

New Earth Festival September 26-27

53rd Atlanta New Earth Festival

Come and be a part of this great event!
Sponsored by Gaylor Electric, Christine Altman, and Duke Energy
Free Entertainment & Kids Zone!
45 RPM Saturday and Living Proof Sunday
Stage sponsored by Hamilton County Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt

Interactive Learning!

Public Safety & Health Area sponsored by Christine Altman and I.U. Health
Over 600 Vendors!
Unique arts, crafts, antiques, collectibles, and more!
Enjoy the farmers market and culinary delights
to tempt your palate!



THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

Your Hometown Newspaper

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 23, 2026

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy,
with scattered showers.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy.



HIGH: 65 LOW: 57

Strawtown Koteewi Park hosts new Nature Journal Club

Submitted by Brenda Myers

Fall is a great time to get out and connect with nature. Now, a new free program called Nature Journal Club encourages participants to pay closer attention, grow their curiosity and connect science and art through a shared community is available at Strawtown Koteewi Park in northeast Hamilton County.

Nature Journal Educator James Todd, Indianapolis, leads the new group the third Wednesday of every month from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Taylor Center for Natural History, 12308 Strawtown Ave., Noblesville. The program is an expansion of the Indiana Nature Journal Club which also meets in Indianapolis at Holliday Park the first Wednesday of every month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"I had always loved being in nature, but this nature journal-

ing program provided me with a guided practice that helped me learn to slow down, observe and connect with the natural world around me," said Todd, who has taught similar programs throughout Indiana.

Todd began journaling about eight years ago and enjoyed it enough to seek his educator certification through the Wild Wonder Foundation as a way of sharing its benefits with others.

He stresses that the ability to write or draw are not important for this program. What matters is the willingness to stop, listen, observe and be open to learning.

"Participants report they feel refreshed after they spend time journaling, and that's the goal," Todd said. "To slow down and simply be."

The new free class was funded with a generous grant from the Wild Wonder Foundation,



Photo provided

James Todd is a Nature Journal Educator who leads the club meetings each month at the Taylor Center for Natural History in northeastern Hamilton County.

where Todd is certified, and includes program instruction.

Because it is based at the Taylor Center, it meets rain or shine year-around, but reservations are needed and can be

made [here](#).

Journals and pencils are available, or participants can bring their own preferred tools. Camp stools also are provided for outdoor journaling activities.

Accessibility in Sydney

In the months leading up to our trip to Sydney, my mind constantly thought about what it would be like there. It is so far away, and I had no idea if accessibility was a priority there.

Would I feel accepted? Would the streets and sidewalks be accessible? I knew public transportation was going to be a big part of our trip, so naturally, I had some anxiety surrounding the accessibility of that as well.

In my "research" leading up to the trip, I gathered that there was at least an attempt at accessibility and inclusion, but until there, it was hard to really know for sure.

From the time we arrived in Sydney, we met helpful humans. They do things a bit differently once exiting the plane. Typically, my wheelchair is ready when I get off the plane. In Sydney, they had me get in one of their wheelchairs and took me to the top of the jet bridge, where I had to wait for my wheelchair.

As we continued through the airport to customs, we were stopped along the way by a lady working at the airport. She was very friendly and wanted to know if she could help us and gave us a lot of helpful tips, as we were brand new to Australia.

Once we got to customs, there was another wonderful lady who saw us, and offered to help us through the entire process. She was with us all the way until our driver picked us up. It was comforting and a huge help to us. Australia has strict rules for entering their country, and we were coming in with our hand bike, wheels, and luggage. I was nervous! Note: the only thing they ended up taking from us were our beef protein sticks. I felt as though I had committed a crime trying to get my protein in!

See Accessibility . . . Page 2

The adventures of the Sheridan High School Wilderness Club

Editor's note: The Sheridan Student Column is brought to readers by Sheridan High School's Accelerated English 9 class, taught by Ellie Arrowood.

Do you like the outdoors? In the Sheridan High School Wilderness Club, you can explore nature in many ways. You get to learn about and experience many unique things in the world around you and connect with others in the great outdoors!

The Sheridan High School Wilderness Club meets every Tuesday with its awesome leader, Trey Clayton (Chippy), to do fun activities and learn all kinds of new skills. Some of these activities can include team challenges, games, and lessons on different survival skills. A fun activity we do is identify different leaves. We also take occasional day trips on Saturdays. On these trips, we experience the beauty of Indiana's state parks. We also get to participate in activities like canoeing, hiking, fishing, and caving. While hiking, we learn about the trees and plants in that state park.

Wilderness Club will also sometimes take backpacking trips over the summer. This offers time to connect and build friendships with others and nature! On these trips, we get to hike and camp out in the wilderness. This gives us a chance to make lasting memories and have fun with those around us. In the end, there are so many amazing opportunities found within this club.

See Wilderness . . . Page 2

COLUMNIST



AMY SHINNEMAN
Disability in the City

Introducing the Blackhawk Nest

Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

Sheridan Community Schools (SCS) spent the summer revamping education spaces that will help students learn, grow, and gather together. One of the new additions is the Blackhawk Nest, located directly across from the high school cafeteria. Previously known as the "old swim locker rooms," it is now a gathering place for students.

This revamped area would not have been possible without the generosity and partnership of Brian Myers and the Biddle Memorial Foundation. Their support helped make numerous opportunities and improvements possible throughout all of SCS. The foundation, established in 2001, was created through the generosity of local businessman and philanthropist, Ken Biddle.

Brian Myers, current president of the Biddle Memorial Foundation, said, "We love providing opportunities to the school and its kids who attend. Whether SYAP, athletics, scholarships, or unique programs like this!"

Approximately four years ago, the idea of a gathering place began forming. The early discussions identified what these collaboration spaces might look like in the future.



Photos provided by Sheridan Community Schools

(ABOVE) The Nest serves as a flexible space where students can hold club meetings, grab a bite, or get together to study. (BELOW, from left) Sheridan School Board member John Hunt, Superintendent Dr. Dave Mundy, and Biddle Memorial Foundation President Brian Myers.

Today, the Blackhawk Nest is providing a central, flexible location. Students can use it to meet with clubs or groups, eat breakfast, or just to study.

Starting mid-October, the Blackhawk Nest will begin transitioning into Phase 2.

Phase 2 will allow for students to develop skills beyond the classroom. With the help of the cafeteria staff, they will begin selling a variety of breakfast beverages to students.

"We also hope, in time, to integrate aspects of our special education or other programming into a partnership with the cafeteria," SHS Principal Rick Davis said, "helping to give



students on-the-job training and targeted employability skills through working and helping to run The Nest.

The Blackhawk Nest isn't just a meeting space, it is a location that proves how Sheridan students, staff, and com-

munity come together to make the school a better place. SCS is grateful to Brian Myers and the Biddle Memorial Foundation for their continued belief in Sheridan students and their willingness to invest in the future of the Blackhawk community.

Hamilton County libraries join first-ever Give Like Dolly Day

The REPORTER

Libraries across Hamilton County will come together Friday, Sept. 25, to celebrate Dolly Parton's legacy by participating in the first-ever Give Like Dolly Day. The Dollywood Foundation created the worldwide effort to support Dolly Parton's Imagination Library programs.

Here in Hamilton County, residents can do that by donating to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Fund at the Hamilton County Community Foundation. Every gift stays local and helps provide free, high-quality books to Hamilton County children from birth to age five.

"Dolly dreamed it, but

local communities make it possible," said Sheryl Solars, Executive Director of the Westfield Washington Public Library. "Give Like Dolly Day gives Hamilton County residents a meaningful way to honor her legacy and lifelong commitment to children and literacy."

Hamilton County's Imagination Library is currently funded through July 2028 with support from the Hamilton County Council, the State



Graphic provided

ate enough funding to support the program for approximately four years.

"Dolly Parton showed us what can happen when you put a book into a child's hands and give their imagination room to grow," says Melissa

Loiselle, Library Director for the Hamilton East Public Library. "Our hope is that Hamilton County will help us carry that vision forward for many years to come."

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library mails one free, age-appropriate book each month to enrolled children from birth until their fifth birthday, regardless of family income.

Residents who would like to Give Like Dolly on Sept. 25 can make a tax-deductible contribution through the Hamilton County Community Foundation. Donations will stay right here in Hamilton County. To donate, visit hamiltoncountycf.org/dolly-partons-imagination.

NYSA

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REGISTER NOW FOR HOPE'S 5K



Sunday, October 4th | 2:30PM

Hamilton Heights HS Cross Country Course

\$35 Registration Fee

Click Link Below to Register as an Individual or Team or Donate to HOPE!

Click Here to Register or Donate for HOPE's 5K

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•Support HOPE

WILD, WILD WESTFIELD

[Fall Fest & Premier Chili Cook-Off]

Free Event



4-7 PM SATURDAY, SEPT 26

Petting Zoo, Face Painting, Live Music, Inflatables, Silent Auction, Balloon Twisters, Pony Rides, Fun Games, Great Food, Kids Train, Inflatable Maze, and Manny the Mechanical Bull!

Find Out More Here:

Event at CrossRoads Church at Westfield
19201 Grassy Branch Rd, Westfield



Hamilton County's Premier Chili Cook-Off

Bring a crock pot of your favorite chili to CrossRoads by 4:15 pm on Saturday, September 26, 2026

Participants must register their chili prior to the event.

4 Chili Categories
4 Winners of \$100

• Beef Chili • Poultry Chili
• Vegetarian Chili
• Other Meats Chili + Grand Prize Winner!

Register Chili Here >>>

For Our Neighbor is an effort of CrossRoads Church at Westfield to meet, know, engage, and serve our local neighbors, Find our more online at ForOurNeighbor.Life

PHI BETA PSI SORORITY

LASAGNA DINNER

FRIDAY, SEPT. 25th, 5:00-7:00 PM

SHERIDAN HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CARRY OUT AVAILABLE
GLUTEN-FREE OPTION AVAILABLE



TICKET PRICES

Adults: \$15 pre-sale and at the door
Children (3-12 yrs): \$8 pre-sale & at the door

Tickets available from members and at Sheridan Public Library

Proceeds go toward two \$1000 medical scholarships for Sheridan seniors.

Our annual lasagna dinner is held in loving memory of our sister, Martha Rokey.

Tipton County voters can hear from their Sheriff candidates

Submitted

Tipton County voters will soon get to hear directly from sheriff candidates Matt Tebbe and Craig Henderson.

The public is invited to attend at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30, at the Tipton High School Auditorium, 619 S. Main St., Tipton. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. on the west side of the building.

It will be conducted as a public-information event, not a campaign rally. The Indiana State Fraternal Order of Police will originate and secure the questions and provide the neutral moderator. The forum will be narrowly focused on the duties, responsibilities, and current challenges of an Indiana county sheriff and law-enforcement agencies.

Both candidates have agreed to participate in a public forum where members of the community will have an opportunity to meet the candidates, hear them address questions, and learn more about their views on issues facing Tipton County.

Important note: Campaign signs, literature, fundraising, and distribution of campaign materials will not be permitted inside the forum room.

Inclusive Trunk-or-Treat for special needs kids to take place in Fishers

The REPORTER

Ascension St. Vincent Fishers and Peyton Manning Pediatric Therapies will hold a free Community Trunk-or-Treat for kids with special needs and their families on Saturday, Oct. 10, starting at noon on the campus of Ascension St. Vincent Fishers Hospital, 13861 Olio Road.

Designed to foster a safe, festive, and inclusive environment, the afternoon event aims to connect families with local community organizations and support resources. While specially tailored for children with special needs, the event is open to the public, and all children are welcome to attend.

Event activities and highlights include:

- Trunk-or-Treating and interactive games
- Bounce houses, face painting, and an obstacle course
- Costume contest with prizes
- Special guest appearances featuring representatives from the Indianapolis Colts, Indiana Fever, and Indiana Pacers
- Live DJ and local food vendors
- Safety and nutritional education booths

ACCESSIBILITY

from Page 1

Photo provided

Our columnist and her husband Jamie enjoy dinner while taking in the city's sights, with the Sydney Harbour Bridge in the background.

From there on, the trip proved to be very accessible. If something was not accessible, there was a whole-hearted attempt to make an accommodation. Not tucked away in a corner, we were offered some of the best tables at many restaurants.

We had the wonderful opportunity to see a performance at the iconic Sydney Opera House. The entire experience was seamless. People came from out of nowhere if we looked like we were struggling at all and offered to help us. We even met two local ladies who had season tickets, and they found us at intermission to check on us and see if we needed anything. Beyond any expectations we had.

We rode the ferry, the train, and the buses while there. All were accessible, and the staff helpful.

We visited the Taronga Zoo, which proved to be a hilly, but accessible experience.

We visited Manly Beach as well as Bondi Beach during our time there. Both had accessible pathways along the water. Bondi Beach has large ramps down to the sand. Both also noted that beach wheelchairs were available upon request, but we did not use one.

As previously mentioned, Sydney was hillier than we expected. As we explored, there were areas that were not the easiest for my husband to push my wheelchair. Not only did he have to conquer the hills of the marathon, but he also had more hills to conquer during the rest of our time there.

If I had to pick a favorite part, it would be that I was able to freely wheel all around the Sydney Harbour, taking in the gorgeous views of the Sydney Harbour Bridge from multiple angles. The stunning view never grew old, and I miss it every day.

Another highlight was being on the train and looking out the window to see about 20 kangaroos in a field, just as we would see deer here. It was so neat to see.

Going on a trip overseas – or any trip as a disabled person, for that matter – there is a lot more to think about and figure out once there. It certainly adds another layer of stress and anxiety when visiting a new place.

At times, it can feel very frustrating and daunting. The wish that we could just go and enjoy without having to think about all the details that most never give a second thought, can stir up negative emotions.

When we travel, we try to have the mentality of we will find a way to figure things out. Keeping emotions in check and bringing patience always helps. We have learned throughout the years, that it does not do either of us any good to get frustrated.

We were so grateful for the lovely and kind people we met along the way in Sydney and for our opportunity just to be there. There were too many helpful people to count. We both agreed that Sydney felt like a big, warm accessible hug most of our time there.

Cheers mate!

Until next time...

Amy Shinneman is a former National Ambassadors for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, disability blogger, freelance writer, wife, and mom of two boys. She is the recipient of The Reporter's Winter 2025 Ink-Stained Wretch award. You can find her blog at humblycourageous.org and reach her on Instagram @ashinneman.

WILDERNESS

from Page 1

If you love the outdoors and adventure, you should consider joining our local Wilderness Club! There are so many fun activities to experience and explore while also creating long-lasting friendships and memories. The Wilderness Club is also a great way to spend your time after school! Adventure, friendship, and the great outdoors are waiting for you right after school. But if you go to Sheridan High School, you can join Trey and the rest of the Wilderness Club and start making memories that will last far beyond high school.

Community News

Sheridan Phi Beta Psi's annual Lasagna Dinner

Friday, Sept. 25 from 5 to 7 p.m.
 Sheridan High School cafeteria
 Lasagna, breadsticks, salad, dessert & drink
 Gluten-free & carry-out available
 Adult Tickets: \$15 both pre-sale and at the door
 Children ages 3 to 12: \$8 pre-sale and at the door
 Tickets available from members and
 at the Sheridan Public Library
Proceeds go to two \$1,000 medical studies scholarships for Sheridan High School seniors. The annual Lasagna Dinner is held in loving memory of Sheridan Phi Beta Psi sister Martha Rockey.

The quality of mercy

The Civil War divided our country like no other event in our history. Consequently, people in both North and South suffered wounds both physical and emotional. Abraham Lincoln in his Second Inaugural Address spoke to the need for healing and presented the opportunity for the country's men and women to care for all traumatized by war and division.

Having just commemorated the 25th anniversary of 9/11, we remember the trauma of that horrific event. After 9/11, we were a unified nation helping those impacted. On March 4, 1865, near the end of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln addressed the country and concluded his speech with these famous words:

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and for his orphan ~ to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

I believe Abraham Lincoln understood that to stay united as a country, people must see others as human beings. They must treat others with mercy, "a disposition to be kind and forgiving." We must affirm our unity and extend mercy to those we considered "enemies."

Once at a meeting, I was sharing a meal with several others. At one point, an attendee at our table started to disparage people in a group not represented at our meeting. This person's voice was so strident in denouncing this group that I was envisioning him referring to an infestation of cockroaches rather than human beings with different views. I wish this person had instead heeded the commandment: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Shakespeare's play *The Merchant of Venice* presents scenes that enable the audience to reflect on the nature

of being human and also the possibility of extending mercy to another. One plot in the play reveals that the law-abiding Christian merchant, Antonio, has taken out a substantial loan from the Jew, Shylock, on behalf of a close friend. Both parties agreed that if the loan could not be repaid by a designated date, Antonio would be obliged to give "a pound of flesh" to Shylock as recompense. When the loan cannot be repaid, a trial ensues and Shylock demands Antonio's "pound of flesh."

Shakespeare does not portray Shylock as a "monster," for Shylock has legitimate complaints against the self-righteous merchant. Earlier in the play, Shylock asserts that he is a human being. "I am a Jew. Hath not a Jew eyes? Hath not a Jew hands, organs, dimensions, senses, affections, passions?"

Recently, I saw a billboard near the Indiana State Fairgrounds proclaiming, "You don't have to be a Jew to protect Jews." Another version ends with, "Just a good human being." We can repudiate anti-Semitism and affirm the dignity of each person regardless of ethnicity or religion treating all with civility.

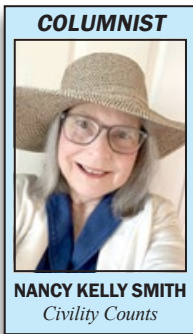
In the play's court scene, Portia, a wealthy heiress, manly-dressed as Balthasar, enters to defend Antonio. Her speech is a persuasive plea for Shylock to show mercy. She begins:

The quality of mercy is not strained / It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven upon the place beneath. It is twice blest / It blesseth him that gives and him that takes.

Portia concludes her speech aligning mercy with the divine.

It is an attribute to God himself / And earthly power doth then show likest God's When mercy seasons justice.

Yes.
 Nancy Kelly Smith is a retired English professor and published author. She is also an Ambassador for the national civility organization Civic Renaissance. Learn more at civic-renaissance.com.



NANCY KELLY SMITH
 Civility Counts

Hamilton Heights alumni pack Arcadia for annual luncheon

The REPORTER

Approximately 225 people attended the Hamilton Heights Alumni Association's All-Schools Reunion luncheon on Saturday, Sept. 19.

The silent auction brought in \$1,155 during the luncheon, which goes toward the Alumni Association's scholarships for Heights students. Each year, two seniors each receive a \$1,000 scholarship, and one senior receives a \$500 scholarship. Thank you to the local businesses which donated items for the silent auction.

The oldest alumna to attend was Viola Hunter Koker Jones. A Jackson Central graduate from the Class of 1946, she now resides on a farm in Tipton County.

The Class of 1966 had the most members of any class attend. They were the first class to graduate from Hamilton Heights after the consolidation of Jackson Central and Walnut Grove.

You can support the Hamilton Heights Alumni Association by dining in at any of Wolfpack Restaurant Group's establishments on



Photo provided by Bev Poindexter

Hamilton Heights' first graduating class of 1966 had the most members who attended the luncheon together.

Thursday, Sept. 24:

- Wolfies (Carmel, Fishers, Noblesville, Geist, and Pendleton)
- The Italian House (Westfield)
- The Broken Barrel (Carmel)
- Nyla's (Westfield)
- Boomerang's (West Lafayette)

When you eat at any of those fine establishments, 15 percent of your purchase (excluding alcohol) will be donated to the Heights Alumni Foundation.



Photo provided by Bev Poindexter

(From left) Bev Hunter Poindexter (Class of '68), who serves on the committee and put the Silent Auction together with about \$2,250 in donations; Viola Hunter Koker Jones (Jackson Central Class of '46), who at 98 was the oldest person in attendance; and Don Tudor (Class of '65), who drove up from Florida. All of them are related.



Skull-scratching trivia, contests, and more!

Sat. Oct. 3. 7pm | Pebble Brook Golf Course Pavilion

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DIRECTED BY NICOLE AMSLER
SEP 25-OCT 4, 2026

HOME

I'M DARLING

7:30 PM ON THURSDAY, FRIDAYS AND 1ST SATURDAY
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TICKETS: \$20 (FRI, SAT, SUN) | \$15 (THURS)

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POSTER ART + DESIGN BY WOOD

Indiana Wind Symphony announces 2026-2027 season

The REPORTER

The Indiana Wind Symphony will take audiences to Broadway, Hollywood, and the Indianapolis 500 during the 2026-2027 concert season. The group will also bring Boston to town with world-class quintet Boston Brass taking the Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts stage for the season's final performance.

Led by Music Director Jay Gephart, the season includes six performances at the Payne & Mencias Palladium, along with two intimate concerts featuring the Indiana Wind Symphony Chamber Players in the Studio Theater, both in Carmel. Highlights include the Indiana premiere of newly commissioned works, music honoring the United States armed forces, a 95th birthday tribute to John Williams and a celebration of the music of Leonard Bernstein.

"This season reflects the extraordinary range of music written for the wind ensemble," Gephart said. "We look forward to sharing programs that honor great American musical traditions while introducing audiences to exciting new works, remarkable guest artists and

the talented musicians of the Indiana Wind Symphony."

The Indiana Wind Symphony will also share two works it has commissioned as part of consortiums: "The Road is Life" by James M. David on Oct. 4 and "Tweak and Tinker" by Benjamin Barker on May 23.

The Indiana Wind Symphony's 2026-2027 season includes:

American Landscapes
Sunday, Oct. 4, at 4 p.m.
Payne & Mencias
Palladium

Featuring Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra principal tubist Anthony Kniffen, the season opener includes the Indiana premiere of James M. David's Symphony No. 2, "The Road is Life," inspired by Jack Kerouac's "On the Road."

Fanfare and Flourishes
Sunday, Oct. 11, at 4 p.m.
The Studio Theater

The Indiana Wind Symphony Chamber Players will showcase the brass section through an intimate program of music for smaller ensembles.

Summon the Heroes
Sunday, Nov. 8, at 4 p.m.
Payne & Mencias
Palladium

Presented near Veterans Day, this concert will honor those who serve and have served in all six branches of the United States armed forces.

Jingle Them Bells!
Sunday, Dec. 6, at 4 p.m.
Payne & Mencias
Palladium

This family-friendly Christmas concert will feature holiday music, stories, and special appearances by Santa and Mrs. Claus and vocal soloist Elizabeth Morrison, associate director of choirs at North Central High School.

95 Years of John Williams
Sunday, Feb. 7, 2027, at 4 p.m.
Payne & Mencias
Palladium

The Indiana Wind Symphony will celebrate John Williams' 95th birthday



with selections from the legendary composer's extraordinary career.

Beethoven Bicentenary Celebration
Sunday, Feb. 28, 2027, at 4 p.m.

The Studio Theater

The Indiana Wind Symphony Chamber Players will mark 200 years since Beethoven's death with an intimate program celebrating his musical legacy.

Maestro: The Music of Leonard Bernstein
Sunday, April 11, 2027, at 4 p.m.

Payne & Mencias
Palladium

This celebration of Leonard Bernstein's symphonic and Broadway music will also feature the 2027 Indiana Wind Symphony Young Artists Concerto Competition winner and advanced high school musicians performing side by side with the ensemble.

Start Your Engines!
Sunday, May 23, 2027, at 4 p.m.

Payne & Mencias
Palladium

The season finale will feature the Boston Brass and celebrate Indiana's racing tradition with race day favorites and Benjamin Barker's Indianapolis 500-inspired work, "Tweak and Tinker."

This season begins the celebration of an important milestone for the Indiana Wind Symphony: its 30th anniversary in 2027. Additional programming and opportunities to celebrate the ensemble's history will be announced at a later date.

Tickets and additional concert information are available at indianawindsymphony.org/events.

EQUIPMENT & MACHINERY AUCTION

Combined with

Equipment From Retiring Farmers

BRIAN UNDERWOOD & DENNIS REYNOLDS

ON-LINE ONLY

BIDDING OPENS: Sunday, September 13th @ 5pm

SOFT CLOSE BEGINS: Saturday, September 26th @ 6pm

PREVIEW DATES: Tuesday-Thursday, Sept. 22nd-24th from 10am - 5pm

PICK-UP DAYS: Monday & Tuesday, September 28th & 29th from 10am-5pm

EQUIPMENT OF BRIAN UNDERWOOD

TRIPLE U FARMS

1997 Mack CH600 Semi, 1990 Int'l 4900 Semi, 2012 Navistar Int'l ProStar Semi, JD 8100 2-wd Tractor (7627 hrs), Westfield MKX 10-63 Auger, Westfield WR 100-31, KSI 086625 Conveyor, 2013 Kinze 3600 16/32 Planter, Unverferth 1225 35' Rolling Harrow, (4) Killbros Wagons on JD 1075 Gears, (2) Killbros Wagons on Killbros 2386 Gears

EQUIPMENT OF DENNIS REYNOLDS

JD 8285R MFWD Tractor, JD 9560 STS Combine, JD 625F Grain Platform on E-Z Trail 680 Head Cart, 2008 Drago 8-Row Cornhead on Unverferth HT25 Head Cart, Sunflower 6630 Vertical Till, Glenco 11-Shank Soil Saver w/ New Twisted Points, Krause 4830-530R 3-pt. 5-Shank Ripper, JD 724 Mulch Tiller, JD 750 Grain Drill w/ Yetter Markers, Kinze 3600 12/23 Planter, Strobel 2-Box Seed Tender, E-Z Trail 510 Grain Cart w/ Scales, Killbros 350 Gravity Wagon w/ Seed Tender (Tarp & Poly Auger) on Killbros Gear, Harvest Flow Gravity Wagon, Yetter Seed Jet, 72" Land Pride Grader Box, 1993 GMC Topkick Tandem Twin Screw Grain Truck, 1986 Mack MH6 Semi, 2004 Wilson WH5 Hopper Bottom Trailer

ADDITIONAL MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT

Tractors: 1951 Allis-Chalmers CA w/ 2-Bottom Plow, Cultivators, 7' Disk & Fr and Rear Wgts., 1952 JD 60 Tractor, 1951 FarmAll Super C Narrow Front, Allis-Chalmers D-14 w/ Loader & Rear Hitch, Int'l 884 Tractor w/ 2250 Loader (3596 hrs), 1949 FarmAll H w/ Loader, 1953 Minneapolis-Moline UB Tractor, 1978 IH 1086 (One Owner)

Combines/Heads/Carts: 2015 JD S680 Combine, Int'l 1083 8-Row Corn Head on Killbros Cart, New Idea 2-Row Corn Picker

Tillage: Brillion 10-Shank 3-pt Chisel Plow, Oliver 565

4-Bottom Plow, 24' Krause Disk

Sprayers: Bestway Field-Pro II 1200-Gallon Pull-Type, Model AT200 2-Wheel Sprayer Tank, Stainless Chem Farm Tanks w/ Pump & Mounting Brackets, 2015 JD 4045 Sprayer w/ 120' Booms

Grain Handling: Brent 420 Grain Cart, 1990 Handlair 660 Grain Vac, Killbros, J&M, Parker & Unverferth Gravity Wagons, Kewanee 600 Conveyor, 8" x 61 Buhler Auger, Neco Grain Cleaner

Semi's, Vehicles, Trailers: 1986 Ford 9000 (855 Big Rig Cummins), 1992 Int'l 4900 Truck (DT 466, Manual 5-sp), 2002 Mack CH600 Semi, 2013 1-Axle Livestock Trailer, 16' B-B Sprayer Trailer w/ Hydr. Brakes on all Axles, 2003 Chevrolet Corvette, 2013 Ram 2500ST Truck, 2007 Jeep Wrangler Sahara

Mowers: JD 506 3-pt. Rotary Cutter, 6' Ford 930 3-pt Finish Mower, 15' Bush Hog 12615 Batwing Rotary Cutter, Bush Hog 2615 Legend

Heavy Equipment: JD 312G R Skid Steer w/ D60 Bucket, JD Pallet Fork & Hay Spear, Clark Fork Truck

Misc Equip: 7' JD 45 3-pt. Grader Blade, 3-pt. Boom, Cattle Gates & Panels, Goat Tote, Load-Out Chute, 4-Head Sheep Stall, Feedlot Roller Mill, (5) Tender Feet, 48" Professional Power Driveway Groomer, CAT 1 Drawbar, Dearborn 19-6 3-pt Slip Scoop, (4) 100# Suitcase Weights, JD 3-pt. Ballast Box, JD 290 Planter, J&M Model 1074 Running Gear, New Idea 2-Row Corn Picker/Sheller (30" Rows), Hay Wagons. 2021 Ram Dually Truck Bed, 6' Case IH Utility Bucket, New Idea 3632 Manure Spreader w/ New Metal Floor, Truck & Implement Tires & Wheels, Red Bull Spray Boom

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Letter to the Editor

A burrito bowl's worth of difference

Dear Editor:

There has been lots of talk about the school referendum over the past few months. With voting starting soon, I imagine that will only pick up.

I look at money within my home, my business, and on council through the same lens: what's the return on investment? When the city invests in things like new intersections, trail networks, and public safety personnel, it really is an investment. Less time at an intersection or a quick ambulance to the hospital when you need it is a small part of what makes Noblesville a place people choose to move to, start a business in, and stay in.

Our schools are a big factor in that draw, too. But in Indiana, schools are slightly different; the law puts the level of investment directly in our hands.

Under the proposed referendum on this year's ballot, I wanted to see what this would actually cost me and my family, so I ran my own numbers through the calculator on the district's referendum page (noblesvilleschools.org/referendum). It won't be the same for every household, but for mine, the increase for the entire year comes out to roughly what I'd spend on a burrito bowl.

When I look at ROI, that's enough for me to call this one worth it. Most of all because doing nothing leads to cuts that will impact students in our community, namely losing one in every five teachers and limited options to help students succeed.

While it's a process for the school system to move through, the referendum puts the burden of proof on the district. This is the Schools' chance to make their case, and the community's chance to hold them to it, the same way the market gives feedback to any of us running a business. For roughly what I'd spend eating out once, our community gets smaller class sizes, school safety staff, mental health counselors, career and technical programs, and the teachers who keep our kids' classrooms staffed and strong.

For the price of a burrito bowl, I'm a yes.

Aaron Smith
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.

Noblesville High School journalists interview school board candidates



Noblesville High School student journalists Vaughn Anderson (gray sweater), Stella Lee, and Jackson Rush interviewed school board candidates Denise Dye, Misti Ray (pictured at right), and Dr. Joe Forgey at a forum on Monday, Sept. 21. The students developed the format of the event and the questions. You can watch the candidate forum at [this link](#).

You still have time to register for HOPE 5K at Hamilton Heights

The REPORTER
HOPE Family Care Center’s 5K Walk/Run will take place at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4, on the unpaved cross country trail at Hamilton Heights. Check-in starts at 1:45 p.m. All ages and paces are welcome, including families with strollers. Register now at [this link](#). Between now and Oct. 3, if you register three participants, the fourth participant is free! Your \$35 registration includes a special HOPE 5K T-shirt, and it puts you in the running for top finisher awards and prizes. No pets are allowed because the event will be on school grounds. All ages are welcome; you do not have to be 18 years and older to participate. Children not in strollers will receive a T-shirt, and thus do need to be registered. HOPE Family Care Center is a faith-based 501(c)(3) non-profit clinic providing free medical, dental, and counseling services to uninsured, underinsured, and medically under-served patients from Hamilton, Tipton, Madison, Boone, and surrounding counties. Learn more at [hopefamily-care.org](#).

New Westfield Fire Station 84 opens on 191st Street



On Wednesday, Sept. 16, Westfield Fire Department crews moved into Station 84 and are officially operating out of the new facility. The new 20,000 square-foot station is located at the roundabout on 191st Street and Chad Hittle Drive, and is strategically located to serve the growing population along the 191st Street corridor. Station 85 (located at the corner of 206th Street and Six Points Road) is currently under construction and is anticipated to be complete in 2027. Welcome home, Westfield Fire!

Letter guidelines this election season

With the approach of the Nov. 3 General Election, the Hamilton County Reporter is establishing some Letters to the Editor guidelines to keep things fair and balanced. Letters addressing new topics about the upcoming election or the policies of individual candidates will be accepted until the end of the business day on Thursday, Oct. 22, and will be published on Friday, Oct. 23. Letters in response to new topics published in our Oct. 23 edition will be accepted until Tuesday, Oct. 27, and will be published in our Wednesday, Oct. 28 edition. These deadlines will give candidates and their supporters the opportunity to reply to letters addressing new topics. Straight letters of endorsement will be accepted until Thursday, Oct. 29, and will publish on Friday, Oct. 30. Please send your letters to News@ReadTheReporter.com. Letters to the Editor do not represent the opinions of The Reporter or our staff.







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Everwise Credit Union continues growth with Fishers grand opening

Submitted

Everwise Credit Union celebrated the grand opening of its newest full-service branch on Monday, Sept. 21, joined by Fishers community and business leaders, the Hamilton Southeastern High School marching band and athletics, as well as Indianapolis Colts Mascot Blue.

Located at 12330 Olivo Road, the branch marks Everwise's sixth full-service branch in Hamilton County and 20th in the greater Indianapolis area. The new location reflects Everwise's continued investment in meeting its members where they are.

"Today represents an important milestone for our organization," said Kasey

Bridges, Olivo Road branch manager. "Fishers has the kind of community spirit Everwise is drawn to, and we are excited to launch our new prototype design, highlighting how we will maximize its space to serve our clients in the best way possible."

The new building features a scalable layout on a compact site that maximizes spatial efficiency and street presence. Inside, members will find private consultation rooms, comfortable seating areas and integrated digital tools that allow members to move seamlessly between modern technology and personal interaction with experienced professionals.

The drive-thru includes two Interactive Teller Machines (ITMs), which combine the convenience of an ATM with the option to connect with a live teller via video during extended service hours. A self-service coin machine is also available in the lobby.

"We stand by the idea that tech-driven convenience should never replace genuine personal service," said Jay Gendics, Everwise's chief banking officer. "Interactive technology, like our ITMs, makes getting help fast and simple, while keeping human relationships at the center. This new branch represents our ongoing commitment to helping Fishers families and local businesses thrive with personalized financial care."

Fishers City Councilwoman Tiffany Ditlevson and OneZone Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Jack Russell spoke at the event, as well.

The Olivo Road branch offers a full range of Everwise financial services, including:

- Checking and savings accounts
- Mortgages and home lending
- Credit cards and consumer loans



• Wealth management services

About Everwise Credit Union

Everwise Credit Union is Indiana's largest credit union with more than \$5 billion in assets, over 50 branches throughout Indiana and southwest Michigan, and more than 300,000 members. Everwise offers traditional financial services including checking, savings, mortgages, and credit cards, as well as wealth management services. Since its founding in 1931, Everwise has focused on making a positive impact on its members and the community. Everwise Credit Union is



Photos provided by Everwise Credit Union

Everwise presented a \$5,000 check to the Hamilton Southeastern Education Foundation and to the HSE High School Band.

federally insured by NCUA lender. For more information and is an equal opportunity, visit everwiscu.com.

Community News

Three Indiana Pacers coming to Fishers to sign autographs

Front Row Collectables will hold a public autograph signing with Indiana Pacers players T.J. McConnell, Johnny Furphy, and Braden Smith from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, at Best Choice Fieldhouse, 11825 Technology Drive, Fishers.

This event will be part of the Midwest Monster Card Show (J&J All Star Card Shows, Oct. 2 and 3).

Tickets and mail-in orders can be purchased at frontrowcollectables.com.

The Dani Robinson difference

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20-acre luxury estate SOLD!

This beautiful Hamilton County property at 12131 E. 196th St. has been sold! This inviting home features luxurious bedrooms, a primary retreat with spa-like ensuite, and an upper-level theater and game room. The kitchen offers nostalgic charm with modern appliances. Car enthusiasts will love the 10 total garage bays, including a finished 6-bay area with a car wash. Equestrian amenities are unmatched, boasting a 60'x100' indoor arena, 33 stalls, and 5 pastures. Complete with a beautiful courtyard and a brand new June 2026 roof, this stunning estate has found its new owner.

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In new video ads, young Hoosiers encourage their peers to vote

Submitted by ReCenter Indiana

Between now and Election Day, young Hoosiers will be seeing something new on their screens: video ads that show fellow young adults going to vote – and sharing the experience with a companion.

The six-week advertising campaign was launched on Tuesday, Sept. 22, by the nonpartisan, nonprofit group ReCenter Indiana. It's directed specifically at residents of Marion, Hamilton, and Boone counties between the ages of 18 and 24.

The videos were recorded in Lawrence, Carmel, and Zionsville during the Indiana primary election last May. Outside their respective polling places, the young adult voters are shown sharing their personal feelings about the voting process and what the experience means to them.

The campaign will run through Election Day, Nov. 3, on YouTube, Instagram, and connected TV services including Netflix, HBO, and Peacock. The video ads are projected to generate more than 1.5 million impressions. A \$50,000 grant from Glick Fund made the campaign possible.

ReCenter Indiana has made young adult voters a special focus of its work to strengthen civic engagement and voter participation. In the most recent general election, in 2024, only 39 percent of Hoosier young adults voted, according to **Tufts CIRCLE 2024 youth voting report**. That compares to the national young adult turnout rate of 47 percent.

For eligible voters of all ages, Indiana is perennially among the states with the lowest turnouts.

"Instead of actors reading scripts, our videos feature authentic, young Hoosier voters saying in their own words why they're enthusiastic about voting," ReCenter Indiana Executive Director Jocelyn Vare said. "And, importantly, these voting experiences are built around the invitation, 'Hey, can I vote with you?'"

Research supports this peer-to-peer approach. In the **Turnout Nation 2019 study**, registered voters steadily encouraged by someone they knew were 13.2 percentage points more likely to actually cast a ballot. In two decades of studies, researchers reported, this approach proved more effective than any other.

The ReCenter Indiana ads show young adult voters before and immediately after they cast their ballots. They describe their voting experience as easy, meaningful, and empowering – from the importance of choosing to participate in democracy to receiving an "I Voted" sticker. The videos do not mention candidates or political parties.

Young adults in the three target counties will see ads specific to

Vare

Slash Tucker

See Vote ... Page 7

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Investing in the next generation of leaders

By TIFFANY PASCOE
Guest Columnist

There’s a particular kind of energy in a room full of young adults who show up not because they have to, but because they want to be part of something bigger than themselves.

I felt that energy again this week at the Indiana Family Institute’s Fall Dinner, where our Club America chapters from Fishers, HSE, Westfield, and Noblesville came together for an evening with Seth Dillon, CEO of *The Babylon Bee*.

It’s easy to talk about “investing in young people” as an abstract goal. It’s another thing to watch it happen in real time – to see teenagers and young adults from different communities sit at the same tables, trade stories, and realize they’re not alone in caring about the things they care about.

That’s the real work of these chapters: building a sense of belonging for the greater good.

As President of the Hamilton Southeastern Schools Board of Trustees, I see this same principle play out in our schools every day. Fostering and encouraging



Photo provided
(From left) Cherith Langham, HSE High School Club America Secretary; Shae Pullen, Fishers High School Club America; Zeke Gruber, FHS Club America; Daxton Sprouse, FHS Club America President; Seth Dillion, Babylon Bee CEO; Max Comer, HSE Club America President; Hunter Williams HSE Club America Vice President; Sophia Hunt, Westfield H.S. Club America President; Addie Holtsclaw, FHS Club America Vice President; Emma Cate, Noblesville H.S. Club America President; Audrey Diehl, FHS Club America Treasurer; and Tiffany Pascoe, President of the Hamilton Southeastern Schools Board of Trustees.

young people – giving them room to grow, be heard, and find their footing – isn’t a separate mission from what I do on the board. It’s the same work, just in a different setting. Being able to play even a small part in that, whether in a boardroom or around a dinner table with Club America and Indiana Family Institute, is one of the many meaningful parts of serving this community.

None of this happens without people willing to make it possible. Roscoe Stovall’s sponsorship gave our chapters a table and a reason to gather together rather than separately. A small logistical gift that translated into something much bigger: connection across our communities and the steady support of people like Martin Strother and Rachel Brandii, who keep

this mission visible and resourced, is what allows these evenings to happen year after year rather than as one-off events.

I keep coming back to this: mentorship and community aren’t abstract values. They’re built one dinner, one conversation, one introduction at a time. Every time I get to watch these

See Leaders . . . Page 8

VOTE

their respective counties. Three 30-second videos per county refer viewers to a county-specific ReCenter Indiana webpage with practical information about voter registration, identification requirements, early voting, Election Day voting, wait times, and the Election Protection Hotline.

ReCenter Indiana is asking Hoosiers to share the videos with young adults and then ask, “Hey, can I vote with you?” An invitation from a friend, relative, classmate or co-worker can make voting feel more comfortable, especially for a first-time voter.

All nine videos are available for viewing and download now on [ReCenter Indiana’s YouTube playlist](#).

ReCenter Indiana developed the ad campaign in response to its [2025 Young Adult Non-Voter Research](#)

[Study](#). The Nicholas H. Noyes Jr. Memorial Foundation funded the nonpartisan study, which Bellwether Research and Hart Research conducted jointly.

The study included a focus group plus a survey of 307 residents of Marion, Hamilton, and Boone counties. All were between the ages 18 and 34. All of them were registered to vote in the 2024 general election, but none of them did.

The findings showed that young adult nonvoters are not apathetic. They care about their communities. But they often feel that government does not listen to them or that their votes do not influence election outcomes.

Nearly half of the young Hoosiers surveyed, 45 percent, said they had *never* voted. Those who had never voted were more likely than other young adults to say that they distrusted the elec-

toral process or that they lacked information about candidates and issues.

The study participants also said practical barriers kept them from casting ballots. Those factors included:

- Work,
- Limited voting hours,
- Long lines at polling places, and
- Missed deadlines.

“Young adults matter, and their voices belong in every election,” ReCenter Indiana Vice President Adrienne Slash Tucker said. “Our research helped us understand the obstacles young Indiana voters face. We designed this campaign to build confidence in the voting process and remind young Hoosiers that their votes matter.”

The ReCenter Indiana ad campaign is in a shareable format, designed to carry its message beyond paid advertising. Every viewer can participate by sending a video

to someone they know and asking one question: “Hey, can I vote with you?”

Young adults can access information and make their voting plans according to where they live:

- [Marion County](#)
- [Hamilton County](#)
- [Boone County](#)

Key dates for the 2026 general election:

- Indiana’s voter registration deadline is Oct. 5.
- Early voting begins Oct. 6.
- Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 3.

About ReCenter Indiana

ReCenter Indiana Inc. is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to reminding all elected officials to recenter on the priorities of the people. ReCenter Indiana informs and encourages Hoosiers to vote and have a voice in their community. Learn more at [ReCenterIndiana.org](#).

from Page 6

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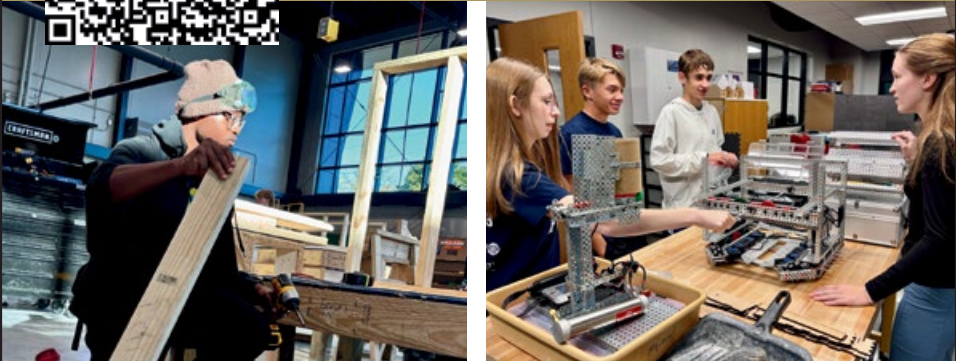


The public is invited to State of the Schools

Thursday,
October 1
4:30 - 6:00 pm
Noblesville High School



Registration Available:
noblesvillechamber.com



Sertoma Club donates \$7,500 to Reins of Grace



Photo provided
On Saturday, Sept. 19, **Reins of Grace** held its annual “Raise the Paddle” fundraiser for its therapeutic riding center in Sheridan. In support of this event, the Sertoma Club of Broad Ripple held a casino night and presented a check for \$7,500 for this ministry. (From left) Sertoma Club member John Wallace, Reins of Grace Executive Director Julie Savitsky, and Sertoma Club member Larry Montag.

Indiana Orthopedic Institute appoints Jennifer Worthy as chief operating officer

Submitted
Indiana Orthopedic Institute (IOI) announces the appointment of Jennifer M. Worthy, MBA, as chief operating officer, bringing more than two decades of healthcare leadership experience to the growing physician-led orthopedic organization.
Worthy has built her

career leading healthcare organizations through periods of growth, transformation, and operational change, with experience spanning orthopedic and multispecialty physician practices, ambulatory surgery centers, specialty hospital operations, physical therapy, and large multistate healthcare enterprises.

As chief operating officer, Worthy will help lead IOI through its next stage of growth, with a focus on building scalable operations, strengthening organizational infrastructure, supporting physicians and staff, and ensuring that growth continues to be anchored in quality, value, and the patient experience. In addition to its flagship Noblesville facility, IOI operates centers in Terre Haute and Fort Wayne and clinics in Greenwood and Brazil, Ind.

Most recently, Worthy served as Executive Vice President of Revenue Optimization for Healthcare Outcomes Performance Company (HOPCo), where she directed enterprise-wide revenue cycle transformation across a large, national network of orthopedic providers. Her work focused on building scalable operating models, improving financial performance, strengthening organizational accountability, and aligning people, processes, and technology around measurable outcomes.

“Jenn is a proven healthcare executive whose leadership, strategic vision, and passion for building great organizations align exceptionally well with where IOI is headed,” IOI Founder and CEO Dr. Michael Meneghini said. “As we continue expanding our physician-led orthopedic platform, ambulatory surgery centers, and strategic partnerships, Jenn will help strengthen the operational foundation that supports our physicians, our employees, and the patients we serve. We are excited to welcome her to the IOI family.”

Before HOPCo, Worthy



Worthy

held executive and senior leadership positions with WebPT, Tenet Healthcare, and Mid Coast Hospital. Earlier in her career, she served in a leadership capacity with Central Maine Orthopaedics, a large private orthopedic practice with 30 providers, outpatient physical therapy, and an ambulatory surgery center.

For Worthy, the opportunity to join IOI represents both a professional milestone and a return to where her healthcare leadership career began.

“I started my healthcare career in orthopedics more than 20 years ago, at a time when the value of orthopedic care felt very simple: help people keep moving and get back to the lives they wanted to live,” Worthy said. “More than two decades later, I believe that mission matters more than ever. IOI is special in every sense of the word because there is an opportunity here to bring together exceptional clinical care, true physician leadership, operational excellence and value in a way that puts the patient at the center of all of it. For me, this is a full-circle moment. I am incredibly excited to work alongside this team of world-class surgeons and staff to build what comes next and move IOI into the future.”

Worthy earned both her Master of Business Administration and Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Purdue University Global. She is an active member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and holds multiple healthcare finance and revenue cycle credentials.

Beyond her executive work, Worthy is an active healthcare writer and speaker and serves on the Board of Directors of the Veteran Cancer Network, a nonprofit focused on earlier cancer detection and support for veterans, and She Thrives, a nonprofit dedicated to helping domestic violence survivors rebuild their lives through education and access to critical resources.

LEADERS

from Page 7

young adults connect with each other (and with adults who believe in their potential) I’m reminded that this is exactly the kind of quiet, consistent investment that shapes the leaders our communities will need in the next decade.

If you’re looking for a way to support the next gen-

eration, it doesn’t have to be complicated. Sponsor a table. Show up. Introduce two young people to each other who wouldn’t otherwise have met. That’s how a movement gets built – not all at once, but evening by evening.

Consider donating to Indiana Family Institute at [this link](#).

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Inaugural TradeUp Fest brings hands-on skilled trades experiences, music to Noblesville

Submitted

The inaugural **TradeUp Fest** drew attendees to the Riverview Health Arena at Innovation Mile on Saturday, Sept. 19, for a first-of-its-kind festival pairing live music with hands-on skilled trades experiences. The festival was presented by Gaylor Electric and Associated Builders and Contractors of Indiana/Kentucky, with Meta joining as a co-sponsor.

The free daytime festival featured an interactive Trades Village with hands-on Try-a-Trade experiences and live trade demonstrations, plus eight bands on two outdoor stages emceed by DIY Network's Kayleen McCabe, followed by a ticketed evening concert headlined by Larry Fleet with The Wilder Blue and Nora Reese.

"For every five people that are leaving the trades right now, only two people are entering," said Josh Cecil, creator of TradeUp Fest and founder of HamCo Live. "That's going to create a huge gap when 40-some



Photos courtesy of Meta

TradeUp Fest allowed Hoosiers to explore the skilled trades, and numerous bands performed throughout the day.

percent of skilled tradesmen are planning to retire in the next 10 years. Bringing these interactive demos – I hope the kids start tinkering around with jet engines and think, 'Mom, dad, I might want to be a plane mechanic when I grow up.'"

Cecil, a former Noblesville High School teacher, created the festival, which

he calls "Farm Aid for the skilled trades," to reframe careers outside the traditional four-year college path.

Meta, a co-sponsor of the festival, launched America's Workforce Academy, built by Meta earlier this year as part of a \$115 million national investment to train thousands of workers for jobs building AI infra-

structure. Indianapolis is one of four pilot sites, and on Aug. 6 the academy graduated its first class in the country, with more than 55 students earning certificates and guaranteed job placement. The program requires no prior experience and pays participants while they train.

"We fell in love with Josh and his mission of bringing

the skilled trades to more people in Indiana," said Marshall Moore of America's Workforce Academy. "Introducing young people, students and the entire community to the skilled trades directly aligns with what we're doing with America's Workforce Academy, opening pathways for thousands of people to enter the skilled trades."

Meta is making major investments in Indiana, including in Lebanon and Jeffersonville, driving demand for electricians, HVAC specialists, fiber technicians, and other skilled workers.

Those interested in America's Workforce Academy can apply at [Meta.com/AmericasWorkforceAcademy](https://www.Meta.com/AmericasWorkforceAcademy).

Cartwheel Care collaborates with Anthem to expand telehealth mental health services to 12,500 Hoosier K-12 students

The REPORTER

Cartwheel Care, a telehealth mental health provider for K-12 schools, has announced plans to expand access to care for up to 12,500 students across Indiana, supported by a \$250,000 grant from Anthem. Cartwheel partners with eight districts in Indiana and nearly 400 K-12 school districts across 16 states to deliver mental health services via telehealth to students, families, and school staff.

According to data from the **Indiana Youth Institute**, mental health needs among Indiana students remain high with 30 percent of youth reporting persistent sadness. In terms of access, over 57 percent of caregivers report difficulty obtaining needed mental health services for their child.

Cartwheel's telehealth model is designed to remove the access barriers Indiana families face – including long waitlists, rural access gaps, language barriers, provider shortages, and transportation challenges. By partnering with schools, Cartwheel provides licensed, Indiana-based clinicians with no waitlist, accepts all major insurance plans including Medicaid, and reaches kids and families where they already are, without requiring them to find or travel to an office location.

Beyond direct access to care, the grant will also strengthen care coordination for participating districts, including shared care plans, communication with community providers, medication coordination, post-hospitalization follow-up, and crisis escalation pathways.

"For a lot of Indiana families, the barrier isn't wanting help – it's the wait, the drive, or not knowing where to start," said Juliana Chen, MD, Chief Medical Officer at Cartwheel. "When schools can help connect students and families to care, we can reach kids earlier, make it easier for families to get the right support, and help prevent challenges from potentially becoming crises."

Cartwheel currently partners with the following Indiana districts: Greensburg Community Schools, La Porte Community School Corporation, Mill Creek Community School Corporation, Mt. Vernon Community School Corporation, Noblesville Schools, School City of Mishawaka, School Town of Munster, and New Palestine Community Schools.

"Schools are often among the first places where a child's mental health needs become visi-



ble, which makes them an important connection point to care," said Neil Steffens, President of Government Business for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Indiana. "Our partnership with Cartwheel will help remove barriers such as provider shortages, transportation and long wait times so more Indiana students can get support earlier. By making behavioral healthcare easier to access and better coordinated with families and schools, we can help young people get the care they need."

With the support of this grant, Cartwheel expects to expand access to care to a total of 12,500 students across Indiana.

Through the grant, Cartwheel provides individual and family therapy, parent guidance, psychiatric evaluation and medication management, and specialized care programs for challenges like school avoidance, social media use, and intense emotions and behavior challenges.

Indiana school districts that want to learn more about this opportunity for the upcoming school year should visit [cartwheel.org](https://www.cartwheel.org).

Labor – Class I, I, III Position

The Cicero Street and Utilities Department has a full-time position opening for a **Labor-Class I, II, III**.

The position will be responsible for a variety of duties involved with operating, repairing/maintaining the street, potable water and wastewater operations and facilities according to applicable rules, regulations and laws for the Town of Cicero. For a full job description, please visit the Town of Cicero's website at www.ciceroin.org and click on the Government tab followed by the Job Opportunities tab. From here you will also be able to access the Town's application, which will be required.

Applications will be accepted through October 9, 2026.

Please send application, along with any other pertinent documents to

Terry Cooper,

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By **ANDREW TRISLER**
Noblesville Schools
Athletic Department

The Noblesville Millers won the girls golf sectional championship on Monday, shooting a team score of 314 at Stony Creek Golf Course to edge Hamilton Southeastern by three strokes. Lapel placed third at 323, followed by Fishers (374), Hamilton Heights (399), Tipton (403), Anderson (424), Pendleton Heights (436), Frankton (437), and Alexandria Mon-

roe (438). Every Miller in the lineup matched or improved on her front-nine score coming in. Junior Lauren Turpin led the way, shooting 40 on the front nine and playing the back nine in 35, even par for the incoming side to seal the sectional championship. She birdied the par-3 11th and the par-4 12th and added five pars over the final nine to post a 75; Turpin finished second in the individual standings behind Hamilton Heights senior Taylor Morrison's 74.

Sophomore Anne Etter shot 78 to tie for fifth in the field. Sophomore Myra Sealey followed at 79 after a 37 on the back, and junior Keelin Werkley carded 82. Sophomore Olivia Herche finished at 83. The sectional championship is the program's 21st sectional title all-time, the most in Hamilton County for girls golf. Noblesville, Hamilton Southeastern, and Lapel advance to Saturday's Lapel Regional at Edgewood Golf Course in Anderson.



Photo illustration provided by Noblesville Schools

OrthoIndy Foundation awards \$150K to program supporting adults with disabilities

The REPORTER

For adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), reliable transportation and access to health and wellness resources can play an important role in building independence and staying connected to the community.

The OrthoIndy Foundation has awarded \$150,000 to Independent Living for Adults with Developmental/Intellectual Disabilities (ILADD) to expand access for more than 200 of the organization's participants across Central Indiana.

The grant will support the purchase of an accessible 12-passenger vehicle owned and operated by ILADD. The vehicle will help the adults the organization serves, known within the program as self-advocates, more easily participate in educational programs, fitness and wellness activities,

volunteer opportunities, community events, and other experiences.

Funding will also strengthen ILADD's year-round health and wellness initiatives, creating more opportunities for self-advocates to build healthy habits and improve their physical health, confidence, and overall quality of life. Planned programming includes fitness classes, adaptive cycling, strength training, walking clubs, yoga, nutrition education, wellness screenings, and healthy lifestyle coaching.

"Mobility is about more than getting from one place to another. It can determine whether someone has access to the people, resources and experiences that help them live a healthy and fulfilling life," said Dr. John Dietz, OrthoIndy Foundation founder and former U.S. Army orthopedic surgeon. "We're proud to help

ILADD create opportunities for adults with IDD to build greater independence while remaining connected to their communities."

Headquartered in Zionsville, ILADD serves adults with IDD in Boone, Hamilton, Hendricks, Marion, and Madison counties through housing, lifelong learning, enrichment, and social opportunities. Its approach recognizes that independence looks different for every individual and can include everything from learning practical and safety skills to developing friendships, participating in community activities, and living in a home of one's own.

"We all rely on other people in different ways, and independence is a continuum," ILADD Executive Director Andy Kirby said. "Our goal is to give self-advocates the skills, support and opportunities they need to pursue what



Photo rendering provided by ILADD

independence looks like for them. With the OrthoIndy Foundation's support, we can make it easier for people to get out into the community while also strengthening programs that help them stay healthy and well. When those needs are sup-

ported, people can focus more on the things they want to learn, experience and accomplish."

The investment comes as ILADD continues to expand its programming and its vision for inclusive, accessible housing in Cen-

tral Indiana through Crossbridge Point. To learn more about ILADD or make a gift, visit iladdinc.org or contact ILADD directly.

To learn more about OrthoIndy and the OrthoIndy Foundation, visit orthoindy.com/our-impact.

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Altrusa Club shows up in style



Photo provided

On Sept. 20, members and guests of the Altrusa Club of Hamilton County met at Ritz Charles in Carmel to attend the fall Style Show and Luncheon of the Altrusa Foundation of Indianapolis, Inc. Both clubs work hard to support each other with projects in their respective communities. Altrusa Club's International goals are spreading kindness through service, literacy, and Days for Girls. If you would like more information about Altrusa Club of Hamilton County, email sharon@justnoteworthyevents.com.

Brad Gerstner launches ‘Gerstner Gift’ to seed Trump Accounts for Hoosier kids

Submitted

Entrepreneur, investor, and Indiana native Brad Gerstner announced on Tuesday, Sept. 22, that the Brad Gerstner Family Foundation, a donor-advised fund at National Philanthropic Trust, will contribute \$250 to a Trump Account for every eligible child in Indiana born in 2023 and 2024.

The Gerstner Gift will reach over 140,000 Hoosier kids and give Indiana families a running start on the new tax-advantaged savings accounts created by President Trump’s landmark Invest America Act.

Gerstner – the architect behind the Trump Accounts – designed the gift to close a gap in the federal program. Trump Accounts include a one-time \$1,000 government seed contribution for children born after Jan 1, 2025. The Gerstner Gift steps in to expand eligibility to kids born in 2023 and 2024: with a \$250 contribution and modest family contributions over time, a Gerstner-seeded account has the potential to grow to more than \$20,000 by age 18, more than \$117,000 by age 40, and close to \$860,000 by the time the account holder reaches retirement. The funds are targeted to children living in Indiana ZIP codes with a median family income of \$150,000 or less, which covers nearly 99 percent of ZIP codes across the state.

“Too many kids and families in places like Indiana, where I grew up, feel left out and left behind,” said Gerstner. “That’s why I founded Invest America

and have been the leading champion for Trump Accounts: to make sure every child has a real ownership stake in America’s success. By seeding accounts for Indiana kids, I want Hoosier families to feel they’re in the game of capitalism from day one and see what it can grow into over a lifetime. The principle is simple: expand ownership, opportunity and belief in the American dream for every child.”

Gerstner is the founder and CEO of Altimeter Capital, a leading technology investment firm, and a longtime advocate for policies that broaden access to ownership and investing for working families. The Brad Gerstner Family Foundation focuses on expanding economic opportunity and strengthening the communities that shape the next generation of American leaders.

The Gerstner Gift builds on the national momentum behind Trump Accounts. In December 2025, Michael and Susan Dell announced a \$6.25 billion commitment to seed accounts for 25 million American children in ZIP codes with median family incomes below \$150,000. Ray and Barbara Dalio quickly followed with a matching \$250-per-child commitment for approximately 300,000 children in Connecticut. The Gerstner Gift brings that same model home to Indiana and demonstrates that Trump Accounts can be seeded for specific ZIP codes and socioeconomic groups, opening the door for other Indiana philanthropists and businesses to follow.

“Every Hoosier kid deserves a real shot at the American dream,” Gerstner said. “This is one step toward that reality, and I hope it is the first of many across our state. I’m grateful to Senator Todd Young and Senator Jim Banks for their support in Washington, and to Governor Mike Braun and Speaker Todd Huston for championing this back home in Indiana.”

Indiana families can learn more about Trump Accounts, check eligibility, and claim their child’s account at TrumpAccounts.gov and InvestAmerica.org.

If your child did not receive their Gerstner Gift yet, enroll your eligible child at TrumpAccounts.gov or in the Trump Accounts app. This ensures your child will be automatically included when the remainder of eligible accounts are initiated by the U.S. Department of the Treasury later this year.

About the Brad Gerstner Family Foundation

The Brad Gerstner Family Foundation focuses on national moonshots to strengthen American capitalism and democracy for the next 250 years.

About Trump Accounts

Trump Accounts are tax-advantaged investment accounts first architected by Brad Gerstner and, alongside Michael Dell, Senator Ted Cruz, Speaker Mike Johnson, and President Donald Trump, turned into the Invest America Act, enacted as part of President Trump’s Working Families Tax Cuts Act.

The law creates permanent, privately owned stock accounts for every child un-

der 18 and every child born in the future. This includes a seed of \$1,000 to all children born between Jan 1, 2025 and Dec. 31, 2028 which is expected to be reauthorized by a future congress.

Funds are invested in a broad U.S. stock market index fund and remain under guardian control until age 18. Families, employers, and philanthropic organizations may contribute additional dollars, helping accounts grow over the course of a child’s life.

— CARMEL —

NOTICE

Board of Public Works and Safety
One Civic Square
City of Carmel, Indiana 46032
Project: 6" Water Main Gray Rd to Hazel Dell
Project # IFB-2026-015
Notice is hereby given that the Board of Public Works and Safety for the City of Carmel, Hamilton County, Indiana, will receive sealed bids for the above-described "6" Water Main Gray Rd to Hazel Dell" via the City's e-Procurement Portal, <https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/carmel>, **until 10:00 am on Wednesday, October 7, 2026** and commencing as soon as practicable thereafter on the same date such bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Council Chambers of City Hall. **No late bids will be accepted.**
All bids and proposals shall be properly and completely executed on the proposal forms provided with the plans and specifications, which will include the non-collusion affidavit as required by the State of Indiana.
A bid bond or certified check in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount bid must be submitted with each bid. A one hundred percent (100%) performance and payment bond will also be required of the successful bidder. It is intended that actual construction of all work divisions shall be started as soon as practicable, and each bidder shall be prepared to enter promptly into a construction contract, furnish a performance bond, and begin work without delay in the event the award is made to the bidder.
The Project consists of, but is not necessarily limited to, the following:
Directional drilling approximately 2,600 feet of 6 inch water main from Gray Road to the Wastewater Treatment Plant at Hazel Dell. Running along 96th street.
Contract Documents and drawings for the Project can be found in this solicitation and the attachments section.
Bidders shall assure that they have obtained complete sets of drawings and Contract Documents and shall assume the risk of any errors or omissions in bids prepared in reliance on incomplete sets of drawings and Contract Documents.
This Project will be funded by the City of Carmel.
A **Mandatory pre-bid conference** for discussions of the Project, the bidding requirements and other important matters will be held on **Thursday, September 24, 2026 at 8:30 am** at 9609 Hazel Dell Parkway, Carmel, IN 46280. All prospective bidders are invited to attend the pre-bid conference. The pre-bid conference is **Mandatory**.
For accommodations needed by persons with disabilities planning to attend the pre-bid conference or public bid opening meeting, please call or notify the City of Carmel, Utilities, at (317) 571-2400 at least forty-eight (48) hours prior thereto.
No bidder may withdraw any bid or proposal within a period of sixty (60) days following the date set for receiving bids or proposals. The Carmel Board of Public Works and Safety reserves the right to hold any or all bids or proposals for a period of not more than sixty (60) days and said bids or proposal shall remain in full force and effect during said period. The City of Carmel reserves the right to reject and/or cancel any and all bids, solicitations and/or offers in whole or in part as specified in the solicitations when it is not in the best interests of the governmental body as determined by the purchasing agency in accordance with IC 36-1-12.
Contract will be awarded to the lowest and responsive and responsible bidder.
R8674 9/16/26, 9/21/26, 9/23/21, 9/28/21

Meeting Notices

The Noblesville Schools Board of Trustees will meet for a work session at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2026, in the Board Room at the Noblesville Schools Educational Services Center, 18025 River Road.
At 1 p.m., an executive session will follow, pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(11) To train school board members with an outside consultant and the performance of the role of the members as public officials.

The Noblesville Schools Board of Trustees and the Noblesville Common Council will hold a joint meeting at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2026, in the Board Room at the Noblesville Schools Educational Services Center, 18025 River Road.

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.

Thanks for reading, Hamilton County!



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Upcoming Broadcasts

Wed Sept 23 - Volleyball

6:00 pm **Carmel vs Noblesville** | Junior Varsity Volleyball | HCTV Sports
7:30 pm **Carmel vs Noblesville** | Varsity Volleyball | HCTV Sports

Thurs Sept 24 - Girls Soccer

5:30 pm **Zionsville vs Noblesville** | Girls C-Team | Noblesville Sports

Fri Sept 25 - Football & Parade

4:00 pm **Noblesville 2026 Homecoming Parade with Kathy & Perry Williams**
6:45 pm **Taylor vs Sheridan** | IHSAA Football | Bragg Sports
6:50 pm **Guerin vs Chatard** | IHSAA Football | Indiana SRN
6:50 pm **Ritter vs Heritage Christian** | IHSAA Football | Indiana SRN
6:50 pm **Northeastern vs Lapel** | IHSAA Football | Indiana SRN
7:30 pm **Franklin Central vs Noblesville** | IHSAA Football | HCTV Sports

Sat Sept 26 - Atlanta New Earth Festival

10:30am Atlanta New Earth Festival Free Stage : Branded Bluegrass
1:00 pm Atlanta New Earth Festival Free Stage : 45 RPM
4:00 pm Atlanta New Earth Festival Free Stage : Hill & Oaks

Mon Sept 28 - Soccer

5:30 pm **North Central vs Noblesville** | Boys JV Gold Soccer | Noblesville Sports
6:45 pm **North Central vs Noblesville** | Girls JV C-Team Soccer | Noblesville Sports
7:30 pm **Brebeuf vs Fishers** | Girls JV2 Soccer | Fishers Sports



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