

FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2024

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Mostly sunny.
Tonight: Mostly clear.

HIGH: 82 LOW: 59



Harvest Food Bank receives \$15,000 grant from Hamilton County Community Foundation

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank (HCHFB) recently received a \$15,000 grant from the Hamilton County Community Foundation, a CICF affiliate, to support the Food Bank as it prepares for the future.

The Food Bank's vision is that every resident in Hamilton County will have access to healthy, nutritious food.

"Over our 15-year history, HCHFB has grown from serving four pantries in its first year to providing food to 32 entities in its last fiscal year and networking with many more pantries, programs, and providers," HCHFB Executive Director Anita Hagen said. "Along with this rapid growth comes with a need for growth in our own infrastructure both in facility needs and communications. The support of the Hamilton County Community Foundation enables us to fully address these infrastructure needs and the immediate community impact of these facility and marketing activities will make for a stronger Food Bank for all of the local Hamilton County communities now



(From left) HCHFB Special Projects Coordinator Janet Gafkjen, HCHFB Intern Madelyn Garber, HCHFB Executive Director Anita Hagen, and HCCF Senior Community Leadership Officer Jeena Siela.

and in the future."

About the Hamilton County Community Foundation

Hamilton County Community Foundation (HCCF), an affiliate of Central Indiana Com-

munity Foundation (CICF), is a \$69 million public foundation that serves Hamilton County by administering charitable funds, foundations and organizational endowments for individuals,

families and not-for-profit entities. HCCF was established in 1991 to inspire philanthropy while helping people enhance

See Grant . . . Page 2



Photo provided by Amy Shankland
Mama Kitty brings both joy and mischief to the Shankland household.

Mama Kitty waddles her way into our hearts

Dear Readers, I hope you enjoyed the Joy at Work and Lightening Your Mental Load series. Now it's time to return to the world of empty nest adventures.

One common situation I've witnessed in this stage of life is the loss of parents and the gain of subsequent inheritances. These can include money, property, furniture, an automobile, and/or even something of the four-legged variety – a pet. We had already inherited my mom's dog, Rex, back in 2018 when he got kicked out of her assisted living facility.

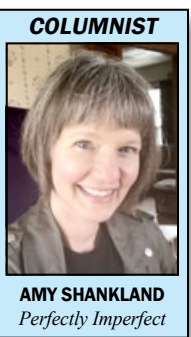
With the loss of my father-in-law, Ron, last April, we gained another furry family member – Ron's 20-plus-old cat, Mama Kitty. We knew he wouldn't have come down here from Manteno, Ill., to be cared for in our home without her.

During his last eight days on earth, Mama didn't venture far from him, which wasn't a huge surprise. Both Ron and Mama stayed in our front parlor, which served as a temporary hospital room. It's now back to its regular use as my home office, where Mama's kitty box and bed have remained.

When Ron passed away, my son Jonathan said, "I think Mama won't be far behind him." The poor thing had numerous health issues, including arthritis in her hips that causes her to waddle when she walks. Her fur was also heavily matted, as Ron struggled to keep up with her care in the last months of his life.

We couldn't focus on her too much while we were helping Ron, although many of us worked to cut out the matted fur. Once Ron was gone, I asked an amazing former neighbor to come to our house and groom Mama Kitty. With newly trimmed claws, a bath, and most of the matting removed,

See Mama Kitty . . . Page 2



BGCN grateful for \$5K donation from Tony Etchison Memorial Foundation

The REPORTER

On Monday, the Tom & Soni Sheehan Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville was a recipient of a generous \$5,000 donation from the third annual Tony Etchison Memorial Golf Outing at Fox Prairie in Noblesville.

Funds will be used to benefit the Club's affordable after-school programs that focus on Academic Success, Good Character & Citizenship, and Healthy, Active Lifestyles.

The Tony Etchison Memorial Foundation is built upon his guiding principles and the way he lived each day. The primary mission of the foundation is to continue to show love, kindness, and to make a difference in the lives of community youth to empower children to reach the highest potential for their lives. To learn more, visit Etch21.com.



(From left) Tony's sons J.P., Gus, and Tillman Etchison, BGCN Director of Development Nathan Helm, and former BGCN board member John Stretch.

Carmel unveils newly expanded Police Department, City Court & Clerk's Office

The REPORTER

Mayor Sue Finkam joined Carmel Police Chief Drake Sterling and other community members on Thursday to celebrate the recently completed expansion of the Carmel Police Department (CPD).

The renovation and expansion of the department's headquarters includes an addition that houses the Carmel City Court and Clerk's Office, formerly located in City Hall, along with the necessary programs accompanied by them, to better serve the community for generations to come.

"As our city grows, we must ensure we continue to provide high-quality services for our community," Mayor Finkam said. "With the expansion of the Carmel Police Department Headquarters, Chief Sterling and all of our great officers will have the necessary resources to



(From left) Deputy Chief of Police Services Brady Myers, the Honorable Judge Brian G. Poindexter, Carmel Police Department Chief Drake Sterling, Mayor Sue Finkam, and Deputy Chief of Administration D.J. Schoeff.

ensure that Carmel remains the best and safest community to live in Indiana as our city continues to grow."

The expanded facility, designed by Carmel-based Studio

M Architecture and Planning and built by Envoy Companies, fronts Range Line Road at Grapple Drive and will support the necessary growth in Carmel's police department infrastruc-

ture that corresponds with the city's increase in population over the past few decades. The former CPD headquarters

See HQ . . . Page 2

Boil water advisory in Sheridan next week

Indiana American Water to tie-in service from new water treatment plant

The REPORTER

Indiana American Water (INAW) announced Thursday that water treatment services in Sheridan will begin switching over to INAW's new, technologically advanced water treatment plant that has been under construction for the past year on the town's northeast side.

The exact time is unknown, but INAW project managers anticipate it will take place in the late afternoon or early evening on Tuesday, July 30.

INAW does not anticipate a system shutdown or interruption in water service. However, as a normal process when a new facility is placed in service, the company will issue a 24-hour Boil Water Advisory after connections to the system are completed.

Customers can visit INAW's "alerts" section at indianaamwater.com to see the latest advisories, or they can log onto their "MyWater" account to sign up to receive direct email or text messages.

An official opening of the water treatment facility is expected to take place later this year.

See Boil . . . Page 2

from Page 1



Photo provided by City of Carmel
(From left) Carmel City Clerk Jacob Quinn, the Honorable Judge Brian G. Poindexter, Mayor Sue Finkam, Carmel Police Department Chief Drake Sterling, and Envoy Companies Vice President of Construction Jonathan White.

was originally designed in 1988 when Carmel's population was just 25,000 residents. As Carmel's population is now more than 100,000 residents, this new facility triples the original capacity of the pre-existing structure.

"The expansion of the Carmel Police Department Headquarters gives us the tools we need to best serve our community from a centralized location," Chief of Police Drake Sterling said. The upgraded headquarters' modern amenities

and advanced technologies include expanded and modernized areas for investigations and processing, indoor vehicle and equipment storage areas, a fitness and rehab area and increased space for tactical training and education.

Hello, Hamilton County

With Mr. Weatherman, Paul Poteet

Click to play video

BOIL

from Page 1

About Boil Water Advisories
As a precaution, customers in the affected area are advised to drink and cook with tap water only after boiling it for approximately three minutes after service is restored. Tap water can be used for washing, bathing, and other common uses.
During the boil water advisory, the water company performs a series of tests

to determine if the water meets regulatory drinking water standards.
The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) mandates precautionary boil advisories to ensure high-quality water in the event water pressure drops below 20 pounds per square inch (psi) in any part of a distribution system. According to company officials, boil advisories are issued as a precaution with

a customer's best interests in mind. It's possible, but unlikely, that bacteria could enter the water system when pressure in the line drops below 20 psi.
During the boil water advisory, the water company performs a series of tests to determine if the water meets regulatory drinking water standards. Precautionary boil water notices usually last from 18 to 24 hours.

MAMA KITTY

from Page 1

it felt like she gave her a complete makeover!
It's been three months now, and we can't imagine life without "Mama K," as I call her. I instantly fell in love with her sweet personality. She's quite vocal, especially when it's feeding time, and she loves to sit on our lap. Despite her arthritis, Mama enjoys exploring our backyard and seems to be content with life.
With her age, it wasn't a surprise to find out through

our veterinarian recently that she's dealing with thyroid issues and the start of kidney failure. We know we probably don't have much more time with her.
For me, taking good care of Mama Kitty and giving her lots of love feels like I'm honoring my father-in-law. I hope he's smiling down from Heaven knowing she's in a good home and being cuddled, petted, and fed (A LOT!).
If you're an empty

nester in a similar situation, I hope caring for your parent's pet brings you the same comfort. We may only have a few more months left with our Mama Kitty, but the everyday joy she gives us in the meantime is so worth it.
Amy Shankland is a writer and fundraising professional living in Noblesville with her husband John, two sons, two dogs, and a cat. You can reach her via email at amys@greenavenue.info.

GRANT

from Page 1

their family and charitable legacies in tax-smart ways. HCCF has three main priorities: help people invest in the causes that matter most to them; award grants to effective not-for-profit organizations; and provide leadership to make Central Indiana a better, more beautiful, more equitable community. Learn more at

HamiltonCountyCommunityFoundation.org.
About Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank
Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank – a 501(c)(3) nonprofit – supports over 40 food pantries and meal programs in neighborhoods all across Hamilton County with nonperishable food, fresh, locally grown pro-

duce, locally grown meat, and network support. Since 2009, HCHFB has given over 1.5 million meals into the Hamilton County food support network. HCHFB's goal is to Work Together with YOU to Feed Hamilton County. Please visit HCH-FoodBank.org and Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/HCHFB).

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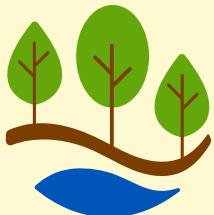
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Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville ready for ninth annual Cornhole Tournament

The REPORTER

The Tom & Soni Sheehan Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville will hold the ninth annual Cornhole Tournament on Friday, Aug. 2, presented by the McGowan Insurance Group and West Bend Mutual Insurance. Check-in will begin at 11:30 a.m. with the first round of play starting at 12:30 p.m. at Noblesville’s Forest Park Shelter No. 1.

The afternoon will consist of a three-game guarantee to include a double-elimination tournament and a “toilet bowl” bracket. Competitive play will culminate in a championship game paying out cash prizes to first and second place. Each participant will receive a commemorative T-shirt, sponsored by HMC Screen Printing. All players are invited to bring their own adult beverages, and a wide array of silent auction packages will be offered.

“Each year, our event has built on past success to benefit our youth programs,” BGCN Community Center Director Tony Eslamirad



Photo provided by BGCN

BGCN’s popular Cornhole Tournament returns Friday, Aug. 2 to Forest Park.

said. “Those who attend not only have the opportunity to network and relax on a Friday afternoon under the shade of Forest Park, but they’re making a difference in the lives of 2,000-plus local kids that utilize the Club’s services. In the past eight years, the event has raised over \$75,000 to support affordable after school programs for our Club Kids.”

The registration fee per team of two will be \$80 with all proceeds benefiting the Tom & Soni Sheehan Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville. Teams may

register online at bgcni.org. For more information, contact the Tom & Soni Sheehan Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville at (317) 773-4372 or email teslamirad@bgcni.org.

About BGCN

The Tom & Soni Sheehan Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville provides high-quality, low-cost programs for youth members with the help of donors and sponsors. Between the Club,



Eslamirad

the Community Center and Camp Crosser, BGCN provides opportunities for members to enjoy activities and experiences that help shape character and offer new perspectives. BGCN is dedicated to inspiring and enabling all young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens by promoting leadership, character, health, and physical development.

State approves Hamilton County’s first DORA district in Downtown Noblesville

The REPORTER

The Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission approved the City of Noblesville’s ordinance to establish a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) in downtown, the first in Hamilton County.

In April, the Noblesville Common Council unanimously approved Ordinance #09-04-24 in accordance with IC 7.1-3.31.

“I applaud the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission for approving the DORA District for the City

of Noblesville,” Mayor Chris Jensen said. “The district will increase foot traffic, tourism, and spending in the downtown, building on our commitment to supporting our small, locally-owned businesses. The city has worked closely with local stakeholders, including Noblesville Police Department, to ensure the district is enjoyed safely and responsibly by our community, visitors, and business owners.”

Two downtown business owners said they are pleased. “Having experienced a

DORA before, it makes visiting downtown Noblesville a lot more inviting and relaxing,” Karisma Boutique Owner Kari Clouse said. “To have the ease and comfort of being able to walk around and experience all of our amazing downtown shopping, restaurants and events versus being confined in one place makes the downtown Noblesville DORA a wonderful activation.”

“The DORA district will showcase our downtown square and surrounding area as a social, walkable area

with plenty of entertainment, shopping and dining for every occasion,” The Courthouse Club Director of Operations Willie Neiberger said. “We tried to design every part of our new restaurant to complement that vibrancy with modern and social at the core, while still holding true to the classic character of the heart of the historic downtown.”

The downtown Noblesville DORA will take effect this fall. For more information on Noblesville’s DORA District, visit noblesville.in.gov/dora.

Prevail's Annual Celebration of Hope Gala

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Carmel Community Players helping actors hone their skills

The REPORTER

Carmel Community Players (CCP) is offering new educational opportunities for students in grades 6 through 12.

CCP's Theatre Education Program presents Master Class Mondays. Master Classes occur once a month, each focusing on a specific theatrical skill or trade. Each class is 90 minutes and features hands-on learning experiences taught by experienced artists, performers, and industry professionals. Classes allow students to explore different areas of theatre, learn something new or perfect their developed craft.

Audition Prep
Monday, Aug. 12 at 6 p.m.
Carmel Friends Church,
651 W. Main St.

Price: \$25 per student
Limited spots are available – please register ahead of time

All classes are qualified for scholarships per request – email info@carmelplayers.org.

Resume, Headshot, and Slate-ing OH MY! Learn how to audition like professionals. In this Master Class, you will learn what the dos and don'ts of an audition are and how to best stand out to the director. Whether it's a community theatre show,



Photo provided

You can learn how to audition like a professional, thanks to CCP's classes.

college audition, or professional opportunity, auditioning soft skills are essential for any actor or performer. Start from scratch or polish your skills this August.

Please come with a one-minute monologue memorized.

Click here to sign up.

Meet the instructor

Amber K. Roth is a graduate of Ball State University with a B.S. in Theatre Education (Class of 2020) and has been a part of more than 60 productions in her life. She is a middle school and high school theatre teacher in central Indiana and has



Roth

as the Youth Outreach Director and a member of the Carmel Community Players board.

Fall 2024 Classes
Imagination Fueled by Education

- Sept. 9 at 6 p.m.: Stage Makeup (Old Age)
- Oct. 14 at 6 p.m.: Prop Design
- Nov. 11 at 6 p.m.: Stage Combat

been teaching youth for going on eight years now. In addition to directing the Rising Star Production of *Anne of Green Gables* (2024), and assistant directing *Godspell* (2023), she serves

• Dec. 9 at 6 p.m.: Set Design

Click here if you're interested in any or all of these classes.

Christmas in July: get your presale tickets for Home Free's Any Kind of Christmas concert at The Palladium

The REPORTER

Experience the magic of the holidays with Home Free as they mix Christmas classics with Nashville-dipped pop hits and timeless country standards on their "Any Kind of Christmas" Tour, coming to The Palladium at the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel this winter.

With more than 750 million views and 1.7 million subscribers on YouTube, the all-vocal quintet has been hailed as "Country music fans' favorite a cappella



Photo provided

group" (*Taste of Country*). Their latest album, *Crazy(er) Life*, follows the 2023 release *As Seen on TV* and the chart-topping success of 2022's *So Long Dixie*.

Don't miss this evening of quick-witted humor and incredible harmonies that will create lasting holiday memories.

The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 3. **Click here** to get your presale tickets today. Be sure to use the code HOME-FREE2024.

Prairie Lakes Health Campus in Noblesville to undergo expansion

The REPORTER

Trilogy Health Services has announced an investment to expand senior living services at **Prairie Lakes Health Campus** located in Noblesville.

The investment aims to address the growing demand for senior living accommodations and services. It is part of a bigger investment the company is making across the Midwest to senior living and assisted living services in Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio.

As part of the Noblesville expansion, Trilogy will add 34 new patio homes to Prairie Lakes Health Campus, which is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2025. The campus is located off Cumberland Road just south of 146th Street.

"Adding these patio homes brings a new level of comfort and independence to our community," Prairie Lakes Health Campus Executive Director Holly Snyder said. "They not only enrich our community but also cater to those who value both privacy and supportive care. It's a significant step forward in our dedication to improving lives and offering exceptional living experiences."

In the past five years, the Prairie Lakes Health Campus has maintained a 95.2 percent occupancy rate, un-

derscoring the increasing demand for senior living facilities and services

"Trilogy continues to innovate and find new ways to meet our local seniors where they are," Trilogy Health Services President and CEO Leigh Ann Barney said. "Our goal is to deliver a comprehensive continuum of care in underserved markets while expanding options in our established communities. We look forward to launching these exciting developments, creating new career opportunities, and meeting the growing demand for high-quality senior living accommodations and care."

Trilogy officials say the expansion is about provided the best healthcare in the region.

"At Trilogy, our mission is to be the best healthcare company in the Midwest," said Peter Massey, Senior Vice President of Development and Facilities Management for Trilogy Health Services. "Our growth strategy focuses on expanding access to comprehensive care within our regional markets. Additionally, adding new patio homes provides more options for seniors looking to downsize and find a supportive community."

For more information about Trilogy Health Services, visit trilogys.com.

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Noblesville Lions Club awards fifth scholarship



Photo provided by Noblesville Lions Club / Jake Doll
On Wednesday, the Noblesville Lions Club awarded the Hamilton Heights High School Academic Merit \$500 Scholarship to Andrew Morrison of Atlanta. He plans to attend Purdue University and study Accounting. His parents are Chris and Kasee Morrison. (ABOVE) Lion Steve Shaw, Club Secretary, presents the scholarship to Morrison.

The Reporter



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Westfield PD announces leadership appointments

The REPORTER

Westfield Police Chief Shawn Keen has appointed two leaders to pivotal roles within the City of Westfield Police Department. These appointments will further advance the department's strategic goals and operational excellence.

Eric Grimes has been appointed the new Assistant Chief of Operations, while Scott Jordan will continue as Assistant Chief of Administration. Both appointments have been approved by Mayor Willis, reflecting the department's commitment to enhancing its effectiveness and implementing the transformative changes envisioned for the future.

With his extensive background in law enforcement and proven track record of operational leadership, Grimes will oversee all operational aspects of the department. His deep expertise and innovative approach are expected to improve the department's efficiency and effectiveness significantly. Grimes has served in law enforcement for 17 years, including 15 years with the Westfield Police Department.

Assistant Chief Scott Jordan will maintain his role in overseeing administrative functions, continuing to provide critical support in managing department resources and strategic planning. His ongoing contributions are integral to sustaining the department's operational read-

iness and administrative integrity. Jordan has served in the Westfield Police Department for 28 years, including 15 years as Assistant Chief.

"I am confident that both Eric and Scott possess the leadership qualities and skills necessary to realize the transformative changes we are aiming for," Mayor Willis said.

"Their appointments reflect our commitment to a forward-thinking approach in addressing the evolving needs of our community and ensuring a high standard of public safety."

Additionally, Chief Keen has announced organizational restructuring resulting in four command-level positions, including:

• Mike Siara: Patrol Captain

• Rob Dine: Investigations Captain

• Billy Adams: Support Services Captain

• Jeffrey Swiatkowski: Special Services Captain

Captain Siara has served with WPD for the last 18 years, including serving on the Noblesville/Westfield Emergency Services Unit (ESU) for 15 years, and is a graduate of the 266th Session of the FBI National

Keen

Willis

Academy.

Captain Dine has served with WPD since 2006 in various roles, including Patrol Sergeant, lieutenant, and Detective Lieutenant within the Criminal Investigations Division (CID).

Captain Adams has been with WPD since 2007 and is a United States Army Veteran, where he was a military police sergeant. He has served various roles with WPD, including patrol officer, patrol sergeant, patrol lieutenant, and, most recently, an administrative lieutenant.

Captain Swiatkowski has been a sworn law enforcement officer since 2006 and has been with WPD for 16 years. He is a graduate of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department Leadership Academy and has served as a K9 handler, patrol sergeant, and, most recently, a patrol lieutenant.

This restructuring aligns with Indiana Code 36-8-1-12, which restricts a police department with more than 50 members to appointing only two ranks below the chief for upper-level policy-making positions. These changes take effect on Monday, July 29.

Day of Service this Saturday at the Fishers Farmers Market

The REPORTER

The Fishers Farmers Market Day of Service returns this weekend, providing free booth space to local non-profit organizations that serve the Fishers community.

Guests of the market can visit non-profit booths to learn about services they provide and what needs the organizations may have (volunteers, sponsors, donations, etc.), while also enjoying free activities at each booth, including a non-profit scavenger hunt. Stop by the Fishers Parks tent in front of the NPD AMP stage to learn more and redeem your scavenger hunt form for a free Fishers T-shirt, while supplies last. See a full list of Day of Service non-profit participants [here](#).

Aug. 10

• National Farmers Market Week Celebration (8 a.m. to noon)

• Free yoga on the NPD AMP stage (8 to 9 a.m.)

• Free live music and performances on the NPD AMP stage (10 a.m. to noon)

• Free kids activity at the Fishers Parks tent in front of stage (8 a.m. to noon)

Aug. 17

• Health & Wellness Day (8 a.m. to noon)

• Free yoga on the NPD AMP stage (8 to 9 a.m.)

• Free live music and performances on the NPD AMP stage (10 a.m. to noon)

• Free kids activity at the Fishers Parks tent in front of stage (8 a.m. to noon)

Click here to learn more.

Upcoming Market Events

July 27

• Day of Service (8 a.m. to noon)

• Free yoga on the NPD AMP stage (8 to 9 a.m.)

• Free live music and performances on the NPD AMP stage (10 a.m. to noon)

• Free kids activity at the Fishers Parks tent in front of stage (8 a.m. to noon)

Letter to the Editor

Breathe Easy calls on legislators to raise state cigarette tax by \$2

Dear Editor:

Aug. 1 is World Lung Cancer Day, a time to raise awareness about this serious disease. Lung cancer can affect anyone with lungs, but individuals with a history of tobacco use/exposure are at significantly higher risk. The American Lung Association reports that smoking is directly responsible for about 90 percent of lung cancer deaths.

Indiana, unfortunately, has one of the lowest cigarette taxes in the Midwest, at 99¢ since 1997. According to the American Cancer Society, raising Indiana's cigarette tax could prevent 16,800 premature deaths among Hoosiers and raise funding for prevention and cessation education programs across the state.

This World Lung Cancer Day, let's come together to advocate for a healthier Indiana. Write or call your legislators, encouraging them to support a \$2 increase in the cigarette tax during the 2025 legislative session.

If you would like to join in the local cause, you can contact Breathe Easy Hamilton County for more information. Just go to [BreatheEasyHamiltonCounty.com/contact-3](#).

Stacy Collins

Executive Director

Breathe Easy Hamilton County

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.

Don't just ride the rails ... Bike them!

Forest Park Rail Adventure

An 8-mile round trip rail bike ride starting at Hobbs Station in Forest Park.

White River Family Cruise

Enjoy this short, scenic rail bike ride from Hobbs Station in Forest Park.

NickelPlateExpress.com/railbike-rides

Get ready for back-to-school with Grace Care Center

Submitted

As summer winds down, Grace Church and The Grace Care Center are gearing up to support local families with the annual Back-to-School Community Fair.

This Saturday, July 27, from 9 a.m. to noon, Grace Church will equip students and families with the essentials they need for a successful academic year while providing a fun and supportive environment for the entire community.

The Community Fair is a celebration of community spirit and generosity. With thousands expected to attend and over 1,500 backpacks and shoes to give away, the fair is a testament to Grace Church's commitment to helping families in need.

Here's a glimpse of what attendees can expect:

Free supplies & services

• **Shoes, backpacks, and school supplies:** Every student deserves to start the school year with confidence. The fair will distribute more than 1,500 new shoes, backpacks, and a variety of

school supplies to ensure students are prepared for the year ahead.

• **Grace Care Center and Thrift Store Access:** Open from 9 a.m. to noon, the Grace Care Center and Thrift Store will provide attendees with access to their choice food pantry and other essential resources.

• **Free haircuts and school physicals:** Professional stylists and healthcare providers will be on-site offering free haircuts and school physicals to help students start the year looking and feeling their best.

Family fun & more

• **Carnival games, food, and snacks:** The Community Fair is all about fun. Participants will enjoy a range of carnival games and indulge in free food and snacks, making it a perfect family outing on a July summer Saturday morning.

• **Bike repairs and giveaways:** Bring your bikes for free repairs and don't miss the chance to win a brand-new bike through drawings and giveaways.

Everyone is invited to the Community Fair.



Photos provided

Thousands of students are expected to attend this year's Back-To-School Community Fair on July 27.

Whether you're coming to receive support, shop at the Grace Thrift Store, or simply enjoy the festivities, your presence and participation help strengthen the community.

As Marcus Casteel said, "The Care Center Community Fair helps to prepare thousands of kids for school. Kids get to choose everything from their backpack to all the supplies that goes inside along with their new shoes. It's fun to see the excitement on their faces as they walk around showing off their new items. We work very hard to provide the choice environment al-

lowing them to select what works for them. The carnival games, food, face paint, and balloons allow this to be a fun event for everyone involved. This truly is one

of our favorite days of the year!"

Additionally, you can make a difference by giving to the Grace Care Center Foundation. Your donations

help ensure continued support for families throughout the year. Visit the Grace Care Center Foundation online at gccfoundation.us to contribute.

Pursuing justice for victims, AG Rokita's office prevails in 96 percent of civil & criminal appeals in first half of 2024

The REPORTER

Fulfilling a commitment to keep criminals behind bars and secure justice for victims, Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita and his team won victories on behalf of Hoosiers in 96 percent of civil and criminal appeals in the first half of 2024.

"Every day, we work hard to protect Hoosiers from wrongdoers and pursue justice for victims," AG Rokita said. "Our impressive success in achieving this mission includes upholding convictions of child abusers, murderers, and rapists. It's a huge part of our work, and we will continue our record of keeping dangerous law-breakers behind bars and out of our communities."

In the first six months of 2024, AG Rokita's of-

fice closed out 956 appeals – of which 863 went through full briefings resulting in opinions from appellate courts. (Some cases are resolved early, such as when an appellant voluntarily dismisses the case.)

Of the 863 appeals leading to decisions, AG Rokita's team prevailed in 831 – for a 96 percent success rate. This workload comprised 253 civil cases (244 victories) and 610 criminal cases (587 victories).

Two recent examples of appellate victories include arguing successfully on behalf of (1) a 55-year prison sentence for an illegal alien



Rokita

who committed murder for hire in Bartholomew County and (2) the murder conviction of a domestic abuser who killed his girlfriend.

AG Rokita expressed gratitude to Angela Sanchez, Chief Counsel of Appeals, and the entire appeals team.

"My appeals team works tirelessly to keep Hoosier families safe," AG Rokita said. "These dedicated public servants handle more than 1,000 criminal and civil appeals every year."



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— CARMEL —

Request for Statements of Qualifications

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Carmel Clay Public Library (CCPL) is issuing a Request for Statements of Qualification (RFQ) to solicit Statement of Qualifications from qualified vendors to provide Owners Representative Services for a project including, but not limited to, HVAC System replacement, window and facade replacement, and an addition of a holds locker at the West Branch at 12770 Horseferry Rd., Carmel IN, 46032. The RFQ may be downloaded from CCPL's website, beginning July 29, 2024 at carmelclaylibrary.org/rfq. This RFQ may also be emailed to interested respondents. Direct any questions about receiving the RFQ to rpf@carmelclaylibrary.org. CCPL will accept proposals from vendors in response to the RFQ until 4:00 PM EDT on September 9, 2024.

R4690

7/26/24, 7/29/24

— CICERO —

Legal Notice

Board of zoning appeals

The Cicero/Jackson Township Board of Zoning Appeals will meet on August 8th, at 7:00 PM at the Cicero Town Hall building located at 70 North Byron Street, Cicero, Indiana 46034, in order to hear the following petition:

Docket No. BZA-0824-41-AG

A Land Use Variance application has been submitted concerning Article 10.2 of the Cicero/Jackson Township Zoning Ordinance regarding the property located at the Southeast corner of 266th Street and US 31 and is addressed as 0 US 31, Arcadia Indiana, 46030 in order to: Allow a billboard sign in the "AG" district, whereas a billboard sign is not permitted in any Zoning district.

Project Addresses: 0 US 31, Arcadia IN 46030

Legal Description: (0 US Hwy 31) Acreage 77.41 Section 19, Township 20, Range 4

Parcel numbers: 03-02-19-00-00-001.002

The petition may be examined at the office of the Cicero/Jackson Township Planning Commission, 331 E. Jackson St., Cicero, IN 46034.

Interested parties may offer an oral opinion at the Hearing. Comments may be mailed to Cicero/Jackson Planning Commission at P.O. Box 650 Cicero, IN 46034. Comments may also be dropped off in the Cicero Utilities payment drop box located at 331 E. Jackson St. Cicero, IN. Comments may also be emailed to fzawadzki@townofcicero.in.gov Comments must be received by 3:00 pm on the date of the hearing. Written comments will be read aloud during the public hearing and entered into the record of the Hearing.

The hearing may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary.

R4692

7/26/24, 7/29/24

— COUNTY —

Public Notice

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Merit Board has scheduled an executive session for July 31, 2024, at 6:30pm to discuss, before a determination, the individual's status as an employee, pursuant to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(6). The regular meeting will immediately follow the conclusion of the executive session (approximately 7:00pm).

Agenda

I. Executive Session, 6:30pm

a. To discuss, before a determination, the individual's status as an employee, pursuant to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(6).

II. Regular Meeting, immediately following the executive session (approximately 7:00pm).

a. Approval of minutes from the May 2024 meeting.

b. Sheriff Update.

R4691

7/26/24, 7/29/24

ON-LINE PUBLIC AUCTION for LORETTA ROWE ESTATE AG EQUIPMENT & Other Personal Property

BIDDING OPENS: Friday, July 19th @ 3pm

SOFT CLOSE BEGINS: Saturday, July 27th @ 6pm

PREVIEW DAY: Thursday, July 25th From Noon - 6pm

LORETTA ROWE ESTATE:

1991 Ford R10 Truck (81,208 miles), 2008 Buick Lucerne CXL (82,578 miles), St. Clair, Joe Rice & Lamps, Fenton, Tiara, Jewelry, Advertising & Memorabilia, Sewing Machines, Notions, Crafts, Lots of Yarn, Pottery, Home Decor, Antiques & Collectibles, NICE Vtg. & Ant. Furniture, TV's & Electronics, Household, Bedding, Soft Goods, Kitchen & Small Appliances, Office Machines & Supplies, Hardback & Paperback Books, Holiday Decor, Box Lots, Patio Furniture, Storage Totes, Moving Boxes, Tools, Ladders, Lawn & Garden Tools, Craftsman 42" Riding Mower, Metal Storage Cabinets, More...

AG & OTHER PERSONAL PROPERTY:

Bolinger 6' x 14' Dump Wagon, Gravity Wagon, Hay Feeders, 46" Huscavarna 22hp Riding Mower, 61" Snapper Pro Riding Mower, Roto Tillers & Lawn Roller, Wheelhorse Dump Cart, Air Compressor, Sprayer, 2012 Tow Blazer FMT Motorcycle Trailer, Coins & Morgan Silver Dollars, M/C Saddle Bags & Helmet, More...

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TODAY’S BIBLE READING

“Therefore, say to the Israelites: ‘I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. And I will bring you to the land I swore with uplifted hand to give to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob. I will give it to you as a possession. I am the Lord.’”

Moses reported this to the Israelites, but they did not listen to him because of their discouragement and harsh labor:

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Go, tell Pharaoh king of Egypt to let the Israelites go out of his country.”

But Moses said to the Lord, “If the Israelites will not listen to me, why would Pharaoh listen to me, since I speak with faltering lips?”

Exodus 6:6-12 (NIV)

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 600 words. The limitations of space may not allow for longer ones to appear in print.

Families and funeral homes are asked to send obituaries to obits@ReadTheReporter.com.

Thanks for reading
The Reporter!

Michael Wayne Klinger
May 9, 1959 – July 23, 2024

Michael Wayne Klinger, 65, Cicero, passed away Tuesday, July 23, 2024, surrounded by his family and friends after fiercely battling cancer three times over the last two and half years. Mike was born on May 9, 1959, to Philip and Betty (nee Mikel) Klinger in Owensboro, Ky.

Mike is survived by his wife, Elaine Breen; sons, Philip Klinger (Morgan Ault) and Samuel Klinger; father, Philip Klinger; sisters, Susan Gentry (Kevin), Lisa Deas (Reggie) and Cindy Klinger; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles.

Mike was preceded in death by his mother, Betty Klinger. Mike was a graduate of Noblesville High School and Indiana University. He worked at Universal Music Group for many years. During his time at UMG, Mike met the love of his life Elaine, forged lasting relationship with friends who still get together to play poker once a month, and rubbed elbows with top musical artists. For the last few years, he enjoyed leading and mentoring the team at Techstreet.

The center of Mike’s life was his love for his two boys, Philip and Sam, and wife, Elaine. Through his passion for the outdoors, he crafted countless opportunities for them to spend time together, including shepherding the boys as they achieved the rank of Eagle Scout and becoming 10-year 4-H members. Of all his travels, he said that the Grand Canyon was the most beautiful place in the world. He loved it so much that he rafted down the length of the Colorado River four times, sharing the allure of the canyon with multiple family and friends. In 1992 he realized a lifelong dream by establishing Fly Away Farms. He enjoyed fishing in his pond, doing projects, and raising an eclectic group of animals ranging from horses, geese, potbelly pigs, and chickens.

Visitation will be from 10 to 11:30 a.m., with the funeral service at 11:30 a.m., on Monday, July 29, 2024, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville.

In lieu of flowers and in honor of Mike’s heroic campaign against cancer, donations can be made to Community Hospital MD Anderson Cancer Center, 7330 Shadeland Station, Suite 150, Indianapolis, IN 46256 (ecomunity.com/giving-gig/online-donation-form). Or, to celebrate Mike’s favorite place, donations can be made to the Grand Canyon Conservancy, P.O. Box 399, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023 (grandcanyon.org).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Kenneth Arthur Merritt
d. July 7, 2024

It is with shattered hearts that we must share the passing of devoted husband and father, Kenneth Arthur Merritt, 67, Carmel, on Sunday, July 7, 2024. After a grueling battle with brain cancer, Ken took his final breath peacefully and without pain in the arms of his loving wife of 30 years, Dinah.

Ken’s memory will be cherished by his wife, Dinah Merritt; four sons, Casey (Manya) Merritt, Aaron Merritt, Zachary (Adele) Merritt, and Benjamin Merritt; his brother, Christopher (Kathryn) Merritt; a bonus wife, Shana (Joshuah) Sloma; and three bonus children, Evan Brammer, Oliver Sloma, and Ava Sloma.

Ken is preceded in death by his parents, Drs. A. Donald Merritt and Doris Merritt, as well as his beloved grand-dog, Nadia, and numerous other fur babies.

Ken attended Purdue University. He emulated his parents’ desire to help people. Rather than pursuing a career in medicine, Ken chose to work closely with local fire departments and in the private sector to ensure the health and well-being of his community as a contract coordinator and technical advisor in the home and commercial life safety industry.

Although Ken’s contribution to the lives of those he did not know was admirable, his greatest passion was his family. Ken spent countless hours teaching his sons, their friends, and anyone else who asked for his help. He shared his immense knowledge of mechanics, fishing, and a thousand other things with any “student” willing to listen.

Ken was a self-taught guru at everything he chose to pursue. He loved anything with wheels, coffee with a smidge of cream and one useless packet of sugar that he swore he could taste, and making people happy.

Ken rocked a mustache better than Magnum and could MacGyver anything he touched. He was known for his cooking and neck rubs. Ken told the longest jokes in history and was the kindest, gentlest soul to anyone who had the privilege of knowing him. And when asked how he felt about his wife, Ken simply said, “I love her to the ends of the Earth.”

At Ken’s request, no funeral or memorial service will be held. The family kindly asks anyone wishing to honor Ken’s memory and love of family to please consider making a donation to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital or an Indiana Humane Society location.



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SOLD!

839 PEBBLE BROOK PLACE
NOBLESVILLE

This charming home on Pebble Brook Golf Course sits on just over half an acre at the end of a cul de sac. 4BR, 2BA, 2 half BA, 3-car garage, finished basement.

Listed at \$629,900



NEW LISTING/ PENDING!

7158 SUMMER OAK DRIVE
NOBLESVILLE

Lovely home on beautiful lot in Oakmont, 4 BR, 2BA, 2 half baths, freshly painted, finished basement, updated kitchen.

Listed at \$480,000



NEW LISTING!

120 NAKOMIS STREET
NOBLESVILLE

Unique property situated on .45 acres with access to White River, featuring 3BR, 1.5BA, this gem has endless potential.

Listed at \$149,900



PENDING!

18877 PRAIRIE CROSSING DRIVE
NOBLESVILLE

Over 2,700 square feet of living space in this 4BR, 2.5BA home in the heart of Noblesville. New flooring, HVAC, roof, water heater. Home is move-in ready!

Listed at \$334,900



POPULAR SOUTH HARBOUR!

102 PIN OAK COURT
NOBLESVILLE

Custom built brick ranch with finished basement, sits on a wooded, tree lined lot, with 3BR, 2BA. Updated kitchen.

Listed at \$343,900



SOLD!

6939 TROPHY LANE
NOBLESVILLE

Care free living in popular Willow Lake. 2BR, 2.5 BA, huge great room with fireplace. Sunroom overlooks deck and pond.

Listed at \$354,900

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REPORTER SPORTS FRIDAY

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CARMEL, FISHERS, GUERIN CATHOLIC, HAMILTON HEIGHTS, HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN, NOBLESVILLE, SHERIDAN, UNIVERSITY, WESTFIELD

Tower cites “incredible culture” of HSE athletics after one month as Royals co-AD

By **RICHIE HALL**
sports@readthereporter.com

Drew Tower has already had quite a bit of success in his life.

From high school basketball state champion to administrator of the year, Tower has become an example of what opportunities Indiana high school athletics can offer to young people. Tower has begun writing the next chapter of his story, as he joined Hamilton Southeastern High School as a co-athletic director this month.

“Greg Habegger retired after an amazing career at Hamilton Southeastern,” said Tower. “And Jim Self and I and Greg have had a great relationship. It was a good fit for a lot of reasons.”

Those reasons are both professional and personal. Tower spoke of the “incredible culture that’s here in the athletic department,” which has not only produced great athletes, but great people as well. Meanwhile, the personal reason is that Tower is closer to family, as his wife Abby’s family lives in Pendleton.

“We have a place to drop off our kids now,” said Drew Tower. He and Abby have two sons, Hank and Beau.

Drew Tower called his first few weeks at South-

eastern a “great transition period. It’s an opportunity to listen and learn and observe.” He spent the first week connecting with the Royals’ head coaches “and getting to know them, figuring out the lay of the lands.”

“(Co-athletic director) Jim Self and (administrative assistant) Kami Laux have been a tremendous support in the transition process as well,” said Tower.

“Jim is a great friend,” said Tower. When Tower was starting out as a young athletic director, he said Self “was always one of my first phone calls if I had a question or wanted advice on something.”

“I’m excited to continue to learn from him,” said Tower. “He has an impact on the culture and the entire community. To be in the office just day to day with him is an amazing opportunity.”

There should be no problem for Tower fitting into the culture at Southeastern, since he has already compiled a solid resumé dating back to high school. Tower graduated from New Castle in 2007; he was a member of the Trojans’ Class 3A state championship in 2006, his junior year.

“Great team,” said Tow-



Tower

er. “We had a really good run our junior and senior year.”

Tower attended Taylor University, graduating with a degree in biology in 2011. He also played basketball under Hall of Fame coach Paul Patterson and was inspired to go into coaching. Tower was an assistant coach for the Trojans from 2011 to 2013.

“I got into coaching, just fell in love with it, got an education from there,” said Tower, who continued his education by getting a master’s degree in educational leadership from Ball State University in 2018.

In 2013, Tower went to Brownsburg, where he was an academic coach and assistant boys basketball coach. He got his first administrative experience by becoming the athletic director at Brownsburg West Middle School before taking over as athletic director at Brownsburg High School in 2018.

Tower said Brownsburg “has an amazing community, they have the same passion for athletics.” Tower said everything at Brownsburg is “at a really high level. The academic standards speak for themselves.”

Tower set some standards while at Brownsburg.



Photo provided

Drew Tower is in his first month as co-athletic director for Hamilton Southeastern High School. Tower was previously the athletic director at Brownsburg, recently winning the District 2 Administrator of the Year award from the Indiana Basketball Coaches Association.

This past March, Tower was one of three Indiana athletic directors to be named Administrator of the Year by the Indiana Basketball Coaches Association. Tower won the Award for District 2.

Now that he’s at the home of the Royals, Tower said that as athletes and athletics continue to evolve, he wants to help the HSE athletic department evolve with those changes.

“The modern athlete has more going on in their life than I surely had and our coaches had,” said Tower. He wants “to help remove some of the unnecessary barriers in their way, not just as athletes but as people. That’s something we were doing with our SALT

group, just continue to do that through a larger lens.”

SALT stands for Student Athlete Leadership Team, which the Brownsburg Athletic department developed to bring out leadership capabilities from its student-athletes.

“If we develop them as people, we’ll develop them as better students, better athletes, better collegiate athletes and better Royals,” said Tower.

During Tower’s tenure at Brownsburg, the Bulldogs won three state championships: Unified flag football in 2022, boys track and field in 2023 and boys wrestling in 2024. Brownsburg and Southeastern have been members of the Hoosier Crossroads Conference

since it began in 2000, so the schools are familiar with each other. The Royals had a ton of success this past school year, with an unbeaten state champion girls volleyball team in the fall, then state champion boys lacrosse and softball teams in the spring.

“It just speaks to the consistency of leadership in the athletic department, and it starts with Greg and Jim,” said Tower. “There’s incredible kids and families and talent here, but only with a strong, consistent culture are you able to have a successful and sustainable program. I think it’s admired across the state, but I think it’s a by-product of the culture that’s been built there.”

Girls Golf

Five golfers place in Top 10 at Indiana Women’s Golf Association State Amateur Championship

The REPORTER

Five Hamilton County golfers reached the top 10 of the Indiana Women’s Golf Association State Amateur Championship, which took place this week at The Players Club in Muncie.

The three-day, 54-hole event ran from July 22 to 24 at the Woodland Trails course. Westfield’s Samantha Brown was the county’s top finisher, placing fourth with a five under par score of 211.

Brown, soon to be at Purdue University, scored a one under 71 for her first round and 73 for her second round. She blasted into the top five in the third round with a five under 67; Brown made five birdies in a bogey-free round. She totaled 10 birdies for the tournament.

Carmel’s Eleanor Schuitema tied for seventh, carding a two under 214. Schuitema played two rounds under par, with a three under 69 for her first round and a two under 70

for the third round, totaling 14 birdies across 54 holes.

Jocelyn Bruch, a Westfield graduate and Purdue star, finished ninth with a one under 215. Bruch made nine birdies for the tournament and also finished the event with a three under 69 for her final round.

Two county golfers tied for 10th place. Carmel’s Michaela Headlee, also headed to Purdue, totaled 219 and drained nine birdies. Noblesville’s Caroline Whallon, part of the Division II national champion University of Indianapolis team, scored 219, including a third-round eagle on the second hole. She also made 13 birdies.

Complete county scores now follow.

4. Samantha Brown, Westfield 71-73-67=211, **T7.** Eleanor Schuitema, Carmel 69-75-70=214, **9.** Jocelyn Bruch, Carmel 75-71-69=215, **T10.** Michaela Headlee, Carmel 75-74-70=219; Caroline Whallon, Noblesville 75-

71-73=219, **T15.** Sydney Longstreth, Carmel 74-70-76=220; Josie Kelley, Noblesville 70-73-77=220, **T19.** Becky Williams, Zionsville (University High School) 75-77-72=224; Lauren Tibbets, Carmel 73-78-73=224, **T25.** Maya Fujisawa Keuling, Carmel 73-78-76=227, **T27.** Sophie McGinnis, Westfield 76-77-75=228, **T31.** Kelsey Haverluck, Westfield 75-74-81=230, **T33.** Macy Beeson, Harbour Trees 79-75-77=231; Marissa Spreitzer, Fishers 78-74-79=231; Addi Kooi, Westfield 74-76-81=231, **40.** Lauren Stewart, Fishers 76-77-81=234, **T41.** Jordan Adam, Noblesville 80-79-76=235, **46.** Christina Pfefferkorn, Carmel 85-74-78=237, **T48.** Abigail Bladen, Carmel 79-84-78=241; Kamryn Williams, Carmel 84-75-82=241, **50.** Sydni Zebrauskas, Cicero 80-83-80=243.



File photo

Westfield’s Samantha Brown, shown here at an earlier tournament, was one of five Hamilton County golfers to place in the top 10 at the Indiana Women’s Golf Association State Amateur Championship this week at The Players Club in Muncie.

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Hamilton Heights Fall Sports Schedule, Round 2

The REPORTER
The Hamilton Heights athletic department has released its sports schedules for the Fall 2024 season. Here is a list of regular-season schedules for some of the sports; others ran in the Reporter’s Thursday edition. Keep in mind that schedules will change due to weather and other circumstances during the season, so visit the Heights athletic website at hs.hh-schuskies.org/athletics for any updates.

BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY Aug. 24: at Logansport, 9 a.m. Aug. 31: at Oak Hill, time TBD Sept. 5: Landes Invitational, 5:30 p.m. Sept. 12: at North Montgomery Charger Classic, 5:30 p.m. Sept. 14: at Indiana Wesleyan Wildcat Classic, 8:30 a.m. Sept. 21: at Shelbyville Golden Bear Invitational, 8:30 a.m. Sept. 28: at New Haven Classic, time TBD Oct. 5: at Bluffton Invitational, time TBD Oct. 12: Hoosier Conference meet, 10 a.m. at Rensselaer Central	JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL Aug. 26: Lapel, 6 p.m. Aug. 31: at Triton Central, 11 a.m. Sept. 7: McCutcheon, 11 a.m. Sept. 14: Danville, 11 a.m. Sept. 23: at Western, 6 p.m. Sept. 30: Logansport, 6 p.m. Oct. 7: at Twin Lakes, 6 p.m. Oct. 14: Tipton, 6 p.m. Oct. 21: at West Lafayette, 6 p.m.
VOLLEYBALL <i>Times listed are junior varsity start times. Varsity matches start approximately one hour after the JV match ends.</i> Aug. 17: at Peru Invitational, 9 a.m. Aug. 20: at Guerin Catholic, 6 p.m. Aug. 21: at Lebanon, 6 p.m. Aug. 24: at Western Boone Tournament, 9 a.m. Aug. 27: Tipton, 6 p.m. Aug. 28: at New Palestine, 6 p.m. Aug. 29: Lawrence North, 6 p.m. Sept. 3: Frankton, 6 p.m. Sept. 5: Logansport, 6 p.m. Sept. 10: at Zionsville, 6 p.m. Sept. 12: at Western, 6 p.m. Sept. 17: at Noblesville, 6 p.m. Sept. 25: Lapel, 6 p.m. Sept. 26: at Pendleton Heights, 6 p.m. Sept. 28: at Harrison (with Plainfield), 10 a.m. Sept. 30: at Scecina, 6 p.m. Oct. 2: at Delta, 6 p.m.	UNIFIED FLAG FOOTBALL Aug. 28: at Twin Lakes, 6 p.m. Sept. 4: Lawrence Central, 6:30 p.m. Sept. 10: Brownsburg, 6 p.m. Sept. 11: Zionsville, 6 p.m. Sept. 16: Blackford, 5:30 p.m. Sept. 17: Westfield, 6:30 p.m. Sept. 24: at McCutcheon, 6 p.m. Sept. 30: at Fishers, 6 p.m. Oct. 1: Noblesville, 6 p.m.
	VARSITY FOOTBALL Aug. 16: Scrimmage vs. Alexandria Monroe, 7 p.m. Aug. 23: at Lapel, 7 p.m. Aug. 30: Triton Central, 7 p.m. Sept. 6: at McCutcheon, 7 p.m. Sept. 13: at Danville, 7 p.m. Sept. 20: Western, 7 p.m. Sept. 27: at Logansport, 7 p.m. Oct. 4: Twin Lakes, 7:30 p.m. Oct. 11: at Tipton, 7 p.m. Oct. 18: West Lafayette, 7 p.m.



Photo by Josh Bode / WISH-TV

Colts rookie Adonai Mitchell goes through footwork drills on the first day of training camp.

Colts rookies & veterans excited for first day of training camp

By JOSH BODE
WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](https://www.wishtv.com)

WESTFIELD — The long wait for football season is over. The first day of Colts training camp was on Thursday.

While it means the end of the offseason and back to work for coaches and players, there was still a lot of excitement for being back.

But nobody was more excited that Colts rookie wide receiver **Adonai Mitchell**.

“Oh, I jumped out of bed,” Mitchell said. “It was bright and early. I think I beat the sun. I’m pretty ready. It’s going to be a lot of fun. It’s going to be long, it’s going to be hard, but it’s what we do it for.”

Mitchell wasn’t the only rookie excited to take on training camp. Colts first round pick Laiatu Latu said it is going to be pretty nerve racking, but he is super excited.

But, it’s not just the rookies that are happy to be back.

“It was a good first day,” defensive end Kwity Paye said. “Knocked the rust off and just a great day to get out there and play some football.”

“I’m just cherishing every moment,” defensive tackle DeForest Buckner said. “I was excited to wake up this morning. Shoot, I could barely sleep last night.”

“Every year in the off-season, I get tired of running and cutting on cones,” linebacker Zaire Franklin said. “I get tired of all the workouts and the workout videos and all that stuff. I get ready to play some real football. (I’m) always happy to be with my team.”

The fans were happy to have the Colts back at Grand Park as well. The Colts City activities were packed the whole morning, and so were most of the stands to watch practice.

Young fans lined up against the walls to try to get autographs and pictures with the players as they walked off the field.

The Colts hit the field for their **next practice** of training camp on Saturday from 10-11:15 a.m.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at [wishtv.com/sports/indianapolis-colts/colts-rookies-and-veterans-excited-for-first-day-of-training-camp](https://www.wishtv.com/sports/indianapolis-colts/colts-rookies-and-veterans-excited-for-first-day-of-training-camp).

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