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Reporter photo

Robin Mills did not have a "Where's Waldo" hat to help you find her in this photo, so we asked everyone to point at her.

Career capped with big surprise

The REPORTER

Last Saturday night at the Noblesville Eagles, Aerie 450, 1565 N. 10th St., Hamilton County Auditor Robin Mills was late to her own retirement party. In her defense, it was a surprise party friends and family told her was a fundraising event for spina bifida research.

In fact, on the way to the party, Mills detoured to an ATM to withdraw money for raffles and other potential donation opportunities. So yes, she was indeed surprised!

Mills has served the people of Hamilton County for almost 45 years, with more than half her time dedicated to the Auditor's Office.

After graduating from Noblesville High School in 1980, she took a position with the Hamilton County Highway Department as the office administrator. She began her career in the Auditor's Office as a Transfer and Mapping Deputy before becoming an Accounts Payable and Receivable Deputy.

In 1991, Mills was appointed Chief Deputy Auditor under

County Auditor Jon Ogle. She then became County Auditor in 2001, serving two terms. In 2009, Robin was once again appointed Chief Deputy Auditor under County Auditor Dawn Coverdale and was re-elected Hamilton County Auditor in 2017 and again in 2021.

Throughout her 24-year tenure in the Auditor's Office, the county has been recognized by the Government Finance Officers Association with its "Excellence in Financial Reporting" every year. In addition,

Mills has achieved significant milestones, enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the office. Her commitment to transparency and the implementation of robust internal controls have set new standards. She has modernized the office by transitioning all records from paper to electronic files, bringing the office into the 21st century.

You can read what several people in the Auditor's Office think about their time working with Mills on Pages A6 and A7 in today's edition.

The Grinch meets the Hope Dealer

What happens when the Grinch meets up with the Hope Dealer? It begins to feel a lot like Thanksgiving.

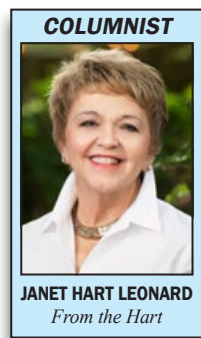
I took a walk around downtown on Monday. It was a bleak November day.

When looking up the definition of bleak, it said *cold and barren*.

Let's just say I was feeling both bleak and weary. I was in a funk between what felt like a 32-hour day after we fell back with time and the other thing happening this week. The loud voices and the chaos had gotten to me. Have I told you I hate bickering?

I needed to walk. Taylor Swift may *shake it off*, but I walk it off.

I got an idea somewhere between North Elementary School and Noble Coffee. My heart needed to begin the Power of Five for November.



JANET HART LEONARD
From the Hart

See Dealer . . . Page A2

Hamilton County Veterans Corp. makes \$1K donation to help vets displaced by fire

Submitted by HCVC

On Saturday, Oct. 26, the Helping Veterans and Families (HVAF) facility located in the 900 block of North Pennsylvania Street in Indianapolis suffered catastrophic damage after a fire broke out in the building. At this location, HVAF provides housing for more than 50 homeless veterans, as well as operating a clothing and food pantry for veterans in need.

The Hamilton County Veterans Corporation (HCVC), founded in 2002, began assisting HVAF of Indiana in 2012 and has been a strong and active supporter of HVAF for over 10 years. This includes collecting various spring/winter coat/hat and mittens as well as clothing (socks, T-shirts, and undergarments) drives. HCVC has also held annual blanket and bike drives for veterans and their families.

Recognizing HVAF's urgent need for assistance after the fire, HCVC's officers and



Photo provided

Hamilton County Veterans Corporation President Ron Williamson presents a \$1,000 check to HVAF Community Engagement Coordinator Andrea Carlile.

members immediately stepped up to make a \$1,000 donation to help with the costs of finding temporary housing, food, and clothing for these displaced vets.

HVAF of Indiana is committed to helping all veterans and/or their families suffering

from homelessness, unemployment, and psychological issues. This tremendous organization, and those they serve, now more than ever need their community's help to recover from this devastating fire.

HCVC urges you, if possi-

ble, to please visit HVAFofIndiana.org to find out how you can make a monetary donation or donate food, clothing, and furniture. You are also encouraged to visit the HVAF of Indiana's Amazon wish list at tinyurl.com/AmazonHVAF and help as you can.



Reporter photo by Amy Adams

Kelsey Burrous as Thing 1 and Usko as Thing 2 are ready to welcome guests to the Green Eggs & Ham Party on Nov. 16.

Green Eggs & Ham, not just for Sam I Am

By AMY ADAMS

news@readthereporter.com

Come one, come all, you'll have a ball at Westfield High School this very fall. Horton, Lorax, and Gertrude McFuzz will all be there ... it's creating a buzz! So dress up, show up, speak in rhyme, Eat snacks, take photos, have a good time.

To get your tickets, read to the end, Then share this story with all of your friends.

In plain English, the Westfield Theatre & Choir Boosters Association is hosting a Green Eggs & Ham Party in honor of this month's WHS production of *Seussical the Musical*. The Boosters invite kids throughout

See Green . . . Page A3

You're one happy thought away from buying tickets

The REPORTER

Carmel Community Players will soon stage a wildly theatrical adaptation of Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson's best-selling novel, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, a tale which upends the century-old story of how a miserable orphan comes to be The Boy Who Would Not Grow Up (a.k.a. Peter Pan).

The play opens this Friday evening, Nov. 15, at 7:30 p.m. at The Cat, 254 Veterans Way, Carmel. See the full schedule at right.

Buy your tickets online at tinyurl.com/CCPstarcatcher.

Synopsis

Two ships. Two missions. Two identical trunks.

Join Lord Aster and his precocious daughter Molly as they set sail on a secret mission for the Queen of England.

They must destroy a trunk filled with a

Show Dates & Times

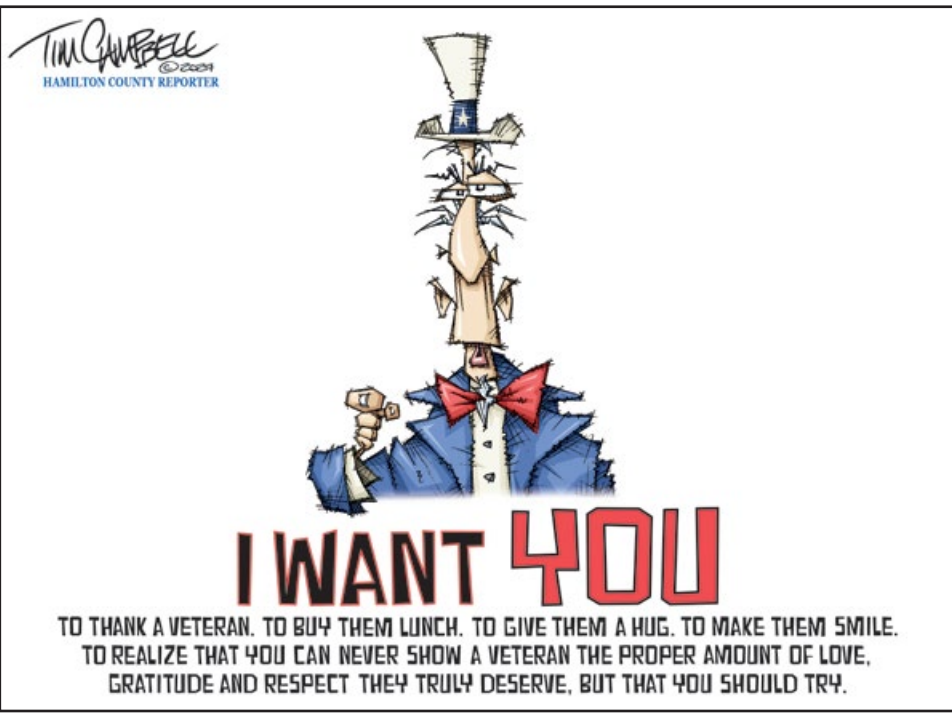
Friday, Nov. 15 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 16 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 17 at 2:30 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 21 at 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 23 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 24 at 2:30 p.m.

mysterious substance. While her father journeys with the real treasure on a swift ship, The Wasp, Molly and a decoy trunk are placed on a slower, safer ship, The Neverland.

Discovering the trunks have been switched, everyone wants their hands on its precious cargo. Molly equips a group of orphan boys to help fulfill the mission, while grappling with gangs of pirates, tropical kings, a hungry crocodile, and the existential crisis of growing up.



Photo provided



Westfield Library is beginning to look a lot like Christmas

By AMY ADAMS
news@readthereporter.com

A row of beautifully decorated Christmas trees lines the large wall of windows in the atrium of Westfield Washington Public Library.

The Westfield Library Foundation unveiled the trees Saturday, Nov. 2, as part of the launch of its annual Christmas Tree Raffle.

Executive Director Erin Downey, who has a background in interior design, has been decorating trees for the raffle every year since she began the foundation six years ago.

“One of the things I thought I could do that would merge my worlds was a Christmas tree raffle,” Downey said. “It’s just grown from there.”

For one, the new library building at 17400 Westfield Blvd., which opened in May 2024, allows space to display more trees than the previous building on Hoover St. The number of Christmas trees offered in the raffle has doubled from last year.

Six trees, which seems



Photo provided by Erin Downey

Six decorated trees were recently unveiled at WWPL for the annual Westfield Library Foundation’s Christmas Tree Raffle.

appropriate for the sixth year of the fundraising raffle, are each designed and executed by Downey and her business partner Angie Bratton who have started A & E Christmas Tree Designs. Sponsored by local businesses or organizations, the trees range from more traditional to a Taylor

Swift-themed creation. Sponsored by Grand Maple Dental Care, the white-flocked “Taylor Swift’s Christmas Era” tree boasts pink disco balls and blue sparkly cowgirl boots. Medallion Partners sponsored

See Library... Page A3

DEALER

from Page A1

I was already several days behind, so I had some catching up to do. Each day in November, I would name five things for which I was thankful.

My five things would not be my usual friends, family, faith, etc. They would be more specific and less typical of my usual Gratitude List.

As I walked by the school, I heard laughter. I thanked God for the children’s giggles and prayed that each child would find the friends they needed. I caught a glimpse of several teachers doing their recess duty and prayed that they would recognize each child’s needs and feel their community’s support. I then named five teachers who had made a difference in my growing-up years: Mr. Purvis, Mrs. Swank, Mrs. Jacobi, Mr. Harber, and Mr. Fleming. They taught me the joy of learning.

Walking by the old Dorman house, I thanked God for old friends who still hug my heart. These are the ones I hung out with at First Ward and North Elementary. I am still friends with Kathy Kreag Williams, Susan Zinn Crandall, Janis Gilkey Dunham, Phil Moore, and Zonica Nosler Brown. A 60-year friendship is a rare treasure. We indeed are friends ... ‘til death do we part. By the way, certain houses will always be where someone lived when I was growing up. Did you know the janitor rang the bell at First Ward with an actual rope to announce it was time for school? Yes, I’m THAT old.

Walking by Noble Coffee, I smelled the aroma of beans roasting. I am so thankful for the gift of smell and taste. Coffee, for me, is a cup of pure, caffeinated joy. Delighting in a cup of coffee while chatting with a friend is one of my favorite



Photo provided

things. Delight is one of my favorite words. You know how I love words.

Speaking of words. I have a list of words I love. Here are five:

Embrace – a close and long-held hug.

Linger – to be slow in parting.

Bask – to lie in a warm atmosphere.

Ponder – to reflect in a quiet, sober and profound way.

Saunter – to walk in a leisurely manner.

As I write these words, I realize they reflect how my walk became a Gratitude Walk that day. And you know what? It changed my focus. It took me out of my funk.

Before I started home, I stopped at my favorite antique shop, The Annex/Thistle and Thyme. What to my wandering eyes should appear but ... THE GRINCH.

I asked for a picture to be taken with him. He obliged. He was such a delight! Talk about perfect timing. You see, I was wearing a sweatshirt that said HOPE DEALER.

This struggling Hope Dealer had met up with The Grinch! A divine appointment!

I was excited to get home and have my fingertips tapping away on my keyboard. You see, I was no

longer in a sleep-deprived, anxious about the “you-know-what” state of mind, a.k.a. funk. I had shifted my focus to my Thanksgiving Power of Five.

I wasn’t just naming things I was grateful for; I was feeling them. Gratitude is both the state of my heart as well as my mind.

I will encounter many Grinches who create chaos and muffle the things that bring me joy: laughter, the sweetness of a cup of coffee while chatting with a friend, and sweet words that dance on my laptop as I type. Yes, I dance with words. I embrace words while I ponder and write the thoughts I bring to you, my sweet, faithful readers.

A few well-needed naps and walks have been taken this week. As I finish this column on a beautiful day in my neighborhood, my heart is full of gratitude. It is beginning to look a lot like Thanksgiving, but more importantly ... it’s beginning to feel a lot like Thanksgiving.

Finding five things to be grateful for every day is so powerful. They sure fight off those Grinches.

Janet Hart Leonard can be contacted at janethartleonard@gmail.com or followed on Facebook or Instagram (@janethartleonard). Visit janethartleonard.com.

Noblesville’s Sam Abbott sells \$24K of lemonade to fight food insecurity



Photo provided by Noblesville Schools

Shout out to Hinkle Creek Elementary fifth grader Sam Abbott, who raised \$24,030 at his annual lemonade stand to fight food insecurity. He presented the funds to Kristina Trusty, Hinkle Creek teacher and founder of Fueled for School, at the Oct. 29 school board meeting. Great work, Sam!

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Photos provided by HCSO

He may not be Commissioner Gordon, but Hamilton County Sheriff Dennis Quakenbush (left) apparently knows where the Bat-Signal is stored.

Even Batman showed up to support 2024 Heroes Run

Submitted by HCSO

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) Community Foundation held its fourth annual Heroes Run on Nov. 2 at Strawtown Koteewi Park.

The race involved a 5K, one-mile family stroll, and a virtual opportunity. This year's race honored Emergency Medical Services. The event was a tremendous success!

Three hundred and thirty brave men, women and children registered for the race. Their ages

ranged from 2 to 85. Additionally, many participants brought their super cute canine companions to walk in support of the cause. The courageous group embraced the great outdoors and showcased the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

Special thanks to Hamilton County Parks & Recreation, the White River Township Fire Department, Riverview Health, Ascension St. Vincent Hospital, and the HCSO Citizens Academy Alumni Association

for graciously supporting the event.

The HCSO Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization which creates opportunities for the community and law enforcement to support each other. The funds generated help reach the following goals throughout the year:

- Provide financial aid and help for those in need in the community, particularly children.
- Support hard-working employees at the Sheriff's Office.

• Build stronger relationships between deputies, correctional officers and staff with all members of the community.

Thank you to everyone who signed up for the race. You are a HERO! Please save next year's tentative race date of Nov. 1, 2025. In the meantime, check out HCSO's Facebook page and go to [hcsogivesback.org](https://www.facebook.com/hcsogivesback.org) for upcoming exciting events.

Lace up those shoes and we'll see you at the park ... especially Strawtown Koteewi Park!

Amy Brown named Indiana P.E. Teacher of the Year



Photo provided by Noblesville Schools

Congratulations to Noble Crossing's Amy Brown on being named the Indiana Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year. She joins an elite group of several Noblesville Schools employees who have been recognized at the state and/or national level in recent years for their outstanding professional accomplishments. She was honored by the Indiana Society of Health and Physical Educators and will be a presenter at their next state conference.

Surveillance video captures Indiana State Police raid in Town of Atlanta

By TIM SPEARS
WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](https://www.wishtv.com)

Newly obtained surveillance video captures the Indiana State Police raid focused on a small-town official.

On Oct. 2, Indiana State Police, with Hamilton County prosecutors at the scene, searched the home of Atlanta Utility Superintendent and Building Commissioner Andy Emmert, as well as the Atlanta Town Hall.

There are no formal charges filed against Emmert.

I-Team 8 obtained security camera footage of the Town Hall raid. It includes two angles outside the building, from 9 a.m. to noon. The video shows officers talking to Emmert and handing over documents that he reviews. I-Team 8 requested copies of the search warrants executed that day, to learn what investigators were searching for, but those warrants last Wednesday remained under seal.

While the footage shows state troopers going in and out of the Atlanta Town Hall, Indiana State Police does not cart off large boxes, file cabinets, or any stacks

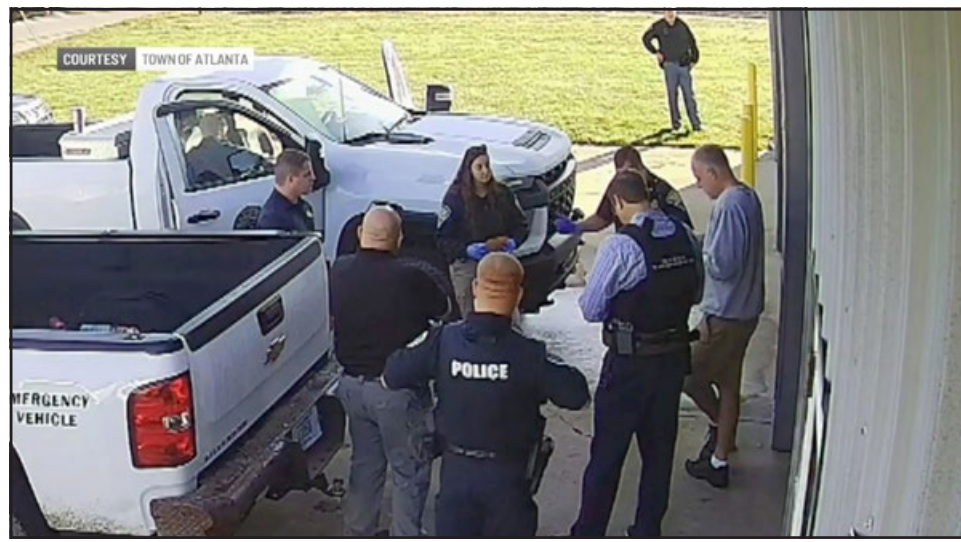


Photo capture provided by Atlanta Town Government

On Oct. 2, Indiana State Police and Hamilton County prosecutors searched the home of Atlanta Utility Superintendent and Building Commissioner Andy Emmert, as well as the Atlanta Town Hall and the Street Department.

of documents. The video shows Emmert spends most of the time during the raid on his phone, often taking calls inside a truck owned by the town government.

I-Team 8 requested call logs and texts on any government-issued cellphone that Emmert used on Oct. 2. The town's attorney said the town government never issued a phone to Emmert.

In the video, around 11 a.m., authorities hand Emmert another set of documents.

About 40 minutes later, an additional Indiana State Police cruiser arrives, picks up Emmert, and drives off.

Investigators also searched Emmert's home that day, hauling off a pair of cars.

Atlanta officials say it's their understanding the town government is not the target of the investigation, though authorities have not revealed the purpose of the search.

The Atlanta Town Council unanimously voted to place Emmert on paid leave

while the investigation unfolds. Staff from the nearby Hamilton County town of Arcadia are performing Emmert's duties, which includes running the community's water and sewer plants.

Atlanta, a town of about 750 people, is located north of Indianapolis on the border of Hamilton County and Tipton County.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at [wishtv.com/news/indiana-state-police-raid-atlanta-town-hall](https://www.wishtv.com/news/indiana-state-police-raid-atlanta-town-hall).

Westfield's DORA plan receives state approval

The REPORTER

The Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission (ATC) has officially approved the establishment of a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) for downtown Westfield, an initiative to enhance community engagement and be an economic driver for restaurants and businesses.

"We are excited that we've received DORA approval for downtown Westfield," Mayor Scott Willis said. "This initiative will foster a sense of community downtown and showcase our local establishments. It's a win-win for our residents and businesses by creating a unique outdoor experience."

The Downtown Westfield DORA, approved by the City Council earlier this year as Ordinance 24-34, will officially be implemented in mid-January 2025. There are several steps that the city will take, including a marketing campaign promoting safe and responsible consumption, installation of boundary signage, and working with approved designated permittees for proper signage.

As part of the approved ordinance, several regulations will be put in place, which include:

- The Downtown Westfield DORA is in effect Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, Monday through Thursday from noon to 10 p.m. and Friday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

- Only specific plastic cups with the DORA logo are permitted to be used for DORA beverages.

- A maximum of two beverages can be served at a time.

- DORA beverages are allowed only within the DORA boundaries.

- Exit signage is placed at the boundaries of the DORA, and DORA beverages are not permitted outside of these exit points.

- DORA containers must be disposed of before entering another bar or restaurant, including those that are Designated Permittees and those businesses displaying a "DORA beverages are not permitted" decal in the window.

For more information on the downtown Westfield DORA, visit [westfield.in.gov/DORA](https://www.westfield.in.gov/DORA).

LIBRARY

from Page A2

"A Vintage Christmas" tree with deep burgundy and gold ornaments and ribbon. Moyer Fine Jewelers sponsored the "Diamonds and Pearls" tree, which is trimmed in shimmering gold and silver. "Letters to Santa," sponsored by the Dean Ballenger Agency, shows off its traditional red and green. The City of Westfield sponsored "The Patriotic Nutcracker" tree, which features wooden nutcrackers of police, firefighters, and members of the armed services. Finally, "The Polar Express" tree, sponsored by The Farmers Bank, is filled with trains, clocks, tickets, and a traditional popcorn and cranberry garland.

In addition to opening ticket sales for the raffle on Nov. 2, the Westfield Library Foundation, along with The Farmers Bank, hosted its first-ever raffle kickoff event. More than 100 library patrons enjoyed activities including a Polar Express-themed photo booth as well as story times with Jack Russell, OneZone Chamber president and CEO and WLF vice president, dressed as the Polar Express conductor. Jeff

Loeser, of Deliberate Deceptions, performed magic, and Foodies Rock from Westfield High School provided Christmas cookies.

Raffle tickets go for \$10 apiece and can be purchased at the WWPL front desk and dropped into the boxes for the various trees. Additionally, tickets for each tree are available online at [WestfieldLibraryFoundation.com](https://www.westfieldlibraryfoundation.com) under Christmas Tree Raffle.

"We use the funds for special programming and other library needs," Downey said. "If there's a program the library wants to do that they don't have a sponsor or the funds for, we will fund that."

Among other programs, the raffle money helps add to the Spanish collection, fund the English Language Learners program, and continue to expand offerings in the Annie Gotwald Makerspace and STEM Lab.

The raffle ends Dec. 1, and winners will be pulled at noon on Dec. 2 on Facebook Live. Trees will then be shrink-wrapped for pickup by their proud new owners.

GREEN

the community to come to the high school on Saturday, Nov. 16, from 10 a.m. to noon or from 2 to 4 p.m. for food and fun with the beloved characters from Dr. Seuss' classics like *The Cat in the Hat* and *Horton Hears a Who*.

Whether or not guests are brave enough to try green eggs and ham, which will be available, they can enjoy kid-friendly foods like Hop on Pop Corn, Wedgies of Veggies, and a variety of sweet treats. Kids will also have the opportunity to create a Seuss-inspired hat or crown and play games like Pin the Bow Tie on the Cat.

Amidst whimsical tablescapes and fanciful backdrops, costumed cast members from the upcoming musical will be on hand to help with activities.

The main characters will be reading stories, singing songs, posing for photos, and signing autographs. Families will even be able to purchase copies of *Green Eggs and Ham* as a keepsake to collect signatures or there will be coloring pages available for autographs, as well. Every guest will go home with a treat bag to remember the celebration.

Tickets to the Green Eggs & Ham parties are \$15 per child and will serve as a fundraiser, with an emphasis on FUN, for the WHS theater and choir programs.

Also catch the *Cat in the Hat*, *Horton*, and all their friends in *Seussical the Musical* at WHS on Nov. 21 and 22 at 7 p.m. and Nov. 23 at 2 and 7 p.m. For tickets to the pre-party and the show, visit [WestfieldTheatreChoir.com](https://www.westfieldtheatrechoir.com).



Reporter photo by Amy Adams

Characters like Horton, Gabe Smith, and the Cat in the Hat, Sophia Musick, will be on hand at the Green Eggs & Ham Party to read stories, sing songs, pose for photos, and sign autographs.

Thanks for reading!



Graphic provided by Westfield Washington Schools

Westfield community invited to free Thanksgiving meal

The REPORTER

Westfield Washington Schools invites everyone to Rocksgiving, which will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 25 at Westfield High School, 18250 N. Union St.

Rocksgiving is a special free community meal, consisting of a traditional Thanksgiving menu of turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, green beans, a roll, and pumpkin pie. This meal is open to everyone, and the hope is to bring the entire Westfield community together.

However, this event is more than a meal – it's an opportunity to build community, share conversation, and foster connections. All families are welcomed to sit around the table and enjoy hot food, conversation, and care.

Rocksgiving is made possible by the generosity of the Duke Energy Foundation, Coca-Cola, Riverview Health, Texas Roadhouse, BMW Dreyer & Reinbold, Northview Church, and Westfield Washington Schools.

If you'd like to volunteer, go to tinyurl.com/bp7nyhye.

Noblesville Revolutionary War patriot to be honored

The REPORTER

Horseshoe Prairie Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), will commemorate the life and patriotic service of Eli Coverdale with a program and plaque at the Bethel Church Cemetery at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16. The cemetery is located east of Noblesville at the intersection of Boden Road and State Road 38.

The public is invited to the commemoration at the cemetery, as well as the re-

ception at Hamilton East Public Library immediately following the event.

Eli Coverdale served his country in the Revolutionary War at age 15. Born in Sussex, Del., he would later become a resident of Hamilton County. He died of burns having fought a brush fire on his farm in Wayne Township when he was over 96 years old. Several of Coverdale's descendants still live in the area.

About NSDAR

The National Society



Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is a women's service organization whose members can trace their lineage to an individual who contributed to securing American independence during the Revolutionary War. Today's DAR is dy-

amic and diverse, serving the community through service, education, and historical preservation.

If you are interested in learning more about DAR membership, visit dar.org or contact Shirley Hunter Smith at shirley1776@yahoo.com.

Duke Energy Foundation provides \$5,500 grant to Hamilton County Veterans Corp

The REPORTER

The Duke Energy Foundation has awarded \$73,000 in grants to 13 Indiana organizations and initiatives focused on supporting Hoosier military veterans and active-duty service members.

The grants support a wide range of veteran-serving organizations across the state, including those working to provide civilian career pathways, transitional housing, and health care services for those who've served in America's armed forces.

Locally, the Hamil-



ton County Veterans Corp (HCVC) received \$5,500 to send care packages to troops, as well as assist the veteran community with home, medical, education, and clothing needs.

Learn more about HCVC at hamiltoncountyveterans.com.

"Our veterans have sacrificed and done their duty, and we should all be there when they need us most," Duke Energy Indiana President Stan Pinegar said. "As we look ahead to Veterans Day, we're proud to extend our support to organizations across Indiana that are de-

living care and services to those who've answered the call to serve."

Learn more about the ways Duke Energy supports transitioning service members and veterans at duke-energy.com/our-company/careers/military-programs.

NOBLESVILLE SCHOOLS

Board Highlights

Oct. 29, 2024 Meeting

Submitted by Noblesville Schools

The school board has responsibility for major district functions including school district governance and oversight, setting school policies, approving funding, strategic planning, and hiring and evaluating the superintendent.

- Noblesville West Middle School golf, football, volleyball and cross country students were recognized by the board for their Hamilton County championships.
- Hinkle Creek Elementary presented on a variety of clubs they offer including robotics, running, and announcements. Their Cougar Choir performed, and student Sam Abbott was highlighted for his \$24,000 lemonade stand donation to Fueled for School.
- An updated contract for the superintendent was approved.
- Noblesville High School courses were approved as part of a new partnership with Indiana University Kokomo.
- The 2025 budget was adopted.
- The district's new strategic plan was approved.

Go to noblesvilleschools.org/leadership/school-board for meeting agendas, minutes, videos, and more.

AG Rokita puts labor traffickers, hospitals & disciplinary commission on notice

The REPORTER

Last Thursday, Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita invited representatives from several media outlets to his office to talk about his office's priorities for the next four years. The three main areas he outlined were labor trafficking, healthcare costs, and integrity of the legal profession.

AG Rokita won his election with more votes than any other state office candidate, and at press time the totals show him within a small margin of the number of votes cast for U.S. Senator-elect Jim Banks. This newspaper finds that notable in part because Rokita did not run negative campaign ads.

"The voters rejected the division that my opponent tried to produce, and they appreciated a positive campaign," Rokita said. "I didn't run one negative ad. We talked about what this office did, and what we're going to do for Hoosier, and I think that really resonated. I'd like to thank the people of the state, voters and taxpayers of the state, for everything that they've done, and their trust and confidence."

Labor trafficking

AG Rokita said he will be investigating "labor trafficking" in Indiana.

The AG's office has issued several Civil Investigative Demands (CIDs) to businesses and nonprofit organizations in Evansville, Logansport, and Seymour.

"Those are like subpoenas, they have to be answered under oath and under law," Rokita said. "What we suspect is that businesses, in conjunction with non-profit entities, are incentivizing – acting like magnets – for these illegal aliens as they come over the border to place them in low-paying

work or otherwise engaged in labor trafficking. So we suspect the questions we ask and other initiatives we may have to take based on the answers to those questions will determine if that's the case."

According to AG Rokita, even if the current administration is misapplying or misinterpreting federal immigration law, that does not make illegal immigrants into legal ones.

"They are still illegal aliens who cross the border illegally," Rokita said. "I look forward to working with President Trump to make that stop or even send them back to their home countries."

Healthcare costs

AG Rokita said he is looking forward to working with Governor-elect Mike Braun on addressing the increase in healthcare costs across Indiana.

"It's getting out of hand," Rokita said. "Recently, the General Assembly, another client of mine, have given this office the authority to inspect – to review hospitals. We've already started on that because when you combine hospitals, the danger is that you get some antitrust or monopolistic behavior. And what this office does is enforce Indiana's antitrust law. I can already see that we're going to need to look at broadening that antitrust – that monopolistic enforcement authority – that we have and build on it."

The AG's office is also looking into whether or not the healthcare provider for state employees is providing service in the most efficient and affordable way possible, especially since those costs



Rokita

are paid by Hoosier taxpayers.

"I haven't been able to get that data from our own state government – from my own client – from this current administration," Rokita said. "I would hope and expect, if our governor-elect really wants to focus on healthcare, and knowing that the state of Indiana, being one of the largest employers in the state and nation, we should be able to see our own healthcare numbers and I should be able to help determine if we're getting a good deal or not."

Integrity for the legal profession

Another area AG Rokita said he would focus on is integrity for the legal profession.

"Nine out of 51 former Indiana governors were attorneys," Rokita said. "Fifteen percent of the General Assembly are lawyers. Ninety-one prosecutors around the state. We also have judges around the state – hundreds of them. And we have seen tremendous weaponization and lawfare being practiced out of the Attorney Disciplinary Commission and a similar commission that exists for judges, all run by the same staff. They meet in secret. They're not accountable to anybody."

Rokita has faced complaints from the Attorney Disciplinary Commission during his first term in office, which he says were filed by political opponents on that commission.

"One who filed three [complaints] literally got Democrat Activist of the Year, an award bestowed upon him in 2018, before I even became Attorney Gen-

eral," Rokita said. "Do you think he's got some bias in this? Yes, of course. And I want to ensure that Indiana's legal professionals are safeguarded against these frivolous, politically driven complaints. So look for something in my second term to address some of those. Again, not necessarily for me or just for me, but we need to set a high standard."

Rokita said he will take action to help ensure lawyers, when representing clients, and judges, when administering cases, are free to speak about political and controversial issues without potential repercussions.

"I was hindered from doing that in my first term because of a lawfare going on at the Indiana Disciplinary Commission," Rokita said. "The chairman, while he was investigating me, literally endorsed my opponent, and the press never picked up on it. The chair of the Disciplinary Commission endorsed my opponent while he's investigating me."

Rokita also took a moment to thank voters and his staff.

"The people of this state in record number had the confidence in me to represent them again," Rokita said. "So I thank them again, I thank them for that. I thank them for that vote of confidence and for putting me in office again. I want to thank the staff of this office. They're amazing people. We are 400 in number with 200 attorneys. By several measures we are the state's largest law firm. We are the most diverse law firm in terms of the issues that we're able to tackle. The staff and the leadership office has done a great job in the last four years, and I look forward to just the same kind of thing in the next four years."

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Holiday season starts Dec. 7 in downtown Westfield

Submitted by City of Westfield

Westfield in Lights, presented by the Downtown Westfield Association, returns to Grand Junction Plaza, 225 S. Union St., from 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7. The event features outdoor activities, carnival games with winter themes, food vendors, retail merchants, and live entertainment.

“Westfield in Lights is one of our premier community events,” Mayor Scott Willis said. “I may be biased as I love the holidays, but seeing so many families make this an annual tradition is incredible.”

A complete list of events is below.

Westfield in Lights

Many activities will take place at Grand Junction Plaza, including free winter-themed games, food vendors, retail merchants, live llamas, and visits from Frosty the Snowman and Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer.

The event culminates with the traditional Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration beginning at 5:50 p.m. on the main stage. Mayor Willis and special guests will officially light the tree at 6 p.m., which signifies the kickoff to the holiday season in Westfield.



Photo provided by City of Westfield

Something Splendid

Mrs. Claus will be at Something Splendid, 217 Mill St., during Westfield in Lights. Stop by for a picture and cookies while supplies last. No reservations are required.

Ice Ribbon at Grand Junction Plaza

The Ice Ribbon at Grand Junction Plaza will have two skate sessions during Westfield in Lights. Sessions are 45 minutes during Westfield in Lights and will begin at 3, 4:15, and 5:30 p.m.

Reservations are required; it is \$10 for ages 10 and under and \$12 for ages 11 and above. Skate rental

is included in the ticket cost. Reserve your tickets at theiceatgrandjunction.com.

Free shuttle & parking

Due to the popularity of Westfield in Lights, a free shuttle service will operate during the event. The Holiday Shuttle will pick up and drop off attendees at Christ United Methodist Church, 318 N. Union St., Westfield Intermediate School, 17710 Shamrock Blvd., and Grand Junction Plaza, 225 S. Union St., from 3 to 7 p.m.

Public parking for the event is also available in the parking lot at the southwest corner of Poplar and Park streets. Mill Street

will be closed between Park and Jersey streets beginning at noon.

Letters to Santa

A Letters to Santa mailbox will be available with direct service to the North Pole at Grand Junction Plaza, 225 S. Union St., from Nov. 29 to Dec. 15. Mailboxes are also located outside Westfield City Services, 2728 E. 171st St., Westfield Fire Department Headquarters/Station 81, 16901 Ditch Road, and the Westfield Washington Public Library, 17400 Westfield Blvd.

Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope so Santa can reply promptly.

Sheridan First Christian's Noodle Dinner & Cookie Bazaar returns to dine-in

The REPORTER

Sheridan First Christian Church will soon welcome the community to its annual Noodle Dinner & Cookie Bazaar from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16.

For the first time since the pandemic, this cherished event will return to its original indoor setting, hosted in the church's recently-refreshed ADA accessible basement at 107 W. Third St., Sheridan. Guests can enjoy a delicious home-cooked meal with both dine-in and take-out options available.

This year's menu includes hearty servings of chicken and noodles or beef and noodles, green beans, creamy mashed potatoes, freshly baked yeast

rolls, and a dessert. This is a freewill offering. The Cookie Bazaar will offer cookies for purchase by the pound, priced at \$6 per pound. Cash, Visa, Mastercard, American Express, and Discover are accepted for payment.

In addition to the meal, Sheridan First Christian Church will collect donations of bras, cell phones, eyeglasses, hearing aids, and shoes to support community needs.

Sheridan First Christian Church looks forward to this festive gathering and the chance to bring neighbors together once more in person. All are invited to come for an evening of warm hospitality and support for community efforts.

Christmas nostalgia coming to Fortville's Piney Acres

The REPORTER

A new central Indiana holiday attraction has rolled into the fir-scented fields of Piney Acres Christmas Tree Farm, 1115 E. County Road 1000 North, Fortville.

Young and old alike will love the new addition, Glimmer Lights presented by Gateway Hancock Health, with hints of a beloved classic featuring a magical 20-minute train ride to the North Pole. Guests will board the Piney Acres Express with a cup of signature hot cocoa and a freshly made holiday cookie as they travel into a shimmering wonderland of twinkling light displays nestled on the 73-acre Hancock County Christmas tree farm. It's sure to become a beloved family tradition.

“I like to create, share joy, and make people happy,” Piney Acres Farm Owner Rex Zenor said. “When I hear a train, it takes me back to my child-

hood, when we piled in my mom's 1961 Mercury Comet and drove around to look at Christmas lights. They were nothing like they are today, but I thought they were the coolest, and they made us so happy. For me, the farm is all about creating memories for families. I always thought having my own train would be the cat's meow! I'm living my childhood dreams and getting to share it with our guests and that's so very neat!”

Glimmer Lights is a timed ticketed event and runs through Jan. 4, 2025, on Thursday through Sunday evenings. Also, Santa will be in his Piney Acres Cabin on select evenings ready for a visit with families. The trackless train seats both adults and children.

More information can be found at PineyAcres-Farm.com/events and tickets can be found at tinyurl.com/GlimmerLights2024.

The Grinch is coming back to Fishers

The REPORTER

Sign up for this unique character experience, filled with games, crafts, cookie decorating, and more at the Historic Ambassador House. Choose a time (first-come, first-served) slot on one of the following days:

- Saturday, Dec. 7
- Sunday, Dec. 8

- Saturday, Dec. 14
 - Sunday, Dec. 15
- Register at playfishers.com/583/Cookies-with-Characters.

Registered guests will enjoy decorating cookies, a visit from the Grinch and Cindy Lou Who, and other Whoville fun and games. All parents and children,

regardless of age, must be registered to attend. Children aged 2 and under are free to attend with registration. No walk-ups will be permitted. Registration is non-transferrable to other available dates, times, or individuals.

Fishers residents are \$15 per person, and non-resi-

dents are \$22.50 per person.

The following time slots will be available each day on a first-come, first-served basis:

- 11 to 11:30 a.m.
- 11:30 a.m. to noon
- Noon to 12:30 p.m.
- 12:30 to 1 p.m.
- 1 to 1:30 p.m.
- 1:30 to 2 p.m.
- 2 to 2:30 p.m.

Spend your winter break with Fishers Parks

The REPORTER

Registration is now open for Fishers Park's 2024 Winter Break Camp offerings. The annual winter break camp offers drop-in camp days for a range of ages and follows Hamilton Southeastern Schools' district calendar.

Tech 2 Rec Camp

Tech 2 Rec Camp is all about the blend of robotics and STEM learning with outdoor recreation and traditional day camp activities. The first half of each day will be programmed for STEM projects and activities with a heavy focus on robotics, modeled after the sold-out Robotics Summer

Camp. After lunch, campers will take part in “traditional” camp activities like games, outdoor exploration, arts and crafts, music, and more.

This camp runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily at the Fishers Parks HQ and Maker Playground facility, 8100 E. 106th St., Fishers. Choose the dates you need, or come to all of the following camp days:

- Monday, Dec. 23
- Thursday, Dec. 26
- Friday, Dec. 27
- Monday, Dec. 30
- Tuesday, Dec. 31
- Thursday, Jan. 2
- Friday, Jan. 3

Camp will not be held

on the following dates: Dec. 24, Dec. 25, and Jan. 1.

Register at playfishers.com/750/Winter-Break-Camp.

Holland Park

Modeled after the popular full- and half-day traditional summer camp experiences in the city's parks, Winter Break Camp at Holland Park gives campers a well-rounded camp experience, filled with a wide variety of activities.

Even though the temperatures are colder, campers will spend time outside each day exploring the park, utilizing the playground, etc. When indoors, campers will work alongside their

peers to create arts and crafts projects, play sports and games, participate in music and dance activities, and make new friends.

This camp runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily at Roy G. Holland Memorial Park, 1 Park Drive. Choose the dates you need, or come to all of the following camp days:

- Monday, Dec. 23
- Thursday, Dec. 26
- Friday, Dec. 27
- Monday, Dec. 30
- Tuesday, Dec. 31
- Thursday, Jan. 2
- Friday, Jan. 3

Register at playfishers.com/750/Winter-Break-Camp.

Carmel Christkindlmarkt announces special events, entertainers & German artisans

The REPORTER

The Carmel Christkindlmarkt staff has announced the lineup of special events, entertainment acts, visiting German artisans, and general Market hours for the 2024 season.

The Market will be open from Nov. 23 through Christmas Eve. General Market hours for 2024 will be as follows:

- Monday & Tuesday: Closed
 - Wednesday & Thursday: Open 4 to 9 p.m.
 - Friday & Saturday: Open noon to 9 p.m.
- Additionally, the Market will be open for special holiday hours:
- Wednesday, Nov. 27: Open noon to 9 p.m.
 - CLOSED Thursday, Nov. 28 for Thanksgiving
 - Monday & Tuesday, Dec. 16 & 17: Open 4 to 9 p.m.
 - Monday, Dec. 23: Open 12 to 9 p.m.
 - Christmas Eve: noon to 4 p.m.
 - CLOSED for Christmas

Special events for the 2024 season will include some old favorites as well as several new offerings:

- Wundernacht – Nov. 20, 6 to 9 p.m.
- Opening Ceremony – Nov. 23, 11 a.m. to noon
- Sankt Martinstag – Nov. 30, 7 to 8 p.m.
- Indianapolis Colts Fest – Dec. 1, noon to 8 p.m.
- Christkind ChoralFest – Dec. 4, 4:30 to 9 p.m.
- Sankt Nikolaustag – Dec. 6, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- KulturFest – Dec. 7, 12:30 to 3 p.m.
- German Sing-Along and Ornament Exchange – Dec. 11, 7:30 to 9 p.m.
- StudentenFest – Dec. 13, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Glühwein Gallop 5K Walk/Run – Dec. 14, 9 to 11 a.m.
- Military Appreciation Day – Dec. 15, noon to 8 p.m.
- Carmel Christkindlmarkt Bier Competition – Dec. 20, 5 to 6 p.m.

To learn more about all of these special events, please visit CarmelChristkindlmarkt.com/activities/events.

The Market will feature more than a hundred entertainment acts throughout the season as well, including the following:

- Jay Fox & Jammin Germans (Fort Wayne) – Polka – Nov. 23 & 30, Dec. 7
- Midwest Alphon Retreat (Michigan) – Traditional alphonns – Nov. 23 & 24
- Johnny Koenig (Pittsburgh & Philadelphia, Pa.) – Polka – Nov. 30, Dec. 1
- Jennie DeVoe (Indianapolis) – Soul/blues singer-songwriter – Nov. 29
- Duke Tumatoe & The Power Trio (Carmel) – Blues – Original guitarist for REO Speedwagon – Dec. 5, Dec. 20
- Matt Tolentino Trio (new this year) (Cincinnati, Ohio) – Polka – Dec. 5
- Alex Meixner Band (Texas) – Polka – Grammy-nominated musician & producer – Dec. 6 to 8
- Mollie B., Ted Lange, & The Squeezebox Band (Minnesota) – Polka – 2022

International Polka Association – International-Style Female Vocalist of the Year – Dec. 13 & 14

- Brasshaufen (new this year) – Polka / German & Czech brass band (St. Louis, Mo.) – Dec. 15
- Mike Schneider Band (Milwaukee, Wis.) – Polka (25-year touring polka band) – Dec. 21 & 22

For the full entertainment schedule, please visit CarmelChristkindlmarkt.com/activities/winter-pavilion.

Finally, the Market will also welcome German artisans back into the Werkstatt (Workshop) this year, including:

- **Ringo Müller – Nov. 23:** Ringo Müller is a fourth-generation woodturner from Carmel's Sister City, Seiffen, Saxony. Müller's Schwibbogen and Christmas pyramids from the Erzgebirge have been a staple in German households and abroad for over a century.

See Events . . . Page A8

Grace Care Center brings back Choice Christmas Store

Submitted by Grace Church

The Grace Care Center will soon bring back its annual Christmas Store, open this year from 1 to 5 p.m. Dec. 21 and 22, at 5504 E. 146th St., Noblesville.

This store is created to help local families find gifts during the holiday season. Last year, the Christmas Store provided over 10,000 gifts and served more than 1,000 families, and we're hoping to reach even more families this year.

How it works

The Christmas Store is different from other holiday donation initiatives. Instead of receiving pre-selected gifts, families “shop” for gifts at no cost. This allows parents to pick out items that are just right for their kids and teens, making the experience even more meaningful. Families can make reservations in advance and then come to browse through a variety of toys, clothes,

and household items, just like a regular store.

How the community can help

We rely on support from our community to make the Christmas Store happen, and there are a couple of easy ways to get involved:

1. Donate to “Purchase” Gifts: You can donate through our online store, where funds go directly toward a specific gift for the Christmas Store. Every donation helps make sure that there's a variety of items available for families to choose between.

2. Choose “Shop for Me”: If you want a quick and easy way to help, there is also a “Shop for Me” option. This is where you can choose a donation amount, and we'll use it to buy the most-needed items for the store. Every little bit helps keep the shelves stocked and the experience enjoyable for families.

For more information, visit gracechurch.us/christmasstore.

Get your shopping finished early at Westfield Band Boosters' Holiday Craft Show

The REPORTER

Mark your calendars and grab your tickets. The annual Westfield Band Boosters Holiday Craft Show is coming up Nov. 23.

Shop local for all of your holiday decor and gift needs, with over 160 local hand-crafting vendors. Start your day with a pancake breakfast, then make your way through the vendor hall and enjoy live music as you shop. Grab some sweet treats at the bake sale, and even get your gifts wrapped and ready for

giving before you leave.

The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 23 at Westfield High School, 18250 N. Union St. Enter through Doors 9 and 19.

There is a \$5 entry fee, but children aged 11 and under are free. You can buy at the door or online at westfield.band/holidaycraftshow.

- **VIP Early Entry Pass**
 - Includes 8 a.m. breakfast; 8:30 shopping
 - \$10 when purchased online in advance
 - \$15 at the door

Goodbye, tension . . . hello, pension!

Colleagues of County Auditor Robin Mills speak on her legacy of leadership, friendship & public service



Photo provided

By the Payroll Team

Robin embodies integrity, dedication, and compassion – not only as a dependable leader but a true source of inspiration for all fortunate enough to work alongside her. With calm confidence and genuine empathy, she instills trust and belief in her team, motivating us to reach for excellence. Her unwavering support has been a foundation for our growth, and her wisdom has guided many of us through challenges, inspiring resilience, and determination.

call you a mentor, boss, co-worker, and friend.

Words alone cannot capture how much she has meant to the Payroll Team; her dedication, support, and friendship will forever be remembered. We wish her all the best as she enters this new chapter: retirement.

REMARKABLE
OUTSTANDING
BRILLIANT
IMPRESSIVE
NOBLE

MARVELOUS
INTELLIGENT
LEVEL-HEADED
LOVELY
STRONG

Thank you, Robin, for your years of service, friendship, and believing in us – even when we doubted ourselves. You've left an indelible mark on Hamilton County and on each of us lucky enough to



Was Robin Mills surprised by her retirement party? The Reporter submits these three photos from last Saturday night at the Noblesville Eagles and leaves it to you to decide.

By Bonnie Schwemmin, Data Entry Lead

For the past 18 years, I have had the privilege of working in the Transfer and Mapping Department of Hamilton County, with much of that time spent under the leadership of Robin Mills, our Auditor. During her tenure, Robin has demonstrated an extraordinary ability to lead, innovate, and foster growth within her team. Her vision and dedication have not only transformed the department but have also set the stage for continued efficiency and cost savings for years to come.



Schwemmin

One of Robin's most significant contributions during her time as Auditor was securing approval from the Commissioners and County Council to completely overhaul the county's tax system. This was no small feat. The project required collaboration between multiple departments – specifically the Auditor, Treasurer, and Assessor's offices – all working together to design and implement specialized tax software that would streamline the handling of real property in the county.

The new tax system, which touched nearly every aspect of property management within Hamilton County, fundamentally changed how processes were carried out. By integrating the work of these key departments, the system has improved the accuracy and efficiency of tax-related tasks, leading to significant time and cost savings for the county. More importantly, this project has had a positive

financial impact on the taxpayers, ensuring that their money is used more efficiently. Robin's leadership was critical in making this large-scale transition possible. She placed great trust in her employees, giving us the confidence to take on new challenges and learn the intricacies of the new system. Her guidance and support created an environment where we could grow both professionally and personally. Robin understood the importance of investing in her team, ensuring that each of us had the skills and knowledge to navigate the changes brought by the new system.

Her commitment to fostering growth within the department is reflected in the high level of employee retention in the Transfer and Mapping Department. Many of us have remained in our roles for years, building a wealth of experience and expertise that will be invaluable to the next Auditor. This continuity ensures a smooth transition for the future, with a strong foundation of knowledgeable staff who can continue to build on the progress Robin has initiated.

As Robin Mills prepares to retire, her legacy is clear. She has not only improved the efficiency of the department and county but has also left behind a team of well-trained, dedicated employees ready to carry her work forward. Her leadership will be missed, but the impact she has made on Hamilton County will continue to be felt for years to come.

By Bart Griesenauer, GIS Lead

Robin Mills, the highly respected Hamilton County Auditor, is concluding a remarkable 44 1/2-year career of public service. Known simply as "Mills" around the courthouse, she began her journey in June 1980 with the Hamilton County Highway Department before transitioning to the Auditor's Office in 1988, where she would spend the remainder of her career.



Griesenauer

When she started, Hamilton County, Indiana, was still a predominantly rural community, with fewer than 95,000 parcels. Over the course of her tenure, the county has experienced tremendous growth, expanding to approximately 148,000 parcels today.

Mills played an instrumental role in guiding the county through this period of transformation, offering stability and leadership at every step.

Her leadership and influence, however, extend beyond numbers. A person of deep character, Mills has navigated personal and professional challenges with grace. A breast cancer survivor who also faced the unexpected loss of her husband, she has turned adversity into strength. "Speedbumps for Mills, mountains for others," just one example of how her resilience has been a source of inspiration to those around her.

As Auditor, Mills has maintained a reputation for her unwavering standards. Despite the pressure for quick fixes in a fast-paced office, she always ensured that problems were solved the right way, not just the easy way. This dedication to

integrity often required more effort and cooperation across multiple entities, but she stood firm in her belief that doing things correctly was paramount. Mills also fostered a culture of professional growth within the Auditor's Office. She consistently encouraged her colleagues to pursue education and development to better serve the citizens of Hamilton County. Her support extended beyond work hours; she was always available to listen and provide guidance. Her mentorship has had a lasting impact on many of her colleagues, who credit her for shaping their professional lives.

Her approach to leadership was marked by clear communication

and transparency. She established a structured, organized office where expectations were well-defined, and operational procedures were consistent. This clarity allowed for efficient workflows and a sense of unity within the team.

Mills' ability to welcome diverse opinions while decisively guiding the office through challenges set her apart as a leader. Her thoughtful listening and collaborative approach ensured that all voices were heard, but she also knew when to take charge and provide a clear solution.

As she retires, Robin Mills leaves behind a legacy of excellence, integrity, and compassion. Her four decades of dedicated service have not only contributed to the growth and stability of Hamilton County but have also shaped the lives of those fortunate enough to work alongside her.



Photo provided

By Sadie Eldridge, Real Property Lead

In a world where grand gestures often overshadow the impact of small, thoughtful actions, a dedicated individual can still make a difference with just a few words or a simple act of kindness.

Robin Mills is such an individual – a true difference maker. As Hamilton County Auditor and Chief Deputy Auditor, her dedication has left an indelible mark, not just on the county, but on everyone fortunate enough to work with her.

Robin's career has been filled with challenges – enduring the unexpected loss of her husband, battling cancer twice, navigating a historic recession, and leading through a global pandemic. Despite these hardships, she continued to serve constituents, county officials, and her team with grace, compassion, and resilience. Throughout it all, she never wavered in her support, allowing me to grow, stumble, and ultimately succeed within the organization.

What sets Robin apart is her ability to lead with both strength and humility. She gave me the freedom to lead my way, even when she had a different opinion. She allowed me to succeed on my own terms and, more importantly, learn from my failures. In moments of difficulty, there were no "I told you so's." Instead, she offered a listening ear and helped chart a path forward. These lessons in failure have shaped me, and her mentorship has been central to that growth.

Our relationship wasn't without challenges, but the growth we experienced together speaks to our shared commitment to integrity. I first came to work for her in 2001 as a part-time college student. Now, after 16 years of full-time service, I can say with certainty that she helped shape me into the leader I am today. As Robin embarks on her well-deserved retirement, I hope she knows how pivotal a role she played in my journey. Her presence – day in and day out – made all the difference. Robin handled the good with celebration and the bad with grace, time and time again.

Beyond the professional sphere, Robin has shown extraordinary care on a personal level. Not many employers would rush to the hospital

as a grandparent passed away or drive a panicked mother to pick up her child after a medical emergency. She consistently went above and beyond, showing empathy in moments that truly mattered.

Reflecting on my own journey as a public servant, I remember starting as a young college student, mostly there for a paycheck. After graduation, I left for the private sector, only to return years later, with Robin now serving as Chief Deputy Auditor. Her devotion to public service was immediately clear. She inspired me to adopt a similar mindset – one focused on serving those under my care, my peers, and the taxpayers of this county. Robin set a high standard for what true service looks like.

Service is a privilege. It's about offering kindness, meeting needs, listening with understanding, and improving the lives of others. Robin, exemplified this daily. She twice surprised me by supporting my ideas. One was an initiative to educate realtors and title companies about county processes, which we've successfully done for eight years. The second was a program to foster collaboration within and outside our office. Although the pandemic cut this short, it was a rewarding experience while it lasted.

As Robin moves into retirement, her servant mindset will continue to inspire those she has worked with, me included. Robin has been more than a boss; she's been a mentor and a true example of what it means to serve. Thank you for your 44.5 years of dedicated service and for being a difference maker in so many lives. Her dedication to outstanding public



Photo provided

(Standing, from left) Jeffery Holton and Scott McKinney; (sitting, from left) Jamie Baber and Kris Truesdel.

By Jamie Baber, AP Lead

As Robin Mills prepares to retire after 44 years of service to Hamilton County, it is a fitting moment to reflect on the remarkable impact she has had as both a leader and a friend. Her dedication to the county and her ability to lead with strength and compassion have left a lasting impression on the community and those who have had the privilege to work with her.

This was no easy feat, but Robin tackled it with her trademark determination and vision.

Robin's role as County Auditor encompassed a wide range of responsibilities – from managing payroll to handling property tax assessments. Through it all, she maintained a commitment to accountability and integrity. Her work has ensured that Hamilton County remains on solid financial ground, even as it has grown and evolved over the years.

As she prepares to retire, it is difficult to say goodbye. Robin's absence will be deeply felt – not just because of her professional achievements, but because of the personal relationships she has built. She has been more than a boss; she has been a mentor and a friend. Her leadership has inspired all of us who have had the privilege to work alongside her, and her influence will continue to guide us.

Retirement marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for Robin. I am thrilled for her as she embarks on this next phase, where she will have more time to spend with her beloved family, especially her grandchildren. She has earned every bit of the joy and relaxation that retirement promises.

As we bid farewell to Robin Mills, we do so with deep gratitude. Her 44 years of service to Hamilton County are a testament to her dedication, hard work, and unwavering commitment to excellence. While we will miss her presence, her legacy will continue to inspire us for years to come.

Robin, thank you for everything you have done – for the county and for each of us who have had the honor of working with you. Enjoy your well-deserved retirement, and know that you will always be missed, but never forgotten. Wishing you all the best in this next chapter!

By Cindy Duncan, Administrative Assistant

"I love my job." These words, often heard throughout the halls and offices of the Historic Courthouse, carry a special weight when they come from Robin Mills. While sometimes spoken with a touch of humor, there is never any doubt that the woman behind those words gives her all to the job she loves.



Duncan

Robin Mills, known affectionately as "Mills" by many, has been a dedicated public servant to the citizens of Hamilton County for an impressive 44 years. Her unwavering commitment to the county and her staff has left an indelible mark on all who have worked alongside her.

For the past seven years, I have had the pleasure of working in the Hamilton County Auditor's Office under Robin's leadership. During this time, I've developed not only a deep respect for her but also a genuine admiration for the way she approaches both her work and life. She is a model of excellence, and she sets a high bar for everyone around her, expecting the same level of dedication from her team that she gives every day.

Robin Mills is, without question, a force of nature. She is tireless, fierce, and tenacious, qualities that have allowed her to thrive in the demanding world of public service. Her resilience in the face of challenges is awe-inspiring, and she is unapologetically outspoken and direct when it comes to getting the job done. These attributes are just a few of the reasons why she has been able to lead the Auditor's Office to achieve consistent excellence year after year. Her attention to detail is meticulous, her work is thorough, and her competence and efficiency have set a standard that few could match.

strengths, Robin is also someone who is deeply committed to her staff and her community. She has been a mentor to many, offering guidance, support, and feedback that help her team members grow both personally and professionally. Working with her, you quickly realize that she cares about the people behind the work as much as the work itself. This has fostered a strong, collaborative atmosphere within the Auditor's Office, where everyone is encouraged to reach their full potential.

What makes Robin truly exceptional, however, is not just her professional accomplishments, but also her deep love and commitment to her family. Even with her demanding role, she has always found a way to balance her responsibilities to the county with her dedication to her loved ones. Her family is her heart, and her devotion to them has been clear to all who know her.

Retirement, while bittersweet for those of us who will miss her presence in the office, will finally afford her the opportunity to relax and enjoy more time with her family. After 44 years of tireless service, she has more than earned this next chapter of her life.

As Robin Mills prepares to leave the courthouse behind and step into retirement, it's impossible not to feel a sense of sadness. Her leadership, tenacity, and unyielding dedication have set a high standard that will be difficult to replace. Yet, at the same time, there is also a deep sense of gratitude for everything she has done for Hamilton County. Robin's legacy will continue to inspire those of us who had the privilege of working with her, and her impact on the county will be felt for years to come.

Here's to you, Mills! Enjoy your retirement – you've earned it!

By Lee Graham, Settlement Department Lead

For decades, Robin Mills and I have shared a bond that began in childhood, from when we were just two young girls cartwheeling down the streets of Noblesville. Our families would pack up in station wagons and visit each other for evenings filled with laughter and shared stories.

Though we went to different schools, our connection remained strong through our involvement in Job's Daughters, 4-H, and being a part of each other's weddings. Over the years, we watched our children grow and, more recently, have found ourselves sharing stories about our greatest joys – our grandchildren.

My journey into public service began in 1994 when I joined Hamilton County as a part of the Clerk/Orderbook Office. Eight years later, in 2002, it was Robin who gave me a nudge toward a new opportunity. She contacted me about an opening in the Auditor's Office, and I made the move to the Accounts Payable Department. Soon after, I transitioned into the role of Settlement Clerk, a position I have proudly held for the past 20 years.

The County Auditor's role is both complex and critical. Serving as the Chief Financial Officer of Hamilton County, the Auditor works closely with all departments, handling everything from disbursing county funds and maintaining payroll to ensuring that financial statements and annual reports are completed in accordance with state regulations. Under Robin's leadership, these responsibilities have



Photo provided

By Todd Cleverger, Grant Administrator

For the past 25 years, the tireless efforts and dedication of Robin Mills have quietly shaped the success of the Hamilton County Auditor's Office.

Despite her exceptional contributions, the hard work, long hours, and steadfast commitment that Robin has demonstrated often go unnoticed. But for those who work closely with her, Robin is more than just a reliable colleague – she is a guiding force and a model of professionalism and integrity.

Robin's career in public service spans nearly 45 years, during which she has become a pillar of governance in Hamilton County. Throughout this extensive tenure, she has exemplified the highest standards of professionalism and a deep passion for her work, which reflects her commitment to the well-being of the county's residents. Robin's leadership has not only facilitated the smooth functioning of the Auditor's Office but has also contributed to the growth and positive transformation of Hamilton County as a whole.

Under her leadership, the Auditor's Office has earned several prestigious accolades, including 35 consecutive years of Excellence in Accounting recognition. This achievement underscores the meticulous attention to detail and dedication Robin brings to her role, ensuring that public funds are managed with the utmost care and accountability. Her work has also helped the county maintain a consistent Triple-A bond rating, an accomplishment that speaks to the financial health and stability she has helped foster.

Robin's foresight and unwavering dedication to sound governance have left an indelible mark on Hamilton County, shaping not only its present but its future as well.

Robin's contributions extend beyond numbers and budgets. Her genuine concern for the well-being of Hamilton County's citizens has earned her the respect and admiration of the community. For her, public service is not merely a job – it is a calling. Over the years, she has established herself as a beloved figure in the county, known for her honesty, humility, and unwavering commitment to making a difference in people's lives.

On a personal note, I have had the privilege of knowing Robin not just as a colleague but as a close friend. Over the past 15 years, our relationship has grown from professional respect to one of deep per-

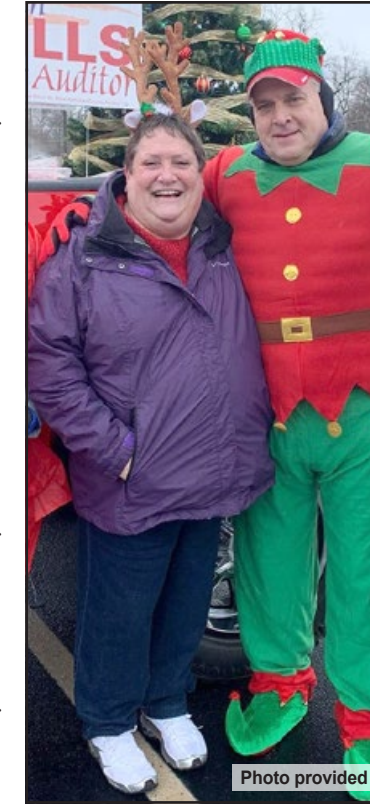


Photo provided

sonal admiration. Robin's influence on me has been profound. She has been a guiding mentor, and through her example, I have become a better version of myself. Her wisdom, her approach to leadership, and her deep conviction in public service have all shaped how I view my role in local governance.

For the past six years, I have had the honor of working alongside Robin on a daily basis, learning firsthand from her dedication to public service. She has not only been a fantastic role model but also a trusted mentor who has taught me invaluable lessons about the importance of integrity in government and the power of leading with compassion and purpose. Her ability to balance the demands of her job with a sincere concern for the community's needs is something I strive to emulate in my own work.

Robin Mills epitomizes what it means to be both an elected official and a public servant. Her passion for good governance, coupled with her unwavering devotion to the people of Hamilton County, sets her apart. Her leadership has not only improved the lives of those who live in the county but has also inspired those who have had the privilege of working with her.

I want to personally thank Robin for her inspirational leadership and unwavering support throughout the years. It has been a tremendous honor and privilege to serve alongside her. Robin, thank you for being an exemplary public servant, a true champion for Hamilton County, and, most of all, a phenomenal friend.

By Kim Rauch, Executive Assistant

Robin Mills, affectionately known as "Mills" to her colleagues and friends, has dedicated her entire career to serving the public.

After graduating from Noblesville High School, she entered the job market with a clear goal: to serve the people of Hamilton County. Her journey began at the Hamilton County Highway Department, where her desire to make a difference took root. Over the years, she transitioned to the Auditor's Office, where she would eventually be elected as Hamilton County Auditor, solidifying her legacy as a leader committed to excellence.

Mills' leadership is characterized by a rare combination of strength, empathy, and an unwavering commitment to her staff and the citizens of Hamilton County. She cultivated an environment of openness and respect, welcoming everyone with her renowned "Open Door Policy." This policy was more than just a management technique – it was a reflection of Mills' genuine desire to hear and understand the needs of those around her. Whether staff, friends, or constituents, people knew they could come to her for guidance, encouragement, or simply to share in life's moments. This approach fostered a sense of trust and connection that defined her leadership style.

One of Mills' greatest strengths was her ability to empower her team. She consistently encouraged her staff to think creatively and push boundaries to provide the highest level of public service. By creating a safe space for innovative thinking, she helped her team solve problems and meet the evolving needs of Hamilton County citizens. Her dedication to outstanding public



Photo provided

lic service was matched only by her deep care for those she worked with. Mills didn't just lead her department – she nurtured it, fostering personal and professional growth in everyone she encountered.

Mills' leadership was also deeply rooted in her faith. A woman of strong conviction, she shared her love of God with everyone she encountered, often making decisions that reflected her values of love, mercy, and compassion. While her faith sometimes led to challenging or uncomfortable conversations, Mills' strength and tenacity never wavered. Her focus was always on doing what was right, even when it wasn't easy.

Having had the privilege of working alongside Mills for the last 28 years, I can personally attest to the incredible bond we have formed. Sharing our faith, celebrating life's blessings, and weathering life's difficulties together has created a deep friendship, one that has given us the "sisters" neither of us were born with.

As Robin Mills prepares for her well-deserved retirement, she leaves behind a legacy of dedication, compassion, and unwavering service to Hamilton County. Her impact on the community and those of us who worked with her will continue to be felt for years to come. I wish her all the joy, peace, and fulfillment that retirement brings – and she has certainly earned it.

One fateful day Ken boldly calls play ‘perfect’

It felt like an out-of-body experience when my neurologist breezed in a little over six years ago, and casually tossed the genetic test on the counter on that fateful day. I remember thinking, “how can he be so nonchalant about something that has caused me so much pain and strife in my life?”

I quickly realized that, of course, he did not feel what I was feeling. No one in my life did. They could not. They didn’t know what it felt like to live for so long without answers. They couldn’t comprehend the magnitude of mental exhaustion something like that has on a person. How crushing that is each day. How so much of my time was occupied by pondering that lingering mystery. How with each passing year, the power of the unknown becomes increasingly painful, heavier. The notion that “someday” I might have an answer was slipping out of my grasp.

Except suddenly, it was not. Not expecting this, immediately I was flooded with a tingling sense of excitement, mixed with a little fear that I, of course, may be disappointed once again. I tried to play it cool because if I showed my true feelings it may scare him. I wanted to jump up and down (even though I cannot jump) scream and cry, but I did not. I simply said, “of course I will spit in the tube and send it off for genetic testing.” “What’s the cost?” I asked, which was laughable because even if he said “one million dollars,” I would have told myself, “OK I will find a way to make that work.”

The thought of being able to answer someone with a solid answer when they asked, “what’s wrong with your legs?” was comforting to me. I would not have to fumble my words to try and produce something that did not sound made up or make me appear like I had no clue what was going on with my own body. It would be a simple answer. My whole life I had fumbled those words. Who even knows how many times I was asked that over 44 years? Feels like thousands. People are curious.

I would not have to wonder what may be coming next, because I would be able to read about what to expect once I had a firm diagnosis. I could study and learn about what was going on inside my body that was wreaking all this havoc and heartache. I would not be left to wonder and live in fear of the unknown.

See *Fateful . . . Page A9*

Another sixteen

Written by Dorothy Howard Adler 8/9/85

Was she 16? Or only 15? Maybe you should ask her. It was summer, the season for transparent apples and mowing.

Auntie had purchased a new home. Dad and I have volunteered our help.

Some weeks earlier I had purchased a length of material. It was predominantly red flowered with a scattering of blue and yellow flowers on a white ground. It lay neglected in a drawer-almost forgotten. On the eve of moving day Miss Sixteen asked if she might have the material. She was near enough to my size to use the same pattern, so she asked to borrow one I had recently used. The next request was to try on my dress so she could see where to alter the pattern.

Next morning bright and early Dad and I were off to Ft. Wayne. By noon we were all tired and hungry, so we went – as we were – to the mall. We lunched at MCL, and as is usual when one goes “as is” we saw several friends. They were too polite to mention our less than immaculate attire, so we decided to venture further afield. Patterson Fletcher was the next stop.

There we saw the handsome brown wool suit. It was Dad’s size. With a little arm-twisting he bought it. Then I found two pairs double knit pants, also his size. He protested but bought both pairs.

Then it was back to the task at hand. By evening Auntie was fairly well settled so we headed for home.

Daughter had a nice surprise ready. She had cold packed a canner of applesauce. She had helped before, but this was a solo.

Then questions about her dress. Yes, she had started it. Would I try it on? I protested that, too, as it didn’t need to fit me. Her will prevailed – she just wanted to see how it is going to look. So on with the dress. It fit me perfectly! And was all finished except for the hem and sewing cuffs on the sleeves. She wasn’t quite sure she had the correct length.

I wore the dress with a great deal of pleasure, and we enjoyed every bite of the sauce.

As a postscript. I might add that the dress was set off by my red “macaroni” belt, but that is another story. It was a perfect match.

Ray Adler is a longtime attorney with offices at The Adler Building, 136 S. 9th St., Downtown Noblesville. He is also one of the owners of The Hamilton County Reporter Newspaper.



AMY SHINNEMAN
Disability in the City

She Loves Me, the 1963 Broadway musical with a book by Joe Masteroff, music by Jerry Bock, and lyrics by Sheldon Harnick is an adaptation of the 1937 play *Parfumerie* by Hungarian playwright Miklós László. The show was a Tony Award nominee for Best Musical, among other categories. (Bock and Harnick won the following year with *Fiddler on the Roof*.)

She Loves Me tells the tale of several workers in a small perfume shop whose lives turn on their relationships with each other. Co-workers Amalia and George are not very fond of each other, but thrill to their contact with their pen-pals whom they have never met. An obvious plot twist brings these two together and happiness is eventually secured.

ATI’s marvelously directed and precisely performed production, is endlessly entertaining – a soaring couplet of music and comedy (Mrs. K and I agreed, we haven’t laughed so much in quite a while). The cast shines in every scene as the story ranges from humorous to thoughtful to touching.

Director Richard J Roberts,



KEN KLINGENMEIER
A Seat on the Aisle

choreographer Carol Worcel and musical director Nathan Perry use every talent of every company member to great effect. Sophie Jones and Jacob Butler are perfectly matched as Amalia Balash and Georg Nowack. Both are gifted young performers who have top level acting and vocal skills, which blossom further in their joined efforts.

Perfection appears in the other roles as well: Nathalie Cruz is delightful as Ilona Ritter, dealing with the foils and folly of Eric Olson’s oily Steven Kodaly; John Vessels is hilarious (even more so than is usual!) as fellow clerk Ladislav Sipos; and Darrin Murrell is wonderful as shop-owner Mr. Maracek. Ben Friesen adds an instantly loveable Arpad Laszlo to the mix. Brett Mutter is wildly memorable and original as The Head Waiter, spilling over with character. Finally, ensemble members Cynthia Collins, Carrie Neal, Elizabeth Akers, Terrence Lambert, and Josh Maldonado all offer fine characterizations and musical support throughout the show.

Highlights for me includ-



Photos provided by ATI

Sophie Jones and Jacob Butler star in ATI’s *She Loves Me*, on stage now through Nov. 17.

ed any song by Ms. Jones and/or Mr. Butler, John Vessels’ impressive “Perspective” and the entire cast’s hectic “Twelve Days to Christmas.”

Nathan Perry’s solid and small orchestra is more than up to the task of this beautiful score. Brittany Kugler’s costumes matched with Drew Bryson’s wigs (lots and lots of wigs!) are keys to the production. And the nifty set by P Bernard Killian is uncluttered and appropriately illuminated and Dustin Drickman’s light design.

Bottom line: *She Loves Me* is often mentioned as a “favorite show” – and I can see why

this is so. The perfect (I keep using that word) structure of the story, the expressive songs, the enriching comedy all blend together to provide a surefire entertainment – and Actors Theatre of Indiana has a huge hit on their hands!

She Loves Me continues at ATI’s Studio Theatre in the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel through Nov. 17. You can get information about the schedule and tickets by calling (317) 843-3800 or by logging on to atistage.org.

Read more great play reviews from *A Seat on the Aisle* at asota.wordpress.com.

Don’t buy that – Christmas is coming!

While I was on vacation visiting relatives in Nebraska a couple of weeks ago, I read an article about a new book called *How to Winter: Harness Your Mindset to Thrive on Cold, Dark or Difficult Days*. I thought, “Wow! That’s perfect for me.”

Winter has never been my favorite season. Like many people, I do just fine up through New Year’s Day. After that, I become quite grumpy due to the cold and reduced sunlight.

So, with winter right around the corner, I looked it up once I got home. Just as I was about to order it, I heard a voice in my head saying, “Don’t buy that! Christmas is Coming.” Whoops. I almost broke an important Amy Shankland Rule.

You see, when the calendar



AMY SHANKLAND
Perfectly Imperfect

turns to November, I begin to make my Christmas list. And when someone in our household wants to buy something for themselves starting around that time, I always say, “Oh! Wait! Don’t do that. Christmas is coming.”

Normally my husband John is on the receiving end of this statement, much to his chagrin. During our Friday date nights, we’ll often go shopping for household items after dinner. Sometimes something not household-related will catch his eye, such as an item for a video game, and the conversation this time of year will go something like this.

“Oh! This is on sale. I really like it. And it’s perfect for me,” John says.

“Wow, it IS perfect for you,” I reply, filing it quickly

away in my brain.

“I think I’ll buy it,” John says.

“But Honey . . . wait . . . Christmas is coming,” I comment. “That would make a great gift for you.”

At this point I’ll get The Look from my husband.

“Yes, but Dear, it’s on sale NOW. And it would really help me with (insert video game-specific terminology here).” John replies.

“I can see that. But the sale doesn’t end for a couple of weeks. It might even be a better price on Black Friday or Cyber Monday,” I say with my usual enthusiasm. “Just think how excited you’ll be to open that up for Christmas!”

And now The Look is replaced with an eye roll and a plaintive sigh. John then shakes his head and mournfully puts the magnificent video game accessory back on the shelf.

I do follow up on my word. Thank goodness for cell phones – at the first opportunity, I’ll run back and take a photo of said accessory or quickly type the description into my notes. I don’t trust my brain to remember these items, especially since video games nowadays leave me mystified (I miss the days of Pac-Man and Frogger!)

While John and others may not be thrilled with my November/December mantra, they look of joy on their faces on Christmas morning says that maybe I’m not so bad after all. Now I must hold myself back from purchases . . . How to Winter will just have to wait.

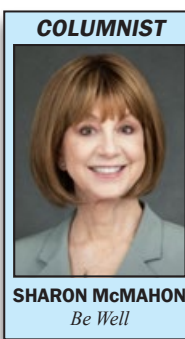
Amy Shankland is a writer and fundraising professional living in Noblesville with her husband John, two sons, two dogs, and a cat. You can reach her via email at amys@greenavenue.info.

Define your own style . . . it’s far more important than chasing fashion trends

“Style is very personal. It has nothing to do with fashion. Fashion is over quickly. Style is forever... It’s about something else that comes from within you.” – Ralph Lauren

I am quoting my “go to” designer here as his message, I believe, rings true to a very important (and historical) topic that affects us all. After all, one thing we all have in common from birth to death – we wear clothing! (If you do not, that is a topic for which I am not prepared to write.)

It may seem, dear Readers, that I diverge from my health and fitness focus, but please hear me out. Let’s face it, we want to remain healthy, fit, and well but we also want to *look as good as we feel*. As there is no shortage of shopping venues, shopping for clothing can seem overwhelming at times. Whether you mostly wear casual, career, uniform garments and everything in between,



SHARON McMAHON
Be Well

there are some points to consider when you find your style.

The word “fit” as we are using it here can describe both our physical selves as well as how our clothing looks and feels on our bodies. I find that proper fit is the No. 1 most important aspect of how we present ourselves to the world. Proper fit begins with our undergarments in order for us to look and feel our best. Actually, proper fitting undergarments can help you breathe correctly as well as improving your posture which is important in balance and coordination.

When you find your individual style, which can vary greatly from person to person, your shopping becomes easier, less frequent, and more satisfying when you do not have a closet full of garments you do not wear. (Think of the free time you will have for working out!) It is fun to experiment with fashion during

the teen and young adult years but you have probably honed your individual style as you have aged. If not, it is never too late to find your style. Look around your home, your clothing probably mirrors your décor as well. Personal style will lift your spirits and give you the incentive to continue to enjoy your apparel in a fit and healthy body.

Oftentimes the clothing style we adopt hearkens back to our youth and those we studied and watched whose style attracted us to it. For me, the styles of the late ‘30s through early ‘50s – which included my stylish mother who was my first impression – may be true for most of us. As an adult I have mimicked the tailored pants, skirts, and jackets she wore which I consider classic.

My second-grade teacher, Mrs. Lloyd, was a fashion mentor as well. Mrs. Lloyd wore beautiful, tailored suits with “sensible shoes” and I was always eager for the morning bell to ring so that I could see the “outfit of the day!” As a movie

buff of the 1940s movies, I was mesmerized by the stunning style of Barbara Stanwyck and Joan Crawford. You can never go wrong with neutral colors and a tailored fit!

And, truly, it is possible to find your style in many different shopping opportunities – this does not need to break the bank and there is availability to fit every budget. From online shopping, discount big box stores, to boutique and thrift shopping there are practical and cost-effective ways to style yourself and feel confident in this healthy body you have worked hard to achieve! As Gabrielle “Coco” Chanel reminded us, “fashion fades; only style remains the same.”

Sharon McMahon, CNWC
The opinions expressed in this article are not intended to replace advice of your personal physician or licensed health professional. Please consult your physician for any issues you may have related to nutrition or fitness activity.

EVENTS

• **Markus Wagner – Nov. 23 to Dec. 1:** Markus Wagner is the last remaining woodcarver at the Oberammergauer Schnürlikasperl. His witty creations and masterful artwork come alive as delighted kids and adults pull the strings of the beloved jumping jacks. Oberammergau is a small village nestled at the foot of the Alps and is famous for its Passionsspiele (“passion play”).

• **Falk Bauer & Katrin Zapf – Dec. 4 to 8:** Falk Bauer

and Katrin Zapf are joining The Market from the historic glassblowing community of Lauscha in Thuringia. No Christmas tree is complete without glass baubles and intricate Baum-schmuck from Lauscha. Come try your hand at glassblowing and marvel at the delicate detail these artists can coax out of molten glass.

• **Holzspielzeugmacherschule Seiffen – Dec. 11 to 15:** The Market will welcome the next generation of wooden toy

makers from the Holzspielzeugmacherschule und Drechslerschule (BSZ1) from Carmel’s Sister City Seiffen. These students will demonstrate their wood-working skills and enthrall your family with their handiwork and future outlook of the industry. (Translation of Holzspielzeugmacherschule und Drechslerschule: wood-en toy maker and woodturner schools)

• **Anja Werner – Dec. 16 to 24:** Anja Werner is an

instructor at the Kunstthochschule in Schneeberg – the region’s most prestigious art institute – where she learned the art of woodcarving and furniture making from the old masters. Frau Werner took the old-world techniques and applied a modern twist to create her unique Holzgestalten (“wooden shapes”).

You can learn more about the artisans at CarmelChrist-kindlmarkt.com/activities/werkstatt.

from Page A5

What's the point? Abuse & control

We get incredible support from the community. Our family of donors, volunteers, pantry hosts, companies, and churches invest time each month to make sure food is available in pantries across Hamilton County.



MARK HALL
The Feeding Team Feature

Occasionally I'll get a report from a frustrated volunteer: "my pantry was just decimated" or "someone took everything." Inevitably that leads to follow-up questions that go something like this: Why do people abuse our pantries? What's the point if some people are selfish and take it all? Isn't there something we can do to control the abuse?

This conversation can be challenging. It's better to have over a cup of coffee, so pour yourself a cup, find a spot in your most comfy chair, and let's get real for a few minutes.

When explaining the behavior, we start with the fact that while the Feeding Team has wonderful intentions, there are some people who will never understand why we do what we do. This is tricky to realize.

There are people who can't or won't respect the free-will nature of our "Take What You Need, Give What You Can" business model. I'm not talking about those with willful bad intentions and let's set aside for a minute the kids whose mischievous vandalism gets taken out on a pantry. I'm not talking about them. I'm talking about our neighbors who, like most of us, need some help from time to time.

First things first, people who shop in our pantries have a secret. It's not rocket science, but it is their secret burden to carry through this chapter of

their life.

Here's their secret: they're afraid.

Afraid of being embarrassed, afraid of not having a meal for their family, afraid of being seen as a fraud, afraid of food insecurity, afraid of failure, afraid of desperation, or simply afraid of the unknown. Fear makes people behave differently. Fear drives the decision to raid a pantry or shoplift from a supermarket.

What's the point? Our point, and our purpose, is to make food available for those in need. Undaunted by the small percentage of troublemakers, the point is to have multiple places where if someone is hungry, they can always find a meal. It's not elegant; the fact is the point is simple. We work to meet a need head-on. Do we condone the abuse? Not at all. Can we be at all 73 locations at once, acting as the pantry police? Nope. We choose to accept the fact that we can't control people's behavior. We choose to accept the fact that some people will abuse the system.

We also choose to believe that for every one neighbor that is misguided, there are many who respect the model, appreciate the service to the community that pantries offer, and choose to benefit from what Feeding Team does.

A few weeks ago, a weathered road-weary man in his 30s knocked on my office window after getting a few meals from the pantry at our office. I was startled at first, but he just wanted to thank us for what we do. He described how he walks from his place near downtown Noblesville a few times each

week to get food – food that he describes as lifesaving. His comment, "I don't know that I'd be able to survive if this wasn't here for me," should make us all pause, be thankful for what we have, and realize that the working poor are among us. Our lives are inextricably intertwined with theirs, whether we admit it or not. Now that he spoke to me, I see him regularly during the day selecting food from the pantry.

What we do is simple and what we do is hard. Raising money, acquiring food, distributing it, watching it vanish knowing that it helps many families and then repeating the process again and again. It's the cycle of service and the heartbeat of what we do.

If you find yourself in need, maybe occasionally you are like I was, a member of the working poor, then Feeding Team pantries are especially for you. They are here for you, 24/7/365. They are completely anonymous – no shame and no guilt. We take no information and have no expectations of you other than you merely take only what you need please. Leave food for others that are also in need.

Some future day, we hope that you consider giving what food you can and sharing your blessings with others who could use some help.

The Feeding Team launched Pantry No. 73 recently, with No. 74 already secured, it will be deployed in the coming weeks. We are grateful for the support of our community, volunteers, sponsors, and donors. Thank you.

* * *

With over 40,000 food-challenged neighbors in Hamilton County, FeedingTeam.org is a registered 501(c)(3)

FeedingTeam.org
Facts
73 pantries
Over 12,000 meals in Sept.
Over 100 individual & 30 volunteer families

not-for-profit organization that provides outdoor 24/7/365 no-questions-asked free food pantries throughout the county.

The pantries exist to meet the food insecurity needs of gap families, neighbors who may not qualify for public assistance and could use a few meals before payday. The pantries serve as many food-challenged neighbors as possible, and our hearts are with those who, like my family, could not always make ends meet.

Thank you for supporting the pantries. We love serving with so many neighbors across Hamilton County. In future columns, we will share more stories about how your generosity served neighbors in times of need. The face of hunger in Hamilton County is not what you may think.

In practical terms, this straightforward way to help neighbors is having real impact on lives, families, and our communities. Thank you. A few meals can change the course of a person's life. A can of green beans means so much more when you have nothing to feed your kids.

Would you like to get involved? Volunteer opportunities are available. We are evaluating new pantry locations. If you think you have a potential location, please contact us.

Mark and Lisa Hall are the Founders of Feeding Team. They may be reached at lisa@feedingteam.org and mark@feedingteam.org or by calling (317) 832-1123.



Photo provided by Megan Rathz
Mary brought back treats from The Golden Brown Bakery, the same bakery I went to as a kid.

Memories

As I sit here on a porch in the same place I grew up vacationing as a little girl, I watch my husband leave to head to the bakery with my little girl. In fact, it's the same bakery that was there when I was a kid. I watch her excitement as she leaves with her daddy and wonder what treats they will surprise us with.

As I watch the car head down the street, I think to myself that I'm so grateful to be giving her these memories. This is a time of year we reflect on memories, and it seems that now more than ever as we are in the holiday season, memories are embedded with so much of what we are, and the traditions held dear in families. I'm constantly reminded by things that I did as a little girl with my family, and I always make sure to tell my kids why we do some of the things that we do and where it originated from within our own family.

I want my kids to grow up knowing there were people before them that not only made up who they are, but also who their parents are to this day. I want them to make their own memories and, understand the traditions in our family, and appreciate why they're sacred.

I have so many memories of being dropped off at school and in the car on the way there, my folks would have *The Bob & Tom Show* on the radio. Half the time they had to turn it down because of a suggestive, yet hilarious, skit being too much for my little ears at the time.

Sometimes when they play older skits on the show, I wonder if any of these were ones my dad would listen to and laugh. I realize now that the voices I grew up hearing in the car on the radio on the way to school are the same voices my kids now hear as they begin their mornings. And much like my folks, I'm having to turn the radio down, so they don't hear something I don't want to explain to them later. Yes, I love *The Bob & Tom Show*, but I think a lot of it is the comfortable familiarity of hearing something I've heard my entire life.

There's a Van Morrison album called *Avalon Sunset* that my parents used to put on when I was a kid at dinner. I remember my dad would prop the CD up on the stereo and the front of the album cover was a swan in a lake. I find myself playing that same album often when we eat dinner, but instead of my dad's stereo system encased in a glass case with a door, we just tell Alexa to play it. My dad would think we were living in the space age with Alexa.

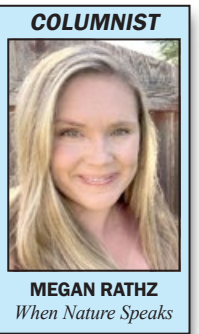
I sit around our dining table and look at my kids eating their dinner with the same music that once played when I was their age. It gives me peace and makes me feel connected to my memories.

As we head into Thanksgiving and the holidays, I find myself reflecting on and remembering times from my childhood and wonder what memories my kids will pass on to their own families one day.

Will they make homemade noodles with their kids just like my husband does with his grandmother's recipe? Will they use turkey plates like my mom and me for their Thanksgiving spread? Will they decorate their house for Christmas early like my husband and me, or will they wait until after Thanksgiving? Will my daughter be excited to decorate her table when she hosts the holidays? Will my children be excited whenever they see a cardinal like my husband and me?

May we all make memories as we head into this holiday season that we will hold dear for years to come. May this be a time to set aside the things that divide us and enjoy the precious time we have together.

Megan Rathz is a wife, mother, and teacher. She says everything she has ever learned in life came from her Master Gardener mother.



MEGAN RATHZ
When Nature Speaks

New way to eat a banana appeals to him

My father-in-law died. Tom Tappan. Down in Athens. Heart issues. A time bomb ticker.

He was an ideal father-in-law. Super nice. Good sense of humor. Our politics matched.

He was the sensitive type, like me, unafraid to display vulnerabilities in full view. A lover of life, though at peace with the letting go.

He liked to make people laugh, much like I do. Therein lies the danger, perhaps.

He was old-school enough for it to be important when I sought the hand of his baby daughter. Granted Brynne was 45 at the time. I was 53. A bit long in the tooth, too. Me, not Brynne ... god, not Brynne, my blushing young bride (I'm not a cradle robber by any stretch of the imagination, but I'm not stupid either ... Brynne, my middle-aged trophy wife).

I sought permission from Tom over the phone. Assured him it wasn't a shotgun wedding (I'd present vasectomy papers upon request). Said I loved his



SCOTT SAALMAN
Scaramouch

daughter. Tom approved. He appreciated the gesture, even though he knew I would be Brynne's third husband. Old hat by that time. Possibly.

Christ, there's enough of us for a police lineup now. Did the other two ask for Tom's permission, too? I hope not. The suck-ups. A trio of the usual husband suspects. At family gatherings, I'm called "Number Three," which sounds better than "Number Two." It's easier for people to keep score.

I didn't get to spend much time with Tom Tappan, but at least it was long enough for him to teach me how to flip a banana and proceed to peel it from the bottom, not from the stem's end like normal people. At 50-something, I assumed I had the whole fruit thing figured out. No one had ever corrected me on the art of banana biting before.

How many years did Tom have to wait before getting the opportunity to see a son-in-law actually pull a banana from the bunch and peel it? Had he plant-

ed it there in the fruit basket to finally make it happen?

"You're peeling wrong," he said.

"Huh?"
He took my banana. Flipped it. Taught me the alternative. It seemed weird, like talking on a phone upside down. My first thought was, "Man, what am I marrying into? This man was truly bananas."

He handed the banana back to me, albeit upside down – the banana, not Tom. I must admit that the Tom Tappan technique did seem like a more efficient way to strip a banana.

It didn't taste any different, mind you. It tasted like ... well, a banana. There was also the same amount of offal to deal with once it was eaten.

Who taught Tom to shake up societal order and treat a banana differently? Was the 180-degree flip influenced by a jungle documentary? Did he witness wild howler and spider monkeys and capuchins demonstrate this during his Peace Corps years in Nicaragua and Honduras?

Do monkeys even peel bananas? And what do they do with the Dole stickers pulled

from the peel?—stick them on the back of other monkey heads as a prank?

I have eaten bananas the Tom Tappan way ever since, even though no one else in the family apparently got the memo. I've never seen Brynne peel a banana her "daddy's way." Brynne is banana normal. Had she demonstrated such an odd duck way of peeling a banana on our first date, I doubt there would've been a second date. A deal-breaker to the undisciplined.

As I write this, I can't help but wonder if I was the victim of a father-in-law's practical joke. It's something he might do. I should've inquired at some point, for anytime I'm around fruit now, I seem to carry a complex. Am I chewing an apple right?—peeling an orange right?

A secret taken to the grave, I guess.

I will continue to eat a banana the Tom Tappan way. Practical joke or not, I'm sure he appreciates it. Bottom's up, Tom.

Email Scott at scotssaalman@gmail.com.

FATEFUL

The days between when I spit in the tube and sent it off, and when I finally got the email notice – "your test results are in and ready for your doctor to review" – went by excruciatingly slowly. It was ALL I could think about! It consumed me. It felt close. It felt different. Someone knew, and I did not yet. That was hard. Patience. I had sure been conditioned to be patient over 44 years. I could wait another few days.

Exposing our pain and vulnerabilities to others can be

difficult, but I have learned in doing so, how healing it can be. When we witness and listen to others' pain and their stories, we can gain valuable perspective and wisdom for our lives, and how we live. We become more appreciative for something we are taking for granted, or we can look at a difficult circumstance with a new perspective, after hearing someone's story. It doesn't have to be the same story as yours to be able to gain a new way of handling something in your own life.

I have personally never known anyone who has waited that long for a diagnosis. I know people do wait a long time, and that even a year or two of waiting is extremely difficult. I'm happy to be able to share my story now that I have reached the other side. My family did not understand exactly what I was going through, but what they did do was support me on my journey of the search. I am sure at times their hope wavered just like mine did. It was impossible for my hope not to be shaky at times, but I don't think I ever totally lost it.

This week I will celebrate the six-year anniversary of my diagnosis day. The day my world got a whole lot brighter, and I could finally breathe. There were lots of tears that day six years ago. Mostly happy tears, but also a

few tears for what lies ahead. I choose not to dwell there too often though, and just live each day as it comes the best I can. Some are good physically, but many are not, especially as I am getting older. There are glimpses of lost independence, but I will keep fighting, humbly courageously.

I will make myself a cupcake, place a No. 6 candle on top, say a prayer of thanksgiving, and blow it out. Forever grateful that I am not living the nightmare of the search anymore.

Until next time ...

Amy Shinneman is a former National Ambassador for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, disability blogger, wife, and mom of two boys. You can find her blog at humblycourageous.com and reach her on Instagram @ashinneman.



Photo provided

The Groom Has Cold Feet is a cross between a western and a comedy murder mystery. Hamilton Heights students Hudson Holt (Milton), Maddy Pouch (Hazel Blossom), and Millie Inman (Darlene Steep) are pictured rehearsing a scene as they prepare for the opening performance on Friday, Nov. 15.

Heights High School Drama Department to present *The Groom Has Cold Feet*

The REPORTER

Members of the Hamilton Heights High School Drama Department cordially invite the community to attend its live production of the murder mystery *The Groom Has Cold Feet* by Martin A. Follose.

With all the fun characters of a western and the twists and turns of a murder mystery, this family-friendly show is a real hoot. When the reviled Albert Webster turns up murdered the morning of his wedding to local sweetheart Kayla May Blossom, there's no shortage of suspects in the sleepy town of Pine Grove. Luckily, there's also no shortage of town gossips, each with her own theory acted out in hilarious slow-mo fashion for the audience to see.

Could it have been saloon girl Darleen, the last one to see Albert and the girl he dumped for Kayla May? Was it Virgil, the reluctant best man and ex-boyfriend of Kayla May? Maybe it was lonely Harley, who snuffed out Albert to steal his bride? How about Hazel, the about-to-be-evicted mother of the bride? It's going to take all of Sheriff Tickle's investigative skills, along with his sidekick daughter Sarah and extra help from the audience, to solve this animated mystery.

This production is led by the theatre class students under the direction of Brooks Myers, Hamilton Heights Theater Arts

Get Your Tickets

Title: *The Groom Has Cold Feet* by Martin A. Follose

When: Friday, Nov. 15 at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 16 at 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Nov. 17 at 2:30 p.m. in high school auditorium

Tickets: \$5. Available at the door 30 minutes before each performance (cash or check)

Teacher. Students contribute to all aspects of the production of the show. They have a voice in choosing the show, creating sets and costumes, creating the programs and posters, and acting on stage or working backstage to make the show complete to perform for an audience.

"Students chose this play because the setting is in the 1800s Old West," said Brooks Myers, Hamilton Heights Theater Arts Teacher, of this year's fall play. "This is the first time performing a western, which intrigued the students. It is also an audience-participation murder mystery with comedy – always a big hit with audiences."

Plan to take in a show and enjoy local talent live on stage. Tickets are \$5 and will be sold at the door starting 30 minutes before each performance (cash or check). All proceeds benefit the High School Drama Department. Hamilton Heights High School is located at 25802 State Road 19, Arcadia.

Cast (in order of appearance)

Mabel Mayfield.....	Mary Rogers
Sheriff Tickle.....	Charles Wedmore
Milton.....	Hudson Holt
Harley Stuber.....	Liam Shaffer
Della Tisdale.....	Katelynn Bishop
Beverly Hall.....	Lillie Hooper
Caroline Pickens.....	Ella Smith-Reynolds
Albert Webster.....	Alexander Davis
Virgil Buckley.....	Payton Vandergraff
Sarah Tickle.....	Sage Dugger
Darleen Steep.....	Millie Inman
Kayla May Blossom.....	Rory Craig
Gladys Clark.....	Brinly Flaherty
Hazel Blossom.....	Maddy Pouch
Sam.....	Ester Martin

Townpeople

Mason Rogers and Chance Williams

Crew

Stage Managers.....	Addison Webb & Ricky Munoz
Lights.....	Stacia Anderson
Sound.....	Logan Delahr
Backstage.....	Braylee Parker & Braydon Ridge
Director.....	Brooks Myers

Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre presents *A Christmas Story, The Musical* for the holidays

Popular movie-turned-musical opens Nov. 29

The REPORTER

The fictional town of Hohman, Ind., is recreated on stage at Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre this holiday season as it presents *A Christmas Story, The Musical*. Opening Nov. 29 with an extended run through Jan. 4, this Tony Award-nominated musical features all the fun and iconic scenes from the popular movie.

Set in the 1940s, the musical follows nine-year-old Ralphie Parker and his quest for the Holy Grail of Christmas gifts – an Official Red Ryder carbine-action 200-shot Range Model air rifle. Ralphie plots numerous schemes to achieve the coveted BB gun, in spite of repeated refrains from the adults in his life.

Teddy Wiegand, an 11-year-old sixth-grader from Our Shepherd Lutheran School in Avon, makes his Beef & Boards debut in the starring role of Ralphie. Reprising their roles in this production are Eddie Curry as Jean Shepherd (the narrator), and Don Farrell (*Beautiful: The Carole King Musical, Mamma Mia!, Into*

the Woods) as The Old Man. Carrie Neal (*White Christmas, Beauty and the Beast*) plays Mother, Deb Wims (*Legally Blonde The Musical, White Christmas*) plays Miss Shields.

All the iconic scenes from the movie are featured, with a versatile score that ranges from gentle ballads to show-stopping full-ensemble numbers such as "Ralphie to the Rescue!," "A Major Award," "Sticky Situation," "Up on Santa's Lap," "Somewhere Hovering Over Indiana" and the inevitable "You'll Shoot Your Eye Out!"

A Christmas Story: The Musical is rated PG and is on stage for 39 performances through Jan. 4 in the intimate space of Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre. A special New Year's Eve celebration takes place on Dec. 31, including dancing to live music after the show and a champagne toast at midnight followed by a breakfast buffet.

Tickets range from \$55 to \$82 (\$112.50 for the New Year's Eve event) and include Chef Larry Stoops'



Photo provided by Beef & Boards

holiday dinner buffet and select beverages. Children under age 3 are not admitted.

To see the complete performance schedule and to purchase tickets online, visit BeefAndBoards.com. Tickets are also available by calling the Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre Box Office at (317) 872-9664.

Discounts are available to groups of 20 or more. Call the Group Sales department at (317) 872-0503, or email groups@beefandboards.com for details.

Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre, Indiana's only year-round professional dinner theatre, has been serving up exceptional entertainment since 1973.

The Addams Family musical on stage

Nov. 21-23 at Noblesville High School

The REPORTER

Noblesville High School proudly presents its 2024 fall musical, *The Addams Family School Edition* at 7 p.m. Nov. 21, 22, and 23, and 2 p.m. Nov. 23 at Noblesville High School Auditorium, 18111 Cumberland Road.

This exciting production includes 86 cast, ensemble, and crew members, and 26 student musicians. Shantel Morris is the show's director. John Neubauer is the music director, and Julianne Fowler is the choreographer, who together lead the NHS choral department. Connor Buhl is the show's producer. David Hartman is conductor of the pit orchestra.

The community is warmly invited to attend this family-friendly performance. Concessions, \$10 goodie bags featuring treats for kids, and a VIP Experience (see below) will be available for purchase.

The Addams Family School Edition is a new musical by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice, with music and lyrics by Andrew Lipa, and orchestrations by Larry Hochman. It is based on characters created by Charles Addams. The original award-winning musical opened on Broadway in April 2010 and featured Nathan Lane as Gomez and

Bebe Neuwirth as Morticia Addams.

The NHS cast features the following students:

- Nick Sizelove as Gomez Addams
- Jade Youree as Morticia Addams
- Kate Boice as Wednesday Addams
- Cutter Bechtel as Pugsley Addams
- Leo Kenley as Fester Addams
- Joshua Thurber as Lurch
- Charlotte Wiggins as Grandma
- Andy McGrew as Lucas Beineke
- Alaina Wadsworth as Alice Beineke
- Matthew Hunt as Mal Beineke

They are joined by an ensemble of 42 Addams Family ancestors playing such characters as a samurai, 1970s tennis player, sad mime, samba dancer, and many more.

Tickets range from \$10 to \$15 and may be purchased online at NoblesvilleChoirs.org/events/musical-2024.

NEW! VIP Experience

The Noblesville High School Choir Parent Organization is offering a kid-friendly VIP Experience at both Saturday performances. With limited



Photo by Kadin Bright, NHS Student Photographer

Members of the ensemble, who will perform as ghostly Addams ancestors, rehearse for *The Addams Family School Edition*.

tickets for both the matinee and evening show, this is a chance to enjoy the show like never before.

- Goodie bag full of surprises
- A photo opportunity with the cast after the show
- A themed cookie – a special treat just for you
- Join the cast on stage during intermission for an interactive dance

Add the VIP Experience to any new online ticket orders at checkout. Existing ticket holders can purchase the VIP Experience online or at the Saturday performances (while supplies last).

Show description

The Addams Family is a family-friendly comical, musical feast that embraces the wackiness in every fam-

ily. Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family – a man her parents have never met.

And if that weren't upsetting enough, Wednesday confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he's never done before – keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia.

Everything will change for the whole family on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday's "normal" boyfriend and his parents. (*The Addams Family School Edition* has been adapted from the original Broadway production.)

Hamilton County Tourism appoints David West as President & Chief Executive Officer

The REPORTER

David West has assumed the role of President & CEO at Hamilton County Tourism, effective Oct. 30.

The Hamilton County Tourism Board of Directors named West as the successor to Brenda Myers, who retired from Hamilton County Tourism after 19 years in the position.

West brings more than 20 years of experience in the tourism and destination management industry, having held key leadership positions with Herschend Family Entertainment (Dollywood Parks & Resorts), Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau in Pennsylvania, and the Michigan Economic Development

Corporation.

Some of the major accomplishments throughout West's career have included leading the "Pure Michigan" marketing initiatives and spearheading the execution of a strategic destination plan for Dollywood Parks & Resorts, resulting in record-breaking visitation.

"David has a proven track record of driving success and spearheading transformative marketing campaigns for a number of destinations," said Conner Prairie President & CEO and Hamilton County Tourism Board Chair Norman



West

Burns. "With his expertise and leadership skills, David is well equipped to lead Hamilton County Tourism into its next era of growth and innovation."

West's appointment as President & CEO follows a thorough search process initiated by the Board earlier this year. The search committee not only noted his vast background in tourism and attractions, but also his energy and creativity for what's possible in destination marketing.

"I am honored to take on this role and look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead for Ham-

ilton County, Indiana," West said. "Together with our talented team and our dedicated partners, we can continue to provide exceptional experiences for our residents and visitors, while executing exciting new initiatives that will launch us into our next phase as a destination."

About Hamilton County Tourism

Hamilton County Tourism Inc. is a nonprofit, destination management organization that promotes tourism growth through strategic marketing, hospitality, and development initiatives providing hospitality to more than five million visitors to Hamilton County each year. Learn more at VisitHamiltonCounty.com.

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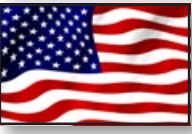
Donald Frank Hardesty

April 6, 1931 – November 1, 2024

Donald Frank Hardesty, 93, Noblesville, went to the Lord on November 1, 2024.



Don was born on April 6, 1931, to Frank and Helen (Bleuler) Hardesty in Massillon, Ohio. He had one sister, Doris Mae Browarsky (deceased). He graduated from Washington High School in Massillon in 1949 and from George Williams College in Chicago in 1954, where he studied for work in the YMCA. After graduation, Don served in the Army Security Agency during the Korean War from 1954 to 1956.



When he returned from Korea, he married Elizabeth "Betty" Casper of Chicago on June 16, 1956. Together they have three children: Jody (Daniel) Metzfeld, Donna (David) Mazanowski, and Todd (Kim) Hardesty. They also have 13 grandchildren: Daniel, Melissa, Steven, and Elizabeth (Craig Shelton) Metzfeld; Catherine (Michael Roth), David (Kyra), Jacob (Samantha), Christina (Michiel Driessen), Isabel (Matthew Armstrong), Alexander, and Joshua Mazanowski; and Louie and Samantha Hardesty. What brought Don joy most recently in his life were seeing his 11 young great-grandchildren: Mila, Carter, Roman, Oliver, Griffin, Titus, Brayden, Peyton, Mateo, Georgia, and Evie.

Don's philosophy in life, based on his favorite scripture in Romans 12 regarding personal responsibility, was "Make yourself more useful!" He made himself very useful in his faith and church, family, career, sports, and gardening, which were his greatest passions in life.

Since 1996, Don had been an active member of the Emmanuel United Methodist Church of Noblesville, where he served for many years as a leader of The Men's Group and he taught an adult Sunday school class. He recruited (with clipboard in hand!) many volunteers for Fish Fry and Spaghetti Dinners, and he kept the church storage areas incredibly organized.

He had a loving, committed 68 years of marriage to Betty – a marriage worth admiring and emulating. He loved having fun and meaningful times with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, which included holding the babies, training in sports, playing games, lots of teasing, and talking to them and writing meaningful letters to them about important things in life.

For 27 years, he had a successful career as Physical Director, Program Director, and Executive Director for various YMCAs in Ohio, Illinois, and Wisconsin.

Don was an avid and successful athlete, and he worked hard to become excellent in each of the many sports he played. He was a proud member of George William's National College Championship Volleyball team in 1952. Golf ultimately became his favorite sport, and he had served as President on the Indiana State Senior Golf Association. He and Betty enjoyed many years of bowling together in the Noblesville Senior Bowling League.

Don was also an avid gardener. In his younger years, he had beautiful and bountiful summer vegetable gardens and lush flowerbeds. He made himself more useful by becoming a self-taught master gardener.

A Memorial Service/Celebration of Life will be at 4 p.m. Thursday, November 21, at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 16000 Cumberland Road, Noblesville. Visiting with the family and a meal at the church will follow the service.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in memory of Don to Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Noblesville. Condolences: randallroberts.com

Joan Blakeslee Hyndman

October 7, 1932 – October 30, 2024

Joan Blakeslee Hyndman, 92, Noblesville, passed away on Wednesday, October 30, 2024. She was born on October 7, 1932, to Raymond Douglas and Margaret (Sutton) Blakeslee in Sewickley, Pa.



Joan was a renaissance woman full of intellectual curiosity and tremendous creative talent. She mastered every artistic endeavor she attempted. As a young woman she was a ballerina, singer, and actress who performed in the Baltimore area on the stage, television screen, and radio. A lover of the written word, she wrote wonderful poetry and was the author and illustrator of a children's book. Her family was treated to incredible meals as she honed her skills as a gourmet chef, and candles and flowers graced the table at every meal.

However, it was when she first picked up a paintbrush that Joan found her true gift. She created museum quality artwork in several mediums. Her most astonishing work was in trompe l'oeil and magical realism which she learned as a student of Ernest Land. Guests in her home would tell her that the clock on the shelf had stopped. She would gently tell them the clock and the entire shelf of knickknacks it was sitting on were all a painting. Whether she was attending an art exhibit, listening to the latest Broadway musical recording, or simply humming in the kitchen as she cooked, Joan's love for music and art brought joy and color to the lives of her family and those around her.

Joan was devoted to her husband, Jerry, holding down the fort while he was putting his life on the line for his country as a United States Marine and standing lovingly by his side for 69 years. She loved her children fiercely and was the kind of mom who ran the latest fundraiser, became the Scout Troop leader, sewed costumes for the school musical, and made a yellow dress overnight because her daughter needed one. Her grandchildren were the joy of her later years. They all were treated to her special hallway concerts at bedtime, shopping trips, vacations in the Florida condo, and they all basked in the special kind of love that only a grandmother can give.

Beyond all these wonderful gifts and her beautiful family, what Joan treasured most was her faith in Jesus. At a young age, she walked to a Catholic Church near her home and gave her life to Christ. Her deep and abiding faith was the focus and anchor of her life. She had a true servant's heart, and generously gave both her time and finances to the church, most recently to Our Lady of Grace in Noblesville, which she attended as long as her health permitted. Her family mourns her loss but rejoices in knowing that she is with her Savior, reunited with Jerry and experiencing the beauty and music of heaven that called to her soul here on Earth.

Joan is survived by her children, Peggy (Rick) Naylor, Spencer (Kitty) Hyndman, and Grace (Jerry) Sell; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Gerald Henry Hyndman.

Services will be held at a later date. Burial will be at Marion National Cemetery in Marion.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 8430 W. Bryn Mawr Ave, Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60631 (alz.org/indiana).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Ronnie Eugene Parsons

June 23, 1943 – November 2, 2024

Ronnie Eugene Parsons, 81, of Sheridan, went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Saturday, November 2, 2024, surrounded by his loving family. He was born on June 23, 1943, to Dallas and Beulah (Ewing) Parsons in Pennington Gap, Va.



Ron was a 1962 graduate of Saint Charles High School in Saint Charles, Va. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War as a paratrooper and arsenal specialist. Ron was a dedicated UAW member of Ford Motor Company for 31 years as a machine operator. He was a devoted member of New Light Christian Center of Noblesville under Pastor Mike Risdien.



Ron loved to spend time with his family and friends. His hobbies were golfing, fishing, watching NASCAR races and watching football and baseball. But, most of all he loved talking to friends and even strangers about the Lord and their salvation. He was a born-again Christian with a strong faith in God.

He is survived by his wife, Sandra Parsons; daughter, Rhonda (Greg) Evans; son, Tony (Lisa Michelle) Parsons; grandson, Michael Mossburg; eight step-grandchildren; numerous step-grandchildren; one step-great-grandchild; sisters, Trevia Roller, Ennine Rode, and Sherri (Steve) Varney; brothers, Alvin (Thea) Parsons, Hershel Parsons, and Joe (Lisa) Parsons; several nieces, nephews, cousins, and other loving family members; and his loyal kittens, Zara and Thomas.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Herman Parsons, David Parsons, and Tony Parsons; sister, Geraldine Parsons; nephew, Randy Parsons; aunt and "second mother," Levy Mae Ewing; and beloved companion dog, Gizmo.

Visitation and services were held Saturday, November 9, 2024, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville, with Pastor Michael W. Risdien, Pastor Alfred Parks, and Pastor David Blythe officiating. Raised by Heros led the procession to the burial at Spencer Cemetery in Sheridan.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hamilton Crossing Animal Hospital, 3101 E. State Road 32, Westfield, IN 46074.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Doreen Hillock

September 19, 1953 – October 29, 2024

Doreen Hillock, 71, Sheridan, passed away Tuesday morning, October 29, 2024, at Riverview Hospital in Noblesville. Born on September 19, 1953, in Lebanon, Ind., she was the daughter of the late William Charles "Bill" and Mariam Jane "Mick" (Haughey) Hillock.



She was a 1971 graduate of Sheridan High School, a member of the Sheridan Junior Women's Club, and a member of the Sheridan First United Methodist Church.

Doreen worked for BIMCO in Sheridan for a short time before opening her own business, Alterations Unlimited, on Main Street in town. For 20 years, she would take in, let out, shorten, lengthen, and do just about anything you could possibly need done to your clothing. If Doreen couldn't fix the problem, it was time for a new outfit. She took pride in her work and loved helping her customers (even teaching them how to fix it themselves sometimes), and never fussed about how big or small the job was going to be. She loved working with her hands. In addition to her seamstress abilities, she was also a very gifted at crocheting.

Creative people like Doreen also need a creative outlet (or several) to help keep their lives in balance. She always enjoyed heading out to the shop to do a little woodworking, or sitting down for a crafting session, but what a select number of longtime Sheridan residents remember are the years she taught piano lessons out at her house. Helping people, no matter the situation, was just part of Doreen's DNA.

She was an avid reader and never missed a chance to host a Home Interior Party, but her favorite thing in the whole world was spending time with her family. When Doreen became a grandma, life couldn't get much better ... but then she discovered Alabama football. She absolutely loved watching Alabama games with her son-in-law, John. To the casual observer the enthusiasm in the room was, let's just say ... a bit much, but to John and Doreen, there wasn't any other way to do it. ROLL TIDE!!!

Doreen is survived by her son, Matthew David Barrick (Molly) of Sheridan; daughter, Kelly Jane Barrick (John Steiner) of Sheridan; eight grandchildren, Shelby Merriman-Hicks (Christian), Lexey Merriman (David King), Dezare Hubner, Orion Steiner (Haley), Lars Steiner, Clark Barrick, Emmett Barrick, and Rosalyn Barrick; seven great-grandchildren, Daymien, Hinder, Devlin, Temperance, Kimberlynn, Archer, and Zander; sister, Sarah Dian McKinley of Sheridan; sister-in-law, Vicky Hillock of Sheridan; former husband, David Curtis Barrick; and by her feline furbaby, Binx. He is so lost without his momma.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William Charles "Bill" and Mariam Jane "Mick" (Haughey) Hillock; two brothers, William Dean Hillock and Dale Hillock; and by her brother-in-law, Leroy Clark McKinley.

Visitation and a celebration of Doreen's life took place on Saturday, November 9, 2024, at the Sheridan First United Methodist Church, 207 E. 2nd St., Sheridan. Pastor John Meunier officiated.

In lieu of flowers, Memorial Contributions may be presented to Roxie's Pet Food Pantry, 602 Bow St., Sheridan, IN 46069. This was a cause that Doreen held near and dear to her heart.

Condolences: kerchevalfuneralhome.com

James F. "Jim" Stephens

May 20, 1942 – November 8, 2024

James F. "Jim" Stephens, 82, Windfall, Ind., passed away on Friday, November 8, 2024, at his home. He was born on May 20, 1942, to Otha and Dorothy (Fisher) Stephens in Noblesville.



For many years, Jim was a welder, truck driver, and farmer. Most of all, he loved farming, which brought him a lot of joy. Jim enjoyed traveling to Florida and camping. He loved his family and getting together with them for cookouts.

Jim is survived by his wife of 61 years, Ann "Cathy" Stephens; daughter, Cindy (Brad) Dowell; granddaughter, Kristina (Ned) Carmichael; grandsons, Wayne (Ashley) Stephens and Cody (Haley) Stephens; and five great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son, Tony Stephens; grandson, Dustin R. Dowell; and siblings, Joseph, Robert, Charles, Donald, David, Ernest, Doris, Bonnie, Martha, Johnny, and Mary Carolyn.

Visitation will be from noon to 2 p.m., with services at 2 p.m., on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville. Rev. Stanley R. Sutton will officiate.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Mary Imogene Wooten

February 12, 1939 – November 1, 2024

Mary Imogene Wooten, 85, Noblesville, passed away on Friday, November 1, 2024. She was born on February 12, 1939, to Nun and Anna (Hammonds) Brown in Jamestown, Ky. She was raised by her loving grandparents and had wonderful memories of them.



For 27 years, Mary worked for Fred's Frozen Foods, and then worked for Burco-Molding in Noblesville. She enjoyed listening to Gospel records, watching horse races, and traveling with her sisters.

Mary was a friend to everyone she came in contact with. She loved spending time with her grandchildren when they were young. Mary had a hard life, but she was very strong and independent because of it. She was a believer in God and believed He got her through the tough times.

Mary is survived by her son, Forest H. (Daina) Wooten, Jr.; sisters, Linda McDaniels, Louise Glover, Karen (Charles) Brann, and Sharon (Larry) McFarland; brothers, Phil (Barbara) Groce and Jack (Ceci) Groce; four grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father, Nun Brown; mother, Anna Brown Groce; husband, Forest H. Wooten, Sr.; siblings, James Brown, Billy Brown, Jeanette Dishman, Bill Groce, and Leona Groce; and her step-siblings, Geneva Lowe, Nellie Hammond, Herman Groce, Alva Groce, Kenny Groce, Elwood Groce, and Clifford Groce.

Visitation and services were held Friday, November 8, 2024, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan St., Noblesville. Burial was at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville.

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.

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<p>NEW LISTING! Open House - Sun. 12 to 2 pm Hosted by Kristin Schiesser</p>  <p>18794 PRAIRIE CROSSING DRIVE NOBLESVILLE</p> <p>Two-story home in Prairie Crossing. Lot borders the golf course. 4 BR, 2.5 BA home has many updates. Mature trees and landscaping. Listed at \$354,900</p>	<p>PENDING</p>  <p>540 ZEPHYR WAY WESTFIELD</p> <p>Beautiful 4 BR ranch on large lot with a fully fenced backyard. This home has been well maintained and has several recent updates! Listed at \$314,900</p>	<p>PENDING</p>  <p>1880 E. 75 NORTH LEBANON</p> <p>Completely remodeled ranch on 1.06 acres just outside of downtown Lebanon. Beautifully decorated and move-in ready! Listed at \$339,900</p>	<p>SOLD!</p>  <p>909 FENNEL COURT CICERO</p> <p>Hard to find brick ranch with basement and located on a quiet cul-de-sac. 3 BR, 2 BA plus large great room and a 3-season sunroom. Listed at \$344,900</p>	<p>NEW LISTING!</p>  <p>275 WYANDOTTE COURT NOBLESVILLE</p> <p>This well cared for ranch is energy efficient and on a very large lot in a quiet neighborhood. 3 BR, 2 BA with a sideload garage and a mini barn. Listed at \$264,900</p>
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Heights names eight October Coffee Bean Award recipients

The REPORTER

Hamilton Heights High School recognizes the following students who were named as Coffee Bean Award recipients for the month of October. They include Emma Blanton, Savannah Deetz, Macy Jones, Alaina McCann, Aleah Trump, Leah Waldron, Payton Vandergraff, and Aiden Unger.

The name and award, inspired by *The Coffee Bean*, a book written by Jon Gordon and Damon West, delivers a simple, yet powerful message on positive change.

All students nominated receive a certificate of recognition. At the end of the month, the names of the students who were nominated during the month are included in a drawing where the first five to seven names drawn are called down to the office to enjoy a hot chocolate or coffee and a donut.



Photo provided
(From left) Aidan Unger, Macy Jones, Payton Vandergraff, Savannah Deetz, Leah Waldron, and Aleah Trump. Not pictured: Emma Blanton and Alaina McCann.

The monthly award objective is to encourage more acts of kindness, positivity, school spirit, and

help foster a closer sense of community at the high school. Students and staff can nominate students. You

can send a nomination by visiting our Student Services page at hs.hhschus-kies.org.

Spotlight on Art donates \$100K to three local youth organizations in two years

The REPORTER

Last November, Esther Lakes, Chairwoman and Founder of Spotlight on Art Benefiting Children, along with her team of community leaders, once again provided \$50,000 of support to Prevail, Inc., the Tom & Soni Sheehan Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville, and Children's TherAplay Foundation, Inc.

Building on two years of success, the event committee is looking forward to hosting another spectacular Spotlight on Art from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 14. This premier evening of art and philanthropy once again will be held at Hotel Carmichael in Carmel.

"A sincere thank you to all who helped make our second Spotlight on Art Benefiting Children a success: our sponsors, the award-winning artists, the teachers and students who donated children's art, and especially those who attended and purchased art," Lakes said. "Because of the community's generosity, the Spotlight on Art committee has been able to donate \$100,000 in two years to three youth-serving organizations that are making a positive impact in our community."

Guests are invited to attend and have the opportunity to support children who face life's challenges by shopping with local award-winning artists as well as artwork from local student artists. Each will be selling pieces that may enrich the lives of the purchas-

er while enriching the lives of the local children that need this support the most.

"When I was asked by Esther Lakes to serve as Honorary Chair, I again immediately said yes, because I know how she cares for the children of our community and her belief in the importance of each child," said returning Honorary Event Chair, retired judge Steve Nation. "The purpose of this event is to better serve families and care for our children so that they can reach their potential. If we fail to



Lakes



Nation

help prepare pathways for our children to enable them to overcome the situations in their lives, then they may never be able to find out who they are or what they can be. This is what we are supporting through this event, Prevail, Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville, and Children's TherAplay."

Anyone and everyone is encouraged to attend this year's event.

"We invite everyone to attend this premier evening of art and philanthropy that supports children's charities, thanks to the talent of local and student artists," Lakes said. "With a bit of support from many, enriching the lives of these diverse groups of children, it's possible to make so many dreams come true!"

To purchase event tickets and learn about sponsorship opportunities, visit spotlightonart.home.qtego.us, or follow the event on Facebook and Instagram.

Noblesville Lions ask: is your child's eyesight okay?

Submitted by Jake Doll
Noblesville Lions Club

It is very hard for a child to tell you if he or she is having problems seeing well, as they have always seen this way and may think it is normal.

However, recent studies have shown that as many as 25 percent of all children have a vision problem significant enough to affect their performance in school. These issues can include nearsightedness, farsightedness, and lazy eye. Students in Indiana have their vision screened in third, fifth, and eighth grades.

The Noblesville Lions

Club, which is committed to helping with all vision issues, performs many of these screenings each year. But vision issues can start much earlier.



In an effort to detect vision issues as early as possible, the Noblesville Lions will be holding a **FREE Eye Screening** at the Noblesville

Branch of the Hamilton East Public Library, 1 Library Plaza, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 23.

The Lions have a special camera that can be used on children as young as 18 months, with the results available on the spot. This



Photo provided

screening is open to everyone. If you would like to bring a can of food to help

with feeding others, that would be greatly appreciated.

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Hamilton County High School Football Sectional Finals

Fishers wins shootout over Southeastern for first sectional title in seven years

The REPORTER

FISHERS – A game of this magnitude has a lot on the line. Bragging rights with neighbors, friends and family are at stake. When Fishers and Hamilton Southeastern get together, it's assumed that it will be a battle of epic proportions.

Last Friday's Class 6A Sectional 4 championship game would be no different. It was a game of momentum shifts and it all came down to who had the ball last and what they did with it. The Tigers had the ball last and drove all the way down the field, scoring with 0.7 seconds left to win, 44-41. The victory gave Fishers its first sectional title since 2017 and fourth overall.

In that final drive, the Tigers had great time management and took it all the way down to the final seconds. They went 80 yards

in 11 plays and used every bit of the final two minutes on the clock. Hill threw three consecutive incompletions, bringing up fourth down and goal from the Royals' four.

On fourth down, Caden Hill found Jase Ruggles for the game-winning four-yard touchdown pass. Jon Tangara added the extra point for the final count of 44-41.

"Players made the plays and our players did what it took on that final drive," said Fishers coach Curt Funk.

The Tigers used eight plays and 66 yards and struck first on a JonAnthony Hall rushing TD for a 7-0 lead on the first possession.

HSE responded with a methodical drive, marching 80 yards in 13 plays. AZ Wallace ran in from four yards for the 7-7 tie.

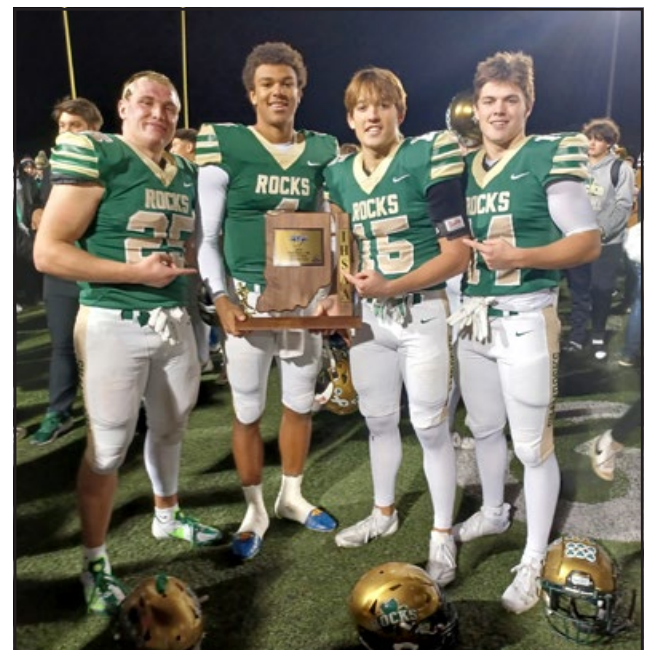
See Title . . . Page B2



The Fishers football team won an exciting Sectional 4 championship game at Hamilton Southeastern last Friday. The Tigers scored a literal last-second touchdown to get past the Royals 44-41. Photo by Joshua Herd



The Sheridan football team claimed its third consecutive sectional championship last Friday, beating Cloverdale 42-14 at Bud Wright Stadium. Photo by Allison Waitt



Westfield senior captains Mikeah Webster, Carsen Melvin, Beau Braun and Parker Knott show off the Sectional 3 trophy after the Shamrocks beat Zionsville 35-13 to claim their fifth consecutive sectional title. Reporter photo by Richie Hall

That's three in a row for Sheridan

Coach Bud Wright: "One of our better ball games of the year"

The REPORTER

Last Friday at Sheridan's Bud Wright Stadium, the Blackhawks played what their Hall of Fame coach said was one of "our better ball games of the year."

Sheridan's reward was its third consecutive sectional championship. The Hawks cruised past Cloverdale 42-14 to claim the Class 1A Sectional 46 crown.

"We've been playing the last two weeks like we should've been playing all year," said Wright.

Jacob Hall made a five-yard touchdown run early in the first quarter to get Sheridan on the board. The Clovers came back to tie things up with a 64-yard passing touchdown, making the score 7-7.

But the Blackhawks took back control right away thanks to Jon Barnes; he took a 26-yard run into the end zone to put Sheridan back on top. The Hawks intercepted Cloverdale later in the quarter, and that led to a seven-yard TD run for Barnes.

"Defense did a heck of a good job," said Wright. After Sheridan gave up the

long pass in the first quarter, Wright said the team got that corrected.

"We made a couple adjustments and they picked up on it and did a nice job with it," said Wright.

The Blackhawks led 21-7 after the first quarter and added a touchdown in each of the next three quarters. Barnes took another touchdown trip in the second period, scoring on a seven-yard run. Owen Bell and Dayne Voege then teamed up for two passing touchdowns in the second half, starting with a 29-yard TD throw from Bell to Voege in the third period.

Early in the fourth quarter, Bell sent a 34-yard pass to Voege, who turned it into Sheridan's sixth touchdown of the game. Bell kicked the extra point, as he had for all the previous TDs, to go a perfect 6-of-6 on the night.

Barnes led the rushing with 116 yards, while Alex Cravens ran for 106 yards.

Sheridan won its 22nd sectional title in program history. The Blackhawks are 7-5 and play at South Putnam Friday for the Regional 23 championship.



Sheridan's Dayne Voege caught two touchdown passes in the second half. Photo by Allison Waitt

Rocks take control early to secure fifth consecutive sectional championship

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

WESTFIELD – Westfield football coach Josh Miracle had many positive things to say to his Shamrocks minutes after they won their fifth consecutive sectional championship.

One of those things was, "don't take them for granted." Second-ranked Westfield certainly didn't take last Friday's Class 6A Sectional 3 title game for granted,

blasting through the first half on its way to a 35-13 victory over visiting Zionsville at Riverview Health Stadium.

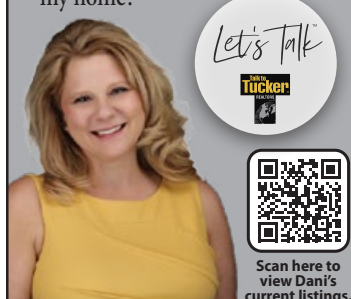
"I think sectionals are hard to come by," said Miracle. This is first year as the Shamrocks' head coach, but he was an assistant coach for several years before, getting to enjoy those sectional triumphs as well.

Westfield was in control from the beginning.

See Rocks . . . Page B2

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Girls Wrestling

Huskies complete their first IHSAA sanctioned dual meet

The REPORTER

The Hamilton Heights girls wrestling team competed in its first-ever IHSAA sanctioned dual meet last Wednesday.

The Huskies traveled to Elwood and won 42-6. Heights won all seven of its official matches with first-period pins, including a nine-second fall from Zoe Pugh at 120 pounds. Other Huskies winners were Aubrey Baber at 115, Veronica Pruitt at 130, Cora Flack at 135, Izzy Bailey at 155, Amelia Cordero at 170 and Natalie Head at 190.

Diana Galt won an exhibition match at 170 pounds. Heights forfeited the heavy-weight division, which gave



The Hamilton Heights girls wrestling team won its first-ever IHSAA sanctioned dual meet last Wednesday, beating Elwood 42-6.

the Panthers six points. “Being one of the first sanctioned dual meets in

Indiana was just thrilling,” said Huskies coach Gary Myers. “The girls had the

most fun, from both sides, win or lose. They were just having a blast.”

Girls Basketball

Huskies in rebuilding mode with new coach, many new players

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

ARCADIA – Things are different this year for the Hamilton Heights girls basketball team.

With a new coach and many new players on the team, including a few that are brand new to varsity basketball, the Huskies are in rebuilding mode. Heights also had to contend with a very good team for its season opener last Tuesday, taking on Danville, which brought back some players from the Warriors’ semi-state qualifying squad last season.

Danville took it to the Huskies early, rolling to a 74-19 victory at the Huskies gym. It was a tough start, but first-year coach Erin Trimpe called it “a learning process.”

“We’re young and we are low in numbers and everybody’s having to step into new roles and find ways to adjust,” said Trimpe.

The Warriors scored the first seven points of the game. Heights came back with five points, starting with two free throws from Presley Cherry and a 3-pointer from Katie Brown, the lone varsity returner from last season.

But Danville finished the quarter on a 12-0 run to lead 19-5. The Warriors extended their lead to 35-12 at halftime; Brown added five more points for Heights, including another 3.

Danville blasted through the third quarter, outscoring the Huskies 27-7, then shut them out in the fourth quarter by a 12-0 margin.

“They did a great job of putting pressure on us and we struggled a little bit, obviously,” said Trimpe. “A lot of turnovers, which just sets them up for easy baskets.”

Brown scored eight points, while Cherry had seven points. A bright spot



(LEFT) Hamilton Heights’ Kate Brown scored eight points for the Huskies during their season-opening game with Danville last Tuesday. (RIGHT) Reece Blanton had two rebounds for the Huskies.

was freshman Sarah Sherrill, who scored four points, making one basket in both the second and third quarters. Brown and Sherrill both collected four rebounds.

“We’ve got three girls out right now who would probably be starters for us, who have a little bit more experience,” said Trimpe. The coach said that practices are focusing on “a lot of fundamentals. It’s a lot of just the basics of basketball and trying to get them familiar with the speed of the game, the physicality of the game.”

“But until you see it in a game, you can’t prepare for it. And so I think this was an eye-opening experience for them, but it is something that we’re going to see quite often. We have a great schedule and we play very good teams, and so for us, it’s about adjusting to that and continuing to prepare them in practice.”

The Huskies traveled to Pendleton Heights last Thursday for their second game and lost 70-19. Cherry led the scoring with eight points, while Reece Blanton scored five. Brown, Addi-

son Gilmore and Sherrill all scored two points; Brown also got four rebounds. Heights is 0-2 and plays

at Frankton Tuesday, hosts Noblesville on Friday, then plays at Jay County on Saturday.

TITLE

Fishers came right back to grab the lead on a Ryan Thembulembu run. Tyler Maynard ran in the two-point conversion and it was 15-7.

Southeastern grabbed some momentum with two straight touchdowns. Chandler Weston hooked up with Liam Boyd for a 42-yard touchdown pass and AZ Wallace ran in his second score, this time from 22 yards out for a 20-15 lead for the Royals.

Hill connected with Hall with 1:34 left in the second. Thembulembu ran in the two-point try for a 23-20 slight edge.

But that would be too much time on the clock for HSE. Weston found Boyd once again, a 20-yarder with 36 seconds left that gave the Royals a 27-23 halftime advantage.

“Playing a rival like HSE, we know each other well. We scout each other well and knew there would be adversity to overcome. There were lots of ups and downs and our kids responded,” said Funk.

The third quarter had just one score, a four-yard run from Thembulembu that pushed it to 30-27. It was a crucial score and made a difference in the end.

“Ryan ran hard all night. I’m proud of our line up front for creating opportunities for him,” said Funk.

Hill guided Fishers to its largest lead at 37-27 on a 73-yard pass and catch to Hall.

The Royals crawled right back into the game. AZ Wallace made his presence known, scoring with 7:25 left and again with 2:03 remaining in the fourth for a 41-37 HSE lead.

Just like in the first half,

Football

Golden Eagles fall to Tri-West

The REPORTER

Guerin Catholic fell in the championship game of Class 3A Sectional 29 last Friday at Tri-West by the score of 21-12.

The Bruins scored the only points of the first quarter on a one-yard run by Jack Sorgi, giving them a 7-0 lead. Nick Wilson kicked a field goal in the second period, bringing the Golden Eagles within 7-3 at halftime.

Another Wilson field goal cut Tri-West’s lead to 7-6, but the Bruins pushed their lead to 14-6 after an-

other one-yard TD run by Sorgi. Malcolm Houze punched in the ball from the one-yard early in the fourth quarter for Guerin Catholic’s lone touchdown of the game. Tri-West’s Derek Reid made a long run later in the fourth to seal the Bruins’ victory.

Houze completed 19 of 37 passes for 193 yards, with Hayden Cler catching eight of those throws. Jack Linden led the rushing with 99 yards.

The Golden Eagles finished their season 6-6.

ROCKS

from Page B1

Zionsville got the ball first, but the Shamrocks held firm, making the Eagles come up empty. It was different for Westfield when it finally got the ball: the Rocks scored on their first offensive play, with senior quarterback Carsen Melvin taking off on a 79-yard touchdown run.

“We did an inside zone,” said Melvin. He kept the ball, then got a “great block on the outside and just took it all the way.”

Melvin also credited the Shamrocks’ defense for making that initial stand at the beginning of the game.

“I think it definitely gave us some momentum,” said Melvin. “Our defense is playing really great. Any more momentum that we can give them is great. They do a lot for us, we do a lot for them. That’s why we’re playing so well. We play for each other.”

Westfield turned up the heat in the second quarter with three touchdowns. Deacon King found the end zone on the first play of the period with a 14-yard run. Melvin then took a six-yard run to score his second TD of the evening. Broc Parker finished things off with an eight-yard sprint for the

Rocks’ fourth touchdown of the game.

“Carsen’s doing a good job of just getting the ball where it needs to go to,” said Miracle. “All of these guys are capable of making plays and I think that’s what makes us dangerous on offense, too. When it’s their time to step up, they will. Nobody gets selfish in between those times, either.”

The Shamrocks led 28-0 at halftime. Westfield added another touchdown just seconds into the second half when Parker took the opening kickoff 92 yards to the end zone. Owen Wright made the extra point kick, just as he did with all four first-half scores, making him 5-for-5.

The remainder of the contest was played with a running clock. Zionsville scored one touchdown each in the third and fourth quarter, but Westfield had the game in hand by then.

Melvin finished with 85 yards rushing, followed by King with 73 yards.

The Shamrocks won their 13th sectional title in program history and improved to 10-1 with the victory. Westfield will travel to Fishers Friday for the Regional 2 championship.

from Page B1



(ABOVE) Hamilton Southeastern’s AZ Wallace (33) ran for four touchdowns. (BELOW) Fishers quarterback Caden Hill (16) threw for three touchdowns, including the game-winner with 0.7 seconds left.

there was too much time left. This time, Fishers had the ball.

Funk and his staff had quite the message prior to the final drive.

“Every week, we do two-minute drills in practice. It’s been the same scenario since Aug. 5,” said Funk.

“In practice, we told them that there’s going to be a game we’re going to have to use this. We’re built for this,” said Funk.

The two teams combined for 929 yards of total offense. HSE had 508 and Fishers 422. There were 130 offensive plays and 50 combined first downs.

“If you’re a fan of football, it was one of the best games I’ve coached,” said Funk. “We both dialed things in at the right times.”

AZ Wallace led the Royals with 165 yards on 35 carries and four TDs in his final game. Chandler Weston went 13 of 21 for 251 yards and two TDs. Both of those



scores were to Liam Boyd, who caught eight for 171. Callen Okerson also hauled in four for 82.

Hamilton Southeastern finishes its season at 7-4.

The Tigers were led by Thembulembu’s 150 on the ground in 23 rushes and two scores. Caden Hill had a solid night in the pocket. Hill was 15 out of 23 for 238 yards and three TD passes. Stanford commit Hall showed his worth, catching 11 of Hill’s throws for 194 yards and two touchdowns.

Fishers (7-4) is riding a three-game winning streak and hosts No. 2 Westfield (10-1) for the regional on Friday.

This will be the third consecutive Hoosier Crossroads Conference opponent in the playoffs for the Tigers.

“I have so much respect for our conference. Top to bottom, we have the best conference in the state. We’re going to enjoy this one tonight, but we’re looking forward to getting to work for next week,” said Funk.

Hounds have rough start

The REPORTER

Carmel got the biggest test of all to start its season last Thursday, hosting defending Class 4A state champion Lawrence Central at the Eric Clark Activity Center.

The Bears got off to a hot start and eventually beat the Greyhounds 88-57. Lawrence Central led 23-13 after the first quarter and 48-29 at halftime. The Bears pulled away further in the third period with 19 points.

Senior Izzy Shepherd led Carmel with 14 points, including three 3-pointers. Senior Mackenzie Woods and freshman Catherine Bassi both scored 10 points. The Greyhounds hosted

Evansville Central last Saturday and lost a close game 69-62. The Bears led 15-14 after one quarter and 32-25 at halftime. Bassi scored 10 points in the half, including a pair of first-quarter 3-pointers.

Evansville Central held a 52-43 advantage after three quarters. Carmel outscored the Bears 19-17 in the fourth quarter, but EC held on for the win.

Shepherd led the scoring with 20 points, draining two 3s. Bassi scored 19 points and totaled four triples. Woods and Lauren Perry each added six points.

The Greyhounds are 0-2 and play at Crispus Attucks Friday, their only game of the week.

Girls Basketball

Experience & trust help Royals complete their opening assignment

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

FISHERS – The Hamilton Southeastern girls basketball team has quite a bit of talent, and there's a couple of intangibles the Royals have going for them as well.

Experience and trust. Both of those things helped the Royals through a tough opening assignment at their gym last Thursday. Southeastern broke out of a close game with Lawrence North in the second half and came away with a 66-53 victory.

The first quarter was tight, ending in a 13-13 tie. Senior Maya Makalusky and junior Kennedy Holman both scored four points; Holman hit two free throws and a layin to finish the quarter and bring the Royals back from a 13-9 deficit.

Both teams traded baskets in the second quarter, a fast-paced period that included a combined seven triples. Antonette Green, Makalusky, Maine Hooks and Holman all knocked down 3-pointers for Southeastern. That helped the Royals keep pace with the Wildcats, who finished the half ahead 29-27 after Ke'Adriah Butler made a free throw.

Action slowed down during the first few minutes of the third quarter. Kayla Stidham nailed a 3 to put HSE up 30-29, and a pair of Holman free throws pushed the lead to 32-29. But LN answered that with an 8-0 run, with Butler taking over. She tied the game with a triple, then made a traditional three-point play with three minutes left.

A Winston layin put the Royals down 37-32, their biggest deficit. But Southeastern sprung back with an 8-0 run to lead 40-37 and would never trail again. Holman began the spurt with a layin, Makalusky threw in a layin and two free throws, then Abigail Brown made a layin.

"I think they got us a little bit out of our game early on, especially that first half," said Royals coach Brian Satterfield. "But I thought we settled down and played a little bit better the second half."

Makalusky said the run actually began before the Royals started scoring.

"It started when we got down in the game," said Makalusky. "We all gathered together, we knew who we were, we know what type of team we are. So for us, we hit our second motor when we were down and that gave us that extra push."

Makalusky elaborated on that further: "It's the little plays, the box-outs, the rebounds. When the ball's on the ground, diving after it. Those little hustle power plays that fuel us."

Chemistry and experience also play a role, as Makalusky, Holman and Stidham have all been starters since their freshman years, and this is their third season of playing together.

"They've done a tremendous job of starting to trust each other," said Satterfield.

Kalea Bently hit a 3 to tie the game, but Makalusky answered that with her own triple for a 43-40 lead. Southeastern stayed in front



(LEFT) Hamilton Southeastern's Maya Makalusky scored 31 points for the Royals during their season-opening game last Thursday against Lawrence North. **(RIGHT)** Southeastern's Kennedy Holman scored 13 points for the Royals.

from that point forward, finishing the third quarter up 45-42 and steadily increasing its lead in the fourth quarter.

Southeastern solidified its defense in the fourth quarter; Holman said the Royals "had to play really good help-side defense, just to help Addison (Van Hoesen) down there." Holman said that in the second half, "the help side was way better and that's what really helped us get all those steals and stops."

Makalusky took over during the fourth, pouring in 13 points, including two 3s. She finished with 31 points for the game, totaling four triples. Holman added 13 points and Stidham scored 10.

Southeastern took care of Ben Davis 54-33 last Saturday

in another home game to improve its record to 2-0. The Royals led 15-5 after one quarter; the Giants made a second-quarter comeback to cut HSE's lead to 22-17 by halftime.

But the Royals made a 15-point run in the middle of the third period, scoring 19 points in total that quarter for a 41-22 advantage. Southeastern added another 13 points in the fourth.

Makalusky scored 17 points for the Royals and collected seven rebounds, with Abigale Brown scoring 12. Holman was everywhere, with nine points, six rebounds and six assists. Stidham grabbed five rebounds.

Southeastern plays at Franklin Community on Wednesday, its only game this week.



Photo by Joshua Herd
Fishers' Nevaeh Dickman was the scoring leader for the Tigers in both of their games last week. Dickman scored 18 points in Fishers' opener at Ben Davis, then had nine points when the Tigers hosted Center Grove.

Young Fishers team splits first two games

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

The Fishers girls basketball team split the first two games of its season last week.

The Tigers opened their campaign with a 48-29 victory at Ben Davis. Fishers played to a 12-12 tie with the Giants in the first quarter. Nevaeh Dickman scored seven points in that opening period. Fishers rolled to a 29-22 halftime lead, with Riley Schellhammer pouring in nine points, including a 3-pointer.

Fishers then cruised through the second half, allowing Ben Davis only seven points. Allison Scheu scored seven in the third quarter. Dickman led the scoring with 18 points, followed by Schellhammer with 14 and Scheu with 12.

Last Saturday, the Tigers played their home opener by taking on a tough Center Grove team. The Trojans jumped out to an early first-quarter lead and used strong defense to beat Fishers 43-22.

Center Grove led 16-4 after the first period, not allowing the Tigers any field goals. Natalie Thomas and Scheu each made two free throws during the quarter.

"We have some great experience on the inside and with our size, but we are very young at the point guard position," said Fishers coach Lauren Votaw. "Allison's playing some point guard for us, she's never played point guard before.

Just trying to get that experience and then trying to gel as a team is going to be part of the process for us, and we know that."

Dickman scored Fishers' first field goal at the 6:45 mark of the second quarter, then drained a 3 a couple minutes later. But the Trojans still held a double-digit lead at halftime, 24-13.

Center Grove scored the first six points of the third quarter before Schellhammer stopped the run with a free throw. The Tigers kept fighting, but the Trojans continued to extend their lead throughout the third, going up 38-18 by the end of the period. CG kept their lead around that margin for the entirety of the fourth quarter.

Dickman led Fishers with nine points, while Anna Anthony scored four.

Votaw said playing two good teams during the first week of the season "reveals where you need to get better." While Dickman and Scheu are experienced seniors, several players are getting their first significant varsity minutes, while two players, Schellhammer and Ella Burleson, are freshmen.

"So, it helps to give a target, a focus to what we're doing in practice," said Votaw. "And it does help them to see this is what 4A basketball in Indiana is like."

Fishers plays at Anderson Wednesday, then hosts Fort Wayne Carroll and Columbia City Saturday as part of the Fishers Classic.

Rocks get moving early to beat North Central, go on to win in home opener

The **REPORTER**

The Westfield girls basketball team opened its season with a 51-41 win last Tuesday at North Central.

The Shamrocks got going early, taking a 14-7 lead after the first quarter. Sam Price scored eight points, while Lindsey Van Dyke drained two 3-pointers. Westfield stayed in front 23-19 at halftime and 35-32 after

three periods, then pulled away with 16 points in the fourth quarter.

Price scored six points in the fourth and finished with 20 points for the game. Aubrey Crockett and MaKayla Hatcher each totaled nine points.

The Shamrocks played their first home game last Saturday, taking on Pendleton Heights at CSI Gymnasium and winning 53-46.

Westfield jumped out to a 17-8 lead after the first quarter, with Van Dyke and Price both scoring six points. The Rocks expanded their advantage further in the second period, going up 30-15 by halftime. Price totaled 10 points at halftime.

The Arabians chipped away at Westfield's lead in the second half, but the Shamrocks were able to hang on for

the victory. Price scored six more points in fourth quarter and finished the game with 19. Meg Hamilton added nine points. Aubrey Crockett and Van Dyke each scored eight points, with Crockett going 5 of 6 from the free-throw line in the fourth quarter.

Westfield is 2-0 and hosts Lawrence Central Wednesday in its lone game of the week.

Millers hold off pesky Avon to win opener

By **CRAIG ADKINS**
For The Reporter

NOBLESVILLE – Last Saturday night's season opener showed a lot of things for both Noblesville and Avon. They both tested each other throughout the contest, but it would ultimately be the Millers finding ways late to distance themselves from the Orioles for a 66-61 win.

Noblesville got off to a 7-0 start to get comfortable right away on their home floor. Freshman Maia Blower scored the first point of the season with a free throw. Junior C.C. Quigley followed with two herself for a 3-0 lead.

Senior Kate Rollins nailed a jump shot from the left and fellow senior Meredith Tippner sank an eight-footer for a 7-0 score.

Avon woke up a little to catch up with the Millers' pace and Noblesville led 18-10 after one.

Quigley produced six points in a row for a 24-12 count. Avon's Aniah Smith and Ella Robinson each hit a three to bring it under 10 at halftime, 30-22.

"In the first half, we got in foul trouble and that really kept us from being able to stretch that lead out," said Noblesville's 17th-year head coach Donna Buckley. "At halftime, we talked

about doing a better job of rebounding. They were out rebounding us at half. We just talked about paint touches and how we need to do a better job of doing that."

The Millers got it up to an 18-point advantage in the third, thanks to a 13-6 run to start the second half. Tippner sank a pair of free throws and Blower a layup, along with Ally Hutchinson scoring two consecutive buckets for 38-22.

"We did a great job of turning them over, rebounding and getting the ball in the paint," Buckley stated.

The Orioles started to close the gap toward the end of the third by another couple of three-pointers from Robinson. Noblesville held a 47-36 lead with one quarter remaining.

Avon took advantage of opportunities and it worked, for a short time. The Orioles made five three-pointers in the fourth and shaved off every bit of the 18-point Miller lead and tied it 58-58.

"And then we got a little crazy and they hit a bunch of threes and obviously brought it all the way back. We had five turnovers in the first half and 11 in the second, all live ball turnovers that led to easy opportunities for them," continued Buckley.

Noblesville got back on top, where they stayed for



Photo by Kyla McDonald / Miller Sports Media
Noblesville's Meredith Tippner scored a career-high 31 points during the Millers' season-opening girls basketball with Avon last Saturday at The Mill.

good, when Tippner made a basket and was fouled. She made the free throw for the old-fashioned three-point play and a 61-58 lead with 1:20 left.

"Reagan (Wilson) graduated and we're trying to replace a four-year starter at point guard. We had some young or inexperienced moments. I love that we fought through it. In the end, our seniors made huge, huge plays. Tipp was awesome and then Kate had an and-one that gave us an opportunity to win the basketball game," said Buckley.

With the lead at 64-58, Makaylee Butts hit a three from the top of the key for Avon to bring it back to three at 64-61.

Tippner got a steal and was fouled with 2.7 seconds left, sinking those two from

the charity stripe for the final of 66-61.

Noblesville (1-0, 1-0 HCC) was led by Meredith Tippner's career-high 31, including 6-of-6 free throws and 11 two-point field goals. She was joined in double figures by C.C. Quigley's 13, who was also perfect at the line (7-for-7). Freshman Maia Blower scored 10 in her varsity debut and was all over the court with steals, assists and rebounds.

Kate Rollins had six, Ally Hutchinson four and freshman Norah Vetur two in her first game.

The Millers hit the road on Tuesday at Bishop Chatard (1-0). The Trojans were winners at Scottsburg to open their season on Saturday, 57-50. Noblesville plays another away game Friday at Hamilton Heights.

Dave Sharpe speaks after stepping down as Noblesville football coach

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

Dave Sharpe has stepped down as the Noblesville High School head football coach.

In an interview with The Reporter last Thursday, Sharpe said he told his players of his decision last Wednesday in a team meeting. He was hired in 2019 as a coach and physical education teacher at NHS and will continue to teach at the school.

"I'll still be in the building as a teacher," said Sharpe. "I still hope to coach football again someday, in some capacity."

Sharpe said he wants to spend more time with his family, but also said he "loved being the coach of the Millers. It was a lot of fun."

"The kids were awesome to coach," said Sharpe. "I hope they have a ton of success. I'll be watching from afar."

"I can confirm that we are beginning the process of identifying a new head varsity football coach," said Noblesville athletic director Leah Wooldridge. "We will be making a thoughtful evaluation of the past successes

and challenges of our football program as we evaluate plans for the future.

"I want to thank Coach Sharpe for serving our student athletes, and for his dedication and commitment to NHS football. He will remain in his role as a health and wellness teacher at NHS and we wish him the best."

Sharpe coached the Millers for five seasons, starting in 2020. Noblesville went 14-38 in those years, navigating a tough schedule in the Hoosier Crossroads Conference and in the sectional. But the Millers still battled – this season, six of Noblesville's losses were by a touchdown or less.

During that time, Noblesville opened its new Beaver Stadium; Sharpe said the excitement and energy of being in that new stadium "was amazing."

Sharpe also enjoyed "seeing the kids year after year, knowing that at times, they were going to be underdogs going up against the gauntlet schedule. But they were fired up and gave it their all year after year."

"It was truly a great group of kids," said Sharpe. "I'll treasure the memories."

Girls Basketball Golden Eagles get huge win to start

The REPORTER

The Guerin Catholic girls basketball team began its season last Saturday with a big win at the Eagles Nest.

The Golden Eagles beat Greenwood Christian Academy 63-25. Guerin Catholic outscored the Cougars in each of the four quarters, leading 15-6 after one period and 31-16 at halftime. Ava Bills scored nine points in the first half.

The Golden Eagles took further control in the third quarter, outscoring GCA

22-7. Bills added six more points, giving her a game-high total of 15. Guerin Catholic finished the game with a 10-2 fourth quarter.

Annie Murphy and Lillian Behrle both scored in double digits for GC, with 10 points each. Murphy hit two 3-pointers. Dana Dues had eight points.

Guerin Catholic plays two games this week, traveling to Yorktown on Tuesday before hosting Greenfield-Central Saturday afternoon.

Blazers fight hard, but fall to Lafayette Jeff in opener

The REPORTER

The University girls basketball team dropped a hard-fought opening game last Saturday, falling to Lafayette Jefferson 57-54 at the Bronchos' gym.

The Trailblazers played Lafayette Jeff close in the first half, with the Bronchos leading 11-9 after one quarter and 27-22 at halftime. Leah Norvell scored nine points in that half. Jeff got University down 36-26 midway through the third quarter, but the Blazers worked their way back to tie the game at 41-41 at the end of the period. Gabby Culp and Sydney Culp both hit two 3s in the third.

A pair of Norvell baskets pushed University ahead 45-41 early in the fourth period. The Trailblazers were

still up 50-47 with two minutes left, but the Bronchos went on an 8-0 run to take the lead and held it until the final buzzer.

Four University players reached double figure scoring. Gabby Culp had 16 points and Sydney Culp scored 15; both totaled three 3s. Norvell finished with 13 points and senior Taylor Seay, playing her first game since her sophomore year, added 10 points.

Norvell collected eight rebounds, followed by six for Mack Feeny and five each for Seay and Gabby Culp. Seay also dished out four assists. Feeny had three blocked shots and Seay made two blocks.

University hosts Danville at 6 p.m. Wednesday for their only game this week.

Connor Maddox earns All-American honors



Photo provided

Westfield's Connor Maddox finished in eighth place at 106 pounds in the Freshman and Sophomore division and earned All-American Honors at the USA Wrestling Brian Keck Memorial Preseason Nationals during late October in Des Moines. Maddox went 5-3 for the tournament.

COUNTY

BEFORE THE HAMILTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD IN THE MATTER OF West Arcadia Miller Arm of the Wilson-Nagle Drain NOTICE To Whom It May Concern and: 306 Church St. Trust Kiovsky, Scott R & Alicia Kiovsky Alexander, Kimberly R & Michael Notice is hereby given of the hearing of the Hamilton County Drainage Board concerning the reconstruction of the West Arcadia - Miller Arm of the Wilson-Nagle Drain on November 25, 2024 at 9:20 A.M. in the Historic Courtroom, Hamilton County Historic Courthouse 2nd Floor, 33 North 9th Street, Noblesville, Indiana. Construction and maintenance reports of the Surveyor and the Schedule of Assessments proposed by the Drainage Board have been filed and are available for public inspection in the office of the Hamilton County Surveyor. Hamilton County Drainage Board Attest: Lynette Mosbaugh Executive Secretary R5235 11/11/24

COURT NOTICES

29D03-2410-EU-000471 NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION In re the Estate of Parmula K. Weedman ADLER ATTORNEYS Raymond M. Adler, P.C., #2336-29 136 South 9th Street Noblesville, IN 46060-2614 (317) 773-1974 ray@noblesvilleattorney.com In the Superior Court 3 of Hamilton County, Indiana Notice is given that Michael Wright, on October 29, 2024 was appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of the above-named Decedent, who died on October 21, 2024. All persons who have claims against this Estate, whether now due, must file the claim in the office of the clerk of this court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice or within nine (9) months of Decedent's death whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated: October 29th, 2024 Kathy Kregg Williams Clerk for Hamilton County, Indiana R5177 11/4/24, 11/11/24

29D03-2410-ES-000461 Hamilton Superior Court 3 STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF HAMILTON IN THE HAMILTON SUPERIOR COURT 3 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF SYLVIA ANN WATT, DECEASED. George G. Slater, Attorney SLATER LAW OFFICE LLC 600 E. Carmel Drive, Suite 128 Carmel, IN 46032 317-571-9600 NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION In the Superior Court 3 of Hamilton County, Indiana. Notice is hereby given that Lisa McMullen was on October 24th, 2024 appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Sylvia Ann Watt, deceased. All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or said claims will be forever barred. Dated at Noblesville, Indiana, on October 24th, 2024. Kathy Kregg Williams Hamilton County Clerk R5207 11/4/24, 11/11/24

29D01-2410-EU-000484 Hamilton Superior Court 1 NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION IN THE HAMILTON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT 1 PROBATE DIVISION In the Matter of the Unsupervised Estate of SHERI A. JEFFERS, Deceased Notice is hereby given that VICKI M. STEVENS was on November 1, 2024 (date), appointed personal representative of the estate of SHERI A. JEFFERS, deceased, who died on October 17, 2024. All persons having claims against said estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this Notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Noblesville, Indiana, on November 1, 2024. Kathy Kregg Williams Clerk, Hamilton Superior Court Probate Division Ryan T. Hendershott, Attorney #29954-49 Holwager & Holwager, Attorneys at Law, P.C. 1818 Main Street Beech Grove, IN 46107 TEL: 317-787-8395 FAX: 317-787-1231 rhendershott@hhelderlaw.com R5218 11/11/24, 11/18/24

29D03-2410-EU-000481 STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF HAMILTON IN THE HAMILTON SUPERIOR COURT 1 CAUSE NO. 29D03-2410-EU-000481 IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF KAY LYNN BENNETT NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION Notice is hereby given that on the 4th day of November 2024, William Craig Collisson and Beverly Hamersly were appointed Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of Kay Lynn Bennett, Deceased, who died on October 4, 2024. All persons having claims against this Estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Noblesville, Indiana, this 4th day of November, 2024. Kathy Kregg Williams Hamilton County Clerk R5219 11/11/24, 11/18/24

29D02-2410-EU-000483 STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF HAMILTON IN THE HAMILTON SUPERIOR COURT CAUSE NO. 29D02-2410-EU-000483 IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF PORTIA M. DEVORE, Deceased. NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION Notice is hereby given that on the 6th day of November, 2024, David K. Devore was appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Portia M. Devore, deceased, who died on the 7th day of June, 2024. All persons having claims against the estate whether or not now due, must file a claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Noblesville, Indiana this 6th day of November, 2024. Kathy Kregg Williams Clerk, Hamilton County Superior Court Attorney for the Personal Representative: Clinton E. Blanck, 19270-32 BLANCK LEGAL, P.C. 9245 North Meridian Street, Suite 301 Indianapolis, Indiana 46260 Telephone: (317) 844-8372 Fax: (317) 573-5564 E-mail: cblanck@blancklegal.com R5226 11/11/24, 11/18/24

Stuart P. Boehning, Attorney No. 18541-79 415 Columbia Street, Suite 1000 P.O. Box 469 Lafayette, IN 47902-0469 Telephone: (765) 742-9066 Facsimile: (765) 742-7641 E-mail: spb@hereforlife.com Attorney for Co-Personal Representatives R5220 11/11/24, 11/18/24

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF HAMILTON IN THE HAMILTON SUPERIOR COURT CAUSE NUMBER 29D02-2407-EU-000321 IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MAHABIR SINGH, DECEASED NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION Notice is hereby given that Parvinder Kaur was on the date of August 13, 2024, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Mahabir Singh, deceased, who died testate on May 29, 2023. The Personal Representative is authorized to proceed pursuant to the statutory provisions of the Indiana Code governing Unsupervised Administration. All persons having claims against said estate, whether or not now due, must file the same in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or said claims will be forever barred. Dated at Noblesville, Indiana, this 7th day of November 30, 2024. Kathy Kregg Williams Clerk of the Superior Court of Hamilton County, Indiana Attorney for the Estate Christopher P. Jeter (#25905-49) Massillamny Jeter & Carson LLP 11650 Lantern Road, Suite 204 Fishers, Indiana 46038 Telephone: (317) 576-8580 Facsimile (317) 203-1012 E-mail: chris@mjcattorneys.com R5237 11/11/24, 11/18/24

NOBLESVILLE

CITY OF NOBLESVILLE NOTICE TO BIDDERS Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received: By/At: City of Noblesville, Indiana City of Noblesville, Indiana Office of the Clerk 16 S. 10th Street Noblesville, Indiana 46060 Project: Replacement of 3 existing centrifugal, dry-pit lift station pumps with 3 owner purchased pumps and installation of associated equipment at the Noblesville Lift Station No. 2. Until: 09:00 A.M., local time, Tuesday, December 17, 2024 Receipt of Bids: Bids received after the stated time will be returned unopened. Bids are to be submitted on the Bid Form as provided in the Project Manual and on Indiana State Board of Accounts Form No. 96 (revised 2013) as required by the statutes of the State of Indiana. Bidders shall submit financial data, statement of experience, proposed plan for performing the Work and the equipment the Bidder has available for the performance of the Work, along with a properly signed Affidavit of Non-Collusion as required by Form No. 96. Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, marked with the name and address of the Bidder, and clearly identified. SEALED BID: Lift Station No. 2 Pump Replacement Project Bid Opening: Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud by the City of Noblesville Board of Public Works and Safety at the Council Chambers, Noblesville, Indiana 46060, at 09:00 A.M. local time, Tuesday, December 17, 2024. The Work: The Work shall be completed by certified / qualified Contractor(s) and Subcontractor(s) for the Project all as required by the Bidding Documents which have been assembled into a bound Project Manual and consists of: Base bid for which proposals are to be received is for the construction of pump replacement at the Noblesville Lift Station No. 2. Contract Award: Any Bid may be withdrawn prior to the deadline for receipt of Bids, but no Bidder shall withdraw its Bid within sixty (60) days after the opening of the Bids. If a contract is awarded, it will be to the "lowest responsible and responsive bidder" in accordance with Indiana Code 36-1-12-1 et seq. The Owner, however, reserves the right to reject and/or cancel any and all Bids, solicitations and/or offers in whole or in part as specified in the solicitation when it is not in the best interests of the Owner, and waive any informalities, discrepancies, omissions, variances, or irregularities in bids received in its sole discretion. The Bid Bids and certified checks of unsuccessful bidders will be returned upon selection of the successful Bidder, execution of the Agreement, and provision of the required Performance and Payment Bonds and Certificate of Insurance. Bid Documents: Copies of the Specifications and Contract Documents may be obtained on or after November 11, 2024. Interested Bidders may obtain electronic Bidding Documents by sending an email to aredestwald@noblesville.in.us and jgthompson@noblesville.in.us requesting instructions to download project documents. Submit all bid questions in writing to City of Noblesville - Engineering Department prior to 12:00PM, local time on December 5, 2024. Questions will only be accepted from firms on the official Plan Holders list. A written response will be emailed to the address on the official Plan Holder's list that is required to be completed at the time the plans are purchased. No questions will be answered by telephone. The contact person for questions is: Karen Saavedra, PE American Structurepoint, Inc. ksaavedra@structurepoint.com Carbon Copy Questions to: Jonathan Mirgeaux, PE Utility Director jmirgeaux@noblesville.in.gov Bidders shall assure that they have obtained complete sets of Bidding Documents and the Project Manual and shall assume the risk of any errors or omissions in Bids prepared in reliance on incomplete sets of Bidding Documents or Project Manual. Bids must be submitted on the forms contained in the Project Manual and must contain the names of every person or company interested therein. Bid Security: Each Bid shall be accompanied by bid security in the form of a Bid Bond as provided in the Project Manual in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the total Bid amount, including alternates with a satisfactory corporate surety qualified to do business in the State of Indiana or by a certified check made payable to the City of Noblesville, on a solvent bank in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the amount of the total Bid including alternates. The Bid Bond or certified check shall be security that the successful Bidder will, within ten (10) calendar days or such other time specified by Owner from the acceptance of the Bid, execute the Agreement and provide the required Payment and Performance Bonds, included in the Project Manual and Certificate of Insurance. Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond: A Performance Bond with good and sufficient surety as required by the Owner on the Form provided in the Project Manual, shall be required of the successful Bidder in an amount equal to at least one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract Sum, conditioned upon the faithful performance of the Agreement. The surety of the Performance Bond may not be released until one (1) year after the Owner's final settlement with the Contractor. The Contractor shall provide a Payment Bond with a good and sufficient surety as required by the Owner on Form provided in the Project Manual, in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract Sum. The Payment Bond is binding on the Contractor, its subcontractors, and their successors and assigns for the payment of all indebtedness to a person for labor and services performed, material furnished, or services rendered. The Payment Bond must state that it is for the benefit of the subcontractors, laborers, material suppliers, and those performing services. The surety of the Payment Bond may not be released until one (1) year after the Owner's final settlement with the Contractor. All out-of-state bidder corporations must have a Certificate of Authority to do business in the State. Application forms may be obtained by contacting the Secretary of State, State of Indiana, Statehouse, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204. R5214 11/11/24, 11/18/24

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL/QUALIFICATIONS The City of Noblesville, Indiana is requesting Statements of Proposal/Qualifications from interested professionals for construction, operating, and financing services for the Noblesville Public Safety Building Project. In accordance with IC 5-23-5, the Mayor's Office and Board of Public Works and Safety invite any and all qualified parties to submit Statements of Proposal/Qualifications, under a public-private partnership, to obtain financing, construct, and furnish the project, in Noblesville, Indiana. Six (6) Hard copies of the Development Team's qualification packet, including one thumb drive of the same, should be delivered by 9:00 am EST on December 17, 2024 to the City Clerk's Office, Noblesville City Hall, 16 South 10th Street, Noblesville, IN 46060 in order to be considered. Any proposals received after that time will be returned unopened. Additional information and a packet outlining submittal requirements will be available at the Office of the Deputy Mayor and may be requested. R5166 11/11/24, 11/18/24, 11/24/24

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS OF PUBLIC HEARING Board of Zoning Appeals City of Noblesville, Indiana This notice is to inform you of a Public Hearing that will be held by the Noblesville Board of Zoning Appeals on the 2nd day of December, 2024. This hearing to discuss application BZNA-000216-2024 will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers, Noblesville City Hall at 16 South 10th Street. The application submitted by Kenton and Robin Ward requests approval of Variance of Development Standards application pursuant to UDO §9.B.4.E.3. to allow for an eight-foot tall fence in the west rear yard (maximum seven-foot tall fence permitted) within the Corporate Campus Planned Development zoning district at property located at 107 Waterman Drive West, Noblesville, Indiana, 46060. Written suggestions or objections relative to the application above may be filed with the Department of Planning and Development, at or before such meeting, and will be heard by the Noblesville Board of Zoning Appeals. Interested persons desiring to present their views, either in writing or verbally, will have an opportunity to be heard at the above-mentioned time and place. This hearing may be continued from time to time as found necessary by the Noblesville Board of Zoning Appeals. A copy of the proposal is on file in the Department of Planning and Development at 16 South 10th Street, Suite B140 and may be reviewed during regular office hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A copy of staff report will be posted on the agenda on the city website www.noblesville.in.gov at least 5 days prior to the hearing. Noblesville Board of Zoning Appeals Caleb Gutshall, Secretary R5219 11/11/24

WESTFIELD

NOTICE TO BIDDERS Notice is hereby given that SEALED BIDS will be received: BY AND AT: Westfield Washington Schools For: Operation Buildings (Pre Engineered Metal Building Bid Package #1) Deliver to: 19500 Tomlinson Road, Suite B, Westfield, Indiana 46074 Date & Time: December 3, 2024, at 11:00 am (local time) Bids received after that time will be returned unopened. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. All work for the complete construction of the project shall be performed under the form of contract set forth in the Bidding Documents. Two copies of bid forms shall be submitted on forms provided in the project manual and shall be executed in accordance with the current edition of the Indiana Board of Accounts Form 96 - "Contractor's Bid for Public Works", with a financial statement complying with Section III of Form 96, and a satisfactory Bid Bond or certified check pursuant to I.C. 36-1-12-4.5, payable to Meyer Najem. Bid Security shall be in the amount of not less than 5% of the total base bid price. Should a successful Bidder withdraw their Bid, fail to provide the required payment and performance bonds, or execute the contract, the Owner may then declare the Bid Security forfeited as liquidated damages. The Bidder acknowledges the Bidder and all its subcontractors, whatever tier, whose respective contract is equal to or in the excess of \$300,000 shall be qualified by the Indiana Department of Administration at the time of bid award or it will be grounds for bid to be rejected as non-responsive. Reference Section 00 21 00 Instructions to Bidders, Article 2, Paragraph 2.4. The Prime Bidder is REQUIRED to submit a copy of their current IDOA Certification with the Bid. The Westfield Washington Schools Operations Buildings, Bid Package #1 Pre-Engineered Metal Building, includes construction of a new Pre-Engineered Metal Building (PEMB) with a mezzanine and topping slab. The project includes (1) Bid Package - Pre-Engineered Metal Building. The Balance of Trades will be awarded via future bid. Refer to Section 01 12 00 Bid Package Scopes of Work for additional information and breakdown. Bids shall be placed in a sealed envelope plainly labeled to indicate the following: Addressed to: Westfield Washington School Corporation 19500 Tomlinson Road, Suite B Westfield, Indiana 46074 Attn: Bid for Westfield Washington Schools - Operations Buildings (PEMB Bid Package #1) Bid Package Number & Name Name and return address of the Bidder All bid proposals shall be in full compliance with the bid documents which are on file with the Owner. Bid Documents are available via the Meyer Najem Construction, LLC SmartBid Plan Room. Please contact Austin Gregor (contact listed below) for assistance, or to obtain access to the plan room. Questions, or requests for equal status, shall be directed in writing (via email) to (please copy each): Attention: Austin Gregor Meyer Najem Construction, LLC 317-577-0007 agregor@meyer-najem.com Attention: Colin Schermann Meyer Najem Construction, LLC 317-577-0007 cschermann@meyer-najem.com R5216 11/11/24, 11/18/24

COUNTY

BEFORE THE HAMILTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD IN THE MATTER OF Anchorage Drain Bank Stabilization Project NOTICE Notice is hereby given of the hearing of the Hamilton County Drainage Board concerning the reconstruction of the Anchorage Drain, Bank Stabilization Project on November 25, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. in the Historic Courtroom, Hamilton County Historic Courthouse 2nd Floor, 33 North 9th Street, Noblesville, Indiana. Construction and maintenance reports of the Surveyor and the Schedule of Assessments proposed by the Drainage Board have been filed and are available for public inspection in the office of the Hamilton County Surveyor. Hamilton County Drainage Board Attest: Lynette Mosbaugh Executive Secretary R5231 11/11/24

BEFORE THE HAMILTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD IN THE MATTER OF Long Branch Drain, Sanctuary at 116th Street Arm Cold Creek Court Redesign NOTICE Notice is hereby given of the hearing of the Hamilton County Drainage Board concerning the reconstruction of the Long Branch Drain, Sanctuary at 116th Street Arm, Cold Creek Court Redesign on November 25, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. in the Historic Courtroom, Hamilton County Historic Courthouse 2nd Floor, 33 North 9th Street, Noblesville, Indiana. Construction and maintenance reports of the Surveyor and the Schedule of Assessments proposed by the Drainage Board have been filed and are available for public inspection in the office of the Hamilton County Surveyor. Hamilton County Drainage Board Attest: Lynette Mosbaugh Executive Secretary R5232 11/11/24

BEFORE THE HAMILTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD IN THE MATTER OF A. F. Ingerman Drain Reconstruction NOTICE Notice is hereby given of the hearing of the Hamilton County Drainage Board concerning the reconstruction of the A. F. Ingerman Drain Reconstruction on November 25, 2024 at 9:20 A.M. in the Historic Courtroom, Hamilton County Historic Courthouse 2nd Floor, 33 North 9th Street, Noblesville, Indiana. Construction and maintenance reports of the Surveyor and the Schedule of Assessments proposed by the Drainage Board have been filed and are available for public inspection in the office of the Hamilton County Surveyor. Hamilton County Drainage Board Attest: Lynette Mosbaugh Executive Secretary R5233 11/11/24

BEFORE THE HAMILTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD IN THE MATTER OF Elwood Wilson Drain Craig Holleran Arm Reconstruction NOTICE Notice is hereby given of the hearing of the Hamilton County Drainage Board concerning the reconstruction of the Elwood Wilson Drain, Craig Holleran Arm Reconstruction on November 25, 2024 at 9:20 A.M. in the Historic Courtroom, Hamilton County Historic Courthouse 2nd Floor, 33 North 9th Street, Noblesville, Indiana. Construction and maintenance reports of the Surveyor and the Schedule of Assessments proposed by the Drainage Board have been filed and are available for public inspection in the office of the Hamilton County Surveyor. Hamilton County Drainage Board Attest: Lynette Mosbaugh Executive Secretary R5234 11/11/24

WESTFIELD

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Notice is hereby given that Westfield Washington Schools ("School"), is requesting proposals from qualified organizations to provide printer/copier products and maintenance services ("Products/Services"). The proposals will be received until November 27, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. (EST) Proposals must be delivered to Dan Brita, Westfield Washington Schools, 19500 Tomlinson Road, Suite B, Westfield, IN 46074 and via britad@wvs.k12.in.us All proposals received after such time will not be considered and returned to that submitter. Discussions may be conducted with, and best and final offers obtained from, responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award. Following evaluation of best and final offers, School may select for final contract negotiations/execution the offers which are most advantageous to School, considering price and the evaluation factors in the Request for Proposals ("RFP"). Contracts may be made with more than one offeror whose proposals are determined to be advantageous to School, taking into consideration price and other evaluation factors set forth in the RFP. The factors and criteria that will be used in evaluating the proposals and the relative importance of price and the other evaluation factors are set forth in the RFP. The proposals must be submitted according to the requirements outlined in the RFP and properly executed. The RFP for the Products/Services are on file with School and may also be examined at https://www.wvs.k12.in.us/departments/business/documents. All offerors must comply with applicable laws and requirements outlined in the RFP. Offerors must also be able to meet all requirements found in applicable public purchasing (e.g. Ind. Code § 5-22) and public contract statutes. Prior to approval and execution of School's contract(s), the responsible offeror who submits proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award must furnish satisfactory evidence showing evidence of financial responsibility, and it can faithfully perform the contract, timely delivery, and all obligations arising hereunder. School expects to award the contract(s) for the Products/Services to the responsible offeror(s) whose proposal is determined in writing to be the most advantageous to School, taking into consideration price and the other evaluation factors set forth in the RFP. School reserves the right to hold proposals, including any alternates, for up to 60 days from the date of the opening. School reserves in its sole discretion the right to cancel the solicitation, reject any and all proposals in whole or part, delay the opening, ask for new proposals, is not obligated to accept the lowest or any other proposal, and may waive any irregularities, discrepancies, omissions, variances or informalities in the request for proposal procedure. Questions regarding the contract(s) or requests for equal treatment, can be directed in writing to: Dan Brita, Westfield Washington Schools, 19500 Tomlinson Road, Suite B, Westfield, IN 46074 and britad@wvs.k12.in.us R5236 11/11/24, 11/18/24

Full County Coverage ReadTheReporter.com

CARMEL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
City of Carmel, Indiana
Department: Board of Public Works and Safety
One Civic Square
City of Carmel, Indiana 46032
Project: 24-STR-08 Tarkington and Palladium Surface Replacement
Notice is hereby given that the Board of Public Works and Safety for the City of Carmel, Hamilton County, Indiana, will receive sealed bids for the above-described "Project" at the office of the Clerk, 1000 S Rangeline Road, Carmel, Indiana (2nd Floor) until 4:00 EST on or before December 3, 2024 or at City Hall, One Civic Square, Carmel, Indiana (Front Desk) until 9:45 EST or in the Council Chambers between the hours of 9:45 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. EST on December 4, 2024, and commencing as soon as practicable thereafter on the same date such bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Council Chambers of City Hall. No late bids will be accepted.

COUNTY

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of Hamilton County, Indiana; hereinafter referred to as the OWNER, will receive sealed bids for the following project:
REPLACEMENT PLANS FOR SMALL STRUCTURES NO. 23055 AND NO. 23101
PENNINGTON ROAD OVER UNT TO STONY CREEK
MIDDLETOWN AVENUE OVER UNKNOWN STREAM
WAYNE TOWNSHIP
HAMILTON COUNTY, INDIANA
E-21-0844
Proposals may be forwarded individually by registered mail or delivered in person, addressed to the Hamilton County Auditor, 33 North 9th Street, Suite L.21, Noblesville, Indiana, 46060, until 12:30 p.m., December 9, 2024. After 12:30 p.m. they can be delivered to the Auditor in the Hamilton County Commissioners Courtroom up to the time of the noticed bid opening. Only proposals from those CONTRACTORS who are registered on the Indiana Department of Transportation's current listing of Prequalified Contractors for item D(A) "Bridges: Highway Over Water", Heavy Grading C(a), Light Grading C(b), and Small Structures, Culverts, and Drainage Items E(e) will be considered. Any bids submitted by CONTRACTORS not approved for this item on the list will be returned to the bidder unopened.

CARMEL

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
City of Carmel, Indiana
Department: Board of Public Works and Safety
One Civic Square
City of Carmel, Indiana 46032
Project: 24-STR-07 106TH St Bridge Repair
106th Street over Keystone Parkway Bridge Beam Replacement
Notice is hereby given that the Board of Public Works and Safety for the City of Carmel, Hamilton County, Indiana, will receive sealed bids for the above-described "Project" at the office of the Clerk, 1000 S Rangeline Road, Carmel, Indiana (2nd Floor) until 4:00 EST on December 3, 2024, or at City Hall, One Civic Square, Carmel, Indiana (Front Desk) until 9:45 EST or in the Council Chambers between the hours of 9:45 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. EST on December 4, 2024, and commencing as soon as practicable thereafter on the same date such bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Council Chambers of City Hall. No late bids will be accepted.

COUNTY

Public Notice
The Hamilton County Sheriff's Merit Board has scheduled an executive session for November 20, 2024, at 6:30pm to receive information concerning the individual's alleged misconduct, and to discuss, before a determination, the individual's status as an employee, pursuant to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(6)(A)(B); and for discussion of records classified as confidential by state or federal statute, pursuant to I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(7). The regular meeting will immediately follow the conclusion of the executive session (approximately 7:30pm).

WESTFIELD

NOTICE OF THE ADOPTION OF A DECLARATORY RESOLUTION BY THE WESTFIELD REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND OF A PUBLIC HEARING THEREON
(EAST SIDE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AREA)
Notice is hereby given that the Westfield Redevelopment Commission (the "Commission"), being the governing body of the Department of Redevelopment of the City of Westfield, Indiana (the "City"), on September 16, 2024, adopted its Resolution No. 29-2024 (the "Declaratory Resolution") making certain proposed amendments to the declaratory resolution and the economic development plan (the "Plan") for the East Side Economic Development Area, each as previously amended (the "2024 Amendments"). The 2024 Amendments (i) designate certain additional parcels within the City as an economic development area (such new area, the "2024 Area") and consolidate the 2024 Area with the existing East Side Economic Development Area (collectively, the "Area"), (ii) designate all of the parcels in the 2024 Area as an "allocation area" (the "2024 Allocation Area") and consolidate the 2024 Allocation Area with the previously established Aurora 2 Allocation Area and the Aurora 3 Allocation Area into a consolidated allocation area, and (iii) adopt the Plan as the development plan for the 2024 Area, all as more particularly described in the Declaratory Resolution.

NOBLESVILLE

NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS OF PUBLIC HEARING
Board of Zoning Appeals
City of Noblesville, Indiana
This notice is to inform you of a Public Hearing that will be held by the Noblesville Board of Zoning Appeals on the 2nd day of December, 2024. This hearing, to discuss application BZNA-0210-2024, BZNA-0220-2024, and BZNA-0224-2024, will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers, Noblesville City Hall at 16 South 10th Street. The application submitted by Robert Smits and Sarah LeBlanc Smits requests that approval be granted to: (a) Variance of Development Standards application pursuant to UDO § 9.B.2.C.3.b to allow the construction of an accessory structure that exceeds the maximum height permitted; and (b) Variance of Development Standards application pursuant to UDO § 9.B.2.C.3.a to allow the combined square footage of all accessory structures to exceed the maximum square footage permitted; and (c) Variance of Use application pursuant to UDO § 8.B.2.a to allow a second dwelling unit on an R1 lot on the property located at 20570 Overdorf Road.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Legal Notice
Board of zoning appeals
The Cicero/Jackson Township Board of Zoning Appeals will meet on November 21st, 2024, at 7:00 PM at the Cicero Town Hall building located at 70 North Byron Street, Cicero Indiana 46034, in order to hear the following petitions:
Docket No. BZA-1124-50-R5
A Development Standards Variance application has been submitted regarding the property located at 0 West Spring St, Cicero IN, 46034 seeking relief from Article 3.12 "R5" District Standards which states that the minimum lot area shall be 10,000 square feet.

SHERIDAN

NOTICE OF THE ADOPTION OF A DECLARATORY RESOLUTION BY THE WESTFIELD REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND OF A PUBLIC HEARING THEREON
(SOUTHPARK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AREA)
Notice is hereby given that the Westfield Redevelopment Commission (the "Commission"), being the governing body of the Department of Redevelopment of the City of Westfield, Indiana (the "City"), on September 16, 2024, adopted its Resolution No. 28-2024 (the "Declaratory Resolution") for the purpose of (i) declaring that a certain area within the City, designated as the "Southpark Economic Development Area" (the "Area"), is an economic development area within the meaning of Indiana Code 36-7-14 (the "Act"), (ii) designating the entirety of the Area as an allocation area to be known as the "Southpark Economic Development Allocation Area" (the "Allocation Area") for the purpose of allocation and distribution of certain property taxes under Sections 39 and 43 of the Act, and (iii) approving an economic development plan for the Area (the "Plan").

CICERO

NOTICE
On November 19, 2024, Cicero Town Council will hold an Executive Session at 6:00 PM at Cicero Town Hall, 70 N Byron Street, Cicero, IN according to Indiana Code IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2) (B) Initiation of litigation or litigation that is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing. As used in this clause, "litigation" includes any judicial action or administrative law proceeding under federal or state law.

SHERIDAN

BZA Public Notice
This notice is to inform you of a Public Hearing that will be held by the Town of Sheridan Board of Zoning Appeals on November 21, 2024, 5:30 PM, at the Sheridan Community Center, 300 E. 6th Street, Sheridan. The hearing will discuss the following:
1. 24-V-07: The petitioner is requesting two Variances of Development Standard 1) To allow a fence within the established front yard nine (9) inches higher than permitted by ordinance; 2) To allow a fence greater than thirty-six inches in height within the clear vision triangle of the lot. Application by Anthony Travelstead and pertains to the real estate generally located at 401 S. Georgia St., Sheridan.
Written suggestions or objections may be submitted to the Sheridan Planning and Development Department at or before such a meeting held by the Town of Sheridan Board of Zoning Appeals. People interested in presenting their views in person, written or verbally shall have the opportunity to do so at the above-mentioned time and place.

ARCADIA

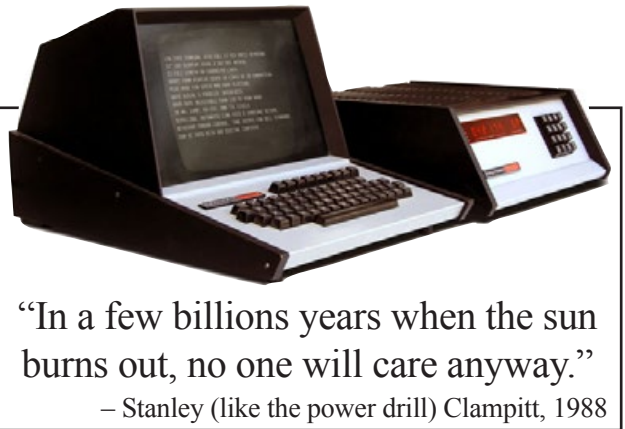
NOTICE
The Arcadia Town Council will meet in an Executive Session on Monday, November 18th, 2024 at 6 p.m. located at 208 W Main Street Arcadia to discuss a real property transaction including: (i) a purchase; (ii) a lease as lessor; (iii) a lease as lessee; (iv) a transfer; (v) an exchange; or (vi) a sale; by the governing body up to the time a contract or option is executed by the parties. This clause does not affect a political subdivision's duty to comply with any other statute that governs the conduct of the real property transaction, including IC 36-1-10 or IC 36-1-11.

SHERIDAN

BZA Public Notice
This notice is to inform you of a public hearing to be held by the Town of Sheridan Advisory Plan Commission on November 21, 2024, 6:30 PM, at the Sheridan Community Center, 300 E. 6th Street, Sheridan. The hearing will discuss:
• 24-UDO-02 Town of Sheridan requests an amendment to the Unified Development Ordinance applying to the following Articles: 2.3, 3, 4.8, 5.14, 5.2, 5.3, 6.5, 6.7, 7.3.
Written suggestions or objections may be submitted to the Sheridan Planning and Development Department at or before such a meeting held by the Town of Sheridan Advisory Plan Commission. People interested in presenting their views in person written or verbally shall have the opportunity to do so at the above-mentioned time and place.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION
Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of the City of Noblesville, Indiana ("City") that the Common Council of the City will meet in the Noblesville City Hall Council Chambers, 16 S. 10th Street, Noblesville, Indiana, at the hour of 7:00 p.m. (Local Time) on November 26, 2024, to conduct a public hearing and confirm an appropriation of the proceeds of the Capital Projects Short-Term General Obligation Bonds of 2024, Series A in the estimated amount of \$6,230,000, but not to exceed the amount of \$6,350,465, for the purpose of providing funds for the costs of funding capital improvements to City owned property and the acquisition of capital equipment to serve City needs, together with all necessary appurtenances, related improvements, equipment and incidental expenses in connection therewith, and the incidental expenses in connection therewith and on account of the issuance of certain general obligation bonds therefor. The funds to meet such additional appropriation are to be provided by the issuance and sale of such bonds by the City.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION
Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of the City of Noblesville, Indiana ("City") that the Common Council of the City will meet in the Noblesville City Hall Council Chambers, 16 S. 10th Street, Noblesville, Indiana, at the hour of 7:00 p.m. (Local Time) on November 26, 2024, to conduct a public hearing and confirm an appropriation of the proceeds of the Capital Projects Short-Term General Obligation Bonds of 2024, Series A in the estimated amount of \$6,230,000, but not to exceed the amount of \$6,350,465, for the purpose of providing funds for the costs of funding capital improvements to City owned property and the acquisition of capital equipment to serve City needs, together with all necessary appurtenances, related improvements, equipment and incidental expenses in connection therewith, and the incidental expenses in connection therewith and on account of the issuance of certain general obligation bonds therefor. The funds to meet such additional appropriation are to be provided by the issuance and sale of such bonds by the City.



Hamilton County Veterans Community Page

Hamilton County Veteran Service Organizations

Posts Who Reported their info to Me

Carmel Post 155 Kim Kilburn
852 West Main St Breakfast Sat & Sun 8-12
Carmel, In 46032 Treasure Hunt Fri 7p
317-846-0001 Tx Holdem Thurs & Sat 12-12
See their calendar here - <https://post155.org/2024-calendar>

Fishers Post 470 Pat Menc
9091 E 126th St Treasure Hunt Fri 8pm \$25K
Fishers, in 46038 Pool 2&4 Sa 4pm
317-842-5944 Breakfast 1st & 3rd Sun 8-11
See their calendar here -
<https://legion470fishers.org/site/eventscalendar.php>

If you are a member of our American Legions & VFWs and you would like to see your Post activities in the paper, please speak at your next meeting to see if your Post would create or nominate an Outreach Coordinator to automatically send me your Post information weekly with a 14 day lead time before the event happens.

Non-Profit Veteran Orgs

Hamilton County Veterans Corp
P.O. Box 503
Noblesville, in 46061
secretary@hamiltoncountyveterans.com
Meets 7pm the 1st Monday Monthly at the Fishers American Legion. Our website <https://www.hamiltoncountyveterans.com/> has 40 pages of resources for our Military Veteran community

If you would like to step up in Hamilton County to assist your Military Veteran community to live a more connected and fulfilled life, please come to the Hamilton County Veteran Corp meetings the first Monday of the month 7pm at the Fishers American Legion Post 470 located at 9091 E 126th St. No annual fees, just a commitment to helping our Military Veteran community. Military, Veteran family members may also join. We are ready to make Hamilton County the leader in the country as we step into the future, caring for our Military Veteran community! Join us

Navy Club Ship 29
Noblesville, In
president@hamiltoncountyveterans.com
Meets 2nd Thurs 630pm at Gingers 1804 Conner St
Noblesville

Hamilton County Veteran Service Officers

317-776-9610 Hours – 9am-4pm Weekdays
CVSO – Tom Logan
Tom.logan@hamiltoncounty.in.gov
Assistant CVSO – Robin Wilson
robin.wilson@hamiltoncounty.in.gov
Assistant CVSO – Caroline Franz
caroline.franz@hamiltoncounty.in.gov
Admin Assistant – Christina Ellis
christina.ellis@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Access to Care via the COMPACT Act

Under the COMPACT Act, veterans with acute suicidal crisis can go immediately to any VA or non-VA healthcare facility at NO COST. VA will provide, pay, or reimburse treatment, emergency suicidal care, and transportation costs for eligible veterans. Any questions about eligibility, please contact the National Eligibility Office at 877-222-8387. Richard L. Roudebush VA Medical Cener 1481 West 10th Street, Indianapolis IN 46202. Mental health services available 24/7 Main phone: 317-554-0000
Mental health call center: 317-988-2770
COMPACT Act Program Coordinator:
Mishelle Evans: 317-987-9026
Business hours: M_F 0730-1600

Hamilton County Military Veteran

American Legion & VFW Post & Restaurant Hours Carmel Legion

M-T 3-10pm, W-Th 10a-10p, F 10a-11p, Sa 8-11p, Su 8a-8p. **Restaurant – Breakfast Sa Su 8a-12p, Lunch W-F 11a-2p, Dinner Tu-F 5-8p**

Carmel VFW

Su-Th 11a-10p, F-Sa 11a-12a. **Restaurant - Breakfast 2nd & 4th Sa 8a-11a, Lunch 11a-2p & food service till 8p daily**

Cicero Legion

M-Th 3-10p, F-Sa 12-11p, Su 12-10p. **Restaurant Tu, W, F 4-8pm**

Fishers Legion

M 3-10p, Tu-Su 12-10pm or when empty. **Restaurant Breakfast 1st & 3rd Sun 8-12, Food Served Su, Tu, W, Th, F 12-8p, Sa 12-5p**

Noblesville Legion

M-Th 11a-10p, F 11a-12p, Sa 12p-12a, Su 12p-8p
Restaurant M 6-8pm wings, Tu-F 530-830p, Sat 9/14, 9/21, 9/28, 10/12 Breakfast 730-930a Dinner 530-830p, Su 12-8p

Noblesville VFW

M-Th 11a-10p, F 11a-12a, Sa 12p-12a, Su 12p-8p
Restaurant M-F 6-9p

Sheridan Legion

M 3-9p, Tu-Th 11-9p, F Sa 11-10p, Su 1-6p
Restaurant Lunch Tu-F 11a-2p, food service till close

Indianapolis Veterans Day Parade Nov 11, 11am



2024 Veterans Day Service & Parade
Monday, Nov. 11, 2024
The Indiana War Memorial
431 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Service: 11 A.M.



Noblesville Veterans Day Ceremony, November 11



The public is invited and encouraged to attend the Veterans Day ceremony, coordinated by the American Legion Post 45 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6246 – Ralph Lehr Post, at 11am on Monday, November 11 on the west side of the courthouse square. The City of Noblesville would like to thank all Veterans for their service to our country.

THANK YOU HAMILTON COUNTY VETERANS!!



The Hamilton County Veterans Corp, Stronger Veterans Stronger Communities coalition and a Healthier Hamilton County: Systems of Care wish to thank all Hamilton County active Military, Veterans and their families for your service and sacrifice while protecting our Freedoms and allowing us to live the lives we enjoy here in America. Thank you one and all.....

Activities & Events

Fishers Veterans Day Ceremony 11am Nov 11



The City of Fishers and Fishers Armed Services Commission invite residents to a Veterans Day Ceremony in the Fishers City Hall Theater (1 Municipal Drive) honoring our local heroes and their families. Keynote Speaker, author Doug Melville. The ceremony is free and open to the public, but registration is required due to limited seating. [Register to attend here.](#)

A live stream of the event will be broadcast on the [City's Facebook.](#)

Westfield Veterans Day Ceremony Nov 11, 745am

Roudebush VA Veteran Appreciation Day Nov 12

Local Veterans Day Freebies Listed on WTHR

Interested in going out for a free or discounted meal on Veterans Day to thank you for your service?? 13 WTHR website has a great local listing for everyone to check out here - <https://www.wthr.com/article/news/local/veterans-day-2024-freebies-deals-central-indiana-military-army-marine-corps-navy-air-force-space-force-coast-guard/531-c13459b5-2fd1-42ab-bfec-59833a82b382>

Military Money also lists 100 places for Veterans Day deals. Here is their website - <https://www.militarymoney.com/discounts/veterans-day-deals/>

Lower advertising cost. Better customer service.

IF YOU WANT SOME ≡ COME ≡ AND GET SOME

Ads@ReadTheReporter.com

