

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE 2024

See page A7



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THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER NEWSPAPER MARCH 2024 YOUNG ARTIST OF THE MONTH: LORALAI JAMES (1ST PLACE)
SPONSORED BY: TOM WOOD VOLKSWAGEN NOBLESVILLE • GAYLOR ELECTRIC (CEO CHUCK GOODRICH) • ADLER ATTORNEYS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2024

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Mostly to partly sunny.

Tonight: Partly cloudy.
Scattered shower and storms in the late evening and overnight.

HIGH: 68 LOW: 53



Five Heights robotics teams qualify for state championship

The REPORTER

Five robotics teams from Hamilton Heights Middle School (HHMS) will head to the 2024 Indiana VEX Robotics State Championship at Lucas Oil Stadium after successfully qualifying at various competitions held earlier this season.

This is the seventh year in a row that HHMS has sent multiple teams to the state-level competition. In fact, HHMS will have one of most teams represented in the state competition of all the school corporations that qualified.

The Indiana VEX Robotics State Championship is the largest state robotics competition in the nation, with 350 robotics teams from elementary, middle, and high schools across

See Robotics . . . Page 2



Photo provided

The Hamilton Heights Middle School Robotics Team is 35 members strong with five teams advancing to the Indiana VEX Robotics State Championship on Saturday, March 23 at Lucas Oil Stadium.

Noblesville fire fighters recognized at banquet for their bravery & service

The REPORTER

Last Saturday, members of the Noblesville Fire Department, Mayor Chris Jensen, Deputy Mayor Matt Light, Public Safety Director Chad Knecht, members of the City Council, and other esteemed guests gathered for the 12th annual Noblesville Fire Fighters Awards and Recognition Banquet.

This event was a testament to the dedication and bravery of the city's firefighters, who were recognized for their exceptional service to the community and outstanding performance while on the job.

The success of the event was made possible through the invaluable contributions from several generous sponsors, including ProTeam Tactical Performance, Riverview Health, Noblesville Common Council, Hoosier Fire, Indiana Mad Ants, PointBlank Nutrition, Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, In-



Photo provided

Six men were awarded with a Unit Citation for their bravery in an apartment fire. They are pictured here with Mayor Chris Jensen and Assistant Chief Uriah Eddingfield. (From left) Mayor Jensen, FF/EMT David Burkhalter, FF/EMT Harrison Collins, FF/EMT Zach Knutson, Lieutenant Mike Durall, Engineer Caleb Nicley, FF/PM Ben Issacs, and Assistant Chief Eddingfield. See more photos on Page 4 and at ReadTheReporter.com.

diana Restoration and Cleaning Services, Harbour Manner, and PennCare.

Noblesville

Vice-President Travis Lee welcomed guests and Erik Sablan of The Brick Room Comedy club provided entertainment.

District

Local 4416 President Jim Butts emceed the awards presentation.

See NFD . . . Page 4

Rotary Club of Carmel demonstrates commitment to "Service Above Self" with STEM kits for students

The REPORTER

The Rotary Club of Carmel reaffirmed its dedication to serving the community through its recent volunteer activity at The STEM Connection.

True to the Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self," members of the club came together to pack STEM kits for children, enriching their educational experiences and fostering a love for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

The STEM kits, meticulously assembled by Carmel Rotarians, are designed to inspire young minds and encourage exploration in the realms of science and technology. These kits will be distributed to children in the community, ensuring access to valuable educational resources beyond the

confines of the classroom.

Highlighting the Rotary Club of Carmel's commitment to community service is the generous contribution of Julie Standish, a dedicated Carmel Rotarian and former owner of CompuChild, a national franchise company specializing in STEM education for children. Leveraging her expertise and passion for STEM education, Standish donated a portion of her former company's inventory to The STEM Connection, furthering the Rotary Club's mission to support educational initiatives in the community.

"We are immensely proud of the unwavering dedication of our members to the principle of service above self," Rotary Club of Carmel President Arnold El-



Photo provided

(From left) Carolyn Shaw, Stanley Lebron, Kay Brunson, Vera Vander Kooy, Beth Sexton, Julie Standish, Gregg Harris, Gary Sexton, and Yvette Schubert.

ston said. "Through initiatives like the STEM kit packing event and the generous donation from Julie Standish, we continue to

make a positive impact on the lives of children."

See Rotary . . . Page 3

COVID cuts

March 2020. Just four short years ago. A time we'd all like to forget.

It was the month that kicked off all the madness. Just not the type of March Madness I typically enjoy. But, instead, a season of relentless kicks in the crotch that still have some people triple masked while alone in the car to this very day.

That's right, it was the kickoff of COVID shutdowns.

And to me, the most horrifying of all the shutdowns was the barber shops. My head just hasn't been the same since.

None of us knew at the time how long it all would last. As the days turned into weeks, I was looking more and more like a shorter, way less muscular, way way less famous and way way less dreamy Jason Momoa. I needed a haircut, and I needed it fast. The problem was my barber was still closed down.

That's when I heard those terrifying words from my wife, Megan, that still give me the night sweats: "I'll do it. How hard can it be?"

I knew there was no way out of this. I still was holding out hope that everything would be opening back up soon, so I just said, "Ok, but just a trim. Use the electric trimmers to do my neckline and around my ears." Surely, this was a simple task.

See Cuts . . . Page 2

COLUMNIST



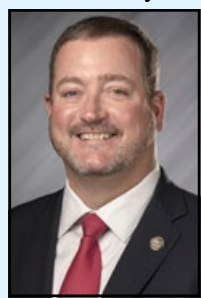
TIM RATHZ
Forty-something in Fishers

Gaylor Electric ranks nationally on ABC's list of top-performing construction contractors

The REPORTER

Gaylor Electric has been nationally recognized by the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) as a top performer in the construction industry.

This coveted list contains contractor members who are committed to executing the country's most innovative, quality-driven, and safe projects across the country ranked by hours worked.



Goodrich

To be eligible, Top Performers must demonstrate world-class safety performance and construction process. One must achieve Gold status or higher in ABC's Safety Training Evaluation Process (STEP) Management System, which ensures the contractor is six times safer than the national average. Gaylor Electric has continuously received the highest acknowledgment, Diamond level STEP Certification. Through STEP, the contractor must also be an Accredited Quality Contractor (AQC) certified. The prestigious AQC publicly recognizes and honors those who have documented their commitment to quality, safety, talent management, craft and management education, and community relations.

"Our dedication to safety transcends industry norms, demonstrating our genuine care for people," Gaylor Electric Chuck Goodrich said. "We consistently prioritize delivering work with a focus on safety, profitability, and ethics, placing us at the forefront of the construction industry. This national recognition as an ABC Top Performer is a testament to our commitment to the well-being of our teams and those we serve."

See Gaylor . . . Page 3

THE HAMILTON COUNTY

REPORTER

THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER NEWSPAPER MARCH 2024 YOUNG ARTIST OF THE MONTH: CHARLOTTE GOFF (2ND PLACE)
SPONSORED BY: TOM WOOD VOLKSWAGEN NOBLESVILLE • GAYLOR ELECTRIC (CEO CHUCK GOODRICH) • ADLER ATTORNEYS

ROBOTICS



(From left) Husky drivers Kaelynn Fidler, Illiana Bowyer, Camden Millikan, and Wyndham Jung from Teams 214A and 214D in competition at the Kalahari Signature Event earlier this year in Sandusky, Ohio.

the state competing. Teams are eligible to compete by winning a state-qualifying award at a local competition. HHMS teams qualified at the regular season tournaments earlier in the school year. They did so by winning Teamwork Challenges and Excellence Awards at area events.

“Our team members are some of the most dynamic students you’ll ever meet,” HHMS Robotics Teacher and Robotics Coach Lacy Bowyer said. “They put in the work every day and are highly skilled at what they do. They research what works and are always making modifications to stay competitive. I couldn’t be more proud to be leading this group of engineers.”

The best of the state’s robotics competitors will be on display and Heights returns to showcase its teams’ talents at the event on the largest stage Indiana has to offer. The Indiana VEX Robotics State Championship takes place on Saturday, March 23 at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis and is free and open to the public.

The public is encouraged to show support by helping cheer on the Hamilton Heights Middle School teams at the Indiana VEX Robotics State Championship.

from Page 1

CUTS



Thanks to COVID, Tim (above left) and Pat (above right) now get the At-Home Special for their hairdos.

What I didn’t realize was she apparently had never in her life used, picked up, touched, looked at or even breathed on electric clippers. She didn’t realize there were different length settings or that the one she was holding, and moving swiftly toward my head, was on the lowest setting for the purpose of trimming around ears and necklines.

She thought she’d just go ahead and give it a quick test buzz around my temple area, not realizing that the purpose of clippers is to cut hair. The next thing I heard was a deafening zzzrrrrpp and felt cold metal on a new bare spot on my head. I jumped out of the chair and vomited out, “What just happened?”

No response. Not good.

I quickly decided this little experiment was done for the day and sprinted to the closest mirror. My fears were realized. I was now a shorter, less muscular, less famous, less dreamy Jason Momoa meets a taller, more muscular, still less famous, but hopefully more dreamy Elmer Fudd. It was a good thing I’m a hat guy.

As COVID continued on, I eventually had to relent to full haircuts from my beautiful bride. And since, apparently, free is way cheaper than not free, I’ve been getting “Wife Cuts” ever since.

Once my son, Pat, was old enough to start getting his haircut, we changed that title to “Mom Cuts”, because I wasn’t going to suffer alone. It was his turn. I’ve even joined in on the fun of cutting his hair. I kind of took over, so now his haircut is just called “Daddy’s Revenge.”

In all fairness to the love of my life, she has gotten a lot better at chopping the cowlick-infested mop on my head. And I’m proud of her for taking on the challenge. She did something that she excels at ... she took a difficult situation and found a way to make it better. And that’s why Pat and I love her. My daughter, Mary, loves her for different reasons since Megan won’t trust herself to cut her hair.

The moral of the story is ... Don’t worry if your barber isn’t experienced. She’ll get better. Until then, just be a hat guy.

Tim Rathz can be reached at 40somethinginfishers@gmail.com. Follow on Facebook or Instagram.

from Page 1

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THE HAMILTON COUNTY
REPORTER

THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER NEWSPAPER MARCH 2024 YOUNG ARTIST OF THE MONTH: MASON KAISER (3RD PLACE)
SPONSORED BY: TOM WOOD VOLKSWAGEN NOBLESVILLE • GAYLOR ELECTRIC (CEO CHUCK GOODRICH) • ADLER ATTORNEYS

ROTARY

from Page 1



Photo provided
(From left) Vera Vander Kooy, Cathy Duda, Ruth Wolff, and Julie Standish.

The Rotary Club of Carmel remains steadfast in its commitment to serving the community, embodying the spirit of altruism and compassion that defines the organization worldwide. As advocates for positive change, Carmel Rotarians are poised to continue their efforts in supporting educational initiatives and fostering a brighter future for all. For more information about the Rotary Club of Carmel and its ongoing community service initiatives, please visit carmelrotary.com or contact rotaryarn@outlook.com. To learn more about The STEM Connection and how to support their mission, visit thestemconnection.org.

GAYLOR

from Page 1



Photo provided by Gaylor Electric
Gaylor Electric has continuously earned ABC's Diamond Level STEP Certification for its world-class safety performance and construction process.

Bryan Feller, Vice President of Safety, highlighted the importance of instilling a safety-focused culture among our professionals. "Developing a culture of safety requires like-minded leadership," Feller said. "Each one of us assumes a leadership role in promoting safety, embodying it in every action and aspect of our work. Safety culture necessitates the active participation of everyone at Gaylor Electric."

[Click here](#) to see the full list of top performers.

About ABC
Associated Builders and Contractors is a national construction industry trade association established in 1950 that represents more than 21,000 members. Founded on the merit shop philosophy, ABC and its 69 chapters help members develop people, win work and deliver that work safely, ethically and profitably for the betterment of the communities in which ABC and its members work. Learn more



at abc.org.
About Gaylor Electric
Gaylor Electric delivers on its Cornerstone of Reliable Resources, Outcomes, Insights and Genuine Care for People; dedicated to Innovation, Quality and being Measurement-Centric accountable. The organization is comprised of multiple national production and innovation-driven locations that provide innovative industry expertise, and client-focused solutions. As the Highest Performing National Contractor of Excellence, Gaylor Electric offers design-build electrical construction, 24/7 on-demand electrical support, and utility service. Gaylor Electric's teams provide an unparalleled commitment to cultivating strong business relationships, resulting in continued client loyalty nationwide. Visit Gaylor.com for more information.

Supporting the Arts

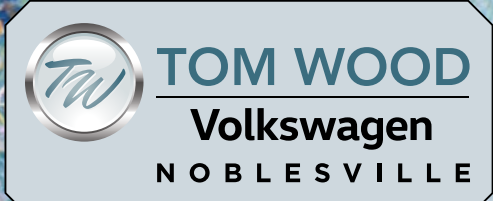
For one week each month this year, The Hamilton County Reporter is giving young artists at local schools the chance to design the banner at the top of the first three pages in Hamilton County's Hometown Newspaper.

This Week

Heights Elementary School
winning art is on Pages 1, 2 & 3

Next month, winning artists from another Hamilton County school will be featured in the pages of The Hamilton County Reporter.

Please support the sponsors
who make this possible



Additional Sponsors:
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If you would like to help encourage young artist by sponsoring this contest as either an individual or a business, call 765.365.2316

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NFD

from Page 1

The following fire fighters were recognized for their acts:

- **Letters of Commendation** – Deputy Fire Marshall Brian Lott, Lt. Josh Small, FF Cort Christy
- **Unit Citations** – FF Joe Bertka, FF/Paramedic Ryan Haboush, Eng/Paramedic Chad Hatfield, EDO Nate Smith, Lt./Paramedic Eric Harris, Eng. Dave Holloway, FF Shawn McRae, FF/Paramedic Pat Perry, FF Lars Werner, Lt. Mike Durrall, Eng./Paramedic Caleb Nicley, FF Zach Knutson, FF David Burkhalter, FF/Paramedic Ben Isaacs, FF Harrison Collins, Lt. Eric Giegerich, Eng./Paramedic Ben Asbury, Cpt. Tanner Howard, FF/Paramedic Brittany Bolden, FF Ryan Rector, Eng. Ray Bramble, FF Skyler Finnerty, and Cpt. Brett Etherington
- **Excellence in Training** – Lt. Eric Giegerich
- **EMS Provider of the Year** – FF/Paramedic Alex Casselman
- **Fire Fighter of the Year** – FF David Burkhalter
- **Officer of the Year** – Division Chief Joe Scheumann
- **The Chief Kenneth L. Gilliam Leadership Award** – EMS Duty Officer Nate Smith



Photos provided

(ABOVE LEFT, from left) Mayor Chris Jensen, Fire Fighter of the Year FF/EMT David Burkhalter, Assistant Chief Uriah Eddingfield, and FF/EMT Lars Werner. (ABOVE RIGHT, from left) Mayor Chris Jensen, Officer of the Year Division Chief Joe Scheumann, Assistant Chief Uriah Eddingfield, and Lieutenant Luke Turner.



Photos provided

(ABOVE LEFT, from left) Mayor Chris Jensen, Letters of Commendation recipient Deputy Fire Marshal Brian Lott, and Assistant Chief Uriah Eddingfield. (ABOVE RIGHT, from left) Letters of Commendation winners Lieutenant Josh Small and FF/EMT Cort Christy.



Photos provided

(ABOVE LEFT, from left) Mayor Chris Jensen, EMS Provider of the Year FF/PM Alex Casselman, Assistant Chief Uriah Eddingfield, and Community Paramedic Dennis Parker. (ABOVE CENTER, from left) Mayor Chirs Jensen, Assistant Chief Uriah Eddingfield, Excellence in Training Award winner Lieutenant Eric Giegerich, and FF/EMT Lars Werner. (ABOVE RIGHT, from left) Mayor Chris Jensen, Kenneth L. Gilliam Leadership Award winner FF/PM Nate Smith, Assistant Chief Uriah Eddingfield, and Captain Tanner Howard.



Photos provided

(ABOVE LEFT, from left) Unit Citation Award winners FF/PM Brittany Bolden, Engineer Ray Bramble, and FF/EMT Ryan Rector, and Captain Brett Etherington. (ABOVE RIGHT) Ladder 72 was awarded a Unit Citation. (From left) Lieutenant Eric Giegerich, Captain Tanner Howard, and Engineer Ben Asbury.



Photos provided

(ABOVE LEFT, from left) Unit Citation Award winners FF/PM Ryan Haboush, Engineer Chad Hatfield, and FF/PM Nate SmithEddingfield. (ABOVE RIGHT, from left) Unit Citation Award winners Lieutenant Eric Harris and FF/EMT Lars Werner.

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Live Music March 15 - Booze Hounds
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317.867.0397

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Can't sleep? Hargrove & Moochie are on the case!



Photos provided by Noblesville Schools

Noble Crossing Elementary's school resource officer (SRO) Sergeant Mike Hargrove has authored two books for the children at his school. The books feature his pet bearded dragon Moochie and focus on dealing with big emotions and getting a good night's sleep. Hargrove and Moochie visited with all classes in the school last week to share the books. Noblesville Schools SROs are valued members of the school community, serving as educators and mentors in addition to physically protecting their buildings.

Carmel students advance to semifinals in Global Youth Investment Competition

The REPORTER

Six Carmel High School students have distinguished themselves in the top 50 of Wharton Global Youth Investment Competition, organized by Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Comprised of six CHS juniors – Siddarth Chavali, Yizhong Li, Jason John, Evan Witter, William Spence, and Richard Geng – their team represents only one of the 25 teams from the United States. The remaining of the teams selected are comprised of students from Canada, UAE, India, China, Singapore, and other countries.

The Wharton Global High School Investment Competition is a free, experiential investment challenge for high school students in ninth through 12th grades. Students work in teams of four to seven, guided by a teacher as their advisor, and have access to an online stock market

Our Team

Siddarth Chavali
Coordinator/Team Leader

Evan Witter
Strategic Investment Manager

Jason John
Financial Analyst

Richard Geng
Economic and Risk Manager

William Spence
Evaluation Officer

Yizhong/Rocky Li
Client Analyst

UNREAL INVESTMENTS

Team Contact: unrealinvestments01@gmail.com

Graphic provided

simulator and learn about strategy-building, teamwork, communication, risk, diversification, company and industry analysis, and many other aspects of investing.

The Carmel student team attributes its success to collaborative decision-making, strong problem-solving skills, and innovative investment strategies.

“We are grateful for the opportunity to showcase our talents on an international platform,” Coordinator/Team Leader Siddarth Chavali said. “As our team progresses to the semifinals representing our high school, our local community, and our country, we are dedicated to advancing further in pursuit of our success. Our determination and our honor are unwavering.”

Thanks for reading The Reporter!

Fishers Fire Chief Steven Orsua set to retire this year

By GREGG MONTGOMERY
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

The chief of the Fishers Fire Department will be “retiring this year,” Mayor Scott Fadness announced Monday.

In a post on the social platform called X, Fadness said Steve Orsua informed him of his decision to leave the job. Orsua will stay on until a transition is completed sometime before late fall, the mayor said.

Orsua has worked in law enforcement and fire service positions for 40 years. He joined the Fishers Fire Department in May 2011. He was instrumental adding emergency services and a paramedicine program to the fire department, and in creating the Fishers Health Department during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Part of Fadness’ social media post said, “In the months to come, there will be a change in our Fire and Emergency Services Department. But we’ve always leaned into



opportunities to change to make us better, more efficient, & serve the community. I look forward to supporting Chief Orsua’s transition to retirement.”

Prior to becoming Fishers fire chief, Orsua helped lead the operations planning for Super Bowl XLVI in 2012 in Indianapolis and served as incident commander for the Henryville, Ind., tornado that hit March 2, 2012.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/local-news/fishers-mayor-fire-chief-to-resign.

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Photo provided by City of Fishers

Hoosier Road Elementary students help break new ground on Fishers Community Center at Johnson Farm

The REPORTER

The City of Fishers broke ground on the Fishers Community Center at Johnson Farm on Tuesday. The 105,000 square-foot recreation facility will be the first of its kind in Fishers and located on Hoosier Road near 121st Street.

The groundbreaking included remarks from Mayor Scott Fadness and project stakeholders. Special guests included Hoosier Road Elementary students who helped to break ground on the new facility, as well as Art Johnson, whose family farmed the land for generations.

The new community center was created based on resident input during a public outreach campaign beginning in 2021. Nearly 3,500 residents completed a survey to share the amenities they most desired in this facility. Top items like a dog park, indoor playground, in-



Photo provided by City of Fishers

Students from Hoosier Road Elementary School took part in the ceremony.

door walking/running track, and aquatics facility were included in the design.

The Center will offer both memberships and day passes with discounts for Fishers residents, while featuring free amenities accessible to both residents and non-residents, including a large indoor playground, indoor track for walking and running, and a café operated by Sahm's Hospitality Group.

The Center will also be the new home of the Fishers Health Department, as well as Outside the Box's adult day program to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Learn more at fishersIN.gov/CommunityCenter.

Need pointers on finishing your book?

Submitted

Award-winning Noblesville author Larry Sweazy can help aspiring novelists stop procrastinating and finally finish those writing projects.

During a free workshop on March 16 sponsored by the Woman's Press Club of Indiana (WPCI) Education Fund, Sweazy will share proven tips and strategies for finishing projects as well as ideas about time management, building a writer's toolbox, and how to live life as a writer.

"The hardest part for writers of fiction first novels is finishing what they start," Sweazy said. "Great ideas tire out. Real life gets in the way. Doubt overtakes the dream."

Participants are urged to bring pen, paper, and be prepared to write during the interactive workshop.

Sweazy is the critically acclaimed, multiple-award-winning author of 19 novels, one short story collection, and 40 short stories, including the *Trusty Dawson*, *U.S. Deputy Marshal* Westerns, the *Sonny Burton* series, the *Josiah Wolfe* Westerns, and the *Marjorie Trumaine* Mysteries.

The workshop will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:30



Sweazy

p.m. on Saturday, March 16 in the small auditorium at the College Avenue Library Branch, 4180 N. College Ave., Indianapolis. While the workshop is free, space is limited, so save a seat by emailing becky-killian@ymail.com by 6 p.m. Friday, March 15. The same email can be used by participants to request more information about the workshop.

This event is not sponsored by the Indianapolis Public Library, so all reservations and requests for information must be sent to WPCI contacts.

The Woman's Press Club of Indiana Education Fund is the nonprofit arm of the Woman's Press Club of Indiana, which was established in 1913 by women who sought representation in their newsrooms and organizations as well as at the Indiana State Legislature.

Today, WPCI is one of the oldest continuously operating journalism organizations in the state. It also is a founding affiliate of the National Federation of Press Women. Its diverse membership works in many areas of the new media landscape, from editing and writing to broadcast to public relations and marketing. Learn more at wpcindiana.org.

Thanks for reading!

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TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE 2024

CARMEL FISHERS NOBLESVILLE WESTFIELD NORTHERN TOWNS

THE SKIES ALIGN FOR A SPECTACULAR SHOW IN HAMILTON COUNTY ON APRIL 8, 2024

Get ready to be mesmerized by a celestial masterpiece as the communities of Carmel, Fishers, Noblesville, Westfield and the Northern Towns become the perfect stage for the Total Solar Eclipse, when the moon gracefully dances in front of the sun and casts its shadow across the landscape.

Witness the magic of the cosmos with friends and family at official viewing locations like Carmel Civic Square, Conner Prairie, Cool Creek Park, Grand Park Sports Campus, Ruoff Home Mortgage Music Center and Strawtown Koteewi Park.

Grab your Eclipse glasses, set up your cameras and join Hamilton County in this celestial celebration—it's guaranteed to be an unforgettable experience!

THE SKY WILL BEGIN TO CHANGE AROUND 1:50 P.M. WITH TOTALITY AT 3:06 P.M.

Hamilton County is in the narrow path of totality for the Total Solar Eclipse. These communities will be some of the best places to experience prime views of the epic event.

Arcadia	3m 6s	Fishers	3m 39s
Atlanta	2m 56s	Noblesville	3m 27s
Carmel	3m 29s	Sheridan	2m 51s
Cicero	3m 15s	Westfield	3m 19s

VisitHamiltonCounty.com/Eclipse



**JUST NORTH
OF INDY**



Westfield Young Professionals create leadership summit

The REPORTER

The Westfield Young Professionals Council has created a one-of-a-kind leadership summit for Young Professionals across Hamilton County. The conference is open to anyone who lives or works in Hamilton County who is looking to sharpen their skills, network, and grow personally and professionally. The \$60 all-inclusive cost per person includes leadership training and materials, lunch, snacks, and a



ticket to the post-conference networking happy hour. WYP recognizes that taking key staff members away from the office for a day is a big ask. That's why WYP has carefully selected speakers and presenters they believe will help staff grow, sharpen their skills, and bring back to their companies re-energized team members ready to meet the moment. [Click here](#) to register for the leadership summit.

Join us for this solar spectacle!

MyHamiltonCountyParks.com

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE
APRIL 8, 2024

Meeting Notices	
The Arcadia Town Council will hold a special meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 14, 2024, at the Arcadia Town Hall, 208 W. Main St., Arcadia.	The Carmel Fire Department Merit Board will meet in an executive session at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 18, 2024, pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(5) To discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees. A regular meeting will follow at 6:15 p.m. or immediately after the executive session (whichever is later) on the second floor of Carmel Fire Department, 210 Veterans Way.
The Carmel Historic Preservation Commission will meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 14, 2024, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of Carmel City Hall, 1 Civic Square.	
The Hamilton County Parks & Recreation Board will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 18, 2024, at Osprey Pointe Pavilion, 19777 Morse Park Lane, Noblesville.	The Hamilton County Board of Zoning Appeals meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday, March 27, 2024, has been canceled due a lack of petitions received for consideration. The next meeting is set for Wednesday, April 24, 2024, in the courtroom on the second floor of the Historic Courthouse.
The Noblesville Economic Development Council Committee will meet at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, in Room A213 at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St.	

Register now for Hamilton County InterFaith Summit

The REPORTER

Good Samaritan Network (GSN) will play host to an InterFaith Summit from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26 at the Renaissance Indianapolis North Hotel, 11925 N. Meridian St., Carmel. The InterFaith Summit is free and includes entry, complimentary continental breakfast, and plated lunch. Space is limited, and online registrations are required. The registration deadline is Friday, March 22. [Click here](#) to register.

“Our objective for the day is to address significant challenges facing Hamilton County and its residents,” GSN Executive Director Nancy Chance said. “We want to recognize our similarities and embrace our differences, identify and consider solutions, and work together to be prepared.”

Conversations to develop a plan can be more important than the plan itself. The InterFaith Summit will engage in dialogue and possible plans to provide care methods for Hamilton County families in different areas, such as disaster and safety, seniors, homelessness, transportation, food, and work.

All Hamilton County churches and faith-based organizations are encouraged to be represented and engage in this extended discussion with guest speakers and expert panel members on challenging topics impacting the community.

“The ability to bring together Hamilton County residents and especially the inter-faith community to increase awareness and engagement with an eventual outcome of being prepared during a devastating disaster or emergency,” Chance said,

“is really a return to the grassroots of being a caring community.”

Chance also said, “The event sponsors, Gaylor Electric – Chuck Goodrich, Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County, Inc., and Victoria Spartz, are crucial in making this free event possible for Hamilton County, and they deserve our support for taking on this unique event!”

The Keynote Speaker will be former Judge and County Councilman Steven Nation. Judge Nation, a native of Beech Grove, Ind., graduated from Cathedral High School and earned a bachelor’s degree in political science from Indiana University. Subsequently, he obtained a degree from the I.U. School of Law–Indianapolis and served as a Hamilton County Judge for 24 years and as a prosecutor for 16 years.

Throughout his career, Judge Nation has believed that serving the public is a great honor and privilege and has inspired many others. His unwavering commitment to positively changing the community has led him to collaborate with like-mind-



Chance



Nation

Good Samaritan NETWORK

ed individuals to establish several impactful organizations. His extensive experience and dedication to public service make him a true asset to the legal profession and the community.

Hamilton County Challenges

Breakout Sessions and Panel Discussions

The summit will include a Q&A, breakout sessions, presentation handouts, and panel discussion topics to build a prepared Hamilton County community. Panelists are assembled from a cross-section of varied local organizations to lead the discussions, including:

- **Disaster and Safety Preparation:** Shane Booker, Hamilton County Emergency Management; Nancy Chance, Hamilton County C.O.A.D.
- **Homelessness, Housing Instability, and Uncertainties:** Andrea Davis, H.A.N.D.; Nancy Ramsey, Family Promise
- **Mental Health Strat-**

egies and Mindful Resilience: Monica Greer, Hamilton County Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs; Holly Homan, Unlimited Potential JRNY Counseling; Mark Heirbrandt, Hamilton County Commissioner; Ben Lugar, Mental Health Officer

- **Transportation Barriers and Challenges:** Yolanda Kincaid, Janus Developmental Services; Gary Wagner, Prime Life Enrichment
- **Redefining Solutions for Food Insecurities:** Nancy Chance, Good Samaritan Network; Anita Hagen, Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank; Mark Hall, Feeding Team
- **Aging Hamilton County and Senior Care:** Lauren Guynn, Shepherd's Center; Gary Wagner, Prime Life Enrichment
- **Hamilton County Labor Force Demands:** Mike Thibideau, Invest Hamilton County

“Understanding our differences while recognizing our similarities and working together to be better prepared and more resilient as a community is critical – especially in a disaster or emergency,” Chance said.

Get the big picture on local employment opportunities at State of the Workforce event

The REPORTER

Invest Hamilton County will offer its annual State of the Workforce event on Tuesday, March 19 as a luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Bridgewater Club, 3535 E. 161st.

The event is focused on connecting local businesses with subject matter experts and exploring innovative solutions to today’s talent challenges. The speakers will dive into the Talent InSight 2030 projections released in January and how these projections compare to national data.

“Our Talent InSight 2030 project shows that by 2030 Hamilton County is projected to add over 20,000 jobs, import more workers than it exports, and contain an even greater degree of occupational diversity,” Invest Hamilton County President & CEO Mike Thibideau said. “Trends like these are connected to macro-economic shifts occurring within the national, state, and local economy. This event helps connect those data points in

a relatable way, while also highlighting key programs and workforce initiatives within the community.”

The event features special guest Susan Koehn, senior consultant with Lightcast (formerly EMSI-Burning Glass). She will speak about the national labor market and how those same trends play out in Hamilton County. Attendees will also hear from Carrie Lively, Executive Director of The Pursuit Institute, the county’s Career and Technical Education (CTE) district, and from Invest Hamilton County’s President & CEO, Mike Thibideau.

The goal is to see the big picture of how national trends are becoming (or not becoming) reality in Hamilton County, where employment is projected to grow and/or be challenged, and how local employer communities are adapting today.



Thibideau

Registration for the luncheon is [available on Eventbrite](#) through Friday, March 15.

About Invest Hamilton County

The Hamilton County Economic Development Corporation (dba Invest Hamilton County) is an economic development organization focused on talent attraction, retention, development, and quality of life initiatives throughout Hamilton County. Invest Hamilton County works with diverse and dynamic stakeholders from throughout the community to help local residents, businesses, and communities address barriers to economic vitality, and build systems that provide every person in the county a path to live the best life they are capable of living.

For more information, visit [investhamiltoncounty.com](#).

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Keeping you covered so well, we eclipse the nearest star

NICKEL PLATE EXPRESS

Easter Express

A farmer has misplaced some eggs and is pretty sure they are somewhere on the Nickel Plate Express!
Come share in a little rail adventure as you roll through Hamilton County’s northern countryside to see the trees in bloom while enjoying a snack and a springtime story.
March 23, 24 and 30
Tickets at NickelPlateExpress.com

Two Carmel attorneys earn “Super Lawyer” status

The REPORTER

Carmel-based law firm Altman, Poindexter & Wyatt LLC announced recently that two of its partners, Anne H. Poindexter and Scot P. Wyatt, have been named 2024 Indiana Super Lawyers.

Poindexter is a top-rated practicing attorney and a founding member of Altman, Poindexter & Wyatt LLC. She completed her undergraduate studies from Ball State University and graduated cum laude from Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law. Her areas of practice include utilities, municipal law, as well as estate/trust planning and related litigation. She and her husband, the Honorable Brian Poindexter, live in Carmel and have a daughter in medical school.

Wyatt is a top-rated practicing attorney and a founding member of Altman, Poindexter & Wyatt LLC. He obtained his undergraduate degree from Truman State University and his law degree from

Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law. His areas of practice include family law, criminal defense, and general litigation. He is married with two children and was heavily involved in scouting.

Attorneys like Anne H. Poindexter and Scott P. Wyatt are recognized by their peers for their outstanding work and commitment to the spirit of the legal profession. Their knowledge of the law, professional work ethic, and advocacy on behalf of their clients allow them to stand out among other attorneys in the field.

Super Lawyers is a rating service of outstanding lawyers who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. Super Lawyers’ patented attorney selection process is peer-influenced and research-driven, selecting the top 5 percent of attorneys to the list each year.

Learn more about Altman, Poindexter & Wyatt LLC at apwlawyer.com.



Poindexter



Wyatt

Rokita calls out lawmakers in fight against antisemitism

Submitted

On Tuesday, the Office of Attorney General Todd Rokita released the following statement:

“As I have stated throughout the debate on this antisemitism bill, the law was originally written to protect Jewish students in Indiana K-12 schools and university campuses from ruthless, anti-Semitic attacks that have increased since the horrific slaughter of Israelis on October 7th.

“Indiana Senators turned it into a toothless mess that

allows anti-Semites to continue to cloak their discriminatory hatred of Jews as simple political disagreements directed at Israel, not Jews.

“Then, Indiana Representatives would not correct the Senate’s actions, which equates hateful, anti-Semitic rhetoric, like ‘From the River to the Sea’ to mere political speech. The Governor should veto this compromised bill to show he understands that regular Hoosiers won’t compromise with Jew-hating bigots.”



Rokita

New law tightens Indiana’s ability to hold back poor readers in third grade

By GREGG MONTGOMERY
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb has signed a bill into law that tightens policies to hold back and help children who don’t demonstrate reading proficiency by third grade.

Senate Bill 1 to address students’ decline in reading skills was the top priority of the Republican supermajority during this year’s legislative session that ended Friday.

The changes would hold back students unless they meet one of a few exceptions.

Amendments to the bill created a policy for parents to appeal a remediation recommendation.

Schools are bracing for more students in the third grade as a result of the legislation, according to Chalkbeat Indiana.

beat Indiana.

The legislative also raised concerns among teachers of English language learners. Those educators say the retention mandate ignores research on language acquisition and could violate federal law.

More than four out of five third graders – just under 82 percent – passed the Indiana reading exam, the IREAD, in 2023. However, that’s approximately the same pass rate as in 2022 and 2021, highlighting concerns about Indiana students’ recovery to pre-pandemic levels.

Chalkbeat Indiana contributed to this report.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/education/new-law-tightens-indianas-ability-to-hold-back-poor-readers-in-third-grade.



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<https://lifetimelegacylawyers.com>

County judges appoint new magistrate

Noblesville attorney Christopher J. Evans tapped to fill vacated seat

The REPORTER

Hamilton County’s newest magistrate was honored with a robing ceremony last Thursday, March 7. Christopher J. Evans was chosen to fill the seat of Judge Andrew Bloch, who was recently appointed to the Hamilton County Circuit Court bench by Governor Eric Holcomb.

Magistrate Evans, a graduate of Noblesville High School, Indiana University, and Cooley Law School, has been an attorney for more than 15 years, most recently as a partner at Dollard Evans Whalin LLP.

“I am deeply honored to have been appointed as a magistrate in the Circuit and Superior Courts,” Magistrate Evans said. “I am eager to serve the community that has been my home for so many years and look forward to ensuring a fair process for all who come before the court.”

Magistrates have duties like judges but are not elected officials. They are hired by judges to assist with county caseloads.

“The Hamilton County Judiciary is excited to wel-



Photos provided

(TOP LEFT) Magistrate Chris Evans was sworn in by Judge Andrew Bloch. (TOP RIGHT) Evans being robed by Judges William Hughes and Stephenie Gookins. (ABOVE LEFT) Evans with his family. (ABOVE RIGHT) Evans with his fellow judges and magistrates.

come Chris to the bench,” Superior Court Judge Stephenie K. Gookins said.

“His diverse experience in many areas of law and business will provide a good

foundation for the diverse case load that will come before him.”



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Who's on my ballot for the May 7, 2024 Primary Election?

Note that * indicates the candidate is the incumbent for that office. To view precinct and district maps, please visit hamiltoncounty.in.gov/221/Precinct-and-District-Maps. NOTE: Candidates for precinct committeement and state delegates will appear in upcoming editions of The Reporter.

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Donald J. Trump (R)

U.S. SENATE

Jim Banks (R)
Marc Carmichael (D)
Valerie McCray (D)

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Max Engling (R)
Chuck Goodrich (R)
Mark Hurt (R)
Patrick Malayter (R)
Matthew Peiffer (R)
Ryan Pfenninger (D)
Deborah A. Pickett (D)
LD Powell (R)
Larry L. Savage Jr. (R)
*Victoria Spartz (R)

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Brad Chambers (R)
Suzanne Crouch (R)
Eric Doden (R)
Curtis Hill (R)
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Jamie Reitenour (R)

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Joel Levi (D)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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Josh Lowry (D)
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District 29
Laura L. Alerding (R)
Christopher Hartig (D)
Alaina Shonkwiler (R)
District 32
Patricia Bratton (R)
*Victoria Garcia Wilburn (D)
District 37
*Todd Huston (R)
District 39
Daniel (Danny) Lopez (R)
Matt McNally (D)
District 88
Starr Joy Hairston (D)
*Chris Jeter (R)
Stephanie Jo Yocum (D)

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*Andrew R. Bloch (R)

JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT 1

*Michael A. Casati (R)

JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT 6

*Stephenie K. Gookins (R)

COUNTY AUDITOR

Todd Clevenger (R)

COUNTY SURVEYOR

Gary Duncan (R)

COUNTY TREASURER

Robert (Bob) Bragg (R)
*Susan Byer (R)

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*Steven C. Dillinger (R)
District 3
*Mark E. Heirbrandt (R)

COUNTY COUNCIL

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Elizabeth Fouch (R)
Keely J. Gladieux (D)
*Sue Maki (R)
*Steven R. Nation (R)

IRT names winners of statewide playwriting competition

Carmel student among six finalists of Young Playwrights in Process program

The REPORTER

The Indiana Repertory Theatre (IRT) has named Mei Kihara and Lucille Ansell the winners of the 2024 Young Playwrights in Process (YPIP), an annual playwriting competition for Indiana students in grades 6 through 12.

Kihara is the winner of the high school division, and Ansell is the winner of the middle school division. The winners' work was selected from a total of 120 entries from around the state, with submissions from West Lafayette to Sellersburg.

Carmel High School student Leon Xiang was

one of the six finalists with the submission *Nobody's Son, Nobody's Daughter*.

Through YPIP, the IRT encourages middle and high school students across Indiana to write and create plays that reflect and challenge their world. Over the past five months, each play was reviewed by a committee of theatre and writing professionals. Twenty-five semi-finalists were chosen and invited to a voluntary day-long workshop with James Still, IRT's Playwright-in-Residence, and Richard J Roberts, Resident Dramaturg. Following this workshop, all 25 semi-final-

ists resubmitted their work, and the six finalists and two winners were chosen by Still, Roberts, and guest advisor Arora Real de Asua.

The final celebration took place virtually last Saturday to recognize the work of the young playwrights. During the event, both Kihara's and Ansell's full plays had staged readings by professional actors. The other four finalists had a portion of their play read. The full list of finalists, as well as their play titles and schools, can be found below.

Kihara and Ansell will each receive a \$1,000 cash prize for their short plays.

High school finalists Ella Haynes and Leon Xiang, as well as middle school finalists Nandini Kondhare and Ronit Mengele, will each receive a \$250 cash prize.

YPIP was created by the IRT in 2005 through the Margot L. and Robert S. Eccles Trust.

Applications for next year's YPIP competition will open in the fall. To stay up to date on the latest information, go to irtlive.com/ypip.

For more information about YPIP and other educational opportunities, email Education Coordinator Anna Barnett at abarnett@irtlive.com.

Max Engling becomes first 5th District Congressional candidate to pledge no new federal taxes

Submitted

Last week, Republican candidate for Indiana's Fifth Congressional District Max Engling signed the Taxpayer Protection Pledge.

The pledge guarantees that as a congressman, he will oppose any and all tax increases. Engling is the first candidate in this race that has signed the pledge,

and he said he plans to lead by example on this issue.

"Hardworking Americans are already being hurt by inflation and the rising cost of living, affecting everything from food to gas to health-



Engling

care," Engling said. "The last thing they need is increased federal taxes. This is your hard-earned money, and I am proud to be the first candidate here in the 5th Congressional District to sign the Taxpay-

er Protection Pledge opposing all new taxes."

Engling concluded by saying, "I am committed to eliminating the Estate Tax and renewing President Trump's Tax Cuts & Jobs Act before it expires in 2025. Thank you to Americans for Tax Reform for continuing to champion this important issue."

Make a positive impact: give blood with Red Cross

The REPORTER

As spring approaches, the American Red Cross urges donors to give blood now to continue to strengthen the national blood supply. People of all blood types – especially those with type O blood – are critical to ensuring hospitals can meet the daily demand for lifesaving transfusions.

During Red Cross Month in March, the Red Cross celebrates the volunteers and blood and platelet donors who are critical to ensuring those in need receive relief and care. Help can't wait – to book a time to give, visit RedCrossBlood.org, download the [Red Cross Blood Donor App](https://RedCrossBlood.org), or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

As a thank you, all who

come to give by Sunday, March 24 will get a \$10 e-gift card to a pet supply merchant of choice, plus a chance to win one of five \$3,000 gift cards. Visit RedCrossBlood.org/Pets for details.

Additionally, the Red Cross is teaming up with Warner Bros. Pictures and Legendary Pictures to celebrate the epic new film, *Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire*, and to invite donors to rise together and give blood. When donors share their strength by giving from March 25 to April 7, they'll get an exclusive

Where you can donate blood

Carmel

March 15, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.: IU Health North Hospital, 11700 N. Meridian St.

Fishers

March 14, 1 to 6 p.m.: Billerica Park Multi-Purpose Community Building, 12690 Promise Road

March 21, 2 to 6 p.m.: IU Health Saxony Hospital, 13100 E. 136th St.

Noblesville

March 22, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.: IU Health 360 Symposium: ER, Trauma, & Critical Care, 13700 Conference Center Drive South

Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire and Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last. (© 2024 Legendary and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. All Rights Reserved GODZILLA™ & © TOHO CO., Ltd.)

Franciscan Orthopedic Surgery Center awarded ACHC Certification

The REPORTER

Franciscan Orthopedic Surgery Center, which is a joint venture with Franciscan Health Orthopedic Hospital Carmel and Forté Sports Medicine and Orthopedics, was recently awarded full certification for Advanced Joint Replacement with distinction by the Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC), an internationally recognized accrediting body.

"We are proud to achieve this prestigious certification," said Tami Robinson, executive director of operations, Franciscan Orthopedic Surgery Center. "Earning ACHC certification is a significant achievement that recognizes our commitment to providing outstanding care to our patients and the community."

"I'm proud of our program and this recognition reflects our team's dedication to delivering the best outcomes in joint replacement," said Dr. Joseph Maratt, joint replacement surgeon at



Forté Sports Medicine and Orthopedics. "Continuous improvement, innovation and a culture of safety are the foundational elements of our program that guide our clinical and operational decisions. The collaboration between Forté and Franciscan has been instrumental in the design and implementation of a comprehensive joint replacement program. Our combined expertise and experience will help us continue to set new standards and raise the bar in both outcomes and patient experience."

ACHC Certification confirms that Franciscan Orthopedic Surgery Center is providing high-quality care as determined by an independent, external process of evaluation.

"We have a great team at the Franciscan Orthopedic Surgery Center," said Trish Weber, chief operating officer for Franciscan Health Mooresville and Carmel. "This certification affirms the dedication of the Franciscan Health and Forté teams working together to provide exceptional care to all patients served. Franciscan is proud to partner with Forté, the camaraderie we

have is unmatched. It has positioned us very well for the future as orthopedic services continue to grow."

Franciscan Orthopedic Surgery Center features a high-tech surgery center, offering the latest advancements in musculoskeletal procedures. Outpatient services provided at the facility include joint replacement, hip and knee, hand, wrist and upper extremity, shoulder, spine, foot and ankle and pain management.

"Franciscan Orthopedic Surgery Center clearly demonstrates a commitment to quality and patient safety," ACHC Vice President Meg Gravesmill. "We base our decision on the findings of an extensive and thorough on-site review of advanced joint replacement against standards for organizational operations and clinical services that drive patient safety and continuous quality improvement. Franciscan Orthopedic Surgery Center has earned the distinction of ACHC certification through its performance in successfully meeting those standards."

[Click here](#) for more information about the Franciscan Orthopedic Surgery Center.



Places to purchase glasses:

- All Things Carmel
- Cicero Market
- Cool Creek Park – Nature Center
- Kits & Kaboodle, Carmel
- Harbour Market, Noblesville
- Noble Eyes (across from Hamilton Town Center)
- Noblesville Ace Hardware Store
- Noblesville Creates
- Nickel Plate Express, Hobbs Station (on days when there are train rides)
- Market on Main, Tipton
- Schoolhouse 7 Cafe, Fishers

Free glasses in Westfield:

Solar eclipse viewing glasses available for pickup during regular business hours. Glasses are free and limited to four per family while supplies last. Residents are asked to show proof of address.

- Centier Bank: 3002 State Road 32
- City of Westfield City Services: 2728 E 171st Street
- Community First Bank: 381 South Junction Crossing
- Community First Bank: 707 East State Road 32
- Grand Park Events Center: 19000 Grand Park Boulevard
- Dean Ballenger Agency: 14767 Oak Road, Suite 100
- The Farmers Bank: 360 Tricia Lane
- Westfield Fire Department: 17001 Ditch Road
- Westfield Police Department: 17535 Dartown Road
- Westfield Washington Public Library: 333 Hoover Street
- Wittler Orthodontics: 534 E Main Street

Learn more about the Total Solar Eclipse at: visithamiltoncounty.com/eclipse/eclipse-prep



Albert McDougall

October 15, 1950 – March 11, 2024

Albert McDougall, 73, Cicero, passed away on Monday, March 11, 2024, at his home. He was born on October 15, 1950, to Warren and Celia (Smith) McDougall in Indianapolis.

Albert was a 1968 graduate of Hamilton Southeastern Schools. He was a Son of the Cicero Legion and a member of the Noblesville VFW. Albert had many career opportunities throughout his lifetime including roofer, painter, bartender, maintenance, and customer service. He was a member of the United Family Wesleyan Church of Cicero. Albert enjoyed time with family and friends, fishing, playing cards, and, most of all, serving others.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn McDougall; brother, Carl McDougall; children, Wendi (Donnie) West, Julie Sobczak, Gary (Marlena) McDougall, Natasha (Chad) Grafing, and Jessica (David) Josephson; bonus children, Theresa (Mike) Leach, David (Micki) Massicotte, and Jenifer (Chris) Hayes; 21 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, Albert was preceded in death by his sister, Barbara Ann Moore.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., with services at 1 p.m., on Saturday, March 16, 2024, at United Family Wesleyan Church, 210 Washington Ave., Cicero. Pastor Allen Gross will officiate.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, KS 66675 (support.woundedwarriorproject.org); or Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 508, Greenwood, IN 46142 (davamembersportal.org/in/default.aspx).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

The Reporter's policy on obituaries

The Hamilton County Reporter does not charge families for publishing obituary notices in our pages. Every obituary appearing in online editions Wednesday through Saturday also appears in our Monday print editions. In order to continue to offer this as a community service, we ask that obituaries not exceed 600 words. The limitations of space may not allow for longer ones to appear in print.

Families and funeral homes are asked to send obituaries to obits@ReadTheReporter.com.

Thanks for reading The Reporter!

Eric A. Hart

September 2, 1960 – March 10, 2024

Eric A. Hart, 63, Fishers, passed away on Sunday, March 10, 2024, at his home after a 12-year battle with stage 4 kidney cancer. He was born on September 2, 1960, in South Bend, Ind.

Eric graduated with a bachelor's degree in pharmacy from Butler University in 1983. For 40 years, he worked as a pharmacist, retiring in 2023. Eric was a very positive person who enjoyed spending time with his friends, playing euchre, collecting coins, and investing. He also loved traveling with his family and friends. Eric loved music, going to concerts, and playing his vinyl records. He enjoyed food and a good glass of bourbon.

He is survived by his wife, Stacey Hart; father, Robert Hart; mother, Betty Lou Nimtz; son, Brandon Hart; brother, Brian (Robin) Hart; uncle, Bob Childress; niece, Cassie Dreher; nephew, Kevin Hart; and his father-in-law, Fred Andreas.

A celebration of Eric's life will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Schwarz Family and Friends Cancer Research Fund (cancer.iu.edu/giving/focused/schwarz_family.html). To make a gift by check, please make payable to IUF/Schwarz Fund and mail to: IU Simon Comprehensive Cancer Center, P.O. Box 7072, Indianapolis, IN 46207.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Margaret Stansbury McClelland

December 11, 1932 – March 10, 2024

Margaret Stansbury McClelland of Indianapolis passed away March 10, 2024. She was born on December 11, 1932, in Mount Pleasant, Mich., to the late Raymond and Mary (Harrell) Stansbury.

Her children, Barry (Pam), Sandra (John Batcha), Darryl (Anne Marie) and four grandchildren survive her. Preceding her in death besides her parents were her husband of 58 years, Paul; and two sisters, Myrtle and Nyla.

She graduated from George Washington High School and attended Purdue University. Margaret retired from the Lawrence Township Schools Administration Center in 1995 after 24 years.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Salvation Army, WFYI Channel 20 PBS, or a charity of donor's choice. There will be no services. Arrangements entrusted to Aaron-Ruben-Nelson Mortuary.

Condolences: arnmortuary.com

TODAY'S BIBLE READING**JOSEPH SOLD BY HIS BROTHERS**

As they sat down to eat their meal, they looked up and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead. Their camels were loaded with spices, balm and myrrh, and they were on their way to take them down to Egypt.

Judah said to his brothers, "What will we gain if we kill our brother and cover up his blood? Come, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him; after all, he is our brother; our own flesh and blood." His brothers agreed.

So when the Midianite merchants came by, his brothers pulled Joseph up out of the cistern and sold him for twenty shekels of silver to the Ishmaelites, who took him to Egypt.

When Reuben returned to the cistern and saw that Joseph was not there, he tore his clothes. He went back to his brothers and said, "The boy isn't there! Where can I turn now?"

Then they got Joseph's robe, slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood. They took the ornate robe back to their father and said, "We found this. Examine it to see whether it is your son's robe."

He recognized it and said, "It is my son's robe! Some ferocious animal has devoured him. Joseph has surely been torn to pieces."

Then Jacob tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and mourned for his son many days. All his sons and daughters came to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted. "No," he said, "I will continue to mourn until I join my son in the grave." So his father wept for him.

Meanwhile, the Midianites sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard.

Genesis 37:12-24 (NIV)



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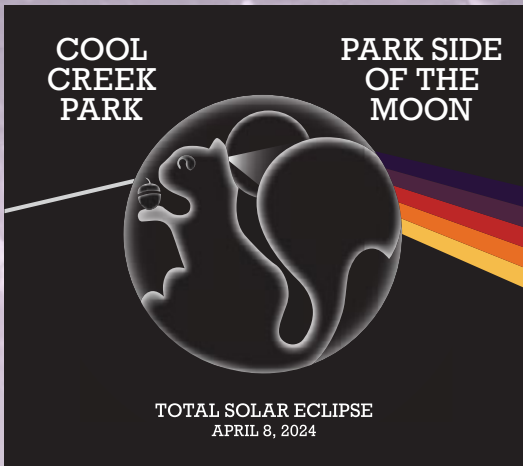
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Weather is unpredictable ... Paul Poteet isn't.
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A rare, total solar eclipse will occur in Hamilton County on Monday, April 8, 2024 and not be repeated in this area until 2153! Hamilton County Parks is staging two events that will entertain and educate, in celebration of this celestial spectacle!



Park Side of the Moon | April 8
10 AM - 5 PM | Cool Creek Park

\$10 (\$15 out of county)

Get your eclipse on with *Echoes of Pompeii A Tribute to Pink Floyd*. Broadcast personality Paul Poteet* will serve as host, joined by noted stargazers, Dr. Doug Balogh and Jeff Attebury. Enjoy fun activities, vendors, and for-purchase food and drink throughout the day.

Meet Paul Poteet!



Moon Market | April 8
12 - 5 PM | Strawtown Koteewi Park

\$5 (\$10 out of county)

Invited artisans will be selling crafts and wares while respected eclipse expert W. Keith Turner presents fascinating eclipse programming. Guitarist Robin Harrison will set the eclipse to music. Special activities and the Duke Energy Nature Education Trailer will be part of the celebration. For-purchase food and drink will also be available.

FREE eclipse viewing safety glasses will be issued to all attendees when entering the event grounds. Free parking for registered guests and the option to tailgate will be offered at both locations. Register online at MyHamiltonCountyParks.com or scan the QR code below. Hurry, attendance capacities have been set at both park locations!



The perfect way to remember this historic event!

Hamilton County Parks and Recreation is offering commemorative eclipse merchandise online. A select number of the online items (viewing glasses, t-shirts and stickers) will also be sold at Cool Creek Nature Center until sold out. *These items will not be available at either park on the day of the events.* A portion of the proceeds will benefit Hamilton County Parks and Recreation.



Thanks to these valued sponsors for supporting these two very special events.

Scan for event registration or eclipse merchandise online store.



*Paul Poteet’s hotel accommodations provided by Hotel Carmichael. “We love being Paul Poteet’s hotel of choice! It is always a pleasure having him stay with us. Paul and all of our guests are incredibly important to us.” - Hotel Carmichael Director of Sales and Marketing, Austin Campagna





REPORTER SPORTS WEDNESDAY

Sports Editor Richie Hall | Sports@ReadTheReporter.com | Twitter @Richie_Hall

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

Girls Basketball



Photo by Joshua Herd



Photo by Julie Brown



Photo by Joshua Herd

(From left) Fishers' Talia Harris, Hamilton Heights' Camryn Runner and Noblesville's Reagan Wilson have all been named as 2024 *IndyStar* Indiana Girls' All-Stars.

Three of Hamilton County's best basketball players make Indiana Girls' All-Stars team

The REPORTER

Three Hamilton County girls are among the 13 players that have been selected for the 2024 *IndyStar* Indiana Girls' All-Stars, All-Stars game director Mike Broughton announced Monday.

Those chosen to the team will play three games in June – one exhibition game against the Indiana Junior All-Stars as well as home-and-home contests against the Kentucky All-Stars.

Talia Harris of Fishers, Camryn Runner of Hamilton Heights and Reagan Wilson of Noblesville were all selected to the team. They join, listed alphabetically, Audrey Annee of Center Grove, Emma Haan of Zionsville, Alli Harness of Carroll (Flora), Ellery Minch of Mt. Vernon (Fortville), Jordyn Poole of Fort Wayne Snider, Chloe Spreen of Bedford North

Lawrence, Lauren Walsh of Penn, Faith Wiseman of Indian Creek, Rachel Wirts of Center Grove and Julian Woodard of Jennings County.

The '24 girls' All-Stars have two players who have been a part of state championship teams (Spreen, 2023 4A, and Wilson, 2022 4A), two players who were named IBCA first-team Academic All-State (Minch and Runner) and three players who were named IBCA honorable mention Academic All-State (Annee, Haan and Wilson).

Andy Maguire of Zionsville has been named head coach of the 2024 All-Stars. He will be assisted by Jason Simpson of Greensburg and Lauren Votaw of Fishers. Maguire is 330-240 in 26 seasons as a varsity coach, including 256-209 in 21 years at Zionsville. Simpson

is 180-65 in 10 seasons at Greensburg. Votaw is 131-44 in seven seasons at Fishers.

The Junior-Senior exhibition game is set for June 5 at Kokomo. The first game against Kentucky will be June 7 at a site to be announced. The final game against Kentucky will be June 8 at Gainbridge Fieldhouse in Indianapolis.

All three dates will be doubleheaders with the *IndyStar* Indiana Boys' All-Stars, whose roster will be announced later. The roster for the Indiana girls' Junior All-Stars were announced March 4. The roster for the Indiana boys' Junior All-Stars will be announced later.

The Indiana Junior All-Stars will play two girl-boy doubleheaders this year -- June 2 against the Kentucky Junior All-Stars at Scottsburg and June 7 against the

Indiana seniors at Kokomo.

The Indiana All-Stars program was founded in 1939 when the Indiana Boys All-Stars played the state champion Frankfort Hot Dogs. The series with Kentucky began in 1940, and the girls' portion of the All-Stars was added in 1976. The Junior All-Stars, boys and girls, were added in 1996. The All-Star senior girls have played Kentucky every year since 1976, except 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The All-Star senior boys have played Kentucky in all but three years since 1940 -- 1943 (World War II), 1944 (World War II) and 2020 (COVID-19 pandemic).

The Indiana Senior girls lead 53-41 in their series with Kentucky. The Indiana Senior girls lead 41-11 in games against the Indiana Junior girls. The Indiana

Junior girls lead 11-1 in their series with Kentucky. The Indiana Senior boys lead 104-45 in their series with Kentucky. The Indiana Senior boys lead 41-11 in games against the Indiana Junior boys. The Indiana Junior boys lead 7-5 in their series with Kentucky.

The second *IndyStar* Indiana All-Star "Futures Games" doubleheader will be June 3 at Hamilton Southeastern. The Futures Games will be a girls-boys doubleheader with Indiana-only squads of sophomores and freshmen in a North vs. South format. The Futures Games' lineups will be announced later. In the inaugural Futures Games, the North girls prevailed 73-63 and the South boys won 100-96.

The Indiana portion of the All-Star Games is organized and produced by the Indiana Basketball Coaches

Association. *The Indianapolis Star*, with its *IndyStar* brand, is a title sponsor. Hoosier Shooting Academy is a presenting partner of All-Star Week, and Energy Systems Group is a presented partner of the June 8 All-Star doubleheader at Gainbridge Fieldhouse.

The *IndyStar* Indiana All-Star Team is selected through a balloting process of coaches and media overseen by game organizers from the IBCA. The top vote getter will be named Miss Basketball, and the remainder of the team is finalized by Broughton after observing numerous games and events throughout the season, conferring with coaches, school officials and media across the state. Broughton also reviews votes submitted by coaches and media who each could recommend up to 10 players.

Westfield football coach Jake Gilbert bids farewell, Miracle steps up

By RICHIE HALL

sports@readthereporter.com

The word used to describe the coaching changes at Westfield High School this week is "bittersweet."

The Shamrocks are saying goodbye to a veteran coach who transformed their football program into a state powerhouse. Jake Gilbert has stepped down as Westfield's head coach, as he received the opportunity to coach for his alma mater, Wabash College.

Gilbert will join the Little Giants staff as the associate head coach and defensive coordinator for the 2024 season, then transition into the program's head coach beginning with the 2025 season. Gilbert, a 1998 graduate of Wabash, will take over for the retiring Don Morel, who has been the Little Giants' head coach since 2016.

Gilbert said he is "excited about the opportunity," but called the situation "really bittersweet." He began coaching Westfield in 2010, noting that for many players, he's been "the only coach they've known. It's hard to leave them."

The legacy Gilbert leaves behind is an amazing one. In 13 years as head coach of the 'Rocks, Gilbert guided the program to 103 wins, eight sectional titles, six regional championships and three Hoosier Crossroads Conference championships. Westfield also won four semi-state titles, sending the Shamrocks into the state finals. The 'Rocks won the Class 5A state championship in 2016 and were the 2013 5A runners-up. Westfield also had back-to-back

state runner-up finishes in 2020 and 2021.

"Jake has built one of the top high school programs in the state," said WHS athletic director Andy Tebbe. "What he has accomplished on the field has only been out done by what he has accomplished in our building and in the community. He helped build a culture that permeates throughout all of our students and staff, as well as the city of Westfield. Jake will always be a Rock and we are excited to see him excel in his new role at Wabash College."

This will be Gilbert's second time as a coach for the Little Giants. He was an assistant coach from 2006 to 2010, supervising the offensive line for the first two seasons, then taking over defensive coordinator duties for the next three years.

"To be a player, assistant coach and a head coach there, there's not many people who can say something like that," said Gilbert.

Miracle takes over

As for the Westfield football team, its head coach will be someone well-known (and well-loved) by Shamrocks fans.

Josh Miracle, an assistant coach for Westfield for the past 13 years, is now the head coach. Miracle graduated from Wabash College in 2011, so he played there during Gilbert's first coaching stint.

Miracle echoed the bittersweet sentiment, calling Gilbert a friend and mentor, but he also said he was "super excited for Wabash. They're getting the best."

Miracle graduated from Hobart High School in 2007 before heading to Wabash

College. He has been Westfield football's associate head coach and defensive coordinator for the past 10 years. This past season, Miracle was named the top assistant coach in Indiana, receiving the nationally acclaimed Frank Broyles Award.

Miracle has also been the boys track and field head coach for the past 12 seasons. Miracle said he would continue to coach track this season.

"Everybody's been extremely supportive, and it's been a pretty good transition so far," said Miracle.

"Hiring a new football coach is probably one of the more daunting tasks an athletic director has to take on. But in this case, recommending to hire Josh Miracle to lead the Rocks was a very easy decision," said Tebbe. "His pedigree of playing at Wabash College and helping build our football program as an assistant coach has prepared him well to be our varsity football coach. Josh is a great leader and excels both as a teacher and a coach. We have known for several years that we had the next head coach of Westfield Football in our stable if that time presented itself. That time is now and



Photos provided

Westfield head coach Jake Gilbert (left) is stepping down as the Shamrocks head coach after 13 seasons. He will be returning to his alma mater, Wabash College, to be the associate head coach and defensive coordinator in the 2024 season, transitioning to the head coach in 2025. Longtime assistant Josh Miracle (right) will be taking over as the Westfield head coach.

we are excited to see Josh continue the excellence of Westfield Football."

"It's been an honor to coach alongside Josh Miracle for the past 13 years," said Gilbert. "We have done it together! Josh is a huge part of the success we've had. He's beyond ready to be the Head Coach of our program. Josh is a natural leader. He was named the top assistant coach in In-

diana last season. He has called the defense in three State Championship games. Josh's time is now and he'll do an amazing job."

"Jake Gilbert has built a legacy here at WHS with our football program," said WHS principal Alicia Denniston. "Not only have our teams achieved excellence on the field and been extremely successful, but Coach Gilbert has fostered a

family atmosphere and one that exemplifies leadership, character, and service. He will be missed, but we are thrilled to see Coach Miracle step into this role. Josh Miracle has been an instrumental leader in our football program and is ready to continue this legacy of excellence. We fully support him and know the players and the program are in very capable hands."

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Archery



The Blue Pavilion at the Indiana State Fairgrounds was filled with young archers during the 2024 Indiana NASP State Tournament, which took place last weekend. A total of 2,100 students representing 125 schools participated in the tournament. Reporter photo by Richie Hall

High hopes for thousands of young archers as they aim for victory at state tournament

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

INDIANAPOLIS—The Blue Pavilion at the Indiana State Fairgrounds was filled with arrows flying through the air last Saturday.

It was part of the 2024 Indiana NASP State Tournament, which took place over the weekend at the pavilion. A total of 2,100 students in grades 4 through 12 representing 125 different schools participated in the event.

NASP stands for National Archery in School Program and is administered through the DNR Law Enforcement Division in Indiana. Tim Beck, an Indiana Conservation Officer, is the state coordinator of the tournament and spoke to the

Reporter during the tournament.

“It’s really been amazing,” said Beck. “The impact that this program has had on the students. It’s a very unique program that engages just about all the kids in any shape or fashion. The impact and the growth of this program has been nothing short of phenomenal.”

Beck emphasized that archery is a sport truly for everyone. He said there have been students competing who have physical disabilities, as well as some who may have emotional issues.

“We have actually had some students that may have some behavioral problems where archery has been instrumental in helping

them deal with some of their social and emotional issues,” said Beck. “It’s really unique how archery has made a difference in their lives.”

Beck said the NASP motto is that the organization is “changing lives one arrow at a time,” he said. “So, the impact on our students is phenomenal.”

Beck was talking while young archers were competing in the Bullseye part of the tournament. Each competitor shot 30 arrows—shooting 15 from a 10-meter line, then moving back and shooting 15 more arrows from a 15-meter line.

“Each arrow has a point value of 10 points,” said Beck. A perfect hit on the bullseye is worth the full 10 points, with the point values

decreasing the further away an arrow lands. A perfect score is 300 points.

There were three divisions at the tournament: elementary, middle and high school. Batesville swept the team standings in all three divisions.

In the individual standings, Caleb Gedney of Christian Academy of Indiana won the boys high school division, while Lydia Haskamp of Batesville was the girls high school winner. Both scored 293 points.

Batesville’s Varshath Rajesh won the boys middle school division by scoring 288 points. North Harrison’s Hazel Robertson was the girls winner, totaling 285 points. Another North Harrison archer, Eli First, won the boys elementary compe-

tion with 279 points. Blake Humm from St. Benedict Cathedral School in Evansville won the girls elementary division with 276 points.

In addition to the Bullseye competition, there was also a 3-D competition. Beck said the 3-D is “based off of outdoor hunting scenarios,” also saying it has been “very, very popular.”

Evansville Reitz Memorial won the high school 3-D competition, with North Harrison winning the middle school division and Triton Central the elementary school division.

In the individual standings, the high school boys winner was Jason Tillison of Scottsburg with a score of 293 points. Isabella Hughes of Whitko won the high school girls division, scoring 289 points.

St. Benedict Cathedral School had both middle school 3-D winners: Karagan Day scored 282 points to finish first in the girls competition, while the boys winner was Townes Wooton, who totaled 279 points.

In the elementary division, First of North Harrison scored 279 points for top honors among the boys. Courtney Miller of Chur-

busco Elementary totaled 274 points to win the girls event.


Beck said that all of the students at the tournament earned their place at the competition.

“They got an invitation to be here by shooting a qualifier earlier in the year,” said Beck. “Every one of these students got invited to attend. And at the end of the day, when they’re done, they’re going to get a medal that will always be with them, that they competed and they qualified for this tournament.”

The NASP is education-based. Beck said any schools that participate must have archery as part of their school curriculum.

“It’s in their normal school day. It just can’t be an afterschool club,” said Beck. “Most of the schools do have a very good afterschool club, because that’s where they get their practice and everything for the tournament, but they do have to have the in-school component.”

For more information on the NASP, visit nasp-schools.org. Tournament results are available at nasp-tournaments.org.



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SPORTS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, March 13

BOYS LACROSSE

Fishers at Culver Academies, 7:30 p.m.
North Central at Noblesville, 8 p.m.

GIRLS LACROSSE

Fishers at Heritage Christian, 7:30 p.m.
Hamilton Southeastern at Bishop Chatard, 7:30 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD

Carmel girls, Sheridan at University of Indianapolis
HSR Qualifier, 6 p.m.
University at Warren Central HSR Qualifier, 6 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Bishop Chatard at Hamilton Southeastern, 7 p.m.
Cathedral at Carmel, 7 p.m.
Noblesville at North Central, 7 p.m.
Westfield at Franklin Central, 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 14

BOYS LACROSSE

Westfield at Cathedral, 7 p.m.

GIRLS LACROSSE

Hamilton Southeastern at West Lafayette, 6:30 p.m.
Carmel at Guerin Catholic, 7 p.m.
Zionsville at Westfield, 7 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD

Carmel girls at Fishers, 5 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Park Tudor at Carmel, 6 p.m.
Hamilton Southeastern at Westfield, 6:30 p.m.
Guerin Catholic at Roncalli, 7 p.m.
Perry Meridian at Fishers, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 15

BOYS LACROSSE

Noblesville at Fishers, 7:30 p.m.

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

Hamilton County Reporter reveals 2024 all-county wrestling teams

Noblesville freshman Aidan Kincaide named Player of the Year

The REPORTER
Noblesville freshman Aidan Kincaide is this year's Hamilton County Reporter Wrestler of the Year. Kincaide put together solid results throughout the regular season but turned it on in his first-ever post-season. The 157-pounder won sectional and regional championships and placed a very close second at the tough New Castle semi-

state to Warren Central's Anthony Cashman, with the senior winning in overtime. At the IHSAA state finals, Kincaide became the county's highest placer, taking fourth, with Cashman besting him 3-2 in the third-place match. Kincaide was ranked 12th in the indianamat.com rankings, but beat two wrestlers rated ahead of him to make it to the top four.



Noblesville freshman Aidan Kincaide is this year's Hamilton County Reporter Wrestler of the Year. Photo provided

Hamilton County Reporter's All-County Wrestling Teams		
FIRST TEAM		
Name	School	Year
Michael Cain	Hamilton Heights	Junior
Carson Fetting	Hamilton Heights	Senior
Austin Hastings	Noblesville	Senior
Aidan Kincaide	Noblesville	Freshman
Isaac Kuhn	Hamilton Heights	Senior
Peter Nguyen	Guerin Catholic	Senior
Xavier Smith	Fishers	Sophomore
Chayce Yant	Fishers	Junior
SECOND TEAM		
Name	School	Year
Nick Anderson	Hamilton Southeastern	Junior
Keegan Carson	Westfield	Sophomore
Gage Gulley	Noblesville	Senior
Nate Ingalls	Hamilton Southeastern	Senior
Zach Lang	Hamilton Southeastern	Senior
Evan Lawhead	Hamilton Southeastern	Junior
Teyon Leonard	Fishers	Senior
Caleb Mattingly	Carmel	Junior
HONORABLE MENTION: Chris Casler, Hamilton Southeastern; Cooper Doucette, Hamilton Heights; Carlo Federici, Carmel; Tamir Halevi, Carmel; Kendall Moe, Hamilton Heights; Killian Miller, Carmel; Carter Richardson, Noblesville.		



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Upcoming Broadcasts

Wed March 13 - Lacrosse

6:00 pm North Central vs **Noblesville** | J. Varsity | Boys Lacrosse | HCTV Sports

7:15 pm **Hamilton Southeastern** vs Bishop Chatard | Girls Lacrosse | SSN Sports

8:00pm North Central vs **Noblesville** | Varsity | Boys Lacrosse | HCTV Sports

Wed March 13 - E-Sports

8:00 pm YES! Gaming Presents: The Super Smash Open LIVE Weekly Bracket

Thurs March 14 - Lacrosse

6:50 pm **Carmel** vs **Guerin Catholic** | Girls Lacrosse | Indiana SRN

Fri March 15 - Lacrosse

6:50 pm St Xavier vs **Hamilton Southeastern** | Boys Lacrosse | Indiana SRN

Mon March 18 - Lacrosse

6:00 pm **Fishers** vs Lawrence North | Girls Lacrosse | Fishers Sports Network

Tues March 19 - Music

7:00 pm Patsy's Pub Open Mic Night | Westfield, IN | Hamilton County TV

Thurs March 21 - Volleyball

6:00 pm **Guerin Catholic** vs **Noblesville** | Boys Junior Varsity | HCTV Sports

6:45 pm **Hamilton Southeastern** vs **Carmel** | Boys Varsity | SSN

7:00 pm **Guerin Catholic** vs **Noblesville** | Boys Varsity | HCTV Sports



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