

SUNDAY, DEC. 19, 2021

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



## TODAY'S WEATHER



Today: Partly sunny.  
Tonight: Mostly clear.

HIGH: 38 LOW: 25



# Westfield opens Grand Junction Plaza with dedication ceremony

## The REPORTER

The City of Westfield announced on Friday the opening of the highly anticipated Grand Junction Plaza. A dedication ceremony was held to mark the opening of the plaza and to recognize the many city officials and community volunteers who were instrumental in its development.

The Grand Junction Task Group, comprised of volunteer Westfield citizens, was responsible for the conceptual vision for the unique six-acre park and the cutting-edge design was completed by renowned landscape architecture firm, David Rubin Land Collective. Features of the plaza include public greenspace, trails, children's play area, an amphitheater and an ice-skating rink.

"The future is bright for downtown Westfield," said Mayor Andy Cook. "With the opening of Grand Junction Plaza, our



Photo provided by City of Westfield

city now has a center, a heart, where people can connect."

The project, in development for more than 10 years, has already been a catalyst for economic growth in the city's downtown. New and future developments attributed to the city's investment in Grand Junction Plaza include the Park

West luxury townhomes by Estridge and Union Square, a mixed-use development by Old Town Companies.

While the park is now open to the public, additional elements of the project will open in stages. Visitors will be able to enjoy ice skating next winter and over the next several years

the stage will evolve into a covered bandshell amphitheater.

A public opening celebration will take place in early 2022 with other events to follow throughout the year.

For more information about the Grand Junction Plaza and future events, please visit [grandjunctionplaza.org](http://grandjunctionplaza.org).

# Finding joy & hope in a weary world

"A thrill of Hope, the weary world rejoices."

Oh, how weary the world is today. How weary I am. It's been a hard year.

As I write this column it is the one-year anniversary of my mother's passing. I woke up with my heart hurting. My heart just knew.

And yet ... I refuse to allow the world to dampen my spirits or my hopes. I refuse to allow grief to grab hold of my heart and strangle the joy that is possible ... even in the midst of my grief.

A few days ago, I walked down the main aisle of Meijer. I stopped and glanced at the top shelf that held all kinds of Christmas candy. There they were, stacked ever so neatly in a row. Boxes of chocolate-covered cherries with a sign telling me they were "on sale." Two for four dollars. I was reminded of all those years when a box was tucked under our tree. "To Bug, Love Dad" – who knew love could cost so little?



From the Hart

See Joy & Hope ... Page 2

# Heirbrandt family celebrates National Twins (& triplets) Day



Photo provided

Dec. 18, National Twins Day, is a big deal in the Heirbrandt household. In addition to Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt being an identical twin, he has twins of his own, and his twin brother has triplets. "It's so fun to get all of us together!" Mark said. "People are always so surprised to hear that our family has two sets of twins, and a set of triplets ... all that happened naturally."

# Sheridan Library invites you to 'Read for a Better World'

## The REPORTER

"Read for a Better World" with the Sheridan Public Library's (SPL) Adult Winter Reading Program.

The program will run from Jan. 1 to Feb. 28. Once again, this program will be online. Register now at [sheridan.beanstack.org](http://sheridan.beanstack.org), or on the Beanstack app. Patrons who have participated in a recent program (Hallo-Read or Grateful Read) have already created an account and will only need to register.

For those that are new to Beanstack, simply begin by creating an account. Visit the front desk for help or with questions regarding the online program.

Participants will need to read eight books to complete this challenge. Weekly gift card drawings will be held for those that have logged for the week. A grand prize will be awarded at the end of the program.

SPL thanks Friends of the Sheridan Public Library and Texas Roadhouse for sponsoring the prizes for this year's program. For more information, go to [sheridan.lib.in.us](http://sheridan.lib.in.us).

# Public votes Carmel Christkindlmarkt No. 1 holiday market

## The REPORTER

The Carmel Christkindlmarkt has been voted Best Holiday Market in the United States for the second time from the *USA Today* 10Best competition.

The candidates were selected by a panel of experts and 10Best editors, and then the public voted for their favorites. The Carmel Christkindlmarkt also received the first-place spot in 2019.

"I am proud of all the people who work so hard to organize and operate our Christkindlmarkt," Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard said. "These rankings are important because it helps Carmel continue to be recognized as an exceptional city across the U.S., which in turn helps our economic development and recruitment efforts."

See Christkindlmarkt ... Page 2



Reporter photos by Denise Moe

(Left) Major John Lowes, President of the HCSO Community Foundation, speaks at the 4:30 Meetup. (Right) Pastor Rashad Cunningham of Mercy Road closes out the HCSO Community Foundation's presentation at the 4:30 Meetup.

# Synergize closes out 2021 with joyful impact

## The REPORTER

On Dec. 14, members of Synergize gathered for the group's last 4:30 Meetup of 2021. The event supported the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) Community Foundation, specifically the Shop with Kids program. Through Shop with Kids,

deputies get to fulfill children's Christmas lists and hand-deliver toys, clothes, and school supplies to their homes.

The HCSO Community Foundation creates opportunities for the Sheriff's Office and the community to support each other. They facilitate a

Shop with Kids program every Christmas and at the beginning of each school year. The deputies at the Sheriff's Office also volunteer throughout the year and plan a handful of other events through the foundation.

"At the Sheriff's Office, we're blessed with an oppor-

tunity to serve and we need to take advantage of those opportunities," said Major John Lowes, Chief Deputy at the Sheriff's Office and president of the HCSO Community Foundation, at the event. "I enjoy talking

See Synergize ... Page 2

# Grace Church in Noblesville offers sensory-friendly Christmas Eve service

## The REPORTER

Grace Church, 5504 E. 146th St., Noblesville, will hold a sensory-friendly Christmas Eve worship service at 3 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 24. This service will be geared specifically to guests who have sensory concerns.

Laura Mitchell, director of Grace's disability ministry, says she looks forward to a welcoming, inclusive Christmas Eve worship service.

"Our sensory-friendly Christmas Eve service will be a great opportunity for

guests to come out and be in community together," Mitchell said. "LIFT (Loving Individuals and Families Together) is a holistic ministry for kids, students, and adults that supports not only those who have a disability, but also their friends, families, and caregivers.

At the service, guests can expect a variety of intentional features, including dedicated parking close to entrances, a 50- to 60-minute contemporary worship service, ASL broadcast on video screens in the auditorium, a fidget/wiggle area in

the church lobby, subdued lighting and sound levels, and volunteers available to assist caregivers and guardians.

Grace's relaxed Christmas Eve service hopes to appeal to community members who rely on unique accommodations to feel welcomed in a worship setting. According to Mitchell, "the LIFT ministry at Grace Church exists to help heal an individual's sense of isolation and focuses on creating an atmosphere of community and belonging."

Learn more about Grace Church's

sensory-friendly Christmas Eve service at [gracechurch.us/liftchristmas](http://gracechurch.us/liftchristmas).

## About Grace Church

Grace Church is a non-denominational Christian church based in Noblesville and led by Pastor Barry Rodriguez. Founded in Westfield in 1991, and now located at 5504 E. 146th St., Noblesville, Grace Church exists to make disciples of Jesus and launch them into their God-given destinies. More information about Grace Church in Noblesville can be found at [gracechurch.us](http://gracechurch.us).





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





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## JOY & HOPE

I believed the gift that my dad began giving me, ever so many years ago, would no longer be given after he passed. I was wrong. My mother continued the tradition. Last year, after my mother's death, my daughter, Emily, tucked a box under the Christmas tree. How could such a small gesture mean so much?

It's not about the candy (which is liked by very few people in our family). It's about the love that it represents. It is simply given from the heart, and if we are lucky – no, make that if we are blessed – then we will continue to receive the love, long after the one giving it is no longer with us. How? Because we remember the love.

Love is wrapped in the memories, to be revisited, until we draw our last breath. That, my friends, is what the spirit of Christmas is all about.

*Love never fails.* It just keeps on giving. So many times, my mother reminded me of that scripture in I Corinthians 13.

God sent His son, Je-

sus, to save the world. Save us, not only from our sins, but from grief and sadness. Jesus was the Savior who would change the world. He will change us ... if we allow Him.

Jesus didn't come as expected. He came as a baby, born of a virgin, in a stable. A baby, wrapped in swaddling clothes, God's gift to the world. In this world, He told us, there will be sorrow and pain and troubles. Yet, we will not bear the hurt alone. He will be ever with us ... because of Jesus.

I can still sing "Joy to the World" even when my heart is breaking. I can see the finality of death, or I can see the hope of heaven. It's my choice. I choose to see the hope of heaven.

This Christmas, my voice and my heart are singing loudly about the thrill of hope. My mother taught me about that hope for 65 years.

I cherish the memories of Christmas at the little Nazarene Church on the corner of 10th and Grant streets. The children's program would be on the Sunday before Christmas. I was

maybe four years old when I recited, in front of the congregation, my first piece that I had memorized.

I still remember: "I'm the littlest one in my family, but I can do my part. I want to live for Jesus and have Him come into my heart."

I am the oldest member of my family (except for my husband) and I still can say those words with conviction.

You see, there is joy in my world, even in the midst of its bleakness and sorrow.

For unto us a baby was born in Bethlehem. There is still joyous good news. We can still hear the words "Fear not," for there is peace and goodwill to all men ... and women. We just have to keep seeking.

I'm turning up the volume on the radio and I'm singing. "A thrill of hope, this weary soul rejoices."

I wish you all a Blessed and Merry Christmas! May you feel the hope and the joy in your memories. And maybe, just maybe, a few of you will find a box of chocolate-covered cherries under the tree.

## SYERGIZE

about the Foundation, but at the end of the day, it's all about helping the less fortunate in our community."

Synergize's monthly 4:30 Meetups raise awareness, support, and funds for local nonprofit organizations. Over the past two years, the unconventional group has raised over \$125,000 for local causes. Outside of the 4:30 Meetups, Synergize builds deep relationships between its

members through intentional connections and smaller meetups and groups.

"It's our belief that people should build friendships before building business," said Heather Hunter, Synergize's Director of Marketing. "Synergize was created to take the way people typically build a network – very transactional, very service-based – and turn it into something genuine that changes our members' lives

and the world around us."

As the group gears up for 2022, its future looks bright. On Jan. 25, Synergize is throwing a brand-new dinner event called "Relationships Reimagined: 3.0." The night will kick off its third year in business and celebrate Synergize's impactful journey into the new year. For anyone interested in getting involved, tickets are available on Eventbrite or at [synergizeindy.com](https://synergizeindy.com).

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## CHRISTKINDLMARKT

Maria Murphy, market master and CEO of the Carmel Christkindlmarkt, said the market is honored to have earned this title against so much fierce competition.

"Every year, we do all we can to bring the true, authentic holiday magic of a German market to central Indiana," Murphy said. "We are delighted that the public sees our efforts and loves the market as much as all of our staff, volunteers and vendors do."

Voting took place throughout late November and December, and participants could vote every day for their favorite market.

The Carmel Christkindlmarkt is open



Murphy


### '10Best' Christkindlmarkt in the United States

1. Carmel Christkindlmarkt
2. Bethlehem Christkindlmarkt – Bethlehem, Pa.
3. Christkindlmarkt Chicago – Chicago, Ill.
4. Old World Christmas Market – Elkhart Lake, Wis.
5. Denver Christkindl Markt – Denver, Colo.
6. Tomball German Fest – Tomball, Texas
7. Georgetown Christmas Market – Georgetown, Colo.
8. Nutcracker Market – Houston, Texas
9. European Christmas Market – St. Paul, Minn.
10. Downtown Holiday Market – Washington, D.C.

through Christmas Eve, and will close for the season on Christmas Day. Market hours are noon to 9 p.m. today, 4 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, and noon to 9 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

from Page 1

**Need more local news? Click here!**



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Victims of Crime and Abuse  
[prevailinc.org](https://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
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**Drop off items at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, 14701 Tom Wood Way.**



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# TEST DRIVE TODAY



# Nickel Plate Arts named Regional Arts Partner for Indiana Arts Commission

## The REPORTER

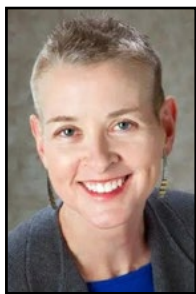
**Nickel Plate Arts** has been named the new Regional Arts Partner for the **Indiana Arts Commission** (IAC), specifically for Region 7, which includes Boone, Hamilton, Hendricks, Marion, Hancock, Johnson, and Shelby counties.

Regional Arts Partners work alongside the Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) to promote and expand participation in the arts in Indiana. The partners provide broad local access to arts services and funding opportunities and provides service that include, but are not limited to, grantmaking, information, and referral.

"We look forward to serving the Central Indiana Arts Community through this Regional Arts Partnership and building even greater connections among arts organizations, artists, and the Indiana Arts Commission," said Ailithir McGill, Executive Director of Nickel Plate Arts.



McGill



Michaelsen

This new assignment is in response to Nickel Plate Arts' continued leadership in cultivating the arts community in Hamilton County and nurturing relationships with artists from throughout Central Indiana. McGill also serves on the board of **Arts Midwest**, which connects artists to even more resources through a nine-state region.

The Indiana Arts Commission, which had previously managed Region 7 granting activities internally, is eager to grow the arts in Central Indiana, so they reached out for additional help in coordinat-



Photo provided

**This new assignment is in response to Nickel Plate Arts' continued leadership in cultivating the Hamilton County arts community and nurturing relationships with artists from throughout Central Indiana.**

ing and communicating with the arts-related organizations in this region.

"We are thrilled to welcome Nickel Plate Arts as the new Regional Arts Partner for Region 7," said Miah Michaelsen, Indiana Arts Commission Executive Director. "The role of the regional partners is to work alongside the Indiana Arts Commission to promote and expand participation in the arts in Indiana. The Nickel Plate Arts team has a proven track record of forging connections and fostering community growth and we are looking forward to partnering with them to grow local access to arts services and funding opportunities for the Cen-

tral Indiana Region."

"As we look ahead to the future, it's clear that collaboration will be ever more important for nonprofits and for arts-related projects and we are eager to help champion connections that result in world-class public art, programs, and resources that will continue to elevate Indiana's arts reputation," McGill said.

The IAC will release information about regional grant opportunities this week. People interested in finding out more about these grants, the Regional Arts Partner program, or getting more involved with Nickel Plate Arts can email [grants@nickelplatearts.org](mailto:grants@nickelplatearts.org).

# Community support matters for Sheridan's youth athletes

*Editor's Note: The Sheridan Student Column is brought to readers by Sheridan High School's 10th grade English class, taught by Abby Williams.*

As a Sheridan athlete, I am surrounded by great

people and coaches. We've had rough patches around all sports as a school. Although, as the school grows I also feel like the talent in sports will grow as well. We already have middle schoolers who I believe are capable of even playing in junior varsity and maybe even beyond that!

The community plays a huge role in how we all play. I'm happy to have everyone around us supporting us even when we have terrible games or terrible seasons.

As a basketball team, we visited the museum on Main Street, the Sheridan Historical Society, for the second year in a row. It taught us a lot about what Sheridan sports used to be like. We used to be a powerhouse and beat schools like Westfield, Carmel, Noblesville, and much more. As a team, this year it is our goal to not only have a winning season but to also win a sectional. The team, the school, and the community all want it. We need it! We have high expectations, but our team is very young, so we will be patient as we learn and grow as a team. It's a work in progress, but I think Sheridan can become a powerhouse like it once was.

Fall sports were a success and there's no doubt we are going to keep succeeding. Even with our star quarterback out this year, the football team still played well. The school supports us tremendously. The student sections are improving and they are making a comeback from the unusual times of last year during COVID. Last year and even this year, quarantines and positive cases are affecting our sports. The teams are still adjusting to quarantines and such, but we all need to be ready to step up.

The women's basketball team is also very young. I can already see – and I'm

sure many other people can as well – that they will be very successful. The new freshman class is filled with athletes, and it goes to show the years to come of new athletes.

The goals of the basketball teams are to win a Sectional Championship but also to learn. Last year it was rough, and we were one of the last high school teams in Indiana to start our season. On Dec. 4, 2020, the entire boys' team was quarantined for a positive case. It messed with our flow, but we recovered and we ended up having a decent rest of the season.

We've had a rough start to the season so far, but we are just starting. We all have to adapt to a new coaching style from last year. Coach Flemmer is a great new coach and we all get along. We have practices every day after school. Sadly, we don't always get to practice at the high school. Since the season has started, the majority of our practices have been at the elementary. Coach is starting to call it our home court. Luckily, we have been practicing at the high school a lot more often.

We have morning weights every so often to get better and improve. Our team is not nearly as tall as our rivals, so muscle has to make up for it. Coach Yoder does a great job focusing our workouts on basketball-related training.

Now I feel like I need to grow my muscle mass more than ever, so I have gotten a membership at a local gym most might have heard of, Dog Tag. It is a very nice gym with a very nice owner. I try to work out four to six days a week but that can't always happen. Games interfere with that as well as my job. I know working during the season is not ideal, as I'm aware. I hear it all the time, Mom! Although, what is wrong with meeting new people as well as making some money on the off time?

I have a very busy few months ahead of me, but I'm prepared. And from the team, we're prepared to win!



BRANT BARKER  
Sheridan High School Student

## Feeling blue? Don't ignore symptoms this winter

Winter is coming. Are you experiencing any of these symptoms?

- Loss of interest in activities you usually enjoy
- Loss of energy; easily tired or agitated
- Difficulty sleeping
- Change in weight or appetite
- Difficulty staying focused

It's true, there's less sun this time of year – which is why many of us experience some or all the above symptoms during these months. We know that more sun will return as the days grow longer and warmer in the spring, and we will likely start to feel better when that time comes. But brushing these symptoms off as merely temporary and not actively treating them can result in more prolonged mental health issues down the road.

Feeling sad or blue usually starting in the late fall/early winter might be the "winter blues," but could also be Seasonal Affective



DR. CARA HANNEMANN

Disorder (SAD). Symptoms typical of SAD include sleeping too much, tiredness and low energy, weight gain, and increased appetite – including cravings for foods high in carbohydrates. Seasonal depression can happen in the spring, but it is more common when the days become shorter and colder. We're inside more (away from sun and exercise), and we're interacting less (away from many of the people and social activities we love). The lack of light can have effects on you that you might not even realize.

And let's not forget we're still in a pandemic, which adds another heavy layer of circumstances that can contribute to anxiety and depression. Mixing in the "winter blues" with all the changes COVID-19 has ushered in can have serious detrimental effects on your physical and mental health if left unaddressed.

Don't ignore seasonal

depression. Get out, get active and be intentional about enjoying life this winter. Pay attention to your mood. Treatment can help prevent complications, especially if SAD is diagnosed and treated early. If you need an extra boost, here are some additional recommendations to help address your seasonal symptoms:

- **Phototherapy** (i.e., "light therapy"). When natural sunlight isn't in abundance, you can purchase a light therapy lamp. Use it at your desk at work or at home. It's an easy way for your body to get the "daylight" it needs.

- **Vitamin D.** Many of us are lacking Vitamin D, especially in the winter when the sun is out less. Sun is an excellent source of this nutrient, but when we can't be out in the sun, Vitamin D supplements and foods like salmon, mushrooms and egg yolks can help give your body a boost.

- **Psychotherapy** (i.e., "talk therapy"). Talking through your symptoms and circumstances with a licensed therapist can give

you the mental tools you need to cut through seasonal depression. Visit [bewellindiana.com](http://bewellindiana.com) to find support.

- **Antidepressant medication.** If you've made life adjustments and exhausted the recommendations above and have seen little improvement, you can speak to your healthcare provider about whether exploring a prescription antidepressant might be right for you.

These cold weather months feel long, but they're short-lived. Take your symptoms seriously and make sure your seasonal depression is short-lived, too.

If depressive symptoms worsen or include thoughts of suicide, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline for immediate help at 1-800-273-8255.

*Dr. Cara Hannemann is a Fishers resident and clinical psychologist with the Indiana Hemophilia Thrombosis Center in Indianapolis. Dr. Hannemann helps patients navigate the complex mental health issues that can coincide with their rare and chronic bleeding and blood disorders.*

## Thanks for reading!

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# Westfield students get real-world math lesson with charitable twist



Photo provided

Melinda Brown, a math teacher at Westfield Middle School, recently took her seventh-grade algebra class to the real world to learn some math, budgeting and charity all in one assignment. To start, her classes collected donations to purchase clothes and gifts for families in need. Thanks to the kindness of the Westfield community, they raised more than \$2,700! Brown gave them all a portion of the collections, a shopping list and a budget and took the students to Target to shop for a couple of Hamilton County families who were identified by the Good Samaritan Network. After shopping, they had to complete a math project based on unit rates and percent change. Go to [ReadTheReporter.com](http://ReadTheReporter.com) to see more photos showing how much fun the students had while learning and helping people in their own community.

# Program to assist students with learning disabilities makes national debut in Indiana

### The REPORTER

There is now a new option for your child if he or she struggles with reading or has other learning challenges. CanAdvance, based in New York, is the Exclusive U.S. Distributor for ReadLS. The program is making its national debut in the Indiana market, enabling people with learning struggles to face a brighter future. As online software, ReadLS is suitable for use in-home, through practitioners and

in schools, and it can be completed in just 15 weeks. ReadLS uses an accelerated neuroplasticity-based approach and consists of fun and engaging games, keeping children engaged and excited to complete the program.

**Who will benefit from ReadLS?**

ReadLS is designed for anyone over 5 years of age who meets any of the following criteria:

- Their reading age has reached a plateau and falls further and further behind with each passing year
  - They have been diagnosed with dyslexia or a learning disorder
  - They have poor reading, spelling, or writing skills
  - They have trouble picking up the skill due to ADHD or ASD
  - They have a poor working memory
- Other possible criteria include if the child has good reading skills but can't recall what they've read; their reading skills are normal, but they feel discomfort or suffer from fatigue when reading; they have difficulty following oral instructions; they feel uncomfortable looking at black letters on white paper, or white letters on a blackboard, or they have eye movement control problems.

### What exactly is ReadLS?

CanAdvance utilizes the ReadLS SaaS (Software as a Service) educational platform pioneered in Canada by LSWorks. ReadLS is a high-end cognitive therapy program that targets the neural pathways required for reading acquisition, memory, word roots, spatial awareness and more. The objective is to help those struggling with dyslexia, ADHD, ASD, dyspraxia, and other learning difficulties to become confident readers which will carry over to all other areas of these students' lives.

ReadLS provides significant improvement in word attack, word identification, reading rate, reading accuracy, reading comprehension and passage completion.

### How did CanAdvance and ReadLS get their start?

CanAdvance was founded by a team of individuals wanting to provide leading-edge and cost-effective solutions for overcoming the challenges of reading and learning. The team searches out best practice solutions throughout the world and brings them to benefit clients in the U.S.

The genesis story for ReadLS is eagerly shared by Ingrid Poupart – the Co-founder, Chairperson and CEO at LSWorks. The seeds of ReadLS were sown when Ingrid's youngest child was diagnosed with dyslexia. Ingrid began investigating the causes of reading deficiencies in the brain. She learned that fluent readers used efficient pathways while struggling readers were using inefficient pathways to do the same task. Ingrid knew that by building fun and engaging games to assist the children that they would be less reluctant and more inspired to complete a program. This would work to build higher-order thinking skills.

### What can children expect after using ReadLS?

The ReadLS approach boosts reading by an average of two grade levels by using a Cognitive Therapy Approach.

ReadLS improves decoding, reading comprehension, provides gradual cognitive load increase, an increase in visual movement, an increase in word attack difficulty level, homophones, and an increase in multi-tasking.

Consultants for CanAdvance have already helped many children with learning differences, attention disorders and emotional disturbance. The program not only helps students struggling with learning disabilities, but also helps children who want to improve memory skills and increase stress tolerance.

To learn more about this new program coming to Indiana, you can visit the [ReadLS.US](http://ReadLS.US) website. You can also email for more information at [info@CanAdvance.com](mailto:info@CanAdvance.com) or call (914) 488-4401.

# Fishers road construction updates, week of Dec. 20

### The REPORTER

#### State Road 37 & 146th Street

All left-turn lanes are currently restricted on SR 37 and on 146th Street with traffic moved to the interior lanes. Thru traffic and right turns on SR 37 and 146th Street will remain open. Drivers are encouraged to seek alternate routes for all left-turn access. View an alternate route map [here](#).

#### State Road 37 & 131st Street

131st Street at SR 37 is currently closed as work progresses on the interchange. SR 37 will remain open both northbound and southbound. [Click here](#) to view the detour map.

The anticipated completion of the 131st Street work that will allow right in/right out movements for southbound SR 37 and 131st Street is scheduled for December.

Please drive with caution through these areas. To learn more about the State Road 37 Improvement Project and sign up to receive text updates, visit [37Thrives.com](http://37Thrives.com).

#### 116th Street & Maple Street

The westbound outside lane of 116th Street between Maple Street and Municipal Drive will be restricted between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. beginning Monday, Dec. 20 through Friday, Dec. 24 for masonry work. Arrow boards will be in place.

#### Technology Drive (Northeast Commerce Park)

Beginning on or after Monday, Dec. 20, the inside lane of the Technology Drive loop will be closed to traffic to allow for construction of new pavement in the inside lane. One-way traffic will be in place in the outside lane as shown [here](#). Access to all businesses will be maintained during the construction.

# See Don McLean in Indianapolis next spring

### The REPORTER

Grammy award honoree, Songwriters Hall of Fame member, and BBC Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Don McLean is set to embark on his 2022 *American Pie 50th Anniversary Tour* with 20 additional cities throughout the United States and Canada.

McLean will play at Clowes Memorial Hall in Indianapolis on May 1, 2022.

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of one of the most iconic songs and album ever this year, McLean will entertain fans across the continent throughout nearly 30 cities from Honolulu to Toronto and everything in between, proving that "bye-bye, Miss American Pie" will forever remain a classic staple in American music.

"After spending the past 18 months at home, I am thrilled to be getting back on the road with my band," McLean said. "2022 marks the 50th anniversary from when American Pie landed at the No. 1 spot on the *Billboard* chart, and we will be celebrating on tour all year long. We will be performing all the songs from the *American Pie* album plus many of the other hits that fans will be expecting to hear."

As tragic as the backstory behind the song "American Pie" is with the much too early death of the new rock'n'roll-hope Buddy Holly, the track is also magnificent and legendary. And "American Pie" still goes to heart as soon as originator Don McLean plays this classic at his concerts. Still, it's worth remembering that the 76-year-old composer has written and sung numerous other melodic and harmonic successes in his decades-long career with "Vincent (Starry Starry Night)," "Castles in the Air," "And I Love You So," and "Cryin'," all of which will be heard and reveled in along with newer pieces on the upcoming tour.

The eight-and-a-half-minute ballad "American Pie" has been making history since its release in 1971. Alongside songs by other icons such as Bing Crosby, Judy Garland, Woody Guthrie, and Aretha Franklin, McLean's composition was also voted "Song of the 20th Century." Handwritten lyrics to the song were auctioned off for more than \$1.2 million in 2015, and the composition was added to the Library of Congress National Recording Registry two years later. Here, you'll only find a few selected evergreens, such as "Somewhere Over the Rainbow." So much for the cultural significance of Don McLean and his 1971 stroke of genius.

Over the years, the song has been covered again and again by music icons like Madonna and Garth Brooks. Rapper Drake repeatedly sampled McLean tunes and hip-hop icon Tupac Shakur also cited him as an important influence.

Accordingly, the complete discography of the legendary and still active singer/songwriter is also significant. Among other things, Don McLean has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and was inducted into the National Academy of Popular Music Songwriters' Hall of Fame in 2004.

And he never gets tired of writing new songs and new stories. In 2018, the sound senior released his 19th studio album, *Botanical Gardens*, which received rave reviews. Songs from it subsequently proved themselves live and will maybe even find their way into the setlist next year, alongside "American Pie" and all the other feats from this decades-spanning and unparalleled composition and performance career.

Go to [donmclean.com](http://donmclean.com) to learn more.

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# Virtual reality comes to Fishers senior community



MyndVR, the leading provider of virtual reality solutions for older adults in the United States, has partnered with American Senior Communities to bring MyndVR's virtual reality program to their residents. MyndVR's immersive VR platform allows seniors to engage in an array of fields including learning, travel, art, music, and nature. The company debuted the MyndVR technology Friday at ASC's Allisonville Meadows Assisted Living Community in Fishers. Learn more at [MyndVR.com](https://www.myndvr.com).

Photos provided

## Sen. Braun: "Good news for Indy" on suspension of Bail Project partnership

### The REPORTER

*Editor's note: Readers of the Reporter may remember a guest column published earlier this month by Nikki Sterling, the mother of a young man from Hamilton County who was shot in October by a violent repeat offender after the offender was bailed out of jail with the help of The Bail Project.*

U.S. Senator Mike Braun (R-Ind.) released the following statement following the announcement that the Marion County Superior Court would end its support of The Bail Project.

"It's good news for Indy that The Bail Project will no longer be able to release criminals from jail without accountability," Sen. Braun said, "but this is only the tip of the iceberg for soft-on-crime activist organizations and prosecutors putting their agenda over Hoosiers' lives. I will continue working to hold these groups accountable and return law and order to our cities."

Last week, Sen. Braun sent a letter to Indiana leadership and the President of the Indianapolis Fraternal Order of Police announcing his support for additional restrictions on organizations like The Bail Project. He also indicated he will pursue ways to limit federal funding to The Bail Project and similar organizations dedicated to releasing individuals from jail without accountability.



Braun

The Bail Project and other similar organizations post bail for individuals but can skirt the traditional rules and regulations for bail agents that include responsibility for post-bail behavior and ensuring that these individuals attend court hearings.

Sen. Braun weighed in on The Bail Project after **two repeat offenders** released on bail paid by The Bail Project went on to commit murders in Indianapolis, and one released individual **stabbed two Indianapolis Police officers** this month.

[Click here](#) to read Sen. Braun's letter to Governor Eric Holcomb on The Bail Project.

## Hunting, fishing, trapping license fees to increase starting in 2022

### The REPORTER

For the first time since 2006, Indiana DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) has increased fees for hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses. Commercial license fees also increase, some for the first time since the 1980s.

The increases will be applied to personal licenses

starting with the 2022-2023 license year (April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023) that will go on sale in January. The fee increase does not affect licenses for the remainder of the 2021-2022 license year (April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022), even if those licenses are purchased after Jan. 1.

The new fees allow

DFW to maintain core programs including habitat restoration, maintenance of public lands, scientific research and education, and expansion of other services to manage Indiana's fish and wildlife for everyone to enjoy.

Funds will also go to the DNR Division of Law Enforcement to ensure it is

equipped to provide public safety and enforce the laws governing natural resources.

The new license prices were determined by comparing license fees among other Midwestern states and balancing the rising costs of resource management.

[Click here](#) for more information on these changes, including a full list of the new fees.

Learn more about how DFW is funded at [this link](#).

## Westfield Washington Schools board member Rebecca Ogle named IBJ CFO of the Year

### The REPORTER

Congratulations to Westfield Washington Schools board member Rebecca Ogle for being named *Indiana Business Journal's* top honoree for CFO of the Year for her work at Safety Management Group LLC.

Ogle has also served six



Ogle

years as treasurer for Westfield Youth Sports Inc. and has served as treasurer for her community's homeowner's association for over 15 years. She also serves on two committees for the city of Westfield, the road impact review board and the audit committee.

## Who sang "Jingle Bell Rock"?

### The REPORTER

*This week in Indiana's history ...*

**1867** – Sarah Breedlove was born in Louisiana. She went into business, and, under the name of Madam C. J. Walker, established a cosmetics company in Indianapolis. She was hugely successful and became the first American woman to earn a million dollars.

**1917** – A full-page newspaper ad said, "Travel the Electric Way, There's a train your way any hour of the day." The Union Traction Company provided convenient times every day to many cities around the state. Indiana could boast that it had the second-largest interurban system in the country.

**1921** – Governor Warren McCray invited the Ogden Northside Carolers to sing at the Statehouse on the day before Christmas. Custodian Roy Couch had put up a 40-foot tree in the rotunda and decorated it with colorful lights, spangles, and hol-



ly. A local reporter said the tree gave the Statehouse "a Yuletide appearance it has not seen since twelve years ago." The carolers ranged in age from 10 to 14 and were directed by Mrs. James M. Ogden.

**1935** – A 22-foot, 40-ton statue of St. Nicholas was unveiled at Santa Claus, Ind. The *Lafayette Journal and Courier* reported that "a thousand persons braved the cold weather and slippery pavements to come to the little village for the ceremony." The statue still stands in the festive community.

**1957** – Singer Bobby Helms from Martinsville ended a highly successful year in his career with

the release of "Jingle Bell Rock." The song was an instant hit, along with "My Special Angel," another big record for Helms in a year he also appeared on the Ed Sullivan network television show.

**1971** – Santa Claus visited the office of Governor Edgar Whitcomb at the Statehouse. He was there to bring cheer to special guests of the governor. They were the children of three Air Force pilots who were being held prisoner of war in Vietnam. The governor, himself a POW during World War II, lit a Christmas candle as a symbol of safe return for all American service members imprisoned or missing in foreign nations.



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# Hamilton County Bicentennial Commission’s spotlight on Delaware Township

## Submitted by the Hamilton County Bicentennial Commission

During the Hamilton County Bicentennial in 2023, we plan to focus on one township during each month of the year (with some extra fun stuff in other months – see the timeline here). We are continuing our blog series highlighting each of our townships in the county. This serves as a way for you to get to know the township representatives and get more connected with the other areas in the county.

On our social media (you can see our Facebook here) we have been highlighting different townships in alphabetical order on Saturdays. So, we will highlight our townships in alphabetical order on the blog! Let’s get started with a new township.

Today we will put the spotlight on Delaware Township, which is located in the bottom middle part of Hamilton County, with the White River on one side and Fall Creek Township on the other. Part of Fishers and some of Noblesville is located in Fall Creek Township, as well as part of the Hamilton Southeastern School district and Conner Prairie.

Some of the highlights from history for Delaware Township include:

- The boundary change in the 1950s to be only east of the White River



Photo provided

- The Conner brothers settling and creating a trading post and mill near a settlement of Native Americans. Today, this is the Conner Prairie Museum.
- The expansion and construction of Interstate 69 and its impact on population in the area

Of course, it’s impossible to summarize a community’s history in this small format! If you want to know more (or if you have more you want to add!), check out the [Our Book page](#). Soon, you’ll be able to pre-order

a copy of our book that will go into more detail about each township, including Delaware!

The Bicentennial Commission has members from each of the nine townships to help celebrate and commemorate the history of the county. The representative for Delaware Township is Rick Fain. He’s a member of the Fishers Kiwanis Club and has been living in Hamilton County since 1987. He is currently on the Delaware Township Trustee board and works in tech-

nology sales at Van Ausdall and Farrar.

Fain has been busy making plans for the Bicentennial alongside Fall Creek Township since they share boundaries and the City of Fishers. Some of his ideas include:

- Partnering with Conner Prairie on programming that celebrates history
- Partnering with the Fishers Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs to create programming and events
- Working on a program or event commemorating the Eller covered bridge that burnt and how that affected the schools in the area

If this list excites you (it should!) and you live in Delaware Township and you want to get involved, you can contact Fain at [rick\\_j\\_f@yahoo.com](mailto:rick_j_f@yahoo.com). If you live outside Delaware Township but this list inspires you to think about projects for your township, then contact us at [info@hamco-turns200.com](mailto:info@hamco-turns200.com) or call us at (317) 674-3150.

We know Fain and the other township representatives are excited to get involved in the planning process. We hope you are too!



Fain

# Duke Energy volunteers make improvements to Morse Park & Beach

## The REPORTER

Volunteers from Duke Energy Indiana recently joined with the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department to make several improvements to Morse Park & Beach in Noblesville.

“Volunteerism is an integral part of Duke Energy’s commitment to the communities where we live and serve,” said Mark LaBarr, government and community relations manager at Duke Energy. “We were proud to take part in this beautification project at Morse Park

& Beach for local residents to enjoy.”

Volunteers from Duke Energy’s Noblesville Generating Station and operations centers in Noblesville and Carmel prepared picnic tables for a fresh coat of paint. In addition, volunteers helped assemble packets of milkweed seeds, which will be distributed to local students for planting at Morse Park & Beach to attract monarch butterflies.



LaBarr

This beautification project is one way Duke Energy is giving back to a community it serves. Throughout the year, Duke Energy employees volunteer thousands of hours in the communities where they live and work. The company also provides philanthropic support, contributing more than \$2 million annually in charitable gifts to Indiana communities.



Photo provided

# Ice hikes return to Turkey Run State Park next year

## The REPORTER

Turkey Run State Park is bringing back its ice hikes in 2022. They will be offered each Saturday and Sunday in January and February beginning Jan. 8, except Jan. 29 and 30, which are the dates of the park’s Eagles in Flight weekend. All hikes will begin at 11 a.m. and last until approximately 12:30 p.m.

Hikers will have four options. Naturalists will lead participants through Rocky Hollow and the

Punchbowl, Box Canyon and Gypsy Gulch, the Ice Box and Bear Hollow, or Turkey Run Hollow and the canyon along Trail 7. Advance registration for the popular hikes can be completed at [turkeyrunicehike.eventbrite.com](https://turkeyrunicehike.eventbrite.com).

Boot spikes will be available for free during the hikes if needed. Participants need to be able to lift both legs to a 90-degree angle. The spikes are also available to rent throughout the winter from the

Nature Center for \$3 per two hours, and adult and youth sizes are available. A naturalist will be available to help hikers put the spikes on.

The hikes and routes are subject to change due to weather.

Standard park entrance fees of \$7 per in-state vehicle and \$9 per out-of-state vehicle apply.

Turkey Run State Park ([on.IN.gov/turkeyrunsp](https://on.IN.gov/turkeyrunsp)) is at 8121 E. Park Road, Marshall.

# Sen. Todd Young criticizes efforts to “supersize” IRS

## Submitted

U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.) on Tuesday joined a press conference with his Senate GOP colleagues to discuss a provision in Democrats’ Build Back Better plan that would “supersize” the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Read excerpts of his remarks below.

“The American people deserve to know: The Democrats propose spending eighty billion in their tax, borrow, spend, and regulate Build Back Better Plan. Eighty billion dollars towards the IRS.

“... Even worse, we have been told by the President of the United States – he campaigned on a platform of ensuring taxes would not be increased ... We know that most of this eighty bil-

lion will be used to enhance the ability of the IRS to target middle Americans. That promise will be broken. Yet another. Nearly six months since ProPublica leaked private, legally protected taxpayer information, at a time when there is a peak level of distrust of the Internal Revenue Service, Democrats want to increase the power of the IRS to insinuate themselves into the private lives of ordinary Americans.

“Now look, this is the wrong idea at the wrong time. We are in the middle of a pandemic. We have supply chain problems. We’re experiencing cost inflation across a range of



Young

consumer goods. We’ve got so many challenges, and once again the Biden Administration and Democrats in the United States Senate are out of touch with the real challenges and experiences of everyday Americans.”

Two weeks ago, Sen. Young joined his Republican colleagues on the U.S. Senate Finance Committee in sending a letter to IRS Commissioner Charles Rettig to press the agency on its weak responses to the massive apparent leaks of private taxpayer information to ProPublica. [Click here to read the full letter.](#)

To hear the Senator’s full remarks, [click here](#).

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# Indiana hospitals rank among best for price transparency

## The REPORTER

According to a **new study**, Indiana hospitals rank fourth highest in the nation for making hospital prices transparent to consumers. The study claims that more than half of U.S. hospitals have not complied with recent federal regulations requiring hospitals to disclose their prices online to help consumers shop for medical care and prevent unexpected bills for patients. Indiana hospitals, however, ranked extremely high in price transparency, the authors found.

"Despite the tremendous strain on our health care system, Indiana hospitals have worked tirelessly to make prices more affordable and transparent for Hoosiers," said Brian Tabor, president of the Indiana Hospital Association (IHA). According to the study,

Washington, D.C. hospitals ranked the highest in making prices most accessible to consumers, followed by Hawaii, Rhode Island, Indiana, and Michigan.

"I am not surprised to see Indiana recognized as a national leader in transparency," Tabor said. "IHA undertook an internal educational campaign and provided technical assistance to our members to help achieve compliance. Despite the challenges they face today, I am proud to report that we believe every single hospital in Indiana is compliant with state and federal price transparency regulations, and we've taken it a step further by creating our own online consumer resource."

The IHA in September announced a new update to **mycareINsight.org**, a tool it created in 2015

to make health care price and quality information publicly available to consumers. The updated site now includes a single location in which Hoosiers can find hospital-specific price information for common shoppable services, out-of-pocket price estimator tools where available, and standard charges for all items and services in a machine-readable format, as required by the federal Price Transparency Rule. Although Indiana hospitals have complied with rule, there was no single location to quickly find links to each hospital's information until now.

"Our hospitals are working individually and collectively to continuously improve mycareINsight so every patient has the information they need to make informed decisions about

their care," Tabor said.

Since 2015, mycareINsight has allowed consumers to compare hospital charges and quality ratings for the 100 most frequent inpatient services and the 50 most frequent outpatient procedures, helping to clarify the complex factors that affect the cost of hospital services.

"While the data on mycareINsight provides a great starting point for consumers to begin comparing hospitals and making health care decisions, it only tells part of the story and we cannot provide what a patient's out-of-pocket cost will be based on their insurance," Tabor said. "To make health care prices truly transparent, pending federal transparency requirements for health insurance companies should be accelerated and put into state law."

## TODAY'S BIBLE READING

*I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you. I have no one else like him, who will show genuine concern for your welfare. For everyone looks out for their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see how things go with me. And I am confident in the Lord that I myself will come soon.*

*But I think it is necessary to send back to you Epaphroditus, my brother, co-worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger, whom you sent to take care of my needs. For he longs for all of you and is distressed because you heard he was ill. Indeed he was ill, and almost died. But God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, to spare me sorrow upon sorrow. Therefore I am all the more eager to send him, so that when you see him again you may be glad and I may have less anxiety. So then, welcome him in the Lord with great joy, and honor people like him, because he almost died for the work of Christ. He risked his life to make up for the help you yourselves could not give me.*

*Philippians 2:19-30 (NIV)*

## New at Hamilton East Public Library

### The REPORTER

Here are the new library items lists for the week of Dec. 13:

#### New Adult Fiction books

1. Golden Girl, by Elin Hilderbrand
2. Claws for alarm, by Rita Mae Brown
3. The brides of Maracoor, by Gregory Maguire
4. Child of light, by Terry Brooks
5. Down the hatch, by M.C. Beaton
6. God rest ye, royal gentlemen, by Rhys Bowen
7. An Irish country Yuletide, by Patrick Taylor
8. The Joy and Light Bus Company, by Alexander McCall Smith
9. The unheard, by Nicci French
10. The becoming by Nora Roberts

#### New Adult Nonfiction Books

1. Anger management, by Laura L. Smith
2. Happily ever older: revolutionary approaches to long-term care, by

Moira Welsh

3. What white people can do next: from allyship to coalition, by Emma Dabiri
4. Lisbon, by Joana Taborda
5. Six Popes: a son of the Church remembers, by Hilary C. Franco
6. Michigan: off the beaten path: discover your fun, by Jackie Sheckler Finch
7. Just harvest: the story of how Black farmers won the largest civil rights case against the U.S. government, by Greg A. Francis
8. A chosen destiny: my story, by Drew McIntyre
9. PHP in easy steps, by Mike McGrath
10. The ultimate outdoor cookbook: all-day meals and drinks for backyard entertaining and elevated camping fare, by Linda Ly

#### New DVDs

1. Midnight in the switchgrass
2. Jack Irish. Season 3. Hell bent
3. A Christmas tree grows in Col-

orado

4. Five star Christmas
5. Respect
6. There is no evil
7. The Suicide squad
8. Gully
9. Christmas in Evergreen. Bells are ringing
10. Caveat

#### New Music CDs

1. Dancing with the devil: the art of starting over, by Demi Lovato
2. Daddy's home, by St. Vincent
3. The bitter truth, by Evanescence
4. Time, tequila & therapy, by Old Dominion
5. So help me God!, by 2 Chainz
6. Release me 2, by Barbra Streisand
7. OK human, by Weezer
8. NOW that's what I call music! Outlaw country, by Chris Stapleton
9. NOW that's what I call country Volume 14, by Thomas Rhett
10. NOW that's what I call country classics 00s, by Lee Ann Womack

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Young stars stepping up...

# Fishers girls defend Mudsock title

**By RICHIE HALL**

**FISHERS** - One of the nice things about playing basketball in the Hoosier Crossroads Conference is that a young team can become an experienced team very quickly.

Just ask the Fishers girls basketball team. The Tigers were young coming in to this season, but they're starting to play like poised veterans. That maturity helped Fishers to another Mudsock trophy win Saturday night at the Tiger Den.

The Class 4A No. 4 Tigers won the Mudsock for the third consecutive year, beating Hamilton Southeastern 69-61. It was a typical rivalry game, with both teams playing well and at a high intensity level. Such a contest might be difficult for a young team to handle, but Fishers did that pretty well.

"I thought they responded very well," said Tigers junior Olivia Smith. "This isn't our first big game. We've had Noblesville, Zionsville. Just them stepping up, cheering, playing the role that they know how to play and just sticking together as one team."

The first quarter was close until the final couple minutes. Both teams played to a 14-14 tie, with the young players stepping up. Royals freshman Maya Makalusky scored 10 points during that run, including a pair of 3s. Karina Scott hit two triples as well.

Then Joirdyn Smith took over. The Fishers sophomore went on a personal 8-0 run to finish the quarter, nailing two 3s and a floater to give the Tigers a 22-14 lead after one. Smith then made it a 10-0 run by hitting two free throws, putting her team up 24-14.

"The biggest thing with Joirdyn is to be our point guard and to make sure that we're facilitating things and the ball keeps moving," said Fishers coach Lauren Votaw. "And obviously, she shoots it really well, so when she has those opportunities, we want her to take advantage of those."

The momentum from that run kept the Tigers in front for a while, even when



The Fishers girls basketball team won the Mudsock trophy Saturday night, beating Hamilton Southeastern 69-61 in an exciting game at the Tiger Den. This is the third year in a row Fishers has won the Mudsock.

Southeastern made its runs. Talia Harris also started hitting long-range shots, with two 3s and eight points in the quarter. Meanwhile, the Royals' Olivia Brown also scored eight points in the second period as well.

Fishers led 37-30 at halftime. Southeastern made a move in the third quarter; Riley Makalusky began to shine by scoring eight points, and Lauren Stewart hit a 3 to get HSE ahead 44-43.

Olivia Smith continued to show her leadership in the period, with seven points in the third, including a triple that pushed Fishers back up 46-44. The back and forth continued for the remainder of the quarter, which ended with the score tied at 50-50.

The Royals quickly went up 55-50 after Maya Makalusky hit a 3 and Makayala Hinshaw made two free throws. The

Tigers responded with a 7-0 run; Harris poured in five points to tie the game, and Olivia Smith made two free throws for a 57-55 lead.

Brown tied the game with a layin, but Fishers used another quick 6-0 run to take the lead for good. Joirdyn Smith drained a 3, then Olivia Smith was good on a three-point play. A layin by Hailey Smith gave Fishers a 66-58 lead with a minute to go, and the Tigers held on from there.

"First of all, credit to Southeastern," said Votaw. "They hit some big shots. Olivia Brown was outstanding. I just was really proud of the way our kids responded."

Votaw said she challenged her team before the fourth quarter "to really separate themselves, and we separated ourselves perhaps the wrong way to start the fourth. But then they did, they battled

back. And we just had contributions from a lot of different people tonight."

"We definitely had some ups and downs throughout this game, but we knew we have to come together in order to win this game," said Hailey Smith. "We made some adjustments after halftime and in the middle of the game, so we just knew after that we had to stick together."

Joirdyn Smith led all scorers with 19 points, Olivia Smith had 18 points, and the rapidly-improving Harris scored 12. As for the Royals, Maya Makalusky, Riley Makalusky and Brown all finished with 17 points. Maya Makalusky totaled five 3-pointers.

The Tigers are now 4-0 in conference play and all by themselves on top of the standings. HSE is 3-2 in the conference.

Fishers is 10-2 and travels to Fort Wayne to play two games on Tuesday, taking on Homestead at 10 a.m. and Carroll at 4 p.m. Southeastern is 7-5 and also plays at Fort Wayne on Tuesday. The Royals will play Carroll at 10 a.m. and Homestead at 4 p.m.



Hamilton Southeastern's Olivia Brown (left) runs down the floor while being guarded by Fishers' Joirdyn Smith, who led all scorers with 19 points. Brown was one of three Royals players to score 17 points.

FISHERS 69, HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN 61				
Southeastern	FG	FT	TP	PF
Maya Makalusky	5	2-2	17	4
Makayla Hinshaw	1	2-2	4	3
Riley Makalusky	7	4-3	17	3
Olivia Brown	6	5-8	17	3
Zoe Bolding	1	1-3	3	3
Teegan Acres	0	0-0	0	2
Lauren Stewart	1	0-0	3	1
Maine Hooks	0	0-0	0	2
Totals	21	14-18	61	21
Southeastern 3-pointers (6) M. Makalusky 5, Stewart 1.				
Fishers	FG	FT	TP	PF
Karina Scott	2	0-0	6	4
Joirdyn Smith	5	6-6	19	2
Kate Thomas	1	1-2	3	4
Hailey Smith	1	5-8	7	3
Olivia Smith	7	3-7	18	2
Ava Carter	1	0-0	2	0
Talia Harris	4	2-4	12	0
Alycia Triplett	1	0-0	2	0
Totals	22	17-27	69	15
Fishers 3-pointers (8) J. Smith 3, Scott 2, Harris 2, O. Smith 1.				
Score by Quarters				
Southeastern	14	16	20	11 - 61
Fishers	22	15	13	19 - 69

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# Shamrocks heat up, beat Millers

By RICHIE HALL

**WESTFIELD** - Despite a cold-shooting first half, Westfield never lost its cool. Instead, the Shamrocks decided to heat things up in the third quarter.

Westfield hosted Class 4A No. 3 Noblesville Saturday afternoon at CSI Gymnasium, and recovered from a double-digit halftime deficit to score a 47-42 Hoosier Crossroads Conference victory over the Millers. With the win, the 'Rocks extended their win streak to eight games.

In order to keep its streak intact, Westfield had to not only overcome the Millers, but its own shooting woes. The Shamrocks only made 16 percent of their shots in the first half.

Meanwhile, Noblesville scored the first seven points of the game and skipped out to a 16-5 lead late in the first quarter. Brooklyn Smitherman scored six points, while Ashlynn Shade made two 3-pointers for six points.

Westfield trimmed the Millers' lead to 16-8 by the end of the first quarter, but Noblesville pushed its advantage back up to 24-11 midway through the second period. Shade hit two free throws, and Meredith Tippner hit a triple.

There were some bright spots for the Shamrocks in the first half. Hailey Remaks drained a 3 for Westfield's first basket of the game, and Mikayla Rudolph made three straight free throws after getting fouled while shooting a 3-pointer. Both would be coming attractions for the second half.

But first, the 'Rocks had to dig out of a 28-15 halftime deficit.

"At halftime, I could've done a thousand different things, probably," said Westfield coach Ginny Smith. "Yell was not one of them. I just said, 'Girls, it could not get any worse than this.' I believe in my heart, there's no way we'll shoot 16 percent again in the second half. We're going to make shots. We're going to continue to defend."

Sure enough, Westfield opened the third quarter with a 3-pointer by Olivia Robey. Meredith Tippner answered that with a basket, and Noblesville led 30-18.

After that, the Shamrocks took over, going on a 13-0 run that lasted for over half the quarter. Ellie Kelleher threw in two 3s during the run, and Remaks made another triple. Meanwhile, Alyssa Crockett contributed from the free throw line, making four foul shots, including two that gave Westfield its first lead of the game, 31-30 with 2:36 left in the third.

"It's just a great boost, because we haven't been shooting it well lately," said Kelleher.



Reporter photos by Richie Hall

**ABOVE: Westfield's Alyssa Crockett scored 16 points for the Shamrocks during their win over Noblesville Saturday.**

**RIGHT: Noblesville's Kaitlyn Shoemaker looks to take the ball inside.**

Smith said the difference "was just the mentality," and that the Shamrocks mixed up their defenses. The coach also noted that once Westfield's shots started falling, its defense began to pick up.

"If you think about it, the first half, when you're not making shots, your defense is always in a jam, because they're coming at you downhill, right?" said Smith. "Off misses every time. But when you can make a shot, it allows you to get set and really make some adjustments and do some things. That was a big piece of it, too."

The two teams traded free throws for the balance of the third quarter, which ended with Noblesville ahead 34-33. Dani Mendez opened the fourth with a pair of foul shots, and the Millers were up 36-33.

Emmrey Collinsworth then nailed a 3 for the 'Rocks, and the game was tied again at 36-36. Smitherman made a floater to put Noblesville back up by two, but Crockett stepped up with back-to-back triples. Westfield now led 42-38, and the 'Rocks would stay in front until the buzzer.



"This group of kids, they're just resilient," said Smith. "They just keep on keepin' on. And that's what they did today."

Crockett finished the game with another double-double, this one 16 points and 10 rebounds, and also blocked two shots. Remaks collected five rebounds, while Kelleher had nine points and four steals, including the two big 3s.

"I've been trying to adapt," said Kelleher of trying to score more. "Just during AAU, that's been more of my role. Transitioning to high school, I've really been working on that."

Shade scored 16 points for the Millers, while Tippner reached double-double status with 13 rebounds and 11 points. Shade had six rebounds and Kaitlyn Shoemaker dished out four assists.

"We just didn't match their intensity in the second half," said Noblesville coach Donna Buckley. "And Crockett's awesome. She's probably right now playing as well as anyone in the state. The first half, we did a pretty good job on her, the second half, she got going."

Westfield is now 3-1 in HCC play and 11-2 overall. The Shamrocks continue conference action Tuesday at Franklin Central.

The Millers are 3-2 in the conference and also 11-2 overall. Next up for Noblesville is a Wednesday trip to the Bedford North Lawrence tournament, where the Millers play 4A No. 1 Crown Point in

WESTFIELD 47, NOBLESVILLE 42				
Noblesville	FG	FT	TP	PF
Kaitlyn Shoemaker	0-4	0-0	0	1
Ashlynn Shade	5-11	4-4	16	4
Reagan Wilson	1-9	0-0	2	2
Meredith Tippner	5-13	0-0	11	5
Brooklyn Smitherman	4-6	0-1	8	1
Brooklyn Ely	0-0	0-0	0	0
Ava Shoemaker	0-3	3-4	3	0
Dani Mendez	0-3	2-2	2	4
Totals	15-49	9-11	42	17
Noblesville 3-point shooting (3-18) Shade 2-5, Tippner 1-4, Wilson 0-5, K. Shoemaker 0-3, A. Shoemaker 0-1.				
Noblesville rebounds (34) Tippner 13, Shade 6, K. Shoemaker 4, Mendez 3, Smitherman 3, A. Shoemaker 1, Wilson 1, team 3.				
Westfield	FG	FT	TP	PF
Ellie Kelleher	3-6	1-3	9	0
Alyssa Crockett	3-10	8-9	16	1
Chesney Tebbe	0-0	0-0	0	0
Olivia Robey	1-7	5-10	8	2
Hailey Remaks	2-6	0-0	6	1
Emmrey Collinsworth	1-2	0-0	3	1
Kiki Loveless	0-0	2-2	2	0
Mikayla Rudolph	0-2	3-3	3	3
Totals	10-33	19-27	47	8
Westfield 3-point shooting (8-20) Crockett 2-6, Remaks 2-6, Kelleher 2-2, Robey 1-4, Collinsworth 1-1, Rudolph 0-1.				
Westfield rebounds (25) Crockett 10, Remaks 5, Kelleher 2, Robey 2, Loveless 2, Collinsworth 1, Tebbe 1, team 2.				
Score by Quarters				
Noblesville	16	12	6	8 - 42
Westfield	8	7	18	14 - 47

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# Greyhounds cruise past Portage

Carmel got back in the win column Saturday afternoon, as the Greyhounds cruised past Portage 48-23 in a game at the Eric Clark Activity Center.

Carmel outscored Portage in each of the four quarters, jumping out to a 16-4 lead after one quarter. Mackenzie Thomas scored seven points during that period. The 'Hounds then led 24-7 at halftime, with Thomas getting all eight of Carmel's points in the second quarter.

The Greyhounds poured in another 18 points in the third to lead 42-20. Thomas added eight points and Emily Roper scored seven. Both players in double figures, with Thomas getting 23 points and Roper scoring 11. Roper also led the rebounds with nine, followed by Sophie Shepherd with six. Mackenzie Woods made four steals.

Carmel is 6-6 and plays at Columbus North on Thursday.

CARMEL 48, PORTAGE 23				
Carmel	FG	FT	TP	PF
Mackenzie Woods	2-7	2-3	6	3
Laura Valiente	1-3	0-0	2	1
Jamie Elliott	0-3	0-0	0	1
Mackenzie Thomas	8-18	7-9	23	1
Emily Roper	4-7	3-3	11	3
Ava Carter	0-2	0-0	0	0
Sophie Shepherd	2-4	0-2	5	1
Taryn Fisher	0-0	0-0	0	3
Maya Berglund	0-0	0-0	0	2
Izzy Shepherd	0-0	0-0	0	0
Maddy Geary	0-0	0-0	0	0
Mallory Bourquein	0-0	0-0	0	0
Bethany Ducat	0-2	1-2	1	0
Totals	17-46	13-19	48	15
Score by Quarters				
Portage	4	3	13	3
Carmel	16	8	18	6
Carmel 3-point shooting (1-14)				
S. Shepherd	1-2	Elliott	0-3	Woods
0-2	Valiente	0-2	0-2	Thomas
0-1	Carter	0-2	0-1	0-1
Carmel rebounds (25) Roper 9, S. Shepherd 6, Thomas 4, Valiente 2, Elliott 2, Geary 1, Ducat 1.				

# Greenwood edges out Golden Eagles

Guerin Catholic dropped a tough game to Greenwood Saturday at the Eagles Nest, 38-36.

The Golden Eagles led 8-7 after the first quarter, but the Woodmen jumped ahead 20-16 at halftime. Natalie Fernandez had five points for Guerin Catholic in the second quarter. Greenwood extended its lead to 28-21 after three periods; the Golden Eagles scored 15 points in the fourth, including eight points from Kathryn Loso, but the Woodmen were able to hold GC off.

Loso scored 14 points to lead the Golden Eagles.

Guerin Catholic is 7-7 and hosts Park Tudor on Wednesday.

GREENWOOD 38, GUERIN CATHOLIC 36				
Guerin Catholic	FG	FT	TP	PF
Katie Koger	2-9	2-3	6	2
Hannah Weitzel	0-2	0-0	0	1
Kathryn Loso	5-12	4-4	14	2
Megan Cobb	1-2	0-0	3	0
Natalie Fernandez	3-4	1-1	8	0
Mia Thompson	1-3	0-0	3	2
Halley Buehler	0-1	0-0	0	2
Caitlyn Sharpe	0-0	0-0	0	0
Ava Bills	1-1	0-0	2	2
Totals	13-34	7-8	36	11
Score by Quarters				
Greenwood	7	13	8	10
Guerin Catholic	8	8	5	15
Greenwood 3-point shooting (3-14)				
Cobb	1-2	Fernandez	1-2	Thompson
1-2	Koger	0-4	Weitzel	0-2
0-1	Loso	0-1	Buehler	0-1

# 'Blazers take control in third quarter . . . Bracey's 19 sparks UHS boys to win

Junior Kahmi Bracey scored a career-high 19 points to spark the University boys to a 60-40 win at Traders Point Christian Academy Saturday night.

The Trailblazers outscored Traders Point 22-9 in the decisive third quarter to take control of the game. Bracey made three of his give three pointers in the third quarter as University turned a 26-21 half-time lead in to a 48-30 advantage after the third quarter.

University got off to a slow start, falling behind 8-3 before Bracey ignited a Trailblazer rally with a steal and layin. Bryce Gray followed with a basket and Bracey put in a rebound at the buzzer and University trailed just 10-9 after the first quarter.

The teams traded the lead throughout the second quarter before five University points in the last minute. Again it was Gray and Bracey with the baskets, including a Bracey three pointer from the left wing as time expired.

The Knights cut the lead to two early in the third quarter before University took over. Bracey hit a three pointer and Gray scored for a seven-point lead. Nate Jeffrey scored on a put back and Andre Ozlowski hit from the lane for a 35-26 lead. After a Traders Point foul shot, Seth Hogg found a cutting Larry Pierce for an easy basket and a Steven Scott rebound bucket put University up 12. Two more Bracey three pointers, a Pierce basket and

Ozlowski foul shot closed out the Blazers scoring the third.

University coach Brandon Lafferman was pleased with how his team responded in the second half. "Traders Point played us really well, especially in the first half. I was proud of my team and how we responded in the second half. We made a few adjustments on how we wanted to play and I thought it really paid off. Kahmi Bracey was fantastic and so was Bryce Gray. I thought both of them played their best games of the season for us."

University is now 5-2 on the season. The Trailblazers have a big Pioneer Conference North game Monday night when they host 7-1 Seton Catholic at The U Center.

UNIVERSITY 60, TRADERS POINT CHRISTIAN 40				
University	FG	FT	TP	PF
Nate Jeffrey	3	0-0	6	1
Robert Russell	0	1-2	1	2
Andre Ozlowski	3	1-2	7	2
Larry Pierce	2	4-5	8	1
Seth Hogg	2	1-2	7	5
Bryce Gray	4	0-0	8	0
Kahmi Bracey	6	2-2	19	2
Steven Scott	1	0-0	2	1
Jackson Bledsoe	0	0-0	0	0
Eli Facey	1	0-0	2	0
Totals	22	9-13	60	14
Score by Quarters				
University	9	17	22	12
Traders Point	10	11	9	10
University 3-pointers (7) Bracey 5, Hogg 2.				

# Boys basketball 'Rocks knock off 3A No. 1 Knights

The Westfield boys basketball hosted the No. 1 team in Class 3A on Saturday, welcoming Mishawaka Marian to CSI Gymnasium.

The 4A No. 10 Shamrocks took care of business, beating the Knights 53-39. Westfield led 10-7 after the first quarter, but Marian tied the game at 20-20 by halftime. The 'Rocks began to get their offense going in the third quarter, lead-

ing 36-30 by the end of the period and ultimately outscored the Knights 33-19 in the second half.

Cam Haffner led Westfield with 17 points, while Braden Smith scored 16 points. Complete stats were unavailable at press time and will run in a later edition.

The Shamrocks are 3-2 and host Victory College Prep on Wednesday.

# Free throws help 'Hounds win defensive battle

Carmel won a defensive battle with New Albany Saturday evening at the Eric Clark Activity Center, by the score of 36-24.

The Class 4A No. 5 Greyhounds led 5-3 after the first quarter, then shut out the Bulldogs in the second period. Carmel scored eight points in that quarter for a 13-3 lead. New Albany cut into the advantage slightly in the third period, but the 'Hounds still led 21-13 after three, then scored 15 points in the fourth.

Sam Orme scored nine points for Carmel, while Spencer White added eight. The Greyhounds were nearly perfect from the free-throw line, making 13 of 14 attempts. Josh Whack and Orme each were 4-for-4.

Carmel is 6-2 and hosts unbeaten Val-

CARMEL 36, NEW ALBANY 24				
Carmel	FG	FT	TP	PF
Josh Whack	1-5	4-4	6	3
Peter Suder	2-5	2-2	6	3
Sam Orme	2-7	4-4	9	1
Burke Weldy	0-1	0-0	0	0
Charlie Williams	2-4	1-1	5	4
Jared Bonds	1-1	0-1	2	0
Spencer White	2-3	2-2	8	0
Josh Rauh	0-0	0-0	0	0
Totals	10-26	13-14	36	11
Score by Quarters				
New Albany	3	0	10	11
Carmel	5	8	8	15
Carmel 3-point shooting (3-11)				
White	2-3	Orme	1-5	Whack
0-1	Suder	0-1	Weldy	0-1
Carmel rebounds (26) Suder 7, Whack 6, Williams 4, Bonds 4, Orme 3, Weldy 1, White 1.				



Photo by Si DeVaney III  
Sheridan's Tyler Garner goes in for a layup during the Blackhawks' game at Frankfort on Saturday.

# 'Hawks fall to Frankfort

Sheridan dropped a 93-46 game at Frankfort on Saturday.

Ethan Moistner scored 18 points for the Blackhawks, with Evan Grinstead and Tyler Garner both adding six points.

Sheridan is 1-6 and is off until Dec. 28 when it plays in the Alexandria Tournament.

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# NBA standings

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Atlantic					Northwest				
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Boston	21	9	.700	-	Denver	20	9	.690	-
Philadelphia	15	15	.500	6.0	Minnesota	15	14	.517	5.0
Toronto	15	15	.500	6.0	Portland	14	15	.483	6.0
New York	14	15	.483	6.5	Oklahoma City	12	18	.400	8.5
Central	W	L	PCT.	GB	Pacific	W	L	PCT.	GB
Chicago	17	10	.630	-	Phoenix	9	19	.321	10.5
Cleveland	19	12	.613	-	Golden State	23	5	.821	-
Milwaukee	19	13	.594	0.5	L.A. Clippers	24	6	.800	-
Indiana	13	18	.419	6.0	L.A. Lakers	16	14	.533	8.0
Detroit	4	24	.143	13.5	Sacramento	16	14	.533	8.5
Southeast	W	L	PCT.	GB	Southwest	W	L	PCT.	GB
Miami	18	12	.600	-	Memphis	12	18	.400	12.0
Charlotte	16	15	.516	2.5	Dallas	19	11	.633	-
Washington	16	15	.516	2.5	San Antonio	14	14	.500	4.0
Atlanta	14	15	.483	3.5	Houston	11	17	.393	7.0
Orlando	6	25	.194	12.5	New Orleans	10	20	.333	9.0
						10	21	.323	9.5

## Wrestling

# Carmel, HSE tie for first at Osborn Invitational

The Carmel and Hamilton Southeastern wrestling teams finished in a tie for first place Saturday at the Kyle Osborn Memorial Invitational at McCutcheon.

Both the Greyhounds and the Royals scored 219.5 points at the tournament, and both teams finished with four weight-division champions. Carmel, in fact, went 1-2 in the 145-pound class, as Eitan Halevi beat Nayl Sbay in a 7-1 decision for first place. Other winners were Gavin Thompson at 113, Isaac Ward at 126 and Michael Major at 132.

The Royals got their first victory from Zach Lang at 138 pounds. Southeastern then dominated the upper weights, with Zach Wagner winning at 182, Max Broom taking first at 195 and Dom Burgett the winner at 285.

**Team scores:** Carmel 219.5, Hamilton Southeastern 219.5, Portage 172, Harrison 152, Western 129.5, McCutcheon 129, Lafayette Central Catholic 70.5, Plainfield 43.

**Carmel placings**  
106: Jackson Elliott, 3rd  
113: Gavin Thompson, 1st  
126: Isaac Ward, 1st  
132: Michael Major, 1st  
138: Luke Farling, 2nd; Embry Horal, 3rd  
145: Eitan Halevi, 1st; Nayl Sbay, 2nd  
152: Trevor Gallagher, 2nd  
160: Jackson Schmidt, 5th  
170: Matthew Green, 5th  
182: Joseph DelBusto, 5th  
195: Sam Johnson, 2nd  
220: Seth Richardsdon, 5th  
285: Jack Milligan, 2nd

**Southeastern placings**  
106: Aidan Smalley, 6th; Tyler Jackson, 7th  
113: Nick Anderson, 4th; Matt Billet, 7th  
120: Ethan Berens, 2nd  
126: Blake Alvarado, 4th  
132: Riley Fredericksen, 3rd  
138: Zach Lang, 1st  
145: Ryan Hartig, 3rd  
152: Nick Jakubs, 5th  
160: Nick Casler, 3rd  
170: Ryan Cast, 2nd  
182: Zach Wagner, 1st  
195: Max Broom, 1st  
220: Charlie Irish, 6th  
285: Dom Burgett, 1st

Carmel competed at the Penn Girls Invitational on Saturday.

Katie Mattingly was the champion at 138 pounds, winning the first-place match in a first-period fall.

**Carmel results**  
120B: Chloe DeLeon, 5th  
138: Katie Mattingly, 1st  
152: Ice Diatta, 8th  
170: Lissa Salisbury, 3rd  
182: Sydney Molaski, 6th

Fishers finished third at the Bloomington South Holiday Invitational on Saturday.

The Tigers went 2-1 in three duals. Fishers fell to Brownsburg 33-30 in Round and lost to Bloomington South 56-19 in Round 2, then defeated Seymour 69-6 in Round 3.

Three Tigers wrestlers finished the event unbeaten at 3-0: Quenton Riley at 120 pounds, Griffin Ingalls at 126 and Jacob Carroll at 220.

Westfield went 3-2 at the Henry Wilk Classic Saturday at Penn High School.

The Shamrocks beat Jimtown 44-29, Edwardsburg 56-18 and Penn 42-36, while losing to Springboro 40-17 and Mishawaka 46-23.

Complete individual results were unavailable at press time.



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