

— MARK —
HALL
FOR HAMILTON
COUNTY COUNCIL
To Serve Neighbors
WWW.MARKFHALL.COM

A FLAT TAX RATE. KEPT.

No county tax-rate hike on his watch.

Growth without raising your county rate.
Services delivered. Taxpayers protected.
Faith, liberty, and limited government.



HAMILTON COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS

ENDORSED

PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF MARK HALL



THE HAMILTON COUNTY

REPORTER

Your
Hometown
Newspaper

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 21, 2026

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Sunny.
Tonight: Mostly clear.



HIGH: 70 LOW: 42



paulpoteet.com

Worrell will not run again

Carmel City Councilman reflects on his public service

Creating an independent space

The REPORTER

Carmel City Councilor Jeff Worrell announced that he will not seek reelection in 2027, concluding more than a decade of service on the Council and 35 years of community involvement.

Worrell will continue serving through the remainder of his current term, which concludes in December 2027.

Worrell, who began serving on the Council in January 2016 and is currently its most senior council member, emphasized that while his time in elected office will come to an



Worrell

end, his commitment to the Carmel community will continue.

“Serving on the Carmel City Council has been one of the greatest honors of my life,” Worrell said. “For the past decade, residents have entrusted me with the responsibility of representing them and helping shape the future of our city. That opportunity has been profoundly meaningful. I’ve always believed public service is about stewardship, not

permanence, and the time has come to make room for the next generation of leadership.”

Throughout his time on the Council, Worrell has emphasized the importance of civility, respectful dialogue and maintaining relationships despite differences of opinion.

That commitment was shaped in part by an experience following his first City Council primary election in 2015. His opponent, former

Councilor Luci Snyder, congratulated him following the election and extended her friendship and guidance. Snyder has remained a trusted confidant throughout his time in office.

Worrell intends to remain actively involved in the community, continuing his efforts to encourage civility, strengthen relationships and support initiatives that contribute to Carmel’s future. He continues to serve as the Founder, President, and CEO of Project Civility and as a board member for O’Connor House in Carmel.

COLUMNIST

AMY SHINNEMAN
Disability in the City

As an ambulatory wheelchair user, I am constantly brainstorming ways to make my home more accessible. I want to live in a space that does not feel stressful.

Creating a space that works for both walking and using my wheelchair is a little bit tricky. Thorough-out my days when I am at home, I am constantly switching from walking to needing my wheelchair. My strength fluctuates a lot during the day.

Part of me wants to walk as much as I can since I am fortunate to still have that ability, but I also worry about my safety, and it is getting harder each day it seems. That is life with a progressive muscle disease. It is a double-edged sword.

Each day is different, but my desire for independence stays the same.

If my husband is home, I do not mind asking for help reaching things or whatever it may be.

When I am home alone, I need to be able to access things on my own. One of the things my wheelchair has helped me with the most is carrying things. Balancing things on my lap and taking them from room to room requires practice and patience.

See *Space* . . . Page 2

Dixon speaks to Reporter’s readers

By AIDA KARIM
news@readthereporter.com

Editor’s note: The Reporter’s attempts to contact the Democratic candidate for a similar interview were unsuccessful.

As Hamilton County grows, Dixon is looking to address what he says are the toughest challenges facing the sheriff’s department.

Republican Dustin Dixon shares the ballot with Democrat Charles Hollowell for Hamilton County Sheriff this midterm.



Dixon

Dixon has over 25 years of experience in the sheriff’s office. He started his journey as an entry-level patrol deputy. Gradually, Dixon began to work himself up the ranks, serving in “nearly every job and every type of assignment.”

Dixon is endorsed by all four FOP lodges (police unions) in Hamilton County, as well as with the firefighters union.

“I understand the operations of the department,” Dixon

said. “I understand the folks we work with on a daily basis from four cities, three towns, eight other police departments, and nine other fire departments. Those relationships are really what makes you successful in public safety.”

Changes in Hamilton County

Dixon told The Reporter the jail population is continuing to increase. As a result, the medical, transport, and educational

services the county provides are under strain.

“Despite some of the violent crimes, I still say Noblesville, Carmel, and Fishers are all still very safe places, but they are not the Noblesville, Fishers, or Carmel of 20 years ago or even 10 years ago,” Dixon said. “We are seeing some more violent crimes and some more bad actors coming into this area.”

According to Dixon, a disproportionate 40 percent of Hamilton County’s inmate

See *Dixon* . . . Page 2

Public input needed on Hamilton County Parks & Recreation’s five-year master plan

The REPORTER

Hamilton County Parks and Recreation (HCPR) invites residents to participate in a community survey as the department begins developing its next five-year master plan. The survey will gather public feedback to help guide future priorities, park improvements, recreational opportunities, and investments in the county’s park system.

The master plan will help HCPR evaluate current facilities and programs, identify community needs, and establish goals for the next five years. Feedback from residents will be an important part of the planning process, helping the department understand what is working well and where additional opportunities exist.

“Our parks serve people in different ways, whether they visit to hike a trail, attend a program, spend time with family, or connect with nature,” HCPR Director Chris Stice said. “This survey is an opportunity for residents to share what matters to them and help us make informed decisions about the future of our park system. We want our plans to reflect the needs and interests of the community we serve.”

HCPR manages 21 park properties with more than 1,800 acres, 26 miles of trails, and a variety of recreational, educational, and nature-based experiences. The department also works to preserve natural areas and provide opportunities for residents and visitors to connect with Hamilton County’s history and environment.

Residents are encouraged to participate in the survey and share their perspectives. Community feedback will help inform the department’s long-term planning and support decisions about how parks, programs, facilities, and resources are prioritized in the years ahead.

The five-year master plan survey is available at myhamiltoncountyparks.com.



Stice



Photo provided by Hamilton County Parks & Recreation

Hamilton County Parks & Rec brings numerous events to the public each year, including the popular Potter’s Bridge Festival each fall (top) and the Cool Creek Summer Concert Series (above).



JANUS
Life Skills for People with Disabilities

Generous funding leads to dramatic improvements of Janus’ Hamilton County Express program

The REPORTER

Janus Developmental Services announces the following outstanding service accomplishments since April 2025 regarding its Hamilton County Express (HCE) transportation program.

Through the very generous gift of \$25,000 from Duke Energy, along with additional funding from Hamilton County government, Janus was able to acquire a new software system, Spare, with the goal of improving services. Invest Hamilton County also provided initial consultation on the program.

These improvements have been dramatic, with the following areas seeing vast improvements:

- Requests for rides are up 30 percent
- Ride denials are down from 15 percent to 2.5 percent
- Customer Satisfaction is currently rated 99 percent (from data acquired through the HCE Rides app)

Furthermore, Janus staff report significant improvements with efficiency and ease of use. HCE Senior Transportation Manager Ben Platz reports tremendous satisfaction from his staff as they use the Spare software on a daily basis.

See *Express* . . . Page 2

Come meet the candidates

The Reporter is doing our part to help voters make informed decisions when casting their ballots whether early, absentee, or on Election Day.

The Reporter will publish Candidate Bios for all candidates who choose to engage with our readers. Those will publish every Monday through Friday through Election Day (and at [this link](#)), and those pages will be updated as more candidates choose to submit their information.

Election Day polling places are listed on Page 8 at [this link](#). Please note that Vote Centers will **not** take effect in Hamilton County until the May 2027 primary election.

This is a free public service we are providing both to candidates and our readers.

DIXON FOR SHERIFF

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT DUSTIN DIXON

✓ Veteran Who Served Our Country

✓ Leader Focused on Public Safety

✓ Strong Community Relationships

✓ Proven to Deliver for Hamilton County

ENDORSED BY 4 MAYORS
SUE FINKAM, CARMEL • SCOTT FADNESS, FISHERS
CHRIS JENSEN, NOBLESVILLE • SCOTT WILLIS, WESTFIELD

ENDORSED BY ALL 4 FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LODGES IN HAMILTON COUNTY

ENDORSED BY ALL 3 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DIXONFORSHERIFF.COM



The Andrew Lloyd Webber sensation



CATS

Now on
stage!



Beef & Boards
DINNER THEATRE

TICKETS AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY VIA
beefandboards.com | 317.872.9664



NOBLESVILLE YOUTH SPORTS ALLIANCE

ONE COMMUNITY • 7000+ KIDS • 16 PROGRAMS

www.noblesvillesports.com @noblesvillesports

Distance shouldn’t determine breast cancer support

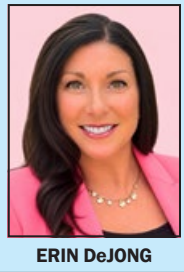
For rural Hoosiers undergoing breast cancer treatment, the road to recovery can be a long one – sometimes literally.

A trip to the nearest cancer treatment center might mean driving an hour or more each way. Add gas, groceries, missed work, and other “soft costs” and a breast cancer diagnosis can become a financial crisis for patients and their families.

Breast cancer doesn’t discriminate by ZIP code, but access to the resources needed to navigate treatment often does. At Indiana Women in Need (IWIN), we believe no Hoosier should have to choose between getting the treatment they need and meeting their family’s basic needs.

Since 2000, our organization has supported

GUEST COLUMNIST



ERIN DeJONG

individuals undergoing breast cancer treatment manage the emotional, physical, and financial burdens that come with a diagnosis. Through fundraising and community partnerships, we provide \$450 in individual assistance to eligible patients in active treatment, helping cover everyday necessities like groceries that don’t disappear when cancer enters the picture.

Our mission extends far beyond Indianapolis. We support individuals in all 92 Indiana counties and have delivered \$4 million in services since our founding. Today, our commitment to reaching Hoosiers wherever they call home remains as important as ever.

See Support . . . Page 5

Noblesville firefighters extinguish large barn fire on Willowview Road

By JOHN HERRICK
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

The Noblesville Fire Department says they responded to a building fire in the 1700 block of Willowview Road at around 8 pm Monday night.

Firefighters who first arrived on the scene said they encountered a large barn fully engulfed in flames, so they deployed large volumes of water to control the blaze and limit damage to the structure where the fire originated. No one was inside the building at the time, and no injuries to civilians, firefighters, or animals were reported.

The Noblesville Police Department and the City of Noblesville Street Department assisted emergency crews at the scene. Street Department personnel



Photo provided by Noblesville Fire Department

used equipment to remove debris, allowing fire investigators to safely access the area to determine the cause and origin of the blaze.

Authorities stated the cause of the fire remains under investigation.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/local-news/noblesville-firefighters-extinguish-large-barn-fire-on-willowview-road.

Enjoy a Halloween treat full of thrills, laughs & rock ‘n’ roll with Actors Theatre of Indiana

The REPORTER

Just in time for Halloween, Actors Theatre of Indiana (ATI) is bringing audiences a wickedly fun mix of thrills, laughter, and rock ‘n’ roll with *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Running Oct. 23 through Nov. 8 at The Studio Theater, located on the campus of the Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts, this beloved horror-comedy promises plenty of outrageous fun.

The production is directed by DJ Salisbury, an award-winning stage director, choreographer, book writer, and lyricist with more than 120 theatrical productions to his credit nationwide and off-Broadway. Here’s what he has to say about the show.

“Every so often a musical comes along that seems to do the impossible, and *Little Shop of Horrors* is one of them,” Salisbury said. “On paper, it shouldn’t work: a doo-wop, girl-group, Motown-flavored comedy about a meek flower shop clerk and a bloodthirsty plant from outer space. Yet in the hands of Howard Ashman (book and lyrics) and Alan Menken (music), this campy little B-movie parody became one of the most perfectly constructed musicals ever written.”

“Every song moves the story forward, every joke lands with purpose, and underneath all the fun sits a surprisingly sharp fable about ambition, temptation, and what we’re willing to

feed in exchange for the life we think we deserve.

“It’s no surprise that Ashman and Menken went on to write some of the most beloved Disney musicals of all time, including *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Aladdin*. You can hear the seeds of that genius right here on Skid Row.

“I’ve had the joy of directing this show once before, and I can honestly say it is a privilege to revisit the *Little Shop* ... spending time with a piece this well written is like reuniting with an old friend who still has new stories to tell. So settle in, enjoy the ride, and whatever you do ... don’t feed the plants!”

Salisbury has directed and choreographed major regional productions at ven-

ues including Paper Mill Playhouse, Pioneer Theatre Company, Musical Theatre West, and Orlando Shakespeare Theater. His credits include acclaimed productions of *Les Misérables*, *The Will Rogers Follies* and *Evita*. He is also the creator of several original musicals, including *Whisper Darkly* with composer Andrew Gerle, *Moonshine & Mistletoe*, *Poodleful!* and *The Man Who Would Be King*, co-written with Neil Berg.

Get your tickets for this Off-Broadway smash hit featuring doo-wop, early Motown, and rock and roll. Tickets are available online at atistage.org or by calling Fifth Third Bank Box Office at Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts at (317) 843-3800.

Sheridan Retirement

502 W. 7th St.
Sheridan, IN 46069

62 Years Old or Older.
Disabled
Any Legal Age

Water, Sewer and Weekly Trash Removal included in rent.
1 and 2 bedroom units available.

Limited Rental Assistance Available for those who qualify

“This institution is an equal opportunity provider”

317-758-5061
TTY 711

actors theatre
ati
of indiana

BROADWAY
in your backyard!

Artistic Support Provided by **Christel DeHaan**

OCT. 23
THROUGH
NOV. 8

THE STUDIO THEATER
AT **Allied Solutions CENTER**

atistage.org | 317.843.3800

SCAN FOR TICKETS



Photos provided by Sheridan Community Schools
(ABOVE LEFT, from left) SHS FFA members Kelsey Sedwick, Tanner Dawson, and Isaac Hopper.
(ABOVE RIGHT, from left) SHS Staff Members Tanya Busailah, Allison Waitt, Diane Anderson, and Scott Ison came to show support.

Sheridan FFA hosts annual pork loin dinner

Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

On Oct. 9, before the final home football game, Sheridan FFA welcomed the community to its annual Pork Loin Dinner. This annual fundraiser is a way for the organization to continue to create and participate in opportunities throughout the

school year.

“It is a great event that allows the community to gather for interaction, conversation, and a great meal while supporting the FFA,” Sheridan High School Principal Rick Davis said.

The money raised from this highly anticipated meal helps Sheridan

FFA “pay for entry fees for contests, materials needed for contests, offset convention fees, fund our philanthropy projects, our recreational activities, and anything else we have expenses for in order for everyone that is a member to be able to enjoy the organization and not have a lot of out of pocket expense,”

according to FFA Sponsor Scott Ison.

Sheridan FFA typically offers two dinners during the school year to raise funds for the club – one in the fall and one in the winter – to help offset costs for students. These fundraisers help the students continue to stay involved and excel in their expertise.

SUPPORT

About 5,800 Hoosiers are diagnosed with breast cancer every year. Behind that number are parents, grandparents, neighbors, co-workers, and friends whose lives are suddenly turned upside down, too. For those living in rural communities, the challenges can be especially difficult.

Many rural communities lack the same proximity to specialized medical care, transportation options and support services available in larger cities. Patients may need to travel considerable distances for chemotherapy, radiation, or other appointments, sometimes daily or several times a week. And when treatment makes it difficult or impossible to work, those expenses become even harder to manage.

In fact, 43 percent of breast cancer patients consider forgoing treatment due to the cost. That’s a troubling reality, and one we can’t afford to ignore.

Consider Reane, an

IWIN recipient from Greene County who traveled 85 miles each way for treatment. Living on Social Security, she struggled to afford the gas necessary to reach her appointments. Transportation assistance meant she could focus more of her energy on healing instead of worrying about how she would afford the next trip.

Or consider CoraVee, an 83-year-old recipient from Steuben County who faced 100-mile round trips for treatment while living on a limited budget. She described IWIN’s assistance with everyday necessities as something that provided much more than financial relief.

These stories illustrate something we see every day. Sometimes, the greatest difference we can make isn’t paying a medical bill. It’s making sure someone can afford to get to treatment, put dinner on the table, or experience one less worry during a difficult time.

Fortunately, Hoosiers

have demonstrated time and again they are willing to show up for their neighbors.

This October, during Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Everwise Credit Union is funding 40 IWIN grants to help individuals undergoing treatment. With employees and members in communities across Indiana – including rural areas – Everwise understands breast cancer affects families in every corner of our state. Its continued partnership is an example of how organizations can turn community commitment into meaningful assistance.

But meeting this need requires more than any one organization or partnership. It requires health care providers who connect patients with available resources, employers who recognize the challenges of balancing treatment and work, and communities willing to support neighbors facing circumstances they never anticipated.

from Page 4

It also requires awareness. Too often, people navigating a breast cancer diagnosis don’t realize assistance is available. That’s why Breast Cancer Awareness Month must be about more than wearing pink or encouraging screenings, important as those efforts are. It must also be about supporting people after a diagnosis, throughout treatment and during the difficult days in between.

At IWIN, we want every Hoosier undergoing breast cancer treatment to know they are not alone, whether they live in downtown Indianapolis or miles from the nearest hospital. Because where someone lives should never determine whether they feel supported through breast cancer.

To learn more about IWIN, apply for assistance or support our mission, visit iwinfoundation.org.

Erin DeJong is Indiana Women in Need (IWIN)’s Executive Director.

BUSINESS CARDS

Arvin Masonry

Historical tuckpointing
Foundation repair & replacement
All things masonry

Noblesville 317-645-7460

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

4.50%
APY*

12 Months

4.50%
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

Member
FDIC



Beth

Sheller

for

Hamilton

County

Clerk

Trusted Experience

Paid for by Beth Sheller for Clerk



Accurate. Balanced. Local.
The Hamilton County Reporter

WORKING
FOR YOU,
NOT
insiders,
NOT
big donors.



LAURI SHILLINGS

for Secretary of State

JOIN US → LauriForLiberty.com | Paid for by Lauri for Liberty

Carmel’s 2027 budget emphasizes public safety & essential services

Submitted by City of Carmel
On Monday evening, Oct. 19, the Carmel City Council approved the proposed 2027 budget, which focuses on infrastructure needs, continuing to prioritize public safety, and modernizing essential services to benefit residents.

This approved budget totals \$252.4 million, with a General Fund budget of \$152.6 million. “Residents should be able to count on us to take care of their city and keep the cost of living here at the center of our decisions,” Mayor Sue Finkam said when addressing the council. “This budget honors both responsibilities.” “What is really important is that we’re keeping the tax rate flat with the increased deductions we’ve had,” City Councilman Rich Taylor said. “I applaud this council, [Chief

Financial Officer] Zac Jackson, the mayor, and this administration for presenting a budget that’s easy to approve.” The proposed 2027 budget was published online on Sept. 8 for council review and public consumption. Each department director provided a recorded video talking through their budget priorities alongside supporting documents and slides. Public safety remains the budget’s top priority, while emphasizing a focus on affordability and long-term fiscal stability. Key

highlights of the approved 2027 budget include:
• **Public Safety Investments:** Continued funding for first responders, including competitive compensation and modern equipment for the Carmel Police Department and Carmel Fire Department.
• **Infrastructure & Operations:** Prioritizing core road and pathway maintenance, stormwater improvements and neighborhood preservation.
• **Operational Efficiency:** Utilizing zero-based budgeting principles and digital modernization to streamline administrative operations and improve service delivery to residents. Residents can view detailed budget documents, department presentation videos and full breakdown metrics online at [this link](#).



Finkam



Taylor

See 22 military uniforms at “A Salute to Veterans” exhibit in Noblesville

By JON BALDWIN
Clay Township Military Library & Museum
Twenty-two military uniforms are now on display at

“A Salute to Veterans” at the Hamilton County Historical Society Museum in Noblesville – and most are from the Clay Township Military Library and Museum! We are pleased to join the Historical Society in this exhibition honoring military service and sharing our community’s history. The display brings together uniforms from both museums, offering a closer look at military dress through the years and the ranks, ribbons, badges, and patches that help tell the story. For our small, volunteer-led museum, this partnership is a welcome opportunity to bring more of our collection to the public and introduce new visitors to our work honoring veterans and preserving their stories.

Plan your visit
• **Where:** Hamilton County Historical Society Museum, 810 Conner St., Noblesville
• **When:** Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., through Saturday, Nov. 14
• **Special Veterans Day opening:** Wednesday, Nov. 11, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
• **Admission:** Free
The next opportunities to visit are Friday, Oct. 23, and Saturday, Oct. 24. Bring a friend, invite a veteran or military family member, or make it part of a visit to downtown Noblesville. Our thanks to Executive Director Deb Lorenz and the Hamilton County Historical Society for hosting the exhibition and helping share these uniforms with the community. For museum information, visit [hamiltoncoins.com](#).

Devon

WELLINGTON

for STATE REPRESENTATIVE

EARLY VOTING STARTS: OCT 6TH

ELECTION DAY: NOV 3RD



Strong schools

Lower costs

Opportunity for all

votedevon.com

Paid for and authorized by the Committee to Elect Devon Wellington

ReadTheReporter.com



VOTE ON OR BEFORE
NOVEMBER 3RD.

Your vote matters!

Ready on
Day One.

As a current Magistrate Judge, Danica serves Hamilton County residents every day. She brings over 20 years of legal experience to the bench and is prepared to create a foundation in Hamilton Superior Court 8 that will serve the community now and for years to come.

PRINCIPLED. PREPARED. PRACTICAL.

DANICA

EYLER

FOR JUDGE



danicaeylerforjudge.com

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Danica Eyler.

Letter to the Editor

Sheridan Youth Assistance Program encourages passage of referendum

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Sheridan Youth Assistance Program, I am writing in support of the Sheridan Community Schools referendum and encourage our community to support this important effort to protect the quality of education our students receive.

It is important to understand that Sheridan Community Schools is not asking voters for more money – they are refinancing what voters already approved in 2023. Changes resulting from Senate Bill 1 and fluctuations in assessed property values have changed the school corporation’s tax base. Replacing the current referendum will allow the school to maintain approximately the same level of local operating revenue while providing the flexibility needed to respond to these changes.

The proposed \$0.40 is a maximum tax rate, not a commitment to collect at that rate. In almost every case, property owners are expected to pay less in referendum taxes. The higher maximum rate simply gives the School Board the flexibility to maintain necessary revenue as the tax base changes – it is not an effort to collect more money than necessary. Without replacing the current referendum, Sheridan Community Schools anticipates losing more than \$500,000 in property tax revenue over the next five years. For a smaller school corporation, operating with that reduction would have a significant impact.

Sheridan Community Schools has earned a reputation for excellence. Sheridan has been recognized among Indiana’s top high schools, including high rankings among traditional public schools with fewer than 500 students. The school has achieved a 100 percent graduation rate and a 94 percent IREAD passing rate, along with many other successes in academics, extracurricular activities, and athletics. Sheridan has also been recognized as a Best Place to Work. These accomplishments are the result of dedicated teachers and staff, supportive families, strong community involvement, and a school corporation committed to providing students with an excellent education.

I believe in our students, our teachers, our staff, and the future of our community. Maintaining the strength and excellence of Sheridan Community Schools is an investment in our children and in the future of Sheridan. I encourage you to support the referendum and help Sheridan Community Schools continue providing the excellence our students deserve.

Jeff Drayer
President, Sheridan Youth Assistance Program
Board of Directors

Letter to the Editor

Noblesville natives: children are the future, so vote ‘yes’ on referendum

Dear Editor:

We have attended Noblesville Schools and graduated from Noblesville High School. Never have we regretted it – in fact, we were at or above where others were. Graduating college, we returned to Noblesville to follow our chosen professions – Jane as a teacher in Noblesville Schools and Jerry as a lawyer and a Judge – and never have we regretted our return.

We are voting “yes” to renewing the school operating referendum that was approved in 2018 (and voted and approved before that) and that expires at the end of this year. Our future, and the future of Noblesville, are our children. There is nothing more important than education.

Since the money of the previous referendum expires, it makes a “yes” vote critical for the continued success of Noblesville Schools, our children, and our community.

Jerry & Jane Barr
Noblesville

P.S.: In the future, talk to your legislators about their responsibility of providing money for education rather than making taxpayers vote for referendums!

Tyler Crater named Hamilton County account executive for Duke Energy’s large account management team

The REPORTER

Duke Energy has named experienced energy professional Tyler Crater as its new large account executive for Hamilton County.

As an account executive for the company’s large account management team, Crater will be responsible for managing strategic issues and cultivating relationships with Duke Energy’s largest and most complex commercial and industrial customers. In collaboration with internal teams, he will also develop and execute strategies that support the company’s business objectives.

Prior to this role, Crater had served as a products and services manager, leading portions of Duke Energy’s energy-efficiency portfolio and helping drive

customer-focused programs and initiatives. He has also served as a “Business Energy Advisor,” working closely with Duke Energy commercial and industrial customers across Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio, helping them identify energy solutions that support their operational and business goals.

Crater, who graduated from Olivet Nazarene University, is both a Certified Energy Procurement Professional and Energy Manager. He is married and a father to two young children. Outside of work, he enjoys staying active by playing golf and basketball, and officiating high school sports. He is also a dedicated Chicago sports fan who cheers on the Bears, Bulls, and White Sox.



Crater

Letter to the Editor

Student’s perspective on effects of Noblesville Schools referendum

Dear Editor:

As a sophomore at Noblesville High School, a show choir lover, and a devoted student, I would love to share my view on the referendum and the huge impact it has on my school life.

In addition to being an engaged student, my passions have led me to contribute to Noblesville Schools Education Foundation, the Mayor’s Youth Council, and SERVE Village’s community initiatives. I have been fortunate to see our community from multiple perspectives from inside our schools and local government, as well as through neighborhood outreach.

From every angle, one reality is clear: the strength of Noblesville begins with the strength of its public schools.

I have heard many facts about the intimidating future of our schools if this referendum does not pass and under my biggest role – a student – I, along with many others, would receive a huge, negative impact. Without this referendum, the programs and mentorship that define our education face considerable reductions.

For example, performing arts and athletics would be forced to scale back. Although some may see extracurriculars outside the range of education and our schools, there are countless lessons that can simply not be taught in the classroom setting. Extracurricular activities have a certain way of fostering discipline, teamwork, pride, and promoting skills that are necessary in life as well as future careers. Because students have the choice of joining a group based on their interests, students are motivated to see success. Extracurricular activities spark a certain flame under students to learn and be engaged which is typically not found through classroom work. Without this referendum, it is clear that many of these lessons will be forgotten due to budget cuts.

Additionally, daily life as a student would look so different. Dr. Hile and others were able to create a list of programs, services, and staff that would be at risk if this referendum does not pass.

For example, an entire elementary school has the potential to close and students would be redistricted to rebalance classrooms. There would be a 25 percent increase in elementary class sizes, resulting in an average of 30 students in each class. This would make the learning environment very busy and restricting because there are only so many students a teacher can engage with at one time. Many of these students, along with future ones, may not learn the importance of asking questions and having true focus on their needs, so many could fall to the background as they get older.

Other examples include reducing or eliminating social workers and counselors who support suicide and bullying prevention, low-income students, and student mental health needs. This is a rather self-explanatory loss for Noblesville schools.

These are only a few things that are at great risk of being cut from our school system. Thinking though even one of these potential cuts shows just the impact of the referendum.

To see the full list of programs, services, and staff that are at great risk of being cut, along with factual information that is crucial to understanding the referendum, visit noblesvilleschools.org/referendum.

In the end, every voter has a voice and a choice and all I ask of Noblesville is to be educated before voting. Look into all the information out there about the referendum, talk to Dr. Hile, and even visit with students like me. Some of the voting information, including what is displayed on the ballot, can be very misleading, so research is key! There is so much out there to learn about the referendum. Thank you for supporting students like me.

Olivia Schmidt
Noblesville

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

SHERIDAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

STATE OF THE SCHOOLS

FINANCE & DISTRICT UPDATE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2026
6:00 P.M.

HS/MS AUDITORIUM
24185 Hinesley Road, Sheridan IN

District Updates

Financial Update

Community Q&A

COME SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING ACROSS SHERIDAN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS.

Dr. Mundy will share district highlights, provide an update on school finances, and answer community questions - including questions about the upcoming referendum.

BLACKHAWK PROUD

BREAKING DOWN

BALLOT QUESTION #3

ESSENTIAL FOR MAINTAINING CURRENT PROGRAMS & SERVICES

The referendum funds will be used to maintain current programs and services, including staffing. It cannot be used for athletic facilities or construction projects.

MAXIMUM-RATE LANGUAGE

The 57-cent rate is the maximum allowed and not expected to be used. Noblesville Schools has committed to a 2027 rate of 38.5¢, with future increases capped at no more than \$0.04 per year.

THIS IS NOT YOUR INCREASE

This number on the ballot isn't what you'd pay on top of today's bill. It leaves out the referendum you're already paying and assumes the maximum rate that won't be used.

“Shall Noblesville Schools increase property taxes paid to the school corporation for no more than eight (8) years for the purpose of funding safety and security measures in all buildings and maintaining and enhancing academic and educationally-related programs in response to reductions in property tax revenue by imposing a property tax rate that does not exceed **\$0.57** and results in a maximum annual amount that does not exceed **\$43,842,578**. If this operating referendum public question is approved by the voters, for a median residence of \$350,000, the property's annual property tax bill would increase by **\$955 per year.**”

VOTE YES FOR STRONG SCHOOLS AND A STRONG COMMUNITY!

LEARN MORE: MILLERYES.ORG



AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

K-18 yrs

\$75 / youth
\$20 / teen memberships

M-Th open until 7pm

Fri open until 6pm





Great Futures Start Here

SCHOOL BREAK PROGRAMS

Outdoor Camp Crosser (spring, fall, and winter)

Indoor/outdoor Club Daybreak (all school breaks)

Programs start at 7:30am

Must have Club membership. Additional fees apply.

1700 Conner St

Learn more and register at BGCNI.ORG

317-773-4372

Letter to the Editor

A message to Noblesville voters, friends & neighbors

Dear Editor:

As you prepare to vote, I ask that you carefully consider the importance of our schools, their financial stewardship, and the role they play in the future of our community.

Noblesville Schools has a long tradition of academic excellence. From strong performance on state assessments to nationally recognized STEM and music programs, our district has consistently made student achievement a priority.

Financial responsibility is equally important. Our district undergoes regular state audits, and our financial leadership and school board provide oversight of spending, policies, and long-term planning. Noblesville Schools has earned an AA credit rating and the highest S&P financial rating among Indiana school districts – a reflection of years of careful financial management.

As taxpayers ourselves, all five school board members recognize the significance of the operating referendum appearing on the Nov. 3 ballot.

Our board has committed to a 2027 referendum tax rate of \$0.385 per \$100 of net assessed value, compared with the current \$0.37 rate that expires at the end of this year. While the ballot authorizes a maximum rate of \$0.57, that is not the rate planned for 2027.

Changes under Indiana’s SEA 1 property tax legislation also affect how the referendum will impact individual taxpayers. According to district estimates, a home valued at \$350,000 would see an average increase of approximately \$1.88 per month over the eight-year referendum period, although individual circumstances will vary.

The public is invited to attend our Oct. 27 school board meeting, when we are scheduled to vote on the 2027 budget.

For me, this commitment to Noblesville is deeply personal.

I was born here, and I’ve operated businesses in this community since 1981. Throughout those years, I’ve heard countless families explain that the quality of local schools is their number one consideration when deciding where to live. Our three adult daughters are NHS grads. We have three grandchildren in Noblesville Schools.

Our city and our schools share an essential relationship. The strength of our educational system affects our community, our local economy, our property values, and our future.

I also want to acknowledge Mayor Chris Jensen, former State Senator Luke Kenley, and our two state representatives for their publicly expressed support of the Miller YES – Strong Schools, Strong Community initiative. Their involvement highlights the important connection between education and community development.

A special thank-you goes to our Superintendent, Dr. Dan Hile.

Dr. Hile has made an extraordinary commitment to public communication, participating in more than 40 community meetings and discussions about the referendum. These conversations have given residents opportunities to ask questions, understand the district’s financial challenges, and hear directly from school leadership.

There has been considerable conflicting information circulating about the referendum, particularly regarding its tax implications and how the funding is used. I encourage everyone to examine the district’s published financial information, ask questions, and seek accurate answers before making their decision. Still have a question? Ask Dr. Hile directly before you vote.

This election also includes two school board seats. Misti Ray and Joe Forgey bring established records of service and experience with our schools. Our current board has worked collaboratively on financial oversight, district policies, and long-term educational priorities.

Above all, I believe every student deserves the opportunity to succeed, and our dedicated teachers deserve the resources and support necessary to help them achieve that success.

Strong schools and a strong community are closely connected. The decisions we make today will help shape Noblesville for generations to come.

Bret Richardson
Member, Noblesville School Board

Letter to the Editor

Noblesville voter: Devon Wellington will represent the entire community

Dear Editor:

Eighteen years ago, I packed up my Broad Ripple home with my husband at the time and our daughter who was inching toward Kindergarten age. Noblesville was the community where we happily landed.

Now that Kindergartner is a senior at Purdue while her younger sister is a senior at Noblesville High. Our household experienced significant challenges during their school years, including my divorce in 2019 and, just last year, the loss of their father.

Fortunately, my girls and I had relatives, friends, and a school family supporting us through both events. I can’t imagine living through those struggles without the strength of Noblesville Schools and the care of their administrators, teachers, and – thankfully – counselors.

I want leaders who believe in strong schools without sending mixed signals about that. That’s why I am confidently supporting Devon Wellington’s campaign for State Representative.

As a single parent to two young women, a longtime Noblesville resident, a former library trustee, and someone who believes strongly in our public institutions, I want our students to have schools and libraries where they can learn, freely explore and express ideas, and become thoughtful citizens – not just clones of their parents.

Wellington has made public schools a central element of her campaign. And she describes her approach as listening to constituents and holding herself accountable to the people she represents. What a refreshing concept!

What kind of leader do we want showing up for us in the Statehouse: a representative who approaches her job as an advocate for only an ideological constituency or the one who will represent the entire community?

For me, as someone who doesn’t fit the mold of the idyllic traditional family in multiple ways, that difference matters tremendously: Vote Devon on Nov. 3!

Michelle Payne
Noblesville

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

Letter guidelines this election season

With the approach of the Nov. 3 General Election, the Hamilton County Reporter is establishing some Letters to the Editor guidelines to keep things fair and balanced.

Letters addressing **new topics** about the upcoming election or the policies of individual candidates will be accepted **until the end of the business day on Thursday, Oct. 22**, and will be published on Friday, Oct. 23.

Letters in response to new topics published in our Oct. 23 edition will be accepted until Tuesday, Oct. 27, and will be published in our Wednesday, Oct. 28 edition.

These deadlines will give candidates and their supporters the opportunity to reply to letters addressing new topics.

Straight letters of endorsement will be accepted until Thursday, Oct. 29, and will publish on Friday, Oct. 30.

The Reporter will not publish Letters to the Editor containing personal attacks. [Click here](#) to read The Reporter’s policy on attack ads and Letters to the Editor.

Please send your letters to
News@ReadTheReporter.com.

Letters to the Editor do not represent the opinions of The Reporter or our staff.

What to consider before buying a home with a haunted past

With Halloween approaching, it’s a good time to answer a question buyers sometimes ask: would you buy a home where a murder happened, or one next to a cemetery?

In Hamilton County, the cemetery question is the more common one. As farmland in Fishers, Westfield, and elsewhere has turned into subdivisions, some new homes now sit beside pioneer and family cemeteries that are a century older.

The murder question is rarer, but I’ve faced it. Years ago, I represented buyers interested in an Indianapolis home. After a showing, the owner told me a murder had happened there. My research showed the house had belonged to Marjorie Jackson, who was known for keeping large amounts of cash at home and was killed in a robbery in the 1970s. The case drew national attention.

I told my buyers what I’d found. They spent about a month weighing the home’s history against its location and features, then bought it.

Homes tied to a murder, death, or other troubling event are called stigmatized properties. They can work for or against a buyer.

In a competitive market like Hamilton County’s, where a well-priced home can draw multiple offers in a weekend, a home’s history can reduce the number of competing buyers. That can give a buyer more room to negotiate.

That does not make it a good deal. Value still comes down to location, condition, comparable sales, and demand. And a history that doesn’t bother you may bother the next buyer, especially if the event was widely publicized, which can make the home harder to sell later.

Here is what I recommend to buyers:

- **Do your homework.** Indiana sellers generally aren’t required to disclose a murder or other psychologically affecting event, so ask questions and research the property yourself. If the home borders a cemetery, review the survey and plat. Indiana requires a state-approved plan to dig within 100 feet of a cemetery, which can limit a future pool, fence, or addition.
- **Evaluate it like any other home.** Get an inspection, check comparable sales, and make sure the price fits the market.
- **Know your comfort level.** Some buyers would never live in a home with a violent past. Others are not bothered by it.

My clients who bought the Jackson home had the facts, took their time, and made a decision they were comfortable with. That’s my job as an agent: not to tell buyers how to feel, but to help them understand what they’re buying, what it’s worth and how it could affect them later.

Jim Trueblood is the founder of [Trueblood Real Estate](#).

Wanda Lyons

(317) 345-3960

Lyons-Realty.com



LYONS REALTY



Paul Poteet ...

Your Hometown Weatherman!

Get the latest weather right now at PaulPoteet.com





GREGORY HANCOCK DANCE THEATRE

29th
Season

Gregory Glade Hancock, Executive Artistic Director

SEASON PRESENTING PARTNER



DR. ANITA JOSHI
DR. ARUN JAIN

SEASON PRESENTING PARTNER

DR. SAJAL BOSE & MRS. KALYANI BOSE

SEASON TITLE PARTNER

SWIZZLE GROUP, LLC

CONCERT PARTNER



DR. ANITA JOSHI
DR. ARUN JAIN

THE TARKINGTON AT ALLIED SOLUTIONS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

DE LE PROPORTIONI DEL CORPO FEMMINILE

SALEM

This time, the witch hunt is trending

Movimento del torso contra

Proporzione della gamba aizuda

Proporziane di mizunux

October 23-24, 2026
The Tarkington

Original Music by Seager and Cory Gabel

TICKETS AT THE CENTER'S FIFTH THIRD BANK BOX OFFICE | 317-843-3800



Made possible by support
from a Christel DeHaan
Legacy Gift.



Upcoming Fall Festivals & Halloween Events

Harvest Festival at Stuckey Farm Orchard and Cider Mill
Every Saturday and Sunday through Nov. 1

A full-blown Harvest Festival with corn mazes, hayrides, pig races, apple cannons, and Adventure Acres are all part of the fun, along with fresh cider, caramel apples, and apple cider donuts.

Carmel Clay Parks’ Sensory Friendly Trick-or-Treat Trail
1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24

A not-so-spooky Halloween celebration is returning with Carmel Clay Park & Recreation’s (CCPR) Sensory Friendly Trick-or-Treat Trail.

Individuals with disabilities and their families are invited to enjoy an afternoon of fun at River Heritage Park, 11813 River Road.

Headless Horseman Festival at Conner Prairie
Thursdays to Sundays through Oct. 25

Wander through carnival-themed fun with activities for all ages, plus mesmerizing live performances of music and magic. As the sun goes down, be immersed in storytelling across the grounds. Dare to take a hayride into Sleepy Hollow and learn about Ichabod Crane’s fate while encountering the Headless Horseman.

Boo Bash at the Nickel Plate District Amphitheater
Oct. 31 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Fishers’ biggest Halloween celebration, a free event featuring live, interactive stage entertainment, themed costumes and costume parades across the AMP stage, decorated booths from local businesses and organizations handing out Halloween goodies, food trucks and more.

Have a safe Halloween at Christ Lutheran Church
Oct. 31

Christ Lutheran Church will hold a fun, safe, family-friendly Trunk-or-Treat in the church parking lot from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 31.

The church is located at 10055 E. 186th St., Noblesville.

Noblesville Creates celebrates Day of the Dead
Nov. 1

A rich cultural experience honoring traditional Mexican heritage. Visitors can explore community-curated ofrendas (altars), shop an artisan market featuring authentic Mexican artists, enjoy live music and dance, and sample traditional foods.

Hello, Hamilton County

paulpoteet.com

Thanks for reading the Hamilton County Reporter!

Still time to watch submissions from this year’s Heartland Film Festival

The REPORTER

The 35th Heartland Film Festival (HFF), presented by Alamo Drafthouse Cinema at The Square, ran Oct. 8 to 18 and showcased 100 films, including 24 World/U.S. Premieres, 24 Spotlight Screenings from major distributors, and nine Indiana Spotlight films.

The festival opened with two sold-out premieres at the Scottish Rite Cathedral. The Oct. 7 Festival Preview Screening of “First Five,” directed by Grant Guffin, included an extended Q&A with all five players of Bob Knight’s first class of IU basketball recruits.

The festival’s Opening Night on Oct. 8 showcased the world premiere of “JIMMY,” directed by Aaron Burns. Many of the film team, including lead KJ Apa, Director Aaron Burns, and Executive Producer and Jimmy Stewart’s daughter, Kelly Stewart Harcourt, attended the screening for the red carpet and extended Q&A. “JIMMY,” the untold true story of Jimmy Stewart, touched the hearts of festival attendees as it tied



Photo provided by Heartland Film Festival
The five players from Bob Knight’s first class of IU basketball recruits were on hand for a Q&A during the Festival Preview Screening of “First Five.”

for the Overall Narrative Audience Choice Award with “I Play Rocky” from Amazon MGM Studios.

The festival’s Closing Night film, “The Debut” from Jesse Eisenberg and A24, screened to a sold-out crowd at The Tobias Theater at Newfields on Oct. 18.

On Saturday, Oct. 17,

the festival awarded filmmakers \$80,000 in cash prizes. Will Poulter attended the Awards Brunch and was honored with the Pioneering Spirit Award at the Heartland Film Festival. Poulter also accepted the \$2,000 Richard D. Prope Narrative Social Impact Award for the film, “Union County,” with director

Adam Meeks.

Finally, the Heartland Film Festival announced the Audience Choice Winners. All of the award-winning films are listed at [this link](#).

A selection of award-winning films is available to stream through Sunday, Oct. 25 at [HeartlandFilmFestival.org](#).

CCHA Law’s national school law leadership continues with NSAA board appointment

The REPORTER

Two attorneys from Church Church Hittle and Antrim (CCHA Law) are continuing the firm’s national leadership in education law through the National School Attorneys Association (NSAA).

Jesse Billingsley has joined the organization’s Board of Directors for a two-year term, succeeding fellow CCHA Law partner Andrew Manna in representing the firm’s involvement in NSAA leadership.

Manna, a founding Board member of NSAA, began serving as Chair in October 2024 and concluded his service as Past Chair in St. Louis in mid-October. During his time in leadership, he helped support NSAA’s mission of connecting school attorneys from across the country and providing opportunities for collaboration, professional development and timely discussion of legal issues affecting public schools.

Through their involvement with NSAA, Manna and Billingsley engage with school law professionals

nationwide on emerging legal challenges, policy developments and issues affecting public education. Their participation supports CCHA Law’s work advising Indiana school corporations as they navigate an increasingly complex legal and regulatory environment.

“Helping establish NSAA and seeing it grow into a national network of school attorneys has been incredibly rewarding,” Manna said. “The legal challenges facing public schools continue to evolve, and collaboration among attorneys across the country is more important than ever. I’m pleased that Jesse will help carry that work forward.”

Manna’s involvement with NSAA reflects a career devoted to education and school law. Before becoming an attorney, he taught

social studies in both rural and urban school districts. Today, he represents school corporations in matters involving labor and employment law, special education, constitutional and civil rights issues, and general school policy. He is also a frequent speaker at the state and national levels on emerging legal issues affecting schools.

As Manna concludes his leadership role, Billingsley will continue CCHA Law’s involvement with NSAA as a member of its Board of Directors, serving her first term from 2026 to 2028.

Billingsley advises Indiana school corporations on education and employment law, including personnel matters, regulatory compliance, and school policies. Her work helps school leaders navigate complex legal challenges

and make informed operational decisions.

“School leaders are navigating increasingly complex legal and policy challenges,” Billingsley said. “NSAA creates valuable opportunities to learn from colleagues nationwide and bring those perspectives to the work we do with Indiana schools. I’m honored to join the board and continue CCHA Law’s involvement in this important organization.”

The National School Attorneys Association is a grassroots, independent and self-governed network of school attorneys from across the country. Through webinars, discussions, and timely updates, NSAA provides members with opportunities to connect, collaborate and stay informed on the evolving legal landscape affecting public schools.

CCHA Law’s continued involvement in NSAA reinforces the firm’s longstanding leadership in education law and its commitment to providing informed, practical legal counsel to school districts throughout Indiana.



Billingsley



Manna

WESTFIELD LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL

Texas Hold'em

“Poker for Sight” Tournament

Exciting Awards

Friday and Saturday
November 20th & 21st, 2026

1st Place \$10,000 CASH

GUARANTEED:
Over \$25,000 in Prizes!

ENTRY:
\$135 Cash at the Door

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS:
Receive a discount on your Buy-in for reserving your seat early. Details and registration at [lionspoker.org](#).

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO CHARITY

Approved by the state of Indiana Charity Gaming Division Permit #011908

ST. CHRISTOPHER’S PUMPKIN SALE

Supporting Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank

OCTOBER 8-31

St. Christopher’s Episcopal Church,
1402 West Main Street, Carmel, IN 46032

Over 600 pumpkins of all shapes and sizes!
Swan Gourds, Star Gourds, and Elf Houses.
Perfect for decorating your home for fall.

All proceeds benefit

HAMILTON COUNTY HARVEST FOOD BANK

which provides food to more than 30 local pantries serving neighbors in need.

Pick your pumpkin. Share the harvest. Make a difference!
Scan to learn more.

Piece of Westfield Fire’s history returns home



Photo provided by City of Westfield

Two of the Westfield Fire Department’s original antique fire trucks have arrived at Station 84, located at the corner of Chad Hittle Drive and 191st Street, where they will soon be proudly displayed in the station’s museum. These historic trucks represent more than just firefighting equipment. They are a connection to the Westfield Fire Department’s past, the generations of firefighters who served the community throughout the years, and the rich history of protecting the Westfield community.

U.S. Postal Service says it’s “business as usual” for 2026 election

Submitted

The U.S. Postal Service recently held a briefing on its Election Mail processes and procedures to reiterate its commitment to the secure and timely delivery of ballots.

“The Postal Service is confident and ready to deliver a successful Election Mail season,” Postmaster General David Steiner said. “[W]e share a common goal: instilling confidence in all Americans that their Election Mail will be handled securely – and delivered reliably.”

Adrienne Marshall, director of Election and Government Mail Services at the Postal Service added, “Our Postal Service employees are diligently working to process and deliver ballots on time, and we ask that voters do their part and mail early.” The organization’s long-standing recommendation is that domestic non-military voters mail their completed ballots BEFORE Election Day, and AT LEAST ONE WEEK before they must be received by their

election office.

The nation’s postal network is currently operating without any major reported disruptions, and service performance across the nation is strong. Through Oct. 9, ballot mail delivery performance scores were high: 97.98 percent of ballot mail was delivered on time when compared with the Postal Service’s service standard.

“The Postal Service has a long and strong record of successfully delivering Election Mail,” said the Postal Service Board of Governor’s Chair Amber McReynolds. “That record is not accidental, and it reflects extensive planning, close coordination with scores of stakeholders, and the training and commitment of hundreds of thousands of postal employees who understand the importance of this responsibility.”

The U.S. Postal Inspection Service partners with the Postal Service to ensure a successful election season.

“In this election cycle,

and every election cycle, the Postal Inspection Service is committed to ensuring the safe and secure delivery of Election Mail, the integrity of our elections, and the protection of election officials and election offices from threatening and dangerous mail,” said Brendan Donahue, the organization’s deputy chief inspector. “With more than 170 million delivery points nationwide, upholding the security of Election Mail, and all mail, is a team effort.”

Marshall concluded, “Our processes and procedures for this year will be consistent with previous election cycles.”

The Postal Service is not implementing or enforcing the Ballot Mail for Federal Elections rule for the 2026 General Election.

Those who want to learn more about the Postal Inspection Service and Election Mail security can visit uspis.gov/election-mail-security. A recording of the Election Mail Media Briefing can be viewed [here](#). Passcode: Z3#2Lt/r

Bird flu detected in Hamilton County

The REPORTER

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has confirmed highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) as the cause of death for multiple geese in Hamilton County. Additionally, multiple blue-wing teal in Greene County were confirmed to have HPAI through surveillance conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services and DNR Division of Fish, Wildlife & Nature Preserves.

If you find wild waterfowl or raptors that are dead for no obvious reason or showing any of the following signs of illness, report it online at on.IN.gov/sickwildlife.

Signs of HPAI in waterfowl and raptors include:

- Sudden death
- Neurological impairment (e.g., lack of coordination, swimming or walking in circles, tremors, twisted neck)

- Lack of energy and appetite
- Swelling of the head, neck, and eyes
- Nasal discharge, cough, sneezing, lack of coordination, and diarrhea

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the public health risk for HPAI is low. However, it is possible for humans to contract the disease. Members of the public should avoid contact with sick waterfowl and other sick wildlife whenever possible. If a carcass must be handled, wear disposable gloves and a mask, double-bag the carcass, and place it in the trash. Wash hands with soap and warm water immediately afterward.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommends that waterfowl hunters wear protective clothing such as face masks and gloves to process birds, and to do so in a well-ventilated area or

outdoors. Meat harvested from waterfowl should be cooked to an internal temperature of 165°F before consumption.

Please contact the Indiana Department of Health if you develop any of the following symptoms after touching or handling sick or dead waterfowl: fever, chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, sneezing, shortness of breath, eye irritation or redness, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headaches, diarrhea, nausea or vomiting, or rash. Indiana’s Health Department can be reached at (317) 233-7125 during regular business hours, or at (317) 233-1325 after hours. Follow the prompts in the automated menu to speak to the epidemiologist on call.

Some domestic and agricultural animals are also known to be susceptible to

See *Flu* . . . Page 12



Upcoming Broadcasts

Girls Basketball broadcasts begins on Hamilton County TV Wed Nov 4

Check out Hamilton County TV’s 24/7 Channel at www.HCTV1.com Sports, Classic TV, Classic Movies and Entertainment



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.



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



LIFETIME LEGACY LAWYERS Podcast

<https://lifetimelegacylawyers.com>

CLICK TO LISTEN

TODAY’S BIBLE READING

THE GOLDEN CALF

I lay prostrate before the Lord those forty days and forty nights because the Lord had said he would destroy you. I prayed to the Lord and said, “Sovereign Lord, do not destroy your people, your own inheritance that you redeemed by your great power and brought out of Egypt with a mighty hand. Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Overlook the stubbornness of this people, their wickedness and their sin. Otherwise, the country from which you brought us will say, ‘Because the Lord was not able to take them into the land he had promised them, and because he hated them, he brought them out to put them to death in the wilderness.’ But they are your people, your inheritance that you brought out by your great power and your outstretched arm.”

Deuteronomy 9:25-29 (NIV)

IN MEMORIAM

Bruce James Bowman
January 12, 1961 – October 5, 2026



Lion Bruce was an active and valuable member of the Westfield Lions Club, joining October 3, 2019. He was sponsored by Lion Mark Albright and was serving as a board member of the Westfield Lions Foundation. Bruce was very influential in setting up the Westfield Lions Foundation and served as Vice President since its 2024 inception. Bruce secured copyrights for the Lions Poker for Sight® tournament and the Westfield Lions Foundation logo. His work at the Club’s major fundraising events, including poker tournaments, fish fries, and golf outings, helped make them extremely successful. He could always be counted on to serve those in need. His quick wit and wry sense of humor made him a joy to be around. He will truly be missed by the club. Donations in Bruce’s memory can be made to the Westfield Lions Foundation at [paypal.com/ncp/payment/ZDGHVEMUSSVBE](https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/ZDGHVEMUSSVBE). Click here to read Bruce’s obituary. Submitted by the Westfield Lions Club

Braun dubs ‘Jobs for Veterans State Grants’ program a success

Submitted by Office of Gov. Mike Braun

Indiana Governor Mike Braun announced on Tuesday, Oct. 20, that the state’s Jobs for Veterans State Grants (JVSG) program is successfully serving Hoosier veterans and that in the 2026 federal fiscal year, the program exceeded performance goals. “Indiana’s veterans have gone above and beyond for Hoosiers, and state government must do the same for those who have served,” Gov. Braun said. “I will always ensure Hoosier veterans receive the essential services they need to succeed. It is a win when we connect Indiana’s employers with these hard-working veterans

who can in turn help our businesses thrive.” Operated by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, the program uses federal funding to hire specialized staff members at WorkOne offices who offer targeted career services to Hoosier veterans looking for jobs and who connect employers with qualified military talent. More than 66 percent of veterans who exited the program were



Braun



Goodrich

employed in the second quarter, exceeding the program goal of 62 percent. Program goals are created in consultation with the U.S. Department of Labor. There are individual success stories behind the data. One veteran served by the program now works at Pinnacle Oil as a production supervisor earning \$110,000 a year. Another individual is working at Allegion as a project manager making \$110,000 per

year, while another Hoosier veteran is employed by GXO Logistics as a compliance manager, a position that pays \$92,000 a year. “By securing employment wins and expanding community partnerships for veterans, Gov. Braun is making a lasting difference in the lives of Hoosiers who have served,” Indiana Secretary of Commerce Chuck Goodrich said. “By helping veterans earn higher wages, we are helping businesses grow, creating opportunities that help all of Indiana prosper.” To learn more about Gov. Braun’s workforce initiatives to support veterans, visit [in.gov/dwd/veterans-services](https://www.in.gov/dwd/veterans-services).

SERVING YOUR FAMILY THROUGH GOD’S GRACE

Pre-Arrangements
Celebrations of Life
Grief Support
Monuments

Honoring, Remembering, & Celebrating

317.984.3614

www.hartleyfuneralhomes.com

Meeting Notices	
The Westfield City Council Finance Committee meeting scheduled for 9 a.m. Monday, Oct. 26, 2026, has been canceled.	The Westfield City Council meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 26, 2026, has been canceled.
The Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District Board will meet at noon on Monday, Oct. 26, 2026, in the Commissioners’ Courtroom at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.	
The Noblesville Park Board meeting scheduled for 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2026, has been changed to 5 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9, 2026, in Room A213 at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St.	
The Noblesville PACE (Parks, Arts, Community Engagement) Council Committee meeting scheduled for 9 a.m. Friday, Oct. 23, 2026, will meet at Noble Coffee and Tea, 933 Logan St., Noblesville.	

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.

FLU

from Page 11

HPAI, including poultry, cattle, and cats. If you have these animals at home, be sure to process any harvested waterfowl away from your animals and practice good biosecurity measures. For more information on HPAI and to track suspected cases across the

state, visit on.IN.gov/avian-flu. For more information about poultry biosecurity measures, [click here](#). If you see any of your poultry acting sick or find any dead, please report it to the Board of Animal Health at [this link](#).

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.

Thanks for reading The Reporter!

Randall & Roberts
Funeral Homes

317-773-2584

Our family has been serving Hamilton County since 1953

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

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

SOLD!
9919 FOUNTAIN
COVE DRIVE
INDIANAPOLIS

This 3 bed, 2.5 bath near Geist Reservoir offers an open concept floor plan, new roof, carpet, and remodeled primary bath. 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. 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.
Listed at \$274,900

“SPEAK TO DEAK!”

Jennifer
Peggy

The Deakyne Team
REALTORS®
317.695.6032 JENNIFER | 317.439.3258 PEGGY

SpeakToDeak.com

Talk to Tucker
REALTORS
F.C. TUCKER COMPANY