

SATURDAY, DEC. 18, 2021

ARCADIA | ATLANTA | CICERO | SHERIDAN  
CARMEL | FISHERS | NOBLESVILLE | WESTFIELD



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Morning showers.  
Some sun in the afternoon.  
Tonight: Partly cloudy.

HIGH: 43 LOW: 24



# HCRW receives national award, elects new officers

By DENISE MOE  
[ReadTheReporter.com](http://ReadTheReporter.com)

The Hamilton County Republican Women's Club (HCRW) recently held its annual holiday luncheon and the installation of the incoming officers at Stone Creek Dining Company in Noblesville.

The new officers of the HCRW Club Executive Board are President Sheryl Clifford, Vice President Adrienne Rogers, Second Vice President Laura Campbell, Treasurer Lisa Everly, Secretary Magdalen Bergeron, and Past President Cecilia Coble.

In addition, HCRW received the Gold Club Achievement Award from the National Federation of Republican Women for demonstrating excellence in membership development, campaign activities, programs, community relations, leadership development and club functions.

It has been a record year for HCRW, which is the largest local club in the state with over 150 members.

For more information or to become a member, please visit [hamcogopwomen.org](http://hamcogopwomen.org).



Reporter photos by Denise Moe  
(Top, from left) Lisa Everling, Laura Campbell, Sheryl Clifford, Adrienne Rogers, and Cecilia Coble. (Bottom, from left) Emily Pearson, Laura Alerding, Laura Campbell, Cecilia Coble, Suzanne Heinzmann, and Sheryl Clifford.

# Sheridan Museum wins 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Main Street decoration contest

By STEVE MARTIN  
*Sheridan Historical Society V.P.*

Much to the surprise of the Sheridan Historical Society, the museum on Main Street recently won the third-place ribbon for its Christmas decoration efforts. It was a surprise because the Society decorators were not even aware there was a contest, and they were only about half done with the decorating.

You know, sometimes you just get lucky, and we want to express our thanks to the Main Street Committee for honoring us. And congratulations, too, to the first and second place winners.

We have since completed the full Christmas decorating, and if you have an opportunity to drive by the museum after dark, you will find us all decorated and lighted up for the season. We don't like to brag, but we think we have done a rather good job for our first year. We plan to start our decorating earlier next year in hope of capturing first place.

The Sheridan Historical Society's Stephenson Family Cultural Center and Museum is open from 1 to 4 p.m. on



Photo provided  
**Seated is Bess Copess, holding the third-place ribbon earned by the Museum. Standing from the left are Connie Pearson, Lis Pickett, Connie Mossburg and Jeanna Pearson. Thank you, ladies, for your outstanding work.**

Tuesday and Friday afternoons. We can also be open by special arrangement at other times by calling (317) 758-5054 during

our open hours and making an appointment. The Museum is located at 315 S. Main St. in beautiful uptown Sheridan, just

on the country side of Hamilton County. We invite you to come by and visit with us and see our special displays.

# He and his fake fir felled by furry felines

*Oh, Cat-mas Tree  
Oh, Cat-mas Tree  
Much displeasure  
thou can't give me*

I used to not be a cat person – until I was forced to open my home up to two of them.

A white, male cat named Cash. And Coppola, another male, way overweight, who always looks like he's donning a black and white tuxedo that's busting at the seams.

Both cats were strays conveniently delivered to my door by 1) my son who was trying to impress a girl on a first date by rescuing one from the street (alas, there wasn't a second date) and 2) a girlfriend who rescued one from the cold but



then ditched me a week later, making me the stray (the cat remained; she didn't).

Now then, let me tell you about a Christmas past (not too long ago) involving a fake tree and my two very real cats.

It started innocently enough. Cash, the cutest and most agile of the two (by agile, I mean at least he can walk without his swinging belly dusting the floor), climbed into the tree and scaled the fake branches. I took a photo of him staring at me from within the tree. It got raves on Facebook. I managed to airlift cute Cash from the tree without breaking any ornaments.

CASH: Unbeknownst to



Photo provided by Scott Saalman

Scott, I was actually on a scouting mission to determine the plastic structure's weak points for future toppling and total household domination.

COPPOLA: I admired how surreptitiously Cash pulled off his mission. He was so slinky

and sneaky and stealthy. Not once did the tree shake. Scott would not have even known Cash was even inside the tree. But we wanted him to notice. That was part of our plan.

**See Fir Felled . . . Page 2**

# CHS principal Harmas retiring

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

Carmel Clay Schools has announced the retirement of high school principal Dr. Tom Harmas effective at the end of the present school year.

Harmas has been with the school system 19 years. He was the first principal of Carmel's Creekside Middle School, then became CHS principal in 2017. He was named Principal of the Year at Creekside by the Indiana Principals Association.

Carmel Clay Superintendent Dr. Michael Beresford said, "We appreciate Dr. Harmas' dedication and service to the students, staff and community."

Future plans of the retiring educator have not been announced. No replacement for Harmas has been selected. The school board will search for a new principal and consider applications during the next few months.



Harmas

# No threats to Westfield schools in TikTok trend

The REPORTER

*Editor's note: Westfield Washington Schools sent the following message to WWS families on Thursday evening.*

We are aware of a social media trend involving TikTok regarding threats of school violence on Friday, Dec. 17. To be clear, there have been no threats of violence to any Westfield school. School will be in session [Friday]. As usual, Westfield Police Department will have a presence across our district, with all of our schools acting as substations.

Parents, please take time to discuss appropriate online behavior with your children. Any threat of violence can have very serious consequences.

Any immediate safety concerns should be reported to the Westfield Police Department by calling (317) 773-1300 or 911.

# New 'Tigers Royals Alumni Network' will help connect Fishers alumni of all ages

The REPORTER

The Hamilton Southeastern Education Foundation (HSEF) has introduced a brand-new initiative geared toward engaging alumni from both HSE and Fishers high schools, as well as local supporters and community members. This new alumni directory offers a new digital community and numerous opportunities for alumni to get engaged.

This new community, Tigers Royals Alumni Network, grants alumni and community members access to regular updates about district news through blog posts and regular email updates, in addition to mentorship and volunteer opportunities, and events. The site features a useful alumni directory which makes it easy to connect with classmates, former teachers, and other community members. The network is a program of HSEF, which supports grants, scholarships, and district initiatives within all 22 schools across the Hamilton Southeastern school district.

"We are thrilled to announce this new digital community for Tigers and Royals alumni, friends, and supporters to get more plugged into what's happening in our schools," said Justin Hirnisey, Executive Director of the Foundation. "Through this brand-new alumni web site and directory, we look forward to highlighting the achievements of former students and staff and welcoming alumni of all ages back to the district, whether it's as a supporter, volunteer, employee, or mentor."

HSE Schools Superintendent Dr. Yvonne Stokes said, "Hamilton Southeastern Schools is fortunate to

**See Alumni . . . Page 2**





**From our family to yours,  
We wish you a  
Merry Christmas!**





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FIR FELLED

That’s why Cash meowed in a majorly sweet way to get Scott’s attention. Scott’s a sucker for this.

CASH: That was the beauty of our plan. Sure enough, as hoped, Scott fell for my feigned feline cuteness and took my photo. I did not dare bat at any of those shiny ornaments surrounding me, for that would’ve alarmed Scott and caused him to use that irksome squirt bottle. He’s always saying, “make my day” or “do you feel lucky, punk?” before squirting us.

COPPOLA: Oh, such low-hanging ornament fruit dangling before Cash, yet my fur brother didn’t take the bait! Such self-restraint demonstrated by Cash.

CASH: How desperately I wanted to swipe at that angel ornament, and the gingerbread man, and the Santa—

COPPOLA: Such will-power.

CASH: By me avoiding havoc, Scott assumed all was right in his sad little people world. He never suspected what we ultimately had in store for his shiny tree.

COPPOLA: Such a man-fool. Purr. Purr. Hi-Five me, Cash!

CASH: Ouch, damn it, Coppola! Hiss. Hiss.

COPPOLA: Sorry. I forgot. I’m not declawed.

Now, fast forward a few days. While I was in the of-

fice, my daughter Delaney texted photos showing our freshly-fallen Christmas tree, each cat positioned beside the daytime destruction, triumphant, like proud lions gloating over a downed water buffalo.

It wasn’t enough to simply toy around with a few ornaments. They took out the whole damn tree. Perhaps the haloed dachshund ornament topping the tree – in memory of our dead dog – put the cats over the edge. Such intense jealousy.

I posted the photos on Facebook of course. One “friend” recommended positioning orange peels beneath the tree to keep the cats away. “We tried it at our house, and it really did work,” she wrote.

Peeling oranges seemed too labor intensive. Rolling oranges at the cats approaching the tree seemed more entertaining.

Another “friend” commented, “Hang it from the ceiling or nail it to the wall.”

I assumed he meant the tree and not the cats. I was in no mood to turn my living room into a movie set for *The Poseidon Adventure* or having a PETA protest in my front yard.

Foolishly, I re-stood the tree.

Later that night, there arose such a clatter. Cash had somehow gotten trapped headfirst inside a

Walmart bag. In blind panic, he bounced off the walls like a pinball as he tried to escape.

Then it happened.

Running full speed down the hallway, still caught in the bag, possibly even on the verge of suffocation, Cash collided with the tree, his trajectory as perfect as an Earl Anthony bowling ball striking the head pin. Before I could yell in anger a certain favorite word of mine (“timber” it was not), I helplessly watched the tree crash to the floor again, ornaments rolling here and there, an empty Walmart bag now with a big hole in its bottom left behind, the newly-freed cat nothing but a white flash before disappearing into the kitchen.

Days passed but still the green heap that had once been a lovely Christmas display remained on the floor. I couldn’t muster the energy to upright the tree, my Christmas spirit shattered like a pawed glass ornament. It was no use to re-stand the tree a second time. It would only be the target of yet another toppling.

Delaney and I walked around or stepped over the felled tree. The cats, of course, had nothing to do with the downed tree after that. They yawned and went into rooms for a nap, dreaming up new challenges and ways to achieve



Photo provided by Scott Saalman

household domination.

Welcome to our Habitat for Inhumanity.

I pondered a new Christmas tradition: Decorate a tree but leave it on its side on the floor. That or improve my accuracy at roll-

ALUMNI

from Page 1

from Page 1


have such a diverse and talented network of alumni. I am excited to see what connections may form, thanks to this new digital community. We all have lessons to share, opportunities to give and relationships to build – let’s support HSEF in this endeavor and help make the Tigers Royals Alumni Network a great success!”

The alumni community is available to all alumni and friends of the district. Alumni of HSE High School or Fishers High School can submit their own information and connect with other alumni through the online directory. Members of the network can also find information about class reunions, and will be a resource for alumni, supporters, and friends to receive news about district events, opportunities, and initiatives.

To learn more about Tigers Royals Alumni Network and to get more involved in the Hamilton Southeastern Schools community, visit [TigersandRoyals.org](#).

Thanks for reading

THE REPORTER



**PREVAIL**  
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[prevailinc.org](#)


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

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

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

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

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



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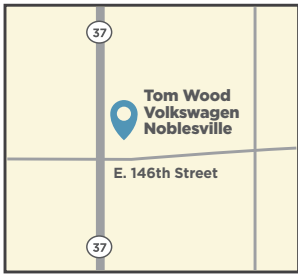


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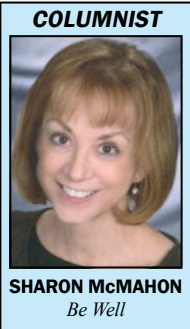
# Got winter blues? Keeping up good exercise habits may help

"Sunshine is my quest." – Winston Churchill

December – a time for celebration, for joy, for time spent with friends and loved ones, which hopefully includes precautions during this challenging time during the pandemic.

All that is true, indeed. However, for many people there are other issues to be faced between November and early March and that is my topic – SAD, or Seasonal Affective Disorder. While it is true that there are those who suffer from depression which is not seasonal, that is not something that I will address here and should be addressed only by those who are trained and licensed in that area.

SAD is a disorder that reflects the sometimes-profound changes which light deprivation can cause in the brain. There are some who may be seriously affected by the decreased sunshine and shortened daylight hours in the winter months, and some who are only mildly affected yet still feel adverse outcomes of those



**COLUMNIST**  
**SHARON McMAHON**  
*Be Well*

shortened daylight hours. SAD begins and ends at about the same times every year. If you're like most people with SAD, your symptoms start in the fall and continue into the winter months; sapping your energy and making you feel moody.

Treatment for SAD may include light therapy (phototherapy), psychotherapy and medications. Again, please contact your licensed health care professional for any of these recommendations or referrals. Symptoms specific to winter-onset SAD, sometimes called "winter blues," may include irritability, low energy, heavy or "leaden" feeling in the arms or legs, oversleeping and appetite changes which may include carb cravings. Additionally, increased stress or pressure due to holiday events or expectations, workplace year-end deadlines, and financial issues can contribute to seasonal despondency.

Don't brush off that yearly feeling as simply a case of the "winter blues" or a seasonal funk that you

have to tough out on your own. Take steps to keep your mood and motivation steady throughout the year. Up your fitness regimen or at least keep it steady during the winter months if your physical condition warrants. Walk whenever possible – outside if the weather cooperates, inside on a treadmill or shopping mall if needed. Stretching and flexibility are particularly important this time of year as we are usually bending, reaching, lifting items for decoration or to prepare for holiday company. Strength training is vitally important as well. Not only will you feel more energetic and focused through the dark winter months, you will get a head start on your early spring training!

Indulge in a few goodies through the holiday season but remember to be mindful of the refined carbohydrate treats and offset that indulgence with quality protein and complex carbs in your eating plan. If your physician approves a Vitamin D supplement, that may help you during the low sunshine days to come. And remember – after Dec. 21, daylight hours will begin to increase!

And, finally, I would like to share wonderful news for our family. You may recall that my daughter-in-law has had a very serious battle with leukemia the past two years, which included a bone marrow transplant last December. We have learned that she is now in remission and we are incredibly blessed to learn this.

*Warmest wishes from my home to yours this holiday season,*  
**Sharon McMahon, CNWC**

*The opinions expressed in this article are not intended to replace advice of your personal physician or licensed health professional. Please consult your physician for any issues you may have related to nutrition or fitness activity.*

# Westfield starts new 'Rock Strong' staff award program

## The REPORTER

Westfield Washington Schools (WWS) has announced a new staff appreciation initiative: The Rock Strong Award presented by the Westfield Education Foundation.

This is a quarterly award given out at each school, plus operations and student support programs to recognize teachers, instructional assistants, instructional coaches, building secretaries, bus drivers, substitute teachers, food service staff and operations staff for the great work they do for Westfield children and the community.

Each quarter, all schools plus operations and student support programs (BAC/TOTS/All Aboard) will review nominations from



staff, students, families and the community and select someone who represents its values and culture to receive the Rock Strong Award. Westfield Education Foundation will present the award winners with a commemorative plaque and a \$50 Amazon gift card to show appreciation for all they do.

The first Rock Strong Awards will be given at the Feb. 8 school board meeting. The submission window for this quarter will close on Jan. 25.

[Click here](#) to nominate a WWS staff member.

**Follow The Reporter on Facebook!**



# Representative Victoria Spartz

## Constituent Services



### Help with Federal Agencies

I can help you when dealing with federal agencies, including:

- Social Security issues
- Medicare claims
- Veterans benefits
- Passport assistance
- IRS questions



### United States Flag Requests

Obtain commemorative flags flown over the United States Capitol from my office.



### Military Academy Nominations

High school students in our district may contact my office to request a nomination to attend one of our nation's service academies.

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**Carmel Office**  
**(317) 848-0201**

**[www.spartz.house.gov](http://www.spartz.house.gov)**



# White River Regional Opportunity Initiative receives \$20M READI grant

## The REPORTER

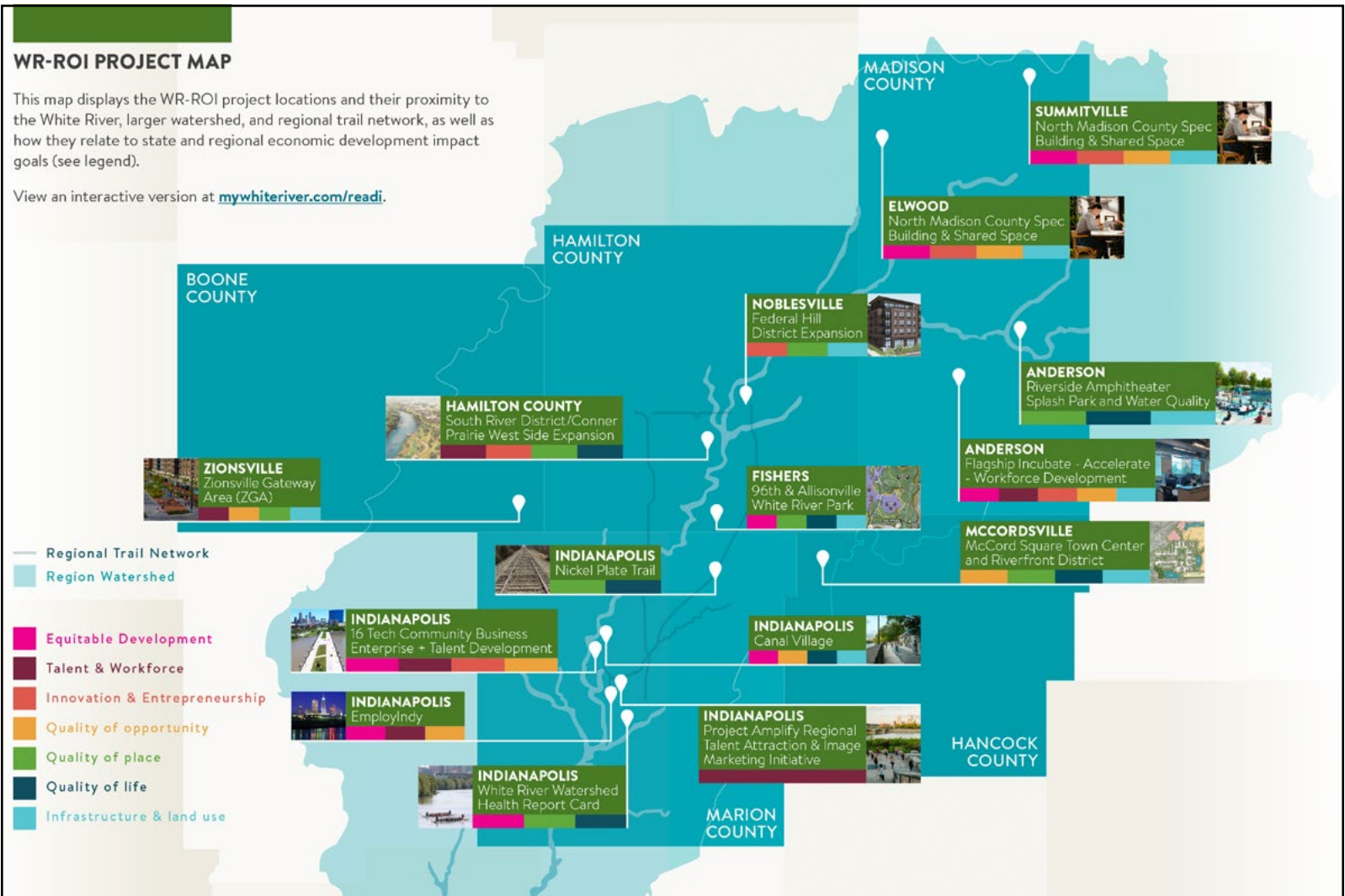
The White River Regional Opportunity Initiative (WR-ROI) was recently awarded \$20 million from Governor Eric J. Holcomb and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation as part of the Indiana Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI).

The WR-ROI region is made up of three Central Indiana counties – Hamilton, Madison, and Marion – as well as Zionsville in Boone County, and McCordsville in Hancock County. The **proposal** detailed a cohesive regional vision, goals, and projects or programs related to economic development within the White River Region.

“The READI program helps invest in quality of life initiatives and train our workforce to move toward a stronger Central Indiana region,” said Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen. “We are grateful to the IEDC and Governor Holcomb on making these regional investments a priority. These efforts help us tell Indiana’s success story to the nation and beyond.”

The total investment of the WR-ROI totaled \$591 million and included \$148 million in local public match from local governments, parks and tourism agencies, planning entities, bonds, and TIF allocations; and \$313 million in private match from developers and private equity, corporate sponsors, and philanthropies.

The WR-ROI received \$20 million of its \$49.9 million request. Mayors, city leaders and major stake-



Graphic provided

holders will meet in early 2022 to discuss projects and allocate READI Grant funding for the region.

The WR-ROI communities came together to seize this opportunity to invest in this vital Central Indiana region. The WR-ROI serves as a job center and economic hub for the state. The Regional Development Plan for the White River Regional Opportunity Initiative represents a transformational opportunity to further accelerate population growth, talent attraction and retention, and smart economic

development in the region.

“The Central Indiana community works best when we work together,” said Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett. “This funding will provide another valuable opportunity to achieve our shared vision for continued growth and development and can ultimately transform our region.”

Home to almost 1.5 million people, the WR-ROI Region has grown significantly over the past 10 years, gaining 10 percent population from 2010 to 2020 (compared to In-

ana’s 4.2 percent). The WR-ROI seeks to continue that trend, while making appropriate investments in physical and social infrastructure to ensure residents have what they need to thrive and developing the White River into a world-class attraction that serves Hoosiers and tourists alike for generations to come. This includes enhancing quality of place, quality of life and wellbeing, environmental health, and sustainability; boosting support for business, entrepreneurship, and innovation activity; training and education initiatives to prepare the workforce for future economic trends; and equitable development projects that ensure the WR-ROI Region is an attractive place where all residents benefit from growing economic opportunity in the coming decades.

“This plan was a true representation of what can happen when we see ourselves as one region and bring our collective assets to the table,” remarked Fishers Mayor Scott Fadness. “The

White River is one of our best, but underutilized, assets of our metro. I’m encouraged that the selection committee saw the value the Indianapolis Region brings to our state and the impact we can make on the state’s economic, talent, and quality of life efforts.”

The IEDC awarded \$500 million to support regional development plans across 17 regions representing all 92 counties. The competitive process requests tripled the allocated \$500 million READI budget, as submissions amounted to more than \$1.5 billion and detailed nearly 800 projects and programs with a potential investment of \$15.2 billion. The regional redevelopment plans included housing, trails, broadband, childcare and wellness initiatives, workforce development programs, and telling Indiana’s story to the world. The plans enumerated a nearly 10-to-1 capitalization leverage ratio from private and public sources as compared to state

investment.

“This is government at its best – bringing communities together with the common goal of advancing our state,” said Zionsville Mayor Emily Styron. “I am excited about the outcomes here in Zionsville and the forward momentum with the Zionsville Gateway Plan.”

For more information on the WR-ROI READI Grant, visit [mywhiteriver.com/readi](http://mywhiteriver.com/readi).

## About the White River ROI

The White River Regional Opportunity Initiative (WR-ROI) Partnership consists of representatives from three counties – Hamilton, Madison, and Marion – and eight communities: Anderson, Carmel, Fishers, Indianapolis, McCordsville, Noblesville, Westfield, and Zionsville within a total of five counties (Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Madison, and Marion). The White River ROI shares cohesive regional vision, goals, projects and programs related to economic development within the White River Region.

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## Letter to the Editor

# Shaffer questions spending \$2.5M on roundabout art

Dear Editor:

Backward-looking Carmel demonstrated its lack of foresight and confused purpose in announcing a \$2.5 million roundabout sculpture extravagance on 96th Street.

Four artworks bought with borrowed money will “pay homage” to the very gas-guzzling, climate-threatening, parking-lot-filling machines the mayor so often and so smugly criticizes. “When was the last time you had a romantic stroll through a Walmart parking lot?” he arrogantly asks time and again.

Prior to the automotive eyesores’ announcement, the city had spent \$2.3 million on all other sculptures combined. The \$2.5 million came from borrowing the mayor’s henchmen on the city council approved earlier in the year. It’s part of a \$13.5 million slush fund for the Carmel Redevelopment Commission (CRC). The fund carries a \$9.2 million interest price tag and is to be repaid by Carmel business taxpayers, the majority of whom don’t sell cars.

Apart from the hypocrisy and expense, the four metallic monuments to motoring apparently will boost car sales.

The CRC director responsible for this aesthetic crime said the mayor “wants to

ensure the dealerships remain in Carmel rather than move north, as many Indianapolis-based dealerships did with new development.” The director continues:

“We want to lock (the dealerships) in place. We want this to be the premiere place to buy a vehicle in the state. The mayor’s thinking always has an economic development component behind it, and that’s a huge one for this location.”

Two questions:

1. Wouldn’t a \$2.5 million tax cut for car dealers be a better lock-in strategy?
2. How many new dealerships will “develop” because the confused, sophomore aesthetes in city hall added \$2.5 million more to the city’s \$1.5 billion debt?

As an appointee to the Biden Administration’s advisory committee on climate change pipe dreams, the mayor could have expanded the backward looking monuments to include the first electric car in the United States – William Morrison’s 1890, six-passenger wagon that zipped along at 14 m.p.h.

Alas, the final question remains: When will the State of Indiana rein in the runaway Carmel debt-and-spend merry-go-round?

**Bill Shaffer**  
Carmel

## Letter to the Editor

# Weingarten to Senators Young, Braun: You’re the reason for broken supply chain

Dear Editor:

Senators Young and Braun **published a letter** to the Supply Chain Disruption Task Force expressing their deep concern over supply issues.

Maybe they should look in the mirror. They have tried to block the infrastructure bill that addressed many of the long-term relief needs and instead expect people to snap their fingers and the magic genie would add docks, storage,

trucks and expanded highways and rail lines to appear.

Maybe, just maybe, instead of being highly critical, they start to work with others across the aisle and we could get more things done. So far, they seem to feel it is more important to act against their constituents and make political noise time and time again instead of solutions.

**Joe Weingarten**  
Fishers

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**News. Sports. Views. Events.**  
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# Great American Songbook Foundation opens applications for Songbook Academy 2022

## The REPORTER

U.S. high school singers with interests in musical theater, jazz and classic popular music can apply now to experience a life-changing week of performances, pre-professional training and personal mentoring from Broadway stars and other arts and entertainment professionals.

The Great American Songbook Foundation has opened the application process for its 13th annual Songbook Academy national music intensive, taking place July 16-23, 2022, at the Foundation's home, the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel. Candidates may apply at [getacceptd.com/songbookacademy](http://getacceptd.com/songbookacademy). The 2022 event will mark a return to an in-person, on-site gathering after two years in an online format prompted by health concerns.

"We've learned that the Songbook Academy has a major impact on the participants regardless of format, but needless to say, we're very pleased to offer this year's finalists the special camaraderie and sense of

community that come from spending the week together in shared spaces," said Christopher Lewis, Executive Director of the Great American Songbook Foundation.

Only 40 students nationwide are selected each year to experience the lively and rigorous schedule of workshops and masterclasses on topics such as vocal technique, vocal health, song interpretation, phrasing, stage presence, music history, business concerns and auditioning for college arts programs. Participants build relationships with peers and pros, perform before live audiences and join the Songbook Academy Alumni Network to stay connected and informed about college programs, auditions and performance opportunities.

Heading up the roster of professional mentors, as always, will be Songbook Foundation Founder Michael Feinstein, the five-time Grammy-nominated "Ambassador of the Great American Songbook." The 2022 guest mentors are still to be announced; last year's

included Grammy-winning vocalist Catherine Russell and stage and screen stars Telly Leung and Solea Pfeiffer.

The week culminates in the Songbook Academy Finals, a performance presented by the Center for the Performing Arts in the 1,600-seat Palladium concert hall. Awards are presented for excellence in several categories, and many finalists receive national performance opportunities.

Songbook Academy alumni include Maddie Baillio (2014), who appeared in NBC's *Hairspray Live!*, Netflix's *Dumplin'* and the recent film adaptation of *Cinderella*; Anaïs Reno (2018), a rising star on the New York City jazz scene; and Melinda Rodriguez (2013) and Julia Cooper (2016), who have competed in recent seasons of NBC's *The Voice*.

## How to apply

To be considered for the Songbook Academy, high school students living in the United States are invited to submit videos with performances of two contrasting



Photo courtesy Great American Songbook Foundation  
Finalists gather onstage at the Palladium concert hall during the 2018 Songbook Academy at the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel.

songs. These selections can include songs from the Broadway stage and the golden age of Hollywood as well as jazz standards written from the 1920s to the 1960s. Submissions are evaluated by a panel of music educators and industry professionals who provide written feedback to every applicant.

The application deadline is March 15, 2022, with an early-bird discount available through Feb. 15. Need-based scholarships, fee waivers and other financial-aid opportunities are available.

More details and ap-

plication information are available at [TheSongbook.org/SongbookAcademy](http://TheSongbook.org/SongbookAcademy) or by email at [SongbookAcademy@TheSongbook.org](mailto:SongbookAcademy@TheSongbook.org).

## About the Great American Songbook Foundation

The mission of the Great American Songbook Foundation, founded in 2007 by five-time Grammy Award nominee Michael Feinstein, is to inspire and educate by celebrating the timeless standards of pop, jazz, Broadway and Hollywood. Headquartered at the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel, the Foundation advances this rich musical

legacy by curating a vast Library & Archives of items representing its creators, performers and publishers; operating a multimedia exhibit gallery; overseeing the Songbook Hall of Fame; offering programs for the public and research opportunities for scholars and artists; and providing educational opportunities for student musicians, including the annual Songbook Academy summer intensive. The Foundation is a Cultural Affiliate of the Los Angeles-based Grammy Museum. More information is available at [TheSongbook.org](http://TheSongbook.org).

## Let's have an 'invest in Indiana session' – not culture wars

We are likely to hear a lot of noise in the 2022 legislative session about cultural war issues like critical race theory (even though legislators regularly explain it wrong), making school board elections partisan, copycat abortion vigilante legislation from Texas, anti-vaccine rhetoric, attacking transgender kids, etc.

Ask yourself this question: How does this help Indiana get ahead?

We know that the reason for these topics is to divide us and pit us against one another. And while I will vote against these attacks on our neighbors, I also am asking you to not buy into this agenda. Instead, demand that lawmakers protect and invest in Hoosiers. All Hoosiers.

Many of the loudest folks in the room will be selling doom and gloom, an Indiana at war with fundamental liberties, parents, workers and freedom. This Indiana isn't real, but a completely made-up place meant to distract the public from what matters most.

To be clear, Indiana does have significant challenges that we should address this session. Our labor force needs better access to childcare. We need to do more to enable and expand remote work opportunities that allow parents more flexible careers to balance family time. We do need to listen to parents, students and teachers about how we can make our schools work best for our kids and help them reach their potential and find their passions. We need to ensure that the federal government's \$8.8 billion dollar investment in our infrastructure reaches our communities efficiently.

Issues like those should be our focus and should be a cause for optimism, not despair. This session should be about investing in Hoosier families, our workers and our state. I don't expect us to come together and fully solve all of these issues, but these are the important discussions we need to be having in the Statehouse.

Recently, [engineers at Purdue announced](#) the success of a new electric vehicle charging station that can fully charge a vehicle in about five minutes or com-



J. D. FORD  
State Senator

parable to how long it takes to fill our gas tanks. This is a remarkable achievement that should keep Indiana at the forefront of this expanding industry. Imagine if we can manufacture these charging stations right here in Indiana and sell them across the nation and the world. Given the billions of dollars from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that will be going to states around the country for electric vehicle charging stations, this innovation is even more timely. [Governor Holcomb recently agreed](#) to build our network of charging stations in collaboration with our neighboring states. This is a smart investment that will help Indiana and the Midwest lead the country in this area.

This brings me to the opportunities to invest in our students and our workers. How many young people do you know who are staying in Indiana after college? To keep these folks living and working in Indiana after graduation, our investments in their futures have to start much, much earlier than college. Potential federal investments in Pre-K and childcare would be an important step, but not a silver bullet. At the K-12 level, even our best schools can do more to help our kids find their passions and be better positioned for life after high school, at which point we need to encourage innovative young Hoosiers to attend school at Purdue and other public universities.

A workforce ready to lead in advanced manufacturing and a new generation of construction will require workers with advanced degrees, bachelor's degrees, associate's degrees, and on-the-job training from certifications and other skills programs. Hoosier students should have as much information about all of these opportunities as we can provide them. That will require putting our money where our mouths are by providing real financial incentives to fill these crucial and skilled positions. This should be our educational focus, not inserting more politics into school boards and the classroom.

For most of 2021, we've heard about higher than ex-

pected tax revenues, and Hoosiers are even getting a [tax refund](#) next year. This tax refund will rightfully be welcomed by our citizens. In addition, we just learned that this budget cycle will be \$3.2 billion above forecasts with surpluses of \$5 billion and \$4 billion in the coming years.

We are doing a disservice to Hoosiers if we continue to unnecessarily hoard this money in the state coffers. Legislators should invest the additional revenue in innovative research and job training that will grow our economy along with fully funding for [READI grants](#) and potentially targeted tax cuts for Hoosier families.

We should also be taking concrete steps toward implementing a universal Pre-K so parents have quality options for childcare. After all, business leaders tell us that education and the workforce are their biggest concerns.

Hoosiers deserve opportunities that will lead to good-paying careers, and we can make these investments while still having a surplus and balanced budgets.

Divisive cultural issues may grab the headlines, but Indiana has the opportunity to make 2022 about investments in our future. It's on us in the Statehouse to take these opportunities.

*State Sen. J. D. Ford represents Indiana Senate District 29 which encompasses Boone County's Eagle Township, Hamilton County's Clay Township, and Marion County. Marion County communities include Pike and Wayne Township. For more information on Sen. Ford's legislative agenda or other State Senate business call 1-800-382-9467 or visit [indianasenatedemocrats.org/s29](http://indianasenatedemocrats.org/s29).*

## Meeting Notices

The Noblesville Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2021, in the Council Chamber of Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St., Noblesville.

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b) (2)(D)(i), for discussion of strategy with respect to a real property transaction including a purchase, the Noblesville Common Council will meet in an executive session at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2021, in Room A213 at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St., Noblesville.

A regular meeting will follow at 7 p.m.

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# OneZone Chamber of Commerce lists its 2022 legislative priorities

## The REPORTER

OneZone Chamber of Commerce has announced its 2022 legislative priorities for local lawmakers to address during the legislative session set to take place from Jan. 4 to March 14, 2022, at the Indiana Statehouse.

OneZone's top priorities help advocate for local businesses by supporting policies such as self-governance for employer health and safety mandates, optimizing the supplier diversity certification process, and increasing the availability and accessibility of mass transit.

"Hamilton County is a growing community in our state, and our local employers have a strong voice," said OneZone Chamber CEO Jack Russell. "Our legislative priorities for 2022 are a strong indicator of what is most important to the employers in Carmel and Fishers. We look forward to working with our delegation during the 2022 legislative session and beyond."

OneZone will be represented by Torchbearer Public Affairs during the 2022 legislative session.

OneZone Chamber of Commerce is also a host for the Legislative Breakfast Series. Local lawmakers will speak during the breakfast, and there is time for a question-and-answer session at the end of each

event. Upcoming legislative breakfast dates are Jan. 14, Feb. 11, and March 11 from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at The Bridgewater Club, 3535 E. 161st St., Westfield. Registration is required and can be completed at [onezonechamber.com](http://onezonechamber.com).

## Employer Mandates for Health & Safety

**Priority:** OneZone supports state policies that allow employers to self-govern and opposes state mandates regarding the appropriate health and safety requirements for their unique needs.

**Rationale:** Indiana is known as a state that works. Part of this reputation is to allow business owners to run their own businesses and make the appropriate choices for their companies, without unnecessary government interference. Every business is different, just as every community is different. Employers should have the freedom to govern their own businesses and implement appropriate health and safety protocols for their companies.

## Supplier Diversity Certification Process

**Priority:** OneZone supports policies that optimize the supplier diversity certification process, including



Russell

simplicity and accessibility. **Rationale:** The Supplier Diversity Certifications (Women-Owned Businesses, Minority-Owned Businesses, and Veteran-Owned Businesses) help to recognize and support the types of business owners who have historically faced obstacles in securing contracts with state and local governments. OneZone supports ensuring that the process to get certified as such a business is optimized, streamlined, and simple.

## Mass Transit

**Priority:** OneZone supports legislation that increases the availability and accessibility of transportation options, specifically mass transit, in Central Indiana.

**Rationale:** For businesses to thrive, their employees need reliable transportation to and from the workplace. As a "doughnut county" outside of Indianapolis, Hamilton County often shares employees from all over Central Indiana and it is important to support efforts to allow for employees to get to their places of business. It is also an important economic development tool to entice new businesses to the area.

# Sen. Young votes to pass final National Defense Authorization Act

## Submitted by Sen. Todd Young's Press Office

U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.) voted on Wednesday to approve the bipartisan National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The bill passed by a vote of 89-10 and included provisions that Sen. Young says will benefit the U.S. military and make Americans safer and more secure.

"While Democrats haggled over their reckless tax-and-spend proposal, this vital defense bill has been on the back burner receiving little attention," Sen. Young said. "Though it's later than it should have been, the version we passed today is far better than President Biden's original plan. It gives our troops a pay raise and puts real resources behind countering the aggressive actions of Putin's Russia and the Chinese Communist Party. I'm proud to have secured several key provisions in this bill, including provisions to strengthen cybersecurity cooperation with Israel, invest in emerging technologies, and create a bipartisan commission to examine our two decades of war in Afghanistan. The bill also includes a plan I worked on with members of the Burmese community in Indiana to support the restoration of democracy in Burma."

As passed, this NDAA gives troops a 2.7 percent pay raise and provides a 3 percent increase over the previous year's military budget. This increase is more for the military than President Biden's proposal, which Sen. Young says would have slashed defense spending. This increase is critical to keep pace with the Chinese Communist Party which has averaged ranged between 7.2 percent and 8.1 percent increases in year-over-year growth since 2016.

Sen. Young, a U.S. Naval Academy graduate and Marine who serves on the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, worked

to ensure the bill would strengthen the military, while keeping Americans safe amidst threats from coronavirus, Russia, and the Chinese Communist Party.

Four of Senator Young's national security priorities were included in the legislation.

## Senator Young's provisions in NDAA

• **The Afghanistan War Commission Act** to establish a 16-member nonpartisan commission to examine military, diplomatic and intelligence activities by the U.S. from late 1996 to the withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan in August.

• **U.S.-Israel Cybersecurity Cooperation Enhancement** to establish a Department of Homeland Security grant program to facilitate closer U.S.-Israel cybersecurity cooperation.

• **Pilot program on acquisition practices for emerging technologies** to bring the themes of Senator Young's **Endless Frontier Act** into the Department of Defense. This requires the Department to identify and award no less than four agreements for new projects to support high priority modernization activities that are consistent with the National Defense Strategy and creates an advisory group to bring private sector expertise into the process.

• **Support Democracy in Burma**, a bipartisan amendment that was drafted with the input of leaders from across the Burmese community in an effort to restore democracy and hold those responsible accountable following this year's coup. This amendment requires the U.S. government to examine supporting the National Unity Government, denying legitimacy for the junta, and the role sanctions could play in accountability.



Young

Sen. Young also secured the following provisions in support of Indiana projects:

• **Anti-Submarine Warfare Equipment:** As the United States engages in strategic competition, the Navy will be at the forefront of securing vital sea lanes, protecting commerce, and reducing threats to the homeland from the navies of China and Russia. Sonobuoys, like those manufactured by Ultra Electronics in Columbia City, Ind., are a vital tool in detecting and tracking submarine threats from our peer competitors. Sen. Young secured a 20 percent increase in funding to procure additional sonobuoys.

• **Persistent Maritime Intelligence Gathering:** Sen. Young also secured funding support for two additional MQ-4C Triton drones, reversing the Biden Administration's decision to not procure this aircraft. The Triton provides long-range intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, and targeting capabilities over vast oceans spaces. As the United States seeks to deter against China in the Pacific, this airborne capability will be invaluable in monitoring China's deployments of ships and aircraft. Rolls-Royce produces the engines for the Triton in Indianapolis.

• **Vital Ground Combat Capabilities:** With Vladimir Putin and Russia threatening the security of Europe and the NATO alliance, Sen. Young said now is not the time to reduce the acquisition of the necessary armor capabilities to deter against Russian aggression. Sen. Young secured increases in the procurement and development of the newest version of the venerable Abrams tank, the transmission for which is produced by Allison Transmission in Indianapolis.

# Survey shows half of Hoosier households will enforce their own vaccine mandates

## The REPORTER

For many families hosting festive gatherings with elderly relatives this season, an elephant lurks in the room: The vaccination status of family and friends who have been invited, particularly as the new omicron variant begins to spread around the country.

A recent [poll](#) found that 19 percent people still say they don't intend on getting vaccinated, which may result in those who are vaccinated hesitating to mingle with those who aren't. But if you've already sent out invites to loved ones asking them to join in the family gathering, when is an appropriate time to ask about their vaccination status? Is it better to recall these invites sooner rather than later?

**Duffy & Duffy**, a New York-based medical malpractice law firm, commis-

sioned a survey of 3,758 respondents to deduce people's opinions about having unvaccinated family members around their elderly relatives this upcoming holiday season. It was discovered that 53 percent of Indiana households said they will consider not inviting unvaccinated guests to their family get-togethers this festive season to protect the elderly.

[Click here to view an interactive map showing family vaccine mandates across the country.](#)

The holidays can be a difficult time for those with elderly relatives in care or nursing homes. For some, it's difficult to arrange travel for the elderly, especially if they're in a fragile state and require "round the clock care." For others, there could be health risks and complications associated with

their parents/grandparents leaving their care facility. And for those with elderly relatives in nursing homes or care facilities, 44 percent said they have concerns about unvaccinated home employees returning to work after the holidays, after being out and about celebrating (particularly during New Year celebrations).

This is indeed a valid concern as earlier in the year, [nearly one-fifth](#) of U.S. coronavirus deaths were linked to nursing facilities. In fact, the survey found that 74 percent respondents believe that nursing homes should require negative tests for all residents returning over holiday activities.

Moreover, 77 percent of people questioned in the survey believe nursing homes should require all staff to be fully vaccinated.

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**Tuan Nguyen**

April 11, 1977 – December 11, 2021



Tuan Nguyen, 44, Westfield, passed away on December 11, 2021, in Indianapolis. He was born on April 11, 1977, in Ba Ria, Vietnam to parents Diep Nguyen and Dung Le.

Tuan worked as a manicurist for over 15 years. He had a very straightforward, sometimes stubborn, personality. People always knew where they stood with Tuan.

He is survived by his mother, Dung Le; wife, Kim Q Le; son, An Thien Nguyen; daughter, Ivy Nguyen; stepdaughter, Nhi Le Thai; sisters, Lan Dien Nguyen, Bich Nguyen, Huong Nguyen, and Duong Nguyen; and brothers, Doan Nguyen, Vinh Nguyen, and Chung Le.

Funeral Services will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, December 19, 2021, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville.

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

**Shirley May Kay**

December 16, 1932 – December 14, 2021

Shirley May Kay, 88, passed away at her home in Sheridan on Tuesday evening, December 14, 2021. Born on December 16, 1932, in Tipton County, Ind., she was the daughter of the late Robert Frank and Myrtle Edna (Lewis) Biddle.

Shirley loved taking care of children. In addition to raising her own family, she took on the responsibility of caring for many of the children in the community. For her, it was a labor of love. When her own family was grown and began having families of their own, Shirley was there, ready to watch over a brand new generation of children. Grandma was the role she had trained for her entire life, and she was ready to let the spoiling begin. She loved following every activity they were involved in. Sometimes it could be a rigorous schedule to keep up with, but she never backed down from the challenge. When the opportunity would arise, Shirley always enjoyed getting to do some traveling with her family.

When she had some time to herself, Shirley loved to slow things down just a little bit. She enjoyed sewing, and knitting, as well as crocheting afghans and throws. She also looked forward to the days where she could get lost for hours in the pages of a good book or spend some time fussing over her roses.

Shirley is survived by her loving husband, James Joseph Kay. She and James were married on August 18, 1961. She is also survived by three daughters, Emily C. Delp, Kathryn M. Kincaid, and Linda Gail Minnicus, all of Sheridan; six grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; 8 great-great-grandchildren; brother, Wilbur Biddle of Florida; sisters, Effa Greeno (Don), and Rena Biddle, both of Pickard, Ind.; sister-in-law, Suzanne Biddle; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her son, Mark Anthony McGuire; her daughter, Donna Wilson; and sons-in-law, Brian Kincaid and Joe Wilson.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. on Monday, December 20, 2021, at Kercheval Funeral Home, 306 E. 10th St., Sheridan, with visitation from 10 a.m. until the time of service. Burial will follow at Crown View Cemetery in Sheridan. Pastor George Cooper will be officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be presented to the Riley Hospital for Children.

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

# Senators Mike Braun, Todd Young help introduce bill meant to empower state innovation within Medicaid program

**The REPORTER**

U.S. Senators Mike Braun (R-Ind.), Todd Young (R-Ind.), Mitt Romney (R-Utah), Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.), Bill Hagerty (R-Tenn.), and Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.) on Tuesday introduced the **Let States Innovate Under Medicaid Act**.

This legislation authorizes a framework to allow innovation under Section 1115 Medicaid demonstration project waivers. Specifically, it would include “work or community engagement requirements” as an acceptable practice that furthers the objectives of the Medicaid program, thereby prohibiting the CMS administrator from denying a 1115 waiver on the basis that work or community engagement requirements do not further the objectives of the Medicaid program.

“States should be able to set standards for their Medicaid programs, as they know how to best tailor programs for their constituents,” Sen. Braun said. “This commonsense policy allows the Hoosier State to design programs that provide Medicaid enrollees with community engagement activities that can improve health outcomes and reduce dependence on medical assistance. Additionally, my legislation will prevent the Biden Administration from

**Braun****Young**

recklessly revoking approved state waivers and prevent them from taking power away from local and state elected leaders only to further concentrate such power with Washington bureaucrats.”

“Medicaid should ideally be available as a temporary option, with a goal of preparing individuals for a life of dignity in the workforce,” Sen. Young said. “Work and community engagement activities, such as those that Indiana previously had in place, are designed to improve quality of life over the long term and help individuals transition to full employment. CMS’s decision earlier this year to revoke Indiana’s ability to set these expectations for some Medicaid recipients treats work as a punishment and discourages efforts to transition to self-reliance. That’s why I joined my colleagues to introduce the Let States Innovate Under Medicaid Act

to allow states the opportunity to innovate under the Medicaid program, with the objective of preparing individuals for a life of independence in the workforce.”

**Background**

In February 2021, at the direction of the Biden Administration, CMS began efforts to withdraw work requirement waiver authorities in several states that had either been previously approved, or had a pending application, to implement work requirements. CMS is continuing to review some states’ work requirement waivers but has already been successful in officially withdrawing waiver authorities in nine states: Arizona, Arkansas, Indiana, Michigan, New Hampshire, Ohio, South Carolina, Utah, and Wisconsin.

Additionally, other states have voluntarily withdrawn work requirements from their waiver applications or have postponed the implementation of work requirements because of the uncertainty concerning Medicaid work and community engagement programs.

CMS based its decision to withdraw waiver authorities in the nine states on the basis that “work or community engagement requirements” do not further the objectives of the Medicaid program.

**TODAY’S BIBLE READING**

*Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.” Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain. But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. So you too should be glad and rejoice with me.*

*Philippians 2:14-18 (NIV)*

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**Donna Bussell**

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**Contact Information****Phone**

765-365-2316

**Email**[News@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:News@ReadTheReporter.com)**Publisher Jeff Jellison**[HamiltonCoNorthReporter@hotmail.com](mailto:HamiltonCoNorthReporter@hotmail.com)

317-408-5548

**Sports Editor Richie Hall**[Rhall1977@gmail.com](mailto:Rhall1977@gmail.com)

Twitter: @Richie\_Hall

**Public Notices**[PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com)

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# Hamilton County Sports



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*In double overtime...*

# Fishers boys win the Mudsock

By RICHIE HALL

**FISHERS** - What a difference a year makes.

When the Fishers and Hamilton Southeastern boys basketball teams played the 2020 Mudsock game last year, the Tigers had a new coach and were learning a new system. They had talented players, but coach Garrett Winegar called the team "completely coach-led." Fishers lost the Mudsock game last year.

This year, playing the big rivalry game at the Royals' gymnasium, the Class 4A No. 6 Tigers showed they have come a long way in the previous 12 months. With a big and very loud crowd screaming after every basket made and everything else, Fishers survived a double overtime epic with Southeastern, winning 70-68 to claim the Mudsock Trophy.

"I think that's a game last year we'd probably lose with these same guys," said Winegar. "We weren't very resilient, especially on the road. We've talked about that a lot, and I just thought tonight, no matter what happened, you could see Jeffrey Simmons and Charlie Smith and Bryce Williams and our seniors who really have a lot of experience step up and make plays throughout the game."

As most Mudsock games are, this one was close all the way through. Fishers looked to be on its way to victory late in the fourth quarter when the Royals went on a 9-0 run in the last two minutes to send the game into the first overtime. The Tigers led again late in the extra period when Southeastern's Caleb Smock hit a 3-pointer to send the game into a second OT.

The Royals led 65-64 with a minute-and-a-half left in the second overtime after Reph Stevenson made a layin. Williams got Fishers in front for good by making a three-point play with 1:27 left, putting his team ahead 67-65. The Tigers then got the points they needed during the final minute, two free throws by Simmons and one from Josh Forbes, and it was enough to win.

While the crowd was screaming, Winegar said he wanted his players to



Photos by Joshua Herd

**They worked for it: An exhausted but triumphant Fishers boys basketball team won the Mudsock game in double overtime 70-68 Friday at Hamilton Southeastern. The Tigers improved to 6-1 with the victory.**

be talking on the floor, especially his afore-mentioned seniors.

"You get into a game like that, they can't hear me on the sideline," said Winegar. "Those guys have to be talking, they have to be player-led, especially when you got Jalen (Haralson) out there, who's a freshman in those moments for the first time. Guys like Charlie, Bryce and Jeffrey out there have to talk and lead him. And I just think their growth, all three of them, has been through the roof over the last 12 months and I'm really proud of those guys."

"It's been fun," said Simmons. "We live three miles apart from each other. You grow up with these guys, you play junior high with them and they go to different schools. Just playing against them is something special. It's honestly some-

See *Tigers* . . . Page 9



Fishers' Myles Stringer made a big three-point play in the fourth quarter of the Mudsock game. The Tigers had seven three-point plays during the contest.



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Fishers' Jalen Haralson (left) guards Southeastern's Sam Jacobs. Haralson scored baskets at the beginning of both overtime periods. Jacobs scored 21 points for the Royals.

## TIGERS

from Page 8

thing I can't describe. You've got to experience it. That's what I tell people."

Fishers led 10-7 after the first quarter, with Smith and Simmons each scoring four points. The Royals came to play too, with Sam Jacobs also scoring four points, including a dunk.

Payton Weemer opened the second period with a steal and basket, pushing the Tigers ahead 12-7. Joshua Jones then hit a 3 for Southeastern, and that began a 13-3 run for the Royals that would give them a 20-15 lead. Jacobs contributed five points to the run, including a 3, and Tyler Lacy made a pair of free throws. Southeastern led 23-19 at halftime.

Simmons began to take over in the third quarter, scoring seven points early to give Fishers a 26-25 lead. All three of his baskets were putbacks - one of them became an and-1 - and he made a fourth putback late in the quarter to push the Tigers ahead 32-27.

Lacy made a layin for the final basket of the third, cutting the Fishers lead to 32-29. The fourth quarter began with another and-1, this one from Matt Brewer. His three-point play gave the Tigers a 35-29, which became their largest lead.

Simmons is headed to Miami University (Ohio) to play football, a Division I school, but Winegar believes the senior's basketball play is just as high-level.

"When Jeffrey Simmons has it going, he's as good as anybody in the state," said Winegar. "Him not being a Junior All-Star last year was the biggest snub in Junior All-Star history. He has been a dominant player at Fishers since his freshman year. He's only getting better and better. He's handling it better. He's shooting it better. He's leading better. I think when he has it going, he's as good as anybody in the state."

Simmons was proving it, making a 3-pointer in the fourth quarter to get Fishers up 40-36, this after the Royals had cut the lead to one. Jones scored five points, all from free throws, to help get his team close. A Stevenson dunk then got HSE within 40-38.



Hamilton Southeastern's Reph Stevenson (2) scored 16 points for the Royals during the Friday Mudsock game. Stevenson is guarded by Fishers' Matt Brewer, who opened the fourth quarter with a three-point play.

Simmons then made another three-point play, and Myles Stringer helped out with an and-1 of his own, rushing in for a basket after making a huge defensive rebound. Fishers now had a seven-point lead, 46-39.

"We've been encouraging Myles to do what Myles is good at, which is attack," said Winegar. The coach said they have been working on getting Stringer to finish through the backboard.

"It was like I could see our hours and hours of work together, and it just came through in the perfect moment and really happy for him," said Winegar. "He hasn't scored a ton this year because he's not selfish, and he knows that we got a lot of guys who can score, so he's been

willing to just defend and do what we ask and pass, and in that situation we needed him to score and he stepped up when we needed a big bucket."

The Tigers' lead swelled to 48-39 after Simmons made a layin. But Southeastern then blasted through a 9-0 run of its own. Deion Miles started it with a layin, Jacobs hit two foul shots, Stevenson scored his own layin, then Jacobs nailed a 3. Just like that, overtime.

Fishers got the tip for the first extra period, and Haralson quickly scored to get the Tigers in front 50-48. Lacy then hit a triple, and Southeastern led by one. The back and forth continued until the 1:23 mark, when it seemed Fishers got a little separation after Williams made a three-point play to get the Tigers up 57-54.

Miles made two free throws to cut the lead to one (again), and Simmons answered that with two free throws. But the game wasn't done yet. Smock made sure of that with his 3-pointer. The score was 59-59, and it was on to double overtime.

"There's two or three times we could have just folded and packed it in, so super proud of our kids to fight back and send it to overtime and then send it to double overtime," said Southeastern coach John Ashworth. "And again, you just can't count out the Royals. We're a tough team and we're going to continue to get better throughout the season."

The call-and-respond continued in the second OT. Haralson scored off a putback, Jacobs tied the game with free throws. Simmons scored on a floater, Smock made a pair of foul shots. Stevenson's layin would mark the first lead of the second overtime for the Royals, but Williams' three-point play would be the go-ahead basket for the Tigers.

Simmons finished the game with 29 points, followed by Smith with 13 and Williams with 12. Smith collected nine rebounds, five steals and four assists. Simmons also had eight rebounds.

Jacobs scored 21 points, with Stevenson adding 16 and Lacy scoring 10. Stevenson also had seven rebounds and three blocked shots, while Lacy dished out four

assists.

The game was also a Hoosier Crossroads Conference contest. Fishers is now 2-0 in the HCC, while the Royals are 1-1 in league play. Overall, the Tigers are 6-1 and HSE is 2-4.

Both teams will be heading up to Fort Wayne on Tuesday to play in the Carroll-Homestead Classic. At noon, Fishers plays at Homestead, while Southeastern plays at Carroll. Both teams are in action again at 6 p.m., with the Tigers taking on the Spartans and the Royals playing the Chargers.

FISHERS 70, HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN 68 (double overtime)					
Fishers	FG	FT	TP	PF	
Sean Millsaps	0-4	0-0	0	2	
Jalen Haralson	3-8	0-2	6	3	
Bryce Williams	5-11	2-4	12	3	
Charles Smith	4-5	5-8	13	3	
Jeffrey Simmons	11-16	6-8	29	3	
Myles Stringer	1-1	1-1	3	5	
Matt Brewer	1-2	2-3	4	1	
Payton Weemer	1-2	0-0	2	2	
Josh Forbes	0-3	1-2	1	2	
Aidan Zimmer	0-0	0-0	0	0	
Totals	26-52	17-28	70	24	
Fishers 3-point shooting (1-9) Simmons					
1-2, Millsaps 0-4, Forbes 0-2, Williams 0-1.					
Fishers rebounds (31) Smith 9, Simmons 8,					
Williams 4, Haralson 3, Forbes 1, Stringer					
1, team 5.					
Southeastern	FG	FT	TP	PF	
Donovan Hamilton	0-3	0-0	0	5	
Reph Stevenson	5-8	6-8	16	4	
Caleb Smock	1-6	3-4	6	4	
Deion Miles	2-5	2-2	6	0	
Sam Jacobs	7-13	5-6	21	1	
Tyler Lacy	3-4	3-3	10	3	
Joshua Jones	1-1	6-8	9	5	
Michael Griffith	0-0	0-0	0	0	
Eli Robinson	0-0	0-0	0	1	
Alex Troutman	0-0	0-0	0	2	
Totals	19-40	25-31	68	25	
Southeastern 3-point shooting (5-14) Ja-					
cobs 2-4, Smock 1-4, Lacy 1-2, Jones 1-1,					
Hamilton 0-3.					
Southeastern rebounds (25) Stevenson					
7, Jacobs 4, Smock 3, Jones 3, Lacy 2,					
Griffith 2, Hamilton 1, Miles 1, Robinson 1,					
team 1.					
Score by Quarters					
Fishers	10	9	13	16	11 - 70
Southeastern	7	16	6	19	11 - 68



Garrett Winegar won his first Mudsock game as the Fishers coach.



# 'Hounds hold off North Central

Carmel picked up its third consecutive win on Friday, holding off North Central 45-41 at the Eric Clark Activity Center.

The Class 4A No. 5 Greyhounds led 13-7 after the first quarter and 23-16 at halftime. The Panthers cut slightly into Carmel's lead during the second half, but the 'Hounds held on for the win.

Sam Orme scored 20 points, including three 3-pointers, and also led the rebounds with eight. Peter Suder added 12 points, pulled seven rebounds and dished out four assists. Josh Whack went 7-of-8 from the free-throw line and Charlie Williams made two blocked shots.

Carmel is 5-2 and hosts New Albany tonight.

CARMEL 45, NORTH CENTRAL 41				
Carmel	FG	FT	TP	PF
Josh Whack	0-3	7-8	7	0
Peter Suder	4-6	3-4	12	2
Sam Orme	8-10	1-2	20	1
Burke Weldy	0-2	0-0	0	2
Charlie Williams	3-5	0-1	6	3
Jared Bonds	0-1	0-0	0	1
Spencer White	0-1	0-0	0	0
Josh Rauh	0-0	0-0	0	0
Jake Griffin	0-0	0-0	0	0
Totals	15-28	11-15	45	9
Score by Quarters				
North Central	7	9	13	12 - 41
Carmel	13	10	11	11 - 45
Carmel 3-point shooting (4-12) Orme 3-4, Suder 1-3, Whack 0-2, Weldy 0-2, White 0-1.				
Carmel rebounds (20) Orme 8, Suder 7, Williams 4, Weldy 1.				

# Huskies fall to Western

Hamilton Heights dropped a Hoosier Conference East Division game Friday at Western, 60-46.

The Panthers led 18-13 after the first quarter and 29-20 at halftime. Isaac Tuma had two 3-pointers for the Huskies during the first half. Western extended its lead to 47-32 after three periods.

Tillman Etchison led Heights with 13 points, while Tuma scored 11. Luke Carroll added 10 points, and also had six rebounds and two blocked shots.

The Huskies are 1-1 in division play and 2-4 overall. Heights' game with Noblesville that was scheduled for tonight was postponed, so the Huskies will next play Wednesday at the Franklin County Tournament. Heights plays Triton Central in a noon game, following the first game between Seton Catholic and Franklin County. The third-place game is set for 6 p.m., with the championship game to follow.

WESTERN 60, HAMILTON HEIGHTS 46				
Heights	FG	FT	TP	PF
Luke Carroll	4-12	1-2	10	4
Isaac Tuma	3-7	3-8	11	1
Maddox Bohland	0-3	0-0	0	1
Braden Kinder	3-8	2-2	9	0
Tillman Etchison	4-9	3-4	13	2
Collin Gilmore	0-0	0-0	0	0
Cooper Vondersaar	0-0	0-0	0	0
Tanner Maynard	0-0	0-0	0	0
Colin Kuhn	0-0	0-0	0	0
Braylon Collins	0-0	0-0	0	0
Evan Williamson	1-2	0-0	3	0
Totals	15-41	9-16	46	8
Score by Quarters				
Heights	13	7	12	14 - 46
Western	18	11	18	13 - 60
Heights 3-point shooting (7-18) Etchison 2-5, Tuma 2-4, Carroll 1-4, Kinder 1-2, Williamson 1-1, Bohland 0-2.				
Heights rebounds (15) Carroll 6, Tuma 3, Kinder 2, Vondersaar 1, Bohland 1, Gilmore 1, Etchison 1.				



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

Sheridan's Cole Watts collects a rebound during the Blackhawks' game with Eastern on Friday.



Reporter photo by Kirk Green

Guerin Catholic's Aden Cannon makes a dunk during the Golden Eagles' Friday game with Heritage Christian at the Eagles Nest.

# Golden Eagles drop conference game to Heritage Christian

Guerin Catholic dropped a back-and-forth Circle City Conference game to Heritage Christian 56-52 Friday at the Eagles Nest.

The game was tied at 16-16 after the first quarter. The Golden Eagles blasted off to start the second period, going on a 13-2 run to lead 29-18. Heritage came back to within 29-25 by halftime. The third quarter finished with Guerin Catholic ahead 37-33, but Heritage Christian poured in 23 points in the fourth period to get the win.

Will Grissom reached double-double status for the Golden Eagles, with 25 points and 11 rebounds. Aden Cannon scored 12 points. Robert Sorensen had five rebounds and Jack Cherry dished out seven assists.

Guerin Catholic is 3-3 and plays Tuesday at Lapel.

HERITAGE CHRISTIAN 56, GUERIN CATHOLIC 52				
Guerin Catholic	FG	FT	TP	PF
Jack Cherry	2-3	0-0	5	1
Robert Sorensen	2-8	0-0	4	2
Matthew Etchison	0-2	0-0	0	4
Will Grissom	11-17	1-5	25	3
Aden Cannon	5-8	2-5	12	2
Kamea Chandler	3-4	0-0	6	2
Lucas Parker	0-2	0-0	0	1
Totals	23-44	3-10	52	15
Score by Quarters				
Heritage	16	9	8	23 - 56
Guerin Catholic	16	13	8	15 - 52
Guerin Catholic 3-point shooting (3-13) Grissom 2-5, Cherry 1-1, Sorensen 0-3, Parker 0-2, Etchison 0-1, Chandler 0-1.				
Guerin Catholic rebounds (29) Grissom 11, Sorensen 5, Cannon 4, Cherry 3, Etchison 1, Parker 1, team 4.				

# Comets pull away from 'Hawks

Sheridan fell at Eastern 70-37 Friday in an away Hoosier Heartland Conference game.

The Comets led 23-9 after the first quarter and 47-26 at halftime. Ethan Moistner threw in three 3-pointers for the Blackhawks, finishing the second period with 11 points. Eastern poured in 21 points in the third quarter for a 68-32 advantage.

Moistner finished the game with 20 points, including four 3-pointers. Carson Huffman scored eight points.

The 'Hawks are 1-5 and play tonight at Frankfort.

EASTERN 70, SHERIDAN 37				
Sheridan	FG	FT	TP	PF
Caleb Wright	0	2-2	2	2
Evan Grinstead	0	0-0	0	1
Tyler Garner	1	0-0	3	0
Cole Watts	2	0-0	4	3
David Will	0	0-0	0	0
Ethan Moistner	4	8-10	20	0
Carson Huffman	4	0-0	8	2
Nathan Hinshaw	0	0-0	0	1
Carsen Aleman	0	0-0	0	1
Evan Krupp	0	0-0	0	0
Brant Barker	0	0-0	0	0
Totals	11	10-12	37	10
Score by Quarters				
Sheridan	9	17	6	5 - 37
Eastern	23	24	21	2 - 70
Sheridan 3-pointers (5) Moistner 4, Garner 1.				

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# University boys drop road game to Brebeuf

The University boys went on the road Friday night and lost a 78-49 contest to Class 3A No. 4 Brebeuf Jesuit.

University fell behind 11-0 in the first two minutes of the contest before settling in to the game. The Braves led 22-12 after the first quarter.

The Blazers looked to climb back in the game early in the second quarter when three pointers from Robert Russell and Andre Ozlowski pulled University within 24-18. Brebeuf went on an 8-2 run in response and led by double digits the rest of the way.

University had no answer for Brebeuf's 6-7 senior Billy Smith. The Miami University recruit finished with 29 points, including 20 in the first half.

Nate Jeffrey led the Trailblazers with 16 points, while Ozlowski finished with 15.

The win improved Brebeuf's record to 5-1 while University fell to 4-2.

University plays tonight at Traders Point Christian Academy.

## BREBEUF JESUIT 78, UNIVERSITY 49

University	FG	FT	TP	PF
Nate Jeffrey	7	0-0	16	1
Robert Russell	1	3-4	6	4
Andre Ozlowski	6	1-2	15	1
Larry Pierce	2	2-5	6	1
Seth Hogg	0	0-0	0	3
Kahmi Bracey	0	0-0	0	1
Steven Scott	2	0-0	4	1
Bryce Gray	0	0-0	0	1
Jackson Bledsoe	0	2-2	2	0
Totals	18	8-13	49	13
Score by Quarters				
University	12	15	12	10 - 49
Brebeuf Jesuit	22	22	15	19 - 78
University 3-pointers (5) Jeffrey 2, Ozlowski 2, Russell 1.				

# Panthers get comeback win on 'Hounds

The Carmel girls found themselves on a wrong end of a comeback Friday night, as the Greyhounds fell at North Central 47-40.

Carmel led 13-9 after the first quarter and 22-15 at halftime. Mackenzie Thomas had her usual strong game, scoring eight points in the half. But the Panthers began their run in the third quarter, cutting the Greyhounds' lead to 30-29 by the end of the period. North Central then scored 18 points in the fourth to finish the second-half comeback.

Thomas scored 14 points and led the rebounds with six. Emily Roper pulled five rebounds.

Carmel is 5-6 and hosts Portage this afternoon.

## NORTH CENTRAL 47, CARMEL 40

Carmel	FG	FT	TP	PF
Mackenzie Woods	0-4	0-0	0	4
Laura Valiente	1-3	0-0	3	1
Jamie Elliott	1-1	0-0	3	0
Hannah Lach	1-1	0-0	3	0
Mackenzie Thomas	4-7	6-6	14	2
Kate Clarke	2-4	0-0	4	0
Sophie Shepherd	3-6	0-0	7	1
Emily Roper	2-5	2-4	6	4
Totals	14-31	8-10	40	12
Score by Quarters				
Carmel	13	9	8	10 - 40
North Central	9	6	14	18 - 47
Carmel 3-point shooting (4-8) Shepherd 1-1, Valiente 1-1, Elliott 1-1, Lach 1-1, Woods 0-2, Clarke 0-2.				
Carmel rebounds (19) Thomas 6, Roper 5, Woods 4, Shepherd 2, Valiente 1, Elliott 1.				

# Golden Eagles fall to Tipton

Guerin Catholic kept it close at Tipton Thursday night before the Blue Devils pulled away in the fourth quarter and beat the Golden Eagles 55-39.

The game was tied at 12-12 after the first quarter. Guerin Catholic's Kathryn Loso was outstanding in that period, scoring 10 points. Tipton inched ahead 27-24 at halftime and led 36-32 after three quarters; Katie Koger had five points in the third. The Blue Devils then poured in 19 points in the fourth quarter to get the win.

Loso finished the game with 16 points, while Mia Thompson scored nine points.

The Golden Eagles are 7-6 and host Greenwood this afternoon.

## TIPTON 55, GUERIN CATHOLIC 39

Guerin Catholic	FG	FT	TP	PF
Natalie Fernandez	1-3	1-1	3	3
Hannah Weitzel	0-4	0-0	0	4
Katie Koger	2-9	2-4	7	3
Kathryn Loso	7-11	2-4	16	3
Megan Cobb	0-1	0-0	0	0
Halley Buehler	1-3	2-2	4	1
Mia Thompson	4-5	0-0	9	4
Caitlyn Sharpe	0-1	0-0	0	0
Ava Bills	0-2	0-0	0	2
Totals	15-39	7-11	39	20
Score by Quarters				
Guerin Catholic	12	12	8	7 - 39
Tipton	12	15	9	19 - 55
Guerin Catholic 3-point shooting (2-12) Koger 1-3, Thompson 1-1, Weitzel 0-4, Fernandez 0-1, Cobb 0-1, Buehler 0-1, Bills 0-1.				

## Girls basketball



Photo by Si DeVaney III

Sheridan's Taylor Bates drives for a basket during the Blackhawks' girls basketball game at Eastern on Friday. Sheridan won 52-31 for its seventh straight victory.

# 'Hawks cruise to seventh straight win

The Sheridan girls basketball team cruised to its seven consecutive win on Friday, beating Eastern 52-31 in an away Hoosier Heartland Conference game.

The Blackhawks led 13-2 after one quarter, with Cecilia Timme scoring six points during that period. Sheridan led 22-10 at halftime; Taylor Bates helped out by going 5-of-5 from the free-throw line in the second quarter.

In the third period, it was Ashley Webel's turn to step up. Webel threw in three 3-pointers, totaling 11 points in the quarter, which finished with the 'Hawks leading 44-22.

Bates finished the game with 15 points, with Webel scoring 14. Timme reached double-double status with 11 assists to go with her 10 points, and also had nine steals and nine rebounds. Jacquelynne Bates collected seven rebounds, while Chaney Smith made four steals.

Sheridan is 4-1 in HHC play and 8-2

overall. The 'Hawks play Monday at Frankton.

## SHERIDAN 52, EASTERN 31

Sheridan	FG	FT	TP	PF
Ashley Webel	5-13	0-1	14	0
Cecilia Timme	4-9	2-3	10	3
Chaney Smith	2-9	1-2	5	1
Jacquelynne Bates	4-8	0-0	8	1
Taylor Bates	5-10	5-5	15	1
Lilly Chesney	0-1	0-0	0	1
Nova Cross	0-0	0-0	0	0
Shelby Shaw	0-0	0-0	0	1
Claudia Headlee	0-0	0-0	0	1
Mac Smith	0-0	0-0	0	0
Makaley Terry	0-1	0-0	0	0
Kennedy Zachary	0-0	0-0	0	0
Totals	20-51	8-11	52	9
Score by Quarters				
Eastern	2	8	12	9 - 31
Sheridan	13	9	22	8 - 52
Sheridan 3-point shooting (4-9) Webel 4-9, Sheridan rebounds (31) Timme 9, J. Bates 7, T. Bates 4, Webel 2, Cross 2, Shaw 2, M. Smith 2, C. Smith 2, Zachary 1.				

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# NBA standings

Friday's games	
Miami 115, Orlando 105	Minnesota 110, L.A. Lakers 92
Denver 133, Atlanta 115	Portland 125, Charlotte 116
Golden State 111, Boston 107	Memphis 124, Sacramento 105
New Orleans 116, Milwaukee 112	
San Antonio 128, Utah 126	

Eastern Conference					Western Conference				
Atlantic					Northwest				
Brooklyn	W	L	PCT.	GB	Utah	W	L	PCT.	GB
Philadelphia	21	8	.724	-	Denver	20	8	.714	-
Boston	15	15	.500	6.5	Minnesota	15	14	.517	5.5
Toronto	14	15	.483	7.0	Portland	14	15	.483	6.5
New York	13	15	.464	7.5	Oklahoma City	12	18	.400	9.0
Central	W	L	PCT.	GB	Pacific	W	L	PCT.	GB
Chicago	17	10	.630	-	Golden State	8	19	.296	11.5
Milwaukee	19	12	.613	-	Phoenix	24	5	.828	-
Cleveland	18	12	.600	0.5	L.A. Clippers	23	5	.821	0.5
Indiana	13	18	.419	6.0	L.A. Lakers	16	13	.552	8.0
Detroit	4	23	.148	13.0	Sacramento	16	14	.533	8.5
Southeast	W	L	PCT.	GB	Southwest	W	L	PCT.	GB
Miami	18	12	.600	-	Memphis	12	18	.400	12.5
Charlotte	16	15	.516	2.5	Dallas	19	11	.633	-
Washington	15	15	.500	3.0	Dallas	14	14	.500	4.0
Atlanta	14	15	.483	3.5	San Antonio	11	17	.393	7.0
Orlando	5	25	.167	13.0	New Orleans	10	21	.323	9.5
					Houston	9	20	.310	9.5



Hamilton Heights senior Faith Hittle has signed a letter of intent to play softball for the Manchester University Spartans in North Manchester, Indiana this fall. Hittle (seated) is pictured with her parents, Joshua and Billie Hittle.

## Heights' Faith Hittle signs to play softball at Manchester University

Faith Hittle, Hamilton Heights senior, has signed a letter of intent to play softball for Manchester University in North Manchester, Indiana this fall. Manchester University is a member of the Heartland Conference and a NCAA Division III athletic institution. She is the daughter of Billie and Joshua Hittle.

Hittle chose Manchester because it was exactly what she was looking for in terms of the next step of her educational journey. Manchester's smaller size, Pre-Med program's high acceptance rate, and welcoming feel to the community along with the opportunity to play softball at the college level factored into her decision. "I want to take the Pre-Med path and major in Biology and minor in Spanish with the ultimate goal of becoming a Pediatric Orthopedic Surgeon," said Hittle.

Softball has been a part of Hittle's

life as far back as she can remember. Her mom played softball and Hittle was a natural who also played travel ball and took battling and agility lessons to help her be a stronger player on the field. As she likes to put it, "it's in her blood." She credits her parents as being a major influence in her development by pushing her to be her best self on and off the field.

Hittle is an accomplished student athlete. A four-year member of the Hamilton Heights Cheerleading squad and Girls Softball Team, she earned The Golden Rule, Sportsmanship, and multiple department's awards. She is among Hamilton Heights' Top 10% and involved in FFA, Business Professionals of America (BPA), National Honor Society, and the Spanish, Key, and Bring Change to Mind clubs. In addition, she is this year's Senior Class Secretary and FFA Secretary.

"My next steps will require a great deal of study, focus, and discipline," added Hittle. "But I have good preparation with a great support system that consists of my school, friends, and family which will help reach my next set of goals."

"Faith is a testimony to perseverance," said Ken Olovich, Hamilton Heights Girls Softball Head Coach. "She has battled injuries during her softball career but has put in the work to get herself back to her top form and ready to help co-lead our softball team this year with a good core group of seniors. Faith has led every team she has ever played on getting hit by the pitch, and she just takes it in stride and runs to first base and often steals second somewhere during the next batter. It takes a lot to get Faith down, she just keeps pushing and pushing and that is what we look for with players in our program. In

addition to softball, Faith participates in many extracurricular activities including cheerleading, BPA, FFA, travel softball, honor society, and to top it off is an incredibly strong student. Faith serves as a notable example to our underclassmen of what we want from our Huskies Softball players, and we all wish her success at a great school like Manchester."

"Faith has been one of those Hamilton Heights athletes who has received excellent coaching since she was very young," said Kurt Ogden, Hamilton Heights High School Athletic Director. "Therefore, she is a very fundamentally sound player, but more importantly, she's an outstanding person who leads by example. She has been passionate about the sport since she was very young. We wish her well as she takes her talents to Manchester University."

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