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TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Partly cloudy morning. Partly to mostly cloudy in the afternoon.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy.
HIGH: 72 **LOW**: 51

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Hamilton County dedicates new fire training tower

Milestone marks significant progress on Public Safety Training Center

The REPORTER

Hamilton County officials gathered Monday morning, Oct. 26, to dedicate the newly completed fire training tower at the County's Public Safety Training Center. Members of the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners, County Council, Emergency Management, and fire departments from across the county attended the ceremony and toured the new facility.

"This is an investment in the safety of every person who lives, works, or visits Hamilton County," said Christine Altman, President of the County Commissioners. "Our first responders put their lives on the line for us every day. We owe it to them to provide the training, tools, and resources they need to do their jobs safely and effectively."

The five-story tower will allow firefighters to train for emergencies in high-rise and mid-rise buildings, including apartments, hotels, and mixed-use developments. Crews will be able to practice advancing hoses through stairwells, performing rope rescues and rappelling, positioning aerial ladders, and removing victims down stairwells. A flashover chamber will also allow firefighters to train under realistic fire conditions in a controlled environment.

"There's no substitute for hands-on training in realistic conditions," said County Councilor Tim Griffin, a Carmel firefighter. "This tower gives our crews the opportunity to practice complicated rescues, work together, and build the confidence that comes from repetition. Better-trained firefighters mean faster responses, safer operations, and better outcomes for the people we're called to protect."

The tower is the first major component completed at the 60-acre Public Safety Training Center, located near 161st Street and River Road in Noblesville. The $32 million project will also feature more than 20,000 square feet of classroom and tactical training space, an outdoor firing range, and dedicated areas for SWAT and defensive tactics training.

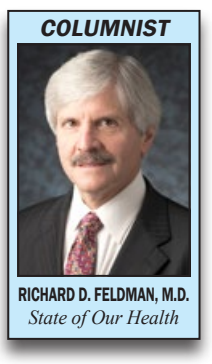
Once fully operational, the Public Safety Training Center will serve as a regional training hub for law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical personnel. It will provide opportunities for specialized instruction, joint exercises, and advanced certifications while reducing the need for first responders to travel outside Hamilton County for training.



Photos provided by Hamilton County Government

(From left) Councilor Amy Massillamany, Councilor Mark Hall, Commissioner Steve Dillinger, Commissioner Christine Altman, Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt, Councilor Tim Griffin, and Councilor Steve Nation.

Is Indiana doing enough to support our school-health programs?



COLUMNIST
RICHARD D. FELDMAN, M.D.
State of Our Health

The American School Health Association recently contacted me for possible involvement in their October centennial national conference being held in Indianapolis. It reminded me of my work in addressing school-health issues when I was Indiana's state health commissioner and how important schools are to supporting children's health.

Schools are part of our public health system and play a significant role in assuring our children's physical, social, and emotional health. Schools are ideal places to meet children where they are. It's difficult for an unhealthy, disadvantaged, or struggling child to learn and prepare for a productive, well-adjusted life. Schools can help reduce health disparities and, ultimately, health-care costs.

They support physical health by providing physical education, organized sports, and health education that includes instruction on disease prevention, sexual health, and healthy nutrition and lifestyles. Education regarding the perils of substance abuse, including tobacco, vaping, and alcohol, can reduce initiation and foster resistance to peer pressure. Knowledge is power.

See *School Health* . . . Page 2

Hamilton Heights to host spooktacular double feature: Trunk or Treat & Haunted Circus

Submitted by Hamilton Heights School Corp.

Hamilton Heights High School is conjuring up a frightfully fun evening for the community from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 29, with two thrilling events guaranteed to deliver chills, treats, and Halloween cheer.

Hosted by the Hamilton Heights FFA, the fourth annual Trunk or Treat invites families to enjoy a safe, festive trick-or-treat experience in the high school parking lot. Students, staff, and community members will decorate their vehicles and hand out candy in a creative, family-friendly atmosphere. Costumes are encouraged, and smiles are guaranteed!

Just steps away inside the high school, the theatre arts class will transform the stage in the auditorium into a spine-tingling Haunted Circus. During SRT/Lunch and that evening from 5 to 7 p.m., $1 gets you into this immersive experience.

Both events are open to the public and promise a ghoulishly good time for all. Whether you're seeking sweet treats or theatrical thrills, you can get that and more at this spooktacular event at Hamilton Heights High School.



Photo provided by Hamilton Heights School Corporation

Ghosts, goblins, superheroes, and smiles were everywhere during last year's Hamilton Heights FFA Trunk or Treat. The community is invited to dress up and join the Halloween fun as the beloved event returns to Hamilton Heights High School on Oct. 29. While you are there, be sure to check out the Haunted Circus taking place in the school auditorium.

The world of D&D



COLUMNIST
KASON CRAMER
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.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be whoever you want to be, do whatever you want without any real-world consequences? That is D&D in a nutshell.

Every game of D&D is different because there are different Dungeon Masters, different worlds, different characters, and different rolls. At SHS, there is a D&D Club.

D&D is a tabletop role-playing game. I am a player in one of the campaigns. I also want to be a Dungeon Master next quarter. A dungeon master is the god of the campaign. They create the world and story for the players to play in. I got involved in D&D at home because of my dad. We played a campaign, and it was my first experience with D&D.

D&D makes Sheridan better. It adds creativity and something to do after school. Everyone there is nice and friendly. And there are multiple campaigns if you don't like the one you currently have.

Applications open for two Elks scholarships

Submitted

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is a major provider of college scholarships every year. The Elks contribute over $2.52 million per year in support of providing scholarships to worthwhile students based on need, community service, and performance in the classroom.

The Noblesville Elks Lodge #576 announce that applications are open for these two scholarships:

• **Most Valuable Student Scholarships:** Open to any high school senior who is a U.S. citizen. The deadline to apply is Nov. 12, 2026. Applications are available at enf.elks.org/MVS. The award amount can range from $1,000 to $60,000.

• **Indiana State Vocational Grants:** This program provides assistance for graduating high school seniors to attend a two-year or less vocational/technical program, culminating in an Associate Degree, Diploma, or Certificate. Email Geoff Robinson at **grobin6117@aol.com** to obtain an application.



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.



Early Voting Totals

Below are the number of early voters as of Monday, Oct. 26, listed by polling location.
***Click here** for more information on early voting.*

Judicial Center	7,868
4-H Fairgrounds	13,208
Carmel Clay Public Library	2,381
Jill Perelman Pavilion, Carmel	2,377
Wilfong Pavilion, Carmel	1,600
Billericay Park Bldg., Fishers	2,596
Roy G. Holland Bldg., Fishers	2,076
Cool Creek Nature Center	2,295
Westfield City Hall	1,336
Westfield Washington Twp. Bldg.	1,155
TOTAL	**36,892**

New SOMAstation fitness equipment added to Prather Park

The REPORTER

Hamilton County Parks and Recreation (HCPR) has announced the addition of new SOMAstation outdoor fitness equipment at Prather Park, creating even more opportunities for families and community members to stay active together.

The SOMAstation, funded by the Hamilton County Health Department (HCHD) and similar to the one installed at Cool Creek Park, is located adjacent to the park's new playground, which was installed last year. The placement allows parents and caregivers to exercise while supervising children at play, while also encouraging community interaction and engagement.



Photo provided

(From left) HCPR Deputy Director Bruce Oldham, HCHD Administrator Jason LeMaster, HCPR Director Chris Stice, and HCPR Board Judi Campbell.

"The playground and new SOMAstation equipment at Prather Park work together to create a space that encourages both play and connection," HCPR Director Chris Stice said. "The SOMAstation's unique 'partners in play' design promotes physical activity while also encouraging adults to interact and engage with one another as they exercise."

The fitness area includes a variety of equipment designed to support strength, flexibility, and overall wellness for users of different ages and abilities. The layout encourages people to gather, exercise together, and build social connections in an outdoor setting.

The addition of the SOMAstation further enhances Prather Park as a destination for recreation, wellness, and family-friendly outdoor experiences within the HCPR system.

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Thanks for reading the Hamilton County Reporter!

Carmel school board to discuss future of damaged Orchard Park building

By GREGG MONTGOMERY
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Carmel Clay Schools officials on Wednesday night will discuss what to do with a former elementary school deemed unsafe after it was found flooded nearly two weeks ago.

On Oct. 14, the school district's maintenance staff found about four feet of standing water in the Orchard Park Elementary School's boiler room. The district said in a Friday news release that an investigation found that a water main ruptured beneath the building, flooding it, damaging its infrastructure and compromising its central mechanical plant.

After assessing the damage, the city government determined that concerns about structural stability made the property unsafe. District leaders and engineers from Fanning Howey were assessing the structural damage and identifying possible solutions, and information will be presented at a meeting of the school board at 6 p.m. Wednesday at the Educational Services Center, 5201 E. Main St.

The building, playground and surrounding grounds have been cordoned off and closed to the public.

The school southwest of 106th Street and Westfield Boulevard was closed in summer 2021 as part of a redistricting plan initiated when Clay Center Elementary School opened.

Since then, Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation expressed hopes of making the site into a park but was thwarted when a charter school group sued, trying to buy the property under Indiana's "$1 law." A judge ruled that, since the district still used the building for storage and training, it did not meet the law's requirement of being vacant or unused.

Carmel Clay Schools in late 2024 announced plans to use the property for a centralized early learning center.

*This story was originally published by WISH-TV at **wishtv.com/news/education/carmel-school-board-to-discuss-future-of-damaged-orchard-park-building**.*

School Health

from Page 1

School breakfast and lunch programs are particularly critical for low-income children, many of whom rely on these meals as a primary source of daily nutrition. It's difficult for a hungry child to learn.

School-based health clinics improve access to medical and preventative care, especially valuable for disadvantaged children who have social and economic barriers to accessing the health-care system. These clinics also provide management of acute and chronic illnesses, mental health counseling, and referrals.

Understand that teachers, nurses, social workers, psychologists, and counselors are often not only the first to recognize untreated medical conditions, but also signs of child abuse, neglect, developmental delays, attention deficit disorder, and learning disabilities. Additionally, they identify anxiety, depression, and substance abuse, among other mental-health conditions. These professionals facilitate connecting families to providers and other resources.

The school's function in socialization cannot be overstated. Schools provide supportive and inclusive environments. Through involvement in the classroom and school activities, children can develop an understanding of teamwork, acceptance of diversity, and leadership skills. Students also learn the interpersonal attributes of empathy and effective communication; they can acquire conflict resolution and prudent decision-making skills.

From my own childhood experience, I appreciate that the school environment is a chance for students to experience inspiring, nurturing teachers, coaches, and other school staff who serve as role models to emulate and provide encouragement and direction. To be mentored is a gift.

Schools, including those in Indiana, face significant barriers to promoting health, including limited funding; shortages of school nurses, counselors, and psychologists; and inequitable distribution of resources among school districts. Inadequate parental involvement, lack of comprehensive health education, and policies that do not consider the effect on student health are additional barriers. Addressing these challenges requires collaboration among educators, health professionals, families, government, and the breath of community stakeholders. It's a shared responsibility.

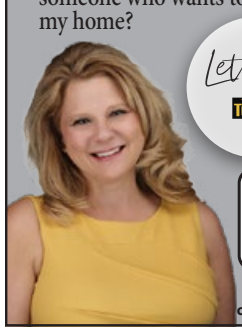
Investment in comprehensive school-health programs represents one of the most effective strategies for helping children achieve academic success and reaching their full potential. This approach is supported by the American Academy of Pediatrics and by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Whole School, Community, Child model, which emphasizes the integration of education, health services, family engagement, and community partnerships.

A child's health is not just about preventing and treating illness. It's also about assuring conditions exist that allow a child to thrive. Schools are essential in that process.

As the national conference comes to Indianapolis, it seems like a good time for me to ask: Is Indiana doing enough to support our school-health programs?

Richard D. Feldman, M.D. is an Indianapolis family physician and former Indiana State Health Commissioner who served in the administration of Governor Frank O'Bannon.

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Give parents the power to protect their kids online

GUEST COLUMNIST



MICHELLE WALLPE

I grew up on a crop and cattle farm in rural Indiana. I went to school at Purdue. I built my career here as a landscape designer, model, life coach and urban planner. I also had the privilege of teaching children at Carmel High School. I loved being an educator, but one of the hardest lessons I learned was that sometimes we don't know what our children are encountering online until something has gone wrong.

I remember students coming to me with concerns about interactions they were having on Roblox. They told me about people approaching them through online chats and interactions on the platform. I took those concerns seriously. I brought them to the school administration. They said they couldn't force or enforce parents to take action to protect their kids. I suggested that at least an announcement to parents be made and maybe a list of parental apps parents could use to monitor and or prevent their children from using games like Roblox.

And then, I was left with a question that has stayed with me: What happens when the adults who should be able to protect a child don't even know what that child has been exposed to?

The answer cannot simply be to tell parents to monitor everything their children do online. Parents already have an enormous responsibility. We can set rules, have conversations, check devices, and teach our children about online safety. But we shouldn't have to discover every app, every platform, and every potential danger one at a time, often after our children have already encountered something they shouldn't have.

That is why I support efforts like the App Store Accountability Act. This legislation takes a fundamentally different approach to protecting children online. Instead of putting the entire burden on parents to police dozens of individual apps and platforms, it creates a parental-consent checkpoint at the app-store level.

Under this legislation, app stores would verify a user's age and, when the user is a minor, obtain verifiable parental consent before that child can download an app or make an in-app purchase.

It could be the difference between finding out after the fact that your child has been communicating with strangers through an app, versus receiving a notification before the app ever reaches your child's device.

One approach asks parents to clean up a problem. The other gives parents an opportunity to prevent it.

As a former teacher, I know how important it is for parents and schools to work together. But schools cannot be expected to serve as the primary safety net for every child's online life. And teachers cannot possibly know every app a child is using, every account they have created or every person contacting them through those platforms. Parents need to be brought into the process from the beginning.

I also appreciate the work Congresswoman Erin Houchin is doing to make online safety a priority and taking seriously the concerns families are raising about children's digital lives. In addition to cosponsoring the App Store Accountability Act, Houchin has also worked on other legislation addressing children's online safety, including proposals dealing with parental consent and social-media access.

That work is important. But I believe we should be thoughtful about how we protect children. Parents, not the government, not schools, and certainly not technology companies, should ultimately be able to decide what is appropriate for their own children. Families have different values, different circumstances, and different children.

Let's give parents the information and authority they need before the download, rather than asking them to intervene after the damage has been done.

The App Store Accountability Act puts parents firmly in charge because protecting our children starts with empowering the people who know them best.

Carmel Fire to unveil 'Fire House Flag'

The REPORTER

The Carmel Fire Department invites the public to join firefighters and local leaders for the official unveiling of a special Fire Hose Flag on National First Responders Day, Wednesday, Oct. 28.

The ceremony will begin at 9 a.m. on the third flood of Carmel Fire Department Headquarters, 210 Veterans Way. Speakers will include Interim Fire Chief Lucas Ray, Mayor Sue Finkam, and Rob Demlow from the Brotherhood Designs Corporation.

Crafted from retired fire hose, this unique piece of art symbolizes honor, service, and the enduring dedication of Carmel's first responders to the community they protect.

The completed flag, made from retired fire hose used by the Carmel Fire Department, serves as a symbol of the relationship between community leadership, public safety and the people they serve.



Experienced litigator Pamela Schneeman joins CCHA Law's litigation team

The REPORTER

Church Church Hittle and Antrim (CCHA Law) announces that Pamela "Pam" Schneeman has joined the firm's Litigation team, bringing more than 25 years of legal experience representing government entities, public officials, public employees, and businesses in complex litigation matters.

Schneeman's practice includes civil rights and state law tort claims involving public entities and officials; police and jail officer misconduct claims; First Amendment matters; employment disputes, including discrimination, retaliation, and sexual harassment; and personal injury, property damage, and wrongful death claims.

Throughout her career, Schneeman has developed extensive experience in both state and federal courts. Early in her career, she worked for the Indiana House of Representatives and served as an Indiana Governor's Fellow. After law school, she served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Thomas G. Fisher of the Indiana Tax Court.

Schneeman later practiced in the state and local tax department of a large Indianapolis law firm, handling administrative property tax appeals, matters before the Indiana Department of Revenue, and cases before the Indiana Tax Court. In 1998, she expanded her practice to include government tort liability, federal civil rights litigation under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, and employment discrimination matters.



Schneeman

From 2005 to 2013, Schneeman served as a staff attorney and courtroom deputy clerk for the Honorable Sarah Evans Barker of the U.S. District Court. She later served as Deputy Chief of Litigation for the City of Indianapolis from 2013 through 2017. She then returned to private practice, where she continued representing governmental entities, public officials, employees, and businesses in complex litigation matters before joining CCHA Law.

"We are so delighted to welcome Pam to CCHA," CCHA Law Managing Partner Jenni Hughes said. "Her career spans public service and private practice, and she brings a wealth of litigation experience and a valuable perspective to our firm. We are excited to have her join our team and look forward to the knowledge and insight she will share with our colleagues and clients."

Schneeman has successfully defended government and business clients in jury trials in both state and federal court and has prosecuted employment matters before police merit boards. She is also a frequent presenter at training sessions conducted by the Indiana Sheriff's Association.

Schneeman earned her bachelor's degree from Indiana University and her J.D. from Indiana University School of Law, Bloomington. She is admitted to practice in Indiana, the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Indiana, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court. She is a member of the Indiana State Bar Association and Indianapolis Bar Association.







Voting, veterans & virtue



"In essentials, unity, in non-essentials, liberty, and in all things, charity."

Puritan Richard Baxter promoted this maxim in his day, and it still has relevance for us as citizens today.

In order to have a functioning government, practicing civility is a necessity, an essential. We are now in the season of campaigning and voting for some of our local, state, and national leaders.

So when and where do we practice civility? In all our interactions with other citizens, especially those of a different political persuasion, we treat people with respect. We don't have to agree, but can agree to disagree. Disagreeing doesn't mean we are entitled to be rude or insulting, however. To those campaigning who come to our doors, a simple "Thank you, but I don't have time now" and closing (not slamming) the door is a way to end the encounter civilly. Maybe the campaign material given will end up in the trash, but the other person wasn't "trashed"!

Another time and place to practice civility is at the polling place. Having recruited poll workers for three different elections in Hamilton County, I know what a VERY long day is required for those who accept a position at the polls. If a question, mistake, or challenging situation should come up, that issue would be directed to a person who could help resolve it. We may feel frustrated at times if we believe we are not getting our due in some way. But we can calm down, practice self-control and still treat poll workers with civility and that could help resolve the issue without lingering animosity. We are all human, less than perfect, and we may do well to give ourselves and others some grace.

Undoubtedly, most citizens in our county are being civil with each other as we engage in the election process.

Important to note also, is that it is not essential that we persuade others to vote for our choices. We have the liberty to vote for the candidates we think would best reflect our values and perform the duties of their elected office with competency, dedication, and integrity, embodying civility in what they say and do.

COLUMNIST



NANCY KELLY SMITH
Civility Counts

Many of us have had family members or friends who served in the military, or who are veterans themselves. My father was in the Army in WWII, trained at Camp Atterbury here in Indiana, fought and was captured and spent months in a German POW camp before being liberated. Consequently, I have some knowledge of what suffering veterans and their families have endured to preserve our freedoms, including the freedom to vote. All the veterans I know fought in Viet Nam. Most of them were not treated with civility and respect when they returned stateside. But now we have the opportunity to thank them, to attend ceremonies that honor them, to donate to reliable veterans organizations that support veterans, and hopefully, provide resources that can provide housing, mental and emotional support and end the tragedy of veteran suicide.

Who among us does not want to be understood? to belong? to be loved? To me, "charity" IS love, and is the foundation of "civility." I don't think of love necessarily as an emotion. I think sometimes it is a decision to care about another person. To treat that one as we want to be treated with dignity and respect.

Charity is a virtue to permeate all our words and actions. If it does, the practice of civility can become commonplace. We can all do our part to make it so.

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

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Foster Success supports record number of older foster youth

Impact report shows $1.6 million distributed in Indiana

The REPORTER

Indiana-based national nonprofit Foster Success announces in its newest **Impact Report** that it has connected and supported more than 2,400 older foster youth across five states, with more than 1,300 in Indiana. The number of Hoosier teens and young adults supported is up from 1,060 the previous year. The organization also distributed more than $5.6 million to older foster youth across all its programs and states during the last fiscal year, more than double the previous year. In Indiana, the organization disbursed $1.6 million.

In 2025, Foster Success announced its national expansion into four additional states: Arizona, Maryland, Missouri, and Ohio.

"Expanding into additional states allows us to reach more young people and provide support as they navigate life after foster care," said Dr. Maggie Stevens, president and CEO of Foster Success. "This year, we supported 28 percent more young people, with 60 percent of those we serve between the ages of 18 and 22. It's exciting to see more young people accessing the support they need to build independence, pursue their goals, and create the futures they want for themselves."



Stevens

The report looks at the well-being of teens and young adults transitioning out of foster care who have participated in the organization's five Impact Areas: Educational Success, Financial Empowerment, Health & Well-Being, Workforce Readiness and Youth Engagement programs.

Educational Success

Educational Success programs support young people's transition in multiple states to a college or a job training program through graduation or certification.

- 1,464 participants supported
- 78 percent of participants made significant progress toward their education goals or met their goals
- $5,098,271 disbursed

Financial Empowerment

Financial Empowerment programs support young people in Indiana with their financial literacy and the development of skills to save money, spend wisely and build credit and assets.

- 511 participants supported
- 60 percent of participants are more likely than their peers to improve their income
- $200,755 disbursed

Health & Well-Being

Health & Well-Being programs provide holistic resources that strengthen the confidence, knowledge, and abilities of Hoosier young people so they become effective advocates for their well-being.

- 452 participants served
- 84 percent of participants said they know where to get advice and support
- $319,714 disbursed

Workforce Readiness

Workforce Readiness programs ensure Indiana teens and young adults aging out of foster care have a clear and supportive path to good and promising jobs.

- 190 participants supported
- 79 percent of participants report they have a mentor who encourages them to pursue their goals and dreams
- $47,670 disbursed

Youth Engagement

Youth Engagement programs support young people in building community and strengthening their leadership skills so they can play an active part in shaping their own futures and improving Indiana's foster care system.

- 570 participants supported
- $27,789 disbursed

The report also features success stories of teens and young adults who have been supported by Foster Success.

"It's [Foster Success] opened a lot of opportunities for me that my family wouldn't have been able to," said Mahki, a young person supported by the organization. "I've been able to go to school, be financially free, and make connections with beautiful people."

The full 2025-2026 Foster Success Impact Report is available at **impact2026.fostersuccess.org**.

Flood wrap-up

COLUMNIST



KEN KLINGENMEIER

Last Saturday marked 10 weeks since the White River overflowed into our neighborhood and into our lives. For the past week or so Mrs. K and I have been living in our mostly mended home. It's not in the least "finished," but it is comfortable and warm enough to sleep in, rest in, work in, and have our meals in.

And we no longer have to use the RV for survival, which is better for us as the season changes over to cooler weather. It was great to have as an outpost, but our house is much the preferred location for us now.

Those 10 weeks have gone by very quickly and our personal progress has outpaced nearly all of our neighbors, some of which have not been able to even start steps to recover their homes as they are meshed in dealings with the city, insurance companies, banks, contractors, and suppliers. We count ourselves to be VERY lucky in how our project has come together. You all know our son Tony has been a great contributor on that account, leading the demolition, design and rebuilding of walls, floors, and furnishings. And we have been extremely fortunate financially as family, friends, and FEMA have come through with generosity. The expense involved in all this recovery work has been staggering.

Some of our neighbors will need many more months to get their properties in order. Some nearer to the river need to have their homes raised up off the ground in order to meet the requirements set by state laws referencing flood plain property. It's truly overwhelming for many. I've heard of one man who just collected his possessions and walked away. I wouldn't be surprised to hear of more individuals doing that due to what they are facing.

Again, I want to emphasis that we know we have been so lucky to have met this challenging disaster in the way we have been blessed with. Mrs. K and I only have to look up and down our street to see the different difficulties that people are facing. We have a ways to go, too, but we are so close to finishing the work.

I feel I've learned a lot during these past weeks – practical things like hanging doors and mounting cabinets and installing doorknobs and handles. But, perhaps even more so, things like generosity and patience (something I have lost from time to time, and by losing it have found its importance).

Through it all, we have come away with a great appreciation for all the volunteers who have selflessly come forward in aiding people's efforts during these hard times, whether it be organizing meals, arranging for free drywall to be available, or clothing, or monetary contributions such as one by Pat Sullivan of Sullivan Hardware who purchased a great number of $300 gift cards to be distributed for purchases not from his stores but from Lowe's!

Bottom line: We are just so glad to be back in our home – still a work in progress, but we can live here again. Also – we are tired, so very tired – happy but tired.

AG Rokita backs DOJ election monitors for Nov. 3, citing illegal voting charges

Submitted by Office of AG Todd Rokita

On Monday, Oct. 26, Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita issued the following statement welcoming the U.S. Department of Justice's decision to send election monitors to Indiana on Nov. 3:

As Indiana's Attorney General and former Secretary of State who led the effort that made Indiana the first state in the nation to enact a photo voter ID law, I want every election to be secure and run as effectively as possible so Hoosiers can feel confident that their votes count and the results are accurate, fair, and legitimate.



Rokita

To help make that happen, I welcome the Department of Justice sending election monitors into Indiana on November 3.

Federal election monitoring is a longstanding practice the DOJ has used for decades in jurisdictions across the country and is needed this year – especially on the heels of my office charging an alleged illegal alien for allegedly voting not once, not twice, but six times in our elections.

It does happen, and we know there are more out there. That's why it's critical to ensure the laws are being followed.

Federal monitors who observe and report simply add another layer of accountability to the work our great state already does to protect the integrity of every legal vote.

Thanks for reading The Reporter!





To learn more, visit *westfieldin.gov/veteransdayceremony*.

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Millers win third straight boys cross country regional title, Barnes repeats as champion

By ANDREW TRISLER
Noblesville Schools Athletic Department

The Noblesville boys cross country team won the IHSAA Regional at CERAland Sports Park on Saturday, Oct. 24. It is the program's third consecutive regional championship.

Noblesville scored 106 points to edge Center Grove, which scored 110. Westfield (130), Fishers (136), and Franklin Central (143) also advanced as teams to next Saturday's IHSAA State Finals.

Senior Banner Barnes won the individual title in 15:02.3. He was also Regional Champion at last year's Shelbyville Regional. Junior Isaiah Vohs finished second in 15:06.4, three-tenths of a second ahead of Whiteland's Colton Watson.

Senior Matt Huseman placed 24th in 15:53.2. Junior Gavin Flynn (16:14.2) and senior Josh Moller (16:16.9) finished 43rd and 45th to complete the Millers' scoring five. Senior Jack Rush (17:00.4) and sophomore Cohen Baumer (17:01.5) placed 85th and 87th.

It is Noblesville's seventh regional title in boys cross country. The Millers also won in 1986, 1988, 1991, 1995, 2024 and 2025. Noblesville was state runner-up in 2024 and 2025.

In the girls race, Noblesville placed ninth with 244 points, which concludes the Millers' season in girls cross country. Freshman Sloan Cooper led Noblesville, placing 34th in 19:13.6. Junior Izzy Salinas followed in 35th with a time of 19:15.4.

The IHSAA State Finals are Saturday, Oct. 31, at the LaVern Gibson Championship Cross Country Course in Terre Haute. The boys race begins at 1 p.m.

Noblesville boys runners: 1. Banner Barnes 15:02.3, 2. Isaiah Vohs 15:06.4, 24. Matt Huseman 15:53.2, 43. Gavin Flynn 16:14.2, 45. Josh Moller 16:16.9, 85. Jack Rush 17:00.4, 87. Cohen Baumer 17:01.5.

Noblesville girls runners: 34. Sloan Cooper 19:13.6, 35. Izzy Salinas 19:15.4, 62. Jayde Stamm 19:58.5, 64. Kate Mumaw 20:00.8, 87. Norah Mathes 20:41.3, 113. Haylen Kaiser 21:10.1, 134. Addison Scott 21:36.9.


Photo provided by Noblesville Schools

Noblesville Boom selects Maleeck Harden-Hayes & Austin Benigni in 2026 NBA G League Draft

Submitted

The Noblesville Boom, the NBA G League affiliate of the Indiana Pacers, selected forward Maleeck Harden-Hayes with the No. 19 overall pick and guard Austin Benigni with the No. 53 overall selection in the 2026 NBA G League Draft, the team announced on Saturday, Oct. 24.

Harden-Hayes, a 6-foot-7 forward from Moorhead, Minn., spent the past two seasons playing overseas with Sporting CP (2025-26) and AD Galomar (2024-25) in Portugal. During his time with Sporting CP, he averaged 10.0 points and 5.5 rebounds while shooting 44.6 percent from the field in 30.6 minutes across 39 games. A season earlier with AD Galomar, he appeared in 17 games and averaged 15.0 points and 7.1 rebounds while shooting 42.9 percent from the field and 40.7 percent from three-point range. Prior to his professional career, Harden-Hayes appeared in 134 games at North Dakota State and UNC Wilmington, averaging 7.3 points and 3.6 rebounds while shooting 45.7 percent from the field.

Benigni, a 5-foot-10 guard from The Woodlands, Texas, recently concluded a four-year collegiate career at Navy, where he appeared in 130 games and averaged 14.8 points, 2.9 rebounds and 3.7 assists while shooting 40.4 percent from the field and 34.6 percent from 3-point range. Benigni finished his career ranked among the top 20 in six statistical categories in program history, ranking third in points (1,923), fourth in assists (483), third in games scoring in double figures (94) and first in games played (130), free throws made (618) and free-throw percentage (86.2 percent). He also earned several honors during his collegiate career, including Patriot League Player of the Year in 2026 and the Lou Henson National Player of the Year Award in 2026.

About Noblesville Boom

The Noblesville Boom are the NBA G League affiliate of the Indiana Pacers. The franchise enters its 20th season and has been part of Pacers Sports & Entertainment since 2015. The club plays its home games in Noblesville at Riverview Health Arena at Innovation Mile. Fans can visit **NoblesvilleBoom.com** to get more information, sign up for email updates, and purchase tickets.

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Judge rejects Ballard lawsuit to force Indiana Election Commission meeting

By GARRETT BERGQUIST
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

A Marion County judge on Monday ruled secretary of state candidate Greg Ballard does not have standing to try to force the Indiana Election Commission to meet.

Ballard, who is running under the Lincoln Party label, **filed the lawsuit earlier this month** to try to force the commission to meet to consider campaign finance complaints against the campaigns of Republican Max Engling and Democrat Beau Bayh. Ballard said at the time he had no opinion on the complaints themselves but the commission's decision not to meet in September, as it had in each of the previous five years, appeared political. The commission did not have any meetings scheduled when Ballard filed his lawsuit but has since posted notice of a meeting on Nov. 20, after Election Day.

Judge Jennifer Prinz Harrison wrote Ballard did not provide evidence demonstrating how he would be harmed by the commission deciding not to meet, nor did he demonstrate a reasonable likelihood of success at trial.

"Where no injury exists, or where a favorable ruling would not redress the claimed injury, a plaintiff is not the proper person to invoke a court's authority," Harrison wrote, adding Ballard's status as an active candidate is not enough to demonstrate potential harm from the commission not meeting.

Ballard issued the following statement:

"Might makes right. The laws are intended to protect those in power. Not so long ago, the Election Commission acted in a more ethical, nonpartisan manner. However, the law does not protect voters from blatant political maneuvering if the commission decides to act to protect political parties over people. We are exploring our legal options to compel the commission to perform its statutory duty to meet. We are not alone. Both the Republican and Democratic candidates have said publicly that the commission should meet before Election Day on these issues," said Ballard.

Democratic candidate for secretary of state Beau Bayh also released a statement.

"It's disappointing that the Election Commission won't meet before the election to hear the complaint that Max Engling accepted an illegal $60k contribution from a dark money group. I support legislation requiring the commission to rule on complaints in a timely manner and before Hoosiers go to the polls," said Bayh.

A full copy of the order can be seen at the link below.

*This story was originally published by WISH-TV at **wishtv.com/news/politics/judge-rejects-ballard-lawsuit-to-force-indiana-election-commission-meeting**.*

Sheridan Community Schools referendum aims to maintain existing funding, not increase taxes

Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

As voters prepare for the Nov. 3 election, Sheridan Community Schools wants residents to understand that the proposed operating referendum is NOT intended to increase district funding. Instead, it would replace the referendum approved by voters in 2023, providing flexibility to maintain approximately the same level of funding despite changes to Indiana's property tax system under Senate Bill 1 (SB1).

The proposed referendum would establish a maximum tax rate of $0.40, replacing the current $0.25 rate. However, the $0.40 rate is a maximum, not the rate the district intends to collect.

"We are NOT asking our community for more money," Superintendent Dr. Dave Mundy said. "We are asking for the flexibility to maintain the funding our voters already approved. As assessed property values change and changes to property tax calculations are implemented, we need the ability to adjust our rate to maintain that revenue. Under Indiana school finance laws, we cannot do that without another community vote."

What will this cost taxpayers?

Although the ballot indicates that the maximum rate could cost approximately $454 annually for a $250,000 home, the district does not intend to levy the maximum rate at this time.


Mundy

At the October School Board meeting, Dr. Mundy and Director of Finance Mrs. Popejoy recommend maintaining the existing $0.25 rate for 2027 if the referendum passes.

That means for a home assessed at $250,000, the estimated annual referendum cost would be:

- 2026: $303 (current rate)
- 2027: $284
- Annual savings: $19

These estimates reflect changes to the standard and supplemental homestead deductions under SB1. As a result, a homeowner with a $250,000 assessed home would actually pay less in referendum taxes in 2027 than in 2026.

"We want our community to understand that the maximum rate on the ballot is not what we intend to collect," Mundy explained. "Our goal is to maintain the funding necessary to support our schools without collecting more than we need."

Why is the referendum necessary?

Without replacing the existing referendum, Sheridan Community Schools anticipates losing more than $500,000 in property tax revenue over the next five years.

The district is also facing reduced summer school and Alternative Education funding, a projected $300,000-plus deficit in its textbook and technology fund, reduced operations funding, and rising insurance and fuel costs. In preparation for these challenges, Sheridan Community Schools has already reduced spending by more than $300,000 over the past year.

One hundred percent of referendum dollars remain at Sheridan Community Schools, and support teacher and staff salaries. This funding is essential to attracting and retaining quality educators, maintaining smaller class sizes, and providing the educational opportunities Sheridan families expect.

"We work very hard to be responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars," said School Board President Tyler Henning. "At the same time, we must remain competitive in retaining the outstanding teachers and staff who make Sheridan such a special district. This referendum allows us to balance those responsibilities."

A commitment to transparency

Sheridan Community Schools has held more than 25 meetings with community groups to explain the referendum and answer questions.

"We support property tax reform, but we must also adapt to those changes without sacrificing the quality of education we provide," Mundy said. "While we certainly hope our community supports the referendum, our priority is making sure voters understand the facts and what this means for Sheridan schools."

The message is simple: Sheridan Community Schools is not seeking additional funding. The district is asking voters to help preserve the investment they already approved in 2023.

Letter to the Editor

Retired Sheridan educators endorse school referendum

Dear Editor:

Together, my husband and I served Sheridan Community Schools in many roles for more than 80 combined years. I taught high school business and technology, sponsored classes, student council, and cheerleading, and supported the Blackhawks for 41 years. My husband spent 39 years as an elementary and middle school teacher, administrator, and coach. After retiring, he also served as an evening supervisor and school board member. Saying we are dedicated to Sheridan Community Schools hardly captures what this district means to us.

We had never heard of Sheridan before working here, but it became one of the greatest discoveries of our lives. We continue to serve the school through volunteer work. I am president of the Sheridan Education Foundation, Inc., and my husband is also a very active member.

Over the years, we had opportunities to move to other school districts, but we chose to stay with SCS. Being part of Sheridan Community Schools is hard to describe. It is small enough for teachers to truly know their students and families, yet large enough to offer students meaningful opportunities and resources. We have seen this firsthand through our son and daughter, who graduated from Sheridan High School and went on to succeed in college and their careers. We are also proud that two of our grandchildren that lived outside our district chose to attend SCS because of the smaller class sizes, the chance to be with friends in class and at lunch, teachers who knew them personally, and the many opportunities the school provided.

During our years as part of the Sheridan Community Schools family – and we truly do consider it a family – we sometimes struggled to provide our classrooms with everything students needed to be prepared for life beyond school while also supporting our own family. We also knew teachers who, despite loving their experience at Sheridan, felt they had to leave for higher-paying positions or other schools that offered better salaries and benefits.

In recent years, past referendums have helped Sheridan Community Schools attract and retain qualified educators, and we do not want to lose that support. After living in the SCS district for more than 50 years, we know the difference this referendum will make for our students and educators. Many of today's students are children and grandchildren of people we once taught, and some of our teachers are former students or children of former students, making this especially meaningful to us.

That is why we ask you to support the referendum when you vote on Tuesday, Nov. 3. Please do it for your children, grandchildren, neighbors, and all the young people in our community. Help keep Sheridan Community Schools one of Hamilton County's best-kept secrets because our youth and our community deserve it.

Education is the foundation of a strong community, and your support will help Sheridan continue to thrive.

Randy & Sharon Brimberry
Retired SCS Educators

Letter to the Editor

Chuck Godby endorses Sheridan school referendum

Dear Editor:

Referendum?

It's not a bad word. Google it. Go ahead. Or how about I do it for you:

Referendum: "Submission of an issue of public importance to the direct vote of the electorate."

Simple stuff really, but some people seem unsure, frightened, or simply uninformed about the referendum Sheridan residents must vote on in the upcoming midterm elections.

As president of The Blackhawk Alumni Club and founder of The Blackhawk Sports Report, I spend a lot of time in and around SCS and I tell you the positive vibe coming out of there is simply captivating.

Every teacher I have met and work with exudes genuine pride in what they do, and the programs and opportunities offered to students today are off the charts, especially compared to 1977, the year I graduated.

I'm not qualified to go into deep detail about referendums, but people that I know, and that I trust, guaranteed me that a positive vote on the referendum is simply refinancing the 25 cents referendum approved by local voters in 2023. And in most cases, property owners are expected to pay less this time around in referendum taxes.

The money's purpose is 100-percent support for teacher and staff salaries so SCS can retain these people, keep class sizes small, maintain school safety and continue providing for students the excellence they deserve.

So, I'm taking this opportunity I've been offered to plead for Sheridan residents to keep Sheridan Community Schools heading in the right direction.

It's up to you. Onward Sheridan!

Chuck Godby
Sheridan

Letter to the Editor

Carmel voter endorses Democratic candidates: they "truly represent us"

Dear Editor:

Voters have power. Every election challenges us to think about the direction we want for our communities, our state, our nation.

The Democrats running in Hamilton County display a commitment to connecting with voters as they listen to our concerns in order to seek solutions. They are involved in community service. An example of this is when Devon Wellington, candidate for Indiana House District 29, went into immediate action coordinating with other Democrats to collect funds and supplies for families impacted by the recent floods.

Democrats have been writing postcards, making phone calls, and knocking on doors – always focused on building connections with voters. We are concerned about the cost of living as we watch the super wealthy accumulate an unimaginable amount of money. We want every child in our state to have a quality education rooted in school safety, excellent teachers, quality resources, and community support. We want access to affordable quality health care. We need fairness, we need greater balance in government, we need candidates who want to serve. We need Democrats to help balance the political power in Indiana.

Vote for the best candidates – candidates who will truly represent us and keep us informed.

Shelley Carey
Carmel

Letter to the Editor

Wellington's support for Noblesville teachers earned her voter's endorsement

I will be voting for Devon Wellington for State Representative, District 29.

Some months ago, I was invited to an informational forum where a candidate for state representative was opening up weekly meetings to hear from local constituents. When I walked in, Devon and her campaign manager, Nocona, greeted me warmly and excitedly. Her name had been popping up in my circles, and I was anxious to hear from her. I was hopeful that she would live up to her platform and turn out to be a candidate I could stand behind. She turned out to be so much more.

Throughout the meeting, I felt myself begin to breathe a little less shallowly. Devon stood for my beliefs and values. She understood that public schools are not struggling because of any deficiency within them, but because they have been starved of funding and burdened by harmful policies. She was standing up for educators and was on a mission to right the education ship that had lost its way. Not only did I want to stand behind her, but she made it possible for us to stand beside each other. I left the meeting with a newfound sense of pride in education and in all the ways my voice would finally be heard.

As a former educator of 12 years, I have watched legislators continue to dismantle public education: first through over-testing, then through poor curriculum design, and finally through funding. Devon is passionate about teachers and has championed my former profession with enthusiasm. She speaks of teachers with reverence and with professional expertise, backed by 15 years in education policy at the district, state, and federal levels.

Devon has walked alongside Noblesville Schools teachers and unflinchingly lent them her support. From the moment the referendum entered public discussion, she was unwavering in her support. Her public comments to the board on June 9th, as it met to vote on the resolution for a referendum, reflect this. She told the board she supported the referendum because of the administrators and teachers "that have proven Noblesville Schools can do remarkable things … ensure a high-quality education, but also take care of people in our community through our schools."

Her campaign is driven by empathy, and this was never more obvious than when our community suffered through catastrophic flooding. As a community member, I worked alongside many others in the Southwest Quadrant. Countless times, when we approached neighbors, we found they were already working with Devon to find housing, suitable transportation, and access to supplies at the fairgrounds. Devon makes meaningful connections in every aspect of her campaign. She knows and loves this community.

Devon doesn't just proclaim empathy; she embodies it. The message that empathy is a sign of weakness has spread like an invasive species in our society, but Devon shows that the strength behind empathy can empower an entire community. She has already earned my vote. I encourage you to learn more about her and vote for Devon on Nov. 3.

Lauren Driskell
Noblesville

Letter guidelines this election season

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

Letter to the Editor

Westfield voter endorses Kirstin Root because she will "put Hoosiers first"

Dear Editor:

Hoosiers deserve a senator who puts people before profits, and Kirstin Root is ready to do exactly that.

At a time when working families are struggling to keep up with rising costs, we should be asking why millions of dollars in tax breaks are being handed to foreign companies while Hoosiers are left to pick up the bill. Governor Braun's decision to provide millions in incentives to a foreign technology company raises an important question: Whose interests is our government serving?

Kirstin Root believes our tax dollars should work for Hoosiers, not subsidize foreign corporations at the expense of our communities. She will fight for a state budget that puts working families first, including fully funding our public schools, supporting public health care, and ensuring our emergency services have the resources they need to keep our communities safe.

Kirstin understands that government has a responsibility to serve people, not corporate profits. She will work to advance legislation that reflects that principle, protects our public resources, and gives Hoosier families a fair shot at a better future.

What I appreciate most about Kirstin is that she is a fighter who cares about Hoosiers of every generation. From children who deserve excellent schools to seniors who depend on accessible health care, she recognizes that our communities are strongest when we invest in one another.

Senate District 21 deserves a senator who will stand up, speak out, and fight for the people she represents. Kirstin Root will do just that.

I urge my fellow Hoosiers to support Kirstin Root for State Senate District 21. It's time to put Hoosiers first.

Amy Christmas
Westfield

Letter to the Editor

Noblesville voter endorses Devon Wellington for her support of local schools

Dear Editor:

As a second-generation Noblesville High School graduate, my roots in this community run deep. My grandparents called Noblesville home for more than 30 years before my mom and I made it our permanent home in 2009. At 30 years old, I care deeply about the future we are building for the next generation. That is why I support Devon Wellington for Indiana House District 29.

Let's face it, education is an investment in our entire community. Strong schools are essential to its future! As the daughter of a former teacher, I've seen firsthand how critical it is to support our educators and schools. Devon understands the importance of properly supporting public classrooms while holding real-world experience ensuring no child gets left out of an education. Strong schools create more opportunities for students while helping attract families, businesses, and positive influences to our communities.

Opportunity also means addressing rising living costs, skyrocketing healthcare premiums, and childcare expenses that put pressure on working families. I believe in Devon's ability to work collaboratively with fellow representatives to advocate for her constituents and pursue practical solutions to aid fellow Hoosiers.

I am proud of my roots in Noblesville and hopeful about what this community can accomplish together. I encourage fellow District 29 residents to look at Devon's platform and do your part to research who will be your voice for YOUR future!

Cady Dawson
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 to the Editor

Arcadia voter "proudly endorses" Robyn Cook for Jackson Twp. Trustee

Dear Editor:

Here is my endorsement letter to re-elect Robyn Cook for Jackson Township Trustee.

Sometimes campaigning and election season feel a little like a full moon. Things get strange. People behave differently. Decisions that were discussed openly and supported along the way are suddenly questioned as though no one had ever heard of them before.

That is a little of what I am watching right now in Jackson Township.

For years, I have watched our Trustee, Robyn Cook, and her administration work, grow, build relationships, and move projects forward. I have watched Robyn collaborate with our fire department, township board, building corporation, other elected officials, community organizations, and residents. I have seen how decisions were discussed, developed, and shared with the public along the way.

Then election season arrives, and suddenly large dollar amounts are being tossed around without the full context. Projects and decisions developed over time are scrutinized as though they happened overnight. The same administration that moved forward through collaboration is now being portrayed very differently.

That's campaigning, I suppose.

But before election-season noise rewrites the story of the last several years, it is worth remembering the actual record and considering what this job requires.

Township Trustee is not an entry-level job. Jackson Township has a full-time professional fire department, public funds to manage, residents who depend on township assistance, and a growing community to plan for. Government finance and administration come with responsibilities that simply take experience to understand.

Robyn came into this office with 18 years of government experience. Since then, she has helped lead major investments in public safety, a new fire station and township facility, expanded firefighter training and equipment, the township's first collective bargaining agreement, stronger resident services, regional partnerships, and outside funding.

Her record speaks for itself, but so does the trust she has earned along the way. Professional firefighters, community members and those with government experience have publicly supported her qualifications, work ethic, fiscal responsibility, and professionalism. I know Robyn personally, and I trust her. She leads with integrity, experience, and a genuine heart for this community.

When I consider the experience, qualifications, accomplishments, and trust Robyn has earned along the way, my choice is easy.

I proudly endorse Robyn Cook for another term as Jackson Township Trustee.

Nicole Duncan
Arcadia

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Letter to the Editor

Noblesville voter endorses Alaina Shonkwiler because she's "delivering meaningful results"

Dear Editor:

I have known Alaina Shonkwiler since we were in sixth grade, and we continued our friendship throughout high school. We attended each other's weddings and both chose to raise our families in our hometown. She has worked for the city of Noblesville in economic development, and she helped start the Internship Program at Noblesville High School to help our students explore work opportunities and professions while in high school. Alaina is a genuine person, who cares deeply for our community, our families, our schools, our first responders, our teachers, and our future.

I've watched Alaina Shonkwiler dedicate herself to Noblesville and its residents for years. Long before she held elected office, she was deeply involved in our community, volunteering with organizations like Kiwanis Sunrisers, supporting Noblesville Schools, and consistently showing up wherever she could make a difference. Her commitment to public service didn't begin with a campaign, and it certainly hasn't changed since she was elected.

What has impressed me most is what Alaina has accomplished in just her first term in the Indiana General Assembly. It's unusual for a freshman legislator to author legislation as significant as House Enrolled Act 1002, a transformative energy reform law that passed with overwhelming bipartisan support. Rather than simply talking about rising utility costs, Alaina helped fundamentally change how Indiana holds electric utilities accountable, placing affordability, reliability, and consumer protections at the center of the conversation.

She's also been willing to tackle complicated government structures that have existed for generations, questioning whether they still serve taxpayers efficiently. From modernizing local government to supporting property tax relief and addressing healthcare costs, Alaina recognizes that affordability goes far beyond any single issue. It's about the financial pressures families face every day.

What sets Alaina apart is her ability to take on complex challenges while remaining connected to the people she represents. She understands how decisions at the Statehouse affect our neighbors, our schools, our businesses, and our families. She does her homework, listens to different perspectives, and isn't afraid to do the difficult work necessary to deliver meaningful results. She successfully reaches across the aisle to work on legislation that impacts her constituents' daily lives. She looks out for each and every one of us.

In just two legislative sessions, Alaina has demonstrated the effectiveness and leadership we need representing Noblesville. She's not just making promises – she's building a record of results. That's why I'm proud to support her reelection as our State Representative – her results speak for themselves.

Natalie Muir Eden
Noblesville

Letter to the Editor

One Devon endorses another: Wellington will be "a strong voice at the Statehouse"

Dear Editor:

The kids are all of ours. They can't vote yet, so we need to vote for them. That's why I'm supporting Devon Wellington for Indiana House District 29.

Our community is at a critical moment in regard to public education. Roughly 90 percent of Noblesville students attend public school, yet we as a community have to vote YES on a referendum that shouldn't be needed in the first place in order to prevent a massive 20 percent funding decrease for those same public schools. Public school funding shouldn't be up for debate in the form of referendums. It should be guaranteed.

Devon Wellington brings years of education policy experience and a genuine commitment to our community to the table. She's engaged with local schools and understands the real-world consequences of policy decisions. If anyone can ensure our public schools get the voice and funding they deserve in the future, it's Devon.

I hope you'll join me in supporting Devon Wellington. Our kids and educators deserve a strong voice at the Statehouse. History and evidence repeatedly prove that what's best for the kids is best for all of us.

Now go vote!

The Other Noblesville Devon (Devon Watkins)

Letter to the Editor

Noblesville voter endorses Devon Wellington because she understands housing problems

Dear Editor:

I've lived in Noblesville for more than 25 years. This past year I've seen our housing market from a new angle, helping our adult child search for a first home.

Since April, we've checked new listings almost daily, with a firm budget under $260,000. That's a lot of money, but in today's Noblesville it doesn't go far. Average working people are getting priced out of our community. Median sale prices have run roughly $390,000 to $420,000 this year, and the homes within budget needed major repairs. When we made an offer, there were often five to seven others submitting offers as well, and the home was listed only a day or two.

During this process, I learned how many neighborhoods now include investor-owned rentals. A 2024 Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana study found investors owned about 42 percent of Hamilton County's single-family rentals. I have no quarrel with a neighbor who owns a rental or two. My concern is large out-of-state firms buying homes in bulk, though I can't say how much they affect prices here. But when first-time buyers are outbid again and again, it's fair to ask who the market is working for. Meanwhile, renters trying to save for a down payment are paying rising rent, which makes saving harder every month. Becoming a first-time homebuyer is getting harder.

At a community event, I shared these frustrations with Devon Wellington, who is running for state representative in Indiana House District 29. She told me she supports everyday people becoming homeowners and her campaign says she will push to limit how many single-family homes out-of-state investors can turn into rentals.

If you're a parent helping a grown child, a young couple saving for a first home or a renter who feels stuck, you are not alone. Many families here feel this squeeze. This isn't about effort. It's about the rules we play by. Housing, taxes, and wages are shaped by decisions made in Indianapolis, by the people we elect. That is why I'm voting for Devon.

Learn more about Devon's positions, and most importantly, vote on Nov. 3.

Charlene Stacy
Noblesville

Letter to the Editor

Westfield voter endorses Kirsten Root: she's "proven her commitment to service"

Dear Editor:

I am proud to support Kirsten Root for Indiana State Senate District 21. From my personal interactions with Kirsten, it is clear she isn't focused on party politics. Her focus is on making life better for ALL Hoosiers.

Kirsten doesn't make empty promises, she takes action. During local flooding, she stepped up immediately to help affected families. When her campaign received a large donation, she put those resources directly to work by stocking local food pantries for our neighbors in need.

Her platform brings common sense back to government. Kirsten believes every policy should address three core questions: Does it fix problems before they get more expensive? Does it protect working families? And does it make government accountable to local taxpayers rather than corporations?

With years on the front lines protecting vulnerable children and supporting families, Kirsten has proven her commitment to service. She offers practical experience, real integrity, and a clear plan to build a better Indiana. She just needs our votes to make it happen. Root for IN!

Kaitlyn Moreno
Westfield

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**."*

MILLER YES

VOTE YES FOR STRONG SCHOOLS AND A STRONG COMMUNITY!

LEARN MORE: MILLERYES.ORG

Letter to the Editor

Former teacher endorses Denise Dye for Noblesville School Board

Dear Editor:

As a former public school teacher of nearly two decades and a 22-year resident of Noblesville, I am wholeheartedly supporting Denise Dye for Noblesville School Board.

It is clear that Denise understands the unique role of the school board as the only elected officials charged with representing the community, at large, to the school district and NOT the other way around!

She is committed to financial stewardship, something that is often challenging but 100-percent critical to the board's job of managing the community's money wisely. Denise knows that board members must promote total transparency. Her call for an annual, independent financial audit is long overdue. Any corporation overseeing nearly $200 million a year can certainly identify inefficiencies and waste that will more than pay for the audit and bring savings to the school corporation. This will also build trust in the community so when future referendums are being considered and prove to be needed, more voters will be likely to vote yes!

Denise is a team player and will work hard to find common ground on the board with other members who are focused on academic outcomes and supporting great teachers.

I am excited to vote for her and believe she will do a great job representing her constituency: the parents and hard-working taxpayers in our wonderful community!

Martin Strother
Noblesville

Sheridan art students bring the fall vibes to Main Street

Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

Sheridan Main Street was given a festive touch thanks to the Sheridan Events Committee and its annual fundraiser.

The fundraiser is a great opportunity for the Sheridan community to fill the town with fall flair as well as help raise money for events next year. Sheridan Middle and High School Art students submitted three of the several scarecrows that were placed on light poles on Main Street to add a festive touch.

While any resident could enter a scarecrow, over the past few weeks, students at Sheridan have spent time designing and constructing these unique and homemade scarecrows. This project allowed students to be the true artists as they designed, found materials, and constructed the full-size scarecrows. Instead of relying on traditional art supplies, students brought in repurposed materials such as Styrofoam, PVC pipes, wood, pool noodles, straw, and fabric.

The fun part about this project is that each scarecrow is unique. No two scarecrows are alike because each group used their own imagination, creativity, and design process, as they constructed the scarecrows. Placing them around Main Street adds a personal touch that allows students to see their creativity come to life.

























Photos provided by Sheridan Community Schools





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Liven up your Christmas spirit with 'Janus Jingle'

The REPORTER



Photos provided

Janus Developmental Services and the For the Love of Janus Guild will present the seventh annual Janus Jingle on Sunday, Dec. 6. It is a great way to get into the holiday spirit and support Janus.

Tickets are $20 each and all the money goes directly to the Janus Guild to help fund programs for Janus participants. You will tour a beautifully decorated home with 45 Christmas trees and all the other decorations to go along with them. Enjoy Christmas cookies, a special Christmas coffee or Christmas punch, all while getting into the holiday spirit and visiting with friends and family.

Tickets are sold in time slots, so it is easier for everyone to enjoy. Time slots are 1 to 2 p.m., 2 to 3 p.m., and 3 to 4 p.m.

Click here to purchase tickets online. You will receive an email with the event details.

You can also purchase a ticket through a Guild Member or Jerry Jamison by emailing **jjamison@janus-inc.org**.

Indiana State Comptroller's Office earns top financial reporting honor

Testament to the accurate, comprehensive disclosure of finances

Submitted by Office of Comptroller Elise Nieshalla

Indiana has achieved the top honor in governmental financial reporting, State Comptroller Elise Nieshalla announced on Thursday, Oct. 22.

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has awarded Indiana the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the State's **Annual Comprehensive Financial Report** (ACFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

"Indiana's fiscal strength is matched by the quality of our financial reporting," Comptroller Elise Nieshalla said. "Receiving this award speaks to the precision, rigor and dedication our team brings to executing the accounting of the State's finances."



Nieshalla

The Certificate of Achievement represents the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, marking a significant accomplishment for both the State and the Comptroller's Accounting and Reporting Team. It reflects the impartial judgment of a national review panel and recognizes the State's continued dedication to clear, comprehensive disclosure of its finances.

Indiana has maintained **AAA credit ratings** from Fitch Ratings, Moody's Investors Service, and S&P Global Ratings, underscoring the State's resilient financial position and its consistent track record of prudent budgeting, disciplined management and accurate financial reporting. The State continues to hold one of the strongest fiscal positions in the nation, supported by well-funded pensions, healthy cash reserves and being the fourth-lowest debt per capita state.

Prepared annually by the State Comptroller's Office and audited by the Indiana State Board of Accounts, the ACFR provides a transparent, comprehensive account of the State's finances, including financial statements, demographic and economic data, and statistical analyses designed to help policymakers, analysts and the public fully understand Indiana's fiscal condition.

Click here to view the 2025 ACFR.

Braun & Rokita urge Hoosiers to beware of impersonation scam as callers pose as IPLA staff

Submitted by Office of AG Todd Rokita

Indiana Governor Mike Braun and Attorney General Todd Rokita are alerting Hoosiers to an active phone scam in which callers impersonating Indiana Professional Licensing Agency (PLA) staff, using a "spoofed" phone number, are attempting to obtain personal information from individuals.

PLA will never request personal information, such as Social Security numbers, over the phone in this manner, nor will the agency threaten license suspension, legal action, or demand immediate payment.

"Scammers who impersonate state employees to steal personal information are preying on the trust Hoosiers place in their government," Gov. Braun said. "I want Hoosiers to know that the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency will never threaten to suspend your license or demand immediate payment over the phone. If you receive a suspicious call, hang up and contact the agency directly using the verified phone number listed on its official website."

"Scammers are getting more sophisticated by the day, spoofing official numbers and posing as state employees to steal personal information from hardworking Hoosiers," AG Rokita said. "These fraudsters are nothing more than digital pickpockets. To avoid falling victim, don't ever hand over your Social Security number, financial details, or anything else over the phone – real PLA staff will never operate this way."



Braun



Rokita

What to watch for

- Calls appearing to come from a PLA phone number but sounding threatening or urgent;
- Requests for personal, financial, or account information; and
- Claims that your professional license is at risk unless you act immediately.

What to do if you receive a suspicious call

- Do not provide personal information.
- Hang up immediately.
- Contact PLA directly using the official contact information at **in.gov/pla**.

Gov. Braun and AG Rokita encourage licensed professionals and the general public to remain vigilant and to share this warning with colleagues and other license holders.

Hoosiers may contact the Office of the Indiana Attorney General about any suspected scams or scam attempts. Consumers can file a complaint online or by calling 1-800-382-5516.



'Political witch hunt': Boone County delays vote on removing auditor

By KARA KENNEY
WISH-TV | wishv.com

The Boone County Auditor will keep her job, at least for now.


Crum

At a special meeting Monday, the Boone County Commissioners voted 3-0 to delay a vote on whether to proceed with removing county auditor Debbie Crum.

The decision to postpone a vote was greeted with groans from some citizens who attended the public meeting.

"I will make a motion to table this," Commissioner Donnie Lawson said, which prompted audible criticism from the audience. "Can I speak? Or do you all just want to yell at me?"

The commissioners did not set another date to vote on the matter.

An internal investigation found Crum emailed the names and Social Security numbers of all 290 county employees to the Indiana Department of Child Services.

The data leak, which happened on June 30, prompted concern from many people in the Boone County community. Crum apologized, but county commissioners and council members are considering removing her from office.

On Oct. 6, commissioners and council members **spent hours listening to both sides**, including Crum herself, Crum's attorney, and county attorney Beth Copeland.

On Oct. 26, the commissioners heard arguments from both Crum's attorney, Ted Nolting, and county attorney Beth Copeland.

"Boone County appears to risk hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars on what amounts to a political witch hunt to remove an independently elected official," Nolting said. "There's still an opportunity to stop this before it becomes an even greater embarrassment to Boone County."

County attorney Beth Copeland said Crum's mistakes extend far beyond the data leak. During an hour-long presentation, Copeland alleged Crum repeatedly shared sensitive information over email.

Copeland also said Crum had a history of poor bookkeeping, payroll issues, paying invoices from incorrect funds, and failing to upload contracts to a transparency portal. She alleged these errors cost the county thousands of dollars.

Copeland said on Oct. 26 that Crum refuses to take accountability.

"This is the auditor's go-to response anytime anyone identifies an issue with her work performance – it's just not her fault," Copeland said. "The release of Social Security numbers? Not her fault. Signing a contract without her authority? Not her fault."

The Boone County Council did not vote Monday. If both the commissioners and council members approve removing Crum, it will head to a Boone County court.

"Vote yes on the resolution and let me present this case to a judge," Copeland said on Monday.

Commissioners and council members have had several weeks since the Oct. 6 presentation to get answers to their questions, yet the commissioners delayed voting on whether to remove Crum.

"I'm just very disappointed that I have to continue this," Crum said after the meeting.

"It seems political," Crum's attorney Ted Nolting said. "The election is coming up. I anticipate they will wait until after the election day to vote."

Boone County council members Kevin Van Horn and council president Jennifer Hostetter are up for re-election on Nov. 3.

Indiana's I-Team attempted to speak with Hostetter after the meeting, but she declined to comment. "I can't say anything, sorry," Hostetter said.

So Indiana's I-Team asked Tim Beyer, president of the Boone County Commissioners to explain why the commissioners did not take a vote.

"People wanted more time to consider potential additional information," Beyer said. "They still have questions. It's a big decision." Beyer declined to explain what additional information came to light.

"We will take a vote as soon as everybody is ready to take a vote," Beyer said. Indiana's I-Team asked Beyer if the delay has anything to do with the upcoming election.

"I don't think so," said Beyer. "I think it's people wanting to do the right thing."

Meanwhile, Debbie Crum says it is business as usual at the auditor's office.

"My day hasn't changed," Crum said. "I still show up for work and still perform my duties, and my office performs the duties they're required to every day."

County attorney Beth Copeland also accused Crum of nepotism, claiming she hired and paid her daughter for county work in 2023 and 2024.

"This is a clear pattern of not just negligence, but almost a complete disregard for so many different processes," Copeland said on Oct. 6. "The DCS issue is the proverbial straw that broke the camel's back."

Crum admitted to hiring her daughter but said the work was brief and the pay was minimal.

The auditor said that while she made mistakes, she should not lose her job.

*This story was originally published by WISH-TV at **wishtv.com/news/political-witch-hunt-boone-county-delays-vote-on-removing-auditor**.*

President Trump & Vice President Vance endorse Max Engling for Secretary of State

Submitted

On Friday, Oct. 23, Republican candidate for Indiana Secretary of State Max Engling announced President Donald J. Trump's endorsement, thanked the President for his support, and reaffirmed his commitment to protecting Indiana's elections.

"Thank you, President Trump," Engling said. "I am grateful for your support and honored to have your endorsement. Hoosiers deserve a Secretary of State who will stand strong for election integrity – thank you for affirming that I'm the ONLY candidate in this race who will ensure that American elections are for American citizens."


Engling

In addition, Vice President J.D. Vance gave his support to Engling.

"Thank you, Vice President Vance," Engling said. "I am grateful for your support and honored to have your endorsement. Hoosiers deserve a Secretary of State who will stand strong for election integrity. I'm the ONLY candidate in this race who will ensure that American elections are for American citizens."

Engling has made citizen-only voting a central priority of his campaign, supporting the SAVE America Act and stronger safeguards to verify voter eligibility and protect public confidence in election results.

"Protecting the vote means protecting the voice of every eligible Hoosier," Engling said. "As Secretary of State, I will make election integrity a priority and work to keep our elections secure, transparent, and accountable."

With early voting underway, Engling encouraged Hoosiers to make their voices heard.

"President Trump is backing our campaign. Now we need your vote," Engling said. "Vote Republican Max Engling for Indiana Secretary of State between now and Nov. 3."

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

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11/29 – The Magic of David Ranalli
12/4 – Franc D'Ambrosio: Holiday Cheer
12/5 – A Sinatra Christmas

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Return with us now to those thrilling days of yesteryear

Last Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 24 and 25, the past came to life just outside of West Lafayette, Ind. The Feast of the Hunters' Moon is a recreation of the annual fall gathering of the French and Native Americans which took place at Fort Ouiatenon, a fur-trading outpost in the mid-1700s. It is held annually in autumn on the banks of the Wabash River, four miles southwest of West Lafayette. The 59th annual festival featured French and Native American music and dance, fife and drum corps performances, military drills and demonstrations, fashion shows, games, contests, candle-dipping, storytelling, bead bracelet making, cross-cut sawing, and axe throwing. The Feast always brings lots of people from far and wide. Learn more at ***FeastOfTheHuntersMoon.org****. (Reporter photos by Bill Miller)*

























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Sharon Sue (Gibson) Neal

June 7, 1947 – October 24, 2026



Sharon Sue (Gibson) Neal, 79, Noblesville, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Saturday October 24, 2026, surrounded by her family in her home in the woods.

The eldest child of Bill and Betty Gibson, Sharon was born in a log cabin in Wadestown, W.V., in 1947. She graduated from Crawfordsville High School in 1965, and was a member of the last graduating class of Methodist Hospital School of Nursing in Indianapolis in 1968. In 1969, The Summer of Love, Sharon married the love of her life and husband of 52 years, Roger Neal, of Noblesville.

The young couple began their family in 1971. Their early journeys led them to Glendale Fish & Wildlife Area in Daviess County, where Roger served as the wildlife biologist and later property manager. They raised their two children at Glendale for the next 15 years. In January of 1991, Sharon lost her only sister, in Louisiana, and the Neal family lost all of their earthly possessions in a house fire in Indiana. At a time when most would crumble, Roger and Sharon, with overwhelming support from family and friends, persevered and rallied. Roger took an administrative job in Indianapolis with the Department of Natural Resources; the family developed land on Roger's childhood homestead in Noblesville; and they built their forever home: a majestic log home nestled in the woods of Hamilton County.

Sharon was an angel upon this Earth, disguised as a full-time registered nurse. In her 42-year nursing career, she worked all over the state: as an on-call surgical nurse, in the extended care/elder field, and performing essential pre-operative interviews. She was universally respected for her skill and dedication by surgeons, doctors, administrators, and nurses in the surgical field, and fought for the dignity and peace of her elder care patients. She learned that a patient may forget her name, but they would never forget how she made them feel.

Roger and Sharon loved to travel. They worked full time, overtime, and still picked up odd jobs to take their children and grandchildren on the most magical of vacations. For over 50 years, they traversed the hemisphere. From Yellowstone, Yosemite, Alberta, the Black Hills, Disneyland, Dodger Stadium, the Bahamas, Redwood National Forest, Crater Lake, the Grand Canyon, Montana, The Great Smoky Mountains, Mexico, the Grand Tetons, The Alamo, and Alaska, just to name a few.

Sharon loved celebrating Christmas, apple pie, crafting, Bob Evans, orange circus peanuts, The Oak Ridge Boys, Estée Lauder, frozen Bahama Mamas, entertaining and hosting, Cher, chicken Parmesan, M*A*S*H, gardening, The Hallmark Channel, singing, coffee, sheet cakes with walnuts, giving others birthday gifts, Dolly Parton, canning pickles and green beans, mauve pink, butterscotch discs, fresh sheets from the clothesline, Barbra Streisand, Cashmere Woods, her arsenal of glue guns, chicken & noodles, Kenny Rogers, writing Christmas cards, Jane Fonda, watching her grandchildren perform & compete, NCIS, Lorna Doone cookies, Martini & Rossi Asti Spumante, breakfast, Crystal Gayle, orange popsicles, and the literary works of Danielle Steel, Debbie Macomber, and Robyn Carr.

Sharon was a 35-year member and the soul of Union Church in Noblesville. She found immense joy as a 15-year alto in the Hamilton County Silvernotes, a statewide female singing group. She went by many names, to many people: Sharon. Sharon Sue. Susie. Sharn. Mom. But in the end, she was the ultimate grandma: 4' 9" inches of pure wisdom, patience, humility, razor-sharp wit, kindness, grace, and class. Mamaw Incarnate.

Left with decades of unforgettable memories are her surviving immediate family members: son Jeff (Jamie) Neal of Vincennes; daughter Jennifer Schlotter of Noblesville; brother Ron Gibson of Ladoga; sister-in-law Darlene (Joel) Musselman of Noblesville; seven grandchildren: Allison (Kyle) Tucker, Haley Neal, Kate (Chris) Conder, Kyle Schlotter, Kolden Schlotter, Chase Neal, and Cooper Neal; and nine nieces and nephews.

Leaving this world before Sharon were: her husband Roger Neal (in December 2021), father Bill Gibson, her mother Betty (Strosnider) Gibson, her sister Sandra (Gibson) Odom, and her faithful canine companion, Heidi.

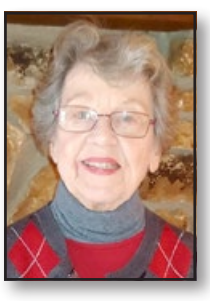
Visitation will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, October 27 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan St., Noblesville. The funeral service will be held Wednesday, October 28, with visitation at 11 a.m. and a service at noon at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home. Sharon will be laid to rest aside her beloved Roger at Crownland Cemetery, 1776 Monument St., Noblesville, at a graveside ceremony after the service.

As an alternative to flowers, friends and family may send a donation in Sharon's memory to Union Church at 19090 Deshane Ave., Noblesville, IN, 46060.

Condolences: **randallroberts.com**

Carol Ann Dembowski

January 31, 1935 – October 21, 2026



Carol Ann Dembowski, 91, Indianapolis, passed away on Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at Wellbrooke of Avon. She was born on January 31, 1935, to Chester and Helen (Putz) Szalkowski in Toledo, Ohio.

She married Gerald "Jerry" Dembowski in 1956, who predeceased her in 2005. She and Jerry live in San Francisco, Calif., Columbus, Ohio, Anderson, Ind., and East Windsor, N.J., before settling in Noblesville during their almost 50 years of marriage.

In her early years Carol worked as a legal secretary and then became a homemaker after the birth of their daughter, Susan. She was a long-time member of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in Noblesville. Carol was known for picking out just the right greeting card for those she loved, and she had a great sense of humor.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Susan and Carl McJunkins; grandson, Sam McJunkins; granddaughter, Lucia McJunkins; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband of almost 50 years, Jerry Dembowski.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, October 28, 2026, at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, 9900 E. 191st St., Noblesville. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to the time of mass. Burial will be at Oaklawn Memorial Gardens in Indianapolis.

Special thanks to the staff at Rittenhouse Village at Northside for caring for Carol and making her last years happy ones.

Memorial contributions may be made to Humane Society for Hamilton County, 10501 Hague Road, Fishers, IN 46038 (**hamiltonhumane.com**), or the American Heart Association, PO Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284-0692 (**heart.org**), or the donor's favorite charity.

Condolences: **randallroberts.com**

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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.

Meeting Notices

The Carmel Plan Commission will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 5, 2026, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of Carmel City Hall, 1 Civic Square.

The Sheridan Public Library Board of Trustees will meet at 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 2, 2026 at the library, located at 103 W. 1st St., Sheridan.

The Cicero Redevelopment Commission will meet at 6:45 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2026, at Cicero Town Hall, 70 N. Byron St.

TriCo Regional Sewer Utility will hold a Personnel and Benefits Committee meeting at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2026, 7236 Mayflower Park Drive, Zionsville.

The Noblesville Common Council will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2026, in the Council Chamber at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St.

The Noblesville Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2026, in the Council Chamber at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St.

The Carmel Clay Schools Board of Trustees will meet in an executive session at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2026.

A special session will follow at 6 p.m. at the Carmel Clay Schools Educational Services Center, 5201 E. Main 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**.*

Thanks for reading!

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

Fear the Lord

And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the Lord's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

To the Lord your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it. Yet the Lord set his affection on your ancestors and loved them, and he chose you, their descendants, above all the nations—as it is today. Circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer. For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt. Fear the Lord your God and serve him. Hold fast to him and take your oaths in his name. He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes. Your ancestors who went down into Egypt were seventy in all, and now the Lord your God has made you as numerous as the stars in the sky.

Deuteronomy 10:12-22 (NIV)

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.

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.

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