

## Heights' Key Club Care Drive for Dayspring Center is underway

**The REPORTER**  
The Hamilton Heights Chapter of Key Club is currently holding a Care Drive to support the Dayspring Center.  
Key Club Faculty Advisor Lillian Morris said members chose the Dayspring Center because this organization helps entire families who are displaced for a myriad of reasons and have no other options.  
Personal care items in short supply and high demand at the Center include: Soap (bar and hand), shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, floss, mouthwash, deodorant, facial tissues, tampons, pads, diapers, pull ups (2T/3T and 4T/5T), Vaseline, lotion, hand sanitizer, rubbing alcohol (70 percent or above) and Clorox/Lysol wipes.  
Cash donations or gift cards to purchase these items are also gladly accepted.  
The Dayspring Center provides emergency shelter, clothing and three nourishing meals a day for homeless families with children in Central Indiana. Families turn to the Center as a last resort; some to escape domestic abuse, others have experienced financial collapse, medical problems, or other crises that caused them to lose their home.  
Dayspring effectively works to combat and prevent family homelessness by first meeting their most immediate needs for food and shelter, then working with each family to address the issues that led them to their homelessness.  
Key Club is an international, student-led, high school organization with its



Members of Hamilton Heights Key Club, like Drew Monnin, are collecting desperately needed personal care items this week to help families temporarily staying at the Dayspring Center, an emergency shelter for families.

members working to make the world a better place through service-oriented projects. Hamilton Heights High School's Key Club, created in 2007, consists of 40 members under the leadership of Lillian Morris and Elisa Garcia and is sponsored by the Cicero Kiwanis Club.  
Contact [lillianmorris@hhschuskiies.org](mailto:lillianmorris@hhschuskiies.org) with questions, make a donation or arrange to drop off your donation.

## Shout out to the heroes in long-term care facilities

Alright, back to being serious. Today I'm giving a shout out to the heroes in long-term care facilities – specifically, my mother's.  
For privacy reasons, I've never written my mom's name or that of her facility. I will continue this practice. However, I'll be sure to print out today's column and send it to the facility director to share with everyone there.  
It seems like we constantly hear about another long-term care facility that's been hit by COVID-19. Reading these headlines makes my heart stop and bring tears to my eyes.  
However, my mother's facility has been safe so far. Yes, I'm knocking on wood as I write this.

I can't thank the director and each and every employee enough for all they do in ordinary times, so I know this will be pittance during this time of battling a pandemic. But I'm going to try.

To the cleaning staff working harder than ever to sanitize and make everything sparkle – I thank you. You work hard enough, but to add more weapons to your arsenal for attacking germs and to wear a mask while using them has got to be tough.

To the food service folks who had to deliver meals three times a day vs. serve residents in the dining room – I thank you. I'm sure you were tired enough before the pandemic. I can imagine you're exhausted now. I appreciate you giving residents the nutrition they need to stay healthy.

To the activities folks who have had to become more creative than ever to give my mother and other residents fun, safe things to do each day to keep their spirits high – I thank you. Mom LOVES her hallway bingo!

To the maintenance staff members who run around putting out fires (in some cases, literally!) and are probably encountering more issues thanks to COVID – I thank you. You all know Mom a little too well by now, but you're still kind and patient.

To the administrative staff – the business and marketing directors and the receptionists who have to hop up and down more than ever to screen people coming into the facility – I thank you. I know you keep things running and do more behind the scenes than

See Heroes . . . Page 2

## Rosie Brown, the information lady, to retire next week

Rosie Brown, an old friend of not only mine, but many others in downtown Noblesville, retires next week. She has been the "information lady" and switchboard operator for county government for the past 47 years.

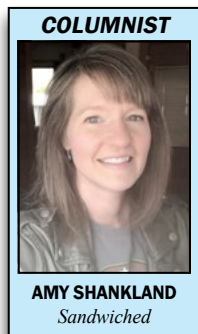
Anyone visiting the Government and Judicial Center has probably spoken with her. If someone comes to the building for the first time, Rosie can give expert directions. And for regular visitors, it may be a friendly exchange of small talk as one passes her front desk.

Rosie knows Hamilton County like the proverbial back of her hand. She began doing her job in 1976 when county offices and courts were all crowded into the old Courthouse. She moved to the new building in 1992 with the courts and many of the county offices.

She was never too sold on computers, and still has most necessary information in her head. She is going to be hard to replace.

Rosie grew up in the Fishers area, the daughter of Russel and Opal Johnson, and graduated from Fishers High School. In recent years she and her late husband, David Brown, moved to the Sheridan area. Rosie is the mother of two adult daughters.

Rosie's last day on the job will be Wednesday. At her request there will be no retirement party, so her old friends and acquaintances may want to stop by and wish her well.



COLUMNIST  
AMY SHANKLAND  
Sandwiched

## Nickel Plate Express cancels Christmas Caboose ride over public health concerns

**The REPORTER**  
*Editor's note: On Thursday, Nickel Plate Express Director Dagny Zupin and the Nickel Plate Express team released the following statement about the organization's decision to cancel this year's Christmas Caboose rides. For more information about Nickel Plate Express, visit [NickelPlateExpress.com](http://NickelPlateExpress.com). You can also easily make a donation at [NickelPlateExpress.com/give](http://NickelPlateExpress.com/give).*  
In the interest of ensuring the health and safety of our guests and employees this holiday season, the Nickel Plate Express has made the difficult decision to cancel our Christmas Caboose rides.  
Our team reached this difficult decision after discussions with the Hamilton County Health Department and a thorough review of financial and public health concerns related to the event. Nickel Plate Express, along with our partners in the rail tourism industry, believe that this decision, while disappointing, is in the best interest of public safety.  
While we will miss spreading cheer and



Photo provided

seeing the smiling faces of our passengers, we look forward to welcoming guests in 2021 when we are able to offer the safe and memorable experiences you all have come to expect. Those who have purchased tickets already will be contacted via email with refund information.  
Those interested in supporting Nickel

Plate Express and offsetting this financial loss can make charitable donations online at [NickelPlateExpress.com/give](http://NickelPlateExpress.com/give), or by mailing them to P.O. Box 435, Arcadia, IN 46030.

Wishing our guests the happiest and healthiest of holidays. Looking forward to many merry and bright rides in 2021!

## Marijuana legalization getting some bipartisan support in state legislature

**By DAVID WILLIAMS**  
*WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](http://wishtv.com)*  
Just weeks ago, four U.S. states, including New Jersey and Arizona, voted to legalize marijuana in some form.  
State Rep. Jim Lucas hopes Indiana is next.  
"I'm filing a medical cannabis bill, a decriminalization bill, and see if we can't get a recreational bill going also. It is past time," said Lucas, a Republican from Seymour.  
For years, Lucas has tried to make marijuana matter in Indiana. The way he sees

it, this could be a green opportunity for the state, as Hoosiers have been hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic.  
"Jobs have been decimated," Lucas said. "Almost a million Hoosiers were put out of work during the spring and summer months. This is a jobs opportunity program. It's an investment opportunity. I know we have investors willing to invest tens-of-millions of dollars, if not more,



Rep. Lucas



Sen. Tallian

to come into our state and get this going."  
State Sen. Karen Tallian's bill would legalize possession of a small amount of marijuana.  
She says marijuana possession arrests in Indiana have gone from about 15,000 per year a decade ago to close to 25,000 arrests a year.

See Marijuana . . . Page 2



COLUMNIST  
FRED SWIFT  
The County Line

## Noblesville's Vibromatic Company inducted into Indiana Manufacturer Association's Hall of Fame

**Submitted**  
Noblesville-based Vibromatic Company, Inc., a global leader in parts handling and feeding equipment, was inducted on Wednesday into the Indiana Manufacturers Association's (IMA) Hall of Fame at the Annual Hall of Fame Inductions and Manufacturing Excellence Awards event held virtually. Past events have been held live in Indianapolis, but due to the ongoing pandemic, the awards were transitioned to a virtual format this year.

Doug Daubenspeck, President and CEO of Vibromatic Company, says he was honored to accept the induction award at the virtual event.  
Companies inducted into the Hall of Fame are chosen for their outstanding contributions to the development of a healthy, dynamic business environment in Indiana, and to the state's overall economic well-being.  
For 65 years, Vibromatic Company has been a global leader and continues to

be an innovative supplier in the parts handling equipment for the assembly automation and robotics industries. Vibromatic feeding and orienting systems are one of the most important components on the modern assembly machine making many of the products you use every day. Vibromatic equipment is used by companies like GM, Ford, Tesla, Fiat-Chrysler, Cummins, Alcoa, P&G, Coke, Pepsi, Crown

See Vibromatic . . . Page 2





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# VIBROMATIC

*from Page 1*

Cork & Seal, Reynolds, Lilly, Bausch + Lomb, and Becton Dickinson to help manufacture their products.

As an essential manufacturing company Vibromatic and their hardworking and dedicated team members continue contributing and supplying testing and vaccine delivery products and services in the fight against COVID-19.

“The IMA Hall of Fame Inductions are held to celebrate and recognize the positive achievements made by Indiana manufacturing companies, and to honor their contributions in furthering manufacturing in Indiana,” said IMA President and CEO Brian Burton. “Additionally, these inductions serve to bring attention to our industry and make the public aware of manufacturing’s enormous impact on the Hoosier economy.”

Indiana manufacturing continues to be one of the highest paying industry sectors in the state, and accounts for nearly 30 percent of Indiana’s total GDP. As the most manufacturing-intensive state in the nation, Indiana is the number-one wage payer and employer of Hoosiers.

For additional information about Vibromatic please visit [vibromatic.net](http://vibromatic.net) or email Doug [ddauben-speck@vibromatic.net](mailto:ddauben-speck@vibromatic.net).

**About the Indiana Manufacturers Association**

Formed in 1901, the Indiana Manufacturers Association is the second oldest manufacturers association in the country and the only trade association in Indiana that exclusively focuses on manufacturing. Manufacturing is the driving force of Indiana’s economy, employing more people and contributing more to Indiana’s gross domestic product than any other industry. The Indiana Manufacturers Association is dedicated to advocating for a business climate that creates, protects, and promotes quality manufacturing jobs in Indiana. The staff members of the Indiana Manufacturers Association are recognized experts in areas including tax, environment, labor relations, human resources, energy, workforce development, and healthcare. For more information, visit [indianamfg.com](http://indianamfg.com).

# MARIJUANA

*from Page 1*

“We’re going in the wrong direction. There’s just no need for this,” said Tallian, a Democrat from Ogden Dunes. “It takes up court time, people’s time, money. It’s stupid that we keep prosecuting possession cases for small amounts, when in states all surrounding us, it’s legal.”

After at least 10 years of filing cannabis legislation, she feels like more Hoosiers are talking about cannabis.

“The conversation keeps getting broader,” Tallian said. “I think the push to do something is getting stronger. Do I think this will happen this year? I don’t really. I don’t think the governor is ready to say yes to this.”

State lawmakers have until Jan. 8, 2021 to file bills.

# HEROES

*from Page 1*

we can ever imagine.

To the medical staff, from the CNAs, to nurses, to the director of nursing, to the physical therapists – I thank you. You are being incredibly vigilant to protect the ones we love. You’re also keeping them moving which helps them stay strong.

Finally, to the facility director – I thank you. We’ve chatted from a distance during this harrowing time. You’re the best director I’ve seen since Mom moved there four years ago. I know you lose sleep constantly. Your shoulders must ache from carrying this burden. Your decisions may be met with more grumbling than appreciation. Even I groaned when I saw your email saying I now need to have a negative COVID-19 test before I can come visit my mother.

But then I remembered the fourth paragraph of this column. Your efforts and leadership have kept everyone safe. My heart flooded again with gratitude.

To everyone at mom’s facility – I pray that you find some peace, rest and joy this coming holiday season. You are heroes in my book.

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### Meeting Notice

The Carmel Clay Schools Board of Trustees will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 23, 2020, at the Carmel Clay Schools Educational Services Center, 5201 E. Main St., Carmel.



**PREVAIL**  
Advocating for Victims of Crime and Abuse  
[www.prevailinc.com](http://www.prevailinc.com)


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
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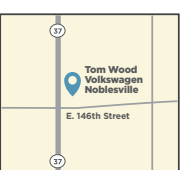



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**SAVE \$1.00**  
Oliver Sweet Red  
Indiana 750ml  
**4.97**  
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Limit 6 btls



**SAVE \$1.00**  
Oliver Sweet White  
Indiana 750ml  
**4.97**  
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**SAVE \$1.00**  
Oliver Sweet Rose  
Indiana 750ml  
**4.97**  
~~5.97~~  
Limit 6



**SAVE \$1.00**  
La Marca Prosecco  
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**8.97**  
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**SAVE \$1.00**  
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**SAVE \$3.00**  
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**SAVE \$2.00**  
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**SAVE \$3.00**  
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~~12.99~~  
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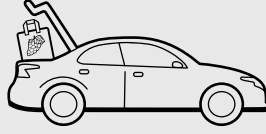
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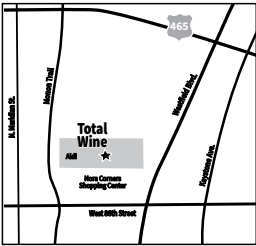


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# Sheriff’s Office warns residents of new round of fraudulent phone calls

## The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office (HCSO) has received numerous complaints about possible fraudulent telephone calls to county residents. The callers claim to be Deputies from HCSO and are requesting money for missed court cases.

HCSO does not ask for any type of monetary pay-

ment over the phone. If you have received a call like this or you are unsure if the call is valid, please call (317) 773-1872 or the non-emergency dispatch number at (317) 773-1282.

Remember to never give out any personal information over the phone if you are unsure of the source or feel that the call may not be valid.

## News & Letter to the Editor

# New Carmel nonprofit working to create more economic mobility

## The REPORTER

A new Carmel-based nonprofit is on a mission to end the cycle of poverty in Central Indiana and beyond. FLICK, which stands for the Financial Literacy and Intelligence Center of Knowledge, opened its doors at 1610 E. Greyhound Pass, Suite A, in late October. The organization provides financial education to students and financial counseling to adults in financial



need, all for free.

With the holidays coming up quickly and the coronavirus pandemic worsening, financial education is more important than ever in the Indianapolis area. FLICK’s counseling for

adults focuses on using the money you have in the best way possible, as well as overcoming negative behavioral and environmental impacts on your wallet.

As a donation-based nonprofit, FLICK needs your support. Head over to [flickcorp.org/donate](https://flickcorp.org/donate). Every dollar makes an impact in creating economic mobility. If you’d like to learn more about FLICK, visit [flickcorp.org](https://flickcorp.org) or call CEO Diana Cudmore at (855) 566-3136.

If you are looking for free financial counseling services, please call for a virtual or socially-distanced appointment at FLICK’s Carmel office.

## Letter to the Editor— Noblesville reader: Scott Noel has conflict of interest in gravel pit recommendation vote

Dear Editor:

I was very disappointed with in the “no recommendation” vote by our Plan Commission on Nov. 16 with respect to the proposed gravel pit construction at beautiful Potters Bridge Park.

You would think that with almost 5,000 citizens signing a “vote no” petition online and in-person; with Indiana American Water talking about the adverse effect on water quality, safety and supply in growing Noblesville (41,000 persons affected); with the adverse and potentially disastrous effects on the natural environment and floodway/floodplain brought up at the meeting by HEC representative; and finally, with professional realtors telling us that the construction will cause value loss of 20 to 30 percent to some 400+ nearby homeowners, this vote would have been an easy “unfavorable recommendation” by the Plan Commissioners.

Unbelievably, it was not!

My letter would like to specifically address one of the commissioners who rendered a “favorable” vote: Scott Noel.

Mr. Noel is a Parks Board representative, and according to LinkedIn information until July 2020 was employed as **Director of Builder’s Material Transport and Purchasing** by Sagamore Ready Mix, a building materials dealer where **Petitioner Chris Beaver is CAO! If this is not a serious conflict of interest, I am not sure what is** since Beaver Materials filed a continuance in October so as to add the Hamilton County Parks Department as a co-petitioner!

Mr. Noel should have done the right thing and excused himself from the vote due to his prior close affiliation with Beaver Materials and his position on the Parks Board, now a co-petitioner with Beaver on this rezoning.

I propose that Mr. Noel’s vote should be disregarded by the City Council due to his significant conflict of interest and do what is right – listen to the now almost 5,000 voices and petition signers, the protesters, those who are in a professional capacity to give advice and do the right thing. Vote “no” on Dec. 8.

Please.  
**Pam Wind**  
Noblesville

# Hoosier Environmental Council speaks against proposed gravel pit

*Don’t Leave It to Beaver welcomes HEC’s voice to community chorus*

## Submitted

*Editor’s note: The Don’t Leave It To Beaver grassroots organization that has been advocating against the proposed gravel pit near Potter’s Bridge Park recently released the following statement to citizens of Noblesville and all of Hamilton County. The Reporter is printing the statement in its entirety. Please note that the following does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Hamilton County Reporter newspaper, its publisher or its staff.*

According to the **Hoosier Environmental Council’s** Senior Policy Director, Tim Maloney, who spoke at the Noblesville Plan Commission meeting Monday night, the proposed Beaver Gravel Pit would have a substantial impact on the important floodplain of the White River, contributing to excess sediment in the White River and affecting downstream ecosystems.

“This ill-conceived project is being proposed not only in the floodplain of the White River but also within and nearby sensitive wetland and riparian areas, which provide critical habitat for birds, amphibians and aquatic life, and a buffer that protects the river from contaminated runoff and erosion,” Mr. Maloney said. “What’s more, relying on the state agencies – IDEM and DNR – to ensure that environmental impacts are effectively controlled ignores the fact that the agencies’ budgets

are stretched thin, staff size is shrinking, and further cuts are expected due to the COVID pandemic.”

Don’t Leave It to Beaver is energized and encouraged that the state’s leading environmental educator and advocate – the Hoosier Environmental Council – shares our concern over protecting the White River watershed from the proposed Beaver Materials’ gravel and sand mine.

Contrary to what **Plan Commission members** David Burtner and N. Scott Smith alleged, the growing concern over allowing an extracting industry to operate a sand/gravel mine in this sensitive environmental area, has nothing to do with mere “NIMBY” or “not in my backyard” fears of area residents. Substantial research was presented to the Commissioners demonstrating the very real and serious threats to groundwater, wildlife habitat, and White River posed by this mine.

Nevertheless, Commissioners Burtner and Smith completely disregarded it.

At the meeting, the citizen group Don’t Leave It to Beaver explained that this is a Noblesville community issue because the implications of this proposed mine go far beyond any one neighborhood.

• A total of 80 percent of Noblesville’s water through Indiana American Water (IAW) is at stake. According to IAW’s Operations Manager Josh Cox, the unfiltered

and potentially contaminated groundwater would require 24/7 monitoring and filtering, raising processing costs for IAW. Higher processing costs can mean higher costs for consumers.

• The lung health of Noblesville children in five nearby schools – elementary through high school – is at stake from carcinogenic silica dust that results from opening the earth and extracting aggregate materials. All park-goers would be exposed to the carcinogen when they visit Potter’s Bridge Park while extraction is taking place over the 10-year period.

• As expressed by the Plan Commission staff, the proposed gravel pit does not fit into Noblesville’s comprehensive plan because development on a floodplain is prohibited.

• Rather than merely a “not in my backyard” sentiment, the neighbors and other opponents of the Beaver gravel quarry are in fact defending the Comprehensive Plan which was adopted in the entire community’s interest, in contrast to the proposed rezoning which for 10 years would benefit only one company.

“The health of our family and the destruction of our environment” is at stake, said Chris Prange, who has lived on Allisonville Road near the proposed gravel pit for 45 years. “This is not the right place to do it.”

More than 50 protesters, including Prange, gathered

outside City Hall before the Plan Commission meeting, which ran some 3 hours. The resulting vote – to forward Beaver’s petition to the Common Council with no recommendation – came after two 5 to 5 tie votes.

Concerned Noblesville citizens opposed to the proposed Beaver gravel pit are encouraged to take action in the following ways:

1. Attend the Common Council meeting to voice their concern on the record.
2. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 8 at Noblesville City Hall, in the Council Chambers. *Citizens are encouraged to follow all COVID guidelines and decorum practices set forth by the City.*
3. Attend a peaceful demonstration outside City Hall from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Dec. 8 outside City Hall. *Demonstrators are encouraged to wear facial coverings, remain socially distant and allow pedestrians to pass unencumbered.*
4. Write their Common Council representative, including at-large members, to voice their opposition to the Beaver gravel pit and its impact on our community and environment. *Find more information on who represents you at [dontleaveittobeaver.com/take-action](https://dontleaveittobeaver.com/take-action).*
5. Sign and share the online petition at [Change.org/stopbeaver](https://Change.org/stopbeaver).
6. Visit [dontleaveittobeaver.com](https://dontleaveittobeaver.com) to find out more ways to take action or to read more out the issues at stake.

*Letters to the Editor do not reflect the opinions of The Reporter, its publisher or its staff. You can submit your own Letter to the Editor by email to [News@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:News@ReadTheReporter.com).*

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Letter to the Editor

Sheridan reader: Biden did not win

Dear Editor:

Joe Biden did not win the 2020 election.

It was handed to him on a platter made of criminal collusion, lies, cheating election workers and supervisors, machines that flipped the candidates voted for and mail-in ballot fraud.

How could he have won when he rarely came out of his hideout, the basement? At the very few rallies he had, only a handful of people came compared to thousands that attended the Trump rallies. Lady Gaga was hired to try and inspire the ones who did come, while boat and vehicle parades supporting Trump in many states were happening around the country.

During the debates, which were poorly run, each candidate spoke over each other trying to make their points. Not enough time was allowed for each to express their ideas. Opening and ending statements of three to four minutes were needed for each candidate. Moderators were not neutral. Many questions were demeaning and personal. The ones that needed to be asked were not asked such as ‘packing the courts,’ violence in our cities, defunding the police and no law and order.

Also left out were serious questions about China, which is a threat to the entire planet. What shall we do to stop China with their spread of communism? Taiwan?

Our president had a red wave flowing across our country on election night and then in the wee hours, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Nevada, Arizona and Georgia starting flipping from red to blue. What happened here?

We all know.

The ‘someones’ were diligently flipping or throwing out Trump votes for Biden. And Biden accepted this deception.

This shows you what kind of character he has. And this deception is how he would run our country, with no support for middle-class working Americans, supporting the Green New Deal and allowing anyone into our country with open borders – just for starters.

Everyone, please keep your signs and flags up for our president!

Mari Briggs  
Sheridan

Letters to the Editor do not reflect the opinions of The Reporter, its publisher or its staff. You can submit your own Letter to the Editor by email to News@ReadTheReporter.com.

Blatant racism is rare, but reminds us that subtle racism is common

The racism we Black Americans experience isn’t always visible to the naked eye. Many Black Americans who have been pulled over for “speeding” or for “tinted windows” know what I’m talking about.



the bigger picture. The fact that Ng felt comfortable enough to identify himself as a racist and to use a racist slur while being filmed by a Black man is an astonishing indictment on the state of race relations in America.

continue to advocate for such measures wherever they are appropriate.

The bottom line, though, is that no amount of legislation can change what’s inside the hearts of hateful people. Something is broken inside the hearts of Ng and others like him.

So how do we change their hearts?

Most Black Americans, unfortunately, know exactly what I’m talking about.

Recently, though, Dre Abram experienced racism that was neither vague nor subtle. And it was caught on video for the world to see.

Abram, a Black man who has a YouTube channel with nearly 100,000 subscribers, was filming a video with a Black friend in Scottsdale, Ariz. During the filming, a man later identified as Paul Ng approached the duo and asked to see “what you guys are taking pictures of.” Then Ng explained that the neighborhood had recently experienced “problems.”

So far, one might conceivably believe Ng was acting in good faith.

But then Ng said, with a straight face, “I’m a racist.”

And he told the two Black men – on camera, remember – that his neighborhood was a “no-n\*\*\*\*\* zone.”

Ordinarily, I try to reserve immediate judgment on video clips that allegedly demonstrate racism or discrimination. In many of these incidents, it is worth attempting to understand what may have happened before the camera was turned on.

This is not one of those incidents. Ng’s actions were prompted by his obvious contempt for Black people, and they led to him being fired from his job and arrested for disorderly conduct.

While most would agree that this unfortunate altercation had a positive ending, it’s important that we look at

How did we get here? How have we reached a point where Ng, and others like him, feel it’s acceptable to proclaim their racist beliefs?

Some might say the prevalence of attitudes like Ng’s is simply evidence that the United States of America is inherently racist.

I reject that argument.

We also often hear that police actions taken against unarmed Black Americans prove the essentially racist nature of U.S. society.

I reject that argument, as well.

Yet, there can be no doubt that too many folks possess attitudes all too similar to Ng’s.

And we should find it understandable if many Black Americans, upon seeing the killings of individuals such as George Floyd and Ahmaud Arbery, have the unsettling feeling that the victims would still be alive if they were White.

But America’s police are not the architects of Paul Ng’s racism. And America, as a whole, is not responsible for the racism that permeates the mindset of Paul Ng.

Instead, I truly believe that in their hearts, most Americans are shocked and dismayed by racist language such as Ng’s. And I truly believe that most Americans – including police – are horrified by unjust killings of Black individuals at the hands of police officers.

As a country, we have worked steadily to enact laws and reforms that seek to ensure that America is a land where everyone, regardless of their skin color, is treated equally. And we should con-

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## TODAY'S BIBLE READING

*Howbeit we must be cast upon a certain island. But when the fourteenth night was come, as we were driven up and down in Adria, about midnight the shipmen deemed that they drew near to some country; And sounded, and found it twenty fathoms: and when they had gone a little further, they sounded again, and found it fifteen fathoms.*

*Acts 27:26-28 (KJV)*

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## George Nathan Clark

August 13, 1943 – November 18, 2020

George Nathan Clark, 77, Tipton, passed away on Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at Riverview Health in Noblesville. He was born on August 13, 1943 in Hamilton County.

He attended Westfield Schools and Purdue University. George farmed the family Century Farm for 45 years and retired from Public Service of Indiana, now Duke Energy, after 29 years, and retired from the Westfield Public Library after 15 years as the building manager. George married his high school sweetheart, Connie (Eskew), 57 years ago, and they have two daughters, Kirsten (Troy) Tracy and Karrie (Jeff) Hutson, and six grandchildren.

He was a 50-year member of the Sheridan Masonic Lodge #309 and Westfield Lodge #115 where he served as Past Master four times, Trustee and Chaplin, and was a life endowed member. He served two terms as Grand Steward and Tyler for the Grand Lodge, Scottish Rite and Murat Shrine. He joined the Scottish Rite in 1966, sang in the chorus for many years, and was a life member. George joined the Murat in 1967, served as Potentate's Aide and Chief Aide, was a Board Member at Murat for 15 years, and was a life member.

He served on the Board of Governors for the Chicago Shriner's Hospital for Children from 2010 to present. He was also a member of the Antique Power Club, Boone County Shrine Club, Honorary Member of the Murat Band, El' Ameen Nabeel, Kowad 'al Sabikin, Fireman's Club, Indianapolis Shrine Horse Patrol, Order of Quetzalcoatl and Past Camaxtli, Royal Order of Jesters, Royal Order of Scotland, Kachina Klub, Tipton County Shrine Club, Knights of Venus, Yacht Club, and Prather Yorkrite. He was appointed to the Jester Line and was Director in 2008 and caretaker of the Country Gentlemen Class, who have a fetish for ducks.

George was also a member of the Columbia Club and Westfield Washington School Board for 16 years. He attended Hinkle Creek Friends Church and served as a trustee. He also served two terms on the Hamilton County Washington Township Plan Commission.

He lived in Tipton County and was actively involved in the care of the family farms. George enjoyed his antique John Deere tractors and was a member of the Mid-America Threshing & Antiques Inc. He enjoyed camping, his grandchildren, and traveling with Connie.

Services will start at 2:45 p.m. on Tuesday, November 24, 2020 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville, with Pastor Robert Stubbs officiating. A Masonic Memorial Service will be held at 3 p.m. Visitation will be from 1 p.m. to the time of service at the funeral home. Burial will be at Hinkle Creek Cemetery in Noblesville at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hinkle Creek Friends Church, 21617 Hinkle Road, Noblesville, IN 46032; or to the Shriners' Hospitals for Children at [lovetotherescue.org](http://lovetotherescue.org).

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

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# Hamilton County Sports

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## Sports Editor Richie Hall

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Twitter: @Richie\_Hall

## Girls basketball

# Tigers pull away from Mooresville

In a three-day span this week, the Fishers girls basketball team went from thinking it wasn't going to have a game this week to getting a big win over a tough opponent.

The Tigers found out on Tuesday that Mooresville was willing to come up and to the Tiger Den and play them two days later. Thus, on Thursday night, Fishers got a nice victory over the Pioneers by the score of 71-53, as well as have a Senior Night for its four seniors.

While it meant having to quickly get prepared, Tigers coach Lauren Votaw said the team was excited about getting to play.

"Honestly, you go from thinking you're not going to have a game, you're down a game to just excited that somebody's willing to come play you," said Votaw. "To then figure out that it's a quality opponent like Mooresville, who every time is physical and well-coached and disciplined. And we got to celebrate our seniors."

Although it was a battle in the first half, Fishers was able to outscore Mooresville in each of the four quarters. The Tigers led 12-10 after the first period, with senior Audra Emmerson scoring five points, including a 3-pointer.

Fishers led 30-27 at halftime. Senior Katie Burton added eight points, while Karina Scott made a 3-pointer and a pair of free throws. Freshman Joirdyn Smith came off the bench and drained a 3 as well.

The Class 4A No. 7 Tigers began to slowly take control in the third quarter. Katie Howard, Emmerson and Burton both hit triples during the period. In the last two minutes, the Smith twins took over, scoring three rebound baskets. Hailey Smith had two putbacks and Olivia Smith got one.

"First of all, we came out offensively and executed the first possession, which always helps," said Votaw. "But we really talked at halftime about how we need to be better defensively. We have to continue to grow each night defensively.



**Fishers' Audra Emmerson scored 14 points for the Tigers during their 71-53 win over Mooresville Thursday at the Tiger Den. Emmerson was one of four seniors honored by Fishers after the game.**

Mooresville did a great job. They did a good job of exploiting where we were weak and forcing us to get better and adjust defensively. And I think that finally, our kids down the stretch there in the late third to fourth quarters figured that out a little better."

Fishers took control in the fourth period, using a 9-0 run that lasted well over three minutes to seal the game. Hailey Smith started the run with a three-point play, then Olivia Smith scored off a steal. Burton finished it up by making four free throws.

Burton was the leading scorer with 21 points, while Emmerson added 14. Both Hailey and Olivia Smith added

nine points, with Hailey collecting 11 rebounds. Howard scored eight points, proving the depth of this Tigers team.

"When players feel the confidence from their teammates that they can go in and do that on any given night, that makes it a lot easier for them as players," said Votaw.

Fishers is 5-1 and travels to Zionsville on Tuesday to begin Hoosier Crossroads Conference play.

FISHERS 71, MOORESVILLE 53				
Fishers	FG	FT	TP	PF
Audra Emmerson	4-10	4-4	14	1
Katie Howard	3-6	0-0	8	0
Jordan Imes	0-0	0-0	0	1

Hailey Smith	3-5	3-3	9	3
Katie Burton	6-9	8-10	21	3
Karina Scott	1-4	0-0	3	0
Hailey Gausepohl	0-0	0-0	0	0
Olivia Smith	4-7	1-2	9	3
Kaiya Walker	0-0	2-2	2	1
Joirdyn Smith	1-1	0-0	3	0
Kate Thomas	0-0	0-0	0	0
Emily Gausepohl	0-1	2-2	2	1
Totals	22-43	20-23	71	13

Score by Quarters  
Mooresville 10 17 15 11 - 53  
Fishers 12 18 20 21 - 71  
Fishers 3-point shooting (7-17) Emmerson 2-5, Howard 2-5, Scott 1-3, Burton 1-3, J. Smith 1-1.  
Fishers rebounds (25) H. Smith 11, O. Smith 4, Emmerson 3, Howard 3, Scott 2, Burton 2.



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## Millers beat Whiteland

Noblesville improved its record to 3-0 on Thursday, winning on the road at Whiteland 74-24.

The Class 4A No. 10 Millers led 32-10 at halftime. Four Noblesville players finished in double figures, led by Ashlynn Shade, who earned a double-double of 19 points and 14 rebounds, in addition to seven assists and six steals.

Jayla Jones added 13 points and collected seven rebounds, while Kaitlyn Shoemaker and Brooklyn Smitherman both scored 12 points. Smitherman also had nine rebounds and Shoemaker made six steals. Brooklyn Ely dished out five assists.

Noblesville returns to The Mill on Saturday to host 4A No. 9 Homestead. This game will tip off at 6 p.m.

NOBLESVILLE 74, WHITELAND 24				
Noblesville	FG	FT	TP	PF
Kaitlyn Shoemaker	5-10	1-2	12	2
Jayla Jones	5-11	3-4	13	0
Emery Denison	1-1	0-0	3	1
Brooklyn Ely	1-4	0-0	2	0
Ashlynn Shade	7-15	2-4	19	2
Reagan Wilson	3-13	0-0	7	3
Mallory Miller	1-5	3-4	6	2
Brooklyn Smitherman	6-7	0-0	12	1
Totals	29-66	9-14	74	11

Score by Quarters  
Noblesville 17 15 21 21 - 74  
Whiteland 3 7 3 11 - 24  
Noblesville 3-point shooting (7-18) Shade 3-5, Miller 1-4, Wilson 1-3, Shoemaker 1-2, Denison 1-1, Ely 0-2, Jones 0-1.  
Noblesville rebounds (38) Shade 14, Smitherman 9, Jones 7, Wilson 3, Shoemaker 2, Miller 1, team 2.

## 'Hawks drop opener at Covenant Christian

Sheridan dropped its season-opening game on Thursday, falling to Covenant Christian 63-46 in an away contest.

Lillie Dickerson scored 18 points for the Blackhawks, while Allie Delph added 11 points.

The Blackhawks next play at Elwood on Saturday. The junior varsity tips off at 6:30 p.m., with the varsity to begin at 8 p.m.



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Wrestling

Royals begin season with dual meet victory

This year's Hamilton Southeastern wrestling team is young, but it is also a team that has two things working in its favor.

First, the Royals are a bunch of hard workers. That made Southeastern coach Nick Brobst happy that he was able to see his team compete in its first meet of the season Thursday. The Royals hosted Jay County in a dual meet and won 42-30.

"I was very happy to be able to get on the mat, even if it's one time this year, because I feel like these kids, especially our three seniors, deserve it," said Brobst. "They work so hard. We have the hardest-working group I've had since I've been here and I really wanted to make sure we're getting the payoff with a good first win for us. It's awesome just to be able to get out there."

The second favorable thing about this year's HSE squad is that Brobst calls the freshman class "our third great class to come up from our middle schools in a row."

"It's a testament to our middle school coaches and our club coaches bringing up good wrestlers," said Brobst.

There were two freshmen in the varsity lineup when the Royals took to the mat on Thursday. In fact, the very first bout of the year featured a ninth-grader, Zach Lang at 138 pounds. He won his match, in a first-period pin.

"I feel like we have seven freshmen that are probably varsity ready right now," said Brobst. "We just are lucky enough to have some upperclassmen that are ahead of them that are even better."

Southeastern's three seniors were all winners on Thursday. Jake Lemieux was up first, at 145 pounds, and he cruised to victory in a 14-2 major decision.

The next match featured the second senior, Travon Ternoir, and he took care of business with a first-period pin. Senior Devin Dudley also had an easy night, as he won the 220-pound bout with a first-period pin.

All three seniors were regional qualifiers for the Royals last season, with Lemieux also advancing to the semi-state. Three more regional qualifiers are back for Southeastern. Junior Max Broom (at 195) and sophomore Ryan Cast (at 170) were both major decision winners. Junior Matios Benson is also back after making it to regionals last year.

The other two winners for the Royals were junior Jacob Schneider, who got a forfeit at 182 pounds. Sophomore Dom Burgett had the fastest pin of the night



Hamilton Southeastern senior Devin Dudley (in blue singlet) got a first-period pin for the Royals in the 220-pound match during Southeastern's dual meet with Jay County on Thursday. The Royals won 42-30 in their first competition of the season.



Hamilton Southeastern sophomore Dom Burgett (in black singlet) needed only 30 seconds to pin his Jay County opponent during the 285-pound match.

Reporter photos by Kirk Green

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138: Zach Lang def. Manor by fall, 1:22  
145: Jake Lemieux def. Heskett by major decision, 14-2  
152: Travon Ternoir def. Paxson by fall, 1:56  
160: DeShawn Ternoir lost to Gage by fall, 1:45

170: Ryan Cast def. Pruett by major decision, 14-5  
182: Jacob Schneider won by forfeit  
195: Max Broom def. Wenk by major decision, 16-3  
220: Devin Dudley def. Specht by fall, 1:20  
285: Dom Burgett def. Bennett by fall, 0:30  
106: Southeastern forfeited  
113: Ethan Behrens lost to Curtis by major decision, 15-4  
120: Blake Alvarado lost to Reiley by technical fall, 19-4  
126: Kyler Sapp lost to Wood by fall, 1:00  
132: Riley Fredrickson lost to Clark by decision, 13-8

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# Noblesville High School athletic signings

Photos courtesy Noblesville Athletics

Emma Potter has committed to play lacrosse at Central Michigan University.  
Pictured - Front Row (Left to Right): Stephanie Potter (Mother), Emma Potter, Jeff Potter (Father)  
Back Row (Left to Right): Noblesville Girls Lacrosse Head Coach Veronica Mitchell, Noblesville Girls Soccer Assistant Coach Kristin Hetzel  
Not Pictured: Noblesville Girls Soccer Head Coach Mike Brady



Jared Crandall has committed to play baseball at Taylor University.  
Pictured - Front Row (Left to Right): Chelsey Crandall (Sister), Amy Crandall (Mother), Jared Crandall, Marc Crandall (Father)  
Back Row: Noblesville Baseball Head Coach Justin Keever

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