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REPORTER

THE HAMILTON COUNTY
Your Hometown Newspaper

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 12, 2026

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy, with a small chance of showers. Humidity increases again in the afternoon.
Tonight: Scattered showers and storms, mainly after midnight.
HIGH: 85 LOW: 67



Sheridan Teacher of the Year earns top 25 honors in Indiana

A long time coming

Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

In May, Sheridan Community Schools (SCS) named Ryan Kelleher as the SCS Teacher of the Year.

Kelleher works as both a high school science teacher and a corporation instructional coach. He helps serve every teacher within the district, whether it is through his expertise or just through a bit of technology help.

One of the SCS nominators

said, "Mr. Kelleher is not only a fantastic teacher but a wonderful human being. He always treats everyone around him with kindness and respect."

In May, Kelleher said, "I am incredibly honored to be recognized. There are so many deserving and talented educators who are making a difference in the lives of our students every day."



Kelleher

(INTOY) program has worked to inspire, rejuvenate, and celebrate the teaching profession by recognizing outstanding teach-

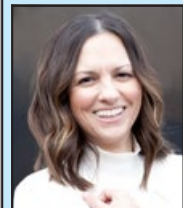
Last Friday, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) released the top 25 within the state, and Kelleher made the list, which is no surprise to anyone at SCS.

"For more than 60 years, the Indiana Teacher of the Year program has worked to inspire, rejuvenate, and celebrate the teaching profession by recognizing outstanding teach-

ers from across the state," IDOE Chief Academic Officer Anna Shults said. "The INTOY honor is a lifetime role in education, which has many opportunities to celebrate teaching and uplift the teaching profession."

The people of SCS are grateful for Kelleher's dedication, leadership, and commitment to helping students and staff succeed. His commitment and service are a true reflection of what it means to support a school community.

COLUMNIST



AMY SHINNEMAN
Disability in the City

As my trip to Sydney, Australia, for the Sydney marathon gets closer, so does my excitement to meet someone "just like me" for the first time.

My Australian friend Rhi, who I have known through an on-line friendship for six years, is traveling to Sydney from her hometown that is about eight hours away. It will also be her first time meeting someone with her diagnosis.

So many things are running through my mind. I already know it will be emotional not only for the two of us, but for my husband as well as Rhi's parents. Just as we have gone through life, never having met someone with our same diagnosis, neither have they.

Most of you do not share my same story of having a disease so rare that it takes 52 years to meet someone with the same diagnosis. There are a lot of things that happen when living like this.

The isolation that I have felt going through life where everywhere I look, no one is like me, can be hard to explain. It is not to say that others do not feel isolated for other reasons, but the unique experience of living with a rare disease, can lead to feelings of loneliness that are as rare as the disease.

I remember searching everywhere for someone like me as I was growing up. I was desperate to see someone who walked like me, wore leg braces, or had big scars that went up the back of their legs and on the sides of both ankles. Or someone that struggled to climb the stairs like I did or walked at my same pace.

Someone else who sat on the sidelines during gym class or missed periods of school because of therapy or surgeries. Or who wore casts for months during summer breaks, often missing the fun because summer was a suitable time for me to have surgery and not miss school.

Someone who saw me and did not think that I was different, because I was just like them.

See *Long Time* . . . Page 2

Rockin' the Commons at Noblesville BrewBQ



Reporter photos by Bill Miller

The Noblesville Rotary Club's 10th annual BrewBQ took place last Saturday, Aug. 8, at Federal Hill Commons. Money raised at this charity event goes to support scholarship funds for Ivy Tech Hamilton County students. In addition to plenty of BBQ and beer, attendees enjoyed live music from **Rhino Down** (pictured here) and **That's What She Said**. Rhino Down is a Central Indiana-based rock variety cover band performing all the best hits from the '80s through the 2000s. Members include Steve (guitar and vocals), Sam (keyboards), Brian (drums), Robyn (vocals, percussion, and harmonica), Mike (bass), Tommy (lead guitar), and Amanda (lead vocalist). Thank you to everyone who came out to raise money for local college students.

Help Good Samaritan Network support local families by playing in Topgolf Charity Outing

The REPORTER

Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County (GSN) announce its Annual Topgolf Charity Outing, held at Topgolf Fishers, 9200 E. 116th St.

This year's outing marks the 10th year at Topgolf in the Fishers location. This community fundraising event is presented and coordinated by GSN along with its current sponsors.

Please join from 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20. Check-in is at 2:30 p.m. and the buffet opens at 3:30 p.m. The Topgolf Charity Outing benefits Hamilton County residents served by GSN with shelter, holiday, and food assistance.

Each ticket includes three hours of Topgolf play at one of the predetermined bays, an Ultimate Bites Appetizer Buffet in the Signature Room, and the opportunity to participate in an onsite "silent auction," with winners announced at 5:30 p.m. and taking home their treasures. Lane sponsorships are available as well as individual registra-

tions (adult and youth), including discounts for those aged 17 years and under.

A family event

Are you looking for a fun activity with your family, friends, or colleagues on a Sunday afternoon? Look no further than the annual Topgolf Charity Outing. Although lanes are limited, you can register up to six players per lane. Why not create a group, enjoy a fun-filled afternoon, and help other families at the same time? It's a great opportunity to bond, have fun, create lasting memories, and spend quality time with your loved ones or colleagues. Register today at gsnlive.org/golfouting and make your Sunday afternoon unforgettable!

Premier golf entertainment

Topgolf is the premier golf entertainment complex where sports competitions meet your favorite local hangout. You can challenge your friends and family to addictive point-scoring golf games that anyone from

the hopeful pro golfer to your neighbor's 7-year-old kid can play year-round. Just picture a 240-yard outfield with dartboard-like targets in the ground. The closer you get to the center or "bulls-eye" and the farther out you hit your microchipped balls, the more points you receive. It's not golf – it's Topgolf. Give it a shot!

Register now, and remember to invite your friends to play. Individuals, groups, and organizations looking for more information or to register for this year's 19th Charity Golf Outing visit gsnlive.org/golfouting.

Sponsorships available

Suppose you're looking for a great way to support the underserved in Hamilton County while gaining valuable name recognition within the community. In that case, you won't want to miss out on this year's TopGolf Charity Outing! With four different sponsorship levels to choose from – includ-



ing Gold Sponsor (includes 12 players), Silver Sponsor (includes six players), Bay Sponsor (includes four players), and Friend Sponsor (includes two players) – there's something for every budget and every level of involvement. Each sponsorship package includes a range of benefits, including three hours of play, an Ultimate Bites Appetizer Buffet, limited player registrations, name recognition, promotion materials display, and more! So why wait? Sign up to become a sponsor today and positively impact your community.

Visit gsnlive.org/golfouting for sponsorship details and information to register as a player and/or sponsor.

See *GSN* . . . Page 2

Election Office encourages citizens to work the polls

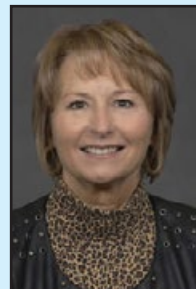
The REPORTER

In light of Aug. 11 being National Poll Worker Recruitment Day and with the midterm elections less than months away, the Hamilton County Election Office continues to seek eligible residents to support in-person voting operations.

"This National Poll Worker Recruitment Day, we encourage residents to sign up to be a poll worker," Hamilton County Elections Administrator Beth Sheller said. "Becoming a poll worker not only provides a behind-the-scenes look at how elections are conducted, but also offers an opportunity to serve alongside friends, neighbors, and coworkers."

During the 2026 Primary, Hamilton County deployed 730 election workers across voting locations. Poll worker responsibilities include setting up polling locations, welcoming voters, verifying voter registrations, and issuing ballots using voting equipment.

For information about poll worker qualifications and how to sign up, go to tinyurl.com/HamCoPollWorkerPortal.



Sheller

THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

2026 HAMILTON COUNTY 4-H RESULTS

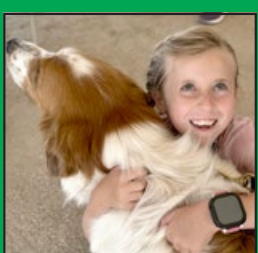
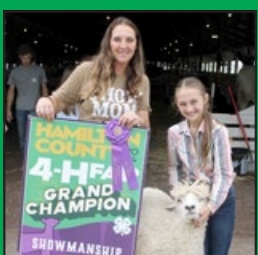
**Because every 4-H kid deserves
to have their name in the newspaper**

Hamilton County's Hometown Newspaper *prints* 4-H results, making sure every kid's name with every result is included in a special edition which is delivered to our subscribers and made available for families across the county.

Thanks entirely to our advertisers, every year we give Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank one of their largest single-check donations to support the **Meating The Need** program, where 4-H livestock is purchased, processed, and protein is given to families in need across the county.

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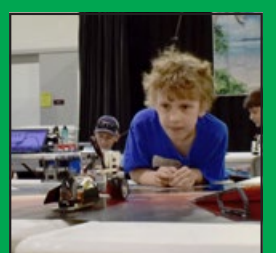
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We could not publish our massive 4-H Special Edition or donate to Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank without you.

Carmel on Canvas plein air painting event returns Aug. 28 & 29

The REPORTER

The annual Carmel on Canvas Plein Air event will soon return. It is scheduled for Friday, Aug. 28 and Saturday, Aug. 29. This beloved two-day festival brings art to life right before the eyes of the community, inviting artists of all backgrounds to capture the city's unique beauty in real time.

During this energetic weekend, the public is invited to watch artists set up

their easels on sidewalks, paths, and parks, transforming Carmel's most picturesque backdrops into finished masterpieces.

Event details

Artists will be competing for prizes across several of Carmel's most iconic and scenic locations:

- The Carmel Arts & Design District
- Midtown and the Monon Boulevard

See *Plein Air* . . . Page 5

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Who should I call to refinance my home?

Who should I call when I have someone who wants to buy my home?

Let's talk

Tucker

Scan here to view Dani's current listings.

Commercial Property Opportunies

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Proposal in works to eliminate property taxes

The REPORTER

On Monday evening, Aug. 10, State Representative J.D. Prescott (R-Union City) came to Noblesville to speak to the public about his bill that would eliminate all property taxes for homeowners, businesses, and farms. Approximately 60 people attended and asked questions.

The main idea is to replace the current system of property taxes with a new 7 percent sales tax on services. Medical, education, and current sales tax exemptions will remain in place. In other words, the model would shift to tax-

ing consumption rather than unrealized gains on property.

In addition to repealing property taxes, all 92 county assessor offices and any remaining township assessor offices will be eliminated, and there could be no new debt or TIF districts created tied to property taxes.

Should the bill pass during the next legislative session, the phase-in period would be two years, with 2028 being the final year payable for property taxes.

Prescott

Local government & schools

This bill establishes the This bill establishes the Local Revenue Sharing Fund into which money collected from the portion of the new 7 percent sales tax is to be deposited. The State Comptroller would then distribute to taxing units the portion of all the state sales and use tax revenue attributable to services from the fund. The bill continually appropriates money from the fund.

Because property taxes would no longer be imposed

by civil taxing units and school corporations, these taxing units will instead receive monthly distributions of sales tax on services revenue from the state Local Revenue Sharing Fund.

Revenue

According to a report from the Legislative Services Agency, [which you can read here](#), revenue from the new 7 percent tax on services would bring in between \$13.3 billion and \$15.38 billion in Fiscal Year 2028. Right now, property tax revenue is estimated at only \$10.6 billion.

For more information on State Rep. Prescott's proposal, go to [RepealPropertyTax.com](#).

Letter to the Editor

Paul Nix details problem with (and potential solution to) property taxes

Dear Fellow Hoosiers:

Nothing is more gratifying to me than solving some problem that has presented itself to me. It could be as simple as unclogging a drain; in my case, I take the challenge on myself first and, if needed, I make a call to a professional.

I recently had the pleasure of finding out that a possible solution has been introduced that could be the answer to something that has bothered me ever since we bought our first home 50 years ago: property taxes.

First, let's discuss what's wrong with property taxes.

1 – EVICTION! Yes, that's right, Hoosiers who OWN their home, or so they thought, get evicted because they fell on hard times and can't pay the PropTax! Hoosier Hospitality? I don't think so! THIS MUST STOP!

2 – TAXED ON THE UNREALIZED GAIN of the ever-increas-

ing Assessed Value! When do we get taxed on any other investment? Yeah, when we sell and have a GAIN!

3 – DOUBLE PropTax! Want to downsize after the kids grow up and rent out your current home to boost your retirement income? Your PropTax doubles – in my case \$4,800 – to \$9,600. Add the insurance and I would have to pass on \$1,000 per month to the renter. No wonder rents are so high!

4 – Indiana LEADS THE NATION IN MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES! Let that sink in! If you think PropTaxes are not a factor, please pull your head out of the sand.

5 – SCHOOLS! Okay, I am a grandfather and \$3,000 of my \$4,800 PropTax bill is for schools. Guess what? I don't have kids in school. HSE has 1,500 fewer students than six years ago; perhaps HSE could rent out those empty classrooms as storage units instead of a referendum.

FEAR NOT! HELP IS ON ITS WAY!

I drove to Muncie about a month ago to sit in on State Representative JD Prescott's House Bill 1288 which abolishes property taxes for everyone – homeowners, farmers, business owners and yes, your landlord – and replaces it with a 7 percent tax on services, like a haircut, lawn service, etc. The state bean counters estimate instead of maybe \$11 billion collected in PropTax the other option generates \$13 to \$15 billion in revenue, so everything gets funded with reserves!

Cha-ching, raise a Hallelujah! An answer to a problem! Thank You, JD.

Paul G. Nix
Fishers
Candidate for State Representative District 32
A vote for Paul is a Vote to SOLVE this Problem. It's NIX in '26.

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

This week's Local Mix: Naptown Hepcats

The REPORTER

Don't miss this week's Local Mix at The Studio Theater at the Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel.

You can see Naptown Hepcats at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14. Tickets are \$10 and be purchased at [this link](#).

Naptown Hepcats got their start as a tribute to Stray Cats, cutting their teeth on the high-energy sound and style that defined the genre. Over time, they evolved into a sound of their own, writing origi-

Photo provided

inal material that captures the same intensity while pushing the music forward.

Now, with the release of their self-titled debut album, the band has fully

stepped into its identity as a driving force in contemporary rockabilly.

Duke Energy urges Hoosiers to call 811 before digging

The REPORTER

Aug. 11 was National Safe Digging Day (also known as 811 Day) and

even though it has passed, Duke Energy advises customers and excavators to call 811 at least three busi-

ness days before beginning any outdoor project that involves digging.

What is 811?

811 Day is an annual initiative led by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) to ensure the practice of safe digging is echoed in communities by calling 811, a nationwide toll-free number, before any excavation project.

Contractors, homeowners, business owners and anyone preparing for an excavation project should call 811 at least three business days before digging begins. The local utilities will then send a crew to mark un-

derground lines in the area (electric, natural gas, water, sewer, phone, cable TV and others) with stakes, flags, or paint.

Damage data by the numbers

• From January to June 2026, Duke Energy reported damage to nearly 170 electric lines in its Indiana service territory.

• Duke Energy reported more than 3,100 damages to its underground electric network across all of its service territories.

Take action

For additional information about 811, visit [Call 811 Before You Dig](#). To contact the 811 center in your state, dial 811 or visit [call811.com](#).

Thanks for reading!

New Carmel hotels partner with Actors Theatre of Indiana to support the arts

Submitted
Actors Theatre of Indiana (ATI) announces a new partnership with The Tallison Hotel, a Tribute Portfolio Hotel, and Element by Marriott Carmel, which together will serve as ATI’s exclusive official hotel and accommodations partner for the 2026-2027 season.

Located at 106th Street and Pennsylvania Parkway in Carmel, the two Marriott properties offer distinct hospitality experiences while sharing a commitment to supporting the arts and becoming an active part of the Carmel community.

The partnership grew from a connection between ATI Artistic Director Judy Fitzgerald and Zach Tharp, Area Director of Sales and Marketing for both hotels, which sparked conversations about ways the hotels and ATI could work together to support the arts and the Carmel community.

As part of the partnership, The Tallison and Element will provide an in-kind donation of hotel accommodations to support ATI’s housing needs for visiting artists throughout the 2026-2027 season. ATI patrons will also have access to a special hotel discount, offering the opportunity to turn an evening of ATI’s Broadway in Your Backyard into a complete Carmel experience with an overnight stay before or after a performance.

Element by Marriott Carmel offers an upscale extended-stay experience with spacious suites featuring kitchenettes and amenities designed for longer visits. The hotel will also offer meal options for guests.



The Tallison Hotel, a Tribute Portfolio Hotel, features 10,000 square feet of event space as well as a 3,500 square-foot outdoor lounge featuring live music. The hotel offers upscale services and amenities and is home to Vyne, a full-service restaurant serving breakfast and dinner and welcoming both hotel guests and the community.

Tharp recently joined Sam Arce on an episode of *Lunch Break*, ATI’s weekly podcast, where he discussed the hotels’ commitment to being an active part of the community.

“We want to be part of the community and offer things people can come out and enjoy and not just stay in the hotel. They’ve got some options,” Tharp said.

During the conversation, Tharp also spoke about his longtime love of theatre, including seeing *Jersey Boys* more than 20 times in his youth, as well as how much he and his wife enjoyed ATI’s production of *Young Frankenstein* last season.

The partnership reflects a shared commitment to the continued growth of arts, entertainment, and hospitality in Central Indiana. By working together, ATI, The Tallison, and Element hope to create memorable experiences for ATI’s artists and audiences while contributing to Carmel’s vibrant arts community.

[Click here](#) to learn more about The Tallison. [Click here](#) to learn more about Element.

PLEIN AIR

from Page 4

- Carmel City Center
- Kawachinagano Japanese Gardens
- Central Park

Residents and visitors are highly encouraged to stroll through these areas to witness the creative process unfold live and interact with the artists.

Registration & awards information

Registration is open to any participating artists. Cost varies by category. [Click here](#) for more information.

Registration and awards will take place at Carmel Fire Department Headquarters, 210 Veterans Way.

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Weird food & HamCo llamas . . . it must be the Indiana State Fair!

The Indiana State Fair runs through Aug. 3 in Indianapolis (closed Mondays), and Hamilton County's 4-H'ers are there in full force ... including the llamas! Of course, you can also indulge in some truly wild foodstuffs. Beer ice cream, anyone? Don't miss out! Get your tickets at IndianaStateFair.com. (Reporter photos by Bill Miller)



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HSE students achieve 97.3% IREAD pass rate; three schools reach 100%

Submitted by
HSE Schools

Hamilton Southeastern (HSE) Schools is celebrating another year of growth in early literacy, with 97.3 percent of third-grade students passing the 2026 Indiana Reading Evaluation and Determination (IREAD) assessment.

The district's pass rate increased 1.3 percentage points from 96 percent in 2025 and more than three percentage points since 2024. It is HSE's highest passing rate in six years.

Success was seen across the district. Eleven of HSE's 13 elementary schools met or exceeded Indiana's 95 percent literacy goal. Hoosier Road Elementary, Geist Elementary, and Southeastern Elementary each achieved a 100 percent pass

rate, and every HSE elementary school recorded a rate of at least 90 percent.

In all, 1,387 HSE third graders demonstrated proficient reading skills out of 1,426 students. No district in the state which tested over 600 students scored as well as HSE.

"Improving on an already strong result is not easy, and our teachers and school leaders deserve tremendous credit," Superintendent Dr. Matt Kegley said. "They know their students and pay close attention to what each child needs. That means using the data, adjusting instruction, and continuing to find ways to help students grow. Our



Kegley

students put in the work, families reinforced it at home, and together they made this possible. They should be incredibly proud."

HSE's second grade students were also tested and demonstrated an increase from 81 percent in 2025 to 83 percent in 2026. Additionally, eight of the 13 elementary schools demonstrated an increase over 2025 results.

IREAD measures foundational reading skills through the end of third grade. HSE's results reflect the work taking place in elementary classrooms, including evidence-based reading instruction, regular checks on student progress and fo-

cused help when students need it.

"Reading touches every subject and every part of a student's school experience," Kegley said. "We are proud of this progress, but we are not finished. We will keep working with students who need more time and support."

HSE Schools will share its 2026 ILEARN results separately after the state releases them next month.

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Speaker Huston commends continued reading gains for Hoosier students

Submitted by Office of
Speaker Todd Huston

Editor's note: Indiana House Speaker Todd Huston (R-Fishers) issued the following statement in response to the fifth consecutive year of third-grade literacy gains on the 2025-2026 IREAD assessment, which shows nearly 89 percent of students now reading by the end of third grade.

"Indiana students continue to make strong academic gains, including five straight years of reading improvement," Huston said. "These encouraging results show that our focus on high academic standards, targeted support and increased opportunities for students is working. Thank you to our passionate and dedicated educators and families who work every day to help Hoosier students succeed."

In 2023, the General Assembly passed **legislation** that established science of reading standards

and delivered focused support to Indiana students facing the most significant reading difficulties. Additional **legislation** bolstered the Department of Education's (DOE) literacy cadre program to ensure schools with fewer than 70 percent of students passing IREAD receive additional resources and support.

Since 2021, Indiana's IREAD scores have increased every year with nearly 89 percent of students now reading by the end of third grade. Prior to 2021, literacy rates declined every year except one.

In the most recent National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) rankings from 2024, Indiana jumped to sixth in the nation for both fourth and eighth grade reading.

In the last state budget, Indiana increased K-12 tu-



Huston

ition support by \$640 million, a 5 percent increase over the biennium, to its highest level yet. Nearly half of the state budget goes toward K-12 education (47 percent).

Indiana also expanded its school choice scholarship program in the last state budget, empowering all Hoosier families to choose the school environment that is best for their student.

House Speaker Todd Huston (R-Fishers) represents House District 37, which includes a portion of Hamilton County.

Native Gardens

a comedy

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Public invited to spend the morning with Rep. Spartz

The REPORTER

Introducing "The Exchange," where business, government, and community leadership come together.

From 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19, at the Promenade Trails Community Center, 17780 Navigator Trail, Noblesville, Congresswoman Victoria Spartz (R-Ind.-05) will provide a legislative update.

A collaborative initiative of the Westfield and Noblesville Chambers of Commerce, The Exchange brings regional leaders to the table for timely, nonpartisan conversations about policy, legislation, elections, and the issues influencing local communities and the economy.

More than a forum, The Exchange is an opportunity to listen, ask questions, share perspectives, and build connections across the region ... because the best



ideas and strongest communities are built when everyone works together.

Please note: This event is not a promotion or endorsement of a political candidate but an opportunity for Chamber membership to connect with the Congresswoman. According to Chamber bylaws, the Chamber will not lend its endorsement to the election of any candidate for any political office.

Click here to register.

If you are interested in future sponsorship opportunities for The Exchange Series, please reach out to Courtney Albright at calbright@westfieldchamberindy.com and Bob Dubois at bob@noblesvillechamber.com.



Spartz

Read it here. Read it first. THE REPORTER

AUGUST 15
9 AM - 1 PM

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- ✔ Inflatable Slide
- ✔ Information Booths
- ✔ Stop the bleed
- ✔ Hands Only CPR

For information on sponsorship contact:

**CFD Public Education
Officer Renee Butts
rbutts@carmel.in.gov**

Hamilton County Councilman Mark Hall’s July 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, July work included: watching Board of Commissioners meetings, attending Cicero

Town Council and Noblesville City Council public meetings, attending the Quarterly Cicero & Hamilton County officials update meeting, and a Joint Commissioners & Council meeting.

The July in-person Personnel Committee meeting was canceled. The Finance Committee did not meet in July. The insurance committee met in July to review Riverview Hospital claims; I was unable to attend.

During July I received nine constituent service requests and communications.

- A neighbor wrote to me about the traffic patterns at 96th Street and Allisonville Road. After researching jurisdiction and checking with the County Highway Department, I connected the constituent with the Fishers Government Highway Department Manager to address his concerns.

- I received update requests regarding road conditions on Point Lane in Cicero, 216th Street (Carrigan Road) between Schullley and Mill Creek, and Cherry Tree Road north of 171st Street. All these roads are under bid with awards to be opened late in August; each individual constituent received a status update.

- I have continued communication and support for a constituent who has a pond adversely affected by a new M/I Homes addition on the east side of Little Chicago Road. In short, retention pond creation in the new addition has adversely affected the water levels and water quality in his pond. Through numerous communications back and forth with the Noblesville Planning Department, M/I Homes local leadership, the homeowner, and the Hamilton County Planning Commission, unsuccessful attempts have been made to remedy the situation. Stay tuned as this one represents a potential black-eye for the developer. This is unresolved as of today.

- I have continued communications with two families who live on Cherry Tree Road near the new Pleasant Street bypass. These families continue to express concerns over the quality of the road as well as vehicle speeds along the stretch of Cherry Tree north of 171st Street up to the parkway.

I’ve exchanged several communications with the families as well as with the Hamilton County Highway and Sherri’s departments. For now, the solution is to increase patrols and soon attempt to deploy a speed monitoring trailer along Cherry Tree Road. Concurrently, the Highway Department is planning for road repairs. If you are a regular reader of this column, we were able to get the speed limit lowered in that area a few months ago.

- I received a request from a large landowner in White River Township asking for support from Hamilton County Economic Development for building a new data center. This request was sent to the Commissioners who, citing the most recent Farm Bureau survey and the Hamilton County Comprehensive plan, declined the request.

- I received several communications from a constituent regarding the county’s health insurance and Program Benefits Manager (PBM). Essentially, their points were that a different style of employee benefits program and a different Benefits Manager could save the county a considerable amount of taxpayer money as well as increase transparency. This one took a great deal of research, meeting with the County Insurance benefits consultant, NFP, and looking into the administration of the employee benefits program. Fortunately, I have served on the Personnel, Finance, and Insurance committees for the last several years providing me with mounds of data and context. After meeting with the constituent, reviewing his points, and thoroughly researching the matter, I’ve concluded that the county could save money by switching benefits programs, program managers, and even insurance consultants, but at a significant impact to the employees. The transitions would be problematic through a move to no network providers and a referenced-based pricing model. Employees would be billed for any difference in the charges versus the amount that the plan set for reimbursement. It’s a complicated topic that’s taken me a long time to get my

head wrapped around. I’ve concluded that the savings would not be worth the aggravation of impacting the benefits and claims processing for county employees.

Of special note this month, was attending the State of The Towns event sponsored by OneZone and hosted at Beck’s Hybrids in Atlanta. Representatives from Cicero, Arcadia, Atlanta, Sheridan, Hamilton Heights Schools, and Sheridan Community Schools all answered questions about their respective entities’ present state and future growth in front of an audience of several hundred attendees. The discussion was enlightening and it is exciting to learn about the growth and happenings in the Northern parts of Hamilton County.

Lastly, I received my copy of the 2027 Hamilton County budget book. The binder is hundreds of pages long, full of budget requests that are submitted by all the departments. As is my practice, I’ll read each budget submittal and then spend half a day in the Auditor’s Office reviewing the details behind each department’s budget. Items over \$100,000 require detailed review. It takes a great deal of time to get through it all, but it prepares me for the budget hearings and separating department needs from wants.

This is my timesheet. This is where my time went during July 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.



Euchre Fundraiser

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Saturday, August 29th

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Letter to the Editor

Save money by going solar

Dear Editor:

Since I was a young kid, I always dreamed of having a house with solar panels. I figured that when I built the “dream home” I would live in for 30 years, solar panels would be a financial no-brainer. Like, who wouldn’t want to go solar? It makes too much sense not to do it.

In 2016, I did just that: built the dream home and installed solar. In 2016, I knew nothing about solar panels – how they worked exactly, which way they need to face, potential HOA hurdles, which companies are reliable, and how much I should expect to pay. As such, the process of navigating equipment choices, pricing and finding a reliable installer on my own was daunting. It was a steep learning curve, and I often felt overwhelmed by the jargon. I eventually got my system installed, but looking back, I realize how much easier and more confident I would have felt if I’d had a support system.

That’s why I am so supportive of the work Solar United Neighbors (SUN), a national non-profit, is doing with their lo-

cal co-ops across our state. SUN makes the process of going solar easier. When you go solar alone, you’re just one customer navigating a complex market. But through a co-op, you are part of a community. You get to leverage collective buying power to secure competitive bids from local installers, ensuring a high-quality system at a fair price without the “hard sell.”

If you are considering solar, please don’t feel like you have to go it alone. I highly encourage you to explore SUN’s newly launched Central Indiana Solar Co-op. They provide the education and objective guidance I wish I had at the start. You can learn more at SolarUnitedNeighbors.org/INCentral. They even host free public information sessions where you can ask questions without any commitment.

It’s a fantastic opportunity to find out if solar is right for your home, surrounded by neighbors who are exploring the same cleaner, more affordable future.

Joey Myles
Indianapolis

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



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Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra to perform Handel’s *Messiah* at Carmel Palladium

The REPORTER

The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra (ISO) brings one of the most beloved holiday traditions to the Payne & Mencias Palladium Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel this December with a performance of Handel’s *Messiah*.

The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17. [Click here](#) to buy your tickets.

Don’t miss one of the most iconic oratorios of all time as Handel’s *Messiah* is performed by the ISO and the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir. This timeless masterpiece, featuring the beloved *Halle-*

lujah Chorus, remains one of music’s most powerful messages of faith, hope, and celebration.

This concert will feature guest conductor Julian Perkins and the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir under the direction of Eric Stark, Artistic Director; presented by Telamon.

- Julian Perkins, conductor
- Yulia Van Doren, soprano
- Diana Moore, mezzo-soprano
- Dann Coakwell, tenor
- Hadleigh Adams, baritone

Learn more about the ISO at [IndianapolisSymphony.org](#).

Meeting Notice

The Noblesville Redevelopment Commission meeting scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 13, 2026, has been canceled.

A list of each appointed officer’s name, their appointing authority, and term dates is available at [noblesville.in.gov/447/Boards-Commissions](#).

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](#).

PUBLIC NOTICE DEADLINE

3:30 p.m. Friday

for Monday publication

[PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com](#)

Peterson Architecture acquired by Michael Graves Architecture

Submitted

Michael Graves Architecture (MG), an award-winning global leader in planning, architecture, and interior design based in Princeton, N.J., announces its acquisition of Peterson Architecture, P.C., a Noblesville-based architecture practice serving clients across retail, industrial, municipal, medical, public safety, and community-focused markets.

The acquisition marks a significant expansion for MG into Indiana, the birthplace of the late Michael Graves, while strengthening the firm’s capabilities across several key growth markets.

For Peterson Architecture, the transition creates new opportunities for clients and team members by combining the firm’s longstanding local relationships and regional experience with MG’s national platform, expanded resources, and multidisciplinary design expertise.

“MG’s acquisition of Peterson Architecture helps us continue executing our strategic plan by adding great people and enabling our vision of delivering exceptional design and planning services to clients nationwide,” MG President and CEO Joe Furey said. “Darren Peterson and his team bring a broad mix of design experience across many sectors, including retail, industrial, municipal, medical, and com-

munity-based work. They will strengthen MG’s reach into new markets, while giving us a meaningful presence in Indiana, the birthplace of Michael Graves. Michael would be proud of this step.”

Founded in 1996 by Darren Peterson, Peterson Architecture is a full-service architecture and planning firm. The firm brings nearly three decades of experience serving clients throughout Central Indiana and beyond, with a reputation for collaborative design, practical problem-solving, and strong client relationships. Its work spans civic and municipal facilities, public safety campuses, commercial and retail environments, industrial projects, medical spaces, and community-focused developments.

Peterson has also been a longstanding civic leader in Central Indiana, serving in leadership roles with several community, arts, and economic development organizations. His contributions have been recognized with honors including the Legacy Fund Pillar Award for Inspiring Places, City of Noblesville Volunteer of the Year, Noblesville Main Street Board Member of the Year, and the local Chamber of Commerce Business Person of the Year award. Peterson is



Peterson

a graduate of Ball State University.

“Having studied Michael Graves in college, it is especially meaningful to now become part of the team,” Peterson said.

“We are excited to help build on the firm’s legacy, contribute to its future, and welcome the opportunity to work alongside a world-class architecture firm.”

As part of the transition, Peterson will continue to play an active leadership role with the Indiana team, supporting existing client relationships while helping expand MG’s presence throughout the Midwest. Peterson Architecture’s Noblesville-based team will become part of the broader MG platform, bringing clients continued local service and relationships, now backed by the expanded resources, national reach, and multidisciplinary expertise of Michael Graves Architecture.

For over 60 years, MG has provided clients across the globe with pioneering, humanistic solutions in architecture, product design, interior design, master planning, graphic design, and branding across many market sectors, including hospitality, civic, education, workplace, and residential. Recent projects include The St. Regis Hotel in Cairo, Egypt; Atlan-

tic Council Headquarters in Washington, D.C.; The Loutrel Hotel in Charleston, S.C.; and many projects under the Architect of the Capitol in Washington, D.C.

This acquisition is part of Michael Graves Architecture’s ongoing national expansion, following the recent integration of several firms across the U.S.

About Michael Graves Architecture

Founded in 1964 by AIA Gold Medalist Michael Graves, Michael Graves Architecture (MG) has a unique multidisciplinary practice that offers strategic advantages to clients worldwide. MG’s work is a consequence of continually striving to learn and listen to its clients while aiming to deliver the highest level of service possible. The firm’s clients range from Fortune 100 companies and global manufacturers to start-ups, from government to cultural, educational, and healthcare institutions, and from real estate developers and retailers to homeowners and consumers. MG has one of the leading design practices in the world, offering services in architecture, product design, interior design, master planning, graphic design, and branding, and underpins clients’ success with design strategy consulting, feasibility studies, and research.

For more information, visit [michaelgraves.com](#).



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US Capitol and White House Tour Requests

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You can support cancer research with M/I Homes & Pelotonia

The REPORTER

Residential homebuilder M/I Homes of Indianapolis has begun construction on its Benefit Home in the Helm’s Mill community in McCordsville.

The project will mark the builder’s fifth consecutive year constructing a Benefit Home in Indiana in support of Pelotonia, a nonprofit that funds innovative cancer research at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center – Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute (OSUCC-James). This follows a successful 2025 campaign, where M/I Homes of Indianapolis, along with the generosity of nearly 70 business partners, donated \$386,394 in support of the nonprofit’s mission.

To expand its impact in central Indiana in 2026, in addition to vendor donations of labor and materials, M/I Homes of Indianapolis will match all monetary contributions dollar for dollar, up to \$150,000.

The public is encouraged to support the effort, and individuals can participate by making a donation to the M/I Homes – Indy Team at this link.

This year’s Benefit Home is in the amenity-rich Helm’s Mill community and showcases the popular two-story Foster floorplan, featuring an open-concept kitchen and dining nook, four bedrooms, a flex room, and a two-car garage.

The project is part of M/I Homes’ broader effort this year to construct 17 Benefit Homes across all its divisions in collaboration with

local partner contractors, vendors, and suppliers. This builds on a philanthropic partnership launched in 2021 that has resulted in the construction of 61 Benefit Homes and raised more than \$14 million to advance Pelotonia’s mission of accelerating innovative cancer research.

The partnership’s impact also reaches Indiana. As a National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, the OSUCC–James actively collaborates on research with other NCI-designated Cancer Centers and Big Ten partners, including the Indiana University Melvin and Bren Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Purdue Institute for Cancer Research.

“This project goes beyond building homes, it’s about building hope and saving lives,” said Cassian Bernard, Area President of M/I Homes of Indiana. “It represents what can be achieved through strong corporate and community partnerships and working alongside our trade partners and professional network here in Indiana to create financial support for critical cancer research.”

The home in Helm’s Mill is now selling and M/I Homes of Indiana expects to host a dedication ceremony in the fall, at which time it will announce the total amount of the donation to Pelotonia.

To learn more about M/I Homes’ partnership with Pelotonia, click here. To learn more about M/I Homes of Indiana, got to mihomes.com.



The M/I Homes Team proudly displays the \$386,394 donation check at the 2025 Pelotonia Benefit Home in Indianapolis.

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 8RT 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 100-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 ADT1990UB Fuel Trailer PLANTERS & DRILLS: 2022 John Deere DB60 Bean Planter (36-Row, 20” Spacing), 2023 PUK/

2013 John Deere DB60 Corn Planter (24-Row, 30” Spacing), 24 ProMax 40 Units & Parts off JD DB60 Planter, JD Refuge Plus Tank off JD DB60 Planter, Spike Closing Wheels, Misc. Planter Plates SEED CONVEYORS/AUGERS: KSI 120832 Conveyor, Brandt Drive-Over Graindeck, Brandt 1537LP+ 10-hp Grain Belt, 2021 Westfield MKX 100-83 Auger (540 PTO), Westfield 100-31 Auger, 2020 Westfield MKX-73 Swing-Away Auger (540 PTO, Hyd. Lift), Westfield 100-51 Swing-Away Auger (540 PTO, Hyd. Lift), Westfield 8” Hydraulic Transfer Auger GPS EQUIPMENT: (3) GS2630 Displays, (1) GEN4 4640 Display, (1) GreenStar-2 1800 Display, (2) StarFire 3000 Receivers on RTK450 Radios, (2) StarFire 6000 Receivers with RTK Radios, Misc. StarFire Globes & Parts TILLAGE: John Deere 2680H 35’ Hi-Speed Disk, John Deere 2720X 27’6” 11-Shank Disk Chisel, John Deere 2210 34’ 6” Fld Cult (5-Bar Spike Harrow, Rear Hitch, Rear Hyd), Sunflower 1435-33 Disk, J&M TF215 37’ Rolling Basket, 35’ Unverferth 220 Rolling Harrow, DMI ET5 7-Sh, 3-pt Ripper, John Deere 2810 5-Bottom Plow, 12’ John Deere 1100 3-pt. Fld. Cult), 13’ Pull-Type Packer, John Deere 12-Shank 3-pt Chisel, Int’l 531 3-Bottom 3-pt. Plow, Bush Hog 245 12’ Off-Set Disk, 23’ Case IH 3900 DH Disk (Rock Flex, 7-1/2” Spacing), 7’ King Cutter TG-84-YK Gear-Drive 3-pt Tiller HEAVY EQUIPMENT: 2007 CAT 420E Backhoe 4x4 Extendahoe w/ 4-1 Front Bucket (4141 hrs), 2014 CAT 303.5E Mini Excavator (1649 hrs), 2007 CAT 320DLH Excavator (5328 hrs, 48” Bucket, Hyd. Thumb), 2002 CAT D5G Dozer (291 hrs), Case 1845C Uni-Loader Skid Steer (3632 hrs), 24” CAT 320B Bucket, 72” AIM 320DL Root Rake, Skid Steer Post Hole Auger, Skid Steer Bale Spear, Skid Steer Pallet Forks, John Deere Work Site Pro R84 80” Rock Bucket (Skid Steer Mount), Mitsubishi FG25 Forklift (6583 hrs, LP, 3-Stage Mast, 5000#), 7’ Soil-Max Shaper Pro 3-pt Trench Filler MISC: JD 855D Gator (940 hrs), JD 855D Gator (1654 hrs.), 1978 Bolinger Tilt-Trailer, (2) Bolinger Tilt-Trailers, Fork Truck LP Tank, Planter Parts, Inductor System w/ Honda GX240 Engine & 3” John Blue Pump, Auger Jack Wheel & 2 Skids of Westfield Auger Parts, John Deere MX7 3-pt. Rotary Cutter (540 PTO), 3-pt. Hay Forks, John Deere HX15 Batwing Rotary Cutter (1000 PTO), 6’ Bush Hog 5072 3-pt. Rotary Cutter, 9’ 3-pt. Grader Blade, Honda Engine & 3” Pump, 6’ Pallet Fork Extensions, Skid of 15 Chisel Points, 18’ Spray Boom (11-Nozzle on 20”), Sullair 1850 Air Compressor (Diesel Engine), John Deere Quick Hitches, Hay Wagons on JD Gears, Steel Bed Wagon on DMI Gear, JD Gear w/ Hoist, Utility Cart w/ Toolbox, 1000 & 2000-Gallon Diesel Fuel Tanks w/ Pumps, Tires & Wheels,

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. PREVIEW - PICKUP & PAY AT 2187 North – 600 East, Windfall, IN 46076 For Inquiries & Questions, Please Contact Us: Cripe’s Auction Service 3247 East State Road 28, Tipton, IN 765-675-6909 Office 765-860-6959 Mobile cripesauction@yahoo.com Wade Cripe, Auctioneer #AU11000034

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Letter to the Editor Breakthrough cancer treatments depend on the strength of Indiana’s life sciences workforce Dear Editor: As president of Schaefer Technologies, I see every day how Indiana’s life sciences sector fuels innovation and economic growth across our state. We manufacture specialized capsule-filling equipment that helps researchers and scientists turn groundbreaking therapies into real treatments for patients. Recent breakthroughs in pancreatic cancer treatment, including a new drug shown to double survival rates in clinical trials, show us what is possible when we invest in drug research and the people behind it. These breakthroughs don’t happen by accident. They are the result of the hard work and dedication from scientists, manufacturers and the broader life sciences workforce that powers this \$100 billion industry in our state. Policymakers in Washington should focus on strengthening the life sciences ecosystem. Proposals that impose price controls risk would undermine innovation, discourage investment, and shift future discoveries overseas. If we want the next major breakthrough to happen here in Indiana, our federal lawmakers must support policies that protect and grow our life sciences sector rather than weaken it. Kevin Schaefer President, Schaefer Technologies

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

FISHERS CITY OF FISHERS NOTICE OF APPROVED MINOR SUBDIVISION CASE PP-26-3 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Fishers Plat Committee on Wednesday, August 5, 2026 held a duly noticed public meeting, and in accordance with UDO Sec. 8.1.3. approved case # PP-26-3: Request to approve a Primary Plat of 2 lots on 4.0 acres, known as the Barland Homestead property. Subject site has a common address of 10638 Cyntheanne Rd, Fortville, IN. The case file about this project is available for public review in the office of Community & Economic Development, located at Fishers Municipal Center, 1 Municipal Drive, Fishers, IN 46038. If you have specific questions please contact: City of Fishers Community and Economic Development Department planning@fishersin.gov R8460 8/12/26, 8/17/26

Rewind Book Fair to showcase local writers & independent bookstores at State Fairgrounds

The REPORTER

The Rewind Book Fair will have you feeling nostalgic as it brings back the magic of childhood book fairs of the past. The event will take place Sept. 26 and 27 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds Ag/Hort Building. Created with the goal to connect book lovers in a fun, welcoming space, there’s no permission slip required.

What started as a local event in Minneapolis, Minn., has grown into a multi-city celebration of books, creativity, and community. The Rewind Book Fair will bring together readers, writers, and makers for a nostalgic yet fresh take on the classic book fair experience. The event will feature close to 100 exhibitors, including independent

booksellers, literary-inspired creators, and engaging experiences. Legendary authors and illustrators appearing throughout the weekend include Ellen Hopkins (*Crank*), Maurice Broadus (*Abigail’s Gethesame*), Z Brewer (*The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod*), Larissa Lone (*Pleasure Unbound*), and more.

“Remember the thrill of flipping through a Scholastic catalog, circling your dream book haul, and getting way too excited about the latest *Goosebumps*?” asks Rachel Silberman, event co-owner. “We’re bringing that magic back with a nostalgic, grown-up twist.” Find more information and tickets at [RewindBookFair.com](#).



Photo provided
Seventh-generation circus legend Bello Nock is known for his gravity-defying stunts (as well as his exceptionally tall hairdo). You can see him perform live in Indianapolis this fall.

Time for a ‘Bellobration’ at Gainbridge Fieldhouse

Submitted

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey® is bringing a legendary name back to The Greatest Show On Earth® as Bello Nock joins the Ringling tour as a special guest performer at all Indianapolis shows from Nov. 20 to 22, bringing one of the most beloved performers in modern circus history back to the Ringling spotlight.

The shows are set for 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 20; 10 a.m., 2 p.m., and 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21; and 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22. All shows will take place at Gainbridge Fieldhouse, 125 S. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis.

Known for his gravity-defying stunts, unmistakable personality, fearless comedy, and his iconic hair, Bello remains one of the most recognizable names in circus entertainment. His return gives families across the country a rare chance to see a true circus legend perform alongside today’s reimagined Ringling cast of world-class artists, acrobats, and athletes.

Audiences may also recognize Bello from appearances on *America’s Got Talent*, *Britain’s Got Talent*, *The Champions*, and other international television talent competitions, where he introduced millions of viewers to the same astonishing energy and larger-than-life performance style that made him a Ringling fan favorite.

Bello’s connection to Ringling spans generations. A seventh-generation circus performer, he became the first performer in Ringling history to have a show named after him, the unforgettable Bellobration, cementing his place as one of the most beloved figures in circus entertainment.

Today’s Ringling delivers nonstop thrills through a dynamic cast of performers, larger-than-life production elements, music, comedy, and immersive moments that bring audiences into the action. Bello’s special guest appearances add a once-in-a-generation layer of circus heritage to a reimagined show built for today’s families.

At a time when families are looking for meaningful and affordable live entertainment, Ringling is making it easier to create a first circus family memory together. Kids’ tickets in Indianapolis are available for only \$15 with the purchase of an adult ticket, giving more children the chance to experience the circus and see one of its most legendary performers live.

For more information, go to [ringling.com/special-offers](#).

ON-LINE ONLY PUBLIC AUCTION

the Estates of
ROBERT N. & VIRGINIA L. SMITH
and **C. RAY LAMB**
and Other Personal Property

BIDDING OPENS: Wednesday, August 5th @ 6pm
SOFT CLOSE BEGINS: Saturday, August 15th @ 6pm
PREVIEW DATES: Thursday, August 13th from Noon - 6pm
PICK-UP DAYS: Monday, August 17th and Tuesday, August 18th from Noon - 6pm

Estate of Robert N. & Virginia L. Smith and Other Personal Property:

Fenton, Fostoria, Westmoreland, Hurricane & Brass Lamps, Mantle Clocks, Vintage Pyrex, Cookie Jars, Collectibles,; Nice & Clean Furniture, Wagner Magna-Lite Dutch Oven, Kitchen & Household, China, Cast Iron,; Indiana History Books, Crocks, Crates, Hand Made Wood Items, Baskets, Soft Goods, Barbies, Advertising,; Pet Supplies, Wall Decor, Antiques, Vintage Toys, Copper Apple Butter Kettle; Picnic Table, Benches, Swing, Webber Grill, Sunbeam Gas Grill; E-Z Access Aluminum Wheelchair Ramp; Hand & Power Tools, Guardian Power Drill Press, Porter-Cable Band Saw, Craftsman Radial Arm Saw & Table Saw; Work Benches, Jawhorse, Air Compressor, Coleman Power Mate Generator, Yard Cart & Yard/Garden Tools,; Skil Xbench & Accessories, DeWalt Sliding Compound Miter Saw & Planer, Vtg 5-Gallon Oil Cans, License Plates,; Briggs

& Stratton Power Washer, Craftsman Wood Lathe, Stihl 023 Chainsaw, Vulcan Anvil; 1930-40’s DeVilbiss Air Compressor, Wire Spools, 55-Gallon Food-Grade Metal Barrels, 200-Gallon Gas Tank w/ Hand Pump; Leer 8’ Truck Topper off 1995 Dodge, JD 25-Gallon Pull-Type Sprayer, Agri-Fab 15-Gallon Pull-Type Sprayer; Lapp 2-Door Dog Transport Box, Murray Snow Blower w/ Walk-Behind Shroud; Andersen Aluminum 5th Wheel Hitch, 8’ x 42” Utility Trailer, Bolinger 10’ x 7’ Utility Trailer; 2009 EZ-GO Electric Golf Cart; 1985 GMC 1500 Sierra 4-W/D Truck; Craftsman T2400 46” Riding Mower; Grasshopper 718 Zero-Turn Gas Mower; JD F620 Z-Trak 54” Zero-Turn Mower; Simplicity 44” Riding Mower

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Build Indiana Council & transportation leaders thank Gov. Braun for gas tax pause, call for sustainable road funding

Submitted
On Tuesday, Aug. 11, the Build Indiana Council (BIC) and its member organizations, including Indiana Constructors, Inc. (ICI) and ACEC Indiana, acknowledged Gov. Mike Braun's efforts to help protect Hoosiers' wallets with his continuation of the gas tax suspension.

These leaders also sounded the warning bells for the future of Indiana's transportation network, which is at a critical inflection point, calling for action to protect this infrastructure and prevent ripple effects in communities across Indiana.

Last week, Gov. Mike Braun announced the continuation of Indiana's gas tax suspension through Sept. 5. Since the emergency order was enacted in April 2026, it has provided relief to Hoosiers by saving money at the pump, especially during peak summer travel season and the Fourth of July holiday. Transportation leaders welcomed the extension of the gas tax holiday while emphasizing the importance of reinstating this funding mechanism to protect the vitality of Indiana's roads and bridges.

"We'd like to thank Governor Braun for his leadership in helping Hoosiers save money and his commitment to our state's roads and bridges," BIC Executive Director Brian Gould said. "We also

appreciate his pledge to backfill funds lost due to the gas tax suspension, which will support communities across the state. At the same time, Indiana must confront the reality that we are approaching a fiscal cliff in transportation infrastructure that threatens years of progress. We must continue to invest if we want to keep moving forward."

The gas tax holiday has resulted in a temporary loss of about \$533 million on road and bridge funding through July, and that number will grow as the suspension continues. The governor's initiative to backfill these dollars is already in progress. This past June, the Braun administration also announced the latest round of funding in the Community Crossings grant program, totaling \$84 million that will be invested into 147 Indiana cities and counties. Steps like these are critical to the long-term health of Indiana's roads and bridges.

Transportation and logistics are major drivers of Indiana's 21st-century economy and a report from *Consumer Affairs* ranked Indiana as having the best roads in the country. The state has earned its reputation as a



leading logistics hub thanks to a 2017 funding package passed by the Indiana General Assembly to maintain highways,

roads, and bridges. The 2017 funding package is a proven blueprint for transportation excellence. Results from the package show significant improvements in road and bridge conditions and the overall driver experience:

- According to the most recent report from Midwest Economic Policy Institute (MEPI), between 2017 and 2021, the percentage of Indiana pavement lane miles considered to be in "good" condition grew from 14 percent to 27 percent, nearly doubling.

- TRIP, a national transportation research organization, notes that Indiana drivers pay significantly less than the national average in costs associated with deteriorated roads, including increased fuel consumption, tire wear, vehicle depreciation and additional repairs; those costs total just \$230 per year for the average Indiana driver, compared with \$725 nationwide.

- Indiana ranks in the top third of states for fewest traffic deaths with an average of just 1.05 fatalities

per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, according to the *Journal of Consumer Research*.

But nearly 10 years after passage of that funding package, Indiana's infrastructure funding system is no longer keeping pace. A 2024 report from the Indiana Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) showed that preserving the progress made on local roads alone would require more than \$1.2 billion in new funding annually, while improving conditions would require at least \$2 billion per year. INDOT estimated just two years ago that Indiana would need another \$1.2 billion annually for state roads and bridges.

Current funding projections show that Indiana's transportation construction workforce will soon be limited to performing basic maintenance rather than expanding and improving the network that has helped drive the state's economic growth and prosperity. Without investment, Indiana risks falling behind after a decade of historic economic progress. Diversifying revenue sources and reducing the state's dependence on fuel-consumption-based revenue is essential to establishing a sustainable, long-term funding plan.

The time to act is now. Learn more at buildindianacouncil.org/legislative-priorities-2.

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

SPIES SENT OUT

Then, as the Lord our God commanded us, we set out from Horeb and went toward the hill country of the Amorites through all that vast and dreadful wilderness that you have seen, and so we reached Kadesh Barnea. Then I said to you, "You have reached the hill country of the Amorites, which the Lord our God is giving us. See, the Lord your God has given you the land. Go up and take possession of it as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, told you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

Then all of you came to me and said, "Let us send men ahead to spy out the land for us and bring back a report about the route we are to take and the towns we will come to."

The idea seemed good to me; so I selected twelve of you, one man from each tribe. They left and went up into the hill country, and came to the Valley of Eshkol and explored it. Taking with them some of the fruit of the land, they brought it down to us and reported, "It is a good land that the Lord our God is giving us."

Deuteronomy 1:19-25 (NIV)

D

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

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PENDING!
6178 NORTH WOODHAVEN DR.
MCCORDSVILLE

This turnkey 3BR, 2BA ranch in McCordsville features fresh paint, granite counters, and LVP flooring. Enjoy the new wood privacy fence and covered deck. Community pool and playground are steps away!
New price \$304,900

SOLD!
18532 ORIENTAL OAK COURT
NOBLESVILLE

Beautiful 4BR, 2BA 2 half baths in Oakmont of Noblesville. 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.
Listed at \$559,900

JUST LISTED!
18149 ATLANTIC ROAD
NOBLESVILLE

Own this charming 1.5-acre country retreat! Features 2,000+ sq ft, 4BR, 2BA, and a new roof. Enjoy a cozy fireplace, spacious kitchen, and fenced yard. Perfectly located near Hamilton Town Center and I-69. Won't last long!
Listed at \$274,900

SOLD!
18716 PRAIRIE BAPTIST ROAD
NOBLESVILLE

Attention investors and homeowners! Hard-to-find country ranch on .39 acres. Featuring 2BR, 1BA, spacious family room, kitchen with appliances, and attached garage. Updates include 2022 roof, plumbing, and 2023 AC.
Listed at \$172,900

SOLD!
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

PENDING!
2513 SHERIDAN COURT
CICERO

This desirable 3BR, 2BA Cicero ranch on .44 acres features a remodeled kitchen with quartz counters, wood-burning fireplace, spacious primary suite, and private, wooded backyard with two storage sheds. Lake access and boat docks.
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