

The deep partial lunar eclipse hit totality just after midnight on Friday morning, Aug. 28, and Reporter Photographer Bill Miller caught these great shots of the crimson moon for our readers to enjoy. Thanks, Bill!

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Beth Sheller

for Hamilton County Clerk

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The fall Hoosier Market, featuring the dahlia

By KELLY McVEY
President, Indiana Peony Festival, Inc.

Our first Hoosier Market was a success, and we're already looking forward to doing it all again!

After kicking things off with tomatoes, cosmos, and zinnias, we are thrilled to announce our second seasonal market ... the Dahlia Market! Mark your calendars for Saturday, Oct. 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Seminary Park in Noblesville.

Celebrate the beauty of fall as we feature a stunning collection of colorful dahlias, crisp apples, earthy pumpkins, and other seasonal favorites.

The Hoosier Market Series was created to celebrate the very best of what Indiana grows and creates, with each market centered around



Graphic provided

a beloved Hoosier crop and flower. This October, expect to see dahlia bouquets, locally grown apples and pumpkins, and a variety of unique fall-themed items to get you ready for the season. Stay tuned for more event programming and dahlia activities. Our Hoosier Markets are sponsored by First Bank Midwest, Noblesville Ace Hardware, Tom Wood

Volkswagen, and LINNEA. Think you're a great fit for our Dahlia Market? Vendor applications are now open, and we are searching for local crafters, growers, farmers, and makers to join this vibrant autumn market. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy the season and support our local community. Apply to be a vendor at [this link](#).

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Deputy Clerk Position

The Cicero Clerk Treasurer's office has a full-time position opening for a **Deputy Clerk**.

The Deputy Clerk will be responsible for various clerical, payroll, Human Resource functions, bookkeeping, and utility activities. Process bi-weekly payroll, pension, and deductibles maintain all payroll records, and on-line filings. Payroll experience a plus. Assistant to the clerk treasurer for budget, attend meetings as necessary, filing, preparing reports, and serve and assist with utility billing activities, answering phones, waiting on customers and other duties as assigned.

Applications will be accepted through October 2nd, 2026.

**Please send résumé to Rhonda Gary,
331 E. Jackson St., P.O. Box 650, Cicero, IN 46034,
rgary@townofcicero.in.gov**

Town's application will be required which may be picked up in our office, requested by e-mail or found at

<https://www.facebook.com/ciceroindiana>
or on the Town's website,
www.cicero.in.org

RESCUE

from Page 1

thought it was hilarious that her son-in-law would find out about our new fish upon his arrival from work that evening.

The ride home was entertaining to say the least. If you haven't ridden shotgun with an enormous vase on your lap with water and a live fish filled to the brim lately, it's certainly an experience. Every turn and bump my mom hit on the drive home was met with profanity and threats if any fish water got on me or the car.

We get home and put Haven on his special spot on our kitchen island. My husband arrived home and was quickly assured that this was not going to be the

aquarium situation 2.0.

We have now had Haven for a few months and I can say that in addition to being a relaxing pet, he does have quite a lot of personality, especially when it comes to feeding. The water is easy to replace as you can use bottled spring water if you do not want to use de-chlorinated water. You need to trim the roots of the plants from time to time, so the fish does not get tangled in the roots, but besides that, it has been an easy addition to our family. Everyone gets a chuckle when I tell them that we rescued him, but when you learn the condition of these fish and how they were found,

they truly were rescued, and it's a labor of love for the folks at Rustic Roots Shoppe and for those who choose to adopt them.

I highly encourage you to check out their store in Noblesville and think about the addition of a rescued betta to your house. Maybe there is someone in your life that cannot care for a cat or dog, but would like some companionship and this would be the perfect pet for them. Next time you're in Noblesville, stop in and check it out!

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

CONTEST

from Page 1

study history in college so she can teach high school students about American history.

Finally, Kira Mueeting captured the adult category with her book *Star-Span-gled Birthday Adventure*. A fan of historical fiction, she wrote the book about her 9-year-old step-daughter, Eleanor, with the hopes that the

book would encourage Eleanor and her friends to read. Mueeting's niece is planning to illustrate the book.

"I had so much fun researching all the historic characters in the book," Mueeting said. "I really hope kids will be encouraged to learn more about these brave and courageous figures when they

read the book."

All three winning stories will be published and added to the Westfield Washington Public Library's collection during a special book shelving ceremony. All three authors also received a \$250 prize for their efforts.

"We are proud to celebrate the accomplishments of these talented authors," Foundation Executive Director Erin Downey said. "We are grateful to live in a community that supports literacy, storytelling, and the joy of writing. We cannot wait to see what our writers create next."

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TEACHER

from Page 1

to do every day,” Miller said. “Learning is all about facing challenges and taking risks, even if it means facing failure.”

A summer of new perspectives

Miller traveled by camper and truck through the Southwest, packing her itinerary with experiences that challenged her in different ways.

She rode in a hot air balloon over Albuquerque and the Sandia Mountains at sunrise, flew in a helicopter above the Grand Canyon, and paddled across Lake Powell to reach Antelope Canyon. In Utah, she backpacked through Bryce Canyon, explored Zion National Park on horseback, rafted the Colorado River, and drove a UTV through Moab.

Her husband, Joel Miller, joined her on the journey and saw those challenges firsthand.

“During our kayaking excursion, we faced 30 mph winds, and at one point I doubted we would reach Antelope Canyon,” Joel said. “Yet Carly persevered, and later said the experience was well worth the effort.”

Carly also challenged herself creatively, learning new videography and editing skills to document the journey.

“These adventures stretched me, and so did the landscape,” Carly said. “This trip helped me build strength and perseverance and discover parts of myself I did not know existed.”

Bringing the experience back to Monon Trail

The fellowship may have taken Miller far be-



yond Westfield, but the lessons she brought home connect directly to her work with students.

Midland Crossing Instructional Coach Laura Mates said Miller’s experience reflects the way she already approaches education: recognizing that different students may need different paths to reach the same destination.

“Carly was able to experience firsthand that there is never just one way to see something, which beautifully reflects who Carly is as an educator,” Mates said.

That willingness to seek a different perspective can be especially valuable when a student encounters a challenge.

“She reminds all of us that sometimes a different perspective is exactly what is needed to unlock a student’s potential,” Mates said.

Assistant Principal Hether Darnell said Miller’s ex-



perience also reflects values Monon Trail works to instill in students and staff.

“At Monon Trail, we encourage both students and staff to embrace challenges, take risks, and never stop learning,” Darnell said. “Carly’s fellowship experience embodies those

values.”

Principal Jeremy Marvel said the opportunity was a fitting recognition for an educator committed to continually improving her work.

“Carly is the type of educator who is always looking for ways to grow and make a difference for students,”

Marvel said. “Her willingness to challenge herself is a great example of the passion and commitment she brings to our school each day.”

For Miller, those lessons in perseverance, confidence, and embracing the unfamiliar now return with her to the classroom.

Congratulations to Mrs. Miller on this incredible opportunity and for continuing to model lifelong learning for her students.

You can see more photos from her trip as well as other educators’ adventures by searching for #TeacherCreativityGrant on Instagram.

Photos provided

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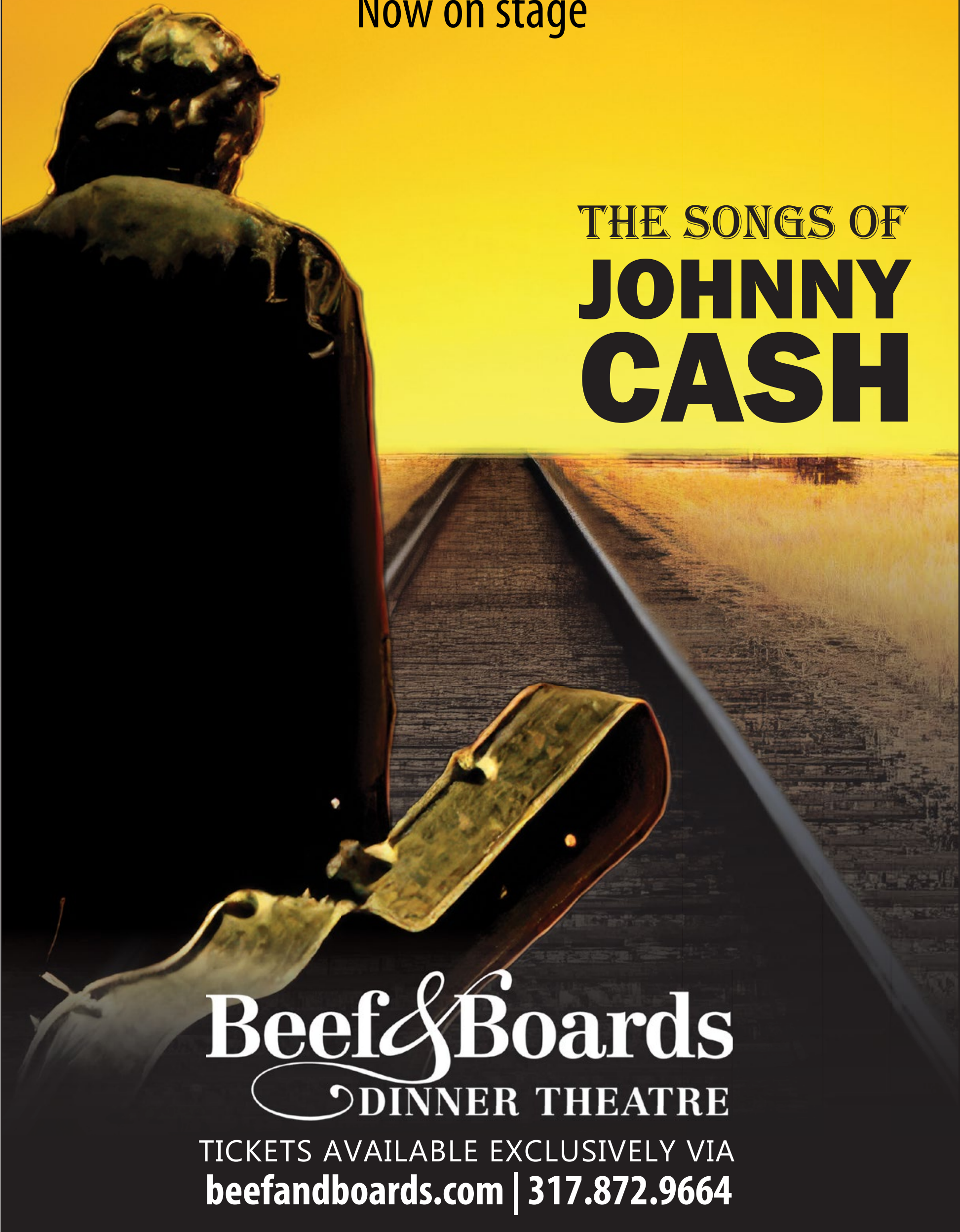
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Notice. Nourish. Lead.

Westfield Rotary launches year-long initiative to fight food insecurity & support student wellbeing

By MARIE S. HOWARD
Rotary Club of Westfield

What happens when you put students in the driver's seat to solve a problem in their own school? The Rotary Club of Westfield is about to find out.

This year, Westfield Rotary is channeling its three core service priorities – fighting food insecurity, developing young leaders, and building community connections – into one bold, student-led initiative: “Notice. Nourish. Lead.”

Working hand-in-hand with students and staff at Westfield High School, this youth leadership program tackles a sobering reality: the link between food insecurity and the risk of suicide. Backed by a grant from Westfield Rotary and The Rotary Foundation, the project puts WHS students at the helm, conducting a real needs assessment and designing a sustainable solution, all with support from school staff, Rotarians, and community partners.

The numbers tell a powerful story

More than 10 percent of Hamilton County residents – including over 7,000 children – face food



Photo courtesy Rotary International

Westfield Rotarians are working to alleviate hunger by working with students and staff at Westfield High School.

insecurity. At WHS alone, an estimated 300 to 600 students may be affected, and nearly 4 percent of those students are also at risk for suicidal behaviors. These aren't just statistics; they're classmates, neighbors, and friends.

Over the course of the academic year, student leaders will *notice* the need, *nourish* their peers and community, and *lead* lasting change, with results delivered by the end of April 2027. Every student who steps up to participate will

be recognized with a certificate honoring their leadership on these critical issues.

Want to be part of the solution?

Whether you're curious about “Notice. Nourish. Lead.” or another Rotary initiative, we'd love to

hear from you. Reach out at WestfieldRotaryIN@gmail.com, visit WestfieldRotaryIN.com, or stop by one of our meetings (see our online calendar for dates). If you have a heart for service, there's a place for you at Westfield Rotary.



Cars, Condos & Cares fundraiser brings community, luxury vehicles & compassion together in Westfield

Submitted

Universal Cares announces the third annual Cars, Condos & Cares, a premier fundraising event set for 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7, at the Motor District Garage Condos in Westfield.

Attire is formal or business casual. Tickets are \$150 per person and can be purchased at universal-cares.com/ecc.

This signature evening combines a passion for elite automobiles with a commitment to supporting individuals, families, and organizations in crisis throughout Indiana.

The event offers guests a rare opportunity to tour the private luxury garage condos of the Motor District and view an incredible collection of high-end and classic vehicles. The evening will feature a gourmet dinner catered by Nameless Catering – featuring braised short ribs and rosemary chicken – along with live music from local singer Natalie Marque, a cash bar, and a silent auction and raffle.

A highlight of the pro-



Photo provided

(From left) Jay Farmer, Owner/Developer of Motor District Garage Condos; Alden Griffin, Manager of Motor District Garage Condos; Sam Yeary, Universal Cares President; and Rob Yeary, Universal Cares Founder.

gram will be an on-stage presentation and interviews hosted by Universal Cares Program Manager Jill Hinds, featuring stories from those the organization has served, including Captain Ryan McClain of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

“This organization embodies a community-first drive to give back, connecting families and friends to provide personalized and rapid support to

those in need,” said Captain McClain in support of the initiative. “Their work demonstrates that a small, dedicated group can create a truly significant and lasting impact.”

Tickets and a variety of sponsorship levels – including Pit Crew (\$500), Spotter (\$2,500), and Driver (\$5,000) – are currently available. All proceeds directly fund Universal Cares' mission to provide hands-on assistance and essential ser-

vices to vulnerable Hoosiers.

For tickets or sponsorship opportunities please Jill Hinds at (317) 764-7250 or jill@universal-cares.com.

About Universal Cares

Universal Cares is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to building stronger Indiana communities by connecting neighbors through compassionate service and impactful, rapid-response programs. Learn more at universal-cares.com.

Man arrested after firing shots in Westfield's Casey Acres neighborhood

The REPORTER

At approximately 7:39 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30, Westfield police officers responded to a report of shots being fired near the Casey Acres Apartment complex.

Initial 911 calls stated a male was firing shots in the area. The male was shooting indiscriminately until he shot toward a male walking his dogs.

Officers responded to the area and quickly located the suspect, taking him into custody, on the southwest side of the apartment complex. The suspect, later identified as John King II, was in possession of a Glock 43 handgun at the time of arrest.

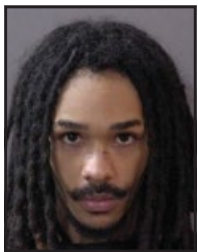
King was interviewed by Westfield police detectives and stated he was upset after having a domestic disturbance with his girlfriend, in the 1200 block of

Sabrina Way. King admitted to firing the weapon and emptying the magazine.

The woman stated she had been battered and strangled by the suspect. She was transported an area hospital for medical treatment.

King was booked into the Hamilton County Jail on the following charges:

- Misdemeanor Public Intoxication
- Misdemeanor Illegal Consumption of an Alcoholic Beverage
- F5 Criminal Recklessness and Defendant Shoots into an Inhabited Building
- F6 Criminal Recklessness with a Deadly Weapon
- F6 Domestic Battery Committed in the Presence of a Child less than 16 years of age
- F6 Strangulation, and Unlawful Carrying of a Handgun.



King

A charge is merely an accusation. All suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office will file the formal charges.

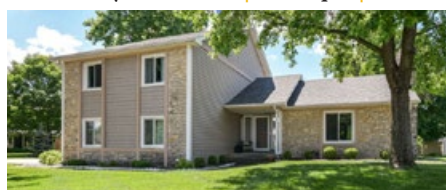
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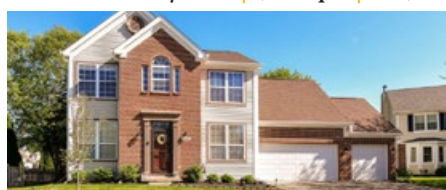


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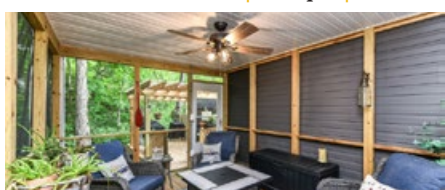
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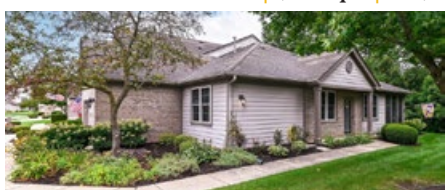
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12131 E 196th St - Noblesville | 6,935 Sq Ft. | \$2,199,000



Westfield Street Department to hold hiring open house

Submitted by
City of Westfield

The Westfield Streets Department will hold a hiring open house from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9, for full-time or seasonal employment. During this open house, you can meet with the city's Human Resources

Department, Director of Streets Justin Jones, and the Streets Supervisor to learn about all the day-to-day operations of the roles.

For more information, email Emily Rogers at erogers@westfield.in.gov. To view the descriptions of the available roles, [click here](#).



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SHOP - LOCAL -

Longtime FSA employee Traci Merida set to retire

The REPORTER

The agricultural communities of Tipton, Hamilton, and Howard counties have been well-served by Traci Merida's dedication and commitment to the Farm Service Agency (FSA) throughout a 40-year career with the USDA.

Merida began work for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) in March 1986 as a temporary Program Technician. She then became a full-time permanent Program Technician in October 1986. She was then promoted to serve as Program Technician in Charge

from 2015 to 2018 and became a County Executive Director in September 2018. Merida currently serves as CED for Tipton, Hamilton, and Howard counties. It is only due to her knowledge, experience, and dedication that the FSA can provide excellent service to the agriculture community of these three counties.

Merida is an efficient, effective, collaborative, principled, and empathetic leader. She has professionally represented the ASCS/



Merida

FSA throughout her 40-year career and will be retiring this coming Fall.

The staff of the Tipton, Hamilton, and Howard county offices will host a Retirement Open House for Traci Merida from 2 to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 17, at the Tipton Hamilton County FSA Office, 243 Ash St., Suite A, Tipton.

Please feel free to come by and share in the celebration of her wonderful career with the USDA Farm Service Agency.

Noblesville Parks Foundation announces 'Rock & Relief'

Free concert will benefit flood relief efforts

The REPORTER

The Noblesville Parks Foundation (NPF) invites residents, and supporters to join the upcoming Rock & Relief concert from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 5, at Forest Park, 701 Cicero Road, to support everyone in the community who was affected by the flood.

Rock & Relief will offer an evening of live music, community connection, and an opportunity to directly support neighbors facing the difficult work of recovering and rebuilding after the flooding.

The free concert will feature The Flying Toasters, with special guest City of Sound.

"Rock & Relief is about bringing our communi-



ty together at a time when many of our neighbors need us," NPF President Tommy Freeborn said. "Noblesville has always been a community that shows up for one another, and we hope this event provides an opportunity to enjoy an evening together while also making a meaningful difference for local families impacted by the flooding."

Admission to the concert is free. Attendees are encouraged to bring grocery gift cards or monetary dona-

tions, which will be accepted at the event entrance.

About the Noblesville Parks Foundation

The Noblesville Parks Foundation supports and enhances parks, recreation opportunities, and community experiences that contribute to the quality of life in Noblesville. Through partnerships, fundraising and community engagement, the Foundation works to strengthen the places and experiences that bring the Noblesville community together.

Foster Success welcomes five new board members & names new board leaders

The REPORTER

Nonprofit Foster Success has selected five new Board Members and announced its new Board of Directors' Officers. The Indianapolis-based national organization provides educational, financial, and social support to teens and young adults transitioning out of the foster care system.

"Foster Success is fortunate to welcome five accomplished leaders from across the nation who bring a wide range of professional experience and perspectives to our Board," Foster Success President and CEO Dr. Maggie Stevens said. "Their expertise and commitment will help strengthen our work as we continue ensuring young people who have experienced foster care have the resources, relationships and opportunities they need to thrive as adults."

nance from Butler University, and a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion certificate from Cornell University.

• **Eric Lin**, Westfield, is an Accountant at Telamon Corporation. He previously served as the Vice President of Finance and Operations at Minnetrista Museum & Gardens in Muncie. He holds both a Master's degree in Accounting and a Bachelor's degree in Industrial Management and Accounting from Purdue University, as well as certificates in Nonprofit Executive Leadership and Fundraising Management from Indiana University. Committed to community involvement, he recently completed his term as Board President for the West Lafayette Public Library Foundation.

dianapolis, is a real estate professional with Corcoran Icon Properties. She has an MBA from Stanford University and brings a varied background in both the business and nonprofit sectors. She has been involved with CASA San Francisco and served as a CASA volunteer with Kids Voice Indiana, and she currently serves on the Board of Directors of the United Way of Central Indiana, along with the Christamore House Guild.

Each Board member will serve a three-year term.

Foster Success also elected its Board of Directors' Officers. John Totten will serve as Chair of the Board, joined by Tina Gridiron as Vice Chair, Megan Savage as Secretary, Marie Cameron as Treasurer and Amber Williams as an At-Large Officer.

About Foster Success

Headquartered in Indiana, Foster Success is a national nonprofit that hears, supports, and empowers teens and young adults transitioning out of foster care on their journey to self-sufficiency. Founded in 2012 in Indiana, Foster Success provides support through programs and resources that allow young adults to be educated, housed, financially stable, employed, and connected to a support system by their 26th birthday. Learn more at fostersuccess.org.

The five new Board members are Dominick Chase, Eric Lin, Roy Scruggs, Chris Siegl, and Vicki Valandra.

• **Dominick Chase**, Saint Charles, Mo., is Senior Vice President, Fiscal Affairs & Administrative Services and Chief Financial Officer at Lindenwood University in Saint Charles, Mo. He has a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Indiana University, a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Fi-

• **Roy Scruggs**, Indianapolis, is an Indirect Tax Manager at Eli Lilly and Company. He has a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Indiana University Indianapolis and has worked in taxation services since 2012.

• **Chris Siegl**, Fishers, is a Financial Advisor at Valeo and a Certified Financial Planner® professional. He has a Bachelor's degree in Management with minors in Finance and Marketing from Purdue University and has worked in the financial services industry since 2008.

• **Vicki Valandra**, In-

Public invited to meetings about Noblesville Schools funding referendum

The REPORTER

Noblesville Schools Superintendent Dr. Dan Hile invites the community to any of the upcoming community meetings to discuss the school funding referendum that will be on the Nov. 3 general election ballot.

• Sept. 2 at 10 a.m. at Hamilton East Public Library

• Sept. 3 at 6 p.m. at Hamilton East Public Library

• Sept. 17 at 6 p.m. at Noblesville High School

• Sept. 28 at 1 p.m. at Noblesville City Hall

• Oct. 8 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Chapter Book Lounge

• Oct. 13 from 2 to 4 p.m. at The Gathering House



Hile

Liesel Mertes to speak at upcoming Carmel Small Business Network breakfast

The REPORTER

The annual Carmel Small Business Network breakfast meeting will take place at 8 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 10. This event is brought to you by presenting sponsor, State Bank, and location sponsor, Capital Group, 12711 N. Meridian St., Carmel.

Registration via Eventbrite is requested at [this link](#).

Liesel Mertes, trainer and workplace empathy expert, will serve as the keynote speaker. After the death of her daughter, Mercy Joan, Liesel emerged with

a deep understanding of what people need to feel supported at work after a disruptive life event. As the Founder of Handle With Care Consulting, Mertes works with companies and event organizers who want to enable empathy in the workplace, elevate performance and create meaningful connections across audiences and teams.

In this interactive, reflective session, "Human-Centric Skills: How

to Create a Culture of Empathy at Work," Mertes empowers participants to be workplace first responders, offering empathy, connection, and care when it matters most. Participants will learn what empathy at work is and why it matters to build the necessary skills to communicate and support people as they encounter disruptive life events and overcome common personal and organizational obstacles to empathy.



Mertes

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Noblesville Porch Fest rocks Logan Street



The Noblesville Front Porch Music Festival took place Saturday, Aug. 29. A total of 25 bands performed on 14 porches along Logan Street this year. Learn more about the yearly event at NoblesvillePorchFest.com.

Photos provided

OneZone Business Action Committee endorses Dustin Dixon for Hamilton County Sheriff

Submitted

The OneZone Business Action Committee has endorsed Dustin Dixon for Hamilton County Sheriff, citing his extensive law enforcement experience, proven leadership, and commitment to keeping Hamilton County safe as the community continues to grow.

The committee pointed to Dixon's experience within the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, his understanding of the county's evolving public safety needs, and his commitment to strong partnerships with residents, businesses, and community leaders as key factors in its decision.

"Dustin Dixon brings extensive law enforcement

experience, proven leadership, and a strong understanding of the public safety needs of a growing Hamilton County," OneZone Chamber President Jack Russell said.

"His commitment to keeping our communities safe while building strong partnerships with residents, businesses, and local leaders makes him a strong choice to serve as Hamilton County Sheriff."

Dixon has spent more than two decades in law enforcement, building experience in patrol, investigations, and leadership.



Dixon

Throughout his career, he has worked with law enforcement agencies and community partners across Hamilton County while focusing on public safety and effective service to the community.

The OneZone Business Action Committee, made up of OneZone Chamber members, evaluates candidates using nonpartisan criteria. The committee reviews candidate qualifications, policy positions, leadership experience, and alignment with issues important to Hamilton County's business community.

In announcing the endorsement, the committee pointed to Dixon's experience, leadership, and understanding of the challenges that come with Hamilton County's continued growth. The committee also cited his focus on collaboration, public safety, and ensuring the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office is prepared to meet the needs of a growing county.

The endorsement reflects the OneZone Business Action Committee's support for candidates it believes will provide effective leadership and help maintain Hamilton County as a safe, strong, and thriving place to live, work, and do business.

Justin Jones named Director of Streets for Westfield

Submitted by City of Westfield

Longtime Westfield city employee Justin Jones has been promoted to Director of Streets, which is the division of Public Works that handles snow removal, sidewalk repairs, road patching, and more.

Jones joined the City in January 2015 as a Street Laborer and has steadily taken on greater responsibilities throughout his career. At every step, he has demonstrated an outstanding work ethic and a commitment to getting the job done. Congratulations, Mr. Jones!



Jones

Letter to the Editor

Adler issues his support for Beth Sheller for County Clerk

Editor's note: Although Mr. Adler is one of the owners of the Hamilton County Reporter, his endorsement should not be taken as an endorsement from this newspaper nor from any of the other owners of this newspaper.

Dear Editor:

I am proud to support Beth Sheller for Hamilton County Clerk.

My position has sprouted from years of first-hand experience working with her in conducting Hamilton County elections. I've seen the professionalism and preparation she brings to our elections. Most importantly, she is fair and accurate. I don't recall a time that her work product has been less than exemplary. I am impressed with the integrity and attention to detail with which she runs the election department. She understands the tremendous responsibility that comes with overseeing the election.

She attends training seminars and trains county workers. She remains at the Courthouse during elections to answer questions that may come up from poll workers, volunteers, and voters. Elections require careful preparation and long hours. It requires the ability to handle unexpected issues calmly and fairly. Under her leadership, the election office is well-organized, responsive, and above reproach.

She has served in other roles as a community volunteer promoting Prevail and serving on the Hamilton East Public Library Board. The Office of County Clerk is a very important one. It's critical to have an experienced person fill that role.

Beth Sheller has the knowledge, integrity, temperament, and proven record to serve Hamilton County extremely well. I am pleased to support her for Hamilton County Clerk and encourage others to do the same.

Raymond M. Adler
Noblesville

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

Thanks for reading the Hamilton County Reporter!

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A ribbon cutting five years in the making

Chariot Automotive Group’s Academy Dealership celebrates five years of business & community service

The REPORTER

Chariot Automotive Group’s Academy dealership in Tipton celebrated five years of community involvement and customer success with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Aug. 20. The celebration continue with a free, family-friendly community “Cruise In” in partnership with the **Jack-Wagon Car Club** on Saturday, Aug. 22.

In addition to its automotive sales and service efforts, Academy is the flagship dealership location of Chariot Automotive Group’s ATEP (Automotive Technician Education Pathway) program, which provides Indiana high school students with hands-on technical training for college credit. By combining classroom learning, real-world experience, and industry-recognized credentials, ATEP creates a clear, affordable pathway from high school to career. Thus far, the program has served approximately 150 students from 13 schools.

“We are excited to celebrate this milestone with all of the communities we serve,” said Rex Gingerich, Founder & CEO of Chariot



Photos provided

Automotive Group. “In the last five years, we’ve enjoyed welcoming customers from across Tipton and Hamilton counties to our store and we look forward to meeting many more in the next five years. This celebration is more than recognizing a car dealership; it’s a reflection of our commitment to community and continuous education through the ATEP program.”

Chariot has been integrated into Tipton and its surrounding communities



through charitable efforts like Cross America and hosting blood drives in

partnership with the Red Cross. Chariot Automotive



Group has three additional dealership locations in Lafayette and Kokomo. To

learn more about Chariot Automotive Group, visit drivechariot.com.



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US Flag Requests
Obtain commemorative flags flown over the US Capitol from my office.



Military Academy Nominations
High school students in our district may contact my office to request a nomination to attend one of our nation’s service academies.



US Capitol and White House Tour Requests
My office can help arrange tours throughout our nation’s capital.



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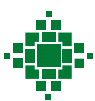
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Community News

Health Department to hold Narcan education course

The Hamilton County Health Department will present a free Narcan education course from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 3, at Trinity Free Clinic, 1045 W. 146th St., Suite B, Carmel.

Attendance is required in order to receive free Narcan. Register for this free education at [this link](#).

See The Rugged Brothers Band live at The Piper in Noblesville

The Rugged Brothers Band will entertain patrons on Friday evening, Sept. 4, at The Piper, 5855 E. 211th St. #32, Noblesville.



Photos provided by Westfield Chamber of Commerce

Westfield Chamber of Commerce showcases six local nonprofits

Submitted by Westfield Chamber

Impact. Dignity. Passion. Collaboration.

Only a handful of words that describe nonprofit work in the Westfield community. There is an incredible network of nonprofits in Westfield and Hamilton County, and the Chamber was honored to host six organizations to highlight work being accomplished across the

region at the State of Nonprofits Luncheon.

Thank you to Grace Care Center, Hamilton County Leadership Academy, Family Promise of Hamilton County, Hamilton County Kids Coats, Westfield Lions Club, and Westfield Library Foundation for sharing your time, and to Danielle Stiles-Polk with Hamilton County Community Foundation

for moderating. Many of the nonprofits have been working tirelessly to support those impacted by the recent floods. If you would like to support these causes, please consider visiting hamiltoncountycf.org/donate to donate to the Hamilton County Flood Relief Fund.

Thank you to Title Sponsor Community First Bank of Indiana for mak-

ing this conversation possible. Thank you to Gaylor Electric, Skender, Schunk Moreland Strategies, Community Health Network, HOTWORX, and PrimeLife Enrichment for supporting these nonprofits.

Coming up, don't miss the **State of the Schools Luncheon** with Westfield Washington School Superintendent Dr. John Atha on Sept. 17.

Our strange new life post-White River flood

Today, I want to relate some of what we have been going through post-tragedy/mid-recovery. Our lives are very little like what they were before and I suspect they never will be back to the old way again. Although, in the end they may be better. (Note this glimmer of hope.)

First off, although I consider it incredibly lucky that our son Tony made his RV available to us so that we wouldn't be house guests (or have to rent a furnished apartment for god-knows how long), living in it has definitely taken some getting used to. For example, I had never showered in a phone booth before, so that has been a new experience. Also, our queen-size bed is positioned so that I must either wake Donna (she has convinced me she doesn't mind a bit - hero!) or climb over her to get to the tiny bathroom in the middle of the night.

That room is about airplane bathroom sized - phone booth shower notwithstanding. We've decided to fight the claustrophobia by agreeing we don't need to close the door during use. (We don't take visitors very often, so it's okay.)

A small, but full kitchen is provided and there is room for our two coffee pots on the counter - ONLY our two coffee pots (Donna is decaf, I am caf - thus the twosome).

I don't want to give an impression that the RV isn't comfortable. It is very nicely appointed with plenty of plush seating, A/C, Wi-Fi, fans, and lighting everywhere, and plenty of closet space for our very reduced clothing options. I thank Tony every day for the blessing. I just don't think we'll ever move into a tiny house, though.

Once we are out of bed and coffeed, there is work to be done. We spent the first few days emptying the house of all of the too much



COLUMNIST

KEN KLINGENMEIER

that we have collected over the past 30 years. Many things were ruined, so there was no decision but to discard them to a pile at the curb. Things that mattered less to us post-disaster than before were also thrown out. Cluttersome items - particularly a lot of memorabilia - will never be seen again. Items we saved other than a few pieces of furniture - mostly clothing, electronics, and kitchen stuff - went into bins and bags and were put into the garage.

All this purging and stowing was done haphazardly in a rush. It wound up that if we needed something that had been stored - a warm shirt, a pair of long pants, a sweater - all these had to be located in the jumble sitting in our garage (so lucky to have that building). So our work yesterday was reorganizing that jumble and marking the bins. As a result of the hunt, there is plenty of laundry to tackle today.

Eating is a necessary daily challenge. We mostly have cereal for an easy breakfast and many days we can find a free lunch or dinner or both provided for the flood victims in our local park. Restaurants, church organizations, the Red Cross, and the Salvation Army feed hundreds of us every day. It is an unbelievably generous offering as are the wandering helpers, the medical tents, and endless free supplies at the local church.

As I say - our new life is nothing like our pre-flood, easy, charmed existence. Although we are pretty comfortable, and we look forward to our redesigned home - masterfully led by our son-of-the-year (and it's only August) Tony - we have literally left our past behind - lost it really.

Our most important constant has been each other. Whatever else has changed, we remain strong, kind, and loving to each other.

Submitted

Indiana students earned a first-place finish, multiple Top 10 placements, and earned additional honors at the 2026 National History Day® National Contest, held June 14 to 18.

Leading Indiana's accomplishments, Katie Zhao, Olivia Lim, Stephanie Tan, and Valerie Fu of Carmel High School earned first place in Senior Group Website for their project, *The War Powers Resolution: Redefining the Separation of Powers in the Vietnam Era*.

Indiana's delegation to the national contest included 50 students from 16 schools across Indiana who advanced through local and state contests held throughout the spring. They joined nearly 3,000 students from across the United States and international schools at the weeklong competition. Students presented original historical research through exhibits, documentaries, performances, papers, and websites, with projects evaluated by panels of judges from across the country.

Additional Top 10 projects were recognized, including Katelyn Chen of Carmel High School, who placed ninth in Senior Individual Website for *Resisting Hate: Notre Dame Students' Revolutionary Reaction to the Ku Klux Klan*, and Evyn Arockia, Jeonghu Yang, and Luke Zhang of Carmel High School, who placed 10th in Senior Group Website for *The Wounds of Labor Justice: Revolution, Reaction, and Reform in the Indianapolis Streetcar Strike of 1913*.

Indiana students also

earned four Honorable Mentions, recognizing projects that ranked among the top 20 entries in the nation. Honorees included Stephen Olson of Zionsville, Amos Groothuis of Indianapolis, Benjamin Lu, Divya Ariyur, Emma An, and Shawn Feng of Carmel, and Iman Hallab of Fishers.

"We were so excited to return to the National Contest this year! Indiana's students explored this year's theme of Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History by creating exhibits, performances, websites, documentaries, and papers," said Lexi Gribble, IHS Manager of Education and National History Day in Indiana Coordinator. "I am incredibly proud of the work they put in to prepare and present their projects for the judges at the National contest. I hope this experience inspires them to continue to explore history and develop strong research skills!"

Two Indiana students also received special recognition through National History Day's Outstanding Affiliate Entry awards, which honor one junior division project and one senior division project from each state. Amos Groothuis of Northview Middle School earned the Junior Division recognition for his website, *Saving*



Photo provided

Our Birds: How the Migratory Bird Treaty Act Brought Birds Back From Near-Extinction. Iman Hallab of Eman Schools received the Senior Division recognition for her website, *The Catalyst for Change: Rachel Carson's Silent Spring and the Revolution, Reaction, and Reform in Environmental Policy*.

Indiana students were also selected to participate in national showcase programs in Washington, D.C. on June 17. Isabella Henderson and Kate Templeman of Carmel High School were selected for the Exhibit Showcase at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History for their project, *Dorothea Dix and the Central State Hospital*. Abhijay Masetty of Penn High School was selected for the White House Historical Association's Paper Showcase for *The Battle of Blair Moun-*

tain: The Revolution Against Oppression That Shocked America Forever.

National History Day in Indiana (NHDI) engages students in grades 4 through 12 in historical research, critical thinking, and communication through an annual project-based competition. This year's National theme, *Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History*, challenged students to examine moments of significant change and the responses they inspired, exploring how individuals, groups, and institutions shaped the course of history.

The 2026 NHDI Contest is presented by the Rooker Family Foundation, with support from the Vigran Family Foundation.

For more information about National History Day in Indiana, visit indianahistory.org/historyday or call (317) 232-1882.

Wed Aug 26 - Soccer and Volleyball

6:00 pm Avon vs **Noblesville** | Girls Soccer | Junior Varsity | HCTV Sports

6:30 pm Western Boone vs Covenant Christian | Volleyball | Indiana SRN

7:30 pm Avon vs **Noblesville** | Girls Soccer | Junior Varsity | HCTV Sports

Thurs Aug 27 - Boys Soccer and Volleyball

5:30 pm Brebeuf vs **Noblesville** | Boys Soccer | JV Black

6:30 pm Western Boone vs Covenant Christian | Volleyball | Indiana SRN

7:00 pm Brebeuf vs **Noblesville** | Boys Soccer | Varsity

Fri Aug 28 - Football

6:45 pm **Sheridan** vs Alexandria | IHSAA Football | Bragg Sports Media

6:50 pm Brebeuf vs Mt Vernon | IHSAA Football | Indiana SRN

6:50 pm Shortridge vs Covenant Christian | IHSAA Football | Indiana SRN

6:50 pm Leo vs Bishop Chatard | IHSAA Football | Indiana SRN

6:50 pm Indian Creek vs Heritage Christian | IHSAA Football | Indiana SRN

7:00 pm Lawrence North vs **Fishers** | IHSAA Football | Fishers Sports Network

7:00 pm London vs **Hamilton Heights** | IHSAA Football | Husky Sports (PPV)

Sat Aug 29 - Front Porch Music Festival

1:00 pm Noblesville's Front Porch Music Festival | Live Coverage - Through 6 pm

Tues Sept 1 - Boys Soccer

6:00 pm **Fishers** vs **Noblesville** | Boys Soccer | JV Black | HCTV Sports

7:30 pm **Fishers** vs **Noblesville** | Boys Soccer | Varsity | HCTV Sports

Upcoming Broadcasts

Available on the Web www.HCTV1.com

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YouTube www.HCTV2.com

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

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FEMA to open Mobile Registration Intake Center

Flood survivors can get in-person help at 4-H Fairgrounds

The REPORTER

Hamilton County is holding a FEMA Mobile Registration Intake Center (MRIC) this week to help residents impacted by recent flooding apply for federal disaster assistance. FEMA representatives will be available from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 1, and Wednesday, Sept. 2, at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds, 2003 Pleasant St., Noblesville. No appointment is necessary. The MRIC will provide residents with one-on-one assistance completing their applications, answering questions about the registration process, and confirming applications that have been submitted correctly.

“We know the FEMA process can feel overwhelming, particularly for people who are already dealing with the loss of their homes, belongings, or sense of normalcy,” says Chad Knecht, Executive Director of Emergency Operations for Hamilton County. “We want to remove as many barriers as possible to getting people the help they need.” Applicants are encouraged to bring their Social Security number, in-

surance information, information about damage to their property, financial and contact information, and direct deposit information if they would like assistance deposited directly into their bank account. Residents do not have to visit the Mobile Registration Intake Center to apply. Applying online at DisasterAssistance.gov is the fastest option. A Spanish-language application is available at DisasterAssistance.gov/es.



Knecht



Altman

Scott D. Rasmussen
December 1, 1960 – August 28, 2026

Scott D. Rasmussen, 65, Lafayette, passed away peacefully on Friday, August 28, 2026, at IU Health Arnett Hospital. He was born December 1, 1960, in Kenmore, N.Y., to Thomas W. Rasmussen of Noblesville and the late Shirley (Olson) Rasmussen. Scott graduated from Noblesville High School in 1979 and Purdue University in 1983. On February 20, 1994, he married Rebecca Love in Lafayette. Scott was a Sales Engineer for Plug Power, formerly Custom Alloy, for the past 15 years. He was a member of Grace Lutheran Church and volunteered with FEX Tech at Lafayette Jefferson High School. Scott loved life and especially enjoyed traveling, skiing, hunting, boating, fishing, golfing, camping, and spending time with his family. He is survived by his wife, Rebecca; his daughters, Erin E. Rasmussen of Cincinnati, Ohio; Ashley C. (Joshua) Kaminsky of Lafayette; Samantha E. (William) Simmons of Carbondale, Colo.; and Chandler T. Rasmussen (Hayden Reece) of Lafayette; his granddaughters, Scout H. Kaminsky and Quincy L. Rasmussen-Reece; and his brother, Stephen W. (Jean) Rasmussen of Westfield. Visitation will be from 4 p.m. until the time of the service at 6 p.m. on Thursday, September 3, 2026, at Soller-Baker Lafayette Chapel, 400 Twyckenham Blvd. Memorial contributions may be made to the Cancer Society, Grace Lutheran Church, or Jefferson High School Music department in Scott’s memory. You may leave condolences and memories at soller-baker.com.

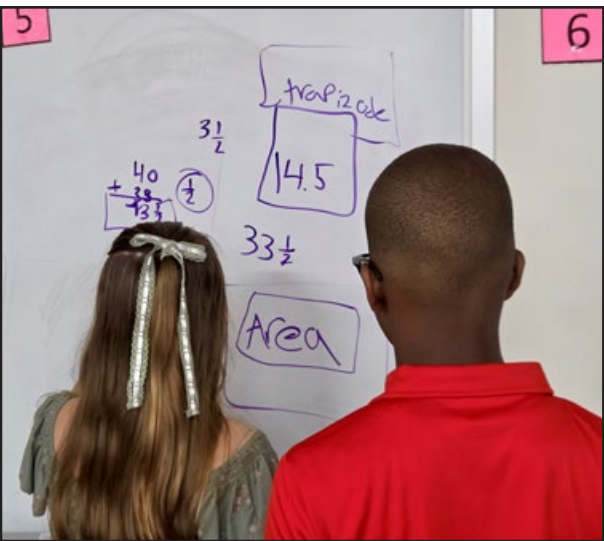


Carla Mercedes Hynes
October 14, 1975 – August 7, 2026

Carla Mercedes Hynes, born on October 14, 1975, in Tucson, Ariz., was a thoughtful woman who touched the lives of all who knew her. Carla passed away on August 7, 2026, in Noblesville, at the age of 50. She was a talented individual who courageously ventured into new opportunities, even when they were challenging. She was an All-American cross-country runner during her collegiate years at Yavapai College in Prescott, Ariz., a testament to her adventurous spirit and determination. Despite her many accomplishments, what mattered most to Carla were her children. She is survived by her children, Devin Rhodes, Gabriel Andoniadis, and Leah Andoniadis. Their happiness and well-being were her greatest pride and joy. Carla was a member of her local women’s church group, where she showed her caring nature and willingness to help others. Her brother, Roberto Estrella, survives her, and they shared many unforgettable moments and experiences. She was preceded in death by her parents, Gilbert and Lydia Estrella, whose love and guidance shaped Carla into the woman she became. In her 50 years of life, Carla was a beacon of inspiration, a creative soul, and a thoughtful friend. Most importantly her life and personality always reflected Jesus, living her life to the fullest and always seeking new adventures while spreading the gospel anytime an opportunity presented itself. This is the life Carla lived, and the legacy she leaves behind. Carla’s care is under the direction of Hartley-Dunnichay Funeral Homes in Cicero. In lieu of flowers, donations for funeral home expenses can be mailed to Hartley-Dunnichay Funeral Home, P.O. Box 527, Cicero, IN 46034, or given online at hartleyfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/carla-hynes/guestpayment. Please feel free to share memories and upload photos of Carla to the memorial page to celebrate her life and keep her spirit alive in our hearts. Condolences: hartleyfuneralhomes.com



Quilting + Math = Engaged Learning



Quilting + Math = Engaged Learning! Noblesville West Middle School sixth graders in Mr. Schneider’s math class have been practicing hands-on math skills by designing a replica of a quilt on loan from the National Quilt Museum.

Photos provided by Noblesville Schools

Letter to the Editor

When the waters rise, where do you turn?

Dear Editor:	many have found in Christianity.	question is welcome and nothing is off the table.
Having lived in Noblesville for over a decade, I am used to the White River occasionally flowing over its banks – but nothing prepared me for the recent flooding! It is a reminder that even the solid ground we count on can give way beneath us.	Whether you're exploring faith for the first time, finding your way back, or simply looking for an honest place to ask bigger questions, you're welcome exactly as you are. No pressure, no expectations, just good food, good company, and open conversation.	These days hope often feels hard to come by. But real hope is what the Christian faith claims to offer: a joyful expectation for the future, based on true events in the past, which changes everything about my present.
In the wake of recent flooding across our area, many of us have been asking bigger questions than usual: what actually holds when the unexpected hits, and where can real hope, peace, and purpose be found?	Three Wednesday Nights Sept. 2, 9 & 16 from 6 to 8 p.m. Wolfie's Grill, Noblesville • Week 1: Hope • Week 2: Peace • Week 3: Purpose Sign up here .	After a season that has tested our community's resilience, this is a chance to slow down, sit with neighbors old and new, and explore what it might look like to find hope that doesn't wash away.
That's exactly the conversation Noblesville's Living Branch Church is inviting you to join this September with Hope Explored, a relaxed, three-week series for anyone curious about life's bigger questions and the hope	Each evening includes a free dinner courtesy of Wolfie's Grill, two short videos to spark discussion, and a relaxed atmosphere where every	Come as you are. Bring your questions. Explore hope. God Bless! Keith Doane Pastor, Living Branch Church

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.

Norma Hall
February 1, 1934 – August 26, 2026

Norma Hall, 92, Carmel, passed away on August 26, 2026. She was born on February 1, 1934, in Clinton County, daughter of Grover and Effie (Pickard) Merrill. Norma lived a life filled with faith, family, friendship, and genuine enjoyment of the people around her. She had a wonderful sense of humor and a gift for conversation and storytelling, qualities that made time spent with her memorable. Whether gathered around a table playing cards, catching up with friends, or simply sharing a good laugh, Norma had a special way of bringing joy to those around her. Early in her career, Norma worked at a salon before opening a beauty shop of her own. Faith was an important part of her life, and she was an active member of Carmel Friends Church, USFW, and her Bible study group. The friendships she formed through her faith and community remained meaningful throughout her life. Of all the roles she held, being a grandmother was among those she treasured most. Norma loved supporting her grandchildren and could often be found in the stands at a sporting event or in the audience at a musical performance. Norma also knew how to appreciate life’s simple pleasures. A trip (or two) to the fair was something Norma looked forward to each year. She enjoyed sewing, crocheting, reading, and bowling. At Christmas, her fruitcakes became part of the season and one of the many traditions enjoyed by friends and family. During her time at Wellbrooke of Carmel, bingo became a much-anticipated weekly highlight. Survivors include daughter, Jody (Dave) Griggs, and son, Tom (Kim) Hall; grandchildren, Justin (Tracy) Hall, Jared Hall (fiancée, Bridget Williams), Brittany Griggs (fiancé, Calvin Nguyen); and great-grandsons, Easton Hall and Wyatt Hall. In addition to her parents, Norma was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Donald “Don” Hall; brothers, Tom Merrill, Lloyd (Maxine) Merrill, and Glen Merrill; and sisters, Mildred (Clayton) Vanmeter, Ruth (Marion) Wallace, Helen Forbush, and Betty (Samuel) Vawter. The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the staff at Wellbrooke of Carmel for the kindness, compassion, and care they provided to Norma during her time there, as well as Paradigm Health. Family and friends will gather at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, September 5, 2026, at Carmel Friends Church, 651 W. Main St., Carmel, where the Funeral Service will begin at 12:30 p.m. Following the service, burial will take place in Carmel Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions in memory of Norma may be made to the Alzheimer’s Association. Envelopes will be available at the service. Bussell Family Funerals is privileged to assist the family in arrangements. Condolences: bussellfamilyfunerals.com



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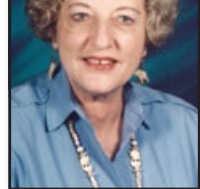
Of the land that we took over at that time, I gave the Reubenites and the Gadites the territory north of Aroer by the Arnon Gorge, including half the hill country of Gilead, together with its towns. The rest of Gilead and also all of Bashan, the kingdom of Og, I gave to the half-tribe of Manasseh. (The whole region of Argob in Bashan used to be known as a land of the Rephaites. Jair, a descendant of Manasseh, took the whole region of Argob as far as the border of the Geshurites and the Maakathites; it was named after him, so that to this day Bashan is called Havvoth Jair.) And I gave Gilead to Makir. But to the Reubenites and the Gadites I gave the territory extending from Gilead down to the Arnon Gorge (the middle of the gorge being the border) and out to the Jabbok River, which is the border of the Ammonites. Its western border was the Jordan in the Arabah, from Kinnereth to the Sea of the Arabah (that is, the Dead Sea), below the slopes of Pisgah.

Deuteronomy 3:12-17 (NIV)

Joan Roberts

February 28, 1932 – August 29, 2026

Joan Roberts, 94, Carmel, passed away August 29, 2026. She was born on February 28, 1932, in South Bend, Ind., daughter of John and Mary (Misner) Newman.



As a 1946 graduate of Riley High School, Joan continued her education at Ball State where she received her Bachelor of Science degree, and later her Master of Arts from the University of Notre Dame. She was employed with the South Bend School Corporation for several years before moving to Carmel where she worked in the Carmel Clay School Corporation before retirement.

Joan was a member of Carmel United Methodist Church, a longtime member of the Fall Creek Chapter of Questers, and a subscription member of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. Joan was actively involved at Conner Prairie and enjoyed volunteering through the years.

Some of Joan's hobbies included gardening, antiques, and listening to music. She was an avid reader and enjoyed a genre of books.

In memory of Joan, contributions may be made to Conner Prairie Interactive History Park, 13400 Allisonville Road, Fishers, IN 46038.

In addition to her parents, Joan was preceded in death by her daughter, Jennifer Roberts.

Joan's request was not to have any formal funeral service. Arrangements entrusted to Bussell Family Funerals. Condolences: bussellfamilyfunerals.com

Barbara Durkee

January 27, 1930 – August 26, 2026

Barbara Durkee fell asleep in death on the morning of August 26, 2026. In 2017, Barbara was predeceased by her husband Charles. She is survived by her children Julie Miller, Janice (David) Dunn, Charlene White, Joel (Andrea) Durkee, along with four grandchildren, Jordan, Joshua, Robert, and Jessica; and three great-grandchildren, Daniel, Everlie, and Hudson.

She was born on January 27, 1930 in Grand Rapids, Mich., and was raised as an only child in a community known for its furniture craftsmanship. Mom enjoyed telling stories of her father and grandfather making rounds in the factory where they worked.

While attending Central High School, Barbara met Charles Durkee, her lifelong partner. Their marriage of 66 years was marked by deep devotion, shared faith, and a strong commitment to family. Shortly after their marriage, Barbara and Charles became baptized members of the congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, a decision that shaped their lives.

They shared a love of travel, exploring much of the United States as well as visiting Switzerland, France, Germany, Hungary, Austria, Russia, Australia, and Fiji. Together, they raised their children with love and affection. She was devoted to homemaking, hospitality, and community service.

She had a strong command of the English language and always enjoyed lively games of Scrabble. Her interests also included gardening, caring for her yard, and birdwatching. She cherished time spent at a lakeside cottage in Michigan, as well as flying kites and finding sea shells along the Florida coastline.

She enjoyed gift-giving and opening her home to provide beautiful meals and accommodations for friends, old and new. Barbara valued her friends and cherished their kind and reassuring conversations. Right up to the end, she enjoyed offering an extra cookie from her plate to anyone joining her for coffee.

Her faith remained central throughout her life. Barbara and Charles were deeply involved in volunteer teaching and support work within their congregation and found great joy in supporting those in full-time ministry.

A memorial service for Barbara is open to the public. A brief memorial talk will be delivered at 1 p.m. Monday, September 7, at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 19100 Allisonville Road, Noblesville. No repeat will follow.

Memorial contributions may be made at jw.org.
"But as for me, I will keep on the lookout for Jehovah. I will show a waiting attitude for the God of my salvation. My God will hear me." (Micah 7:7).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

The Reporter's policy on obituaries

The Hamilton County Reporter does not charge families for publishing obituary notices in our pages. Every obituary appearing in online editions Wednesday through Saturday also appears in our Monday print editions. In order to continue to offer this as a community service, we ask that obituaries not exceed 500 words. The limitations of space may not allow for longer ones to appear in print.

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

Joseph Grant Roberts

May 8, 1932 – August 24, 2026

Joseph Grant Roberts, 94, of rural Westfield, died on Monday, August 24, 2026, after a short illness.



Born in Noblesville on May 8, 1932, he was the only child of Justin A. and Mildred (Caca) Roberts.

Joe was educated at Noblesville Common Schools, Earlham College, the Indiana University School of Law, and the College (now University) of Puget Sound.

He was inducted into the United States Army and served as a member of the Attorney General's staff.

When he was discharged, Joe returned to Noblesville, where he was immediately elected as Hamilton County prosecutor, a position he held from 1959 through 1962. He then joined the family law firm, which was started in 1888. Joe continued to practice law for a total of 42 years, often serving as Hamilton County Department of Welfare attorney and as the attorney for the Hamilton County Drainage Board.

He was married to Leanna Kathryn Barker on June 27, 1964, and they enjoyed 54 years together before her death in 2019. After two years they moved to her family farm in Westfield.

Joe is survived by his son, Thomas J Roberts, Westfield; daughter, Mary Kathryn (Milton) Whittaker, Santiago de Chiquitos, Bolivia; and five grandchildren, Ramona Kathryn (Warren) Mazanec, Rachel Emma Whittaker, Joseph Santiago (Cely Juana) Whittaker, John Milton Whittaker, and Paul David Whittaker. He is also survived by four great-grandchildren, Elizabeth Lucia and Santiago Milton Whittaker, and Warren Alexander and Stuart Grant Mazanec.

Joe was a member of numerous organizations both state and federal, including five different historical societies, W.S. Blatchley Nature Study Club, American Guild of Organists, and the Organ Historical Society.

He was a lifelong member of the Noblesville Friends Meeting.

A graveside service was held Monday, August 31, at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville, where Joe was a board member and later president for over 30 years.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

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