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Don't miss Arcadia's Fall Festival





Photos provided

The Town of Arcadia and Arcadia Market on Main invite you to the sixth annual Fall Festival from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24, in downtown Arcadia. Admission is free. Browse 62 homemade, handmade, and boutique vendors. Bring the kids for Caravan Classes, a Highland miniature cow, games, and photo opportunities. Enjoy live music all day outside Northbrook Brewery, and check out the Arcadia Fall Car Show on Main Street – open to all cars, trucks, scooters, and tractors. Come hungry … the food court features several food trucks and other tasty treats. Arcadia can't wait to welcome you to town! Follow along at Facebook.com/ArcadiaMarketOnMain.

Noblesville's Living Truth Bookstore is a treasure

COLUMNIST

AMY SHANKLAND
Perfectly Imperfect

Tucked away near the intersection of Cumberland Road and Cherry Street is a wonderful treasure. I've been shopping at Living Truth Bookstore for years, and I was delighted to learn they're celebrating their 28th anniversary this month.

Living Truth is Noblesville's only Christian bookstore. It's been locally-owned since Brenda Milthaler opened her doors in October of 1998. She felt called in the spring of that year to leave her career in discount retailing. Later that summer, Brenda believes God gave her the name "Living Truth" to proclaim His life and truth through a Christian bookstore.

With a mission to serve local families and support spiritual growth, Living Truth has withstood a lot in its nearly three decades. Big box and e-commerce competition, digital media and e-readers, space limitations, and many other issues continue to plague local bookstores.

See *Living Truth* . . . Page 2

Drop off unused prescription drugs this Saturday at Riverview Health in Noblesville

The REPORTER

In honor of National Drug Take Back Day, the Hamilton County Council on Alcohol & Other Drugs (HCCOAOD) will hold a take-back event from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Oct. 24, in the far east parking lot of Riverview Health in Noblesville. The drop off location is directly across from Federal Hill Commons on State Road 32.


Greer

"Most people who misuse prescription drugs get them from family, friends, and acquaintances," HCCOAOD Executive Director Monica Greer said. "We know prevention starts at home. The simple step of clearing out medications that are no longer needed makes our homes safer, prevents prescription drug misuse, and can help save lives."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates 69,973 people died of drug overdoses in the United States last year, a decrease of almost 14 percent from 2024. With close to 5,000 collection sites nationwide, the United States Drug Enforcement

See *Takeback* . . . Page 2

Kroger in Carmel taking part in National Drug Take Back Day

The REPORTER

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 24, you can drop off your unused, unwanted, and expired prescription drugs at the Kroger store in Carmel, located at 1217 S. Range Line Road.

"We're proud to play a part in making the safe choice the easy choice," said Birgitta Monson, Health Leader of Kroger Central Division. "National Prescription Drug Take Back Day gives our communities a convenient space to dispose of unused or expired drugs, promoting safer environments at home and aligning with Kroger Health's vision to help people live healthier lives."

Law enforcement officers will be on site outside the store to accept the unwanted pills, liquids, gels, and patches. Acceptance of liquids, gels and patches may vary by location. None will be accepted inside stores.

How music affects people

COLUMNIST

JACOB BAULT
Sheridan High School Student

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

Music has been around for thousands of years and is one of if not the most influential things we have in our society.

Music was originally only used for worship in religious services. Music was only performed by the upper-class people and the clergy of the church. Music eventually made its way to the middle class and peasants through people making makeshift instruments and performing in the streets. Eventually, with lots of integration, music became what it is today.

Music has been proven to affect people's moods when they listen to it. Music can make you feel happy, sad, angry, and a lot of other emotions depending on what you are listening to. A study done in 2013 by the National Institutes of Health showed that most people who listened to music had a tendency to match the mood of the music they were listening to. Music has been shown to make people's day

See *Music* . . . Page 2

Tipton Community School Corporation celebrates rising achievement in 2026 statewide assessments

Submitted by Tipton Community School Corp.

Tipton Community School Corporation (TCSC) has released its district wide 2026 ILEARN results, presented this week by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Ryan Glaze. The data reflect strong elementary achievement, continued growth in high school Biology, and targeted priorities for middle school improvement.

Dr. Glaze noted that elementary performance remains a major district strength, with grades 3 to 5 leading the region in English language arts, mathematics, and science. Fourth and fifth grade results were particularly strong, with proficiency rates well above state averages in both subjects. Improved attendance, consistent use of common instructional resources, and focused PLC collaboration contributed to these gains.

"Proficiency for Grades 3–5 combined leads the region in ELA, Math, and Science," the report states.

At Tipton Middle School, results show clear areas for growth, especially in grades 6 and 7 mathematics. Eighth grade performance was a bright spot, with ELA proficiency above the state average and cohort gains in both ELA and math.


Photo provided by Tipton Community School Corporation

"There is room to grow – the building RTI process is addressing gaps to secure growth for all students," the middle school summary notes.

See *Tipton* . . . 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.

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Early Voting Totals

Below are the number of early voters as of Wednesday, Oct. 21, listed by polling location. ***Click here*** *for more information on early voting.*

Judicial Center	5,755
4-H Fairgrounds	9,712
Carmel Clay Public Library	575
Jill Perelman Pavilion, Carmel	596
Wilfong Pavilion, Carmel	464
Billericay Park Bldg., Fishers	641
Roy G. Holland Bldg., Fishers	534
Cool Creek Nature Center	585
Westfield City Hall	379
Westfield Washington Twp. Bldg.	325
TOTAL	**19,566**

Thanks for reading!

Takeback

from Page 1

Administration, along with its law enforcement partners, have removed more than 10,500 tons of medication from circulation since the inception of National Drug Take Back Day in 2010.

"The only safe medications are ones prescribed by a trusted medical professional and dispensed by a licensed pharmacist," Greer said. "Old and unwanted medicine too often becomes a gateway to addiction. Events like these are a critical effort to curb the historic surge in U.S. overdoses."

Hamilton County residents are encouraged to drop off their expired or unused medications and vape devices. No liquids, sharps, or needles will be accepted. For those who cannot make it, there are opportunities to safely dispose of unneeded medications at local pharmacies, hospitals, and police departments throughout the year.

Tipton

from Page 1

Tipton High School continues to show significant improvement in Biology, rising from 14 percent proficiency in 2022 to 54.4 percent in 2026, surpassing the state average. Biology will be included in the state's new A–F accountability model for high schools.

Science and social studies also demonstrated strong results district wide. Fourth grade science proficiency exceeded the state average by 11 percentage points, sixth grade science by 2 points, and fifth grade social studies by 12 points.

Across the district, Dr. Glaze emphasized the importance of sustaining the instructional supports that have driven elementary success including small class sizes, a full time reading coach, and a dedicated reading interventionist while strengthening alignment between elementary and middle school to support students through key transitions.

The report outlines several priorities moving forward:

• Sustaining the elementary instructional model and PLC collaboration

• Prioritizing grades 6 and 7 mathematics through targeted interventions

• Strengthening alignment between grades 5 and 6

• Expanding successful eighth grade practices across TMS

• Using cohort trends to guide instructional decisions

TCSC will continue reviewing data throughout the year using ILEARN Checkpoint assessments, which provide timely information to adjust instruction and support student learning. Dr. Glaze plans to share additional information on the state's A–F accountability model in November, along with official ratings when released by the Indiana Department of Education.

The Dani Robinson difference

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- 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?



Scan here to view Dani's current listings.

Looking for a place to call Home? Talk to Dani!

7942 Red Sunset Way – Avon



2,698 Sq Ft. | $379,900
Offering $10,000 toward closing costs, this four-bedroom Cobblestone Springs home features a three-car garage, spacious living areas, a fenced backyard, and numerous home updates.

30 Blue Water Drive - Cicero



924 Sq Ft. | $249,900
Welcome to your peaceful Morse Lake retreat featuring a screened porch, water views, open kitchen and family spaces, a primary suite, two bedrooms, and carport.

13035 Wembly Road - Carmel



2,596 Sq Ft. | $525,000
This well-maintained four-bedroom home in popular Brookshire features an updated kitchen, cozy living spaces with fireplaces, a finished lower level, and an oversized private deck.

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Living Truth

from Page 1

I asked Brenda what her greatest challenges have been through the years owning this business.

"I was in corporate retail since 1973," Brenda said. "It took me a while to find out this is more than selling products; it is a ministry."

As another small business owner, I could relate. But she's also loved many things about the business.

"I've enjoyed personal growth thanks to interacting with different people and learning from them. I've felt the joy of God and people helping one another.

"It's all about relationships – I believe in living vertical first, horizontal second," Brenda said.

Brenda certainly practices what she speaks. I was honored to be part of Living Truth's celebration last Saturday as they continue to feature local authors and creatives. I was there with my book, *Happy and Solo at Church*, along with Lee Rocker, author of the delightful children's book *Luca and the Light*. You can buy Lee's book through West Bow Press at **westbowpress.com**.

On Saturday, Oct. 24, Living Truth will feature Cindy Holt Miller. Cindy is the creator of two Scripture Memory Match Card Games for adults and author of several books for children and adults. Living Truth will also host Bruce Beck, author of *Journey to the Land of Integrity*. If you can't make it Saturday, you can buy Bruce's book at **ajourneymanseries.com**.

I was happy to hear Brenda's not alone managing the store; she has help thanks to two wonderful volunteers.

The store is offering 28th Anniversary Specials through the end of October. All marked-down books, music, and DVDs are an additional 50 percent off. Living Truth is open Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

You can learn more about Living Truth and various authors on their Facebook page, **Facebook.com/LivingTruthBookstore**, or their website, **living-truth.com**.

Amy Shankland is an empty-nester, writer, and fundraising professional living in Noblesville with her husband John and two dogs. You can reach her via email at ***amys@greenavenue.info****.*

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****."*

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Music

from Page 1

better. Also, music helps to get the hardships of life off people's minds.

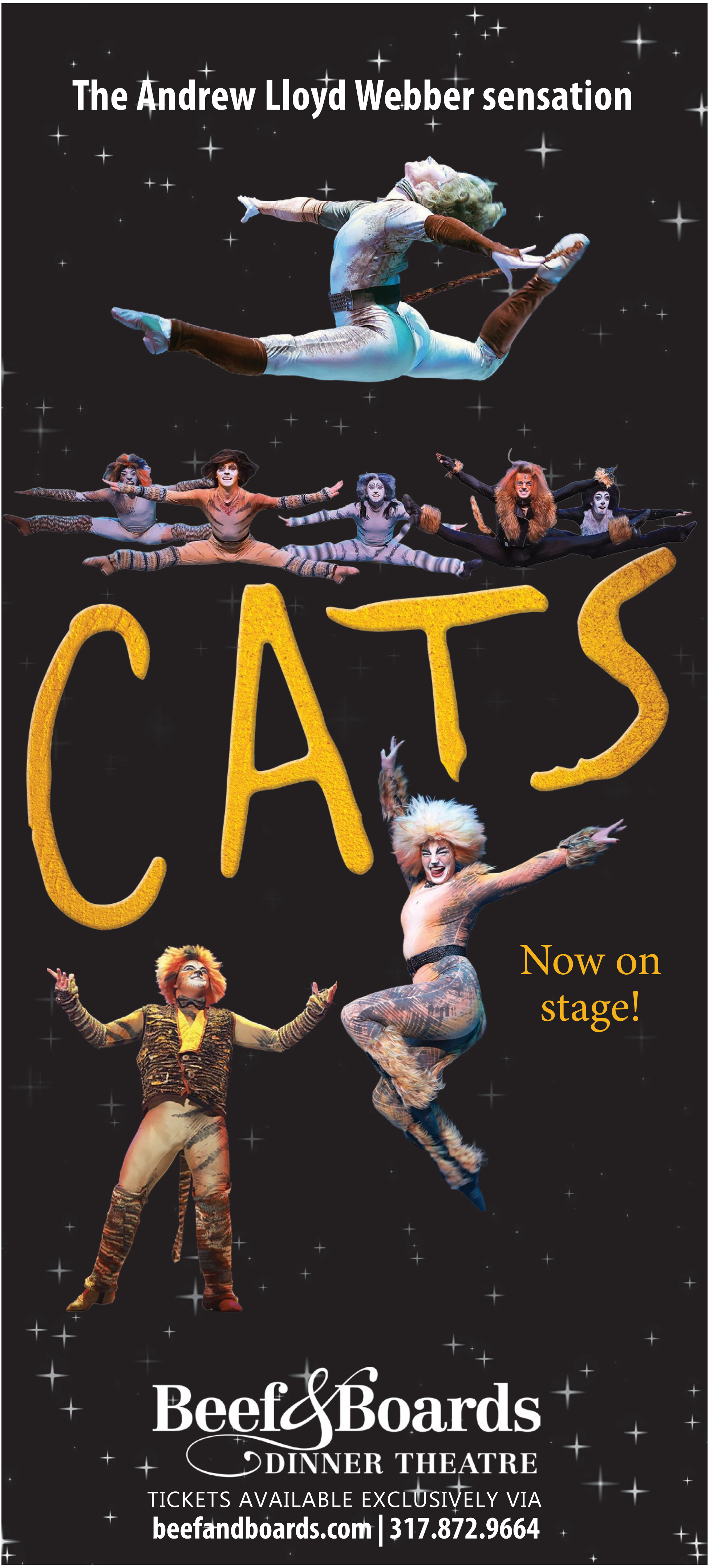
Music has always been a big part of my life. I remember my dad putting on music in the car on the way to my T-ball games. I listen to music every day after school. Music always seems to make my day just a little bit better if I'm having a bad day. I feel music helps me disconnect from the outer world and be happy.

I listen to a variety of music, but I listen to a very small amount of rock. I mostly listen to artists like Sematary, Hackle, and Ghost Mountain. Their music makes me feel good and helps me feel better after a hard day.

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Veteran reporter Russ McQuaid edifies Carmel Rotarians with news, scoops & wit

By DUBBIE BUCKER
Carmel Rotary Club
Vice President

Veteran news reporter Russ McQuaid provided insight and information about news reporting, delivered with sides of dry humor, when he addressed the Rotary Club of Carmel at its recent meeting.

McQuaid shared highlights of his lengthy career, including his early radio days in Michigan where he performed radio comedy with fellow college buddy and then aspiring Hollywood superstar Tim Allen, and moving on to his imbibing encounters with Dolly Parton and other A-Listers. He shared memorable news stories and changes in news reporting that he's seen over his more than 45 years in broadcasting, which took shape before office and home computers, cell phones, social media, or AI.

McQuaid said he turned his back on celebrity fame and riches so he could report stories of crime, corruption, and hope from Indianapolis, guided by his journalistic mantra from H.L. Mencken who said the goal of the reporter is to "comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable."

McQuaid talked about his early radio reporting days in Indy, being mentored by the late award-winning WIBC news reporter Fred Heckman, and coverage of the infamous October 1977 Tony Kiritsis case. He highlighted the importance of fact-based reporting and gave "off-air" comments about major stories he's covered during his career in the Indy metro area, including the Delphi murders.

He shared some startling realities and major concerns about AI (artificial intelligence), and the value of gum-shoe investigative reporting – going to real, first-hand sources and talking with real people – and lamenting that such "old-school" reporting is slowly fading into the impersonal, and unverifiable, global haze of AI.

He also mercilessly interjected some fun poked at a few Carmel Rotarians he's known professionally for nearly 40 years. He candidly answered members' questions about current and past high-profile news stories and concerns about the questionable credibility of information being consumed today by the masses.

Following his presentation, Carmel Rotary President-Elect Tyler Smith presented McQuaid with copies of the children's book *The Sherlock Society* to autograph which the club will donate to Carmel elementary school libraries.

McQuaid, a reporter for FOX59/CBS, was honored for his 30th anniversary at Fox 59 with a composite video clip compiled by the station which can be viewed on **Facebook**.



Photo provided
(From left) Carmel Rotarians Becky Wanick, Peter Beering, Dubbie Buckler, and Fox59/CBS4 News Reporter Russ McQuaid.

About the Rotary Club of Carmel

The Rotary Club of Carmel, founded in 1972, supports local community projects including the Merciful H.E.L.P. Center, Crooked Creek Food Pantry, Meals on Wheels, Carmel Summer Lunch Program, Trinity Free Clinic, and many others.

Carmel Rotary's youth outreach include Leadership Connection, a leadership skills development and scholarship program for Carmel area high school students; Interact, a Rotary-sponsored service club for youth ages 12 to 18; and the Youth Exchange Program, hosting foreign exchange students and sponsoring Carmel High School students studying abroad. Carmel Rotary presents Carmel's annual 4th of July parade and celebration, CarmelFest.

Carmel Rotarians are also involved in Rotary International's global service projects focused on Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution; Maternal and Child Health; Basic Education and Literacy; Economic and Community Development; Water and Sanitation; and Disease Prevention and Treatment with its longstanding goal of eradicating polio on earth. For more information visit **CarmelRotary.com**.

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Folds of Honor Indiana, Indianapolis Cars & Coffee to hold final 2026 meetup

The REPORTER

Indianapolis Cars & Coffee and Folds of Honor Indiana will hold its final 2026 meetup from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 24, at Lakefront at Keystone, 3850 Priority Way South Drive, Indianapolis. The free, family-friendly event benefits Folds of Honor Indiana's scholarship mission.

"We are truly grateful for another year of partnership with Indianapolis Cars & Coffee," Folds of Honor Indiana President and Founder Mike Daggett said. "Their continued support means the world to our mission, helping us provide educational scholarships to the families of fallen and disabled heroes."

The October event will have costumes and Trunk or Treat, in addition to a diverse display of classic, exotic, and custom vehicles. Indianapolis Cars & Coffee attracts car lovers from all over Indiana while raising awareness for Folds of Honor Indiana's incredible work in supporting the families of military and first responder heroes.

Indianapolis Cars & Coffee partners with local businesses to host car-related events that creates a safe, memorable experience for all attendees. In 2025, Indianapolis Cars & Coffee raised over $65,000 in scholarship funds for Folds of Honor Indiana, and over the past four years, the organization has raised more than $250,000.

Folds of Honor Indiana is known for its commitment to providing life-changing educational scholarships to spouses and children of fallen or disabled military personnel and first responders. Since its inception in 2007, Folds of Honor has awarded nearly 73,000 scholarships totaling over $340 million across the United States.

For more information about the final meetup of 2026, please visit **indianapoliscarsandcoffee.org**.

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Brad and Meg Osborne

Sheridan High School's new "Blackhawk Nest" enters Phase 2

Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

Over the summer, Sheridan Community Schools was hard at work making Sheridan a better place to be, learn, and grow. One of the new areas of learning and gathering was The Nest, located directly across from the cafeteria.



Davis

While the area has been open to students to gather and study, and also for use as a meeting space, it is now ready to expand into Phase 2. Phase 2 will introduce a drink menu and "expand opportunities in this student-centered space," according to Sheridan High School Principal Rick Davis.

By the end of the week, The Nest will have a soft opening that will allow students and staff to begin to purchase refreshments such as coffee, lemonade, and smoothies before school.

Just like a lunch account, these items utilize the same funds, with cash also being accepted.

This new phase is just the next step for the space, as it hopes to become a welcoming and inviting area in which the students and staff can thrive.



Graphic provided

'The Smoking Pastor' claims barbecue title at World Food Championships

By JOHN HERRICK
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Two Indianapolis-area chefs won world championships at the World Food Championships, which brought more than 400 teams to the Indiana State Fairgrounds last week.

Craig Baker of Indianapolis won the World Chef Championship, while Jordan Davis of Carmel won the World Barbecue Championship during the Oct. 15 to 18 competition.

The event featured competitors from more than 35 states and 14 countries competing across 10 categories for championship titles and a share of more than $400,000 in prize money.

Baker, executive chef at the InterContinental Indianapolis, won his second World Chef Championship, according to event organizers.

Davis, known as the Smoking Pastor, claimed the barbecue title. Organizers said his work uses food to bring people together and support the community.

"Every year, the World Food Championships brings exceptional culinary talent to Indianapolis, and it's especially meaningful to see local competitors earn their place among the world's best," said Mike McCloud, founder and CEO of the World Food Championships.

The competition returned to the Indiana State Fairgrounds for the third consecutive year. The event also featured food tastings, cooking demonstrations, live entertainment, and other activities for attendees.

The 10 category champions will advance to the Final Table in spring 2027, where they will compete for the title of World Food Champion.

The other category winners were David Casey of Brockton, Mass., in bacon; Tatewaki Takano of Tokyo, Japan, in burgers; Bethany Boedicker of Galveston, Texas, in desserts; Adi Melkman of Utrecht, Netherlands, in live fire; Pablo Aquije of Hyattsville, Md., in noodles; Phil Johnson of Phoenix, Ariz., in sandwiches; Ricardo Viesca Gutierrez of Sarasota, Fla., in seafood; and Jacquelyn Gausemel of Washington, D.C., in vegetarian cooking.



Photo provided by World Food Championships

Known as The Smoking Pastor, Carmel chef Jordan Davis laid claim to the World Barbecue Championship.

Chef Preston Nguyen of Arlington, Texas, won the inaugural Culinary Combine skills challenge, which tested competitors across 10 timed challenges.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/local-news/indianapolis-chefs-win-top-honors-at-world-food-championships.

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A night of R&B grooves & smooth jazz

The REPORTER

Saxophonist and composer Boney James returns to the Payne & Mencias Palladium for an evening of R&B-inflected jazz.

See him perform at 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 6. **Click here** for tickets.

James was a sideman for such artists as Morris Day and the Isley Brothers before launching a solo career that has sent a dozen albums to the top of *Billboard's* Contemporary Jazz Albums chart.

Among other honors in the course of his career, he has received a Soul Train Award, four Grammy Award nominations and two NAACP Image Award nominations. His new, 20th studio album, *A Simple Man*, features contributions from Grammy-winning vocalist Ledisi, trumpeter Marquis Hill, and guitarist Larry Carlton.





Letter to the Editor

Root campaign works to 'Pack the Pantries'

Dear Editor:

My name is Kirsten Root. I'm a social worker and candidate for Indiana State Senate District 21. Our campaign recently launched Pack the Pantries, an initiative committing at least $5,000 in campaign funds to stock 19 community food pantries across Hamilton, Howard, and Tipton counties.

Rather than spending every campaign dollar on advertisements and political materials, we're putting a portion of those resources directly back into the communities we hope to serve.

We're stocking these pantries with more than traditional nonperishable foods. Our donations include hygiene products, feminine hygiene products, cleaning supplies, and items often considered "luxuries" when families are struggling financially, like seasonings, condiments, and snacks.

As a social worker, I've worked with families who are employed but still struggling to afford basic necessities, people living with disabilities, and individuals who fall through the cracks of traditional assistance programs. Community resources like the Yellow Boxes provide an important way for neighbors to help neighbors, often without applications, eligibility requirements, or the stigma that can accompany asking for help.

These pantries also recognize that people need more than canned vegetables to get through difficult times. They deserve access to basic hygiene, household necessities, and the small comforts that many of us take for granted. Dignity is important.

I believe there's a larger story here about food insecurity, the importance of accessible community resources, and how political campaigns can contribute to their communities before Election Day. You shouldn't have to win an election to start serving your community.

Kirsten Root
Sheridan

*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.*

Rep. Jeter says ballot question aims to improve public safety

Submitted by Office of State Rep. Chris Jeter

State Rep. Chris Jeter (R-Fishers) is highlighting public safety legislation he sponsored last session that resulted in Public Question 1 appearing on this year's general election ballot.


Jeter

Jeter said **Senate Joint Resolution 1** aims to prioritize public safety by proposing a constitutional amendment concerning bail. The amendment would expand judges' authority to deny bail in certain cases where the evidence is strong and the defendant poses a serious threat to public safety.

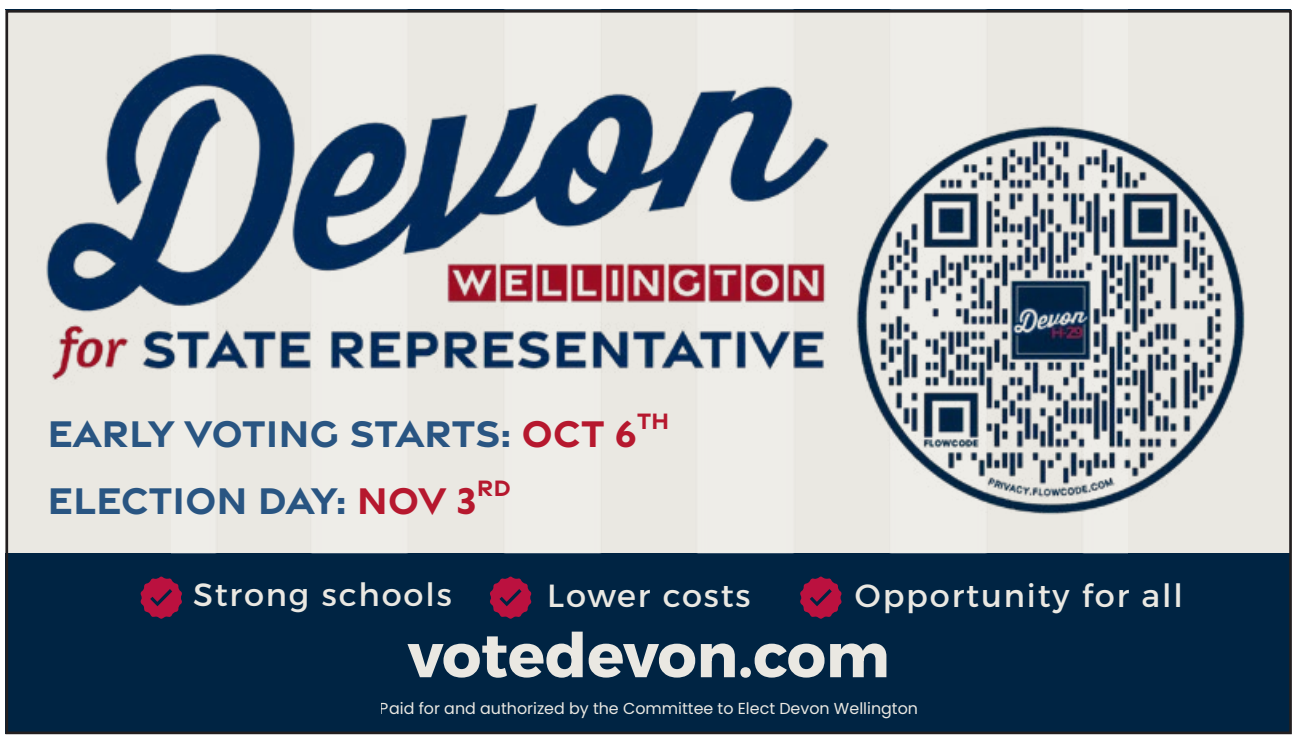
Under Indiana's current Constitution, judges cannot deny bail for offenses other than murder or treason, even when there are serious concerns about a defendant's potential danger to others.

"Protecting Hoosiers and keeping dangerous offenders off our streets are top priorities," said Jeter, who chairs the House Judiciary Committee. "When someone poses a serious threat to others, judges should have the authority to consider that danger when deciding whether to grant bail. This amendment is about protecting victims, preventing further crimes, and putting the safety of our communities first."

In order to appear on the ballot, a resolution calling for an amendment must pass two different General Assemblies. Jeter also sponsored SJR 1 in **2023**, which passed the House and Senate. A majority of Hoosiers must vote in favor of the proposed amendment before the Indiana Constitution can be amended.

The Governor shared a video **here** highlighting the legislation and the lawmakers who worked on it.

State Rep. Chris Jeter (R-Fishers) represents House District 88, which includes portions of Hamilton, Hancock, Madison, and Marion counties.







Letter to the Editor

Sheridan Lion Clubs asks voters to approve school referendum

Dear Sheridan Community:

As President of the Sheridan Indiana Lions Club, I am proud to share that our members unanimously voted at our September meeting to support the Sheridan Community Schools referendum.

The Lions Club and SCS have a long history of working together, recognizing that collaboration and community partnerships are essential to the success of our town. We believe that when our schools and community organizations work together, our entire community benefits.

The Sheridan Lions Club supports property tax reform, and we understand the importance of ensuring that taxpayers are treated fairly, especially farmers. This referendum is designed to provide Sheridan Community Schools with the flexibility to maintain approximately the same level of local operating revenue the district would have received prior to recent legislative changes, not to collect more than necessary.

We are proud of the work Sheridan Community Schools does for every student. A student's success is about far more than test scores. It is about helping young people discover their strengths, develop their talents, and prepare for a successful future. Through outstanding career and technical education programs and preparation for a wide variety of career pathways, Sheridan Community Schools works to ensure that every student has the opportunity to thrive.

We also recognize the importance of retaining outstanding teachers, administrators, and staff. The quality of our schools depends on the dedicated professionals who serve our students each day. Supporting this referendum will help provide the financial flexibility necessary to retain and support these individuals while continuing to invest in our students and their future.

The Sheridan Lions Club is a local volunteer organization dedicated to supporting community projects, youth initiatives, and families in need. As a chartered affiliate of Lions Clubs International, the Sheridan Lions have proudly served our community since 1986.

We believe in the future of Sheridan, and we believe in the important role Sheridan Community Schools play in building that future. The district has a long history of managing its financial resources responsibly, and we support its efforts to maintain the resources necessary to provide a high-quality education for all students.

On behalf of the Sheridan Indiana Lions Club, I encourage our community members to vote YES in support of the Sheridan Community Schools referendum. We believe this is an important investment in our students, our educators, and the continued strength of our community.

Alan Lyon
President, Sheridan Lions Club

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.

Letter to the Editor

Why a lifelong conservative is voting for a Democrat in Noblesville

Dear Editor:

Growing up, I listened to Rush Limbaugh and Glenn Beck on the radio. I was the president of the Young Republicans in high school and college. Republican Red ran deep in my veins, and I loudly professed that I could never vote for a Democrat.

Now I'm married to one. And she's running for office.

As I raised a family and engaged with my community, my political perspective began to shift. As a conservative, I looked for policies that reflected my values: fiscal responsibility, compassionate conservatism, and an emphasis on family and faith. Instead, I saw ballooning national debt used to fund tax cuts for elites and foreign conflicts, and repeated votes against affordable healthcare and basic support for families.

Many of our neighbors in Noblesville and across Hamilton County are experiencing this same political shift. A good friend of mine and fellow lifelong conservative, who was once hardcore MAGA, recently came to realize that what we are seeing across the country isn't true conservatism, but corruption and cronyism for the rich. He's grappling with his identity like so many. Like I did.

We both realized that the terms "conservative" and "Republican" are no longer synonymous.

But here's where we differ: despite his disappointment with the Republican Party, he can't bring himself to vote for anyone without an R next to their name. I get it. The first time I voted for a Democrat was deeply emotional for me. It felt like turning my back on a central part of my identity. But being a conservative does not mean blindly backing a party label when that party stops serving the public good or aligning with your values.

I don't believe my basic values have changed; my party abandoned me and so many others. I believe our tax dollars should work directly for the community. That means investing in strong public schools, clean air and water, reliable infrastructure, and meaningful support for those who have been overlooked. It means electing leaders accountable to voters, not to corporate donors or lobbyists. And now, that means voting for Democrats.

Our current representative recently reported campaign finances showing that nearly 80 percent of her funding comes from Political Action Committees, lobbyists, corporations, and political insiders. While campaign mailers promise lower utility costs, local families have seen utility bills climb. In our home, our bill grew by 20 percent this year despite lower usage. A representative funded by utility interests cannot effectively advocate for residents at the negotiating table.

By contrast, 80 percent of Devon's donations come from individuals: local residents and real voters who want a genuine voice in state government. She will champion fully funded public schools so every child in Noblesville receives a top-tier education, lower the cost of living and ease utility pressures on working families, protect access to quality healthcare for all residents, and restore integrity to state government.

As a former Republican, I know Devon's platform will stand up for our community's shared values: our schools, our families, and real opportunity for every resident in District 29. As her husband, a father, and a District 29 constituent, I am proud to vote for her.

David Wellington
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.*



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.

ndividuals 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.



GREGORY HANCOCK DANCE THEATRE

29th Season

Gregory Glade Hancock, Executive Artistic Director

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DR. ANITA JOSHI
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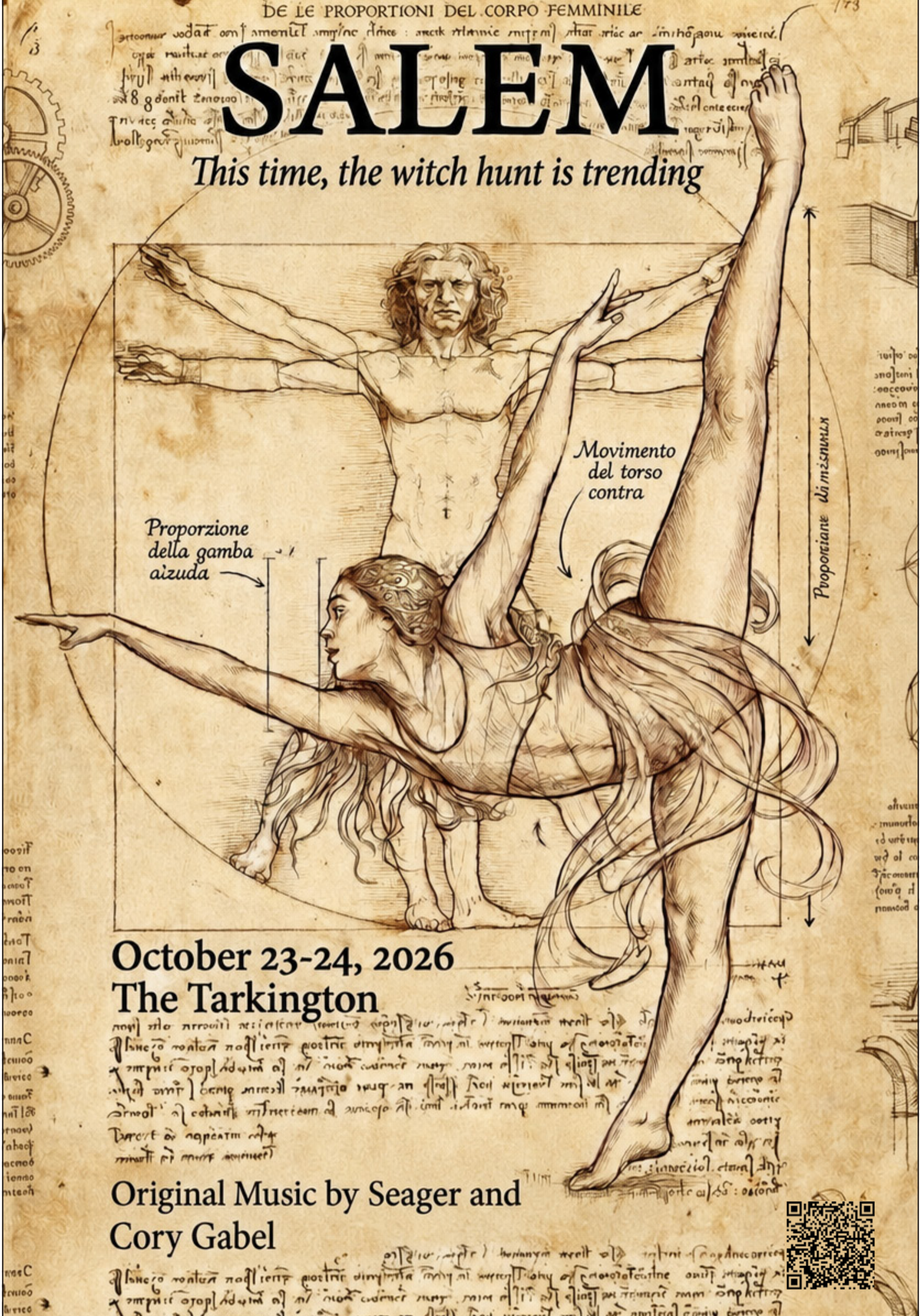
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THE TARKINGTON AT ALLIED SOLUTIONS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

SALEM

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Made possible by support from a Christel DeHaan Legacy Gift.

Grading complete on Hazel Dell Bridge rebuilding project






Photos provided by Hamilton County Government

According to Hamilton County officials, demolition and site grading are complete at the Hazel Dell Parkway bridge near 106th Street in Carmel, which collapsed during the August flood. Crews expect to finish temporary seeding by the end of next week. Reconstruction of the bridge is anticipated to begin in spring 2027, with completion expected by late 2027. Your patience is appreciated as crews work toward restoring this important roadway.

National podcaster & Iraq War veteran endorses Ballard

Submitted

Iraq War veteran and national political commentator and podcaster Paul Rieckhoff has endorsed Greg Ballard for Indiana Secretary of State. He announced the endorsement during an interview with the former two-term Indianapolis mayor and retired Marine lieutenant colonel on his podcast, *Independent Americans*.



Ballard

"You have my endorsement," Rieckhoff told Ballard. "We want you to win, but getting on that ballot and securing that space for the movement is also very important here."

Rieckhoff founded **Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America**. He now works to elect independent veterans to office through **Independent Veterans of America**. He appears regularly as a commentator on national television news networks, including CNN.

The episode with Rieckhoff and Ballard, "Hope in the Heartland," focused on what Ballard's campaign means beyond Indiana. In particular, it looked at the campaign's potential to establish the Lincoln Party and open the door for future independent candidates. The Lincoln Party would have ballot access in Indiana for the next four years if Ballard receives at least 2 percent of the vote.

"This is one that has national implications and real implications for the movement," Rieckhoff said, calling Indiana "an important epicenter for what's happening in our independent movement."

Ballard, a retired U.S. Marine, discussed how more competitive general elections could reduce the polarization driving voters away from both parties.

"We think the toxicity, the heated rhetoric, the name-calling, all of this that's going on, the parties have lost their way," Ballard said. "But if we have competitive general elections in November, we think all of that reduces dramatically and may even stop."

Watch the full interview at **this link**.

Learn more about the candidate at **GregBallard.com**.

— ARCADIA —

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE ARCADIA TOWN COUNCIL

The Arcadia Town Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 2, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Arcadia Town Hall, 208 W. Main Street, Arcadia, Indiana 46030, in connection with Ordinance No. 2026-04, and which is entitled An Ordinance Amending The Rates and Charges For The Waterworks Utility, and the entire text, terms, and provisions of said ordinance are as follows:

"AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE WATERWORKS UTILITY

"WHEREAS, the Town of Arcadia, Indiana ("Town") operates a waterworks utility for the benefit of its citizens and the surrounding area;

"WHEREAS, various ordinances have been adopted from time to time regarding policies and procedures for the waterworks and the establishment of waterworks rates, fees and charges; and

"WHEREAS, inflation has increased operational and maintenance costs of the Waterworks over the last several years; and

"WHEREAS, system improvements including the building of a new water treatment plant and the establishment of new water wells are also necessary; and

"WHEREAS, current user fees and water rates, which were adopted under Ordinance 2023-1 on February 23, 2023 and have not been increased in three and half years; and

"WHEREAS, Kleinpeter Financial Group, LLC serves as the Town's financial advisor and prepared a financial report concerning the rates and charges of the Waterworks ("Report"); and

"WHERAS, based upon the Report, the Town Council of the Town ("Town Council") finds that the current rates and charges for the use of and services rendered by the Waterworks are insufficient to enable the Town to properly improve, maintain and operate its Waterworks in a sound physical and financial condition to render adequate and efficient service; and

"WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that the current rates and charges for the use of and service rendered by the Waterworks must be increased to provide sufficient revenue to meet such requirements; and

"WHEREAS, the Town Council has caused notice of a public hearing on the rates and charges set forth herein to be duly advertised, posted and mailed, and has held a public hearing thereon at which time all users of the Waterworks, owners of properties served or to be served by the Waterworks and other interested persons were heard concerning the proposed rates and changes, all pursuant to the Act;

"NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ARCADIA, as follows:

1. WATER RATES – for use of and service rendered by the waterworks, each user shall be charged in an amount based upon a fee schedule, shown in Appendix A.

"All other provisions of the current waterworks ordinance, and all earlier ordinances not amended by this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

"The provisions herein, when approved and adopted, shall be effective for bills rendered on and after the day after adoption of this ordinance."

Following the adoption of the amendment to the Rate Ordinance, users located outside the Town's corporate boundaries may be entitled to petition the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission under Indiana Code 8-1.5-3-8.3 to review and adjust the rates and charges imposed on such users if a petition under Indiana Code 8-1.5-3-8.2 with respect to the Rate Ordinance has not been filed.

TOWN OF ARCADIA, INDIANA

EXHIBIT A
Town of Arcadia
Schedule of Rates and Charges

			Present Rates	Proposed Rates	Rate Increase ($)	Percent Change
Metered Rates per Month						
Per 1,000 Gallons						
First	5,000	gallons	$10.74	$11.36	$0.62	5.77%
Next	8,300	gallons	9.57	10.12	0.55	5.77%
Next	16,600	gallons	8.39	8.87	0.48	5.77%
Next	25,000	gallons	6.01	6.36	0.35	5.77%
Over	58,200	gallons	4.28	4.53	0.25	5.77%
Minimum Charge per Month						
All Users			$35.60	$37.65	$2.05	5.77%
Monthly Hydrant Charge						
Per User Per Month						
5/8	inch water meter		$10.74	$11.36	$0.62	5.77%
3/4	inch water meter		11.82	12.50	0.68	5.77%
1	inch water meter		15.02	15.89	0.87	5.77%
1 1/2	inch water meter		19.33	20.45	1.12	5.77%
2	inch water meter		31.16	32.96	1.80	5.77%
3	inch water meter		117.37	124.14	6.77	5.77%
4	inch water meter		150.31	158.98	8.67	5.77%
6	inch water meter		225.48	238.49	13.01	5.77%
8	inch water meter		311.40	329.37	17.97	5.77%

Private Fire Protection	
Private Hydrants, each - Per Annum	$1,418
Tap Fee for Water	
Per Residential Connection:	$300
Per Non-Residential Connection:	Actual Cost of Making the Connection but not less than $300.00
Deposit Fee - For Properties Occupied By Owners	
Deposit Fee	$55.00

Service Calls		**Proposed Increase**	**Proposed Rate**
Reconnection Fee	$35.00	$80.00	$115.00
Returned Check Charge	$35.00		
Late Charge Penalty			
All Bills 30 days or more delinquent	10% Of Bill		

R8864 *10/22/26, 10/26/26*





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Photo provided by Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts

See *Hoosiers* 40th Anniversary screening at the Palladium

The REPORTER

Inspired by Indiana's favorite pastime, the basketball drama Hoosiers received two Academy Award nominations, earned a spot in the Library of Congress' National Film Registry, and is widely considered one of the best sports films of all time.

At 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15, at the Payne & Mencias Palladium in Carmel, you can enjoy a 40th anniversary screening of the 1986 classic, hosted by 93.5 & 107.5 The Fan radio host JMV. **Click here** to get your tickets.

Following the screening, a live Q&A will take place with screenwriter Angelo Pizzo, director David Anspaugh, and actors Brad Long, who clashed with the coach as team captain Buddy Walker, and Maris Valainis, whose character Jimmy Chitwood made the last-second shot to win the state high school championship.

Submit your questions by Nov. 10 to be read during the Q&A.

New at Sheridan Public Library

Submitted by Sheridan Public Library

Here are some of the new items that can be found at the Sheridan Public Library.

Fiction

- Beach Day – Jamie Day
- Bright Years – Sarah Damoff
- Chasing Evil – William Oakes
- Christmas in the Presidential Suite – Judith Keim
- Cozy Little Christmas – RaeAnne Thayne
- Date with Santa – Debbie Macomber
- Family Cross – James Patterson
- If They Knew – A.J. Wooding
- It Ends Here – Heidi Perks
- Mercy's Child – Richard Paul Evans
- Mistletoe and Rodeo – Janet Dailey
- Murder at the Grand Alpine Hotel – Lucy Foley
- Peck & Peck – Bonnie Garmus
- Samantha: The Next Chapter – Fiona Davis
- To His Ex-Wife – Willow Rose
- Witch – Freida McFadden

Non-Fiction

- Complete High Protein Cookbook – America Test Kitchen
- He Loves Me – Various authors
- Your GLP-1 Game Plan – Heidi Skolnik

Children's

- And Oh I Love You So! – Sandra Boynton
- Can I Pet This Dog? – Camie Putchaven
- Diapers Are Not Forever – Elizabeth Verdick
- Hush, Little Fire Truck – Rebecca Colby
- I Love Being a Sloth – Em Bruce
- I Love You to the MOO-n and BAA-ck – Rose Rossner
- Marion's Pumpkin Patch Mystery – Callie Barkley
- Merry Christmas, My Little Cuddle Bug
- Monster Hunter – Rich Moyer
- Raising the stakes – Rich Moyer
- Teeth Are Not For Biting – Elizabeth Verdick
- Tractors in Space – Ross MacKay
- Wheels on the Truck – Aly Fronis
- You're My Little Christmas Miracle

Inspirational Fiction

- Falling into Us – Denise Hunter
- Return to the Shack – Wm. Paul Young

Young Adult

- Trust Fall – Lynn Painter

Scooter driver & motorcyclist killed in separate Noblesville crashes

By GREGG MONTGOMERY
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Two people – drivers of a scooter and a motorcycle – died in separate crashes Tuesday in Noblesville, police said.

Scooter hits SUV

The scooter crash was reported at 3:24 p.m. Tuesday at the intersection of North Harbour Drive and Carrigan Road, just northwest of the Morse Reservoir bridge.

Parker Shelby, 22, Noblesville, died when the electric scooter, a Nanrobot D4+, that he was driving east pulled into the path of a 2022 BMW X3 traveling west on Carrigan Road.

Mary E. Werkley, 55, Noblesville, was driving the car. Werkley did not report any injuries.

The intersection was closed for about two hours after the crash as police collected evidence.

Motorcycle crash on Noblesville-Fishers border

Noblesville and Fishers police were called at 6:07 p.m. Tuesday to a motorcycle crash at the intersection of 141st Street and Catalina Drive in Noblesville. Catalina Drive extends into a housing subdivision in Fishers.

The Hamilton County Coroner's Office will release the driver's identity.

Witnesses and physical evidence indicated that a 2012 Honda CBR motorcycle traveled eastbound on 141st Street at high speed when the operator lost control and struck a utility pole.

No other vehicles were involved.

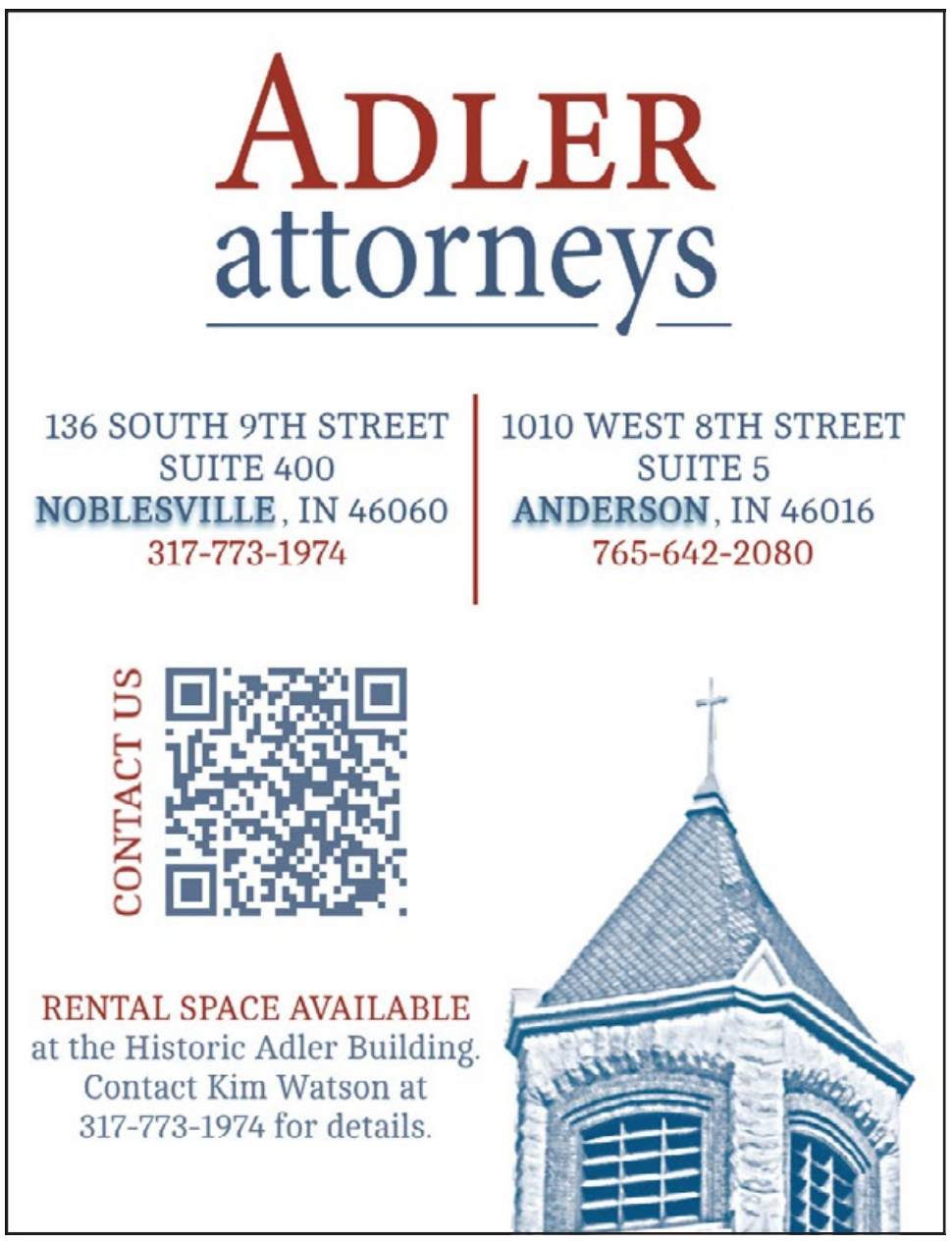
The operator suffered fatal injuries and died at the scene.

Noblesville police reconstructed the crash scene, closing both lanes of 141st Street between Promise Road and Copper Boulevard for about two hours.

*This story was originally published by WISH-TV at **wishtv.com/news/local-news/scooter-driver-and-motorcyclist-killed-in-separate-noblesville-crashes**.*







Carmel designated as AARP Age-Friendly Community

Submitted by City of Carmel

The City of Carmel announces that it has officially been designated as a member of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities. This national designation recognizes the city's ongoing commitment to developing policies, programs and infrastructure that enable residents to live comfortably, safely, and actively at every stage of life.

The AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities evaluates cities based on key domains of livability, including housing, outdoor spaces, transportation, community health, and social inclusion. Joining the network connects Carmel to a global framework of communities dedicated to preparing for an aging population.

"Carmel has always strived to be a community where people can grow, thrive and remain active throughout their lives," Mayor Sue Finkam said. "Receiving this designation validates our commitment to thoughtful urban design, accessible infrastructure and inclusive civic programming. We are honored to join this network as we continue working to make Carmel a welcoming home for all generations."



Photo provided by City of Carmel

Carol Applegate, Chair of the Mayor's Advisory Commission on Senior Living, talks with conference attendees.



Finkam

Celebrating community connection: Intergenerational Conference for Seniors

Demonstrating this age-friendly vision in action, the Mayor's Advisory Commission on Senior Living hosted the Intergenerational Conference for Seniors on Friday, Oct. 16, at University High School. The full-day event brought together city representatives, community members, advocates, local organizations, and students to share insights, resources, and dialogue across generations.

The conference featured an engaging lineup, including two keynote speakers, two interactive breakout sessions featuring 10 presenters, a comedy performance, a popular vendor fair offering resources on wellness, living, and active aging, and involvement of several University High School students.

The success of this annual conference was made possible through the leadership of Mayor Finkam and City Councilman Rich Taylor, along with special thanks to University High School for serving as host, and the generous event, meal, and beverage sponsors whose support ensured a successful and engaging experience for all attendees.

"Events like this conference highlight the exact heart of our mission," said Carol Applegate, Chair of the Mayor's Advisory Commission on Senior Living. "The commission works tirelessly to ensure that our senior population feels seen, valued, supported and connected across every generation. Earning the AARP designation gives us even greater momentum as we advocate for accessible opportunities and build a stronger, more connected Carmel for everyone."

Next steps: Age-Friendly Action Plan informed by local feedback

To fulfill the requirements of the AARP designation, the Mayor's Advisory Commission on Senior Living is hard at work developing Carmel's multi-year Age-Friendly Action Plan. This effort is directly informed by feedback collected from community members who participated in the city's recent community survey.

Data and insights gathered from the survey will guide the commission as it establishes actionable goals across key livability area including housing accessibility, pedestrian mobility, transit options, and public health support to ensure the plan reflects the real needs and priorities of Carmel's aging population.

Meeting Notices

The Hamilton County Commissioners will meet in an executive session at 12:15 p.m. Monday, Oct. 26, 2026.

A regular meeting will follow at 1:15 p.m. in the Commissioners' Courtroom at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

The Noblesville Firefighter Merit Commission meeting has been rescheduled for 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2026, in the courtroom at the Public Safety Building, 135 S. 9th St.

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.

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

Tablets Like the First Ones

At that time the Lord said to me, "Chisel out two stone tablets like the first ones and come up to me on the mountain. Also make a wooden ark. I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke. Then you are to put them in the ark."

So I made the ark out of acacia wood and chiseled out two stone tablets like the first ones, and I went up on the mountain with the two tablets in my hands. The Lord wrote on these tablets what he had written before, the Ten Commandments he had proclaimed to you on the mountain, out of the fire, on the day of the assembly. And the Lord gave them to me. Then I came back down the mountain and put the tablets in the ark I had made, as the Lord commanded me, and they are there now.

(The Israelites traveled from the wells of Bene Jaakan to Moserah. There Aaron died and was buried, and Eleazar his son succeeded him as priest. From there they traveled to Gudgodah and on to Jotbathah, a land with streams of water. At that time the Lord set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister and to pronounce blessings in his name, as they still do today. That is why the Levites have no share or inheritance among their fellow Israelites; the Lord is their inheritance, as the Lord your God told them.)

Deuteronomy 10:1-9 (NIV)

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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.



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