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Hamilton County makes voting accessible for voters with disabilities

First-time voter shares his experience using assistive technology at the polls

The REPORTER

When Noblesville High School senior Matthias Vescelus cast his first-ever ballot this past weekend, he did so independently, thanks to assistive technology available at every Hamilton County polling place.

Vescelus, who is blind, used a device called DoubleTalk that connects to the voting machine and reads the ballot aloud through headphones. The technology allows voters with visual impairments to navigate their ballot, make their selections, and cast their votes without assistance from another person.

"I preferred this over voting absentee because I could do it myself," Vescelus said. "It took me a second to figure out the system, but once I figured it out, it was super easy."

All Hamilton County voting machines can be equipped with the DoubleTalk hardware. The machines also offer a zoom feature for voters who need larger print. For those with mobility challenges, the voting panel can be lowered to a seated position, allowing voters to use the equipment more comfortably.

"Our goal is to make sure no one feels that a disability prevents them from participating in an election," Hamilton County Clerk Kathy Kreag Williams said. "If you arrive at a Vote Center and need assistance, please don't hesitate to ask. Our poll workers are trained to help make every voter feel comfortable and confident when they come to the polls."

Voters with disabilities also have several options for casting an absentee ballot:

• **Vote by Mail:** Voters with disabilities may request an absentee ballot by mail if they can personally mark their ballot and sign the required envelope.

• **Vote with Print Disability Ballot:** Voters with qualifying print disabilities may request an electronic ballot delivered by email that can be read using assistive technology.

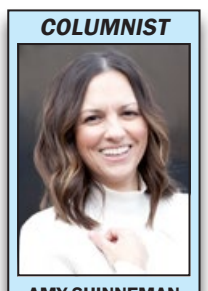
See *Voting* . . . Page 2



Photo provided by Hamilton County Government

Matthias Vescelus, who is blind, voted early last Saturday thanks to the assistive technology available at the county's polling places.

Anticipatory grief



COLUMNIST
AMY SHINNEMAN
Disability in the City

The first time I heard the term anticipatory grief was from my friend Jan, who you know as The Hamilton County Reporter's front-page columnist on Mondays. While it was not a term that Jan invented, I first learned of it from her.

I was struggling so much that day with emotions about loved ones and worry about the future. Our Word Warriors group met, and she said the term. She did not need to explain it; it just clicked with me.

It was something I had felt my entire life but hearing that phrase somehow felt so incredibly validating and comforting.

Of course, I deal with anticipatory grief surrounding loved ones in my life, but that is not something I have been doing all my life.

The type of anticipatory grief I am referring to pertains to my progressive disease. The anticipation about what tomorrow will look like when a real and present threat hovers over my life. The threat from a thief that steals my abilities.

The grief that follows each of these robberies is unspeakably lonely. Often, I never voice the things I have lost with my physical abilities. Most of this is processed silently and alone.

The pain of not being understood weighed with the pain of keeping something so heavy on the inside with nowhere to go. Each added to a catalog of loss that I need to work my way through. I may never get to the end.

See *Grief* . . . Page 2

Student's recipe takes center stage on National Apple Crunch Day

Submitted by Hamilton Heights School Corp.

Hamilton Heights High School recently celebrated National Apple Crunch Day with a special treat created by a student.

Senior Ayden Miller, a student in the Culinary Internship Program, took on the challenge of developing an original recipe and preparing it for the entire high school to enjoy. Students and staff were treated to Miler's homemade Apple Fritter Bites, made with apples from Tuttle Orchards and served alongside fresh apples from the local orchard. The event highlighted not only the flavors of fall but also the creativity, skill, and dedication he has developed through his culinary studies.

While students across all Heights' buildings enjoyed a variety of fresh apples from Tuttle Orchards as part of National Apple Crunch Day, Miller's Apple Fritter Bites were a special feature exclusive to the high school. Even more exciting, he submitted his recipe to the Indiana Grown for Schools Recipe Contest, giving his culinary creation the chance to be recognized on a larger stage.

The Hamilton Heights community is proud of students like Miller who use their talents to create meaningful experiences for others and showcase the incredible opportunities available through the district's Career and Technical Education programs.

Best of luck in the contest, Mr. Miller!



Photo provided by Hamilton Heights School Corporation

Senior Ayden Miller is pictured with Jordan Johnson, Heights' Dietetic Intern from Purdue University, prepping the dough ahead of creating fritters for National Apple Crunch Day.



Photo provided by Hamilton Heights School Corporation

Senior Ayden Miller, a student in Hamilton Heights' Culinary Internship Program, created and served his homemade Apple Fritter Bites to the entire high school as part of National Apple Crunch Day. He is pictured with Courtney Tharp, HHHS Café worker.

Tickets on sale now for GSN's Festival of Trees

The REPORTER

Good Samaritan Network (GSN) of Hamilton County, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, invites the community to celebrate the holiday season at the 13th annual Hamilton County Festival of Trees on Saturday, Nov. 21, at The Wellington in Fishers.

The evening features a VIP reception at 5 p.m., a general public reception (advance RSVP) at 5:45 p.m., and dinner and the evening program beginning at 6:30 p.m.

A cherished Hamilton County holiday tradition, Festival of Trees brings together local businesses, community leaders, donors, designers, and supporters for an elegant evening of holiday inspiration and community generosity. The celebration features festive décor, a VIP red-carpet cocktail reception, a gourmet dinner, beautifully designed Christmas trees, and exciting silent and live auctions showcasing holiday gifts, decorations, and memorable experiences.

See *Festival* . . . Page 2

Come meet the candidates

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

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

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

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

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Early Voting Totals

Below are the number of early voters as of Tuesday, Oct. 27, listed by polling location. ***Click here*** *for more information on early voting.*

Judicial Center	8,610
4-H Fairgrounds	14,135
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	**38,561**

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Grief

from Page 1

My writing has become a sanctuary for processing these big emotions with nowhere to go. I can share some of my grief in the hopes that someone out there can relate or feel understood. I don't have to face the painful process of reading someone's face, and knowing they do not understand just how hard it is.

My creative energy has, in many ways, saved me from feeling imprisoned by my own thoughts.

The anticipation of the loss is just as painful as the actual loss. Thoughts like, *how many days do I have left to walk*, take up residence in my already crowded mind.

Can you imagine this being a real and present danger in your own life, and not having someone who understands completely? Working through these types of uncertainties was not easy as a child. It is not easy as an adult either.

It is as terrifying as it is lonely. The thing that makes it the most terrifying is knowing that I will arrive at each of these losses by myself. Meeting the new version of me alone.

It is my life. My cross to bear. We all have something to carry.

Most of us deal with feelings of misunderstanding in our lifetime. Our hardships are different, but our humanness the same.

There are a lot of losses that I grieve before they happen, as if I can protect myself from the real time grief I will feel. It gives me somewhat of a sense of control, even though it really is not.

Sometimes, we must hold onto the idea that something is real to survive and get through our days.

My husband and I recently were on a podcast together talking about our running life. I had been on this podcast by myself a couple of years ago. It was at the same place, just two years later. I was struck by the reality that the last time, I walked in and out by myself, with my cane. This time, my husband pushed me in my wheelchair.

These are the types of things that are very tough to lose. In one breath, I am grateful I ever did it, and in the next I am breathless, thinking about the loss.

I hesitate to share such a bold truth. I would never want my family and friends to feel like they do not support me well enough. They support me to the best of their ability, and try to meet me where I am.

I have had many people reach out to commend me for sharing my vulnerabilities week after week. I do not do it because it comes easy for me. It doesn't. I do it because it is important and because it matters.

Until next time …

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

Festival

from Page 1

Guests can also look forward to the return of the crowd-favorite "Paint with the Artist" with renowned artist Anthony Padget, one of the elite photorealistic artists in the Northern Hemisphere, plus a special visit from Santa Claus and additional surprises throughout the evening.

New venue, same heart for the community

The 2026 Festival of Trees marks an exciting new chapter as the event welcomes guests to The Wellington in Fishers. While the setting is new, the heart of the celebration remains unchanged: beautiful trees, generous people, holiday fun, and a community coming together to help local families.

Good Samaritan Network is pleased to welcome back Kim Harden as the 2026 Festival of Trees Event Coordinator. With years of experience as a designer and event leader for the organization, Harden brings creativity, passion, and attention to detail to the celebration. The event also welcomes back favorite charity auctioneer Jim Miller, whose energy and expertise help make the auctions a highlight of the evening.

"Festival of Trees is about more than beautiful Christmas trees and holiday festivities," Harden said. "It's an opportunity for our community to come together and turn generosity into meaningful support for neighbors who need a helping hand."

Celebrating generosity that makes a difference

Proceeds from Festival of Trees support GSN's client services and programs serving underserved and at-risk individuals and families throughout Hamilton County. These services include food assistance, housing support, medical assistance, emergency resources, and holiday outreach, including hot meals on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Eve.

Every sponsorship, auction bid, and contribution strengthen the support network available to local families facing challenging circumstances.

2026 Sponsors

GSN gratefully recognizes the businesses and individuals already helping make this year's event possible:

• **Diamond Presenting Sponsor:** Gaylor Electric

• **Gold Sponsor:** Steve & Tina Hood

• **Platinum Sponsors:** Jeffrey & Leslie Sampson; The Windowbox Gardener – Mary Knerr

• **Silver Sponsors:** Spencer Farm; TMG Construction Management

• **Unable to Attend Sponsors:** Larry Eckert; Ben Pauley

• **In-Kind Sponsors:** Dreiske Moving & Storage; En Pointe Indiana Ballet

Additional sponsors, talented designers, and community partners are encouraged to participate and help bring this year's vision to life.

Reservations are available now

Community members are invited to be part of this special evening of Christmastime beauty, creativity, and charitable giving. With seating limited, guests are encouraged to reserve early.

Whether attending for the designer trees, unique auction offerings, festive atmosphere, or opportunity to support local families, guests will discover an evening that combines inspiration with meaningful community impact.

For reservations, sponsorship opportunities, or designer participation, visit **gsnlive.org** or call GSN at (317) 842-2603, extension 200.

Festival of Trees is more than an event. It celebrates generosity and brings hope, dignity, and joy to families throughout Hamilton County.

About Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County, Inc.

Good Samaritan Network demonstrates Christ's unconditional love by meeting the physical, financial, and emotional needs of individuals and families facing hardship in Hamilton County. Good Samaritan Network connects individuals and families experiencing crisis or hardship with essential resources, compassionate support, and community partners who can help meet their needs and restore hope.

Voting

from Page 1

• **Traveling Absentee Voter Board:** Voters who cannot independently mark their ballot or sign the absentee ballot security envelope may request assistance from a bipartisan absentee voter board, which can travel to their location and assist them with voting.

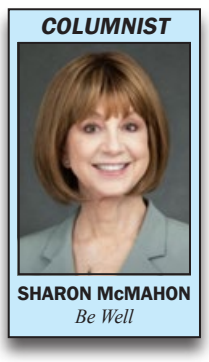
Voters who have questions about accessible voting equipment, absentee voting, or requesting assistance are encouraged to contact the Hamilton County Elections Office or visit **hamiltoncounty.in.gov/220/Vote-Absentee**.



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For more news, visit ReadTheReporter.com



What can we do in the face of rising food prices?



"To eat is a necessity, but to eat intelligently is an art." – Francois De La Rochefoucauld, French author (1613-1680)

Honestly, what is the meaning of this quote? While there may be different interpretations, I will share mine with you, dear readers. We all understand that eating is a necessity but eating *intelligently* can be confusing given the plethora of items available, from organic produce to heavily processed items to fast food.

Within the parameters of the many choices lies a very obvious and serious issue of rising food costs. I am the grocery shopper in my home, for the most part. My husband, who is actually retired from the food industry, enjoys a foray through the grocery aisles occasionally, but I am the one who sees the escalating food costs at a pace which I have never witnessed in the past, and I am willing to bet that has been the case for you as well.

During the previous 20 years (2006–25), prices for all food increased 3.0 percent per year, on average. In **2026, prices for all food are forecast to increase 2.8 percent,** with a forecast interval of 2.6 to 3.1 percent. **In 2027, prices for all food are forecast to increase 1.7 percent,** with a forecast interval of -2.5 to 6.2 percent.[1] I would imagine, though I do not have statistics to back me up, that these rising costs differ depending on the geographical areas. In recent months, I have been watching some of these prices closely and interestingly have noted that along with the rising prices, *the packaging has been reduced, thereby increasing the cost per item as well.*

Again, I am not a food scientist nor have I studied the data beyond what you see here, but I think it is fair to say that food costs from the grocery store to dining out will not be reduced going forward.

What is a consumer to do?

It stands to reason that we will be reviewing our meal plans with the goal of not only keeping our grocery budget in line but making sure that our purchases are as nutritious as possible. This can be achieved, I believe, to some degree of success through planning and research. I do not consider myself a "coupon clipper" as such, but there are some coupons available online for products that you use regularly or would like to try. The key is, of course, only to select those that make sense for your family's needs and interests. And make sure you note expiration dates as well as quantities required, etc.

Buying in bulk can be cost-saving, but there again make sure that the items will be consumed in a timely manner or can be frozen or otherwise secured for future meal planning. Some grocers offer "clearance" items that you can carefully select if you note any expiration dates or item damage. I would be remiss, as my loyal readers know, if I did not mention the importance of any items' nutritional value; low sugar and additives, with adequate protein and/or other nutritional components. These criteria would also ring true for any food pantry items you wish to donate.

Dining out is another area of escalating menu pricing. Often restaurants offer specials on specific days of the week and during specific times on those days. Others may offer coupons or incentives such as senior pricing which can be helpful as well. Restaurant staff work hard and keep in mind that if you dine out you should tip fairly, so include that in your dining budget.

Bon appétit!

[1] **usda.gov**

Sharon McMahon, CNWC

The opinions expressed in this article are not intended to replace advice of your personal physician or licensed health professional. Please consult your physician for to any issues you may have related nutrition or fitness activity.

Sheridan's Northern Hamilton County Academy



In 2023, the Northern Hamilton County Academy (NHCA) was created in collaboration with Sheridan Community Schools, Hamilton Heights School Corporation, and Westfield Washington Schools. The NHCA is an alternative education program allowing students to complete their education in-person through online coursework while engaging in life skills and work-based learning opportunities.

Former instructional assistant Amy Jozsa said: "Every student who attends the NHCA is there for their own personal reason. Those reasons can range from credit deficiency to suspension. The beauty of this is that it provides students with a place to go to continue working and earning credits to keep them from falling further behind. The ultimate goal is for these students to graduate or return to the high school no longer credit deficient."

Former lead teacher Jeff Guenther said: "Students who struggled in a traditional classroom have found the smaller inclusive setting to be a positive situation that leads to significantly better academic outcomes. Senior students who were credit deficient are able to make up a lot of credits and complete their graduation requirements."

In the first three years of operating the program, the NHCA enrolled a total of 96 students from Sheridan, Hamilton Heights, and Westfield. Due to the success and popularity of the program, it was collectively decided that each school would operate its own alternative education program.

"So many of our students come to us at risk of not graduating because they are behind in credits. Many of those students realize this is most likely the last opportunity they will have to get the credits they need for success," Jozsa said. "Some students come in with a poor attitude because they feel defeated and have no idea how they are going to earn all the credits they need. After a few days at the NHCA, you can start to see the attitudes begin to change. Instead of the classes feeling like an impossible task, it suddenly becomes something doable. As one class is finished, another is added. One class at a time is the path to their success. Successes occur daily at NHCA. Each credit earned is a huge success."

With the retirement of both Jeff Guenther and Amy Jozsa at the conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year, the NHCA has two new full-time staff members. These include lead teacher Brett Zachery, and instructional assistant Bev Rumph.

"The NHCA has been a great benefit to the students of Sheridan High School by allowing them to find the right setting for completing their education when they might not otherwise stay in school," said new lead teacher Brett Zachery. "Students are only in school for a half day and during that time they work through our online platform completing coursework. Some will work on one class for the entire day while others will work on multiple classes; it truly is up to the student to determine what works best for them."

Of course, the NHCA would not be possible without considerable donations from local organizations and partners. These include the Hamilton County Community Foundation, Lilly Endowment, Hamilton County Community Foundation, Gary Reynolds, Drayer Family, Sonny and Glendia Beck and the Beck Foundation, Godby Home Furnishings and the Godby Family, Tracey Sheehan, Gaylor Electric, Biddle Foundation, and Duke Energy Foundation.

Due to these wonderful donations, the NHCA will continue to thrive for years to come. So far, the NHCA has already enrolled 18 students for the 2026-2027 school year. Two of the five senior students enrolled at the NHCA have already met their graduation requirements. NHCA students have earned over 570 high school credits in just over three school years.

Sheridan Community Schools is incredibly proud of this alternative education program. The NHCA has afforded excellent opportunities to students who sometimes need a non-traditional school setting. The outcomes have been excellent, and Sheridan is appreciative of the community and local support, which has allowed these students to benefit in many ways.

Jason Marer is the assistant principal at Sheridan High School.





Meeting Notices

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****.*

TriCo Regional Sewer Utility will hold a joint Budget and Finance Committee and Capital and Construction Committee meeting at 7:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 30, 2026, at 7236 Mayflower Park Drive, Zionsville.

The Carmel Fire Pension Board will meet in an executive session at 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 29, 2026, pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(5) To receive information about and interview prospective employees.

An open meeting will follow at 4:10 p.m. or immediately after the executive session (whichever is later) in the Conference Room at the Carmel Fire Department, 210 Veterans Way.



Sheridan thrives on community of care

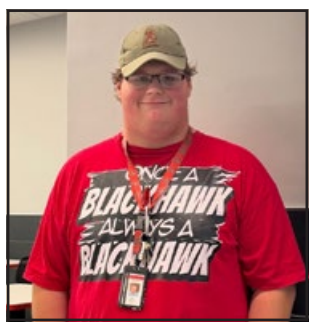
Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

At the heart of Sheridan Community Schools (SCS) is community. Students, staff, and educators are able to thrive on the community of support that surrounds everyday learning, schedules, and initiatives. The success that happens inside SCS is built on the community's commitment to support.

SCS Superintendent Dave Mundy said, "Every individual at SCS is instrumental in creating a safe, welcoming, and supportive environment."

The teachers are an integral part of that environment. Sheridan High School Principal Rick Davis said, "At the frontline of care are our dedicated and talented staff of teachers who teach, support, encourage all students to work hard, learn new things, develop skills, stay curious, and grow in their understanding of the world and their role in it."

At SCS, bus drivers ensure students arrive safely. The FLIGHT program is an integral part of the before- and after-school care for students, staff, and parents. The daycare and preschool staff help young learners build their foundation. Instructional assistants provide support. Secretaries welcome students, families, and guests, creating a friendly, comforting environment and helping keep school operations running smoothly. Coaches and athletic staff encourage students to grow through teamwork, leadership, sportsmanship, and perseverance, both on and off the playing field. Cafeteria staff offer nourishment. Custodians, grounds crews, and maintenance employees keep the school facilities safe, clean, and ready for success, whether that is in the classroom, on the stage, or on the playing field.









Photos provided by Sheridan Community Schools

(TOP LEFT) Custodian Adam Shepard. (TOP RIGHT) Lorna Hollingsworth and Sarah Freeland, who work in the cafeteria and The Nest. (ABOVE LEFT) Lindsey Hansen and Kendra Griffin, 4-5 Classroom Blackhawk Care Teachers. (ABOVE RIGHT) Allison Vita, SES IA Developmental Pre-K.

Mundy said, "Every role matters, and together, these employees help make Sheridan a place where students are able to be successful."

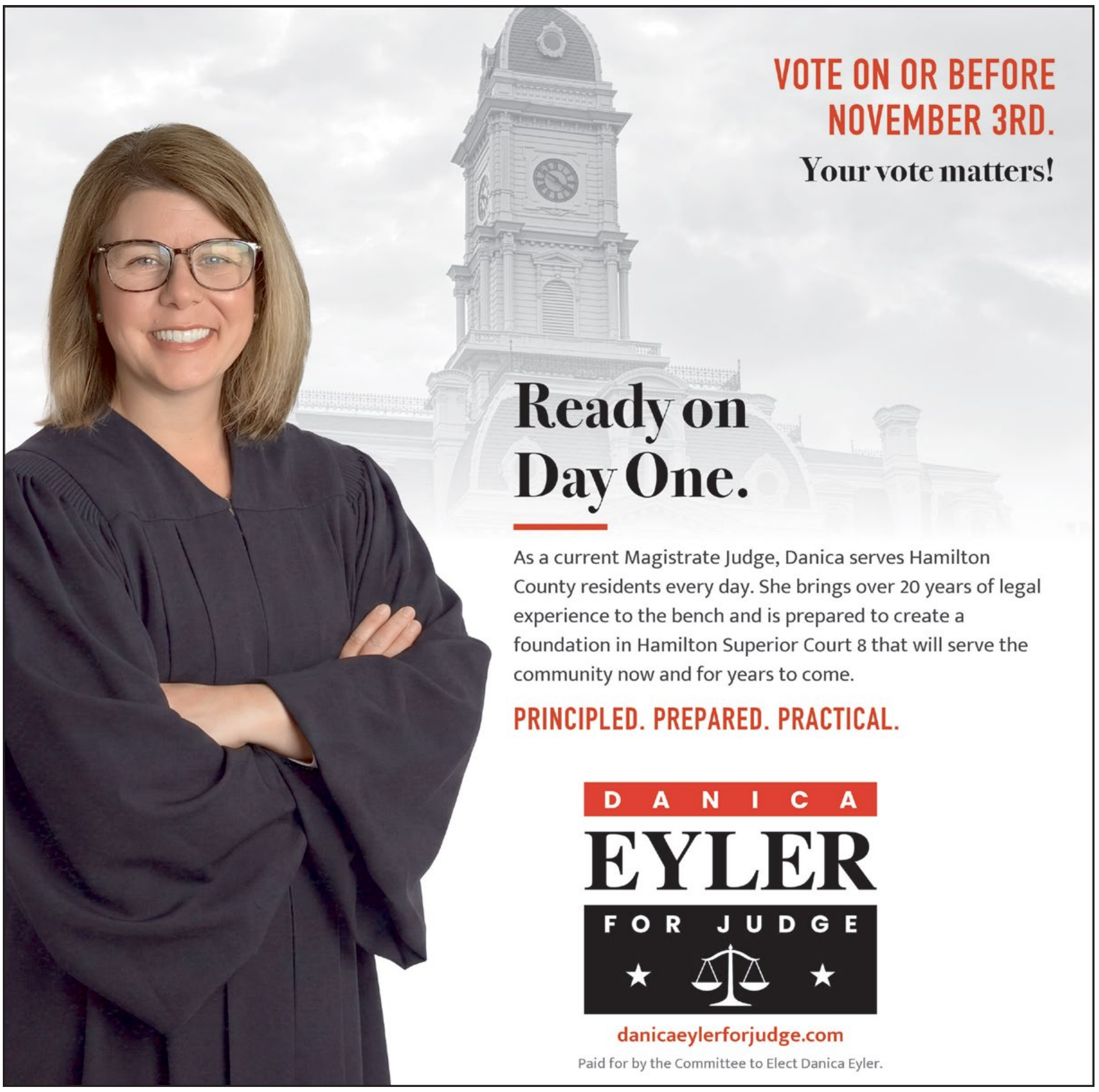
Sheridan Middle School Counselor Jamie Galloway sees the community of care both as an educator and a parent.

"My parents always encouraged me to work hard in all that I do and to be kind to everyone," Galloway said. "Now, as an adult, I can recognize those attributes in others and am so blessed to be part of a school community that shares those same values."

Galloway continued, "I am so appreciative of the day care and preschool staff that kept my child safe and took the time to help him build his daily pizza Lunchables. I am thankful for the bus drivers who get my kids to school on time and who are always willing to make an extra trip to return items that may have been left behind on their routes. I am grateful for the custodians and grounds crew who take pride in maintaining our facilities and who are always willing to help set up for the next sporting event or performance our kids are excited about. We are so fortunate to have patient Instructional Assistants who support both our teachers and students in the most individualized of ways. Additionally, I admire our cafeteria staff, who truly worry about students who may not have lunch money, or food at home, or someone to sit with while they eat."

Galloway, Mundy, and all Sheridan employees are surrounded by a village not only within the walls, but also outside of them. Galloway reiterated Mr. Rogers: "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping," as she shared, "Fortunately, we have an abundance of helpers in Sheridan Community Schools, and they are all around us, all the time."





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Letter to the Editor

Sheridan voter endorses Kirsten Root for State Senate

Dear Editor:

My name is Kim McDowell and I am a resident of Sheridan, Indiana. I write to you today to endorse Kirsten Root, who is running for State Senate in District 21.

I first met Kirsten back in February at her campaign kickoff. I got to learn about her background in social work and child protective services. Her passion and dedication to service made me want to volunteer for her.

Since then I have seen Kirsten take her background work and put it into use in real time. She helped out with SERVE and other initiatives during the late summer flood of Indiana. She also started Pack the Pantries. It is an initiative where she fills our local pantries with food and other supplies within our community.

Kirsten is against the use of mass surveillance and flock cameras. She is also against the development of data centers. She will be sure that not only our rights, but also our farmland, water, and natural resources will be protected.

I am proud to say that I have already early voted for Kirsten.

If you would like to early vote and are not sure where to go, **indianavoters.com** will provide your early polling locations and your Election Day polling place.

Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 3.

Having volunteered alongside Kirsten, I have seen firsthand the impact she has on the community. Once she is elected I know she will continue to champion District 21's causes.

Kim McDowell
Sheridan

Letter to the Editor

Longtime Noblesville residents endorse school referendum

Dear Editor:

Since 1987, we have proudly called Noblesville home. We raised our two children here, and today, four of our grandchildren attend Noblesville Schools. Having experienced the district as both parents and grandparents, we have seen firsthand the lasting impact a Noblesville education can have on a family.

One of the things we love most about Noblesville is the pride our residents take in this community and their continued commitment to supporting our schools. Noblesville Schools continue to get better because our community has consistently been willing to invest in their success. That commitment has created opportunities for generations of students and is a big part of what makes Noblesville such a special place to live and raise a family. We cannot take that progress for granted. Continuing to invest in our schools is how we build on what has been accomplished and ensure they keep moving forward.

We strongly support the Noblesville Schools referendum because we believe our children and grandchildren deserve every opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed. Our community's investments in education have made a difference and continuing that commitment is essential to Noblesville's future.

Let's build on the progress we've made and continue making Noblesville Schools even better for the next generation. Please vote YES for Noblesville Schools!

Rick & Penny Conner
Noblesville

Letter to the Editor

Noblesville school board member grateful for opportunity to serve

Dear Editor:

One of the most meaningful parts of running for re-election to the Noblesville Schools Board of Trustees has been receiving support across political parties – including from people who did not support me during my first campaign.

Four years ago, I brought the fresh set of eyes I felt our board needed as I had many questions about how our district operated. Once elected, I quickly learned the full picture of the requirements and limitations our district faces in addition to all of the work that goes into running such a high-performing school system.

Serving these past four years has deepened my understanding of how much control our federal and state governments have over public schools and how little room districts have for error. This experience hasn't diminished my willingness to ask questions; rather, it has taught me to ask better-informed questions, recognize where we have flexibility, and understand where change requires action beyond our boardroom.

My experience on various boards and as a Realtor has taught me to bring different perspectives together and work through disagreements respectfully. We don't have to agree on everything to work well together; exemplary boards grow stronger through listening, honest conversations, and a commitment to considering all perspectives before making decisions. Above all, those decisions must remain focused on what is truly important: our students, our schools, and our community.

Those who know me personally know that I am a life-long resident, parent, and constant champion for Noblesville and I have no trouble asking questions or voicing my opinion; good, bad, or indifferent. I'm grateful for those who have supported me from the beginning and those whose trust I've earned along the way. I would be honored to continue serving with the curiosity I brought four years ago, strengthened by the experience I've gained since.

Rooted in Noblesville. Invested in Our Kids.

Misti Ray
Noblesville

Letter to the Editor

Westfield Washington School Board endorses operating referendum

Dear Editor:

We are writing in support of the Westfield Washington Schools operating referendum, Public Question #3 on the ballot.

Our Board unanimously adopted a resolution in June 2026 to put this question before our community. We understood the fiscal impact of state funding shortfalls and changes, and the negative impact on our students. We are counting on our community to unite and vote YES to support Westfield Washington Schools, vote YES to support our excellent community.

Voting YES will ensure we can attract and retain excellent teachers. Our starting salary is about 10 to 12 percent below neighboring districts. The growth in our district requires more teachers to support current classroom sizes and maintain academic success.

Voting YES will place a trained school resource officer (SRO) in every building. This would significantly increase the SRO presence WWS has today and change the current funding model in our partnership with the City of Westfield and the Westfield Police Department, providing $2.43 million to the city and allowing it to reinvest approximately $1 million to directly support our broader community's public safety.

Voting YES will increase student support and address the current student-to-counselor ratio of 600:1.

Voting YES will begin rebuilding financial reserves. State caps and formula changes have depleted the district's financial reserves, which have covered over $3.6 million since 2022.

Voting YES is an investment in Westfield's students and in the community's future. When our schools are strong, our entire community is stronger.

We encourage fellow residents to join us in support of the Westfield Washington Schools operating referendum.

Westfield Washington School Board of Trustees
Carrie Larrison (D1)
Bill Anderson (D2)
Mike Steele (D3)
Rebecca Ogle (D4)
Amber Willis (At Large)

*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.*

Eric Foley joins Adler Attorneys



Photo provided

Congratulations to Eric Foley (center) who recently passed the bar in Indiana and joined Adler Attorneys in Noblesville. (From left) Seth Wilson, partner at Adler Attorneys, Foley, and Ray Adler, partner at Adler Attorneys.

Letter guidelines this election season

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



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Letter to the Editor

Sheridan Elementary PTO endorses referendum

Dear Editor:

The Sheridan Elementary Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) has the privilege of working alongside the dedicated teachers and staff of Sheridan Community Schools. As a self-funded nonprofit, we understand firsthand the challenges of balancing rising costs with limited budgets. We also recognize the importance of being responsible stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

On Nov. 3, 2026, our community will have an important opportunity to support the future of Sheridan Community Schools by voting on the school referendum.

Superintendent Mundy has already demonstrated a commitment to fiscal responsibility by eliminating and combining positions and making numerous other cost-saving decisions. These efforts have helped advance our schools while being mindful of the financial burden on taxpayers. However, even the most responsible leadership cannot make rising costs disappear or create resources where none exist.

Our schools are among the pillars of our community. They are a source of pride for families with and without school-age children. Strong schools help make Sheridan an attractive place to live, raise a family, and build a future. Most importantly, they prepare the next generation of leaders who will shape the future of Sheridan, Indiana.

This referendum is about more than a tax rate. It is about supporting the educators who show up for our children every day, preserving the quality of education, our community values, and ensuring Sheridan remains a place where students have the opportunity to thrive. At a time when schools across the nation face challenges recruiting and retaining teachers, maintaining reliable local funding is essential.

We understand that every tax dollar matters. We also believe that investing responsibly in our schools is an investment in our children, our community, and our future.

On November 3, please vote YES on the school referendum to help our schools continue delivering the outstanding educational experience that makes Sheridan special.

Our children are our future, and their future is worth supporting.

Sheridan Elementary Parent Teacher Organization 2026-27

Letter to the Editor

Superintendent Hile endorses Noblesville Schools referendum

Dear Editor:

The referendum process is never an easy one. None of us like paying property taxes; and with the increase in costs that we're all feeling right now, these discussions have the potential to feel even more divisive than normal.

One part of the process that I greatly appreciate; however, is that it provides me the opportunity to get to meet so many new people. As I've traveled all over Noblesville these past few months holding over 40 public meetings to share information and answer questions, it has been a blessing to meet so many members of our community and hear their stories and perspectives.

My role in the process is to educate our community about the referendum to ensure everyone has the facts needed to make an informed decision. Put another way, it is my job to make sure that our community understands the impact and consequences of either a "yes" or "no" outcome.

The reality is that operating referendums have become a part of the annual budget for many districts in our area, as we all strive to deliver the outstanding school experiences and outcomes that our communities have come to expect.

For Noblesville specifically, our community has supported our schools through an operating referendum for 16 consecutive years. This funding sustains countless academic programs, school safety initiatives, student mental health supports, and opportunities for our students that would not be possible otherwise. Our current referendum that expires this year provides almost 20 percent of our operating budget, which is approximately $25 million this year.

If the referendum is not renewed, **our district will need to make deep cuts in order to rebalance the budget**. Operating referendums exist to support ongoing operational expenses; if that funding ends, then the ongoing investments in programs, supports, and opportunities for students the district has made over all those years will need to end as well.

Because of our ongoing commitment to minimize costs for our taxpayers, our school, and district leaders constantly work hard to review and streamline operational costs each year. Last school year alone, we reduced our annual district budget by over $4 million. This was done through strategic reductions to staff, including the elimination of four administrator positions and the realignment of roles and job duties to do more with less. Financial management decisions like these have helped Noblesville Schools become the highest credit rated school district in Indiana.

Ultimately, the referendum decision is up to our friends and neighbors, and our community will quite literally tell us what they want for the future of our schools.

A vote "yes" will tell us that our community wishes for our current programming, opportunities, and support for students and investments in our teachers and staff to continue.

A vote "no" will tell us that our community wants our district to make significant budgetary reductions that will require impactful reductions in staff and programming.

We will honor the decision either way, and will proceed accordingly.

While many of us have already voted early, I know that some prefer to wait and head to the polls on election day. If you still have questions about the referendum, I would encourage you to check out the factual information on the Noblesville Schools website: **noblesvilleschools.org/referendum**. There, you will find a link to a video of my full community presentation, answers to a lot of common questions and misunderstandings that have been circulating, and a calculator that will let you easily see the current and future impact of the referendum on your specific home.

I can't thank our community enough for all the ways you support our children, our schools, and each other. As I say often, it truly is an honor to serve our amazing community, and I feel blessed to call Noblesville my home.

Daniel G. Hile, Ph.D.
Superintendent, Noblesville Schools

Letter to the Editor

Fishers voters endorse Wellington for her "practical, affordable solutions"

Dear Editor:

There is one vote in the elections this fall that we think is really important for Indiana's future – the vote for State Representative in District 29 (Noblesville and part of Fishers).

I attended public schools growing up in Wabash and graduated from IU; Sara went to public schools in Angola and got her bachelor's degree at Ball State. We, and our classmates, got first-class educations that prepared us well for successful careers and happy lives.

For 10 years or more, it seems like there haven't been strong voices in the statehouse supporting public schools. Even though nine of 10 Indiana kids are learning in our public schools, it seems our state representatives, intentionally or not, have us in a race to the bottom where the future of our grandkids is concerned. We need a lot more balance in these important discussions. It is clear to us that that experienced, balanced voice can come from Devon Wellington.

A vote for Devon Wellington won't completely overturn the imbalance in our state government, but it will shine a light of experience and care where it is sorely needed. We don't need more of the same old coasting downhill in neutral where our communities' education is concerned. We need someone who can put the discussion in gear and come up with practical, affordable solutions: someone like Devon.

Larry McSpadden
Sara McSpadden
Fishers

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Letter to the Editor

Indiana's money should work for Hoosiers

Dear Editor:

I'm Coumba Kebe, and I'm running to be your next State Treasurer.

The truth is, I never saw myself running for political office. But after being ignored by my state representatives and senators when I advocated for Hoosiers facing challenges, I knew something had to change.

Regardless of how you vote or which political party you support, we can all agree that elected officials ignoring the people is not democracy or good governance.

Indiana's Treasurer manages billions of your taxpayer dollars. You deserve to know where that money goes, how it's invested, and whether those decisions serve your interests.

My priority is keeping Indiana's dollars working here at home, not prioritizing investments in foreign government bonds. I'll bring clarity to this office and work with lawmakers on challenges ranging from Medicaid and childcare to financial pressures impacting rural communities and farmers. These issues affect our families, businesses, and Indiana's long-term economic strength.

I've managed multimillion-dollar budgets and complex operations. I've learned that behind every number is a person, a family, a business owner, and a community counting on us to make the right decisions.

I'm not running to make government bigger or give it more influence over your life. I'm running to make government work better for you.

These are your dollars, your communities, and your future.

You deserve a Treasurer who remembers that. I would love to earn your vote on Nov. 3.

Coumba Kebe
Democratic candidate for Indiana State Treasurer

Letter to the Editor

Noblesville voter endorses Wellington for State Representative

Dear Editor:

I met Devon Wellington while she was campaigning during the Primary election earlier this year. I heard her speak numerous times. One thing that stood out was how kind she was to her opponent. Devon spoke highly of her. This made me think that Devon would be a good team player.

Devon was also very knowledgeable. I really appreciate that her career has been in education policy. She's not pretending to care about our schools; this has always been her focus! When nine out of 10 Indiana kids are educated through the public schools, I think they need to be a priority for our community.

As I've witnessed Devon work tirelessly on her campaign, I know she will do the same for us. Election Day will not be the end for Devon but a beautiful beginning where she can use her influence for good. She will continue to fight for our schools, families, and community. Please join her at any event and ask the hard questions (she does not shy away from them!).

A vote for Devon will be a vote for a brighter future for us and our children.

Leslie Rowley
Noblesville

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Thanks for reading!

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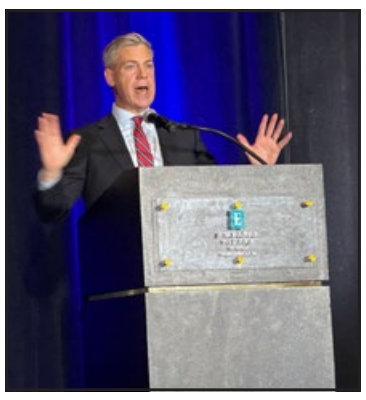
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Strong GOP support leading into Election Day

The Hamilton County Republican Party Fall Dinner on Monday, Oct. 26, at the Embassy Suites Conference Center in Noblesville was a more than packed house. Several hundred GOP members, supporters, and donors were on hand to hear what party leadership had to say eight days before the 2026 General Election. When the results are tabulated on election night, The Reporter's people will be hard at work packing pages with vote totals, key races breakouts, and maybe even a bit of non-election news for our loyal readers. (Reporter photos)

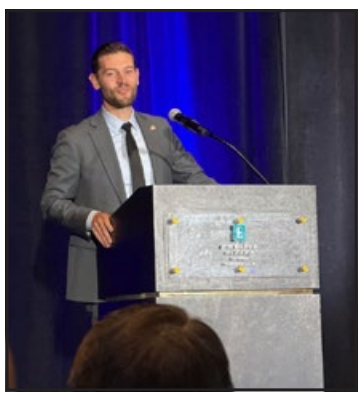














(ABOVE, from left) U.S. Senator Jim Banks was the keynote speaker. Hamilton County Superior Court 8 candidate Danica Eyler introduces event sponsors. WIBC Radio Host Jerry Lopez served as the Master of Ceremonies. Indiana Secretary of State candidate Max Engling introduced Sen. Banks. Hamilton County Republican Party Chairman Mario Massillamany speaks to the crowd.







(ABOVE, from left) Gaylor Electric President Jim Crews and Indiana Secretary of State candidate Max Engling. Indiana State Comptroller Elise Nieshalla addresses the crowd. U.S. Senator Jim Banks and Congresswoman Victoria Spartz with Fall Dinner attendees.

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The faces of Hamilton County GOP Fall Dinner



Reporter photos







Photos provided

(From left) Carmel's living mayors and their years of service are: Jane Reiman, 1980–1987; Dorothy "Dottie" Hancock, 1988–1991; Jim Brainard, 1996–2023; and Sue Finkam, 2024–present.

Carmel celebrates 50 years

Honoring leaders & partnerships that shaped the city

The REPORTER

As Carmel celebrates its 50th anniversary as a city, it's an opportunity to reflect on the leadership and community partnerships that have helped shape this thriving and ever-evolving community just north of Indianapolis.

Behind the growth of Carmel is a history of great leaders and a longstanding partnership between those leaders and the business community. To recognize that relationship and celebrate the people who have helped shape Carmel, the Rotary Club of Carmel, and the Carmel Clay Public Library invite the public to a special community celebration on Thursday, Nov. 12.

Honoring Carmel's mayors & business leaders

The evening will include a Mayor's Community Reception from 5:30 to 6 p.m. at the Carmel Clay Public Library, offering residents an opportunity to thank Carmel's four living mayors: Jane Reiman, Dorothy "Dottie" Hancock, Jim Brainard, and Sue Finkam.

Also being recognized are two representatives of Carmel's business community: Ed Engledow, whose leadership reflects the city's business legacy from 1976 through 2026, and Justin Moffett, representing the next chapter of Carmel's continued growth and development.



Engledow



Moffett

Engledow is co-owner of Engledow Group and served as the company's president from 1968 to 2002. Best known for its commercial and residential landscaping, Engledow Group has also provided prominent landscaping, decor, and horticultural services for major regional events, including the 1987 Pan American Games and the 2012 Super Bowl.

Moffett, chief executive officer of Old Town Design Group, has helped shape Carmel through his vision, leadership, and commitment to community development, contributing to the continued evolution of Carmel and Clay Township.

Following the Mayor's Community Reception from 5:30 to 6 p.m. will be The Carmel Connection: The Power of Friendship in Sports and in Life from 6:05 to 6:50 p.m. and from 7 to 7:45 p.m. is A Pacers Blue and Golden Anniversary Celebration. Light refreshments will be served.



Duke Energy Indiana shares tips for warding off energy vampires

The REPORTER

This Halloween, Duke Energy is reminding its Indiana customers of the scary reality of energy "vampires" – appliances and electronics lurking throughout homes using energy 24/7, even when they're turned off, idle or in standby mode.

The vampires

• TVs, cell phone chargers, coffee makers – almost any device with an external power supply, internal battery, remote control, continuous display (including an LED), or constant network connection can be considered an energy vampire.

• There can be up to 40 in a typical home, making up roughly 5 percent to 10 percent of a residential customer's total energy use.

Warding them off



Pinegar

Fortunately, there are quick, simple actions they can take to ward off these silent energy – and money – suckers:

• Unplug some devices when they're not being used, especially in places like guest rooms that may not be visited regularly

• Use smart power strips that automatically cut off power to devices when they're not being used

• Enable energy-saving settings, such as sleep mode, that are already built into some devices and help reduce idle time

• Choose energy-efficient replacements when the time comes, including ENERGY STAR® products and newer technology – with the energy savings created, they often pay for themselves

"Pulling the plug on energy vampires is a way for our customers to manage their energy use," Duke Energy Indiana President Stan Pinegar said. "While each of these devices may not draw a substantial amount of electricity on their own, together they can add up and have a noticeable impact on bills."

For more information about Duke Energy Indiana's energy efficiency programs, as well as low- and no-cost ways to help manage energy use, please visit **duke-energy.com/savings**.



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Fun Fall Festival in downtown Arcadia





Photos provided by Bev Poindexter

While Arcadia Market On Main on Saturday, Oct. 24 featured an abundance of handmade goods, a kids zone, live music, food trucks, and more, we chose to focus on the more. It is not every day that antique cars and tractors line the streets of downtown Arcadia, and one of our friendly photographers clearly saw that as the highlight. And really, who can blame her? These are indeed some sweet rides!

Dense breast tissue makes mammograms harder to interpret

Women with dense tissue should look out for irregularities, may need additional imaging

Submitted by Parkview Health

Women who have a mammogram may receive a follow-up letter informing them about their breast density and the implications it can have for breast cancer screening.

That letter, which is required by state law, can be anxiety-inducing, especially for women who just had their first-ever mammogram, said Sarah Brady, breast surgery nurse practitioner with the Parkview Packnett Family Cancer Institute.

Still, it's important for women to know what it is, what it means and what to look out for going forward, she said.

Dense breast tissue is common and, by itself, usually isn't cause for concern. However, because dense tissue and tumors can both appear white on a mammogram, women with dense breasts are more likely to be called back for additional imaging to evaluate potential abnormalities.

"Everyone starts with that dense tissue," Brady said. "In your 40s, most women are going to get that letter. If it's your first mammogram and if we don't have an earlier image for comparison, that may spark callbacks for extra looks. But if nothing was found on your mammogram, there really is no reason for alarm."

What is dense tissue?

Breasts are made up of different types of tissues, and prior to menopause, everyone is going to have at least some dense tissue, Brady said.

There are three main categories of tissue in the breast: glandular tissue, made up of the milk-producing lobules and ducts to carry milk to the nipple; fibrous tissue that supports the shape of the breast and connects it to the chest; and fatty tissue that fills the spaces between.

When those first two types, also known as the fibroglandular stroma, are higher in concentration than the fat content, a breast is considered "dense."

About 90 percent of all women have at least some dense tissue, with about 40 percent having heterogeneous tissue and about 10 percent having extremely dense breasts, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Fibroglandular tissue develops as a response to female hormones estrogen and progesterone. When women enter menopause and leave their child-bearing years, those hormone levels drop off. For most, the solid tissue is going to be replaced by fat, Brady said.



Brady

Women who are on hormone replacement regimens or who are taking hormonal birth control pills may maintain greater dense tissue even into menopause, she added.

How density affects screening

Although estrogen and progesterone can contribute to overall breast cancer risk, the biggest issue with dense tissue is that it's difficult to see through, Brady said.

"Dense breast tissue is something that shows up cloudy, wispy or clumpy white on a mammogram," Brady said. "If a mass were to show up white in a mammogram and the patient has dense breast tissue, it's like trying to look for a snowball in a snowstorm."

In other words, dense breast tissue can obscure a mass and make it difficult to determine whether it's benign or the start of a cancerous growth.

However, catching cancer at its earliest development gives patients more options for treatment and better outcomes.

At Parkview, all mammography machines are equipped to capture and construct a three-dimensional image of the breast, Brady said. The scanning arms sweep over the breast, and after taking stationary pictures of the standard two views, the machine then knits those images together to create a 3D image.

3D imagery allows radiologists to look at the X-ray from different angles and that can sometimes help them better see through dense tissue. If they can't get a clear view, patients may require additional imaging such as ultrasound and/or MRI to provide clarity on an abnormality, Brady said.

Each type of imaging has its strengths and weaknesses:

• Mammography, which uses X-rays, gives a good structural image but can't see well through dense tissue.

• Ultrasound is good for determining the type (fluid vs. solid) and density of a mass but can't show whether that mass is cancerous.

• MRI can provide the most detailed map of internal structures, but that super-high detail can draw undue attention and caution to structures that don't need it. MRIs are also a pricier test and may not always be covered by insurance, Brady noted.

"All imaging modalities tell us something different," Brady said. "An annual screening mammogram is really where women should start and then follow the radiologist recommendations."

What to do

A woman with dense breast tissue should be aware of their body, but otherwise there's no immediate action she needs to take.

"Don't panic, understand that that is your normal anatomy; there's nothing you could do or not do about it," Brady said. "We're all made up of lumpy, bumpy tissue. Just become familiar with your tissue."

Brady said there's no distinct difference in incidence among different types of women. Women who are overweight may have more fat in their breasts and thereby reduce the concentration of dense tissue, but the biggest determining factor is age, Brady said. Dense tissue is likely to remain until menopause when it's replaced by more fatty tissue.

Outside of an annual mammogram, Brady recommends women simply be self-aware of their breasts. Harder, bumpier tissue is normal in the upper quadrants and around the nipple. Keep an eye out for visual abnormalities such as dimpling, puckering, or nipple deviation.

Natural breasts are not perfectly the same, but they should generally be "mirror images" of each other. If a person feels something in one spot on one breast, it should feel similar on the opposite side.

"If anything captures your attention as dominant or distinctly different on a sweep, then it may be time to reach out," Brady said. "I recommend seeking evaluation with your primary care provider or gynecologist for a clinical breast exam first, and they may recommend and order diagnostic imaging if it is appropriate."



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New BIBIBOP restaurant to open Thursday in Westfield

The REPORTER

BIBIBOP Asian Grill will open of its newest restaurant in Indiana at 124 W. Spring Mill Pointe Drive, Westfield, on Thursday, Oct. 29. This marks the restaurant's 13th location in the state.

The Grand Opening celebration begins with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 10:30 a.m., with the public opening following at 11 a.m.

At BIBIBOP, guests build their own healthy bowls, choosing from a variety of savory bases, lean proteins, fresh vegetables, and bold sauces. This personalized approach allows everyone to create meals that cater to their individual dietary needs, whether they're seeking gluten-free, vegan, or protein-packed options.

Win a year of BIBIBOP

During the grand opening day, BIBIBOP is giving away free bowls (valid only at the Westfield location) to 100 lucky winners randomly through scratch-off tickets. These 100 winners receive one free BIBIBOP bowl each month for a year. Other prizes include free drinks, desserts, and more. Guests must be 13 or older to claim their prize, and supplies are limited. Also, guests who wear orange on opening day will receive $5 off their in-store order.

"The BIBIBOP Asian Grill concept has performed very well with consumers, as demonstrated by our steady growth through the years," Founder Charley Shin said. "As we've expanded, we have never lost sight of our commitment to bringing our signature 'WELL B•ING' to all of the communities we serve by strengthening our neighbors and enriching the lives of our team members."

Learn more at **BIBIBOP.com**.



Photo provided by Pacers Sports & Entertainment

Two local high school seniors take part in Fever Confidence leadership program

Submitted

Twenty Central Indiana high school seniors have been selected for the 2026-27 Fever Confidence program, a leadership development initiative from the Indiana Fever, Pacers Sports & Entertainment, and the Marion County Commission on Youth that helps young women build confidence, develop leadership skills, and explore future opportunities.

Among those 20 students are Gabrielle Kelley, Hamilton Southeastern High School; and Brielle Garner, Sheridan High School.

Presented by Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, the eight-month program connects students with mentors from the Fever, PS&E and the local business and community sectors. Participants will take part in hands-on learning experiences, explore educational and career opportunities, and receive a $2,000 scholarship upon completion.

"Every young woman deserves the chance to see what she's capable of and feel confident pursuing it," said Julie Roe Lach, PS&E executive vice president of external relations and community engagement. "That's what makes Fever Confidence so meaningful to us. We get to connect these students with people who can encourage them, share their experiences and help them see new possibilities for their futures."

The new cohort tipped off Saturday, Oct. 24, at Gainbridge Fieldhouse with a behind-the-scenes tour, including a visit to the Indiana Fever locker room, and activities focused on teamwork, communication, and building connections. Throughout the program, participants will attend monthly sessions on leadership, wellness, community engagement and personal growth, along with special events and opportunities to connect with leaders from across Central Indiana.

"We are beyond excited to welcome this year's cohort of Fever Confidence participants and witness the incredible personal growth that unfolds over these eight months," said Lindsey DeLorey, program director of youth engagement for MCCOY. "Watching each girl build self-confidence and realize her full potential is the most rewarding part of this work."

The 2026-27 Fever Confidence cohort includes:

- Karrington Williams, Cathedral High School
- Maleah Jackson, Christel House Academy
- Maya Thomas, Covenant Christian High School
- Sophia Esquivel, Decatur Central High School
- Lizbeth Perez, Emmerich Manual High School
- Emily Williams, Franklin Central High School
- Anne Chrisman, Greenwood Community High School
- **Gabrielle Kelley, Hamilton Southeastern High School**
- Victoria Bolden, KIPP Indy Legacy High School
- Kylie Hensley, Lebanon High School
- Victoria Mickens, Lawrence Central High School
- Sa'Raya Overton, North Central High School
- Van Sung, Perry Meridian High School
- Elizabeth Chaffee, Purdue Polytechnic Englewood High School
- **Brielle Garner, Sheridan High School**
- Lucille Haacker, Shelbyville High School
- Ava Deng, University High School of Indiana
- Olatunde Babatunde, Warren Central High School
- Dare'on Garner, Warren Central High School
- Kayla Bermejillo, Wisdom Builders Academy

Fever Confidence builds on the momentum created through previous youth leadership initiatives led by Pacers Sports & Entertainment, the Indiana Fever, and MCCOY. To be eligible, applicants were required to be current high school seniors who live in Marion County or one of the surrounding counties and have a cumulative grade-point average of 2.7 or higher.

Interested students and families can learn more about Fever Confidence and future application opportunities by visiting **FeverBasketball.com/FeverConfidence**.







Bruce A. Lauter

August 3, 1934 – October 26, 2026



Bruce A. Lauter, 92, Noblesville, passed away peacefully on Monday, October 26, 2026, surrounded by his family.

He was born on August 3, 1934, in Cleveland, Ohio, to Ernest and Violet (Janke) Lauter. He was a graduate of Euclid High School. He attended Case Western Reserve University and was a member of the Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity. He served his country proudly in the United States Army 101st Airborne Division as a paratrooper and a medic. After his retirement from Exide Battery, he bought and ran the Cicero Do It Center in Cicero with his wife, Janet. They owned the store until they retired.

Bruce enjoyed golfing, sailing, listening to the Four Freshmen among other groups of his day, and a good cigar. He also enjoyed yearly vacations with his family when his children were growing up. Many weekends were spent at South Haven, Mich., on the family sailboat. He was a participant in the Chicago to Mackinac sailboat race.

Bruce is survived by his wife of 67 years, Janet (McNellan) Lauter; three daughters, Kelly (Don) Snyder, Kyle Lauter, and Karen Norvell (Rusty Forth); as well as several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter, Kimberly Webber; two brothers, Neil and Kirk Lauter; and sister-in-law, Barbara McCoy.

The family gives special thanks to Enlight Hospice, Grace At Home, and Senior Helpers for all their care and support.

A private burial will take place at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of your choice.

Condolences: **hartleyfuneralhomes.com**

Marvyn Piel

October 9, 1953 – October 26, 2026



Marvyn Piel, a generous and hardworking man, was born on October 9, 1953, in Beech Grove, Ind., and passed away on October 26, 2026, at the age of 73.

A retired automotive mechanic, Marvyn dedicated many years to his craft at Esler's Auto Repair in Westfield before retiring in 2018. His greatest joy in life came from the time spent with his cherished family and friends, especially his beloved grandchildren, whose smiles could light up his day.

Marvyn married the love of his life on January 7, 1995, and together they built a life filled with love and laughter. He is survived by his step-children, Julie (Justin) Michael, Joshua (Christina) Heath, and Matt (Sarah) Page; his grandchildren, Elaina Page, Monte Heath, Emma Heath, Josie Michael, and Jackson Michael; his sister, Nancy Scott; nephew, Jonathan Scott; and niece, Elizabeth Hyatt.

Marvyn was preceded in death by his parents, Ronald and Catherine Piel. Services are under the direction of Hartley-Dunnichay Funeral Homes in Cicero.

The family will be celebrating his life privately. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories and upload photos to the memorial page to celebrate Marvyn's life and legacy.

Condolences: **hartleyfuneralhomes.com**

ReadTheReporter.com

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

Love and Obey the Lord

Love the Lord your God and keep his requirements, his decrees, his laws and his commands always. Remember today that your children were not the ones who saw and experienced the discipline of the Lord your God: his majesty, his mighty hand, his outstretched arm; the signs he performed and the things he did in the heart of Egypt, both to Pharaoh king of Egypt and to his whole country; what he did to the Egyptian army, to its horses and chariots, how he overwhelmed them with the waters of the Red Sea as they were pursuing you, and how the Lord brought lasting ruin on them. It was not your children who saw what he did for you in the wilderness until you arrived at this place, and what he did to Dathan and Abiram, sons of Eliab the Reubenite, when the earth opened its mouth right in the middle of all Israel and swallowed them up with their households, their tents and every living thing that belonged to them. But it was your own eyes that saw all these great things the Lord has done.

Observe therefore all the commands I am giving you today, so that you may have the strength to go in and take over the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, and so that you may live long in the land the Lord swore to your ancestors to give to them and their descendants, a land flowing with milk and honey. The land you are entering to take over is not like the land of Egypt, from which you have come, where you planted your seed and irrigated it by foot as in a vegetable garden. But the land you are crossing the Jordan to take possession of is a land of mountains and valleys that drinks rain from heaven. It is a land the Lord your God cares for; the eyes of the Lord your God are continually on it from the beginning of the year to its end.

Deuteronomy 11:1-12 (NIV)

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The Reporter's policy on obituaries

The Hamilton County Reporter does not charge families for publishing obituary notices in our pages. Every obituary appearing in online editions Wednesday through Saturday also appears in our Monday print editions. In order to continue to offer this as a community service, we ask that obituaries not exceed 500 words. The limitations of space may not allow for longer ones to appear in print.

Submit obituaries under 500 words online at ReadTheReporter.com/obitform.

— NOBLESVILLE —

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Noblesville Plan Commission
Noblesville, Indiana

The Noblesville Plan Commission will hold a Public Hearing on **Application No. LEGP 0195-2026 on Monday, November 16, 2026 beginning at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers, City Hall Building, 16 South 10th Street, Noblesville, IN 46060**. The application submitted by Justus at Promenade, LLC (Owners/Applicants) is for amendments to the adopted Promenade Planned Development Ordinance including amendments thereto relating to bulk standards of the Planned Business zoning district (minimum lot size, minimum lot width to depth ratio, maximum impervious surface coverage, minimum front yard setback), perimeter parking lot landscaping area, lot frontage on street requirements, and request for two ground signs located at 5838, 5841, 5887 Promenade of Noblesville Parkway, all within the zoning jurisdiction of the City of Noblesville, Hamilton County, Indiana. A live stream meeting will be available on the City's YouTube page at www.youtube.com/@CityofNoblesville.

Written suggestions or objections relative to the application above may be filed with the Department of Planning and Development, at or before such meeting and will be heard by the Noblesville Plan Commission. Interested persons desiring to present their views, either in writing or verbally, will be given the opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned time and place. These hearings may be continued from time to time as found necessary by the Plan Commission.

Copies of the proposals are on file in the Department of Planning and Development located at 16 S. 10th Street for examination before the meeting during business hours between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday – Friday. A copy of the proposal will appear on the web page www.noblesville.in.gov

Agendas and Minutes, Plan Commission – November 16, 2026 prior to the meeting date. A list of each of the appointed officer's name, the appointing authority, and term dates is available at www.nobleville.in.gov/boards

NOBLESVILLE PLAN COMMISSION
Caleb P. Gutshall, Secretary

R8885 *10/28/26, 11/2/26*

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Noblesville Plan Commission
Noblesville, Indiana

This notice is to inform you of a Public Hearing that will be held by the Noblesville Plan Commission on the 16th day of November, 2026. This hearing to review the Noblesville Unified **Development Ordinance, zoning regulations, and land development rules pursuant to 2026** House Enrolled Act No. 1001 will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers, Noblesville City Hall at 16 South 10th Street. No specific ordinance amendments are proposed or being voted on a part of this public hearing. A live stream of the meeting will be available on the City's YouTube page at www.youtube.com/@CityofNoblesville.

Written suggestions or comments relative to the public hearing may be filed with the Department of Planning and Development, at or before such meeting, and will be heard by the Noblesville Plan Commission. Interested persons desiring to present their views, either in writing or verbally, will have an opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned time and place.

A list of each appointed officer's name, their appointing authority, and term dates is available at www.noblesville.in.gov/boards. This hearing may be continued from time to time as found necessary by the Noblesville Plan Commission. A copy of the proposal is on file in the Department of Planning and Development at 16 South 10th Street, Suite B140 and may be reviewed during regular office hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A copy of the staff report will be posted on the city website www.noblesville.in.gov at least 5 days prior to the hearing.

Noblesville Plan Commission
Caleb Gutshall, Secretary

R8886 *10/28/26, 11/2/26*

— ARCADIA —

NOTICE

As mandated by state law under House Enrolled Act 1001, the Arcadia Plan Commission will conduct a public hearing with respect to housing development on November 9, 2026, at 7:00pm at the Arcadia Town Hall located at 208 W. Main Street, Arcadia, Indiana 46030, IN.

HEA 1001 requires that every zoning jurisdiction in Indiana conduct a public hearing to review its zoning ordinance and any zoning regulations and land development rules, with the goal of increasing housing development by using the following factors: (1) Providing for higher density development of duplexes, triplexes, and fourplexes in areas designated for single family homes. (2) Constructing other housing types including accessory dwelling units and manufactured and modular housing. (3) Adaptive reuse of commercial buildings for residential use such as allowing multifamily development in retail, office, and light manufacturing zones. (4) Increasing the allowable floor area ratio in multifamily housing areas. (5) Waiving or eliminating regulations such as requirements for: (A) garage size and placement; (B) steeper roof pitch; (C) minimum lot size and square footage; (D) greater setbacks; (E) off-street parking; (F) design standards that restrict or prohibit the use of code compliant products; or (G) property height limitations. (6) Reviewing impact fee zones with zone advisory committee for improvements. (7) Streamlining or shortening the permitting processes and timelines, including through one stop and parallel process permitting by fifteen (15) days or more. (8) Using property tax abatements to enable higher density and mixed income communities. (9) Donating vacant land for affordable housing development.

The Arcadia Plan Commission is holding this public hearing to discuss the above in fulfillment of this requirement. **No specific ordinance amendments are proposed or being voted on as part of this public hearing.** This session is strictly intended to gather public comment and perspective from residents, business owners and community stakeholders as required under HEA 1001.

The Public Hearing is open to all and the opportunity to speak will be offered to all. Written comments filed with the Town of Arcadia Plan Commission on or before 10am on November 9, 2026, will be considered. Written comments may be submitted via email to jennifer.pickett@arcadia.in.gov, submitted by mail to PO Box 578, Arcadia, IN 46030, or hand delivered to the Clerk-Treasurer's Office located at 208 W. Main Street, in Arcadia, Indiana. Written comments will also be accepted during the Public Hearing. The Hearing may be continued from time to time as necessary.

Dated this 20th day of October 2026.

By Jennifer Pickett, Clerk-Treasurer

R8887 *10/28/26, 11/2/26*



HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

Contact Information

Email
News@ReadTheReporter.com

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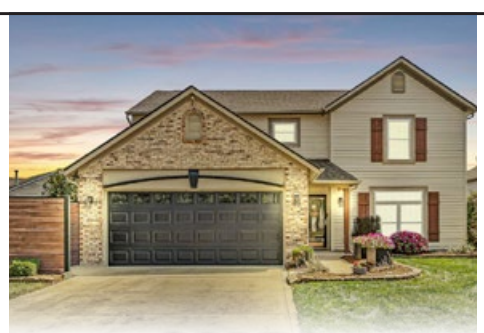
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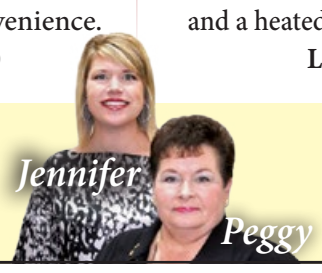
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136 S. 9th St., Suite 12
Noblesville, IN 46060


PENDING!
20971 Shoreline
Unit 410
NOBLESVILLE
Enjoy low-maintenance waterfront living in this gated 2BR, 2BA Morse Lake condo. Features include fresh paint, new carpet, boat slip, two garage spots, storage, and stainless kitchen. Luxury meets convenience.
Listed at $299,900


SOLD!
9919 Fountain
Cove Drive
INDIANAPOLIS
This 3 bed, 2.5 bath near Geist Reservoir offers an open concept floor plan, new roof, carpet, and remodeled primary bath. Versatile living spaces, updated kitchen, spacious fenced-in backyard, and a heated golf simulator garage!
Listed at $299,900


SOLD!
18532 Oriental
Oak Court
NOBLESVILLE
Beautiful 4BR, 2BA 2 half baths in Oakmont of Noblesville. Situated on over half an acre (.68) wooded lot featuring a screened porch and finished basement along with a three -car tandem garage. Move-in ready property awaits you.
Listed at $559,900


SOLD!
18149 Atlantic
Road
NOBLESVILLE
Own this charming 1.5-acre country retreat! Features 2,000+ sq ft, 4BR, 2BA, and a new roof. Enjoy a cozy fireplace, spacious kitchen, and fenced yard. Perfectly located near Hamilton Town Center and I-69.
Listed at $274,900

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