

# FINKAM

Sue Finkam

CARMEL MAYOR

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# HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

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**FRIDAY, JAN. 27, 2023**

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**TODAY'S WEATHER**

Today: Mostly cloudy. Spotty afternoon snow and/or rain showers. Wind gusting to 35 mph.

Tonight: Cloudy. Wind gusting to 35 mph.

HIGH: 35    LOW: 28



# New autism communication boards to help Sheriff's Dept.

# Learning my heritage

**The REPORTER**

Through a grant provided by the Autism Society of America and Today's Champions, the Autism Society of Indiana purchased picture communication boards to be placed in the patrol vehicles of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

The communication boards will give police, firefighters, and EMS providers a way to communicate with a person who may be nonverbal, have limited English skills, have autism or mental health issues. All participants also received a training video on how to implement the

communication board.

The Autism Society of Indiana and Today's Champions recognize the need for this type of assistance to first responders and the citizens of Indiana who struggle with communication. The organizations want to provide communication boards for every law enforcement and first responder agency in the state of Indiana.

For more information or to inquire about the communication boards, contact the Autism Society of Indiana at [AutismSocietyOfIndiana.org](http://AutismSocietyOfIndiana.org) or [kbrownloftand@gmail.com](mailto:kbrownloftand@gmail.com).



Photo provided by Hamilton County Sheriff's Office  
Officers, fire fighters, and EMS personnel receive training in how to properly use the boards to communicate.

*As my adoption and reunion story continues, I've changed some names, places, and dates.*

Another compelling reason for states to open their adoption records is so adoptees can work to learn their heritage. Obviously, individuals like me can use their adopted family's heritage, but of course that's not authentic. We often miss out on a large piece of ourselves.

As I mentioned before, friends would sometimes try to guess my heritage while I was growing up. One guy swore up and down based on my facial features that I was Polish. I'm sure he would be shocked today to learn that I don't have one shred of ancestry from Poland!

Not only do adoptees miss out on important history, but future generations will as well. Many of us grew up doing family trees as school assignments in elementary or middle school. An adoptee's family deserves accurate information.

**COLUMNIST**



**AMY SHANKLAND**  
*Perfectly Imperfect*

# Kiwanis in Hamilton County & across the globe celebrate anniversary week

**The REPORTER**

Each year on Jan. 21, Kiwanis International kicks off a weeklong anniversary celebration of the service club's first official meeting.

Kiwanis, an international service club that has been in existence for more than a century, lifts and empowers members to pursue creative ways to serve the needs of children through local service projects centered around children. These service projects ensure that children have what they need to be secure and successful in their community. "Serving the Children of the World" is the organization's motto.

Kiwanis offers multiple participation levels:

- Circle K International (CKI):** The world's largest collegiate service leadership organization.
- AKTION Club:** Service

club where adults with disabilities learn leadership skills.

- K-Kids Club:** Primary school students learn about leadership skills and self-empowerment.
- Builders Club:** Students between the ages of 11 and 14 develop leadership.
- Key Club:** The oldest and largest service leadership organization for teens.

Altogether, Kiwanis Club members devote more than six million hours of service. Additionally, club members raise nearly \$100 million every year for communities, families, and projects.

The organization has chapters throughout the world, including six clubs in Hamilton County. The Cicero Kiwanis Club supports various programs and activities at Hamilton Heights School



Photo provided  
Several members of the Hamilton Heights Middle School Builders Club are pictured watching *The Grinch* after a gift-wrapping event to make Christmas a little brighter for nine different families in the community. The club is also hosting an after-school dance in February to help build camaraderie among students through music and dance.

**See Heritage . . . Page 3**

## Noblesville theatre students travel to state conference

**The REPORTER**

Last weekend, the Noblesville High School Drama Club traveled to the 2023 Indiana State Thespian Conference at Saint Mary's College in South Bend. A total of 44 NHS Theatre students attended.

The conference offered the following opportunities for the group: a one-act play competition, individual event competitions (Thespy), theatre-focused workshops, college booths, college auctions, scholarship auditions, vendors, a keynote speaker from the theatre industry (costume designer), and more.

*See several photos of Noblesville students at the event, as well as groups who won awards on Page 3.*

# CSO & Harlem Quartet put love in focus

**The REPORTER**

It's all about love on Saturday, Feb. 11 as the Carmel Symphony Orchestra (CSO) under Artistic Director Janna Hymes is joined by guest artists the Harlem Quartet for a lush pre-Valentine's Day performance at the Palladium at the Center for the Performing Arts.

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Palladium, 1 Carter Green, Carmel. Tickets start at just \$25 and are available at the Palladium Fifth Third Bank Box Office, by calling (317) 843-3800, or online at [TheCenterPresents.org](http://TheCenterPresents.org).

"Since this performance is scheduled just before the most



Photo provided  
The highly acclaimed and popular Harlem Quartet will join the Carmel Symphony Orchestra for a pre-Valentine's Day performance on Feb. 11 at the Palladium.

## Threatening phone scams return to Hamilton County

**The REPORTER**

Once again, a scam involving the threat of arrest for missing jury duty or a court date is hitting central Indiana, including Hamilton County.

In an even more interesting twist, the caller may be using names of Hamilton County Sheriff's Office deputies or court employees to lend credence to the calls. The phone numbers are being spoofed to show that the call is from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, when in reality the call is coming from another location. These tactics add another layer of false validity to the call for the victim.

# Miles Nelson files as third candidate for Mayor of Carmel

**Submitted**

Current Carmel City Councilor Miles Nelson was joined by his wife, Carolina, at the Hamilton County Clerk's office Thursday afternoon to launch his candidacy for Mayor of Carmel.

The Primary Election will be held on May 2. It is expected Nelson will be the only candidate to file in the Democratic primary, making him the presumed challenger to the winner of the Republican primary in the November 2023 General Election.

"I love this city and what it's given to me and my family. I'm extraordinarily passionate about the people who live here, and the ways we support one another," Nelson said. "Under the leadership of Mayor Brainard, we have seen remarkable population growth and development as Carmel has transformed into a city that leads our region in nearly every quality of life, safety, recreation, and inclusivity

measure. We are nationally recognized as one of the best places to live in the country. I'm running for mayor so we can continue to keep Carmel moving forward."

A lifelong Hoosier, Miles and his wife first moved to Carmel 18 years ago. He is an entrepreneur with decades of experience in business ownership, business development, executive leadership, and nonprofit board service. He was first elected to the Carmel City

Council in 2019.

To learn more about Nelson and the campaign, visit [Miles4Mayor.com](http://Miles4Mayor.com) and be sure to watch Miles' announcement video on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com).

Given the retirement of longtime mayor Jim Brainard, this November will host the most competitive general election in the city's history. Observers expect this race to be one of the most closely watched in the state of Indiana.



Photo provided



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KIWANIS

Corporation and throughout the greater Northern Hamilton County area. At Hamilton Heights the club supports Youth Assistance, Educational Scholarships for Graduating Seniors, Educational Foundation Golf Outing, Business Professionals of America (BPA) Club, and Hamilton Heights Girl and Boy Scout Troops.

Community groups, activities, and programs the club currently supports include Agape, Prevail, Hamilton North Public Library (HNPL), Angels’ Attic, Hope Family Care Center, Riley Hospital for Children, Batesland Elementary School at the Pine Ridge Reservation, Special Olympics, Legacy Fund, Hamilton Centers, Friends of Cicero Parks, and Cicero Volunteer Fire Department.

In addition, the club sponsors the Key Club at Hamilton Heights High School, Builders Club at Hamilton Heights Middle School, and K-Kids Club at Hamilton Heights Elementary School.

Tracy Zachary, HHES Special Education Teacher, is the advisor for the K-Kids Club; Sophia Wright, HHMS Media Center Instructional Assistant, and Chelsea Pacheco, HHMS School Counselor, are the advisors for HHMS Builders Club; and Lillian Morris, HHHS Special Education Teacher, is the advisor for the HHHS Key Club.

“The biggest way the K-Kids Club is making a difference is by starting small by serving the local elementary from packing food backpacks to recycling,” Zachary said.

“The Builders Club has the ability to change lives,” Wright said. “Our students understand the power they have to positively impact their peers, their school, and their community.”

“Students have the opportunity to grow in their leadership and community service skills giving them the opportunity to make a difference on and off our campus through their involvement in this club,” Pacheco said.

“Involvement in Key Club helps kids to be a part of their school and community,” Morris said. “I love that kids are able to step out of themselves and see what others experience in our community. I can see that this makes an impact on them and their perspectives. Kids are so busy anymore between sports, school, clubs, and work that it can be challenging to balance their time. I feel like a lot of students think it is just one more thing on their very full plates but when they do volunteer to help, they get so much from the experience.”

“The members of the Cicero Kiwanis are a civic-minded group whose focus is building a better community one child at a time,” Cicero Kiwanis Club President Emily Pearson said. “We are proud of the contribution we have made to Hamilton County, the State of Indiana and the world, and look forward to doing even more to make a difference in the lives of children.”

The Cicero Kiwanis Club meets at 7:30 a.m. on Saturdays at the Red Bridge Park Community Building. For more information about the local club, email [cicero-kiwanis@gmail.com](mailto:cicero-kiwanis@gmail.com).

from Page 1

QUARTET

romantic day of the year, we’re presenting a program filled with some of the world’s most romantic music,” Hymes said. “From the classics of Wagner and Tchaikovsky to more contemporary works such as the dance segment from *Bridgerton*, this concert will be a treat for people who truly love glorious, passionate music of all styles. It’s the ideal Valentine’s celebration – a perfect date night!”

The Harlem Quartet, featuring Carmel’s own Felix Umansky on cello, will join the CSO on the Randall Craig Fleischer arrangement of Leonard Bernstein’s *West Side Story*. This selection holds special meaning for Hymes, who studied under Bernstein while learning the fine art of conducting an orchestra.

“It brings back wonderful memories of the maestro for me,” she said, “and of course the Feb. 11 performance will be even more special since we’ll be featuring Carmel’s very own Felix Umansky of the Harlem Quartet on this particular piece.”

Harlem Quartet has been praised for its “panache” in *The New York Times* and hailed in the *Cincinnati Enquirer* for “bringing a new attitude to classical music, one that is fresh, bracing and intelligent.” It has also won plaudits from such veteran musicians as Jazz at Lincoln Center woodwind virtuoso Ted Nash, who declared in a 2018 *Playbill* article, “Harlem Quartet is one of the greatest string quartets I have ever heard. They can play anything.” Since its public debut at Carnegie Hall in 2006, the ensemble has thrilled audiences throughout the U.S. and the world.

The quartet’s mission is to advance diversity in classical music, engaging young and new audiences through the discovery and presentation of varied repertoire that includes works by composers of color. Harlem Quartet collaborated with jazz pianist Chick Corea in a Grammy-winning *Hot House* album that included Corea’s “Mozart Goes Dancing,” which won a separate Grammy as Best Instrumental Composition.

Harlem Quartet’s latest album, the July 2020 release *Cross Pollination*, features works by Debussy, William Bolcom, Dizzy Gillespie, and Guido López-Gavilán.

Other selections included on the CSO’s Feb. 11 program are:

- Wagner: Liebestod from *Tristan and Isolde*
- arr. Langford: Dance Segment from *Bridgerton*
- Mascagni: Intermezzo from *Cavalleria Rusticana*
- Khachaturian: Adagio of *Spartacus* & Phrygia from *Spartacus Suite No. 2*

• Massenet: *Thais Meditation*

• Tchaikovsky: *Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture*

CSO, currently in the midst of its 47th season, is a resident company of the Palladium at the Center for the Performing Arts located in Carmel’s City Center district. An abundance of free parking in garages, lots, and curbside is available within easy walking distance of the Palladium. There also are numerous restaurants in the area for pre- or post-concert dining. Additional information about the Feb. 11 concert and a preview of the remainder of performances during CSO’s current season can be found at [CarmelSymphony.org](http://CarmelSymphony.org).

The 2022-23 Carmel Symphony Orchestra season is supported by the City of Carmel, the Center for the Performing Arts, the Palladium, and Pedcor.

from Page 1

# Hello, Hamilton County



**paulpoteet.com**



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

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

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

- Individually packaged snacks
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- Hand sanitizer
- Disinfecting wipes

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



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# Noblesville thespians steal the show



Photos provided by Susan Nieten, NHS Theatre Teacher  
(Above) NHS Theatre students outside of the O'Laughlin Auditorium on Saint Mary's College in South Bend. (Top right) Two Noblesville students, Lauryn Kinzie and Josiah Smith, were named as two of the 11 Indiana State Thespian Officers for the 2023-2024 school year. Both Kinzie and Smith went through a rigorous interview process to achieve these positions. (Right) Thespian Troupe #8118 received the honor of being a Gold Ranking Honor Troupe for the 2021-2023 school year. The troupe applied for this award by presenting a portfolio for the '21-'22 school year with the following categories: Participation, Productions, Outreach, and Community Service. This year's troupe officers put together the portfolio. The '22-'23 NHS Thespian Officers are Rylee Odle, Aidan Johnston, Josiah Smith, Roux Carney, Trevor Greenlee (Chair), Sean Wood, and Maddux Morrison.



Photo provided by Susan Nieten, NHS Theatre Teacher  
The Advanced Acting class competed in the play competition this year and placed third at state. In December, they qualified to compete at State when they placed first at the NHS-hosted Regional Competition. They also earned the following recognitions: Best Ensemble and the two Best Supporting Actors, Aidan Johnston and Roux Carney.



Photos provided by Susan Nieten, NHS Theatre Teacher  
(Above left) Josiah Smith and Lauryn Kinzie were named the 2023 Indiana State Champions for the Acting Duet Thespy Competition. Their scene was from the play Love/Sick by John Cariani. This photo was taken right after they found out that they were State Champs and that they would be performing in front of nearly 1,000 people at the closing ceremony of the conference. NHS Theatre students who earned the highest ranking in the Thespy Competition include Sarah Rolinson (Musical Theatre Solo Dance), Aidan Johnston (Monologues), Roux Carney & Sean Wood (Duet Acting), and Sean Wood and Colin McCabe (Musical Theatre Duet). Competitors who earn a Superior Ranking qualify to compete at the International Thespian Festival in June 2023 at Indiana University. (Above right) The cast of *The Boy Who Was Asked to Turn Blue* by Ev Miller.

## SCAM

The scam works like this:  
A victim answers the telephone, and the caller says a warrant is being issued for not appearing for jury duty (or paying taxes or another offense). The caller may give the name of a courthouse employee, a deputy, or a name similar to an employee. Caller ID may even show the call originating from a local number, as these IDs are easy to fake with current technology.  
The caller then states the victim can avoid the arrest by paying a fine submitted by wire transfer or pre-paid gift credit card. Pressure is put on the victim to make a payment quickly to avoid

jail time since once the paperwork is submitted, the arrest is imminent. The caller may even provide another telephone number to call to verify the offense and pending arrest. Sometimes the caller is advised that there is a gag order in place and they are not to talk about it.  
As a reminder, arrest warrants in Hamilton County are not served over the telephone. If in doubt about speaking with an official county employee, hang up the phone, research the appropriate number, and contact the agency directly. Do not call a number given by the person on the phone as it probably is not the correct number.

If you owe money to the county or to any government agency, contact the office directly to determine how the funds should be paid. Most government agencies do not use wire transfers, pre-paid credit cards, or gift cards. It is almost impossible to track or recover money if the victim falls for the fraud.  
If you receive one of these scam phone calls or one similar to it, please report it to the appropriate law enforcement jurisdiction. The Hamilton County Public Safety Communications phone number is (317) 773-1282; they can help direct you to the appropriate agency to determine if a report should be filed.

## HERITAGE

I was excited to learn about the German heritage on my birth father's side and my Scottish, Irish, English, and German heritage on my birth mother's side. No wonder I burn if I'm out in the sun for more than 20 minutes! It felt great to share this information with my sons.  
My wonderful friend Mary was not only adopted by her stepfather – she also adopted her own children from Russia. She has done a wonderful job of gathering information about her son and daughter's heritage and ancestral culture.  
"I realize that is extremely important for them to know and I will always encourage them to keep learn-

ing more," she once told me.  
According to Carolina Parent, no matter how it fits into family life, learning about their heritage plays a crucial role in helping adoptees develop into emotionally healthy adults.  
So how do you go about starting your search for your birth family or a child? If your state has open records, you can research its guidelines online for how to access them like I did with Ohio. Different states have different procedures, but it's now the easiest first step for people that are looking for their birth family or a child.  
This link provides information on what each state allows for adoptees

wishing to access their original birth certificates: [usbirthcertificates.com/articles/states-with-open-adoption-records](https://usbirthcertificates.com/articles/states-with-open-adoption-records).  
And I am thrilled to report that my own state, Indiana, opened their records to everyone starting in 2018. This was thanks to a hard-working group called Hoosiers for Equal Access to Records (HEAR.) I am excited for Hoosier adoptees!

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LOCAL NEWS

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**MOST  
EVENTS  
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## IN 2023, WE ARE ALL HISTORY BUFFS!

*This is what Hamilton County  
history looks like this year:*

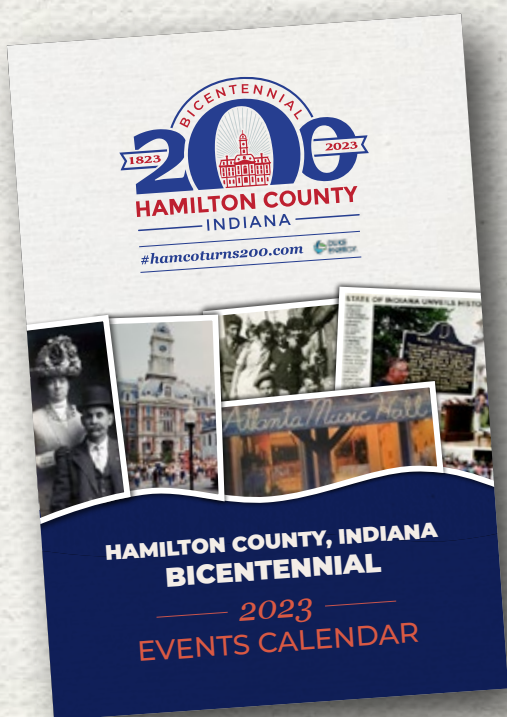
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**May** Adams Township  
**June** Washington Township  
**July** Noblesville Township

**August** Wayne Township  
**September** Fall Creek Township  
**October** Delaware Township  
**November** Clay Township  
**December** Bicentennial Bash



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HAMILTON COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



# Two new county courtrooms open

Judge Darren Murphy begins presiding over Superior Court 7

The REPORTER

Two new courtrooms opened in the Hamilton County Judicial Center on Tuesday. The new courtrooms will be used by Magistrates Chad Hill and Erin Weaver. Magistrates work for and with elected judges to handle a wide variety of cases, both civil and criminal.

“The county continues to grow and continues to have more and more cases filed every year,” Superior Court 5 Judge David Najjar said. “We simply needed more room to handle our burgeoning caseload.”

Superior Court 7 also opened this month and will be presided over by



Najjar



Murphy

Judge Darren Murphy. Judge Murphy will hear civil and criminal cases – hence, the need to find new space for the magistrates.

Based on state caseload statistics,

Hamilton County still needs more judicial officers. Judge Najjar says the county is high on the list of counties who need additional juridical resources. “These new courtrooms will allow us to move closer to the actual judicial need dictated by our caseload statistics, but we still need more,” Najjar said. “Only then will we be able to move our cases more quickly and efficiently.”

The two new magistrate courtrooms replace the county’s Information System Services Department, which will eventually move to the basement of the Judicial Center.

# Noblesville’s own Nichole Henderson makes Dean’s List at Mercy College of Ohio

The REPORTER

Nichole Henderson of Noblesville was named to the Fall 2022 Dean’s List at Mercy College of Ohio. She is working toward a Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging.

To be named on the Dean’s List, a student must

achieve a grade-point average of 3.3 or higher and be enrolled for 12 or more credit hours.

Mercy College of Ohio is a Catholic institution with a campus in Toledo, Ohio and a location in Youngstown, Ohio. It focuses on healthcare and health science programs.

# Lt. Gov. Crouch: “Can Indiana afford not to do more for Hoosiers suffering from mental illness and addiction?”

The REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch testified in front of the Senate Appropriations Committee Thursday in support of Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), legislation which will strengthen the direction Indiana takes in assisting Hoosiers suffering with behavioral health issues, including mental illness and addiction.

Authored by Sen. Michael Crider (R-Greenfield) SB 1 will transform the current 988 Crisis Hotline into 988 Response Centers and direct Indiana’s Family and Social Services Administration to apply for support from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to expand the network of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) in Indiana.

It is unusual for a sitting Indiana governor or lieutenant governor to testify in front of a committee on behalf of a specific piece of legislation.

“As co-chair of the Indiana Roundtable on Mental Health, I could have justified speaking on behalf of this bill. But for personal reasons, I was compelled to testify,” said Lt. Gov. Crouch, who also is Indi-



Photo provided

Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch spoke in support of a Senate bill which will strengthen and expand the state’s mental health and addiction support programs.

ana’s Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. “One in five Hoosiers suffers from mental illness or addiction, and my family is no exception. My mother suffered from depression throughout her life, and my younger sister died by suicide in her 20s.”

If enacted, SB 1 will create 988 Crisis Response Centers, allowing mobile crisis teams to be dispatched to assist in a severe mental health crisis. SB 1 also addresses funding and

sustainability for CCBHCs, which are designed to ensure access to coordinated comprehensive behavioral health care. There are currently 19 pilot CCBHC sites in Indiana.

“The cost of untreated mental illness and addiction cases to the state of Indiana exceeds \$4 billion annually,” said Crouch, who has been an outspoken supporter of behavioral and mental health initiatives throughout her career. “In addition to the cost of life, can Indiana afford

not to do more for Hoosiers suffering from mental illness and addiction?”

The Senate Appropriations committee is expected to vote on SB 1 at its next meeting.

The Lieutenant Governor serves as President of the Indiana Senate, Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development, chairs the Indiana Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Task Force & Indiana Roundtable on Mental Health, and oversees four state agencies.

Thanks for reading The REPORTER

## Letter to the Editor

# Hamilton County Republican Party thanks donors

Dear Editor:

Our Giving Club members and dinner sponsors have been critical to the success of the Hamilton County GOP. With their financial help, we were able to hold on to our elected offices and secure seats on township boards and school boards in the county. We appreciate our sponsors’ tremendous support.

Thank you to our loyal supporters who have renewed their Giving Club Memberships for 2023:

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### Lincoln Club

- Matt & Michelle Misterka
- State Representative Donna Schaibley

### Statesman Club

- Westfield Township Board Member Jim and Mary Ake
- Judge Rick Campbell
- Fishers City Councilor Cecilia Coble
- Judge David Najjar

Additionally, thank you to our new sponsors for 2023:

### Chairman’s Club

- Gurinder Singh
- Westfield City Councilor Scott Willis

### Statesman Club

- John DeLucia
- Auditor of State Tera Klutz
- Joshua Marraccini
- Kenneth Pennington
- Noblesville Common Councilor Darren Peterson
- Fishers City Councilor John Weingardt

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. Please include your phone number and city of residence. The Reporter will publish one letter per person per week.

# Representative Victoria Spartz

## Constituent Services



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

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- 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.

Anderson Office (765) 639-0671

Carmel Office (317) 848-0201

www.spartz.house.gov



# Carmel reminds residents of snow removal protocol along sidewalks, paths, trails

**The REPORTER**

The City of Carmel reminds residents, property owners, and business owners that it's important to keep your sidewalks clear of snow and ice. Please shovel your sidewalks or arrange for others to help, so that your friends and neighbors can continue to make their way – safely – around the city.

The No-Bus Zones created in 2021 has increased the number of students walking to school, even on snowy days. Residents, businesses,

and property owners within that roughly one-mile radius of schools should keep this in mind as they are maintaining sidewalks.

Many residents may not realize that the city is responsible for plowing the streets and many trails and pathways, but it is the responsibility of residential property owners to clear their own sidewalks of all snow and ice within 72 hours of a major snowfall. If you own a business, the timeline is by noon the day after the snow event.

Paths that are located along city roadways are cleared by the Carmel Street Department as soon as possible after streets are cleared. In most cases, they are cleared along with the adjacent section of roadway. It should be noted that the Street Department does not clear trails outside of normal business hours and depending on the depth of snow, it may take up to two to three days to clear the paths. Additionally, in some areas, trails are not cleared on both sides of the roadway.

Trails and greenways are cleared by the Carmel Clay Parks Department, which begins clearing operations shortly after the end of the snowfall. Trails in Carmel are cleared but are not salted. No salt is used due to the threat of killing vegetation along the trails, causing injury to the pets' paws and the potential damage to the asphalt.

Questions regarding snow removal on sidewalks can be directed to Building Code and Services at (317) 571-2444.

# Sen. Braun introduces No Budget, No Pay Act

**The REPORTER**

U.S. Senators Mike Braun (R-Ind.), Joe Manchin (D-W.V.), Rick Scott (R-Fla.), Maggie Hassan (D-N.H.), Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.V.), and Katie Britt (R-Ala.) have reintroduced the bipartisan No Budget, No Pay Act.

The bill simply states that if Members of Congress don't fulfill their basic job requirements and pass the annual budget resolutions and appropriations bills by the start of the fiscal year (Oct. 1), they will not receive pay until they do. The bill also prohibits retro-



**Braun**

active pay for the period. "Every business and family makes a budget, but Congress doesn't," Sen. Braun said. "If your representatives refuse to do a basic part of their job like passing a budget resolution and appropriations bills in time, we shouldn't get paid. That's why I'm reintroducing the bipartisan No Budget, No Pay Act, to hold D.C. accountable for the budget dysfunction that's put us on a collision course with fiscal disaster."

[Click here](#) for more information about the bill.

# Better Business Bureau offers tips during Data Privacy Week

**The REPORTER**

It's Data Privacy Week, and the Better Business Bureau has some tips to keep you safe this year.

The possibility of a cyberattack by a foreign country has gone from being the stuff of science fiction to a common threat that is often reported in the news. While it may seem like there is nothing an individual can do to stop a cyberattack, there are some best practices that consumers and businesses can do to help guard against losing important personal information to cyber thieves.

Quite a bit of personal information is already shared on the internet by cell phones, tablets, laptops, or any other device that connects through Wi-Fi or an internet provider. These access points make it easier to shop, bank, make travel arrangements, and keep in touch with friends or family.

When online, safeguard your information to help

avoid scams, fraud, and identity theft. Periodically, it is a good idea to review who has your information. The [Better Business Bureau](#) and the [National Cyber Security Alliance](#) offer the following tips to help secure the privacy of critical information:

- **Share with care.** Posts on social media last a long time. Consider who will see the post, how it might be perceived by readers, and what information it might reveal about the individual posting it.
- **Manage privacy settings.** Check the privacy and security settings on web services and apps and set them to your comfort level for information sharing. Each device, application or browser used will have different features to limit how and with whom you share information.
- **Personal info is like money: Value it. Protect it.** Personal information, such as purchase history, IP



address, or location, has tremendous value to businesses – just like money. Make informed decisions about whether or not to share data with certain businesses by considering the amount of personal information they are asking for and weighing it against the benefits you may receive in return.

- **Make your passwords long and strong.** Use long passwords with a combination of upper and lower case letters, numbers, and symbols – eight characters for most accounts, 12 characters for email and financial accounts. Don't use the same password for multiple ac-

counts, especially email and financial. Keep a paper list of your passwords in a safe place, not on or near your computer. Consider using a password vault application. [See BBB's tips for creating a strong password.](#)

- **Keep tabs on apps.** Many apps ask for access to personal information, such as geographic location, contacts list and photo album, before using their services. Be thoughtful about who gets that information, and wary of apps that require access to information that is not required or relevant for the services they are offering. Delete unused apps on

your internet-connect devices and keep others secure by performing updates.

- **Lock down your login.** For your online accounts, use the strongest authentication tools available. Your usernames and passwords are not enough; consider two-factor authentication for key accounts like email, banking, and social media, especially for access on mobile devices.
- **Don't click on unfamiliar links.** Whether at home or at work, don't click on links from unfamiliar sources or unexpected correspondence. One false click can infect a whole computer ... or a whole business.
- **Pay attention to internet-connected devices.** Smart thermostats, voice control systems, cars, even refrigerators are just the beginning of the growing list of devices that watch our homes and track our location. Read the privacy policy and understand what data is being collected and how

it will be used. Read [BBB's tips on smart devices and cyber security risks](#).

Charitable organizations should be aware of data privacy. Donors and others communicate online with charities via their websites, emails, and other online means and need to be informed about what policies are in place to address privacy concerns. [BBB Wise Giving Alliance](#) published a [blog article](#) containing advice for charities regarding data privacy concerns.

**More information**

- See [BBB's Cybersecurity Resources page](#).
- Check out the [National Cyber Security Alliance's Privacy Tips](#), including special information for teens, parents, older adults, mobile users, and more.
- Businesses can learn more about BBB's [tips for improved cybersecurity](#).
- Ask the [BBB in your area](#) about programs for business leaders and employees.

# Are You Searching for Peace, Contentment & Joy?

*Hope, Peace, Love & Joy*



A hymn says, "In this world we have our trouble." With that I cannot disagree. However, the Bible offers directions to overcoming whatever troubles us. A high-ranking Ethiopian

official was religious, but his knowledge was incomplete and he did not have this peace. After learning of Jesus and being baptized he went on his way rejoicing. You too can live life, even with its troubles, with hoy and peace. We'd love to help you find that peace.

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TODAY'S BIBLE READING

Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say: "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."  
Revelation 4:9-11(NIV)

Lorisa Lynette Randall

December 9, 1965 – January 18, 2023

Lorisa Lynette Randall, 57, Elwood, passed away on January 18, 2023, at her home.



She was born December 9, 1965, in Corona, Calif., to Albert Ray and Barbara (Biddle) Hanson. She was a graduate of Hamilton Heights High School in Arcadia. Lorisa was currently working at Elsa Corporation at Elwood.

Lorisa enjoyed kayaking, visiting with friends around campfires, and working on her yard and gardens. She would preserve the produce she grew by freezing and canning it. She loved her puppies, Honey Pot and Bella, and referred to them as her children.

Her smile was beautiful and infectious, and she had one for everyone who crossed her path. She had a way of engaging and making those who were around her feel special, loved, cared about and safe. Lorisa was always there for others in times of need, especially for her family and friends.

She was committed to her relationship with God, and when adversities came, and they did come, she met them throughout her life with incredible grace, strength and humbleness. She was a member of White River Christian Church in Noblesville.

Survivors include her mother, Barbara Hanson of Poca-hontas, Iowa, and several cousins.

Hartley Funeral Home Cicero Chapel is entrusted with her care. There are no services scheduled at this time. You may send condolences at [hartleyfuneralhomes.com](http://hartleyfuneralhomes.com).



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Donna  
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# Indiana's own Heartland Film going to the Oscars this March

The REPORTER

The 2023 Oscar nominations were announced this week, and 12 films honored by **Heartland Film** were nominated for 39 awards. See a full list of nominations at [ReadTheReporter.com](http://ReadTheReporter.com).

Congratulations to the filmmakers on this incredible accomplishment, and special congrats to *Stranger at the Gate*, the documentary short film that won the Oscar qualifying Grand Prize and Indiana Spotlight Award at Indy Shorts this past July. It's a powerful story about a former Marine with PTSD who planned to attack Muslims in Indiana

until an unexpected encounter.

The 95th Academy Awards airs at 8 p.m. on Sunday, March 12 on ABC.

Ribbon cutting postponed

Heartland Film has postponed the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of its new space at the Sterrett Center on the Fort Ben Cultural Campus. The event will now be held at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 15, with the Open House from 4 to 6 p.m. The Sterrett Center is located in Lawrence at 8950 Otis Ave., Indianapolis.

Want to submit your film?

Click the following links



Photo provided

The short film *Stranger at the Gate* received its Oscar nomination by winning the Grand Prize for Documentary at Indy Shorts.

for submission guidelines and deadlines.

• [Heartland International Film Festival](#)

• [Indy Shorts International Film Festival](#)  
• [High School Film Competition](#)

## Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen enjoys endorsements from 22 state & local leaders

Submitted by Jensen for Noblesville

Twenty-two Noblesville and Hamilton County community leaders have endorsed incumbent Chris Jensen for reelection as Mayor of Noblesville.

"I am thrilled to accept these endorsements and I am honored by their trust and support," Jensen said. "We have made tremendous progress over the last three years, but we can't take our foot off the gas. We are going to continue to protect our authentic downtown, invest in our first responders and infrastructure, and embrace the White River as the asset that it is."

Those endorsements include:

clude:

- Ken Alexander, Hamilton County Councilor
- Christine Altman, Hamilton County Commissioner
- Brian Ayer, Noblesville City Councilor
- Teresa Ayers, County Republican Party Vice Chairman
- Scott Baldwin, State Senator
- Brad Beaver, Hamilton County Councilor
- Mark Boice, Noblesville City Councilor
- Raju Chinthala, County Republican Party Treasurer



Jensen

- Greg Garrison, Hamilton County Prosecutor
- Chuck Goodrich, State Representative
- Mike Davis, Noblesville City Councilor
- Todd Hus-ton, Speaker of the Indiana House
- Sue Maki, Hamilton County Councilor
- Amy Massillamany, Hamilton County Councilor
- Mario Massillamany, County Republican Party Chairman
- Steven Nation, Hamilton County Councilor
- Greg O'Connor, No-

- blesville City Councilor
- Darren Peterson, Noblesville City Councilor
- Pete Schwartz, Noblesville City Councilor
- Beth Sheller, County Republican Party Secretary
- Aaron Smith, Noblesville City Councilor
- Megan Wiles, Noblesville City Councilor
- "With the support of these leaders and so many others, I will continue to work every day to improve our city," Jensen said. "As I campaign and talk to constituents, I hope to earn their votes this May and November."
- For more information about Mayor Chris Jensen, please visit [JensenForNoblesville.com](http://JensenForNoblesville.com).



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### Basketball

# University girls overcome rocky first quarter to roll past Tri-West

By **RICHIE HALL**  
sports@readthereporter.com

**CARMEL** — After an emotional start to its Senior Night game, the University girls basketball team took care of business.

The Class 2A No. 10 Trailblazers overcame a shaky first quarter to roll past Tri-West 71-43 at the U Center on Thursday. The Bruins led early, but University took control of the game in the second quarter, then cruised through the second half to get its 11th consecutive victory.

Right before the game, the 'Blazers honored their five seniors, Kelsey DuBois, Payton Seay, Jordan Patterson, Kamryn Washington and Reva Allam.

"We're probably one of the most accomplished groups ever to come through University," said Seay. "So, everything just came back tonight. It was just super emotional for me, but right now we're preparing for the tournament."

"This senior class has been through a lot," said University coach Justin Blanding. "They were fortunate in a way because they came in right away, they were able to play and get on the court."

The senior class had to deal with COVID during its sophomore year, which resulted in several missed games — "COVID messed us up for two and a half years," said Blanding. "They're a special group. They've actually been

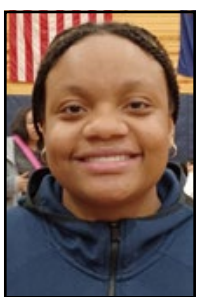
robbed some games, almost half a season. So, I'm just proud of them for everything they've been through and how they've stepped up. It's just everything they've been through."

The game began with Tri-West's Ava Sullivan (who was presented flowers from the 'Blazers before the game in recognition of her senior year), hitting a 3-pointer, which DuBois answered with her own 3. The Bruins' Regan Canada then made a triple, and Tri-West held the lead for the remainder of the quarter, at one point leading 10-3.

University slowly got back into the game, and cut the Bruins' advantage to 16-12 by the end of the period. Seay scored the last basket of the quarter on a putback, and that would be the start of a 14-0 run for the Trailblazers.

"We just had to get on them a little bit about doing certain things, doing things the right way," said Blanding. "And then from that point, we were a lot better in the second quarter, all the way through to the fourth."

Seay completely took over the game in that second period, pouring in 13 points. She made the first



P. Seay



Washington

two baskets of the quarter to tie the game, then DuBois hit a pair of free throws with 6:18 left in the period to put the 'Blazers up 18-16, and in the lead for good.

The run continued with Patterson scoring off a steal, then DuBois and Keira Bright made layins. That put University up 24-16. The Bruins kept close and were still within 26-23 late in the quarter, but the Trailblazers skipped off on another 12-0 run, and led 38-23 at halftime. Seay scored seven points in that run.

"Everyone's family is in here and stuff, and all the Senior Night antics, everyone's all ramped up and stuff," said Seay. "But we were able to get our composure and eventually break away third quarter."

University continued to extend its lead in the third quarter, outscoring Tri-West 22-10. Patterson stepped up with seven points in that quarter, including back-to-back baskets. DuBois also added seven points, finishing the period with a 3.

The fourth quarter saw one more Trailblazers run, a 6-0 stretch to get them up 66-34. Taylor Seay also scored four points on consecutive layins late in the



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

University's Taylor Seay plays defense on an inbound pass during the Trailblazers' game with Tri-West on Thursday. University won 71-43.

quarter as well.

In all, four University players reached double figures, led by Payton Seay's 21 points. DuBois reached double-double status with 20 rebounds and 19 points, and also dished out four assists. Payton Seay had eight rebounds. Patterson finished with 13 points and four assists, Taylor Seay totaled 10 points and five rebounds, and Washington made four steals.

The Trailblazers are 17-4 and finish their regular season Saturday with an afternoon game at Tipton.

#### UNIVERSITY 71, TRI-WEST 43

University	FG	FT	TP	PF
Kelsey DuBois	7-14	3-6	19	1
Kamryn Washington	1-4	0-3	2	2
Payton Seay	10-15	0-1	21	2
Reva Allam	0-4	0-1	0	1
Jordan Patterson	5-7	2-2	13	1
Keira Bright	2-6	0-0	5	2
Taylor Seay	4-8	2-4	10	2
Alex Feeney	0-1	1-2	1	2
Anyah Jordan-Turley	0-0	0-0	0	0
Totals	29-59	8-19	71	13

	Score by Quarters
Tri-West	16 7 10 10 - 43
University	12 26 22 11 - 71

University 3-point shooting (5-14) DuBois 2-3, P. Seay 1-4, Bright 1-2, Patterson 1-1, Allam 0-3, T. Seay 0-1.

University rebounds (42) DuBois 20, P. Seay 8, T. Seay 5, Washington 3, Patterson 3, Jordan-Turley 1, Allam, Feeney 1.

## Heights girls finish regular season with tremendous win over Heritage Christian

### The REPORTER

Hamilton Heights' girls team finished up the regular season with a 50-32 victory Thursday at Heritage Christian.

The Huskies led 12-11 after a close first quarter, but blasted ahead in the second period, outscoring the Eagles 16-4 for a 28-15 halftime lead. Camryn Runner had a tremendous quarter, scoring 11 points in the second. Heights kept up the pace in the third period, outscoring Heritage Christian 12-6 for a 40-21 advantage.

Runner finished the game with 19 points, while Ella Hickok threw in four 3-pointers on her way to 18 points.

"Great way to finish

the regular season," said Huskies coach Keegan Cherry. "Really proud of the way our girls executed offensively and guarded. My assistants had a great game plan and our girls executed. From a coaching perspective, that was some of the best basketball we have played all year. I'm so happy for these girls. They are once again playing their best basketball at the end of season."

Heights is 17-5 and received a bye into the semi-finals of Class 3A Sectional 24, which the Huskies will host next week. Heights plays the winner of Tuesday's first-round game between Jay County and Centerville.

#### HAMILTON HEIGHTS 50, HERITAGE CHRISTIAN 32

Heights	FG	FT	TP	PF
Ella Hickok	6	2-2	18	0
Camryn Runner	7	3-4	19	1
Kaylee Rhoton	2	0-0	5	1
Kassidy Schakel	3	0-0	6	3
Hadleigh Cherry	0	0-0	0	2
Katie Brown	0	0-0	0	0
Taylor Harley	0	2-2	2	0
Jocelyn Wolfgang	0	0-0	0	0
Vivian Lynch	0	0-0	0	0
Totals	18	7-8	50	7

#### Score by Quarters

Heights	12	16	12	10 - 50
Heritage Christian	11	4	6	11 - 32

Heights 3-pointers (7) Hickok 4, Runner 2, Rhoton

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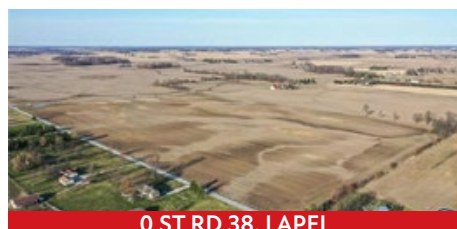
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Basketball

# 50 seasons later, one Sheridan JV team still stealing headlines from upperclassmen

By **CHUCK GODBY**  
*For The Reporter*

The word on Sheridan’s Main Street was if you wanted to see the junior varsity basketball team play you had better get to the gymnasium early in order to secure a good seat.

Wait! Whoa!  
What?  
This JV, B-team we’re talking about, right?

Since the beginning of time JV basketball games commonly fly under the radar, allowing community members time to socialize before the main event: the varsity game. But the 1972-73 – 50 seasons ago – was different at Sheridan High.

After Coach Lanny Parker assembled his varsity unit, Coach Rex Bowman’s junior varsity roster consisted of four juniors and eight sophomores. Early in the season, the reserve

Black Hawks would lose a junior player to the varsity squad, and throughout the season would bring up a freshman or two to add depth, but the 11 core players would go on to post 18 wins against just two losses.

“It was a great team to play on,” said Ken Noe, then a sophomore. “We beat the varsity a few times in practice. If a team pressed us, we shot layins until they stopped. Pass the ball. No dribbling. That’s how we played.”

Defense was, perhaps, the team’s greatest asset and created the greatest buzz among the local fan base.

“All the players took pride in playing defense,” Bowman pointed out. “It was the coach’s requirement. Our defensive philosophy was to press full court to create turnovers, and play man-to-man half-court defense.”



(Above left) The Sheridan boys basketball 1972-73 junior varsity team had an amazing season, finishing with an 18-2 record. (Front row, from left) Ed West, Terry Bishop, Jim Haughey, Bob Godby, and Ken Noe. (Back row, from left) David Pitts, Ron Martin, Larry McClay, Coach Rex Bowman, Chuck Hobson, Rick Gary, and Jay King. (Above right) Ken Noe gave the 1972-73 Sheridan reserves backcourt depth as a sophomore.



Photos provided by Chuck Godby



Photo provided

Sheridan’s 1972-73 JV coach Rex Bowman (right) ran into Bob Godby, one of his guards from the 18-2 team, who was officiating Sheridan’s reserve game against Elwood on Homecoming night.

The coach called a special group of players that “made me look good as a coach.”

“They were outstanding young men, good students, and model school citizens,” he recalled during a recent interview. “They were representing themselves, their parents, the basketball program, school, and community. And they did it with class.”

There was nothing special about the start of the season. The locals won their first two games before stumbling to Rossville.

Then came back-to-back wins against Hamilton County rivals Hamilton Heights and Noblesville that would ignite the Hawks on a 16-game winning streak that quickly fired up a community that was starved for some kind of hardwood success not seen in this town in many years ... Most call it then and

now The Hobbs Era.

“Keep in mind the quality of basketball being played at that time throughout Central Indiana and we beat all the Hamilton County schools on our schedule,” Bowman pointed out. “Beating two outstanding programs, Clinton Central by one point, and Lapel in overtime showed the confidence and never-give-up attitude of this special group I coached. We were going to battle you until the final buzzer sounded.”

The magical season would end in heartache, a 52-46 loss to Zionsville.

Fifty years have passed since that unique JV campaign, but the coach remembers each player and how each one contributed to the team’s magical run.

“They were great teammates and always encouraging each other,” Bowman said. “An acknowledgement of a nice pass lead-

ing to a score is how a winning team plays. Each one of them had their special game and our opponents couldn’t focus on just one player. We could score from all positions.

“Jim Haughey and Bob Godby were excellent guards who could drive to the basket, score and pass, Bowman recalled.

“Larry McClay was our leading scorer and a solid, all-around player.

“Chuck Hobson gave us a strong inside presence and could score and rebound.”

“David Potts could score, but his primary responsibilities were to guard the other team’s best offensive player, handle the ball against the press, and rebound,” the coach continued.

“Rick Gary rotated off the bench with the forwards, Ken Noe with the guards, and Jay King at the center position. They

were the first three off the bench and contributed to the team’s success.

“Eddie West, Terry Bishop and Ron Martin were always ready when their numbers were called and made everyone else better through their efforts in practice.”

It seemed only fitting then that Coach Bowman was on hand for Sheridan’s annual Hardwood Homecoming game two weekends ago. While the varsity Hawks won their eighth game of the season – matching the 1972-73 varsity team’s win total for the whole season – the junior varsity improved to 12-2 beating Elwood, then added a 13th win a week later at Delphi.

“I wasn’t aware the JV was 11-2,” the coach admitted prior to homecoming.

He might be watching Coach Randy Garner’s team a little closer now.



Photo provided

The Hamilton Heights sixth-grade boys basketball team repeated as winners of the Husky Invite last Saturday. Players on the team are: Robert Pruitt, Luke Sullivan, Laeton Castillo, Jade Dean, Kellen Williams, Dean Trost, Drew Illyes, James Dotson, Zyon Evans, Gavin Luchessi, JD Crask, Jesse Bishop, Jackson Fite, Kayden Cantlon, Davis Pitts, Levi Heuer, Camden Millikan, Coinner Benson, Levi VanAlstine, and Dean Renbarger.

## Huskies sixth-grade team earns No. 1 at their invite

### The REPORTER

The Hamilton Heights sixth grade boys basketball team took the top spot at Saturday’s Husky Invite for the second year in a row.

It was the smothering defense the boys played that enabled them to beat Western, for the second time in a week, 48-32. Luke Sullivan with 15 points and Jade Dean with nine, led the

Huskies charge. All Husky players saw court action, including Gavin Luchessi, making an impact for his first appearance of the season by scoring eight points.


In the championship game, the Huskies came out strong with their swarming defense and beat the Carmel Greyhounds 37-28. Sullivan led the way with 15 points and Dean with

eight, helping to lead the team to a win. All players gave their all this year as the Husky 6A team finished 8-5 and the Husky 6B team finished 7-4.

Special thanks to the coaches, all the players for their hard work and dedication and to the faithful supporters. Coaches for the team are Eric Heuer, Tom Williams and Derrick Dean.



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Basketball

# Coaches Michael Adams, Donna Buckley eager to see new State Tournament format

By RICH TORRES  
Special to [ih saa.org](#)

With 457 wins throughout his 32-year boys basketball coaching career, Michael Adams can't recall every victory in detail, but the former Evansville Reitz mainstay vividly remembers the atmospheres.

No more so than during Hoosier Hysteria.

A cherished stretch of boys' hoops celebrated annually since 1911 across the Hoosier State, the Indiana High School Athletic Association basketball state tournament series for boys and girls is a time when student-athletes become legendary and for communities to rally around their hometown heroes.

Adams, who stepped down in 2022 after 29 seasons at Evansville Reitz, witnessed both, particularly during his three-year stint at Washington Catholic.

In 1991, his Cardinals won a single-class regional title, and two years later his first of four Indiana All-Stars in his coaching career, Toby Madison, powered the Cardinals to a sectional title.

In each of those winning scenarios, the crowds inside Washington High School's Hatchet House, Adams reminiscences, were at near or exceeded capacity.

"I was privileged to coach before there was class basketball, so I've obviously seen our great game go through a lot of changes," said Adams, who finished 398-267 with 18 winning seasons at Evansville Reitz.

### First Format Change since 2002

Since 1997-98, the IHSAA state tournament has adjusted with the times, shifting from a single-class to a four-classification event, and beginning in the 2022-23 post-season, the spectacle will once more get an infusion of hysteria.

On June 23, 2022, the IHSAA Executive Committee approved to change the annual boys' and girls' basketball state tournaments, following a 15-2 vote by the group of school principals and athletic directors to make the regional round a single game and the semi-state round a two-game format. Previously, the formats were reversed for regional and semi-state and had been that way since 2002.

The recent state tournament alteration, according to IHSAA Commissioner Paul Neidig, will not only potentially increase semi-state attendance but will also generate more statewide interest prior to the State Finals games at Gainbridge Fieldhouse in Indianapolis.

"I think, what (IHSAA Assistant Commissioner) Brian Lewis is trying to do and the IHSAA, they're just trying to make it better," said Adams, Indiana Basketball Coaches Association president elect. "I think what we have to do as leaders is embrace change. Change can be really difficult sometimes, but I also think it can be really good. With what Brian and Paul Neidig are trying to do, this is a good thing."

The numbers support Adams' opinion. In the spring of 2022, Commissioner Nei-



Kirk Green / File photo

**Noblesville girls basketball coach Donna Buckley is focused on next week's sectional, but had a positive opinion on the IHSAA's upcoming format change to the regional and semi-state this season.**

dig conducted a survey of principals, athletic directors and boys' and girls' coaches with 73.4 percent of those 781 respondents voting in favor of the change with at least 70 percent in all four groups approving.

"Everybody loves the two morning games and the night game tournament format just like we had in the one-class system. Just like the old regional format was, and we just moved it right before the State Finals," Lewis said. "We are always looking to see if we could improve the tournament, and ultimately, when you really dig into it, you're looking at double the amount of communities, double the amount of media that are continuing to cover Indiana high school basketball for a week longer, and then at the same time you have to win two games to advance to the ultimate goal of playing a game at Gainbridge Fieldhouse in the State Finals."

Formerly, the state tournament's semi-state round included the final four teams in each classification vying for advancement at four different sites. With the new format, the number of schools competing on the final stage before State will jump from 16 to 32, and the venues will double to eight.

"I think this puts a lot of communities in the tournament a week longer. It allows four more of our great basketball venues to be used. It allows the communities to experience people coming to their town and eating in their restaurants. At the end of the day, it's going to crown somebody to play for a state championship."

According to Noblesville girls basketball coach Donna Buckley, the new format change could pose difficulties and rewarding adversities to overcome.

More than familiar with girls' state tournament success, Buckley owns more than

320 career-coaching victories and has guided her teams to four sectional titles, a regional and a semi-state championship over 22 seasons.

Buckley's state-ranked Class 4A Millers finished 25-4 in 2021-22 to claim the program's second state championship and first since 1987.

However, the new format for 2022-23, while reminiscent of Hoosier Hysteria past, could make a repeat state run even tougher.

"I'm not thinking about the regional too much because our sectional is where my focus is," Buckley commented. "As for the new format, I think it's OK. The semi-state will be a much more difficult task. Playing two really good teams in one day and then adding the extended travel makes it a huge challenge, but it is a challenge we all want a chance at."

Sectional pairings for the 48th annual IHSAA Girls Basketball State Tournament were announced on Sunday, Jan. 22, via live stream on IHSAAtv.org and via radio broadcast on the IHSAA Champions Network with regional pairings also revealed.

Regional title games will be conducted on Saturday, Feb. 11, at 16 different sites with two games per venue.

The sectional pairings for the 113th annual IHSAA Boys Basketball State Tournament will be announced on Sunday, Feb. 19, and broadcast on the IHSAA Champions Network and via live stream on IHSAAtv.org.

Like the girls' sectional pairings show, the boys' pairings will be announced and will follow the same regional format on March 11.

"People don't always like change," Lewis said. People don't always welcome change, but Indiana high school basketball

will always be special no matter what format we put out there because we have a lot of people who love our tournament and come out and support their communities."

### Random Draw for Semi-State Pairings

The enthusiasm will get a boost less than 24 hours after the state's 32 regional champions are crowned.

On the Sunday following regional competition for both the girls and boys, the IHSAA will conduct an additional random draw and announce the semi-state pairings during a live broadcast on IHSAAtv.org.

The new in-tournament semi-state pairings shows will allot the IHSAA Champions Network an opportunity to highlight several of the advancing teams.

"We draw the sectional, and we have already drawn what sectionals will face each other in the regionals, and you get two weeks through the tournament and then we have the opportunity to go on live television and almost reset," Lewis said.

"There are so many things we can do with it. I think those are ideas we can continue to talk about with our Champions Network. We can continue to build that show whether it's bringing coaches in live, Zoom interviews, watch parties; there are a lot of things that can develop around this. We're really excited to have another Sunday focused on high school basketball in Indiana."

### More Teams, More Communities, More Fans, More Excitement

IBCA Executive Director Marty Johnson agrees with Lewis, and he believes the state tournament's format change could result in a callback to the fervor previously witnessed during the single-class era.

"There are going to be semi-states now where fans might find one or another attractive to attend. That's certainly the hope," Johnson said. "The bottom line is that regional week before semi-state will have a lot more teams involved, a lot more communities involved and a lot more fans interested. It's going to make it that much more exciting for the kids. It is one of those changes being made that everyone pretty much agreed on."

For those unable to attend the state tournament games, the IHSAA plans to utilize its Championship Network to reach its widespread fanbase.

"All of these semi-state games are going to be streamed, too. They will be available on IHSAAtv.org and people who can't make the trip across the state are going to be able to watch these highly-competitive games from home or on their phone, if they choose to do that," Neidig said.

Adams might just see another packed Hatchet House in Washington, Ind.

"By there being more teams in the state that are still participating longer, we are hopeful that it will bring more excitement. The venues they get to play at, I think, is a good thing, too. I just hope people will be open minded and accepting that we are trying to do something that's going to make it more exciting for our state tournament," Adams said.

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

### Friday, Jan. 27 BOYS BASKETBALL

Anderson Prep Academy at University, 7:30 p.m.  
Ben Davis at Carmel, 7:30 p.m.  
Franklin Central at Fishers, 7:30 p.m.  
Hamilton Heights at Tipton, 7:30 p.m.  
Noblesville at Hamilton Southeastern, 7:30 p.m.  
Sheridan at Taylor, 7:30 p.m.  
Westfield at Avon, 7:30 p.m.  
Guerin Catholic at Lafayette Central Catholic, 8 p.m.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

Franklin Central at Fishers, 6 p.m.  
Guerin Catholic at Lafayette Central Catholic, 6 p.m.  
Sheridan at Taylor, 6 p.m.  
Carmel at Ben Davis, 7:30 p.m.

### Saturday, Jan. 28 BOYS BASKETBALL

Noblesville at Guerin Catholic, 2:30 p.m.  
Hamilton Southeastern at Pendleton Heights, 7:30 p.m.  
Liberty Christian at Westfield, 7:30 p.m.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

University at Tipton, 1:30 p.m.

### GYMNASTICS

Noblesville at Western Invitational, 10 a.m.  
Westfield at Shelbyville, 10 a.m.

### WRESTLING SECTIONALS

Carmel, Fishers, Hamilton Southeastern, Sheridan, Westfield at Frankfort, 9 a.m.  
Guerin Catholic, Hamilton Heights, Noblesville at Elwood, 9 a.m.

### Tuesday, Jan. 31 BOYS BASKETBALL

University at Bishop Chatard, 7:30 p.m.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

Sectional 8 at Noblesville

Carmel vs. Fishers, 6 p.m.

Westfield vs. Zionsville, 7:45 p.m.

Sectional 24 at Hamilton Heights

Centerville vs. Jay County, 7 p.m.

Sectional 27 at Brebeuf Jesuit

Herron vs. Heritage Christian, 6 p.m.

Guerin Catholic vs. Bishop Chatard, 7:30 p.m.

### GYMNASTICS

Noblesville at New Palestine, 6 p.m.

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



### Upcoming Broadcasts

#### Friday, Jan 27, Basketball

5:40 pm Brebeuf vs Chatard (Doubleheader) | Boys Basketball | Indiana SRN  
7:10 pm Shenandoah vs Heritage Christian | Boys Varsity | Indiana SRN  
7:10 pm Eminence vs Greenwood Christian | Boys Varsity | Indiana SRN  
7:15 pm **Noblesville vs Hamilton Southeastern** | Boys Varsity | Southeastern Sports

#### Saturday, Jan 28, Basketball

2:10 pm **Noblesville vs Guerin Catholic** | Boys Varsity | Indiana SRN

#### Tuesday, Jan 31, Girls Basketball

6:00 pm Class 4A Sectional 8 | **Carmel vs Fishers** | Girls Varsity | HCTV Sports  
7:45 pm Class 4A Sectional 8 | **Westfield vs Zionsville** | Girls Varsity | HCTV Sports

#### Thursday, Feb 2, Boys Basketball

6:00 pm Mt Vernon (Fortville) vs **Noblesville** | Boys Junior Varsity | HCTV Sports  
6:00 pm **Fishers at Westfield** | Boys Junior Varsity | HCTV Sports  
7:30 pm Mt Vernon (Fortville) vs **Noblesville** | Boys Varsity | HCTV Sports  
7:30 pm **Fishers at Westfield** | Boys Varsity | HCTV Sports

#### Friday, Feb 3, Girls Basketball

6:00 pm Class 4A Sectional 8 | Winner GM 1 vs **Noblesville** | HCTV Sports  
7:45 pm Class 4A Sectional 8 | Winner GM 2 vs **Hamilton Southeastern** | HCTV Sports

#### Saturday, Feb 4, Girls Basketball

7:30 pm Class 4A Sectional 8 | Championship | HCTV Sports



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