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HOSTED BY DICK WOLFSIE | FEBRUARY 6 - 14, 2026

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■ TODAY'S VERSE

James 1:12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.



Whew! Barely dodged another Friday the 13th. Good thing I'm not superstitious.

■ HAMILTON HAPPENINGS

The Westfield Chamber invites business leaders, community members and guests to attend the community's annual State of the Schools Luncheon. This will be Dr. John Atha's first address as Superintendent of Westfield Washington Schools. It takes place Thursday, Sept. 18 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Bridgewater Club. Dr. Atha is scheduled to provide an update on the Destination Westfield initiatives, share the district's core priorities and outline plans for the upcoming school re-balancing process. He will also be highlighting recent success stories in the school system. or what is to be an insightful afternoon as we celebrate progress and look forward to the future of our schools. To reserve your seat go to <https://westfield-chamberofcommerce.growth-zoneapp.com/ap/Events/Registrar/wZFx3lJHeCxw>

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Someone's sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago."

- Warren Buffet

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

Did you hear Costco and Sams Club are doing car loans now?

You just need to buy 18 cars at a time.



NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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■ BOOMER BITS RETIREMENT

How Do I Apply for Social Security and Receive My Payments?



ASK RUSTY
Social Security
Advisor

Dear Rusty: I'm ready to apply for my Social Security benefits,

and I'm aware of how my benefits are calculated. What I would like to know about is how the application process actually works and how my benefits are received. **Signed: Ready to Collect**

Dear Ready to Collect:

Essentially, you have two main options for applying for Social Security benefits, and also two separate options for receiving your payments:

you can either contact Social Security at 1.800.772.1213 to make a telephone appointment to complete your application while speaking to an SSA representative on the phone, or you can submit your application for SS benefits online.

When using the telephone option, you will be guided by an SSA agent while completing your application and can discuss your benefit options directly with that agent (just be sure to be available to receive SSA's call at the scheduled time). You can also make an appointment by calling your local SS field office directly (get the number for your

To apply for benefits,

See **RUSTY Page 3**

■ BOOMER BITS HEALTH

3 Things Every Older Adult Should Do for Their Health This Fall

(StatePoint) For older adults, fall is an important time to focus on health and wellness.

According to Ryan Kocher, who leads Medicare growth for HealthSpring, the new brand for Health Care Service Corporation's Medicare business, formerly owned by the Cigna Group, the following three tasks are essential for seniors to complete as cool weather sets in.

1. Get a Flu Shot

An influenza vaccine can help prevent serious illness due to flu. As immune defense diminishes with age, older adults are increasingly susceptible to flu complications. The Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention (CDC) recommends the use of higher dose flu vaccines for people 65 years and older. This fall, in advance of flu season, visit your healthcare provider or pharmacist to get the right vaccine for you. This is also a good time to catch up on any other immunizations that your provider recommends.

2. Review Medicare Coverage

Medicare is the government health insurance program for Americans 65 and older and others who qualify. Many Medicare beneficiaries choose or change their plans during the Medicare Annual Enrollment Period

See **FALL Page 3**

■ BOOMER BITS LIFESTYLE

Life Expectancy in Indiana 29th in U.S.

* Longevity is in right now, and people are under pressure to improve it through lifestyle choices, but a new study finds that where Americans live may have just as much impact on how long they live.

among all U.S. states.

*A significant nine-year gap exists between the highest and lowest-ranked states, highlighting substantial regional health disparities.

Longevity is on trend at the moment, with anti-ageing supplements, cold water

plunges, and sleep optimization becoming everyday rituals we're expected to perform to extend our lives. But while much of the focus is on how we live, a new study suggests that where we live may matter just as much.

According to research by hormone

health clinic Feel30, some states have a higher life expectancy than others. Ranking 29th among U.S. states, Indiana residents live an average of 74.6 years, with men at 71.8 and women at 77.5. Hawaii ranks top, at 79.9 years, and Mississippi

See **LIFE Page 5**

■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1. President Donald Trump ordered all American flags throughout the country to be lowered to half-staff through Sunday evening in Charlie Kirk's honor. After the 31-year-old conservative Christian was assassinated Wednesday, Congressman Jim Baird, IN-04, wrote the following about Kirk: "He was a passionate leader and an inspiration for so many young conservatives in America. Charlie dedicated his life to serving God and advocating for the values that make our country the greatest nation on earth. Please join me in praying for the Kirk family, especially his wife and their two young children, during this unimaginably difficult time. May Charlie rest in the eternal peace of Christ."

2. A swamp chestnut oak tree in Jennings County has been recognized as the largest of the species in the country by the National Champion Tree program, with a height of 95 feet, a circumference of 318 inches, and a canopy spread of 118 feet. The record swamp chestnut oak is on the family farm owned by Richard and Kris Schepman outside of Crothersville. The tree is on private property, so it is not available for public viewing. Indiana's current state champion trees, which are updated when a notification of a larger tree is received, are posted at on.IN.gov/big-tree, where you can also learn how to measure trees and enter those you think may qualify.

3. Ryan Austin Laules, 31, of, Colorado, has pleaded guilty to 21 counts of Sexual Exploitation of a Child, 5 counts of Sex Trafficking of a Minor, 2 counts of Notifying and Advertising Child Sexual Abuse Material and Possession of Child Sexual Abuse Material. According to Boone County court documents, between late 2019, and May 19, 2023, Ryan Laules used social media applications such as Instagram, Snapchat, Discord, Yubo, Purp, and others, to coerce, sexually exploit and threaten at least 68 minor victims into producing thousands of images and videos of sexually explicit conduct. The victims ranged in age from 13 to 16 at the time of the offenses and lived in nearly every state in the United States and in at least five foreign countries. The Federal Bureau of Investigation and Boone County Child Abuse and Sexual Exploitation Task Force investigated this case. The task force is made up of law enforcement personnel from the following Boone County agencies; the Boone County Sheriff's Office, the Boone County Prosecutor's Office, the Lebanon Police Department, the Whitestown Police Department, and the Zionsville Police Department.

Scam Warning
Involving County

In an age where it's hard to know what to trust, the Hamilton County Planning Department wants to make sure residents know of a new scam.

The office reported that it has learned of a bad actor who has attempted to scam a petitioner seeking a variance. The scammer attempted to collect fees on behalf of the Planning Department.

Residents should know that the Hamilton County Planning Department does not use a third-party company to collect fees. They also do not use wire services or other such means to process payments.

It's important to remember that the County Planning office staff will only contact people directly from the official email address or by phone.

If anyone has any questions or something seems suspicious, please contact the Hamilton County Planning Department directly to verify by calling (317) 776-8490.

21st Morse Clean Up:
Record-Breaking
Success

The 2025 Morse Waterways Cleanup marked a new milestone in community collaboration and environmental stewardship. Thanks to the dedication of volunteers, local partners, and the Morse Waterways Association board, this year's event was the most successful and efficient cleanup in the history of the reservoir.

The effort began on Friday, July 18, with an expanded pre-cleanup operation led by Duke Energy volunteers and supported by Thomas Docks. Crews worked to remove logs, debris, and trash from around the town and Boathouse docks. MWA volunteers coordinated boat transfers, shoreline retrieval, and cutting operations, while Northwest Towing & Recovery provided tri-axle dump trucks to haul materials to GreenCycle. A strategic change — unloading the Thomas Docks barge on Friday instead of Saturday — helped streamline operations and reduce congestion. By day's end, eight full truckloads of logs had been removed from the reservoir.

On Saturday, July 19, the of-

See **MORSE Page 5**



54 N. 9th St. Noblesville IN 46060
Main: 317-773-9960
thetimes24-7.com

ADOPT A PET CARA



Cara is a highly intelligent feline with a big personality. This 4-year-old female Domestic Shorthair has been available for adoption at the Humane Society for Hamilton County (HSHC) since 6/14/25. She is bold, brainy, and thrives on interactive play to keep her happy, curious, and confident. Puzzle toys, laser pointers, and string toys are her favorites. If you love a cat with moxie, she might be the perfect match for you. Cara would love to meet you soon at HSHC anytime Monday-Tuesday or Thursday-Sunday from 12-5 PM. To meet her, please fill out an adoption application at hamiltonhumane.com/adopt.

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Lions Screen for Vision Impairments at Elementary Schools



Noblesville, Zionsville and Carmel Lions have been busy visiting elementary schools in Noblesville and Fishers to screen students for vision impairments. Using a high-tech screening device, the Lions check the children for visual disturbances. Children who are found to have a vision issue are then referred to an eye doctor for further evaluation. In the accompanying photos, Lions from Noblesville and Zionsville are shown at Noblesville elementary school, Promise Road, Hinkle Creek and Deer Creek, as well as Brooks Elementary in Fishers.

Photos courtesy Noblesville Lions Club

Carmel Budget Proposal Pushes Public Safety

Mayor Sue Finkam presented her 2026 municipal budget to the Carmel City Council and outlined her vision for the City, while acknowledging the new financial reality all communities in Indiana face following the passage of Senate Enrolled Act 1.

The mayor’s budget proposal increases funding for public safety, provides historic investment in Carmel’s roads and streets, promotes fiscal transparency and invests in pillars of quality of life such as parks and the arts ecosystem, all while maintaining a flat tax rate for 2026.

“We expect to lose about \$10 million from what we expected to receive this year,” said Mayor Sue Finkam. “I applaud the state legislature for lowering property taxes for Hoosiers, but cities like ours must account for a substantial loss in revenue in the years to come, and my staff has been hard at work trying to find savings to deal with this new reality.”

The proposed budget is structurally balanced,

with General Fund revenue estimates of \$144,265,651 for 2026 and expenditures totaling \$144,264,340 for the coming year.

Of note, Mayor Finkam’s proposal includes a 10.2% increase in the Carmel Fire Department’s funding, a 7.9% increase in the Carmel Police Department’s budget and a 6% increase to the Carmel Clay Parks and Recreation budget.

“Public safety, infrastructure and arts and parks remain top priorities,”

added Finkam. “We’ve focused our investments on essential services while being good stewards of taxpayer dollars.”

Where appropriate, the mayor’s plan uses existing appropriations to lower ongoing operating costs, including reallocating current year savings towards paying off capital leases to save on future payments.

Below is a side-by-side comparison of the 2025 budget and the proposed 2026 budget.

	Department	2025 Budget	2026 Budget Estimates	Compared to 2025
1120	Fire	\$ 42,346,952.00	\$ 46,666,379.00	10.2%
1115	Technology	\$ 6,666,941.00	\$ 7,275,993.00	9.1%
1110	Police	\$ 36,646,473.00	\$ 39,551,906.00	7.9%
1401	City Council	\$ 665,503.00	\$ 713,916.00	7.3%
1125	Parks	\$ 6,679,719.00	\$ 7,078,223.00	6.0%
1201	Human Resources	\$ 2,935,368.00	\$ 2,999,367.00	2.2%
1301	City Court	\$ 955,350.00	\$ 962,168.00	0.7%
1180	Corporation Counsel	\$ 3,096,840.00	\$ 3,113,044.00	0.5%
1702	City Clerk	\$ 921,062.00	\$ 923,078.00	0.2%
1208	Arts Support and Operations	\$ 9,031,284.00	\$ 9,032,100.00	0.0%
1801	Redevelopment	\$ 1,044,743.00	\$ 1,029,443.00	-1.5%
1207	Brookshire Golf Course	\$ 1,955,888.00	\$ 1,801,612.00	-7.9%
1150	Public Works and Safety	\$ 10,100.00	\$ 9,000.00	-10.9%
1160	Mayor	\$ 1,305,752.00	\$ 1,158,149.00	-11.3%
1192	Community Services	\$ 3,898,159.00	\$ 3,381,043.00	-13.3%
1701	Finance	\$ 17,546,938.00	\$ 15,158,022.00	-13.6%
1206	City Property Maintenance	\$ 2,182,500.00	\$ 1,643,500.00	-24.7%
1205	Facilities Management	\$ 1,132,802.00	\$ 748,726.00	-33.9%
1501	Economic Development	\$ 654,284.00	\$ 245,000.00	-62.6%
1203	Marketing & Community Relations	\$ 4,243,720.00	\$ 773,671.00	-81.8%
	Total	\$ 143,920,378.00	\$ 144,264,340.00	0.2%

Annual Harvest Dinner Fundraiser Sept. 28

Join in for an unforgettable night of exceptional cuisine and meaningful impact at the Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank’s Harvest Dinner!



HAMILTON COUNTY HARVEST FOOD BANK

ner-fundraiser?emailDeliveryId=5a7219d8-fc5e-44c2-a768-89f0cb192181

The event is hosted by award-winning Chef Ryan Nelson and Laurie Nelson.

This exclusive event brings together community, compassion and culinary excellence. Enjoy handcrafted cocktails and hors d’oeuvres on the terrace, followed by a locally sourced gourmet dinner and decadent dessert.

The evening begins at 6 p.m. and lasts for two hours. Late Harvest Kitchen is located at 8605 River Crossing Blvd. in Indianapolis.

All proceeds directly support hunger relief in Hamilton County. Let’s come together to fill plates and bring hope to families in need.

NOW Hiring



LIGHT DELIVERY ROUTE

Early Wednesday morning newspaper delivery route available!

This does NOT include home delivery. It is delivering to post offices mostly.

Must have insurance, reliable transportation and a clean driving record.

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Counting Down Top Purdue Boilermakers Reaches 70s



Ken Thompson
Columnist

Perhaps the strangest NFL championship game, pre-Super Bowl era, involved the Chicago Bears winning the title in 1932 on an indoor 60-yard field that was littered with circus “leftovers.” A Purdue All-American center never forgot that game until the day he died at age 92.

He’s among this week’s edition of best Boilermakers by number alongside three All-American defensive linemen and two Super Bowl champion offensive linemen with the New England Patriots.

71 Alex Magee

One of a handful of athletic defensive linemen recruited by Joe Tiller and assistant Brock Spack in the early 2000s. The 6-3, 298-pound Magee played his first three seasons at tackle before moving to end in 2008.

Magee recorded 3.5 sacks among his 28 tackles, impressing the Kansas City Chiefs enough to make him a third-round selection in 2009.

72 Bill Yanchar

Yanchar earned first-team All-Big Ten honors at defensive tackle in 1968 and 1969.

He also was an Academic All-American in 1969. Yanchar’s final game as a Boilermaker was memorable, collecting 15 tackles in a 44-21 victory against Indiana. Afterward, Yanchar credited the Hoosier fans for inspiring him.

“Those people pelting us with snowballs really got us fired up,” Yanchar told the Journal and Courier’s George Bolinger.

73 Don Brumm and Jerry Shay

Jack Mollenkopf’s skill as a line coach was never more evident than in the first half of the 1960s when he fielded back-to-back All-Americans in Brumm and Shay.

Brumm was a two-

year starter at defensive end, earning first-team All-America honors from the Associated Press and United Press International as a senior in 1962. The St. Louis Cardinals made Brumm their first-round draft pick in 1963, going 13th overall.

Three years later, Shay was a first-team All-American defensive tackle. The Minnesota Vikings made Shay the seventh overall pick of the 1966 NFL Draft. Shay made his mark, though, as a scout for the New York Giants. He was directly responsible for the Giants drafting standouts such as Harry Carson, Phil Simms, Michael Strahan and Lawrence Taylor.

74 Ken Novak

A decade later, the 6-7, 270-pound Novak was selected an All-American defensive tackle after posting a team-high 87 tackles as a senior in 1975.

Oddly, Novak wasn’t a first-team All-Big Ten selection even though he was granted that honor in 1974. Novak was taken in the first round of the 1976 NFL Draft, 20th overall, by the Baltimore Colts.

75 Lance Olssen

Yet another outstanding defensive lineman from the 1960s, Olssen earned first-team All-Big Ten honors as a junior in 1966 and a senior in 1967.

Injuries cut short his professional career after being a third-round pick of the San Francisco 49ers in 1968.

76 Charles Miller

The Marion native was Purdue’s third football All-American, a three-year starter at center while playing for the Big Ten champions in 1929 and 1931.

Winning followed Miller to the Chicago Bears, for whom he played in the first indoor football game in 1932. It was the NFL championship game against Portsmouth in Chicago Stadium.

Age 90 at the time he was interviewed by this columnist in 2000, Miller

recalled blocking for Red Grange and Bronko Nagurski during the 9-0 victory. He also remembered the stench from playing on a surface that had hosted a circus earlier in the week.

“It was stinking and dirty,” Miller recalled. “Oh, it was bad.”

77 Karl Singer

Protecting Bob Griese during the 1965 season helped Singer earn Associated Press All-America honors as a senior.

The offensive tackle was a first-round pick by the Boston Patriots in the 1966 American Football League Draft.

78 Matt Light

Converted to offensive tackle from tight end by Joe Tiller, Light became the anchor of the group that protected Drew Brees for three seasons.

Light started 37 consecutive games at left tackle and earned first-team All-Big Ten honors in 2000. The New England Patriots took him in the second round of the 2001 NFL Draft.

During the next 11 seasons, Light started 153 of 155 games, earned three Super Bowl rings and made three Pro Bowl appearances. Light was selected to the Patriots’ 50th anniversary team while still an active player in 2009.

79 Gene Mruczkowski

Last but certainly not least among Joe Tiller’s second recruiting class in 1998, Mruczkowski’s desire to play in the Big Ten led him to rebuff West Virginia, Cincinnati and Toledo.

As a redshirt freshman, Mruczkowski started all 12 games at left guard and earned second-team Freshman All-American honors from The Sporting News. He started all 49 games he played as a Boilermaker, closing his career at center.

Mruczkowski made the New England Patriots roster as an undrafted free agent in 2003. He

was a part of two Super Bowl championship teams during his six seasons as a reserve lineman.

80 Dave Young, Bernie Flowers and Paul Moss

How do you choose between three All-Americans? I can’t. Other than No. 15, this is one of the deepest talent positions in Purdue history.

Young was the first tight end to lead the nation in receptions, averaging 6.1 per game during his consensus All-American season in 1980. Young was a two-time first-team All-Big Ten selection (1979-80).

Flowers was Dale Samuels’ favorite target during the 1952 season, helping Purdue earn a share of the Big Ten championship. Flowers earned consensus All-America honors as a senior in 1952. He set school records with 43 receptions for 603 yards and seven touchdowns.

Moss, who played at Purdue from 1930-32, was a two-time All-American and two-time first-team All-Big Ten end. As a member of the football Pittsburgh Pirates, Moss led the NFL in receiving as a rookie in 1933.

Next time: The first John Mackey Award winner and two prolific (for their time) passers.

Top 100 rivalries

It probably won’t come as a surprise to the serious college football fan that Michigan and Ohio State rest atop The Athletic’s countdown of the Top 100 rivalries.

It did amaze me that the annual clash for the Old Oaken Bucket got such little respect, ranked 49th, that the Purdue-Indiana rivalry was listed behind such titanic matchups as North Dakota State and South Dakota State (No. 39) and Lafayette-Lehigh (No. 41).

Even further back was the once-annual Purdue-Notre Dame game at No. 61.

“This series has waned in recent years with Purdue’s fortunes, but this once was a circled game

on the calendar for both programs,” The Athletic stated of the rivalry that the Fighting Irish lead 60-28-2.

Left unwritten was Purdue owning a 3-1-2 record at the start of the series, a 28-22 Boilermaker victory in South Bend on Nov. 14, 1896. The Fighting Irish won 14 of the next 15 games in the series.

The Athletic did note that Purdue owns four victories against top-ranked Notre Dame teams in 1950, 1954, 1965 and 1967. The Boilermakers notched victories in 1968 and 1974 against Fighting Irish teams ranked No. 2.

The 1968 game, a 37-22 triumph, earned The Athletic’s call as the “biggest game” in the series. Purdue was No. 1 at the time and the contest marked the fourth consecutive season both teams were ranked in the top 10 at the time. Leroy Keyes rushed for 90 yards and two touchdowns and threw a TD pass to lead Purdue.

The Old Oaken Bucket was a relative latecomer to the Purdue-Indiana series, which began on Nov. 14, 1891, with a 60-0 Boilermaker victory before a sparse crowd estimated at 1,200. The shutout was one of four that season for Purdue, which outscored Wabash, DePauw, Indiana and Butler by a combined 194-0.

Incidentally, the 46-0 victory at Wabash led to the Boilermaker nickname. The Daily Argus News, a Crawfordsville publication, titled the game story “Slaughter of Innocents: Wabash Snowed Completely Under by the Burly Boiler Makers from Purdue.”

Purdue leads the Indiana series 77-43-6 and the combined 126 meetings ranks second among Big Ten rivalries behind only Wisconsin at Minnesota.

That didn’t impress The Athletic, which justified its lowly ranking by declaring “it’s a historic series, but its impact has limited reach.” Backing up that opinion, The Athletic noted the teams have met just once as ranked opponents, in 1945.

Indiana’s 19-14 victory against Purdue in 1967

was chosen the “biggest game” of the rivalry. The upset of the third-ranked Boilermakers forged a three-way tie for the Big Ten title and by league rules at the time, sent the Hoosiers to Pasadena for its only Rose Bowl appearance.

Boilers make the cut

Purdue’s national runner-up team in 2024 is among The Athletic’s Top 25 teams of the 2000s.

Criteria for selection include overall record, conference championships and historical relevance. In the Boilermakers’ case, Zach Edey’s presence earned them the No. 24 slot in Brendan Marks’ rankings.

“If not for running into a buzz saw in the national title game, Matt Painter’s best Purdue squad would feature even higher,” Marks writes. “Still, watching Edey — the first multi-time Wooden Award winner since Ralph Sampson in the 1980s — at the height of his dominance was something to behold. Edey’s monstrous 37-point effort in the national championship game tied Lew Alcindor for fourth-most points in a title game in men’s NCAA history.

“Alongside the 7-foot-4 Big Maple, Smith and Loyer combined to make the Boilermakers the second-best 3-point shooting team in America, one capable of going undefeated at home despite the nation’s second-toughest schedule. The Boilermakers thrived despite the pressure of a season-long redemption tour, one year after becoming the second No. 1 seed to ever lose to a No. 16 (Fairleigh Dickinson).”

Connecticut, which repeated as national champions by defeating Purdue, was ranked third in the countdown behind Duke’s 2001 national champs and the 2012 Kentucky title team.

Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the Lafayette Journal & Courier and an award-winning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many years.

PUBLIC NOTICES

BEFORE THE HAMILTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD IN THE MATTER OF THE
Clara Knotts Drain,
Parkwood Drive Arm/96th & College Reconstruction Arm,
Parkwood Drive Vacation
Vacate from 124G to 124F; 124F to 124E; 124E to 124B; 124B to 124; 124A to 124; 124 to 123; 123 to 122; 12 to 13; 13A to 13; 13 to 124D; 124D to 124C; 124C to 124 B; & 10 to 11.
NOTICE is hereby given that a petition to vacate has been received by the Hamilton County Surveyor for the Clara Knotts Drain, Parkwood Drive Arm/96th & College Reconstruction Arm, Parkwood Drive Vacation across Parcels 16-13-11-04-07-001.010, 16-13-11-04-07-001.006 and 99-99-99-99-999.005 (Vacate from 124G to 124F; 124F to 124E; 124E to 124B; 124B to 124; 124A to 124; 124 to 123; 123 to 122; 12 to 13; 13A to 13; 13 to 124D; 124D to 124C; 124C to 124 B; & 10 to 11) and that a hearing is scheduled for September 22, 2025 at 9:00 A.M. on that request in Commissioners Court, Hamilton County Judicial Center, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, IN 46060.
Objections to the VACATION of the drain must be filed in writing not less than five (5) days before the date of the hearing.
The Board will consider whether the drain performs the function for which it was designed and constructed; whether the expense of maintenance outweighs the benefits to be derived therefrom, and whether the abandonment thereof will not be detrimental to the public welfare.
HAMILTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD
ATTEST: Lynette Mosbaugh
Executive Secretary
TL22778 9/12 1t hspaxlp

Notice of Public Hearing of the Board of Commissioners of Hamilton County To Enter Into A Public-Private BOT Agreement Pursuant to Indiana Code 5-23
Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of Hamilton County, Indiana (the “Board of Commissioners”), will conduct a public hearing on September 22, 2025, at 1:00 p.m., local time, in the Commissioners’ Courtroom at the Hamilton County Courthouse, located at 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, Indiana, 46060, to review the proposal and agreement for the construction, equipping, operation, maintenance, and transfer to Hamilton County, Indiana (the “County”), of a renovation/expansion of the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center (collectively, the “Project”) pursuant to Indiana Code 5-23. The purpose of the hearing is to hear the recommendation to members of the Board of Commissioners in order to make an award of a public-private agreement for the Project submitted by Envoy. The address and telephone number of the Board of Commissioners is One Hamilton County Square, Suite 157, Noblesville, Indiana, 46060, telephone number 317-776-8493. This hearing is open to the public. The proposal for the Project and an explanation of the basis upon which the recommendation is being made are available for public inspection and copying at the office of the Board of Commissioners during regular business hours.
*/s/ Todd Clevenger, Auditor
Hamilton County, Indiana
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LIFE

Continued from Page 1

10 states with the highest life expectancy:				
Rank	State	Total Life Expectancy (Years)	Male Life Expectancy (Years)	Female Life Expectancy (Years)
1	Hawaii	79.9	77	83.1
2	Massachusetts	79.6	76.9	82.2
3	Connecticut	79.2	76.3	82
4	New Jersey	79	76.3	81.6
4	New York	79	76.3	81.6
5	Minnesota	78.8	76.3	81.4
6	New Hampshire	78.5	76.1	81.1
6	Rhode Island	78.5	75.9	81
7	Vermont	78.4	75.7	81.2
8	California	78.3	75.3	81.4
9	Utah	78.2	76.3	80.2
9	Washington	78.2	75.8	80.8
10	Nebraska	77.8	75.4	80.3
10	Wisconsin	77.8	75.2	80.5

10 states with the lowest life expectancy:				
Rank	State	Total Life Expectancy (Years)	Male Life Expectancy (Years)	Female Life Expectancy (Years)
1	Mississippi	70.9	67.7	74.3
2	West Virginia	71	68.1	74.2
3	Alabama	72	68.9	75.3
4	Louisiana	72.2	68.8	75.9
5	Kentucky	72.3	69.6	75.3
6	Tennessee	72.4	69.4	75.5
7	Arkansas	72.5	69.7	75.6
8	Oklahoma	72.7	70	75.6
9	New Mexico	73	69.4	77
10	South Carolina	73.5	70.4	76.7

ranks last, with residents living almost ten years less than those in Hawaii.

The study, which analyzed the latest CDC data on life expectancy across all 50 US states, found a significant nine-year gap between the highest and lowest-ranked states, highlighting substantial regional health disparities.

Hawaii stands at the top of the rankings with an impressive total life expectancy of 79.9 years. The gender breakdown shows Hawaiian men living to 77 years on average, while women in the state live to 83.1 years – the highest female life expectancy in the nation.

Massachusetts takes second place with a life expectancy of 79.6 years. Men in the Bay State live to an average of 76.9 years, while women reach 82.2 years, demonstrating the state’s strong healthcare infrastructure and quality of life.

Connecticut secures the third position with residents living an average of 79.2 years. The Constitution State shows a typical gender divide, with men living to 76.3 years and women to 82 years.

New Jersey and New York share fourth place, both with a life expectancy of 79 years. The two neighboring states show identical figures for male life expectancy at 76.3 years and female life expectancy at 81.6 years.

Minnesota ranks fifth with a total life expectancy of 78.8 years. The North Star State shows men living to 76.3 years and women to 81.4 years, placing it firmly among the top performers in the country.

New Hampshire and

Rhode Island tie for the sixth position, with residents of both states living an average of 78.5 years. New Hampshire residents see men reaching 76.1 years and women 81.1 years, while Rhode Island shows men at 75.9 years and women at 81 years.

Vermont follows closely in seventh place with a life expectancy of 78.4 years. The Green Mountain State records male life expectancy at 75.7 years and female at 81.2 years.

California ranks eighth with residents living an average of 78.3 years. The Golden State shows men living to 75.3 years and women to 81.4 years.

Utah and Washington tie for the ninth position with a life expectancy of 78.2 years. Utah stands out with a relatively high male life expectancy of 76.3 years and female life

expectancy of 80.2 years, while Washington records 75.8 years for men and 80.8 years for women.

Rounding out the top ten are Nebraska and Wisconsin, both with a life expectancy of 77.8 years. Nebraska shows men living to 75.4 years and women to 80.3 years, while Wisconsin records 75.2 years for men and 80.5 years for women.

At the other end of the scale, Mississippi ranks last with the lowest life expectancy in the nation at 70.9 years. The Magnolia State shows men living to just 67.7 years and women to 74.3 years, nearly nine years shorter than their counterparts in Hawaii.

West Virginia ranks second-lowest with a life expectancy of 71 years. The Mountain State records male life expectancy at 68.1 years and female at 74.2 years, the lowest female life expectancy among all states.

Alabama takes the third-lowest position with residents living an average of 72 years. The state’s figures show men reaching 68.9 years and women

75.3 years.

Louisiana ranks fourth from the bottom with a life expectancy of 72.2 years. The Pelican State shows men living to 68.8 years and women to 75.9 years.

Kentucky holds the fifth-lowest position with a total life expectancy of 72.3 years. The Bluegrass State records male life expectancy at 69.6 years and female at 75.3 years.

Tennessee ranks sixth from the bottom with residents living an average of 72.4 years. In the Volunteer State, men reach 69.4 years while women live to 75.5 years.

Arkansas takes the seventh-lowest position with a life expectancy of 72.5 years. The Natural State records men living to 69.7 years and women to 75.6 years.

Oklahoma ranks eighth from the bottom with a total life expectancy of 72.7 years, where men live to 70 years and women 75.6 years.

New Mexico holds the ninth-lowest position with residents living an average of 73 years. The state shows a notable gender gap, with men living to 69.4 years and women to 77 years.

South Carolina rounds out the bottom ten with a life expectancy of 73.5 years. The Palmetto State records male life expectancy at 70.4 years and female at 76.7 years.

The findings reveal clear regional patterns in life expectancy across the United States. Northeastern states account for six of the top ten positions, while Southern states make up eight of the bottom ten.

“These significant regional differences in life expectancy highlight how location and access to healthcare can dramatically impact longevity,” Anne-liese Cadena, Lead Nurse Practitioner at Feel30 said. “What’s particularly striking is the consistent gender gap across all states, with women outliving men by five to seven years on average. This gap exists regardless of a state’s overall ranking. For men concerned about health and longevity, these figures serve as a reminder of the importance of proactive health management. Hormone optimization, including testosterone replacement therapy when appropriate, can address many age-related health concerns that may be contributing to this gap. Regular health screenings, proper nutrition, stress management, healthy sleep habits, and maintaining physical activity are fundamental for those looking to increase their healthy years. The goal isn’t just adding years to life, but adding life to those years.”

MORSE

Continued from Page 1



Photos courtesy of Mike Berry

For the past 21 years, volunteers have gathered at Red Bridge Park in Cicero to remove tons of trees, debris and garbage from Morse Reservoir during their annual half day clean-up effort. Members of the Morse Waterways Association organize the annual event.

Reservoir Cleanup Day, community members showed up in force. Boaters, jet ski owners, and property owners delivered a steady stream of debris to Red Bridge Park, where volunteers continued shoreline removal and processing. The Town of Cicero assisted with final hauling on Monday and Tuesday, resulting in 13 single axle dump truck loads of logs cleared from the reservoir!

This massive effort wouldn’t have been possible without the generous support of key partners, including Duke Energy, Bestway Disposal, Thomas Docks, GreenCycle, Northwest Towing & Recovery, Bestway Disposal, Edward Jones, and the Town of Cicero. A strong volunteer team consisting from Duke Energy consisting of Mark LaBarr, Kristin Gung, Kathy Davis, Gavin Morgan, Ryan Delphia, Jackie Hernandez, Jason Myers, Scot Shaw, JD Cox, Nathen Nguyen, and Travis Krick were on hand for the heavy lifting. Special thanks go to Shannon Fiddler, Terry Cooper Jimmie Hunter, Dan Derda, Mike Berry, and the many volunteers who gave their time and energy. And above all,

heartfelt gratitude to Dave Vanette and Art Hall, whose leadership and coordination made this event a true community triumph.

As the scale of this project continues to grow, so do the costs. MWA relies on donations to cover hauling, park restoration, and grant-writing efforts for future dredging. To support this vital work, contributions can be made via PayPal at morseh20.org or mailed to Morse Waterways Association, P.O. Box 422, Cicero, IN 46034.

Together, we’re pre-

serving the beauty and health of Morse Reservoir — one log, one boatload, one volunteer at a time.

Mark your calendar to join us for next year’s clean up on Saturday, July 18, 2026, from 8 a.m. to noon. Morse Waterways Association encourages everyone who lives on and around the reservoir to be involved in helping to keep this valuable amenity clean and safe. To be included in the list for future notifications of all news and schedules related to the cleanup, email Dave Vanette at vanetteda@hotmail.com.

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