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FRIDAY, AUG. 7, 2026

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TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Partly to mostly cloudy. Scattered showers and storms, mainly in the afternoon.
Tonight: Scattered showers and storms possible in the evening.
HIGH: 84 **LOW:** 71



Health Department nurses getting kids ready for school



Back-to-school vaccinations are underway, and the Hamilton County Health Department's nursing team is providing immunizations for local students. You can register for one of the upcoming back-to-school immunization clinics by visiting patients.vaxcare.com/registration and entering code IN15561.

Photos provided by Hamilton County Health Department

I belong. Do you?

What does belonging feel like?

It sounds like a simple question, but the answer is rarely simple. Belonging is not a destination we arrive at one day and keep forever. It is something we build – through conversations, shared spaces, welcoming gestures, and the courage to keep showing up.

That is the heart behind a new initiative from the Noblesville Diversity Coalition.

This summer, we are inviting people to help us find the pulse of belonging in our community. We want to hear from the people who live, work, learn, volunteer, worship, shop, dine, and celebrate in Noblesville. Whether you have called this city home for decades or only visit for concerts, festivals, parks, local restaurants, or community events, your story matters.

Hamilton County offers something truly special. We have beautiful parks, neighborhood concerts, farmers markets, faith communities, libraries, community celebrations, cultural festivals, local businesses, and organizations that bring people together every day. These shared spaces create opportunities to connect – but do they create a sense of belonging for everyone?

That is what we hope to better understand.

To help us gather meaningful and unbiased community feedback, the Noblesville Diversity Coalition has partnered with SMARI Research, an independent research organization, to conduct an online community survey. The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete and asks thoughtful questions about how connected, welcomed, and valued people feel in our community.

See *Belong* . . . Page 2



COLUMNIST

POOJA THAKKAR
Taste of Community

Carmel Plan Commission to hold public hearing on housing regulations

Submitted by
City of Carmel

The Carmel Plan Commission will hold a public hearing at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18 to receive public feedback regarding the city's Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), zoning regulations, and land development rules in accordance with Indiana House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1001.

The hearing will take place in the Council Chambers at Carmel City Hall.

The goal of the review is to evaluate existing development regulations and identify opportunities to increase housing development. As mandated by state law under HEA 1001, the Plan Commission's review will evaluate potential UDO updates focused on nine key factors:

1. Providing for higher-density development of duplexes, triplexes, and fourplexes in areas designated for single-family residential homes.

2. Constructing other hous-

ing types, including accessory dwelling units (ADUs), manufactured housing and modular housing.

3. Adaptive reuse of commercial buildings for residential use, such as allowing multifamily development in retail, office, and light manufacturing zones.

4. Increasing allowable floor area ratios (FAR) within multifamily residential areas.

5. Waiving or eliminating regulations such as require-

ments for:
a. garage size and placement;
b. steeper roof pitch;
c. minimum lot sizes and square footage;
d. greater setbacks;
e. off-street parking;
f. design standards that restrict or prohibit the use of code-compliant building products; and
g. property height limitations.

See *Housing* . . . Page 2

TradeUp Fest to bring skilled trades, workforce development & live music together in Noblesville

The REPORTER

Indiana business and industry leaders are backing a new workforce development initiative that will use live music and hands-on experiences to introduce the next generation to careers in the skilled trades.

TradeUp Fest, presented by Gaylor Electric and Associated Builders and Contractors of Indiana/Kentucky, will take place Saturday, Sept. 19, at Riverview Health Arena at Innovation Mile, 14157 CJ Way, Noblesville.

The inaugural event will bring together employers, educators, apprenticeship programs, manufacturers, tradespeople, students, and families for a free daytime music festival centered on career exploration, followed by a ticketed evening concert.

"The skilled trades built this

country, and they'll build its future," Gaylor Electric CEO Chuck Goodrich said. "TradeUp Fest is more than a festival; it's an opportunity for families to come together, have fun, explore incredible career opportunities, and celebrate the men and women whose skills and craftsmanship keep our communities moving forward."

At the center of the daytime festival will be an interactive Trades Village designed to give attendees firsthand exposure to skilled trades careers. Employers and apprenticeship programs will offer hands-on "Try a Trade" experiences, skilled trades demonstrations, and opportunities for students and families to learn about pathways into the workforce.

Organizers say the event is intended to help address the need for skilled workers

while also changing perceptions about careers in construction, manufacturing, and other skilled occupations.

"TradeUp Fest is more than a concert," said Jake Gibson, executive director of Associated Builders and Contractors of Indiana/Kentucky. "It's a celebration of the people who build our communities and a bold step toward reducing the skilled-trades workforce gap. By bringing together tradespeople, employers, businesses, and music fans, we're shining a spotlight on the

pride, purpose and opportunity found in the trades, showing that these careers are a path to a thriving future."

The free outdoor portion of TradeUp Fest will run from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and will include live music throughout the day, the Trades Village, employers, apprenticeship programs, heavy equipment, and skilled trades demonstrations. DIY Network's Kayleen McCabe will serve as master of ceremonies.

See *TradeUp* . . . Page 2



Sheridan First Christian welcomes new senior minister

Submitted

Sheridan First Christian Church welcomes Rev. Cheryl Kunkel as the new Senior Minister. She officially began serving the congregation on Sunday, Aug. 2, following the retirement of pastor Rev. Mike Srbljan at the end of 2025.

Earlier this year, Kunkel served as a guest pastor at Sheridan First Christian Church, giving the congregation an opportunity to get to know her before she accepted the call to become its next minister.

Kunkel brings more than a decade of ministry experience to Sheridan First Christian Church, most recently serving as Associate Regional Minister for the Christian Church in Indiana. She has also served congregations in Indiana and Kentucky following her ordination at Zionsville Christian Church in 2013.

Kunkel, originally from Zionsville but now a Whitestown resident, earned a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Eureka College before teaching elementary school for five years, including three years in Baton Rouge, La. She later earned her Master of Divinity from Vanderbilt Divinity School and has an Executive Certificate of Religious Fundraising through the Lake Institute in Faith & Giving at the Lilly School of Philanthropy.

As a senior minister, Kunkel will lead worship services, provide pastoral care, and help strengthen the church's engagement with the Sheridan community.

See *Sheridan* . . . Page 2



Kunkel

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Housing

6. Reviewing impact fee zones in coordination with the applicable zone advisory committee.
7. Streamlining or shortening the processes and timelines, including through one-stop and parallel process permitting by 15 days or more.
8. Using property tax abatements to enable higher density and mixed income communities.
9. Donating vacant land for affordable housing development.
- No specific ordinance amendments are proposed or being voted on as part of this public hearing. This session is strictly intended to gather public comment and perspective from Carmel residents, business owners, and community stakeholders.
- If future amendments develop from this review, they will be considered

through additional public hearings with formal legal notice in accordance with local and state procedures.

All interested members of the community are invited to attend the hearing at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18 in the Council Chambers at Carmel City Hall. Public comments will be heard in order of appearance.

Community members who cannot attend or prefer to submit feedback in writing may send comments directly to the Department of Community Services, Plan Commission Secretary, Bric Butler, at bbutler@carmel.in.gov prior to the meeting. Written submissions will be made part of the official public record.

The public hearing information will be available on the City of Carmel's website at [this link](#).

TradeUp

The event will move inside Riverview Health Arena that evening for a ticketed concert featuring country artist Larry Fleet, Texas-based Americana up-and-comers The Wilder Blue, and singer-songwriter Nora Reese. Arena doors open at 5 p.m., with the concert beginning at 6 p.m.

TradeUp Fest was created by Josh Cecil, founder of [HamCo Live](#), as a way to combine live entertainment

with career exploration and a broader celebration of the people working in the skilled trades.

“With TradeUp Fest, I wanted to create something like Farm Aid for the skilled trades,” Cecil said. “Music has an incredible ability to bring people together. We’re using that energy to celebrate the people who build our communities while helping families discover career paths that are meaningful, financially

rewarding, and essential to America’s future.”

TradeUp Fest will take place Saturday, Sept. 19, at Riverview Health Arena at Innovation Mile in Noblesville. The outdoor festival is free, with a free festival pass available in advance. Tickets are required for the evening arena concert.

More information, free outdoor festival passes, and arena concert tickets are available at [tradeupfest.com](#).

Beth Sheller

for Hamilton County Clerk

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Belong

As a thank-you for participating, everyone who completes the survey will receive a \$5 gift card to support a local small business in Noblesville. Participants may also choose to donate that \$5 to the Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville. It’s a simple way to give back while helping us better understand the experiences of people across our community – a true win-win.

This effort reaches far beyond the Noblesville Diversity Coalition alone. We are grateful to partner with organizations including the City of Noblesville, the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce, the Hamilton County Community Foundation, Hamilton County Tourism, and many other nonprofit and community partners who are sharing the survey throughout their networks. Together, we hope to hear from people both inside and outside Noblesville – because belonging is also experienced by those who visit our city to attend events, enjoy local restaurants, support businesses, or celebrate alongside us.

The more voices we hear, the clearer the picture becomes.

This survey is not simply about collecting data or taking the community’s temperature. It is about discovering where connections are strong, where gaps still exist, and how we can become more intentional in creating spaces where people feel seen, heard, respected, and valued. The



Photo provided

insights we gather will help shape future programs, partnerships, and initiatives that strengthen our community for everyone.

When people ask me whether I feel like I belong in Noblesville, I wish I had an easy yes-or-no answer. But belonging has never felt like an on-and-off switch.

For me, belonging is an ongoing practice.

It means choosing to attend events where I may be the only person who looks like me. It means sitting at tables where I am still the minority, still the newcomer, still learning. It means speaking up, listening deeply, and returning again and again because every conversation creates another opportunity for understanding.

Little by little, unfamiliar faces become familiar ones. Conversations become friendships. Commu-

nities become home.

That is why this first community-wide effort is so meaningful. It is our opportunity to listen before we lead, to learn before we assume, and to build together instead of separately.

Perhaps belonging isn’t a place we find. Perhaps it’s something we create together – one conversation, one connection, and one voice at a time.

I belong. Do you? If not yet, let’s listen, learn, and build a community where everyone can answer that question with confidence.

Here is the survey link: tinyurl.com/Noblesville-BelongSurvey. Because your voice matters as much as you matter.

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

Sheridan

“I’m excited to do ministry alongside the people at Sheridan First Christian

Church,” Kunkel said. “I am excited that this congregation is committed to community outreach and is dedicated to welcoming all people.”

Outside of ministry, Kunkel enjoys listening to audiobooks and podcasts, cross stitching, and cheering on the Indianapolis Colts as a season ticket holder. She and her husband, Eric, have a one-year-old daughter, Riley, and are expecting their second child in January 2027.

Sheridan First Christian Church asks the community to join in welcoming Rev. Kunkel as she begins this new chapter of ministry and

leadership.

About Sheridan First Christian Church

Sheridan First Christian Church is a God-centered and inclusive church. The mission of Sheridan First Christian Church is to provide a welcoming community to help anyone know, love, and follow Jesus. The church is committed to helping their community and neighbors through service and celebration. Sheridan First Christian Church is inclusive and welcomes all ages, races, genders, and abilities. Casual and friendly worship services occur every Sunday at 10 a.m.

Where can I find 4-H Results?

Thank you for supporting 4-H'ers, Hamilton County!

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Hamilton Heights. Main Office of each school

Jackson Township Office. 506 W Main St.

Town Hall. 208 W Main St.

ATLANTA

Town Hall. 105 E Main St.

CARMEL

City Hall. 1 Civic Square

First Farmers Bank & Trust. 11711 N Pennsylvania St., Ste. 112

Monon Community Center. 1195 Central Park Drive West

CICERO

Hamilton North Library. 209 W Brinton St.

Utilities Office. 331 E. Jackson St.

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Fishers Arts Council. 1 Municipal Drive

Fishers High School. Available to students

Hamilton County Democratic Party HQ. 7050 E. 116th St., Suite 100

Hamilton Southeastern High School. Available to students

NOBLESVILLE

4-H Extension Office. 2003 Pleasant St.

Adler Attorneys. 136 S 9th St.

Community First Bank. 17661 Village Center Drive

Noblesville City Hall. 16 S 10th St.

Rep. Spartz’s Office. 5540 Pebble Village Lane

SHERIDAN

Sheridan Community Schools. Main Office of each school

STRAWTOWN

Taylor Center of Natural History. 12308 Strawtown Ave.

WESTFIELD

Community First Bank. 381 S Junction Crossing

Community First Bank. 707 E State Road 32

Cool Creek Nature Center. 2000-1 E 151st St.

Farmers Market. 225 S Union St.

Westfield City Services Building. 2728 E. 171st St.

Westfield High School. Available to students

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2026 HAMILTON COUNTY 4-H RESULTS

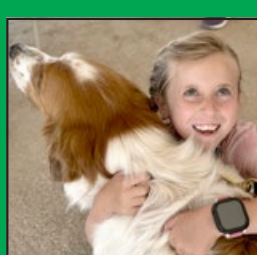
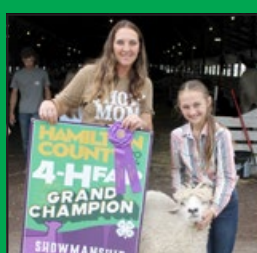
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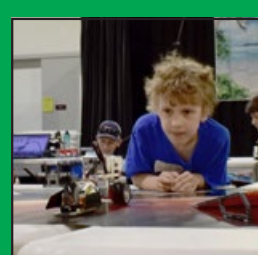
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MIBOR report shows public’s increasing disapproval of housing costs & property taxes

The REPORTER

Financial pressures are reshaping how Central Indiana residents feel about their communities.

This is one of the key findings from the 2026 Community Preference Survey commissioned by

the MIBOR REALTOR® Association and the Indianapolis MPO. The findings reveal sharp increases in dissatisfaction with housing affordability, property taxes, and overall financial conditions – trends affecting residents across every

demographic group.

Nearly half of surveyed residents say they are dissatisfied with the affordability of housing in their area, a jump of 15 points since 2022. Dissatisfaction with property and local taxes has risen even more steeply, increasing 19 points over the same period. This broad shift signals that affordability is a growing concern for households throughout the region.

The survey also shows a striking rise in intense dissatisfaction. The share of residents who are very dissatisfied with property taxes has doubled, climbing from 13 percent in 2022 to 27 percent in 2026. Intense dissatisfaction with housing affordability has also nearly doubled, rising from 15 percent to 26 percent.

“These shifts tell a clear story,” the report notes. “Residents across all ages, incomes, and counties are feeling the squeeze from rising housing costs and local taxes.”

Financial strain is also emerging as a major barrier to homeownership. When

asked about obstacles to buying a home in Central Indiana, residents overwhelmingly pointed to cost pressures:

- Affording the down payment ranks as the top obstacle, with 86 percent calling it a huge or medium sized barrier.

- High property taxes or insurance costs follow at 82 percent.

- Personal debt, including credit card and auto loans, is close behind at 81 percent.

- Childcare costs or responsibilities also pose significant challenges, affecting 76 percent of prospective homeowners.

These findings illustrate how affordability concerns – spanning housing prices, taxes, and everyday household expenses – are increasingly shaping residents’ experiences and limiting pathways to homeownership.

The full survey report, including detailed findings across all community features and demographics, will be released Wednesday, Aug. 12.

From the desk of Heights Superintendent Dr. Derek Arrowood

Update No. 176

As we open the doors to a new school year, I want to extend a heartfelt welcome to our students, families, and staff.

Those who know me know how much I truly love school. It’s the energy of a new day, the promise of learning, and the simple moments that remind me why our work matters. Greeting students in the morning, watching teachers bring lessons to life, and seeing a child’s confidence grow day by day fuel my passion and guide my leadership. Each new beginning brings fresh opportunities to learn, grow, and strengthen the partnerships that allow us to provide an exceptional Pre-K through 12th grade educational experience for every student.

We’re excited to welcome both new faces and familiar voices to Hamilton Heights. Each person joining our team brings unique strengths, fresh perspectives, and a deep commitment to students that will enrich our classrooms and elevate our work. Their arrival strengthens an already exceptional group of educators and staff who consistently demonstrate excellence and a steadfast dedication to our students and community. Together, they will help us continue building the vibrant, student-centered learning environment that defines Hamilton Heights.

As we focus on helping every student thrive, I also want to make sure our families are aware of Indiana’s updated accountability system and how school grades will now be determined. We’ve created an overview that outlines what counts for students at each grade level, including an important change: attendance is now part of every school’s grade.

I encourage you to take a few moments to review this information so you can see how success indicators, assessment results, and attendance all work together



DR. DEREK ARROWOOD
Heights Superintendent

to support each student’s growth. You can view the full document [here](#).

If you’ve driven past Hamilton Heights High School on State Road 19, you’ve likely noticed the

construction underway on the north side of campus. This work reflects meaningful progress in our Phase 3 facilities plan, a long-term investment that was carefully budgeted early in the planning process to ensure responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars. These funds directly support programs and spaces that benefit everyone in our community.

Phase 3 includes a new, larger weight room, a new north entry, expanded wrestling facilities, natatorium upgrades, a new auxiliary gym, and other improvements to high use areas. Together, these enhancements will elevate daily student learning and enrich the experience of families and community members who attend events at the high school.

I encourage you to stay connected with us throughout the year whether by volunteering in classrooms or at events, engaging with our social media updates, reading our newsletters, or tuning in to our monthly video messages.

Hamilton Heights is strongest when our families and schools walk alongside one another, and our students feel that unity every day. There are so many meaningful ways to contribute, whether you have children at Heights or simply care about the success of our schools.

However you choose to be involved, your presence helps nurture the supportive, close-knit community that enriches the experience we create for every child.

I’ve loved school my entire life, and that love is renewed every time I see our students walk into classrooms filled with possibility. I know it’s going to be another great year for every Husky.

#WeAreHuskies

Joshua Bain appointed to Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission

The REPORTER

Governor Mike Braun announced on Thursday, Aug. 6, the appointment of Joshua Bain to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC), the administrative agency that makes decisions in the public interest to ensure utilities provide safe and reliable service at just and reasonable rates.

Bain’s appointment is effective immediately.

“I have been clear, affordability is my top priority for Hoosiers,” Gov. Braun said. “As families and businesses continue to feel the pressure of rising costs, it’s essential that we have leaders who will be ratepayer conscience. Joshua Bain brings experience in energy policy, environmental stew-

ardship, and collaboration across government and local communities. I am confident he will serve with integrity and keep affordability and the public interest at the forefront of every decision.”

Bain is currently the Executive Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs for the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). He previously served as Midwest Director for the Center for Energy Education, where he worked with local governments, chambers of commerce, and community leaders on matters related to energy generation projects.

Bain earned his BA in public affairs from Indiana University–Indianapolis. He currently resides in Camby.

Governor Braun celebrates \$10.2 million in grants to elevate skills, careers & second chances

Submitted by Office of Governor Mike Braun

On Wednesday, Aug. 5, Governor Mike Braun visited RecycleForce and Keys2Work in Indianapolis – partner nonprofits dedicated to helping formerly incarcerated Hoosiers successfully reenter the workforce

– to recognize two federal grants totaling \$10.2 million that will expand career pathways, strengthen Indiana’s workforce, and create more opportunities for Hoosiers to build successful futures.

“Indiana’s workforce is one of our greatest strengths,” Braun said.

“These grants, coupled with the work of organizations like RecycleForce, Keys2Work and 2nd Chance Indiana, will create a clear path to good careers for formerly incarcerated Hoosiers, help employers find qualified workers, and ensure more Hoosiers have the opportunity to build successful futures through meaningful work.”

The two grants are part of the U.S. Department of Labor’s Reentry Employment in Skilled Trades, Advanced Manufacturing, Registered Apprenticeships, and Training (RESTART) initiative.

One \$5.1 million RESTART grant was awarded to Keys2Work, which will serve as the lead grantee in partnership with RecycleForce and 2nd Chance Indiana. Through these nonprofits’ collaborative “Developing the Working Muscle” initiative, the organizations will expand



Braun

workforce training, paid employment, and career development opportunities for approximately 680 formerly incarcerated young adults ages 18 to 24 over the next three years.

Under the program, Keys2Work will coordinate participant recruitment, intake, and case management, while RecycleForce and 2nd Chance Indiana will provide paid transitional employment, workforce training and career development opportunities designed to prepare participants for long-term employment.

Earlier this month, Gov. Braun also announced the Indiana Department of Workforce Development received a separate \$5.1 million RESTART grant to expand workforce training, registered apprenticeships, and employment opportunities for formerly incarcerated adults across Indiana.

See Chances . . . Page 5

BUSINESS CARDS

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Joe Molina calls shotgun at Artomobilia

By **JOHN LEONARD**
*Executive Director,
Artomobilia*

Every so often the right person arrives at the right moment.

As we close out our 19th year and turn toward our 20th, we’re glad to share that Joe Molina has joined Artomobilia as an advisor. It is the kind of addition that raises the level of everything around it, and we do not take it lightly.

If you’ve spent time in the collector car world, you’ve felt Joe’s work whether you knew it or not. In 1977 he founded JMPR Public Relations in Los Angeles and spent more than four decades building it into one of the most respected automotive PR agencies in the country.

The client roster reads like a tour of the industry itself: Infiniti, Bentley, Bugatti, McLaren, Airstream, Galpin Motors, Barrett-Jackson Collector Car Auctions, the Mullin Automotive Museum, and the Los Angeles Auto Show, which JMPR guided from 1980 to 1996 and again as agency of record beginning in 2013. Joe credits that show as one of the launch pads that first gave his firm national standing, and it is telling that a client would come back to him nearly two decades later.

His deepest institutional relationship may have been with the Petersen Automotive Museum, one of the



Joe Molina, founder of JMPR and a fixture of the collector car world, joins Artomobilia as an advisor. He is the man behind the promotion of the Lamborghini Countach in the 1980s.

great automotive institutions in the country, which JMPR represented for 17 years, one of only two agencies the Petersen ever entrusted with the work. That relationship traced back to publishing legend Robert E. Petersen himself, the man whose magazines shaped how generations of Americans understood cars, and it opened doors across the industry.

The through-line of Joe’s career is that he worked with the people whose names ended up on the buildings and the fenders, the founders, and the legends. He moved easily among the figures who built this world, and his clients and colleagues have been fixtures at the events that define the calendar: SEMA, Pebble Beach, The Quail, the LA Auto Show. He helped bring “Days of Thunder” to the public and

worked alongside enthusiast icons like Jay Leno, Tim Allen, and Rod Stewart, men who love cars as deeply as anyone and trusted Joe to tell their stories right.

As he tells it, he started at the top, did excellent work for the right people, and let that work introduce him to everyone else. In a business where reputation is earned one relationship at a time, Joe built one of the best in the room.

A few years ago, in November of 2021, Joe and his wife Beth made a move that surprised even him. They left Los Angeles for Carmel. Beth is a native Hoosier, and after years of visiting her family in Indiana, the two decided to trade L.A. traffic for a city Joe describes as almost too good to be real. As he put it, in Los Angeles they call it a set, but here it’s real. They settled in Jackson’s Grant,

filled the house with their modern art collection, and surrounded it with the kind of interesting cars you’d expect.

Since then, Joe has become a friend and mentor to me, and a genuine supporter of what we’re building. Our conversations have a way of leaving me with more clarity than I walked in with, exactly what you want from someone who has seen this industry from every angle over half a century. He has watched events rise and fall, brands come and go, and trends turn over more than once, and that perspective is not something you can hire or manufacture. So when the idea came up of formalizing that relationship, it felt less like a decision and more like acknowledging something already true.

In his advisory role, Joe will help us think through



Photos provided

the questions that come with a milestone year: how to grow without losing what makes Artomobilia what it is, how to tell our story to a wider audience while keeping it honest, and how to honor 19 years of history as we build toward the 20th. These are good problems to have, and they’re better with Joe’s counsel.

Welcome aboard, Joe.

We’re glad you’re here, and we’re grateful for your guidance as we step into our 20th year.

John Leonard is the founder and executive director of Artomobilia, the annual automotive event held in Carmel’s Arts & Design District each year celebrating classic and exotic vehicles. Learn more at artomobilia.org.

CHANCES *from Page 4*

Together, the two investments represent a \$10.2 million commitment to strengthening Indiana’s workforce while expanding opportunities for formerly incarcerated Hoosiers to gain valuable skills, secure employment and build successful futures.

These investments build on Gov. Braun’s com-

mitment to reducing recidivism by expanding pathways to meaningful work. Last year, he signed an executive order aimed at improving reentry outcomes by strengthening education, workforce training and employment opportunities for incarcerated Hoosiers preparing to return to their communities.

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Know before you go: LIV Golf returns to The Club at Chatham Hills

The REPORTER

LIV Golf Indianapolis returns to The Club at Chatham Hills from August 20–23, bringing four days of professional golf and live entertainment to Westfield.

Attendees are encouraged to review event times, parking information, road closures and

Event Schedule Round 1

Thursday, Aug. 20

- Gates, hospitality areas, and the Fan Village open at 10:30 a.m.
- Play begins at 1:15 p.m.

Round 2

Friday, Aug. 21

- Gates, hospitality areas, and the Fan Village open at 9:30 a.m.
- Play begins at 12:15 p.m.

- Thomas Rhett performs at 5 p.m.

Round 3

Saturday, Aug. 22

- Gates, hospitality areas, and the Fan Village open at 8:30 a.m.
- Play begins at 11:15 a.m.

- Disco Lines performs at 4 p.m.

Round 4 & Finale Sunday, Aug. 23

- Gates, hospitality areas, and the Fan Village open at 11:30 a.m.
- Play begins at 2:05 p.m.

- Concert admission is included with a LIV Golf Indianapolis ticket.

Event parking & shuttles

All general event parking will be located just north of Grand Park at 308 E. 191st St.

Free shuttles will transport attendees between the parking area and The Club at Chatham Hills. Shuttles will run continuously each



Photo provided by City of Westfield

event day, beginning 30 minutes before gates open.

The final shuttle will leave The Club at Chatham Hills one hour after play or the concert concludes.

Accessibility information

LIV Golf Indianapolis is an accessible event, including all hospitality areas, and welcomes spectators who require assistance.

Wheelchairs and motorized scooters are allowed. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own mobility devices because rentals will not be available on-site.

Small folding stools and chairs without armrests are permitted. Accessible viewing areas will be available throughout the course on a first-come, first-served basis.

All shuttle pickup locations and shuttle buses are wheelchair accessible.

Road closures

The following road closures will be in place to support event traffic and public safety:

- **Cox Avenue between Chatham Ridge Boulevard and Chatham Pointe Lane**
- Closed from Monday,

Aug. 17 at 7 a.m. through Monday, Aug. 24 at 9 a.m.

Tomlinson Road between Cox Avenue and East 199th Street

- Thursday, Aug. 20: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Friday, Aug. 21: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Saturday, Aug. 22: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Sunday, Aug. 23: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Drivers should plan alternate routes and allow additional travel time throughout the event.

Explore Westfield with the International Passport

Visitors can continue their Westfield experience beyond the golf course by exploring the Westfield International Passport.

The free digital passport highlights more than 30 international restaurants and businesses throughout the community. Participants can check in at featured locations, earn points and discover food, products and experiences representing cultures from around the world.

Information about the passport, LIV Golf Indianapolis and other local

attractions is available at westfieldin.gov/LIV.

Complimentary military tickets

LIV Golf Indianapolis offers active-duty military members and veterans up to two complimentary single-day Grounds passes per day.

Eligible attendees must present a valid military ID in person at the Ticket Resolution window near the main entrance. Staff will process the complimentary tickets before entry.

The offer applies only to Grounds passes and does not include hospitality tickets.

Tickets & event information

Grounds Passes, Grounds Plus, and Concert Stagefront tickets are available. Concert Zone A provides access to a premium concert-viewing area.

Tickets start at \$27, and children ages 12 and younger receive free grounds admission when accompanied by a ticketed adult.

Additional information about tickets, entry procedures, prohibited items, and event policies is available at westfieldin.gov/LIV.

Carlie Irsay-Gordon explains why Colts training camp is leaving Westfield

By **JOSH BODE**

WISH-TV | wishtv.com

This is the last year the Colts will have training camp at Droplight Grand Park. Next season, the Colts will have training camp at their facility, the Indiana Farm Bureau Football Center.

Colts owner and CEO Carlie Irsay-Gordon shared what went into the decision.

“It was a tough decision to come to because as I said, Grand Park has been a great host,” Irsay-Gordon said. “But ultimately, I think we have to look at our team, and as training camps evolved over the years – it wasn’t a financial decision, it was really more

about the operational efficiency and making sure our team can prepare to perform on game day and that was just the best decision. But I also want to add that our fans and having them be able to experience what they’re experiencing here will remain a priority, and we just have to figure that out. But it’s definitely a priority for us.”

The Colts held training camp at Droplight Grand Park for eight years.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/sports/indianapolis-colts/carlie-irsay-gordon-explains-why-colts-training-camp-is-leaving-westfield-next-year.

Noblesville First UMC’s GriefShare starts Aug. 20

The REPORTER

Have you lost a loved one or know someone that will find it difficult to face each new day?

Noblesville First United Methodist Church, 2051 Monument St., has announced its next GriefShare program, which is open to everyone in the community.

Weekly sessions will meet from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays beginning Aug. 20. Participants are invited to join anytime during the 13 weeks of meetings. A one-time registration fee of \$20 is appreciated, but scholarships are available.

GriefShare is a 13-week non-denominational Christ-centered program focusing on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. The DVD

seminar features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories of people, followed by a small group discussion about what was seen on the DVD. Daily work in the GriefShare workbook also helps one look thoughtfully at their grief experience and helps in the healing process.

GriefShare is led by caring people who have experienced grief and have successfully rebuilt their lives. They understand how you feel because they’ve been in the same place. They will walk with you through grief toward healing and hope for the future.

To learn more about GriefShare, visit noblesvillefirst.com, email Coleen Albright at coleen.albright58@gmail.com, or call the church office at (317) 773-2500.



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Rokita the Robocall Reckoner: “The Feds are behind the times” on combatting illegal robocalls & scams

Submitted by Office of AG Todd Rokita

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita and a bipartisan coalition of 49 other state attorneys general are calling on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to strengthen its “Know Your Customer” (KYC) rules so phone companies can better block scammers from accessing the U.S. communications network.

KYC rules require originating voice service providers to verify who is using their networks and what business those customers conduct. Providers can then refuse service to illegitimate actors or terminate those making unlawful calls. Stronger standards are needed because current requirements have failed to stop the flood of illegal robocalls.

“Illegal robocalls and scams are a serious problem for Hoosier families, stealing time, money and peace

of mind,” AG Rokita said. “We of course want to go after these bad actors, but we also want to get to the source of the problem. When your house floods, you clean up the water, but you also work to repair the broken parts of the house that allowed the flooding to occur. That is what we are doing here.”

Last year Americans received more than 29.6 billion scam robocalls and texts and lost nearly \$2 billion to these schemes. The lack of diligence by some originating providers not only enables these scams but also hinders law enforcement efforts to identify criminals who use the telephone network for drug deals, violent crimes, and human trafficking.

The attorneys general are asking the FCC to:

- Require providers to



Rokita

understand their customers’ business practices, reputation, history, intended use of services, and compliance with state and federal law – not merely verify identity and existence.

- Apply the same enhanced KYC standards to all originating providers, including smaller ones frequently exploited by scammers.

- Mandate additional, ongoing monitoring for high-risk customers, such as those purchasing high-volume calling services.

Since January 2021, AG Rokita’s office has secured more than \$200 million in penalties against illegal and annoying robocallers. In 2025 the office co-led Operation Robocall Roundup, a multistate crackdown by the Anti-Robocall Litigation Task Force.

Hoosier consumers can

file complaints about robocalls (or “live” violators of the Do Not Call List) with the Indiana Attorney General’s Office at [in.gov/attorneygeneral](https://www.in.gov/attorneygeneral), by calling 1-888-834-9969, or by emailing donotcall@atg.in.gov.

[Click here](#) to read the full letter.

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‘Operation Highway Shield’ finds hundreds of unsafe commercial vehicle drivers, including 51 illegal immigrants

The REPORTER

The Indiana State Police, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), recently concluded the second wave of Operation Highway Shield, a major multi-agency commercial vehicle safety initiative conducted across Indiana, Iowa, Illinois, and Ohio.

The three-day operation, conducted from July 28 to 30, targeted unqualified operators, unvetted drivers, unsafe vehicles, and commercial vehicle fraud along major Midwest freight corridors.

During the regional enforcement push across the four participating states, joint team operations resulted in:

- 766 unsafe drivers and vehicles placed out of service.
- 51 illegal immigrants detained, including 21 drivers operating with non-domiciled Commercial Driver’s Licenses (CDLs) issued out of state.
- 86 operators were arrested for dangerous criminal conduct, including road

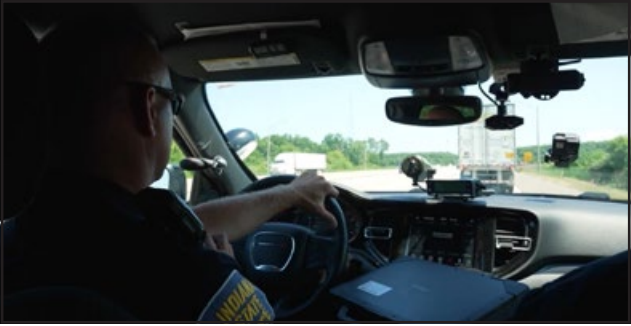


Photo provided by Indiana State Police

rage and domestic violence.

- 36 violations issued for failures to meet English Language Proficiency (ELP) safety standards.

- Nearly \$1 million in stolen cargo recovered.

“Our troopers are committed to keeping Indiana roadways safe for everyone,” said Major Jon Smithers, Commander of the Indiana State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division. “Partnering with federal agencies on Operation Highway Shield allows us to effectively identify high-risk drivers and unsafe rigs, thus ensuring that commercial transportation on our highways operates lawfully and safely.”

Operation Highway Shield represents an ongoing joint effort between USDOT and DHS to enforce federal commercial driv-

er qualification standards, eradicate CDL fraud, and improve safety across national highways.

For more information regarding commercial vehicle safety standards, visit www.fmcsa.dot.gov.

Indiana Association of Health Plans names Ashton Eller as president

The REPORTER

The Indiana Association of Health Plans (IAHP) announced on Wednesday, Aug. 5, that Ashton Eller has been selected as president.

Eller brings nearly two decades of government affairs and public policy experience and will lead IAHP’s advocacy on behalf of commercial health plans and Medicaid managed care entities serving more than 4 million Hoosiers.

“Ashton understands Indiana health policy, knows the people who shape it and has a proven ability to build consensus among organizations with different perspectives,” said Larry Lewis, chair of the IAHP Board

of Directors. “The board is confident he will give our members a strong, credible voice and work constructively with policymakers and other stakeholders to improve affordability and access for Hoosiers.”

Eller currently serves as vice president of governmental affairs at the Indiana Manufacturers Association, where he advises members and the board of directors on legislative and regulatory issues and builds consensus among companies with differing perspectives. His experience includes extensive work on health care policy and a deep



Eller

See Eller . . . Page 8



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Carmel honors Daniel Moriarity with 2026 Architecture Award

**Submitted by
City of Carmel**

The City of Carmel Architecture Award honors inspirational leadership in landmark architecture and redevelopment in the city.

Mayor Sue Finkam and the Carmel Redevelopment Commission will present the 2026 Carmel Architecture Award to Daniel Moriarity, Founding Principal of Stu-

dio M Architecture & Planning, in recognition of his innovation in architecture and urban design.

Moriarity is the founding principal of Studio M Architecture & Planning, a Carmel-based firm he established in 2013 after a distinguished 27-year career with CSO, one of the region's largest architectural firms, where he served as

a project architect, project manager, principal owner, general manager, and studio leader.

Studio M allows Moriarity to focus on his passion for design and client relationships while working alongside a small team of experienced architects with the resources and capabilities of a larger firm. A graduate of the University of

Notre Dame, he has led the design and delivery of complex mixed-use, commercial, hospitality, residential, performing arts, military, and laboratory projects across the United States.

Throughout his career, Moriarity has played a significant role in shaping Carmel's built environment through thoughtful, high-quality architecture an unwavering attention to detail. He served as principal-in-charge for the Payne & Mencias Palladium at Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts and helped lead the resurgence of Carmel's Arts & Design District.

Additionally, he has designed more than a dozen mixed-use redevelopment projects that have helped define Carmel's vibrant urban core. His portfolio in Carmel also includes the Carmel Clay History Museum and the Carmel Police Department and Court Building, along with numerous public and private developments that contribute to the city's distinctive character. Known for his



Photo illustration provided by City of Carmel

collaborative approach and commitment to design excellence, Moriarity has created places that are both architecturally enduring and responsive to the needs of the community.

Under his leadership, Studio M has grown to more than 60 team members dedicated to creating thoughtful, community-focused architecture that enhances the places where people live, work, and gather.

A Carmel resident, Moriarity is recognized for

his innovation, craftsmanship, and lasting contributions to the architectural identity of Carmel and communities across the country.

Mayor Finkam and the Carmel Redevelopment Commission invite the community to honor Moriarity at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 12, at the Payne & Mencias Palladium in the Brham Founders Club at Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts. Guests should enter through the west lobby doors.



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New at Sheridan Public Library

The REPORTER

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

Fiction

- Amateur – Chris Bohjalian
- Just for the Plot – Meghan Quinn
- Meet Me in Paris – Kristin Harmel
- Rainy Day Bookshop – RaeAnne Thayne
- Things We Never Say – Elizabeth Strout

Non-Fiction

- Still Here – Mary Beth & Stephen Curtis Chapman

Children's

- Ariel Takes the Reins! – Disney Princess
- Bonnie's New Toy – Disney Toy Story
- Chicka Chicka I'm a Big Brother – Bill Martin

- Chicka Chicka I'm a Big Sister – Bill Martin
- Excavator's 123 – Sherri Rinker
- Heart of the Ruby Dragon – Tracey West
- Hello World, Soccer – Jill McDonald
- Hello World, USA – Jill McDonald
- Jasmine Takes the Lead – Disney Princess
- Mystery at the Light-house – Gertrude C. Warner
- One Spooky Night – Toy Story
- Pokecology – Pokemon
- Ready, Set, Bath! – Dr. Seuss
- Uni & the Magic Paintbrush – Amy Krouse Rosenthal
- Alaskan K-9 Blessing – Teri Wilson
- An Overdue Match –

- Sarah Monzon
- Bookmarked for Love – Sarah Monzon
- Hearts in Circulation – Sarah Monzon
- Match for the Amish Beekeeper – Laurel Blount
- Shop Down the Lane – Leslie Gould
- Their Forbidden Amish Reunion – Cathy Liggett
- Whiteout – Lynette Eason
- Young Adults**
- Last Bookstore on Earth – Lily Braun-Arnold
- Sister of the Bollywood Bride – Nandini Bajpai
- Us Dark Few – Alexis Patton
- Us Deadly Few – Alexis Patton
- Movies**
- Devil Wears Prada 2
- Hoppers
- Super Mario Galaxy

Westfield's Copper Trace senior community earns Silver Achievement in Quality Award

The REPORTER

The American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) recently presented the recipients of the 2026 Silver Achievement in Quality Award.

CarDon, a Bloomington, Ind.-based senior living management company, announces that two of its communities – Greenwood's Aspen Trace and Westfield's Copper Trace – received this honor. This is

a notable time for this recognition, as 2026 marks the Quality Award Program's 30-year anniversary.

Since 1996, more than 8,000 medical providers across the country have participated in this rigorous program to not only earn recognition but to strengthen their operations, improve outcomes and enhance the lives of residents and staff.

Copper Trace Executive Director Nancy Pollock credits CarDon's "culture of family" for helping its communities stand out with their level of staff morale and resident care.

"Everyone is treated like family here at Copper Trace," she said. "Through our Caring Hearts program, members of our management team are assigned residents to visit on a weekly basis, checking on them just as a family member would visit a loved one. This keeps everyone up to date and brings us closer to residents and their families."

The architectural layout of the community adds to its close-knit nature as well.

"Even though we have a



larger building, it's divided into four separate neighborhoods that give it a small-town feel," Pollock said. "Each neighborhood has its own entrance, dining room, activity area and lounge for residents and their families."

About CarDon & Associates

CarDon & Associates is a second-generation family-owned business based in Bloomington, Ind. Carroll and Donna Moore opened the first CarDon community in Greenwood, Ind., in 1977, with the vision to create a better alternative for area seniors. CarDon's vision is to provide residents with the greatest standard of senior living options and personalized care in engaging, welcoming and conveniently-located communities. For more, visit cardon.us.

2026

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TOURNAMENT



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ELLER

from Page 7

understanding of the cost pressures facing employers and their workers.

"I am honored to join IAHP and represent organizations that help millions of Hoosiers access coverage and care," Eller said. "Employers and families feel the pressure of rising health care costs every day. I look forward to working with state leaders, providers, employers and other stakeholders on practical solutions that deliver better value and outcomes for Hoosiers."

About the Indiana Association of Health Plans

The Indiana Association of Health Plans represents commercial health plans and Medicaid managed care entities operating in Indiana. Its members collectively provide coverage to more than 4 million Hoosiers. IAHP advocates for its member plans before the Indiana General Assembly and state regulatory agencies for policies that support access to high-quality, affordable coverage and care.

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Get tickets for next production of *Mélange Series*

Submitted
Mélange: concoction, mixture, combination.
The unprecedented experience that is The Mélange is back! In this series of performances brought to you by Gregory Hancock Dance Theatre (GHDT), audiences experience art coming to life in front of their eyes in an intimate theatrical setting. Each series features three unique and talented artists of different genres. Together they create art at The Florence in a collaborative and organic manner.
This Mélange Series features a vocalist, a dancer, and a visual artist. The dancer creates spontaneous movement inspired by the singer or vocalist, as the visual artist creates spontaneous art inspired by the dancer and the music. Audiences will experience live art in a new manner, bringing groundbreaking and creative art to Central Indiana.
Session 1 features virtuosic violin stylings of Noelle Tretick Gosling, the stunning visuals of artist Xavier Gray, and the dynamic artistry of dancer Nathalie Boyle. The artwork created during the performances is auctioned to au-

dience members at the end of the performance.
The performances are set for 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12 and at 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 13 at The Florence, 329 Gradle Drive, Carmel. Tickets are \$25 for general admission seating and can be purchased at [this link](#).
Noelle Tretick Gosling
When Noelle Tretick Gosling was a student at the North Carolina School of the Arts, she was both a violin and ballet major. These dual interests brought her full scholarships to both the Aspen Music Festival and Ballet West. She eventually decided to pursue her music performance degrees at the Jacobs School of Music in Bloomington, Ind.
In January 2017, she won the concertmaster position for the Muncie Symphony Orchestra (now Orchestra Indiana) 55 years after her father held the same chair. She also performs regularly with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and is a former member of the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra and Fort Wayne Philharmonic.
In addition to classical performance, she is a highly demanded recording artist for music publishing

companies and traveling Broadway shows. Tours with legendary performers including Stevie Wonder, Johnny Mathis, Natalie Cole, Tony Bennett, Harry Connick Jr, Sandi Patty, Andy Williams, Mel Tormé, Perry Como, and Manhattan Transfer have taken her from coast to coast.
She has served on the music faculties of Anderson University and Park Tudor School in Indianapolis. She now maintains a private teaching studio and coaches students of the Indianapolis Youth Orchestra. During the summer, she is a faculty member at the Music For All Summer Symposium, the Benefic String Camp, and the Anderson University String Camp. She also performs at the Endless Mountain Music Festival in New York.
She is one of five children, all of whom are professional musicians. Their father, Sidney Tretick, was a virtuoso violinist and head of the string department at Ball State University from 1952 until his untimely death in 1962. Their mother, Patricia Tretick, was also Professor of Violin at Ball State until her retirement in 1993.
She resides in Indianapolis with her husband,

Dan, a professional trumpet player and inventor of ChopSaver Lip Care. Their son, Anthony, is an art director and DJ living in Chicago. When not playing the violin, she enjoys cooking, hiking, reading biographies, and collecting unique footwear. And of course, she still loves to dance!
Xavier Gray
Xavier Gray is an Indianapolis-based artist working across painting and digital media. His work explores memory, rhythm, and visual language through layered compositions that draw from graffiti, graphic design, street culture, and Black cultural memory. Combining spray paint, acrylic, and digital processes, he creates vibrant works filled with symbols, patterns, and energetic mark-making.
Influenced by the visual landscape of the 1980s and 1990s, his paintings blend structure and improvisation, transforming familiar forms into contemporary expressions of identity, nostalgia, and reinvention. Working under the name “xaviergray,” a tribute to his children’s middle names, his practice is rooted in legacy, creativity, and personal evolution. Through color, repetition, and abstraction,

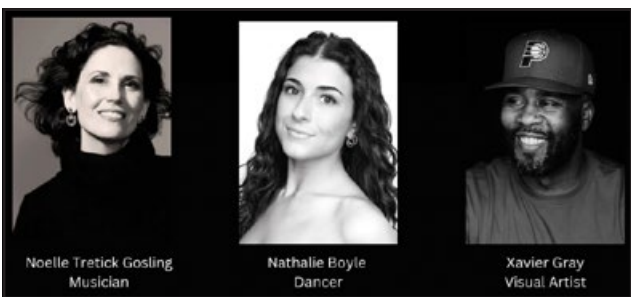


Photo illustration provided

he creates visual systems that examine how culture, memory, and experience continue to shape who we become.
Recent honors include being named the 2025 Summit Artist of the Year at Art Comes Alive (ADC Fine Art Gallery) and collaborations with Indianapolis Motor Speedway, TAG Heuer, and the NCAA Horizon League.
Nathalie Boyle
Nathalie Boyle began ballet at the age of 3 and returned to dance at 9. She trained with Anderson Young Ballet Theater’s academy and pre-professional company from ages 10 to 18, performing in full-length ballets and repertory shows. During this time, she attended summer intensives at Anderson University, Indiana University, AYBT, and participated in regional and national festivals.
She continued her training at Anderson University,

studying ballet, modern, and jazz under several professors, including GHDT alumna Christine Thacker. She took master classes with Deeply Rooted Dance Theater, GHDT, Dance Kaleidoscope, Hope College, and Randall Flynn of Ad Deum Dance Company. At AU, she also participated in the Diversity Dance Festival and received numerous performance and choreography opportunities.
She recently graduated with a BA in both Marketing and Dance and is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work with GHDT. She thanks Mr. Hancock, the company, and her family for their warm welcome and unwavering support.
The Mélange Series at The Florence has been created by GHDT Executive Artistic Director Gregory Glade Hancock and is presented by Gregory Hancock Dance Theatre.

Day of Service dedicated to keeping Carmel clean & green

Submitted by City of Carmel
Community members are invited to join the City of Carmel in celebrating the National Day of Service by helping to keep the city clean and green.
A trash pickup effort is set for Friday, Sept. 11. Volunteers will play a vital role in honoring the spirit of unity and service

through this maintenance effort, supporting the aesthetic appeal of local public spaces, and contributing to environmental sustainability efforts.
Mayor Sue Finkam said city team members will play an active role in the effort.
“Our community members always show up in big ways to support our

city, and I look forward to joining them in helping Carmel continue to shine,” Mayor Finkam said.
Participants must be 18 years of age or older unless under the direct supervision of a parent or guardian.
The city will supply all necessary operational gear, including high-visibility safety vests, protec-

tive gloves, trash bags, and litter-picker tools.
Shifts and starting locations:
• 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.: 3400 W. 131st St.
• 5 to 7 p.m.: 861 N. Range Line Road
• 5 to 7 p.m.: 10601 Hazel Dell Pkwy.
Registration and more information are available [here](#).



Graphic provided by City of Carmel

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Maker's Mark

Maker's Mark distillery in Loretto, Kentucky – **Ditto.**

The above was going to be my column for Maker's Mark. I'm fairly certain that the powers that be wouldn't have appreciated that. They'd be correct; not very interesting writing, despite it being my true feeling. So, as promised, here goes.

Maker's Mark Distillery is a beautiful place. On the National Register of Historic Places, it sits on the lovely grounds of Star Hill Farm near Loretto, Ky. I love the buildings, painted black with red accents – stunning. The place features all of the usual distillery stuff: tours, tastings, and the farm-to-table Star Hill Provisions restaurant (where I have not had the pleasure of dining). One unusual practice there is their bottle dipping. One can pay (of course) to purchase a souvenir bottle and dip it in Maker's signature red wax.

Another nice experience is to become a Maker's Mark Ambassador. One signs up for it and they set aside a barrel with your name on it (of course, I'm certain it's not the only name on there). As the barrel matures, you get updates, insider info, and even small Christmas gifts from the distillery. Then, when it's finally matured, you get a Willy Wonka-ish Golden Ticket to tour the distillery and dip your own bottle(s) from your own barrel in their signature red wax. And, it's all free. Well, you've gotta pay for the booze, but all of the perks are free. Marketing is awesome!

Okay, I have to stop putting it off. Let's get to the whiskey. Last night I sat with a small pour of Maker's Mark and also a sampling of their Private Select Strawberry Shortcake #3. More research. I hope you all appreciate the sacrifices I make for you.

The thing about Maker's Mark's business practices is that they don't have a lot of frills or variety when it comes to their bourbon selections. They offer Maker's Mark, Maker's 46, their Oak Stave Collection, of which the Strawberry Shortcake is a part, and that's about it. I like that they keep it simple. However ...

Have you ever had a squeaky door in your home? You go and grab the mechanics' oil or 3-in-1 oil and apply it to the squeak. As you do, there's that distinct mechanical oil smell. Well ... that's what Maker's Mark tastes like. To me. Seriously.

Number one, it's not anything special. Number two, the machine oil fin-

ish is off-putting. I found this to be the case with the "Strawberry Shortcake" as well. Though I even employed my "try it at least twice on two separate occasions" rule. Same results.

Perhaps my palate is just messed up.

It must be because Maker's Mark is the number one "premium" bourbon in the world. Funny, Woodford Reserve makes the same claim. Whatever the case, M.M. drags in billions of dollars a year for its owner Suntory Global Spirits. Obviously, there's something good going on here. I just can't figure out what. Because according to my taste buds, this stuff isn't great.

It does make a great mixer! For decades it was my go-to in Old Fashioneds and Manhattans. Even that has waned as I have started to experiment with deeper, more flavorful bourbons and even ryes in my cocktails. Still ... always have a bottle of M.M. on hand for mixing pleasure.

I suppose that with all of this negativity I'm putting out there towards the big boys of distilling that it would be nice to compare them with something I do like. So let's do that.

A few weeks ago, I was in Colorado and enjoying the tastes and surroundings of a tiny distillery that no one has ever heard of and probably never will: Shelter Distilling Company in Montrose. Their Single Barrel Ridge Runner Bourbon was so good that I had to bring a bottle back home with me.

This 94-proof gem is delicious. It has tasting notes of sweet vanilla, caramel, and a deep oakiness that continue through the 94-proof finish. Absolutely delightful, and nicely priced at around \$50 a bottle. As I said, no one has ever heard of it. That's a shame. Because ...

Tonight, when I'm pondering what to grace my Glencairn with, am I going to reach for the Maker's Mark or am I going to reach for the unknown Shelter Ridge Runner? You already know the answer to that question. Sorry, once again, truth can be painful. Maker's Mark just doesn't cut it.

Is there a "big" distillery out there that's worth its hype? Uhhhh kinda. Next time let's discuss the biggest dog of them all: Buffalo Trace. Time for more research!

Until then, cheers!

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



Rep. Spartz pushes for actual healthcare price transparency

Submitted by Office of U.S. Rep. Victoria Spartz

On Thursday, Aug. 6, Congresswoman Victoria Spartz (R-Ind.-05) called on U.S. House leadership to strengthen pending health care price transparency legislation before it reaches the House floor, urging Congress to deliver reforms that empower patients instead of protecting entrenched health care interests.

In a letter to House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Brett Guthrie and House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Jason Smith, Spartz urged lawmakers to reconsider legislative text that relies on negotiated

rates, complex reporting requirements, and cost estimates rather than providing patients with clear, upfront prices before they receive care.

"Americans deserve real price transparency – not another Washington messaging exercise," Rep. Spartz said. "Patients should know the actual price of care before receiving treatment so they can compare options, shop for value, and benefit from true market competition."

Spartz warned that the current proposals risk preserving the opaque pricing system that benefits large



Spartz

hospital systems and insurance companies while failing to deliver meaningful savings for American families. She also pointed to years of litigation, administrative burdens, and implementation challenges following the No Surprises Act as a reminder that Congress should avoid poorly drafted and difficult-to-enforce legislation.

Instead, Spartz urged House leadership to advance reforms that deliver meaningful transparency by requiring broader disclosure of negotiated prices and expanding access

to health plan claims data to help identify overbilling and other practices that drive up costs.

"The goal should be simple: deliver actual prices, real competition, and lower costs for American families," Spartz said. "Congress has an opportunity to put patients first by passing meaningful transparency reforms instead of protecting the status quo."

Rep. Spartz copied House Speaker Mike Johnson and House Majority Leader Steve Scalise on the letter urging House leadership to strengthen the legislation before floor consideration.

You can read the letter at [this link](#).

RETIREMENT AUCTION for JOHN & JUDY HUSSEY True Legends of the Land and our Community

After 6+ decades, John & Judy Hussey are officially hanging up the work gloves at John's incredible age of 82.

We are honored to offer at auction, their Equipment, Implements, & Tools of the Trade.

Think about what this auction means. John and Judy have been farming for decades, weathering countless unpredictable seasons, navigating shifting markets, and putting in more sun-up to sun-down hours than most of us can fathom. They haven't just grown crops and raised livestock, John and Judy have grown a legacy!

Over 6 decades, they have seen a lot of changes. The tractors got bigger, technology got faster, and the world shifted beneath our feet. But the heart of farming never changed. It's still about faith, family, and taking care of the land that feeds us.

ON-LINE ONLY PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY, AUGUST 22nd, 2026 In Tipton County @ 2187 North – 600 East, Windfall, IN 46076

BIDDING OPENS: Thursday, August 6th 2026 @ Noon

SOFT CLOSE BEGINS: Saturday, August 22nd 2026 @ Noon

PREVIEW DATES: Tuesday, August 11th - Thursday, August 13th from Noon - 4pm

NOTE: This is a sale notice only. All Items Sold As-Is, Where-Is. To View the Complete Sale Bill Including Pictures, Descriptions, Terms of Sale, Payment Options, and to Register & Start

Bidding: Click the Calendar Link @ www.cripesauction.com

Absentee Bidding is Still Available

COMBINE, HEADS & CARTS:

2022 John Deere S780 STS Combine (ONE OWNER, 4-WD, 1540 Eng & 1227 Sep. hrs), 2018 John Deere 645FD Hydra-Flex Grain Head, J&M 4WS17 Head Cart, 2016 John Deere 612 FC 12-Row Folding Cornhead, Unverferth HT 30 Head Cart

TRACTORS:

2020 John Deere SRT 370 (1228 Hrs), John Deere 8335R (3419 hrs), John Deere 8335R (2900 hrs), John Deere 9530T (3806 hrs), John Deere 7410 (4418 hrs), John Deere 5303 (2060 hrs), John Deere 6125R (2246 hrs), John Deere 7320 (hour meter broken), FarmAll B

SPRAYER, TANKS & APPLICATORS:

2021 John Deere R4038 Sprayer (889 hrs), Snyder 300-Gallon 3-pt Sprayer w/ 10' Boom, 60' Fast 8224 28% Applicator (24-Row, 2400-Gallon), Case IH 5300 NH3 Pull-Type Toolbar (21 Knives, Raven NH3 Super Cooler), DMI 4250 NH3 Pull-Type Toolbar (15 Knives, Continental), (2) AG Systems 1250 1200-Gallon Nurse Trailers, Tru-Kleen UTV/ATV 1000-Gallon Sprayer, (2) 4000-Gallon Ply Tanks, (2) Snyder 1200-Gallon Poly Tanks

GRAIN HANDLING & WAGONS:

(2) Unverferth 3750 Seed Tenders (Scales), 2-DMI Big Little Grain Wagons, J & M 1251 Grain Storm (Rear Camera, Tarp, 20" Unload), 2004 Kongskilde Grain Vac (1000 PTO)

SEMI'S & TRAILERS:

2014 Freightliner Cascade (399436 Miles, ISX 15 Cummins, 10-sp. Manual Trans.), 2015 Freightliner Cascade (484041 Miles, Detroit DD13, 10-sp Manual Trans.), 2015 Freightliner Cascade (480057 miles, Detroit DD13, 10-sp Manual Trans.), 2017 Freightliner Cascade (284046 miles, Detroit DD13, DT-12 Automatic Trans), 2002 International 9100 (532055 Miles, CAT C-12 10-sp. Manual Trans.), 2020 Wilson DWH-600 Hopper Bottom (34'x72'x96", Elect. Tarp, Air-Ride, AG Hoppers), 2020 Wilson DWH-600 Hopper Bottom (34'x72'x96", Elect. Tarp, Air-Ride, AG Hoppers), 2012 Wilson DWH-500 Hopper Bottom (34'x72'x96", Elect. Tarp, Spring Ride, AG Hoppers), 2007 Wilson DWH-500 Hopper Bottom (34'x72'x96", Elect. Tarp, Spring Ride, AG Hoppers), 2012 Hudson HTD20A 20-Ton Tilt-Top Trailer (24'x96", Air Brakes), 2005 Witzco Challenger RG50 46' Detach

VEHICLES & TRAILERS:

2008 Chevrolet Silverado 3500HD SRW 4x4 Service Truck w/ Warner Utility Bed (Duramax Diesel, Automatic, Regular Cab, 79761 Miles), 2004 GMC 2500HD SLE Truck (Duramax Diesel, Automatic, 4x4, Regular Cab, 163552 Miles), 1991 GMC Topkick Dump Truck (104567 Miles, V-8 Gas, Automatic Trans.), 2012 Thunder Creek ADT990UB Fuel Trailer

PLANTERS & DRILLS:

2022 John Deere DB60 Bean Planter (36-Row, 20" Spacing), 2023 PUK/

PICK-UP SCHEDULE: Monday, August 24th – Wednesday, August 26th from 10am – 6pm or by appointment only. A telehandler, forklift, and operators will be available during pick-up times.

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