



MAD life | **A7**
Al Roker launching educational kids show

SPORTS | **B1**
PH boys soccer visits Anderson



The Herald Bulletin

HB TheHeraldBulletin.com

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2025

\$2.50

YOUR WEEKEND

Festivals, concerts and other events highlight a busy weekend — which looks to be blessed by temperate weather — in the Madison County area. Here are just a few of the options:

HIT A FAIR AND A FESTIVAL

The Heritage Fair hosted by Friends of Falls Park runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday in Falls Park. At the same time, folks will be gathering for the Fall Festival in downtown Pendleton. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Both events will feature craft and food vendors and lots more.

TRY 2 CONCERTS AT PARAMOUNT

The Drifters, The Platters and Cornell Gunter's Coasters will appear at the historic Paramount Theatre in Anderson on Friday at 7:30 p.m. The three groups were instrumental in creating the sounds of rock 'n' roll and doo-wop. Then on Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Pink Droyd, a tribute band, will take the Paramount stage to perform Pink Floyd's most memorable hits.



TAKE TIME TO POWWOW IN ALEX

The annual Andersontown Powwow returns to Beulah Park. The celebration of Native American traditions and cultures will include buffalo burgers, Indian tacos, music and dancing. Douglas Blue Feather will return to play the flute. Hours are 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

LISTEN TO A RIVER TALK

Madison County Historian Stephen Jackson will present "White River Tales," based on his book "If the River Could Talk: Stories of the White River in Madison County." The presentation will take place from 2 to 3 p.m. Sunday at the Museum of Madison County History in Anderson. This 16-part speaking series is part of the local American 250 Celebration.

ENJOY SOME OPEN-AIR TUNES

Seasoned local musician and songwriter Dane Clark will take the stage at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Dickmann Town Center in Anderson. While best known for his work with John Mellenkamp, Clark is also a solo artist with several critically acclaimed albums to his name. He blends heartland rock, Americana and roots influences. Bring a lawn chair and lend an ear.

ANDERSON

Hearing set for proposed \$90.5M city 2026 budget

City council to hear public comments Thursday

KEN DE LA BASTIDE
THE HERALD BULLETIN

ANDERSON — Residents of Anderson will have the opportunity to comment on the city's proposed 2026 budget.

The public hearing on the budget is set for Thursday at 6 p.m. in the council chambers of the Anderson city building. Members of City Council will consider the initial reading on the 2026 budget and salary ordinances at the meeting. The proposed 2026 general fund budget is \$46.8 million. The 2025 general fund is \$41.8 million. City Controller Doug Whitham said the

proposed 2026 budget for all funds is \$90.5 million, compared to \$87.4 million in 2024. Anderson Mayor Thomas Broderick Jr. is proposing an 8% salary increase in the 2026 budget for all city employees who are not union members. The Broderick administration

See **BUDGET** on A2

If you go

What: Public hearing on 2026 Anderson city budget
Who: Anderson City Council
When: 6 p.m. Thursday
Where: Council chambers of Anderson city building



Lily Jones | The Herald Bulletin

Joshua Dillard, left, helps Anderson High School freshman John Watson with an assignment during Dillard's introduction to engineering and design class Thursday morning. The class falls under AHS's Early College High School endorsement.

AHS receives Early College High School endorsement

LILY JONES
THE HERALD BULLETIN

ANDERSON — Anderson High School recently reached a landmark in college prep education. Through its Anderson High University program, AHS became the first school in Madison County to receive an Early College High School endorsement from the Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning. CELL, based at the University of Indianapolis, helps to "bridge the gap between research, policy, and practice to enhance student success in PK-12 and higher education" and aims to transform "lives through learning," according to its website. Early College High Schools provide students the opportunity to earn college credits, as well as "provide rigorous coursework, establish a college-going culture, and collaborate with community and higher education partners to inspire students to achieve

See **AHS** on A2



A banner recognizing Anderson High University's distinction as an Early College program stands in a hallway outside the school auditorium Thursday.

Indiana slashing rates for child care providers

NIKI KELLY
INDIANA CAPITAL CHRONICLE

INDIANAPOLIS — Child care providers around Indiana will see reimbursement rate cuts of 10-35% as the state's Family and Social Services Administration tries to close a \$225 million funding gap. The sustainability maneuver could push providers to drop out of a low-income child care program. "We made this decision to protect the children and families that depend on (Child Care Development Fund) vouchers. There is only one pot of money — we could either protect providers or kids, and we chose kids," said Adam Alson, the director of the Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning. CCDF is a federal program that provides financial assistance via subsidies or vouchers to low-income families to help them pay for child care so parents can work or attend education and training programs. Rep. Carey Hamilton, D-Indianapolis, decried the cuts Thursday morning. "While Gov. (Mike) Braun and the Republican supermajority provide private school vouchers to billionaires, they have now put working Hoosier families in the impossible situation of deciding whether to have a job or stay at home and take care of the kids," she said. "I reject the Braun administration's claim that they *had* to do this. They did not. There was no requirement to blow a \$200 million hole in our biennial budget this year by opening up private school vouchers to the wealthy. "This amount would nearly cover the projected deficit of the child care voucher program, but Statehouse Republicans chose to prioritize the wealthy over working-class families." The rate cuts weren't an easy decision, Alson said, but the only other way to rein in spending would've been to cut the number of families in the program. Right now, 55,000 children receive a voucher — above the pre-pandemic average of 35,000 participants. Alson said former Gov. Eric Holcomb's administration used federal COVID-19 dollars to raise rates and expand eligibility. The program peaked at 68,000 children, costing almost \$900 million in state and federal funding. When the pandemic assistance

See **CHILD CARE** on A2

Postal delivery information:

WEATHER



Today: Increasing clouds. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.
Tonight: A 20% chance of showers. Mostly cloudy
75 | 49
Full forecast on Page A8.

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SENIOR EXPO 2025

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