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

STOPPED A $500 TAX INCREASE.
He stood in the gap for families.
A colleague pushed a $500-per-family tax hike.
Mark Hall said no — and made it stick.
Your money. His principles.
PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF MARK HALL

HAMILTON COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS FIRE PAC 2026
ENDORSED

THE HAMILTON COUNTY
REPORTER
Your Hometown Newspaper

FRIDAY, OCT. 30, 2026

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

WISHTV NEWS GATHERING PARTNER

LIKE & FOLLOW US!

TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Patchy morning fog, then mostly sunny morning. Partly sunny afternoon.
Tonight: Clouds increase.

HIGH: 69 **LOW**: 51

paulpoteet.com

Advancing Westfield Foundation awards $499,000 to local groups

Submitted

The Advancing Westfield Foundation (AWF) has awarded $499,000 in grant funding to 22 organizations serving the Westfield community.

AWF supports nonprofit partnerships that provide vital services for youth, adults, seniors, veterans, individuals with disabilities and families throughout the community. Funding is made possible through net proceeds from the Mayor's Grand Gala and supports organizations working in areas such as health and wellness, food insecurity, youth development, senior support, mental health, and disability services.

"These grants represent the heart of what the Advancing Westfield Foundation was created to do: support the organizations that are meeting real needs in our community," Mayor Scott Willis said. "From youth development and mental health to food insecurity and senior

See *Advance* . . . Page 2



Photo provided by City of Westfield

Student Impact of Westfield was one of this year's $50,000 grant recipients.

From handmade dough to heartfelt hospitality: a taste of Palestine in Fishers

COLUMNIST



POOJA THAKKAR
Taste of Community

I recently had a wonderful experience at Al Manakeesh in Fishers and wanted to share my thoughts on this local gem.

During a recent breakfast meeting, I had the opportunity to speak with the owner, Kamal. His passion for authentic Palestinian cuisine and hospitality truly stood out. Everything at Al Manakeesh is made fresh from scratch using high-quality ingredients, including meat sourced from Michigan and traditional items like za'atar, Palestinian olive oil, Akkawi cheese, and labneh.

Their specialties center around manakeesh – traditional Middle Eastern flatbreads – baked in a Turkish brick oven at 600 degrees. The open kitchen allows guests to watch the dough being hand-shaped and prepared. Beyond their savory options, like the unique baked falafel pie and double-layered meat and cheese pies, their sweet treats are exceptional.

See *Heartfelt* . . . Page 2

Tipton Commerce Center breaks ground

$3 million READI 2.0 investment advances new ag tech, industrial & commercial development opportunities along U.S. 31

The REPORTER

Tipton County officials and partners broke ground on the Tipton Commerce Center on Tuesday, Oct. 27, near the northeast corner of U.S. 31 and State Road 28, to mark an important milestone in the county's efforts to attract new business investment, support job creation, and strengthen the local economy.

Tipton Commerce Center is a collaborative effort among Tipton County, the North Central Indiana Regional Planning Council (NCIRPC), and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC), supported by a $3 million grant through Indiana's Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI 2.0). Tipton Municipal Utilities is providing additional support to advance the development.

The groundbreaking brought together representatives of the Tipton County Board of Commissioners, Tipton County Council, Tipton County Redevelopment Commission, NCIRPC, Patch Development, Cushman & Wakefield, and others to recognize the progress made toward establishing a new destination for business and industry in Tipton County.



Photo by Joshua Andrews

The Tipton Commerce Center is located a few miles west of town at U.S. 31 at State Road 28.

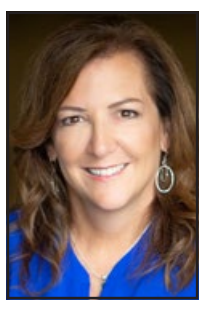
For Tipton County Board of Commissioners President Dennis Henderson, the groundbreaking represents the culmination of years of persistence and collaboration.

"This project has been a long time coming," Henderson said. "We started the process about six years ago and have just kept working to make it

See *Commerce* . . . Page 2

Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam announces re-election campaign

Submitted



Finkam

Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam announced via a **video on social media** that she will seek re-election in 2027, reaffirming her commitment to public safety, fiscal responsibility, and protecting Carmel's exceptional quality of life.

"There's more I want to accomplish, more problems to solve and more opportunities ahead for Carmel," Finkam said in her announcement video. "I love this city and the incredible people who call it home. Serving as your mayor is an honor I never take for granted."

Finkam was elected mayor in 2023 after serving 12 years on the Carmel City Council. She is seeking a second four-year term in the 2027 municipal election.

Carmel invites public to honor veterans

Submitted by City of Carmel

Carmel will hold its Veterans Day Ceremony on Nov. 6 this year.

The ceremony honors the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces. This year's theme, "Honoring Our Heroes: America 250," pays special tribute to the founding of the United States and the generations of veterans who have protected our nation.

The public is invited to join city officials, veterans' groups, and community members for this meaningful event, set for noon to 1 p.m. Nov. 6 at The Tarkington Theater.

As part of the annual tradition, the ceremony will also recognize the winners of the citywide Veterans Day poster and essay contest held among Carmel elementary school students. Winning posters will be displayed and the student essay winners will read their entries aloud.

All veterans, military families and members of the public are encouraged to attend.

Featured participants

- Carmel High School students Gwen Stacey and Connor Sudduth
- Carmel VFW Post 10003 Honor Guard
- Dave Choutka, Carmel Fire Department Chaplain
- Blair Clark, Artist Development Company
- Vice Admiral Terry Cross
- Dr. Tim Hannon, Retired U.S. Navy Captain



Photo provided by City of Carmel

- Dr. Thomas Oestreich, Carmel Clay Schools Superintendent
- Banks Pillar, 5th Grade Deputy Mayor
- Brielle Turner, Artist Development Company

Thank you to American Structurepoint, Inc. and Indiana Members Credit Union for your contributions to this event and our Veteran community.



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 Thursday, Oct. 29, listed by polling location. ***Click here*** *for more information on early voting.*

Judicial Center	10,042
4-H Fairgrounds	15,969
Carmel Clay Public Library	3,701
Jill Perelman Pavilion, Carmel	3,729
Wilfong Pavilion, Carmel	2,819
Billericay Park Bldg., Fishers	4,102
Roy G. Holland Bldg., Fishers	3,435
Cool Creek Nature Center	3,627
Westfield City Hall	2,208
Westfield Washington Twp. Bldg.	2,187
Cicero Library	592
Sheridan Library	370
TOTAL	**52,781**

Sheridan Retirement

502 W. 7th St. Sheridan, IN 46069

62 Years Old or Older. Disabled Any Legal Age

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

Limited Rental Assistance Available for those who qualify

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

317-758-5061
TTY 711

SHARE YOUR NEWS!
Broadcast your community's news to readers across Hamilton County
News@ReadTheReporter.com

HSE Schools adopts 2027 budget, holds teacher contract hearing

Submitted by HSE Schools

Hamilton Southeastern (HSE) Schools is heading into 2027 with a smaller budget. The Board of School Trustees approved a financial plan Wednesday evening, Oct. 28, that is projected to be approximately $15 million lower than last year.

The adopted budget totals $325.9 million, with actual expenditures expected to reach $323.9 million, compared to $339 million in 2026. The decrease reflects ongoing cost-saving efforts, including nearly $8 million in projected savings identified through the district's Budget Task Force, along with changes in revenue and debt obligations.

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


Kegley

Financial challenges remain, including declining enrollment, rising health insurance costs, and higher mandatory teacher retirement contributions. The projected 2027 tax rate is $1.1912 per $100 of assessed valuation, compared to $1.1476 in 2026.

The Board also approved the capital projects, bus replacement, and referendum spending plans. The 2027 budget includes a projected $31.3 million Referendum Fund spending plan with funding contingent on the outcome of the replacement operating referendum on Nov. 3.

Wednesday's meeting also included a public hearing on the tentative 2026-27 teacher contract with the Hamilton Southeastern Education Association (HSEA).

The proposed contract includes a $1,225 base salary increase for eligible teachers, with an additional $603 dependent on a successful passage of the referendum. Starting salaries for new teachers hired at the beginning of the 2026-27 school year would see a $500 increase with the successful passage of the referendum. New teachers hired after ratification would also increase by $750, with another $250 contingent on the election outcome.

The Board is scheduled to consider ratification at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4.

Additional information is available at **hseschools.org/community/finances** and **hseschools.org/community/public-notices**.

Heartfelt

from Page 1

Kamal treated us to an incredible warm sweet pie topped with ishta, honey, and pistachios.

What makes Al Manakeesh truly special is its focus on community and cultural sharing, evident down to the educational packaging that accompanies the food. It is a fantastic place to slow down, enjoy authentic flavors, and learn about Levantine food culture.

I highly recommend giving it a try the next time you are looking for a great meal in Fishers.

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



Photo provided by Pooja Thakkar

Commerce

from Page 1

happen. The North Central Indiana Regional Planning Council has been an incredible support for us. I am very happy to officially break ground today."

Located along U.S. 31 just west of Tipton, the Tipton Commerce Center offers development opportunities ranging from three to 80 acres, with planned unit development (PUD) zoning and access to essential utilities, including water, sewer, electricity, and natural gas. Its strategic location provides access to major regional markets, positioning the site to accommodate a range of industrial, logistics, and commercial users.

Tipton County Commissioner Tracey Powell emphasized the many local partners whose work helped move the project forward.

"This is a great day for Tipton County," Powell said. "We are grateful to everyone who worked on this project. County Council, Plan Commission, County Highway Department and Engineer, Tipton Municipal Utilities, and many more."

Tipton County Community Development Director Abbie Smith highlighted the importance of the project's private-sector partners in positioning the site for future development.

"We are happy to be partnering with the teams at Patch Development and Cushman & Wakefield," Smith said. "Their expertise has been critical in bringing us to this point, and we are confident they will continue making Tipton Commerce Center a success."

Patch Development and Cushman & Wakefield are bringing development and commercial real estate expertise to help position the Tipton Commerce Center for prospective investors and businesses seeking a strategic location in the region.

For more information on Tipton Commerce Center, people are encouraged to reach out to Tipton County's Community Development Department by emailing **communitydevelopment@tiptoncounty.in.gov**.

Advance

from Page 1

support, these organizations are making a meaningful difference in the lives of Westfield residents. We are grateful for their work and proud to invest in their continued impact."

The AWF board includes community members representing various corporate, nonprofit, and community partners. Board members are Eric Douthit, Kristy Murphy, Allison Van Natta, Danyele Easterhaus, Pete Emigh, Mike Rudolph, and Mitch Frazier.

For more information, visit **AdvancingWestfieldFoundation.org**.

2026 Grant Recipients

Heart & Soul Clinic	$50,000
Prevail	$50,000
Westfield Youth Assistance Program	$50,000
Student Impact	$50,000
Westfield Youth Sports	$40,000
Westfield Education Foundation	$28,000
Grace Care Center	$27,000
Trinity Free Clinic	$25,000
Westfield Library Foundation	$25,000
Union Bible College	$25,000
Shepherd's Center of Hamilton County	$20,000
Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank	$17,500
Janus Developmental Services	$15,000
Indiana Center for Prevention of Youth Abuse & Suicide	$15,000
The Cooper House	$15,000
Meals on Wheels Hamilton County	$10,000
Ascension St. Vincent YMCA in Westfield	$10,000
Family Promise of Hamilton County	$10,000
Christ United Methodist Church	$10,000
Open Doors of Westfield	$2,500
Westfield Pride	$2,500
HamCo Love	$1,500

Thanks for reading!

Prevail

According to survivors we serve, it can take 2-5 years to rebuild financial independence.

WHAT IS FINANCIAL ABUSE?

Behaviors that maintain power and control over finances, resources, and independence such as:

- Controlling how all the money is spent
- Restricting or disrupting work outside the home
- Being forced to keep all assets in their abuser's name and debts in the survivor's name
- Not including the survivor in investment or banking decisions, including no access to bank accounts
- Intentionally damaging credit

PREVAIL IS HERE FOR YOU.

PREVAIL 24-HOUR CRISIS LINE: 317-776-3472

All services are **free and confidential.**

1100 South 9th St., Suite 100, Noblesville, IN 46060

Thanks for reading!



Letter to the Editor

Noblesville sophomore encourages smokers to quit during Red Ribbon Week

Dear Editor:

Each year, from Oct. 23 to 31, a national event called Red Ribbon Week takes place. This campaign is dedicated to drug prevention efforts and helping those addicted to or affected by drugs. Did you know that nicotine is one of our planet's most addictive drugs? It's this fact that prompted me to write to share how harmful tobacco and nicotine use is and how you can get help or help someone in your life.



Photo provided

Noblesville High School sophomore Michael Bruner (left) and other VOICE Hamilton County members at IU Health Carmel removing tobacco litter and other trash from the hospital grounds.

Over one billion people across the planet use tobacco and nicotine products, which causes serious damage to the body, most notably the heart, lungs, and brain. Tobacco and nicotine use increases cancer rates, causes respiratory problems, decreases life expectancy, and creates a multitude of other health issues. Tobacco and nicotine use are also incredibly expensive, especially for those who choose to smoke multiple packs a day. On average, an adult smoker spends over $3,000 per year on cigarettes. In the current economy, that can be a costly choice. Not only that, but paying for cigarettes is basically paying to die faster; and, smoking and vaping affects not only the user, but those around them through second-hand smoke and vapor. Even your beloved pets can be affected.

As a baseball player, it's important to me that athletes realize how harmful smoking, vaping, and nicotine pouches can be to their athletic performance. Athletes who use tobacco and nicotine are totally disregarding the damage it does to their lungs, which in turn can make breathing and sport participation more challenging and can cause disease that ends athletic careers.

For those who are using tobacco and nicotine, Indiana offers free resources that can help you quit. The Indiana Quit Line (1-800-QUIT-NOW/1-800-784-8669) is a free program for adults, and Live Vape Free (**livevapefree.com**) is a free program for teens. Another way to quit is to consult your primary care physician; or, if you're a teen, seek help from a trusted adult.

It's my hope that Red Ribbon Week will give those using tobacco and nicotine a push toward quitting and remind those not using to never start.

Michael Bruner
Noblesville High School Sophomore & Hamilton County VOICE Member

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

Sheridan High School students engage in spooky-themed photography

Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

Halloween has arrived in Allison Waitt's Digital Design Graphics class at Sheridan High School, where students are transforming themselves into zombies using Adobe Photoshop.

Every October, Mrs. Waitt kicks off her spooky-themed Photoshop projects by challenging students to create their own zombie transformations. Using photo-editing tools and digital design techniques, students learn how to manipulate images, add special effects, and bring their creepy creations to life.

"It's fun to see the students get into the Halloween spirit while learning new design skills in Adobe Photoshop," Waitt said. "The students always enjoy our October projects."

The zombie project is just the beginning of a month filled with creative and spooky assignments. Students will design a photo background for Sheridan's Track-or-Treat event, carve digital pumpkins, and take on more Halloween-themed projects.

Through these activities, students can explore their creativity while building valuable skills in photo manipulation, graphic design, and digital editing.

With plenty of spooky projects still ahead, Mrs. Waitt's Digital Designs Graphics students are proving that learning Adobe Photoshop can be both educational and frighteningly fun.



Photos provided by Allison Waitt

Felicity Garrett and Jacob Groce are two of the students in Allison Waitt's Digital Design Graphics class.

Meeting Notice

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) The Hamilton County Personnel Committee will meet to discuss personnel issues at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2026, in Conference Room 1A at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

Each year, the Hamilton County Reporter requests government entities to notify us of public meetings as their Open Door Law notification under I.C. 5-14-1.5-5. The Reporter publishes these notices as a public service in our Tuesday through Friday digital editions. Meeting notices for Open Door Law compliance can be sent to ***PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com****.*

— FISHERS —

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – LEASE APPROVAL

The City of Fishers Redevelopment Commission, a commission of the City of Fishers authorized and existing pursuant to Ind. Code § 36-7-14 et. seq. ("Commission"), hereby provides NOTICE that at its November 17, 2026 meeting, the Commission will hold a public hearing on Resolution No. 01101726, a Resolution Approving Lease Of The Fishers Redevelopment Commission (Lease of the Fishers Fieldhouse). The meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. at the City of Fishers Municipal Building, 1 Municipal Drive, Fishers, Indiana, 46038. The Commission will receive and hear all remonstrances and objections from interested persons. Following the hearing, the Commission will consider whether to adopt the Resolution approving the Lease with BCFV26, LLC for the approximately 200,427 gross square a multi-sports facility.

R8909 *10/30/26 11/2/26*

BUSINESS CARDS

Arvin Masonry
Historical tuckpointing
Foundation repair & replacement
All things masonry
Noblesville 317-645-7460



Green Avenue GRANT$ & MORE
• Grant Research
• Proposal Writing
• Planning
• Other Fundraising
Your Road To Fundraising Success!
(317) 750-1204
www.greenavenue.info • amys@greenavenue.info

NOBLE BUSINESS ADVISORS
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
Wendy Stevens CPA, CGMA, MSA
Certified Business Advisor
Phone | 317.281.9063 • Fax | 317.219.0510
wendy.stevens@wstevenscpa.com
52 South 9th Street, Suite 3 • Noblesville, IN 46060
www.wstevenscpa.com
W. Stevens LLP DBA Noble Business Advisors

Live Music At Pasto Italiano
Benito DiBartoli Every Wednesday
$25 Bottles of Select Wines on Wednesday
Reservations Recommended
PASTO ITALIANO RESTAURANT & BAR
3150 E. SR 32 Westfield
317-804-2051
Closed Sundays



www.ReadTheReporter.com

The Dani Robinson difference
• What's the market value of my home?
• What is my process for buying a home?
• Who should I call for home repairs/remodeling?
• How do I learn about building a new home?
• Who should I call to refinance my home?
• Who should I call when I have someone who wants to buy my home?
Let's Talk
Scan here to view Dani's current listings.
Call Cicero your "Home Sweet Home!"
22585 Vos Hiatt Avenue
Cicero, IN, 46034
Welcome to walkable Cicero. This 1.73-acre property features an open-concept interior, large kitchen, fenced yard, and huge barn. Enjoy new vinyl flooring, a new AC unit, and a new well pressure tank. Welcome home!
Listed at $419,000
30 Blue Water Drive
Cicero, IN, 46034
Welcome to your peaceful Morse Lake retreat featuring a screened porch with water views, a beautiful courtyard, an open kitchen, a primary suite, two bedrooms, a storage shed, and a new carport.
Listed at $249,900
Talk To Dani Robinson REALTOR®/BROKER/SRES
317.407.6969
DaniR@talktotucker.com
TalkToDani.com
Talk to Tucker REALTORS
F.C. TUCKER COMPANY

Local news. Local views. Local events.

Scouting For Food to fill shelves at Open Doors

Submitted by Barry Simpson

On Saturday, Nov. 7, Westfield residents are likely to see Scouts strolling their neighborhoods.

Westfield Scouting America Crews, Troops, and Packs will hold their annual Scouting For Food from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7. Scouts will be canvassing Westfield neighborhoods to gather nonperishable food items to stock the critically low shelves of Open Doors of Westfield. Look for signs at the entrance of your neighborhood to know whether Scouts will be there.

"We have partnered with Open Doors for well over 20 years with a fall food drive and collected thousands of pounds of food each year to be distributed to Westfield families in need," Troop 1070 Committee Member and food drive coordinator Danica Eyler said. "We are proud to be Westfield based and helping local residents!"

Each of the last three Novembers, the Scouts have collected and sorted more than 4,000 pounds of food and were able to make a significant cash donation as well.

"This annual Scouting food drive is impactful and aids in donating food at the right time," said Kurt Wanniger, Westfield City Council member and Vice President for Operations for Open Doors. "This food will benefit the overall wellbeing of our community in more ways than most realize – the single parents making ends meet, the elderly person who has to decide between buying food for their pet or buying their meds, the child that will not go to bed hungry or go to school hungry and not be able to focus."

According to Eyler, Scouting For Food marks the second largest single collection day of the year for Open Doors.

"It is vital to ensuring their ability to provide holiday meals to our community and weekend snacks to our students in need," Eyler said.

Signs at the entrances of neighborhoods, including Centennial, Coventry, Oak Manor, Village Farms, Harmony and Silver Lakes, will let residents know if Scouts will be in the area. To participate, residents can have food items bagged and labeled "Scouts" or "Open Doors" and ready for pick-up by the front door.

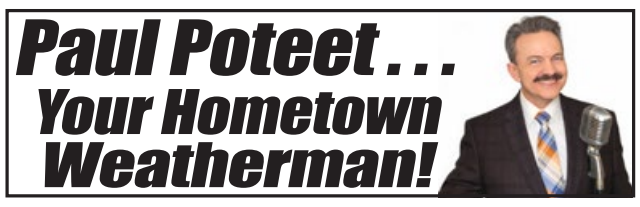
Donations will also be accepted at Webster & Garino, LLC, at 209 E. 179th St., Westfield, through Nov. 6 and in the parking lot west of Open Doors at 19360 Tomlinson Road from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 7.

"One of the best things about volunteering at Open Doors and seeing groups like this doing food drives in the importance of teaching the next generation the value of serving and giving back to their community," Wanninger said.

For a list of critically needed items, visit **opendoorswestfield.org**.

About Scouting America

Scouting America has been serving the community of Westfield and providing character development, leadership training, and outdoor adventure to youth for more than 75 years. This event has been supported and organized by Troops 107/1070 that meet at Christ United Methodist Church; but has been expanded in recent years to encompass all Scouting America Units that serve the Westfield Community. Westfield scouts serving the Westfield community. Youth between ages 5 and 21 interested in Scouting should visit **beascout.org** for a list of and contact information for the scouting units in Westfield.



Foster Success to host Taste of Thanks fundraising event

The REPORTER

Foster Success invites the public to celebrate the holiday season on Wednesday, Nov. 4, at its annual **Taste of Thanks** event in support of the organization's **FriendsGiving** campaign. The event takes place from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Ritz Charles Garden Pavilion, 12156 N. Meridian St., Carmel.

Foster Success impacts the lives of teens and young adults transitioning out of foster care every day by empowering them to reach their potential through programs focused on education, health, employment, and more. Taste of Thanks kicks off the annual FriendsGiving campaign, which supports Foster Success programs throughout the year.

This fundraising event includes music, holiday-inspired food and drinks. This year's keynote address is from a Foster Success participant. Chelsea is a LEAD Ambassador with Foster Success and Lead Customer Service Representative at Fifth Third Bank. She has been a Peer Presenter for two years, and is heavily involved in workforce readiness programs, specifically the **Works Wonders®** Workforce Readiness program. Chelsea will share her journey from early adulthood to breaking cycles and finally to becoming a support person for others doing the same, all while highlighting the impact Foster Success has had on her life.

Taste of Thanks will be held at the Ritz Charles Garden Pavilion located at 12156 N. Meridian Street in Carmel. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the event should wrap up around 9 p.m. Taste of Thanks is sponsored by Rehab Industries, Lumina Foundation, The Heritage Group, Proof Digital, Lilly Endowment Inc, and Taylor Advising.

About Foster Success

Headquartered in Indiana, Foster Success is a national nonprofit that hears, supports, and empowers teens and young adults transitioning out of foster care on their journey to self-sufficiency. Founded in 2012, Foster Success provides support through programs and resources that allow young adults to be educated, housed, financially stable, employed, and connected to a support system by their 26th birthday. For more information, visit **fostersuccess.org**.



CIRDA adopts Catalyze Plan to position Central Indiana for next wave of life sciences investment

The REPORTER

The Central Indiana Regional Development Authority (CIRDA) has adopted its Catalyze Plan, a regional strategy uniting 32 communities to attract investment, strengthen the region's life sciences ecosystem, and create higher-wage career opportunities for Hoosiers.

This marks a major milestone in a year-long effort to unite regional assets, investment opportunities, and leadership behind a shared vision for Central Indiana's economic future.

The Catalyze Plan takes a comprehensive view of life sciences, spanning human, animal, and plant health, and recognizes the strategic connections among life sciences, agriculture, advanced manufacturing, and logistics. This broad approach positions the region to leverage its interconnected industries, coordinate investment priorities, and pursue opportunities that can deliver economic benefits throughout Central Indiana.

This plan comes at a pivotal moment for the region. Life sciences companies are investing billions of dollars and making long-term decisions about where to locate research operations, expand manufacturing, develop next-generation products, and build distribution capacity.

These decisions can take years to translate into facilities, investment, and jobs. By aligning regional priorities and strengthening its competitive position now, Central Indiana can be better prepared to attract and capture these opportunities.

The Catalyze Plan also builds on Governor Mike Braun's **$1 billion investment** in life sciences, reinforcing the region's readiness to compete for new research, development, manufacturing, commercialization, and distribution activity.

At its core, the plan is about maximizing Central Indiana's collective strengths for lasting economic impact and creating pathways to higher wages and better opportunities for Hoosiers.

"Central Indiana has the research institutions, industry leaders, talent, manufacturing capabilities, and logistical advantages to compete for the life sciences investments that will shape our economy for decades to come," said CIRDA Board Chair Scott Fadness, Mayor of Fishers. "The Catalyze Plan reflects a year of thoughtful planning and regional collaboration in order to determine how we can better connect these assets and close critical gaps."

Developed with input from a CIRDA committee representing the entire region, the plan recognizes that Central Indiana's competitive advantage lies in the breadth and connectivity of its life sciences ecosystem.

From discovery and innovation to commercialization, production, and distribution, the region has capabilities that extend across all 32 CIRDA member communities.

"When we align our economic development efforts regionally, every community gains a competitive edge," said CIRDA Board Member Andrew Greenwood, Town Council President of Bargersville.

With adoption of the Catalyze Plan, CIRDA establishes a shared regional framework for building on existing strengths, addressing critical gaps, and preparing Central Indiana to compete for the next generation of life sciences investment. The ultimate goal is to translate regional collaboration into sustained economic growth, stronger communities, and higher-wage opportunities for Hoosiers.

To learn more about CIRDA's and read the Catalyze Plan, visit **centralindianarda.org/catalyze-central-indiana**.



Thanks for reading!



Wellington endorsed by Voters for a Green Indiana

Submitted

The non-partisan volunteer group Voters for a Green Indiana (VGI) has released its **Green Voters Guide** for the 2026 general election. The guide covers Indiana congressional races and select Indiana House and Senate races. It provides research on voting records and candidate views related to utility affordability, data centers, renewable energy, and the environment.

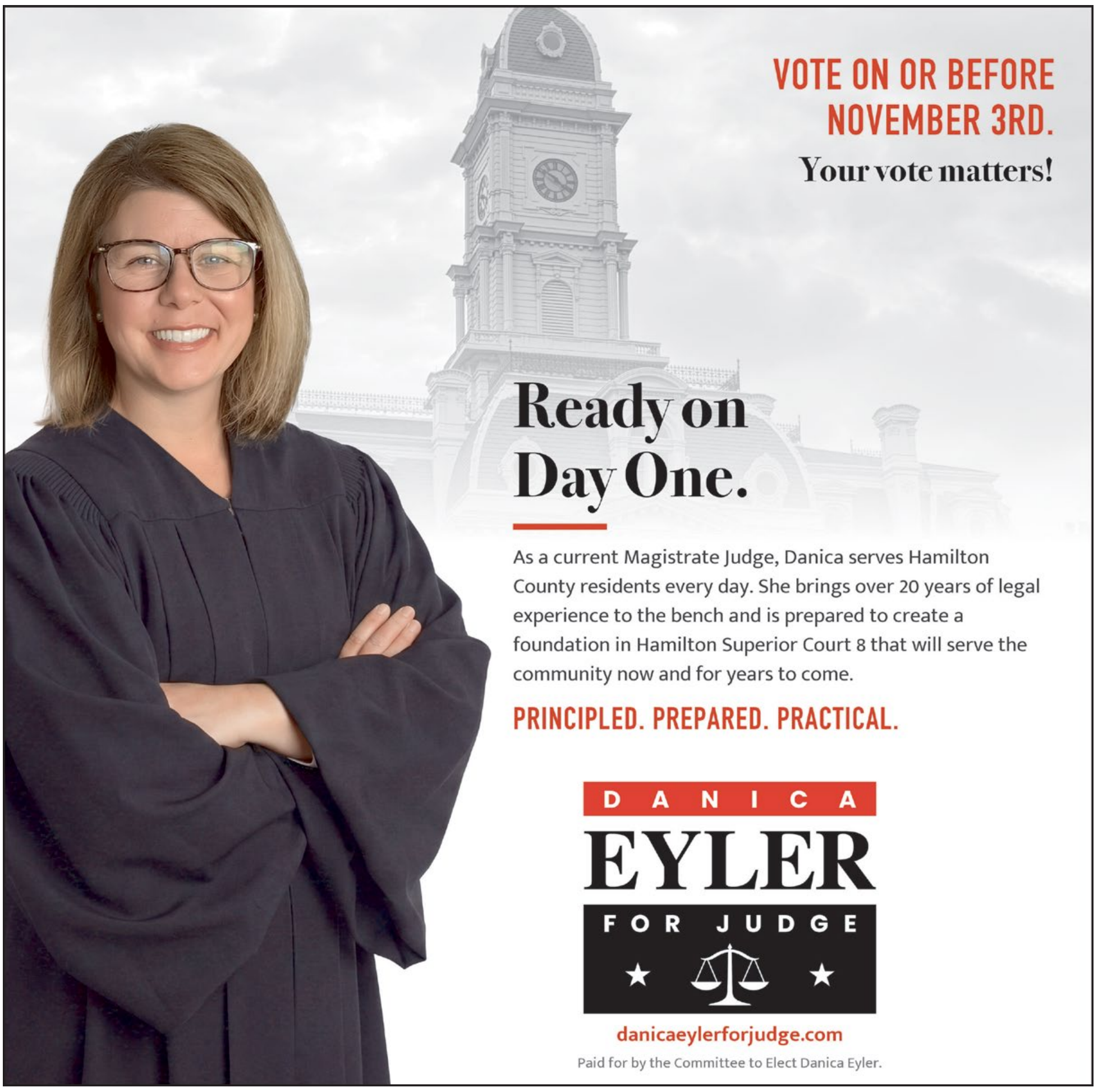


Wellington

Devon Wellington, running for District 29 State Representative, is endorsed by the guide as being a "strong advocate for utility affordability, addressing data center concerns, and supporting clean energy and the environment."

The Green Voters Guide is available at **VotersForAGreenIndiana.org**.





NYSA
NOBLESVILLE YOUTH SPORTS ALLIANCE
ONE COMMUNITY ● 7000+ KIDS ● 16 PROGRAMS
www.noblesvillesports.com @noblesvillesports

Letter to the Editor

Retired National Guardsman: Spartz went "above & beyond"

Dear Editor:

My name is Donnie Holland, and I proudly served with the Indiana National Guard in Vietnam. For years, I fought to get my unit the recognition it deserved. Despite numerous attempts, no one was able to help us – until I met Congresswoman Victoria Spartz.

Congresswoman Spartz didn't just listen to our story. She took action. She worked tirelessly, pushed through obstacles, and refused to give up on us. Her determination and genuine commitment to veterans made all the difference.

This summer, after decades of waiting, my fellow soldiers and I finally received the Presidential Unit Citation, one of the highest honors a military unit can receive. For those of us who served together in Vietnam, this recognition meant more than words can express.

Victoria Spartz understands that honoring our veterans requires more than speeches and promises. It takes hard work, persistence, and a willingness to fight for those who fought for our country.

Congresswoman Spartz went above and beyond for me and my fellow soldiers. I will never forget what she did for us.

Thank you, Congresswoman Spartz. You have earned my deepest gratitude, respect, and full support.

Donnie Holland
Anderson, Ind.

Letter to the Editor

Robyn Cook: Jackson Township is growing as one community

Dear Editor:

As Election Day approaches, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the people of Jackson Township. The outpouring of support, encouraging words, thoughtful letters, and conversations throughout this campaign have been incredibly humbling. Hearing others speak so kindly about my character, my work, and my commitment to this community means more than I can adequately express.

I especially want to thank my family, who have graciously put up with my being somewhat MIA these past few months! My husband, our daughters, and our grandchildren are my greatest blessings. My faith and family are the foundation of who I am and remind me daily why serving others matters.

I've always viewed Jackson Township as one community. Whether you live in Cicero, Arcadia, Atlanta, or the surrounding rural areas, we share more than township boundaries. Our children attend the same schools, our families worship, work, and volunteer alongside one another, and we share a desire to preserve what makes our community special.

As a Hamilton Heights graduate, former Clerk-Treasurer, and your Township Trustee since 2019, this community has been part of nearly every chapter of my life. I've always believed public service means being accessible, listening to concerns, and treating people with dignity. Whether someone needs township assistance or wants to discuss growth and preserving our community's identity, I've worked to be available and approachable.

Together, we've accomplished a great deal. We've strengthened public safety with a new fire station, expanded local training opportunities, invested in our firefighters, and established the first collective bargaining agreement with our professional firefighters. We've honored service and sacrifice through the Rambo Scholarship and 9/11 Memorial, brought a donation-funded Safe Haven Baby Box to northern Hamilton County, and continued finding compassionate, creative ways to help neighbors in need. None of this happened because of one person. It happened through dedicated employees, firefighters, board members, community partners, and residents working together.

Today, township government is at a crossroads. Legislative discussions surrounding property taxes, funding, and the future of township government will directly affect the services our residents depend upon. The decisions ahead require more than good intentions. They require experience, financial knowledge, established relationships, and an understanding of how government works.

For more than 25 years, I've navigated local government budgets, legislation, and the challenges of serving a growing community. I've built relationships with municipal, county, and state leaders that provide opportunities for collaboration and a voice for Jackson Township as decisions are being made. Those relationships weren't built overnight, and they cannot be replaced overnight.

We've made significant progress, but the next four years will bring difficult decisions about sustainable funding, public safety, and responsible growth. I understand the work, the challenges, and the people involved. This is a pivotal time for Jackson Township, and continuity of experienced leadership matters. Now is not the time to lose the experience and momentum we've built.

Jackson Township isn't simply where I hold public office. It's home. It's where my roots run deep, where I've raised my family, and where I've spent much of my adult life serving neighbors who have become friends.

I am proud of what we've accomplished, grateful for the trust you've placed in me, and prepared to continue leading us forward. I respectfully ask for your vote on Nov. 3.

Three towns. One community. One shared future.

Robyn Cook
Arcadia
Jackson Township Trustee

THIS IS WHAT WE'RE SAYING YES TO
PEOPLE, PROGRAMS & OPPORTUNITIES THAT MAKE NOBLESVILLE SCHOOLS SHINE

CONTINUED ACADEMIC SUCCESS
Nationally ranked STEM programs, career pathways, and award-winning music and academic programs

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
Counselors, social workers, partnerships, academic supports, and mental health education

SCHOOL SAFETY
School resource officers, crisis and threat management resources, and ongoing safety initiatives

MILLER YES
VOTE YES ON NOVEMBER 3
PAID FOR BY STRONG SCHOOLS NOBLESVILLE

Letter to the Editor

Walt & Holly Beaver endorse Noblesville Schools referendum

Dear Editor:

We have been fortunate enough to travel to other parts of the world. Many of the travelers we meet ask why we live in Indiana. We tell them it is because Noblesville is a great place to live and raise a family. Noblesville Schools are a big part of our answer.

We moved to Noblesville in 1977 to start my family medicine practice. The population at that time was around 17,000. We raised our children here, and both graduated from NHS. We have witnessed the growth of our community and, along with it, the growth of our schools. The growth has not been by accident. We love that the community has been willing to support the many organizations within Noblesville, particularly our school system. That support has helped our school system attract and retain excellent teachers and administrators while providing remarkable opportunities for students.

The programs available today are impressive. Students can pursue EMS certification at NHS and learn welding in dedicated teaching bays – training for which we once paid to send students to J. Everett Light. Internships introduce our students to a wide range of careers and help them discover where their interests and talents can lead.

Strong schools are one of the most important reasons families choose a community. They prepare our children to become productive, engaged members of society and strengthen the community we all share.

Our community's investments in education make a huge difference for our children, our grandchildren, and all of Noblesville. Holly and I strongly support the referendum. Please vote yes! The Noblesville that we know and love depends on it.

Walt & Holly Beaver
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.*

Noblesville Chamber of Commerce endorses school referendum

Submitted

The Noblesville Chamber of Commerce has announced its support for the upcoming Noblesville Schools referendum, encouraging residents to vote in favor of continuing the funding that supports the district's existing educational programs, student services, safety initiatives, and educator recruitment and retention efforts.

The endorsement is based on the Chamber's long-standing belief that strong schools are essential to a thriving local economy and a vibrant community.

"As the voice of the business community, the Chamber recognizes that exceptional schools are one of the most important assets a city can offer," Noblesville Chamber of Commerce CEO Bob DuBois said. "High-performing schools attract families, support property values, strengthen workforce development, and contribute significantly to the quality of life that makes Noblesville a desirable place to live, work, and invest."

The Chamber emphasized that the referendum is not intended to fund new programs or expand district services. Rather, it is focused on maintaining the funding that currently supports academic achievement, student safety, mental health resources, and the talented educators who serve Noblesville students every day.

For local employers, the connection between educational excellence and economic prosperity is clear. Businesses seeking to locate or expand in a community consistently consider the quality of local schools as a key factor. Strong schools help develop the next generation workforce while also attracting and retaining the skilled employees companies need today.

"For more than a decade, Noblesville Schools have been a competitive advantage for our community," the Chamber stated. "When businesses evaluate locations for investment and growth, they look for communities that demonstrate a commitment to educational excellence. The continued strength of our schools benefits not only students and families, but the entire local economy."

The Chamber acknowledges that residents and businesses must carefully evaluate any tax-related decision. However, Chamber leadership believes the long-term success of Noblesville remains closely tied to maintaining the high-quality educational opportunities that have helped shape the community's reputation and attractiveness to employers, residents, and investors alike.

The Chamber joins numerous community leaders and stakeholders who have publicly expressed support for the referendum, including Mayor Chris Jensen, Mike Thibideau of Invest Hamilton County, City Councilor Aaron Smith, Senator Scott Baldwin, and State Representative Alaina Shonkwiler.

Residents seeking additional information can learn more about the referendum and estimate their potential tax impact by visiting the **Noblesville Schools referendum website**. The Chamber also encourages voters to listen to its NobleWorks Podcast interview featuring Superintendent Dr. Dan Hile for further insight into the referendum and its community impact.

Letter to the Editor

Noblesville High School senior endorses operating referendum

Dear Editor:

My name is Brody Motz, and I'm a senior at Noblesville High School.

The Noblesville School District has meant everything to me growing up; it has provided me with endless opportunities to grow not only academically but personally as well.

I've been involved in many extracurricular activities, but the two I want to highlight are the Noblesville Golf Team and Noblesville Band. I am proud to say that both of these programs are among the best in the state. Our concert band regularly qualifies for state finals, the jazz band is always in contention for the Ellington Jazz Festival, a national competition, and the golf team has placed in the top six at the ISAA State Finals for the past three consecutive years.

While these accomplishments are impressive, it's the friends, mentors, and memories I've made along the way that have made these activities worthwhile. These are the things I can take with me as move on to college and beyond. However, it takes resources, educators, and coaches to keep these programs consistently excellent and worthwhile, and it's the funding from our referendum that provides us with these resources.

This is why it's crucial for our new referendum to pass in November: so the younger students who come after me have the same opportunities to make their own memories as I have had.

Brody Motz
Noblesville

Letter to the Editor

Wellington's campaign manager: Devon is the real deal & here's why

Dear Editor:

Up front: I'm Devon Wellington's Campaign Manager, so let me tell you where I stand.

I never, and I do mean never, believe any party or system should outweigh the person. A party, a system, a government is only as strong as the people who make it up. My chosen party happens to be "blue," but I always look at the person when voting.

Our community has far more love and compassion than hate, even when the voices screaming hate can ring loudest. We talk about belonging but struggle to embrace ideas considered "new." And our everyday citizens are tired: tired of fear mongering, resource gutting, and doing more with less.

I've heard it from kids, teens, Democrats, Republicans, Independents, and people who couldn't care less about politics. On golf courses, in parking lots, hotel lobbies, and playgrounds. No one wants to canvass, phone bank, or live in the political sphere, but they feel they must if things will ever be "different" or "normal." I hear those words constantly, along with "reasonable," "balanced," and "how it used to be."

I didn't seek out this gig, and I don't trust easily, especially when it comes to politics. I verify and verify again. I ask tough questions and observe constantly. Few people make the cut to actual trust, and no one has faced my scrutiny like Devon. She has had every opportunity to show me she's too ambitious, too political, too callous. I've seen her tired, angry, and heartbroken.

She is the real deal. Not a flashy politician chasing the perfect news clip, or someone who promises the world. I've watched her do things no one knows about: hug domestic violence survivors, walk away from a group of "somebodies" to talk with a "nobody," and play with and listen to kids who can't vote for years. I've seen her stand with teachers and our schools before any endorsement, support small businesses authentically without a photo op, and stay put while people yelled at her.

During the flood, I was by her side as she worked across the aisle and listened to the families impacted. Not for campaign "points," but because there was nowhere else we would have been. I saw her mosquito-bitten arms as she walked the hardest-hit paths and mucked out houses. I also saw her devastated and frustrated when she couldn't do more for a family in need. I have seen her genuinely show up for those communities since the devastation. Her selflessness, especially during the flood, will stay with me long after this election.

Okay, she's a good person. But will she represent us? Unequivocally, yes. She will make all of us mad at some point, me included, because when you listen to people instead of interest groups, people react. I've seen her stand up to her own party on many levels. Devon isn't loyal to party or her own ambitions. She wants to hear your needs, check the data, and go to bat for the truth. This has never been about what Devon wants, but about what the community needs.

I know I'm biased. Some will call this a campaign ploy. To that I say: she doesn't know I'm writing this. She hates attention. It's probably not "advisable" to write it, but I'm writing it anyway for two reasons. First, I've asked others to do this all season, and I never ask anyone to do something I won't. Second, it deserves to be said, and I'm uniquely positioned to say it.

There are "meh" candidates in every party (Democrats, breathe, it's true), people running for a title or power. But there are others, like Devon, on both sides, who are genuine public servants. Someone will represent us and have the power to make daily life harder or better. Devon will make it better. She will use all her power and any prestige to ease our daily struggles. She will carry our burdens with us, not add to them. And I promise my community this: if she ever fails to represent us, I'll be the first to call her out. She knows it, the party knows it, and now you do.

Devon is as real and as dedicated as they come. Advocating for her has been a great honor, because trusting authentically good people, and being trusted by them, is a rare gift. I can think of no better way to serve than helping them as they help others. It is because of all of this and so much more that I proudly endorse Devon Wellington for District 29 State Representative.

Nocona Canady-Flatt
Noblesville

Letter to the Editor

Mark Boice endorses Noblesville referendum

Dear Editor:

Noblesville has always been home to me. I am proud to be a Noblesville High School graduate, and one of the greatest joys of being a father has been watching my two daughters grow, learn, and discover their own paths through the opportunities they've had in Noblesville Schools. Seeing the impact of these experiences on their lives has given me an even deeper appreciation for the community and schools that helped shape my own life.

Over the years, I've seen firsthand the difference our schools make in the lives of students and families. From show choir and theater to athletics, academic clubs, robotics, and science programs, our schools give students opportunities to explore their interests, discover their strengths, build friendships, and find where they belong. Leadership and service programs also encourage students to develop confidence, take initiative, serve others, and give back to the community they call home.

As a city councilor who values fiscal responsibility, I take decisions involving taxpayer dollars seriously. I understand that families are facing rising costs and that every dollar matters. I also believe it's important to carefully consider what could be lost when decisions are made about funding our schools.

After reviewing the school budget, I have real concerns about the consequences of a failed referendum. The resulting budget reductions would put teachers, classroom resources, and programs at risk – things that directly affect students and have made a meaningful difference in so many lives.

When I think about our daughters' experiences, I think about the teachers, coaches, mentors, and staff who took the time to get to know them, encourage them, challenge them, and believe in them. These are people who made a lasting difference in their lives, and as a parent, I couldn't be more grateful. I know countless families throughout Noblesville have their own stories of educators who made a difference.

For me, this is about more than a school budget. It's about the children growing up in our community, the people who dedicate their lives to teaching and supporting them, and the future of the place we are proud to call home.

The referendum represents an incremental investment of less than $2 per month for the average taxpayer compared with what they currently pay. I recognize that no one wants to pay more in taxes, and I take that responsibility seriously. But I believe providing our children with the opportunities, support, and education they need to succeed is an investment worth making.

I'm asking my fellow Noblesville residents to join me in supporting our students, our educators, and our community's future by voting YES on the Noblesville Schools referendum.

Mark Boice
Noblesville City Councilor
Noblesville High School Graduate and Parent

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.*

American Bank of Freedom

www.americanbankoffreedom.bank

NMLS#409183

Save time and open your account online!

Certificate of Deposit Specials

3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
4.00% APY*	4.50% APY*	4.50% APY*

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

APPLIES TO NEW DEPOSITS ONLY.

American Bank of Freedom, Member FDIC.

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

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

Member FDIC | EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Bethel Lutheran Church blessed with perfect weather for Family Fall Festival

People flocked to Bethel Lutheran Church for the third annual Family Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 17, blessed by wonderful weather and an amazing turnout of more than 300 adults and children of all ages. Thank you to all the community sponsors and volunteers who made this fun, free event possible for families. The pictures offer just a glimpse of the activities, laughter, and joy of fellowship, and play everyone shared. Are you interested in preschool for the 2027-2028 school year? Legacy Preschool at Bethel will hold an Open House from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12. Come tour the preschool at 20650 Cumberland Road, Noblesville, meet the teachers, and discover why families love Legacy Preschool, where children learn, grow, and thrive. Learn more or schedule a personal tour at ***admissions@lcsmail.org****. You can also learn more about Bethel Lutheran Church at* ***bethellutheranchurch.com****. (Photos by 10th Street Photography)*







































Fishers Health Department releases Community Health Improvement Plan

Submitted by Fishers Health Department

The Fishers Health Department (FHD) has released its 2026 Community Health Improvement Plan, the next step following last year's Community Health Assessment.



Fadness



Heltz

The new plan focuses on three areas where FHD and community partners can work together to improve health and well-being:

- Mental Health for All Ages, with a Priority Focus on Youth and Families
- Social Connection and Belonging Across the Lifespan
- Community Resource Navigation and Connection System

The priorities build on the 2025 Community Health Assessment, which was developed through a year-long review of local, state, and national health data, nearly 1,500 community survey responses and input from more than 60 focus group participants. After the assessment was completed, more than 230 additional residents helped prioritize areas for action, and a steering committee representing health care, behavioral health, education, public safety, social services, local government, and other community organizations helped shape the final plan.

"Fishers has always approached growth by bringing the right people to the table and finding practical ways to improve quality of life," Fishers Mayor Scott Fadness said. "This plan builds on that approach by focusing on what matters most to residents and where the city, our Health Department, and our partners can work together."

The plan focuses on needs identified in the Community Health Assessment. Mental health was the community's top health priority, with mental health-related emergency room visits increasing 73 percent among adults ages 20 to 29 and 24 percent among residents under age 20 since 2020. More than one in four Fishers adults experience social isolation, and residents also reported challenges knowing what resources are available and where to start when they need help.

FHD has already begun expanding programs and services in response to these needs. Last month, the department launched a free Mental Health Navigation service to help residents understand their options and connect with mental health resources and treatment. FHD also offers mental health education and prevention programs, including Mental Health First Aid and suicide prevention trainings, and plans to continue growing opportunities that support mental well-being across all ages. Through its Aging Well programs, FHD also provides classes and activities designed to help older adults stay connected, active, and engaged in the community.

"Our Community Health Assessment told us what the needs are. This plan helps us narrow that down to areas where FHD and our partners can focus our efforts," said Monica Heltz, Director and Health Officer of the Fishers Health Department. "The goal is to build on work already happening in Fishers, strengthen partnerships and make it easier for residents to connect with support."

The Community Health Improvement Plan focuses on resident priorities that require collaboration with community partners, while FHD's broader strategic plan, to be released later this year, guides the department's overall work. The plan also supports FHD's initial accreditation efforts through the Public Health Accreditation Board.

Over the next three years, FHD and community partners will put the priorities into action through new and expanded programs. In 2027, FHD plans to launch additional mental health education opportunities, including programs designed to reach parents

See *Plan* . . . Page 10

Tractor Supply stores to host Hometown Heroes Day

The REPORTER

Tractor Supply Company is celebrating National Hometown Heroes Day on Saturday, Nov. 7 by activating all stores nationwide to recognize and honor local police, fire, veterans, and active military service members.

On Hometown Heroes Day, stores across Indiana will celebrate with:

- **Exclusive 10 percent savings:** A special 10 percent discount for Hometown Heroes registered and verified with Tractor Supply's Neighbors Club. Sign up at **tractorsupply.com/hometownheroes**.
- **In-store activities:** Community members and families are invited to visit their local Tractor Supply for touch-a-truck opportunities with local first responders and "thank a hero" letter writing.
- **Local giving:** Each participating store will present a donation to a local military, veteran or first responder organization of their choice.



NOBLESVILLE SCHOOLS

Board Highlights

October 2026 Meeting

Submitted by Noblesville Schools

The school board has responsibility for major district functions including school district governance and oversight, setting school policies, approving funding, strategic planning, and hiring and evaluating the superintendent.

- The board honored Noblesville West Middle School's seventh grade football team for their undefeated season and Hamilton County championship.
- Hinkle Creek Elementary presented on their applied programming for students with special needs.
- Assistant Superintendent of Learning Dr. Ryan Rich presented on state testing results that show Noblesville Schools students continue to be top academic performers in Indiana.
- The board approved the 2027 budget, including a 38.5-cent operating referendum rate. As required by state law, the budget must be submitted by Nov. 1 and also must assume the continuation of referendum funds. If the continuation of referendum funding is not approved by voters, the budget will be amended accordingly.

*Go to **noblesvilleschools.org/leadership/school-board** for meeting agendas, minutes, videos, and more.*









Photo provided

Christmastime tradition comes to life: Central Indiana Dance Ensemble presents *The Nutcracker*

Submitted

Central Indiana Dance Ensemble (CIDE) again presents the beloved classic, *The Nutcracker*, from Dec. 11 to 13 at the STAR Bank Performing Arts Center at Zionsville High School, 1000 Mulberry St.

The Nutcracker is a magical holiday must-see. Join in Clara's dazzling adventure as she is swept away by her Nutcracker Prince to The Land of Sweets. Witness waltzing flowers, swirling snowflakes, and a courageous battle between toy soldiers and mice in this enchanting production.

Set to Tchaikovsky's famous score, *The Nutcracker* is made complete with beautiful choreography, costumes, and sets.

On Saturday and Sunday, plan to also attend The Sugar Plum Fairy Dessert Party at 12:30 p.m., prior to the matinee performance. Tickets need to be purchased separately.

Get your tickets **here**.

This is a full-length ballet. The 2 p.m. Matinee performances are designated as relaxed performances, designed to create a welcoming experience. Patrons are free to talk quietly and leave their seats during the performance if needed.

This year, make CIDE's production of *The Nutcracker* a part of your Christmastime tradition. Create memories to last a lifetime as you experience this exquisitely danced confection with family and friends.

2026 Dates

- Friday, Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 12 at 2 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Dec. 13 at 2 p.m.

To see information about CIDE and performances in 2027, visit **cidedance.org/current-season**.

Beauty & Grace Aesthetics of Noblesville expands hair restoration options with two regenerative treatments

Submitted

Beauty & Grace Aesthetics, a locally owned medical aesthetics practice at 93 S. 9th St. in downtown Noblesville, is expanding its regenerative treatment offerings with the introduction of DE|RIVE Hair Restoration and Cellenis platelet-rich plasma (PRP) treatments.

The practice will celebrate the expansion with a Hair Restoration Event from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 5, inviting area residents to explore new approaches to hair thinning and rejuvenation.

Hair thinning and loss can affect both men and women, whether related to aging, hormonal changes, stress, or other factors. The addition of these treatments gives Beauty & Grace patients more nonsurgical options to explore as part of a personalized treatment plan.

DE|RIVE is a noninvasive scalp treatment formulated with exosomes, peptides, and growth factors. Designed to support scalp health, the treatment aims to create a healthier environment for hair growth. The in-office experience uses ultrasound technology to apply the treatment without needles, with an accompanying at-home serum available to support ongoing scalp care.

Cellenis PRP takes a different approach, using a concentration of platelets containing naturally occurring growth factors. When administered to areas of the scalp experiencing thinning, PRP is intended to support hair follicle activity and may help improve hair density. The technology can also be used for facial rejuvenation, offering additional options for patients seeking improvements in skin quality and appearance.

"Hair thinning can be a very personal concern, and we know how much it can affect someone's confidence," said Amy Julian-Resner, NP-C, owner of Beauty & Grace Aesthetics. "We want our patients to know they have options. By bringing these treatments to Beauty & Grace, we're able to have more individualized conversations about what may help them feel like themselves again."

The Nov. 5 event will give attendees an opportunity to learn about the treatments, ask questions, and meet the Beauty & Grace team.

As part of the celebration, two attendees will be selected to receive complimentary treatment with DE|RIVE or Cellenis PRP in exchange for sharing their experiences. Participants must be present at the event to be selected.

Reserve a spot online at **bit.ly/bghair**.

Plan

from Page 9

and caregivers of young children, while continuing work with local behavioral health providers to improve access to care. FHD is also beginning to develop a social ambassador model that will use trained community volunteers to help connect residents with programs, services, and opportunities for social connection. These and other efforts will be tracked and updated as community needs change.

View the full Community Health Improvement Plan **here** and learn more about the Fishers Health Department at **Health.FishersIN.gov**.

Hamilton Heights Dance Team announces schedule



Photo provided

The Hamilton Heights Dance Team has announced the performance schedule, including where they will perform.

- **Nov. 12 at 5 p.m. at the Middle School (Hip Hop Routine)**
- **Dec. 3 at 5 p.m. at the Middle School (Hip Hop Routine)**
- **Dec. 5 at 1:45 p.m. at the High School (Hip Hop Routine)**
- **Jan. 25 at 5 p.m. at the Middle School (Pom Routine)**
- **Feb. 9 at 7:45 p.m. at the High School (Pom Routine)**

Kroger is hiring for the holidays across Central Indiana

Submitted

Kroger has a new sign of changing seasons. It's the "Now Hiring" sign at stores in and around Indianapolis. The grocer is ready to welcome new associates to full- or part-time positions ahead of the holiday season.

"We are ready to hire more than 200 people for a variety of roles across our central Indiana stores," Division President Mike Goodwin said. "They're opportunities for people just starting out or coming to us with years of experience. We know applicants will appreciate Kroger's team-oriented culture with tremendous potential for personal growth. As we create America's favorite grocer, this the perfect time to join Kroger."

Kroger's growth will add almost 300 associates at its new Boone County store. While construction of the Kroger Marketplace will continue into the winter, the grocer is simultaneously building its team to prepare for the store's opening in January. Qualified applicants will begin work quickly.

For Kroger, the new Boone County store is distinctive because it is not replacing an older building. It is a brand-new, bright, and colorful addition to the grocer's network of local stores. The Zionsville store is Central Indiana's second, all new store, after the spring opening of a new Kroger Marketplace in Noblesville. Both investments recognize the vibrance and growth of Central Indiana and Kroger's determination to deliver high value and lower prices to its customers.

Kroger selected store leader Amanda Downin, moving her from Carmel's Range Line Road store, to take charge of the grocer's newest local Marketplace.

"I'm excited to be part of opening a new Kroger store in Boone County," Downin said. "This opportunity is about building meaningful relationships, creating growth opportunities, and establishing a welcoming place where associates and customers feel valued and connected. There's something truly special about building a team from the ground up and developing a store our community can be proud of."

To potential applicants Downin said, "If you're ready to make an impact, grow your career, and help shape something extraordinary from day one, we invite you to join our team and build the future of Kroger in Whitestown with us."

When fully staffed, the new Boone County store will more than double Kroger's workforce in the area. Recruiters invite applicants to the Kroger at 10679 N. Michigan Road for a set of hiring events:

- Oct. 31, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Nov. 11, 1 to 7 p.m.
- Nov. 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Dec. 2, 1 to 7 p.m.
- Dec. 12, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To reach as many potential job seekers as possible for the new store, Kroger will also offer two days of interviews at its Lebanon store on Nov. 7 and 10.

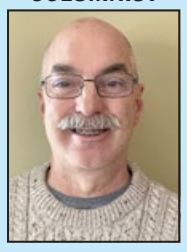
Kroger plans to unveil the new $42-million store with a Grand Opening celebration in January. But the company is hiring now because work is already underway to prepare for that big day.

There, and for other open positions in Central Indiana, no experience is required for hourly clerks; however, store leaders desire experience in candidates who could manage key departments at their local Kroger stores. Schedules for the positions will vary based on the role. Some associates can anticipate a traditional retail schedule, working nights and weekends.

See *Hiring* . . . Page 12

A trip to SoBro

COLUMNIST



JON SMYRNIS
Bourbon Psychosis

"Hazmat Barrels are just happy accidents." – Joe Ybarra

A couple of weeks ago I was introduced to a wonderful place by my friend, the above-mentioned Joe Ybarra. Joe is an excellent brewer (having formerly been at Books & Brews), and has recently switched gears into distilling. His new gig is at the quaint Circle City Whiskey Company.

Located on East 46th Street near the Nickel Plate Trail, Circle City's tasting room is cozy and inviting, and usually plays host to Indy's bourbon clubs. In fact, on the particular Friday night we were there they were hosting a club. Though we weren't members, they treated us as such. That included inviting us to partake in a pitch-in appetizer buffet that would've put some restaurants to shame. We really had a fun time.

Circle City's owner, Drew Black, acquires rare single barrels from distilleries across the country (including many of the biggies). Through their own blending and finishing, Circle City turns them into extraordinary whiskies for bottling. At the tasting room, you will encounter many types of single-barrel bourbons. Among these are gems which are designated as "Legacy Bottles," which come from Hazmat* Barrels.

So, what are "Hazmat Barrels"? They are cask strength whiskeys that are bottled at 140 proof or higher. By law bourbon can only *enter* the barrel at 125 proof or below. Most distillers cut the higher proofs with water to make them more palatable to the public. Sometimes a few barrels age to too high a proof, so distilleries consider these barrels to be unmarketable – "happy accidents" for us.

I can't even begin to tell you how many of these special whiskeys they offer (the menu was staggering). On this particular evening I sampled their 140 proof Lux Row Legacy 6 year, a 117.5 proof double oaked Heaven Hill 6 year, a 101 proof Wild Turkey/Bardstown blend called "Birds of a Feather" and a wonderful 7 year MGP 119 proof Syrah-finished juice named "Que Sarah" (that was my favorite). All were very good! Many are kinda pricey per bottle, but worth every cent.

And … the place serves outstanding cocktails! They'll do pretty much anything from a Manhattan to a Paper Plane. I might have imbibed a little too much that evening. I can't express how much I enjoyed the experience at this great little place. If you're ever in the SoBro area, be sure to drop by. You'll be glad that you did.

While you're in SoBro, check out one of the city's finest liquor stores: SoBro Spirits, Wine and Craft Beer. The place has a great selection of all kinds of boozy goodies, especially bourbon/whiskey.

The thing that sets it apart from most is that they have a great selection of allocated whiskeys that are available through their Bourbon Lottery. The timelines aren't set in stone, but the lottery is usually once or twice a month. The deal is; every time you purchase a bottle of whiskey, you get one entry. Here's the really cool part, you get to designate which bottle(s) you are interested in from the ones available for that particular drawing – very nice.

Finally, the place has an awesome tasting room in the back where they (quite often) have free tasting events open to the public. This isn't just for the ordinary stuff. They often feature rarities,

See *SoBro* . . . Page 12



HAMILTON COUNTY TELEVISION
Web Television
Logan Street SIGNS & BANNERS
34 YEARS
www.LoganStreetSigns.com

Upcoming Broadcasts

Girls Basketball broadcasts begins on Hamilton County TV
Wed Nov 4

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

Available on the Web www.HCTV1.com
YouTube www.HCTV2.com
On your Roku TV or Roku Device Search for HCTV1
On your Amazon Fire TV or Device Search for Hamilton County TV

ADLER attorneys

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

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

CONTACT US

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

NOBLESVILLE, IN
Nickel Plate HERITAGE RAILROAD
ESTD 2017

NEW!
HOLIDAY LIGHT RAILBIKES

NOVEMBER 14-JANUARY 2

BIKE THE RAILS FROM FOREST PARK TO DOWNTOWN NOBLESVILLE

MAKE A NEW HOLIDAY TRADITION!

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
NICKELPLATEEXPRESS.COM

Ballard proposes high school program to improve voter turnout

Plan calls for mock elections on real equipment and on-site registration for eligible students

Submitted

Independent Indiana Secretary of State Candidate Greg Ballard proposed a program on Thursday, Oct. 29, to encourage the next generation of voters to comfortably go to the polls. Ballard outlined pieces of the plan during an event this week at Hamilton Southeastern High School hosted by Rho Kappa, the school's social studies honor society.

The full plan would get young Hoosiers thinking about voting before they are eligible to cast a real ballot and familiarize them with the process. Ballard's proposal is designed to help address the fact that Indiana has consistently finished in the bottom ten states for voter turnout.

As Secretary of State, Ballard would:

1. Bring mobile voting machines into Indiana high schools interested in the program, so students can run mock elections on the same kind of equipment their county will use on Election Day.

2. Register on-site every eligible 18-year-old student who wants to register to vote.

3. Work with the Indiana General Assembly to make it legal to pre-register 17-year-olds in high school. **Ten states** already allow at least some 17-year-olds to pre-register.


Ballard

"The first time a young Hoosier votes shouldn't be the first time they've seen a voting machine," Ballard said. "Bring voting machines to schools, let students practice, and get them registered while they're there."

Ballard hopes that if young people feel confident to start voting right at age 18, they will be more likely to keep voting throughout their lives and encourage others to also go to the polls.

Nearly half of Indiana jobs at high risk from automation, new research finds

By JOHN HERRICK
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Nearly half of all jobs in Indiana are at high risk of being replaced by machines, according to new research that places the state among the most vulnerable in the nation.

CJS Automation, a UK-based industrial automation parts supplier, found that 47.57 percent of Indiana jobs – roughly 1.4 million positions – are in occupations highly susceptible to automation. That figure far exceeds the national average of 41.47 percent and ranks Indiana third among all states for automation risk.

Only Nevada, at 48.79 percent, and South Dakota, at 48.65 percent, face greater exposure.

Routine work faces greatest threat

The research focuses on a specific type of automation risk: machines and software taking over routine tasks in stores, restaurants, warehouses, and offices. This differs from recent studies examining artificial intelligence threats to office-heavy jobs, where states like Washington and Virginia show the highest exposure.

Indiana's three most at-risk occupations tell the story of a state built on logistics, retail, and service work. Laborers who move freight and stock by hand account for 103,200 jobs, fast food and counter workers represent 97,290 positions, and retail salespersons hold 83,670 jobs statewide.

"Most of the jobs at the top of this list are built around one task repeated all day, like scanning items at a register or moving boxes across a warehouse," CJS Automation Director Johnathan Craddock said. "A machine can take that task over, but somebody still has to keep it running and fix it when it stops, which is skilled work. Indiana has more than a million people who already know those workplaces, so they're the obvious ones to train for it."

Indianapolis & regional impact

The threat varies across Indiana's metro areas. Indianapolis shows lower risk than the statewide average, with 45.44 percent of jobs vulnerable – affecting 477,450 positions. Fort Wayne faces a 47.31 percent risk rate, while Evansville registers the highest regional exposure at 48.36 percent.

How the rankings were determined

CJS Automation based its findings on Bureau of Labor Statistics employment data from May 2025, the most recent available, matched to automation probability scores from *The Future of Employment*, a University of Oxford study by Carl Benedikt Frey and Michael Osborne. That 2013 study scored 702 occupations and classified those above 70 percent probability as high risk.

States most & least at risk

Most at risk: Nevada (48.79 percent), South Dakota (48.65 percent), Indiana (47.57 percent), North Dakota (47.16 percent), Mississippi (47.14 percent), Iowa (45.59 percent), Alabama (45.39 percent), South Carolina (45.38 percent), Wyoming (45.35 percent), and Tennessee (45.18 percent).

Least at risk: District of Columbia (25.14 percent), Massachusetts (34.95 percent), New York (36.08 percent), Maryland (37.16 percent), Connecticut (37.69 percent), Virginia (38.54 percent), Colorado (39.13 percent), Washington (39.44 percent), New Jersey (39.65 percent), and Alaska (39.71 percent).

*This story was originally published by WISH-TV at **wishtv.com/news/local-news/nearly-half-of-indiana-jobs-at-high-risk-from-automation-new-research-finds**.*

SoBro

from Page 11

including their own private barrel picks. What a wonderful place!

So, take a little trip down to SoBro for a couple of extraordinary whiskey experiences. You'll be glad you did. Until next time, cheers!

*The name is derived from the fact that the FAA classifies these high alcohol content whiskies as hazardous materials due to their flammability. No flying for these bad boys.

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

Hiring

from Page 11

Pay will also vary based on experience. All new hires will appreciate exclusive associate perks such as product discounts, education incentives, and competitive compensation plans.

"This is how Kroger helps feed your future by supporting associates, providing value to their lives today and in the years ahead," Goodwin said.

NOBLESVILLE FIRST
united methodist church

TUES, NOV 10
6:30-8:30 PM

LOVE THY NEIGHBOR:
CONVERSATIONS THAT CONNECT US

JEWISH STORIES: PAST & PRESENT

Join us for an evening of meaningful conversation exploring Jewish history and Jewish life today. Hear a second-generation Holocaust survivor share their family's story, alongside perspectives from Jewish adults and high schoolers about identity, tradition, and life in the Jewish community today.

REGISTER HERE

Noblesville First UMC | 2051 Monument St. Noblesville, IN

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

Love and Obey the Lord

Be careful, or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and bow down to them. Then the Lord's anger will burn against you, and he will shut up the heavens so that it will not rain and the ground will yield no produce, and you will soon perish from the good land the Lord is giving you. Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Deuteronomy 11:16-19 (NIV)

Get help surviving holiday season with Noblesville First UMC's GriefShare program

The REPORTER

When you're grieving the death of a family member or friend, you may dread the holiday season. Thoughts of social gatherings, family traditions, and obligations leave you anxious and overwhelmed.

Have you lost a loved one or know someone who will find it difficult to face the coming holidays? GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays seminar will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 19, in Wesley Hall at Noblesville First United Methodist Church, 2051 Monument St. Please enter through Door 7.

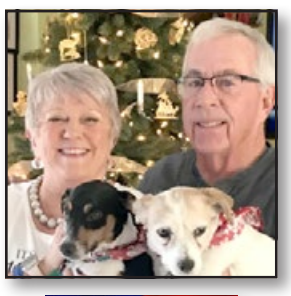
This seminar will be open to anyone experiencing grief after the loss of a loved one. The program offers practical, actionable strategies for making it through the holiday season. At this two-hour seminar, you'll view a video featuring advice from people in grief who've faced the holidays after their loss. Facilitators who have experienced grief-filled holidays will lead attendees in discussion of how to manage all holidays and special dates in your life now.

To find out more about GriefShare: Surviving the Holidays, email Coleen Albright at **coleen.albright58@gmail.com** or call the church office at (317) 773-2500.

This program is free and no registration is necessary. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors who are struggling through grief. All attendees will receive a Holiday Survival Guide filled with practical tips, encouraging words, journaling ideas, and exercises for daily help through the holiday season.

Kathryn (Kathi) L. (Bales) Ottesen

June 16, 1950 – October 25, 2026



Kathryn (Kathi) L. (Bales) Ottesen, Greenfield, passed away October 25, 2026, at home. Kathi was born June 16, 1950, to William (Bill) and Audra (Louise) Bales in Noblesville.

Kathi had a strong work ethic in office administration. From scheduling to organizing records and file retention, she took great pride and dedication in her work. Kathi spent most of her working career in the road construction business. Beginning with a decade of office administration at E&B and nearly 20 years working with her husband, Tim, at T & R and Indiana Traffic Services (ITS).

After retirement, Kathi loved to spend time with her sisters and sister-in-law as well as a sweet group of friends she called her "gal pals."

Kathi married Tim Ottesen on December 30, 1994. They spent nearly 32 years of life side by side building the business, exploring new places, spoiling their dogs, and cheering on their Indianapolis Colts, Pacers, and Fever teams.

Kathi is survived by children, Wendi (Donnie) West, Julie Sobczak, Gary (Marlena) McDougall, and Theo (Caitlin) Ottesen; mother, Louise Bales; siblings, Bonnie (Randy) Smith, Debbie Waple, Ron (Leslie) Bales, and Linda (John) Stapleton; siblings-in-law, Robert Ottesen (Ali Ochs), Michael (Xi Xi), and Deborah Price; 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren; and multiple nieces and nephews.

Kathi was preceded in death by her father, Bill Bales; siblings-in-law, Joseph Waple, Coby Ottesen, and Steve Ottesen; and nephew, Joe Waple.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., with funeral services at 1 p.m., on Wednesday, November 4, 2026, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville. Burial will be at Eagle Creek Cemetery in Westfield.

Condolences: **randallroberts.com**

Theodore (Tim) M. Ottesen III

December 30, 1953 – October 25, 2026

Theodore (Tim) M. Ottesen III, Greenfield, passed away October 25, 2026, at home. Tim was born December 30, 1953, to Theodore (Ted) M. and Charlotte (Coburn) Ottesen in Dayton, Ohio.

Tim proudly served in the United States Marines.

Tim leaves a legacy as a hardworking, self-made business man. He spent his life building a successful business and reputation in road construction. Tim took great pride in the companies (T & R and Indiana Traffic Services ITS) he created and the incredible network of business associates, colleagues, and friendships established in the industry that will be remembered for generations.

When not focusing on work, Tim's adventures included owning harness racing horses, driving race cars, flying airplanes, and playing golf.

Tim married Kathi (Bales) Henderson on December 30, 1994. They spent nearly 32 years of life side by side building the business, exploring new places, spoiling their dogs, and cheering on their Indianapolis Colts, Pacers, and Fever teams.

Tim is survived by children, Theo (Caitlin) Ottesen, Gary (Marlena) McDougall, Julie Sobczak, and Wendi (Donnie) West; his siblings, Robert Ottesen (Ali Ochs), Michael (Xi Xi) Ottesen and Deborah Price; mother-in-law, Louise Bales; siblings-in-law, Bonnie (Randy) Smith, Debbie Waple, Ron (Leslie) Bales, and Linda (John) Stapleton; 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren; and multiple nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by brothers, James (Coby) and Steve Ottesen; and niece, Stephanie Ottesen.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., with funeral services at 1 p.m., on Wednesday, November 4, 2026, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville. Burial will be at Eagle Creek Cemetery in Westfield.

Condolences: **randallroberts.com**

HARTLEY - DUNNICHAY
Funeral Homes
SERVING YOUR FAMILY THROUGH GOD'S GRACE
Pre-Arrangements
Celebrations of Life
Grief Support
Monuments
Honoring, Remembering, & Celebrating
317.984.3614
www.hartleyfuneralhomes.com

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.



Hamilton County Reporter

Contact Information

Email
News@ReadTheReporter.com

Web Address
ReadTheReporter.com

Publisher Stu Clampitt
765-365-2316

Subscription Inquiries
Subscribe@ReadTheReporter.com
765-585-9519

Advertising & Public Notices
Ads@ReadTheReporter.com
765-365-2316

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

