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TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026

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TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Sunny and hot. Calm wind.
Tonight: Clear. Calm wind.



HIGH: 92 LOW: 71



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State Rep. Lopez recognizes Carmel Rotary Club for 50 years of service

By **DUBBIE BUCKLER**
Rotary Club of Carmel V.P.

Indiana State Representative Danny Lopez presented the Rotary Club of Carmel with a State of Indiana District Declaration at the club's meeting held Friday, July 10 at the Woodland Country Club, 100 Woodland Lane, Carmel.

Rep. Lopez commended Carmel Rotarians for their selfless service to others, noting that, since its establishment in 1972, the Club has long been a place where local Hoosiers can come together to make a difference in our community. He further noted that the Rotary Club of Carmel has served as an invaluable partner to the city since its incorporation 50 years ago. He then presented the club with a distinguished plaque recognizing Carmel Rotarians' 50 years of outstanding leadership and service to the community.

Rep. Lopez, who represents House District 39 which encompasses most of



(From left) Club President Nancy Heck, longtime Carmel Rotarian leader Rick Markoff, and State Rep. Danny Lopez.

the City of Carmel, personally attested to the importance of the untold hours of Carmel Rotarians' volunteerism and stated he intends to apply to become a member of the Rotary Club of Carmel to personally support the club's legacy of service.



Photo provided by Megan Rathz
Our columnist decided her porch goose would be far classier than the ones of the long-ago 1980s.

Porch goose

I remember when I was a little girl, my mom had a porch goose. Like many women in the '80s, my mom would dress the goose up with seasonally appropriate outfits. It seemed like we had this thing for as long as I can remember. It was always there.

One day, my chocolate lab at the time, Jack, somehow was able to drag this thing to the ground and broke its neck – literally. I remember there was the body of the goose with the internal cable exposed from its neck and a very unhappy mom.

For whatever reason, the goose was not replaced. I think part of this was because my mom was mad that it happened in the first place and by the time it did happen, they were not “in” anymore like they were when she first got it.

COLUMNIST



MEGAN RATHZ
When Nature Speaks

Last chance to help Prevail celebrate 40 years

The REPORTER
Ticket sales for **Prevail's 40th Anniversary Celebration** close Friday, July 17. Don't miss your opportunity to be part of this unforgettable evening.

Join Prevail from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1

to celebrate 40 years of hope, healing, and empowerment while looking ahead to what's possible for the future. Enjoy a bourbon tasting, live and silent auctions, dueling pianos entertainment, and more to honor the incredible community that



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has made Prevail's mission possible. Please plan to attend and celebrate this milestone. **Secure your spot today** and be part of something truly impactful.

See *Goose . . .* Page 2

Hamilton County gearing up for 4-H Fair

Queen Kendall the Congenial reigns supreme

Kendall Manges crowned Queen, wins Miss Congeniality again

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

NOBLESVILLE — Kendall Manges is now 2-for-2 when it comes to winning Miss Congeniality at the Hamilton County 4-H Queen Pageant.

This year, Manges is also the Queen. Just minutes after receiving the Miss Congeniality sash again, Manges was crowned the 2026 Hamilton County 4-H Queen. An emotional Manges received her crown from Sophia Hulen, last year's Queen, at the conclusion of the Pageant, which took place Friday, July 10 at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds.

"I am very excited for this opportunity to not only have the characteristics that Miss Congeniality does, serving alongside these amazing girls with the opportunity to serve as Miss Hamilton County over this next year," said Manges.



Photo by Simplicity Creative / simplicity-creative.com
Kendall Manges (front center) was a double winner at the Hamilton County 4-H Queen Pageant, which took place Friday, July 10 at the 4-H Fairgrounds. Manges is pictured with her court: Giselle Effing (Fourth Runner-Up), Rachel Deeter (Second Runner-Up), Avery Hills (First Runner-Up) and Charlotte Wiggins (Third Runner-Up).

"I am looking forward to representing this county with so much grace and confidence and just showing people what 4-H is all about."

See *Queen . . .* Page 2



Reporter photo by Adrienne Rogers

The public portion of the 2026 Hamilton County 4-H Fair runs from Thursday, July 16 through Monday, July 20. Many 4-H'ers have already been to the fairgrounds and some of the judging has already begun because it's just too much activity to pack into five days. One of our fine fair photographers took this very shot of the courthouse. She told us today that her first job, at the age of 13, was delivering the Ledger to a downtown route around the courthouse square. Some things can only happen in small-town America, no matter how hard we try to turn it into cities.

Do your part & donate blood during 4-H Fair

The REPORTER

Fairgoers can give blood during their visit to the Hamilton County 4-H Fair.

Versiti Blood Center of Indiana's Mobile Unit will be open from 2 to 6 p.m. both on Thursday, July 16 and Friday, July 17 at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds, 2003 Pleasant St., Noblesville. The mobile unit will be located east of the Swine Barn.

Donors will receive a voucher for a free milkshake courtesy of Hamilton County Farm Bureau, Inc., an Indiana State Fair Ticket compliments of Purdue Extension Hamilton County.

Versiti brings together outstanding minds with unparalleled experience in transfusion medicine, transplantation, stem cells and cellular therapies, oncology and genomics, diagnostic lab services, and medical and scientific expertise. This combination of skill

and knowledge results in improved patient outcomes, higher quality services, and reduced cost of care for hospitals, blood centers, hospital systems, research and educational institutions, and other health care providers.

The Hamilton County 4-H Fair is organized and sponsored by the Hamilton County 4-H Council, Inc. and Purdue Extension Hamilton County.

For more information on the 4-H Fair or the Purdue Extension Service, call the Purdue Extension Hamilton County at (317) 776-0854 or visit puext.in/hamilton. A complete schedule of events can be found by clicking the 4-H Fair link. More information can be found on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#).

Be sure to keep reading The Reporter over the coming days for more information about all the activities going on during this year's 4-H Fair.



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American Bank of Freedom

4-H Extension Homemakers sponsoring open food & craft show

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Extension Homemakers are sponsoring an open Food & Craft Show during the 2026 Hamilton County 4-H Fair at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds, 2003 Pleasant St., Noblesville.

The contest is open to any Hamilton County resident or Hamilton County Extension Homemaker over the age of 18. Entries are submitted for closed judging on Saturday, July 18 at the 4-H Fairgrounds. Entries will be on display Saturday, July 18 through Monday, July 20.

Food divisions include breads, cakes, cookies, pies, convenience foods, pres-

ervation, and homemade candy. Craft divisions include needlecraft, knitting, crocheting, and creative ideas such as jewelry, dolls, wreaths, handmade cards, and more. Fine arts categories include painting, drawing and photography. Sewing categories include quilts, comforters, or table runners stitched by hand or machine.

To obtain a complete list of guidelines, divisions and classes, please stop by the Purdue Extension Hamilton County Office or call (317) 776-0854. **Entry forms are available online** or you may register from 8:30 to 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 18 at the Hamilton County 4-H

Fairgrounds. An entry fee of \$2 per item is payable at time of entry.

The Hamilton County Extension Homemakers are made up of nearly 200 volunteers committed to strengthening the homes of Hamilton County. The mission of the Indiana Extension Homemakers Association (IEHA) is "To strengthen families through continuing education, leadership development, and volunteer community support." For more information about the Extension Homemakers or the Purdue Extension Service of Hamilton County, visit puext.in/hamcohomemakers.

The Hamilton County

4-H Fair is organized and sponsored by the Hamilton County 4-H Council, Inc. and Purdue Extension Hamilton County.

For more information on the 4-H Fair or the Purdue Extension Service, call the Purdue Extension Hamilton County at (317) 776-0854 or visit puext.in/hamilton. A complete schedule of events can be found by clicking the 4-H Fair link. More information can be found on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [X](#).

Be sure to keep reading The Reporter over the coming days for more information about all the activities going on during this year's 4-H Fair.

QUEEN

Manges, 17, finished as Second Runner-Up in last year's pageant. Manges said that during the ensuing year, she's had "so many leadership opportunities in 4-H that have helped me grow as an individual, specifically helping kickstart Unified 4-H, and just by being on that committee, I have been able to meet so many people and grow in so many skills that are going to help me in my future."

"And I believe that gave me the confidence to stand on this stage and do what I did," said Manges.

Manges is the daughter of Chris and Chandra Manges. She is an incoming senior at Fishers High School and a member of the Fishers Showstoppers. Kendall Manges has completed 60 4-H projects and plans to attend Purdue University to obtain a nursing degree and become a labor and delivery nurse.

Winning Miss Congeniality for the second year was meaningful to Manges, as the award is voted on by her fellow contestants.



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

A ROYAL SYMPOSIUM: Hamilton County 4-H Queen Kendall Manges meets with 4-H Queens and Court members from other counties. Representatives from Hancock, Rush, Shelby, and Tipton counties were on hand for the Pageant.

"The other 16 ladies are so fabulous, and I've loved getting to know each and every one of them," said Manges. "Being chosen for this award is such an honor because they are all deserving. And just the fact that they voted for me and circled my name means the world."

Manges is currently a nine-year 4-H member, so she will reach the 10-year

milestone in 2027. This year's 10-year members were recognized at the Pageant while the judges were deciding who would be queen.

"I'm going to enjoy the fair so much," said Manges. "For the past nine years, I've been enjoying the fair, but this is just going to make it extra special for the opportunity to represent my county

with a smile on my face."

In addition to Manges, four other contestants were selected to the 4-H Court. They are First Runner-Up Avery Hills (Sheridan Ag), Second Runner-Up Rachel Deeter (Giddy-Up Gang), Third Runner-Up Charlotte Wiggins (Llama Trekkers) and Fourth Runner-Up Giselle Effing (Harey Hoppers).

GOOSE

Fast forward about 25 years and I'm happy to report that porch geese are back. These "kitschy" things are popping up on porches all over the place. I know some people hate them. They think they are outdated and remind them of their tacky grandmother's porch.

I used to love the one I had as a kid, and I'd be lying if I said that when I saw they were coming back that I wasn't secretly eyeing one for my own porch.

I recently learned the background of porch geese from Martha Stewart. She wrote in a column recently that real geese were used in farm life to guard homes. "Real geese were kept as guard animals because of their protective instincts

and that absolutely iconic honk. Geese were literally a farmer's alarm system, protecting livestock, property, and people from foxes, hawks, coyotes, and human intruders alike."

At some point, someone made a concrete mold and the rest is history. Throw a pilgrim hat on the thing at Thanksgiving and even better.

I mentioned in passing to my husband that I might want to get one, and he was not impressed with the idea. He said they are tacky.

I knew if I were to get one, mine would not be anything other than classy and fun. I wanted a traditional looking one that is NOT painted. I don't like the painted geese nearly

as well. You know how it is when you Google something one time and then you begin getting targeted ads for said item. Naturally, porch geese and outfits were popping up all over my social media feeds, and they were also showing up on Facebook Marketplace as suggested items for me. None of those stood out to me though. I told myself that if I get one, it has to be the right one and I will know it when I see it.

Well, the day came recently when I was in a Noblesville store called Rustic Root with my mom. I saw the perfect goose. It was unpainted and the perfect size. It was meant to be my goose.

My mom got her for me and now she sits on

my own porch. I haven't named her yet or bought any outfits. I must ease my husband into this before putting the string bikini that I have my eye on for her.

The truth is that these geese are a lot more than just a silly concrete statue your mom and grandma had a long time ago. They represent a point in time and childhood that was fun. It was simple. Things can be heavy and sometimes you just need something silly to lighten up your front porch.

Go get a porch goose. You won't regret it.

Megan Rathz is a wife, mother, and teacher. She says everything she has ever learned in life came from her Master Gardener mother.



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Westfield School Nurse Manager nationally recognized for excellence in school nursing administration

Submitted by Westfield Washington Schools

Westfield Washington Schools' (WWS) Manager of School Nurses Teresa Layton has been recognized with the Excellence in School Nursing Award as the 2026 School Nurses Administrator, representing Indiana at the national level after being nominated by the Indiana Association of School Nurses.

Layton received the honor during the National Association of School Nurses Annual Conference, where one school nurse and one school nurse administrator from each state is recognized for significant impact throughout the 2025-2026 school year for students, staff, and the community. It also recognizes outstanding leadership, professional excellence, and contributions to the field of school nursing.

Layton was nominated anonymously for the national award, recognizing her leadership, mentorship, and dedication to advancing school nursing. She will also be honored this fall at the Indiana Association of School Nurses conference.

While the recognition honors Layton individually, she views it as a reflection of the entire WWS nursing team and its shared commitment to providing exceptional care for students.

"I just feel like it demonstrates a high level of training for the school nurses because we really try to be front and center and make sure we're using research-based information," Layton said.

That commitment to excellence begins with continuous learning. Every WWS school nurse is a registered nurse (RN) who regularly participates in specialized professional development to stay current on the latest research, best practices, and advances in student health care.

"Medicine is changing all the time," Layton said. "Making sure we're on the forefront of that information, that we're trained and know how to use it, is really important."

Throughout the year, WWS nurses complete ongoing training through organizations including the Indiana Department of Education and the Epilepsy Foundation. Recent professional learning has focused on diabetes management, asthma care, seizure recognition and emergency response, and anaphylaxis treatment, including training on newly available nasal epinephrine.

As the district continues to grow, Layton says her team has embraced every opportunity to expand its knowledge and better support students.

"We're striving to find ways to keep students healthy and ready to learn," Layton said. "Every time new training becomes available, we complete it to make sure we're up to date. I feel like our nurses are continually increasing their knowledge and strengthening the level of care we provide across our schools."

That commitment extends beyond common medical conditions. When a student has a rare or unfamiliar health need, the WWS nursing team partners with healthcare providers to ensure every student receives safe, informed, and individualized care.

"If there's a condition that a child has that we're not familiar with, River-view is really good about providing education or helping us connect with experts who can guide us," Layton said. "We want to know how to care for the child, but also what teachers need to know to best support them in the classroom. We're constantly learning so we can provide the best care possible."

Layton also recognized Riverview Health for providing the district's nurses via its partnership with WWS. Additionally, Riverview invests in those nurses through opportunities like a scholarship allowing four WWS school nurses to attend this year's Indiana Association of School Nurses conference, participating in two days of professional development and expert-led learning.

Dr. Ryan Hoover, WWS Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, said the recognition reflects the impact Layton has across the district.

"Teresa is a dynamic leader not only for the WWS nursing staff but for the entire district," Hoover said. "She blends the perfect amount of knowledge and skill with collaboration and support. She oversees and mentors our health professionals while providing ongoing support for our schools, students, and parents. She is an exemplary leader and very deserving of this award."



Photo provided by Westfield Washington Schools
Teresa Layton said because medicine is changing all the time, school nurses should always be on the forefront of the newest information available.

Carmel hires Erin Murphy to lead city's marketing & communications strategy

Submitted by City of Carmel

On Monday, July 13, a seasoned communications strategist joined the City of Carmel as Director of Marketing and Community Relations.

Erin Murphy will oversee city branding, media relations and public information, events, and event sponsorships, supporting outreach to residents, visitors, and businesses, along with oversight of communications to city team members and partners.

A Hamilton County resident, Murphy most recently served as Purdue University's senior director of media and public relations. Prior roles include press secretary to

Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb and communications director for the City of Westfield. She was a television anchor and reporter for more than a decade earlier in her career.

"Erin brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the role," Mayor Sue Finkam said. "She will enhance our support to residents and businesses as part of

a strategic and cohesive outreach plan. She has a demonstrated track record of success and we look forward to her bringing her experience to the City of Carmel."

Murphy holds a bachelor's degree in journalism and a master's degree in public relations from Ball State University.



Murphy



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Police investigate suspected arson of Israeli flag on Zionsville Main Street

By **Jacqueline White, Gregg Montgomery & Justin Razavi**
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

The Zionsville Police Department is investigating a fire on Historic Main Street that caused more than \$150,000 in damage and is believed to have been set deliberately.

The Zionsville Fire Department said crews responded at 1:41 a.m. Friday to the blaze at 195 S. Main St., the former Kogan Antiques and Lighting.

Firefighters brought the fire under control within 15 minutes. No injuries were reported.

At a press conference later Friday morning, Zionsville Mayor John Stehr said the fire is believed to be arson.

Stehr said surveillance footage and the burn pattern points to an Israeli flag that had been hanging outside the building for approximately three years.

“It looks to be that that was sort of the impetus to this – that somebody may have lit the Israeli flag on fire, and that led to a burn pattern that we see here on the side of the building,” Stehr said.

The mayor did not hold back in expressing his reac-

tion to the incident.

“It breaks my heart. This isn’t the people that I know in Zionsville. This doesn’t define Zionsville,” Stehr said. “I’ve used the word appalling, abhorrent. I can’t think of enough adjectives to tell you just how I feel about this. It’s obviously wrong.”

Community members in Zionsville say hate is not welcome in their town.

“There’s no place for hate, diversity is beautiful,” said Bob Goodman, who co-owns Robert Goodman Jewelers, right down the street from the location of the arson attack, with his wife, Rose-Marie.

Their store is lined with messages of tolerance including “Hate has no home here” and “Diversity is beautiful.”

“I think we’re all shocked and sad at the same time,” Rose-Marie Goodman said. “Hate is not something we can accept anywhere.”

Bob said the arsonist might have been trying to send a political message about the current government in Israel, it comes off as a much wider attack on Jewish people in general.

“It’s a statement against a religion, the Jewish religion, when they do that, in my

opinion,” he said. “You can protest the government ... We do not support the government and their actions in the Middle East, hard stop ... But this is a statement against a religion.”

State Rep. Becky Cash, a Republican whose district includes Zionsville, said she was “horrified” when she heard about the attack.

“It’s been years since I’ve heard of an antisemitic attack in Zionsville,” Cash said. “Arson and crimes are not free speech, and my hope would be that nobody would ever say anything hateful toward anybody at all ... I am confident our law enforcement will do everything they can to find out whoever did this and prosecute them.”

Law enforcement have not yet announced any suspects in the case.

The FBI said it offered to assist with the investigation, but the Zionsville Police Department is the lead agency. Anyone with information is urged to contact Detective Nick Ruby at (317) 941-9072.

The Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) and partners in the Greater Indianapolis Jewish Community issued a statement con-

demning the act.

This morning the Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) and partners in the Greater Indianapolis Jewish Community were made aware by Town of Zionsville leadership that a structure fire occurred overnight at a Zionsville Village building that was known to publicly display an Israeli flag alongside an American flag.

Town officials have confirmed that the fire was caused by arson, and the FBI has joined the investigation. While the motive remains under investigation, in our current environment, we are deeply concerned that the displayed flags may have been targeted. We condemn this despicable act of apparent intimidation in the strongest possible terms, and we call on civic, faith, and community leaders across Central Indiana to do the same. Arson, violence, and intimidation can never be accepted and have no place in our community.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/crime-watch-8/police-investigate-suspected-arson-of-israeli-flag-on-zionsville-main-street.

Discover the impact of local nonprofits at Westfield Chamber’s Aug. 6 luncheon

The REPORTER

The Westfield Chamber invites business leaders, community members, and guests to attend the **State of Nonprofits Luncheon** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 6, at The Club at Chatham Hills, 1100 Chatham Hills Blvd., Westfield.

Discover how local nonprofits are changing lives across Westfield and Hamilton County, and how you and your business can be part of the impact.

At the third annual State of Nonprofits Luncheon, you’ll hear from six local nonprofit organizations as they share their missions, current priorities, and the difference they’re making throughout the Westfield community.

Why attend?

- Learn about organizations creating meaningful

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Graphic provided

local impact.

- Connect with community leaders, nonprofit partners, and fellow Chamber members.

- Discover opportunities to volunteer, partner, and

give back.

- Support the organizations helping Westfield and Hamilton County thrive.

The discussion will be moderated by Danielle Stiles-Polk, President of the Hamilton County Community Foundation. She will also share how they’re helping strengthen the nonprofit sector by growing the impact of organizations across the region.

The featured nonprofits were selected through a random drawing to provide an

equal opportunity to showcase their missions and current needs.

Partner and Non-Partner tickets are available, along with Corporate Reserved Tables (seating for eight), perfect for bringing your team, hosting clients, or investing in the organizations that make our community stronger.

Reserve your seat today and please plan to attend this afternoon of connection, collaboration, and community impact.

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Madness and chaos rule the stage in *Unnecessary Farce*

A safety net, not a hammock

By LARRY ADAMS
A Seat on the Aisle

“Just people running in and out of rooms, taking off their clothes. That hardly passes for a plot.”

That single line (in a decidedly meta wink by the playwright), delivered by a character watching what he thinks is just poorly made soft porn, telegraphs exactly what the audience can expect over the next roughly two hours on stage: mad-cap physicality, preposterous situations, light sexual humor – and a whole lot of laughs.

That’s the nature of farce, and *Unnecessary Farce*, Paul Slade Smith’s award-winning, inaugural, playwrighting effort, dutifully ticks all the boxes in its titular genre.

Mistaken identities – check. Slamming doors – check. People hiding in closets – check. Slapstick shenanigans – a check. Ridiculously implausible misunderstandings, plot twists and *general* chaos – check, check and check.

Farce is admittedly a relentlessly formulaic and predictable ... well, um, “art form,” if you will, and can therefore come off as an awkwardly cheesy and clunky mess in the wrong hands. However, when done well – as is the case with Center Stage Community Theatre’s current production – it results instead in a delightful evening’s entertainment that leaves the audience laughing and reliving their favorite lines and pratfalls all the way home.

The play’s plot, for what it’s worth, centers on a police sting operation in a cheap motel: two incompetent cops trying to earn their stripes by collaring a supposedly corrupt mayor. Naturally, things quickly go awry when a budding romance, a hyperactive

security agent, and (what else?) the Scottish Mafia enter the picture. None of it makes much sense, of course, or really matters all that much; the whole house of silly contrivances is built merely to host the mayhem wrought by a bunch of zany characters thrown into close – EXTREMELY close – proximity.

Hunter Nuzzi leads the cast in a surprisingly polished theatrical debut as Officer Eric Sheridan. His comedic timing and natural charisma bode well for his future on the stage. Lisa K. Anderson turns in a fine performance as the flirty, goofily seductive, and overall fish-out-of-water bookkeeper and love interest, Karen Brown. Ms. Anderson’s real-life husband, Matt Anderson, chews up the scenery as the aforementioned agent, while Ron Pittman lands some of the show’s biggest laughs as the befuddled and awkwardly inclusive Mayor Meekly.

Julie Wallyn gives us an appropriately mysterious Mary Meekly, demure wife of the mayor and maybe a little bit more, and Kevin Shadle scores laughs as a Scottish hitman with the ominous name of “Todd.” Be assured, no bagpipes were harmed (or played, thankfully) in the course of this production.

Rounding out the cast is Lauren Lotzow, shining particularly brightly in the supporting role of Billie Dwyer, Officer Sheridan’s earnest but inept junior partner. Lotzow’s comedic delivery and her role awareness are a joy to watch and appreciate, and her execution of some of the more difficult, and potentially actionable, physical stunts kept me both laughing and wondering if a break for medical intervention might be in our future.

Director Nicole Amsler

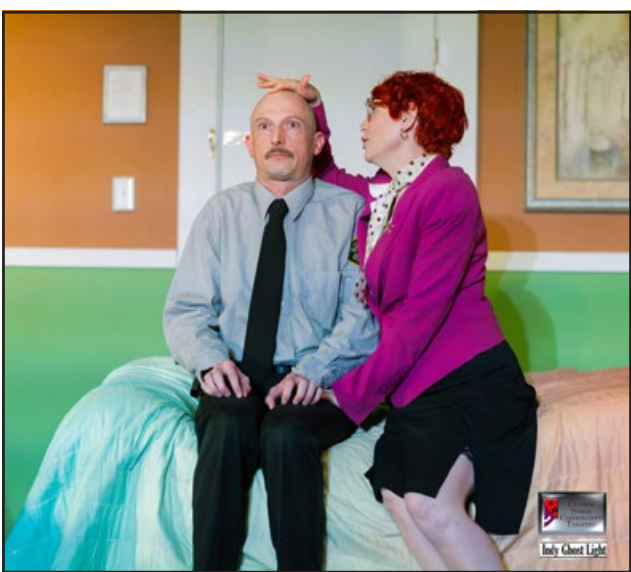


Photo by Rob Slaven / IndyGhostLight.com
Matt Anderson as Agent Frank with Lisa Anderson as Karen Brown.

deserves special recognition for her handling of a difficult piece to stage. *Farce* may be formulaic, but it’s not easy to pull off successfully. Timing, pace, and “choreography” are essential and must be meticulously managed; give the audience too much time to think and the whole thing collapses.

Unnecessary Farce is one of the fastest moving shows I’ve ever seen, and Amsler’s coordination of her actors and the action is simply masterful.

My only nit to pick with the entire production concerns a certain amount of stylistic mismatch in the acting. While no one in Smith’s goofy universe of bungling cops and kilted killers could ever be considered a straight man (or woman) in the lineage of a Dean Martin or Bud Abbott, some of the actors appear to ground their characters – tenuously at best, I’ll admit – in a degree of realism, while others crank the absurdity in both line delivery and physicality up to 11. Maybe even 12. Neither is inherently wrong (although the latter risks getting a bit cringy and exhausting), but the contrast between the two approaches results in a rather uneven tone to the show that can be

distracting at times. A move toward a more congruent middle ground could be helpful here.

Finally, a word about the set is in order. Reading this script a year or more ago, I could not begin to imagine how two separate hotel rooms and eight doors could be squeezed onto CSCT’s relatively small stage, but somehow they managed it, and made it look completely believable. My hat is off to Set Designers Christy Summerset and Nicole Amsler, as well as to any others who had a hand in construction. It is truly nothing short of a theatrical miracle.

“Two cops. Three crooks. Eight doors. Go,” commands the tagline of *Unnecessary Farce* on its webpage; and it really, truly, doesn’t get much deeper or more complicated than that. Look for a message in this show and you’ll be disappointed. FIND one, and you should be committed. But are there laughs? Well, does a Scottish hitman wear a kilt before he kills? Find out through July 26 at Center Stage Community Theatre in Lebanon.

Read more great play reviews from *A Seat on the Aisle* at asota.wordpress.com.

A job is about more than a paycheck. It’s about dignity, purpose, and the opportunity to build a better future. That’s why one of the most important accomplishments from this past legislative session was strengthening the Healthy Indiana Plan by restoring a simple principle: Public assistance should come with personal responsibility.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2027, able-bodied adults enrolled in HIP will be required to complete 80 hours each month of work, job training, education, or community service in order to remain eligible for coverage, while maintaining sensible exemptions for individuals who are pregnant, medically frail, caring for loved ones, receiving substance abuse treatment or facing other qualifying circumstances.

This isn’t about punishing people who need help. Every Hoosier can face difficult circumstances, and our state should continue providing a safety net for those who truly need it. But a safety net should never become a hammock. Government should provide a pathway forward, not encourage people to remain on the sidelines when they are capable of contributing. That’s especially true at a time when Indiana continues to attract record private investment and create new jobs across our state. As more businesses choose Indiana because of our pro-growth policies and strong economy, we should be doing everything we can to help able-bodied Hoosiers fill those opportunities and build brighter futures for themselves and their families.

Hoosiers have always believed that opportunity and accountability go hand in hand. When government



encourages work, education, and job training, it does more than reduce dependence on public programs. It helps people develop valuable skills, build confidence, provide for their families, and achieve greater independence. Those are outcomes that benefit all of us.

This policy also reflects the reality of today’s economy. Employers across Indiana continue searching for workers while thousands of jobs remain unfilled. At the same time, businesses are investing billions of dollars in our state and creating new opportunities for Hoosiers. Connecting able-bodied adults with work, education and training is not only good public policy, but also essential to keeping Indiana’s economy strong for years to come.

As your legislator, I’ve always believed government works best when it empowers people instead of creating long-term dependence. Hoosiers are hardworking, generous, and resilient. They expect government to be there during life’s toughest moments, but they also expect everyone who is able to do their part.

The Healthy Indiana Plan will continue to protect our most vulnerable citizens. This change simply reinforces the idea that public assistance should be temporary whenever possible and that work remains one of the surest paths to independence. That’s not only good for taxpayers. It’s good for families, good for our workforce and good for Indiana.

State Rep. Chris Jeter (R-Fishers) represents House District 88, which includes portions of Hamilton, Hancock, Madison, and Marion counties.

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Carmel Small Business Network’s evening meeting set for July 28

The REPORTER

Back by popular demand, the Carmel Small Business Network’s (CSBN) annual evening meeting starts at 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 28, at Carmel Fire Department Headquarters, 210 Veterans Way. The evening will include a boxed meal provided by sponsor, State Bank.

Attendance is free, but registration is required at [this link](#).

The session, titled “Leading With AI: Your Next Teammate Isn’t Human,” will feature Carm-

el-based experts Heather Haas and John Qualls. The speakers will share practical, human-centric strategies for using AI to boost productivity, improve decision-making and gain a competitive edge.

In addition to the keynote presentation, attendees will have the opportunity to network with fellow local business owners, receive updates directly from Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam and city staff and access resources designed to support business growth.



Haas



Qualls

Interns can connect with professional opportunities at upcoming kickoff event

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Intern Collaborative (INternHC) will hold its kickoff event from 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 4, at Shamrock Station, 333 W. Hoover St., Westfield, presented by Elements Financial.

INternHC is a workforce initiative championed by Westfield Washington Township in collaboration with Invest Hamilton County and the Westfield Chamber of Commerce.

Attendees can expect networking opportunities with peers and young professionals, connections to future internship opportunities throughout Hamilton County, additional career readiness resources and activities, and more. Many



INternHC
Hamilton County Intern Collaborative
Connect. Grow. Belong.

industries will be present, including:

- Accounting & Tax
- Agriculture
- Electric Utilities & Energy
- Financial Services
- Healthcare
- Historical Museum
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Library

- Municipal Government
- Nonprofit
- Software Development
- Sports & Entertainment

INternHC was created to help recent high school graduates and current college interns build meaningful connections with peers, local employers, and the community. Through ca-

reer-focused programming and place-based experiences, the initiative aims to encourage emerging talent to live, work, and thrive in Hamilton County long-term.

If you are an internship employer, you are encouraged to share with your interns to support them on their professional journey.

Meals on Wheels Hamilton County welcomes Chisum Gardner as operations director

The REPORTER

Meals on Wheels Hamilton County (MOWHC) recently named Chisum Gardner as its new operations director. He joins the organization’s leadership team as MOWHC continues to strengthen its operations in support of serving older adults and individuals with disabilities throughout Hamilton County.

As operations director, Gardner oversees the daily operations that ensure nutritious meals are delivered efficiently and reliably throughout the community. He also works closely with clients, volunteers, and staff to coordinate meal delivery and support the organization’s mission.

“Providing dependable service begins with strong operations,” MOWHC Executive Director Tricia Hudson said. “Chisum’s background in compassionate care, program management, and relationship-building make him an outstanding addition to our leadership team. His commitment to serving others will help us continue providing reliable,

high-quality service to the neighbors who count on us every day.”

Gardner brings nearly a decade of nonprofit experience, where he developed therapeutic programs for children and adults with physical, cognitive, and developmental disabilities. Throughout his career, he has served in a variety of roles focused on improving lives through meaningful connections and compassionate service.

“The people are my favorite part of this work,” Gardner said. “Whether in my previous career or my current role, I’ve always been passionate about helping others. It’s rewarding to be part of a team that genuinely cares about our clients and works together every day to make a positive impact in the community.”

Gardner earned a bachelor’s degree in equine science from Utah State University. Originally from Wallsburg, Utah, he now lives in Westfield with his



Gardner

wife of 14 years and their four daughters. Outside of work, he enjoys spending time with his family, supporting his daughters’ activities and sports, and making the most of every opportunity to be together.

“Chisum’s experience reflects the heart of our mission,” Hudson said. “He understands that every successful meal delivery represents much more than food. It represents connection, independence and the peace of mind that comes from knowing someone cares.”

Meals on Wheels Hamilton County serves older adults and individuals with disabilities facing food insecurity or unable to prepare meals for themselves, supporting both short- and long-term needs with dignity, reliability, and care. Through nutritious meal delivery, wellness checks and compassionate connections, the organization helps residents maintain their independence while remaining connected to the community they call home.

For more information about Meals on Wheels Hamilton County or to learn how to volunteer or donate, visit [mealsonwheelshc.org](#).

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Indiana Workforce Pell Grant options limited so far

By **GARRETT BERGQUIST**
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Education leaders on Thursday said waiting for rulemaking limited the number of programs approved for a new grant program, but they expect more approvals soon.

Created as part of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act that President Donald Trump signed last year, the Workforce Pell Grant program allows students to use Pell Grants for short-term, direct-to-workforce training programs. The program began on July 1.

Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana and Vincennes University, which are Indiana's two two-year vocational and technical institutions, are the only institutions in the state authorized for the program so far, though state officials have said they'll consider expanding it to other institutions depending on the results of the first year.

So far, state education officials have approved three programs for Workforce Pell Grants:

certified clinical medical assistant programs at Ivy Tech and Vincennes, plus an electrical maintenance technician bootcamp Vincennes offers. Final approval must come from the federal government, which has not yet greenlit any of those programs.

Molly Dodge, Ivy Tech's senior vice president for workforce and careers, said Ivy Tech leaders needed to make sure they thoroughly understood the requirements they would face. To be eligible, a program must have at least a 70 percent completion rate and a 70 percent job placement rate. It also must lead directly to a job in a high-growth, high-demand job sector. Dodge said the rules were finalized this spring. After that, she said Ivy Tech leaders began going through each of their courses to see which ones would be eligible.

"Workforce Pell has a significant requirement related to job placement and wages, and so we need to backward design from an employer, in many cases, to make sure that we're

successful in launching these Workforce Pell programs," she said.

Tony Hahn, Vincennes University's vice president for government and legal affairs, said July 1 was the earliest under federal statute the program could begin. In practice, he said the rollout will take some time because programs must be offered for one year in exactly the same format before they become eligible for the Workforce Pell Grant.

"These are often programs that we have offered through Next Level Jobs programs and other Department of Workforce Development funding, but didn't have the exact same requirements on number of classroom hours or number of total weeks offered," Hahn said. "And so, we made some modifications and we'll be able to expand this list."

Both Dodge and Hahn said leaders at their respective institutions are reviewing their course catalogs for other potentially eligible programs. They said they expect to add approved programs in

the coming months.

Dodge said Workforce Pell-eligible programs are often designed with the expectation that you will go to work with a partner employer upon completion of the program, but that doesn't mean education ends there. She said Workforce Pell Grant programs are stackable and can be pursued as part of a longer-term higher education strategy. Students can qualify for both traditional Pell Grants and Workforce Pell Grants, though not at the same time.

Hahn said prospective students won't be able to apply for Workforce Pell Grants until this fall or next spring. If you're interested, he said you should fill out a federal student financial aid form. He said Vincennes University leaders expect to add information about eligible programs to their application website once approved.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/politics/indiana-workforce-pell-grant-options-limited-so-far.

Get your tickets for a night with Hoagy & Cole

The REPORTER

Featuring the songs and stories of Hoagy Carmichael and Cole Porter, Actors Theatre of Indiana (ATI) presents *Hoagy & Cole: Indiana Music on My Mind*, conceived and arranged by Darrin Murrell.

Using their own words and music, the show highlights how both men started with similar upbringings and ended with similar legacies but took wildly different paths to get there. One continually reached back to his Hoosier roots while the other put as much distance between him and his home state as possible. The show is warm, humorous, and nostalgic. It includes people from the two composers' lives including their Indiana families as well as their famous friends, from Ethel Merman to James Whitcomb Riley, Red Skelton to Clark Gable and Carole Lombard.

The show features two pianos and more than 30 songs, including "Can't Get Indiana Off My Mind," "Let's Misbehave," "Up A Lazy River," "Don't Fence Me In," "Georgia On My Mind," "Heart And Soul," "I've Got You Under My Skin," "Anything Goes," "The Nearness Of You," "Night and Day," and "Stardust."

Join ATI for a night with Hoagy and Cole on Wednesday, July 22, at Feinstein's at Hotel Carmichael. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m.

Featuring Judy Fitzgerald, Don Farrell, Darrin Murrell, Julie Lyn Barber, Keith Potts as Cole Porter, and Terry Woods as Hoagy Carmichael. With Potts and Woods performing at dual pianos, the cast brings the music, stories, humor, and enduring legacy of these two legendary composers to life.

[Click here](#) to get your tickets.

Meeting Notices	
The Hamilton County Board of Parks & Recreation will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, July 20, 2026, at Osprey Pointe Pavilion at Morse Park & Beach, 19777 Morse Park Lane, Noblesville.	The Carmel Plan Commission will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, July 21, 2026, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of Carmel City Hall, 1 Civic Square.

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.

“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?



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16:15-16



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WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
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Breaking down Greg Ballard’s signature count

The REPORTER

Having collected enough verified signatures, Former Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard is set to appear on the November ballot as an independent Secretary of State candidate. The number of validated signatures is not yet final, and the various numbers reported by his campaign may cause some confusion for Hoosiers following this race.

Ballard’s campaign came under fire in mid-June after one of the campaign’s volunteers allegedly submitted 10 fake voter signatures in Hamilton County.

Two weeks later, on Tuesday, June 30, Ballard announced that his campaign had submitted, “at least 74,204 petition signatures – more than double the 36,943 verified signatures required to qualify for Indiana’s November ballot.”

A press release on June 30 indicated that Ballard had personally delivered the campaign’s final batch

of Marion County petitions to election officials at the Indianapolis City-County Building that day.

On Friday, July 10, Ballard’s campaign released an “official Petition Summary Report from the State,” stating that county officials had already validated and certified 41,175 signatures, which is

more than the 36,943-signature threshold required by state law.

That summary report reflects certified signatures from 70 of Indiana’s 92 counties. According to the Ballard campaign the statewide total was expected to climb further as the remaining counties complete their validation ahead of Tuesday’s [today, July 14] planned signature delivery to state officials.

Readers will have to wait and see how many of Ballard’s previously reported 74,204 petition signatures are validated, but regardless of that number, Ballard already has more than the minimum number and thus should appear on the November ballot for Indiana Secretary of State, facing off against Republican candidate Max Engling and Democrat candidate Beau Bayh.



Ballard

Support CCS announces three endorsements in Carmel Clay School Board 2026 elections

Submitted

Support CCS, a non-partisan political action committee committed to supporting school board candidates who will fulfill the mission and guiding principles of Carmel Clay Schools, announces that Stephanie Flittner, Jennifer Cashin, and Michele Kirby have earned the organization’s endorsement as 2026 candidates for Carmel Clay School Board

This endorsement is a result of the enthusiastic recommendation of Support CCS’s independent team of vetters.

Flittner, Cashin, and Kirby are all current CCS parents, and according to Support CCS, they are immensely qualified public education advocates who have demonstrated by their volunteer work a clear commitment to Carmel’s schools. Each brings unique skills that will benefit the district in years ahead.

Stephanie Flittner (District 1) is a CCS parent, lawyer, and community volunteer with governance and public policy experience through professional and nonprofit roles. She has stayed engaged in Carmel’s schools through the Carmel Education Foundation, PTO, and school volunteering, and she understands the importance of strong public schools, meaningful parent and community engagement, and creating opportunities for all students to succeed.

Jennifer Cashin (Dis-

trict 2) was appointed to the CCS Board in January and is seeking election for a four-year term. A mother of three current CCS students, she is an independent marketing consultant specializing in data analytics. She has for years been an active member of the CCS community, serving on PTOs, helping organize events for the Carmel Education Foundation, volunteering on the 2023 Referendum campaign, and serving as chair of Support CCS PAC from 2024 to 2025. She also co-founded Greyhound Council, a district-wide PTO that brings parents from all Carmel schools together to increase engagement.

Michele Kirby (District 3) is a Registered Nurse with IU Health’s Nursing Professional Development program and mother to five current CCS students, ages 5 to 16. She has held various PTO leadership and fundraising roles at Forest Dale Elementary and Carmel Middle School. Additionally, she co-founded Greyhound Council and guided its development into a resource for all CCS families. She is adept at building community partnerships, analyzing data, recognizing areas for improvement, identifying opportunities, securing resources, and managing projects to produce meaningful outcomes for the populations they serve.

Although all three candidates are running unopposed, Support CCS PAC feels it is important for Car-

mel to know and trust the people serving on the school board; this is why Support CCS opted to maintain its longstanding endorsement process and invite all candidates to apply. An external review committee of **five politically diverse Carmel residents**, each with deep knowledge of Carmel’s schools, evaluated each application. The reviewers unanimously recommended all three candidates for endorsement, noting especially their proven record of service, their keen understanding of the challenges facing the district, their commitment to keeping the schools student-centered while enhancing parent partnerships, and their support for teachers and staff.

“We are grateful that these three truly impressive CCS parents have stepped up to serve and lead our schools,” Support CCS Co-Chair Maranda Bruckner said, “and we also want to express our deepest thanks to our external reviewers for providing expert guidance. We share their view that CCS could not be in better hands, and hope that our endorsement will help assure Carmel residents, in the context of this transition to partisan school board elections, that their Board representatives are distinguished by their experience and dedication to our schools, rather than by their party affiliation. We hope this helps them feel confident that the school system so crucial to our community’s success is

in the best possible hands.”

“The work these reviewers have done is incredibly important, even though these races are uncontested,” Support CCS Co-Chair Lindsay Ohmer said. “Campaigns can be stressful, but they provide a real opportunity for voters to get to know and trust the people they are electing to the Board. We see this endorsement process as one significant way to help make up for that lost element of campaigning, and as the election approaches, we will do our best to make sure that each of our endorsed candidates has opportunities to connect with voters and hear their concerns.”

More information about Stephanie Flittner can be found at stephanieflittner.com; more information about Jennifer Cashin can be found at cashinforccs.com; to get in touch with Michele Kirby, please email: kirby-4ccs@gmail.com.

To learn more about Support CCS PAC, please visit supportccs.org or email info@supportccs.org.

Support CCS is firmly and proudly nonpartisan, and strives to ensure Carmel’s schools and school board remain so as well. Support CCS is entirely run by volunteers from the Carmel community, parents with kids currently in the schools as well as community members who appreciate CCS and know that our public schools are at the heart of what makes Carmel such a special place to live.

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Donald "Don" Childs April 19, 1935 – July 2, 2026



Donald "Don" William Childs, 91, Westfield, passed away on Thursday, July 2, 2026. He was born April 19, 1935, in Cincinnati, Ohio, to William and Melrose (Long) Childs.

Don graduated from Elder High School where he was a cheerleader and sang in the glee club. He carried with him throughout life the values he learned from his grandfather, who had a tremendous influence on him. He taught Don the importance of hard work, honesty, and finding joy in life's simple moments. Those lessons became the foundation of the life Don lived.

As a teenager, Don worked at Wolfs drug store, first as a "soda jerk" and later as a pharmacy technician. Following graduation, he continued part time at Wolfs and began a 35-year career with Procter & Gamble where he worked in Research and Development in the Beauty and Health Care Division. Don was respected for his dedication and strong work ethic.

Music was another joy in Don's life. He enjoyed singing with the Southern Gateway Chorus, sharing his love of music and fellowship with others.

Don also believed in serving his community. In 1974, he joined Delhi Township Fire Department where he became a paramedic after completing training at the University of Cincinnati. One of the greatest joys of his years in the fire service was serving alongside his son, Mike. The friendships they built, the camaraderie they shared, and the memories made at the firehouse remained among Don's most treasured.

He later married Nancy, and together they shared 36 years of faith, friendships, and service. After retirement, they continued serving others through their church, Carmel Friends and Carmel Clay Schools. Don drove a bus for children with special needs while Nancy served as the school bus aide. Together, they touched the lives of many children and families with patience, kindness, and compassion.

Don will be remembered as a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend whose generosity, gentle spirit, and kindness left a lasting impression on everyone fortunate enough to know him. Many people who knew him said, "he is the nicest person."

In addition to his parents, Don was preceded in death by his brother, James Childs; and daughter, Sandra Gay.

Survivors include his beloved wife, Nancy Childs; children, Stephen (Yen) Childs and Michael Childs; stepdaughter, Stacy (Richard) Matthews; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Friends and family will gather at noon on Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at Carmel Friends Church, where the Memorial Service will begin at 1:30 p.m.

In memory of Don, contributions may be directed to Carmel Friends Church, 651 W. Main St., Carmel, IN 46032; or Quaker Haven Camp, 111 EMS D16C Lane #8051, Syracuse, IN 46567.

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

Condolences: bussellfamilyfunerals.com

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

STAGES IN ISRAEL'S JOURNEY

*They left Elim and camped by the Red Sea.
They left the Red Sea and camped in the Desert of Sin.*

They left the Desert of Sin and camped at Dophkah.

They left Dophkah and camped at Alush.

They left Alush and camped at Rephidim, where there was no water for the people to drink.

They left Rephidim and camped in the Desert of Sinai.

They left the Desert of Sinai and camped at Kibroth Hattaavah.

Numbers 33:10-16 (NIV)

Helen Beneville Grimes

April 3, 1941 – July 6, 2026

Helen Beneville Grimes passed away on Monday July 6, 2026. She was born April 3, 1941, to Dr. and State Representative Walter and Juanita Beneville, Jeffersonville, Ind.

A graduate of Indiana University, she married Bob Grimes, a banker. They lived in Indianapolis, Chagrin Falls, Cincinnati, Billings, Mont., Highland Heights, Ky., and Noblesville. She was a substitute teacher, church organist, real estate agent, and a tax preparer before she retired. Through the years, she held offices in various book clubs wherever they lived: Alpha Phi Sorority, Episcopal Church Women, PTA, garden clubs, AAUW, KSO volunteer, and Lucy Albert Literary Club.

She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, and daughter-in-law Elizabeth. She is survived by her sons Robert (Brenda) of Noblesville and Michael of Abington, Pa.; her sister Judy Spencer, Greenwood, Ind.; her grandchildren, Jessica (Josh) Garrison of Noblesville and Carson (Gabriella) Grimes of Highland Heights, Ky.; her step-grandchildren, Allyn (Jeff) Miles of Arlington, Mass., and Claire (Michael) Ramamurthy of Doylestown, Pa.; and her great-grandchildren, Esmeralda, Catherine, Leah, Margaret, William, and Aurora.

A celebration of life will take place this fall.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

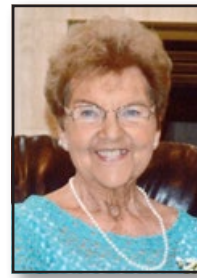
The Reporter's policy on obituaries

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.

Beverly J. Marvel

February 1, 1931 – July 8, 2026



Beverly June (Wilson) McMillan Marvel, 95, Carmel, passed into the presence of the Lord on July 8, 2026. She was born February 1, 1931, in Cutler, Ind., to Sherman and Hilda (Enoch) Wilson. She grew up in church but committed her life to Jesus Christ as an adult after hearing the gospel clearly from her son, Tom.

After graduating from Broad Ripple High School in 1949, she attended Indiana Business College and then worked as a supervisor at a chemical production plant.

She married Paul Eugene McMillan on August 4, 1950. Following Paul's death in 2009, she married William F. Marvel on January 5, 2013.

Beverly enjoyed gardening, berry-picking, mushroom hunting, and serving in various ministries at Colonial Hills Baptist Church, where she was a member for more than 50 years. Anyone who knew Beverly knew she loved her Savior dearly. She will be well remembered for her intense love for her children and grandchildren, her faithful prayers, and her encouraging words.

In addition to her parents, Beverly was preceded in death by her first husband, Paul McMillan, her second husband, William Marvel, and three of her four children; Thomas E. McMillan, Lawrence J. McMillan, and Cheryl A. Draper, brother, Tom Wilson, and sister, Betty Kern.

Survivors include her daughter, Diane Walsh, daughters-in-law, Joan McMillan and Peggy McMillan; son-in-law, Marty Draper; 12 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and the children and grandchildren of William Marvel, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will gather at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 18, 2026, at Colonial Hills Baptist Church, 8140 Union Chapel Road, Indianapolis, where the Funeral Service will begin at noon.

Beverly's final resting place will be Lincoln Memorial Gardens, Whitestown, Ind.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in memory of Beverly may be directed to Home of Parent-Directed Education (HOPE), 7777 Kylan Ct, Fishers, IN 46038. Envelopes will be available at the service.

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

Condolences: bussellfamilyfunerals.com



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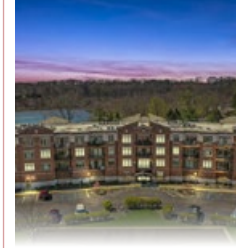
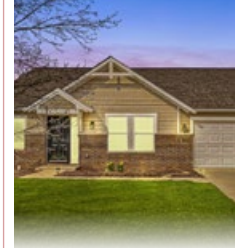
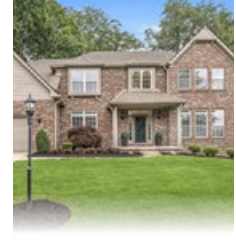
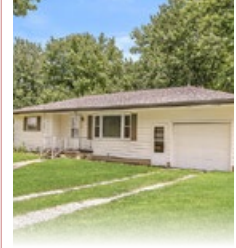
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Swimming



Photos provided

Fishers Area Swimming Tigers dominated the Indiana Swimming Open Water meet, which took place June 24 at Geist Waterfront Park. Fishers won in four individual categories and four relays. Pictured from left are the individual winners: Carter Schultz (Boys 15 & over), Ayla Madara (Girls 15 & over), Liam Chop (Boys 13-14) and Grace Gannon (Girls 13-14).

Tigers dominate the Open Water

FAST swimmers win several championships at Geist

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

The water at Geist Waterfront Park was full of Tigers last month.

The Fishers Area Swimming Tigers (FAST) dominated the Indiana Swimming Open Water meet, which took place at the park on June 24. FAST swimmers won eight championships at the meet: four age divisions and also four relays.

In the team standings, Fishers scored 474 points, well ahead of runner-up Concord Swim Club's 280 points. FAST coach Joe Keller noted that his club has won the last seven meets.

"You never know what can happen in Open Water events," said Keller. "It can change quickly."

At the Open Water course, swimmers complete a various number of laps in the water, swimming roughly parallel to the waterfront shore. Each age group swims a different number of laps. The youngest group, the 10 & under competitors, swim one lap. The number of laps increases, with the 15 & over swimmers mak-

ing four laps in the water.

Southeastern Swim Club hosted the Open Water race; Keller said SSC has "done a nice job hosting the event." He also gave credit to Paula Hardin, the Waterfront Director at Geist, for the event running smoothly.

"It takes a lot of resources to put on that event," said Keller. "It's a really cool event for a lot of kids."

Keller said that Geist is a good place for the Open Water race since it's a controlled and contained area. The park's water quality and water temperature are measured to ensure swimmer safety, making sure that it's not too hot or too cold.

"This year was awesome," said Keller. "It was really good. By the time we finished [the temperature] was low 80s. It was actually a little cool that morning. Water quality was good, it wasn't too windy. There wasn't a lot of chop to the water, it was really smooth."

FAST's age-division victories were all in the older categories. Carter Schultz won the Boys 15 & over race, swimming four laps (1.6 kilometers) in 19 min-

utes, 49.78 seconds. Ayla Madara, an Open Water veteran who has one several races, was the Girls 15 & Over champion, clocking in at 19:49.96.

In the 13-14 division, Liam Chop was the boys winner. He swam the three-lap, 1.2-kilometer race in 13:14.65. Grace Gannon paced the girls 13-14 race, finishing in 14:34.61. Fishers placed four in the top five of that division.

The relays consisted of three swimmers each swimming a 400-meter lap. For Fishers' boys relay, Schultz joined Alex Koo and Josh Krimmel to place first, while Madara teamed up with Amira Leer and Brooklyn Rager to claim the girls relay.

Gannon, Abrielle Andrzejewski and Annie Hare were the winners of the Girls 14 & under relay, with Shiloh Pak, Xavier Dunn and Michael Bielski-Russell placing first in the Boys 12 & under relay.

Several swimmers have participated in other Open Water competitions; Fishers sent a group to a meet in Sarasota, Fla.

"They have it on one of

the inlets there," said Keller. "They comb through it and get gators out."

"Grace Gannon placed high enough in that event that she qualified to go to Argentina as a member of Team USA," said Keller.

Gannon will compete in the junior event for 18 and under swimmers in September. Keller said that making an international trip or a national or international team provides swimmers an opportunity and opens the door for other opportunities from USA Swimming.

"We've had several athletes that have been able to create a different pathway for them to create different opportunities that are provided by USA Swimming," said Keller.

A complete list of swimmers that competed in the Open Water meet appears below.

Boys 15 & over (1.6 K, 4 laps)

1. Carter Schultz (Fishers Area Swimming Tigers) 19:40.80, 2. Alex Koo (FAST) 19:49.78, 7. Ivan Semko (Southeastern Swim Club) 20:33.35, 8. Luke Fletcher (SSC) 20:38.57, 10. Sawyer Green-Whitehead (SSC)

20:46.41, 12. Joshua Krimmel (FAST) 20:50.51, 13. Josh Lawrance (SSC) 20:54.28, 14. Grayer Belaire (SSC) 21:09.14, 16. Tyler Tisch (SSC) 21:17.28, 24. Cade Breske (SSC) 22:47.86, 25. Jackson Reine (SSC) 22:49.58, 33. Aidan Ballart (SSC) 24:34.82, 37. Braeden Van Hyfte (SSC) 25:17.28.

Girls 15 & over (1.6K, 4 laps)

1. Ayla Madara (FAST) 19:49.96, 2. Brooklyn Rager (FAST) 19:59.11, 3. Amira Leer (FAST) 20:17.48, 4. Kate Cassidy (Carmel Swim Club) 20:30.72, 5. Brooklyn Penn (SSC) 20:38.77, 6. Izzy Schmitt (SSC) 21:07.70, 9. Lexi Adams (FAST) 21:40.38, 12. Haley Coleman (CSC) 23:24.09, 21. Hayden Bunch (SSC) 23:45.49.

Boys 13-14 (1.2K, 3 laps)

1. Liam Chop (FAST) 14:19.65, 8. Jacob Lugar (FAST) 16:12.71, 10. Jack Birch (FAST) 16:21.63, 12. Landon Marini (SSC) 16:23.76, 13. Tanner Tisch (SSC) 16:27.26, 15. AJ Chesterfield (SSC) 16:28.44, 17. Jacob Lawrance (SSC) 16:57.62, 22. Evan Calanog (SSC) 17:37.84, 26. Joseph Seabaugh (FAST) 17:46.87.

Girls 13-14 (1.2K, 3 laps)

1. Grace Gannon (FAST) 14:34.61, 2. Annie Hare (FAST) 14:42.97, 4. Abrielle Andrzejewski (FAST) 15:47.56, 5. Conley Johnson (FAST)

15:50.74, 9. Addie Adams (FAST) 16:08.70, 22. Emelyn Baker (SSC) 17:58.71, 25. Presley Barker (SSC) 18:28.63, 26. Grace Gowdamarajan (SSC) 18:33.34, 27. Faith Reine (SSC) 18:41.07, 28. Lucille Yust (SSC) 18:41.08.

Boys 11-12 (800m, 2 laps)

5. Shiloh Pak (FAST) 11:19.90, 8. Nash Barr (SSC) 11:54.68, 12. Jace Martin (SSC) 12:19.36, 16. Michael Bielski-Russell (FAST) 12:42.69, 21. Xavier Dunn (FAST) 13:15.36.

Girls 11-12 (800m, 2 laps)

9. Emery Lindvall (SSC) 11:59.36.

Boys 10 & under (400m, 1 lap)

14. Timmy Lawrance (SSC) 7:36.46.

Girls 10 & under (400m, 1 lap)

3. Lydia Lawrance (SSC) 7:03.54, 4. Harper Byl (FAST) 7:20.57, 10. Emma Wagers (FAST) 7:39.82.

Boys 3x400 relay

1. Fishers (Schultz, Koo, Krimmel) 14:21.25.

Girls 3x400 relay

1. Fishers (Madara, Leer, Rager) 14:34.27, 2. Carmel (Cassidy, Coleman, Lehman) 15:42.94.

Boys 14 & under 3x400 relay

2. Fishers (Chop, Birch, Lugar) 15:18.60.

Girls 14 & under 3x400 relay

1. Fishers (Gannon, Andrzejewski, Hare) 14:32.86.

Boys 12 & under 3x400 relay

1. Fishers (Park, Dunn, Bielski-Russell) 18:25.67.

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Golf

Girls Golf

Reid wins Girls Central Masters

The REPORTER

Carmel's Karis Reid played steady golf at the Central Junior Masters tournament, and her reward was a championship plaque.

Reid, a sophomore-to-be for the Greyhounds, scored 147 to claim the Masters Girls title at the event, which took place at Harrison Hills Golf Club in Attica on Sunday and Monday, July 12 and 13. Reid finished four strokes ahead of the runner-up, Noblesville's Lauren Turpin, and her score of 151.

Reid finished the tournament with six birdies, making four in the first round and two in the second round.

Turpin collected three first-round birdies; she is an incoming junior for the Millers. County golfers

swept the top three: Westfield incoming sophomore Laila Arbriani placed third with 154; she totaled three birdies, making two in the second round and one in the first round.

In the Masters boys tournament, Fishers' Zach Kinzer finished as the runner-up. Kinzer and Pendleton's Zachary Zoeller both scored 146 for the tournament; Zoeller won a playoff for the championship.

Kinzer, an incoming sophomore at Hamilton Southeastern, made three birdies during the event; two on Sunday and one on Monday. Noblesville's Andrew Williamson, an



Kinzer

incoming senior at Guerin Catholic, scored 147 to finish third. Williamson drained five second-round birdies.

A complete list of Hamilton County golfers now follows.

Masters girls: 1. Karis Reid, Carmel 73-74=147, 2. Lauren Turpin, Noblesville 73-78=151, 3. Laila Arbriani, Westfield 79-75=154, 5. Peyton Kauzlick, Noblesville 76-84=160, 7. Maddie Headlee, Carmel 80-84=164, T9. Kendall Manion, Fishers 80-86=166; Mallorie Monico, Carmel 82-84=166; Nellie Lemmon, McCordsville 83-83=166, 13. Keelin Werkley, Noblesville 85-88=173.

Masters boys: 2. Zach

Kinzer, Fishers 72-74=146, 3. Andrew Williamson, Noblesville 75-72=147, T5. Brady Wagner, McCordsville 72-77=149, T8. Cooper Howard, Carmel 73-78=151, 11. Jude Kaufman, Westfield 74-78=152, 12. J.T. Kelley, Noblesville 73-80=153, T13. Luke Decker, Noblesville 81-73=154, T15. Gavin Davis, Fishers 81-74=155, T19. Patrick Wolf, Carmel 80-76=156; Sam Oliver, Fishers 78-78=156, T23. Max Huffman, Carmel 79-79=158, T25. Blake Weimer, Noblesville 81-78=159, T35. Keaton Knott, Westfield 77-86=163, T38. Brody Motz, Noblesville 77-87=164, T41. Bubba Chapman, Westfield 80-86=166; Keaton Chapman, Westfield 83-83=166, 50. Aleksander Nowicki, Fishers 89-81=170, 51. Alex Witt, Westfield 85-88=173.



File photo / Richie Hall

Fujisawa Keuling competing at U.S. Girls' Junior Championship

The REPORTER

Carmel's Maya Fujisawa Keuling is competing at this week's U.S. Girls' Junior Championship at Old Chatham Golf Club in Durham, N.C.

The Greyhounds incoming sophomore scored a 73 in her first round, making three birdies along the way. Fujisawa Keuling will play her second round this afternoon, teeing off at 2:41 p.m.

Fujisawa Keuling received a place in the tournament as an "exempt" player

after winning the Indiana Girls State Junior Championship, which she won June 12.

A total of 156 players are competing in the U.S. Junior Championship. The first two rounds are stroke play, with the low 64 scorers advancing to match play. Fujisawa Keuling is tied for 74th, but is only one stroke back from the current cut line of even par.

Match play begins on Wednesday, with the tournament continuing through Saturday.

Basketball

Boom set to host Jr. Hoops camp in July

The REPORTER

The Noblesville Boom will host a weeklong Jr. Hoops Summer Basketball Camp in partnership with The National Basketball Academy at Riverview Health Arena at Innovation Mile from Monday, July 20 through Friday, July 24. The camp gives young athletes the opportunity

to train on the same court where professional basketball is played, providing a one-of-a-kind experience in the heart of Noblesville.

The Boom Jr. Hoops Summer Camp will run from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and is open to boys and girls aged 7-15 of all skill levels. The camp will feature focused basketball

training with an emphasis on individual skill development, including drills, skills contests, and live games. Campers will receive expert instruction from qualified coaches and walk away with improved fundamentals, new friendships, and memories made on a professional basketball court.

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

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

Football

Ball State 'looking forward' to hosting this year's Monon Bell Classic

By ANDREW CHERNOFF
WISH-TV | [wishstv.com](#)

For the first time in 104 years, the Monon Bell Classic will be played at a neutral site.

On Friday, it was announced that this year's college football matchup between rivals Wabash College and DePauw University will take place at Ball State University's Scheumann Stadium.

Ball State Director of Athletics Jeff Mitchell told News 8 Sports' Andrew Chernoff that DePauw Director of Athletics Stevie Baker-Watson reached out to Mitchell about the possibility of Ball State hosting the annual rivalry.

DePauw could not host the game this season because of the demolition of the school's "Blackstock Stadium and the construction of the Blackstock Stadium and Athletics Performance Center which will open in fall 2028," according to DePauw.

"We had to wait several

months before our football schedule was released by the Mid-American Conference (MAC) for this year before I knew we would have an available date," Mitchell said.

Mitchell said they were targeting the date of Saturday, Nov. 14 to play the game. Once the MAC football schedule was released and the Cardinals did not have a game on that date, the school was able to work out the details to ultimately host the Wabash vs. DePauw matchup.

"Really looking forward to hosting this historic rivalry," Mitchell said. "It's a great opportunity for Muncie. It's a great opportunity for Ball State to showcase our beautiful campus and to celebrate one of the longest-running sporting traditions in the state of Indiana."

This will be the 132nd edition of the Monon Bell Classic between Wabash and DePauw. The rivalry started in 1890 and has only been played on a neutral

site seven times prior to this year. "The 1915 through 1917 games as well as the 1919 through 1921 contests were played at Washington Park in Indianapolis with the 1922 contest moved to Irwin Field in Indianapolis," according to a news release.

"Scheumann Stadium will provide both fan bases with an excellent experience while maintaining the traditions that have become so important to both institutions," Baker-Watson said in a news release.

Kickoff for this year's Monon Bell Classic is set for 1 p.m. EDT. General admission tickets will be \$50 each plus Ticketmaster fees and are scheduled to go on sale in September.

DePauw has won the last four meetings in the rivalry, including a 41-20 victory this past November in Crawfordsville, Ind.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at [wishstv.com/sports/football/college-football/monon-bell-classic-ball-state](#).



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