin when the auditors arrive. It begins on the first day of the year and continues every day thereafter. Every claim processed, every payroll completed, every account reconciled, every grant administered, and every financial report prepared contributes to the final result.

Although the Auditor's Office is responsible for maintaining the County's financial records and coordinating the audit process, this achievement belongs to much more than our office alone. Every county department that manages public funds plays an important role by following established financial procedures, maintaining accurate records, and treating taxpayer dollars with the care they deserve. This accomplishment reflects a countywide commitment to fiscal responsibility.

See Audit . . . Page 2

Westfield's special census confirms near 40 percent growth since 2020

Submitted by City of Westfield

The City of Westfield has received official results from the U.S. Census Bureau confirming the city's special census population at 64,407 residents as of Sept. 15, 2025. The special census also recorded 26,020 housing units within the city.

The U.S. Census Bureau notified Mayor Scott Willis of

the results in a June 23, 2026 letter. The updated population count reflects Westfield's continued growth since the 2020 Census, when the city's population was 46,410.

Editor's note: Using the official 2020 Census Day of April 1, that means an average of 9.03



Willis

people were added to the city's population every day during the 1,994 days from April 1, 2020, through Sept. 15, 2025. The city's population grew by 38.78 percent in just less than five-and-a-half years.

The special census is expected to generate approxi-

mately \$1.6 million annually in additional population-based distributions for Westfield. These funds are not the result of new taxes. They represent state-shared revenues that are distributed based on population, meaning more of the tax dollars already being paid by Westfield residents will return directly to the community.

See Census . . . Page 2

CarmelFest turns into celebration of service

Submitted

Last weekend, residents of Hamilton County and the surrounding areas gathered at CarmelFest to observe America's Semiquincentennial and the Fourth of July. While the event was full of fun activities for kids of all ages, one booth was making an effort to give back to families of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

White's Ace Hardware hosted a First Responder Community Cookout benefiting Folds of Honor Indiana and The Smoking Pastor Project. During the cookout, veterans and first responders were provided with a complimentary meal. The Smoking Pastor Project also provided meals to the general public with a donation, Weber Grills had



Photos provided

The First Responder Community Cookout during CarmelFest benefited Folds of Honor Indiana and The Smoking Pastor Project.

food samples and Indie Coffee Roasters made coffee available in the morning.

"We are fortunate to have local partners like White's Ace Hardware and The Smoking

Pastor to help raise awareness of our mission and funds for families who have lost a loved one to service," Folds of Honor Indiana Founder & Executive Director Mike Daggett said.

"It's events like these that create true community impact and allow us to continue providing scholarships for those in need."

See Service . . . Page 2

Tipton school board approves district's first operating referendum to appear on November ballot

Submitted by Tipton Community School Corp.

At the June 30 Special Meeting of the Tipton Community School Corporation (TCSC) Board of Trustees, members voted to approve the Operating Referendum Tax Levy Resolution. With this action, an operating referendum question will be placed on the Nov. 3, 2026 ballot, giving Tipton voters the opportunity to decide the future of this funding measure.

This decision follows more

than a year of detailed financial review, community conversation, and growing pressure from statewide property-tax reform, particularly Senate Enrolled Act 1 (2025), which significantly reduces local revenue for schools.

Over the past several months, the Board has examined budgets line by line, implemented cost reductions, evaluated every alternative available, and listened closely to community feedback. This vote reflects the Board's conclusion that an

operating referendum is the most viable path to sustaining essential services for students in a public school system nearly 150 years strong.

TCSC continues to face rising financial pressures, including circuit breaker losses caused by property-tax caps. These losses reduce the dollars available for school operations each year. The referendum would help stabilize funding and protect core student services.

The proposed ballot lan-

guage asks voters whether TCSC may impose an operating tax rate not to exceed \$0.25 for up to eight years, generating no more than \$2 million annually.

For a median Tipton residence valued at \$180,600 to \$200,000, the estimated impact in 2027 is approximately \$174 to \$216 per year (about \$14 to \$18 per month). These figures are estimates based on current projections and will read:

See Tipton . . . Page 2

Correction

In a story published Monday, July 6 about Main Street Productions' upcoming play *Alice in Wonderland*, the actress in the photo portraying the Queen of Hearts was misidentified. The actress pictured is, in fact, the understudy, Amelie Thibodeau. The Reporter regrets the error.

COURSE

from Page 1

Another benefit were the bathrooms we were able to access with our tickets. It was nice not to have to fight a huge crowd in a wheelchair to use the restroom. There was a nice accessible stall that I was able to easily get into and out of in my wheelchair.

When the concert was over and the crowd thinned out quite a bit, we decided to go and look closer at some of the different seating options to make note of where some good spots would be for next time.

As we were heading out my husband said, "there's Jack Johnson." Sure enough, he was crouched down at the back of the pavilion watching the firework display. He smiled and said hello when he saw we noticed him. He graciously took a picture with us.

He was a kind soul, just as he portrays himself on stage. We were thrilled at the chance meeting.

While our evening did not go as planned, and an obstacle or two was thrown in our way, we made the most of it. When people are kind and help to make different arrangements when things are not accessible, that helps ease the frustration and disappointment.

Changing course and

holding loose expectations is something that I have learned will be helpful as a person with a disability. Often, that is our experience when we go to public events like a concert.

Every time I have been to Ruoff in recent years, I have been met with kindness from people who want to help make it an enjoyable experience.

I could not help but look up at the lawn as we were scoping out seating options. I had a moment of deep sadness remembering times when I was younger and used to climb that incline with my friends. It was not easy, but I did it.

I released that sadness and lived in gratitude that I was still able to go and experience a great summer concert, just in a different way now. Meeting Jack Johnson was the cherry on top!

Until next time ...

Amy Shinneman is a former National Ambassador for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, disability blogger, freelance writer, wife, and mom of two boys. She is the recipient of The Reporter's Winter 2025 Ink-Stained Wretch award. You can find her blog at humblycourageous.org and reach her on Instagram @ashinneman.

CENSUS

"This is about making sure Westfield receives its fair share," Mayor Scott Willis said. "Our population has grown significantly, and that growth affects the level of service our residents expect and deserve. These additional dollars will help support roads, public safety, infrastructure, and essential city services without creating a new tax burden for residents."

Special census counts allow fast-growing communities to update their official population totals between the federal decennial census. Because many state and local revenue distributions are tied to population, an accurate count helps ensure communities receive funding that reflects current needs.

For Westfield, the updated count is especially important as the city contin-

ues to invest in transportation improvements, public safety, parks, infrastructure, and services needed to support one of Indiana's fastest-growing communities.

"Westfield's growth brings tremendous opportunity, but it also requires thoughtful planning and responsible investment," Willis said. "This special census gives us a more accurate picture of who we are today and helps posi-

tion the city to better serve residents now and in the future."

City officials extend their appreciation to residents who participated in the special census process.

"We are grateful to the residents who took the time to respond and be counted," Willis said. "Their participation directly benefits the entire community by helping bring Westfield tax dollars back to Westfield."

from Page 1

SERVICE

Folds of Honor Indiana is known for its commitment to providing life-changing educational scholarships to spouses and children of fallen or disabled military personnel and first responders. Since its inception in 2007, the national Folds of Honor organization has awarded nearly 73,000 scholarships totaling over \$340 million across the United States.

CarmelFest was the second time White's Ace Hardware, The Smoking Pastor Project and Folds of Honor Indiana have partnered to raise awareness for Folds of Honor's mission. The three organizations also hosted Grill for Heroes, a themed BBQ, over Memorial Day Weekend at the Fishers location.

"Giving back has always been part of who we are as a family business," said Chris White, operations manager at White's Ace Hardware. "Partnering with Folds of Honor and The Smoking Pastor gave us an opportunity to honor those who serve, support meaningful causes, and create an event that brought our community together in a positive way."

White's Ace Hardware also took the celebrations in-store and offered special Fourth of July deals and an American flag giveaway.

The Smoking Pastor Project is dedicated to delivering high-quality, fully cooked food to local events and food pantries. The organization partners with community organizations to ensure families

have access to ready-to-heat (or eat) fully cooked meals.

For those who couldn't be at CarmelFest or didn't get a chance to stop by the White's Ace Hardware Booth, Folds of Honor Indiana hosts a variety of events throughout the year. Upcoming, Folds of Honor will host its July Cars & Coffee meet-up at Knowledge Services, just south of Fishers, on Saturday, July 25.

Folds of Honor and The Smoking Pastor Project both offer monthly donation options for individuals and families looking to make a continuous impact. Folds of Honor's Wingman Program is only \$13 per month, representing 13 folds of the American flag, and funds scholarships

for children and spouses of America's fallen or disabled heroes, and The Smoking Pastor Project's Firestarter Founders Club helps deliver high-quality protein to families who need it most.

As communities across Indiana continue to celebrate the nation's freedoms, partnerships like those between White's Ace Hardware, The Smoking Pastor Project, and Folds of Honor Indiana demonstrate how local businesses and residents can turn holiday traditions into lasting support for military families and first responders.

To learn more about upcoming events, volunteer opportunities or ways to give, visit indiana.foldsofhonor.org and smoking-pastorproject.com.

from Page 1

AUDIT

This year's results are especially meaningful be-

cause they extend beyond the County's financial statements. Hamilton County also successfully completed its Single Audit, which examines compliance with federal grant requirements, as well as a separate audit of the Title IV-D Child Support Program. Together, these audits represent a comprehensive review of how the County manages public resources, and I am proud that all were completed with no findings.

For most residents, an audit report may not make headlines. But it should provide confidence. An

independent review confirmed that Hamilton County's financial records are accurate, its internal controls are effective, and taxpayer dollars are being managed responsibly.

I could not be more grateful for the talented professionals in the Auditor's Office who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make this possible. Their attention to detail, professionalism, and commitment to excellence are evident every day, even if much of their work goes unnoticed. I am equally thankful to our fellow county departments,

whose dedication to strong financial practices makes achievements like this possible.

A clean audit is never the finish line. It is simply confirmation that we are doing the right things every day. We will continue to build on the strong foundation that has long defined the Hamilton County Auditor's Office while never taking for granted the responsibility that we have to earn the public's trust year after year.

Todd Clevenger serves as the Hamilton County Auditor.

from Page 1

Main Street Productions, Inc. Presents **Alice in Wonderland**
 Adapted by: Anne Coulter Martens
 Based on the classic by: Lewis Carroll
 Directed by: Amber K. Roth

July 16th - July 26th, 2026
 Thursday, Friday, Saturday Shows at 7:30 pm,
 Sunday Shows at 2:30 pm

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TIPTON

Shall the Tipton Community School Corporation increase property taxes paid to the school corporation for no more than eight (8) years for the purpose of providing funding to maintain academic programs, class sizes, student support, health and safety services, attract and retain teachers and support staff, maintain student transportation services, and sustain educational and operational funding stability by imposing a property tax rate that does not exceed \$0.25 and results in a maximum annual amount that does not exceed \$2,000,000. If this operating referendum public question is approved by the voters, for a median residence of \$200,000, the property's annual property tax bill would increase by \$216 per year.



Photo provided by Tipton Community School Corporation
According to district officials, students remain at the heart of every decision they make. For the first time since the district was founded, the community will be asked to consider an operating referendum to help sustain the programs and supports that shape their school experience.

TCSC is not alone in this request. Roughly one in five Indiana school districts already has an operating referendum in place, many at rates higher than what TCSC is proposing.

If approved by voters in November 2026, the operating referendum would provide revenue to help TCSC:

- Maintain class sizes and preserve academic programs
- Support student services, including counseling, special education, and intervention
- Retain and recruit qualified teachers and staff
- Protect transportation, safety, and operational needs
- Sustain long-term financial stability

Without additional operating revenue, the district will continue to face diffi-

cult decisions that could affect staffing, programming, and student opportunities.

Regardless of where community members stand on the issue, the Board's action underscores the importance of staying informed. Public education belongs to the entire Tipton community, and the referendum decision ultimately rests with voters.

Click here to watch the Board meeting. You can also find more information at tcsc.k12.in.us.

The Board encourages residents to follow upcoming informational sessions, review district materials, and engage in the process leading up to the November 2026 election. A well-informed community is essential to making thoughtful decisions about the future of TCSC.

from Page 1

INDIANA ORTHOPEDIC INSTITUTE

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Join fellowship-trained **hip and knee surgeon Dr. Kyle Stoops** to understand your options to end pain and regain mobility.

5:30 pm July 22

- ✓ Arthritis overview
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July 10



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

Tipton County Public Library invites you to “Unearth a Story” this summer

The REPORTER

The Tipton County Public Library (TCPL) invites the community to dig into its 2026 Summer Reading Program, “Unearth a Story,” running through July 31 at both the Tipton Main Library and the Windfall Branch.

The program offers reading challenges, prizes, and activities for children, teens, and adults alike.

Children and teens can register at either library location, pick up a Reading Log, track their reading throughout the month, and

earn weekly prizes along the way. All formats count toward the log, including graphic novels, audiobooks, and comics. Each child or teen may redeem one completed reading log for entry into the grand prize drawing.

Log your reading activity in July for a chance to win these grand prizes:

- \$25 Amazon Gift Card
- Squishmallows and a Brontosaurus stuffed animal
- LEGO Jurassic World and Creator 3-in-1 dinosaur sets
- A Colossal Fossil Dig Set and a Magnetic Color &

Number Maze

• An 85-piece Deluxe Wooden Art Supply Kit

Adults can join in, too. Every book or audiobook finished earns an entry slip, which readers can put toward the prize of their choice: a \$100 Amazon gift card, or

a Reading Gift Basket filled with a picnic blanket, canvas tote bag, book page holder, reading light, bookworm planter, wooden flower puzzle, book lover candle, and a \$25 Amazon gift card.

Summer Reading Program’s Thursday Main

Events:

- Freddy Fossil’s Dino Show: July 9 at 6 p.m.
- Build A Dino: July 16 at 6 p.m.
- Dinosaur Pirates with Roz Puppets: July 23 at 6 p.m.
- Silly Safari: July 30 at

6 p.m.

TCPL invites everyone to join for a summer filled with reading and rewards. Call the library at (765) 675-8761 for more information. Full program details are available at bitly.tiptonpl.org/UnearthStory.

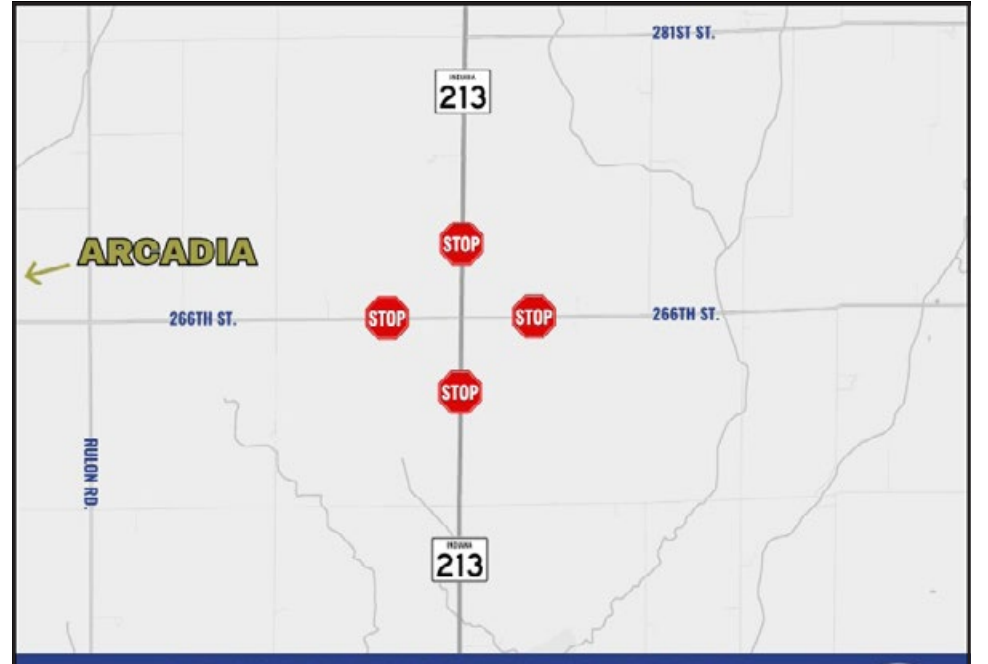
Four-way stop coming to State Road 213 south of Omega

The REPORTER

The Indiana Department of Transportation has announced that the intersection of State Road 213 and 266th Street south of Omega and east of Arcadia will be converted to a four-way stop on or after Tuesday, July 21.

The new stop condition will replace the existing two-way stop due to a history of severe right-angle crashes at the intersection. All-way stops are a proven and effective tool in reducing right-angle crashes at lower-traffic-volume intersections.

Flashing LED stop signs will be installed on State Road 213, along with ‘Stop Ahead’ signs and portable message boards marking the new traffic pattern. All work is weather-dependent, and schedules are subject to change.



S.R. 213 ALL-WAY STOP IN ARCADIA
 • ON/AFTER TUESDAY, JULY 21
 • INTERSECTION OF S.R. 213 & 266TH ST. CONVERTED TO ALL-WAY STOP
 • FLASHING LED STOP SIGNS, ADVANCED WARNING WILL BE PLACED IN THE AREA

Graphic provided by INDOT

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Riverview Health earns Gold Cribs for Kids Infant Safe Sleep Hospital Certification for second consecutive year

The REPORTER

In recognition of its commitment to best practices in infant safe sleep, Riverview Health is proud to announce it has achieved certification as a Gold Cribs for Kids® National Safe Sleep Hospital for the second consecutive year. This distinction reflects the organization’s adherence to the rigorous guidelines established by the Cribs for Kids® National Safe Sleep Hospital Certification Program.

“Earning Gold Cribs for Kids® National Safe Sleep Hospital certification reflects our unwavering commitment to protecting our most vulnerable patients,” said Tammi Newcomer, Chief Nursing Officer at Riverview Health. “By modeling evidence-based safe sleep practices and empowering families with education, we are helping create safer environments for infants both in our care and at home.”

Cribs for Kids® is a national safe sleep initiative focused on reducing infant mortality through education, advocacy, and outreach. “Sleep-related deaths are the leading cause of infant mortality, claiming the lives of approximately 3,400 infants each year,” said Michael H. Goodstein,



Photo illustration provided

M.D., neonatologist and medical director at Cribs for Kids®. “We know that caregivers often model what they observe in the hospital. By demonstrating safe sleep practices and providing education to families, hospitals play a vital role in helping reduce these preventable deaths. The Cribs for Kids® program recognizes hospitals that make this important commitment.”

“We are committed to ensuring that every newborn and infant at Riverview Health receives the highest level of care,” said Ashley Wilson, Director of Women’s Health Services at Riverview Health. “Our team has worked diligently

to meet the requirements to earn this certification and underscores our dedication to providing safe sleep care for babies.”

Riverview Health is committed to delivering personalized, patient-centered care that meets the unique needs of women at every stage of life. Through a skilled team of physicians, specialists, and care teams, the health system provides comprehensive women’s health services close to home. Empowering patients with clear information about their care options and guidance to make informed decisions remains a central focus of Riverview Health’s approach.

Dr. Bridget Hurry, Medical Director and practicing OB/GYN hospitalist at Riverview Health, notes: “A key part of advancing women’s health is empowering mothers with the knowledge they need to care for themselves and their babies. Safe sleep practices are a simple but critical step in reducing risk and ensuring healthier outcomes for families.”

For more information about Cribs for Kids® National Safe Sleep Hospital Certification Program, visit cribsforkids.org/hospital-certification. For more information about Riverview Health’s maternity services, visit riverview.org/services/maternity.

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Community FIRST
 Bank of Indiana

* APY is Annual Percentage Yield. APY is effective as of 6/30/2026 and is subject to change without notice. Minimum balance to open account and obtain APY is \$1,000.00. Early withdrawal may be subject to penalty. Fees may reduce earnings on the account. Other standard and special rate maturity terms are available. Member FDIC



Graphic provided by City of Carmel

Welcome to Songbook City

The REPORTER

Throughout the month of July, the City of Carmel has officially been designated Songbook City to recognize the Songbook Foundation and its work to preserve and celebrate the history of popular music.

You can take part in the monthlong celebration at three public **Songbook Academy** events coming up next week, plus a brand new exhibit titled *Unforgettable* opening later this month in the Traditions Senior Communities Song-

book Gallery. Residents and visitors alike can also explore special street signs honoring legendary artists and songwriters whose work continues to shape the Great American Songbook. Take a stroll along City Cen-

ter Drive or Carter Green and use the map to discover each of the unique signs. When you spot one, snap a photo, tag @SongbookFoundation, and use #SongbookCity to share it. Learn more at thesongbook.org/songbookcity.

Aspire Indiana Health names new leadership structure

The REPORTER

Aspire Indiana Health, a nonprofit community health system with wide reach across central Indiana, has announced a new leadership structure to guide its continued growth in both geography and scope of impact.

“Over the past several years, Aspire has grown significantly in scale, complexity and impact. We now serve more communities, offer more services and support more people than ever before,” President & CEO Antony Sheehan said. “As we move forward, our leadership structure is guided by two simple principles: Better Connected Care and Better Stewardship.”

Dr. Holly Oh will lead the clinical services across the entire organization as Chief Medical Officer. That care will be divided across four teams led by recently promoted leaders: Senior Vice President of Operations, Mike Keevin; Senior Vice President of Crisis and Addiction Continuum, Vanessa Pataky; and Senior Vice President of Residential and Community Care, Kelly Howe. A leader to be named later will oversee Outpatient Care. Donna Stealy has been promoted to Vice President of Nursing.

As Aspire has grown, it has sought and secured strategic partnerships with local governments and colleague organizations to strengthen its ability to assist Hoosiers facing complex health challenges. As a reflection of this more entrepreneurial approach, Aspire has hired

Nick Snoply into a newly created role as Chief Business & Strategy Officer.

Snoply joins Aspire from the for-profit healthcare sector, with more than 20 years of experience leading organizations across a wide range of environments, from large, complex care delivery systems to smaller, high-growth and turnaround settings.

“What has impressed me most about Nick is his clear desire to contribute to a mission-driven organization where integrated care, prevention and compassionate service genuinely matter,” Sheehan said.

In this capacity, Snoply will oversee Finance, Strategy, and Marketing teams. Ben Vance has been promoted to Senior Vice President of Finance. Kevin Sheward will continue as Vice President of Strategy & Business and Christopher Lloyd as Vice President of Marketing and Communications.

Aspire is certified as both an Indiana Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) and Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), with nine health centers across Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Madison, Marion, and Shelby counties. It also operates an addiction recovery continuum, housing and employment assistance programs, a 24/7 crisis continuum, and direct services to homeless populations.

For more information about Aspire leadership, please visit aspireindiana.org/about/leadership.



Oh



Snoply

By TIM SPEARS

WISH-TV | wistv.com

Gov. Mike Braun said the future of the death penalty will be up to state lawmakers.

“It’s not an easy conversation,” Gov. Braun said during a July 2 news conference when asked about the future of Indiana’s death penalty.

There are five men on Indiana’s death row. The Attorney General’s Office is currently requesting an execution date for Jeffrey Weisheit, a death row inmate convicted of murdering two young children in 2010. The state has put three

men to death over the last 18 months since it resumed executions under former Gov. Eric Holcomb, all by lethal injection.

But News 8’s reporting partner Indiana Capital Chronicle **found the new Westville Correctional Facility is being built to accommodate executions by firing squad.**

“There are many that want to have a broader conversation on capital punishment in general,” Braun said. “There are some legislators that want to, some it’s not a big deal to [do].”



Braun

House lawmakers **narrowly voted against authorizing the firing squad** in January. Recent efforts to abolish the death penalty in Indiana have failed to gain traction.

Pentobarbital, the deadly drug Indiana uses to carry out capital punishment, is difficult to obtain, costs about \$300,000 per dose, and only holds a 90-day shelf life. About \$600,000 worth of pentobarbital that Indiana had purchased **ended up expiring before it could be used**, last year.

“You can see that it’s not an easy navigation ... to actually be able to count on it,” Braun said.

The Indiana Department of Correction previously told News 8 it **does not know the total cost to execute a prisoner.**

Braun avoided suggesting any action lawmakers should take on the death penalty.

“That will be up to them to have that discussion,” Braun said. “And I will weigh in accordingly.”

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wistv.com/news/politics/governor-braun-death-penalty.



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www.spartz.house.gov



Photo provided

The Voice of Generations returns to Carmel July 24

The REPORTER

Celebrated as the "Voice of Generations," Art Garfunkel is a Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee, winner of eight Grammys (including the Lifetime Achievement Award) and one of *Rolling Stone's* 100 Greatest Singers of All Time.

He returns to Carmel at 8 p.m. Friday, July 24 when he will perform at the Payne

& Mencias Palladium.

As co-founder of the folk duo Simon & Garfunkel, he shaped popular culture with songs such as "Bridge Over Troubled Water," "The Sound of Silence" and "Mrs. Robinson." His solo hits have included "I Only Have Eyes for You," "(What a Wonderful World)" and "All I Know."

[Click here](#) to get tickets.

Coming up in July at Kroger Symphony on the Prairie

The REPORTER

The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra (ISO) and Kroger *Symphony on the Prairie* continue this month with six concerts featuring the orchestra. Running through Labor Day weekend, the outdoor concert series features performances by the ISO, nationally recognized tribute artists, and family programming.

For a limited time only, save 30 percent off any ticket with the code SUMMER30 on the ISO's website.

The July concerts include:

- Music of *Star Wars* with the ISO, July 10
- Serpentine Fire: The Music of Earth, Wind & Fire with the ISO, July 11
- Decades: Back to the 80s with the ISO, July 17
- Summer Breeze: Yacht Rock Classics with the ISO, July 18
- Music of *Harry Potter*: An Evening at Hogwarts with the ISO, July 24

• Disney in Concert with Jack Everly and the ISO, July 25

The July 25 concert will also feature a preshow concert of the *Teddy Bear Concert Series* for ages 3 to 7, which is free to ticketholders and begins at 7 p.m. Additional summer shows at Kroger *Symphony on the Prairie* include Let's Sing Sabrina & Harry, One Night of Queen, a tribute to the Beatles, the Phil Collins Experience, Eaglemania, a Tribute to Hall & Oates, and more.

Tickets for all Kroger *Symphony on the Prairie* performances are available now. For a limited time only, use the code SUMMER30 when checking out at IndianapolisSymphony.org to receive 30 percent off tickets to any concert. Tickets are also available for purchase at most central Indiana Kroger stores.

For a complete schedule and ticket information, [click here](#).

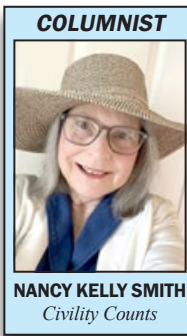
Monkey see, monkey do

I was on the phone recently with my sister-in-law in California. Not surprisingly, our conversation eventually turned to our pre-school age grandsons and our children. She related this time that her grandson is now apparently "into" the animated children's show *Peppa Pig*. The characters speak in a British accent, and the mother is called "Mummy."

So one day my sister-in-law's grandson approached his mother, who was raised speaking Spanish, and asked in a British accent, "Mummy, can I please have...?"

This episode brought to mind the time our daughter was about three years old and saw her father doing sit-ups. She plopped herself down on the floor next to him, tucked her feet under the couch as her daddy had done, and started doing her own sit-ups!

Children and youth are listening, watching, and imitating what they hear and see.



COLUMNIST
NANCY KELLY SMITH
Civility Counts

Earlier during the phone call with my sister-in-law, I had shared that I had recently written a column for The Hamilton County Reporter on good manners. My sister-in-law emphasized that the way children really learn how to behave is by watching how the adults in their lives behave. Certainly true!

Unfortunately, some adults, perhaps especially at sporting events, choose incivility rather than civil behavior. A neighbor recently shared that while she was at her grandson's youth baseball game, a couple of men were yelling at the umpire so consistently that eventually they had to be expelled from the game. Also, a coach of a youth baseball team shared with me that coaches can be competitive but "don't go over the line." However, there was a game five years ago when the coaches got physical and the police had to be called!

Young people were

watching at both events. What were they learning?

Are we heading in a more civil direction in youth sports now? Or are there other factors at play in these sports that are increasing the possibility of incivility?

One experience I have had with youth sports was when my four-year-old grandson played in a basketball "game" with other four-year-olds in a church athletic facility. I was sitting in the bleachers, and my son-in-law was on the sidelines as buzzer keeper. During the game, I saw my little grandson leave the court and go to his daddy and climb up on his lap, staying with him for the rest of the game. I was wondering what had happened, and learned after the game that another four-year-old player had told my grandson that he can't play basketball! (For the record, I have seen my grandson make many baskets!) My grandson's feelings were deeply hurt by the other player's unkind words.

My son-in-law, to his credit, did not confront the coach during the game about

the incident (and inform him what had been said to my grandson if the coach had been unaware), nor did he then insist the coach talk with the "offender" immediately. Instead, my son-in-law calmly approached the coach after the game and civilly explained the situation to be sure the coach was aware of the other player's inappropriate behavior, so the coach could address it in the future if it were to occur again.

Adults can choose to be good role models giving children and youth lessons on how to behave by modeling civility – treating other human beings with respect and staying calm and reasonable even in tense or frustrating situations.

My sister-in-law was right. Children, and youth, are listening, watching, and imitating.

Monkey see, monkey do.

Nancy Kelly Smith is a retired English professor and published author. She is also an Ambassador for the national civility organization Civic Renaissance. Learn more at civic-renaissance.com.

Take a swing at Westfield Young Professionals golf outing

Submitted

Ladies and gentlemen, get ready to tee off at the Westfield Young Professionals Board's fourth annual golf outing. Swing your way to success from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 26 at Wood Wind Golf Club, 2302 W. 161st St., Westfield. The shotgun start will be at 9:30 a.m.

Whether you're an experienced pro or new to the course, this event is your chance to network with other young professionals of Westfield and Hamilton County while enjoying great golf at Wood Wind Golf Course. Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals and learn more about our community. This outing is open to young professionals who live and/or work in Westfield and Hamilton County.

The Westfield Young

Professionals Council, a Council of the Westfield Chamber of Commerce, connects ambitious, visionary young professionals with a robust and diverse network of peers, mentors, and regional business and civic leaders.

[Click here](#) to register. **Golfer information**

Your ticket includes a round of golf on the 18-hole championship golf course. Additionally, golfers have access to the practice range before the golf outing begins, two golf carts per foursome, a Bloody Mary Bar, a box lunch to take with you on the course, and entry to the 19th Hole Reception, featuring an awards ceremony and hors d'oeuvres.

Prizes will be given for

first, second, and third place. Hole sponsors are also giving away prizes at the reception.

Here are the 2025 golf packages available:

1. Foursome Team: \$400 Member / \$600 Non-Member; four players included; two golf carts

2. Two Player Team: \$200 Member / \$400 Non-Member; two players included, plus two golfers assigned to the team; one golf cart

3. Individual Golfer: \$100 Member / \$200 Non-Member; one player included, who will be assigned to a team to create a foursome; shared golf cart

Sponsorship opportunities

[Click here](#) to purchase a sponsorship opportunity on the Westfield Chamber

website. Once your payment has been received, a Westfield Chamber Staff Member will reach out to obtain a high-resolution version of your company's artwork. Arrival and set-up instructions will be sent the week prior to the event. If you have additional questions, please reach out to info@westfieldchamberindy.com.

Volunteer at the Outing

Here is an opportunity for non-golfers in your office to participate. To pull off a successful golf outing, the Westfield Young Professionals need go-getter volunteers the day of the event. Help will be needed with checking people in, marshaling sponsors to their holes, driving volunteers on the course, ground support across the course, 19th Hole Reception setup, and more. [Click here](#) to volunteer.



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The Reporter!

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America's charitable food system is missing the most important ingredient

America's fight against hunger has long centered on one question: Are people getting enough food?



DANIEL LECKIE

That narrow focus is no longer enough – and thankfully, the federal government is starting to take action. The U.S. Departments of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Agriculture (USDA) just invested millions of dollars in an initiative to expand access to protein-rich foods nationwide.

That investment couldn't come at a more critical time. Staple protein-rich foods, like beef, seafood, and dairy, are among the most expensive items in Americans' grocery carts.

Millions of households have turned to the charitable food system for assistance. But there, too, protein is missing. That should concern us all: as nutrition insecurity deepens, it fuels a

parallel crisis in chronic disease.

Roughly 50 million Americans rely on charitable food assistance every year. And that number is likely to rise: recently passed legislation will cut Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) funding by 20 percent over the next decade, affecting benefits for more than 22 million families.

As the need for charitable food support grows, the system will have to evolve if it's to provide the nutrient most essential for satiety, muscle development, metabolic stability, and healthy aging.

The issue isn't a lack of supply. America produces an abundance of eggs, dairy, beef, pork, and poultry. The problem is that our charitable infrastructure was never built to move perishable protein efficiently at scale.

Animal protein requires specialized refrigeration, co-

ordinated transportation, and predictable purchasing systems. Right now, cold storage capacity varies widely across the pantry network.

Most food banks were designed around donated, shelf-stable products because they're easier to store, transport, and distribute. As a result, highly processed foods flow through the system far more consistently than fresh, nutrient-dense proteins.

Today, three in four American adults are overweight or obese. Nearly one in three teenagers already

has prediabetes. These conditions are particularly prevalent in the communities that rely most heavily on charitable food assistance.

It's time to reexamine how we think about food access. For decades, nutrition programs and hunger efforts have focused on general food security. That focus must expand to include nutrition security: pairing caloric quantity with nutritional quality, so that families can obtain diets that are both satiating and healthy.

At HATCH, the nonprofit

I lead, we see the need every day. Food banks are explicitly requesting eggs, ground beef, milk, and cheese. Families want real, whole foods; the obstacle is purely a matter of access. And that access gap can be overcome with targeted infrastructure investment, coordinated purchasing systems, and long-term public-private partnerships capable of moving protein predictably across the country.

If we are serious about reducing chronic disease, improving childhood nutri-

tion, and supporting healthier communities, protein access must be at the center of the national conversation. America already produces enough protein to solve this problem; now we need the collective will – and the right partners – to deliver it.

Daniel Leckie is the CEO at HATCH, a nutrition-focused nonprofit that connects protein producers, food banks, and donors to build a reliable supply chain for animal protein. For more information, visit hatchforhunger.com.

Kebe names second co-chair for her state treasurer campaign

Submitted

Democratic nominee for Indiana State Treasurer Coumba Kebe announced on Tuesday, July 7 that State Representative Cherish Pryor (D-Indianapolis) will serve as a co-chair for her statewide campaign.



Pryor

Rep. Pryor, who serves as the House Democratic Caucus Floor Chair and is a prominent member of the House Ways and Means Committee, brings extensive legislative leadership and deep roots in central Indiana to the campaign team.

The endorsement marks the second major campaign co-chair announcement for Kebe, whose platform focuses on three core pillars: Accountability, Transparency, and Security. Rep. Pryor highlighted Kebe's background in public health and corporate compliance as critical assets for protecting working families and expanding state-level financial transparency.

"Hoosiers deserve to see exactly how their public dollars are working for them," Rep. Pryor said. "Coumba Kebe has spent her career navigating complex budgets and strict regulatory compliance. I am proud to co-chair her campaign because she will pull back the curtain on state finances and give working-class families the transparency and clarity they deserve."

Rep. Pryor's addition to the campaign leadership team underscores Kebe's growing momentum across Indiana following her official nomination at the Indiana Democratic State Convention last month.

"I am incredibly honored to welcome Representative Pryor to our team as

a campaign co-chair," Kebe said. "Representative Pryor is a fierce advocate for economic fairness, housing stability, and public education infrastructure. Together, we will work to aggressively expand wealth-building tools like the CollegeChoice 529 program so everyday Hoosiers can take real steps toward generational financial stability right here in Indiana."

With Rep. Pryor anchoring the campaign's leadership in central Indiana and Rep. Earl Harris Jr. serving as co-chair in Northwest Indiana, the Kebe campaign continues to build a robust, statewide operation focused on fiscal accountability and community wealth. The campaign will announce its final regional co-chair next week.

About Coumba Kebe

Coumba Kebe is a healthcare executive, entrepreneur, public health professional, and the 2026 Democratic Nominee for Indiana State Treasurer. Raised in Indianapolis, she is a first-generation American who holds a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Public Health in Health Policy and Management from Indiana University. Her professional career includes serving as a Corporate Compliance and Training Officer and Director of Field Operations, where she managed complex logistics and multi-million-dollar budgets. As the founder of Scope Consulting, she is dedicated to ensuring state financial decisions are transparent, secure, and accountable to working families.

Learn more about the candidate at KebeForIndiana.com.

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New this week at Sheridan Public Library

The REPORTER

Here are some of the new items that can be found at the Sheridan Public Library.

Fiction

- Carl's Doomsday Scenario – Matt Dinniman
- Dolly All the Time – Annabel Monaghan
- It Could Have Been Her – Lisa Jewel
- Lowcountry Boil – Susan M. Boyer

san M. Boyer

- Lowcountry Bombshell – Susan M. Boyer
- Midlife Birthday Club – Rachel Hanna
- Not What It Seems – Lisa Jackson
- Reasons to Be Loved By You – Hannah Brown
- Wait and See – Iris Johansen
- Weddings – Danielle Steel

• Whisper Creek – Allison Brennan

Non-Fiction

- Courage Can Save Us – Rye Barcott
 - Strangers – Belle Burden
 - There Are Dads Way Worse Than You – G. Boozan
- Children's**
- American, I'm So Glad You Were Born – A. Earhardt

• Dad & His Crew Power Through – Sherri Duskey

- Fun facts & silly stories: the big one! – Ripleys
- Dr. Zeus – James Paterson
 - Flat Cat – Tara Lazar
 - Fun Facts & Silly Stories: Hop Right In! - Ripleys
 - Goodnight Train – Adam Gamble
 - Home is a Heartbeat –

Laekan Zea Kemp

- Pigeon Won't Play with Shapes – Moe Willems
 - Rock Paper Incisors – Amy Timberlake
 - Runaway Cone – Morgan Hood
 - Sing the 50 United States! – Dr. Seuss
 - Skunk Goes Potty – James Patterson
- Inspirational Fiction**
- All Roads Lead to

Michigan – Hope Callaghan

- Chase the Light – Suzanne Woods Fisher
 - Melody of Love – Wanda Brunstetter
 - Shakedown in Savannah – Hope Callaghan
- Young Adults**
- Audre & Bash Are Just Friends – Tia Williams
 - Heiress Among Thieves – Emily Wibberley

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.

Carmel High School Class of 1976 Reunion

Submitted by Sharon Kibbe

The planning committee for our 50th class reunion is busy searching far and wide for classmates we've lost touch with.

If you have not yet connected via our private Facebook page, or if you know of classmates not active on social media, please contact carmelin1976.50threunion@gmail.com so we can send details about the Sept. 18 and 19 reunion weekend.

We have loads of fun in store, including two gatherings, lots of time to reconnect, and a one-hour tour of our old CHS stomping grounds. We are looking forward to celebrating with everyone!

Coffee Hour for Veterans

Attention Veterans in northern Hamilton County ...

From 9 to 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month, Veterans and the general public are welcome to get together at Remnant Coffee Shop, 101 W. Main St. (266th Street), Arcadia.

Come get to know other Veterans in the area. Tea drinkers are welcome.

New physician-led Gracewell Senior Living project to break ground on two homes in Westfield

Submitted

Gracewell Senior Living will celebrate the official groundbreaking of its new assisted living and memory care community at 2 p.m. Friday, July 10 at 17302 Lillian St., Westfield.

The project will include two single-story, boutique senior living homes, each designed for just 16 residents, creating a more intimate and residential alternative to traditional large-scale senior care facilities. The homes will offer private suites, elegant shared living spaces, chef-prepared meals, secure memory care programming, and carefully designed indoor and outdoor environments that support comfort, dignity, and connection.

Gracewell Senior Living is being developed by physician founder Dr. Scott Ries and his wife, Becky Ries, whose background as a licensed physical therapist assistant brings additional insight into mobility, aging, and quality-of-life needs for seniors. Together, they envisioned Gracewell as a different kind of senior living experience: one that feels less institutional and more like home, while still providing the attentive support



Rendering provided

This artist's rendering shows how the two single-story homes will look.

families expect for their loved ones.

"Gracewell was born from the belief that seniors deserve more than safety and supervision; they deserve beauty, dignity, highly personalized attention, and a true sense of home," Dr. Scott Ries said. "We are grateful to bring this vision to Westfield and Hamilton County, and we are excited to begin construction on a community designed around life, luxury, and love."

The Gracewell homes will feature a luxury residential design, including refined finishes, inviting common

areas, fireplaces, a salon, library, garden-focused spaces, and a landscaped central outdoor garden. The community's smaller scale is intended to support stronger relationships between residents, families, and caregivers, while allowing for more personalized attention and a more comfortable daily rhythm.

Gracewell Senior Living will serve seniors needing assisted living support as well as those living with memory loss. Its model emphasizes attentive caregiving, meaningful daily engagement, chef-prepared

dining, and a calm, beautiful environment created specifically for older adults and their families.

The groundbreaking ceremony will bring together project leaders, local officials, community members, investors, and supporters to mark the beginning of construction.

Gracewell Senior Living is expected to become one of Hamilton County's most distinctive senior living options, offering a boutique alternative for families seeking an elevated, highly personalized assisted living and memory care environment.

Thanks for reading The Reporter!

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Red Cross urges you to donate blood or platelets

The REPORTER

Every day, volunteer blood and platelet donors are needed to help those in need of lifesaving transfusions, including accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, newborn babies, and patients receiving treatment for cancer, or sickle cell disease.

As the American Red Cross continues to experience an urgent need for blood donors, members of the community are encouraged to give now at the new Blood and Platelet Donation Centers in Noblesville.

As a thank-you to donors, anyone who donates blood or platelets at new Red Cross Blood and Platelet Donation Centers will receive a \$20 Kroger Gift



American Red Cross

Card while supplies last. This card can be used to ward groceries or gas.

To schedule an appointment, visit RedCrossBlood.org and under "Find a Blood Drive" enter 46202 for Indianapolis or 46062 for Noblesville. You can also call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App.

How to donate blood & platelets

All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable

supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet do-

Noblesville Blood & Platelet Donation Center
 14765 Hazel Dell Crossing, Suite 700

Monday: Closed
 Tuesday: 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 Wednesday: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
 Thursday: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
 Friday: Closed
 Saturday: 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 Sunday: Closed

donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

Sen. Banks urges Commerce Department to protect American innovation from Chinese patent scraping

Submitted by Office of U.S. Senator Jim Banks

On Monday, July 6, U.S. Senator Jim Banks (R-Ind.) sent a letter to Commerce Sec. Howard Lutnick urging the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to protect American innovation from Chinese companies that are using AI to scrape U.S. patent applications and accelerate the theft of American intellectual property.

The letter warns that Chinese companies are increasingly leveraging AI to analyze biotechnology patent information, develop derivative technologies, and file competing patents before American innovators can bring their products to market. This practice threatens U.S. competitiveness, weakens incentives for research and development, and further exposes the American biotechnology sector to Chinese Communist Party exploitation.

The full letter appears below.

Dear Secretary Lutnick:

Since the 1980s, the Chinese Communist Party has prioritized biotechnology as a strategic sector, investing heavily in research infrastructure and training while streamlining regulations to speed product

development and approvals. Too many U.S. companies were lured into China as a hub for manufacturing cheap active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and generic drugs and, consequently, the U.S. has become increasingly dependent on China's biotech industry. In a 2024 Biotechnology Innovation Organization survey, 79% of American biotech companies reported at least one contract or product agreement with a China-based or Chinese-owned manufacturer. This reliance not only creates vulnerabilities in our domestic supply chains but further exposes America's biotech sector to a country that actively seeks to undercut and exploit our industries.

China's efforts to steal U.S. intellectual property are well documented and increasingly sophisticated. Chinese companies routinely examine U.S. pharmaceutical patents to identify promising compounds and accelerate the development of their own drug candidates. They are appropriating American innovators' work without bearing the underlying R&D costs. Compound-



Banks

ing this, Chinese companies are now leveraging artificial intelligence to rapidly mine patent applications and research disclosures and file derivative patents before the original innovators can even bring their pharmaceuticals to market.

Patent scraping is intensifying the Chinese IP threat and risks undercutting American R&D investment, particularly given China's rapid drug approval process. When competitors can appropriate an invention, make minor modifications, and obtain regulatory approval before the original in-

novator, the incentives for investing in R&D are fundamentally weakened. Moreover, low-quality, AI-generated filings can burden patent systems. Machine-scale applications with little or no meaningful human contribution may further strain USPTO by worsening examination backlogs and complicating prior-art analysis.

I appreciate USPTO's attention to the patent scraping problem and engagement so far. I respectfully urge you and Under Secretary Squires to continue prioritizing reform and protecting innovations that are vulnerable to AI-enabled duplication.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Letter to the Editor

What not to do if you find a baby animal

Dear Editor:

Early spring and summer are generally the seasons many animals raise their families, from deer to rabbits to birds. Animals make it their "mission" to continue their lineage. Unfortunately, the environment and/or humans can impede them from accomplishing this goal.

It is important to know what to do if you find an injured or abandoned animal, but most important we need to know what NOT to do. For example, just because you see a bunny nest and no mother, she has not left them alone. In order to not draw attention to them, she only feeds them morning and evening then she goes away. Most baby animals are being cared for even if you do not observe it. Baby robins jump from the nest before they can fly and spend up to a week hopping on the ground and slowly going higher into bushes and then trees all while being fed by both parents.

Unless an animal is in obvious danger or injured it is best to put animals back in their nest and watch from afar for parental care. If you find an injured or abandoned animal the most important things to know is to keep it safe and warm and DO NOT feed it anything. For example, birds do not drink milk or eat bread and squirrels do not eat processed human food.

It is best to contact a licensed Indiana wildlife rehabilitator found on the IN DNR website. Rehabbers are listed by county and the animals they will take.

Please help our wild animals in the safest way possible.

Nancy Tatum
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.

Meeting Notices

The Westfield Board of Zoning Appeals meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 14, 2026, has been canceled.

The Noblesville Common Council will meet on the following dates to discuss the 2027 budget. Meetings will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. in A213 and A214 at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St.
 July 28
 Aug. 4
 Aug. 11
 Aug. 18

The Hamilton County Plan Commission meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 15, 2026, has been canceled due to a lack of petitions for consideration. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2026.

The Hamilton County Board of Zoning Appeals will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 22, 2026, in the Commissioners' Courtroom / Council Chambers on the first floor of the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

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.

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Darren James Holcomb**January 22, 1960 – May 12, 2026**

Darren James Holcomb, 66, Westfield, passed away on May 12, 2026, leaving his family in shock and deep mourning.

Darren was born in New Castle, Ind., to parents Edward and Betty Jean Holcomb. He and his older brother, Dale, grew up in Cambridge City, Ind. After the death of their father, their mother married USAF CMSgt. Ron Kerrigan, and they eventually moved to Maryland, where Darren lived for 23 years.

Darren recognized quality at age 7 while helping his grandmother with sales in her gift shop. That eye for craftsmanship would shape the rest of his life.

Darren earned a degree in Business Management from the University of Maryland and went on to manage landscaping crews for one of the East Coast's largest landscaping companies, maintaining the grounds of Capitol Hill, embassies, the Watergate complex, and other notable Washington sites. It was there he discovered his lifelong passion for landscaping.

When Darren's parents retired to Indiana, he relocated to Westfield to be close to family and founded his own landscaping business, which thrived for years.

Darren completed all state requirements for landscaping, including Purdue's Pesticides Program, and earned credentials as an Indiana Accredited Horticulturist. He was known for his skills in tree care, trimming, and shaping, and was well regarded by clients and colleagues for his craftsmanship and dedication. He trained in advanced techniques such as root collar excavation and continued to seek knowledge of "natural" ways to keep the environment safe.

Darren received many accolades over the years for his superb work, his creativity, and his ability to listen to customers' wishes – and customers were always pleased with the results of each job.

In recent years, staffing shortages made the work increasingly difficult, but he persevered until his health no longer allowed it.

Darren cherished his family and found joy in his relationships with customers, neighbors, and friends. He would have wanted to thank all of you for being a part of his life ... so I'm doing that for him.

Darren will rest in peace among family in Crown Hill Cemetery's Field of Valor in Indianapolis. No public memorial services are planned. Prayers for Darren and his family would be appreciated.

From Dale: I felt the excitement that you felt with the beauty and appearance that every completed job had. The praise and thanks the customers gave you for a job well done made your choice of this profession worthwhile.

I'm sorry that our dream of being together in our older years will never come to pass. I realize that I never told my little brother how much he meant to me and that I loved him as no other.

From Mom: At birth, I told you that you were "my little ray of sunshine" ... and you will always be. I will be thinking of you every day until we are together again.

We love you so much, Darren. – Mom & Dale

**Janet L. Randall****December 23, 1942 – July 4, 2026**

Janet Lynne (Wilson) Randall, 83, Carmel, passed away on Saturday, July 4, 2026. She was born on December 23, 1942, in Lebanon, Ind., to Charles and Sarah (Baker) Wilson.

Following graduation from Carmel High School in 1961, Janet worked for Indianapolis Life Insurance as an office assistant. Later, she was employed with Orchard Park Presbyterian Church and Forrest Dale Elementary School as a secretary. After several years with Carmel Clay Schools, Janet retired as Administrative Assistant. Janet and Neal were married on June 16, 1962.

Janet was a charter and active member of Carmel Christian Church, having served in the various roles as Sunday School teacher, Board member, Deacon, Elder, and a member of the Christian Women's Fellowship during her more than 60 years. She enjoyed serving on many church committees such as Outreach, Hospitality, and Care Ministry. She especially appreciated the Crafting Group where they crocheted beautiful baby blankets, scarves, and hats which were donated to hospitals, schools, and shelters. Also, Janet was a former board member of the Friends of Carmel Clay Public Library and volunteered in the library bookstore. Janet was a docent with the Carmel Clay Historical Society. She also spent many hours as a volunteer at St. Vincent Hospice, where her faith grew by working alongside the many dedicated people. Janet commented that above all else, she learned God watches over each one during the good times and the difficult times. Her stated desire was everyone who had been a part of her life would carry God personally and lean on His ever-present love.

Janet was an avid reader, with her favorite genre being historical fiction. Her dad, also a voracious reader, would take her and sister, Sue, to the library every week, which was a very good example to follow.

Serving as presidents of Carmel Band Boosters during the 1980s and volunteering in PTO, Janet and Neal were always involved in their children's school activities.

In addition to her parents, Janet was preceded in death by her sister, Sue Wilson Page.

Survivors include her loving husband of 64 years, Neal Randall; son, Scott (Kim) Randall; daughter, Jodi Randall; grandson, Devin Goedeker; granddaughters, Holly (Chris) Trowbridge, Stacy Randall, and Alyssa Randall; step-granddaughter, Kaleigh Bowers; and step-grandson, Jesse Bowers.

Family and friends will gather at 11 a.m. Thursday, July 9, 2026, at Carmel Christian Church, 463 E. Main St., Carmel, where the Funeral Service will begin at 1 p.m.

A Committal Service will take place at 2:30 p.m. at Carmel Cemetery.

In memory of Janet, donations may be made to Carmel Christian Church, 463 E. Main St., Carmel, IN 46032.

Envelopes will be available at the church.

Bussell Family Funerals is privileged to assist the family with arrangements.

Condolences: bussellfamilyfunerals.com

**James "Jim" Everett Thompson, Sr.****November 20, 1940 – June 29, 2026**

James "Jim" Everett Thompson, Sr., 85, passed away peacefully on Monday, June 29, 2026, at Homewood Health in Lebanon, Ind., surrounded by the love of his family.

The fifth of six children, he and his twin sister, Betty Lou, were born at home on their farmstead in Monticello, Ind., on November 20, 1940, to the late Fred A. and Nellie (Willhelm) Thompson. He often lovingly joked that Betty's sweet nature made her take so long

to be born that they nearly had to celebrate their birthday for two days in a row, yes-siree Bob!

Growing up a farm boy, Jim developed a deep love of animals, often finding injured creatures and nursing them back to health. One such story he was especially proud of telling involved an endangered Red-tailed Hawk that refused to leave his side even after its wing healed, following him all over the farm. He said his dad warned him that it was illegal to keep a hawk as a pet, so he took it out to the back pasture with the intention to set it free. But nothing he did to drive it away worked! Instead, it calmly waited and then followed him all the way back to the house. He would always shrug at this point in the story and ask, "What could I do if the little guy picked me?" Jim was often "picked" during his lifetime by helpless animals such as squirrels, baby raccoons, and once even a skunk!

Working from dawn to dusk cultivated strong work ethics, stubborn perseverance, and his MacGyver-like ability to fix anything he set his mind on. He would often say, "If I can't fix it, it ain't broke!"

He met his future wife, Jean, at Indiana Academy where he spent four years getting into mischief like hauling the boy's dean's car all the way to the top of the Chapel steps with his friends as a Senior prank. After graduation, he attended Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., studying Animal Science until he and Jean were married on August 27, 1961. God blessed them with 63 years of marriage before laying her to rest.

During his lifetime, Jim built custom homes and furniture with his exemplary carpentry skills; trained and showed German Shepherds and Dobermans; drove long-haul trucks for Little Debbie; accompanied his wife on the harmonica while she played and sang in churches all over the United States; served as a foster then adoptive parent; mentored youth and was active for many decades as both Director of the Cicero Pathfinder Club and Area Coordinator of the Indiana Conference of SDA. He loved to roller skate, play volleyball, and was the reigning Ping Pong Champion of the family! He was a member of the Cicero Seventh-Day Adventist Church where he also served as a Deacon. He was the Maintenance Superintendent for the Indiana Conference and Indiana Academy Campus, spending many years prepping the grounds for Camp Meeting and Alumni functions.

He would often refer to himself as a Jack-of-all-Trades because there was literally nothing he couldn't do. He co-owned J&J Construction with his wife until illness forced him into early retirement. However, he did not view his failing health as a setback. Instead, he and Jean became "snowbirds" traveling the countryside in a Four Seasons motor home until settling down as volunteers at Timber Ridge Camp in Spencer, Ind. There he assisted in building the camp's Nature Center where he and Jean were affectionately referred to as Father and Mother Nature by campers and staff alike. During his time there, he could be found teaching classes on fishing, canoeing, horsemanship, animal track and bird identification, flowers, rocks, and fossils. He even built a terrarium and hosted petting zoos where he told Nature Nugget stories to the children!

He had a stubborn resolve which served him well throughout his life as he fiercely stood strong in his faith, even when faced with the decline in his wife's health. He lovingly cared for her until God called her home, continuing to loyally yearn for the day they would be reunited in Heaven. He had a wealth of knowledge that only a lifetime of lived experiences could truly give, and he was always willing to share his advice, leaving no room for doubt by ending it with "that's just common sense!"

He is survived by son, Jim (Lori) Thompson, Jr. of Kirklint; daughter, Sherri (William) Young of Glenwood, Ark.; adopted daughter, Sonja (Vincent) Lewis of Lawton, Okla.; granddaughter, Cindi (Douglas) McCaslin of Arcadia; granddaughter, Sandi (Davon) Hardy of Anderson; grandson, Bernie (Alicia) Brandt of Tallahassee, Fla.; grandson, Bradley (Melissa) Thompson of Mesa, Ariz.; grandson, Jordan Wells of Indianapolis; and grandson, Jacob Young of Glenwood, Ark. God blessed him with nine great-grandchildren: Sylvanna Thompson, Gigi Thompson, Isaiah Hardy, Gage McCaslin, Mason McCaslin, Sophia McCaslin, Bradley Thompson, Jr., and Ezra Brandt.

He was preceded in death by his father, Fred A. Thompson; mother, Nellie (Willhelm) Thompson; brother, Robert Thompson; brother, Clarence Thompson; sister, Katherine (Thompson) Macklin; sister, Margaret (Thompson) Miles; sister, Betty (Thompson) Feig; wife, Jean (Reutebuch) Thompson, and great-grandson, James Nicholas Andrew Thompson Harrison.

Although life was not always perfect for Jim and had many challenges, he never lost his love for his family or his Lord. We will mourn his loss and long for just one more opportunity with him ... to cast a line in the lake on a perfect sunny day or get his expertise on which tool to use for a home repair. But we will also smile as we remember his blue eyes holding our attention as his voice reminds us that this wait is only temporary since we will meet again when that trumpet sounds. "Okie doke?"

2 Timothy 4:7: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." [1, 2, 3]

Isaiah 41:10 (NIV): "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, July 18, 2026, at the Cicero Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 24445 State Road 19, Cicero, with Charlie Thompson officiating. Visitation will start at 3 p.m. with Funeral Service following at 4 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Indiana Conference with TRC Lilly Grant noted in the Memo section for checks or online at adventistgiving.org/donate.

Online condolences can be given at hartleyfuneral-homes.com.



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Merrill Dean Bracken

September 22, 1943 – July 3, 2026



Merrill Dean Bracken, 82, Ladoga, Ind., passed away peacefully on Friday, July 3, 2026, at Community Hospital North in Indianapolis with his family by his side.

He was born on September 22, 1943, in Noblesville to Clarence and Audrey (McClintick) Bracken.

Merrill was a man whose life was defined by resourcefulness, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to provide both financially and emotionally for his family. Whether raising and showing cattle, operating Bracken's Steak America, or working at Allison Gas Turbine, he approached every endeavor with grit, perseverance, and pride. He was not afraid to take risks, was willing to work harder than most and never shied away from a challenge.

Merrill always had a smile on his face and took time to talk and build relationships with all who he met. He went to great lengths to use 4-H and showing livestock to teach his children and grandchildren to create a mindset of success. He was often ahead of his time, treating the girls in the family the same as the boys.

While he was known for working tirelessly, those who loved him also knew he appreciated the value of a good "power nap." It became one of the many endearing traits that family and friends will always remember with a smile.

His greatest legacy was the example he set. He instilled in his children and grandchildren the values of resilience, a strong work ethic, and the belief that dedication and integrity can overcome life's obstacles. Those lessons will continue to live on through the generations that follow him.

Merrill is survived by his children, Jill (J.R.) Emerson, Joy (Joel) Johnston, and Jerry (Laura) Bracken; his brother, Eddie (Trudy) Bracken; and his beloved grandchildren, Jamie Emerson, Evija Johnston, Jeremiah Johnston, Joles Emerson, Jackson Emerson, Josephine Johnston, and Kenzie Bracken, all of whom brought him great pride and joy.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Maxine (Harvey) Bracken; his infant daughter, Cheryl Marie Bracken; his parents, Clarence and Audrey Bracken; and his sister Wilma Jean (Victor) Wilson.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, July 11, 2026, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville, with Pastor Ron Brown officiating. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until the time of the service at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Carey Cemetery in Noblesville.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in memory of Merrill may be made to the Montgomery, Boone, or Hamilton County 4-H programs; or to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, Donation Processing Center, PO Box 5041, Boone, IA 50950-0041.

Memorial condolences may be shared with the family at randallroberts.com.

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

THE TRANSJORDAN TRIBES

Then Moses gave to the Gadites, the Reubenites and the half-tribe of Manasseh son of Joseph the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites and the kingdom of Og king of Bashan—the whole land with its cities and the territory around them.

The Gadites built up Dibon, Ataroth, Aroer, Atroth Shophan, Jazer, Jogbehah, Beth Nimrah and Beth Haran as fortified cities, and built pens for their flocks. And the Reubenites rebuilt Heshbon, Elealeh and Kiriathaim, as well as Nebo and Baal Meon (these names were changed) and Sibmah. They gave names to the cities they rebuilt.

Numbers 32:33-38 (NIV)

Judith "Judy" Snapp

November 17, 1947 – July 6, 2026

Judith "Judy" Ellyne Snapp, 78, Sheridan, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on Monday, July 6, 2026. She was born on November 17, 1947, in Madison, Ind., to Gunn and Ellyne (Vinje) Smith.

After graduating from North Central High School in 1965, Judy began her career with Blue Cross Blue Shield, where she worked for 40 years. She advanced to the position of IT Manager before retiring after four decades of dedicated service.

Judy and her husband, Larry, shared a love of travel, especially the many cruises and adventures they enjoyed with friends over the years. Above all, Judy treasured time spent with her family and close friends. Her faith in Jesus Christ was the foundation of her life, and she never hesitated to share His grace and mercy with those around her.

In addition to her parents, Judy was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 47 years, Larry Snapp, and daughter, Tiffany Kirby.

Survivors include her daughter, Kristy (John) Sebring; son, Troy (Suzie) Snapp; grandchildren, Ben Sebring, Madison Sebring, Michael Snapp, Zachary Snapp, and Mia-Koda Winger; great-grandsons, Leo Sebring and Leland Sebring; sister, Maren Knowles; and her beloved dog, Ellie.

Family and friends will gather at 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at Trinity Baptist Church, 1415 E. 191st St., Westfield, where the Funeral Service will begin at 7 p.m.

Bussell Family Funerals is honored to assist the Snapp family with arrangements.

Condolences: bussellfamilyfunerals.com

Patricia Ann (Griffin) Mangan

d. July 5, 2026



Patricia Ann (Griffin) Mangan, 83, Indianapolis, went home to her Lord on Sunday, July 5, 2026. Patricia was born and raised in Chicago, Ill. She lived her life in Chicago and Noblesville.

Patricia was the loving mother of Jim (Becky) Mangan and the late Carolyn Mangan. She was also the loving grandmother of four, great-grandmother of one, and aunt of four.

Patricia was preceded in death by her parents, John Griffin and Katherine (Guidici) Griffin; and siblings, Dennis, Kathleen, and John.

Patricia cherished her four grandchildren and great-granddaughter. She loved to cook and socialize with her friends at the Senior Center of Hamilton County.

A private Mass will be celebrated at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in Noblesville.

The family would like to extend their deep appreciation for the entire staff at The Waters of Castleton Skilled Nursing Home in Indianapolis, where she was a resident for two years.

Memorial contributions may be made to Senior Citizens Organization, Inc., 18336 Cumberland Road, Noblesville, IN 46060 (seniorcitizensorg.org).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

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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.

Thanks for reading!

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<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. Listed at \$449,900</p>	<p>IMPROVED PRICE!</p> <p>LAKEFRONT! 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. 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! New price \$304,900</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. Listed at \$559,900</p>	<p>JUST LISTED! 112 PINEHURST AVE. FISHERS</p> <p>Discover this hidden gem in Fishers. This stunning 3BR, 2BA custom brick ranch sits on a secluded .65-acre wooded lot. Features a new roof, remodeled kitchen, great room, sunroom, and heated/cooled garage. A private, paradise awaits you! Listed at \$579,900</p>	<p>JUST LISTED! 18716 PRAIRIE BAPTIST RD. NOBLESVILLE</p> <p>Attention investors and homeowners! Hard-to-find country ranch on .39 acres. Featuring 2BR, 1BA, spacious family room, kitchen with appliances, and attached garage. Updates include 2022 roof, plumbing, and 2023 AC. Listed at \$172,900</p>	<p>JUST LISTED! 2525 COLONY CT. CARMEL</p> <p>Find character in this charming Carmel home with no HOA! Features 3BR, 2 living areas, spacious kitchen with appliances, and a park-like backyard with a heated/cooled workshop shed. Newer HVAC and water heater remain. Listed at \$319,900</p>
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REPORTER SPORTS WEDNESDAY

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Golf

Marucci finishes second round strong, stays in top five at PGA Indiana

The REPORTER

Noblesville's Tyler Marucci continued to hold his own Tuesday during the second round of the PGA Indiana Open, which is taking place at Brickyard Crossing Golf Club in Speedway.

Marucci put together an even-par performance of 72 for his second 18 holes. Add that to a three-under par first round, and the recent Noblesville graduate had an overall score of 141. Marucci is part of a four-way tie for fifth place and is the top Hamilton County golfer going into today's final round.

It was a rough start, as Marucci made bogey on three of his first four holes. But he played the remaining 14 holes bogey-free, making three birdies and 11 pars to pull back to even by the end of his round.

Marucci will start his third round off the first tee at 9:21 a.m., playing alongside Lebanon's Cole Bradley, the runner-up at last week's Indiana Amateur, and Peyton Snoeberger, the assistant pro at Purdue's Birk Boilermaker Course.

Westfield's Jake Cesare is part of a four-way tie for ninth place with a two-under par 142 after the second round. Cesare carded another 71 in his second round, making four birdies along the way.

Fishers' Andy Winings is tied for 13th place with a one-under par 143. Winings scored even-par 72 in the second round, making two birdies.

Zionsville's Michael Davan, who serves as the head pro at Plum Creek

Golf Club in Carmel, is the overall leader with a seven-under par 137. Davan scored a four-under 68 for his second round, draining five birdies.

Davan joins two amateurs, Delphi's Jason Ousley and Brownstown's Micah Sheffer, in the final group off the first tee at 9:39 a.m. this morning.

A total of 12 local golfers made the top 70 cut to advance to today's final round. That included a big move from Arcadia's Garrett James, who blasted a four-under 68 on Tuesday to secure a place in the third round. James made five birdies in his second round. Overall, James is at one over par with 143.

Four additional county players scored two-under par 70s for their second rounds.

Noblesville's Connor McNeely carded a 70, putting him at one-under par 141 overall. He counted five birdies in his second-round score.

Noblesville's Eric Steger, the head pro at Pebble Brook Golf Course in Noblesville and Fishers' Dane Starnes, an incoming senior at Hamilton Southeastern, are tied for 21st with even par 142s for the tournament. Both men made four birdies.

Carmel's Joseph Armfield also scored 70, making four birdies along the way. Armfield sits at 143 for the tournament, one over par.

Here is a complete list of local players that made the cut for today's third round.

T5. Tyler Marucci, No-



Reporter photos by Richie Hall

(ABOVE LEFT) Noblesville's Tyler Marucci finished strong during the second round of the PGA Indiana Open Tuesday at Brickyard Crossing Golf Club. Marucci is tied for fifth place and is the top Hamilton County golfer heading into today's final round. (ABOVE RIGHT) Vince Drahman, a Noblesville graduate, made the cut for today's final round. (BELOW) Fishers' Lane Zedrick made the cut for the final round. Zedrick is a Hamilton Southeastern graduate and just finished his junior year at Marian University, where he helped the Knights to a fourth-place national finish and was named NAIA All-America Second Team.

blesville 69-72=141, T9. Jake Cesare, Westfield 71-71=142, T13. Connor McNeely, Noblesville 73-70=143; Andy Winings, Fishers 71-72=143, T21. Eric Steger, Noblesville 74-70=144; Dane Starnes, Fishers 73-71=144, T23. Garrett James, Arcadia 77-68=145; Joseph Armfield, Carmel 75-70=145, T32. Chase Berry, McCordsville 71-75=146, T49. Vince Drahman, Fortville 70-79=149; Lane Zedrick, Fishers 72-77=149, T59. Ronnie Russell, Noblesville 75-75=150.



Photo provided

County junior golfers do well at Wood Wind

The REPORTER

The Indiana Junior Golf Tour made a stop at Westfield's Wood Wind Golf Club on Monday, June 29.

Three Hamilton County golfers were among the winners of the four divisions. Fishers' Henry Adams scored 72 to place first in the Boys 13-15 division, with Westfield's Jude Kaufman scoring 69 for a victory in the Boys 16-19 division. Another Westfield golfer, Olivia Manning, won the Girls 16-19 division with a score of 81.

Here is a complete list of Hamilton County golfers that competed, as well as results from other statewide junior golf events.

Boys 13-15: 1. Henry Adams, Fishers 72, T2. Alex Witt, Westfield 75; Gavin Davis, Fishers 75; Luke Moore, Carmel 75, T7. Michael Sauerbrey, Carmel 77, 10. Austin Carter, Carmel 78,

T11. Lawson Daggy, Westfield 81; Logan Worthington, Westfield 81, 14. Malachi Cole, Carmel 82, T16. Lucas Graessle, Fishers 84; Tripp Mundt, Westfield 84; Ryland Retrum, Fishers 84; Sawyer Houser, Westfield 84, T24. Desty Himsel, Westfield 87, 26. Gavin Banas, Carmel 88, T27. Cain Cheever, Westfield 89; Vidyut Anand, Carmel 89, T29. Titus Welch, Westfield 90; Tristan Andersen, Noblesville 90, T32. Bradley Zelik, Westfield 92; Brady Lozier, Westfield 92, 36. Dylan Sloneker, Noblesville 95, 37. Jaxton Heckman, Noblesville 96, 38. Robbie Goff, Carmel 97, T39. Luke Hoof, Carmel 104, 41. Ben Freeman, Westfield 109.

Boys 16-19: 1. Jude Kaufman, Westfield 69, 2. Sean Hess, Westfield 76, 3. TJ Stewart 78, 6. Cord Kremer, Westfield 81, T7. Drew Hall, Carmel 82; Ethan Gould, Fishers 82, 10. Cade Camp, Westfield 83, T11. J.C. Hart, Westfield 84, T13. An-

drew Carney, Westfield 86, T16. Will Lowery, Westfield 88; Aidan Campbell, Westfield 88, 18. Parker Bearden, Carmel 90, 19. Hunter Bruns, Carmel 91.

Girls 13-15: 4. Qianyu Liu, Carmel 94, 5. Audrey Phillips, Noblesville 95, 6. Aubrie Gift, Westfield 97, 8. Ella Marrs, Fishers 100, 9. Lucy Rhodes, Westfield 101, 11. Tessa Manning, Westfield 110, T12. Gracie Hackman, Westfield 113; Presley Crosby, Westfield 113, 14. Elizabeth Ashburn, Carmel 116, 15. Elise Miller, Fishers 117.

Girls 16-19: 1. Olivia Manning, Westfield 81, 3. Mallorie Monaco, Carmel 88, T7. Georgia Murnan, Carmel 91; Brianna Howard, Westfield 91, T11. Katey Rosandich, Westfield 93, T14. Addison Ross, Westfield 96; Taylor Wetzel, Fishers 96, 18. Ava DeCraene, Carmel 101, 19. Aleah Miller, Fishers 103, 21. Meredith Walters, Fishers 113.

June 29 Bridgewater Golf Club, Auburn
Boys 13-15: T12. Jones

Nodine, Carmel 94, 14. Cohen Anderson, Fishers 95, T15. Steven Schloss III, Fishers 97.

Boys 16-19: T12. Evan Barna, Fishers 83, 21. Dalen Rippey, Noblesville 87, T25. Zach Thompson, Fishers 90.

July 5 & 6 Northern Junior Masters, White Hawk Country Club, Crown Point

Masters Boys: 5. Gavin Davis, Fishers 74-78=152, 6. Luke Decker, Noblesville 74-79=153, T7. Brady Wagner, McCordsville 80-74=154; Malachi Cole,

Carmel 79-75=154; Vaughn Twilla, Noblesville 78-76=154, 10. Andrew Williamson, Noblesville 80-75=155, T26. Max Huffman, Carmel 82-83=155, T34. Jackson Payne, Sheridan 86-86=172, 37. Luke Blanchard, Carmel 85-89=174, T38. Jack Armstrong, Carmel 89-87=176, 40. Lane Johnston, Carmel 88-92=180, 41. Mason Umthum, Noblesville 92-94=186.

Masters Girls: T6. Nellie Lemmon, McCordsville 81-87=168, 10. Kendall Manion, Fishers 87-91=178.

Joshua Herd Photographer
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Nominations now open for Hamilton County Basketball Hall of Fame

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Basketball Hall of Fame is accepting nominations for the 2026 class.

This year's nominations are due by Sept. 20. To receive a nomination form, email Dave Nicholson at djadv@att.net, or call (317) 379-0036.

Here are the criteria for nominees. Inductees must be a positive role model, worthy of being emulated by students.

Players

1. Must have graduated from a Hamilton County high school
2. Must have graduated at least 10 years ago
3. Must have made significant contributions to Hamilton County basketball.
4. Must have proven to be a person of good charac-

ter and citizenship a

5. Must have made valuable contributions to his/her team.

Coaches

1. Must have coached at least five years in Hamilton County

2. Must be retired at least five years.

3. Must have proven to be of good character and citizenship

4. Must have made significant contributions to Hamilton County basketball.

5. Awarded to team doctors or trainers, volunteers, media personnel, etc.

6. Must have made significant contributions to Hamilton County basketball.

7. Must have proven to be of good character and citizenship.

IFCA North/South All-Star Games takes place Friday

The REPORTER

On Friday night, some of Indiana's best high school football players will get one last game before heading to college.

The Indiana Football Coaches Association will conduct its 60th annual Murat Shrine North/South Football All Star Classic that night at Decatur Central High School in Indianapolis.

Five Hamilton County football players are on the South team roster. On offense, Fishers' Vincent Rozzi and Hamilton Southeastern's Kendrick Pennybaker will be wide receivers, while Carmel's Cade Clark will play center.

Two Westfield players have been named to the defense. Ja'Deon Smith is a defensive tackle and Alex Arambales will play defensive end. Shamrocks assistant coach Ryan Sosinski will serve as one of the South team's assistants, with Emme Burtron serving as one of the South team's managers.

Burtron is the third member of her family to participate in the game: her older brothers Wade and Zane Burtron were both players.

The All Star Classic is actually All Star Week. Players moved into Cory Bretz Hall on the Universi-



Justin Sicking / File photo
Westfield's Ja'Deon Smith is one of five Hamilton County players who will participate in Friday's North/South All Star Classic.

ty of Indianapolis campus Tuesday afternoon and held team meetings, with practices taking place that evening. More practices are scheduled today. You can view the detailed itinerary at [this link](#).

Practices continue on Thursday before that eve-

ning's Banquet, which begins at 7:30 p.m. at Primo South in Indianapolis. After one final practice Friday morning, the players head to Decatur Central that afternoon.

Kickoff for the game is set for 7:07 p.m. IFCA awards will be presented

during halftime, with recognition for the game's most valuable player will take place after the game.

Tickets are still available for the game and can be purchased at [this link](#). They are \$11 for adults, \$6 for students K-12 and \$4 for Pre-K children.



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Boom set to host Jr. Hoops Basketball Camp in July; registration cost increases Friday

The REPORTER

The Noblesville Boom, the NBA G League affiliate of the Indiana Pacers, will host a weeklong Jr. Hoops Summer Basketball Camp in partnership with The National Basketball Academy at Riverview Health Arena at Innovation Mile from Monday, July 20 through Friday, July 24. The camp gives young athletes the opportunity to train on the same court where professional basketball is played, providing a one-of-a-kind experience in the heart of

Noblesville.

The Boom Jr. Hoops Summer Camp will run from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and is open to boys and girls aged 7-15 of all skill levels. The camp will feature focused basketball training with an emphasis on individual skill development, including drills, skills contests, and live games. Campers will receive expert instruction from qualified coaches and walk away with improved fundamentals, new friendships, and memories made on a professional basketball court.

"Kids and families are the heartbeat of everything we do," Noblesville Boom President of Business Operations Chris Defendis said. "When a young player steps onto our court, we want them to feel the excitement and energy of professional basketball and leave inspired. This camp is one of the most impactful ways we connect with our community, investing in the next generation of athletes and Boom fans."

Camp registration is \$260 if you register by

Thursday, then increases to \$265 on Friday. Registration includes a giveaway package featuring a camp T-shirt and Boom swag, one ticket to a Boom home game during the 2026-27 season, a personalized evaluation and end-of-camp awards.

To register for the Boom summer camp, [click here](#). Space is limited.

For more information regarding the camp, contact Brice Buels (bbuels@pacers.com) or Rosemary Skripsky (rskripsky@the-basketballacademy.com).

Former Colts center Ryan Kelly opens up about life after retirement

By CHARLES HUIRAS
WISH-TV | wistv.com

After retiring from the NFL in early March, former longtime Colts center Ryan

Kelly is stepping into the next chapter of his life.

Drafted by the Colts in the first round of the 2016 NFL Draft, Kelly spent nine seasons with the Horseshoe. Now 32, he shared a life update during the AC Golf Classic at Carmel's Woodland Country Club just a few months into retirement.

"My golf game is getting better," Kelly said. "I'm chasing three kids around. Trying to figure out what's next for me. But right now, we're just having a lot of fun. Still keeping in touch with a lot of the guys, and they're getting ready for the season, so it's kind of an adjustment not being a part of that anymore."

Kelly reflected on what he misses most about playing in the NFL.

"I kind of look back on 10 years and really appreciate what I was able to do and the people I was around," Kelly said. "That's ultimately what you miss the most is the guys and the people in the building. Little reunion tour maybe this year, come back to the Colts games, bring the kids."

For most of Kelly's life, he's spent his days waiting for gameday. With more free time now, he says it's been an adjustment not preparing his body for a long NFL season.

"It's a little weird, you feel like you should be training," Kelly said. "I try to do a little workout, not as

much as I used to, to try to keep up with that. The mental side, it's a challenge. I think that's why golf's been great for me. It's like the unattainable achievement that you're always trying to get to. I keep tabs with the guys, and I think what's great is that's what you miss the most. The kind of personalities you miss. Being in touch with those guys has been great."

Though Kelly is no longer on the roster, he remains close with several Colts, including star guard Quenton Nelson and offensive line coach Tony Sparano.

As the Colts prepare for training camp at Grand Park in late July, Kelly praised Sparano's coaching and Nelson's leadership on the offensive line.

"They're set up really well with Tony," Kelly said. "Tony Sparano, I think is one of the finest line coaches in the league. Learned so much from his dad and really brought us back together in '23 to bring that unit back together. A lot of great players, talented players, but made us believe who we were, how we could be good together."

"And Q, he's out here today going into year nine," Kelly said. "I remember when he was a rookie. It's just amazing to see how fast it goes. But his steadfast leadership has been so good. I know they have great talent. Those guys really be-

lieve they can be great. I think that's awesome. They play together, and you can watch their film. They have a great quarterback, great offense. Looking forward to watching them this year."

The Colts' offensive line that Kelly praised was among the NFL's best last season. Indianapolis finished second in rushing touchdowns (27) and tied for 10th in yards per carry (4.5).

According to [Pro Football Focus](#), the unit ranked second overall in the league. The line also powered Jonathan Taylor to 1,585 rushing yards, the third-highest total by a running back last season.

Kelly also joked that his kids might one day follow in his footsteps as NFL offensive linemen.

"Some future offensive lineman, NFL offensive lineman right there," Kelly said. "I see some of their feet, and I'm like, oh my God, these kids are going to be enormous. One already said they wanted to play for Alabama. We'll see how it goes, we've got a couple more years."

Kelly was a four-time Pro Bowler with the Colts during his nine seasons in Indy.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wistv.com/news/former-colts-center-ryan-kelly-opens-up-about-life-after-retirement.