

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2026

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Humidity increases. Mostly sunny morning. Partly sunny afternoon, with a late-day shower or storm possible.

Tonight: Showers and storms. Storms could produce downpours of rain and damaging wind gusts.

HIGH: 89 **LOW:** 69



Hamilton County CERT opens registration for fall Basic Course

By **MONICA PETERSON**
 For The Reporter

Hamilton County Emergency Management is gearing up for its next Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Basic Course, and local residents are encouraged to sign up and save their spot.

The fall session begins Sept. 16 and continues Wednesday evenings through Nov. 4, meeting from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

CERT training is designed to equip everyday residents with the knowledge and hands-on skills needed to safely assist during real emergencies. Throughout the eightweek program, participants will practice essential preparedness and response techniques through realistic, scenario-based activities. Instruction covers fire safety, light search and rescue, medical operations, and how to confidently step in when seconds matter, whether responding to a car accident, storm damage, or a major community emergency. The program emphasizes

practical, real-world application. Participants work alongside trained instructors to learn how to assess hazards, provide basic first aid, perform safe rescues, and support professional responders in highstress situations. For many, CERT training not only increases personal readiness at home and work but also strengthens the resilience of neighborhoods, businesses, and places of worship across Hamilton County.

Graduates of the course become official volunteers with Hamilton County Emergency Management, joining a dedicated team of community members committed to preparedness and public safety. As volunteers, CERT members receive ongoing education at monthly meetings and are invited to participate in additional trainings, drills, and exercises offered throughout the year. These opportunities help maintain and expand their skills while fostering collaboration with fellow volunteers. Residents interested in



Photo provided
Cathy Zink, Tom Coors, and Steve Arnold practice CPR with the use of an AED during a recent CERT training.

learning more about the CERT Basic Course or signing up for the September class can visit the program webpage at hamilton-county.in.gov/1279/CERT.

Monica Peterson is the Community Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator for Hamilton County Emergency Management.

Mid-year check-in

I learned about a new unofficial holiday recently – National Leon Day, celebrated every year on June 25. Since the date marks the halfway point to Christmas, a lot of people celebrate a mini version of the holiday. It's called National Leon Day because Leon is "Noel" spelled backwards.

While I love Christmas, National Leon Day is simply not for me. I prefer to enjoy whatever season I'm in. If y'all love it and celebrate, more power to you!

What I do like is the idea of celebrating the middle of the year. It's a great time to reflect on how I've done on my New Year's resolutions, and to think about the highs and lows I've experienced. I especially enjoy reflecting on how much I've grown as a human being over the last six months.

The first half of 2026 has stretched me to my limits – in a good way. I started out the year with a program offered through my church called Magnify 90. This is a 90-day journey where women foster a deep relationship with God and others.

Participants meet in small groups at least once a week. They also commit to a daily discipline of prayer and reflection. Through this experience, they find spiritual refreshment and growth in their friendship with Jesus.

While the 90 days involve sacrifices and work, the experience was worth it to me. I made four new friends – or I should say, church family members – and we regularly stay in contact. I still do some of the practices, which has made my life so much better.

Magnify 90 helped me learn to more easily forgive others, which as many readers know, helped me tremendously last spring with my Airbnb woes. In fact, I'm grateful for the trials and struggles now. (Guess what my next book will be about.)

Another cool thing about celebrating the mid-year point is reflecting on my health goals. I've taken some baby steps recently with the hope of moving from good to great health. It was nice to wake up on July 1 with determination to succeed on this front. I look forward to seeing results by the end of the year.

So, readers, how are you doing so far this year? Have you reached some of the goals you set for yourself in January? If not, what can you do to finish the year better?

Grab a pen and paper, or open your laptop/notes app, and spend an hour or so thinking of your 2026 journey so far. Celebrate what you've accomplished, jot down some baby steps you can start on today to reach your goals, and, if it's your thing ... say a prayer to get some help.

I may not celebrate National Leon Day, but I'll embrace "Mid-Year Check In" day with joy every summer!

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



HCAA's Youth Art Wellness Week taking place at Noblesville Boys & Girls Club

Program made possible through generous support from Duke Energy

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Artists' Association (HCAA) announces its upcoming Youth Art Wellness Week, taking place July 13 to 17 at the Noblesville Boys & Girls Club, 1700 Conner St., Noblesville.

The program will welcome up to 40 kids each day, ages 5 to 12, for hands on creative experiences designed to support mental wellness, artistic confidence, and personal expression.

Throughout the week, students will explore mindful drawing and painting, collage, and sculpture, guided by HCAA's member artists, who bring professional expertise and a passion for nurturing

young creators. Each activity is intentionally crafted to help students build focus, reduce stress, and discover the joy of creative problem solving.

This year's program is generously sponsored by Duke Energy, whose commitment to community enrichment and youth development makes initiatives like this possible. Duke Energy's support allows HCAA to offer high quality arts programming that is accessible, uplifting, and deeply impactful for families across Hamilton County. Their investment reflects a shared belief in the power of the arts to strengthen wellbeing, inspire imagination, and build a more connected community.



"HCAA is grateful for Duke Energy's partnership," HCAA spokesman said. "Their dedication to supporting local youth and expanding access to the arts plays a vital role in helping us deliver meaningful, arts centered programming."

The Youth Art Wellness Week is part of HCAA's ongoing mission to foster creativity, support emerging artists, and bring the arts to the heart of the community. More information about HCAA and its programs can be found at hcaa-in.org.

Two dogs die after being left in car on 95-degree day; owner charged with felony

The REPORTER

On Friday, July 3, two dogs died after being left unattended in a car at The Boathouse Restaurant, 409 W. Jackson St., Cicero.

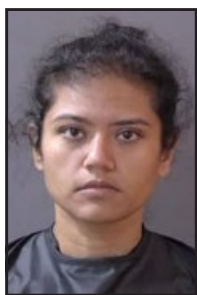
Perina James, 35, has since been arrested and charged with Cruelty to an Animal, a Level 6 Felony, and Cruelty to an Animal, a Class A Misdemeanor. (IC 35-46-3-7)

According to the probable cause affidavit, on July 3, Cicero Police responded to a call about two dogs being left in a hot vehicle. At 4:30 p.m., just before officers arrived on scene, the recorded temperature was 95 degrees with a heat index of 103 degrees.

According to the affidavit, "Perina stated they arrived [at] the Boathouse at approximately 2:30 p.m. and

she left the vehicle running with the front windows lowered approximately one-third of the way before entering the restaurant. She stated both dogs were alive at that time."

One of the dogs, a Rottweiler, was deceased when an officer arrived on scene. The other dog, a Goldenoodle, was taken by a Cicero police officer to VCA Veterinary Clinic in Fishers for emergency treatment. According to the affidavit, "Veterinary staff later advised that due to the animal's condition and poor prognosis, humane euthanasia was authorized by Perina James via telephone." James told officers she



James

was in The Boathouse for 30 to 45 minutes, after which she walked to Alexander's Ice Cream, 369 W. Jackson St., for another five to 10 minutes.

The manager of The Boathouse told Cicero Police he had reviewed the surveillance footage and estimated James was in the restaurant for one hour and 45 minutes. That does not include the additional time spent at Alexander's Ice Cream.

According to the affidavit, "Perina James stated that while [at] Alexander's Ice Cream, she observed her windshield wipers activating. She walked back over to her vehicle and discovered the

dogs in distress. She believed the dogs may have manipulated the vehicle's climate controls, causing the air conditioning settings to change."

Also according to the affidavit, "[James] later stated to veterinary staff over the phone that the dogs may have turned the vehicle off. This is inconsistent with the mechanical operation of the vehicle and observations on scene."

This incident occurred only two days after Indiana's new law providing extra protection for good Samaritans who see animals trapped in a vehicle took effect. Public Law 80, formerly **House Bill 1165**, both removes the civil liability for damage to a vehicle in cases like this and increases the penalties to the offender for cruelty to an animal.

Soil & Water to hold public meeting on 2026 Farm Bill

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District will conduct a Local Working Group meeting to determine the ranking for the 2026 Farm Bill Programs.

The meeting will be held at 8 a.m. Aug. 20 in the conference room at the new Hamilton County Soil & Water Building, 1721 Pleasant St., Unit A, Noblesville.

Everyone who has interest in land located in Boone County is welcome to attend. Please call (765) 482-6355 ext. 3 if you need further information or would like to submit input in advance of the meeting.

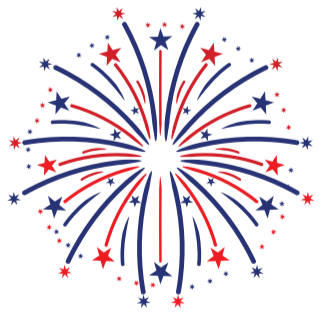




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America 250 Celebration



July 10



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

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The blessing of giving

Get free summer wellness samples at Hamilton County Meijer stores on Saturday

We all have our own windows to the world. Our perspectives and opinions vary regarding what we see.



MARK HALL
The Feeding Team Feature

Take, for example, witness reports at a fender bender. Five different witnesses can all see the same accident and yet report on it differently. This happened recently at an intersection near our office. Eyewitness reports varied as to what happened, how it happened, and how a car ended up perpendicular to the ground. Perspective and opinions generally vary, except when they don't.

Last week, my window to the world – the east-facing window in my office – allowed me to witness one of the most interesting encounters to ever grace my field of vision. This includes the day when a fully dressed cowboy wearing a floor-length leather coat rode his bike to the pantry and walked up directly to my window to tell me how grateful he was for the food in the pantry. This day was different; I was blessed to just sit back and watch this story unfold.

The perspective is simple: it's amazing to see the Feeding Team model work right in front of me.

A young woman pulled up in the driveway in an older black Saturn. As she got out of her car, no less than 15 feet outside my window, I could easily see her distressed demeanor. She did not make eye contact; she was head down and took 10 steps to get to the pantry. Not 30 seconds later, into the drive a late-model maroon SUV pulls in and parks next to the Saturn. A middle-aged lady exits the

SUV carrying three plastic grocery bags full of items to donate to the pantry at our office.

The divine appointment that occurred was obviously not a coincidence.

Logically, this can't be the first or only time when a neighbor was shopping at a Feeding Team pantry and a supporter arrived to donate to that same pantry at that same moment. However, it's the first time I saw it happen right through my window to the world. Two complete strangers, one in need and one willing to help a neighbor.

As they stood there briefly chatting, I couldn't do justice to the looks on the ladies' faces. The recipient's face was a blended combination of relief, gratitude, happiness, and thanksgiving. The donor's smiling face reflected what can only be described as the blessing of giving. It's that warm feeling of satisfaction that you get in your spirit when you do the right thing for someone else. Neither had any idea that I saw their interaction.

I didn't see what the young lady took from the donor. But that's not the point of the story.

A family's need was met by a willing donor. Both people felt the blessing of giving in a very real way. This day it happened in real time and in my window to the world.

What's the point? It's rare to witness an actual donor and shopper meet; however, Feeding Team pantries are open all the time. Those in need stop by a pantry that has been stocked by a neighbor, volunteer, or host. When you donate you are

the Blessing of Giving to a neighbor in need.

From the front lines of fighting hunger, life is changing in real time. We see increases in gap families looking to get through a tough time. The numbers are changing as the economy ebbs and flows. People who have never experienced food insecurity are searching for a solution. Many find Feeding Team through our social media and through word of mouth.

But many don't know that these resources are available.

If you find your family in need, please contact us, find a pantry at FeedingTeam.org, and follow us on social media to learn about upcoming food distribution events. Please share our message with those who are in need, too. We rely on neighbors to help neighbors connect with those who are in need. Thank you.

About FeedingTeam.org
More than 44,000 people in Hamilton County struggle with food needs. FeedingTeam.org is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit that offers outdoor, no-questions-asked food pantries that are open 24/7, all year long. These pantries help families who may not qualify for other programs but still need a few meals to get by.

We are so thankful for all the volunteers, hosts, donors, and sponsors who help us every day. We love serving our neighbors and seeing how your generosity changes lives. Hunger doesn't always look the way people think it does, and every meal makes a big difference.

A simple can of food can mean everything to a parent who has nothing left to feed their kids. A few meals can change someone's life.

If you'd like to help, there are many volunteer opportunities. We are also looking for new spots for future pantries. If you know a good location, please con-

FeedingTeam.org Facts

- 80 outdoor pantries
- Two drive-thru food pick-ups monthly and two in-office food pick-ups monthly
- 20,000 meals per month
- Over 30 volunteer families

tact us.
Mark and Lisa Hall are the Founders of Feeding Team. They may be reached at lisa@feedingteam.org and mark@feedingteam.org or by calling (317) 832-1123.

The REPORTER

This Saturday, July 11, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Hoosiers can visit all Meijer locations across Hamilton County, including Westfield, Carmel, and both Noblesville locations and receive complimentary samples and coupons from leading skin care and hydration brands.

Designed to help shoppers feel summer-ready from the inside out, visitors can peruse sunscreen, hydrating beverages and supplements, and skin care

products. Giveaway samples include:

- Drip Drop sample pack
- PanOxyl samples
- Liquid IV stick pack
- Piping Rock multi-vitamin gummies

Here are the addresses for local Meijer stores:

- Westfield: 225 W. Spring Mill Pointe Drive
- Carmel: 1424 W. Carmel Drive
- Noblesville (grocery): 5956 Promenade Shops Blvd.
- Noblesville: 17000 Mercantile Blvd.

Get a first look inside Stick & Hack Westfield at July Coffee Connections

The REPORTER

The Westfield Chamber of Commerce will hold its **July Coffee Connections** from 8 to 9 a.m. Thursday, July 30 at Stick & Hack, 10 E. 191st St.

Be among the first to experience one of Westfield's newest entertainment destinations. Hear directly from Adam Grubb, Founder and Partner of Stick & Hack Entertainment, and the team as they share their vision for the 36,000 square-foot venue and what's on the horizon, including restaurants, golf, racing simulators, sports, games, event spaces, memberships, and year-round experiences designed to bring people together.

Chamber Partners can also discover how their businesses can be part of Stick & Hack's journey. Learn about partnership opportunities, community events, sponsorships, seasonal markets, and how Stick & Hack plans to collaborate with local businesses including Grand Park, nonprofits, schools, and the Westfield Chamber to make a lasting impact in the community.

Whether you're looking to grow your network, explore new partnerships, or simply stay connected with what's happening in Westfield, this is a Coffee Connections you won't want to miss.

Enjoy complimentary coffee, make meaningful connections, and **register today** to reserve your spot.

Main Street Productions, Inc. Presents
Alice in Wonderland
Adapted by: Anne Coulter Martens
Based on the classic by: Lewis Carrol
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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www.basilewestfieldplayhouse.org

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5:30 pm July 22

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* 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

Westfield holds developer roundtable outlining updated Comprehensive Plan

The REPORTER
The **Westfield Economic Development Team** recently held a Developer Roundtable called "What is a Complete City?"

are critical as they continue aligning policy, infrastructure, and private investment to support high-quality development across the city.



Together with developers and industry partners, attendees explored how the city's updated Comprehensive Plan is guiding targeted growth from destination development and mixed-use districts to innovation spaces. The conversation reinforced a shared commitment to creating places that are connected, economically resilient, and designed for long-term success.

City officials value the candid feedback and market insights shared during the session. These perspectives

Thank you to FIELD Brewing for serving as host and to Wallack Somers & Haas for serving as the social hour sponsor.

Thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to a productive discussion, and city officials look forward to continuing the dialogue and building on this momentum. Be on the lookout for upcoming Developer Roundtable dates and future opportunities to stay engaged.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Westfield's Comprehensive Plan.



Photo provided by City of Westfield
Executive Chief of Economic and Community Development Jenell Fairman leads the Developer Roundtable at FIELD Brewing.

Ramp from I-465 to Allisonville Road set for overnight closure

The REPORTER

The ramp from eastbound Interstate 465 to Allisonville Road is scheduled to close from 9 p.m. Thursday, July 9 to 6 a.m. Friday, July 10. Crews are removing barrier wall and completing pavement

markings.

Actual dates and anticipated work may be adjusted if inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances occur.

For schedule updates, follow the project at [Clear-Path465.com](#).

State Road 37 projects gets \$12M in federal funding

Submitted by Office of U.S. Senator Todd Young

On Wednesday, July 8, U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.) announced more

bridge, bridge replacement, and additional access improvements.

The funding will support projects to improve roads,

than \$57.8 million in federal funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation's Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program for four transportation infrastructure projects across Indiana.

Locally, \$12 million will go to the Revolutionize State Road 37 Project:

- Completes final design for reconstruction of a 1.6-mile segment of State Road 37.
- Converts the corridor into a grade-separated highway.
- Replaces three signalized intersections with continuous-flow roundabout interchanges featuring pedestrian facilities.
- Includes an overpass

bridges, freight infrastructure, and transportation safety while supporting economic growth across the state. Sen. Young wrote letters of support for each of the projects.

"These investments will strengthen Indiana's infrastructure, improve safety, support commerce and help communities prepare for future growth," Sen. Young said. "From modernizing critical bridges and freight facilities to improving major transportation corridors, these projects will benefit Hoosiers for decades to come while keeping Indiana's transportation network strong and our economy growing. I appreciate Secretary Duffy's partnership in helping make these investments possible."



Young

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*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is current as of this issue and subject to change at any time. APY assumes that interest remains on deposit until maturity. Minimum deposit of \$1,000 to open this account with a maximum deposit of \$240,000 per account. Minimum balance requirement of \$1,000 to earn interest. A penalty will be imposed for early withdrawal. Fees may reduce earnings. Accounts may be subject to other fees, contact your local branch to learn more.

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Women landowners invited to 'Learning Circle' on soil health & water quality

The REPORTER

Women who own farmland or are involved in managing agricultural land are invited to participate in a Women4theLand Learning Circle from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 15, at the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District Office, 1721 Pleasant St., Unit A, Noblesville.

The interactive session will focus on practical approaches to improving soil health and water quality while providing an opportunity for women to learn from one another and build connections with other women landowners.

The Learning Circle is the first session in a three-part educational series sponsored by The Nature Conservancy and supported by the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District. The series is designed specifically for women who own farmland, actively farm, help manage agricultural land, expect to inherit farmland, or participate in family land management decisions. Through peer-to-peer learning and discussion, participants will explore conservation practices that support productive farmland, healthy soils, and clean water. Healthy soils and clean



The Learning Circle encourages conversation among participants, allowing women to share experiences, ask questions, and learn from one another in a welcoming environment.

Photo provided

water are essential to the long-term productivity and resilience of Indiana farms, making conservation decisions increasingly important for today's farmland owners. Unlike a traditional workshop, the Learning Circle encourages conversation among participants, allowing women to share experiences, ask questions, and learn from one another in a welcoming environment.

"Women are playing an increasingly important role in decisions about Indiana farmland," Women4theLand State Coordinator Heather Bacher said. "This Learning Circle offers an opportunity to connect with other women, explore conservation topics together, and gain practical information that can be applied to their own land."

Women from Hamilton County, Tipton County, and surrounding communities are encouraged to attend.

Participants are also invited to share their perspectives by completing the Women4theLand Community

Building statewide survey, which will help guide future educational programming and the development of future Women4theLand communities across Indiana.

The deadline to RSVP is Monday, July 13. Register for the Learning Circle and complete the statewide survey at Women4theLand.org.

Women4theLand is a peer learning network that connects women landowners and agricultural professionals through workshops and hands-on conservation learning. It supports informed land stewardship, farmland management, and sustainable decision-making.

Hollowell running for Hamilton County Sheriff

Submitted

Democrat Charles Hollowell has announced his candidacy for Hamilton County Sheriff, bringing more than 25 years of law enforcement experience and a lifelong commitment to public service to the 2026 election.

Throughout his career, Hollowell has served in a variety of leadership roles dedicated to protecting the community, supporting fellow officers, and building strong relationships with the public. Supported by his family, he is running to provide experienced, transparent, and community-focused leadership for the Sheriff's Office.

"Serving this community has been one of the greatest privileges of my life," Hollowell said. "I'm running for Sheriff because Hamilton County deserves experienced, steady leadership that puts people first. I'll lead a

Sheriff's Office committed to professionalism, accountability, and treating every person with dignity and respect. Together, we'll continue to maintain a safe, strong community. My commitment is simple: Protecting All. Serving All."



Hollowell

Hollowell and his wife have called Hamilton County home for nearly 25 years, where they are raising their 11-year-old son. Together they are also proud parents of three grown sons, three daughters-in-law, and grandparents to two granddaughters and a grandson on the way.

The public is invited to attend Hollowell's official campaign kickoff celebration from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday, July 12 at Grand Junction Brewing Co., 1189 E. 181st St., Westfield. All ages are welcome.

Additional campaign information will be available at the event.

Thanks for reading The Reporter!

Community News

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.



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US Flag Requests

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



US Capitol and White House Tour Requests

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Rep. Spartz sponsors bipartisan bill to honor Thomas Paine

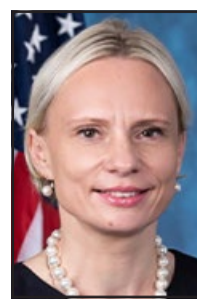
Submitted by Office of U.S. Rep. Victoria Spartz
On Wednesday, July 8, Congresswoman Victoria Spartz (R-Ind.-05) and Congressman Jamie Raskin (D-Md.-08), introduced bipartisan legislation to direct the U.S. Department of the Interior to place the Thomas Paine Memorial in “Area 1” of the National Mall, as recommended by the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission (NCMAC).

“As we celebrate America’s 250th anniversary, we remember Thomas Paine’s timeless words: ‘These are the times that try men’s souls,’ which helped rally General Washington’s

army before the crossing of the Delaware – a pivotal moment that changed the course of the Revolution,” Spartz said. “Their sacrifices should remind us of the price so many Americans paid to secure our freedom – a precious gift we have a solemn duty to preserve for future generations.”

Margaret Downey, President of Thomas Paine Memorial Association commended the action.

“Thomas Paine gave this country its argument for independence and then



Spartz

The American Crisis read aloud to the troops before they crossed the Delaware. Paine opposed slavery, called for the education of every child, and imagined a brotherhood of free nations long before the world was ready for it. Paine was a hero to Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, and Frederick Douglass. For

250 years the capital he helped bring into being has had no memorial to him. We intend to correct that, and Area 1 is exactly where he belongs.”

Rep. Spartz also sponsored the 2023 law that authorized the Thomas Paine Memorial Association to establish a memorial in Washington D.C. The Paine memorial is fully funded with private contributions from admirers of Paine and his work. Paine is best known for writing the pamphlet *Common Sense* in 1776 which galvanized support for the American revolution.

[Click here](#) to read the full text of the bill.

Indiana State Police releases June enforcement statistics

The REPORTER

The Enforcement Bureau of the Indiana State Police (ISP) oversees the traffic enforcement efforts of the Troopers assigned to the 14 State Police Districts throughout Indiana. Among their primary missions is helping to provide safe travel for everyone.

As a result of strategic enforcement efforts, Troopers documented the following statistics for June 2026.

- Traffic Stops: 31,456**
- 14,206 traffic citations
 - 24,911 traffic warnings
 - 292 drunk driving arrests

- 1,279 criminal arrests (traffic related)
- 880 criminal arrests (non-traffic related)
- 1,325 seatbelt citations
- 210 distracted driving citations

Crashes Investigated: 1,396

- Personal injury crashes: 186
- Fatal crashes: 3

Troopers often happen upon or are dispatched to assist with disabled vehicles. These calls include flat tires, mechanical is-

sues, stuck vehicles, or those out of fuel. During June, Troopers assisted 2,460 motorists on Indiana roadways.

As part of Governor Braun’s public safety platform, the Indiana State Police will continue using various methods in enforcing Indiana’s traffic laws with the primary goal of voluntary compliance with these laws. These may include aviation assets, dedicated patrols, wolf pack patrols, motorcycle patrols, unmarked patrol vehicles, and marked Ford Mustangs.

The overall goal is to drive down the number of crashes, injuries, and fatalities. It’s not about writing tickets; it’s about saving lives.

Community members are always encouraged to report suspicious and/or illegal activity on roadways to law enforcement by calling 911.

Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division Statistics

ISP’s Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division (CVED) is responsible for enforcing both state

and federal regulations on all commercial motor vehicles (CMV). Major tasks include conducting Safety Inspections, New Entrant Safety Audits, and Compliance Reviews to ensure compliance with equipment and hours-of-service regulations.

CVED is also tasked with enforcing Indiana’s size and weight laws and ensuring that commercial carriers are properly registered and paying their fair share of fuel tax dollars. Additionally, they assist in the investigation of commercial vehicle crashes (post-crash inspections) and manage the annual school bus inspection program.

From May 15 to June 15 because of their enforcement efforts, ISP CVED accomplished the following:

Total CMV Inspections Completed: 8,736

- Total Out of Service Drivers: 476
- Total Out of Service Vehicles: 524
- Total Number of Over-size Violations: 39
- Total Number of Over-weight Violations: 257

CVED partnered with the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) for CVSA’s Human Trafficking Awareness Initia-



tive. This was an additional human trafficking awareness initiative to remind the commercial motor vehicle industry that human trafficking is a significant concern surrounding major events, such as the FIFA World Cup competition.

During this human trafficking initiative, ISP’s Commercial Vehicle Enforcement units engaged in conversations with the CMV drivers they encounter during CMV Roadside Inspections. They also passed out materials from TAT (formerly Truckers Against Trafficking). This additional CVSA Human Trafficking Awareness Initiative was conducted across North America from June 1 to 5.

ISP CVED’s enforcement efforts are part of Gov. Braun’s public safety platform to ensure safe environments to travel, work and live for all Hoosiers and for those who traverse the “Crossroads of America.”

Thanks for reading the Hamilton County Reporter!

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Noblesville Lions welcome scholarship winners



Photos provided by Lisa Dick, Noblesville Lions Club

At their June meetings, the Noblesville Lions recognized 2025 and 2026 high school scholarship winners. (ABOVE LEFT, from left) Lion Julia Kozicki with 2025 Irv Heath scholarship winner Nash Watson (now a student at Trine University), 2026 academic scholarship winner Gwendolyn Pritsch (planning to attend Purdue University), and 2026 Minton Concannon scholarship winner Adalynn Gould (planning to attend Butler University). (ABOVE RIGHT, from left) Scholarship honoree Madelyn Schipp (planning to attend Purdue University), 2026 academic scholarship winner Adam Fine (planning to attend Franklin College), 2026 Irv Heath scholarship winner Alexander Hamm (planning to attend Indiana University), Annabelle Springer (planning to attend Ivy Tech), and Lion Julia Kozicki.

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Tuesday, July 14th from Noon - 6pm

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Gov. Mike Braun boosts family services workforce through 'Power Up Indiana' investments

Submitted by Office of Governor Mike Braun

Governor Mike Braun is working to grow wages and advance skills for family service workers who support children, parents, and Hoosier families through Power Up Indiana.

Run by the Department of Workforce Development, Power Up Indiana provides funding for employers in childcare, counseling, and family support fields who build stronger career pathways for frontline workers while expanding the services families rely on. These investments also require wage increases of at least 25 percent while helping employees gain specialized skills, move into higher-value roles and support employers working to meet growing community needs.

"When a child needs extra support or a family needs access to behavioral healthcare, the quality of the workforce matters," Gov. Braun said. "Power Up Indiana helps employers train the people doing that work, expanding essential family services and creating opportunities for Hoosiers to build successful careers."

Twin Springs Counseling, a rural counseling

practice, is strengthening its clinician pipeline through a residency program that provides early-career professionals with mentorship, supervision, and specialized training. With funding from Power Up Indiana, the program prepares the next generation of behavioral health providers while helping expand access to care for young

Hoosiers and families in rural and underserved communities.

Smarty Pants Daycare Ministries is using Power Up funds for workforce training to better support children with behavioral challenges and help staff grow professionally. Employees receive classroom instruction, hands-on experience and one-on-one coaching that prepares them to work with children who need additional support. By investing in staff development, the organization is strengthening classroom quality, expanding program capacity, and making trained professionals more accessible to families.

Under Gov. Braun, Power Up Indiana is expanding access to training opportunities that lead to employee advancement, wage growth and stronger retention. For family service organizations, that means keeping skilled workers in roles where they can support children, stabilize families, and help communities meet everyday needs.

To learn more about Power Up Indiana, visit in.gov/dwd/job-seekers/power-up.



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Mary Waldschmidt

August 9, 1935 – July 4, 2026

Mary Elinor Wilson Waldschmidt, 90, Noblesville, went Home to our Heavenly Father on July 4, 2026. She was born in Lower Merion, Pa., to Franklin (Frank) and Mary Wilson on August 9, 1935. Mary attended the University of Miami, Coral Gables, where she met her husband, Alan Parker Waldschmidt. They were married for 60 years before his death.

Mary raised four children and was a selfless, giving human being who was always thinking of others. She was an accomplished seamstress and an impeccable housekeeper. She worked in Accounting and Finance for both ITT and Howard W. Sams Publishing.

Upon retiring, she helped raise several grandchildren before she and her husband moved back to Florida to enjoy their retirement. She loved walking the beaches collecting seashells, riding bikes, and playing tennis with Alan. Missing family, they moved back to Indiana, settling in Noblesville.

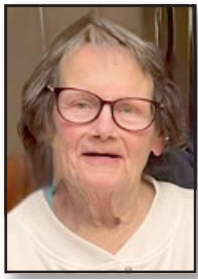
Mary is survived by her brothers, Edmund "Bud" Wilson and William (Bill) Wilson; daughter, Barbara Yattaw; son, John Waldschmidt; 10 grandchildren, notably her partner in crime and best friends, Emily Grace Good, who took her grams shopping and out to lunch weekly, and Sarah Jane Good, who moved in with her after Alan's death to keep her company and helped her thrive. In addition, she was blessed with 13 great-grandchildren.

She held a special place in her heart for her nieces and nephew and their spouses and children, Debbie Hancock, Cheryl (John) Kruse, Lisa (Carl) Ziehr, and nephew Richard (Sue) Morgan.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Alan; her parents, Frank and Mary; sister, Barbara Laubert; son, Mark Alan Waldschmidt; son-in-law Gary Yattaw; and daughter, Karen Marie Waldschmidt King.

We would be remiss not to mention her Angels on Earth, neighbors Brenda Slone and Bill and Annie Fraley. They kept an eye on her and helped in so many ways. We will be forever grateful for how kind they were to our mom.

Cremation will be handled by Indiana Funeral Care with burial in Plainfield, Ind. A private gravesite service will be held at a later date.



Community News

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!

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The Reporter's policy on obituaries

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

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

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

THE TRANSJORDAN TRIBES

The descendants of Makir son of Manasseh went to Gilead, captured it and drove out the Amorites who were there. So Moses gave Gilead to the Makirites, the descendants of Manasseh, and they settled there. Jair, a descendant of Manasseh, captured their settlements and called them Havvoth Jair. And Nobah captured Kenath and its surrounding settlements and called it Nobah after himself.

Numbers 32:39-42 (NIV)

Meeting Notices

The Hamilton County Commissioners will meet in an executive session at 1 p.m. Monday, July 13, 2026.

A regular meeting will follow at 2 p.m. in the Commissioners' Courtroom at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) The Hamilton County GIS Policy Committee will meet to discuss GIS projects at 9:45 a.m. Tuesday, July 14, 2026, via Microsoft Teams; Meeting ID: 283 270 616 759 658, Passcode: 42WG2gm7. You can call (219) 225-8177 and enter Conference ID 194 256 462# when prompted.

TriCo Regional Sewer Utility will hold its monthly Board of Trustees meeting at 5 p.m. Monday, July 13, 2026, at 7236 Mayflower Park Drive, Zionsville.

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) The Hamilton County ISS Board will meet to discuss ISSD projects at 9 a.m. Tuesday, July 14, 2026, in Conference Room 1A at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

The meeting will also take place via Microsoft Teams; Meeting ID: 226 591 210 589 125, Passcode: Lk3a6Zs6. You can call (219) 225-8177 and enter Conference ID 875 514 149 # when prompted.

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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REPORTER SPORTS THURSDAY

Sports Editor Richie Hall | Sports@ReadTheReporter.com | Twitter @Richie_Hall

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Golf

Michael Davan fights to the end at PGA Indiana Open

Plum Creek teaching pro finishes as runner-up

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

SPEEDWAY – The action got hectic on Wednesday as the final round of the PGA Indiana Open took place at Brickyard Crossing Golf Club in Speedway.

The competition at times resembled a mad dash to the checkered flag. At one point, six players were tied for first place. By the end of the round, three players were on top of the leaderboard, including Michael Davan.

The Zionsville resident has a Hamilton County connection: he is a teaching professional at Plum Creek Golf Club in Carmel. Davan finished his third round with an even par 72 but was seven under for the tournament (209). He shared that score with two amateurs: Goshen's Brayden Miller and Brownstown's Micah Sheffer.

The three men competed in a two-hole playoff to de-

termine the champion. The playoff started at the 18th hole, then moved to the 17th hole where Miller made a birdie to win the PGA Indiana Open title. Davan and Sheffer shared runner-up honors.

Davan admitted that his third round started a "little rusty at the beginning," with four bogeys in the first seven holes, although he did birdie the sixth hole. Davan said he calmed down as he approached the back nine, and made three birdies during that time.

"I fought until the end and gave myself an opportunity and it just didn't work out today," said Davan.

Davan, 37, grew up in Illinois then played golf at IUPUI. He played professionally for 10 years, including the PGA LatinoAmerica Tour, where he earned multiple top-10 finishes, and competed in the 2015 U.S. Open at Chambers Bay.

"I traveled and played, then started having kids and

didn't really want to travel anymore," said Davan. So, he began teaching and "I absolutely love doing that," he said.

But Davan still enjoys competing in tournaments, saying that it's "still fun to compete."

"That's why you play the game," he said. "To get those opportunities down the stretch and feel the nerves the way that you do. I just am thankful for the opportunity."

Three Noblesville golfers in top 10

Noblesville golfers represented themselves, with three of them finishing in the top 10.

Eric Steger finished tied for fifth with a three-day score of 211. Steger blasted a five-under par 67 in the final round, making five birdies along the way (see related story).

Connor McNeely, a Guerin Catholic graduate and University of Cincinnati player, carded a 212, put-

ting him four under par for the tournament. He scored 69 (three under) for the third round, making five birdies.

Tyler Marucci, a recent Noblesville graduate, finished with a two under 214 and tied for 10th place. He made three birdies during his third round.

A complete list of Hamilton County scores now follows.

T5. Eric Steger, Noblesville 74-70-67=211, 7. Connor McNeely, Noblesville 73-70-69=212, T10. Tyler Marucci, Noblesville 69-72-73=214, T15. Dane Stames, Fishers 73-71-72=216; Garrett James, Arcadia 77-68-71=216, T20. Andy Winings, Fishers 71-72-74=217, T24. Jake Cesare, Westfield 71-71-76=218, T31. Joseph Armfield, Carmel 75-70-76=221, T51. Vince Draham, Fortville 70-79-75=224, T57. Lane Zedrick, Fishers 72-77-76=225; Lucas Beck, Carmel 77-71-78=226, T62. Chase Berry, McCordsville 71-75-81=227, T64. Ronnie Russell, Noblesville 75-75-78=228.



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

Michael Davan tied for runner-up at the PGA Indiana Open, which finished Wednesday at Brickyard Crossing Golf Club in Speedway. Davan was part of a three-man playoff for the championship.

Eric Steger among the best in playing and teaching

Pebble Brook pro ties for fifth, mentors young Noblesville golfers

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

SPEEDWAY – Even after Eric Steger had finished his third round Wednesday at the PGA Indiana Open, he was on the putting green at Brickyard Crossing Golf Club, just in case.

It was a wise decision, since the tournament results were still up in the air. At one point, six men were on top of the leaderboard, tied for first place. Steger was one of those players on top before he eventually finished in fifth place, with a three-day score of 211, five under par.

It was a remarkable comeback for the 37-year-old, who was a star golfer for Noblesville and Ball State. He started the final round with an even-par score (74-70) before taking care of business during the final 18 holes. Steger went five under par for a 67 on Wednesday.

"I was seven back going into today," said Steger. "I

was in 21st place. So, today was good, yesterday was good."

Steger admitted the first round was a struggle, after he "played in the afternoon with some wind and just didn't handle the firm greens." But he held on and said that finishing the tournament with a five-under par round was "certainly not bad."

Steger graduated from Noblesville in 2007 and Ball State in 2011, winning the Indiana State Amateur in 2010. He played professionally on the PGA LatinoAmerica tour for several years and picked up other local wins, including the Indiana Open in 2020.

Steger has been an instructor at Pebble Brook Golf Club in Noblesville for six years. An article on the *Golf Digest* website said that Steger received votes in the magazine's "The Best Teachers in Every State" survey.

"In 2020 when the pandemic hit, I started there

part time, splitting my time between there and Wildcat Creek, and then full time starting in 2021," said Steger.

"I love it. It's very busy," said Steger. The club has "ample practice space and I'm as busy as I ever have been, which is great. [There's an] awesome group of students who trust me with their games and I enjoy it."

Noblesville has finished in the top 10 at the state meet for the past five years, which of course Steger enjoys seeing. He said watching the Millers' success has led to a full-circle moment for him.

"The last couple years, I've taken on a few of the Noblesville High School players as my own students,

and to be able to see them go to state and compete and move on to the college level is awesome," said Steger.

When asked about the difference between high school golf from his playing days to today, Steger said that the young players "hit it longer" and technology is way different. But there are similarities, such as kids learning about course management, which Steger thinks makes a big difference.

"That's my job and what I work on a lot with my students," said Steger. "Once course management hits, that's when they figure out how to 'miss it' around the golf course, have good misses around the golf course, miss it in the right and appropriate spot."



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

Noblesville's Eric Steger practices his putting during the PGA Indiana Open Wednesday. Steger finished tied for fifth place, elevating himself into the top five with a five-under par third round.

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Thanks for reading!

Men's Basketball

Suder makes Lakers Summer League debut

The REPORTER

Peter Suder played his first games in a Los Angeles Lakers uniform last week and wasted no time making an impact.

The Lakers began their Summer League play by facing the Golden State Warriors in the California Classic on Friday, July 3. Suder came off the bench to play 24 minutes, making one field goal and collecting three rebounds and one assist.

The next day, the website lakersnation.com reported that the Lakers announced the signing of Suder a two-way contract with the team, confirming numerous reports that had been made since the June 23 and 24 NBA Draft. Meanwhile, Suder kept his career-opening momentum going in the Lakers' second

California Classic game, making a 3-pointer during their comeback win over the Miami Heat.

Suder is one of three two-way players for the Lakers this season. Laker-nation.com reporter Matthew Moreno said Suder is "a versatile guard and smart defender who should get plenty of on-ball opportunities for the Lakers throughout their Summer League games."

Suder helped Carmel to two state championships, played at Bellarmine University for two years, then gained attention as part of a Miami (Ohio) team that completed a perfect regular season last year. He was named the Mid-American Conference (MAC) Player of the Year for last season, averaging 14.8 points and 4.6 rebounds per game.

The REPORTER

Some high school baseball teams may be getting a bigger base – first base – next year.

The National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) announced in a news release on Wednesday that teams will be allowed to use an 18-inch first base, or the double first base.

High school first bases are presently 15 inches square, while professional baseball players use an 18-inch first base.

The news release said the larger first base option "was one of seven rules changes recommended by the NFHS Baseball Rules Committee at its meeting last month in Indianapolis and which were subsequently approved by the NFHS Rules Review Committee and NFHS Board of Directors."

The release continues: In conjunction with the double first base, allowing a larger first base has proven to be effective in reducing player collisions and enhancing player safety.

"The NFHS Baseball Rules Committee believes that providing schools with the option of using either an 18-inch first base or a double first base gives administrators the flexibility to enhance player safety while recognizing the varying needs and resources of member schools," said Elliot Hopkins, director of sports and liaison to the

NFHS Baseball Rules Committee. "Both options are designed to reduce the potential for collisions at first base and support a reduced risk playing environment without changing the fundamental nature of the game."

One-way electronic communication will now be allowed from the coach to the pitcher and/or the catcher for the purposes of calling pitches. Prior, the catcher was the only defensive player allowed to receive communication from the coach. While the coach must still be located in the dugout/bench area, the committee believes this change responsibly integrates electronic communication that enhances game management.

Bat certification was addressed with USA Baseball assuming bat-testing standards. Effective in 2028, there will be an additional class of permitted non-wood bats. Bats that are not made of a single piece of wood shall meet either the USA Baseball Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (USA Baseball BBCOR) of .50 or the USA Baseball Bat Performance Standard (-4, -5, -6). Bats must be labeled with a silkscreen or other permanent certification mark.

"In addition, the NFHS remains committed to fostering the growth and development of high school baseball players," Hopkins said. "As the game continues to evolve with the adoption of the USA Baseball BBCOR standard, expanding the available drop-weight options provides younger and developing players with additional opportunities to build proper mechanics,



Richie Hall / File photo
High school baseball players could see a larger first base next season, as the National Federation of High Schools approved the use of use 18-inch first base, or the double first base. Pictured is Westfield's Aiden Grabowski, who played first base for the Shamrocks this past spring during his senior season.

confidence and skills while maintaining the safety and performance standards expected in education-based athletics."

Additional rules changes include:

- Eye shade must be a solid stroke and not include words, numbers, logos or other symbols within the eye shade.
- Use of electronic communication devices by players on the field is prohibited (except as outlined with one-way coach to player communication). This includes amplifying devices, wireless communication de-

vices, headphones, etc., for the purposes of recording, streaming or transmitting audio or video. The prohibition does not include medical devices.

- Coaches will be allowed to use a handheld electronic scoring device or other scoring material while in the coach's box.
- When using a tiebreaker to end a regulation game, an option is now available to start each half-inning with a runner on second base. The runner would be the last scheduled batter in that respective half-inning.

Jim Irsay Collection memorabilia auction sets record with \$105M in sales

By GREGG MONTGOMERY
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The Jim Irsay Collection auction series achieved a total of \$105,266,766 across five auctions, Christie's in New York announced Monday.

It marked the largest sale total in history for memorabilia and celebrated the 250th anniversary of the United States. The auction series saw almost 30 records

set across 404 lots sold.

The final auction, named The Irsay Collection: Icons of History, ended with the sale of the original working manuscript of Alcoholics Anonymous, known as the "Big Book," for \$2,393,000 to the Stepping Stones Foundation. The "Big Book" is historically significant as it initiated the 12-step recovery movement. The purchase by the Stepping Stones

Foundation ensures the manuscript returns to the house of one of its authors, the late Bill Wilson, whose home the nonprofit manages.

All proceeds from the sale of the Alcoholics Anonymous working manuscript will be donated to philanthropic causes close to the heart of the late Irsay, owner of the Indianapolis Colts.

The top item in the final sale was a letter from George Washington to Thomas Jefferson transmitting a draft copy of the Constitution for Jefferson's review, which sold for \$2,759,000.

Other notable sales included a Stone Copy of the Declaration of Independence, considered the most accurate of early facsimiles, selling for \$2,027,000.

A pair of tickets to Ford's Theatre, stamped for the night of Lincoln's assassination, sold for \$330,200.

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