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Your Hometown Newspaper

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2026

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TODAY'S WEATHER



Today: Partly to mostly cloudy, with showers and storms, mainly in the afternoon.
Tonight: Scattered showers and storms.
HIGH: 85 LOW: 69



Health Department confirms West Nile Virus mosquito sample

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Health Department Vector Control Program has confirmed one mosquito sample has tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV) from Founder's Park in Carmel.

The detection of WNV activity is evidence that the disease is present in Hamilton County, and the public should take proper precautions to stay protected.

For optimum protection the Health Department recommends people:

- Wear long sleeves, pants, socks, and shoes when outdoors.
- Apply EPA-approved insect repellent containing DEET, Picaridin, or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus to any exposed skin.
- Keep mosquitoes outside by closing doors and windows or making sure screens are in

good repair.

- Avoid outdoor activities at dusk and dawn when the mosquitoes that transmit WNV are most active.

In addition, all Hamilton County residents are asked to do the following to eliminate mosquito breeding sites around their home:

- Remove all unneeded containers that hold water (tires, cans, bottles, buckets, jars, drums, and other trash or rubbish).
- Dump and invert wheelbarrows and kiddie and toddler pools when not in use.
- Change water in birdbaths and pet bowls weekly.
- Inspect water in flowerpots and plant containers weekly.
- Clean rain gutters.
- Drain and fill tire ruts, stag-



HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

nant pools, and puddles.

- Place tight covers over cisterns, cesspools, septic tanks, tubs, and rain barrels where water is stored.

- Keep the margins of ponds clear of vegetation and stock ornamental ponds with top-feeding minnows.

In response to finding WNV, the Health Department will increase surveillance and control activities in the sample-positive area. Adult mosquito fogging will be conducted to rapidly decrease the number of adult

mosquitoes in the sample-positive area.

For current information about Hamilton County surveillance and control activities, please visit hamiltoncounty.in.gov/323/Mosquito-Control. This site will be updated with positive WNV mosquito reports and spray schedules. Use the "Notify Me" link to receive future updates.

State of Indiana Mosquito Borne surveillance activity dashboards and data can be found at [this link](#).

In sync at 250: we move as one

Whether in a swimming pool, a classroom, a workplace, or a neighborhood, we all have opportunities to move in sync with those around us. When we choose collaboration over competition, encouragement over criticism, and belonging over exclusion, we create something far more beautiful than any medal.

That feeling washed over me throughout the 2026 USA Artistic Swimming Junior Olympic Championships in Ypsilanti, Mich., near Ann Arbor. Even after a couple of tongue-twisting moments trying to pronounce the location before heading to the competition, I left with something much greater than memories of routines and rankings.

I left believing, once again, that water never discriminates.

The water doesn't care where you come from, what language you speak, your abilities, or your background. Once the athletes dive in, they become part of something greater than themselves. Inclusion, diversity, teamwork, and trust all move together beneath the surface.

Artistic swimming is known for its graceful choreography and breathtaking synchronization, but the real magic often happens behind the scenes. It lives in the countless early morning practices, endless conditioning, and the determination to perfect every movement. It lives in coaches who never stop believing, parents making sure their athletes stay fueled through long competition days, and siblings who patiently wait between events while helping with glitter, hair gel, bobby pins, snacks, and endless encouragement.

Everyone has a role. That is what makes a team.

USA Artistic Swimming's message, "We Are One Team," echoed throughout the championship weekend.

See *In Sync* . . . Page 2



COLUMNIST

POOJA THAKKAR
Taste of Community

Noblesville Lions induct new member & install new officers



Photos provided by Lisa Dick, Noblesville Lions Club

At their June meetings, the Noblesville Lions installed 2026-2027 officers and welcomed a new member. (ABOVE) The 2026-2027 officers include (from left) Secretary Dana Meyer, Treasurer Jeff Kozicki, Director Joe Connerley, District 25 Past Council Chair Rocky Simpson, 1st Vice President Josh Kozicki, President Cheryl Helton, Marketing Chair Lisa Dick, Tail Twister Mark Bachar, Director Lisa Rohe, Director Jeff Dick, and Membership Chair Greg Clouse. (RIGHT) Katrina Washington (center) was inducted as a new member by Lion Julia Kozicki (right), with her sponsor John Terhune (left).



Actors Theatre of Indiana names Dan McFeely as next executive director

The REPORTER

Actors Theatre of Indiana (ATI) has announced the appointment of Dan McFeely as its next Executive Director.

McFeely, a former ATI Board Member and Past President of the organization, replaces Jim Reilly, who is retiring from day-to-day activities, but is remaining connected as Executive Director Emeritus.

McFeely, a Carmel resident since 2007, has been active in the city's artistic and cultural scene for many years. After a long career as a professional journalist with the *Indianapolis Star* and smaller newspapers around the state, he joined the City of Carmel as a media relations and communications con-

sultant for 10 years. While in that role, he served as President of the Carmel Christkindlmarkt, the Carmel Clay Historical Society and ATI. He also briefly served on the Board of the Carmel JazzFest celebration.

McFeely also served as Carmel's liaison to the Sister Cities organization and co-founded the Carmel Interfaith Alliance, along with many other community organizations. He and his



McFeely



wife, Sue, are long time members of the Carmel Catholic Parish community, first at Our Lady of Mount Carmel and then at St. Elizabeth Seton, where he has been a part of several ministries.

"My 10 years working within City government and economic development opened my eyes to the power of Carmel's arts and culture heart-beat that attracts many to want to live, work, play and ultimate-

ly retire here," McFeely said. "My goal in my new role is to explore ways to increase ATI's presence both in the community and to our many regional and statewide fans and supporters of 'Broadway in your Backyard.'"

McFeely began his role as Executive Director on July 1.

ATI offers a huge thank you to Jim Reilly for his years of leadership and support to ATI. Reilly initially joined ATI as a consultant in 2011, then transitioned to the role of Executive Director. After retiring for a brief time, Reilly rejoined ATI in 2025. He looks forward to his "official" retirement and to continued support and enjoyment of Actors Theatre of Indiana and their amazing productions.

Study links daily AI use to higher risk of depression & anxiety

By GINA GLAROS
WISH-TV | wistv.com

Artificial Intelligence, or AI for short, has made its way into our everyday lives. Today, more than 65 percent of people use AI on a regular basis. While it can make life easier, some research shows AI may be harmful to your mental health.

Today, more than one in five Americans has a mental illness.

"The rates of things like anxiety and depression and burnout have skyrocketed," said Emily Anhalt, Psy.D., Psychoanalytic Psychologist.

It's also a global issue. "There's a 25 percent increase in mental health problems worldwide, that's an enormous number when you think of all the people in the world," said Jodi Halpern, MD, PhD, Co-Director of the Kavli Center for Ethics, Science, and the Public School of Public Health at UC Berkeley.

New research suggests AI could be adding to the problem. In a 2026 study in JAMA Network Open, researchers found AI usage was linked to a higher risk of depression, anxiety, and irritability. Specifically, the odds of moderate depression were 30 percent higher among those who used AI at least daily.

However, the recent trend has been using AI to help mental illnesses. People are using chatbots for online therapy in place of real therapists. The pros are it's accessible, easy, cheap, and private. However, experts warn there's not enough scientific data or oversight when it comes to AI therapy. In short, AI shouldn't be a substitute for therapy with a real person.

See *AI Depression* . . . Page 2

AI DEPRESSION

from Page 1

"If what you're getting is an artificial relationship, then what you're getting is artificial healing," said Anhalt.

"Technology is a good thing, but everything needs to be used in a way that cares about people," said Dr. Halpern.

AI can be tricky. One study found only about 33 percent of consumers think they are using AI platforms, but the actual usage is 77

percent.

Earlier this year, character.ai and Google settled multiple lawsuits alleging that their chatbots contributed to mental health crises and suicides among teenagers.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/health-spotlight/study-links-daily-ai-use-to-higher-risk-of-depression-and-anxiety.

Lane & ramp closures planned on I-69 this weekend

The REPORTER

Clear Path 465 crews are expected to shift traffic onto new Interstate 69 roadway in northeast Indianapolis. The traffic shift will allow crews to continue building new lanes along the corridor.

In order to complete the shift, overnight lane and ramp closures are scheduled over the weekend to prepare the roadway. Crews will

move barrier walls, apply pavement markings, and install new traffic signals.

Drivers should expect lane restrictions on Binford Boulevard and 75th Street to continue into the daytime on Saturday during traffic signal work.

Drivers can expect the following restrictions:

Thursday, July 9 (9 p.m. to 6 a.m.)

- Ramp from eastbound

I-465 to Allisonville Road closed

Friday, July 10 (9 p.m. to 6 a.m.)

- Ramp from eastbound I-465 to Allisonville Road closed
- Ramp from 82nd Street to northbound I-69 closed
- Ramp from northbound I-465 to northbound I-69 reduced to one lane
- One lane closed on northbound Binford Bou-

levard/I-69 between the I-69/I-465 interchange and 82nd Street

Friday, July 10 at 9 p.m. to Saturday, July 11 at 6 p.m.

- 75th Street reduced to one lane in each direction between Kitley Avenue and Knue Road
- Binford Boulevard reduced to one lane in

See I-69 ... Page 4

IN SYNC

from Page 1

While sitting in the bleachers for hours, I noticed another parent's T-shirt that instantly made me smile. It read, "Some people wait their whole life to meet their favorite athlete. I'm raising mine."

That message resonated with me more than they could have imagined.

Here's a fun fact: this proud swim mom still needs a life jacket in a three-foot pool! Meanwhile, I'm proudly raising an athlete who wears chlorine as her perfume.

I still laugh remembering our Mommy and Me swim class when my daughter was just four months old. She happily splashed, made bubbles, and sang songs while I tried my best to keep a brave poker face. Before every class, I quietly asked the instructor, "Can you please keep an eye on me ... just in case?"



Photo provided

Thankfully, my daughter inherited the love of water – not my fear of it.

Watching her now perform with complete confidence reminds me that courage isn't always about being fearless. Sometimes it's about encouraging someone else to dive into opportunities we never imagined for ourselves.

My daughter's team performed a combination routine inspired by the jungle. At first, each swimmer represented animals staying alert, separated from predators and uncertainty. As the routine unfolded, they gradually came together, trusting one another completely while remaining perfectly synchronized beneath the water's surface.

Watching them, I couldn't help but think about the lesson hidden within their performance. Life often encourages us to focus on our differences. Yet nature reminds us that survival – and flourishing – depends on working together. Imagine what our communities could become if we spent less energy competing against one another and more energy building trust, respecting differences, and creating spaces where everyone.

What a beautiful metaphor for life that felt familiar ...

Instead of allowing our differences to divide us, we can choose to come together, work together, and create communities where everyone belongs.

On July 4, 2026 – America's semiquincentennial

celebrating 250 years of independence – my daughter's team achieved a milestone of their own. Their combo routine earned 10th place in the nation, the club's highest national finish since 2018.

That accomplishment wasn't built in one performance. It was earned through an entire year of commitment, perseverance, teamwork, and believing in one another.

As the evening fireworks illuminated the Michigan sky after catching part of the local Fourth of July parade,

I couldn't help but reflect on the many ways we celebrate greatness.

Sometimes it comes with medals.

Sometimes it comes with memories.

And sometimes, it comes from watching a group of young athletes remind us that when we move together with trust, respect, and purpose, we all make a bigger splash.

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



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I-69

from Page 1

each direction between the I-69/I-465 interchange and 71st Street

Saturday, July 11 (9 p.m. to 6 a.m. unless otherwise noted)

- Ramp from 82nd Street to northbound I-69 closed (to open by 10 a.m. Sunday)

- Ramp from northbound I-69 to northbound I-69 reduced to one lane

- One lane closed on northbound Binford Boulevard/I-69 between the I-69/I-465 interchange and 82nd Street

Delays are expected. Drivers should plan ahead and seek alternate routes when possible. Actual dates and anticipated work may be adjusted if inclement

weather or other unforeseen circumstances occur.

Indiana Safe Zones

The Safe Zones speed control program remains active in the Clear Path construction zone. This program uses automated systems to monitor speeds in specified work zones. The goal of the program is to keep workers, drivers, and their passengers safe by reducing excessive speeding in work zones. It's important to slow down in construction zones and drive without distractions. Learn more about Safe Zones at SafeZonesIN.com.

For schedule updates, follow the project at ClearPath465.com.

Indiana sees significant drop in number of homeless veterans

By **TIM SPEARS**
WISH-TV | wistv.com

Indiana saw a significant decline in veteran homelessness last year, despite the total number of homeless people rising across the state.

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) annual estimation of the homeless population, **known as the Point in Time (PIT) count**, Indiana saw an 18.7 percent decline in veteran homelessness in 2025 compared to the year before.

That marked the second-largest decline of any state by percentage.

Helping Veterans and Families (HVAF) of Indiana specializes in assistance for veterans facing homelessness. CEO Emmy Hildebrand told News 8 the formula that's finding success is the same that works with any at-risk group: housing and wrap-around services.

Hildebrand said that the formula needs support from the state.

"There is no state funding supporting homeless services in our state," Hildebrand said. "And very little local funding outside Indianapolis."

Safety net programs have faced budget cuts, with **lawmakers eliminating funding for the Housing First program** in 2025. It supported organizations helping people secure stable housing.

And housing advocates **have criticized Indiana's public camping ban** as essentially making it illegal to be homeless.

HVAF client Terri Massey, a 34-year-old Navy veteran, said the stigma of being homeless was the most difficult challenge to overcome.

"I'm still trying to provide for my kids," Massey said "I'm (not) out here being lazy or not trying to do better."

Massey was working, supporting her children, but found herself sleeping in cars and hotel rooms because she didn't have stable housing. "Going to that work, working 10 hours, leaving, going to sleep in my car."

HVAF helped place Massey in a permanent apartment. HVAF also placed Massey in a different kind of "bootcamp" years after her time in the military, learning job skills. She's looking for a job, but thankful to do it from a place she can call home.

"I am beyond grateful and thankful. I literally pray and thank God every day," Massey said. "Because for the longest I felt like I was alone. And I had to figure everything out by myself. I didn't."

It's estimated that seven percent of Indiana's homeless are veterans. Hildebrand said there are federal funds for organizations working with veterans, which support HVAF's programs.

Still, finding permanent housing is a struggle.

According to the **National Low Income Housing Coalition**, for every 100 extremely low-income households in Indiana, just 34 rental homes are affordable and available.

"There are so many people on the bubble that are just one emergency away from living in their car, staying with friends and family, or living on the streets because we don't have the appropriate system here in Indiana," Hildebrand said.

Hildebrand said lawmakers assured her they would work to support homeless services, but she hasn't seen any drafted legislation that might be introduced in the next legislative session.

Across the country, about one in 25 people experiencing homelessness previously served active duty in the armed forces, according to numbers from HUD. Veteran homelessness declined 56 percent between 2009 and 2025.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wistv.com/news/i-team/indiana-veteran-homelessness-reduction.

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Indiana customers to receive \$350K in bill assistance from Duke Energy this summer

The REPORTER

Duke Energy is dedicating \$350,000 in financial assistance to help Indiana customers pay their energy bills this summer. This assistance comes from the company's "Summer Energy Assistance Credit Program," which is funded by Duke Energy shareholders.

How it works

Duke Energy works with the **Indiana Community Action Association** to distribute funds through local Energy Assistance Program (EAP) agencies to qualifying customers to pay energy bills,

deposits and reconnection/connection charges.

The Summer Energy Assistance Credit Program is available to EAP-eligible customers.

Qualifying customers can receive up to a \$250 credit annually on their account.

Individuals should contact their local EAP agency to see if they are eligible. [Click here](#) to find a list of service providers by county.

"Our Summer Energy Assistance Credit Program is available to help Hoosiers with seasonal bills that can go up with increased energy use similar to what we experienced over the last couple of weeks," Duke Energy Indiana President Stan Pinegar said. "We work hand in hand with local community action agencies to connect our customers with this financial support, and we also offer additional programs and tools to help manage energy use when the summer heat plays a large role in what customers see on their bills. We encourage any customer struggling to pay their electric bill to take advantage of these tools and immediately contact our customer service team."

More savings programs and assistance
Duke Energy offers a



Pinegar

number of other tools and resources to help customers take control of their energy use and save money, including:

- **Payment Assistance Finder**, a free online tool that directs customers to local assistance resources in their area through a simple ZIP code search.

- **Usage Alerts** that send customers a notification of how much electricity they are using and its cost midway through their billing cycle so they can make adjustments before their billing period ends.

- The **"Smart Usage Option"** – a new time-of-use rate for residential customers that helps them save on their bills by shifting typical household chores to times when there is less demand for power.

- Free **Home Energy House Calls**, where energy professionals assess a home in-person or virtually for efficiency and provide customers with a toolkit of energy-saving devices.

- **Installation payment plans** for customers needing flexibility.

To learn more about these programs, visit duke-energy.com/SeasonalSavings.

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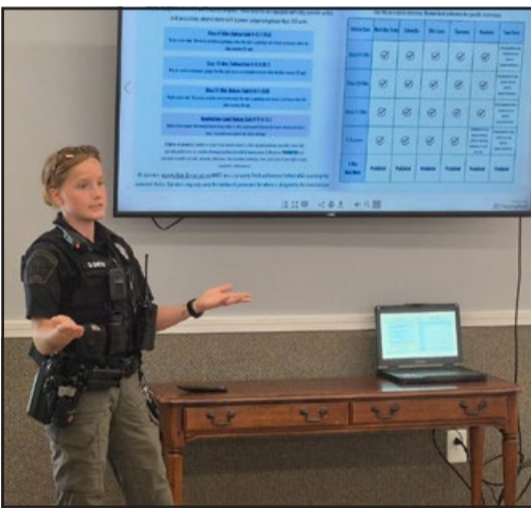
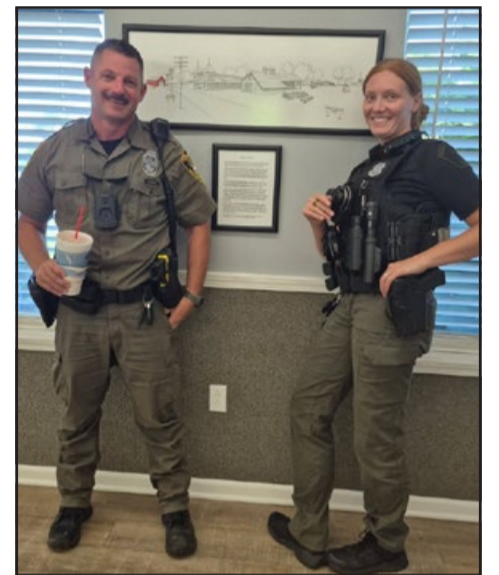
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E-bikes invasion hits Cicero

Police Department educates community on e-rules of the real road

Cicero Police Department presented a program on the new e-bike rules and e-bike safety. Officer Dominique Smith explained the rules and answered questions. Police Chief Jeff Rednour cooked hot dogs for the crowd and Cicero Friends of the Park provided the food. Kyle Thompson and Pizza House gave coupons for a 10-inch pizza, and Brett Morrow gave four \$25 gift cards to Cicero Market. This was a community event with Department of Natural Resources Officer Billy Doss adding information. The Cicero Parks Department and the Cicero Fire Department also helped out. Special thanks to Sierra Fisher and Katie Swarm for setup and food service. (Photos provided)



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Thanks for reading!

New DCS director talks ‘challenge’ of implementing new child welfare laws

By **MARGUERITE INCARDONE**
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

The Indiana Department of Child Services is implementing new laws that will require the state agency to be more transparent when a child dies from abuse or neglect.

Kara Kenney with Indiana's I-Team sat down with the new director at the Indiana Department of Child Services, Jennifer Dorfmeier, to talk about how they're making those changes.

Dorfmeier took over as DCS director in January 2026.

The agency has spent months preparing to implement several new child welfare laws that took effect July 1.

"It is a big change, and we are still working through the details of how it looks in practice," said Dorfmeier.

Dorfmeier said they've spent a lot of time meeting with legal experts, stakeholders, lawmakers, and others to implement multiple new laws.

They've also provided information and training to the agency's 4,000 employees.

"We have specific trainings, we have web-based trainings, we have in-person trainings, consultation with our attorneys; we really just kind of spread wide and deep to make sure that everybody gets the message," said Dorfmeier.

"Kinsleigh's law," or **HEA 1036**, will require Indiana Department of Child Services case workers to see a child in person within 30 days of closing a case.

"This is really codifying what we feel is best practice," said Dorfmeier. "It just requires that we have eyes on these children before we close the case. We see them, we know that safety is present, and that we're not leaving loose ends."

Kinsleigh died in 2024 of starvation. Her mother, Toni McClure, is criminally charged in Marion County with murdering Kinsleigh.

Another new law, **HEA 1257**, says that within five days of a child's death or near-death from abuse or neglect, DCS is required to publicly report any current or past involvement with the child.

"I believe that we'll be able to say the basics," said Dorfmeier. "Such as, we

were involved, we were providing services, and so it may look a little more generic, but I think this will also evolve as we learn more about what implementation looks like."

Dorfmeier emphasizes they still have to protect a family's privacy. So far, the biggest roadblock is making sure they follow federal law.

Starting July 1, DCS must share public summaries on child fatalities throughout the year, including any actions taken by DCS in response to a child's case.

DCS will also have to overhaul its annual fatality report and will provide public summaries on child fatalities throughout the year.

"There's actually been a lot of work in this space getting ready for this, and I think that you will all appreciate what you see at the end, the end result, which will be going live fairly soon," said Dorfmeier. "We have really looked at the Arizona model and the way that they share their fatality information, and so we'll have a dashboard that shows different icons that show what type of occurrence may have happened. So, was it a drowning, was it hot car?"

The new portal will in-

clude substantiated abuse and neglect deaths that happened on or after July 1, 2026.

"It is a big deal," said Dorfmeier. "I think that we will have bumps, and we will have successes, and a lot of great, wonderful things, and as well as problems as we move forward in implementation, but I think it's a challenge that we're all excited to take."

DCS will also include the names of judges involved with cases where a child ended up dying from abuse or neglect.

"I think that that will just show transparency about how decisions are made," said Dorfmeier. "I consider our judges are partners, and I think that it's oversight that is important for the childhood welfare system. I don't believe a government agency should make these decisions without that level of oversight and partnership."

Currently, it takes an average of 477 days for a child in the system to find a permanent home, including adoption.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/i-team/indiana-dcs-transparency-laws-2.

AFL-CIO Indiana endorses Devon Wellington for Indiana House District 29

Submitted

The AFL-CIO Indiana has announced its endorsement of Devon Wellington for Indiana House of Representatives District 29.

"I'm honored to be endorsed by the AFL-CIO," Wellington said. "These are the people who build our schools, keep our hospitals running, and fix our roads. Their recognition is proof this campaign is focused on working Hoosiers. That's who I'm running for."

Wellington, a small business owner and policy expert with 15 years of experience in education policy, has made standing up for working families the centerpiece of her campaign.

Why this endorsement matters for District 29

The AFL-CIO Indiana represents working people from every sector: teachers, nurses, construction work-

ers, first responders, and more. Wellington says she believes that the people who build communities deserve representation that puts them first.

"I started my career working with kids with disabilities, making sure no one got left out," Wellington said. "And you know what I learned? The things that work for those kids work for all kids. When teachers check who's struggling early and often instead of waiting for a kid to fail, or build extra help into the lesson instead of pulling a kid out after the fact, all kids benefit. I see the same thing with the AFL-CIO. When they stand up for workers, it's not just union members who benefit. All of us benefit from



Wellington

weekends off, job safety, and the ability to take care of a family member without losing stability. That's the kind of work I want to do in Indianapolis."

The endorsement validates Wellington's commitment to representing the people who actually live in District 29. For voters in Noblesville and Fishers, it's proof that she understands what's at stake: dignity for hardworking families who want to afford their basic needs without a car repair, medical bill, or property tax bill throwing them off balance.

Wellington continued, "AFL-CIO represents what we can achieve when we build employment environments that put a person over a bottom line and human

dignity over a shareholder call. Our local economies are made up of real people who want a full life – we want to work hard, but we also want that hard work respected enough that we can enjoy the rest of our life, too. For people in District 29, that balance is disappearing. AFL-CIO has been on the front lines of making sure workers are protected."

"People are tired of feeling like nobody's listening," Wellington said. "I've spent my career showing up and getting to work when I see something that needs fixing. The AFL-CIO stands with workers wherever they are, and when they endorse someone, it's because they know that person will actually listen and then do something about it. That's what I plan to keep doing."

Learn more about the candidate at VoteDevon.com.

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TenderloinTuesday.com

— Good news from Stony Creek Church of Christ —

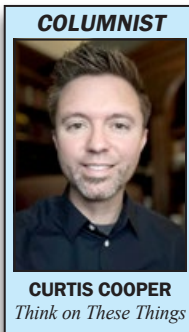
Seeing our need for grace: sin

Why did the multitudes of poor, sick, and sin-sick people flock to Jesus? Why do we see poor people in other countries lining up to be baptized into Christ, but not here? Why do evangelists have better success with people in prisons (or jails) than with people on the outside? Ever wonder why that is?

My answer is in question form: Why is it easier to sell parkas to people in Alaska than in Florida? ANSWER: Because folks in Alaska recognize their need and Floridians do not see a need.

Why does anybody buy anything? Because we are convinced we need it. Any good salesman knows his best customer is someone in need of what he is selling. Sadly, I do not need many things I think I need, while many things I need go by the wayside because I do not realize my need. Why will a man who refuses to exercise and eat good food suddenly start doing so after a heart attack? Does he suddenly need exercise and good food? No, but the medical emergency made him aware of the need. The same can be true of spiritual needs.

We need God's grace because of sin. Sadly, far too few people realize they need



COLUMNIST

CURTIS COOPER
Think on These Things

God's grace. Why is that? ANSWER: Because they do not realize their own sinfulness. Or they do not understand just how awful their sins are before God. Those who do not will simply sit in their sins.

Our story begins in Genesis, which means "beginning." It is appropriate for the book because Genesis tells of many beginnings, like the beginning of the world, mankind, the family, God's promises, His nation, and His plan.

But it also tells us of another beginning – the beginning of sin.

Can you imagine what it must have been like to live in the Garden of Eden? Think of the beauty, the leisure, the peace, the joy, the happiness, etc. Adam and Eve walked and talked directly with God. Work was easy. Relationships were happy. Even the law was pretty limited: Tend the garden. Be fruitful and multiply. Do not eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. There was no hurt, pain, sickness, sadness, or loneliness. The world was good. Life was good.

Why do we not live in that world? What changed?

Sin changed everything (Genesis 3:1-6). The serpent convinced Eve that God's

laws were holding her back from the greatest blessings. He pointed her to the forbidden tree and convinced her to take a bite. Eve turned to her husband and convinced him.

In that moment, everything changed. Sin entered our world. Death reigned, through sin (Romans 5:12).

Genesis goes on to show the consequences of sin. Pain in childbearing and hardship in marriage entered the world because of sin (Genesis 3:16). Struggle with work entered because of sin (Genesis 3:17-19). Sin destroys relationships like those of siblings and murder happened among brothers (Genesis 4). The world was destroyed by a flood because of sin (Genesis 6-8). But even in the new world, sin reared its ugly head which impacted not nations (Genesis 9:20-27). And so on.

Sin has been passed from father to son and mother to daughter since the beginning, not by birth or inheritance, but by example and pattern.

All have sinned (Romans 3:23). You have sinned. I have sinned. We all have sinned and fallen short of God's glory. Genesis wants us to understand the nature of sin. Over and over again sin caused every problem mankind faced throughout the book. Do you think it is different today?

What are we to grasp

from this? Sin is what causes our problems. Foremost, sin has separated us from our Creator (Isaiah 59:2) (and it may do so eternally without God's grace) and, as a result, sin created every struggle we face. Sin does nothing but cause pain and problems.

Certainly, there is some pleasure, otherwise, there would be no temptation, but is it worth it? How sweet and juicy was the fruit that Adam and Eve ate? Was it worth the consequences and all we see in the world today? How sweet were the sins you have committed in your life? Were they worth all the pain, broken relationships, wounded friends, estranged family, loneliness, and isolation?

Would you like to overcome that? Would you like to be set free from that? Then do something about your sin. You need God's grace. Turn to Him. Repent of your sins and be baptized for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38). Then live in His grace (Romans 6:1-4).

Visitors are welcome and valued. We meet at 15530 Herriman Blvd., Noblesville. Our phone number is (463) 287-0664. We meet for Sunday morning Bible Study at 10 a.m. and have classes for all ages. Worship begins at 11 a.m. and we have a Bible Study Wednesdays at 7 p.m. A warm welcome awaits!

Letter to the Editor

Richie Hall will be missed

Dear Editor:

Hamilton County sports received some bad news when Richie Hall announced that he is leaving as Sports Editor of the Hamilton County Reporter.

Richie has been writing and reporting sports for over 27 years. He was recruited by the legendary Don Jellison to join him in reporting sports for Hamilton County. Following Don's leadership, Richie learned well and has done an amazing job of covering all Hamilton County Sports on all the county teams for both boys and girls.

Richie's departure leaves a large void.

When deciding to come to Noblesville in 1975, as basketball coach, two key points that stood out to me were that Noblesville had a radio station and a daily newspaper. Both were a great way to promote a basketball program and the student athletes. The radio station left several years ago and now the newspaper coverage is gone.

I think the real losers are the Hamilton County athletes. To have your game covered by the media or your name mentioned in the newspaper is always exciting for high school athletes.

Thanks, Richie, for all you did for Hamilton County sports – YOU WILL BE MISSED!

Dave Nicholson
Noblesville

Letters to the Editor do not reflect the opinions of The Reporter, its publisher or its staff. You can submit your own Letter to the Editor by email to News@ReadTheReporter.com. Please include your phone number and city of residence. The Reporter will publish one letter per person per week.

Thanks for reading The Reporter!

“Jesus said unto them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

He who believes and is baptized will be saved. But he who does not believe will be condemned.”

Are you saved?

MARK
16:15-16



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IU Kokomo microbiology & nursing professors offer tick bite prevention tips

Submitted

Don't let ticks take a bite out of your summer. With the Centers for Disease Control reporting that tick bites in the Midwest nearly doubled over the past year, Indiana University Kokomo experts explain what's driving the increase, how to prevent tick bites, and what to do if you're bitten.

Angela Opsahl, dean of the School of Nursing and Allied Health Professions (SNAHP), and Christian Chauret, professor of microbiology, agreed finding a tick on your body is not a reason to go to the emergency room – but it is a reason to watch for symptoms of tick-borne diseases like Lyme disease, a bacterial infection transmitted by blacklegged (deer) ticks, or Alpha-gal syndrome (AGS), a potentially life-threatening red meat and dairy allergy triggered by specific tick bites.

"People should be aware of the risks, but not panic if they see a tick on their skin," Chauret said. "It's important to understand what the risks are, how to prevent them, what symptoms might be, and how to monitor for that."

Why are there more ticks?

Chauret said warmer,

shorter winters are the primary reason for the increase in ticks, giving them a better chance of surviving. Growing deer populations have also contributed, along with continued residential development in formerly wooded areas.

"With the increased population of deer across the Midwest, that means more hosts for deer ticks," he said. "With more hosts, there are more ticks. As we build in their habitats, people are also living in closer proximity to deer and ticks."

Can I prevent tick bites?

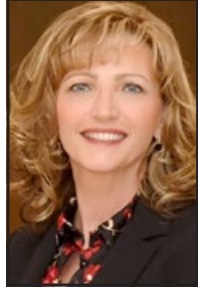
Opsahl said preventing tick bites in the first place is the best medicine.

Ticks live in grassy, brushy, wooded areas, so anyone spending time outdoors should be aware of where they might be encountered. Insect repellents designed for use on clothing and gear can help keep ticks away.

"If you're going to be outside, you can treat your clothing, your shoes, your



Chauret



Opsahl

gear, with Permethrin five percent," she said, or buy pre-treated apparel. She added that this preventative should not go directly on the skin.

"On direct skin, use EPA-registered insect repellents that contain DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon, or eucalyptus," she said, with sunscreen applied before the repellent if both are being used.

Opsahl noted that children younger than 3 should not use those products but should be watched closely and checked thoroughly for ticks.

When returning indoors, she recommends taking off clothing that may have been exposed to ticks immediately and washing them and drying on high heat for 30 minutes, as well as doing a thorough body check for ticks.

Pets should also be treated with preventatives and checked before entering the house.

An avid outdoorsman, Chauret said he tries to

stay in the middle of a trail when he hikes to avoid tall grass on the edges that could have ticks. He also suggested wearing long pants and tucking the pant hems into your socks, since ticks are most likely to come up from the ground.

What do I do if I find a tick on myself or someone else?

If you find a tick, Opsahl said to use fine tipped tweezers to gently lift the tick with steady, even pressure and no twisting, and then to clean the site with soap and water. If soap and water isn't available, rubbing alcohol or hand sanitizer will also work.

Finding a tick is not a reason to see a medical professional, but she recommended saving the tick in a plastic bag or container and watching for symptoms for 30 days.

"If you start having fever or chills, if you start feeling fatigued, have headaches, or muscle or joint pain, or the distinct bullseye rash, it's time to see a medical provider," she said, adding that Lyme disease can be treated with antibiotics. There's no cure for AGS, which is primarily spread by the lone star tick, but symptoms can be managed.

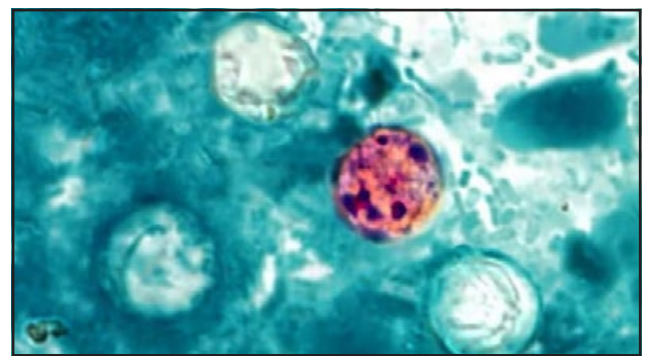


Photo provided by U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. The Cyclospora parasite is causing cases of "explosive diarrhea."

Marion County sees surge in 'explosive diarrhea' cases

By GREGG MONTGOMERY
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Marion County is experiencing an unusual increase in confirmed cases of the parasitic Cyclospora, also known as "explosive diarrhea," during 2026, health officials reported Wednesday.

Typically, the county records three or four cases annually, but so far in 2026, 15 cases have been confirmed, said an email to News 8 from Curt Brantingham, media and public information coordinator for the Health & Hospital Corporation of Marion County and Marion County Public Health Department.

Cases of Cyclospora are reportable to the Marion County Public Health Department, which is monitoring the situation.

News 8 also emailed the Indiana Department of Health to learn of any breakouts in Indiana but did not immediately receive a reply.

The Associated Press reported Wednesday that 992 people in Michigan have been diagnosed with the parasitic infection that can cause weeks of watery diarrhea. It's the largest such outbreak in state history and one of the nation's largest in years. No deaths have been reported and the source of the Cyclospora infections hasn't been identified. Meanwhile, investigations into similar illnesses have been going on in 28 other states, including in Ohio, where people just

across the Michigan border are also becoming sick.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says cyclosporiasis is an intestinal illness caused by the microscopic parasite Cyclospora cayentanensis. The exact way Cyclospora gets into food and water is not fully understood. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid consuming food or water that may be contaminated with feces.

Health officials advise residents to follow safe food handling practices to reduce their risk. Routine chemical disinfection or sanitization of food and water is unlikely to kill Cyclospora, particularly in tropical and subtropical regions where the parasite is more common.

Symptoms typically appear about one week after infection, though the onset can range from two days to two weeks. The CDC tracks confirmed cases that health officials at the local, state, and federal levels report to the agency.

The CDC says it's received reports of 145 cases of cyclosporiasis acquired in the United States of people who became sick from May 1 through June 16.

The CDC has more information about "explosive diarrhea" [on its website](#).

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/indiana-news/marion-county-indiana-sees-surge-in-explosive-diarrhea-cases.

Meeting Notices		
The Carmel Advisory Committee on Disability will meet at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 14, 2026, in Meeting Room C at Carmel Clay Public Library, 425 E. Main St.	The Sheridan Community Schools Board of Trustees will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 13, 2026, in the Board Room at Sheridan High School, 24185 Hinesley Road.	Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) The Hamilton County Personnel Committee will meet to discuss personnel issues at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, July 16, 2026, in Conference Room 1A at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.
The Hamilton Heights School Corporation Board of Trustees will meet at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 15, 2026, in the Board Room at the Hamilton Heights Student Activity Center, 420 W. North St., Arcadia.	The Noblesville Firefighter Merit Commission will meet in an executive session at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, July 23, 2026, pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9) to discuss a job performance evaluation or employment matters of individual employees. A regular meeting will follow at 4 p.m. in the courtroom of the Public Safety Building, 135 S. 9th St., Noblesville.	The Westfield Washington Schools will meet in an executive session at 5:45 p.m. Tuesday, July 14, 2026, for discussion of strategy with respect to any of the following: (D) A real property transaction including: (i) a purchase; (ii) a lease as lessor; (iii) a lease as lessee; (iv) a transfer; (v) an exchange; or (vi) a sale; by the governing body up to the time a contract or option is executed by the parties. This clause does not affect a political subdivision's duty to comply with any other statute that governs the conduct of the real property transaction, including IC 36-1-10 or IC 36-1-11. The regular board meeting will follow at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Room at the Westfield Washington Schools Administration Center, 19500 Tomlinson Road, Suite B.
The Noblesville Police Merit Commission meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 15, 2026, has been canceled.		

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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Gregory Hancock Dance Theatre to present "Fashion at The Florence"

Submitted

Gregory Hancock Dance Theatre (GHDT) previews its season with *Fashion at The Florence* at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19 at The Florence Theatre, 329 Gradle Drive, Carmel.

With the Season focus of "Art in Motion," this year's *Fashion at The Florence* theme centers around the joy of the late 1920s and the sophistication of the artist Erté. Cocktail Attire requested; 'Gatsby-esque' or Art Deco inspired attire encouraged. Gatsby/Erté themed fundraiser; Fashion at The Florence features a cabaret singer and distinctly curated silent auction experiences. A gala event of glittering style and elegance.

Please note this is a 21-and-over event.

Fashion at The Florence is GHDT's annual Gala Fundraiser, featuring an up close and personal runway-style exhibition of stunning costumes, music, light hors d'oeuvres and drinks.

New this year: Live cabaret performances introduce the fashions with local theater vocalist, Tessa Gibbons. This fundraiser experience, paired with a

specialty curated silent auction, procures funds where all proceeds go towards our costume and set designs for *Salem*, and musician salaries and expenses for *Remembrance*. Previewing an epic season of dance and music, you will see garments for the upcoming "Art In Motion" Season of Dance at GHDT:

- *Salem*: This time, the witch hunt is trending; Oct. 24 and 25 at The Tarkington; world premiere – Featuring all new, original music composed by Cory Gabel. The world premiere of *Salem* from the thrilling collaboration of Gregory Hancock and Composer in Residence, Cory Gabel.

- *Winter Fest*: A celebration of the winter global holidays; Dec. 4 to 14 at The Florence – Dance through the Season as GHDT celebrates its commitment to global unity within the arts.

- *The Black Dahlia*: A murder mystery; Feb. 7 to 22 at The Florence – See this shadowy whodunit of the Silver Screen Era, but be certain to watch your back because nothing is what it seems on the streets of Tinseltown!

- *Remembrance*: Where



Art provided

Image inspired by the works of Erté (Romain de Tiroff)

have you been? Where are you going? March 27 & 28 at The Tarkington – Featuring live music, dance, and spoken word from multiple

cultures that highlights how the world and communities are all connected. A bold statement of our universal shared past, and intrinsic connection as a global community into the future.

- *A Night in India*: No passport needed; June 5 & 6 at The Tarkington – Drawing from decades of works based upon India, its stories, culture, and music. A concert that promises to be an ambassador of culture and movement guaranteed to transport audiences ... no passport needed.

Fashion at The Florence is a stellar runway fashion experience exhibiting many of the beautifully curated and handcrafted costumes that grace the GHDT stage, as well as a preview of the exhilarating 2026-27 Season. Known for showcasing eclectic and textured themes, inspiration for these dynamic garments comes from all over the world.

Co-hosted by Gregory Hancock and Christine Colquitt Thacker, they will give insight to these beautiful creations and the pieces and themes that inspired them. This promises to be a stylish evening of fashion, food, and fundraising.

See *Fashion* ... Page 11

GHDT announces exciting new programs

The REPORTER

Gregory Hancock Dance Theatre (GHDT) and The Academy of Gregory Hancock Dance Theatre (AGHDT) announces multiple new programs at The Academy, 329 Gradle Drive, Carmel.

GHDT's open house and registration window for these programs is set for 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 11. Keep up to date at GregoryHancockDanceTheatre.org.

The Professional Training Program for Emerging Artists at GHDT

This new day-time program is designed for the dancer who is seeking a more professional level of training and performance opportunities, and it allows for training alongside the professional company dancers of GHDT.

- The Professional Training Program for Emerging Artists is for the dance student who wants to take their training to the next level and gives valuable professional level performing experience that enhances any resumé. It also gives internship credit for high school or college dancers seeking or needing these requirements. There is an easy acceptance process and is open to dancers age 16 to 22.

- Members of the Professional Training Program are expected to be available for weekly training from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and during concert Tech Weeks (schedule to be announced). The schedule can be modified slightly to accommodate special school

requirements.

- Professional Training Program Expectations 9 to 11 a.m. Class with the Company Dancers of GHDT. This varies daily as the Company switches from Horton Modern, to Ballet, to Contemporary and/or Jazz classes throughout the week. The schedule will be given upon admission to the program.

- Dancers who are admitted into the Professional Training Program for Emerging Artists are considered on the basis of maturity, availability for the daytime program from September through early June, dance technique capabilities (upper-intermediate to advanced student level dancers), age, and professionalism. The highest level of professional conduct is expected.

- Tuition includes five classes and rehearsals per week for 33 weeks, costuming and production expenses for three repertory concerts, community and outreach performance opportunities, guest artist residencies, and professional development.

BalletFit C.O.R.E. (Come On Relevé Everyone!) for Adults

This new program is specially curated for the adult (aged 18 and older) dancer seeking fitness, fun, and to either start their dance journey or continue one that was put on "pause."

Curated and taught by professional dancers who are also certified fitness instructors, get your ballet fix, mixed with toning and stamina building fitness, and dance your stress away

See *GHDT* ... Page 11



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WESTFIELD

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received:

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

For: 18160 Market Court Redevelopment Project

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

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

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

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

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

Addressed to:
Meyer Najem Construction
 11787 Lantern Rd Unit 100, Fishers, IN 46038
 Attn. 18160 Market Court Redevelopment Project
 Bid Package Number & Name
 Name and return address of the Bidder

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

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

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

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

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

NOTICE OF THE ADOPTION OF A DECLARATORY RESOLUTION BY THE WESTFIELD REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND OF A PUBLIC HEARING THEREON (LANTERN COMMONS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AREA)

Notice is hereby given that the Westfield Redevelopment Commission (the "Commission"), being the governing body of the Department of Redevelopment of the City of Westfield, Indiana (the "City"), on April 20, 2026, adopted its Resolution No. 10-2026 (the "Declaratory Resolution") making certain proposed amendments to the declaratory resolution and the economic development plan (the "Plan") for the Lantern Commons Economic Development Area (the "Area"), each as previously amended (the "2026 Amendments"). The 2026 Amendments (i) remove certain parcels within the Area from the existing Front Street Allocation Area, (ii) designate all of the parcels so removed from the Front Street Allocation Area as an "allocation area" (the "Gateway Allocation Area"), and (iii) adopt a supplement to the Plan (the "2026 Plan Supplement"), all as more particularly described in the Declaratory Resolution.

A detailed description of the proposed 2026 Amendments, together with maps and plats of the Area and the Gateway Allocation Area, the 2026 Plan Supplement and copies of the Declaratory Resolution, can be inspected at the office of the Director of Economic Development, 2728 E. 171st Street, Westfield, Indiana 46074.

Notice is hereby given that the Commission will conduct a public hearing on Monday, July 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. (local time), in the Assembly Room of Westfield City Hall, located at 130 Penn Street, Westfield, Indiana 46074, to receive and hear remonstrances and objections from all persons interested in or affected by the 2026 Amendments and the proceedings pertaining thereto. Written remonstrances to the 2026 Amendments may be filed with the Commission prior to the public hearing at the office of the Director of Economic Development, 2728 E. 171st Street, Westfield, Indiana 46074, and via email to Jenell Fairman at: jfairman@westfield.in.gov. After considering the evidence presented at the public hearing, which may be adjourned from time to time, the Commission will take final action determining the public utility and benefit of the proposed 2026 Amendments and whether the proposed 2026 Amendments are reasonable and appropriate when considered in relation to the Plan, and confirming, modifying and confirming, or rescinding the Declaratory Resolution.

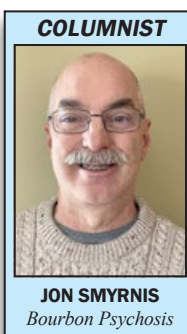
WESTFIELD REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

R8226 7/10/26, 7/13/26

Discernment

"Life is too short to drink bad bourbon." – Me

I'm not sure where to proceed from here. Oh, I know what I want to talk to you about, just not sure how to go about doing it. I promised you I



JON SMYRNIS
Bourbon Psychosis

some thought. That doesn't mean that I'm snobby, or elitist (I am, but not in this case). Great bourbons don't have to be allocated or cost hundreds of dollars. There are truly remarkable gems

out there, many from smaller distilleries. Several that I've already written about. Some from the big-name distilleries as well, just not their main bourbons. Case in point: Old Forester. Not a huge fan of most of their stuff. Their "regular" stuff is okay. Their *Whiskey Row Series*, again solidly good (I use that phrase a lot), yet, all of these are kind of harsh and oftentimes medicinal to me. I think that a good description of their wares would be "the Scotches of Bourbons." Not exactly correct, but close enough. Well, personally, I don't want my bourbons to taste like Scotch. That's Scotch's job.

Then a friend got me a bottle of Old Forester Statesman (I have some great friends). Sweeter, with fruit flavors and a very nice brown sugar-spice, finish. Now this is something worthy of my evening pour! This 95-proof gem sells for about \$50 to \$60. Definitely worth a purchase.

As an aside, Old Forester Statesman was supposed to be a limited edition run to support the 2017 film *Kingsman: The Golden Circle*. It ended up selling so well that they kept going with it permanently. Back to dear-old Dad's adage; this time, on the upside. There, I quickly wrapped up Old Forester. Perhaps too quickly.

If you would like to have a fun little experiment, take an evening and have a blind taste test. Pour a glass, or two, or three with a taste of the bourbons mentioned above. Chances are they're on your liquor shelf. Then, consult a few of my previous articles, and snag a bottle of one of the "gems" that I've discussed.

Have someone help you set it up. It has to be blind. Then taste each one-by-one with a little sip of water in between. I would bet my bottom dollar that the "gem" will be the winner. Side-by-side, you would be amazed at how bland and pedestrian the famous bourbons are. Of course, as I always say, it's all according to taste.

So, over the next few weeks we're going to explore these large distilleries with the critical eye of discernment. Right now, I'm off to dig through my collection and enjoy a dram of something special. I'll know it when I see it. Happy hunting for the extraordinary.

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

FASHION

Grab your beaded gowns and tux tails and be ready to kick up your heels while enjoying the Cabaret vocal stylings of Tessa Gibbons. Come prepared to give and help literally

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from Page 10

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from Page 1

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TODAY'S BIBLE READING

STAGES IN ISRAEL'S JOURNEY

Here are the stages in the journey of the Israelites when they came out of Egypt by divisions under the leadership of Moses and Aaron. At the Lord's command Moses recorded the stages in their journey. This is their journey by stages:

The Israelites set out from Rameses on the fifteenth day of the first month, the day after the Passover. They marched out defiantly in full view of all the Egyptians, who were burying all their firstborn, whom the Lord had struck down among them; for the Lord had brought judgment on their gods.

They left Sukkoth and camped at Etham, on the edge of the desert.

They left Etham, turned back to Pi Hahiroth, to the east of Baal Zephon, and camped near Migdol.

They left Pi Hahiroth and passed through the sea into the desert, and when they had traveled for three days in the Desert of Etham, they camped at Marah.

They left Marah and went to Elim, where there were twelve springs and seventy palm trees, and they camped there.

Numbers 33:1-9 (NIV)

June Bowen (Fox) Tyner

May 28, 1929 – July 8, 2026

June Bowen (Fox) Tyner, resident of Tipton and formerly of Aroma, Ind., passed away on Wednesday, July 8, 2026, in Tipton at the age of 97 years.

June was born on May 28, 1929 to James and Dessa Bowen in New Augusta, Ind. She graduated from Sheridan High School. June married Kenneth W. Fox, who was a farmer. June spent many hours at his side helping on the dairy farm and raising seven children until his death in 1986. She enjoyed time with her family, making ice cream, and cooking.

She later married Wilbur Tyner and they had a good life together, traveling and visiting with friends before his passing in 2005.

June enjoyed people. She would always greet them with a smile and positive word. She was always very kind to everyone. She enjoyed coloring, China painting, working on embroidery, helping at the Lions Club serving meals, volunteering at the library, and working at the Westfield Open Door helping others. She was a member of the Noblesville First Christian Church. June enjoyed being a resident of Autumnwood Assisted Living with all her friends.

She will be sadly missed by her children, Kenneth E. Fox of Elwood, Donnetta (Terry) Williams of Elwood, Joanna Fox of Franklin, Gary Fox of Noblesville, Cindy Brunes of Tennessee, and James Cecil Fox of Atlanta, Ga.; and daughter-in-law, Ronda Fox of Noblesville.

June also will be missed by her grandchildren, Ashley (Greg) Burgess, Amber (James) Gardner, Auston (Hanna) Brunes, Jon (Amy) Williams, Andrew Williams, David (Jenny) Fox-Lee, Jessica (Glenn) Shady, and Ethan Fox-Zomparelli; and 18 great grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brothers, Tyner, John, Howard, and Earl Bowen; sister, Mary Alice Godby; son, Steve Fox; granddaughter Angela Orton; and great-grandson, Rhett Brunes.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Open Doors of Westfield, 19360 Tomlinson Road, Westfield, IN 46074 (opendoorswestfield.org); or First Christian Church, 16377 Herriman Blvd., Noblesville, IN 46060 (fccnoblesville.org).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

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THE REPORTER

Dale Ann Costlow

March 14, 1949 – July 6, 2026

Dale Ann Costlow, 77, formerly of Noblesville, passed away on Monday, July 6, 2026, at a family home in Westfield. She was born on March 14, 1949, to Harley and Ruth (Fisher) Hudson in Anderson, Ind.

Dale was a graduate of Lapel High School. For over 40 years, she worked in banking as a teller and as the president's secretary. Dale was a member of Refuge Christian Church.

She is survived by her son, Mark (Heather) Costlow; daughter, Jody Costlow; siblings, Linda Turner, Henry Hudson, and Susie Smalley; grandchildren, Bella Ott, Carlie Ott, Catey Costlow, Holden Costlow, and Claire Brown. She was a wonderful mom and grandmother.

In addition to her parents, Dale was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, Stephen James Costlow; and her grandchildren, Logan Alynn Costlow and Tatem Benjamin Costlow.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with services at 1 p.m., on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, at Refuge Christian Church, 11772 E. 196th St., Noblesville. Dale will be laid to rest next to Steve at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Refuge Christian Church, 11772 E. 196th St., Noblesville, IN 46060 (refugeccnoblesville.com).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Keri Ann Drayer

September 16, 1969 – July 6, 2026

Keri Ann Drayer, 56, Sheridan, passed away, surrounded by her family, on Monday, July 6, 2026, after battling an acute respiratory illness. She was born on September 16, 1969, to the late Jay and Susan (Masenheimer) Henry in Harrisburg, Pa.

Keri received a doctorate in pharmacy from Purdue University. She worked as a pharmacist for over 30 years. Keri enjoyed sewing and gardening. Her greatest gift, however, was her compassionate heart. She was always willing to lend a helping hand, offer words of encouragement, or simply be there for someone in need.

Keri is survived by her husband, Jeffery Drayer; sons, Jacob Drayer (Madeline Holmberg), and Owen Drayer; daughter, Molly Drayer; brother, Todd Henry (Mary Ann); as well as several nieces & nephews.

Services will be Saturday, August 1, 2026, at Hamilton Memorial Park (Prairie Waters), 4180 Westfield Road, Noblesville. Visitation will be from 4 to 5:30 p.m. with a short service beginning at 5:30 p.m. A memorial gathering with food and drinks will immediately follow the service.

Memorial contributions may be made to Benjamin Drayer Memorial Fund (hamiltoncountycf.org/drayer-memorial-fund). You may write a check to: Hamilton County Community Foundation. Please note the "Drayer Memorial Fund" in the memo line. Checks can be dropped off or mailed to the Hamilton County Community Foundation office at: Hamilton County Community Foundation, Attn: Operations, 11999 Lakeside Drive, Fishers, IN 46038.

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Wrestling

Hard work pays off for Camden Hook

Incoming HSE freshman adds AAU Scholastic Duals victory to resume

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

Camden Hook has been wrestling for two-thirds of his life, and it has certainly taken him places.

The incoming Hamilton Southeastern freshman has won numerous championships and honors over the years and added to that list with his performance at the AAU Scholastic Duals, which took place June 24 to 29 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Representing both himself and two teams, Hook finished 21-0 at the Duals. He wrestled on the middle school Team Indiana AAU and the high school Indiana Smackdown team, where he was named All-American gold.

If that wasn't enough, Hook competed as an individual in the middle school bracket and won the national championship at 126 pounds.

Hook and his coach, Tomas Gutierrez, spoke with The Reporter at the Contenders Academy location



Photos provided / Pure Impact Studios

Camden Hook has built a long resume of victories over the years as a high-level youth wrestler. Hook's latest wins came at the AAU Scholastic Duals in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., where he went 21-0 and won a middle school national championship.

in Noblesville just a few days after Hook returned home from Florida. The success he had there was a far cry from his first-ever tournament: the Nuway Mayhem Tournament. Hook said he went 0-4 and "scored two points that entire tournament."

"I learned that I needed to get a whole lot better," said Hook.

Hook began wrestling at

age 5 and joined Contenders when he was 10. He began to notice improvement "probably four years ago when I was at Contenders for a little bit and I started getting better."

"Work ethic and just understanding that it's not going to happen overnight," said Gutierrez. "Sometimes people expect results the first or second day that they come into practice, but as

coaches here at Contenders, we try and not focus so much on the results all the time and talk about the journey and growing as a wrestler and as a person. That's when they start to see those results. It's not always right away."

This year alone, Hook has won several tournaments, including the Indiana State Wrestling Association's Greco-Roman

championship and the Central Regional championship, which took place in Louisville. He was also the runner-up at the Freestyle and Folkstyle tournaments.

Wrestling has already been Hook's passport to see the world. During his career, Hook got the chance to visit several European cities on a wrestling trip.

"This guy on Facebook reached out to my dad and

wanted to take a team," said Hook. "We ended up signing up and getting on the plane and going over there."

The trip included stops at Copenhagen, Denmark; Oslo, Norway; Stockholm, Sweden; Tallinn, Estonia; Helsinki, Finland; Riga, Latvia and Frankfurt, Germany. Hook called the trip "pretty eye-opening."

See Hook . . . Page 15

Football

Carmel returns to the MIC in time for football

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

The 2026 football schedule for Carmel will be just like not-so-old times.

The Greyhounds return to the Metropolitan Conference once the 2026-27 school year begins, which means they will be seeing some of their old football rivals in August. Carmel's MIC comeback is one of the highlights of the Hamilton County 2026 football schedules.

The Hounds and Center Grove were dropped from the MIC in December 2021 but were added back into the conference in September 2025. Carmel had been playing a rotating list of opponents for the past few years, although the Greyhounds still scheduled some

of their old MIC rivals. Carmel played North Central, Ben Davis, Warren Central and Lawrence Central in all four of its independent years. The Hounds will face those schools during the same weeks as last season, from Weeks 6 to 9.

As for the other MIC teams, Carmel hosts Center Grove for Week 3 and Pike for Week 4, then travels to Lawrence North on Week 5. The Hounds keep their same early-season schedule, playing Fishers for their opener and Westfield for Week 2.

Big changes for Huskies

Hamilton Heights has the most changes of any county school. The Huskies dropped Triton Central, Tippecanoe Valley and Danville from their schedule, re-



Bob Cross / File photo

The Hamilton Heights football team's annual "Hammer game" with Tipton was moved from Week 8 to Week 4 this season, one of several changes to the Huskies' schedule.

placing them with London (Ohio), Benton Central and Lafayette Central Catholic, the latter two being Hoosier Conference teams.

There was also some shuffling among the Huskies' current opponents. Logansport was moved from Week 6 to Week 3, while Tipton was moved from Week 8 to Week 4. Twin Lakes was pushed back a week, from Week 7 to Week 8.

Guerin Catholic made two changes: Andrean re-

placed Pike for Week 7, while Mt. Vernon replaced Culver Academies for Week 8. The Golden Eagles' other games are the same from last season.

Noblesville's only schedule change is for opening week. The Millers replaced Mt. Vernon with Arsenal Tech for Week 1, but everything else is the same.

Fishers, Hamilton Southeastern, Sheridan and Westfield had no changes to their schedules. The Blackhawks are slated to play Tri-Central

on Week 3; that game was canceled last season after the Trojans switched to a junior varsity schedule.

Here is a complete list of football schedules. All games start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

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Fall 2026 High School Football Schedule

Carmel	Hamilton Southeastern
Aug. 21 - Fishers	Aug. 2 - at Fort Wayne Carroll, 7:30 p.m.
Aug. 28 - at Westfield	Aug. 28 - North Central
Sept. 4 - Center Grove	Sept. 4 - at Avon
Sept. 11 - Pike	Sept. 11 - Fishers
Sept. 18 - at Lawrence North	Sept. 18 - at Westfield
Sept. 25 - at North Central	Sept. 25 - Zionsville
Oct. 2 - Ben Davis	Oct. 2 - at Noblesville
Oct. 9 - at Warren Central	Oct. 9 - at Franklin Central
Oct. 16 - at Lawrence Central	Oct. 16 - Brownsburg
Fishers	Noblesville
Aug. 21 - at Carmel	Aug. 21 - Arsenal Tech
Aug. 28 - Lawrence North	Aug. 28 - at Homestead
Sept. 4 - Noblesville	Sept. 4 - at Fishers
Sept. 11 - at Hamilton Southeastern	Sept. 11 - Westfield
Sept. 18 - Brownsburg	Sept. 18 - at Zionsville
Sept. 25 - at Avon	Sept. 25 - Franklin Central
Oct. 2 - at Franklin Central	Oct. 2 - Hamilton Southeastern
Oct. 9 - Westfield	Oct. 9 - at Brownsburg
Oct. 16 - at Zionsville	Oct. 16 - Avon
Guerin Catholic	Sheridan
Aug. 21 - McCutcheon	Aug. 21 - Greenwood Christian
Aug. 28 - at Pendleton Heights	Aug. 28 - at Alexandria
Sept. 4 - Heritage Christian	Sept. 4 - Tri-Central
Sept. 11 - Brebeuf Jesuit, 7:30 p.m.	Sept. 11 - at Clinton Central
Sept. 18 - at Roncalli	Sept. 18 - at Clinton Prairie
Sept. 25 - at Bishop Chatard	Sept. 25 - Taylor
Oct. 2 - Andrean, 7:30 p.m.	Oct. 2 - at Delphi
Oct. 9 - at Mt. Vernon	Oct. 9 - Eastern
Oct. 16 - at Laf. Central Catholic	Oct. 16 - at Carroll
Hamilton Heights	Westfield
Aug. 21 - at Lapel	Aug. 21 - at Homestead
Aug. 28 - London (Ohio)	Aug. 28 - Carmel
Sept. 4 - at Logansport	Sept. 4 - Zionsville
Sept. 11 - at Tipton	Sept. 11 - at Noblesville
Sept. 18 - West. Central	Sept. 18 - Hamilton Southeastern
Sept. 25 - at Laf. Central Catholic, 7:30 p.m.	Sept. 25 - at Brownsburg
Oct. 2 - Benton Central, 7:30 p.m.	Oct. 2 - Avon
Oct. 9 - Twin Lakes, 7:30 p.m.	Oct. 9 - at Fishers
Oct. 16 - West Lafayette	Oct. 16 - Franklin Central

NFHS to allow one-way electronic communications for softball pitchers

One of four rule changes for high school teams

The REPORTER

The National Federation of High Schools announced rule changes for high school softball teams on Thursday, one day after the organization released baseball rule changes.

The most significant rule change for softball regards pitchers, who can now join catchers as the only players in high school softball permitted to receive one-way electronic communication from the dugout, effective with the 2027 season.

This change was one of four recommendations by the NFHS Softball Rules Committee during its June 14-16 meeting in Indianapolis. All recommendations were later approved by the NFHS Board of Directors and were announced in a [news release](#) on Thursday.

The release continues: "Deliberations by the NFHS Softball Rules Committee were spirited and robust," said Sandy Searcy, NFHS director of sports and liaison to the Softball Rules Committee. "Approval of these four rules proposals

was the result of data collected from the membership, and specifically state association administrators. The committee is to be commended for its attention to detail, and thorough analysis of information available."

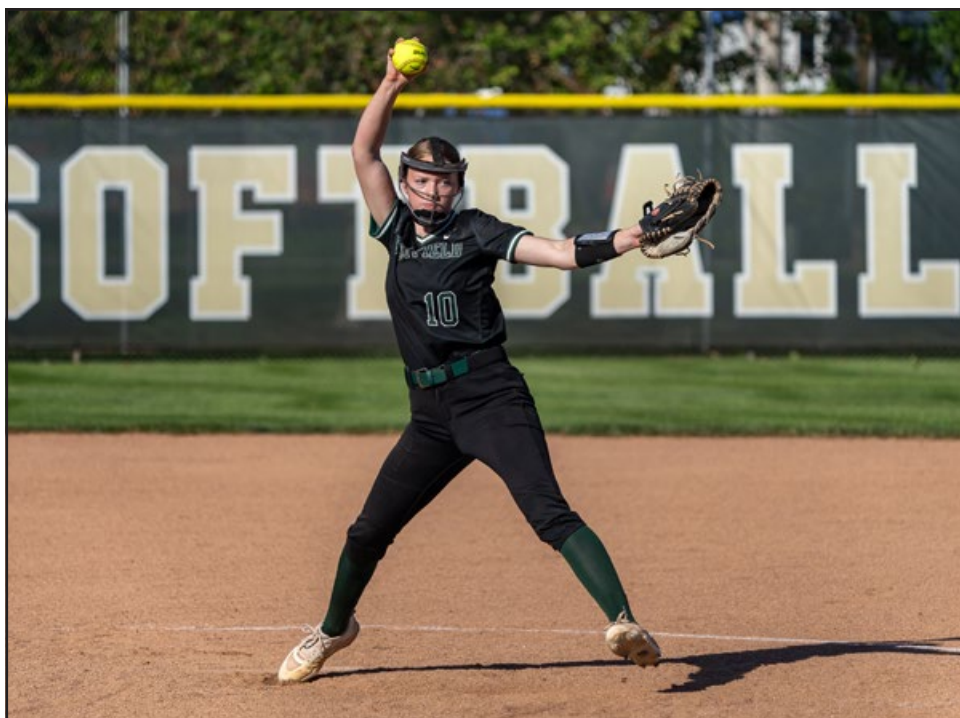
Updated language now includes pitchers among the players permitted to receive one-way electronic communication from the dugout during games, allowing for faster delivery of information. The use of all other electronic devices to transmit or record information remains prohibited on the field of play, and players are still prohibited from transmitting or recording audio or video from the playing surface.

The committee also simplified language regarding whether a pitcher and catcher must face the first batter on defense in relation to courtesy runners. In its comments, the committee said the change eliminates the requirement — or perceived requirement that the pitcher and catcher listed on the starting lineup card must face the first batter on defense.

"Previously, there was a misconception that the pitcher and catcher listed on the lineup card were always required to face the first batter (one pitch), which was never the intent of the rule," the committee noted. "This change simplifies the administration of the courtesy runner rule and eliminates a provision that applied only during the transition between the top and bottom halves of the first inning. By removing a unique scenario that applied only to the bottom of the first inning, the rule becomes easier for umpires, coaches, scorekeepers and players to administer and understand."

Additional changes allow state associations to determine umpire uniforms and clarify the definition of an initial play to better align with other areas of the rules book.

"The committee was intentional in adopting changes that solve real issues encountered on high school softball fields," said Andi Osters, chair of the NFHS Softball Rules Committee and assis-



Julie Brown / File photo

The National Federation of High Schools announced that pitchers can now join catchers as the only players in high school softball permitted to receive one-way electronic communication from the dugout, effective with the 2027 season. Pictured is Westfield pitcher Mac Delph during the Shamrocks' regional championship game.

stant director of the Michigan High School Athletic Association. "Whether it's improving communication between coaches and players, clarifying how interference should

be judged after a deflected batted ball, streamlining the courtesy runner rule, or allowing states greater flexibility with umpire uniforms, each change reflects feed-

back from the coaches and officials who administer our game every day. Our objective is always to make the rules as clear, consistent and practical as possible."

Golf

Two local players in top 10 of Junior PGA

The REPORTER

Two Hamilton County players are part of the top 10 after the first round of play at the Indiana Jr. PGA Championship, which began Thursday at Rock Hollow Golf Club in Peru.

Carmel's Alex Gardner is the top local player, currently fourth with a two under par score of 70. Gardner made five birdies during his round and is two back from the leader, Boonville's Cash Willis, who scored

four under 68 for his opening round.

Noblesville's J.T. Kelley is part of a four-way tie for eighth place, scoring 73. Kelley made an eagle on the third hole during his round.

The 36-hole tournament concludes today, with play starting at 8 a.m. The top 70 and ties from the first round made the cut; a list of those players now follows.

4. Alex Gardner, Carmel 70, T8. J.T. Kelley, Noblesville

73, T12. Mattingly Upchurch, Fishers 74; Mules ray, Noblesville 74; Luke Moore, Carmel 74, T18. Owen Schuitema, Carmel 75, 25. Zach Kinzer, Fishers 76, T37. Andrew Williamson, Noblesville 77, T42. Luke Decker, Noblesville 78; Keaton Knott, Westfield 78; Vaughn Twilla, Noblesville 78, T58. Max Huffman, Carmel 80; Patrick Wolf, Carmel 80; Will Lowery, Westfield 80; Graham DeMarco, Noblesville 80; Colby Crandall, Westfield 80; Gavin Davis, Fishers 80.

Football

Former Colts kicker Adam Vinatieri to join Colts legends in team's Ring of Honor

By MICHAELA SPRINGER
WISH-TV | [wistv.com](#)

Former Indianapolis Colts kicker and member of the 2026 Pro Football Hall of Fame Class Adam Vinatieri will soon be joining other Colts legends in the Colts League of Honor.

The team announced Wednesday Vinatieri will be inducted during the Oct. 18 home game versus the Tennessee Titans.

Vinatieri played with

the Patriots from 1996 to 2005 before signing with the Colts as a free agent in 2006.

Vinatieri played in 365 games over 24 seasons between the Colts and the New England Patriots, being the only player in NFL history to make at least 250 field goals with two teams and the only player in NFL history to rake in 1,000 points between teams.

He left the Colts in 2019, retiring two years later in

2021. Vinatieri still owns multiple Colts records, including points scored, field goals, and extra points made.

Vinatieri is the 21st honoree in the Ring of Honor, joining late owners Robert and Jim Irsay, Peyton Manning, Dwight Freeney, Reggie Wayne, and the "Colts Nation."

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HOOK

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"A lot of people there wrestle completely different than we do her," said Hook. "It's more like a lifestyle for them and they're just all about it and dedicated. They don't really do much except for train, and when they train, they don't train like forever, they just train hard shorter."

In addition to wrestling, Hook has dipped into the world of kickboxing. His father, John Hook, fought professionally in MMA and taught his son boxing at age 6.

"For the longest time, he stopped teaching me because I started getting in trouble at school," said Camden Hook. "He told me that wasn't okay. First week at school, somebody took my crayons, I started punching them."

Camden eventually settled down and began entering fights when he was older; his first fight was set up with Iron Horse Productions from Greenfield.

"I was 12 and I started off fighting a kid from Ten-

nessee," said Hook. "I don't know how the fight got set up. I think the promoter used to help promote fights for my dad when he started off."

Hook won that fight and a few others. He currently holds a 5-0 record in kickboxing matches.

"Maybe wrestling was a little bit better because we don't fight people," said Gutierrez. "More controlled chaos."

In addition, Hook is a straight-A student and a member of the National Honor Society. He already has built quite a resume as he enters high school, both academically and in wrestling.

"I'm looking forward to different training opportunities and wrestling higher-level kids more often, making the next jump, because after that's college," said Hook.



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