

See *Books* . . . Page 2

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SCAN ME

CAREGIVING

from Page 1

I am fortunate that Mom was able to live in a good assisted living facility just five minutes from my home. I was just one of the many “team” members that provided care for her. I know there are millions of individuals who have no choice but to be caregivers on a 24/7 basis.

It is a beautiful role, but it can also take its toll on a person. According to an AARP Public Policy Institute poll, 35 percent of family caregivers view their health as fair to poor.

Finally, let's look at another way we help others and the mental labor involved – volunteering. I firmly believe giving back to your community and beyond is vital. I've served my community in various ways ever since I was in high school, and my kids have been raised to do the same. We've volunteered together through Scouting, church, and non-profit activities.

Signing up for projects and showing up to implement them doesn't require much of a mental load. The work is fun, beneficial to others, and good for the soul. Without “worker bees,” tasks simply wouldn't be accomplished. It's valuable service. This is what I currently do for my church. I deliver meals every few months for our Monthly Graced Meals program and I often give readings up at the front of church during mass.

When you move over to the more complicated roles such as serving on a board of directors or a committee, then you're entering the realm of the mental load. I was a proud member of the Noblesville Main Street Board of Directors and chair of the organization's design committee. I also served

on a committee for one of the individuals running for mayor in Noblesville in 2019.

I was the Vice President of Programming for my local chapter of the Grant Professionals Association. I was able to serve in these capacities thanks to my sons being older and my flexible work schedule.

Those roles worked for me, and I loved them. But they also added to my mental labor. I had to think through and plan the Main Street design committee agenda every month and, of course, lead the meetings.

On the board of directors, I was the “go to” for anything grant related. While I did not write the applications, I was responsible for guiding the director to be successful in these efforts.

As Vice President of Programming for my grant professionals' group, I oversaw finding speakers and working with the board to plan the dates, times, meals, and locations of monthly meetings. I had help and didn't do everything alone. This was the strongest local board I'd ever seen, and we often had a lot of fun.

Why did I serve in these higher-level volunteer positions? I didn't have to. I could have stuck with the one-off projects that give me a great deal of satisfaction and still help others. But I'm a firm believer that I should use the talents that the Lord gave me. The higher-level roles were a great fit for my skills.

Amy Shankland is a writer and fundraising professional living in Noblesville with her husband John, two sons, two dogs and a cat. You can reach her via email at amys@greenavenue.info.

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SCAN ME

State Rep. Garcia Wilburn makes statement regarding Hamilton East Public Library

Submitted

Local elections matter. A model example of this is the ongoing public debate over Hamilton East Public Library's policy change to reshelve young adult novels in the adult sections of their libraries.

State Rep. Victoria Garcia Wilburn (D-Fishers) released the following statement:

“The recent actions taken by Hamilton East Public Library are a direct result of local elections and their outcomes,” State Rep. Garcia Wilburn said. “Many House District 32 residents, including myself, are frustrated about HEPL's new book-reshelving policy. One

Garcia Wilburn

of my best memories as a teenager was spending the day in the young adult section, knowing exactly where to access material that was meant just for me. I hear these concerns. I would like to remind constituents that these policy decisions about what our children may read are made by political appointees.

“The seven members of the HEPL Board of Trustees were all appointed by various local bodies: two by the Noblesville School Board, two by the Hamilton County Commissioners, two by the

Hamilton County Council and one by the Hamilton Southeastern School Board. All the members of these appointing bodies are elected to their positions – meaning you have the power to review their job performance every several years at the ballot box. I encourage community members to take note when local government decisions like this one leave them dissatisfied.”

During her first year at the General Assembly, Garcia Wilburn voted in line with the high value House District 32 places on public

education.

“I'm a mom of teenagers. I encourage my children to read young adult novels that embody a full range of perspectives and world views,” she added. “I know that my kids will become stronger and better critical thinkers, more readily prepared to lead in an ever-changing society.

“As your state representative, I listened to librarians who met with me and **voted against a school library book ban** that passed earlier this year. I believe my record speaks for itself when it comes to opposing censorship and supporting library and education professionals.”

BOOKS

section, and the middle school books were moved to the children's section.

“That way people wouldn't have to be concerned that their middle school kid, looking for a book about puberty, might read a book that was actually about sex,” said Kara Hwang, a Fishers resident.

Library Director Edra Waterman described that change as a common approach for nonfiction titles, and many patrons were on board with the change.

The change affecting nonfiction titles appears to be why *Attucks!: How Crispus Attucks Basketball Broke Racial Barriers and Jolted the World* by Phillip Hoose was moved to the adult section from the young adult section. *Attucks!* tells of the Black high school basketball team that broke the color barrier to win a state championship in 1950s Indiana.

Recently, concerns have been expressed that the 2018 book *Attucks!* was moved as a result of the most recent changes to the **Collection Development Policy** and its reshelving efforts.

The second phase of the recent reshelving efforts culminated in the creation of two sections in the Teen Zone: the middle school section and the high school section. Library staff took about five months to sort

those books, completing the task by a July 28, 2022, **board meeting**.

In the current and third reshelving effort, library staff are required to read all the books in the Teen Zone from cover to cover to keep them shelved with other young adult (YA) books. If a library reviewer finds a single violation of the latest policy, the book is then reshelfed in the adult general section as a result of the updated **Collection Development Policy**. The policy requires strict attention be given to nudity, alcohol and drug use, profanity, violence, and sexual content before a book is placed in the children or teen sections.

The **policy** also notes any book containing “explicit descriptions of sexual conduct” will not be shelved in the teen or children's sections.

The board first discussed the latest update of the Collection Development Policy during a June 23, 2022, meeting prior to the library staff finishing the second phase of sorting the Teen Zone, according to the meeting **minutes**.

A draft of the updated Collection Development Policy was presented by library board members Laura Alerding, Tiffanie Ditlevson, and Ray Maddalone during an Aug. 23, 2022, **special meeting**.

The policy was ratified in a 4-3 vote on **Jan. 26, 2023**. Alerding, Micah Beckwith, Ditlevson and Maddalone voted “aye.” Michelle Payne, Andre Miksha, and Craig Siebe voted “nay.”

The third reshelving effort is ongoing. Library staff said they have reviewed just over 25 percent of the high school collection. According to the July 27 meeting agenda, as of July 20, 1,385 books had been moved from the Teen Zone into the adult section. Only 474 of the books reviewed through July 20 remained in the Teen Zone.

The latest effort was estimated to cost \$335,000 over the two phases, according to the Operational Response Plan shared in **March**.

The library has faced backlash after Indiana author John Green called out the board policy when his most popular novel, *The Fault in Our Stars*, was reshelfed. It was not immediately clear what triggered the book to be pulled.

Alerding over the weekend shared a statement with News 8 about the decision:

“Upon reviewing the page(s) of *The Fault in Our Stars* book that were the basis of the Director's and review staff's reason to move the book out of the Teen section, I believe there was an error in implementing the Collection Development Policy and that

from Page 1

this book should be moved back to the Teen section immediately. The Board of Trustees will discuss further what went wrong with the review process at the next public board meeting.”

The next public meeting is scheduled for 6:15 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 24 at the Noblesville library.

Alerding will be leaving the library board. She was originally appointed by the five-member Noblesville School Board, and her term will expire on Aug. 26. The school board on Tuesday night chose not to reappoint her to the library board. She will be replaced by Bill Kenley, a longtime Noblesville Schools English teacher. Alerding and another Noblesville School Board member voted against Kenley's appointment.

Kenley sent a statement to News 8 after his appointment.

“I care deeply about education and literacy and am proud to represent Noblesville Schools on the Hamilton East Public Library board. At this time it would be premature of me to take a side on any issue without first studying the organization, its needs, and its current practices. I look forward to joining the board, learning more about the library, and serving the community in this role.”

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*For questions contact Dave@theGordonTeam.com

BRIDGE OF FLOWERS

Brad Chambers launches campaign for Indiana governor

By BRADY GIBSON
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

The person who led Indiana's economic development efforts for Gov. Eric Holcomb now hopes to succeed him as governor. Brad Chambers filed official paperwork Thursday morning to form his campaign for governor in 2024.



Chambers resigned as Indiana's Secretary of Commerce earlier this month after serving two years in the role. He hinted at the time that he was considering a run for governor.

"As Indiana's Secretary of Commerce, the last two years, I have witnessed firsthand how important leadership, vision, urgency, and aspiration are to the future of Indiana," Chambers said in a news release. "I am running for Governor because I want Hoosiers of today and Hoosiers of tomorrow to believe that Indiana offers an opportunity for an excellent life. I am ambitious in my vision for Indiana, and I look forward to talking with Hoosiers about the best way to continue making our state the envy of many."

Chambers becomes at least the fifth major Republican candidate to announce a gubernatorial campaign for 2024.

The others include:
• **Suzanne Crouch**, Indiana's current Lt. Governor
• **Mike Braun**, who is giving up his seat in the U.S.

Senate after one term
• **Curtis Hill**, former Indiana Attorney General
• **Eric Doden**, head of the Indiana Economic Development Committee under Gov. Mike Pence

The chairman of Indiana's Democratic Party called the 2024 governor's race the time for "an honest conversation about the last twenty years of Republican one-party control."

"As Secretary of Commerce, Chambers did not address Indiana's poor standing for workers and wages," Mike Schmuhl said in a statement. "Wages grew significantly slower in Indiana than in the country as a whole over the past few years and our state is one of the worst to find a job in the entire country."

One Democrat, **Jennifer McCormick**, has announced a campaign for governor. She previously served as the state's Superintendent of Public Instruction as a Republican before switching parties.

Donald Rainwater has announced his intention to seek the Libertarian Party's nomination for governor. He received 11.4 percent of the vote in the 2020 gubernatorial election against Holcomb and Democratic candidate Dr. Woody Myers.

Holcomb is barred from seeking another term in office by term limits. He's already **ruled out a campaign** for Braun's Senate seat.

SMALL TOWN

from Page 1

Even the sheer number of stores, both franchises and mom and pop shops, is astronomical. I was blown away to find out that there is a *Insert Name of Any Store* within five minutes of my house. It's definitely not the 20-minute drive to the closest Walmart that I grew accustomed to.

I kept thinking to myself as I was making final preparations to make the move, "How am I going to fit in here?" However, what I have come to realize is there is much more to Hamilton County than wealth.

Something that shocked me as I drove a 20-foot U-Haul towards Noblesville was a piece of small-town Indiana I thought I had left behind – corn. One second you're cruising through the suburbs and suddenly you're driving down a country road surrounded by cornfields. This wasn't the place

I was led to believe it was.

As I have been integrating into the community, meeting neighbors and friends in my new hometown, I realized something profound. If you dig through Hamilton County's shiny exterior there is bit of a small-town underneath. The people I've met so far have welcomed me with open arms, showing me around my new home with an enthusiastic spirit.

Hamilton County is a big place, but, while it may be hidden from the surface, Hamilton County still has a piece of that small-town charm that makes it feel like home. There is a lot to learn here, and I want to experience it all. After all, a person is nothing more than the sum of their experiences.

Hayden C. T. Parsons is the newest associate at Adler Attorneys in Noblesville.

Noblesville welcomes Beauty & Grace Aesthetics to The Levinson building



Photo provided by City of Noblesville
Beauty & Grace Aesthetics, 93 S. 9th St., Noblesville, held its ribbon cutting on Thursday. Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen and the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce were on hand to help Founder Amy Julian-Resner cut the ribbon. Beauty & Grace Aesthetics provides services ranging from injectables and dermal fillers to chemical peels and facials to IV treatments and weight loss. It's the first retail space in The Levinson in downtown Noblesville. To schedule an appointment, visit BeautyGraceAesthetics.com.

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LEDVANCE lights way for opportunities in Westfield



Photo provided by Lisa Everling

LEDVANCE LLC, the maker of LEDVANCE and SYLVANIA General Lighting in the U.S. and Canada, held the grand opening of its Lightpoint training center on Wednesday in Westfield. Officials representing the city and Chamber of Commerce were on hand to assist with the ribbon cutting. Lightpoint is a world-class training facility that embodies the company’s commitment to innovation and technical leadership. The facility has been relocated from the company’s Wilmington, Mass., headquarters, to its new location, adjacent to the LEDVANCE Customer Service Center. Lightpoint is expected to host hundreds of lighting industry experts, contractors, distributors, and customers throughout the year from all across the U.S. and Canada.



Photo provided

Wesley Dallas Merritt, an artist from Greentown, has released a new series of reproductions of some of his favorite art. His work has won many awards and appears in private collections all over the world.

Award-winning Hoosier artist boasts several recent accomplishments

The REPORTER

Wesley Dallas Merritt of Greentown, Ind., has been making headlines across the country with his watercolor paintings.

Most recently he won a top award at the Indiana Watercolor Society annual juried show with his painting “Here Comes the Sun.” It will be on display at the Newfields Museum in Indianapolis through Sept. 30. He also has been accepted into the 2023 Hoosier Salon exhibit at the Indiana State Museum and his wildlife painting “Canada Jay” will be on display until Oct. 22. Over the summer he was selected and exhibited in several National Watercolor Society shows including California, Alabama, and Montana with his paintings being noticed and awarded top prizes by the judges.

Also hitting the press and currently available on Amazon is the *Last Stanza Poetry Journal Issue #13: These Things We Carry*, a collection of poems and illustrated by Merritt with over 15 watercolor paintings from his body of works portraying mostly women and children throughout the book.

Merritt has more to offer this fall as he has released a new series of reproductions of several personal favorites and a new image this year with a fall or Halloween theme. They will be available for a limited release on his website, WesleyDallasMerritt.com.

About the Artist

Wesley Dallas Merritt was born and raised in rural central Indiana with a love of nature and the outdoors. He has an affinity and focus for watercolor and has begun to study and master the craft of oil paintings. His masterpieces can now also be permanent body art as he is an accomplished tattoo artist. He is a resident artist at Bohemian Tattoo Art Club in downtown Kokomo. To view more of his works, visit WesleyDallasMerritt.com or BohemianTattooClub.com or @wesleydallasmeritt on Instagram.

From the desk of Hamilton Heights Superintendent Dr. Derek Arrowood

I would like to welcome our new families to Hamilton Heights. We are excited to have you and share the many amenities and opportunities Heights has to offer. It won’t take you too long to feel as we do that Heights is a special place for all children.

We are also excited to welcome the newest educators to Hamilton Heights for the 2023-24 school year. They include:

- **HHES:** Tara Mueller (Music), Jenny Fleck (second grade), Jenna Goodspeed (third grade), Morgan Hogue (second grade), Tori Holt (second grade), Jenna MacNulty (third grade), and Ainsley Wehrle (first grade).
- **HHMS:** Jill Howell (MS/HS Choir teacher), Missy Kikta, (seventh & eighth grade Math teacher), and Michelle Rose (fifth grade Math & Science).



DR. DEREK ARROWOOD
Heights Superintendent

COLUMNIST

Garrison Brege and Coby Woodring are college students who are spending the year with us working in our buildings as teacher residents. This is in thanks to a grant through the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (CHE) and in collaboration with our partners at Indiana University – Kokomo.

This group joins a passionate and talented team of outstanding educators and amazing support staff who create the foundation for your child’s academic

success during their journey at Hamilton Heights. Thank you for selecting Heights to start or continue your career.

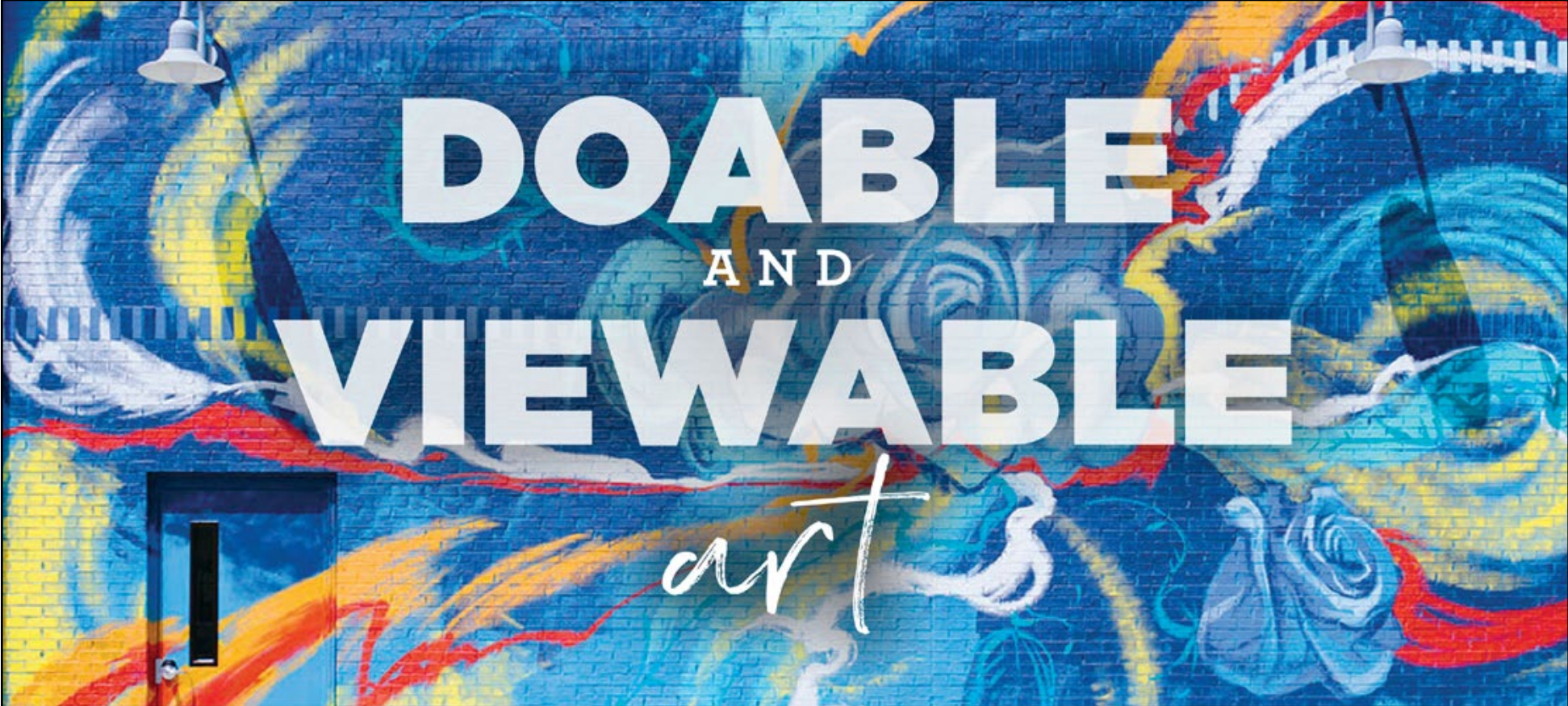
I have a couple of shout outs to share. Mark Snellson and Billy Cox led the Marching Huskies Band to a strong showing at the Indiana State Fair Band Day Competition. They placed 20th out of the 37 bands completing in Class AA category. The Band won first in the percussion performance!

Under the direction of HHMS Cheer Coach, Niki Myrick, five Cheerleaders (Illiana Bowyer, Grace Reynolds, Kolby Weaver, Ashley Woodruff, and Rylee Worland) recently earned the title of All American Cheerleader from Universal Cheerleading Association. Congratulations!

Looking for Husky-themed spirit wear? The

Husky Fan Shop, our high school student-run enterprise, has just what you need. Spirit wear and accessories from the Husky Fan Shop are available for sale at every home football and basketball game. The “Back-to-School” online special is underway and will run through Friday, Aug. 25. A “Back-to-School” 10 percent discount will apply to any items ordered at [this link](http://thislink) and will be available for pick up/delivery in early September.

We are excited to start another school year and serve you and your child. As always, my door is open, and our team welcomes your input. Please feel free to contact me via email at darrowood@hhschusks.org or call (317) 984-3858 to make an appointment to speak with me to discuss any ideas you feel will make this the best year yet!





Experience the arts in Hamilton County. View a wide variety of creative and free public art throughout the county. Immerse your inner artist in art classes, u-paint shops and festivals. Plus, sing along to your favorite songs with live music—from free to famous. With three recognized state cultural districts, no matter where you go in Hamilton County, experience the arts.

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Photo provided by City of Carmel

Register now for White River Clean Up day

The REPORTER

The White River Clean Up is back. Take part on Saturday, Aug. 26 to pick up trash while canoeing along the White River. Pre-registration and a \$15 refundable deposit are required for this event. Deposits will be refunded with confirmed event attendance. Canoes, gloves, and trash bags will be provided. Volunteers will receive a free T-shirt while supplies last. [Click here](#) to learn more and register to volun-

teer. Volunteers can choose from two routes; one begins in Noblesville and one in Fishers. • Volunteers will be shuttled to the White River Canoe Company and then float back down to Conner Prairie. • Canoe trip will last two to three hours. • Wear sturdy shoes and expect to get messy. • Minors younger than 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. • Three person canoes

are allowed for attendees with a minor 12 years of age and younger. • There will be no charge/admission ticket required for the third person 12 years of age and younger, but a waiver will still need to be signed for them during registration. The White River Clean Up is made possible by City of Carmel, City of Fishers, White River Alliance, White River Canoe Company, and Conner Prairie.

Fishers Health Department to hold first Club Day at Farmers Market on Saturday

The REPORTER

The Fishers Health Department will host the first **Club Day at the Fishers Farmers Market** from 8 a.m. to noon this Saturday, Aug. 19 at the Nickel Plate District Amphitheater. Farmers Market guests can explore local clubs and civic groups, mingle with club representatives, and build social connections within the community while shopping at their favorite vendors. Over 20 local clubs and civic groups will be at the market representing various interests and age groups. Get a sneak peek of some of the clubs participating on the [This is Fishers blog](#). As a part of the city's ongoing efforts to create a Stigma Free Fishers, Club Day encourages residents to explore local clubs and civic groups to build social connectivity and form relationships to better individuals'

mental health and fight isolation. The City of Fishers also launched the **Fishers Club Hub**, an initiative to connect local businesses with social clubs, civic groups, and nonprofits. Clubs and groups can find free meeting space at local businesses on the Club Hub Meeting Space Directory, and Fishers businesses can join the list by offering a free, welcoming place for clubs to host their meetings. Learn more at [This is Fishers.com/ClubHub](#). The Fishers Farmers Market presented by IU Health showcases vendors offering fresh produce, baked goods, specialty food items, meats, coffee, honey,



plants, and more. Find details and a vendor list at [playfishers.com/FarmersMarket](#). Learn more about the Stigma Free Fishers initiative and check out the revamped [StigmaFreeFishers.com](#), powered by CredibleMind, for a free online service for residents offering access to mental health education, resources, and assessments. Fully confidential and available 24/7, the online platform allows access to thousands of evidence-based resources including assessments, articles, videos, apps, podcasts, and books, all reviewed by both experts and users for a highly personalized experience.

Noblesville's Kari Hendrix earns state award from National Alliance of Insurance Education & Research

The REPORTER

The National Alliance of Insurance Education & Research has announced that Kari Hendrix is the 2023 Outstanding Customer Service Representative (CSR) of the Year Recipient for the state of Indiana. She is a Commercial Lines Senior Account Executive/OCIP Administrator at Dimond Bros. Insurance based in the Carmel office. To qualify for this top state honor, Hendrix submitted the winning essay on the topic, *Empathy is an important aspect of customer-facing jobs, and it will only become more important as companies place a greater emphasis on making customer interactions feel natural and effective. Explain how empathy has helped you become a better CSR. Give three examples of how you've used empathy in your role and describe the positive effects it's had on your organization.* Additionally, Hendrix

was selected for having demonstrated outstanding service and professionalism within the insurance community. Hendrix has over 40 years of experience in the insurance industry and has earned the CIC and AIC designations. She is passionate about learning and keeping up to date with changes so she can best serve her clients. She is a resident of Noblesville and enjoys reading, crocheting, fairy gardens, camping, and having sleepovers with her grandchildren. Her favorite quote is "After every storm there comes a rainbow. You just have to be open to see it." "Kari Hendrix was chosen as a state winner for exemplifying the characteristics and qualifications required to be eligible for the prestigious



Hendrix

award," said William J. Hold, MBA, CRM, CISR, President & CEO of the National Alliance. "Kari Hendrix represents the backbone of the insurance community, those customer service representatives distinguished for providing exceptional service on a daily basis." The National Outstanding CSR of the Year Award carries a \$2,000 cash prize and a scholarship for the recipient's employer to any program offered by the National Alliance. The National winner also receive a distinct gold and diamond lapel pin cast with the Outstanding CSR of the Year emblem. Additionally, the winner's name will be inscribed on a sculpture permanently displayed at the national headquarters in Austin, Texas.

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You Can't Take It With You
May 30 - June 9, 2024

The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe
July 18 - 28, 2024



Photos provided by ISDA Communications

The Hancock Farm (left) was recognized with a Centennial Award, and the O'Bryhim Farm (right) was given a Sesquicentennial Award.

Two Hamilton County farms each earn Hoosier Homestead awards

The REPORTER

Recognized for their families' longstanding commitment to agriculture, 103 Indiana family farms were presented the **Hoosier Homestead Award** at the Indiana State Fair from Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and Indiana State Department of Agriculture Director

Don Lamb.

Within Hamilton County, the Hancock Farm was recognized with a Centennial Award, and the O'Bryhim Farm was given a Sesquicentennial Award. "The Hoosier Homestead ceremony is always a highlight of the Indiana State Fair for me," said Crouch, who

also serves Indiana's Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. "Celebrating these longstanding farming families and their ancestors for their work and commitment to our state and Indiana agriculture is a true honor." To be named a Hoosier Homestead, farms must be owned by the same family

for more than 100 consecutive years, and consist of 20 acres or more, or produce more than \$1,000 in agricultural products per year. Based on the age of the farm, families are eligible for three different distinctions of the Hoosier Homestead Award. They can receive the Centennial Award for

100 years, Sesquicentennial Award for 150 years or Bicentennial Award for 200 years of ownership. "Keeping a farm operational for 100 years or more is no simple task," Lamb said. "Each passing generation has certainly had to adapt and evolve their farming practices and techniques

to ensure their farms continued success." Since the program's inception in 1976, over 6,100 families have received the award. Often, a Hoosier Homestead farm is easily recognized because most recipients proudly display their awarded sign on their property.



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



US Capitol and White House Tour Requests
My office can help arrange tours throughout our nation's capital.



Photo provided
(Above, from left) Rob Scheer from Comfort Cases; Tamika Catchings; Dr. Kimberly Roop, president of the Anthem Indiana Medicaid Plan; and Kyle Carlson, Government Relations Senior Director at Elevance Health. (Below) Indiana House Speaker Todd Huston (R-Fishers) was among those who took part in filling backpacks for foster youth.

Leaders come together to help foster care youth

The REPORTER

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Comfort Cases, and the attendees from the National Conference of State Legislatures teamed up on Tuesday for a packing party at the Indianapolis Convention Center to serve some of Indiana's most vulnerable youth living in foster care.

Together the groups filled 300 backpacks with new pajamas, socks, a blanket, stuffed animal, a book, activity materials, and dental and hygiene kits. The backpacks will then be distributed to local organizations across the state that serve youth in the foster system.

According to the Indiana Youth Institute's [2023 Kids](#)

[Count Data Book](#) and the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS), there are more than 20,000 children experiencing foster care in Indiana. Often children are handed a trash bag to carry their belongings as they begin their journey into the foster care. Many children enter care with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Comfort Cases are backpacks filled with the basic necessities to provide children with a sense of dignity and hope.

The [National Conference of State Legislatures](#) consists of three days of in-depth policy discussion, inspirational keynote speakers, and opportunities to network and collaborate.



Say "aloha" this month for Downtown Westfield Association's Party on the Patio

Submitted by Downtown Westfield Association

Experience an enchanting evening of tropical delight and community gathering at a Hawaiian Luau themed party presented by [Moyer Fine Jewelers](#). Immerse yourself in the vibrant Hawaiian ambiance as we transport you to an island paradise filled with food and desserts.

Join us on Tuesday, Aug. 22 at [Collective Beauty Salon & Med Spa](#), 380 E. Main St., Westfield, for an unforgettable celebration, where live music sponsored by [JRF Construction](#), performed by Island Breeze, will serenade you and invigorating drinks will quench your thirst, creating an atmosphere that radiates joy and camaraderie. Indulge in the tropical melodies that will transport you to far-away shores.

Food and drink vendors include The Bountiful Board and Field Brewing, and dessert vendors and sponsors include DonutNV and SubZero Nitrogen Ice Cream.

Please note that this

event is exclusively for guests aged 21 and over. Don't forget to bring your valid ID to ensure a seamless entry. Advance registration is highly recommended to secure your place in this tropical extravaganza — [click here](#) to reserve your spot now for \$5.

In keeping with our commitment to community welfare, the event will also feature a charity raffle sponsored by Collective Beauty, benefitting [Women of Westfield](#). Your participation not only adds excitement but also contributes to making a positive impact. Get ready for a chance to win amazing prizes while supporting a worthy cause.

Be part of this captivating Hawaiian Luau themed party and immerse yourself in an evening of celebration, connection, and pure tropical bliss. Register now and prepare for an unforgettable experience that will transport you to the magical world of the Hawaiian Islands. Mark your calendars for Aug. 22, and get ready to embark on a tropical adventure that will leave you with

unforgettable memories.

Charity raffle

This special 10th anniversary edition of Party on the Patio welcomes all Westfield businesses, their staff, and our cherished residents. As a testament to our commitment to the community, this event will also feature a charity raffle sponsored by Collective Beauty. *Be sure to bring cash or your debit card to purchase raffle tickets.*

Proceeds from this month's raffle will benefit Women of Westfield, empowering women to become an engaged community partner both for themselves and the greater good. WOW strives to positively impact the Westfield community by investing in women through relationships and service. With exciting prizes, including the grand prize of two tickets to the Farm Aid Festival at Ruoff (valued at over \$550), you won't want to miss this opportunity to contribute while potentially winning big.

Young Professionals raffle

If you are under the age

of 40, you are a Young Professional. Don't miss your chance to participate in the exclusive, and free, YP Raffle.

Come visit the red tables during the event to learn more about the Young Professionals and to enter the raffle.

Register now and cement your chance of winning this \$250 Yeti Cooler. The winner will be chosen at the September YP Happy Hour. Limit of one entry per person per event attended.

Volunteers needed

We can always use a few extra hands. Join the excitement at our Party on the Patio events by volunteering and becoming a vital part of our incredible event team. As we continuously seek enthusiastic individuals to lend a helping hand, we offer you a unique opportunity to make a difference while enjoying complimentary drinks and a delicious meal. Simply [click here](#) to explore the possibilities and register for an unforgettable volunteering experience in Downtown Westfield.

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Thank you to these supporters of 4-H & "Meating the Need"



The Hamilton County Reporter thanks these advertisers, supporters, and friends for their help in bringing our readers comprehensive 4-H results this year. With their generous support, The Reporter once again set the record with the largest ever donation to Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank's "Meating the Need" program, which purchases meat processed from local 4-H'ers livestock after the conclusion of the fair.

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Tipton will be site of first Truckers at Heart Show for Ronald McDonald House

The REPORTER

NHH Services and Medallion Transport will hold the first Truckers at Heart Show at the Tipton County Fairgrounds, 1200 S. Main St., Tipton. The event will take place from noon until dark on Friday, Aug. 25 and from 8 a.m. until dark on Sat-

urday, Aug. 26.

All show proceeds will benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Indiana, which provide families with a place to stay while they support their children receiving life-saving care at local hospitals.

At the Truckers at Heart

Truck Show, attendees can enjoy live music, food trucks, Trucker Olympics events, and evening light shows. This family and kid-friendly event is free to the public. Those hoping to show a Bobtail, combo, or custom car can register at truckersat-heart.com/registration.

United Way of Central Indiana grants \$10.5 million to 34 groups for family programs

The REPORTER

United Way of Central Indiana announced Wednesday that it is awarding \$10.5 million in grants to 34 organizations from its **Family Opportunity Fund**.

The fund supports the integration of services that improve the education, financial stability and overall health and well-being of families. The work is rooted in what's called the 2Gen – short for two-generation – approach, which focuses on supporting children and their caregivers to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty. Of the 34 grantees, five organizations will use their funding to grow their operations, build partnerships, and improve data collection to support 2Gen programming.

A committee of 19 people – including United Way staff, board members, and community volunteers – reviewed applications and selected the recipients.

“We remain committed to working alongside our partners, who are providing innovative and integrated 2Gen services and programs to families throughout Central Indiana,” said Shannon Jenkins, United Way’s impact senior director. “Sustaining investment in new and innovative models that

lead to positive outcomes for families is what will lead to intergenerational opportunity for thousands of Central Indiana families over the next five years.”

Organizations that received grants serve people throughout central Indiana. United Way estimates the funding will assist approximately 4,000 families over a period of 15 months.

Family Opportunity Fund Grantees

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana: \$175,000
- Brightlane Learning: \$225,000
- Catholic Charities: \$440,000
- Community Alliance of the Far Eastside (CAFE): \$600,000
- Concord Neighborhood Center: \$175,000
- Early Learning Indiana: \$325,000
- Easterseals Crossroads: \$325,000
- Edna Martin Christian Center: \$600,000
- Fathers and Families Centers: \$480,000
- Fay Bickard Glick Neighborhood Center: \$225,000
- Firefly Children & Family Alliance: \$175,000
- Flanner House: \$600,000
- Goodwill of Central and Southern Indiana: \$450,000
- Hawthorne Community Center: \$600,000
- Indianapolis Urban League: \$600,000
- Indy Reads: \$175,000

- Lutheran Child & Family Services: \$600,000
- Marion County Commission on Youth (MCCOY): \$200,000
- Martin Luther King Community Center: \$400,000
- PACE: \$175,000
- Reach for Youth: \$175,000
- Shepherd Community Center: \$225,000
- Southeast Community Services: \$410,000
- St. Mary’s Early Childhood Center: \$350,000
- TeenWorks: \$175,000
- The Villages of Indiana: \$320,000
- Volunteers of America Ohio & Indiana: \$450,000
- YMCA of Greater Indianapolis: \$175,000
- YMCA of Morgan County: \$175,000

2Gen Capacity Building Grantees

Five organizations will receive a \$100,000 2Gen capacity building grant. These grantees will join the 2023 Family Opportunity Fund cohort to learn from other grantees, as well as receive 2Gen technical assistance and support from United Way’s Impact team. The organizations are:

- The Arc of Greater Boone County
- AYS
- Burmese American Community Institute, Inc.
- Christamore House
- Noble

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Protect yourself from check washing

The REPORTER

Check use may be declining, but check fraud is still a serious problem. Watch out for this scam, dubbed “**check washing**,” which involves stealing checks from mailboxes and then altering them. Fortunately, you can do a few things to protect yourself and your business.

How the scam works

You send a check in the mail as payment for a service or product. However, a few days or weeks later, you are contacted by the company you paid. They say they never received a payment. Then, you discover the check you sent has been cashed, either for the amount you wrote it for or for a much higher amount. What happened?

Scammers use many techniques to intercept mail, sometimes directly from your or the post office’s big blue mailbox. Scammers have even been known to sneak into post office boxes with stolen keys. Individuals can fall victim to this scam, but scammers mostly target businesses, which typically write checks for larger amounts and have a predictable schedule for paying and mailing bills.

Once scammers find an envelope containing a check, they use household chemicals to “wash off” the

name and amount you wrote down, replacing it with a name and dollar amount of their choice. Usually, they use fake identities to cash the check later on. And even if no one cashes your check, you are at a much higher risk of **identity theft** once it's found its way into scammers' hands.

How to avoid check-washing schemes:

- **Take advantage of electronic payment methods.** If you can use electronic means to make payments and receive them, do so. That will eliminate the possibility of falling victim to check washing.
- **If you must mail a check, take precautions.** Drop it off at the post office using the lobby mail slot instead of leaving a check in the mailbox with the flag up. If you need to use a blue box, drop off the mail before the day’s last pick-up time. Don’t leave unsent mail in your mailbox overnight; retrieve your delivered mail promptly, **advise the United States Postal Service**.
- **Put a hold on your mail.** If you are going out of town, have your mail held at the post office until you return. If you run a small business that isn’t open on weekends, consider asking the post office not to deliver mail on Saturdays.
- **Improve your mail-**

box security. Installing highly visible cameras near your mailbox and using a locked mailbox are two additional ways to avoid falling victim to this scam.

- **Keep an eye on your checking account.** Monitor your bank accounts carefully to ensure no one cashes a fraudulent check from your account. If you notice suspicious activity, notify your bank immediately.

- **Use “positive pay” services.** Many banks offer “**positive pay**” services for business checking accounts. You can pre-authorize checks for a specific amount by their check number. This will at least stop scammers from withdrawing more money than the specified amount.

- **Always report check fraud.** If you think your check was intercepted in the mail, let your bank know right away. Then, file a report with the **Postal Inspection Service** and your local police department.

For more information and to learn how to protect yourself, Google “BBB 10 Steps to Avoid Scams.” If you spot a scam, whether you have lost money or not, report it to BBB’s Scam Tracker at BBB.org/Scam-Tracker and the FTC at ReportFraud.ftc.gov. Your story can help protect consumers from similar scams.

Where can I find 4-H Results?

🌿 Thank you for supporting 4-H kids, Hamilton County! 🌿

ARCADIA Arcadia Town Hall 208 W Main St. Hamilton Heights. Main Office of each school Jackson Township Office 506 W Main St.	ATLANTA Atlanta Town Hall 105 E Main St.
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FISHERS Fishers Arts Council 11810 Techonology Dr. (for Second Friday Reception, 6-8 p.m. Aug. 11)	WESTFIELD Basile Westfield Playhouse 220 N Union St. (during productions) Community First Bank 381 S Jct. Crossing Community First Bank 707 E State Road 32 Cool Creek Nature Center 2000-1 E 151st St. CrossRoads Church 19201 Grassy Branch Farmers Market 225 S Union St. (in the Chamber Info tent, Thursdays, 5-8 p.m.)
STRAWTOWN Taylor Center 12308 Strawtown Ave.	

Pick up your free copies now!

Ruth Ann (Forsythe) Gurdian
June 27, 1931 – August 10, 2023

Ruth Ann (Forsythe) Gurdian, 92, died in the early hours of Thursday, August 10, 2023, in Avon, Ind.

She is survived by her sons David and Will, her daughters Rita Thompson and Regina Liebenthal, as well as nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her twin sister Rosemary El-Bakri of Greenwood, Ind. Ruth will be dearly missed by her family and friends who loved her very much.

Born during the Great Depression on June 27, 1931, in Gary, Ind., Ruth Forsythe was one of two identical twin daughters born to Charles J. and Frances McGinnis Forsythe, who already had two sons (Jack and Charles E. "Gene"). She attended elementary school and high school in Gary, graduating from Lew Wallace H.S. in 1950. From 1950 to 1954, she attended Indiana University in Bloomington, Ind., graduating in 1954 with a B.A., majoring in French language.

At IU she met her future husband, the late William Gurdian (a native of Nicaragua, Central America). Ruth and William were married on June 25, 1955, at St. Mark's Catholic Church in Gary. The newlyweds first lived in Indianapolis before moving to Rochester, N.Y., where their first two children (Rita and David) were born. In 1964, the young family moved to the capital city Managua, Nicaragua, so that William could co-manage the family business: the Gurdian Printing Co., Ltd. (Impresiones Gurdian), which at its apex employed approximately 70 people.

While living in Nicaragua, Ruth gave birth to three more children: Regina, Will, and Dennis. Tragedy struck in December 1972, when a 6.9-magnitude earthquake crippled Managua, prompting Ruth and her young family to be evacuated to the United States; William remained behind in Managua, however, endeavoring to salvage the family business. Ever since then, Ruth and William would never again live together as husband and wife, although the two never divorced.

Ruth and her five children lived in Gary for 13 years. Between 1981 and 1984, however, Ruth returned to Indiana University, Bloomington, to pursue a Master's Degree in Education (M.S. Ed.), mental health counseling, graduating in May 1984. Ruth and her three youngest children moved to Merrillville, Ind., in 1987. For more than 10 years, Ruth served as a full-time counselor in various roles (e.g., for the Women, Infants, and Children [WIC] program of Northwest Indiana, for the Crisis Center in Gary, etc.) while also working part-time as a family therapist, counseling couples and individuals residing in Merrillville, Crown Point, Hobart, and other Northwest Indiana communities. Many of her clients were deeply impacted by her professional service and fondly remembered her even years later.

Finally retiring in 2009, Ruth busied herself by spending time with her family and attending birthdays, baptisms, graduations, confirmations and other family events for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Over the years she lived with her oldest son, David, in Greencastle, Ind., as well as with her oldest daughter, Rita, and youngest daughter, Regina, in Avon, Ind.



Life News & Views Catholic radio broadcast (based in Fort Wayne, Ind.), with host Cathie Humbarger interviewing Ruth about her "Billboard for Life." In the end, her good work directly contributed to saving the lives of approximately 1,569 unborn children (according to estimates from the Women's Care Center, which eventually was built right next door to Planned Parenthood).

Interestingly, Ruth first returned to Indiana from Nicaragua in December 1972, just one month before the U.S. Supreme Court passed its infamous *Roe v. Wade* decision in January 1973. Ruth immediately became involved in the burgeoning pro-life movement that quickly emerged in response to the Court's decision. And she lived long enough not only to see the eventual overturning of *Roe* in June 2022 but also the effective date of Aug. 1, 2023, when Indiana's pro-life law restricting most abortions finally went into effect. Four or five days later, Ruth was diagnosed with acute leukemia. Then, on Aug. 10, 2023, she passed away – as if God the Father had called home His good and faithful servant to claim her reward for the good fight now finished.

Ruth was a faithful parishioner of St. Susanna Catholic Church in Plainfield, as well as of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Cicero; her home was located in Cicero. In 2014, Ruth suffered a stroke but fully recovered, enjoying near-perfect health until the last week of her life.

In 2017, Ruth's youngest son, Dennis, died tragically, followed a few years later by her husband William, who died in 2021. At her son's funeral, Ruth displayed enormous strength, comforting those in attendance as they wept for Dennis, reassuring them by saying: "We'll see him again."

Ruth had a long and fulfilling life. She traveled extensively, including to Dublin, Ireland; Rome, Italy; Munich, Germany; Prague, Czech Republic; Zurich, Switzerland; Guadalupe, Mexico; and the Holy Land in Israel. She was an avid reader, devouring numerous volumes of history, classic literature, biographies, etc. She was a lover of classic-era films. She was a great conversationalist and listener. Ruth's sharp sense of humor was boundless, even amusing her oncologist while he delivered the news of terminal diagnosis. She was truly one in a million.

The funeral Mass for Ruth was held on Wednesday, August 16, 2023, at St. Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church, 1005 W. Main St., Danville, Ind. The Mass was preceded by a visitation at the church. Maple Hill Cemetery in Plainfield is Ruth's final resting place.

"The Master said, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant! ... Come and share your Master's joy!'" (Matthew 25:23)

Condolences: heltonandharrisfuneralhomes.com

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

ABRAM RESCUES LOT

At the time when Amraphel was king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Kedorlaomer king of Elam and Tidal king of Goyim, these kings went to war against Bera king of Sodom, Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, Shemeber king of Zeboyim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar). All these latter kings joined forces in the Valley of Siddim (that is, the Dead Sea Valley). For twelve years they had been subject to Kedorlaomer, but in the thirteenth year they rebelled.

Genesis 14:1-4 (NIV)

Darrell Scott Gullion

March 30, 1960 – August 15, 2023

Darrell Scott Gullion, 63, Tipton, and formerly of Atlanta, Ind., passed away August 15, 2023, at Riverview Hospital in Noblesville.



He was born on March 30, 1960, in Seymour, Ind., to William Joseph and Wanda Marlene (Forkner) Gullion. He grew up in the Atlanta area and attended Hamilton Heights Schools. He graduated with the Class of 1978. He then honorably served his country in the United States Navy, completing two enlistments.



Being very industrious and a hard worker, he tackled several jobs successfully. He was mainly known as an artistic woodworker and carpenter. His talents ran from operating a saw mill to making beautiful cabinets, furniture, musical instruments, and even children's toys.

Darrell, in his younger years attended the Atlanta Christian Church and was recently baptized by Rev. Mark Knapp at the East Union Christian Church. He was a kind person who loved helping others, and his family was glad that his last act of caring was to donate his corneas.

He was a member of the N.R.A. and the American Legion. He enjoyed Formula One Racing, cared for animals, and loved family gatherings. His several nieces and nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews were special to him.

His parents preceded him in death.

Surviving him are his sisters, Gale (Jim) Naden of Atlanta, Ind., and Lisa (Jeff) Shirley of Tipton, Ind.; brothers, Kevin (Sondra) Gullion of North Carolina and Todd (Kelly) Gullion of Atlanta, Ind.; plus nieces and nephews, Adam, Zachary, Chance, Will, Kaitlyn, Bobby, Amanda, Sara, and Derek. Additional survivors are several great-nieces and great-nephews, Leah, Lucas, Benjamin, Calvin, Sophia, Scarlett, Abigail, Aubry, Aiden, Emerson, Wyatt, Finley, Emaline, Zoey, Emma, and Olivia.

Hartley Funeral Home Cicero Chapel is entrusted with Mr. Gullion's funeral arrangements. His wishes were to be cremated and his remains laid to rest at Marion National Cemetery. His family is planning a celebration of life at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to Tunnel To Towers, 2361 Hylan Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10306. You may send condolences at hartleyfuneralhomes.com.

Meeting Notices

The Westfield Washington School Board of Trustees will meet for a work session to discuss strategic planning at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 22, 2023, in the Media Center and Shamrock Springs Elementary School, 747 W. 161st St., Westfield.

The Mt. Vernon Community School Corporation Board of Trustees will meet in an executive session from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 21, 2023, pursuant to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(3); For discussion of the assessment, design, and implementation of school safety and security measures, plans, and systems. A pre-bargaining hearing of the Classroom Teachers' Association will follow from 6:30 to 6:45 p.m. A regular board meeting will follow from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Mt. Vernon Administrative Service Center, 1806 W. State Road 234, Fortville.



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2023 BICENTENNIAL AUGUST EVENTS

This month, enjoy Wayne and Noblesville Townships’ Signature Events!

NOBLESVILLE TOWNSHIP’S SIGNATURE EVENT

HAMILTON COUNTY FABRIC ARTS SHOW
AUGUST 8-12

Noblesville Township Community Room, *South 8th Street, Noblesville*
FREE

Celebrate the fabric arts, both old and new! Hosted in partnership with Nickel Plate Arts, the Hamilton County Fabric Arts Show will showcase artists and techniques for different fabric arts. Check out heirlooms and new pieces and vote for your favorite.

WAYNE TOWNSHIP’S SIGNATURE EVENT

FARMING PAST AND PRESENT
AUGUST 13, 2-5 P.M.

Clarksville Christian Church, *Lehr Street, Noblesville*
FREE ADMISSION & REFRESHMENTS + FOOD AVAILABLE FOR SALE

Join lifelong farmers Donald and David Zeller at 2:30 p.m. or 4 p.m. as they discuss how farming in Wayne Township has changed over the decades. Plus, check out the agricultural artifacts “show and tell.” Inside the church, enjoy history displays about Clarksville and the surrounding areas. Outside, experience the Hamilton Southeastern Schools FFA “touch a truck” area with old tractors alongside new Reynolds farm equipment and old Ford trucks and Model T’s alongside new trucks. Free refreshments will be provided at the church, with the Wayne/Fall Creek Lions Club providing food for sale.

TASTE OF HISTORY: FINDING YOUR FARMING ANCESTOR
August 12, 11 a.m., Hamilton East Public Library
Library Plaza, Noblesville | **FREE**
In the 1820s, 72% of the American workforce was engaged in “farm occupations.” Join the staff of Hamilton East Public Library’s Indiana Room to learn more about the sources available to research your farming ancestors by looking at a local farm family. Discover historic farming traditions in Wayne Township and take a taste of Hamilton County today as we sample a small harvest from a local farm. **Sign up on the library website: hepl.lib.in.us.**

HAMILTON CO. BICENTENNIAL TRAVELING EXHIBIT
July 29-August 4, Noble Crossing Elementary School, Noblesville
August 5-11, Legacy Images, Sheridan
August 12-18, Clarksville Christian Church, Noblesville
August 19-25, Janus Developmental Services, Noblesville
August 26-September 1, Hamilton East Public Library, Noblesville
FREE | Learn about all five of our Bicentennial themes: Arts, Diversity/Inclusion, Education, Historic Preservation, and Parks/Environment. Contact the hosting organization for information on when the exhibit is open to the public.

Access the entire **2023**
Bicentennial Event Lineup
and get event/program details:
HamCoTurns200.com



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Boys Soccer

Greyhounds come back to tie it up against Millers

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

CARMEL – The Carmel and Noblesville boys soccer teams played to a 2-2 tie Thursday at the Greyhounds’ Murray Stadium.

It was an entertaining game between the top two teams in Class 3A. The Greyhounds are No. 1 and the Millers are No. 2.

The Millers were in control during the first half. Senior Sam Holland scored both of Noblesville’s goals during that time, connecting on the first one during the 25th minute, then making the second score in the 33rd minute.

“When he was on varsity as a sophomore, he was in his big brother’s shoes, even though his big brother’s smaller than he is,” said Noblesville coach Ken Dollaske. “He was learning, ‘What do I do when I do get playing time as that sophomore?’ Last year, he took on more of a leadership role, and this year, he’s one of our captains. I just think he knows, it’s going to be a lot on his shoulders in terms of the offensive load.”

Carmel’s comeback began in the 46th minute, when Hayden Warneke got the Greyhounds on the board. Carmel got an opportunity to tie the game with a penalty kick with 19:59 left, but Noblesville goalkeeper Cole Thompson blocked it away.

The ‘Hounds kept the pressure on, and broke through to score the tying goal with 1:29 left in the game. Dawson Droste put in the goal, with Ryan Barrett making the assist.

“We didn’t adjust tactically the way we needed to adjust in the first half, and at halftime we were able to talk about it,” said Carmel coach Shane Schmidt. The coach said he explained it all like a chess match, “and I said, ‘If we make these moves, they have to make these moves, which weakens what they were trying to do, and how we would move it around.’”

The Greyhounds are now 2-0-1 for the season and hosts Greenfield-Central on Tuesday. Noblesville is 1-0-1 and plays a Saturday morning game at Brebeuf Jesuit.



(Top) Carmel’s Dawson Droste scored the tying goal with 1:29 left in the game to send the Greyhounds to a 2-2 draw with visiting Noblesville Thursday at Murray Stadium. (Above) Noblesville’s Kasole Williams takes control of the ball during the first half of the game.

Girls Volleyball



Photo by Dwight Casler
Sheridan’s Nova Cross dished out 18 assists in the Blackhawks’ win over Park Tudor on Thursday.

Sheridan stays unbeaten, Heights & University sweep their opponents

The REPORTER

The Hamilton Heights volleyball team improved to 3-0 on Wednesday by sweeping Lebanon 25-18, 25-12, 25-19.

Kennedy Cherry and Julia Bearman both played strong defense, while Macie Smith made smart plays in the front row.

The Huskies are back in action Saturday morning at the Western Boone tournament.

Sheridan also stayed unbeaten after its most recent match, sweeping Park Tudor on Thursday, 25-20, 25-13, 25-18.

Nova Cross dished out 18 assists for the Blackhawks, who are now 2-0 for the season. Sheridan hosts Lebanon Tuesday.

University picked up a sweep in its first match of the season, beating Traders Point Christian 25-20, 25-20, 25-19 in an away match.

The Trailblazers host Clinton Central on Tuesday.

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As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man. Prov. 27:19

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Teaching young Huskies art of safe swimming



Photos provided
Hamilton Heights senior swimmer Teegan Madara hosted the Husky Drowning Prevention program Wednesday night at the Heights pool. Several of Madara's Huskies teammates helped with the clinic, which was free to any student in kindergarten through fourth grade. A total of 40 children participated in the two-session, three-night clinic, which taught basic skills to kids unable to swim in case of a water emergency. (Pictured top left) Ayla Madara, Amira Leer, Sophia Hulen, Teegan Madara, and Rudy Bowman.



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EXPRESS

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Young Blackhawks team starts off tonight at Western Boone

The REPORTER

In his 57 seasons as Sheridan football coach, Larry "Bud" Wright has seen experienced teams, and he has seen young teams.

This year's Blackhawks squad will be a young one. But there will be a few solid players on the team with varsity experience, including the experience of an 11-2 season from last year that included a sectional championship.

Sheridan graduated over 3,000 yards of rushing last season with Peyton Cross and Jacob Jones, but there is a capable running back returning in senior Zach Bales. He rushed for 636 yards last season and scored 10 touchdowns.

"Bales is a team leader," said Wright. "He's a three-year starter at linebacker,

two-year starter at running back."

Junior Caleb Alexander will return as the Sheridan quarterback. He had a decent sophomore season, going 24-or-48 for 455 yards and five passing touchdowns, in addition to rushing for six TDs. Senior Trent DeCraene is back at wide receiver; he led the team in catches last year with 11. Senior Erich Retz also returns at wide receiver, while junior kicker Owen Bell is back; he made 54 extra-point kicks last season.

Bales will also be called upon to lead the Blackhawks' defense. He was second in tackles last year with 143. Sophomore Alex Cravens made 88 tackles last year as a freshman; he returns as a defensive back. Senior Eli Kolb also made

88 tackles, while DeCraene had 84 stops.

Senior Charles Merriam returns as the offensive guard, while senior Jonathan Edward Muir is back as offensive center. Another young returner is sophomore Chance Spencer, a defensive back that Wright said "started two or three games last year."

Two juniors are injured, but will hopefully be back on the team at some point: Wide receiver/defensive back Dayne Voegel and defensive end/offensive tackle Owen Trietsch.

Sheridan begins its season tonight at Western Boone, then plays its home opener next Friday, Aug. 25 against North Miami. The Blackhawks begin Hoosier Heartland Conference play Sept. 1 at Tri-Central.

Golden Eagles start their season on the road tonight

The REPORTER

With a tough schedule on the horizon and several experienced players on the field, the Guerin Catholic football team is ready for another successful season.

Guerin Catholic finished 7-5 last year and made a trip to the sectional championship game. The Golden Eagles will begin tonight with a trip to McCutcheon, a Class 5A school. Guerin Catholic is in Class 3A.

"Our schedule is always challenging," said Golden Eagles coach Tom Dilley. "McCutcheon is a very good and much improved team. To be prepared for each regular season opponent, we must improve from week to week. If we improve throughout the season, we will be ready for the tournament."

Senior quarterback Ryan Zimmerman will be leading the way. Zimmerman put up some great numbers for GC last season, but was injured after four games and was unable to play for the remainder of the year. In those four games, Zimmerman was 68-of-103 for 1,035 yards and nine touchdowns. Michael Houze stepped in as a sophomore and did well, totaling 1,621 yards and 14 touchdowns in 10 games; he is also returning for the Golden Eagles.

The wide receiver positions will be experienced as

well. Seniors Jack Cherry and Alex Gibbs both had solid numbers, with 38 and 31 catches respectively. Both caught three touchdown passes. Another senior, Josh Holba, returns at tackle. Guerin Catholic graduated top rusher Justin Zdobylyak from last season, but senior Cooper Navarro returns; he gained 343 yards and scored four touchdowns.

On defense, senior linebackers Gavin Stella and Chase Reed will lead in those positions. Stella brings back the most tackles from last season with 92, while Reed made 54 stops. Senior Aaron Keller returns at the safety position; he made 85 tackles. Two other key returning seniors are Nick Bauman (50 tackles) at cornerback and Elijah Taylor (40 tackles) at defensive end.

The special teams will be led by senior Peyton Butts at punter/kicker and senior Max Thompson at long snapper.

"We have had good practices most of the summer," said Dilley. "They have been particularly good this week."

The Golden Eagles play their first home game next Friday (Aug. 25) when they host Lafayette Central Catholic in the Bishop's Cup game. Guerin Catholic then plays at Heritage Christian on Sept. 1 and at

Brebeuf Jesuit on Sept. 8 to being Circle City Conference play.



Thurs Aug 17 - Boys Soccer

5:30 pm - **Noblesville** at **Carmel** | Boys JV Soccer | Noblesville Sports
7:00 pm - **Noblesville** at **Carmel** | Boys Varsity Soccer | Noblesville Sports

Upcoming Broadcasts

Fri Aug 18 - IHSAA Football

6:15 pm - Carroll H.S. vs **Hamilton Southeastern H.S.** | Southeastern Sports
6:50 pm - Covenant Christian vs Speedway | Indiana SRN
6:50 pm - Brebeuf vs Bishop Chatard | Indiana SRN
7:00 pm - North Central vs **Fishers High School** | Fishers Sports Network
7:00 pm - **Sheridan** vs Western Boone | Bragg Sports Media
7:20 pm - Jasper @ Evansville Memorial | Indiana SRN

Sat Aug 19 - IEFA Youth Football

1:00 pm - Avon Junior Orioles vs Plainfield Red Pride | HCTV Sports

Tues Aug 22 - Boys Soccer

6:00 pm - Avon vs **Noblesville** | Junior Varsity | HCTV Sports
7:30 pm - Avon vs **Noblesville** | Varsity | HCTV Sports

Wed Aug 23

7:00 pm - New Palestine vs **Hamilton Heights** | Girls Volleyball | Husky Sports

Thurs Aug 24

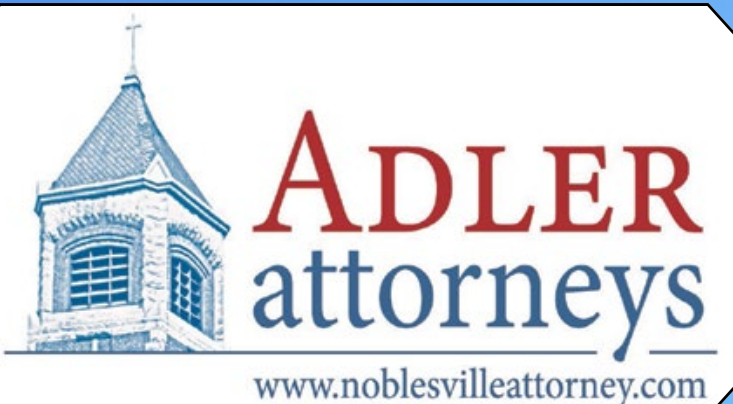
6:00 pm - Avon vs **Noblesville** | JV Volleyball | HCTV Sports
7:00 pm - Avon vs **Noblesville** | Varsity Volleyball | HCTV Sports
6:55 pm - Covenant Christian vs Heritage Christian | Soccer | IndianaSRN



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SPORTS SCHEDULE

Friday, Aug. 18 FOOTBALL

Fort Wayne Carroll at Hamilton Southeastern, 7 p.m.
Guerin Catholic at McCutcheon, 7 p.m.
Lapel at Hamilton Heights, 7 p.m.
New Palestine at Westfield, 7 p.m.
North Central at Fishers, 7 p.m.
Sheridan at Western Boone, 7 p.m.
Carmel at Homestead, 7:30 p.m.
Noblesville vs. Mount Vernon, 8:30 p.m. at Lucas Oil Stadium

GIRLS SOCCER

Guerin Catholic at Carmel, 7 p.m.

Please email schedule changes or corrections to sports@readthereporter.com.