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**TODAY'S WEATHER**



Today: Mostly sunny.  
Tonight: Mostly clear.

HIGH: 81 LOW: 61



# Hamilton County Reporter

**Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

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## Council addresses \$42M State Road 37 cost overrun

By **JEFF JELLISON**  
*Reporter Publisher*

Five years into the State Road 37 project, the City of Fishers and Hamilton County government are \$42 million over budget, and construction has not been completed on any of the five intersections scheduled for renovation.

According to Hamilton County Highway Department Director Brad Ste-



Massillamany



Alexander



Glynn



Beaver



McKinney

vens during a Wednesday presentation provided by representatives from the City of Fishers, the original \$24 million, split equally

between Fishers and Hamilton County, has been exhausted. Stevens further explained INDOT contributed \$100 million toward the

project, of which approximately 75 percent has been committed.

**See Overrun . . . Page 2**

## Dave Huffman will soon retire as Carmel Street Commissioner

**The REPORTER**

The City of Carmel has announced that Street Commissioner Dave Huffman will retire effective Oct. 30 after a 32-year career in which he oversaw the maintenance of the City's transportation network during historic population growth. Current Operations Manager Terry Killen has been appointed by Mayor Jim Brainard to replace Huffman as the next Commissioner.



Huffman



Killen

Huffman has had a long career in public service and leadership. An employee in the Street Department since April 1988, he became interim Street Commissioner in 2007 and was appointed

**See Streets . . . Page 3**

## Heights students take walking tour of the world

**The REPORTER**

Despite the world seeming a little smaller due to this season of social distancing, students at Hamilton Heights Elementary School (HHES) enjoyed the opportunity to go around the world through an interactive geography enrichment lesson to supplement their classroom studies.

The maps were the centerpiece of the entertaining and educationally powerful lesson for students to engage in a close look at cities, countries, historical, geographical, and cultural points of interest.

Melissa Martin, HHSC Technology Integration Specialist, who shares a love of history and geography, worked together with classroom teachers to bring this activity to life for students.

"We read books about maps to learn the basics, but Mrs. Martin helps the



Photo provided

**Melissa Martin, HHSC Technology Integration Specialist, led Hamilton Heights students in first grade on an interactive journey through Indiana, North America and the world. The program was designed to give students a lesson in geography, history, map reading skills and pique their interest in learning more about the world here and abroad.**

map skills come to life," explained Jennifer Tebbe, HHES first-grade teacher. "Students are able to walk and crawl around on REAL

maps to discover things like land vs. water, what different symbols mean, and where they are on each map. The students LOVE this ex-

perience! It is like having a field trip, but we get to stay right at school."

**See Tour . . . Page 2**

## BGCN partners with local snack company

**The REPORTER**

The Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville (BGCN) has received the support of Darlington Snacks, a local family-owned commercial bakery, for nearly a decade. The two have worked together in various ways, and Darlington has regularly been the title sponsor of the annual Bed Race that typically

takes place each summer on the downtown square.

This year looks a little different, and Darlington Snacks will offer support in a new method that is very fitting to the company's mission – by providing daily snacks to Club Kids. Each day after school and during school breaks, BGCN provides snacks to

all members at no charge. According to Feeding America, in 2019, one in 13 people in Hamilton County were food insecure, and almost half of those were children. Last year alone, BGCN provided more than 66,000 healthy snacks to members. Due to upcoming governmental funding changes, the snack program

will no longer be funded, and Darlington Snacks stepped up to the plate to meet the need.

"Our Club has been fortunate enough to have an amazing relationship with Darlington and be a grateful, beneficiary of their generosity on many occasions,"

**See Snacks . . . Page 3**

## Sheriff's Office completes transition to National Incident Based Reporting System

**The REPORTER**

Sheriff Dennis Quakenbush and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office are proud to announce their recent certification with the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS).

"Keeping Hamilton County Safe is our top priority," Quakenbush said. "Collecting more, reliable and accurate data is foundational to this effort."

NIBRS reporting is a system of reporting more detailed information within an incident. This reporting system has allowed the Sheriff's Office to move away from the traditional Uniform

Crime Reporting (UCR) system that did not collect as many pieces of data within an individual crime. NIBRS primary objective is to generate reliable information for use within law enforcement administration, operation, and management.

Originally, the UCR Program was designed as a summary system to collect only the most serious offense within an incident. However, the program began using incident-based reporting (i.e., NIBRS) in 1989 to capture all offenses within an incident – up to 10 crime

**See NIBRS . . . Page 3**



Photo provided

**Hamilton County Sheriff Dennis Quakenbush and Deputy Clerk Melissa Nickel accepted a certificate from the Indiana State Police for the Sheriff's Office certification with the National Incident Based Reporting System.**

## Nearly 6,800 early votes in first three days

**The REPORTER**

The Hamilton County Election Office has announced that in the first three days of early voting, 6,789 people have cast their ballots. In addition, County Elections Administrator Beth Sheller said 42,000 absentee ballots have been sent and 19,750 have been returned.



Sheller

## My early voting experience

My wife Jane and I voted absentee in the primary election earlier this year and are eligible to vote absentee in the general election, but decided to early vote instead. It's hard to explain why. Maybe it is the shared experience of being there, in person, with other people in your community, gathering to experience democracy.

We decided not to try voting the very first day, but the second day instead. We live a bit closer to the Hamilton County Fairgrounds,

as opposed to the downtown Noblesville location, so we chose the Fairgrounds.

We arrived at the location 30 minutes before the scheduled opening time for the polls. Parking is easy at the Fairgrounds. There were about 25 people lined up in front of us as we took our place in the queue.

The weather was pleasant and that made waiting outside a much nicer experience. Everyone in line that

**See Voting . . . Page 2**

# Go Purple with Prevail!



Isolation is a major factor in abuse and control. They usually begin this process by placing an emotional wedge between the victim and their loved ones. Eventually, the victim finds it too difficult to connect with family and friends and physically becomes withdrawn. If you are a victim of domestic violence, you are not alone.  
#GoPurplePrevail #PrevailInc #DVPM



## OVERRUN

Following the presentation, during the regularly-scheduled council meeting on Wednesday, District 2 council member Amy Massillamany expressed her frustration with the City of Fishers. “Of the 37 meetings open to the public, that was the first time outside of the decision made four years ago that they [Fishers] were here giving a breakdown of what the overruns looked like.”

At the meeting, Council members explained the county is only responsible for \$21 million of the

overrun due to cost sharing with Fishers.

District 4 representative Ken Alexander explained the cost overrun, saying, “Those estimates were based on construction cost coming out of a downturn in the economy. You probably had lower construction cost. As the economy improved you are now buying things that had higher escalation costs than anticipated. The issue is how do we stop it from going forward. What are we doing to look for scope reduction? We don’t have all that information today.”

According to Council member Fred Glynn, the \$21 million will likely increase as the project moves forward.

“It is a bigger cost overrun than any of us have ever seen. It is an ongoing project and it ain’t done,” said At-Large member Brad Beaver.

Beaver continued, saying, “The City of Fishers is the lead agency on a combined effort. We are not extremely happy about it either. It is a big project and big projects sometimes go over. I’m not happy with it, but we are going to hold up

from Page 1

## TOUR

from Page 1

“This was a great hands-on learning experience led by Mrs. Martin,” added Ashley Mandary, HHES first-grade teacher.

“This is a really fun program to lead,” said Martin, who has been taking these maps into Heights’ classrooms for about a decade. “These giant maps help us

work in interactive lessons on the power of maps and geography at the same time. Students hop around to the different countries and states, spend time learning about different areas, identify well-known landmarks as well as go through activities to help with basic map reading skills.”

## VOTING

from Page 1

I could see were wearing masks. All the poll workers were wearing masks. There was a sign as you walked into the building saying mask-wearing is mandatory.

It was good to see that as you verify your identification, there was plexiglass to separate the voter and the poll worker. You are given a card with data on it and a small paper printout.

Once that was done, I was headed to a voting machine. One glitch that was impacting many voters (including myself) was the discovery that many of the data cards had been cleaned with hand sanitizer, and it appears the sanitizer wipes the data from the card.

The poll worker, a very nice lady, had to seek some help and finally had to enter a code printed out on the piece of paper I was given at check-in in order to setup my voting machine. Once that was done, I cast my ballot and was on my way.

Even with the short delay, I was out of the building at 9:30 a.m. I had arrived to get in line at 8:30 a.m., the doors opened on time at 9 a.m., and I was in my car by 9:30.

Hats off to the workers staffing the polling site at the Hamilton County Fairgrounds. They were doing their best to get voters through efficiently, while also ensuring all the equipment was working for the voters.

As I left the Fairgrounds, the voting line was very long. It is good to see people living in my local community love democracy.

# Hello, Hamilton County



**Paul Poteet Goes Purple With Prevail**

**Click to play video**

Feel free to share The Reporter with friends and family.



*I was born and raised right here in Noblesville. I grew up in a home without domestic violence or assault – it wasn’t something I saw, or even heard about. But when I was introduced to Prevail of Central Indiana, I was shocked by the number of individuals who are affected by domestic violence. In 2018 alone, Prevail helped more than 4,000 clients in Hamilton County. (Nearly 80 percent of clients are women and children.) Domestic violence and abuse are hard topics to discuss, so you don’t often hear about them. But at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, we’re breaking the taboo and raising awareness for Prevail, an organization that helps families in Hamilton County.*

**– Mike Bragg, GM of Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville**

## To help Hamilton County families affected by domestic violence and sexual abuse, you can donate the following items:

- Individually packaged snacks
- Lysol
- Hand sanitizer
- Disinfecting wipes

**Drop off items at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, 14701 Tom Wood Way.**



# The 2021 Atlas: A new look for a new decade



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## SNACKS

from Page 1

BGCN Unit Director Abby Stutesman said. “The Darlington Snacks Family has always supported our members and programs. However, this time they stepped in during a time of need to make sure that we could continue to provide after school snacks to all members each day. They truly are ‘one of a kind’ kind of people, and we are honored to call them a partner.”

Darlington Snacks was founded in 1982, and is headquartered in Indianapolis. It is a family-owned, commercial bakery pro-

viding nourishing pre-baked, packaged snacks to the foodservice industry. The Darlington Snacks team places an emphasis on providing innovative, shelf-stable baked goods of the highest quality and taste experience. At Darlington, customers come first by taking time to learn flavor favorites, dietary needs and regulations in each market, while baking in a nut-free facility.

“Darlington Snacks is committed to supporting the children of the Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville,”

Darlington Snacks President and CEO Ryan Hockmeyer said. “This year has brought on unprecedented challenges for everyone, and we are grateful to be able to provide a small relief to an organization that does such good work for our community.”

Darlington Snacks provides snacks to the Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville, as well as the Boys & Girls Clubs of Elkhart, Ellettsville and Morristown.

For more information about BGCN’s after school programs, visit [BGCN.org](http://BGCN.org).

## STREETS

from Page 1

officially in December of that same year. During his 32-plus years of service and his tenure as Commissioner, the department has provided a nearly incomparable level of service for the city. As Carmel has grown over the years, the Street Department has maintained its level of service managing 406 miles of streets and 47 roundabouts in 2007 to today’s 544 miles and 134 roundabouts, while also elevating the aesthetics.

“I can’t thank Dave and his department enough for the services they provide for the City and the manner in which they carry out their many duties,” Brainard said. “From midnight calls on snowy winter nights to going out during a storm to remove downed trees or debris blocking our storm sewers during a heavy rain, Dave and his staff have risen to the challenge of keeping our streets and our City in optimal condition and, as a result, keeping our residents and visiting drivers safe. Additionally, it is the positive and ‘can do’ team spirit that Dave has created in this department that makes them an exceptional crew.”

Huffman oversaw the installation of LED lights across the City, including those installed on the steel Monon Bridge over Carmel Drive, which are used to illuminate the bridge in a variety of colors depending on the holiday or other

events. The light poles on Main Street, Range Line Road and all of the bridges in the city are adorned with hanging planters filled with flowers and during the holiday season, the city trees and fountains twinkle with lights in festive colors. These improvements, that help to make Carmel a world-class city, are made possible by the time and dedication of the Street Department.

The maintenance of the city’s streets also sets Carmel apart from its neighbors. In addition to essentially keeping the streets free of potholes, the Street department staff, in the winter months, ensure the safest of travels in snow and ice and perform at a pace and standard that earns them much deserved accolades. Under Huffman, the salt trucks and now, even the smaller trucks, have been fitted with wing plows to expedite snow removal and all vehicles have iPads to increase capabilities out of the office.

Under Huffman’s management, when the first Carmel Christkindlmarkt opened, the Street Department was integral in the construction of the wooden huts that surround the ice rink. In subsequent years when the number of huts nearly doubled, the Street Department rose to the challenge while also helping to assemble a three-story tower for the sale of Gluhwein

and learning how to properly install and disassemble the ice rink. The market, which attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors owes much of its success to the dedication and time devoted by Huffman and the Carmel Street Department.

“I would like to thank all of the good citizens of Carmel for their friendship and partnership over these last years,” Huffman aid. “My favorite part of my job has been those opportunities to meet our residents who love to call Carmel ‘home.’ It has been an honor to play a small part in making this the best city in America in which to live.”

Effective Nov. 1, Terry Killen will assume the role of Street Commissioner.

Killen joined the Carmel Street Department in 1991. He was promoted to a Foreman position in 2001, then to Operations Manager in 2007.

Killen is a Certified Heavy Equipment Operator, an LTAP Road Scholar (Purdue), a Certified Public Manager (Ball State) and holds a Class A Commercial Driver’s License. He and his wife, Mary, have raised six children and now have nine grandchildren. In his free time, he enjoys competitive bass fishing, participating in eight to 12 tournaments per year.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the Carmel Street Department.

## NIBRS

from Page 1

occurrences. Through NIBRS, law enforcement agencies report data on each offense and arrest within 28 offense categories made up of 71 specific crimes called Group A offenses. For each of the Group A offenses coming to their attention, agencies collect administrative, offense, property, victim, offender and arrestee information. Agencies report only arrest data for an additional 13 Group B offense categories. (*U.S. Department of Justice, CJIS, 2019*)

Leading this transition from UCR crime reporting to NIBRS crime reporting is Deputy Clerk Melissa Nickel. Nickel has worked for the Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office for over 15 years and has taken the ini-

tiative, with the help of other Sheriff’s Office employees, to ensure this agency becomes fully compliant with NIBRS high standards. This transition has not come easy, with NIBRS expecting near perfect error rates in all reports being filed. Nickel and her team worked diligently to allow the error rate to be at a perfect 0 percent for three consecutive months. This not only allowed the Sheriff’s Office to become certified with the Indiana State Police, but also helps provide excellent data and statistics to the Federal Bureau of Investigations.

“NIBRS could potentially help Hamilton County to target specific crimes in certain areas to help continue to reduce crime across the

county,” Nickel said.

By design, law enforcement agencies generate NIBRS data as a by-product of their respective records management systems. Therefore, an agency builds its system to suit its own individual needs. This includes all the information required for administration and operation, then forwards only the data required by NIBRS to the national UCR Program.

As more agencies report via NIBRS, the data collected will provide a clearer assessment of the nation’s crime experience. It will provide accurate data to criminologists, sociologists, legislators, municipal planners, the media and other various research and planning groups.



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sources: <https://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/731/Community-Government-Awards> and <https://smartasset.com/retirement/aig-annuities-review#indiana>



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Online fall Fishers Farmers Market now open

The GSD Club

The REPORTER

This fall, you can shop your favorite Farmers’ Market vendors from the comfort of your home with no-contact delivery through Dec. 18.

The virtual **Fishers Fall Farmers Market** presented by IU Health Saxony is now open for online orders.

Orders can be placed online from Sundays at 9 a.m. until Wednesdays at noon. Delivery will take place on Friday afternoons and is just

\$5 per order.

How it works

The 2020 Fishers Fall Farmers Market is completely virtual, offering a no-contact experience for the shopper. Here’s how it works:

1. Check out the [online market](#).
2. Create an account and start shopping. **The online ordering period begins at 9 a.m. Sundays and closes at noon Wednesdays.**
3. To view all available

items, click "Product List" at the top of the page. Add items to your cart. Reminder: You will only be able to add items to your cart when the ordering window is open.

4. Finalize your cart and confirm your order.
5. Orders will be delivered to your door the Friday after each ordering period.

During this challenging time, it is more important than ever to invest in your local food system and support small businesses.



Learn more about the Fishers Farmers' Market and meet vendors at [this link](#), and follow along on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to stay up to date on special promotions and updates.

As I shared last week, I had the chance to finally go into my mother’s assisted living apartment on Thursday, Oct. 1. I wasn’t prepared for what I saw – boxes upon boxes ... in her bedroom ... in her bathroom ... in her kitchen.

You see, during the six months of our separation due to the pandemic, I’ve had to “guesstimate” what Mom’s needed as far as groceries. Some of them are cheaper to order on Amazon vs. get delivered from local stores. While I’ve tried to work with Mom on the phone to get an idea of what she’s running low on, sometimes I’ve not been able to reach her or leave an answering machine message.

My fear was that she’d run out of something important, like Fixodent for her dentures, and be left feeling helpless. Well ... she certainly didn’t run out of anything, but now has an abundance of everything! The poor thing’s had a tough time getting around her little place in recent months as a result, so her apartment was quite a mess.

I texted my family about the situation, which made me feel helpless due to the fact that we only have a limited amount of time allowed per visit. My sister-in-law Janie offered to come help me last Tuesday morning so we could get Mom’s place in order.

I was incredibly relieved! And so, that morning, I donned the attire for what I fondly call the “Get Stuff Done Club” – GSD Club for short. I actually use a different word than “stuff,” though, but they can’t print that one in this newspaper.

With my workout clothes on and hair pulled back into a ponytail, I met Janie (also in GSD attire) and we divided and conquered. She took on the living room and kitchen while I tackled the bedroom and bathroom. The facility has one of those awesome wheeled carts like what you see in a hotel and I soon had it almost overflowing with items to put in my car.

In no time at all, we whipped Mom’s place into shape. I prayed I wouldn’t get pulled over on the short drive home, as I could barely see out the side and back windows of my Mini Cooper. None of the items are perishable, thank goodness, so I’m storing them in our garage and will bring over what she needs when I see she’s getting low on something. Which, according to my calculations, should be May of 2021.

Both Mom and I were grateful for Janie’s help. I’m hoping next week I can finally relax and actually chat with my mother vs. being in a frenzy trying to get her apartment cleaned, decorated, and checked for what items she needs.

COLUMNIST

AMY SHANKLAND  
Sandwiched

AG Curtis Hill: Federal courts are right to uphold Indiana’s mail-in voting law and stay injunction against ballot-receipt deadline

The REPORTER

Indiana Attorney General Curtis Hill on Wednesday applauded two decisions by

federal courts favoring enforcement of Indiana’s election laws as written by the General Assembly.

First, a federal appellate court upheld the constitutionality of Indiana’s mail-in voting law, which permits

only some categories of voters, including the elderly, to cast mail-in ballots. The court, citing longstanding Supreme Court precedent, held that the right to vote does not include a right to cast a mail-in ballot.

Second, a federal district court stayed its decision in another case enjoining an Indiana law prohibiting election officials from counting mail-in ballots received after noon on Election Day. In that case, the district court had previously ruled that officials must count any mail-in ballots postmarked by Election Day received within 10 days of Election Day. On Tuesday, that court stayed its injunction for a week while the state appeals.

“The message is starting to get through that courts should not be tinkering with election laws within a month of Election Day, even during the pandemic,” Hill said. “The U.S. Supreme Court has said that courts should not issue election-related injunctions at the eleventh hour, and perhaps that standard is starting to resonate.”

[Click here](#) to read the decision of the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals in the case involving Indiana’s mail-in voting law.

[Click here](#) to read the decision of the U.S. District Court for Southern Indiana granting a one-week stay in the case involving Indiana’s Election Day deadline for absentee ballots.



Hill

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More Information:  
[FishersArtsCouncil.org/upcoming-events](https://fishersartscouncil.org/upcoming-events)

Meeting Notices

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) The Hamilton County E911 Executive Board will meet to discuss E911 operations at 8 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 12, 2020, in the Mayor’s Conference Room at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St., Noblesville.

TriCo Regional Sewer Utility will hold its monthly Capital and Construction meeting at 5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 12, 2020, with the monthly Board of Trustees meeting to follow at 6 p.m. at the John Hensel Government Center, 10701 N. College Ave., Carmel.

The Westfield Washington Schools Board of Trustees will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2020, in the Multi-purpose Room at Washington Woods Elementary School, 17950 Grassy Branch Road, Westfield.

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) The Hamilton County GIS Policy Committee will hold a virtual meeting at 9:45 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2020. The purpose of this meeting is for discussion of GIS projects. To participate, call (219) 225-8177 and enter Conference ID 164011153# when prompted.

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) The Hamilton County ISS Board will hold a virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2020, at the Hamilton County Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville. To participate, call (219) 225-8177 and enter Conference ID 207622200# when prompted. The purpose of this meeting is for discussion of ISSD projects and updates.

Send Meeting Notices to:  
[News@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:News@ReadTheReporter.com)



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# Carmel Symphony Orchestra will livestream this season’s concerts

**The REPORTER**

The Carmel Symphony Orchestra will soon welcome patrons back for the kick off of the 2020-21 season at 7:30 p.m. this coming Saturday, Oct. 10. CSO concerts are performed at The Palladium, part of The Center for the Performing Arts, in Carmel.

Because the CSO understands that not everyone is comfortable attending events in person, a livestreaming option will be available for all concerts.

“This enduring pandemic has made us think outside of the box and be creative in ways we never thought possible,” said Artistic Director Janna Hymes. “Having the capability to live stream our concerts allows us to bring music to people who are unable to be in the hall with us. With limited seating and some of our patrons’ concerns about being out in crowds, we believe this is the perfect solution to bring the beauty of music directly to everyone. At this moment in America, where so much seems uncertain, music has the magical ability to soothe the soul and make life that much better.”

The first of the Masterworks concerts in the Hope Renewed Series this Saturday will include Bartok’s *Romanian Folk Dances*, Sz. 68; Grieg’s *Holberg Suite*, Op. 40 and Tchaikovsky’s *Serenade for Strings*, Op. 48.

To secure tickets for the Live Streaming viewing, patrons may visit the Center for the Performing Arts’ [website](#). Only one \$10 ticket is required per household. This livestreaming option is being sponsored by MetroNet. Tickets to attend in person are also still available on The Center’s website, or by contacting the Box Office at (317) 843-3800.

The second Masterworks concert at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 14 will feature CSO’s 2019 Young Artist Competition Winner, Cooper Olsen. The Holiday Pops Concerts, presented by IU Health on Dec. 12, will cap off 2020. These concerts, featuring singer Heather Bays, will be performed at 3 and 7:30 p.m. Sure to get you prepared for a holiday season, these concerts are filled with inspiration and are a celebration for all ages.

**About the Carmel Symphony Orchestra**

Believing that music has the power to change lives, the Carmel Symphony Orchestra (CSO) is the 80-member Resident Orchestra at The Palladium at The Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel. Founded in 1975, the CSO is comprised of professional and passionate musicians. The orchestra performs concerts featuring an eclectic repertoire of some of the world’s greatest symphonic music. The CSO is committed to enhancing our community’s quality of life through creative, artistically excellent performances, and educational experiences for diverse audiences of all ages. Janna Hymes became the organization’s Artistic Director in July 2017. Ms. Hymes is honored to represent CSO as a member of the Fulbright nominating panel, as part of a University of Minnesota research panel, and as Music Director of the Carmel Music and Film Festival. Jeanelle Adamak joined the Carmel Symphony Orchestra in January 2019 as Executive Director. Visit [CarmelSymphony.org](#) to learn more.

# Hoosier voters rank environment among top three priorities for governor, legislature

**The REPORTER**

The Morrison Institute for Public Policy at Arizona State University and Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust recently released findings from a poll that shows Hoosiers think Indiana’s environmental issues are serious and they want state leaders and policy makers to take immediate action on climate change, water and air quality, and wildlife protection.

The poll, conducted in early 2020, is an update to a similar poll the Trust commissioned Morrison Institute to administer in 2017 to gain an understanding of Indiana voters’ opinions and perceptions about environmental topics.

Some of the key findings in the 2020 poll include:

- Hoosiers rank the environment among their top three priorities for the governor and legislature to address, with improving the public education system top priority and making health care more accessible and affordable the second. Environment tied with jobs for third priority.
- Seventy-eight percent of respondents said protecting the environment should be given priority, even at the risk of slowing economic growth.
- Indiana voters believe that more should be done to combat climate change: 72 percent agree or strongly agree the federal government needs to do more and 70 percent agree or strongly agree state government should do more.
- Eighty percent feel

environmental issues in the state, such as water and air quality, land and water use and wildlife protections, are serious or very serious and need to be addressed immediately.

- Sixty-three percent of Hoosiers believe the White River is polluted and needs to be cleaned up.

“It is evident Hoosiers have growing concerns about the environment and want elected leaders to act,” said Trustee Kent E. Agness. “As advocates for an informed and engaged public, we hope Hoosiers will initiate focused conversations about their environmental priorities with policy makers and within their communities.”

The Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust was established in 1997 to support the causes about which Nina Mason Pulliam, an Indiana newspaperwoman and humanitarian, cared deeply. One of those was nature. In recent years, the Trust refined its focus on the environment and in early 2020, announced a nearly \$10.5 million, five-year environmental roadmap for Indiana to protect and restore the White River and its watershed, and increase awareness of environmental issues. The roadmap brings the Trust’s total investment in Indiana’s environment to \$30.3 million.

“In addition to investing in nonprofit organizations and initiatives dedicated to protecting nature, we are also focused on raising awareness and understanding about environmental is-

ssues,” said Trust President and CEO Gene D’Adamo. “The words of Baba Dioum, a Senegalese forester, resonate: ‘In the end we will conserve only what we love. We love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught.’”

“We are encouraged to see Hoosiers expressing not only concern about the environment, but a desire to act,” continued D’Adamo. “We hope state and local leaders, businesses, conservationists and citizens will come together on behalf of nature in Indiana.”

For both the 2017 and 2020 surveys, the Morrison Institute polled a representative sample of 800 registered voters. The sample was designed to match the political and demographic characteristics of Indiana according to the most recent voter data. The polls have a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points.

To read the full survey report, visit [ninapulliam-trust.org/environmental-polls](#).

**About the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust**

The Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust seeks to help people in need, especially women, children and families; to protect animals and nature; and to enrich community life, primarily in Phoenix and Indianapolis. The Trust has awarded more than \$334 million in grants and student scholarships since its inception in 1997. For more information, visit [ninapulliam-trust.org](#).

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## Charles Eric Sjöholm

January 7, 1975 – October 6, 2020

Charles Eric Sjöholm, 45, Noblesville, passed away on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at his home surrounded by family. He was born on January 7, 1975 to Andy and Charlotte (Williams) Sjöholm in Atlanta, Ga.

Eric worked in the shipping department for GEMA. He enjoyed watching and coaching his girls play softball, and he loved his softball family. Eric enjoyed making people laugh. He was a faithful Cubs fan whether they were winning or losing. Eric liked to hang out with friends and family, but most of all, he loved spending time with his girls.

He is survived by his wife, April (Nies) Sjöholm; daughters, Taylor Nicole Sjöholm and Reis Michelle Sjöholm; parents, Andy and Charlotte Sjöholm; sister, Kathryn Sjöholm; brother-in-law, Chris Nies; in-laws, Larry and Barb Nies; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, J.L. and Virginia Williams, and George and Eleanor Sjöholm.

Services will be held at 4 p.m. on Friday, October 9, 2020 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville, with Pastor John Drexler officiating. Visitation will be from 2 p.m. to the time of service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to a College Fund through Forum Credit Union, checks payable to April Sjöholm; or to the Anthony Rizzo Family Foundation, 1755 Edgewood Road, Highland Park, IL 60035, or [rizzo44.com](http://rizzo44.com).

Condolences: [randallroberts.com](http://randallroberts.com)

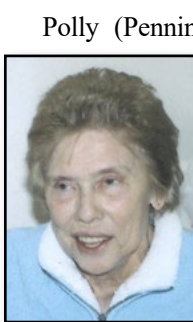
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## Polly (Pennington) Harshaw

November 14, 1938 – October 7, 2020



Polly (Pennington) Harshaw, 81, Westfield, passed away on Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at her home. She was born on November 14, 1938 to Boyd Pennington and Alma (Baker) Eldridge in Frew, Ky. Boyd passed away in Polly's early years and she was raised by her mother, Alma, and her loving second dad, Henry Eldridge.

Polly was a homemaker, a member of Westfield Church of Christ, and enjoyed crocheting, puzzles, gardening, card playing and cooking wonderful meals.

She is survived by her sons, Dallas B. (Elizabeth) Harshaw, Jr., William (Teena Hinton) Harshaw, Michael Harshaw and Richard (Lisa) Harshaw; siblings, Dephia Adams, Paul (Kay) Eldridge, Henry (Dixie) Eldridge, Jr., Rita Winters and Bob (Jean) Eldridge; 11 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her second dad, Henry Eldridge; husband, Dallas B. Harshaw, Sr.; brother, Willie Pennington; and sister, Lorraine Adams.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to the time of service at the funeral home. Burial will be at Summit Lawn Cemetery in Westfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Lung Association of Indiana, 115 W. Washington St., Suite 1180-South, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

Condolences: [randallroberts.com](http://randallroberts.com)

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Donna Bussell

## TODAY'S BIBLE READING

*And when there arose a great dissension, the chief captain, fearing lest Paul should have been pulled in pieces of them, commanded the soldiers to go down, and to take him by force from among them, and to bring him into the castle. And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer; Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome. And when it was day, certain of the Jews banded together, and bound themselves under a curse, saying that they would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul. And they were more than forty which had made this conspiracy.*

Acts 23:10-13 (KJV)

## Wallace “Wally” Saettel

December 9, 1933 – October 6, 2020

Wallace “Wally” Saettel, 86, Carmel, formerly of Westfield, passed away October 6, 2020. He was born December 9, 1933 in Indianapolis, son of John and Inez (Smith) Saettel.



Wally was a 1950 graduate of Arsenal Tech High School. He and Dian Tracy were married on September 25, 1960. Wally was an auto mechanic during his working years. He loved repairing and rebuilding cars.

In addition to his parents, Wally was preceded in death by his wife, Dian Saettel, in 2015.

Survivors include two nephews; three nieces; and nine great-nieces and great-nephews.

Visitation will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at Bussell Family Funerals, 1621 E. Greyhound Pass, Carmel, IN 46032.

Please visit [bussellfamilyfunerals.com](http://bussellfamilyfunerals.com) to read Wally's complete obituary.

Bussell Family Funerals, Carmel-Westfield is privileged to assist the family in arrangements.



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# Hamilton County Sports



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## Girls soccer sectional semi-finals

# Royals reach final after getting past Tigers in PKs; Millers, GC, HH also advance

It took more than overtime to decide the winner of the Hamilton Southeastern-Fishers girls soccer sectional semi-final game Thursday.

The two teams played to a 1-1 draw after regulation and the extra period, so the No. 5 Royals and the No. 16 Tigers had to go to penalty kicks to determine who would advance to the championship at Class 3A Sectional 8 at Noblesville. After seven rounds, Southeastern finally prevailed, edging out Fishers 5-4.

“You always expect a battle against Fishers,” said HSE coach Greg Davidson. “Incredibly well-coached team. Some of these girls play club together, know each other from around the block. I think my girls did a good job of taking the emotion part out. But you always expect a good game against Fishers.”

The Royals will play the host Millers at 2 p.m. Saturday in the title game. Noblesville, the top-ranked team and defending 3A state champion, beat Pendleton Heights 3-0 in Thursday’s first semi-final.

Both goals in the second semi-final game were scored late in the first half. Southeastern got on the board first when Maddy Bellaver scored with 3:43 left on the clock. But the Tigers answered quickly: Lillianna Touhey put the ball into the net with 59 seconds left in the half.

After that, neither team scored again, sending the game into PKs. The Royals went up 2-0 after Lydia Self and Morgan Castiglione made their kicks. Aubrey Robertson got Fishers on the board, but Bellaver converted her kick to give HSE a 3-1 lead.

The Tigers came back to tie things up at 3-3. Allison Macbeth made a kick, then goalkeeper Jordan Ines blocked a Royals attempt before coming back to make her own shot.

Fishers’ Isabelle Streeter and South-



Reporter photo by Kent Graham

**Fishers’ Sydney Wright (9) takes control of the ball while Hamilton Southeastern’s Morgan Castiglione comes up to defend during the Royals-Tigers sectional semi-final game Thursday at Noblesville. Southeastern won the game on penalty kicks.**

eastern’s Kiley Jones both converted kicks to make the score 4-4. Finally, in the seventh round, Royals goalkeeper Makenna Nickens blocked a Tigers’ shot, then Molly Harris made her kick to give Southeastern the win.

Nickens was one of three goalkeep-

ers that played for HSE. Abby Jenkins played the first half, but got injured towards the end of the half and eventually had to leave the game. Nickens and Hailey Wade both came in to the game and played well.

“Hailey came in and did fantastic,”

said Davidson, who credited Wade with making two “great, great saves.”

“Nickens is so athletic,” said Davidson. “She’s such a great leader, she’s so positive that you just know she’s going to make some stops.”

See Royals . . . Page 8

# IHSAA announces football sectional pairings

The IHSAA announced the football sectional pairings on Thursday evening.

Sectionals are scheduled to begin on Oct. 23 with first round games in all classes except 6A, which has the week off. Sectional semifinal games will be played on Oct. 30, sectional championship games on Nov. 6, regionals on Nov. 13, semi-states on Nov. 19 and the state championship games on Nov. 27-28.

Here are the pairings for sectionals that involve Hamilton County teams.

### Class 6A Sectional 4

Game 1: Hamilton Southeastern at Fishers, Oct. 30  
Game 2: Westfield at Noblesville, Oct. 30

Championship: Nov. 6

### Class 6A Sectional 5

Game 1: Pike at Carmel, Oct. 30  
Game 2: Brownsburg at Avon, Oct. 30  
Championship: Nov. 6

### Class 3A Sectional 28

Game 1: Bishop Chatard at Hamilton Heights, Oct. 23  
Game 2: West Lafayette at Guerin Catholic, Oct. 23  
Game 3: Yorktown at Crawfordsville, Oct. 23  
Game 4: Brebeuf Jesuit at North Montgomery, Oct. 23

23

Game 5: Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, Oct. 30

Game 6: Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 winner, Oct. 30

Championship: Nov. 6

### Class 1A Sectional 46

Game 1: Covenant Christian at Edinburgh, Oct. 23  
Game 2: Tindley at Sheridan, Oct. 23  
Game 3: Park Tudor at Game 1 winner, Oct. 30  
Game 4: Indianapolis Lutheran at Tindley-Sheridan winner, Oct. 30  
Championship: Nov. 6



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## Heights basketball will host 2020 Boys Shooting Camp

The Hamilton Heights boys basketball team will host its 2020 Boys Shooting Camp over the next few weeks.

The camp is divided into three sessions. Session 1, for boys in kindergarten and first grade, will take place Oct. 19, 20 and 22. Sessions 2, for boys in grades 2 and 3, is scheduled for Oct. 26, 27 and 29. Session 3, for boys in grades 4 and 5, will take place on Nov. 2, 3 and 5.

All three sessions begin after school and last until 5 p.m., and will take place in the new Heights Elementary School gym. (Fifth-graders will be walked over to the gym.) The cost is \$25.

Walk-ups are welcome. For more information, contact Heights head boys basketball coach Chad Ballenger by email at cballenger@hhschuskies.org.



## ROYALS

from Page 7

The Royals are 9-3-4 for the season, while Fishers finished its year 6-4-3.

Noblesville had an easier time advancing to the championship game. The Millers got their first goal in the fifth minute, when Meskerem James scored off an assist by Ava Bramblett.

Near the end of the first half, James would assist Noblesville's second goal, which was scored by Jenna Chatterton. The Millers thus went into halftime with a 2-0 lead. Paige Landers added Noblesville's third goal in the 63rd minute by converting a penalty kick.

With the win, the Millers improved to 12-0-1 for the season.

### GUERIN CATHOLIC REACHES FINAL

Over at Class 3A Sectional 10, host Guerin Catholic advanced to the championship match with a 2-1 win over Zionsville.

The No. 3-ranked Golden Eagles played to a scoreless tie with No. 14 Zionsville in the first half. But Guerin Catholic used a sudden burst in the beginning of the second half to take a 2-0 lead.

Emersen Jennings scored GC's first goal three minutes into the half, then Quincy McMahon added the second goal just two minutes later. Zionsville scored late in the second half, but the Golden Eagles were able to hang on for the win.

Guerin will play No. 13 North Central in the championship game, which is set for 2 p.m. Saturday. The Panthers beat Westfield 3-1 to advance.

North Central scored its first goal early, but the Shamrocks answered with 15 minutes left in the first half, as Kate Eichenauer found the back of the net. The game would stay at 1-1 until the second half, when the Panthers added their other two goals, which came in the 63rd and

67th minutes.

### HUSKIES CRUISE AT YORKTOWN

Hamilton Heights cruised into the championship game at Class 2A Sectional 24 at Yorktown, beating Jay County 5-0 in a Thursday semi-final contest.

The No. 6 Huskies scored their first goal in the 24th minute. Jayla Logan received the ball from Jenna Peterson and turned and placed it into the net. Heights scored its next goal three minutes later: Cassidy Felger won a ball and drew defenders when she attacked the goal. She found Kyndall Ferguson, who put it in the net.

As a result, the Huskies led 2-0 at halftime. Heights then poured it on in the second half, with Ferguson, Jenna Peterson and Paige Doucette all scoring one goal. Felger, Ferguson and Logan each had one assist. Heights goalkeeper Jenn Houser made three saves.

The Huskies will play the host, No. 13-ranked Yorktown in Saturday's championship game, which kicks off at 2 p.m. The Tigers beat New Castle 16-0 in the other semi-final.

### BLACKHAWKS FALL TO TRI-CENTRAL

Sheridan fell to Tri-Central 3-1 Thursday in the first semi-final at Class 1A Sectional 37 at Tipton.

The Blackhawks scored first, with Isabel Nunez getting Sheridan on the board with 20:20 left in the first half. The Trojans tied the game late in the first half, then added two goals in the second half to get the win.

"The Lady Blackhawks played one of their best games of the season but fell short," said Sheridan coach Brian Prange. "The coaches are very proud of the girls tonight."



Reporter photo by Kent Graham  
Noblesville's Jenna Chatterton battles for the ball during the Millers' sectional semi-final game with Pendleton Heights on Thursday. Noblesville won 3-0 to advance to Saturday's championship game.

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Tennis individual state tournament

# Millers' Bushong, HSE's Spirrison and Schneider win sectional titles



Reporter photos by Richie Hall

Noblesville’s Noah Bushong and the Hamilton Southeastern doubles team of Andrew Spirrison and Paul Schneider won sectional championships Thursday in the IHSAA’s individual state tournament. Both championship matches took place at North Central’s Barbara Wynne Tennis Center. Bushong beat Lawrence North’s Kyle Manner 6-0, 4-6, 6-2, and became the Millers’ first-ever boys tennis player to win an individual sectional title. Spirrison and Schneider triumphed over the Cathedral team of Sam Black and Alex Pohl 7-5, 6-4. All three players will advance to the Kokomo regional, which takes place next Saturday, Oct. 17. Bushong and the Spirrison/Schneider team’s respective opponents will be the champions from the Fort Wayne Carroll sectional.

## Volleyball

# Weglarz reaches 2,000 assists during Shamrocks' win

The Westfield volleyball team made some history during its four-set win over Fishers Thursday at The Rock. The Shamrocks won 25-20, 25-15, 14-25, 25-20. Senior setter Sarah Weglarz reached a milestone by recording her 2,000th career assist. Weglarz had 22 assists during the Thursday match. Katie Sweet hit 11 kills for Westfield and also made 10 blocks. Ellary Detamore collected 21 digs and Grace Stewart served three aces. Elly Grenda smacked 10 kills, while Logan Mapes handed out 15 assists. Fishers stats were unavailable at press time. With the victory, the Shamrocks finished second in the Hoosier Crossroads Conference with a 5-2 record. Westfield is 17-6 overall. The Tigers completed HCC play with a 4-3 record and are 17-7 overall. Hamilton Heights swept Sheridan in another all-county match Thursday, 25-18, 25-9, 25-13. Taylor Bates handed out 18 assists for the Blackhawks and also served one ace. Emma Went added 10 kills and five digs, while Allie Delph collected seven digs and hit six kills. Lillie Dickerson had four kills and one ace, while Kaiden Wilson spiked four kills and made three block assists. Jacquellynne Bates made eight digs. Heights stats were unavailable at press time. The Huskies improved to 13-6 with the win, while the Blackhawks are 8-16. Carmel swept Kokomo on Thursday, 25-10, 25-12, 25-15. Macarty McQueen had 10 kills, four digs and two aces in the match, while Ella Brooks and Savanna Rogers both hit seven kills. Ella Bostic dished out 35 assists to go with five digs and three aces. The Greyhounds are 17-8 and finish the regular season Saturday by hosting the Carmel Invitational.



Reporter photos by Kirk Green

LEFT: Fishers' Jada Allen (7) makes a hit during the Tigers' volleyball match with Westfield Thursday at The Rock. RIGHT: Elly Grenda (9) had 10 kills for the Shamrocks during their four-set win over Fishers.