



(From left) School Board members Stephanie Lambert, Lisa Sobek, Laura Alerding, and Dr. Joe Forgey, Associate Superintendent Dr. David Mundy, Superintendent Dr. Beth Niedermeyer, Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen, Noblesville Chamber of Commerce President Bob DuBois, School Board member Christi Crosser, and Building and Grounds Supervisor Roy Wallace.

Photo provided by Noblesville Schools

## Noblesville Schools dedicates new unique community center

### The REPORTER

Noblesville Schools dedicated a first-of-its kind community center on Wednesday, opening new flexible usage options not just for Noblesville Schools, but for all residents.

The Noblesville Schools Community Center (NSCC) is located off of Field Drive between Noblesville High School and Noblesville East Middle School. It will provide dedicated space for the district's enhanced alternative education program "Millers Success Academy," as well as adult education classes, public meeting space, and indoor team practice space.

The NSCC will also be used by the district's special education partners at the Hamilton Boone Madison County Co-op for its "Limitless" program, which provides ongoing education for young adults with special needs.

The building has a kitchen and large multi-purpose space that make it ideal for community dinners and receptions and is located right next to Noblesville High School's new stadium, which is expected to be completed in 2022.

"With the community scheduling more than 14,000

See NSCC . . . Page 2



Photo provided by Noblesville Schools

The Noblesville Schools Community Center is located off of Field Drive between Noblesville High School and Noblesville East Middle School.

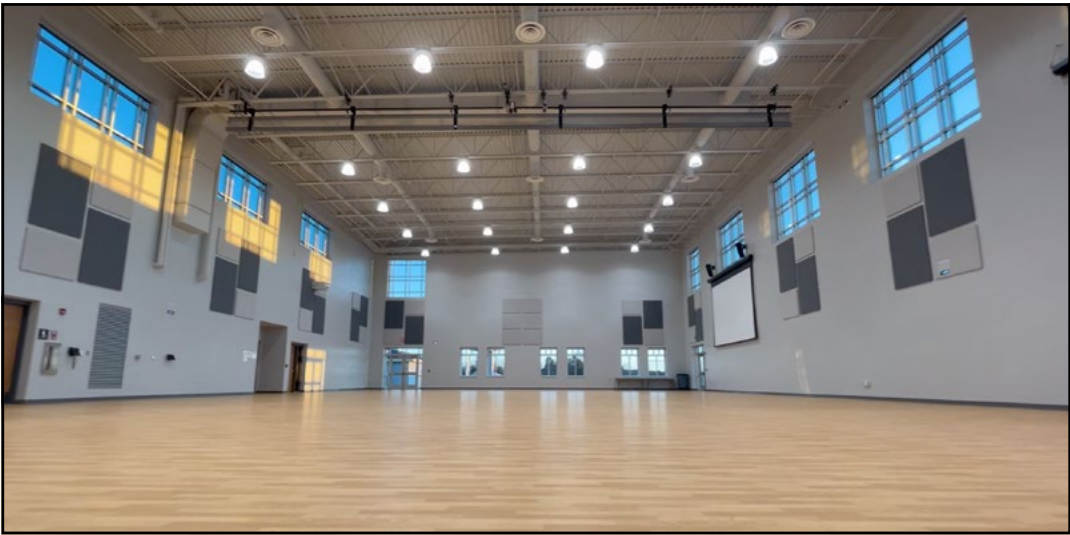


Photo provided by Noblesville Schools

The center has a large multi-purpose space that it ideal for community meetings, practices, dinners, and receptions.

## Retired Lt. Mitch Russell passes away

### The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Department has announced the passing of Retired Lieutenant Mitch Russell.

Russell served the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for nearly 29 years, from Nov. 21, 1977 to April 1, 2006. After retiring, Russell went on to serve as Chief of the Arcadia Police Department and Director of Security for River-view Health.

"Mitch Russell will long be remembered for his selfless service to the citizens of Hamilton County," said Sheriff Dennis Quakenbush. "He was a great leader, law enforcement officer, public servant, friend, and family man. Our hearts grieve with his family for the loss of a great man who loved his community and was loved by all who knew him."



Russell

## New court likely soon . . . Massive county projects under consideration

By FRED SWIFT  
[ReadTheReporter.com](http://ReadTheReporter.com)

Hamilton County is likely to have a new court soon, assuming the state legislature approves. It will be Superior Court 7, the judge of which will be appointed by Governor Eric Holcomb.

The increasing case load is the reason given for the county's request for the additional court. Hamilton County currently has a Circuit Court and six superior courts. There is space in the Judicial Center for one more court.

County Commissioners and County Council members discussed the pending court's needs in a joint session Tuesday.

The court was one item on a list of upcoming projects reviewed by the officials.

At the top of the list was the State Road 37 reconstruction designed to create a freeway without grade level intersections from Noblesville to Interstate 69. Costs for the major project are increasing. Late last year, the county was told another \$40 million will be needed and further increases are likely.

The earlier announced county parking garage was also considered. Originally estimated to cost about \$9.5 million, county officials now believe it may be wise to increase the structure to five levels to allow for anticipated future needs.

The garage, planned on the northside of Noblesville's Clinton Street between 8th and 9th streets, will take the place of a current ground-level lot on Conner Street on the eastside of the White River. A private development is planned on that three-acre site.

Other projects getting attention at the meeting include converting the current Humane Society building on Pleasant Street to offices for the Soil and Water Conservation District and county Weights and Measures.

The Humane Society is in the process of building a new facility on Hague Road in Fishers.

The long-discussed White River bridge at Pleasant Street, a vital link in the planned bypass of downtown Noblesville, was considered at the joint session. The county is responsible for major bridges anywhere in the county, while the city will build the bypass to the bridge.

A center for victims of domestic violence has also been requested. There is presently no shelter for such victims within the county.

Officials are also considering acquisition of a 106-acre parcel for park development in Washington

See Projects . . . Page 2

## Carmel announces event sponsorship agreement with Allied Solutions

### The REPORTER

The City of Carmel has announced a new partnership and three-year sponsorship agreement with Allied Solutions that will cover a variety of opportunities for participation and exposure during more than a dozen City of Carmel annual events.

The \$450,000 sponsorship – paid out in \$150,000 installments each of the three years – will include several events to be held at Midtown, where Allied Solutions' national corporate

headquarters is located.

"From our office windows we see the remarkable qualities of Midtown Plaza with its green space and trail, outdoor games, big screen video board and of course the growing number of restaurants and shops," said Allied Solutions CEO Pete Hilger. "We have wanted to find a way to get more involved in Midtown activities, as well as other events where our employees, the residents of Carmel and many visitors come



Hilger



Brainard

together to enjoy our City. With this agreement, we feel we have a way to do just that and we are thrilled to be a part of events that

make Carmel a great place to experience."

Among the events to be included under this sponsorship agreement are the following: Meet Me on Main, Midtown's Got Talent, Midday at Midtown, Movies at Midtown, Music at Midtown, Holidays in Carmel, Holiday at Carter Green, Magnificent Monon, Shop Small Saturday, Holiday Trolley, Holiday in the Arts &

See Carmel Events . . . Page 2

## Noblesville to host 'Hoops at the Hill' to celebrate college basketball tournament

### The REPORTER

During the month of March, the City of Noblesville will host several events surrounding the collegiate men's college basketball championship. "Hoops at the Hill" involves the city partnering with local restaurants, merchants, and experience-based businesses on tournament-themed promotions and giveaways. Most events will take place at Federal Hill Commons in Downtown Noblesville and will include a Fan Jam car parade, watch party, gift card drawings and item giveaways.

"Many of us here are big fans of college basketball and one of the bigger silver linings of COVID-19 disruptions is the fact the entirety of the tour-

nament will be taking place in central Indiana this year," said Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen. "All eyes are going to be on Indiana for the better part of a month. We are excited to offer our Hoops at the Hill event to help our residents safely celebrate and participate in this unique event."

Hoops at the Hill events include:

**Eat. Shop. Love Noblesville.**  
Throughout the month of March  
The City of Noblesville



has partnered with local businesses to provide \$10,000 in \$25 gift cards to local restaurants, retailers and experience-based businesses. Residents can scan a QR code and fill out the form to be entered into a random drawing.

**Fan Jam Car Parade**  
Noon to 2 p.m.,  
Saturday, March 6

Fans can decorate their car and dress in their favorite team colors or clothing to celebrate the upcoming post-season matchups. This will be an "in your car experience"

where fans will drive through and wave to their favorite mascots, pick up Love Noblesville and NCAA collectibles and get your picture taken under the balloon arch. As a health precaution, guests will not be allowed to park their vehicle and walk around the Fan Jam.

**Watch Party**  
Noon to 8 p.m.,  
Saturday, March 20

Federal Hill Commons will be transformed into a lawn like no other – with seating pods with firepits, oversized games, beer taps, plenty of photo opportunities, and, of course, college basketball. The watch

See Hoops . . . Page 2





HomeAutoBusinessLife

317-758-5828

NSCC

from Page 1



Photo provided by Noblesville Schools

hours of programming every year in our facilities, and with one of the largest high schools in the state, this additional space in Noblesville was desperately needed and we expect it to be a very popular area for events,” said Noblesville Schools Superintendent Dr. Beth Niedermeyer.

The center has been over two years in the making and was completed on time and on budget thanks to the teamwork of dozens of people, including designer CSO Architects and construction manager The Hagerman Group.

Highlights of the facility include:

- Over 15,000 square feet of total space
- Two large classroom areas
- Four offices
- Onsite kitchen
- Technology learning spaces
- 7,500 square-foot open space with



Photo provided by Noblesville Schools

The center will house Noblesville High School’s alternative education Miller Success Academy and the Hamilton Boone Madison County Special Education Cooperative’s Limitless program.

hard surface flooring, technology equipment, and high ceilings that can be used as one open space or separated for multi-

ple groups

The build cost the district \$6 million and has been financed through a bond without the use of referendum dollars or an increase in the tax rate. Per state guidelines, the bond cannot be used to fund staff, programs, or student needs.

“We can’t wait to share this new space with the community and for everyone to begin enjoying it,” Niedermeyer added.

The district has made sponsorships, including naming rights, available for the event space. Organizations interested in learning more should contact the district’s marketing and communications department by calling (317) 773-3171.

You can watch a video of the dedication ceremony at [vimeo.com/516249195](https://vimeo.com/516249195).

CARMEL EVENTS

from Page 1

Design District, Santa Saturdays, the Ice at Carter Green, and potential other new events to come.

“An important part of building a strong city with a high quality of life are the relationships we create with our local corporate community. We are thrilled to join with Allied Solutions in a partnership that will give us the means to produce world-class events for our residents and visitors,” said Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard. “Events like those included in this agreement help us attract corporations with high-paying jobs filled by a growing residential workforce that is eager to be here. These events also provide additional customers for our unique, diverse offering of small shops and restaurants.”

Allied Solutions moved into its new corporate headquarters in 2018 after spending many years in leased office space a few miles to the west. The five-story headquarters building is located in the center of Midtown.

Allied has experienced tremendous growth over the past 23 years in Carmel, adding hundreds of new jobs and working to continue to expand. Allied was the first business to move into the Midtown redevelopment, which was previously a largely industrial but under-performing area in the city that connects the Arts & Design District to the City Center and the Center for the Performing Arts. As Midtown continues to evolve and grow, several other businesses, residential properties and retail options have followed suit and call Midtown their home.

For more information, visit [AlliedSolutions.net](https://AlliedSolutions.net).

HOOPS

from Page 1

party will take place beginning at noon (game times and schedule will not be known until Sunday, March 14). A DJ will provide music between games. Indy Beer Taps and two food trucks with tailgate-appropriate food will be onsite. Attendees also can enjoy cornhole and life-sized games such as Jenga and checkers. As part of the overall health and safety plan for the event, each game will have a hand sanitizing station nearby. Themed photo frames and photo banners will be in various areas of the park.

PROJECTS

from Page 1

Township and will be undertaking intersection improvements at 146th and Allisonville, likely involving a roundabout at the heavily-traveled crossing.

All proposed projects were referred to the council’s finance committee for consideration. While the county has considerable resources on hand, the listed projects cannot likely all be financed at one time without other sources of revenue or staged as annual revenues are collected.

Thanks for reading The Reporter!


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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
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- Disinfecting wipes


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



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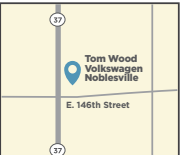



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Photo provided  
(From left) Tanner Orton and Rebekah Steffen are rehearsing their parts as Edmund, the White Witch, and the Dwarf, for this weekend's performance of *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe*.

# Don't miss *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* at Heights

**The REPORTER**  
Members of the Hamilton Heights High School Drama Department cordially invite the community to attend its live production of *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* dramatized by Joseph Robinette from

the story by C. S. Lewis. The play is being directed by Brooks Myers with Mataya Watson as Stage Manager. Show times are 7 p.m. on Feb. 26 and 27 and 2:30 p.m. on Feb. 28. Tickets are \$6 and must be purchased online and

prior to the door. Purchase tickets online at [hhschus-kies.org](https://hhschus-kies.org). All proceeds benefit the High School Drama Department. Hamilton Heights High School is located at 25802 State Road 19, Arcadia.

# Carmel firefighters handing out free masks today at Lowes

**The REPORTER**  
The Carmel Fire Department has scheduled two more COVID-19 information booths to hand out information on virus prevention and safety and answer questions from the public. Firefighters will offer free bottles of hand sanitizer and disposable face masks while supplies last. The type of masks being distributed are similar to what you

would find in a doctor's office waiting room. CFD will be at Lowes, 14598 Lowes Way, Carmel, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 25. The booth will be set up inside the foyer of the east entrance. During the event, representatives from CFD will wear masks and keep to physical distancing guidelines to avoid possible

spread of the virus. The event is open to the public and visitors should also wear masks and maintain proper distance from others as they approach the booth. The goal of this booth is to provide the community with COVID-19 information, including handouts showing the City of Carmel and Carmel Fire Department "Best Practices" for dealing with the virus.


Spring Break

IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK



If there was ever a year for a staycation, this is the year! Hamilton County attractions, hotels, and restaurants are following the Hoosier Hospitality Promise Health & Safety Guidelines, so staying close to home is not only safe, it's affordable. It's also a great way to support local, independent businesses.

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# From the desk of Heights Supt. Dr. Derek Arrowood

Update #50  
from Dr. Derek  
Arrowood, Su-  
perintendent,  
Hamilton Heights  
School Corpora-  
tion.

This is Public Schools Week. It's a week designated to share the importance and value of our nation's public schools, our students, and the many school professionals who work to help students achieve their highest potential. Strong public schools are the foundation of success for young people, the growth of our communities, and instrumental to our country's future.



DR. DEREK ARROWOOD  
Heights Superintendent

Monday was Bus Driver Appreciation Day. I may be biased, but we have an incredible transportation staff. We can never say enough positive things about our drivers, who are the good stewards of our children and appreciated more than they know. We are extremely grateful to have a dedicated and caring team of drivers who ensure our students arrive to and from school safely and on time.

Public schools thrive on local engagement and make our communities stronger. They are the key to ensuring

the future remains bright for the 90 percent of children who attend public schools across the nation. Our community has enjoyed the benefit of a strong public school for well over a century. At the same time, our corporation has enjoyed strong and committed partnerships which have enriched our curriculum and contributed to our student's overall learning and development.

We invite you to celebrate the many opportunities afforded through our local public schools and engage in activities that will strengthen the business-school connection not just this week but throughout the year. We welcome and encourage our families

and community to be actively engaged in education at Hamilton Heights and stay connected via our [website](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#).

Our newest HHSC Monthly Update was posted on Monday. Volume #64 filmed on Feb. 19 will introduce you to a Hall of Famer, the award-winning Husky Fan Shop, information about HHMS and HHHS Hybrid plans, and one of my heroes. [Click here](#) to view.

Thank you for your continued interest, support, and partnership in making a measurable difference in the educational experience at Heights.

#WeAreHuskies  
#PublicSchoolProud

## Community News

### Cicero public meeting on COVID relief funding

A public hearing regarding the Town of Cicero's intent to apply for funding through the Office of Community and Rural Affairs' COVID-19 Response Program Round III will take place at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 2 at the Red Bridge Park Community Building, 697 W. Jackson St., Cicero.

## HAMILTON COUNTY Soil & Water



### CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## Prepare for spring with native plants, rain barrels

### The REPORTER

Spring rains, sunshine, and blooms are on the horizon. Plan ahead for your property by ordering your native plants and rain barrels from the Soil and Water Conservation District. The SWCD has all the tools you need to conserve water and support pollinators like bees and butterflies with beautiful native plants.

Native plant kits allow you to take the guesswork out of plant selection by providing a set of plants that will be perfect for your yard. Each native plant kit contains 50 native plant plugs for \$125. There is a kit for all areas of your yard, including pollinator, rain (for wetter areas), prairie, and shade garden. Each kit contains 10 species of native perennials and can fill a space from 50 to 150 square feet.

Rain barrels are also available to pre-order for \$75. These repurposed barrels capture rainwater from your downspout and roof and hold it for use at a later time. Rain barrel water is great for water-

ing plants and gardens or even washing the car. In peak summer months, a rain barrel can save around 1,300 gallons of free, naturally soft water for your use. Pre-pay for your barrel and choose between grey, terra cotta, and black 55-gallon rain barrels. Diversifiers systems for easily installation are also available for \$25 and wooden pedestal stands are available for \$30.

Plant kit and rain barrel pre-orders can be placed online at [hamiltonswcd.org](http://hamiltonswcd.org). **Orders for plants are due April 14 and rain barrel pre-orders are due May 26.** Orders will be available for pick up on Friday, June 4 in Noblesville. All proceeds support conservation projects and education in Hamilton County.

More information on native plants and rain barrels can be found at [hamiltonswcd.org](http://hamiltonswcd.org).

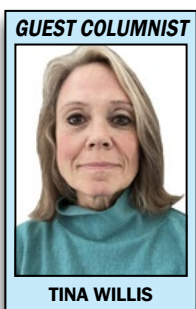
Questions regarding the sales or SWCD resources can be directed to Claire Lane at [claire.lane@hamiltoncounty.in.gov](mailto:claire.lane@hamiltoncounty.in.gov) or (317) 773-2181.

## March is National Nutrition Month U.S. Dietary Guidelines now feature life stages

We all understand the importance of encouraging young children to make good food choices. We know if kids start eating a variety of healthy, nutrient-dense foods from the beginning of their lives, they will be more likely to make good food choices as they grow older.

This is exactly why the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) recently updated its [Dietary Guidelines for Americans](#) to now include dietary recommendations for children aged newborn to 23 months. For the first time ever, the new guidelines are now divided into life stages, even with nutrition guidance for pregnancy and lactation. Updates also touch on adults' alcohol and sugar intake.

Every day, but especial-



TINA WILLIS

ly in March – National Nutrition Month – I make a concerted effort to point bleeding and blood disorder patients to these guidelines as I educate them about the impact of diet and eating habits on their health outcomes. Healthy nutrition is critical to our patients' success, but it's important for everyone – even if otherwise healthy – to avoid potentially life-threatening, yet avoidable diseases like heart disease, stroke, obesity, type 2 diabetes and cancer.

### Newborn to 23 Months

- Soon after birth: Supplement with vitamin D
- For at least the first six months: Exclusively feed human milk or continue with (iron fortified) formula up to one year
- At six months: Introduce nutrient-dense foods

- Under age two: Avoid added sugars
- At 12 months and beyond: Meet nutrient needs with mostly foods rather than by supplements
- At age two: Fewer than 10 percent of calories should be from added sugars and saturated fat
- Less than 2,300 mg of sodium per day

### Adults

Nutrient-dense foods and beverages should dominate adults' diets. Less than 10 percent of calories should be from added sugars and saturated fat. Sodium intake should be less than 2,300 mg per day. An adult's diet should include:

- Vegetables: All types and colors
- Fruit: Whole fruit as much as possible
- Grains: At least half of grains should be whole grain
- Dairy: Include fat-free or low-fat and/or lactose-free and fortified soy

alternatives

- Proteins: Including lean meats, poultry, seafood, beans, lentils and soy products
- Oils: Incorporate vegetable oils in to diet, as well as natural oils found in foods like sea foods and nuts

According to the guidelines, when it comes to alcohol, the less the better. For men of legal drinking age, alcohol intake should be limited to two drinks per day. Women should limit their intake to one drink per day. Pregnant women are among those adults who should not drink alcohol.

If you have questions about your diet and nutrition, talk to your healthcare provider for a referral to a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist. More information is also available at [dietaryguidelines.gov](http://dietaryguidelines.gov).

Tina Willis is a registered dietitian at the [Indiana Hemophilia & Thrombosis Center](#) in Indianapolis.

## State Police conducting 'full-court press' in March to combat impaired, dangerous driving

### The REPORTER

The Indiana State Police Pendleton District announced Wednesday that officers will be cracking down on dangerous and impaired driving in March as part of a statewide enforcement campaign. From Feb. 26 through March 21, officers will conduct high-visibility patrols showing zero tolerance for those driving aggressively, over the speed limit, or under the influence.

The overtime patrols are funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) through an Indiana Criminal Justice Institute grant.

"Dangerous and impaired driving continues to be a problem, especially around high-risk events like St. Patrick's Day and the NCAA Tournament," said Lieutenant Josh Watson, District Commander of the Pendleton State Police Post. "However you celebrate this year, do so responsibly. Slow down, buckle up, and if you drink, don't drive. It's that simple."

On average, drunk driving crashes claim more than 10,000 lives per year in the U.S., according to NHTSA. Although 2020 was a unique year due to the pandemic, preliminary data from the

federal safety agency shows that while miles traveled had decreased by about 14.5 percent in the first nine months, overall traffic fatalities increased by 4.6 percent nationwide.

In addition, a separate report released from NHTSA revealed that more road users engaged in risky behaviors in 2020 such as speeding or driving under the influence, and that fewer motorists wore seat belts.

Despite having fewer drivers on the road in Indiana, 2020 was the third highest year for traffic fatalities (850) in the past decade, according to ICJI.

"We're seeing an uptick in dangerous driving during the pandemic, and it's very concerning," said Devon McDonald, ICJI Executive Director. "That's why we're pulling out all the stops this March to reverse that trend and encourage safe driving behavior. Preventing loss of life is our top priority."

Dangerous driving includes such factors as speeding, tailgating, and disregarding a traffic signal – all of which are against the law in Indiana. Additionally, it is illegal to drive with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.08 percent or higher. Drivers under 21

with a BAC of 0.02 percent or higher are subject to fines and a license suspension for up to one year.

To avoid the potential for legal fees and criminal charges, the department recommends following these simple steps:

- Slow down and follow

all posted speed limits.

• Never drive impaired. If you plan on drinking, plan for a safe, sober ride home.

• Do not tailgate or drive aggressively.

• Put down the phone and avoid distracted driving.

• Buckle up – every trip, every time.

### Meeting Notices

The Noblesville Economic Development Commission will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 11, 2021, in the Council Chamber at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St., Noblesville. Anyone wishing to listen to the meeting may call (872) 240-4868 and enter conference ID 454 769 633# when prompted.

The Noblesville Redevelopment Commission will meet at 9 a.m. on Thursday, March 11, 2021, in the Council Chamber at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St., Noblesville. Anyone wishing to listen to the meeting may call (872) 240-4868 and enter conference ID 370 775 885# when prompted.

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## James Casey "Jim" Castor August 22, 1927 – February 23, 2021

James Casey "Jim" Castor, 93, Noblesville, passed away on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at Riverview Health in Noblesville. He was born on August 22, 1927 to Albert and Nellie (Casey) Castor Nevitt in Noblesville.

Jim was a graduate of Noblesville High School. He then joined the United States Navy where he proudly served during World War II on the USS Columbia. On his return, he began working at Firestone Company in Noblesville. He bought his first business in 1956, Pure Oil Gas Station, located on 10th Street in Noblesville. He retired in 1999 from his second business, Castor's Auto Clinic, where he worked for 46 years. Jim was also a member of the Noblesville First United Methodist Church where he served on several ministries, including the Elderberries Senior Ministry and sang in the choir. He was a past chairman of the Round Dance Council of Indiana, past president of the Merry Mixer Square Dancer's Club, and a member of the Do-Si-Squares Dance Club of Noblesville. He was an avid motorcyclist and model boat hobbyist, belonging to the Indianapolis Admirals R/C Boat Club where he served as Commander. Jim also served as Commander-in-Chief of the Noblesville VFW Post 6246 from June 2014 to May 2016 and put in countless volunteer hours for our veterans. He loved to travel and he and his wife, Jane, enjoyed many trips together all over the world.

He is survived by his wife, Jane (Kingsolver) Castor, whom he married in 2002; daughters, Terri (Rick) Gedek and Vicki (Hugh) Beattie; foster son, Roger (Judy) McIntyre; stepson, Jim (Diane) Kingsolver; grandchildren, Jim, Bill, and Patrick McIntyre, Angela Clear, Paul Shea, David Shea, and Stephanie (Michael) Hall; stepgrandsons, Justin Kingsolver and Patrick (Brooke) Kingsolver; great-grandchildren, Cody, Brooke, Kaleb, and Logan Clear, Maci Kingsolver, and Nolan Hall; and great-great grandchild, Miles Clear.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife of 54 years, Rosemary (Nevitt) Castor.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, March 4, 2021 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville, with Pastor Phyllis Hunter officiating. Visitation will be from 3 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at the funeral home. Burial will be at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Humane Society for Hamilton County, 1721 Pleasant St., Suite B, Noblesville, IN 46060; Noblesville First United Methodist Church, 2051 Monument St., Noblesville, IN 46062; or Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, 9900 E. 191st St., Noblesville, IN 46062

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## TODAY'S BIBLE READING

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.*

Romans 12:1-5 (NIV)

### Letter to the Editor

## Rick McKinney pens response to Ken Alexander's 'Council Minutes'

Dear Editor:

I am providing additional perspective on County Councilor Ken Alexander's Feb. 11 "Council Minutes" column: It is wonderful that a government official decides to share additional information regarding its activities. But let's be more objective, detailed and less spin-oriented. Business principles may be helpful to government but are not 100 percent applicable as government does not generate revenue and MUST provide essential services.

First, it was dismaying to see the status of the county's parking garage described as "in the midst." This project was first advanced in the fall of 2019, when a developer and the County Commissioners jointly approached the County Council regarding selling property to facilitate their project. At that meeting, it was stated unequivocally "time was of the essence" and a decision had to be made quickly. The idea was reviewed soon thereafter by the Council's Finance Committee, on which I served, and the recommendation to the entire Council was to proceed with the two provisions: County would receive a minimum of \$4.5 million for the parking lot, and the cost of the garage would not exceed \$9.5 million, of which \$5 million balance could be paid in cash.

In December 2019, County Commissioners introduced the concept of "B-O-T" (Build, Operate & Trans-

fer) for the first time for a county project as a way to build it. With the January 2020 change in Noblesville city administrations, there occurred a delay in its approval of the project.

Money was appropriated by the County Council in March 2020 and then ... nothing happened for months, until August 2020 when the County Council approved the sale of the lot for no less than \$4.5 million. Then in October 2020, \$400,000 was requested and appropriated for preparing the plans/construction documents for a parking garage.

Now, in February 2021, the idea of spending an additional \$2 million for extra parking spaces is floated as a way of "saving" money at a later date. I would counter that the extra money should be paid exclusively by the city of Noblesville as they will be the primary beneficiary. The county staff has shown the ability to work remotely the last year, and there is no future growth of employees to justify this expense.

At this rate, the garage will not be ready for use until mid-2022. So much for expediency.

Next, emergency housing relief funding from the federal government is definitely welcomed, but it should have gone to an existing entity set up to distribute the funds expeditiously: The Noblesville Housing Authority. New software and staff will be hired by all townships to handle an amount much greater than any of them have

ever handled for housing and utility relief. Now, a new layer of government will be created, as those federal funds must be kept separate and not co-mingled with local funds or future federal grants will be at risk.

Who championed the township trustees to do this? The attorney for three of them, also a County Commissioner.

Always, county debt, whether pre-paid or avoided, should be front page headlines! After the May 2016 primary, the County Council orchestrated the pre-payment of \$12 million in bonds and received little fanfare.

Now with lower interest rates, it is wonderful to hear more savings of interest will occur.

The unstated: What will happen to the \$4.4 million in savings?

Lastly, the Hamilton County Health Department and its staff have been phenomenal the last year as it has had to maneuver the ever-changing protocols regarding COVID-19, its normal duties, the secession of Fishers in starting its own health department, and finally, the loss of its longtime leader, Barry McNulty. Kudos to them as they continue the Herculean task of administering the vaccine to the entire county.

**Rick McKinney**

Westfield

Senior Policy Analyst for Fiscal

Conservatives of Hamilton County

Former 24-year At-Large member of the Hamilton County Council

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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# Hamilton County Sports

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## Sports Editor Richie Hall

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*Gus Etchison reaches 2,000 points . . .*

# Huskies get exciting win over Raiders

By RICHIE HALL

**ARCADIA** - It was starting to seem like old times in the Hamilton Heights gym on Wednesday night.

A large crowd was there to root on the Huskies as they played their regular-season finale against Harrison. Those fans not only got to cheer about an exciting win for Heights, 65-62 over the Raiders, but they also got to see some history as well.

Huskies senior Gus Etchison scored his 2,000th point during the opening minutes of the third quarter. Etchison got to that magic number on a putback. With that basket, he joined an ultra-exclusive club. The Western Michigan commit is only the third Hamilton County basketball player to reach 2,000 points, following the lead of Carmel's fabulous Shepherd boys, Dave and Billy.

"That's a great accomplishment for Gus," said Heights coach Chad Ballenger. "As I keep telling him, team success leads to individual success. He's buying into that. We need to have team success to help him get to his individual success."

"All those individual goals and stuff and success, it's awesome and everything," said Etchison. "But at the end of the day, all I really want is just that sectional championship, because I haven't experienced that yet."

Etchison said he wants to win the sectional "for the school and just for the whole community, because we deserve that after a lot of the stuff that all of us on the basketball team" has gone through.

"All the individual success is awesome and stuff, but at the end of the day, I'm just here to get that sectional championship," said Etchison.

The Huskies will go into the sectional on a four-game win streak, but they had to work to get that fourth consecutive victory. Harrison skipped out to a 6-0 lead, and would not trail for most of the first half. Heights worked its way back to a 10-10 tie, with Isaac Wilson's 3-pointer knotting the score up. But the Raiders went on an 11-2 run, which finished with sophomore Ben Henderson making a four-point

play with 1:11 left. Henderson's 3-pointer and foul shot put the Raiders up 21-12.

Wilson drained another 3 before the quarter ended, getting the Huskies within 21-15. Luke Carroll opened the second period by making two foul shots, and Isaac Tuma added another free throw to make it a 6-0 run.

A layin by Max Jacobsen gave Harrison a 25-21 lead. Then Heights took over, making its own 11-2 run that would stretch into halftime. Tillman Etchison started it with a triple, then Carroll's layin put the Huskies in front for the first time, 26-25. Gus Etchison added a layin, Noah Linville hit two free throws, and another layin from Gus Etchison finished the half and gave the Huskies a 32-27 lead.

"I think we really started spreading them out more," said Gus Etchison. "We got in our five-out formation. Instead of having guys on the post, we just spread them out."

"We really locked in defensively," said Ballenger. "It was a big key to the game. Their pace and who they play, a really good schedule, and we always know when we play them that we have to get adjusted because they cut so hard and play so hard. So, we did. It took us that first quarter, a little bit, to see that and realize it. And in the second quarter, I thought we did a great job."

The Huskies were moving the ball exceptionally well. Gus Etchison said that after Heights suffered a close loss to Western earlier in the month, the players got together and had a conversation about trusting each other more.

"We just said we needed to start trusting each other and making that extra pass," said Etchison. "Instead of having a good shot, make it a great shot."

The third quarter opened with a 3-pointer by Harrison's Bryant Smith, and that was followed by Etchison's history-making putback. Later, Smith drained another 3 to put the Raiders up 37-36, the first of eight lead changes during the period.

Jacobsen's 3 late in the quarter gave Harrison its last lead of the game at 46-



Reporter photo by Kent Graham

**Hamilton Heights' Gus Etchison scored his 2,000th career point during the Huskies' Wednesday game with Harrison. Heights won the game 65-62 to finish its regular season.**

45. Etchison promptly erased that with a layin. Then, after a Raiders' timeout with 2.3 seconds left, Gus threw in a last-second 3-pointer, putting the Huskies up 50-46 going into the fourth.

Heights never trailed in that closing quarter. Lucas Letsinger expanded the lead to 53-48 with his own triple. Later, two Etchison free throws and a putback from Wilson gave the Huskies their largest lead, at 57-51. Harrison would cut that advantage down to 61-60 with under a minute to go, but Carroll stepped up for Heights in those final seconds, scoring on a layin, then clinching the game by making two free throws with 4.4 seconds left.

"That was huge," said Ballenger. "That's huge to step up there in that pressure situation. Our seniors also were able to contribute."

Etchison finished the game with 30 points, including four 3-pointers, while Wilson scored 10 points. Carroll collected seven rebounds. Smith led the Raiders with 23 points.

"All the seniors were able to contribute," said Ballenger. "Drew Pennington came in and played solid, and Blake Stevens got a rebound and a blocked shot. Lucas and Isaac and Gus and Noah Linville have been our staples. They've been playing a lot of minutes."

"Linville is so underrated. He handles the ball, he's a point guard. He's shooting like 90-some percent from the free-throw line. His assist to turnover ratio is crazy.

And he doesn't get all the credit all the time because he doesn't always score a lot."

Ballenger called Linville one of the team's best defenders.

"I'm pleased for him, and he wants to play at the next level," said Ballenger. "He's going to be able to. He's going to be able to play at that next level. He's really done a good job the last few weeks for us."

The Huskies finished the regular season 15-4 and will play Yorktown Tuesday in the first game of Sectional 24 at New Castle.

## HAMILTON HEIGHTS 65, HARRISON 62

Heights	FG	FT	TP	PF
Gus Etchison	12-23	2-2	30	1
Noah Linville	0-1	2-2	2	3
Luke Carroll	2-4	4-4	8	4
Isaac Wilson	4-7	0-0	10	3
Lucas Letsinger	3-8	0-0	7	0
Isaac Tuma	2-2	1-2	5	2
Drew Pennington	0-1	0-0	0	0
Tillman Etchison	1-2	0-0	3	1
Blake Stevens	0-0	0-0	0	0
Totals	24-48	9-10	65	14

Score by Quarters  
Harrison 21 6 19 16 - 62  
Heights 15 17 18 15 - 65  
Heights 3-point shooting (8-22) G. Etchison 4-9, Wilson 2-4, Letsinger 1-4, T. Etchison 1-2, Linville 0-1, Carroll 0-1, Pennington 0-1.  
Heights rebounds (20) Carroll 7, G. Etchison 4, Wilson 4, Letsinger 2, Tuma 1, T. Etchison 1, Stevens 1.



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# Williams' free throws send Tigers past LC



Reporters photo by Kirk Green  
Fishers' Jeffrey Simmons scored 18 points for the Tigers during their 51-49 win over Lawrence Central Wednesday at the Tiger Den.

Fishers won an exciting regular-season finale on Wednesday, edging out Lawrence Central 51-49 at the Tiger Den. The Tigers led 13-12 after the first quarter, with Jeffrey Simmons scoring nine points in that period. The Bears came back to tie the game at 29-29 by halftime, and the contest was still knotted up after three quarters, at 40-40. Fishers outscored LC 11-9 in the fourth, with Bryce Williams making two foul shots during the final minute of the game to clinch the victory for the Tigers. Simmons scored 18 points, while Smith added 12 points. Fishers was a perfect 7-of-7 from the free-throw line as a team. Greg Jenkins scored 18 points to lead the Bears. The Tigers finished the regular season 14-6 and will play Hamilton Southeastern

Tuesday in the first round of Sectional 8 at Carmel.

FISHERS 51, LAWRENCE CENTRAL 49				
Fishers	FG	FT	TP	PF
Myles Stringer	4	0-0	9	3
Bryce Williams	2	2-2	7	4
Charlie Smith	6	0-0	12	1
Jeffrey Simmons	6	5-5	18	1
Lucas Prewitt	2	0-0	5	0
Sean Millsaps	0	0-0	0	1
Drew Turner	0	0-0	0	2
Matt Brewer	0	0-0	0	0
Aidan Zimmer	0	0-0	0	0
Totals	20	7-7	51	12
Score by Quarters				
Lawrence Central	12	17	11	9
Fishers	13	16	11	11
Fishers 3-pointers (4) Stringer 1, Williams 1, Simmons 1, Prewitt 1.				

Five players in double figures . . .

## HSE holds off Marion

Hamilton Southeastern scored a big win in its regular-season finale, holding off a late comeback by Marion for an 87-84 victory Wednesday at the Giants' Bill Green Arena. The Royals were in control during the first half, leading 25-18 after one quarter. Southeastern expanded its lead to 40-22 during the second quarter, and went into halftime with a 45-30 advantage. Marion began working its way back into the game in the second half, cutting HSE's lead to 64-53 after three periods, then pouring in 31 points in the fourth. But the Royals hung on for the win. Five Southeastern players reached double figures. Vinny Buccilla led the way with 20 points, followed by John McCall with 17. Sam Jacobs added 15 points, Alex Totton made three 3-pointers on his way to 11 points and Loudon Sundling added 10 points. Jalen Blackman scored 48 points for the Giants. The Royals distributed the ball extremely well, with 27 assists on their 30 field goals. Stutz dished out 13 assists,

while Buccilla and McCall both handed out four assists. Buccilla and McCall each pulled four rebounds. Southeastern finished the regular season 11-10 and will play Fishers Tuesday in the first game of Sectional 8 at Carmel.

HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN 87, MARION 84				
Southeastern	FG	FT	TP	PF
Jason Stutz	3-5	0-2	8	1
Alex Totton	4-7	0-0	11	4
Vinny Buccilla	5-8	8-11	20	4
Sam Jacobs	6-11	1-2	15	3
John McCall	8-13	1-2	17	1
Loudon Sundling	2-5	5-6	10	5
Isaac Bowman	2-5	0-0	6	0
Mohammed Awad	0-1	0-0	0	1
Deion Miles	0-0	0-0	0	0
Totals	30-55	15-23	87	19
Score by Quarters				
Southeastern	25	20	19	23
Marion	18	12	23	31
Southeastern 3-point shooting (12-20)				
Totton 3-4, Jacobs 2-5, Buccilla 2-4, Stutz 2-3, Bowman 2-3, Sundling 1-1.				
Southeastern rebounds (24) Buccilla 4, McCall 4, Totton 3, Sundling 2, Stutz 2, Bowman 2, team 7.				

## Celebrating a milestone



Reporters photo by Kent Graham  
The Hamilton Heights student section and boys basketball team celebrated after Gus Etchison scored his 2,000th point during the Huskies' Wednesday game with Harrison.




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# NBA standings

Wednesday's games			Miami 116, Toronto 108		Charlotte 124, Phoenix 121	
Golden State 111, Indiana 107			Chicago 133, Minnesota 126			Utah 114, L.A. Lakers 89
Atlanta 127, Boston 112			New Orleans 128, Detroit 118			
Cleveland 112, Houston 96			Oklahoma City 102, San Antonio 99			

Eastern Conference					Western Conference				
	W	L	PCT.	GB		W	L	PCT.	GB
<b>Atlantic</b>					<b>Northwest</b>				
Philadelphia	21	11	.656	-	Utah	26	6	.813	-
Brooklyn	21	12	.636	0.5	Portland	18	13	.581	7.5
Toronto	16	17	.485	5.5	Denver	17	14	.548	8.5
Boston	15	17	.469	6.0	Oklahoma City	13	19	.406	13.0
New York	15	17	.469	6.0	Minnesota	7	26	.212	19.5
<b>Central</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>PCT.</b>	<b>GB</b>	<b>Pacific</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>PCT.</b>	<b>GB</b>
Milwaukee	19	13	.594	-	L.A. Clippers	23	10	.697	-
Indiana	15	15	.500	3.0	L.A. Lakers	22	11	.667	1.0
Chicago	15	16	.484	3.5	Phoenix	20	11	.645	2.0
Cleveland	12	21	.364	7.5	Golden State	18	15	.545	5.0
Detroit	9	23	.281	10.0	Sacramento	12	19	.387	10.0
<b>Southeast</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>PCT.</b>	<b>GB</b>	<b>Southwest</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>PCT.</b>	<b>GB</b>
Charlotte	15	16	.484	-	San Antonio	16	12	.571	-
Miami	15	17	.469	0.5	Dallas	15	15	.500	2.0
Atlanta	14	18	.438	1.5	Memphis	13	14	.481	2.5
Orlando	13	19	.406	2.5	New Orleans	14	17	.452	3.5
Washington	11	18	.379	3.0	Houston	11	19	.367	6.0

# Pacers fall just short to Golden State

By WHEAT HOTCHKISS  
Courtesy nba.com/pacers

After a weeklong layoff, the Pacers returned to the court on Wednesday night to take on Steph Curry and the Warriors in a nationally televised game.

The national audience was treated to a good one, as neither team led by more than seven points all night, but in the end, Indiana (15-15) came up just short, falling to Golden State (18-15), 111-107.

"They had the last run...That was the time not to be on the downside of a run," Pacers head coach Nate Bjorkgren said after the loss. "I thought we missed a couple things on the backside there where maybe we could have stepped in to take a charge or maybe stepped in to save a bucket or two, but our guys played hard."

The Blue & Gold trailed 99-96 with just under five minutes remaining on Wednesday. A well-executed play out of a timeout got Myles Turner a bucket on the interior to make it a one-point game with 4:36 to play. After an Eric Paschall miss, Turner had a chance to give the Pacers the lead on the next possession, but missed a three from the left wing.

Draymond Green got a dunk on the other end to push the lead back to three. Curry added two free throws a minute lat-

er and Kelly Oubre Jr.'s jumper made it a 105-98 game with 2:19 remaining.

Doug McDermott's trey with 1:26 left made it a four-point game, but Paschall drove right through the defense for a one-handed slam on the other end.

Malcolm Brogdon drew a foul and hit both free throws with 1:06 remaining and then Domantas Sabonis stripped Curry. McDermott had a look from the top of the arc, but couldn't get it to fall. Green corralled the rebound and the Warriors appeared ready to seal the win at the free throw line, but Curry was whistled for an offensive foul when he swung his arms into T.J. McConnell with 19.9 seconds left.

After a timeout, Brogdon raced down the floor and converted a left-handed reverse layup with 11.6 seconds remaining. Curry was fouled and made both free throws with 10.1 seconds remaining.

Sabonis slipped on the next inbounds, allowing Green to intercept the pass and seal the win for the Warriors.

"I feel like we got key stops at the end of the fourth, but we just couldn't make baskets," Sabonis said. "That was the main thing. I think our defense overall there was pretty good...but at the end when we got stops, we couldn't convert

and get the lead."

Brogdon scored a team-high 24 points on 10-of-20 shooting in the loss. Sabonis added 22 points, 16 rebounds, and four assists, going 7-for-12 from the field and 8-for-12 from the free throw line.

The Pacers jumped out to an early 14-9 lead behind six quick points from Brogdon. Curry missed his first four 3-point attempts, but bounced back by scoring seven points during a 14-2 Golden State run to surge in front.

Indiana then closed the frame with a 6-2 spurt to trim the deficit to 25-22 entering the second quarter.

The Blue & Gold got a big lift from Sabonis in the ensuing frame. The Lithuanian big man scored 15 points in the period, which featured three ties and seven lead changes, to give Indiana a 58-56 lead at the intermission.

The Pacers scored the first five points of the second half to stretch their lead to seven, but the Warriors quickly answered with six straight.

Neither team led by more than six points for the rest of the third quarter. The Warriors used a 7-0 run to take an 81-75 lead into the final minute before McConnell intercepted Kent Bazemore's inbounds pass and converted a layup plus

a foul to trim the deficit in half.

Andrew Wiggins hit one free throw and Jeremy Lamb made two before a Green layup off a dish from Curry just before the buzzer that gave the visitors an 84-80 advantage.

The Pacers managed to tie the game on three separate occasions in the first five minutes of the fourth quarter, but failed to regain the lead at any point in the final frame.

McDermott finished with 15 points on 5-of-11 shooting for Indiana. Turner joined him in double figures with 14 points, eight rebounds, and two blocks, though he went just 4-for-13 from the field.

Curry had 24 points, eight boards, and eight assists for Golden State, going 7-for-21 from the field, but just 1-for-11 from 3-point range.

Oubre added 17 points, Wiggins scored 15, and Green narrowly missed out on a triple-double, stuffing the stat sheet with 12 points, nine rebounds, 11 assists, and three steals.

The Pacers will now embark on a four-game road trip before returning to The Fieldhouse to host Denver next Thursday in their final game before the All-Star break.

# Wednesday high school boys basketball scores

Courtesy John Harrell's website  
www.johnharrell.net

Andrean 65, Gary West 64  
Blackford 72, Muncie Burris 62

Centerville 53, Indiana Deaf 25  
Cowan 79, Alexandria 72  
DeKalb 60, Lakeland 54  
Eastside 65, Woodlan 44  
Evansville Harrison 75, Evansville

Bosse 70, OT  
Fishers 51, Lawrence Central 49  
Floyd Central 85, Columbus East 54  
Fort Wayne South 75, Muncie Central 62  
Fremont 54, Adams Central 50  
Hamilton Heights 65, Harrison (West Lafayette) 62  
Hamilton Southeastern 87, Marion 84  
Hammond Noll 78, Hammond Gavit 48  
Hobart 69, Whiting 30  
Indianapolis Ritter 82, Cascade 70  
Lighthouse CPA 87, East Chicago Central 76  
Martinsville (Ill.) 57, Dugger Union 45  
Merrillville 68, Lowell 55  
Mooresville 84, Victory College Prep 44  
Morgan Twp. 63, Lake Station 45  
Northeastern 75, Randolph Southern

60  
Penn 55, Plymouth 29  
Plainfield 73, Greenfield-Central 55  
Rensselaer Central 66, South Newton 38  
Salem 57, Crawford County 48  
Shakamak 66, Eminence 33  
Shenandoah 115, Union (Modoc) 15  
Silver Creek 87, Austin 51  
South Adams 57, Bluffton 51  
Southwestern (Hanover) 82, Trimble County (Ky.) 44  
Southwestern (Shelbyville) 48, Hauser 38  
Sullivan 59, Terre Haute North 53  
Union City 59, Indiana Math & Science 51  
Wabash 62, Heritage 58  
Wheeler 50, LaCrosse 45  
Whitko 63, Maconaquah 54

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