

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!



FRIDAY, SEPT. 25, 2026

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Patchy morning fog,
then partly sunny.
Tonight: Partly cloudy.



HIGH: 70 LOW: 46

Sheridan High School welcomes eight foreign exchange students

Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

This semester, Sheridan High School has the pleasure of having eight foreign exchange students join the student body: Aitana Fernandez Perez, Sergio Agenjo Quiroz, and Emma Jimenez Ollero from Spain; Askild Lindquist from Denmark; Ekaterina Kovaleva from Russia; Kahn Chi Hoang, Merve Koerner, and Nora Kohler from Germany.

Each of these students has been able to experience life as a Blackhawk by taking the typical classes and joining sports and clubs at the school. Six of the exchange students gave a sneak peek into their life in Sheridan, and how they have adapted to a different environment.

Askild Lindquist from Denmark shared that he always wanted to visit the United States and experience high school here. He shared that he is looking forward to knowing more about



Photo provided by Sheridan Community Schools

himself through this experience.

Merve Koerner from Germany shared that she got interested in enrolling in an exchange program

because of her passion for traveling and connecting with people from different ways of life. She is looking forward to the oppor-

tunities that will open for her and gaining ideas for her future.

See Exchange . . . Page 2

What we carry from the Peace Table

What if peace begins at the breakfast table?

Not with a grand speech. Not with everyone agreeing. But with people sitting down together, making room for one another's stories, and being willing to listen.

That is what made the Peace Learning Center's "Better Way Breakfast" so meaningful to me. As a proud board member, I had the opportunity to sit at a table with community partners, local organizers, nonprofit leaders, educators, and people who believe that conflict does not have to divide us. Sometimes, it can become an opportunity to learn about one another.

The Peace Learning Center has been doing this work for years: teaching young people and adults practical ways to navigate conflict, communicate, listen and respond with intention rather than reaction.

But perhaps the most powerful part of the morning was hearing directly from the people who have experienced that work.

We heard from students who are using Peace Learning Center programs and from teachers and school staff who see the impact in their classrooms and communities. Their stories reminded me that peace education is not an abstract idea. It is something a child can carry into the hallway, the classroom, the playground and eventually into adulthood.

One story especially stayed with me.

A former FOX 59 journalist shared that she had attended Peace Learning Center camp as a junior high student. The lessons she learned as a young person never really left her. She described carrying those tools in her "backpack" throughout life – tools that help her recognize conflict, pause, understand another perspective, and approach difficult moments with curiosity rather than immediately blaming or pointing fingers.

I love that image.

See Peace . . . Page 2



School budget proposal season

HSE Schools presents proposed 2027 Budget

Submitted by Hamilton Southeastern Schools

Hamilton Southeastern Schools presented its proposed 2027 budget to the Board of School Trustees on Wednesday, Sept. 23, outlining a spending plan that is approximately \$15 million lower than the district's 2026 budget.

The advertised 2027 budget totals approximately \$325.9 million with a predicted budget of \$323.9 million. It is common practice to advertise the budget a little higher than expected to protect against unknown factors prior to the final budget order. According to Assistant Superintendent of Finance Tim Brown, the decrease in this year's proposed budget reflects several factors, including spending reductions as identified through the district's Budget Task Force, changes in revenue, debt payments decreasing, and the proposed replacement operating referendum.



Kegley

"We've spent a lot of time over the past year looking at where we can reduce costs and operate more efficiently," Superintendent Dr. Matt Kegley said. "That work is making a difference. We know there are still financial challenges ahead, but we're bringing forward a budget that is about \$15 million lower than last year while keeping our focus on students and the classroom."

Work by the Budget Task Force identified nearly \$8 million in projected savings that helped better balance the district's 2026 budget and allowed HSE to reduce planned spending in several areas for 2027.

Compared with the 2026 budget, the projected 2027 spending plan includes:

- A \$7.4 million reduction in the Education Fund, which supports classroom expenses including teachers, instructional staff, and supplies.

- An approximately \$8 million reduction in the Debt Ser-



vice Fund primarily due to some debt falling off. The district is proposing to maintain the same Debt Service Fund tax rate, while the Debt Service Exempt rate is projected to decrease.

- A \$1.1 million reduction in the Operations Fund, which supports expenses such as transportation, maintenance, and central office operations. This is made possible due to cost savings and more expenses being moved to G.O. Bonds.

- A \$1.3 million increase in the Referendum Fund, which includes additional funding budgeted for behavioral health and traffic control. The referendum levy included in the proposed budget is contingent on the outcome of the replacement operating referendum on the Nov. 3 ballot.

The district continues to face financial pressures heading into 2027, including de-

clining enrollment, increasing health insurance costs and higher mandatory teacher retirement contributions.

Based on current projections, the district's maximum tax rate for 2027 is expected to be \$1.1912, compared to the 2026 rate of \$1.1476. Brown notes that despite declines in assessed valuation, the proposed budget maintains a flat debt service tax rate and a reduced debt service exempt rate compared to 2026.

The proposed budget will continue through the public budget process. The Board is scheduled to hold a public hearing on the proposed 2027 budget on Oct. 14, with adoption scheduled for Oct. 28.

For additional information on the district's finances, community members can review budget materials available at hse.schools.org/finances.

Tipton Schools highlights strong financial stewardship in 2027 budget presentation

Submitted by Tipton Community School Corp.

At Tipton Community School Corporation's (TCSC) annual budget hearing on Sept. 22, Business Superintendent Scott Jaworski shared an overview picture of the district's financial health and the priorities guiding the 2027 budget. He outlined how TCSC funds instruction, operations, transportation, and long-term facility needs through five state-defined funds (Education, Operations, Debt Service,

Rainy Day, and the Operating Referendum) each with its own revenue source and spending restrictions.

The Education Fund, supported entirely by state tuition dollars, remains the backbone of classroom instruction, covering teacher salaries, student services, academic programs, and curricular materials.



The Operations Fund, funded by local property taxes and transfers from Education, supports transportation, maintenance, utilities, technology infrastructure, and districtwide operations.

Jaworski highlighted several financial pressures shaping the 2027 budget, including property tax caps

that reduce local revenue by more than \$1 million, rising operational costs, and the need to maintain aging facilities. Despite these challenges, the district maintains positive cash balances across all funds and continues to meet all debt obligations on schedule. The Debt Service Fund remains stable, with predictable semi-annual payments for past construction and facility improvements.

See Tipton . . . Page 2



'Food is Medicine' initiative launches to improve community health through nutrition

The REPORTER

A coalition of healthcare, nonprofit, agricultural, and community organizations has launched a six-month Food is Medicine initiative designed to improve health outcomes and increase access to nutritious food for Hamilton County residents experiencing food insecurity.

Facilitated by Riverview Health and made possible through the collaboration of Teter Retreat and Organic Farm, Hamilton County Community Foundation, Hamilton County Health Department, Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank, and partners from the Indiana Wellness Coalition, the program recognizes the critical connection between nutrition and overall health.

"At Riverview Health, we know that health extends far beyond the walls of a healthcare facility," said Alex Hunt, Director of Employer Services at Riverview Health. "Access to nutritious food is one of the most important factors influencing health outcomes. This program allows us to support patients in a meaningful way by addressing a fundamental need that can have a lasting impact on their health and quality of life."

See Food . . . Page 2



NOBLESVILLE YOUTH SPORTS ALLIANCE

ONE COMMUNITY • 7000+ KIDS • 16 PROGRAMS

www.noblesvillesports.com @noblesvillesports

FOOD

The initiative was developed through months of planning and partnerships among organizations committed to advancing community wellness. The collaboration demonstrates how healthcare providers, community leaders and local food systems can work together to address social determinants of health and improve outcomes for residents.

“As a family doctor, I see every day how important healthy food is for my patients. Being part of the Food is Medicine program helps us do more than just write prescriptions – we can also help patients improve their diets,” said Dr. Eric Marcotte, Chief Medical Officer and practicing family physician at Riverview Health. “By combining regular medical care with access to fresh, healthy foods, we can help people better manage conditions like diabetes, high blood pressure, and obesity. This program also helps patients who may not always have enough healthy food. It shows our commitment to caring for the whole person and improving the health of our community.”

The program aligns



Hunt



Marcotte



Nix

with the mission of the Indiana Wellness Coalition, a community partnership focused on improving the health and well-being of Hamilton County residents through collective action, education, and innovative health initiatives.

Through the six-month program, participating healthcare providers will work closely with eligible patients to support their health goals while ensuring consistent access to healthy foods. The initiative is expected to provide valuable insights into how nutrition-focused interventions can improve health outcomes and strengthen community wellness efforts.

“This initiative demonstrates what is possible when organizations across different sectors come together with a shared purpose,” said Julie Nix, President and CEO of Riverview Health. “By addressing food insecurity through collaboration and innovation, we are helping create healthier futures for the individuals and families we serve.”

To learn more about the Indiana Wellness Coalition, visit riverview.org/wellnesscoalition.

EXCHANGE

from Page 1

Kahn Chi Hoang from Germany shared that she wanted to join an exchange program to see the fun teenage American high school life. She has been most surprised by how open everyone is in the United States. She shared that she is excited to improve her English, which can open many doors for her future.

Aitana Fernandez Perez from Spain shared that she joined the exchange program to improve her English

and make new friends. Her first thoughts when she arrived in the United States and Sheridan were that people were very kind and that it was a beautiful place to live. She is excited to improve her English and learn more about American culture.

Sergio Agenjo Quiroz from Spain decided to join the exchange program because he had heard of other people doing it. He shared that those individuals really inspired him because

they had such a great experience. He shared that his experience so far has been surreal and almost like out of a movie! He also shared that everyone has been especially kind.

Finally, Nora Kohler from Germany shared that she was excited to try a new experience. She is excited about how the entire experience will shape her future plans and career goals. She shared that an exchange program can influence you in a

multitude of ways.

Exchange students at Sheridan are given a unique opportunity to do literally anything they want. They can join any sports or clubs; they can take different classes while learning and experiencing the culture of Indiana and the United States. Each of them has been able to take away something from this experience, whether it is just getting better at English or being able to learn something new.

from Page 1

PEACE

We often think about what we put into a child’s backpack: books, pencils, lunch, sports equipment, and homework. But what if we also helped them pack tools for life – how to listen, how to communicate, how to calm themselves, how to understand differences, and how to work through conflict?

Indianapolis Public Schools Superintendent Alicia Johnson also spoke about the realities many young people are navigating today. Children are growing up amid challenges and conflicts that can sometimes feel overwhelming. Giving them tools to pause, listen and make thoughtful decisions matters.

And perhaps that is one of the greatest gifts Peace

Learning Center offers: not simply telling young people to “be peaceful,” but teaching them *how*.

How do I respond when I am angry?

How do I listen when I disagree?

How do I make space for someone whose experience is different from mine?

How do I address a conflict without making another person the enemy?

These are life skills – not just classroom skills.

Sitting around that breakfast table, I was reminded that community is built much like peace is built: one conversation, one relationship, and one willing listener at a time.

We may not be able to



Photo provided by Pooja Thakkar

prevent every conflict. But we can decide what tools we bring to it.

Maybe peace starts with something as simple as pulling up a chair, sharing a meal and listening long enough to understand.

And when we leave the table, we carry those lessons

with us. What are you carrying in your backpack that could help create a little more peace in someone else’s world?

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

from Page 1

TIPTON

The Rainy Day Fund also remains strong, providing more than \$2 million in reserves for emergencies and long-term capital needs.

He also shared TCSC’s multi-year capital and transportation plans. Over the next three years, the district will complete scheduled parking

lot repairs, athletic facility updates, restroom renovations, and technology upgrades. The five-year Bus Replacement Plan ensures the district replaces buses responsibly as they reach the end of their 12-year service life. These plans reflect a long-term strategy to maintain safe, functional, and modern learning environments while managing costs carefully.

Overall, Jaworski emphasized that TCSC’s 2027 budget is built on fiscal responsibility, transparency, and a commitment to students. The district continues to prioritize classroom instruction, student support services, and essential operations while navigating state funding formulas and local tax limitations. The proposed budget positions TCSC to remain stable, meet its obligations, and support the programs and services that families and students rely on every day.

You can watch the meeting and review the power point presentation and related documents on the district website at [this link](#). The Board will finalize and adopt the budget at its Oct. 13 meeting.

Taxpayer takeaway

For taxpayers, the 2027

budget shows that TCSC is managing its resources carefully while keeping its focus on students. Even with rising costs and more than \$1 million lost to state-wide property tax caps, the district continues to fund classroom instruction, transportation, maintenance, and student services without taking on temporary loans or overspending.

The proposed tax rates remain stable and predictable, with each fund serving a specific purpose: Operations keeps buses running and buildings maintained, Debt Service pays for past construction, and the Referendum Fund, if supported by voters, helps preserve programs and staffing that would otherwise be at risk. All district funds show positive cash balances, and long-term plans for buses and facility improvements demonstrate responsible planning rather than reactive spending.

In short, taxpayers can feel confident that TCSC is using every dollar intentionally, transparently, and with a clear priority: protecting the quality of education for Tipton students while maintaining strong financial discipline.

from Page 1

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.

EDUCATION STATION’S LITERARY LEADERS



“Not your ordinary book club” for ages 5–14

OCTOBER 19 – NOVEMBER 12
2219 TAM-O-SHANTER CT.
(317)538-6997
\$125 REGISTRATION FEE

Director Marcia Seif & Instructor Aida Karim

FREE



POTTER'S BRIDGE

FALL FESTIVAL

Sat., Oct. 3 | 11 AM-5 PM

Potter's Bridge Park

19401 N. Allisonville Rd., Noblesville, IN 46060

100+ Vendors 🍁 Fun Children's Activities
Live Music & Entertainment 🍁 Food Trucks

Title Sponsor:

hamilton
county
tourism
inc



317-770-4400 • myhamiltoncountyparks.com

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](#)

RACE PERKS

- Fun for the Family!
- Race T-Shirt & Sunglasses
- Top Finishers Award + Prizes
- Support HOPE

CARMEL COMMUNITY PLAYERS PRESENTS
A 2019 OLIVIER AWARD WINNING COMEDY BY LAURA WADE
DIRECTED BY NICOLE AMSLER
SEP 25- OCT 4, 2026

HOME I'M DARLING



7:30 PM ON THURSDAY, FRIDAYS AND 1ST SATURDAY
2:30 PM ON SUNDAYS AND 2ND SATURDAY

TICKETS: \$20 (FRI, SAT, SUN) | \$15 (THURS)

THE CAT 254 VETERANS WAY, CARMEL, IN 46032

CARMEL INDIANA

CARMELPLAYERS.ORG | 317-815-9387

POSTER ART & DESIGN BY WOODEN

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](#)

Noblesville Lions serve up brats at Brewfest



Photo provided by Lisa Dick, Noblesville Lions Club

On Saturday, Sept. 12, Lions served bratwurst, hot dogs, and chips at Noblesville Brewfest, which supports the Forest Park Aquatic Center. (From left) Lions Jeff Dick, Gary Hipes, Jen Carr, Steve Shaw, Dana Meyer, Jeff Kozicki, and Julia Kozicki served brats at BrewFest.

“Country-fied” tomatoes

Don't be fooled by tomatoes that are purchased in a grocery store! There's something very special about tomatoes that are home-grown.

But even beyond that, there's something even more special about tomatoes that are grown in the country. You know ... in the wide-open spaces, where the buffalo roam and the deer and the antelope play? On a farm ... a *REAL* farm.

Well, it all began a few weeks ago when I innocently visited my pew buddies at church. I was invited to tend to their tomato plants while they were on vacation for a week and I gladly accepted.

They went on to explain that the tomato plants were on their farm, soon ready to be picked. I was even encouraged to consider setting up a “cater stand” to sell the tomatoes for willing customers as the bounty was soon ready to be harvested.

I remember thinking, “Really, how much effort can tending a couple of tomato plants take? No big deal. Piece of cake!” After all, they were just a couple of tomato plants, right? And this awesome opportunity would get me out of the house!

Wrong! I had forgotten these people are farmers. I mean *REAL* Indiana farmers! And farmers know how to grow stuff! I mean ... really *GROW* stuff!

In case the plants needed water, I was told there was a “hydrant” out back of the house. Now, a hydrant on a farm is different than a city fire hydrant.

I wasn't sure how I was going to work a hydrant without the fire department, but I wasn't worried. Forging on and unbeknownst to me, this farm had much more to give than I could ever anticipate.

I arrived at my friend's farm “out in the sticks,” an area near town. Right off, I experienced the childhood sound of driving slowly over a crunchy gravel driveway!

I opened the windows in the truck, backed up a bit, and pulled forward again just to hear that long-ago, familiar sound. I recalled my dad backing the DeSoto down the driveway when we arrived home as kids. So relaxing! So “country-fied.” I experienced déjà vu from 65 years ago, and I loved it!

I turned the truck around and pulled over just adjacent to the tomato plants.

Tomato plants? It was more like a tomato forest! Wonderfully green plants, all taller than me, with a carefully placed weed barrier to snuggle their roots.

Eight! Count them! Eight rotund tomato plants jammed packed with red and green orbs just screaming, “Pick me! Pick me!” I grabbed the containers out of the truck and began to pluck ... and pluck ... and pluck! The little sweat bees became my new friends.

THIS was a real garden, I thought. I wasn't sure what the secret was, but every piece of fruit was perfectly shaped. No blossom end rot. No blight, no leaf spot, or other woes like my sorrowful tomato plants in my patio pots last year! Poor things!

I rubbed a leaf or two between my fingers ... and inhaled! Have you ever done that? Just rub a tomato leaf in your hands to experience the fragrance of God's work from his garden? I just KNOW there will be tomato plants in Heaven someday!

I noticed a slight sign of the leaves turning up on one of the plants. I think it was starting to call for water. Finding the “hydrant” out back and not sure what to do with it, I decided to wait until the next day then tackle that part of this adventure later.

Oh, the tomatoes? Yeah, I picked what seemed like a hundred or so. I didn't count, but this first picking served many grateful neighbors and friends. The firefighters at Station No. 5 nearby loved them, too. I even got a call from the Fire Chief in appreciation of the goodies. I picked a green one for myself to fry

for one of the best dinners I had in years!

Then I went home, prayed with praise, and did a rain dance for fear of not figuring out that hydrant the next day. Sure enough, it rained steadily for three days, providing a couple inches of “natural hydration.” Thank you, God!

So, the next trip, I offered to take my two granddaughters along to the “tomato farm”. They were so excited! I was sure to call their eager attention to the crunchy driveway when we arrived. Each of them, smiling with joy, was charged with picking from four plants with four separate large trays and extra bags. They learned about the sweat bees and the fragrance of the tomato leaves and left behind small painted rocks as a thank you decoration. But then it happened.

The girls stopped and stood among the plants, saying, “It's really quiet here!” As they continued to harvest, I wondered how many children have never truly experienced the peacefulness and quiet of a country garden. We stood in the stillness for several more minutes.

Ultimately, in one week, the tomato plants fed two firehouses, church friends, a food pantry (with help from another faithful worker) and six households. I am grateful for the farmer families, this wonderful opportunity, and for these country-fied tomatoes! More than just a harvest, it is fruitfulness for the heart and soul.

“You shall observe the Festival of Harvest, of the first fruits of your labor, of what you sow in the field.”
Exodus 23:16

Be sure to watch Paul Harvey: “So God Made a Farmer.” (It's less than two minutes.) See it on YouTube at [tinyurl.com/SoGod-MadeAFarmer](#).

Rev. Bonnie Zickgraf is a retired pastor, registered nurse, electroplater, and podcaster. She continues to serve various preschool, youth, and adult ministries, including the Nurses' Honor Guard for the State of Indiana. She loves to laugh, write, eat, and pray! Send comments to [bonniezickgraf@gmail.com](#).

Carmel & Pedcor Companies announce return of Oktoberfest

Submitted by City of Carmel

Carmel city officials and Pedcor Companies invite residents and visitors to celebrate the arrival of autumn at the annual Carmel Oktoberfest, taking place from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 2.

This free, family-friendly celebration will take over the plaza level of Carmel City Center along Veterans Way and Hanover Court, bringing the community together for an evening filled with festive German food, seasonal beverages, local shopping, and live music.

Returning to Oktoberfest this year is Der Polkatz, a high-energy 13-piece polka band renowned for blending traditional polka and waltz favorites with classic hits and international tunes. The group will hit the stage on the upper plaza along Veterans Way starting at 6 p.m.

Attendees can look forward to seasonal culinary delights and beverages provided by an array of popular Carmel City Center vendors, including:

- Hanami Sushi & Sake Bar
- Lone Pine
- Hotel Carmichael
- SALT
- Maple
- The Cake Bake Shop

Free parking is available in the Veterans Way Garage as well as designated public parking areas and street parking throughout Carmel City Center.



Photo provided by City of Carmel

Federal grand jury indicts Ohio man for murder of Fishers teen Hailey Buzbee

Submitted by U.S. Attorney's Office, Southern District of Ohio

On Wednesday, Sept. 23, a federal grand jury returned charges against Tyler Nike Thomas, 39, Columbus, Ohio, for crimes related to the disappearance and death of 17-year-old Hailey Buzbee of Fishers. Thomas allegedly sexually exploited and murdered the teenager.

"Prosecutors from my office have worked diligently with our federal, state, and local law enforcement partners over the past eight months to bring today's charges forward, never losing sight of the pursuit of justice for Hailey Buzbee and her family," said U.S. Attorney Dominick S. Gerace II. "I want to assure the public that we will not waver as we see this case through. That diligent work, dedication, and commitment to justice will continue as this case proceeds."

Court documents detail that Thomas allegedly met the teenage victim online, playing video games, including Roblox and League of Legends. As early as May 2024, Thomas allegedly attempted to entice the then 15-year-old victim to engage in sexual activity.

In January 2026, Thomas allegedly traveled from Columbus to Fortville, Ind., during the overnight hours of Jan. 5 to Jan. 6 to pick up the victim and transport her back

to Ohio with him, all with the intent to engage in prohibited sexual activity with the victim. The indictment alleges that he murdered the victim during the course of these offenses.

Cell phone analysis reveals Thomas allegedly traveled from Columbus to an Airbnb residence in Logan, Ohio, on the afternoon of Jan. 6.

At approximately 9:25 a.m. the next morning, Jan. 7, Thomas's phone data shows he traveled near and remained at the North Country Trail Trailhead in Wayne National Forest – where the victims' remains were later located – for approximately five hours.

The indictment alleges that Thomas obstructed justice by decapitating, dismembering, burying, and discarding the body.

Forensic review of Thomas's cell phone also revealed deleted communications and interactions between Thomas and the victim, including messages on Snapchat and sexually explicit images of the victim in Thomas's Columbus residence and the Airbnb residence.

Thomas was initially arrested in January on a local charge, which was dismissed when he was taken into federal custody in February and charged by federal criminal complaint.

Today's nine-count indictment charges him with

kidnapping resulting in death (punishable by death or life in prison); traveling with the intent to engage in illicit sexual conduct with a minor (up to 30 years in prison) and this offense resulting in death (punishable by death or up to life in prison); transportation of a minor with intent to engage in criminal sexual activity (at least 10 years and up to life in prison) and this offense resulting in death (punishable by death or up to life in prison); sexual exploitation (at least 15 years and up to 30 years in prison) and attempted enticement of a minor (at least 10 years and up to life in prison); obstruction of justice (up to 20 years in prison); and accessing digital materials with the intent to view child pornography (up to 20 years in prison).

The indictment was announced by U.S. Attorney Dominick S. Gerace II; FBI Cincinnati Special Agent in Charge Jason Cromartie; Ohio Attorney General Andy Wilson; Fishers Police Chief Ed Gebhart; Columbus Police Chief Elaine Bryant; Hocking County Sheriff Lanny E. North; Perry County Sheriff William R. Barker; and Fairfield County Sheriff Alex Lape.

The U.S. Forest Service; Ohio Department of Natural Resources; FBI Indianapolis; the Perry, Hocking and Franklin county prosecutors' offices; Shawnee and New Straitsville fire departments,

Franklin County Sheriff's Office; Indiana State Police; and Norfolk Southern; as well as search and rescue teams from the Central Ohio Rescue and Recovery K-9 Unit, Buckeye Search and Rescue Dogs, Jeff-Craig Fire Department K-9 search team, Black Swamp Search and Rescue, North Carolina Troopers Association, Civilian Crisis Response Team, and Midwest K9 Search Unit have assisted with the investigation.

Senior Litigation Counsel Heather A. Hill and Assistant United States Attorney Emily Czerniejewski are representing the United States in this case.

An indictment merely contains allegations, and defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by U.S. Attorney's Offices and the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims.

For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [justice.gov/psc](https://www.justice.gov/psc).

Gov. Braun celebrates opening of new Indiana State Archives Building

Submitted by Office of Gov. Mike Braun

On Thursday, Sept. 24, Indiana Gov. Mike Braun celebrated the opening of the new Indiana State Archives building in downtown Indianapolis alongside members of the Indiana Department of Administration (IDOA), Indiana Archives and Records Administration (IARA), and project partners.



Braun

"Indiana's history is an important part of America's story, and this new State Archives building will ensure that story is preserved and accessible for generations to come," Gov. Braun said. "As we celebrate 250 years of American independence, this is a fitting time to recognize Indiana's proud history and invest in the records that will help future generations understand the people, decisions and events that shaped our state."

Located at 350 W. Ohio St. on the Indiana Government Center campus, the new facility provides a permanent home for more than 200 years of Indiana history and was designed to meet the specialized needs of the State Archives and its collections.

The State Archives is Indiana's official repository for state records of permanent historical value. Its collections include government, court, military, and land records, along with maps, photographs, and other materials documenting Indiana and its people.

"Delivering a facility like this requires thoughtful planning around both the needs of the agency today and how those needs will evolve over time," IDOA Commissioner Jon Ferguson said. "We are proud of the role IDOA and our project partners have played in creating a home for the State Archives that will serve Indiana well into the future."

More than 80,000 cubic feet of archival records have been relocated to the new building, including boxes, ledgers, microfilm, glass negatives, maps, and other historical materials. The facility includes four floors of archival shelving, as well as dedicated space for records processing, research, staff operations and public access.

"Archives preserve the evidence of our shared history and give us the opportunity to discover the past and use it in meaningful ways," IARA Executive Director Chandler Lighty said. "This new facility gives us the environment and resources we need to care for Indiana's most important records and make them available to Hoosiers today and well into the future. After years of planning and work to reach this point, it is incredibly meaningful to see the State Archives begin this next chapter."

IDOA managed the capital project, with RATIO Architects leading the building design and Pepper Construction serving as construction manager. The purpose-built facility incorporates specialized features and building systems designed around the care, management and use of archival collections.

Thursday's ribbon-cutting ceremony included remarks from Gov. Braun, Ferguson, Lighty, and RATIO founding principal Bill Browne, followed by the ceremonial ribbon cutting.

The event also marked the debut of IARA's featured exhibit, Indiana's Foundations of Independence, 1776-1851. The exhibit highlights documents connecting Indiana's early history and government to the nation's founding as the United States commemorates its 250th anniversary.

AG Rokita calls on Hoosiers to get their payback from Big Pharma on inflated generic drug prices

Submitted by Office of AG Todd Rokita

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita is calling on Hoosiers to check their eligibility for compensation for certain generic drug purchases after the U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut granted preliminary approval of a plan to distribute settlement funds from manufacturers accused of conspiring to inflate generic drug prices.

AG Rokita's office and a coalition of 47 other states and territories previously announced settlements with Glenmark, Lannett, Bausch, Apotex, Heritage, and Heritage's parent company, Emcure, totaling approximately \$96.5 million. The distribution plan aims to return millions of those dol-



Rokita

lars to consumers potentially harmed by the elevated prices.

"Hoosiers deserve fair pricing for their medications, and we will not tolerate illegal schemes that drive up costs and harm consumers," AG Rokita said. "We continue holding Big Pharma accountable when they harm Hoosiers by

putting profits over people. I encourage anyone who purchased these generic drugs to see if they're eligible for compensation."

If you purchased a generic drug listed [here](#) between May 2009 and December 2019, you may be eligible for compensation. To determine your eligibility, call 1-866-290-0182 (toll-free), email info@AG-GenericDrugs.com, or visit [AGGenericDrugs.com](https://www.AGGenericDrugs.com).

BARKTOBERFEST

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3
11 A.M.—2 P.M.

ASA BALES PARK
205 W. HOOVER ST.

\$8 IN ADVANCE | \$10 ON EVENT DAY
KIDS AGES 5 & UNDER ARE FREE

PRESENTED BY
COMMUNITY FIRST BANK OF INDIANA

CITY OF
Westfield
INDIANA

Demolition to begin on Hazel Dell Parkway bridge

Work marks first step toward replacing flood-damaged structure

The REPORTER

Crews will begin demolishing the Hazel Dell Parkway bridge just south of 106th Street next week. The structure was destroyed during August’s historic flooding.

Representatives from Hamilton County, the City of Carmel, Carmel Utilities, Martin Marietta, and Milestone Contractors met on site Thursday for a pre-construction conference to review demolition plans and coordinate the work.

Milestone will begin moving equipment to the site Friday, with demolition scheduled to start Monday, Sept. 28. Crews are expected to work 10-hour days, six days a week, to safely remove the damaged structure. Under the contract, demolition must be completed by Oct. 30.

“This is more than just taking the bridge down,” County Highway Director Brad Davis said. “Crews will also restore the slopes along the banks to make the



Davis

area more stable and safer. At the same time, we’re working to complete the design of the permanent replacement. Getting the demolition done now will save valuable time once we’re ready to begin construction on the new bridge.”



Photos provided by Hamilton County Government



Keep the blood supply ready by giving blood or platelets this fall

The REPORTER

The need for blood is constant, and the American Red Cross urges people of all blood types to make an appointment to give blood or platelets now to help ensure patients continue to receive the care they depend on.

The Red Cross supplies hospitals across the country with more than 6.5 million blood products each year, all made possible through the generosity of volunteer donors. Now is the time to step into the fall season with a lifesaving act.

September is National Preparedness Month, an important time to remember that disasters can happen without warning, but preparedness begins today. A strong blood supply is essential in response to every type of disaster, wheth-

er it be home fires or natural disasters.

Book a spot to give blood or platelets now. Visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS or use the Red Cross Blood Donor App to schedule a donation appointment. Those who come to give through Oct. 18 will receive a \$15 e-gift card to a merchant of their choice. See RedCrossBlood.org/Fall for details.

Additionally, those who come to give through Sept. 30 at Red Cross blood donation centers and mention the word “pickleball” to Red Cross staff or volunteers on-site can score a custom Red Cross pickleball paddle and ball (limited quantities available). Visit RedCrossBlood.org/FindADonationCenter for more information.

Upcoming Donation Opportunities

- Fishers**
- Oct. 5 from 1 to 6 p.m. at Billerica Park Multi-Purpose Community Building, 12690 Promise Road
- Noblesville**
- Sept. 26, 29, Oct. 3, 6 from 8 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. at the Noblesville Blood Donation Center, 14765 Hazel Dell Crossing, Suite 700
 - Sept. 30, Oct. 1 from noon to 6:45 p.m. at the Noblesville Blood Donation Center
- Zionsville**
- Oct. 6 from noon to 6 p.m. at Security Federal Savings Bank, 10880 N. Michigan Road
- Fortville**
- Oct. 4 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Gateway Fortville Community Church, 125 E. Staat St.

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

Tools & Lawn and Garden: JD 80 Dump Cart, Wooden Utility Wagon, Toro Zero-Turn Mower, Wheelbarrow, Ladders, Roll-Over Trailer Jack, Log Chains, Fence Stretcher, Clay Thrower

To View Complete Sale Bill Including Pictures & Terms and to Register & Start Bidding:
Click the Calendar Link @ www.cripesauction.com
Absentee Bidding is still Available
PREVIEW - PICKUP & PAY AT
Cripe's Auction Service, 3247 E. State Road 28, Tipton, IN
765-675-6909
www.cripesauction@yahoo.com
Wade Cripe, Auctioneer
#AU11000034

**3247 East State Road 28
Tipton, IN 46072**
www.cripesauction.com

Wade Cripe
Auctioneer
#AU11000034
765-660-6959

Echo Price
765-675-6909

Fishers Health Department & The Milk Bank open first Milk Depot & Milk Express

The REPORTER

The Fishers Health Department and The Milk Bank celebrated the opening of Fishers’ first Milk Depot and Milk Express on Thursday, Sept. 24, creating a new local resource for families to donate and access donor human milk.

Pasteurized donor milk is one of the most effective tools for preventing complications in medically fragile infants. By expanding donor milk access in Fishers, the partnership supports healthier starts to life, reduces barriers for families and helps more infants thrive during the most vulnerable days of life.

The Milk Depot and Milk Express are now open to the public at the Fishers Health Department inside the Fishers Community Center, located at 11400 Johnson Farm Way, Fishers. The Milk Depot provides a local drop-off site for approved donors, while the Milk Express gives parents and caregivers a convenient place to pick up donor milk ordered through The Milk Bank.

“Expanding access to health resources is a key part of how we support the needs of a growing and changing community,” Fishers Health Department Director Monica Heltz said. “By bringing both milk donation and pick-up services to Fishers for the first time, we’re removing barriers for families and helping give our youngest residents a healthy start.”

The Milk Depot accepts frozen breast milk from approved donors of The Milk Bank. Donations collected at the Fishers Health Department are transported to The Milk Bank, where the milk is processed, analyzed, pasteurized, and distributed

to hospitals and families in need, including premature and medically fragile babies in NICUs. The Milk Bank dispenses more than 700,000 ounces of pasteurized donor human milk each year and has provided more than 17.9 million feedings since 2005.

The Milk Express allows parents and caregivers to pick up pasteurized donor human milk ordered through The Milk Bank. Donor milk may be used as a medical treatment, to bridge a gap during the early postpartum period or to support breast-feeding goals.

Milk Express pick-ups for orders placed through The Milk Bank, along with approved donor drop-offs, are available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with extended hours on Thursdays until 7 p.m. and select Saturdays. Milk Express orders are coordinated directly through The Milk Bank.

“Families in Fishers now have local access to both a Milk Depot and Milk Express, removing barriers and making it easier than ever for parents to donate life-saving milk and for vulnerable infants to receive it,” The Milk Bank CEO Freedom Kolb said. “By bringing both services together in one convenient location, this partnership ensures more babies have access to the nutrition they need to survive and thrive.”

For more information on how to place an order for pasteurized donor human milk or become an approved milk donor, contact The Milk Bank at (317) 536-1670 or visit themilkbank.org.



Noblesville Lions welcome District Governor, Connerley presented with 15-year Chevron



Photos provided by Lisa Dick, Noblesville Lions Club

At their meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 23, Noblesville Lions welcomed 25-D District Governor Mike Cariens as their speaker. He said that the first Lions Club meeting he attended was at the age of 2 weeks, later following his grandfather and father into the club and now being joined by his own children. He voiced his passion for service and his plan for growing membership throughout Indiana. DG Cariens also recognized a 15-year member, inducted a new member, and welcomed the club to join him for a group photo. (ABOVE RIGHT) Also at this meeting, members labeled student dictionaries with “Donated by Noblesville Lions Club” stickers that will be distributed to Noblesville third graders at four elementary schools later in the fall.



Photos provided by Lisa Dick, Noblesville Lions Club

(ABOVE LEFT) 25-D District Governor Mike Cariens presented Lion Joe Connerley with his 15-year Chevron award. (ABOVE CENTER) Lion Jeff Kozicki and District Governor Cariens inducted new member Ryan Wiltermood (center). (ABOVE RIGHT) DG Cariens is presented with a certificate of appreciation by First Vice President Josh Kozicki.

American Bank of Freedom

www.americanbankoffreedom.bank



Save time and open your account online!

Certificate of Deposit Specials

3 Months

4.00%
APY*

6 Months

4.00%
APY*

12 Months

4.00%
APY*

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is current as of this issue and subject to change at any time. APY assumes that interest remains on deposit until maturity. Minimum deposit of \$1,000 to open this account with a maximum deposit of \$240,000 per account. Minimum balance requirement of \$1,000 to earn interest. A penalty will be imposed for early withdrawal. Fees may reduce earnings. Accounts may be subject to other fees, contact your local branch to learn more.

APPLIES TO NEW DEPOSITS ONLY.
American Bank of Freedom, Member FDIC.

Stop by or call your local branch today to learn more!

14611 N. Gray Road
Westfield, IN 46062
(463) 622-2930



When weather is unpredictable, you can trust Your Hometown Weatherman!



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,
1159 Stringtown Pike, PO Box 391,
Cicero, IN 46034
or tcooper@townofcicero.in.gov

Noblesville Lions ‘Step Out’ to end diabetes



Photo provided by Lisa Dick, Noblesville Lions Club
On Saturday, Sept. 19, Noblesville Lions participated in the American Diabetes Association’s Indiana Step Out Walk to end diabetes. Lions participated by donating, walking, and volunteering at the event. (From left) Lions Vicki Neddenriep, Julia Kozicki, Jeff Dick, and Jeff Kozicki at Indiana Step Out Walk.

Indiana Realtors RPAC endorses Danny Lopez for reelection to the Indiana House

Submitted

Danny Lopez has earned the support of the Indiana Realtors RPAC in his reelection bid for the Indiana State House of Representatives, the campaign announced today.

“Danny Lopez has been an exceptional partner and advocate for policies that help create strong neighborhoods and strong communities, and the Indiana Realtors are proud to stand with him in his reelection campaign,” said Mark Fisher, CEO of the Indiana Association of Realtors.

The Indiana Association of Realtors represents nearly 22,000 members involved in virtually all aspects of the sale, purchase,

exchange, and/or lease of real property in the state.

“Indiana’s realtors have their fingers on the pulse of every community, and they know how critical it is for special places like Carmel and Westfield to have experienced, reliable representation in the Statehouse,” Lopez said. “I am so grateful to RPAC and the Indiana Realtors for their support, and I look forward to continuing to work with them on issues like affordability and economic growth.”

RPAC joins a num-



Lopez

ber of local and statewide organizations that have endorsed Lopez’s reelection campaign, including the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, the One-Zone Chamber of Commerce, the Indy Chamber, the Carmel Fraternal Order of Police, the Indiana Fraternal Order of Police, the Indiana State Police Alliance, the Professional Firefighters Union of Indiana, the National Federation of Independent Businesses, the Indiana Farm Bureau, and more.

Learn more about Danny and join his campaign at LopezForIndiana.com.

Westfield’s own Roger Harvey named 500 Festival Board Chair

The REPORTER

The 500 Festival has announced its newly elected Board officers and incoming Board Directors for the 2026-2027 year. The new leadership will help guide the organization as it continues its mission of celebrating the spirit and legacy of the Indianapolis 500 while producing life-enriching events and programs that make a positive impact across Indiana and beyond.

Among those new Board officers is Roger Harvey of Westfield, who will serve as Chair.

The 500 Festival Board of Directors, comprised of 33 community leaders, act as trustees, representing the organization within the community. Committed to bettering the organization, members serve on various committees that enhance the 500 Festival’s events

and programs. The 2026-2027 Board leadership includes:

- **Chair:** Roger Harvey, Principal, Bose Public Affairs Group
 - **Vice Chair:** Troy Gilstorf, Regional Managing Partner, Forvis Mazars
 - **Secretary:** Brandi Davis-Handy, President, AES Indiana
 - **Treasurer:** Bowman Elder, President, Southern Indiana Commerce Corporation
 - **Immediate Past Chair:** Christina Moungey, Managing Director, Indiana Kentucky Region Manager, J.P. Morgan
 - **Indianapolis Motor Speedway Seat:** Ellen Saul, Vice President of Premium Services, Indianapolis Motor Speedway
- “Roger Harvey em-



Harvey

bodies the spirit of service, leadership, and community that defines the 500 Festival,” said Dave Neff, president and CEO of the 500 Festival. “Through his involvement with the organization, he has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to our mission and the people we serve. I am confident his leadership as board chair will strengthen and help us continue creating meaningful experiences in Indiana and beyond.”

Learn more about the 500 Festival Board of Directors [here](#) or the 500 Festival Foundation Board of Directors [here](#).

To learn about the 500 Festival’s events and programs, please visit 500festival.com.

New program aims to improve students’ health by reducing vehicle idling at schools & daycare centers

Submitted by Hoosier Environmental Council

Every day, during school arrival and dismissal, vehicle owners and buses leave their engines running, exposing children’s lungs to vehicle exhaust.

Vehicle exhaust from idling personal vehicles and school buses can lead to respiratory and cardiovascular diseases and aggravate asthma and allergies. Children are more susceptible to these effects than adults due to their developing lungs and higher breathing rates.

To help reduce vehicle idling around children, Hoosier Environmental

Council’s **Improving Kids’ Environment** program is implementing “Smart Schools Don’t Idle” for the 2026-2027 school year for any interested childcare and K-12 school throughout Indiana.

Greenwood Community High School is an early adopter of the program.

“We always prioritize students’ health and safety and want to be part of ensuring a good environment for future generations,” Principal Michael Gasaway said.

This campaign is designed to improve air quality in childcare and K-12 schools by reducing the quantity

of cars and buses and the amount of time they spend idling. The ultimate goal is to improve health outcomes for children by improving their air quality. The program will also educate parents and childcare providers to enhance their understanding of air quality, air pollution, and how they impact the children in their care.

Any childcare facilities and K-12 schools that participate will receive training, an informational brochure, letters to parents, students, staff, and bus drivers, pledge forms, and other resources to support the campaign.

NOBLESVILLE, IN

Nickel Plate

HERITAGE RAILROAD

20 **ESTD** 17

NEW!

HOLIDAY LIGHT RAILBIKES

NOVEMBER 14-JANUARY 2

BIKE THE RAILS FROM FOREST PARK TO DOWNTOWN NOBLESVILLE

MAKE A NEW HOLIDAY TRADITION!

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

NICKELPLATEEXPRESS.COM

Community News

RESCHEDULED:

State Rep. Victoria Garcia Wilburn's town hall on education

State Rep. Victoria Garcia Wilburn (D-Fishers) will hold an education town hall from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30, in the Stage Meeting Room at the Hamilton East Public Library, 5 Municipal Drive, Fishers.

Guests will hear about legislative changes in education along with other legislative issues and have an opportunity to share thoughts and ask questions.

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.

AG Rokita sues IHSAA to eliminate race quota from high school sports leadership

Submitted by Office of AG Todd Rokita

On Thursday, Sept. 24, Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita announced his office is suing the Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. (IHSAA) to force the immediate elimination of a race-based quota that reserves two seats on IHSAA's Board of Directors for "qualified minorities," defined in the Association's bylaws as "an individual other than a white male or female."

"Hoosier students should not be governed by a sports association that picks its leaders based on race," AG Rokita said. "IHSAA's quota tells kids that skin color, rather than merit, is an appropriate way to judge people. That lesson has no place in Indiana's education system, and, regardless, the law does not permit it. The IHSAA exists to build character. A racial litmus test for choosing leadership on the IHSAA's board does the opposite, and after months of delay, the Association left us no choice but to take legal action."

The lawsuit asks the court to:

- Permanently enjoin IHSAA from reserving Board of Directors seats based on race;
- Prohibit any future by-law or policy that allocates board seats directly or indirectly based on race; and
- Declare that the existing minority-quota provisions violate state law.

IHSAA has maintained

some version of its racial quota since 1993. Under the current 2026-27 bylaws, two of the Association's 19 board seats are closed to white men and white women solely because of race. Nominating petitions for those seats must verify the candidate's racial eligibility.



Rokita

IHSAA is an Indiana public-benefit non-profit whose stated mission is educational: keeping athletics subservient to academics and developing student character. It regulates interscholastic sports for more than 400-member high schools. AG Rokita's lawsuit alleges that an express racial classification of this kind is an abuse of authority conferred by law, a waste of corporate assets, and incompatible with the public purpose for which IHSAA was organized.

The office of attorney general first demanded IHSAA eliminate the quota on April 23, 2026. IHSAA refused to act and said only that it might consider bylaw changes in May 2027. After additional notice and an Aug. 25 Executive Committee meeting that produced no change, the suit was filed.

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

**Thanks for reading
THE REPORTER**

Four suspended, one former IMPD officer charged after license plate reader audit

By **KENDALL PIERSON**
WISH-TV | wistv.com

Four suspended Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) officers and one former officer face charges of fraud and official misconduct following an investigation into the misuse of license plate readers, the department announced Wednesday.

On Sept. 23, the Marion County Prosecutor's Office filed formal charges against the five individuals. In addition to fraud and misconduct, one officer faces charges of stalking.

Internal audits in August and September 2026 identified the misuse of automatic license plate reader (ALPR) technology. IMPD began administrative and criminal investigations, leading Chief Tanya Terry to place the officers on desk duty and revoke their ALPR access. One officer later resigned, though the investigation into their conduct continued.

As more facts came to light, Terry suspended the four remaining officers and recommended they be fired. The following individuals face charges:

• **Michael Rogers (16-year veteran):** Suspended and recommended for termination; charged with three counts of misconduct and three counts of fraud.

• **Jonathan Schultz (18-year veteran):** Suspended and recommended for termination; charged with 12 counts of misconduct, 12 counts of fraud, and two counts of stalking.

Prosecutors identified 1,396 ALPR searches that were made by Schultz that appeared to have no legitimate law enforcement purpose. According to the probable cause affidavit, Schultz began stalking a woman when he first met her in September 2023 while attending a workout class at Center Grover High School. Schultz began to search her license plate in Flock just nine days later. The woman

told police she believed that Schultz had a weird obsession with her based on comments he made after workouts.

Court documents indicate Schultz created a Facebook account with a fake name to message her. These searches were conducted while Schultz was both on duty and off duty for IMPD.

Schultz also used Flock cameras to stalk two other women: his ex-wife and a woman he met at her place of employment in Greenwood, according to the probable cause affidavit. He told the woman he was an FBI agent and that he was conducting surveillance in the parking lot.

In total, Schultz conducted unauthorized surveillance of 11 individuals: seven women and four men, according to the probable cause affidavit.

• **Cassandra Crawley (7-year veteran):** Suspended and recommended for termination; charged with eight counts of misconduct and eight counts of fraud.

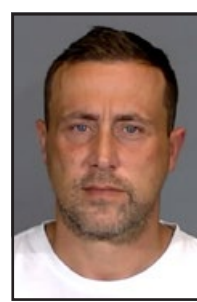
• **Matthew Binford (4-year veteran):** Suspended and recommended for termination; charged with one count of misconduct and four men.

Binford used the Flock camera system to search for two different license plates, one being his ex-wife's, between April 2024 and April 2025. In total, Binford made 1,616 searches, according to the probable cause affidavit. He used another officer's credentials to conduct the searches.

• **Abigail Cramer (5-year veteran):** Resigned; charged with six counts of misconduct and six counts of fraud.

Circle City Broadcasting reached out to IMPD for photos of the other officers, but has yet to hear back.

"Today is a deeply disheartening and disappointing



Schultz

day for IMPD," Chief Tanya Terry said in a release. "These individuals' actions went far beyond a clerical error or a violation of department policy. These actions crossed into criminal conduct and shook the foundation of trust that our agency is built upon. But I refuse to let the actions of a few define the work of this department and the hundreds of officers who show up every day with one mission: to protect our community."

The alleged misuse happened before IMPD started its new ALPR policy. In August 2026, the department issued updated rules for using the technology. Every user must now sign the policy to keep access. All searches must also include a case or incident number and a federal offense code.

IMPD also increased auditing to find misuse faster and adopted a single login system to prevent shared credentials. The department now shares ALPR data only with Indiana law enforcement agencies.

IMPD is currently turning these rules into a general order for public release. The department stated it supports laws that guide the proper use of this technology while using it to reduce violent crime.

Statement from Mayor Joe Hogsett

"Technology has proven to be an essential tool in modern policing; however, any technology or police database must be used for the sole purpose of keeping our city safe. The alleged misuse of ALPR technology by five IMPD officers is absolutely unacceptable. Actions like these erode the community's trust in law enforcement and it violates the sworn oaths these officers took to protect and serve our neighborhoods.

"I commend Chief Terry for her swift actions to hold

these officers accountable. I remain confident in IMPD's continued work to strengthen policies and auditing practices to ensure all policing tools are used properly and strictly for the benefit of public safety."

Statement from Indy Fraternal Order of Police President Rick Snyder

"Our collective organization is deeply disappointed by recent revelations within the criminal charges brought against members of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department for crimes related to misuse of the License Plate Reader technology.

"We fully support the swift actions of IMPD Police Chief, Tanya Terry, to promptly investigate these matters, immediately suspend the police powers of those involved, and initiate criminal referrals.

"While the FOP will have no role in the defense of these officers, we are mindful of the presumption of innocence unless and until proven guilty.

"As due process continues, we encourage a full and impartial review.

"Such alleged criminal misuse of the technology compromises the integrity and trust placed on law enforcement officers to use this tool for protecting the communities they serve.

"We support the efforts of Chief Tanya Terry in strengthening oversight and use of this technology.

"Our FOP is also already advocating for stronger guardrails with this technology statewide by the Indiana General Assembly this upcoming session.

"In the interim, we remain focused on strengthening administrative policies while balancing rightful privacy concerns."

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wistv.com/news/4-suspended-1-former-impd-officer-charged-after-license-plate-reader-audit.

The Dani Robinson difference

- What's the market value of my home?
- What is my process for buying a home?
- Who should I call for home repairs/remodeling?
- How do I learn about building a new home?
- Who should I call to refinance my home?
- Who should I call when I have someone who wants to buy my home?



Looking for a place in the Country - Buy Dirt!

0 206TH STREET E.
NOBLESVILLE, IN
13.27 Acres | \$570,610



0 CREEK ROAD
NOBLESVILLE, IN
40 Acres | \$1,200,000



0 DURBIN ROAD
NOBLESVILLE, IN
40 Acres | \$1,480,000



0 PRAIRIE BAPTIST ROAD
NOBLESVILLE, IN
40 Acres | \$1,700,000



13163 E 216TH STREET
NOBLESVILLE, IN
12 Acres | \$549,000



0 E 191ST STREET
NOBLESVILLE, IN
40 Acres | \$3,400,000



Talk To **Dani Robinson**
REALTOR/BROKER/SRES

317.407.6969

DaniR@talktotucker.com
TalkToDani.com



Scan here to view Dani's current listings.



F.C. TUCKER COMPANY



**THERE ARE
MILLIONS
OF DOLLARS
WAITING TO BE CLAIMED.**

Take a second to search for yourself,
your friends and your family!

VISIT IndianaUnclaimed.Gov

TEXT "FIND" to 46220

**SCAN our
QR code here**



Carmel Clay Schools selects Riverview Health & Parkview Sports Medicine to support student-athletes

The REPORTER

Carmel Clay Schools (CCS) has selected Riverview Health and Parkview Sports Medicine (PSM) to provide athletic training, strength and conditioning, sports nutrition, and peak performance services for student-athletes at Carmel High School and the district's three middle schools.

The partnership will support roughly 3,000 student athletes across CCS. Home to one of Indiana's largest and most accomplished athletic programs, CCS has a longstanding tradition of excellence in both academics and athletics. The partnership brings together healthcare and performance specialists to support student-athletes throughout their athletic experience, from injury prevention and treatment to strength development, nutrition, and mental performance.

"Our student-athletes dedicate countless hours to their sports, and they deserve access to resources that help them succeed both on and off the field," said Jim Inskeep, Director of Athletics at Carmel High School. "Having these resources embedded within our schools gives students access to support throughout the year. We're excited about the positive impact it will have across our athletic programs."

As part of the partnership, Riverview Health will provide seven full-time cer-

tified athletic trainers, including four at Carmel High School and one at each of the district's three middle schools. PSM will provide a full-time certified strength and conditioning specialist at Carmel High School, along with access to a sports dietitian and peak performance coach.

"Supporting student-athletes requires more than coverage on the sidelines," said Julie Nix, Riverview Health CEO. "Having athletic trainers in our schools allows us to build relationships with students, coaches and families long before an injury occurs. When you're part of the school community, you get to know the athletes, understand their goals and are better able to support them throughout the ups and downs of their athletic journey."

Athletic trainers are certified and licensed healthcare professionals who provide preventive care, injury management, rehabilitation support and emergency medical coverage for student-athletes. They will be present at home athletic events, practices and other activities as needed.

The full-time strength and conditioning specialist will support students in weightlifting classes during the school day and work with athletes on performance training and injury prevention outside of class.

"The best sports medicine care starts long before

an athlete ever steps into a clinic," said Dr. Robert Klitzman, orthopedic surgeon and team physician with Parkview Sports Medicine. "When athletic trainers, physicians and performance specialists are working together, athletes benefit from a level of coordination that's difficult to replicate anywhere else. We're excited to bring that level of specialized support to the Greyhounds and be part of helping Carmel student-athletes stay healthy and perform at their best."

In addition to athletic training and strength development, student-athletes will have access to sports nutrition and mental performance resources through PSM. The sports dietitian will provide education and consultations focused on hydration, fueling, recovery and healthy nutrition habits. The peak performance coach will support athletes in developing mental skills that can help them navigate competition, injury, and other challenges throughout their athletic journey.

"We're honored to partner with Riverview Health and Carmel Clay Schools to support student-athletes across the district," said Tommy Schoegler, vice president of Parkview Health's orthopedic service line, which includes PSM. "This partnership allows us to bring specialized resources directly to students

and complement the strong foundation already in place at Carmel. We're excited to help athletes continue developing, staying healthy and pursuing their goals."

Together, Riverview Health and PSM offer advanced care close to home when athletes need it. From world-class orthopedic surgeons to the latest in robotic technology, this partnership aims to ensure athletes are back in action as soon as possible.

Beth Sheller
for Hamilton County Clerk
Trusted Experience
Paid for by Beth Sheller for Clerk

Hello, Hamilton County
paulpoteet.com



The public is invited to State of the Schools

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

Registration Available:
noblesvillechamber.com

Indiana's Pre-1996 Teachers' Retirement Fund to be fully funded a decade earlier than projected

Submitted by Office of Speaker Todd Huston

Indiana House Speaker Todd Huston (R-Fishers) applauded the announcement on Thursday, Sept. 24, at [Interim Study Committee on Pension Management Oversight](#) that Indiana's Pre-1996 Teachers' Retirement Fund is expected to be fully funded a decade earlier than projected.

The Pre-96 fund supports pension payments for Hoosier teachers hired before July 1, 1995. It was designed to be a "pay-as-you-go" model where benefits are paid out as they come due. The fund supports nearly 52,000 retired teachers and will support approximately 3,900 additional currently active teachers.

Huston said additional payments on top of the annual appropriations will make the fund fully vested by 2028 instead of 2038, saving future taxpayers the need to cover over \$1 billion annually in defined benefit costs.

"Indiana's fiscal discipline is delivering real benefits for Hoosier educators and taxpayers," Huston said. "Through increased annual contributions to the teachers' retirement fund and additional one-time investments, Indiana has strengthened retirement security for our teachers, saved our schools billions

and reduced a major long-term cost for taxpayers."

The General Assembly has earmarked nearly \$14 billion to the Pre-96 fund in the last decade. More than \$4 billion of that was additional contributions.

Indiana continues to maintain one of the lowest debt burdens among all states. According to S&P Global Ratings, Indiana has the [fourth-lowest net tax-supported debt per capita](#) in the country.

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



Huston

34 YEARS

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

Available on the Web www.HCTV1.com www.HCTV2.com

On your Roku TV or Roku Device Search for HCTV1 On your Amazon Fire TV or Device Search for Hamilton County TV

Thank you for reading The Reporter!

ADLER attorneys

136 SOUTH 9TH STREET SUITE 400
NOBLESVILLE, IN 46060
317-773-1974

1010 WEST 8TH STREET SUITE 5
ANDERSON, IN 46016
765-642-2080

CONTACT US

RENTAL SPACE AVAILABLE at the Historic Adler Building. Contact Kim Watson at 317-773-1974 for details.

Meeting Notice

The Hamilton Heights School Corporation Board of Trustees will meet at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2026, in the Board Room at the Hamilton Heights Student Activity Center, 420 W. North St., Arcadia.

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.

— TIPTON COUNTY —

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TIPTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
CO-V-24-26 Jackson

Notice is hereby given that the Tipton County Board of Zoning Appeals, on the 7th day of October 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the 1st Floor meeting room of the Tipton County Courthouse, 101 East Jefferson Street, Tipton, Indiana, will hold a public hearing to consider the following:
CO-V-24-26: Caleb Jackson, petitioner and owner, requests approval of one (1) development standard variance to reduce the front setback to fifty-six (56) feet from the center of the road.
The property is more fully described as:
PART OF THE WEST HALF (1/2) OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER (1/4) OF SECTION FIVE (5), TOWNSHIP TWENTY-TWO (22) NORTH, RANGE SIX (6) EAST, WILDCAT TOWNSHIP, TIPTON COUNTY, INDIANA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT SIX HUNDRED NINE AND FIVE-TENTHS (609.5) FEET NORTH OF THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID WEST HALF (1/2); THENCE NORTH ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THREE AND THIRTY-EIGHT HUNDREDTHS (153.38); THENCE WEST ONE HUNDRED FORTY-TWO (142) FEET; THENCE SOUTH ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-THREE AND THIRTY-EIGHT HUNDREDTHS (153.38) FEET; THENCE EAST ON HUNDRED FORTY-TWO (142) FEET; TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING FIFTY HUNDRETHS (.50) ACRE.
More commonly known as: 5620 N 725 E, Windfall, Indiana 46076
Parcel No.: 80-80-05-200-007.020-010
Interested persons desiring to present their views upon this case will be given an opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned time and place or comments or objections shall be submitted in writing to the Planning Office at 101 East Jefferson Street, Tipton, Indiana 46072 prior to 12:00 p.m. on the day of the hearing.
The proposal may be viewed in the Planning Office prior to the hearing. The hearing may be continued from time to time.
Tipton County Board of Zoning Appeals
R8701 9/25/26, 9/28/26

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TIPTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
CO-V-23-26 McAllister

Notice is hereby given that the Tipton County Board of Zoning Appeals, on the 7th day of October 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the 1st Floor meeting room of the Tipton County Courthouse, 101 East Jefferson Street, Tipton, Indiana, will hold a public hearing to consider the following:
CO-V-23-26: Ryan and Mary McAllister, petitioner and owner, requests one (1) use variance to operate a retail trade establishment in the RR – Rural Residential zoning district.
The property is more fully described as:
Part of the Southeast Quarter of Section 10, Township 21 North, Range 5 East, described as follows:
Beginning at a point in the South line of Indiana State Highway #28 – 328 feet West of the center line of Section 10, running thence South 70.75 feet, thence West 124 feet to the Northwest corner of Eliza J. Duke’s Second Addition to the Town of Hobbs, Indiana, thence North 70.75 feet to the South line of said State Highway #28, thence East 124 feet along said right-of-way line to the place of beginning, containing 2/10 of an acre, in Tipton County, Indiana.
TOGETHER WITH: an easement agreement by and between MELVIN R. SALLEE and ARLENE K. SALLEE (“Grantor”) and FIVE STAR REALTOR GROUP, LLC (“Grantee”) regarding the use and maintenance of an off-site septic disposal system, the terms of which are set forth in the EASEMENT FOR USE OF SEPTIC SYSTEM AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT recorded on 4 August 2021, as Instrument No. 20212358, in the records of Tipton County, Indiana.
Commonly known as: 3435 East State Road 28, Hobbs, Indiana 46047
Parcel No.: 80-10-10-200-001.010-007
Interested persons desiring to present their views upon this case will be given an opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned time and place or comments or objections shall be submitted in writing to the Planning Office at 101 East Jefferson Street, Tipton, Indiana 46072 prior to 12:00 p.m. on the day of the hearing.
The proposal may be viewed in the Planning Office prior to the hearing. The hearing may be continued from time to time.
Tipton County Board of Zoning Appeals
R8702 9/25/26, 9/28/26

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TIPTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
CO-V-20-26 Bachman

Notice is hereby given that the Tipton County Board of Zoning Appeals, on the 7th day of October 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the 1st Floor meeting room of the Tipton County Courthouse, 101 East Jefferson Street, Tipton, Indiana, will hold a public hearing to consider the following:
CO-V-20-26: Dennis Bachman, petitioner and owner, requests one (1) development standard variance to reduce the required front setback for a residential home from 93 feet to 74 feet from the center of the road in the AG zoning district.
The property is more fully described as:
Part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 31, Township ee North, Range 6 East, Madison Township, Tipton County, described as follows: Commencing as the Northwest Corner of said Quarter marked by a Boat Spike; thence N 89 Degrees 17’ 48” E 1157.70’ along the Northline of said Quarter to the center line of McClellan Street; thence S 47 degrees 37’ 56” W 238.67’ along said center line to the point of beginning, marked by a railroad spike; thence S 47 degrees 09’ 39” E 205.91’ along a farm fence to the center line of McClellan Street; thence N 47 degrees 37’ 56” E 312.52’ along said centerline to the point of beginning, containing 1.51 acres, more or less, subject t to highway right-of-way,
Commonly known as: 119 N. Cob Street, Tipton, IN 46072
Parcel No.: 80-08-31-200-006.010-007
Interested persons desiring to present their views upon this case will be given an opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned time and place or comments or objections shall be submitted in writing to the Planning Office at 101 East Jefferson Street, Tipton, Indiana 46072 prior to 12:00 p.m. on the day of the hearing.
The proposal may be viewed in the Planning Office prior to the hearing. The hearing may be continued from time to time.
Tipton County Board of Zoning Appeals
R8703 9/25/26, 9/28/26

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TIPTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
CO-V-22-26 Ille

Notice is hereby given that the Tipton County Board of Zoning Appeals, on the 7th day of October 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the 1st Floor meeting room of the Tipton County Courthouse, 101 East Jefferson Street, Tipton, Indiana, will hold a public hearing to consider the following:
CO-V-22-26: Frank Ille, petitioner, Love’s Travel Stops and Country Stores, Inc., owner, requests approval of one (1) special exception variance to allow four (4) additional parking spaces that would serve as overnight recreational vehicle parking with full utility and sanitary services.
The property is more fully described as:
Part of the Southeast Quarter of Section 12, Township 21 North, Range 3 East of the Second Principal Meridian, Jefferson Township, Tipton County, Indiana, more particularly described as follows:
Commencing at the southeast corner of said Southeast Quarter; thence South 87 degrees 27 minutes 21 seconds West 36.68 feet along the south line of said quarter section to the centerline of U.S. 31; thence North 0 degrees 21 minutes 13 seconds East 115.71 feet along the centerline of said U.S. 31 to the centerline of S.R. 28; thence North 89 degrees 54 minutes 18 seconds West 1572.22 feet along the centerline of said S.R. 28; thence North 0 degrees 05 minutes 42 seconds East 30.00 feet to the north boundary of said S.R. 28; thence North 78 degrees 35 minutes 42 seconds West 101.98 feet along said north boundary and the point of beginning of this description; thence North 89 degrees 54 minutes 18 seconds West 128.04 feet along said boundary; thence North 0 degrees 04 minutes 56 seconds West 29.96 feet; thence North 89 degrees 55 minutes 04 seconds East 212.23 feet; thence North 63 degrees 42 minutes 07 seconds East 265.91 feet; thence North 15 degrees 40 minutes 44 seconds East 158.95 feet to the west line of the East Half of said Southeast Quarter; thence North 0 degrees 04 minutes 56 seconds West 1,306.13 feet along the west line of said East Half; thence Northwesterly, Northely, Northeasterly, Easterly and Southeasterly 238.96 feet along an arc to the right having a radius of 70.00 feet and subtended by a long chord having a bearing of North 32 degrees 38 minutes 32 seconds East and a length of 138.71 feet; thence North 41 degrees 54 minutes 21 seconds East 32.54 feet; thence North 89 degrees 27 minutes 35 seconds East 1,084.04 feet to the western boundary of said U.S. 31; thence South 6 degrees 20 minutes 54 seconds West 269.03 feet along said western boundary to the north line of land described in Deed Record 157, page 684 in the Office of the Recorder of Tipton County, Indiana; thence South 89 degrees 55 minutes 53 seconds West 219.75 feet along the north line of said land to the northwest corner of said land; thence South 0 degrees 21 minutes 05 seconds West along the west line of said land and the west line of land described in Deed Record 164, page 366A to the southwest corner of the land described in Deed Record 164, page 366A; thence North 89 degrees 39 minutes 14 seconds East 202.69 feet along the south line of said land to the west boundary of said U.S. 31; thence South 5 degrees 02 minutes 23 seconds West 69.78 feet along said boundary to the northwestern boundary of the intersection of said U.S.31 and said S.R. 28; thence South 29 degrees 02 minutes 48 seconds West 820.26 feet along the boundary of the intersection of said U.S. 31 and said S.R. 28; thence South 0 degrees 05 minutes 42 seconds West 244.00 feet along said boundary; thence South 64 degrees 02 minutes 29 seconds West 50.09 feet along said boundary to the north boundary od said S.R. 28; thence North 89 degrees 54 minutes 18 seconds West 246.00 feet along said north boundary; thence South 81 degrees 57 minutes 54 seconds West 141.42 feet along said boundary; thence South 79 degrees 41 minutes 52 seconds West 110.82 feet along said boundary; thence Noeth 89 degrees 54 minutes 18 seconds West 550.00 feet along said boundary to the point of beginning, containing 38.170 acres, more or less.
Commonly known as: 1875 Campbell Crossing, Tipton, IN 46072
Parcel No.: 80-12-12-400-012.040-003
Interested persons desiring to present their views upon this case will be given an opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned time and place or comments or objections shall be submitted in writing to the Planning Office at 101 East Jefferson Street, Tipton, Indiana 46072 prior to 12:00 p.m. on the day of the hearing.
The proposal may be viewed in the Planning Office prior to the hearing. The hearing may be continued from time to time.
Tipton County Board of Zoning Appeals
R8704 9/25/26, 9/28/26

It ain’t over till it’s over

“Technical-ly, according to chemistry, alcohol is a solution.”
— Unknown

I want to apologize to the five of you (maybe that many) who follow my column regularly. I haven’t been able to give this little endeavor the attention that it needs. That’s not fair to you (or maybe it is). You see, I’ve just been tremendously busy helping my family with their flood recovery. Sure, I’ve had free time. But writing a column about Bourbon has been the furthest thing from my mind.

It’s a very strange thing going through a disaster. At first it was “all hands on deck”. The outpouring of help and relief was wonderful. Don’t get me wrong, it still is. The giving, helpful, altruistic, nature of humanity has shone brightly. Yet, things seem to be winding down on that front. And that’s okay. It’s just the way it is.

Problem is, after the waters have receded, and the initial clean-up is over, there’s still tons to get done. My family’s home, to put it bluntly, was totally trashed. Appliances, gone. Most of the furniture, gone. Walls

from the floor to four feet up, gone. Kitchen cabinets, gone. Flooring; hardwoods, laminate, carpet, subfloors, gone. Personal effects, gone. We were able to save a lot of things, but it’s no lie to say that this has been devastating. Bourbon has been the furthest thing from my mind.

Personally, I’ve been at their house nearly every day – cleaning up, ripping out drywall, repairing subfloors, tearing out and repairing bad wall joists, replacing electrical outlets, hanging dry-wall, etc., etc., etc. It’s been tough. Not trying to sound like a martyr. I’m more than happy to do it, and it’s been strangely fun (more on that in a few paragraphs). I love my family. Bourbon has been the furthest thing from my mind.

Thank goodness I retired this past January and have the time to do it. Also thank goodness that I retired young and still have the strength and know-how (a little) to get most of this physical labor done. Yet, I get home at the end of the day, and I’m just wiped out. Then, I have to get all of my own responsibilities

taken care of. Bourbon has been the furthest thing from my mind.

I’m not trying to take all of the “credit”. It takes a village, and we have certainly had tons of help – thank you to all! Again, other family members, friends, the local community, neighbors, church groups, heck, even total strangers have come out of the woodwork to lend a hand or a handout. Did I say thank you? Well I’m going to shout it again: THANK YOU TO EVERY-ONE!

On the other hand ... This calamity has brought my family closer together. Literally – my in-laws are living with us. There’s the age-old schtick about how in-laws are a pain. Not so here. In a weird way this has been a really fun time. Still ... not thinking of writing about bourbon.

Of course, booze has played its part through all of this (how could it not?). Although, strangely enough, it hasn’t been bourbon. My father-in-law, Ron, enjoys his scotch. Quite often throughout our recent time together, when the day is over and we’ve put the hammers, drills, and paint brushes down, we’ve enjoyed an evening libation together (or two, or ...).

Our booze of choice? Costco’s Kirkland brand scotch (I didn’t say he enjoys fancy scotch). In reality, the stuff is very good. It’s amazingly smooth and sweet with just a wisp of peat at the finish. Who woulda thunk? BTW, the same goes for Kirkland’s Cognac – wonderful stuff. Which is also amongst Ron’s favorites.

Ron and I have drunk together before (that’s an understatement). Yet living together, working together on the restoration, and having a libation together on a daily basis has brought us closer. I love that!

The same goes for my wife’s cousin Ken, who lives right next door to my in-laws, and whose house was also wrecked by the flood. You know Ken. He’s written many wonderful column for this publication for a while now, including several recent columns on his experiences throughout this nightmare. He’s actually the one responsible for talking me into writing this column (so you have him to blame).

Ken recently re-discovered Mickey’s Malt. I had not imbibed in Mickey’s since college (in the ‘80s – yikes!). It’s been a nice blast from the past, and it’s pretty good stuff. After working at Ron’s there have been a few times where I’ve walked next door and enjoyed an ice-cold one and great conversation with Ken. Fun times, despite the tribulation. Yet, bourbon has still been the furthest thing from my mind.

It seems like this writing is a little disjointed (you should be used to that by now). I suppose that’s because I’m a little disjointed (see above). I’ll wrap up by saying that I’ll get back to my normal self soon. Just like all of this chaos surrounding me will right itself, with a little more work of course. I’ll get back my bourbon state of mind and return to the caramel-y, oaky, boozy, good stuff. Until then, cheers!

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



LIFETIME LEGACY LAWYERS Podcast

<https://lifetimelegacylawyers.com>

CLICK TO LISTEN

Skull-scratching trivia, contests, and more!

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

Trick or Trivia

benefitting



TOM & SONI SHEEHAN
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF NOBLESVILLE



Register your
team today
BGCNI.ORG

Sponsored by



Rocky Horror Show bobbleheads Kickstarter campaign launched

Submitted

the National Bobblehead Hall of Fame and Museum launched a **Kickstarter Campaign** to produce the first Rocky Horror Show Bobbleheads. Featuring seven bobbleheads based on the original version of the 1973 *Rocky Horror Show* which inspired the cult classic musical comedy horror film *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*.

A Kickstarter-exclusive Dr. Frank-N-Furter Bobblehead is only available for backers of the Kickstarter Campaign. Other bobbleheads offered through the Kickstarter Campaign include characters Rocky, Brad, Janet, Magenta, Riff Raff, and Columbia. The bobbleheads are being produced by the National Bobblehead Hall of Fame and Museum, an official licensee of the *Rocky Horror Show*.

With a goal of raising \$15,000, the Kickstarter Campaign runs through 1 a.m. Eastern Time on Halloween, Saturday, Oct. 31. The bobbleheads are available for \$30 each plus shipping with other exclusive add-ons also available. In addition, fans who want to show their support for the campaign but don't need a bobblehead can do so for as little as \$1 on the [campaign page](#).

A limited number of bobbleheads will be produced



Graphic provided

based on the demand from the Kickstarter Campaign. Backing the campaign is the only way to obtain the original Dr. Frank-N-Furter Bobblehead. Standing on a red circular base bearing his name and the *Rocky Horror* logo, which also bobbles, the Dr. Frank-N-Furter bobblehead is wearing his iconic outfit featuring a black corset, fishnet stockings, black briefs, a pearl necklace, and high-heeled platform shoes. After playing Dr. Frank-N-Furter on stage, Tim Curry made his film debut playing the transvestite scientist in the movie. Curry recently died on Aug. 25, 2026, at the age of 80, making this bobblehead a great tribute to the character that he brought to life.

"We're excited to launch this Kickstarter

campaign to produce the first Rocky Horror Show Bobbleheads celebrating the iconic characters that so many people have come to know and love over the past 50 plus years," National Bobblehead Hall of Fame and Museum Co-Founder and CEO Phil Sklar said. "These bobbleheads are the perfect way for fans of 'Rocky Horror' to show off their love for their favorite characters."

About the National Bobblehead Hall of Fame and Museum

The National Bobblehead Hall of Fame and Museum, which is located at 170 S. 1st St., Milwaukee, Wis., opened to the public on Feb. 1, 2019. The HOF and Museum also produces high quality, customized bobbleheads for retail sale as well as organizations, individuals, and teams across the country. Learn more at bobbleheadhall.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.

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD

When the Lord your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, be careful that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

Fear the Lord your God, serve him only and take your oaths in his name. Do not follow other gods, the gods of the peoples around you; for the Lord your God, who is among you, is a jealous God and his anger will burn against you, and he will destroy you from the face of the land. Do not put the Lord your God to the test as you did at Massah. Be sure to keep the commands of the Lord your God and the stipulations and decrees he has given you. Do what is right and good in the Lord's sight, so that it may go well with you and you may go in and take over the good land the Lord promised on oath to your ancestors, thrusting out all your enemies before you, as the Lord said.

Deuteronomy 6:10-19 (NIV)

DH HARTLEY - DUNNICHAY
Funeral Homes

SERVING YOUR FAMILY THROUGH GOD'S GRACE

Pre-Arrangements
Celebrations of Life
Grief Support
Monuments

Honoring, Remembering, & Celebrating

317.984.3614

www.hartleyfuneralhomes.com

Randall & Roberts
Funeral Homes

1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville
1150 Logan Street, Noblesville
12010 Allisonville Road, Fishers

317-773-2584

Our family has been serving Hamilton County since 1953

HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

Contact Information

Email

News@ReadTheReporter.com

Web Address

ReadTheReporter.com

Publisher Stu Clampitt

765-365-2316

Subscription Inquiries

Subscribe@ReadTheReporter.com
765-585-9519

Advertising & Public Notices

Ads@ReadTheReporter.com
765-365-2316

Mailing Address

136 S. 9th St., Suite 12
Noblesville, IN 46060

IMPROVED PRICE!

LAKEFRONT!
20971 Shoreline
Unit 410
NOBLESVILLE

Enjoy low-maintenance waterfront living in this gated 2BR, 2BA Morse Lake condo. Features include fresh paint, new carpet, boat slip, two garage spots, storage, and stainless kitchen. Luxury meets convenience.

Listed at \$299,900

PENDING!
9919 FOUNTAIN
COVE DRIVE
INDIANAPOLIS

This 3 bed, 2.5 bath beauty near Geist Reservoir offers an open concept floor plan, new roof, carpet, and remodeled primary bath. Enjoy the versatile living spaces, updated kitchen, spacious fenced-in backyard, and a heated golf simulator garage!

Listed at \$299,900

SOLD!
18532 ORIENTAL
OAK COURT
NOBLESVILLE

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

Listed at \$559,900

SOLD!
18149 ATLANTIC
ROAD
NOBLESVILLE

Own this charming 1.5-acre country retreat! Features 2,000+ sq ft, 4BR, 2BA, and a new roof. Enjoy a cozy fireplace, spacious kitchen, and fenced yard. Perfectly located near Hamilton Town Center and I-69.

Won't last long!
Listed at \$274,900

SOLD!
2513 SHERIDAN
COURT
CICERO

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

Listed at \$339,900

**"SPEAK
TO DEAK!"**



The Deakyne Team
REALTORS®

317.695.6032 JENNIFER | 317.439.3258 PEGGY

SpeakToDeak.com



F.C. TUCKER COMPANY