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Tonight: Partly cloudy.

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# Going green for Veterans

Everyone encouraged to show support during “Operation Green Light”

# Building your dream home? Beware arbitration clauses

**The REPORTER**

Hamilton County has lit the Historic Courthouse in Noblesville green as part of Operation Green Light, a new initiative between Hamilton County, the Indiana Association of Counties, the National Association of Counties, and the National Association of County Veteran Service Officers.

Operation Green Light’s mission is to show support for veterans of all military conflicts, as well as raise awareness about the unique challenges faced by many veterans (and their families) and the resources that are available at the county, state, and federal level to assist them.

“By shining the green light, we’re expressing our profound gratitude for the sacrifices and contributions our veterans and their families made on the battlefield, at home,” said Steve Dillinger, president of the Hamilton



Dillinger

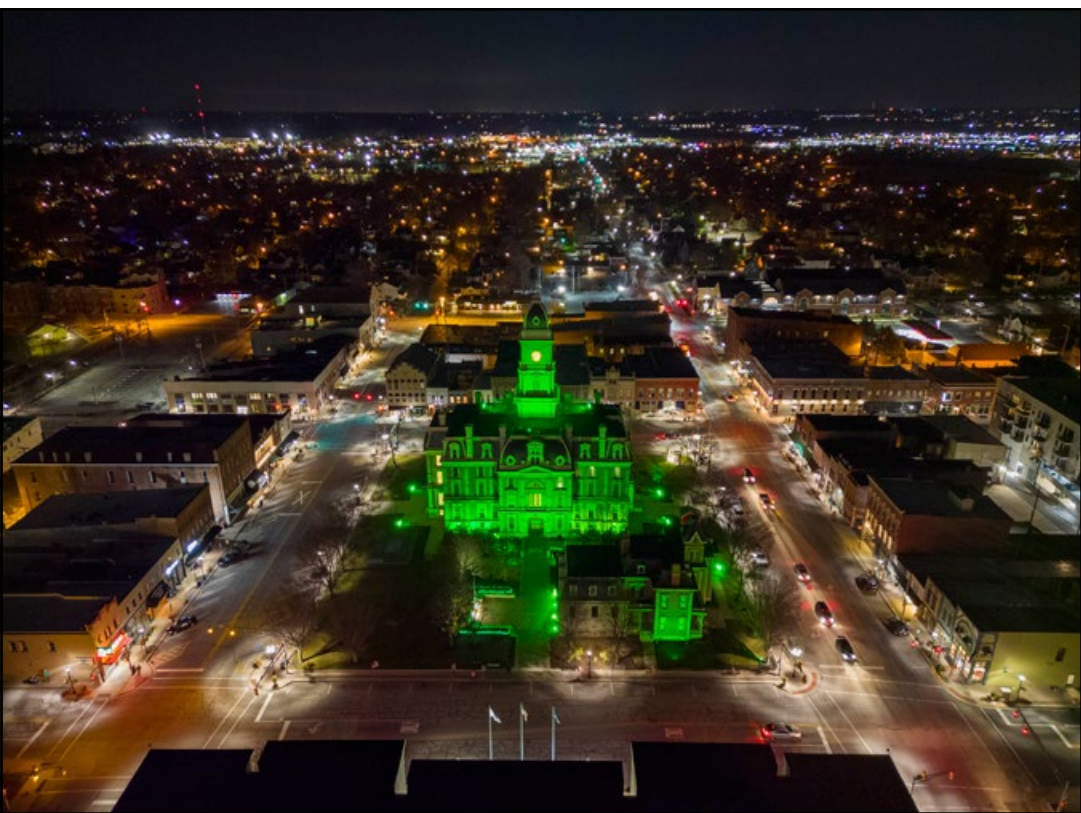


Photo provided by Hamilton County Government

**Operation Green Light’s mission is to show support for veterans of all military conflicts, as well as raise awareness about the unique challenges faced by many veterans (and their families) and the resources that are available assist them.**

County Commissioners. “At a time when our country is faced with so many issues, we can all agree that those individuals who risked, and sacrificed their lives fighting to protect our country and our way of life deserve our support. I encourage everyone to join us in displaying a green light.”

See Green . . . Page 2

# Give hope with Westfield Youth Assistance this holiday season

**The REPORTER**

For the fifth year, Westfield Youth Assistance Program (WYAP) will participate in Giving Tuesday. This year a loyal donor, George Kristo, will match every donation, dollar for dollar, up to \$12,500.

Giving Tuesday is a worldwide day of charitable giving that occurs each year on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving. There’s Black Friday, Cyber Monday, and Giving Tuesday, a day set aside for people to transform their communities.

WYAP will use the dollars raised from Giving Tuesday to tutor students who need extra educational support, provide

financial assistance for winter and summer camp participation, support for the mentoring program, and link youth to critical community support resources like counseling and skills development.

“Every dollar received goes towards changing the life of a young person in need. Being able to match those dollars with the generous gift from George Kristo for our annual Giving Tuesday campaign brings us one step closer to giving youth in Westfield every advantage to be successful,” WYAP Board President Steve Latour said.



Photo provided by Westfield Youth Assistance Program

See Youth . . . Page 2 Every dollar you give will help change the life of a child.

# Heights Elementary students will stage Moana Jr. for one day only next weekend

**The REPORTER**

Hamilton Heights Elementary School will soon present a live performance of the musical adventure, *Moana Jr.*, at Hamilton Heights High School Auditorium at 1 and 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 19.

The community is invited to attend this spectacular 60-minute musical adaptation of the 2016 Disney animated film bringing the adventures of Moana and her village of Motunui to life onstage.

Designed for elementary school-aged performers, *Moana Jr.* features all the beloved songs from the film, written by Tony®, GRAMMY, Emmy, and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Lin-Manuel Miranda, Opeaia Foa’i, and Mark Mancina, including “How Far I’ll Go,” “Shiny,” and “You’re Welcome.”

See Moana . . . Page 2



Photos provided

(Above left) HHHS assistants Emma Trees and Brinley Flaherty model the hats for characters Hei Hei and Pua in the production of *Moana Jr.* (Above right) Zoe Kincaid, an HHES fourth grader, poses with her Te fiti wig in the production of *Moana Jr.*

It is time to build your dream home.

You find a local company that has built numerous other homes. It has a welcoming model home and a smooth-talking sales agent. You and your spouse are going to have a new home that is done your way with all the features that you desire.

**COLUMNIST**

**RAY ADLER**  
*Ask Adler*

The construction contract seems to be very thorough as you walk through the options with the agent and put down a significant deposit. The salesman indicates that they have related title, insurance, and finance companies that will make the process seamless.

But then things start going wrong.

Lately, we have seen cases where regional and national builders have not complied with the terms of their own agreement. Furthermore, many of these construction contracts require meditation and/or arbitration. Often an arbitration clause limits your rights to go to court and gives up your right to a jury trial.

Exactly what is an arbitration agreement? An arbitration agreement is a legally binding term in a contract that provides an alternative method of resolving a legal dispute. Namely, utilizing the services of an independent third party who resolves the dispute. Arbitration claims to be faster, more flexible, affordable, and private, and many of the evidentiary rules found in the court system are relaxed or do not apply.

However, for the consumer, arbitration rarely results in a level playing field.

Despite the claims of its informality and faster resolution, arbitration is quite expensive. In addition to the attorney fees one will likely incur, the arbitrator also charges for his or her services and arbitrator fees are not cheap! In reality, arbitration clauses are used to discourage litigation and usually are detrimental to the consumer.

If you are preparing to purchase a home from one of the numerous home builders in the area, carefully read through your construction contract and be sure to understand what rights you might be giving up by signing the contract.

*Educational material and not legal advice, written by the team at Adler attorneys. Email [andrea@noblesvilleattorney.com](mailto:andrea@noblesvilleattorney.com) with questions or comments.*

## Veterans get discount for Carmel Symphony’s Masterworks 2 show

**The REPORTER**

The Carmel Symphony Orchestra (CSO) will honor U.S. military veterans and current active-duty military personnel with a special invitation to the *Masterworks 2* performance this Saturday, Nov. 12.

Call the Palladium’s Fifth Third Bank Box Office at (317) 843-3800, note your military status, and you’ll receive a 50 percent discount on your ticket purchase. No special code is necessary – just plan to show your official ID when you pick up your tickets at the box office. It’s CSO’s way of expressing a sincere thank you for your service and sacrifices.

By the way – did you know that CSO Executive Director Cara Pittenger is a U.S. Army veteran? She served for six years with the 38th Infantry Division Band.

Among selections on Saturday’s Masterworks 2 program are the Bruch *Violin Concerto No. 1*, *Colas Breugnon Overture* by Kabalevsky, the Rimsky-Korsakov *Capriccio Espagnol*, *Op. 34*, and the glorious *Pines of Rome*, the tone poem for orchestra by Respighi, written as a tribute to various scenes in and around Italy’s beloved capital.

This will truly be an evening of music you will not want to miss. Order your tickets now at [CarmelSymphony.org](http://CarmelSymphony.org).



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Weatherman!

# GREEN

from Page 1

Residents are encouraged to participate by simply changing one light bulb in their house to a green bulb. This can be an exterior light that neighbors and passersby see, or an interior light that sparks a conversation with friends. By shining a green light, we are letting our veterans know that they are seen, appreciated, and supported.

While this event is focused around the week of Veterans Day, participants are encouraged to continue shining the light year-round. Participants are encouraged to share their participation on social media using the hashtag #OperationGreenLight.

# YOUTH

from Page 1

“Giving to this campaign creates the opportunity for Westfield and Hamilton County neighbors to come together. What we can continue to accomplish together is truly remarkable. I hope we can count on your support.”

Click here to join in today with your meaningful support.

**About WYAP**

WYAP was formed in 2009 to serve as an early intervention advocate for youth ages 3 to 17 facing challenging life circumstances. Services are voluntary, confidential, and are provided at no cost to the family and include mentoring, tutoring, food, clothing, financial assistance, camps, and recreational opportunities, just to name a few.

For additional information and ways to volunteer, click here.

# MOANA

from Page 1

This thrilling and heartwarming coming-of-age story follows the strong-willed Moana as she sets sail across the Pacific to save her village and discover the truth about her heritage. Moana and the legendary demigod Maui embark on an epic journey of self-discovery and camaraderie as both learn to harness the power that lies within. With empowering messages of bravery and selflessness, Moana Jr. is sure to bring out the hero within each of us.

The cast is composed of 60 students from the elementary school (grades 3 to 5) and 15 student production crew members from the middle and high school directed by Marianne Collar.

“This production is a collaboration of elementary, middle, and high school students along with teachers, retired teachers, and community members,” said Collar, now in her third year of directing elementary students’ live performances.

“We are beyond excited to bring Hamilton Heights Elementary School’s fall musical back to the stage after a two-year hiatus during COVID,” Collar said. “The cast has been working very hard to bring an amazing performance to the community. I am also excited to have former performers in our previous productions of *Lion King* and *Aladdin* joining to be assistant directors, vocal and acting role models, and backstage crew members. We hope the community comes out in force to support these young performances while enjoying a fun and heartwarming show.”

Advance tickets are \$5 (kindergarten to adult) and can be purchased online at [this link](#). Tickets will be \$7 at the door. Hamilton Heights High School is located at 25802 State Road 19, Arcadia. Enter through the main doors of the office.

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:

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(From left) Keep Noblesville Beautiful volunteers Ann Lehman, Dagny Zupin, Molly Martin, Chris Martin, Darren Peterson, and Jack Martin are shown here in front of the new roundabout sculpture.

## Come 'Sail Away IN Indiana'

### New roundabout art installed at Hague & Carrigan

#### The REPORTER

The intersection of Hague and Carrigan roads is a little more colorful this week.

On Sunday, artist Kevin Huff and volunteers from Keep Noblesville Beautiful (KNB) installed the three-piece aquatic-themed sculpture. The sculpture features a sailboat and two of the white pelicans that Morse Reservoir is known for.

KNB has been fundraising for years to install roundabout art in Noblesville. This particular sculpture was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Indiana Destination Development Corporation.

According to KNB President Darren Peterson, more roundabout art is planned for Noblesville.

"We are extremely happy with how this piece turned out," Peterson said. "Huff captured the bright, vibrant atmosphere of Morse Reservoir that so



Photo provided

many residents and visitors enjoy. Over the next three years we hope to bring four more sculptures to the City of Noblesville."

Peterson said the next art installation will be a butterfly sculpture and pollinator garden at the intersection of 191st Street and Little Chicago Road. The

191st and Little Chicago sculpture was the recipient of a Duke Energy Foundation nature grant, which has helped to accelerate the in-

stallation timeline.

Those interested in learning more about KNB's projects can visit [KeepNoblesvilleBeautiful.org](http://KeepNoblesvilleBeautiful.org).

## Thanks for reading The Reporter!

## Student Impact

### Student Impact basketball kicks off with record breaking registrations

#### The REPORTER

Student Impact has played host to Westfield's recreational sports program for seventh- through 12th-grade students for nearly 20 years.

This year, more than 430 players have registered for the basketball league, which is more students than the organization has ever accommodated. Games begin Friday, Nov. 18 at the Pacers Athletic Center and will take place Friday evenings through Feb. 17, 2023.

The Student Impact leagues are focused on sportsmanship, development, and fun while remaining competitive.

"Players are reminded

throughout the season to not focus on the simple task of winning, but to progress in their teamwork and skill which ultimately aligns with the goal of our organization," Student Impact Executive Director Danyele Easterhaus said. "This league would not be possible without the support and partnership of Andy Card and the amazing team at the Pacers Athletic Center, who continue to believe in our mission."

The full schedules will be posted at [therockwestfield.org/basketball](http://therockwestfield.org/basketball). The boys league registration is currently closed, but there are still spots available for the girls league. You can register by visiting the website.

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## 2022 GIVING TUESDAY

Our 2022 Giving Tuesday Campaign is underway and will extend through December 2nd.

Thanks to a generous supporter, George Kristo, all donations will be matched up to \$12,500 so your donation can double in size!

**Support our Giving Tuesday campaign today by visiting:**  
**[WestfieldYouth.Kindful.com](http://WestfieldYouth.Kindful.com)**



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**Since 2009 we have served over 1,400 youth**

Westfield Youth Assistance Program advocates for youth ages 3-17 who are facing difficult life circumstances.

We collaborate with our community's vast array of talents, services and resources to help empower our youth, parents and caregivers.

**Our services are free and voluntary.**







## Brown excited to get to work for Carmel students

### The REPORTER

Carmel Clay Schools board member-elect Greg Brown released this statement following his victory for the District 3 seat:

"I am honored to have been elected to the Carmel Clay School (CCS) Board.

"Our schools have been the crown jewel of Carmel for many years. However, this trend is changing as we have seen many families look for other options. A majority of our

community has spoken in this election to search for common ground where our schools make academic excellence our priority focus.

"I have been humbled by the amazing and spirited team of people that came together to get our message out. I look forward to working with the Board and the Administration to find solutions that make Carmel schools the best choice for our families."



Brown

## Sceniak: Libertarians will continue to push for expanded freedoms

### The REPORTER

James Sceniak, the Libertarian Party of Indiana's candidate for United States Senate, issued the following statement Tuesday night after conceding the race to Republican Todd Young:

"Congratulations to Todd Young. From our perspective, there are so many people who worked so hard this election cycle. I believe we accomplished a lot of goals in our race, including supporting other Libertarian candidates on the ballot.

"I want to thank Evan McMahon, our state chair, campaign manager Danny Lundy, and the rest of my team for their support. I couldn't ask for a better team. I got to see much of the state, from door-knocking events or the fairs and

the many moments we could meet voters. Those were incredible events to go to. I'm thankful to have the

opportunities to see the hard work of the county affiliates throughout the state.

"As a Libertarian Party, we are at an important moment. We are a party that will run candidates that value freedom, that value our First and Second Amendment rights, that value fiscal sanity and civil liberties. When we look at these issues, they don't stop tonight. They're issues we will have to continue to have a voice for.

"We are going to continue to push forward and make sure every single election cycle, Hoosiers and Americans will have the opportunity to vote for liberty and freedom for all."



Sceniak

## Indiana Senate Democrats re-elect Greg Taylor as leader

### The REPORTER

On Wednesday, Indiana Senate Democrats convened in Indianapolis to elect its 123rd General Assembly leadership team.

Members of the Democratic caucus voted to re-elect State Senator Greg Taylor (D-Indianapolis) as Indiana Senate Democratic Leader.

"I'm extremely grateful to be re-elected as Senate Democratic Leader, and I look forward to continuing to fight for the rights and lives of Hoosiers with the members of this caucus," Sen. Taylor said. "In recent years, Hoosiers have seen an unrelenting attack on their rights by our supermajority, and my caucus will continue working to protect our residents from the gross government overreach and bad public policies that have become a trend from this body.

"We will also be fighting to successfully secure meaningful investments for Hoosiers in the upcoming Budget session. We will have ample opportunity to protect families, rebuild futures and restore Hoosier freedom this session, and my caucus will be fighting to do that."

State Senator Shelli Yoder (D-Bloomington) was elected to serve as the new Senate Assistant Democrat-

ic Leader.

"I was extremely happy Sen. Yoder accepted my nomination of her for this position," Sen. Melton said. "This is going to be a very important session fiscally for our caucus, and as ranking minority member of the Budget Committee and the Senate Appropriations Committee, it's critical that I focus on that

as well as pressing local issues in my district. I know Sen. Yoder will do a fantastic job, and I'm extremely proud of what we've collectively accomplished over the last several years. I wholeheartedly support her in this role and will continue supporting my caucus and Hoosiers in every way I can as we move forward."

State Senator JD Ford (D-Indianapolis) was also re-elected to continue in his role as Democratic Caucus Chair.

Senate Minority Leader Greg Taylor represents Senate District 33 which includes portions of Wayne, Pike, Washington and Center townships in Marion County. For more information on Sen. Taylor, his legislative agenda or other State Senate business call 1-800-382-9467 or visit [IN.gov/s33](http://IN.gov/s33).



Taylor

# County still red, but margin is shrinking

Republicans swept every one of the offices on the Hamilton County ballot in Tuesday's mid-term election from U.S. Senator to township board members. Although many, especially at

township level, went uncontested to the GOP. So, you'd think they would be quite happy with the results. Voter turnout was 48 percent, about what is expected in the mid-term.

Republicans are, of course, happy to win, but the margins are growing smaller with each election. Democrats were not satisfied with the results, but voice optimism about



FRED SWIFT  
The County Line

the future. A few years ago, Republicans won with 70 and even 75 percent in most contests.

In Tuesday's election, GOP margins in countywide races were in the range of 57 to 59 percent. Some at the township level were even closer. In many counties that would be considered good enough, but in Hamilton County it is not outstanding.

So what is happening? The massive number of new residents is making a difference. Many are more liberal, and the county is getting more diverse. This shows up at the ballot box.

How will the parties

deal with this?

Issues are important, but only if presented by candidates. Republicans should have an advantage here because most residents seem happy with the peaceful and prosperous environment in the county.

Democrats are likely to agree but promise to make further improvements. They will need to recruit more candidates so as not to leave offices uncontested and continue to get new residents registered to vote and to the polls on Election Day.

Republicans may try to tighten up their precinct organization in an effort to locate their voters, better inform them and ready to vote. They will also need top-notch candidates so as

not to simply rely on the Republican label.

Next year's election is for municipal offices: mayor, city council, city clerk and town council in the smaller communities.

The trend toward shrinking GOP margins may continue, especially in Fishers and Carmel as hundreds of new apartment units fill with a new, younger, and more diverse population.

So, future elections will likely be decided by the political party that best adapts to the changing demographics and demands of the growing electorate.

Columnist Fred Swift has worked in newspapers for decades. He has been sharing his opinions in the pages of *The Reporter* since it began.

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Letter to the Editor

# Time for Democrats to get back to basics

Dear Editor:

I write this on 2022 Election Eve morning when shortly we Democrats will learn the people's will here in Indiana and around our Union.

Professional political organizations that win most of the time learn lessons and debate among themselves the best strategy forward to win more offices in the next election cycle.

As a successful political operative for many cycles in Kansas and Michigan in the 1990s and early 2000s, it is difficult to self-analyze a losing strategy in real time during the course of a campaign that could have produced a General Election victory. However, this skill is necessary to win.

Sadly, it appears evident the Indiana Democratic Party is not able or willing to effectively analyze our shortcomings.

Look at this year: our U.S. Senate nominee Tom McDermott is publicly complaining D.C. wrote him off. There are many progressives who were shocked at the way TWO ladies of color were treated in February as they were booted from the primary ballot. One is a write-in Senatorial candidate!

We Democrats appear to be controlled opposition, not competitive opposition.

In Johnson County, Democrats handed over most of the countywide seats to the opposition. I voted Saturday and had two township candidates and a State Sen-

ate candidate to choose, but that was it.

Congressmen Mrvan and Carson are our only federal office holders with the other seven Congressional seats given up to the opposition.

Who is doing the polling for the state party? Who thought making abortion the crux issue instead of inflation and the economic crisis we all are experiencing the KEY concern for Hoosier voters?

If we Democrats would have taken time to perceive the 2022 political reality instead of finding our strategies in the echo chamber of constant losing positions and ideas, we could be competitive statewide and in some Congressional districts outside of the blue bubbles which are the bones thrown to us by the powerful decision makers for our state.

I love what the Democratic Party SHOULD stand for: the economic security and advancement of the working and retired middle class of this country.

Sadly, all we regular folks have these days is a choice between a red or blue private corporation that cares more about Wall Street and K Street lobbyists than they give a hoot about you and me on Main Street, USA.

I'm still hoping for a change, and at 63, my hope is stronger than ever; however, my disappointments are too. We must do better.

**Rev. Mark J Powell, M.Div.**  
*Whiteland*

Letters to the Editor do not reflect the opinions of The Reporter, its publisher or its staff. You can submit your own Letter to the Editor by email to [News@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:News@ReadTheReporter.com). Please include your phone number and city of residence. The Reporter will publish one letter per person per week.

## Indiana Hospital Association urges vigilance & prevention as respiratory viruses spike

**The REPORTER**

Indiana hospital leaders are urging the public to help prevent respiratory illnesses from spreading as a combination of an unseasonably early arrival of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and influenza (flu), ongoing COVID-19 cases, and critical health care workforce shortages continue to strain hospital capacity.

According to Indiana Hospital Association (IHA), the availability of pediatric hospital beds is the most pressing concern. Across the five largest Indiana hospitals specializing in care for children, pediatric beds were more than 70 percent occupied. At some of these facilities, intensive care beds for the sickest children were around 90 percent full.

IHA is urging families to seek care for mild symptoms and routine testing at settings other than the emergency room, such as an urgent care center or family physician's office when possible.

"Emergency department wait times can increase quickly and resources can become depleted by visits for non-emergency medical conditions," said Karin Kennedy, IHA's Vice President of Quality and Patient Safety. "We also ask everyone to take the simple steps that are proven to slow the spread of respiratory diseases like RSV and the flu, such as hand hygiene."

Kennedy said IHA is closely monitoring statewide bed capacity and regularly communicating with its members' clinical leaders and public health officials.

IHA offered the following tips for treatment and prevention:

- DON'T: Seek hospital emergency care for non-emergency medical conditions, such as mild symptoms and routine testing.
- DO: Seek hospital emergency care if symptoms are worrisome and emergency care is needed. Emergency medical conditions can include difficulty breathing, dehydration, and worsening symptoms.
- DO: Immediately get vaccinated against the flu and COVID-19, if eligible. Visit [vaccines.gov](http://vaccines.gov) to search for vaccine availability or call your provider or the local health department.
- DO: Be patient if seeking care through a hospital emergency department. Consider that wait times may be elevated as respiratory illnesses reach seasonal peak levels.
- DO: Consider wearing a mask in public places including at school when you know local case rates of RSV, flu, or COVID-19 are high.
- DO: Practice frequent

and proper hand washing. **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

- DO: Stay home if you are not feeling well.
- DO: Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue, not your hands.
- DO: Avoid close contact, such as kissing, shaking hands, and sharing cups and eating utensils with others.
- DO: Clean frequently-touched surfaces such as doorknobs and mobile devices.

**About the Indiana Hospital Association**

The Indiana Hospital Association serves as the professional trade association for more than 170 acute care, critical access, behavioral health, and other specialized hospitals in Indiana. IHA advocates on behalf of its members in Indiana's General Assembly, U.S. Congress, and with multiple regulatory agencies at the state and federal levels. Dedicated to improving quality, patient safety, and Hoosiers' health status, IHA holds numerous grants and facilitates collaboration among hospitals to improve outcomes. IHA also provides members with the data analytics that they need to ensure access to quality, cost-effective health care services across the state of Indiana. To learn more about IHA, visit [IHA-connect.org](http://IHA-connect.org).

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# Carmel-based Merchants Mortgage announces two hires

**The REPORTER**

Merchants Mortgage, a division of Merchants Bank of Indiana, has announced the hiring of Reija Eden and Bryan Neitzelt as Correspondent Account Executives. Eden and Neitzelt will join the Western Region Sales Division at Merchants Mortgage, focusing their business efforts along the West Coast.

Eden joins the team at Merchants with more than 20 years of experience in the mortgage industry, having held various positions at JMAC Lending, Newfi Lending and Carrington Mortgage. She brings a breadth of expertise to her new role, specifically in underwriting, sales production, business development and operations. In her most recent position with JMAC Lending, Eden was responsible for soliciting wholesale and correspondent business throughout the Orange County region. She is a graduate of the Marketing Institute in Helsinki, Finland, and holds a degree in international business.

Before joining Merchants Bank, Neitzelt most recently served as a correspondent account manager at Northpointe Bank in Grand Rapids, Mich. In this role, he was responsible for the day-to-day management and support of the division's client relationships, serving as the main point of contact for client questions and capital market issues. Neitzelt also oversaw submission of new client applications and managed the recertification process for all company clients. He holds a bachelor's degree in business finance from John Carroll University.

In their new capacities as Correspondent Sales Executives for Merchants, Eden and Neitzelt will be responsible for cultivating relationships with and acquiring new clients primarily in the Western Region of the U.S.



Eden



Neitzelt

They will manage and offer guidance in relation to the purchasing of loans, ensuring high-quality acquisitions that will remain profitable on the secondary market.

"We are very excited to welcome Reija and Bryan to our Merchants team," said Rob Wilson, Vice President of Correspondent Lending at Merchants Bank. "Our fresh approach to mortgage banking and lending propels our company and our clients forward. We take pride in our clients' decision to partner with us, and are confident Reija and Bryan are well suited to further support this mission as we continue to expand the Merchants footprint across the nation."

To learn more about Merchants Bank of Indiana, visit [merchantsbankofindiana.com](http://merchantsbankofindiana.com).

# AG Rokita working to protect U.S. military veterans from scams

**The REPORTER**

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita is warning veterans and their families to be alert to scammers who target the military community.



Rokita

"On Veterans Day, we Hoosiers pay tribute to the brave men and women who have served in our U.S. armed forces," Rokita said. "Unfortunately, scammers lurk among us who endeavor not to honor our veterans but rather to take insidious advantage of them and their loved ones."

Rokita prioritizes bringing criminal fraudsters to justice. At the same time – by providing education and raising awareness – he helps would-be victims avoid falling prey to con artists' schemes in the first place.

Recent scams for which veterans and military service members should be on the lookout include bogus military charities, calls, texts or emails attempting to impersonate the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), copycat recruiting websites, and crowdfunding scams.

For the most part, Rokita said, military personnel and veterans should follow the same preventative steps as other consumers. In addition, however, they should pay particular attention to the possibility that scammers may use misleading photos or language to falsely imply an association with a branch of the military or veterans group.

Following are tips on protecting personal and financial information:

- Place an active-duty

alert on credit reports at no cost. An active-duty alert requires businesses to take additional steps before granting credit in the name of the active duty personnel serving overseas.

- Carefully inspect email addresses in all messages landing in your inbox.
- Avoid clicking on links in unsolicited emails and be wary of email attachments.
- Purchase goods and services from trusted vendors. Use trusted, legitimate websites when doing business online.
- Don't reveal personal or financial information via email or text message.
- Verify the authenticity of a charity before donating money. You may research charities at the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance website at [give.org](http://give.org).
- Pay by credit card for all transactions. This enables you to file disputes with your credit card provider if you encounter fraudulent sellers. Do not wire money to purchase items. Never pay with gift cards.
- Do not follow payment instructions that take you outside of the payment services of legitimate websites with which you are familiar. This is generally a phishing attempt to steal credit card information.
- Take your time. Never feel pressured to act immediately to sign a contract or make a transaction.

If you believe you've encountered a scam, file a complaint with the Office of the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division at [indianaconsumer.com](http://indianaconsumer.com).

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# (317) 773-1974

### Meeting Notice

The Carmel Clay Schools Board of Trustees will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 14, 2022, at the Carmel Clay Schools Educational Services Center, 5201 E. Main St., Carmel.

Send Meeting Notices to:  
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# River Road robbers roll up on Payless Liquors four deep



At 12:58 p.m. on Nov. 3, Carmel police officers responded to Payless Liquors, 14580 River Road, regarding a robbery. The four individuals pictured above were captured on surveillance video and are believed to have taken numerous bottles of liquor during the incident. If you have any information on these persons, please call Detective Mike Morley at the Carmel Police Department at (317) 571-2500 or Crime Stoppers of Central Indiana at (317) 262-8477 (TIPS). Please reference CPD case number 20-70453.

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## Robert Leslie Pettijohn Sr. June 27, 1937 – November 8, 2022



Robert Leslie Pettijohn Sr., 85, Noblesville, passed away on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, at Prairie Lakes Health Campus in Noblesville. He was born on June 27, 1937, to William and Helen (Burris) Pettijohn in Indianapolis.

Bob proudly served his country in the United States Army. For over 30 years, he worked for General Motors as a linesman. Bob enjoyed fishing and watching sporting events. He was a proud and involved grandpa to his grandkids. He loved their visits and time together with his family.

Bob is survived by his daughter, Brenda (James) Christenson; three grandchildren, Jacquelynn Marie Christenson, James Zachary Christenson, and Jacob Andrew Christenson; three stepdaughters, Pam Langford, Jimmye Sue Rogers, and Billie Vaughn; as well as several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Marjorie Vaughn Pettijohn; son, Robert Leslie Pettijohn Jr.; sister, Martha Louise Pope; and his brother, Charles Pettijohn.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to noon, with services at noon, on Monday, November 14, 2022, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, in Noblesville. Rev. Stanley R. Sutton will officiate.

Memorial contributions may be made to Muscular Dystrophy Association, WEB P.O. Box 97075, Washington, DC 20090-7075 ([mda.org](http://mda.org)); or American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 681405, Indianapolis, IN 46268-1405 ([cancer.org](http://cancer.org)).

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

## Barbara Jean Dodd July 24, 1935 – November 8, 2022



Barbara Jean Dodd, 87, Cicero, passed away on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, at her home. She was born on July 24, 1935, to Maurice and Marie Hoffman in Vincennes, Ind.

She is survived by her son, Bill (Sandy) Dodd; and three grandchildren, Christina, Jacob, and Rece Dodd.

In addition to her parents, Barbara was preceded in death by her husband, William E Dodd.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, November 12, 2022, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan St., Noblesville. Burial will follow at Cicero Cemetery in Cicero.

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

## TODAY'S BIBLE READING

*Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God. This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not God's child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister.*

1 John 3:7-10 (NIV)

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## — COUNTY —

### WHITE RIVER CAMPGROUND SANITARY AND WATER UPGRADES HAMILTON COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT NOBLESVILLE, IN 46060 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for the construction of the **White River Campground Sanitary and Water Upgrades** will be received, by Hamilton County Parks and Recreation, at the office of the **400 Lafayette Road, Noblesville, IN 46060**, until **12:00 pm, Noon**, local time on **November 23, 2022**, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bids received later than the above time will be returned unopened.

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK:** Replacement of the existing water treatment facility with a 0.1 MGD water treatment facility including raw water tank, on-site hypochlorite generation system, pressure tanks, and other miscellaneous treatment equipment; the replacement of the water distribution system throughout the campground which includes approximately 7,200 linear feet of water main; the replacement of the sanitary sewer collection system which includes 4 E-One Grinder Stations and approximately 4,000 linear feet of gravity sewer and approximately 4,700 linear feet of low pressure sewer; installation of a new commercial septic system for the campground; including all other miscellaneous items, site work, and appurtenances.

**BID DOCUMENTS:** Copies of the Specifications and Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of Banning Engineering, 853 Columbia Road, Suite 101, Plainfield, IN 46168. Copies of the documents are available for examining beginning at **10:00 am**, local time, **Friday, November 4, 2022**. Paper copies will be **\$125.00** and electronic copies will be **\$25.00**. Payments shall be made by check, money order or cash payable to **Banning Engineering**.

**INDIANA REQUIREMENTS:** Standard Questionnaire Form 96, shall be completely filled out and signed, including attachment of Contractor's Financial Statement as stipulated in Section III. An E-Verify Certification Form is also required.

Bids shall be properly and completely executed on Bid Forms and in the order as identified and contained in the Contract Documents obtainable from the offices as stated above. Each bid shall be accompanied by a completely filled out Form No. 96, E-Verify Certification Form and acceptable Bid Security. Any bid not accompanied by the above-required items shall be deemed a non-responsive bid.

No Bidder may withdraw his bid within a period of 60 days following the date set for the receiving of bids. The Owner reserves the right to retain any and all bids for a period of not more than 60 days and said bid shall remain in full force and effect during said time. The Owner further reserves the right to waive informalities and to award the Contract to any Bidder, all to the advantage of the Owner or to reject all bids.

**BID SECURITY:** Each bid shall be accompanied by an acceptable certified check made payable to **Hamilton County Parks Department** or an acceptable bid bond in the amount equal to five (5%) percent of the total bid price executed by an incorporated surety company in good standing and qualified to do business in the State of Indiana and whose name appears on the most current Treasury Department Circular No. 570.

**PRE-BID CONFERENCE:** A pre-bid conference will be held at **10:00 am** local time on **November 14, 2022** at the **White River Campground** located at **11299 East 234th Street, Cicero, IN 46034**. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is highly encouraged but is not mandatory.

**BONDS:** A Performance Bond and Payment Bond each in the amount of 100 percent of the Contract price will be required from the Contractor to whom the work is awarded.

Owner: Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department  
Date: November 2, 2022  
R1589

11/3, 11/7, 11/10, 11/14/22

## — COUNTY —

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The forever benefit on a land patent located in Hamilton county Indiana is being perfected upon T19N-R5E-E1/2SW1/4S31. Anyone interested in examining or challenging this claim by 11-18-2022, can go to <https://americanmeetinggroup.com/jackson/>.  
R1346

9/19/22 through 11/18/22

### PUBLIC NOTICE

The forever benefit on a land patent located in Hamilton county Indiana is being perfected upon T18N - R4E - SE 1/4 SW 1/4 S17. Anyone interested in examining or challenging this claim by 12-5-2022, can go to <https://americanMeetingGroup.com/kjackson/>.  
R1447

10/5/22 through 12/5/22

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Basketball—

# University girls fall to Danville

By **RICHIE HALL**  
[sports@readthereporter.com](mailto:sports@readthereporter.com)

**CARMEL** – University dropped its first game of the season Wednesday, falling to a tough Danville team 57-48 at the U Center.

The Warriors led for most of the first half, and held a 17-10 advantage at the end of the first quarter. Payton Seay kept the Class 2A No. 3 Trailblazers in the game, scoring six points, and her layin had University within 12-10 late in the period, before Danville put in five points to end the quarter.

Freshman Keira Bright opened the second period with a 3-pointer, to cut the Warriors lead to 17-13. Danville still was ahead 26-19 midway the quarter, but the ‘Blazers went on a big run, outscoring the Warriors 12-2 for a 31-28 lead. Bright and DuBois both scored five points, including another 3 for Bright, while Seay added four points.

Danville scored a last-second layin to stay within 31-30 at halftime. University controlled most of the third quarter, eventually leading 41-34. DuBois was dominant during that time, with eight points, including a pair of putbacks.

But the Warriors started a run during the last minute of the period, getting within 41-39 going into the fourth quarter. Seay opened the fourth with a layin, but Danville took control of the entire period by making a 15-3 run. The Warriors were able to run things out from there.

University coach Justin Blanding was blunt after



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

University’s Peyton Seay scored 19 points to lead the Trailblazers during their Wednesday game with Danville at the U Center.

the game: “We’re just not tough enough,” he said. The Warriors had several steals during the game and made five putbacks, scattering them throughout the game.

“They got to fix it, or there’s going to be a lot of this,” said Blanding. “There’s a difference between playing and competing and we didn’t compete. When you compete, you’re tough.”

Three Trailblazers reached double figures. Seay scored 19 points, DuBois had 15 and Bright added 12 points. DuBois pulled 14 rebounds to reach double-double status and also handed out five assists. Seay collected nine rebounds, while Patterson had five assists and four rebounds.

University is 3-1 and returns to action next Tuesday when it plays at Cathedral, the first of a six-game road stretch.

DANVILLE 57, UNIVERSITY 48				
Danville	FG	FT	TP	PF
Kelsey DuBois	6-11	3-5	15	5
Keira Bright	3-8	4-5	12	2
Kamryn Washington	1-4	0-0	2	1
Payton Seay	9-24	1-2	19	1
Jordan Patterson	0-1	0-0	0	1
Alex Feeney	0-2	0-0	0	1
Anyah Jordan-Turley	0-0	0-0	0	2
Totals	19-50	8-12	48	13
Score by Quarters				
Danville	17	13	9	18 - 57
University	10	21	10	7 - 48
University 3-point shooting (2-12): Bright 2-5, Seay 0-6, DuBois 0-1.				
University rebounds (32) DuBois 14, Seay 9, Patterson 4, Bright 2, Washington 2, Feeney 1.				

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## LOCAL NEWS & SPORTS COVERAGE IN HAMILTON COUNTY



# Rundle commits to Indiana State



Ava Rundle has committed to play volleyball at Indiana State University. (Front row, from left) Brooke Rundle, Brian Rundle, Ava Rundle, and Alison Rundle. (Back row, from left) Noblesville Volleyball Assistant Coach Joe Marcum, Noblesville Volleyball Head Coach Annie Poulson, Delaney Rundle, R.J. Rundle.

Photo courtesy Noblesville Athletics

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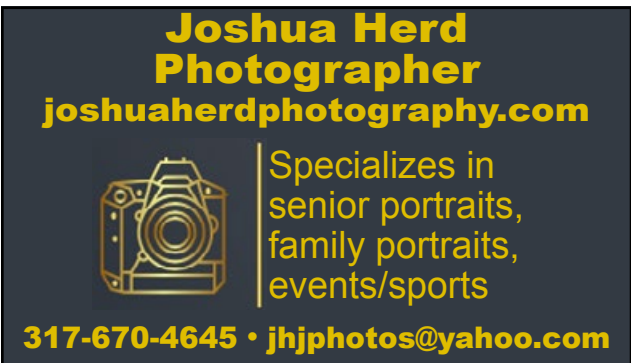
Basketball

# Fishers girls take down Anderson in away game

**The REPORTER**  
Fishers improved to 3-0 on Wednesday by beating Anderson 73-18 in an away game.  
The Class 4A No. 4 Tigers led 17-4 after the first quarter and 43-13 at halftime. Fishers had a balanced scoring effort; Olivia Smith had 13 points and Ava Carter scored 10 points.  
The Tigers will host two games on Saturday, first taking on Columbus East at 11:30 a.m., then playing Elkhart at 5:30 p.m.



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Soccer

# Several local players make All-District teams

**The REPORTER**  
The Indiana Soccer Coaches Association recently announced its All-District teams, and to no one's surprise, Hamilton County has quite a few players on both the boys and girls lists.  
Local girls players pretty much dominate the list of the All-District 2 team, which comprises roughly the eastern part of the county. Noblesville has five players who are All-District First Team: Lauren Adam, Ava Bramblett, Marit McLaughlin, Meredith Tippler and Nadia Zaborowski. In addition, Mia Brake was named to the All-District Second Team.  
Hamilton Southeastern also has five girls on the All-District First Team: Hailey Wade, Tatum Coleman, Ayla Conn, Taylor Cook and Caroline Kelley, with Blair Satterfield on the Second Team. Fishers has three First Team players: Cassie Nowlan, Elise May and Anna Pettitt, with Lilly Touhy making the Second Team. Hamilton Heights' Cassidy Felger is on the First Team.  
The other county schools are in District 3. Carmel has two First Team

players: Megan Hamm and Clare Simmonds, with Olivia Cebalo making the second team. Westfield's Mia Smith earned First Team honors. Guerin Catholic's Sutton Worman also earned a place on the First Team, with the Golden Eagles' Alex Soucie making the second team.  
Hamilton County's boys players are also well-represented in District 2. For Class 3A state champion Noblesville, Cole Thompson, Sam Divis, Sam Holland and Owen Mejia all earned places on the First Team. Hamilton Southeastern has three players on the First Team: Logan Puls, Evan Shideler and Oscar Tittle, with Noah Link on the Second Team. Fishers also had three players earn First Team honors: Kyle Clayton, Santi Morales and Noah Reinhart, with Will Sandlin on the Second Team.  
Over in District 3, Carmel has four players on the First Team: Adam Keleher, Arjun Gupta, Alex Kaczmarek and Connor Dora. Callum Mckeown earned Second Team honors. Westfield has two players on the First Team: Liam Lloyd and Yahir Lopez.

Basketball

# Elks Lodge announces Hoops Shoot contest

**The REPORTER**  
The Noblesville Elks Lodge and retired Hamilton County basketball coach Pete Smith will host the annual Elks Hoops Shoot contest next month.  
The contest will take place on Sunday, Dec. 11 at the Noblesville Boys and Girls Club, 1700 Conner St., Noblesville. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. for registration and warm-ups, with competition beginning at 11 a.m. It is open to all boys and girls who live in the area. Everyone is asked to enter the Boys & Girls Club Community Center at Door No. 4 on the north side of the facility that faces Ivy Tech. Basketballs will be provided.  
Contestants compete in one of six divisions:  
1. Boys, ages 8-9  
2. Girls, ages 8-9  
3. Boys, ages 10-11  
4. Girls, ages 10-11  
5. Boys, ages 12-13  
6. Girls, ages 12-13  
• If the contestant will be age 7 on April 1, 2023, they are **too young** to participate.  
• If the contestant will be age 8 or 9 on April 1,

2023, they shoot in the 8-9 age group.  
• If the contestant will be age 10 or 11 on April 1, 2023, they shoot in the 10-11 age group.  
• If the contestant will be age 12 or 13 on April 1, 2023, they shoot in the 12-13 age group.  
• If the contestant will be age 14 on April 1, 2023, they are **too old** to participate.  
The participants will shoot 25 free throws to determine a local Elks Lodge Champion. The six winners will qualify to advance to the District competition. All rules have been set by the National Elks Association (not Coach Smith).  
The Noblesville Elks Lodge is proud to have had six of their past winners advance from their local competition to then win at the district level, then state level, then regional level, and then compete at the national championship competition in Springfield, Mass. One of those national finalists from their lodge, Ryan Cline from Carmel High School and Purdue, won the National Championship in 2010.



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2000 Pleasant St. Noblesville, IN  
Approved by the state of Indiana Charity Gaming Division Permit #011908  
1st Place \$10,000 CASH

## SPORTS SCHEDULE



**Friday, Nov. 11**  
FOOTBALL  
Regional 2 Championship  
Westfield at Hamilton Southeastern, 7 p.m.  
Regional 23 Championship  
North Decatur at Sheridan, 7 p.m.  
GIRLS BASKETBALL  
Noblesville at Hamilton Heights, 7:30 p.m.  
**Saturday, Nov. 12**  
GIRLS BASKETBALL  
Greenfield-Central at Guerin Catholic, 12:30 p.m.  
Lawrence Central at Westfield, 1:30 p.m.  
Carmel at Huntington North, 2:30 p.m.  
Hamilton Heights at Jay County, 7:30 p.m.  
Lawrence North at Noblesville, 7:30 p.m.  
Fishers-HSE Classic  
Columbus East at Fishers, 11:30 a.m.  
Elkhart at Hamilton Southeastern, 11:30 a.m.  
Columbus East at Hamilton Southeastern, 5:30 p.m.  
Elkhart at Fishers, 5:30 p.m.  
Please email schedule changes or corrections to [sports@readthereporter.com](mailto:sports@readthereporter.com).



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