

# Sheridan Museum receives donated pre-Civil War rifle

By STEVE MARTIN  
*Sheridan Historical Society*

Sheridan resident Marilyn Bell has had an old rifle in her family for years which she thought may have been a relic of the Civil War. Rather than discard it, she decided to donate it to the Sheridan Historical Society because the Museum does have a small collection of Civil War era gun memorabilia, so we certainly welcomed this addition to the collection.

As it turns out, the firearm is a pre-Civil War .38 caliber hunting rifle.

When Marilyn brought the rifle to the museum, it was in several pieces and there were parts missing, so a restoration gunsmith was contacted to restore the rifle. Retired local educator Joe Rushton worked with Noblesville gunsmith John Schippens to put the rifle together. As luck would have it, the gunsmith had several parts for this type of rifle in his shop, plus he was able to locate the additional pieces he needed without too much difficulty. The rifle was fully restored within a few months and returned recently to the museum. Bell had not seen the rifle



Photo provided by Sheridan Historical Society  
**Sheridan Historical Society Museum Executive Director Jim Pickett, Society President Ron Stone, and Marilyn Bell are shown with Bell's donation of a Samuel Beck rifle to the Museum. Thank you, Marilyn, for this wonderful donation to our collection.**

since she initially brought into the museum, and she was surprised and pleased with the result of the restoration.

The top rib of the rifle barrel is stamped with the name "S. BECK." Samuel Beck was a prominent gunsmith in Indianapolis in the mid to late 19th century, at a time when skilled gunsmiths were valuable members of their community. Beck was held in high regard by his community, and his guns were worthy of that regard. While

we will never know for sure if the gun was used in the Civil War, it was more likely used locally for hunting smaller game.

If you would like to know more about Samuel Beck, use your favorite search engine to research his name. He and his family have extensive Indiana and Indianapolis history.

If you would like to see the restored rifle, please come by the Sheridan Historical Society Museum located at 315 S. Main St. in uptown Sheridan.

We are open to the public on Tuesday and Friday afternoons from 1 to 4 p.m., and beginning in January, we will be open on the second and fourth Saturday afternoons, also from 1 to 4 p.m. We are also open by appointment if you call ahead (317-758-5054) to make arrangements.

*Steve Martin serves as the Vice President of the Sheridan Historical Society. He can be reached at [shmartin1@comcast.net](mailto:shmartin1@comcast.net).*

## General Assembly should do the right thing about cigarette taxes

A principal recommendation of the recent Governor's Public Health Commission report is the urgent need to increase state funding of public health. It's an essential component of their plan to improve Indiana's health.

In fact, it recommends that funding increase from the present \$55 per person to the national average of \$91. That's not enough, but it's a good start.

Historically, the Indiana legislature has placed public health funding at a very low priority; according to the United Health Foundation's America's Health Rankings of the states, Indiana is 45th lowest (alternatively reported as 48th by some sources). It's just an unfortunate Hoosier tradition.

The report demonstrates that Indiana's lack of public health funding is reflected in our miserable state of health; Indiana persistently ranks in the bottom 10 states on key health measures resulting in unacceptable losses – both human and economic. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Indiana ranks 40th lowest in life expectancy. I could go on.

It's time, once again, to consider increasing the cigarette tax, not only to discourage smoking but also to use the new tax revenue to fund the numerous proposals recommended by the Commission. It's an obvious source of funding.

How many times over the past 25 years have I called for increasing the cigarette tax, and how many times has the legislature failed to act? The influence of the tobacco industry on Indiana legislators runs dark and deep, and many times is present indirectly through other entities acting on its behalf.

One of the first things I learned in politics is to never expect a politician to do the right thing because it is the right thing to do. It's time during this upcoming budget session for the General Assembly to muster the political courage to do the right thing and increase the cigarette tax.

It's just that simple.

See *Cigarette Taxes . . . Page 2*

## Community comes together in big way to help Strothkamp family of Carmel

### The REPORTER

On Dec. 21, Mark Strothkamp of Carmel unexpectedly passed away after suffering a sudden stroke.

Within hours, the community was already rallying around his family – wife Meg and two children, Ainsley and Braedy – and a [GoFundMe](https://GoFundMe.com) was organized to pay for his children's educational expenses, as well as health care expenses related to his passing.

A goal was set at \$100,000, and as of Tuesday night, a total of 458 donors had contributed over \$87,316 – including one anonymous donation of \$10,000.

Strothkamp was a coach at Hoosier FC, a soccer club located at 6910 E. 161st St., Noblesville. His wife Meg serves as the General Manager and Club Administrator.

According to [HoosierFC.com/clubinfo](https://HoosierFC.com/clubinfo): "Mark played collegiate soccer for the U.S. Naval Academy (DI) and Loyola University Chicago (DI). At Loyola Chicago, Mark was team captain, earned several accolades including NSCAA All-Midwest Region Team, Midwestern Collegiate Conference First Team All-Conference and All-Newcomer Teams and was voted

See *Strothkamp . . . Page 2*

## Former Indiana House candidate will match small donations to Westfield Youth Assistance

*Matt McNally encourages you to support local children & families in need*

### Submitted

Former hopeful for Indiana House of Representatives District 39 (Carmel and Westfield) Matt McNally still wishes to bring support to his would-be constituents in need.

"End of year giving may be complete for many, but for those who've yet to decide where to invest their charitable dollars, I'd love to make an appeal to the community I know and love," McNally said. "Please join me in lifting up our incredible local organizations that are making a difference in the lives of our children."

The Westfield Youth Assistance Program (WYAP) is

a 501(c)(3) public charity that is the early intervention advocate for youth ages 3 to 17 facing challenging life circumstances at home and in school.

"As a society, we can be so quick to judge individuals on their outcomes rather than considering the situations they came from," McNally said. "Looking at the services WYAP provides, it's clear they want to prevent adverse outcomes by addressing root causes of issues our state often overlooks, underfunds or downright ignores."



McNally

McNally encourages giving by pledging a \$500 match.

"For those who'd like to participate, I'll be matching small donations up to \$500, so we can allow WYAP the opportunity to continue providing mental health counseling, medication management, parenting support classes for youth and families, food, clothing and financial assistance to our brothers and sisters," McNally said. "Nothing says true Hoosier Christmas Spirit like giving – and giving together."



Donors may give online at [westfieldyouth.kindful.com](https://westfieldyouth.kindful.com) and select "General Donation" from the drop down to ensure a match, or checks can be written to the organization with "Matt McNally Match" in the memo and made payable to:

Westfield Youth Assistance Program  
2728 E. 171st St.  
Westfield, IN 46074

## Thank you, Officers, for this cat-tastic shot!



Photo provided by Noblesville Police Department / Facebook

Happy Holidays from the Noblesville Police Department's Nights B Shift. The officers welcomed a special guest for their Christmas Eve dinner – Officer Watters' cat Larry! By the way, Officer Watters and her friends want you to join them at Federal Hill Commons for ice skating next week. From 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 6, families can skate with the cops and enjoy the winter weather. Admission rates including skates rental are \$13 for skaters aged 13 and older and \$11 for skaters aged 12 and younger.



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STROTHKAMP

from Page 1



Photo provided by Erin Johns / GoFundMe

The Hamilton County community is well on its way to reaching a \$100,000 GoFundMe fundraising goal to support the Strothkamp family following Mark's sudden passing on Dec. 21.

Loyola Chicago's Male Student-Athlete of the Year. Mark served as an assistant coach at Loyola Chicago from 1994 to 1996 and then participated in the inaugural MLS draft combine in 1996. Mark has coached at HFC since 2014. Mark holds a USSF National C License and RMA Technical Diplomas – Levels 100-400.”

If you'd like to donate to the GoFundMe to support the Strothkamp family, please [click here](#).

Mark's services will be held on Monday, Jan. 3 in the Chapel at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School, 2801 W. 86th St., Indianapolis. [Click here](#) to read Mark's obituary.

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Thanks for reading!

CIGARETTE TAXES

Indiana's tax is \$0.995 per pack, with the last increase in 2007. The national average is \$1.91. And look at our surrounding states: Michigan's cigarette tax is \$2 per pack; Ohio is \$1.60; Illinois, \$2.98; Wisconsin, \$2.52; and even the tobacco state of Kentucky is \$1.10 per pack. These states have understood that increasing tobacco taxes discourages the amount of smoking, increases cessation rates, discourages youth initiation, and provides increased tax revenue.

Janus needs support from shining stars like you



Photo provided by Janus Developmental Services

Believe it or not, there is still time to make a tax-deductible donation for 2022 to Janus Developmental Services. Janus knows you have many options when it comes to end-of-year giving. Janus uses gifts of all sizes, great and small, to change lives in Hamilton County. [Click here](#) to make your online donation, and you'll immediately receive an email copy of your receipt. Of course, if you'd prefer to donate in person, call Jerry Jamison at (317) 773-8781 ext. 100, or you can mail it to Janus Developmental Services, Inc., ATTN: Jerry Jamison, 1555 Westfield Road, Noblesville IN 46062. Learn more at [Janus-Inc.org](#).

from Page 1

Indiana has some catching up to do. Despite decreased smoking rates resulting from increased taxes, economic studies have never demonstrated a point of diminishing tax revenues even in the states with the highest cigarette taxes – New York and Connecticut are \$4.35 per pack.

It is well known from multiple authoritative sources that increasing the cigarette tax is probably the most effective single strategy for reducing smoking rates. It's particularly effective when combined with a comprehensive, multifaceted state smoking prevention and cessation program, which has also languished in Indiana from inadequate funding. According to the American Lung Association, every 10 percent increase in the price of cigarettes reduces consumption by about 4 percent among adults and about 7 percent among youth.

The CDC ranks Indiana 10th highest in adult smoking (19.2 percent) among the states. Reducing that rate is key to improving the health of Indiana. A \$1.50 per pack increase would raise \$262 million in tax revenue: \$240 million could be utilized to fund the Commission's recommendations and \$22 million to restore Indiana's once vibrant tobacco prevention and cessation program.

Richard D. Feldman, M.D. is an Indianapolis family physician and former Indiana State Health Commissioner who served in the administration of Governor Frank O'Bannon.

PREVAIL

Advocating for Victims of Crime & Abuse

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

- Mike Bragg, GM of Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville

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

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

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

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(Huey Lewis  
knows what we're  
talking about)**



## Two family programs scheduled at Cool Creek Park Nature Center

### Submitted

Hey parents! Have your kids been stuck in the house all winter break? Do you have a little bit of "cabin fever?" Would you love to get out for a fun afternoon activity?

Look no further than Hamilton County Parks for some fun and interactive programs during winter break.

Both programs will take place from 11 a.m. to noon each day at the Cool Creek Park Nature Center, 2000 E. 151st St.

### Thanks for reading!

### Owls of Indiana Thursday, Dec. 29

Join Mark Booth with Take Flight Wildlife Education when he visits with several live owls and shares their amazing adaptations. These owls all live in Indiana, and with the right habitat they might even be in your neighborhood. [Click here](#) to register.

### Indiana WILD Saturday, Dec. 30

Beth Wood with Indiana WILD will visit and bringing some of their educational animals for the audience. She and her animals are always funny and educational. [Click here](#) to register.

Welcome to the Timesheet. This column is the first of regular communications from an elected official to those I'm honored to serve.

As your employee, it's important that the voters know what I'm spending time on. It's vital in today's climate to be transparent in government. You hired me as your Hamilton County Councilman, and my hope is that you'll choose to be informed by regularly reading this column, getting involved, and by asking any questions you may have.

Here is where my time has been spent recently.

I don't begin official employment until Jan. 1, 2023, but dozens of meetings have already taken place. Over recent years, attending County Council, Noblesville Common Council, and Cicero Town Council meetings has allowed important relationships with local officials to flourish. Additionally, the information on local projects has proven invaluable with many impacting county operations or requiring county support.

Hitting the ground running is a top personal priority, making department head and stakeholder meetings, studying the 2023 budget,

### COLUMNIST



MARK HALL  
The Timesheet

reading the ARPA meeting minutes, and attending several days of new elected official training, critical to a strong start. Twenty-nine different meetings are in the rearview mirror with another half dozen scheduled early in the new year. The first County Council meeting of 2023 is 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 4 in the Commissioners Courtroom at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center. If you can't be there live, you can watch online on [Hamilton County Television](#).

To date, it's a pleasure to report that we have an incredibly impressive team working in county government. The wide range of services requires exceptionally diverse skill sets, planning, and accountability. County services include but aren't limited to the courts, hazardous waste removal, probation, highways, bridges, the auditor, the jail, treasurer, assessor, elections, surveyor, drainage, weights and measurements, clerk, recorder, sheriff, health department, prosecutor, emergency operations, 911 communications, parks, coroner and many more. Add to that all the teams of professionals who support buildings, grounds, county executives,

judges, information technology, security and collectively you have hundreds of people serving the citizens of Hamilton County every day. We are regularly served by county government.

Meeting dozens of dedicated professional staff these last few weeks and learning about their work, their challenges, and specifically what is working in county government and what could be improved, has given me invaluable insight into our government operations. I've learned a great deal. I've also had the opportunity to serve several constituents working with them to solve a problem with the State Department of Health.

In the near future, the council will work with the Commissioners on State Road 37, 191st Street, the 4-H Fairgrounds, the domestic violence shelter, and several facility renovation and improvement projects. A longer, more comprehensive list of 2023 priorities will be reviewed for you in future columns.

Over the last few days, I've had the opportunity to observe Hamilton County's Emergency Operations Center, the Highway Department, along with County Buildings and Grounds professionals prepare for what could have been a major storm event. It is with confidence I report that these dedicated profession-

als spent countless hours preparing for and executing support services for the citizenry as the storm unfolded. Fortunately, the most severe impact of the storm missed Hamilton County, but the teams were working all night and were prepared to support us further if the weather, roads, and/or infrastructure was more severely impacted.

This is my time sheet. This is where I am spending my time prior to beginning in office in a few days. There are several projects in queue for 2023, and while my job is primarily the financial oversight of the county budget it is important, that I understand the Board of Commissioners' priorities and balance them with the stewardship of taxpayer dollars. That is the job, and I am so very excited to do the people's business.

As a taxpayer myself, and listening to so many of you, my employers, it's important for the taxpayers to have access to all the information you want. I work for you and although you may not choose to do a deep dive into what your County Council does, it's important that you always can do so. Feel free to contact me at (317) 832-1104 or [mark.hall@hamilton-county.in.gov](mailto:mark.hall@hamilton-county.in.gov) with questions, feedback or if you would like to talk about county business.

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### Meeting Notices

The Hamilton East Public Library Board of Trustees will hold a special meeting to discuss library construction projects at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 29, 2022, in the East Meeting Room at the Fishers library, 5 Municipal Drive, Fishers.

The Jackson Township Board will hold its annual organization meeting and discuss general township business at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2022, in the Jackson Township Trustee's Office, 506 W. Main St., Arcadia.

**Send Meeting Notices to:**  
**[Notices@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:Notices@ReadTheReporter.com)**

## Only three days left to visit Carmel Christkindlmarkt



Photo provided by Carmel Christkindlmarkt

There's still time to enjoy the Carmel Christkindlmarkt! Due to extremely cold temperatures, the Market was closed for a few days, but it has reopened. You can visit the [USAToday No. 1 Christkindlmarkt in America](#) from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. each day through Friday. To read detailed schedules for the remaining days, go to [CarmelChristkindlmarkt.com](http://CarmelChristkindlmarkt.com).

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# Green District Salads feeds famished Fishers fire fighters



Photo provided by Fishers Fire Department / Facebook  
Fire fighters at Fishers Fire Station No. 392 were treated to a nice surprise when they came back from a run on Christmas Eve. Green District Salads, 8701 E. 116th St., Fishers, dropped off lots of good stuff at some stations for firefighters to enjoy.

# Westfield PD: Dec. 7 possible abduction was “unfounded”

**The REPORTER**  
On Dec. 7, the Westfield Police Department (WPD) received a report of a possible attempted abduction in the area of Burgess Hill Pass. You can read more about that initial report at [this link](#).  
Following the start of an investigation into the incident, WPD released this statement:  
“At this time, numerous videos from in and around the neighborhood have been located and viewed. We have not been able to locate any footage that shows the suspect and/or vehicle in question. This remains an active investigation and we encourage the public to continue to provide information and report suspicious activity to the police.”  
Then, on Dec. 16, WPD released this statement:  
“After an extensive and thorough investigation it was determined that this event was unfounded. There is no threat to the community. The Westfield Police Department thank the community for their vigilance and tips.”

# Public safety doesn’t take a holiday



Photos provided by Noblesville Fire Department / Facebook  
Thank you to all the men and women of the Noblesville Fire Department’s B Crew for keeping everything under control at the city’s fire stations on Christmas Day – and a special thank you to the families of these fire fighters.

# Rep. Spartz: \$1.7T omnibus bill fails to address most pressing issues

**The REPORTER**  
*Rep. Victoria Spartz (R-Ind.-05) issued the following statement last Friday regarding the \$1.7 trillion omnibus spending bill vote.*  
“The wasteful omnibus bill passed by the House today saddles the next generation of Americans with more untold debt – all while failing to address the most pressing issues we face: an out-of-control border crisis, record-high inflation, and energy security.”  
“It’s unfortunate that Senate Republican leadership cut a deal with House Democrats and gave away leverage of the incoming Republican majority in the House. Therefore, I voted no.”  
“Democrats are also playing politics with the situation in Ukraine by throwing in \$9 billion in important security assistance funding within a much larger spending package full of left-wing pet projects – one that most Republicans cannot, in good conscience, support, instead of having a stand-alone package to show strong bipartisan support of Ukraine.”



Spartz

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3.75%  
APY\*

13 Month CD

3.50%  
APY\*



# Rep. Spartz: hospital monopolies are destroying health care value

Submitted by Rep. Spartz's Press Office

This week, Rep. Victoria Spartz (R-Ind.-05) published an op-ed for *The Hill* describing the hospital consolidation crisis engulfing the country.

In the op-ed, Rep. Spartz wrote, "The hospital merger trend has reached untold heights, with over 1,500 mergers in the past 20 years ... This lack of competition has significant consequences for patients. Hospitals in highly concentrated markets charge higher prices for medical services and negotiate higher prices from health insurance providers, resulting in higher insur-

ance premiums.

"In my home state of Indiana, **91 percent of the hospital market** is controlled by the largest hospital systems and over half of physicians are directly employed by the largest three hospital systems. As a result, Indiana has the 4th highest hospital facility prices in the country.

"Hospitals will argue that consolidation allows them to achieve economies of scale and thus provide better quality and more coordinated care to patients, but recent studies by **Rice**



Spartz

**University and Harvard University** suggest otherwise. In fact, a 2019 *New York Times* article by health economist Austin Frakt argues that rates of mortality increase when competition falls. Hence, not only is consolidation increasing the price of care, but it could be a matter of life or death for patients.

"The federal government created this hospital monopoly problem, so we now have two choices – either we restore competition by eliminating

monopoly protections, or we form a complete monopoly – a full government takeover of health care. I prefer the former and have introduced legislation to **remove barriers to competition and make health care more affordable** for all Americans."

Rep. Spartz introduced a legislative package this year aimed at removing barriers to competition and making health care more affordable for all Americans. The legislative texts can be viewed **here** and **here**.

**Click here** to read the full op-ed. For more information, please visit **spartz.house.gov**.

# It's cold out, but Fishers Parks is already looking forward to summer

The REPORTER

The temperatures might be dropping outside, but Fishers Parks is already planning for Summer Camp.

The 2023 Summer Camp preview has been launched for you to browse, bookmark, and map out your child's Summer Camp experience.

Choose from several different themes from AgriPark to Adventure and STEM and art-based camps. Registration will open for

Fishers Residents at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 3, and non-resident registration will launch at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 10.

Note: The 2023 schedule is far from complete. The Fishers Parks team is working hard to finalize a slate of additional camps with partners at the Indianapolis Art Center, Sewful Cheryl, Hamilton Southeastern Schools, and more.

**Click here** to learn more.

# AG Todd Rokita calls on Hoosiers to delete TikTok from their phones

Submitted by AG Rokita's Press Office

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita is calling on Hoosier consumers, businesses, and governments alike to be proactive in protecting their pocketbooks and privacy from China's TikTok app.

Rokita recently filed two lawsuits which open an entirely new front against what he and many others say is a Chinese Communist Party-controlled company.

"Indiana residents should not wait for Congress and the Biden White House to take action against this deceptive social networking app," Rokita said.

"We've got to take the initiative ourselves."

Despite flagrant security concerns, more than 130 million Americans – including two-thirds of U.S. teens – say they use the app, which pulls their personal data and potentially pushes it right into the hands of the Chinese government.

Rokita is asking individuals and business owners to delete TikTok to protect their personal information from the app's egregious exploitation of consumers as they conduct their



Rokita

everyday activities. TikTok uses Americans' own smartphones to capture their attention and track their behavior.

"The app is not only full of toxic material, which is highly inappropriate for children, but it also opens us up to foreign threats," Rokita said. "Specifically, it allows a Chinese company overseen by the CCP to take our data."

Rokita has **led the way** in winning battles against Big Tech overreach from Google and other California-based companies. But now a po-

tentially larger threat looms as China reaches right into millions of Americans' personal devices.

Rokita says TikTok misleads Hoosiers and all Americans – exposing them to sexually lewd messages – even while officials in Beijing take steps to protect China's own minors and consumers from these same hazards.

"China has said they want to be the dominant force in the world," Rokita said. "This kind of technology is part of that strategy. We need patriots who will fight back against the dangers imposed by this app and others that are no doubt on the way."

# Westfield Chamber Calendar of Events

## JANUARY

**Young Professionals Coffee & Networking**

Tuesday, Jan. 10, 8 to 9 a.m.

Location: The Bridgewater Club

**Westfield Lantern Awards**

Thursday, Jan. 19, 6 to 9 p.m.

Location: The Prairie Water Event Center

**Young Professionals Happy Hour**

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 5 to 7 p.m.

Location: TBD

**January Chamber Luncheon**

Thursday, Jan. 26, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: TBD

**Hoosier Chocolate Fest**

Jan. 27 & 28

Click the link above to see session times

Location: The Sixpence

# Representative Victoria Spartz

## Constituent Services



### Help with Federal Agencies

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

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



### United States Flag Requests

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



### Military Academy Nominations

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



## Connor Gavin Petro

November 13, 2004 – December 18, 2022

Connor Gavin Petro, 18, Sheridan, passed away on Sunday morning, December 18, 2022, in Tipton County. He was born on November 13, 2004, at Wishard Hospital in Indianapolis.

Gavin was a senior at Sheridan High School. He loved playing football for the Blackhawks. Due to injuries, #55 had to sit out his senior year, but that didn't keep him from supporting his teammates. Gavin was there for every game, sporting his trademark daisy duke shorts and cutoff sleeves. He dreamt of going further as a player, becoming a lineman, and possibly playing for his favorite team, the New England Patriots.

He was a very hard worker who enjoyed his employment at both Menards and Wilson's Farm Market.

Ask anybody about Gavin, and you would probably get the same description – he was a gentle giant until you made him mad. His size could be intimidating, but once you got to know him, you quickly realized that he was harmless. He was fiercely devoted to his family and friends.

Gavin could instantly light up a room. He had a smile that could change your whole day. He loved to joke around, and nobody was immune from being a target, not even his teachers.

Gavin loved his family. He was his dad's sidekick, his mom's protector, and the brother that every sister should be lucky enough to have. As he and his sister started getting older, they started doing more things together. He also had a very close relationship with his grandfather and uncle. His two younger brothers always looked up to him, even if they did have to endure some teasing ... but that's what brothers are for. For them, continuing Gavin's legacy on the field would be an honor.

Although his time here on Earth was short, he did what he was sent here to do ... share his love, humor, and his strength. God just needed him back to make Heaven a little rowdier.

Gavin made an impact on everyone he met, and he will continue to live in the hearts of those of us who were lucky enough to be a part of his life.

Gavin is survived by his parents, John Gordon and Sarah Nicole (O'Connor) Petro of Sheridan; paternal grandfather, Gordon Ledbetter of Atlanta; maternal grandmother, Shannon Stewart of Arkansas; brothers, Gayge Petro of Sheridan, Brayden Petro of Sheridan, Noah Petro of Kokomo, and Johan Petro of Kokomo; sister, Savannah O'Connor Petro of Sheridan; and his canine BFF, Hank.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, John O'Connor; maternal great-grandmother, Helen Jones; paternal grandmother, Yvonne Petro; maternal great-grandparents, Ronald and Gloria Stewart; great-great-grandmother, Hazel Liddle; and great-great-great-aunt, Ruby Lynn.

A celebration of Gavin's life will take place at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, December 28, 2022, in the Sheridan High School / Middle School Auditorium, 3030 W. 246th St., Sheridan, with visitation from 4 p.m. until the time of service.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Kercheval Funeral Home in Sheridan.

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

## Adam Michael Gordon Johnson

September 20, 2005 – December 18, 2022

Adam Michael Gordon Johnson, 17, Kokomo, passed away on Sunday morning, December 18, 2022, in Tipton County. Born in Marion County on September 20, 2005, he was the son of Michael Chad Johnson and Nakita Aldridge.

He was a 2022 graduate of Kokomo High School. Adam was an avid gamer who enjoyed coding and server creation. He was also a content creator for the YouTube and Twitch platforms.

Family was a very important part of Adam's life. He loved reading and telling bedtime stories to his siblings. Whenever there was a need within the family or his circle of friends, Adam was always the first one there to help. Being kind, respectful, and putting others before himself was how he chose to live his life.

Adam's smile was infectious, and he always loved being the life of the party.

Everyone who knew Adam lost a piece of their heart when he left us. He was a great friend to all and had an amazing impact on everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Adam is survived by his parents, Michael Chad Johnson and Nakita Aldridge; second parents (aunt and uncle), Cody and Elizabeth Petro; maternal grandfather, Gordon Ledbetter; brothers, Tucker Aldridge, Dalton Johnson, Garrett Johnson, all of Windfall; Noah Petro and Jonah Petro, both of Kokomo; sister, Michelle Johnson of Windfall; his feline BFF, Carolee Baskin; and his dog, Otis.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandmother, Yvonne Petro.

A celebration of Adam's life will take place at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, December 28, 2022, in the Sheridan High School / Middle School Auditorium, 3030 W. 246th St., Sheridan, with visitation from 4 p.m. until the time of service.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Kercheval Funeral Home in Sheridan.

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

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# Blake announces candidacy for Carmel City Council

## Submitted

Jonathan Blake says he desires to serve Carmel residents as the next North Central District representative on the City Council.

Blake brings practical experience, executive-level knowledge, and unmatched perspective to the North Central District representative role. His passion for public service is evident by his lengthy career in local government administration.

"I have always had a passion for public service, and I am excited by the opportunity to use my professional experience to serve the residents of Carmel," he said.

As an urban planning professional, Blake has extensive experience in land use and long-range planning, economic development, and public engagement. He is currently employed at Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation. He has spent the past 20 years in public service, holding various leadership positions in

Brownsburg and Carmel.

An avid volunteer and community leader, Blake has served in various leadership roles on community and non-profit boards, including the Advisory Plan Commission (Brownsburg), as president of the Redevelopment Commission (Brownsburg), as chairman of the board of trustees at his church, and as a member of the Indiana Chapter of the American Planning Association. He has also served as a precinct committeeman and delegate to the Indiana Republican Convention. He presently serves on the Indiana Park and Recreation Association Board of Directors and is a member of the Indiana Leadership Forum's Class of 2023.

In addition to his career in municipal administration, Blake is a small business owner, working as a com-



Blake

mercial real estate broker. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), Advanced Commercial Advisers (ACA), and is a Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP).

Blake says he is proud to be a lifelong Hoosier. Growing up in Brownsburg, he learned the value of hard work and commitment at an early age by working on a farm, volunteering at church as a youth mentor, and leading multiple domestic and international mission trips.

Blake earned a degree in Design Technology from Ivy Tech Community College and a bachelor's degree in Organizational Leadership from Purdue University. He is currently pursuing a Master of Business Administration at Butler University.


A conservative, Blake says he believes in a strong but limited form of govern-

ment, founded on principles of fiscal responsibility, economic innovation, and transparency to ensure Carmel remains a vibrant, prosperous, and safe community for future generations.

If elected, Blake's priorities will include investing in infrastructure and public safety, ensuring government accountability, increasing transparency, and improving public engagement in local planning processes.


"Civic engagement is critical to the success of any community; to ensure accountability and transparency, address neighborhood issues, build community consensus, and promote better planning," Blake said. "I am committed to improving public engagement through town hall-style meetings, attending neighborhood meetings, and open lines of communication with North Central District residents."

To learn more about Jonathan Blake, residents are encouraged to visit [blake-forcarmel.com](http://blake-forcarmel.com).



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Michael C. Daniells

July 15, 1988 – December 21, 2022

Michael C. Daniells, 34, Fishers, passed away on Wednesday, December 21, 2022, in Indianapolis. He was born on July 15, 1988, in Indianapolis.

Michael graduated from Hamilton Southeastern High School, Indiana University with a B.S. in media arts and sciences, and Robert McKinney School of Law. He was an attorney at Barnes and Thornburg. Michael was a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP) and Certified Information Privacy Manager (CIPM). He was also an Eagle Scout, enjoyed woodworking, and liked 3D printing.

He is survived by his father, Brad Daniells; mother, Michelle Daniells; sister, Jenny (Justin) Quigley; grandmother, Diane Doddridge; aunts and uncles, Kitty (Curt) Beckman, James (Terri) Seelig, Rod (Lori) Daniells, Tom (Lori) Daniells, Jon (Laura) Daniells, and James Veiga.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Max & Laura Seelig, and Noel Daniells.

Visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m., with a service to follow, on Thursday, December 29, 2022, at Randall & Roberts Fishers Mortuary, 12010 Allisonville Road, Fishers. Grave-side services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, December 30, 2022, at Oaklawn Memorial Gardens, 9700 Allisonville Road, Indianapolis, with Pastor Quigley officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Foundation of Suicide Prevention, [supporting.afsp.org](https://supporting.afsp.org).

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



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Quitona Marcelle Tharp

December 5, 1939 – December 24, 2022

Quitona Marcelle Tharp, 83, Fishers, passed away on Saturday, December 24, 2022, at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis. She was born on December 5, 1939, to Johnnie Belle Reece in Itawamba County, Miss. She was the younger sister of her beloved brother, Ira Burdine. She married Bob Tharp in 1958 and together they had their daughter, Michelle.

Marcelle had a decades long career in childcare, babysitting from her home, and serving as the Director for the YMCA before and after school program at New Briton Elementary. She was a tremendously talented cook and devoted caregiver. Marcelle was capable of anything and grateful for everything. Her creative and generous spirit gave her a knack for turning the mundane into magical moments, which she always made sure to write down in her journal. Animals also held a special place in her heart: her favorite gift to receive was a donation to the Humane Society in her honor. She was a dedicated mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother who loved dearly and was dearly loved.

She is survived by her brother, Ira; daughter, Michelle; son-in-law, Roger; granddaughters, Noelle and Isabelle; and great-grandchildren, Violet, Vinny, and Freddy. Included in this circle of love are Susie Ford and Annie Kelly.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Tharp.

Services will be held at noon on Friday, December 30, 2022, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan St., Noblesville. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to the time of service at the funeral home. Private family burial will be at Washington Park East Cemetery in Indianapolis.

Memorial contributions may be made to Humane Society for Hamilton County, 10501 Hague Road, Fishers, IN 46038 ([hamiltonhumane.com](https://hamiltonhumane.com)).

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

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

*The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.*  
*Revelation 1:1-3 (NIV)*

Vickie Lynn Lambert

November 1, 1958 – December 26, 2022

Vickie Lynn Lambert, 64, Noblesville, wife, mother, grandma, aunt, and cousin, has left a legacy of love, caring and friendship when she left us on Monday, December 26, 2022, after fighting cancer, but loving to pneumonia. She was born on November 1, 1958, in Louisville, Ky.

Vickie worked with AYS at Noblesville Schools for over 20 years and loved working with her peers and the kids in her program. She had many hobbies which she loved: gardening, doing arts & crafts, playing the guitar and ukulele to name a few. Vickie loved life, family, and friends. She will miss all of us and her wine.

Vickie is survived by her husband, Dale Lambert; son, Paul (Maacah) Lambert; daughter, Carol (Devin) Cozart; grandchildren, Katen and Xander Lambert, and Mitchell and Michael Cozart; and her best friend, Sarah Toombs.

She was preceded in death by her father, Melvis "Buster" Putman; mother and stepfather, Carol (Ehle) & Donald Payne; sister, Cheryl Drury; and her brother, Richard Putman.

Visitation will be from 1 to 4 p.m., with services at 4 p.m., on Saturday, January 28, 2023, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville. Pastor Ben Crouse will officiate.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 681405, Indianapolis, IN 46268-1405 ([cancer.org](https://cancer.org)).

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

Thanks for reading The Reporter!



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HAMILTON COUNTY SPORTS

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NOBLESVILLE, CARMEL, WESTFIELD, SHERIDAN, HAMILTON HEIGHTS, FISHERS, UNIVERSITY, GUERIN CATHOLIC, HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN

Basketball

# Millers take defense to next level, cream Northridge at Holiday Tourney

By RICHIE HALL  
sports@readthereporter.com

**NOBLESVILLE** – The Noblesville boys basketball team has made high-energy defense its trademark during the first few weeks of the season.

In their first six games, the Millers have held all of their opponents under 50 points. But on Tuesday, Noblesville took its defense to a level it had not been in a few years – and what better place and time to do that than the Millers’ own holiday tournament.

Noblesville stunned Northridge 56-26 in its opening-round game Tuesday afternoon at the Millers’ annual holiday get-together at The Mill. This victory merits attention because the Raiders had come into the tournament with a 7-1 record.

But the Millers were able to stay ahead of Northridge in the first half, then got better on defense as the second half progressed. As a result, the 26 points scored by the Raiders were the fewest Noblesville allowed an opponent in a game since Dec. 1, 2017, when the Millers only gave up 22 points to Fishers.

Aaron Fine started the game with a 3-pointer for Noblesville, but Northridge then went on a 7-0 run. That prompted a talking-to from Millers coach Scott

NOBLESVILLE 56, NORTHRIDGE 26				
Noblesville	FG	FT	TP	PF
Luke Almodovar	6	4-4	17	2
Aaron Fine	4	1-2	11	3
Cooper Bean	2	1-1	5	1
Aiden Brewer	0	0-0	0	2
Hunter Walston	2	0-0	4	0
Justin Curry	0	0-0	0	2
Luke Etchison	0	1-2	1	0
Preston Roberts	4	3-4	11	2
TJ Davidson	0	0-0	0	0
Adam Fine	0	0-0	0	0
Baron Walker	1	1-2	4	0
Will Smits	0	3-4	3	0
Max Miller	0	0-0	0	0
Totals	19	14-19	56	12
Score by Quarters				
Northridge	7	10	7	2-26
Noblesville	12	16	12	16-56
Noblesville 3-pointers (4) Aa. Fine 2, Almodovar, Walker.				

McClelland.

“I just didn’t think we played very hard,” said McClelland. “So, we called a timeout and got after them.”

Noblesville’s players got the message. The Millers went on a 13-0 run that stretched into the early part of the second quarter. Luke Almodovar made a personal 7-0 run – two 3s and a free throw – to put Noblesville up 10-7.

Preston Roberts finished the first quarter with a lay-in to put the Millers up 12-7. Roberts also got the first basket of the second quarter, and Hunter Walston followed that up with a dunk. The run was finished and Noblesville led 16-7.

“I thought Preston gave

us a nice spark off the bench,” said McClelland. He also credited Aiden Brewer with doing what the team needed him to do.

“And that was guard and defend and rebounding. He was able to clean up some stuff,” said McClelland.

Northridge never got too far behind the Millers in the second quarter, at one point closing to within 18-14. But Noblesville closed the half on a 10-3 run to take a 28-17 halftime lead. Roberts scored two more baskets, including a putback, with Almodovar adding six more points, including an emphatic one-handed dunk.

See Holiday . . . Page 10



Reporter photo by Kent Graham  
Aaron Fine scored 11 points for Noblesville and was one of three Millers to reach double figures in scoring during their 56-26 win over Northridge Tuesday in the first round of the Noblesville Holiday Tournament.

Tuesday Noblesville  
Holiday Tournament scores

FIRST-ROUND GAMES

Lawrence Central 65, Chesterton 62  
Columbus North 55, Norwell 42  
Crown Point 62, Castle 55  
Noblesville 56, Northridge 26

CONSOLATION GAMES

Norwell 57, Chesterton 51, OT  
Castle 76, Northridge 69

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Reporter photos by Kent Graham  
(Above left) Preston Roberts came off the bench to score 11 points and provided some big plays for Noblesville in the second quarter. (Above right) Cooper Bean scored five points for Noblesville in the third quarter.

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# You win some, you lose some: Sheridan boys place third at Alexandria Tournament

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# Noblesville's Bryce Riggs commits to Eastern Illinois

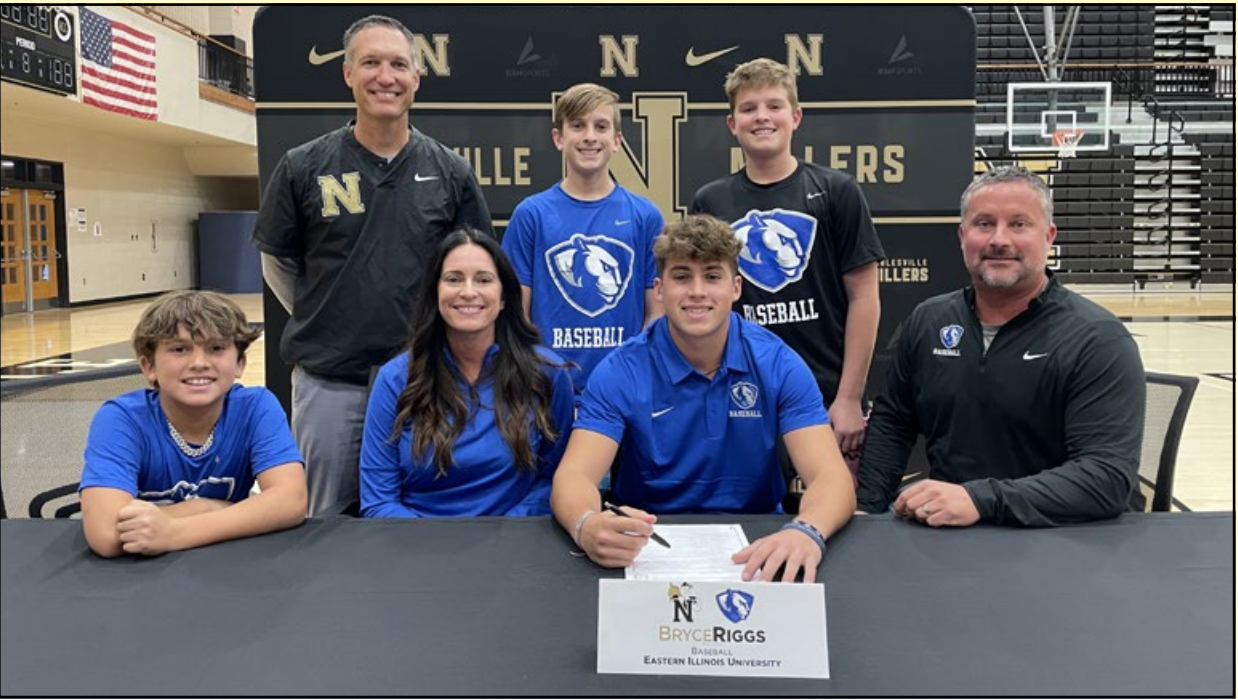


Photo courtesy Noblesville Athletics  
Noblesville's Bryce Riggs has committed to play baseball at Eastern Illinois University. (Front row, from left) Beckett Riggs, Trisha Riggs, Bryce Riggs, and Eric Riggs. (Back row, from left) Noblesville baseball head coach Justin Kever, Blake Riggs, and Brooks Riggs.

# Noblesville's Dylan Kever to play baseball at IU Kokomo



Photo courtesy Noblesville Athletics  
Noblesville's Dylan Kever has committed to play baseball at Indiana University-Kokomo. (Front row, from left) Reagan Kever, Nikki Kever, Dylan Kever, and Noblesville baseball head coach Justin Kever. (Back row) Eagan Kever-Hill.

# SPORTS SCHEDULE

**Wednesday, Dec. 28**  
**BOYS BASKETBALL**  
Anderson at Carmel, 4:30 p.m.  
**Homestead Tournament**  
*Pool A:*  
Hamilton Southeastern vs. South Bend St. Joseph, 10 a.m.  
Munster vs. Homestead, 11:30 a.m.  
Munster vs. Hamilton Southeastern, 6 p.m.  
South Bend St. Joseph vs. Homestead, 7:30 p.m.  
*Pool B:*  
Fishers vs. Mishawaka Marian, 10 a.m.  
Bishop Dwenger vs. Valparaiso, 11:30 a.m.  
Valparaiso vs. Fishers, 6 p.m.  
Mishawaka Marian vs. Bishop Dwenger, 7:30 p.m.  
**Noblesville Holiday Tournament**  
*Semi-final games:*  
Lawrence Central vs. Columbus North, 11 a.m.  
Crown Point vs. Noblesville, 12:45 p.m.  
*Placement games:*  
Seventh-place - Chesterton vs. Northridge, 2:30 p.m.  
Fifth-place - Norwell vs. Castle, 4:15 p.m.  
Third-place game, 6 p.m.  
Championship, 7:45 p.m.  
**GIRLS BASKETBALL**  
Fishers at Jeffersonville, 5:30 p.m.  
**Alexandria Tournament**  
Tri-Central vs. Alexandria, 10 a.m.  
Seeger vs. Sheridan, noon  
Third-place game, 6 p.m.  
Championship game, 8 p.m.  
**Paul Loggan Memorial Invitational, North Central**  
Avon vs. North Central, 10 a.m.  
Henderson County (Ky.) vs. Gibson Southern, 11:45 a.m.  
Springsboro (Ohio) vs. Hamilton Southeastern, 1:30 p.m.  
**Twin Lakes Tournament**  
*Semi-final games:*  
Rochester vs. Crown Point, 11 a.m.  
Westfield vs. Twin Lakes, 12:30 p.m.  
*Consolation games:*  
North White vs. Mount Vernon, 11 a.m.  
Kankakee Valley vs. Clinton Prairie, 12:30 p.m.  
Seventh-place game, 4 p.m.  
Fifth-place game, 5:30 p.m.  
Third-place game, 6 p.m.  
Championship game, 7:30 p.m.  
**SWIMMING**  
Carmel diving at Homestead (with Zionsville), 10 a.m.  
Fishers at North Central Holiday Invitational, 11:30 a.m.  
Homestead and Zionsville swimming at Carmel, noon  
**WRESTLING**  
Carmel, Guerin Catholic, Hamilton Southeastern at Mooresville Holiday Classic, 9 a.m.

**Thursday, Dec. 29**  
**BOYS BASKETBALL**  
**Homestead Tournament**  
*Pool A:*  
Munster vs. South Bend St. Joseph, 10 a.m.  
Hamilton Southeastern vs. Homestead, 11:30 a.m.  
*Pool B:*  
Mishawaka Marian vs. Valparaiso, 10 a.m.  
Fishers vs. Bishop Dwenger, 11:30 a.m.  
*Placement games:*  
Seventh place, 6 p.m.  
Fifth place, 6 p.m.  
Third place, 7:30 p.m.  
Championship, 7:30 p.m.  
**Phil Cox Memorial Tournament, Kokomo**  
Warren Central vs. Guerin Catholic, 10 a.m.  
Columbia City vs. Brownsburg, noon  
Center Grove vs. South Bend Riley, 6 p.m.  
Bishop Luers vs. Kokomo, 8 p.m.  
**Roncalli Tournament**  
University vs. Roncalli, 10:30 a.m.  
Floyd Central vs. Mount Vernon, noon  
Third-place game, 6 p.m.  
Championship game, 7:30 p.m.  
**GIRLS BASKETBALL**  
Carmel at Penn, 1:30 p.m.  
**Hall of Fame Classic, New Castle**  
Bedford North Lawrence vs. Mishawaka Marian, 10 a.m.  
Noblesville vs. East Central, 11:30 a.m.  
Third-place game, 6 p.m.  
Championship game, 7:30 p.m.  
**Paul Loggan Memorial Invitational, North Central**  
Gibson Southern vs. Avon, 10 a.m.  
Henderson County (Ky.) vs. Hamilton Southeastern, 11:45 a.m.  
Springsboro (Ohio) vs. North Central, 1:30 p.m.  
**WRESTLING**  
Carmel, Guerin Catholic, Hamilton Southeastern at Mooresville Holiday Classic, 9 a.m.  
Fishers at Connersville Spartan Classic, 9 a.m.  
Hamilton Heights at Madison Invitational, 9 a.m.  
Noblesville at North Montgomery Holiday Duals, 9 a.m.  
Sheridan at Eastern Classic, 9 a.m.  
Westfield at Mishawaka Tournament, 10 a.m.

**Friday, Dec. 30**  
**BOYS BASKETBALL**  
**Phil Cox Memorial Tournament, Kokomo**  
Consolation games, 10 a.m. and noon  
Semi-finals, 10 a.m. and noon  
Seventh-place game, 4 p.m.  
Fifth-place game, 4 p.m.  
Third-place game, 6 p.m.  
Championship game, 7:30 p.m.  
**WRESTLING**  
Fishers at Connersville Spartan Classic, 8:30 a.m.  
Noblesville at North Montgomery Duals, 9 a.m.  
Sheridan at Eastern Classic, 9 a.m.  
Westfield at Mishawaka Tournament, 9 a.m.

**Saturday, Dec. 31**  
**GIRLS BASKETBALL**  
Bishop Chatard at University, 1:30 p.m.

Please email schedule changes or corrections to [sports@readthereporter.com](mailto:sports@readthereporter.com).

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7:10 pm Central Christian Championships | Boys VarsityI | Indiana SRN

**Thursday, DEC 22, Basketball**  
Girls Basketball  
3:55 pm Carroll vs Fishers | Girls JV | Fishers Sports Network  
5:20 pm Carroll vs Fishers | Girls Varsity | Fishers Sports Network  
7:10 pm Lebanon vs Guerin Catholic | Boys Varsity | Indiana SRN

**Tuesday, DEC. 27, Basketball**  
11 am Lawrence Central vs Chesterton | NHS Holiday Tourney | HCTV Sports  
12:45 pm Columbus North vs Norwell | NHS Holiday Tourney | HCTV Sports  
2:30 pm Castle vs Northridge | NHS Holiday Tourney | HCTV Sports  
4:15 pm Northridge vs Noblesville | NHS Holiday Tourney | HCTV Sports  
6:00 pm TBD | Noblesville H.S. Holiday Tourney | Game 5 | HCTV Sports  
7:45 pm TBD | Noblesville H.S. Holiday Tourney | Game 6 | HCTV Sports

**Wednesday, DEC. 28, Basketball**  
11 am TBD | Noblesville H.S. Holiday Tourney | Game 7 | HCTV Sports  
11:10 am Morristown Holiday Classic - Morning Session | Indiana SRN  
12:45 pm TBD | Noblesville H.S. Holiday Tourney | Game 8 | HCTV Sports  
2:30 pm TBD | Noblesville H.S. Holiday Tourney | Game 9 | HCTV Sports  
4:15 pm TBD | Noblesville H.S. Holiday Tourney | Game 10 | HCTV Sports  
4:40 pm Morristown Holiday Classic - Evening Session | Indiana SRN  
6:00 pm TBD | Noblesville H.S. Holiday Tourney | Game 11 | HCTV Sports  
7:45 pm TBD | Noblesville H.S. Holiday Tourney | Championship | HCTV Sports

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