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OF NOBLESVILLE**

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August 15 | 5-7pm | The Club

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Be A Kid Again**



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THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER Your Hometown Newspaper

THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2026

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Partly sunny.
Isolated afternoon
shower or storm possible.
Tonight: Partly cloudy.



HIGH: 94 LOW: 74

Westfield Lions serve lunch at police recruiting event

By JEFF LARRISON
Westfield Lions Club

The Westfield Lions Club demonstrated its ongoing support for the city's first responders during a weekend of service that included providing lunch for a police recruiting event.

On Saturday, July 11, the Lions held a cookout from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the Westfield Police Department's open house recruiting event at Station 384 at the Public Safety Building. Lions volunteers welcomed prospective police officers by serving hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad, pasta salad, and desserts. Club members supplied the grill, food, and beverages for the event.

Activities like this reflect the club's longstanding partnership with first responders. Among those efforts is the Fallen Heroes Memorial Fund. This year's annual "Fore the First Responders" golf outing will raise money to purchase a Kevlar vest for the Westfield Police Department's newest K-9 officer and additional AED units for the Westfield Fire Department.



Photo provided by Westfield Lions Club
(From left) Gary Smith, Dave Sobczak, Jack Waldroup, Carrie Larrison, and Judy Waldroup were among the Lions who served lunch during a recent Westfield police recruiting event.

"Supporting our police officers and firefighters is one of the many ways we give back to the community," Lions Club President Gary Smith said. "Whether it's serving lunch, learning lifesaving CPR or raising funds for equipment, we're proud to stand behind the men

and women who protect Westfield every day."

The golf outing will be held Sept. 15 at Wood Wind Golf Course, 2302 W. 161st St., Westfield. Anyone interested in playing or being a sponsor can contact Bob Bischoff at (317) 502-4099 or email him at

rdbseed@gmail.com for more information.

The Westfield Lions have been proudly serving the Westfield community since 1930. Anyone interested in finding out more about the club or how to join can go to Westfield-Lions.org.

A perfect midsummer's eve

I had one of the best Saturday nights I can remember last month. No, I didn't spend it with family or friends. I didn't even leave my back deck.

Earlier in the day, my husband John and I ran errands and performed some of our typical Saturday chores. We were fairly busy, although I managed to enjoy my traditional 30-minute Saturday afternoon nap.

I attended church as usual at 5:30, then came home to enjoy an evening on the deck. Sitting in our backyard reading a book on a perfect summer night is one of my favorite things in life. The temperature was around 80, and the humidity was comfortable.

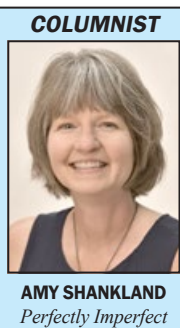
As the sun began to set – late as usual in June – John eventually went inside to play a video game. But I wasn't ready to go in just yet. I wanted to soak in the perfect evening for as long as possible. I'm so glad I did.

I noticed fireflies gradually appearing in our yard and our neighbors' yards. Birds began to flit through the grass, hoping to scoop up worms and insects for a late dinner. I set my book down and was grateful to have stayed up to see the show.

While I like the longer evenings, I don't typically see fireflies in the summer anymore because I don't stay up too late at this stage of life. Soon dozens of them were putting on a dazzling light show. I moved my chair closer to the edge of the deck so I wouldn't miss a moment.

Crickets began their cacophony of music. Since I have tinnitus, I often go to bed with cricket sounds playing on my phone to mask the ringing so I can fall asleep. It was good to hear the real thing that evening.

See Perfect . . . Page 2



COLUMNIST
AMY SHANKLAND
Perfectly Imperfect

BGCN launches 'Next 75' campaign to invest in tomorrow's leaders

Submitted

As the Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville celebrates its 75th Anniversary, the organization is launching its Next 75 campaign, a community-wide effort centered around one simple message: Tomorrow Starts Today.

The campaign celebrates the Club's history while investing in the young people who will shape the next 75 years.

Since opening on the Noblesville Square in 1951, the Club has helped thousands of local youth build Great Futures. Currently, more than 330 kids and teens walk through the Club's doors each day after school, finding a safe place, caring mentors, and opportunities to succeed through academic support, sports, STEM,

arts, leadership, and career readiness programs.

The Club is also announcing an exciting early giving opportunity. The first \$23,000 donated to the campaign will be matched dollar-for-dollar thanks to generous supporters Tim & Beth Meister and Tom & Bev Tocash. Every early gift will have twice the impact, giving the campaign an opportunity to build strong momentum right from the start.

"Celebrating 75 years is about more than looking back," Executive Director Becky Terry said. "It's about making sure today's kids have every opportunity to



become tomorrow's leaders. Every investment we make today helps strengthen the future of our families and our community for decades to come."

While families pay just \$75 for an annual membership, it costs more than \$950 each year to provide youth and teens with the life-changing programs, caring mentors, and safe environment they deserve. Community support makes that difference possible.

Community members are encouraged to make their gift early to maximize the matching opportunity and help launch the campaign with momentum.

Donations can be made online at tinyurl.com/Next75BGCN or by calling the Club at (317) 773-4372.

About the Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville

The Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville provides high-quality, low-cost programs for youth members with the help of donors and sponsors. Between the Club, the Community Center and Camp Crosser, BGCN provides opportunities for members to enjoy activities and experiences that help shape character and offer new perspectives. BGCN is dedicated to inspiring and enabling all young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens by promoting leadership, character, health, and physical development.

State Health Commissioner comes to HamCo first

Dr. Lindsay Weaver discusses public health priorities with Health Department

The REPORTER

Indiana State Health Commissioner Dr. Lindsay Weaver visited the Hamilton County Health Department on Friday, July 10, as the first stop on her statewide tour to visit all 92 Indiana counties.

Hamilton County Health Department staff, representatives from the Indiana Department of Health, and local community partner Trinity Free Clinic discussed opportunities to expand access to healthcare for underserved populations, strengthen community partnerships, and address mental health.

The visit provided the Hamilton County Health Department with an opportunity to share successes, discuss challenges, and identify future



Photo provided
Hamilton County Health Department staff, representatives from the Indiana Department of Health, and local community partner Trinity Free Clinic discussed opportunities to expand access to healthcare in Hamilton County.

public health priorities.

"We appreciate the chance to sit down with Dr. Weaver and have an open conversation about the work we're doing," said Ja-

son LeMaster, administrator of the Hamilton County Health Department. "It was a great opportunity to share what's working, talk through the challenges

we're facing, and discuss how we can better serve our community moving forward."

See Health . . . Page 2

Parade of costumed pets returns to 4-H Fairgrounds Sunday

The REPORTER

Youth and their pets can explore their creativity by dressing in costumes to participate in the Hamilton County 4-H Pet Parade at 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 19 at the 4-H Fairgrounds, 2003 Pleasant St., Noblesville.

This year's Pet Parade is sponsored by Xfinity.

Participants must be 2 to 8 years old and be accompanied by their favorite pet. All participants will receive a ribbon and awards will be given to the most creative participants. Participants should report to the Rabbit Tent at 4:30 p.m. for registration. Proof of current rabies vaccinations MUST be provided at time of registration.

Immediately following the event, all Pet Parade pets must leave the 4-H Fairgrounds.

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](https://www.facebook.com/hamilton4h), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/hamilton4h) and [X](https://www.xfinity.com).

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.



PERFECT *from Page 1*

I didn't even need to worry about mosquitoes thanks to my neighbor's "bug zapper" (thanks, Gabe!). My heart and soul were at peace. I thanked God I had taken some time to simply soak in a little show from nature on a delightful summer night.

Summer is such a fun time, and I still look forward to it like I did when I was a little girl. But sometimes we feel like we have to "do it all" and can rush from one adventure to the next. I know I'm guilty of this at times.

I want to embrace more of the calm, quiet moments of summer. Like picking

raspberries on a fresh, dew-soaked weekend morning ... taking a late evening walk with my dogs ... or, simply sitting on my back deck after sunset to rediscover nature and its beauty.

Readers, I hope you can do the same as we enter the mid-point of the season. May you create your own special mid-summer's eve and have a memory to look back on for years to come!

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

4-H Fair's first Open Flower Show takes place this weekend

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Extension Homemakers and Hamilton County Master Gardener Association are co-sponsoring the inaugural Open Flower 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 or Hamilton County Master Gardener over the age of 18. Entries are submitted for judging on Saturday, July 18 at the 4-H Fairgrounds. Entries will be on display Saturday, July 18, and Sunday, July 19.

The theme of the event is "Celebrating America,

1776-2026," with the categories designed to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Divisions include Horticulture and Artistic Design. Participants in the Horticulture category can exhibit in any of the following categories: Gladioli, rose, dahlia, zinnia, marigold, sunflower, three varieties of bloom, shrub flower, oriental or Asiatic lily (no day lilies), or snapdragon. Artistic categories include six different classes of fresh flower arrangements honoring the armed forces, the 50 states, celebrating with fireworks, honoring the nation's flag, freedom to choose, and celebrating our national monuments.

To obtain a complete list of guidelines, divisions, and classes, please stop by the Purdue Extension Hamilton County Office or call (317) 776-0854. More



information is available online at puext.in. 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/hamcohommakers.

The Hamilton County Master Gardeners Association (HCMGA) is a volunteer organization of around 400 members that partners with Purdue Extension to share research-based gardening knowledge with the

community. Members are trained in horticulture and give back through education, outreach programs, and service projects that promote healthy, sustainable landscapes.

For more information about the Hamilton County Master Gardeners Association, visit hcmga.org.

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.

Thanks for reading The Reporter!





Hamilton County 4-H Fair
July 16 - 20

Watch Daily broadcasts from
The 4-H Fair Live & On-Demand
Thursday July 16 - Monday July 20
www.HCTV1.com



www.HCTV1.com



On your Roku TV or Roku Device
Search for HCTV1



www.HCTV2.com



On your Amazon Fire TV or Device
Search for Hamilton County TV



HEALTH

from Page 1

Some of the challenges discussed included changes in state and federal funding, shifts in legislation, and communication and collaboration between state and local health departments. The conversation emphasized the value of working together to strengthen public health infrastructure and ensure communities continue to receive essential public health services.

Following the discussion, attendees toured Trinity Free Clinic's mobile health unit, which provides free healthcare services to the community and was funded in part by grants from the Health Department.

Dr. Weaver commended the department on its leadership in public health.

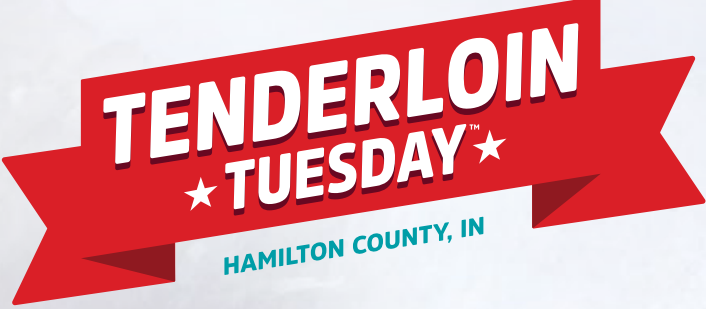


Photo provided
Indiana State Health Commissioner Dr. Lindsay Weaver and Hamilton County Health Department Administrator Jason LeMaster.

"Hamilton County is recognized across Indiana as a leader in public health," Dr. Weaver said. "Every county has unique challenges, but we all share the same

goal of improving the health of our residents. Visits like this help us learn from one another and build stronger public health systems throughout Indiana."

CARMEL FISHERS NOBLESVILLE WESTFIELD NORTHERN TOWNS



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JUNE 30-JULY 28



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Hamilton County Councilman Mark Hall’s June Timesheet

Welcome to The Timesheet. This column is a report of work done on behalf of the people of Hamilton County. It’s to be informative, too – a place to learn about projects and how our county government works.

As your employee, it’s important to me that you know what is being worked on as transparently as possible in county government. You hired me as your County Councilman, and my hope is that you will choose to be informed by regularly reading this column, getting involved, considering volunteering, and by asking questions.

Council meetings are at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of every month at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center in downtown Noblesville. Meetings are also available to watch online for those unable to attend in person.

Here is where my time this past month has been spent.

In addition to the County Council public meetings, June work included: watching Board of Commissioners meetings, attending Cicero Town Council and Noblesville City Council public meetings, Council Executive Session, a Regional Development Commission meeting, a Noblesville Future Vision advisory committee meeting, and a joint Council and Commissioners meeting to discuss the Hamilton County Utility District’s Phase 2 expansion into Jackson Township.

The June in-person Personnel Committee meeting



was canceled and replaced with a poll of the voting members.

Requests for consideration were received from the Emergency Operations department to reclassify the Planning Section Chief to Deputy Director, to hire a new Emergency Management Director at the BL2 level (above entry level for that position), and to reclassify the Manager of Compliance & Professional Standards to the Director of Operations position.

After analysis, discussion, and revision, the requests were sent to the entire council with favorable recommendations for approval.

The Finance Committee did not meet in June. The insurance committee did not meet in June.

However, in response to my request for the proposed operating budget from the Hamilton East Public Library for their third branch location, the new branches budget was provided and reviewed. The recommendation to build the third branch has been approved but it is part of my fiscal oversight responsibility to examine the new locations budgeted costs and use of taxpayer funds.

During June, I received seven constituent service requests and communications.

A neighbor wrote to Mayor Scott Willis and me about traffic speeds in the Scofield Farms Boulevard area of Westfield. This is the area where recently a small child lost their life in a tragic accident. I replied as best possible with empathy and

offering my personal condolences. The specific solution, however, rests with the local authority over those roads.

I received constituent requests regarding road conditions on Point Lane in Cicero, 216th Street (Carrigan Road) between Schuller and Mill Creek, and 226th Street and Hickory Ridge area for a Comcast line that was down. These were all researched for jurisdiction and sent to the Highway department. Each response was passed along to the individual constituent.

I received two calls and one email regarding Soil & Water and Health Department social media posts that constituents believed promoted an inappropriate topic using taxpayer funds. After reviewing the source and department social media policies, and after speaking with Commissioner Heirbrandt, the questions were referred to the Commissioners’ Director of Administration, who addressed the matter directly with the department heads. I then followed up with each constituent about the resolution of their concerns.

Of special note in June was attending the Westfield Chamber of Commerce’s State of Healthcare Luncheon, meeting with Turning Point Indiana representative Kyle Mattern, and attending the State of the County address.

Lastly, I received the compilation book of grant requests for the County. The binder is hundreds of pages long, full of requests that are submitted by nearly one hundred organizations. These requests total almost \$3 million. I have served on the county grant request review commit-

tee for the last several years. This process was in place when I began serving and the number and dollar amount of requests increases each year. However, the amount awarded to requestors each year has become smaller. It is my position that we should support organizations whose work replaces services that Hamilton County Government would otherwise have to provide. Apart from those services, the taxpayer’s money should be used elsewhere.

It was an honor to represent you as an elected state delegate at the Indiana State GOP Convention where nearly 1,800 delegates from around the state elected Secretary of State, Comptroller, and Treasurer candidates for the general election this fall.

This is my timesheet. This is where my time went during June 2026. While my job is primarily the financial oversight of the county budget, it is important that I understand the Board of Commissioners’ priorities and balance them with the stewardship of taxpayer dollars. That is the job, and I am excited to do the people’s business.

As a taxpayer myself, and listening to so many of you, our employers, it’s important for the taxpayers to have access to all the information you want. I work for you, and although you may not choose to do a deep dive into what your County Council does, it’s important that you can always do so.

Feel free to contact me at (317) 832-1104 or mark.hall@hamiltoncounty.in.gov with questions, feedback, or if you would like to talk about county business.

Official signatures for Ballard top out at 41,299

The REPORTER

On Tuesday, July 14, The Reporter published an article about Independent Secretary of State Candidate Greg Ballard’s various reported number of signatures gathered to make sure he would have a place on the November ballot. You can read that short article at [this link](#).

After our July 14 edition was published, Ballard’s campaign reported the following:

Independent Indiana Secretary of State Candidate Greg Ballard today accepted the nomination

of thousands of Hoosiers when he delivered 41,299 verified signatures to the Secretary of State’s office for the official final count. The signature delivery is the next step in the process to ensure Ballard is on November’s ballot. The former Indianapolis mayor submitted more than the 36,943

petition signatures required under Indiana law.

While that number is sufficient to place Ballard on the ballot in November, it matches none of the other signature numbers reported by his campaign.



Ballard

Huge Downsizing Sale

- Furniture • Small Kitchen Appliances, etc.
- Craft supplies • Yard decorations
- Adult clothes

Too much to list!
Come see and save
Cash only

926 Lincoln Dr., Tipton
July 16, 17 & 18 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Carmel Symphony Orchestra’s 2026-2027 season is here

The REPORTER

New Music Director David Commanday is ready to take charge for the Carmel Symphony Orchestra’s (CSO) 2026-2027 season.

The season will feature the talent of two celebrated young artists, cellist Alexander Hersh, and pianist Anila Aliu. Acclaimed soprano Angela Brown will also be featured, and CSO has created a unique multimedia experience with the art of Nancy Noël.

As a member of the Allied Solutions Center eClub, you have early access to ordering either the 5- or 3-Concert Packages at the lowest prices of the season. Early Birds get an addition-

al 10 percent off already discounted subscription prices through Aug. 3.

- Subscribe online at TheCenterPresents.org. Renewing subscribers can log in to renew online.

- Call the Fifth Third Bank Box Office at (317) 843-3800 to subscribe by phone.

- Subscribe or renew in person by visiting the Fifth Third Bank Box Office at the Payne & Mencias Palladium.

After Monday, Aug. 3, the additional 10 percent Early Bird discount will end. The 5- and 3-Concert Subscription Packages, which are discounted from single tickets, will still be available.

CARMEL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

DAVID COMMANDAY MUSIC DIRECTOR

Two local students graduate from University of Wyoming

The REPORTER

The University of Wyoming accorded degrees upon the following students from Hamilton County at the completion of the 2026 spring semester:

- Alex Stein of Fishers earned a Bachelor of Science and Certificate degrees.

- Josh Wanninger of Westfield earned a Master of Science degree.

Thanks for reading!

Free Dinner and Joint Health Seminar

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

5:30 pm July 22

- ✓ Arthritis overview
- ✓ Easy parking

- ✓ Q&A time
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Engling & Bayh to headline OneZone's Voices of Leadership Luncheon

Without referendum funding, the district would

After accounting for these factors, the average annual increase over all eight years for a resident with a \$350,000 home would be \$2.30 more per month than they are paying currently.

Dr. Dan Hile serves as the superintendent of Noblesville Schools.

Russell

Registration is now open. Individuals and organizations interested in attending can register at [this link](#).

This event is free to attend, with no tickets or prior registration required. Free surface parking is available for spectators. Bring lawn chairs or blankets for comfortable seating, and weather-appropriate gear (sunglasses, ponchos, etc., as it is an outdoor open-air venue). More information is available at [this link](#).

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



Photo provided
Uncle Sam absolutely towers over Rotary Club President Jim Ake!

People of Action

Westfield Rotarians raise money at Cool Creek concert

By **MICHAEL SCHRAMM**
Rotary Club of Westfield

On Friday night, July 10, the Mellencougar band from Shepherdsville, Ky., belted out hits for two hours as a large crowd at Cool Creek Park in Westfield enjoyed brats and hot dogs from the Rotary tent. The crowd was estimated to be around 2,000 and enjoyed a beautiful evening of familiar hits from Indiana's well-known crooner.

Rotary Club of Westfield had almost three-fourths of its members on hand to raise money for community causes like Open Doors, Student Impact, and Robbie's Hope Club. All the proceeds go to local community needs.

Like the previous concerts at Cool Creek, Rotary held a 50/50 raffle that raised funds for Westfield Youth Assistance Program (WYAP). This week's drawing raised the largest amount yet and have averaged over \$500 donated to each organization.

WYAP advocates for youth ages 3 to 17 who are facing challenging life circumstances and connect them to the services they need most. The program looks to have a positive impact on the youth they serve in the Westfield Washington School district.

The Rotary Club of Westfield is filled with members who serve numerous local charities in Westfield and has a history of silently assisting organizations from the time they are fledgling in size to well-known community advocates. Members are business owners, city council members, retirees, engineers, sales professionals, and financial professionals who serve with compassion and humility.

Please reach out to the Rotary Club of Westfield at WestfieldRotaryIN.com to see how you can help serve our community and join the People of Action. You can even buy coffee from us and support local charities by doing so!

Submitted by
**Office of Comptroller
Elise Nieshalla**

Over a year ago, the State navigated a cautious revenue forecast in part due to the development of new tariffs. Yet the U.S. economy grew by 2 percent, and Indiana outpaced national growth with a 2.2 percent GDP increase.

Today, those trends are reflected in the fiscal year 2026 closeout with \$3.99 billion in reserves, up 60 percent from the prior year, and a \$1.86 billion surplus, up 174 percent, State Comptroller Elise Nieshalla announced Wednesday, July 15, alongside Secretary of the Office of Management and Budget Lisa Hershman and State Budget Director Chad Ranney.

"Indiana's fiscal position is undoubtedly strong, and we responsibly navigated a time of uncertainty, reflecting both Governor Braun and the General Assembly's focus on active budget management and economic growth," Comptroller Nieshalla said. "Hoosiers can count on the State of Indiana to manage fluctuating factors and still stay in the black with a surplus, due to our state's constitutional requirement to pass balanced budgets."

Underscoring Indiana's long-term financial stability, statutory reserves – includ-

ing the Rainy Day Fund, Medicaid Reserve and Tuition Reserve – remained well-funded at 17.6 percent of state-funded expenditures. The Government Finance Officers Association recommends a general fund balance of one to two months of state expenditures, and Indiana's reserve amount equates to 63 days, which serves as a tangible safeguard against unforeseen crises.

"In today's economic landscape, fiscal health isn't just about static numbers on a spreadsheet – it's about operational agility. Indiana's proactive planning and fiscal discipline ensure our state remains nimble while delivering exceptional, uninterrupted service to Hoosiers. Because we have done the hard work, Indiana is open for business, prepared for what's next, and will continue to deliver the highest possible value to our taxpayers," said Secretary Hershman.

While state reserves increased, Indiana received \$2 billion – 10 percent – less in federal funds in fiscal year 2026 from the prior year, which could signal a trend as the federal government deals with the mounting pres-



Nieshalla

sure of nearly \$2 trillion in annual deficit spending and \$39 trillion of debt. Given this vulnerability at the national level, it is notable that reserve dollars, designed to protect the State against uncertainty and uphold long term commitments, are currently measured for health by their percentage of state expenditures and do not take into account federally funded expenditures, which make up 42 percent of the State's budget.

Indiana's fiscal year-end reserves are as follows:

- \$1.86 billion Surplus Balance
- \$274.8 million Medicaid Reserve
- \$719.7 million Tuition Reserve
- \$1.14 billion Rainy Day Fund

"We are concluding this fiscal year on highly stable footing, which provides an excellent operational launchpad as we enter the next biennial budget cycle," Director Ranney said. "The State Budget Agency will continue pushing state agencies to aggressively eliminate operational redundancies and curb unnecessary spending. Closing the books successfully is a brief milestone; our contin-

uous focus is the long-term structural health of Indiana's finances over the next three to five years."

The numbers presented have been confirmed by the State Comptroller's Office, which serves as the keeper of the State's official financial book of record, and the fiscal year 2026 closeout statement is prepared by the State Budget Agency to report the budgetary results. The Comptroller's Office will now focus on compiling Indiana's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), which combines a management discussion and analysis with comprehensive statistical data that is independently audited by the State Board of Accounts. The ACFR is the material evidence of the State's financial position, which for fiscal year 2026 is expected to continue with low-debt, well-funded pensions and healthy cash reserves – all supporting Indiana's AAA credit rating from Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch.

• [Click here](#) to view the Fiscal Year 2026 Close-Out Statement.

• [Click here](#) to view the Federal Funding Expenditures Dashboard.

• [Click here](#) to explore the Indiana Transparency Portal.

Ascension St. Vincent in Fishers & Carmel named top hospitals in Indiana

The REPORTER

Ascension St. Vincent has achieved a monumental milestone in healthcare excellence, securing two spots on the inaugural **Forbes Top Hospitals by State list**. Among the recognized facilities is Ascension St. Vincent Fishers, and the Ascension St. Vincent Heart Center in Carmel.

Of all the healthcare facilities evaluated across Indiana, only seven earned the prestigious 5-star over-

all rating. "Ascension St. Vincent not only accounts for two of those seven elite designations, but it also holds the distinct honor of operating Forbes only 5-star rated hospitals in the greater Indianapolis area."

The Forbes methodology sets an incredibly high bar for clinical excellence. Rather than relying on simple popularity metrics, Forbes partnered with data experts to conduct a rigorous, objective analysis

of the national Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) data.

The evaluation measured hospitals across four core pillars:

- **Clinical Outcomes:** Heavy statistical weight placed on quantifiable metrics like patient mortality and low readmission rates.
- **Adherence to Best Practices:** Consistent safety compliance and evidence-based care delivery.
- **Value of Care:** Practi-

cal, demonstrable efficiency and effectiveness in treating patients.

• **Patient Experience:** Direct feedback regarding patient satisfaction, communication, and overall environment quality.

Out of the thousands of hospitals evaluated across the United States, only 253 achieved an overall 5-star rating, placing Ascension St. Vincent's winning facilities in the top tier of healthcare nationwide.

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Westfield, IN 46062
(463) 622-2930





Photos provided

The Local Mix Music Series will feature (from left) Naptown Hepcats, Todd Williams Trio, Jeremiah Cosner, and Indy Annies.

Allied Solutions Center’s upcoming season to feature regional talent

The REPORTER

Original music by Indiana-based artists will continue to have a home in the 2026-2027 season at Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts.

Four acts in a range of styles will perform in the upcoming Local Mix Music Series, which provides opportunities for the area’s working musicians to perform for all-ages audiences in a comfortable evening setting with professional audio and lighting production.

Sponsored by Engledow Group, all shows will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Studio Theater or the neighboring Tarkington at 3 Carter Green in Carmel. Admission

is just \$10.

Tickets are on sale now at TheCenterPresents.org or (317) 843-3800. More information is available at TheCenterPresents.org/LocalMix.

This season’s Local Mix schedule features:

Naptown Hepcats (rockabilly)
Friday, Aug. 14
The Studio Theater

Founded as a tribute to Stray Cats, Naptown Hepcats developed a high-energy sound of their own, writing original material that captures the same intensity while pushing the music forward. With the release of the debut album, *Naptown Hepcats*, the

band has become a driving force in contemporary rockabilly.

Todd Williams Trio (jazz)
Thursday, Sept. 3
The Tarkington

Saxophonist Todd Williams has an impressive resume that includes years playing in the Wynton Marsalis Quintet/Septet and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. He currently serves as a professor of Music Education at Indiana Wesleyan University.

Jeremiah Cosner (rock/singer-songwriter)
Friday, Jan. 15
The Studio Theater

Jeremiah Cosner is a singer-songwriter

who blends vintage blues, modern rock, and catchy, honest lyricism, drawing inspiration from his Midwest roots and his grandfather’s love of poetry. He is backed by drummer Craig Wiley and longtime bassist James Ledesma.

Indy Annies (country)
Friday, March 5
The Studio Theater

Led by vocalist Breezey Fox and guitarist Krista Hoose, the Indy Annies’ forte is stitching together the threads of old and new country music. The harmonies and storytelling recall the heyday of the Grand Ole Opry, paired with an electric sound and performance style.

Noblesville’s own Jacob Ambler makes University of North Dakota dean’s list

The REPORTER

Nearly 1,800 University of North Dakota (UND) students have been recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the 2026 spring semester Dean’s List.

Locally, Jacob Am-

bler of Noblesville is one of those students on the Dean’s List.

The UND Dean’s List comprises students whose grade-point average are in the top 15 percent of the enrollment in each of the University’s degree grant-

ing Colleges and Schools. A student must have completed no fewer than 12 semester hours of academic work for the semester, of which eight or more hours must be graded work rather than “satisfactory/unsatisfactory.”

Kebe names third co-chair for her state treasurer campaign

Submitted

Democratic nominee for Indiana State Treasurer Coumba Kebe announced on Wednesday, July 15 that Hamilton County Democratic Party Chair and attorney Josh Lowry will serve as a co-chair for her statewide campaign.

Lowry, an experienced trial attorney, former Deputy Attorney General, and leader of one of the fastest-growing political organizations in the state, brings deep legal expertise and a strong suburban perspective to the campaign team.

This announcement marks the final regional campaign co-chair appointment for Kebe, finalizing a statewide leadership trio that includes State Representative Earl Harris Jr. of Northwest Indiana and State Representative Cherrish Pryor of Central Indiana. Lowry highlighted Kebe’s gift for breaking down massive, complex policies into understandable tools for everyday families.

“I first saw Coumba breaking down complex policies to help everyday Hoosiers understand them, and I knew immediately she was the leader we need,” Lowry said. “As State Treasurer, she’ll make the office about much more

than spreadsheets and investment reports. Coumba knows families across Hamilton County and the entire state are facing steep hurdles to long-term economic stability. So, I’m honored to co-chair her campaign and do my part to help Coumba fight to ensure our state investments focus on providing real security and wealth-building tools for all Hoosier families.”

Lowry’s addition to the campaign leadership team underscores Kebe’s growing momentum across suburban communities following her official nomination at the Indiana Democratic State Convention last month.

“I am incredibly excited to welcome Josh to our team as a campaign co-chair,” Kebe said. “Josh is a dedicated advocate for Hoosier families, a foster parent, and a proven leader who knows how to build broad coalitions. He understands firsthand that state financial decisions have a direct impact on the safety and stability of our local neighbor-



Kebe



Lowry

hoods. Together, we will work to expand critical programs like the CollegeChoice 529 plan, pull back the curtain on state finances, and ensure that Indiana’s government works for the people and not around them.”

With Lowry anchoring the campaign’s leadership in the donut counties, Rep. Pryor leading in central Indiana, and Rep. Harris serving as co-chair in Northwest Indiana, the Kebe campaign has established a robust, statewide operation prepared to compete in all 92 counties.

About Coumba Kebe

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

Learn more about the candidate at KebeForIndiana.com.

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Directed by: Amber K. Roth



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NickelPlateExpress.com/railbike-rides

From the desk of Hamilton Heights Superintendent Dr. Derek Arrowood

Update No. 175

While school may be out, the energy of Hamilton Heights is still very much alive. Learning doesn't stop when summer begins; it simply shows up in new ways. Whether your family is traveling, reading together, tackling projects at home, or exploring the outdoors, those moments spark curiosity, confidence, and growth in our students. Our teachers and staff are using this time to recharge and get ready for the new school year. They're planning lessons, preparing classrooms, and thinking



DR. DEREK ARROWOOD
Heights Superintendent

about the experiences that will inspire our Huskies when they return in August. Over the summer, our transportation department organizes and completes its bus routes to best optimize service, ride time, and efficiency based on bus capacities, stop locations, and the number of students at each stop. Our drivers will contact parents of bus riders the last week of July to ensure an accurate count of riders, pick-up and drop-off points, and approximate times for their riders to help us better serve the families in our district.

Any requests received after Wednesday, July 22 may not result in a bus on the first day of school. If you don't hear from a driver by Friday, July 31, and believe you signed up for a bus, please reach out to the Transportation Department at transportation@hhschuskies.org, by calling (317) 984-8404, or by emailing Jayme Speer directly at jspeer@hhschuskies.org. * * *

As a reminder, the Hamilton County Health Department will hold a back-to-school vaccination clinic at Hamilton Heights Middle School (students K-12) from 1 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 29 as part of the

Husky Connect Day. Registration is required. [Click here](#) to register and learn more about what you need to know about your child receiving a vaccination at this event. * * *

One of the most meaningful traditions that ushers in our school year is our Annual Prayer Breakfast. It's a morning filled with connection, encouragement, and community spirit, and we can't wait to welcome everyone on Friday, July 31, at the Hamilton Heights Middle School Café. Doors open at 7 a.m. Come early, greet friends, and start the day with purpose. A light breakfast will be served, and our program

will begin at 7:30 a.m. This year's speaker, Indiana Basketball Hall of Famer Tom Abernethy, will offer a message designed to inspire and strengthen us as we begin a new year together. The program will also feature music provided by our local faith community, creating a warm and uplifting start to the morning. This beloved event, now in its 13th year, is hosted by the Heights Area Pastors in partnership with HHSC. Guests are encouraged to bring Capri Sun pouches, fruit cups, or canned chicken to support the Hamilton Heights Backpack Program and help fuel our students for success. * * *

Summer may bring a different rhythm, but our mission remains the same and our focus is always on our students. As we move through these final weeks of summer, I'm grateful for the many ways our families, staff, and community continue to strengthen Hamilton Heights. Your support, your partnership, and your belief in our mission make a real difference in the lives of our Huskies. We're looking forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday, Aug. 4 – refreshed, energized, and ready for a year filled with learning, connection, and the unmistakable spirit that defines Hamilton Heights. **#WeAreHuskies**

Nicholas Family of Companies' Spectate Group tapped for operation of Carmel Ice Skadium

Submitted
Nicholas Family of Companies (NFOC) announced Tuesday, July 14, that **Spectate Group**, its in-house sports and recreation division, has reached an agreement to lease, manage, and operate the Carmel Ice Skadium, a two-rink arena. The assignment brings Spectate's portfolio of ice facilities under management to four, with that total set to reach five by end of 2026 with the opening of a new NFOC-developed arena in Chicago's suburbs this fall. Additionally, the Carmel location grows Spectate's presence in the Indianapolis market, where it will manage the new indoor, multi-sheet Westfield Ice Facility, also

being developed by NFOC, when it opens in 2028 at Grand Park Sports Campus in north suburban Westfield. "Having spent plenty of time at local ice rinks over the years watching my own kids play competitive hockey, I know firsthand how closely tied these facilities are to the community and the groups that use them," said Nick Panicholas Jr., managing director and CEO of Nicholas Family of Companies. "As we expand our footprint in the Indianapolis market, our Spectate team is eager to not only bring our own brand of excellence for management and programming to the Carmel Ice Skadium, which has been serving the area for more than 50 years, but also

strengthen the relationships we're already building within the local ice rink and hockey community." Located at 1040 3rd Ave. SW in Carmel, the Carmel Ice Skadium features two NHL-sized rinks, a snack bar, party rooms and a pro shop located within the 65,000 square-foot facility. An existing arcade is being transformed into new food and beverage options, which will be operated by NFOC's **Big Fish Hospital-ity Group**. Through its white glove management services, Spectate will oversee programming, marketing, maintenance, hiring and training, and day-to-day operations for the facility, including co-

ordinating with local hockey programs and other groups that utilize the arena. Spectate has taken over operations as of July 14, following the sale of the property to an affiliate of Podell Partners, a Carmel-based real estate investment and development company. In addition to the Carmel Ice Skadium, Spectate currently manages Rosemont Ice Arena, a 103,000-square-foot twin-sheet facility that opened last year and features dedicated team spaces, a restaurant and bar in Rosemont, Ill.; Glacier Ice Arena in Vernon Hills, Ill., a 63,000-square-foot facility with two NHL-regulation rinks acquired by Nicholas Family of Companies



Photo provided

last year; and the Nicholas Sportsplex, a 17-acre indoor-outdoor sports complex with three ice sheets, synthetic turf fields, dedicated team spaces, a restaurant, bar and hockey pro shop in Mount Prospect, Ill. The Elk Grove Ice Are-

na, an 86,000-square-foot, two-rink complex currently being developed by NFOC in Elk Grove Village, Ill., will be managed by Spectate when it opens in fall 2026, as will the Westfield Ice Facility when it is complete in 2028.



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www.spartz.house.gov

See Feinstein *at* Feinstein’s this September

The REPORTER

An Evening with Michael Feinstein welcomes the legendary performer back to the stage of his namesake club for an exclusive two-night engagement.

On Sunday, Sept. 20, and Monday, Sept. 21, Feinstein returns to Carmel for two remarkably intimate and unforgettable performances. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for dinner and drinks with both shows starting at 7:30 p.m.

Feinstein, Ambassador of the Great American Songbook, has built a dazzling career over the last three decades bringing the music of the Great American songbook to the world. From recordings that have earned him five Grammy Award nominations to his Emmy nominated PBS TV specials, his acclaimed NPR series and concerts spanning the globe – in addition to his appearances at iconic



Graphic provided

venues such as The White House, Buckingham Palace, Hollywood Bowl, Carnegie Hall and Sydney Opera House – his work as an educator and archivist define Feinstein as one of the most important musical forces of our time.

In 2007, he founded the Great American Songbook Foundation, dedicated to celebrating the art form and

preserving it through educational programs, Master Classes, and the annual High School Songbook Academy. Past graduates of the program have gone on to appear in major motion pictures and on NBC’s *America’s Got Talent*, lead an all-star cast in NBC’s *Hairspray Live*, perform on Broadway, record acclaimed albums, and per-

form on-stage with Feinstein himself.

Feinstein serves on the Library of Congress’ National Recording Preservation Board, which ensures the future of America’s sound recording heritage.

For tickets, [click here](#). You can also contact Feinstein’s Box Office at info@hotelcarmichael.com or by calling (317) 688-1947.

AG Rokita: Minority & Women’s Business Enterprises program is unconstitutional

Submitted by Office of AG Todd Rokita

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita on Tuesday, July 14, released a **formal advisory opinion**

concluding that the Minority and Women’s Business Enterprises (M/WBE) components of Indiana’s Diversity Business Enterprises (DBE) Program are unconstitutional under the

Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

“This blatantly illegal program singles out some Hoosiers for disfavored treatment purely because of their sex or the color of their skin, and it insults other Hoosiers by suggesting they cannot compete on a fair playing field. The program is both un-American and unconstitutional,” AG Rokita said.

In the opinion, Rokita also concluded that Governor Mike Braun has authority to instruct the Indiana Department of Administration (IDO) to discontinue the unlawful aspects of the program based on his office’s determination of unconstitutionality. In response, Gov. Braun has announced that Indiana will end race- and sex-based contracting preferences and replace them with a merit-based approach that gives every Hoosier business a fair opportunity to compete.

“Our Constitution mandates equal protection under the law, because a system where the government picks winners and losers on the basis of race or sex can never be fair,” Gov. Braun said. “Indiana has replaced divisive, politically-charged programs with a focus on Merit, Excellence, and Innovation: a level playing field where every single Hoosier has the chance to get ahead with hard work.”

The DBE Program was created by statute in 1983 and requires state agencies to use race- and sex-based spending goals in most

state contracts. Under these goals, state agencies and government contractors must attempt to allocate a minimum percentage of

state funds spent on a given contract to businesses owned by members of particular minority groups or women, thus giving preferential treatment to certain businesses based on race and sex.

Contractors that do not satisfy the M/WBE requirements may face bid rejection, withheld payments, contract termination, or debarment. In administering the Program, the State is required to label and categorize Hoosier businesses based on race and sex through a certification process.

“Having just celebrated 250 years of independence, Hoosiers should have fresh in their minds the words of the Declaration that launched our Revolution: ‘All men are created equal,’” Rokita said. “From Reconstruction to the passage of the 19th Amendment and ending Jim Crow, our country has fought throughout its history to fulfill this promise of equality under the law. The elimination of race-and sex-based preference programs like the M/WBE program is just the latest step in the march toward equality.”

The Attorney General’s opinion explains that the program’s numerical spending goals, race- and sex-based certifications, subcontracting mandates, and enforcement mechanisms all fail strict scrutiny.

The opinion’s reasoning is supported by, among other things, the Supreme Court’s 2023 decision in *Students for Fair Admissions*, which makes clear that discriminatory racial preference programs can rarely if ever be justified under the Constitution. The opinion also concludes that the Governor has the authority to decline

See Rokita . . . Page 9

Woofstock Survivor 5K sets \$85K fundraising goal

Submitted

In a race against the rainbow bridge, the Humane Society for Hamilton County (HSHC) invites all pet enthusiasts and weekend adventurers to sign up for the annual **Woofstock Survivor 5K & Dog Walk** and raise funds for the **Survivor Program** on Saturday, Aug. 8.

The Woofstock Survivor 5K & Dog Walk welcomes all community members, from the marathon athletes, to join the fun with their furry friends in tow. All \$59 registration fees provide essential medical care for HSHC’s most vulnerable animals. As if saving lives wasn’t enough, every race participant also receives a T-shirt, swag bag, and commemorative medal for their participation in the event.

When all the racing is done, participants are invited to stick around for the after-party, complete with great food, a police K-9 demonstration, festival games, a 50/50 Ball Drop, and an all-new kids’ tent for families to enjoy.

HSHC claims a truly no-kill philosophy, representing a determination to take on the



Photo provided

medical demands that come with rescuing animals who have faced extreme neglect, abandonment, and abuse. The Survivor Program ensures that every single sick or injured animal that comes to HSHC gets their chance at a second chance.

“It’s amazing to see how the Hamilton County community comes together through this event to help our most vulnerable animals every year,” HSHC Community Engagement Manager Emma Nobbe said. “With-

out their support for the Survivor Program, we could not provide the life-saving care that so many of our animals need to get the second chance they deserve.”

This program funds the healing for HSHC’s most extreme cases and aids in saving animals at risk of euthanasia in surrounding shelters. You can help by donating, registering for the race, or [fundraising](#) at WoofstockRocks.com. Prizes will be awarded to each individual fundraiser

who meets a fundraising benchmark. Fundraising and race winners will receive top prizes. Fundraising categories include top youth, individual, corporate, and team. 5K winners will be awarded based on age category.

The Woofstock Survivor 5K & Dog Walk is graciously sponsored by Curran Architecture, Current Publishing, Fetch Pet Insurance, Delta Faucet, Veg ER, PODS, Tito’s Handmade Vodka, and Noah’s Animal Hospital.

“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.”

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Indianapolis theatre celebrates Flanner Family legacy in new play *They Call Me Genêt*

Submitted
A new stage production celebrating the life and legacy of Janet Flanner, a trailblazing writer and the daughter of the founder of Flanner Buchanan, a family-owned funeral home that’s been proudly serving the Indianapolis community since 1881, is set to premiere at The District Theatre, 627 Massachusetts Ave., Indianapolis, reconnecting Indianapolis with one of America’s most influential literary figures.

They Call Me Genêt, written by playwright D. Paul Thomas, brings to life the story of Flanner, an Indianapolis-born writer who went on to become one of the most impactful correspondents in *The New Yorker’s* history. For more than 50 years, Flanner was known to *The New Yorker* audiences as “Genêt,” whose reports on European culture, politics, art, and society shaped how gener-

ations of Americans envisioned the Parisian life.

The production begins with Flanner’s roots in the American Midwest, a daughter of Frank W. Flanner, Indiana’s first licensed embalmer, who had dedicated his life to caring for his friends and neighbors in Indianapolis. Janet would go on to serve her community in her own way, initially starting her career working for *The Indianapolis Star* before becoming a founding voice for *The New Yorker*.

“Janet Flanner was one of the most important journalists of the twentieth century, yet many people in her own hometown don’t know her story,” said Pauline Moffat, Managing Director of The District Theatre. “Through this play, we are reclaiming an extraordinary Indianapolis voice that helped interpret Europe to America for half a century.”

From July 16 to 19 and 23 to 26, Indianapolis is in-

vited to discover someone who is more than a cultural icon, who helped shape American perception of everything from café society to the rise of fascism during World War II. They’re invited to meet the woman behind the byline and an integral member of the Flanner Buchanan family who has long cared for the Indianapolis community.

“Thomas has captured Janet’s iconic personality in this work,” said **Bruce W. Buchanan**, a relative of Janet’s. “The play will appeal to anyone interested in how a creative writer embodies their thoughts into elegant prose. She was an extraordinary talent!”

“This is not simply a play about a journalist,” Moffat said. “It is about a woman from Indianapolis who stepped into the world and helped explain it back to us.”

Tickets for *They Call Me Genêt* are on sale now on The District Theatre’s



Photos provided
(ABOVE LEFT) The Flanner Family: (from left) Janet, Frank, Mary Emma (Marie), Mary, and Hildegard. (ABOVE RIGHT) Janet Flanner as a young woman.

website, indydistricttheatre.org.

To ensure that even more Indianapolis families can meet “Genêt,” Flanner Buchanan will be raffling off tickets on their [Facebook page](#).

About Flanner Buchanan
Founded in 1881, Flanner Buchanan is one of Indiana’s most respected and innovative funeral service providers. Family-owned with locations throughout

central Indiana, Flanner Buchanan provides a full range of funeral, cremation, cemetery, and preplanning

services, blending tradition with creative celebrations of life. Learn more at flannerbuchanan.com.

Anthem partners with One Southern Indiana to lower cost of health coverage for small businesses

The REPORTER

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield has joined forces with One Southern Indiana (Isi) to help small businesses provide their employees with lower cost, high-quality health benefits through the new Advantage 1 Health program, a Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangement (MEWA).

Designed exclusively for members of Isi and participating local chambers of commerce, the program enables small employers to provide big company benefits at lower, more predictable costs.

Advantage 1 Health can help businesses with two to 50 employees save up to 40 percent on health benefit costs and offers flexible plan options designed to meet the needs of both employers and employees.

“Small businesses are the backbone of Indiana’s economy, but many continue to struggle with managing employee health benefits costs,” said Jessica Lopez-Liggett, President of Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Indiana. “Together with One Southern Indiana and local chambers across the state, we’re helping eligible small employers create greater cost stability and predictability while offering comprehensive health benefits for their employees.”

Through this MEWA partnership, Anthem, Isi,



and local chambers of commerce deliver industry-leading small business health coverage with an unmatched array of plan designs and network choices. These plans leverage Anthem’s 80 years of experience supporting Indiana employers and its strong relationships with Indiana care providers.

In addition to Isi, Advantage 1 Health is available through participating chambers of commerce across Indiana. Employers may join any participating chamber regardless of business location. The growing list includes:

- Dearborn County Chamber of Commerce
- Clinton County Chamber of Commerce
- Chamber of Commerce of Harrison County
- Evansville Regional Economic Partnership
- Franklin Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Fort Wayne Inc.
- Greater Lafayette Commerce
- Madison Area Chamber
- **OneZone Chamber**

Advantage 1 Health simplifies administration, helps reduce healthcare costs and integrates wellness and preventive programs. Key features include:

- **Broad care provider access:** Every major Indi-

ana hospital and health system is featured in Anthem’s network of providers. Members can continue seeing their doctors while gaining access to one of Indiana’s largest provider networks, plus seamless nationwide coverage through Anthem’s broad PPO network.- **Lower, more predictable costs:** Some employers can save up to 40 percent compared to ACA plans, with simple plan designs, national care provider networks, and easier administration and budgeting.
- **Flexible plan designs:** Chamber members can choose from 42 health plan options to select the benefits and premiums that best fit their employee population and budget, including Clear Choice plans featuring transparent and simplified copay-based pricing for healthcare services.
- **Network choice:** Employers can choose from three Anthem care provider networks:
- HealthSync HMO — a network of high performing care providers designed to deliver maximum savings and value.
- HealthSync POS — a flexible tiered network option that balances cost savings and provider access, allowing members to choose between a Tier 1 HealthSync

network for greater savings and the broadest Tier 2 PPO network for expanded access.

- Blue Access PPO — the broadest network option, including nearly every Indiana hospital and physician.
- **Simple administration:** Anthem and program partners handle compliance and administrative tasks, making ongoing management easy for employers.
- **Integrated benefits:** Medical, dental, vision, pharmacy, and virtual care connect through the Sydney® Health app, a secure member website, and 24/7/365 support.
- **Wellness and rewards:** Each plan includes preventive care programs and wellness incentives. Members can earn up to \$500 annually for healthy activities.

“This partnership gives chambers across the state a tangible way to support their members with meaningful benefits,” said Lance Allison, President and CEO of Isi. “Advantage 1 Health provides our business community with a smart, affordable healthcare solution that strengthens small businesses and communities.”

Small businesses can learn more at anthem.com/advantage-1-health.

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ROKITA

to implement clearly unconstitutional statutes that infringe on citizens’ rights.

Key elements of the opinion:

- The MBE and WBE components of the DBE Program are unconstitu-

tional.

- Contract preferences for veteran-owned businesses are lawful.
- IDOA has discretion in deciding how to unwind the unlawful aspects of the DBE program.

- IDOA may implement new, race- and sex-neutral preferences for veterans, small businesses, and Indiana-domiciled businesses that comply with the U.S. and Indiana Constitutions.

from Page 8

Attorney General Rokita’s office will advise IDOA on a lawful transition and work with the General Assembly to repeal the underlying statute.

[Click here](#) to read the opinion.

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TODAY'S BIBLE READING

STAGES IN ISRAEL'S JOURNEY

They left Moseroth and camped at Bene Jaakan.

They left Bene Jaakan and camped at Hor Haggidgad.

They left Hor Haggidgad and camped at Jotbathah.

They left Jotbathah and camped at Abronah.

They left Abronah and camped at Ezion Geber.

They left Ezion Geber and camped at Kadesh, in the Desert of Zin.

They left Kadesh and camped at Mount Hor, on the border of Edom. At the Lord's command Aaron the priest went up Mount Hor, where he died on the first day of the fifth month of the fortieth year after the Israelites came out of Egypt. Aaron was a hundred and twenty-three years old when he died on Mount Hor.

The Canaanite king of Arad, who lived in the Negev of Canaan, heard that the Israelites were coming.

They left Mount Hor and camped at Zalmonah.

They left Zalmonah and camped at Punon.

They left Punon and camped at Oboth.

They left Oboth and camped at Iye Abarim, on the border of Moab.

They left Iye Abarim and camped at Dibon Gad.

They left Dibon Gad and camped at Almon Diblathaim.

They left Almon Diblathaim and camped in the mountains of Abarim, near Nebo.

They left the mountains of Abarim and camped on the plains of Moab by the Jordan across from Jericho. There on the plains of Moab they camped along the Jordan from Beth Jeshimoth to Abel Shittim.

Numbers 33:31-49 (NIV)

Meeting Notice

The Ivy Tech Hamilton County Campus Board of Trustees will meet on Tuesday, July 21, 2026, in the Sue Ellspermann Board Room at Ivy Tech Hamilton County, 300 N. 17th St., Noblesville.

A non-public executive session will start at 9 a.m., followed by a public education session of the Board at 9:45 a.m. Finally, a regular meeting of the board will start at 10:15 a.m.

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.

— NOBLESVILLE —

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS OF PUBLIC HEARING

Board of Zoning Appeals

City of Noblesville, Indiana

This notice is to inform you of a Public Hearing that will be held by the Noblesville Board of Zoning Appeals on the 3rd day of August, 2026. This hearing, to discuss application **BZNA-0129-2026**, will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers, Noblesville City Hall at 16 South 10th Street. A live stream of the meeting will be available on the City's YouTube page at www.youtube.com/@CityofNoblesville. The application submitted by Kevin & Kelly Heffernan requests that approval be granted to a Variance of Development Standards application pursuant to UDO § Table 8.B to allow for a reduction of the minimum front yard setback for a property within the R-1/FH zoning district. on the property located at **15710 Allisonville Road, Noblesville, IN 46060**.

Written suggestions or objections relative to the application above may be filed with the Department of Planning and Development, at or before such meeting, and will be heard by the Noblesville Board of Zoning Appeals. Interested persons desiring to present their views, either in writing or verbally, will have an opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned time and place.

A list of each appointed officer's name, their appointing authority, and term dates is available at www.noblesville.in.gov/boards. This hearing may be continued from time to time as found necessary by the Noblesville Board of Zoning Appeals. A copy of the proposal is on file in the Department of Planning and Development at 16 South 10th Street, Suite B140 and may be reviewed during regular office hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A copy of the file may also be viewed on the Department of Planning website, <http://www.cityofnoblesville.org/planning>, by clicking the Boards & Committees button, clicking the icon on the map relating to this location and selecting the application materials link.

Noblesville Board of Zoning Appeals

Caleb Gutshall, Secretary

R8304

7/16/26, 7/20/26

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.

Randy Eugene Beeler

September 23, 1951 – July 11, 2026

Randy Eugene Beeler, 74, Noblesville, passed away on Saturday, July 11, 2026, at Riverwalk Village in Noblesville. He was born on September 23, 1951, to Harold and Irene (Blosser) Beeler in Lafayette, Ind.

Randy worked on home renovations as a salesperson. He was an amateur stock car driver, #99, at Lincoln Park Speedway in Putnamville, Ind. Randy was the last announcer at the Terre Haute Speedway before it closed. He loved cars and racing, especially NASCAR. Randy enjoyed doing home renovations, and making old period, farmhouse style furniture. He was also an ESPN announcer.

He is survived by his wife, Wanda Sue Beeler; son, Brian (Nicole) Beeler; grandchildren, Sierra (Gunner) Martin and Adam Beeler; great-grandchildren, Sofia and Caleb Martin; daughter, Kristine Beeler; grandson, William Parker; step-daughter, Christine Williams; step-son, Joshua Tolley; step-grandchild, Tyler Tolley; sister, Karen (John) Bowers; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to American Diabetes Association, PO Box 7023, Merri-field, VA 22116-7023 (diabetes.org).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

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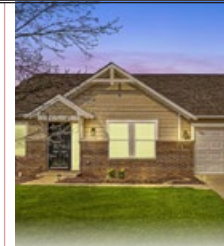
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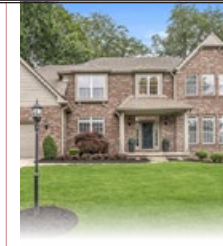
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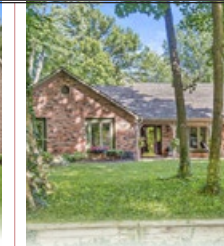
PENDING!

18532 ORIENTAL OAK COURT

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Beautiful 4BR, 2BA 2 half baths in Oakmont of Noblesville. Home is situated on over half an acre (.68) wooded lot featuring a screened porch and finished basement along with a three car tandem garage. This move-in ready property awaits you.

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Discover this hidden gem in Fishers. This stunning 3BR, 2BA custom brick ranch sits on a secluded .65-acre wooded lot. Features a new roof, remodeled kitchen, great room, sunroom, and heated/cooled garage. A private, paradise awaits you!

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18716 PRAIRIE BAPTIST ROAD

NOBLESVILLE

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Listed at \$172,900



PENDING!

2525 COLONY COURT

CARMEL

Find character in this charming Carmel home with no HOA! Features 3BR, 2 living areas, spacious kitchen with appliances, and a park-like backyard with a heated/cooled workshop shed. Newer HVAC and water heater remain.

Listed at \$319,900



NEW LISTING!

2513 SHERIDAN COURT

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REPORTER SPORTS THURSDAY

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

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

Girls Soccer

Big change for girls sectionals

Noblesville Millers move over to Sectional 9

By RICHIE HALL

sports@readthereporter.com

One of the biggest sectional rivalries in the state will come to an end this fall.

Noblesville has been moved out of Sectional 8 in the IHSAA's Class 3A girls soccer tournament. This is arguably the most significant change to the fall sectional pairings, which the organization announced during its minutes last June.

For years, the Millers had rotated Sectional 8 hosting duties with Hamilton Southeastern. The two teams usually met in the sectional as two of the top programs in Indiana. Noblesville won five state championships coming out of Sectional 8 until the Royals broke through in 2025, beating the Millers en route to Southeastern's first-ever state title.

Starting this season, Noblesville will compete in Sectional 9. That puts the Millers' girls team in line with the boys, who were moved into Sectional 9 starting with the 2024 season.

"I know why they did it," said Royals coach Greg Davidson. "I always enjoyed the rivalry with Noblesville, so we were a little disappointed that they moved Noblesville out of the sectional. They're always great games and adds to the aura of the tournament."

"We'll play whoever they put it on our sectional, we have to be focused on and be ready by tournament time."



Julie Brown / File photo

While Hamilton Southeastern's girls soccer team will no longer face Noblesville in Sectional 8, Royals coach Greg Davidson believes the sectional will still be difficult. Southeastern won its first state championship in girls soccer last year.

And Sectional 8 will still be a difficult sectional. For one thing, Southeastern's Mudsock rival Fishers is still in that sectional. The Tigers played the Royals tough in last year's Sectional 8 championship before HSE won 1-0.

"They gave us one of the better games in the tournament," said Davidson. They had a scheme and had a plan and they played it really well. [Harold] Spooner's a great coach. He always has his teams playing their best soccer."

The other teams in Sectional 8 are Anderson, Mt. Vernon, Muncie Central, Pendleton Heights and

Richmond.

"Pendleton Heights has been on the rise," said Davidson. "Mt. Vernon has been really growing and has got solid soccer players. There's not many cakewalks out there and our sectional is included."

Meanwhile, Sectional 9 was already difficult. Noblesville will join Carmel, North Central, Pike, Westfield and Zionsville. The Greyhounds were the 3A runners-up to Southeastern last season, while the Shamrocks took Carmel to overtime in the sectional championship.

The Sectional 8 and Sectional 9 girls groups now

look the same as the boys groups. Noblesville's boys were moved into Sectional 9 starting with the 2024 season.

Fishers will host the girls soccer Sectional 8 this year, with Westfield hosting Sectional 9. As for the boys, Southeastern hosts Sectional 8 and Carmel will host Sectional 9.

As for other sectional sites:

The Hamilton Heights girls will travel to Eastbrook for Class 2A Sectional 23. Delta, Jay County, Missisnaw and Yorktown are the other schools in that six-team group.

Guerin Catholic's girls

will play in 2A Sectional 24 at Brebeuf Jesuit. That will be a five-team site, with Heritage Christian, Bishop Chatard and Park Tudor also competing.

Sheridan will compete in 1A Sectional 38, which takes place at Oak Hill. The seven-team group also includes Elwood, Lapel, Taylor, Tipton and Tri-Central.

University will play in 1A Sectional 40 at Covenant Christian, a six-team site. Cardinal Ritter, Metropolitan, Riverside and Tindley also will compete there.

In boys soccer, both Guerin Catholic and Heights will play in Class 2A Sectional 24 at Park Tu-

dor. That sectional consists of seven teams, with Bishop Chatard, Brebeuf Jesuit, Heritage Christian and Lapel also in the group.

Sheridan's boys will compete in 1A Sectional 38 at Taylor, a seven-team site. The other schools are Carroll, Delphi, Elwood, Ross-ville and Tri-Central.

University will travel to Class 1A Sectional 40 at North Putnam. Bethesda Christian, International, Riverside and Traders Point Christian complete the list of that six-team site.

A look at the sectional groups of the other fall sports will appear in Friday's Reporter.

Golf

Carmel's Swathwood leads Women's State Amateur

The REPORTER

Carmel's Claire Swathwood is in a familiar place: on top of the leaderboard in an Indiana tournament.

Swathwood holds a four-stroke lead at the Indiana Women's State Amateur after two rounds of play at Rock Hollow Golf Club in Peru. Swathwood, a 2024 Greyhounds graduate, is five under par for the tournament at 139, scoring a three-under 69 on Tuesday and a two-under 70 on Wednesday.

Swathwood has so far made nine birdies for the

tournament, draining six during the first round and three during the second round. Swathwood played college golf for the University of Memphis the past two seasons and transferred to TCU, where she will begin her junior season this fall.

Hamilton County golfers made up five of the top 10 places after the second round, including three that are tied for third place with a score of 144.

First is Carmel's Eleanor Schuitema, who begins her junior year at Taylor

University soon, rebounded from a first-round 75 to go three under in her second round, scoring 69. She has seven birdies to her credit so far, making two on Tuesday and five on Wednesday.

Noblesville's Josie Kelley posted 73 for her first round and scored a one under 71 in the second round. She has made nine birdies so far, with four in the first round and five in the second round.

Kelley recently graduated from Noblesville and will play college golf for Eastern Kentucky.

Addi Kooi, a Westfield graduate now playing at Butler University, also scored 73 in the first round and went one under for a second-round score of 71. Kooi, now listed as from Noblesville on the [IGA website](#), made three birdies on Tuesday and five more on Wednesday.

Sophie McGinnis, another Westfield graduate playing for the Butler Bulldogs, is tied for sixth with a score of 145, posting 72 on Tuesday and 73 on Wednesday. McGinnis, now listed as from Zionsville, drained one

birdie in the first round and four in the second round.

Carmel's Michaela Headlee, a Carmel graduate playing for Purdue, is presently tied for ninth with 146, scoring 74 in the first round and 72 in the second round. Headlee made one birdie on Tuesday and five on Wednesday.

The tournament concludes with third round play today. Here is a list of Hamilton County scores.

1. Claire Swathwood, Carmel 69-70=139, T3. Eleanor Schuitema, Carmel 75-69=144; Josie Kelley, No-

blesville 73-71=144; Addi Kooi, Noblesville 73-71=144, T9. Michaela Headlee, Carmel 74-72=146, T11. Lauren Tibbets, Carmel 74-73=147; Samantha Brown, Westfield 70-77=147, T5. Lauren Stewart, Fishers 76-75=151, T20. Jordan Adam, Noblesville 71-82=153, T26. Caroline Whallon, Noblesville 78-77=155; Taylor Morrison, Atlanta 77-78=155, 31. Kamryn Williams, Carmel 79-77=156, T36. Janelle Garcia, Fishers 82-77=159, T39. Maya Cieply, Fishers 76-85=161, 44. Presley White, Noblesville 84-79=163, T49. Olivia Fowler, Noblesville 83-85=168.

Junior Tour stops at Richmond

The REPORTER

The Indiana Junior Golf tour visited the Richmond Elks Club on Thursday.

Here is a list of results for Hamilton County golfers.

Boys 11-12: 1. Carsen Fegan, Fishers 73.

Boys 13-15: T2. Porter

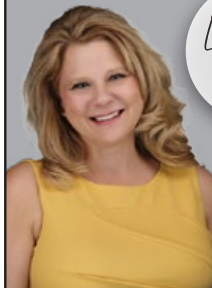
Bell, Noblesville 74, T9. Austin Carter, Carmel 84, T11. John Burchall, Fishers 85.

Boys 16-19: 2. Jack Burton, Carmel 77, T16. Andrew Carney, Westfield 85.

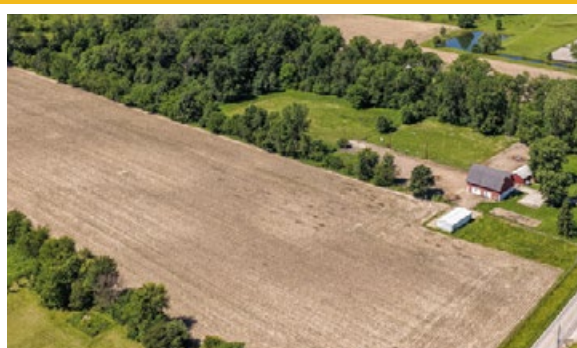
Girls 13-15: 1. Adalyn Malicoat, Noblesville 80, 2. Qianyu Liu, Carmel 85, 4. Sophia Springirth, Carmel 96.

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Wrestling



Photo by Manford Photography

Westfield's Connor Maddox reached the Round of 16 in the 113-pound freestyle bracket at the U.S. Marine Corps Junior Nationals this week in Fargo, N.D.

County sends several wrestlers to Fargo nationals

Westfield's Maddox makes Round of 16 at 113 pounds

The REPORTER

Hamilton County sent several wrestlers to compete at the annual U.S. Marine Corps Junior Nationals, which is taking place at Fargo, N.D.

Among the wrestlers competing is Westfield's Connor Maddox. The incoming Shamrocks junior and last year's IHSAA 106-pound state champion reached the Round of 16

in the 113-pound freestyle bracket. Maddox reached the final 16 by defeating Declan McKee of New York by a 10-0 technical fall in the Round of 32. Maddox fell to Analu

Woode of Team Hawaii by a 7-4 decision in the Round of 16. More results and pictures from Fargo will appear in The Reporter's Friday edition.

Reducing field event injuries focus of NFHS rule changes

The REPORTER

The National Federation of High Schools announced changes in high school track and field rules last week.

The main changes involved two rule revisions that are intended to reduce injuries in field events, as publicized in a news release from the NFHS.

"The two field events rules were among four revisions recommended by the NFHS Track and Field Rules Committee at its meeting last month in Indianapolis," said the release. "All changes were subsequently approved by the NFHS Rules Review Committee and NFHS Board of Directors."

The release continues: In an effort to reduce risk of injury during warmups in the shot put and discus, all attempts now must be made from inside the circle and facing the sector. No backward, over-the-head attempts will be allowed.

The committee noted that warm-up attempts by athletes standing on the toe board with their backs to the sector are dangerous because competitors cannot see if the area is clear before throwing the implement. With the rule change next year, a clear line of sight will be available to make sure the landing area is safe prior to an attempt.

Another safety-related change approved by the committee addresses the growing use of foreign substances on shoes in the throwing events. Language has been revised to provide coaches and officials with clearer guidance.

"Overall, the top priority for the rules committee is always the safety and well-being of the student-athletes, and this year's committee meeting reflected that continued commitment," said Julie Cochran, NFHS director of sports and middle schools and liaison to the Track and Field Rules Committee.

"The rules committee continues to focus on minimizing risk in throws events and warm-ups to ensure a safer competitive environment. Overall, this was a highly productive meeting where the committee successfully balanced safety with practical rules revisions."

The Track and Field Rules Committee also approved a revision in a rule change made last year in the vertical jumps, as well as a revision that provides games committees more flexibility in reporting for field events.

A complete listing of the track and field rules changes will be available on the NFHS website at NFHS.org. Click on "Sports" at the top of the home page and select "Track & Field" and then "Rules." The print version of the 2027 Track and Field and Cross Country Rules Book will be available for purchase in October at NFHS.com, and the digital version will be available in October via NFHS Digital at NFHS.org.

According to the 2024-25 NFHS High School Athletics Participation Survey, outdoor track and field is the most popular sport for girls with a total of 513,808 participants in 17,373 schools, and it is the second-most popular sport for boys with a total of 644,235 participants in 17,390 schools across the country.

What a local golf star will soon have in common with Peyton Manning

By ANDREW CHERNOFF
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

It feels like Mac Myers lives on the golf course. "I try to get out here seven days a week, as long as the weather allows it," Myers said.

The soon-to-be Zionsville High School junior is one of the best, young golfers in the state. He's been showcasing those skills at tournaments all across the United States this year, including in Central Indiana. Myers actually led after the second round of this year's Pete and Alice Dye Junior Invitational at Crooked Stick Golf Club in Carmel.

"I try to balance some where I get to stay home, but this year I've been able to travel the country quite a bit, playing all over," Myers said.

Myers has quickly made a name for himself across the country. He's currently No. 53 in the American Junior Golf Association's national rankings.

"At the end of the day, it's just you vs. you," Myers said.

"You're just trying to put out the best score possible. And so I try and not let rankings bother me at all."

Myers is hoping to carry that mindset to the next level when he plays college golf at the University of Tennessee. Myers committed to the Volunteers last month. It's not lost on him that former Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning played at Tennessee.

"That was honestly my original pull," Myers said. "I'm in the 317 area code, so Peyton Manning's a walking hero around here. And when I was younger, Tennessee was kind of always on my mind because you see it everywhere you go, pretty much. Anywhere where you see Peyton Manning, you see the University of Tennessee. It's great to be following in his footsteps, which I'm really excited for."

Manning was a winner on the field and Myers is hoping to be a winner on the course as he continues to chase his dream of being a professional golfer.

"I'm going to give professional golf a try," Myers said. "And if I improve, I could definitely see myself going down that path. But, I could really see myself going into a local, professional golfer and being able to teach other people the sport that I love so much."

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/sports/golf/mac-myers-tennessee-golf.



Photo courtesy WISH-TV

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