



# Fishers Rotary donates \$20K to Project Hope

## An invitation for Grace

Funding will support scholarships & school-based mental healthcare

**The REPORTER**

On Friday, Nov. 15, the Fishers Rotary Club presented a \$20,000 check to Project Hope, an organization that provides scholarship funding and sponsors access to school-based mental healthcare for students of Hamilton Southeastern Schools.

Justin Hirnisey, executive director of the HSE Education Foundation, and Molly Kerwan, mental health coordinator at HSE Schools, gave a presentation that outlined the need and the outcome of their efforts.

Hirnisey reported that last year they gave over \$200,000 of grant money to help students who are unable to pay for services due to lack of insurance.

Fishers Rotary has sponsored a golf outing annually since 2021 for the purpose of providing underserved youth and their mental health needs. Tad Bristow, co-chair of the golf outing, said, "It's important that we help to remove the stigma of mental health, and we are proud to play a small role in helping Project Hope achieve its goals."

Kerwan pointed out that even

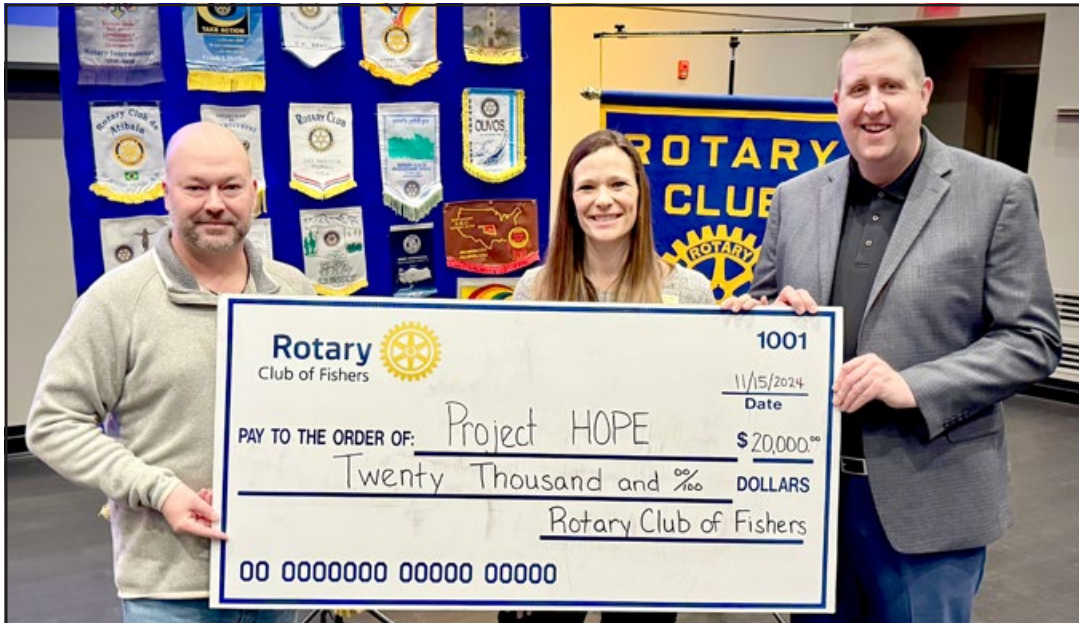


Photo provided by Fishers Rotary Club  
(From left) Fishers Rotary President Dereck Vogler, HSE Schools Mental Health Coordinator Molly Kerwan, and HSEF Executive Director Justin Hirnisey.

though DCS reports and suicide risk assessments nearly doubled this year over last year, she is pleased that "every one of those students got connected to our robust team and received services."

Among the many reasons students need the services of Project Hope are a lack of basic needs

and higher anxiety, which in part is a result of pressure from the student on themselves to perform. Social media, not surprisingly, plays a role in this equation.

In addition to providing services for students, Project Hope offers services to parents as they help their child to navigate this

tricky terrain.

A fundraising event for February 2025 is being planned, tentatively scheduled to be at the new Fishers Event Center.

For further information and opportunities to help support Project Hope, go to [hsefoundation.org/projecthope](https://hsefoundation.org/projecthope).

What if we invited Grace to the holidays, not Grace, the person, but Grace, the act of compassion, kindness, and courtesy?

Why do we put so much pressure on our families and ourselves? We want the perfect Christmas, so we spend hours shopping for the perfect gifts and decorating our homes to the nines ... the ultimate and most elaborate.

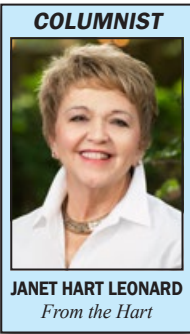
Do you know that perfect means satisfying all the requirements? Hmm.

We seek perfection, yet we need to see the beauty of the not-so-perfect.

Remember the angel at the top of the Christmas tree when you were a kid? She had wings that had lost most of their feathers, and her velvet dress felt more like bur-lap. Yet, she was part of the hand-me-down traditions – priceless traditions. Christmas wouldn't feel like Christmas without her.

You know how we always want to find the perfect gift? I remember all too well in 1983 when I felt I would fail as a mother if I did not find a Cabbage Patch Kid for my two-year-old daughter. I braved the winter elements to stand outside 3D to grab a doll as soon as the doors opened. I can't count how many lines I stood in to finally come home with the trophy/Cabbage Patch Doll. Emily was thrilled – well, as thrilled as a two-year-old can be. Maybe she would have been just as happy with a Betsy Wetsy doll, but NO.

See Grace . . . Page A4



COLUMNIST

JANET HART LEONARD  
From the Hart

## Gingerbread Troopers want your vote



Photos provided

Come out to support local Girl Scouts in the annual Gingerbread Competition at Westfield in Lights on Saturday, Dec. 7. The event will be hosted by Brownie Troop 2397. You may cast your vote online [tinyurl.com/48unmna](https://tinyurl.com/48unmna) from 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6 to 4:45 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, or you can visit the displays during the event and vote in person. Proceeds will be donated to benefit both Hands of Hope and Cure SMA. (ABOVE) These photos are from last year's competition. See more photos at [ReadTheReporter.com](https://ReadTheReporter.com).

## What would you do?

Wallet, \$2,016 in cash found on roadside

By STU CLAMPITT  
[News@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:News@ReadTheReporter.com)

Atlanta resident and retired Arcadia Street Superintendent John Phifer was driving his wife back from a doctor's appointment on Nov. 8 when he saw what he thought was a wallet on the side of State Road 37. Because of Phifer's keen eyesight and kind heart, Noblesville resident Clyde Harber got back not only his wallet, but also \$2,016 in cash.

Phifer told The Reporter his wife was initially resistant to the idea of pulling a U-turn on 37, but by the end of their Good Samaritan adventure, she was glad they did.

Phifer found the wallet, which had nothing in it except a note with the owner's name and phone number, and then he saw all the contents scattered in the ditch.

"I started to throw it back down and get in the truck," Phifer said, "but I looked up and I started seeing money in the side ditch. It was all just scattered out with cards and everything all down through the side ditch and all down along the area. I started picking up the driver's license and credit cards and security cards and it was crazy. The wallet was kind of old and worn."

Phifer told The Reporter his wife got out of their vehicle to help after a few minutes.

"We picked up \$2,016 and all of his ID and his cards and charge cards and credit

See Wallet . . . Page A4

## You can help spread joy & cheer to families in need

**The REPORTER**

As the holiday season approaches, Westfield Washington Schools invites you to join in spreading joy and cheer to families in need by supporting the Westfield Holiday Giving Program. In partnership with Open Doors, Westfield Youth Assistance, and local churches, you can make a lasting impact on the community.

Last year, the program brought smiles to 1,200 students and delivered over 5,000 gifts. This year, event organizers are counting on the generosity of the Westfield community to make magic happen for students and families again.

**How to get involved**

**1. Make a monetary donation:**

Contribute financially to the Holiday Giving Program to make the season brighter. Every donation, no matter the size, makes a difference. Support the program at [www.wsfef.org/holidaygiving](https://www.wsfef.org/holidaygiving).

**2. Sponsor students:** Sponsor a specific number of students, each receiving four tags – two representing needs and two representing wishes. Tags are available now, and gifts are due by Dec. 2. Your support is essential to meeting the needs of students across Westfield. Request tags at [tinyurl.com/2024Westfield-HolidaySupport](https://tinyurl.com/2024Westfield-HolidaySupport).

**3. Donate gift cards:** Help by donating \$25 gift cards, which can be distributed to families. Gift cards can be dropped off at the Westfield



Washington Schools Administration Center, 19500 Tomlinson Road. Together, everyone can make

this holiday season joyful for families across Westfield. Thank you for your generosity and support.





# Hamilton Heights T1L1 students help fight hunger in Ghana

Submitted by Kevin Yaney

Teach One to Lead One (T1L1) students at Hamilton Heights Middle School recently took part in a food packing service project. The students, teachers and mentors packaged enough food to provide 9,000 meals to Ghana in West Africa through the International Disaster Emergency Service (IDES).

The T1L1 mentoring program works with fifth- and eighth-grade students at Hamilton Heights Middle School. The mentors meet weekly with students to help them learn 10 Universal Principles that are integral to discovering purpose and potential in life. Those principles include showing respect, integrity, self-control, courage, excellence, humility, enthusiasm, compassion, teamwork, and honor. The students are challenged to put the Universal Principles to work in a service project. In total, 185 students, teachers, and mentors took part in the food packing.

IDES provides disas-



Photo provided

**T1L1 mentor Brian Doak helps pack food with a team of eighth-grade students. (From left) Jackson Harville, Nicholas Bragg, Dillon Agre, Luke Allwardt, and Carter Cremeens.**

ter response in the form of food, shelter, medical supplies, and other necessary items worldwide. There are an estimated 3.6 million children living in poverty in Ghana.

“Many of our kids have never been asked to help someone in dire need,” said Sara Colter, Area Manager for Central Indiana T1L1. “IDES is a wonderful partner that gives our kids the

opportunity to actually meet the hunger needs of children half a world away. You should see the joy in their faces when they realize they have fed so many kids.”

T1L1 has been mentoring Hamilton Heights students since 2019. If you are interested in being a mentor in central Indiana and have a flexible schedule, contact T1L1 at [T1L1.org/mentors](http://T1L1.org/mentors).



Photos provided by Community First Bank of Indiana

## Community First Bank serves local Veterans

### The REPORTER

Each year on Veterans Day, Community First Bank of Indiana (CFB) closes its doors to customers, but its bankers are still hard at work.

It's an annual tradition for the bank to serve local veterans by completing outdoor service projects

and serving a hot meal. This year, the team raked leaves, washed windows, and cleaned gutters at the homes of 28 veterans. They also served a steamed bagel sandwich “thank-you lunch” in partnership with the locally owned Bearded Bagel at Carmel VFW Post 10003, in addition to com-

pleting a painting project for the VFW. This lunch was provided by the Community First Bank Casual for a Cause employee-funded program.

“Our team cherishes the chance to engage with our community on Veterans Day and give back to our local heroes,” CFB Director of Marketing Lainey Schroer said. “Veterans embody the essence of selfless sacrifice. Thank you to all our veterans for your service. You are immensely appreciated.”

Any veteran who would like an outdoor service project, or another random act of kindness, completed at their home or business next year is welcome to contact the bank at [communication@cfbindiana.com](mailto:communication@cfbindiana.com).

## Will you be an angel this holiday season?

### Submitted by SCoHC

Will you be an angel this holiday season and share the holiday spirit of giving with a financially-fragile senior citizen in Hamilton County?

For many of our seniors, a gift from our Angel Tree will be the only gift they receive this year. You can make their holiday wish come true by signing up to purchase of gift.

All gifts must be wrapped and delivered to the Shepherd's Center office, 1250 E. Conner St., Noblesville, by Friday, Dec. 6.

On Dec. 13 and 14, additional angels will be needed to deliver these gifts, as well as care packages. This is a great opportunity to volunteer with friends or family.

To sign up, click the links below to be taken to the signup form. Thank you for bringing joy to our seniors this holiday season.

- Angel Tree donation ([tinyurl.com/msv3639x](http://tinyurl.com/msv3639x))
- Care Package delivery- ([tinyurl.com/557a4htc](http://tinyurl.com/557a4htc))

You can also give the gift of aging well at [tinyurl.com/379etsay](http://tinyurl.com/379etsay).

## Community News

**Come have breakfast with Santa!**

Bring your littles and come eat breakfast with Santa from 9 to 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7 at the Red Bridge Community Park Building in Cicero.

Call (317) 796-8672 to reserve your spots at \$7 each. Besides breakfast, Phi Beta Psi, Delta Chapter will provide crafts, stories, coloring for little ones, and a sales table for adults.

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# Remembering Civil War veterans

Local author Kevin Yaney led a free Civil War Veterans walking tour on Saturday, Nov. 9 at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville. Attendees heard about the Hoosier state's involvement in the war and about some of Hamilton County's residents who took up arms to preserve the Union. (Reporter photos by Amy Adams)



(TOP LEFT) Mark Guyer, who has also served as a reenactor and happened to be on the tour, helped demonstrate how to load a Civil War-era firearm. (TOP RIGHT, from right to left) Ava Helvey, Donna Sheid, and Sophia Helvey were three of eight who volunteered to help Noblesville Police Sgt. Jason Shonkwiler illustrate what went into firing a canon. (ABOVE LEFT) Yaney took a crowd of around 50 through the cemetery where he talked about the experiences of those who served in Civil War from the Hamilton County area. (ABOVE RIGHT) Reenactor John Gunter from Arcadia was on hand to bring a Civil War soldier to life.



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December 31

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- Veterans benefits
- Passport assistance
- IRS questions



### US Flag Requests

Obtain commemorative flags flown over the US Capitol from my office.



### Military Academy Nominations

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



### US Capitol and White House Tour Requests

My office can help arrange tours throughout our nation's capital.



## Carmel encourages residents to recycle campaign signs

### The REPORTER

Carmel Utilities and the Carmel Street Department are partnering with the Hamilton County Household Hazardous Waste Center and Recycle Force to recycle 2024 election campaign signs.

This initiative prevents an abundance of yard signs from going to a local landfill, as they cannot be recycled in regular curbside pickup. Residents opting to return campaign signs to individual candidates are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to recycle.

Now through Wednesday, Nov. 27, Carmel residents can bring their campaign signs and metal stands

to the following locations:

- **Carmel Household Hazardous Waste Site**, 901 N. Range Line Road. Closed Mondays; open Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon.

- **Carmel Street Department**, 3400 W. 131st St. Open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- **Hamilton County Household Hazardous Waste Center**, 1717 Pleasant St., Ste. 200. Open Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Signs can be dropped off only during the hours listed above. Please do not leave signs at any site during non-business hours.

# Hamilton Heights mourns loss of beloved Principal Jarrod Mason

## Community comes together to celebrate his life

### Submitted by Hamilton Heights School Corporation

*Editor's note: Hamilton Heights High School Principal Jarrod Mason passed away last Tuesday, Nov. 12. The following information was released by Superintendent Dr. Derek Arrowood that evening. It has been edited for clarity.*

It is with a heavy heart, we announce the passing of Hamilton Heights' beloved high school principal, Jarrod Mason. As a Husky community, we are all deeply saddened by this sudden loss.

Jarrod, who was the longest serving principal in Hamilton Heights history, was a graduate of Hamilton Heights, an athlete, coach, and administrator.

Jarrod was more than a leader; he was a mentor, a friend, and a guiding light for both students and staff. His commitment to fostering a nurturing and inclusive environment will be remembered fondly by all whose lives he touched.

In this moment of profound grief, we remember Jarrod's unwavering dedication, compassion, and the immense impact he has had on our school community and the legacy he leaves behind. Details regarding a celebration of life service and opportunities to pay tribute to Jarrod will be forthcoming.

A Celebration of Life Service for Mr. Jarrod Mason was held at 2 p.m. last Sunday, Nov. 17 at the



Photo provided



**Jarrod T. Mason**  
1976 — 2024

Hamilton Heights Student Activity Center (SAC) behind the Hamilton Heights



## #WeAreHuskies

Administration Building, 420 W. North St., Arcadia. Mr. J.R. Moffatt officiated the service.

Immediately following the service, the family greeted the community for a time of fellowship in the East Gym of the SAC from

3 to 7 p.m.

Please keep Jarrod and his family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

You can read Mr. Jarrod Mason's obituary on Page A11 and at [ReadTheReporter.com](http://ReadTheReporter.com).

## WALLET

from Page A1

cards and different things he had in there," Phifer said. "He actually had his name and a phone number on a piece of paper in his wallet. Of course his driver's license was there to give his address, and I called him up and asked him if he was home."

Clyde Harber was indeed home, so the Phifers immediately drove to his Noblesville home to return his property.

"He was tickled to death with getting it back," Phifer said.

Phifer still had Mr. Harber's phone number, allowing The Reporter to speak to him directly.

"Well, I believe when I got out of my son's truck, it fell out of my pocket and fell off of the running board of his truck," Harber said.

Harber, who has lived in Noblesville since 1969, said he was more worried about the cards he'd lost than the money.

"That's what I was worried about," Harber said. "I had a bank card in there and all that stuff, driver license and medical cards."

While the Phifers were able to get over \$2,000 back to Mr. Harber, he didn't care about the money and tried to give the Phifers a reward for their good deed.

"We walked up and down the side ditch for about 30 to 45 minutes looking and picking things

up and looked all around," Phifer said. "He [Clyde Barber] said, 'To be honest with you he said I could care less for the money. If somebody would have found that and kept that money, all I'm concerned about is getting my cards back.' He was trying to pay me for returning his stuff to him, and I'm like absolutely not. I don't want anything for that. I would hope that somebody would do the same thing for me if I was to lose my wallet."

Phifer told The Reporter he couldn't have done anything else.

"Me and my wife are both very honest people and like I said, if it would have been one of us losing something, we would hope that whoever would find ours would return it to us," Phifer said. "We're not rich or anything, and losing that kind of money would have definitely hit us hard."

John Phifer retired from the Arcadia Street Department in 2020. He started there in 1979 at the age of 17. Except for a short time living in Tipton, he and his wife have lived in Hamilton County their entire lives, most of it in the town of Atlanta. He attended Hamilton Heights High School and this newspaper thinks he exemplifies the kind of ethics and good will that all Hoosiers should aspire to.

Well done, sir.

## GRACE

The holidays bring together families that might have a little "dys" in their functions. Uncle Ebenezer brings politics to the dinner table, and Grandma calls your new boyfriend by the name of your old boyfriend. I use these examples because they never happened with our family. We have experienced our own rather uncomfortable moments.

The hardest part of the holidays is when someone is missing. It's brutal. The empty chair. The missing laughter. We think we should stifle and stuff our feelings, but emotions are real. My mother passed on December 17, 2020. I don't remember that Christmas. I remember the nightmare road trip to Tampa the day after the celebration of her life, but that is all I remember. I gave myself Grace to grieve. I still give myself the Grace to do so. It still comes in waves. Grief is love stuffed in a heart with no place to go. Grief screams louder during the holidays. Memories cause tears to trickle down my cheeks as I embrace the memories. Grace allows the tears to fall.

We watch the Hallmark movies and dream about the same holiday scenarios for

our families. Sometimes, we can relate more to the *Christmas Vacation* movie with Chevy Chase and Beverly D'Angelo. Some might even have a Cousin Eddie in their family.

Has anyone ever felt the pressure to make everyone happy? How has that worked out? May I introduce you to Grace?

If you think it's difficult when you get married and have two places to go, try having divorced parents, and you can soon quadruple the pressure. I call it the holiday tug-of-war. Spoiler alert ... no one wins.

I have attempted to make it easier for my kids by asking them when they want to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas. There is less rush and much less frustration. I usually get them for a longer time.

As our grandchildren are all grown, I have started finding one appropriate gift for the girls and one for the guys. It helps, but there are always exceptions. When all else fails, there is the gift card, which they all seem to love. It's not this grandmother's favorite gift to give, but if they think it's perfect, then it's perfect.

Here's the thing: the tree,



Photo provided by Janet Hart Leonard

For over 50 years, my husband has created wooden projects to give as gifts to colleagues, friends, and family. This year, it is an Imperfect Tree. This year's bonus is a song Chuck and his son, Scott Leonard, wrote for it, "December Joy." Listen at [ScottLeonardMusic.com/december-joy](https://ScottLeonardMusic.com/december-joy).

the gift, and the house do not all have to be perfect. Give yourself the Grace to relax and enjoy. An imperfect Christmas can bring the best memories.

So, please invite Grace to your Thanksgiving and

Christmas this year. You will love the holidays even more.

Janet Hart Leonard can be contacted at [janethartleonard@gmail.com](mailto:janethartleonard@gmail.com) or followed on Facebook or Instagram (@janethartleonard). Visit [janethartleonard.com](http://janethartleonard.com).



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# Westfield Spanish teacher named Indiana Teacher of the Year

By REYNA REVELLE  
WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](http://wishtv.com)

Jen Hasler-Troutman, dedicated to inspiring a passion for Spanish and Hispanic cultures, is the recipient of a prestigious honor, Indiana Teacher of the Year.

Her innovative teaching and genuine care for students have made her a guiding light in the Westfield community.

"I do consider myself fortunate to have received this now to get a chance to talk with people like you about the importance of language learning and culture learning and having more of a global awareness and interacting with people that may not have the same experience as you," said the Spanish teacher at Westfield High School.

The Indiana Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese selected Hasler-Troutman for the honor. The association says her ability to create a dynamic and engaging classroom environment has earned her the admiration of both her colleagues and the administration.

Mayah Lopez, a Westfield senior, said, "I'd say a large way that she's helped me to appreciate Spanish

and Spanish culture is teach us about the actual culture. Many times in my past Spanish classes, we would just learn the language, but not much about the different cultures, and she does very well in making sure that we understand what life is like in different countries."

Content Area Director of World Languages Stacey O'Brien said, "I think one of the things that I love most about Jen Hasler-Troutman is her dedication to seeing where language can take people. She has kept in touch with students for decades and has seen their language learning journey take them farther in real life. They come back as guest speakers and share with our younger students that learning a language isn't just about gaining a credit, it's a way to connect with people around the world."

Hasler-Troutman has been a driving force for the school's World Language Department, sharing her three decades of expertise and mentoring fellow teachers beyond the classroom. Her willingness to collaborate has made her a respected leader among her peers and students.

"I think one of the keys is building connections among the students,"



Photo provided by Shawn Davis / Rocks Media House

Hasler-Troutman said. "I want to have connections with my students too, but sometimes if I'm approaching them, they get really quiet because they are afraid to make a mistake in front of me. But, with each other, they jump in and give it a try and use their Spanish."

Westfield High School achieved a 100-percent pass rate in AP Spanish Literature and Culture the last three years. Hasler-Troutman's colleagues and community eagerly await to see what her inspirational teaching style will bring next Westfield High School.

"One of the things that

we talk about quite a bit is getting training for AP so we can also be able to teach AP classes," Hasler-Troutman said. "I still have a few more years in the career, but I would like to prepare others to carry on what we've started here. I think it's pretty cool to be able to work with younger and newer teachers and help them find their way to professional development that will help learn and grow. Ultimately, leading more students to learn and grow."

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at [wishtv.com/news/education/spanish-teacher-at-westfield-high-named-indiana-teacher-of-the-year](http://wishtv.com/news/education/spanish-teacher-at-westfield-high-named-indiana-teacher-of-the-year).



Photo provided

## Altrusa celebrates 35th birthday

Submitted by  
Carol Rader

Altrusa Club of Hamilton County celebrated Veterans Day on Monday, Nov. 11 at their regular meeting.

We were happy to welcome four guests! Unfortunately, our 98-year-old speaker was not well enough to attend, so we shared our own personal stories of family and friend veterans. We were glad to send in a donation to HVAF, which will be used to personally benefit veterans in Indiana.

Also, our club celebrated its 35th birthday with cake and with one charter

member present. Altrusans brought in personal care items to give to Prevail. Our club added 15 \$20 gift cards to either Walmart or Aldi's. These donations will help make a merrier Christmas for Prevail's clients!

If you would like more information on becoming a member of Altrusa and making your community better, we are sponsoring a coffee on Saturday, Nov. 16 at Carmel Christian Church, 463 Main St. Come anytime from 10 a.m. to noon. At this coffee, Altrusa will collect additional new personal care items and gift certificates for Prevail.

## Hamilton County Historical Society sets annual meeting for Dec. 1

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Historical Society, based out of the Sheriff's Residence and Jail Museum on the square in Noblesville, invites its members and the public to their Annual Meeting and reception at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 1. The meeting will take place at the First Presbyterian Church, 1207 E. Conner St., Noblesville.

After a short business meeting detailing this year's accomplishments

and next year's goals, a board election will be held. Then, a program will be given by Kent Yeager, Board President of the Indiana Barn Foundation. Light refreshments will be served while attendees learn about styles, characteristics, and significance of Indiana historic barns. Yeager will



also discuss potential methods of preservation.

If you are interested in getting more involved with history in Hamilton County, this is the place to be. The Historical Society is always looking for more members and folks interested in committees or volunteering.

Attendees are encouraged to give a "pay what you can" freewill donation as an entrance fee at the door through cash, check, or credit card. Membership renewals for 2024 and 2025 will be discounted for current members, and if an attendee wants to become a member, special prices will be available.

If you would like to RSVP, please contact the museum at [info@hamiltoncoinhs.com](mailto:info@hamiltoncoinhs.com) or call (317) 770-0775.

## Pick up some great homemade gifts at Janus Holiday Shoppe

The REPORTER

It's that time of year again ... the Janus Store Christmas Open House.

It's time to stock up on homemade gifts for your friends and family and maybe get something special for you, too.

The Janus Holiday Shoppe will be open for four days in December from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day - Dec. 5, 6, 12, and 13 - at Janus Developmental Services, 1555 Westfield Road, Noblesville.

This year, there are new items available that you need to check out:

- NEW Birdhouse Designs

- Tree skirts
- Stockings
- Dog Leashes
- Dog Collars
- Pacifier Clips
- Lanyards
- Beaded Mobiles
- Mixed Media Art
- Upcycled Art
- Clay Jewelry and Desk Decor

Participants make a commission on all of their art pieces sold. It is a fun way that they are able to make money for the holiday season and year-round. It is a win-win for everyone.

Learn more about the great work Janus does at [janus-inc.org](http://janus-inc.org).

## Carmel Clay Parks earns Excellence in Resource Improvement Award for River Heritage Park

The REPORTER

Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation (CCPR) received the Excellence in Resource Improvement Award at this year's Indiana Park and Recreation Association (IPRA) state conference.

This award recognizes a park and recreation agency for its exceptional management of an existing park, trail, natural area, recreation, or aquatic facility.

CCPR received the award for its accessible and sustainable design of River Heritage Park. Working closely with Weihe Engi-

neers and United Construction Services, CCPR installed over a mile of new, universally accessible nature trails through 30 acres of underutilized wooded property along the White River. The project required careful planning to ensure the proposed trail was designed using Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards and limit the ecological impact on the wetland forest.



Klitzing

"We are honored to accept the Excellence in Resource Improvement Award," CCPR Director & CEO Michael Klitzing said. "CCPR is dedicated to incorporating inclusive and sustainable design elements in all our parks."

In June 2001, River Heritage Park was dedicated as "Everyone's Playground." A park where individuals of all abilities could play and explore. This sparked

CCPR's focus on making accessibility the standard for all parks and utilizing Universal Design, which ensures spaces are intentionally designed for accessibility. When River Heritage Park was reimaged in 2022, CCPR equipped the park with a new, wheelchair accessible, inclusive playground and a looping 0.75-mile immersive nature trail that is wheelchair friendly and overlooks the White River.

Visit River Heritage Park, 11813 River Road, and explore all it has to offer.

## CrossRoads Church opens home repair applications

The REPORTER

Do you need home repairs?

Building or repairing wheelchair ramps, constructing decks, doing mobile home skirting, or painting the interior or exterior of homes are being offered for free in June 2025. This program is geared primarily toward older adults, veterans, and any low-income families who live in Hamilton County and own their own homes.

This program is offered by CrossRoads Church at Westfield.

Over 200 high school students from all over the United States will come to Westfield next summer for a week to provide free home repair for those in need. This program is being offered in partnership with Group Mission Trips, a youth mission organization based in Ft. Collins, Colo.

"Group Mission Trips

serves in 15 to 18 communities in the United States each summer doing week-long youth mission home repair camp," CrossRoads Lead Pastor Eric Lohe explained. "I have been attending these camps since 2005 working as staff and a volunteer. Our church has sent a number of students and adults to these work camps over the years."

Group Mission Trips has been providing home repairs throughout the United States for the past 40 years. Learn more at [groupmissiontrips.com](http://groupmissiontrips.com).

"The qualification is very simple," Lohe told The Reporter. "If you are in need of home repairs so you can live in your house, we want to help. We will not be checking your bank statements. Once you submit an application, we have people from our community who will assess the needed repairs and determine if we have the

skills and people power to meet the need."

Lohe said the effort is one of the four church initiatives called "For Our Neighbor."

"To help people stay in their homes is the reason for doing the home repairs," Lohe said. "During the week of June 16 to 20, 2025, church kids and their adult leaders will be coming into our community, live at Westfield Middle School, and go out in smaller groups of six people to serve 25 to 30 homes in Hamilton County. In 2021 and 2023, CrossRoads provided repairs to 53 homes through the same program.

Online applications are available at [CrossRoads.org/for-our-neighbor/](http://CrossRoads.org/for-our-neighbor/) or directly at [crchurch.org/for-our-neighbor/home-repairs](http://crchurch.org/for-our-neighbor/home-repairs), and in downloadable PDF format at the above links.

"In addition to seeking home repair sites, we

are also seeking businesses or service organizations to be a part of this," Lohe said. "If a local business or club asks, 'What can we do?' I'd say, 'The kids come back really hungry in the afternoons. Could you cook up some hot dogs and have them available when the kids come back from camp?' Or one could take out popsicles to a group or to a couple work sites during the week to say, 'Thank you. We're glad you are here and thanks for what you are doing.' This effort is not just about us as a church trying to do something for our neighbor, it's also about helping people be the best neighbors we can be."

If you would like to help in these efforts to serve neighbors, email [forourneighborinfo@gmail.com](mailto:forourneighborinfo@gmail.com).

CrossRoads Church is located at 19201 Grassy Branch Road, Westfield.



Photos provided

## Liven up your Christmas spirit with 'Janus Jingle'

The REPORTER

Janus Developmental Services and the For the Love of Janus Guild will present the fifth annual Janus Jingle on Sunday, Dec. 8. It is a great way to get into the holiday spirit and support Janus.

Tickets are \$15 each and all the money goes directly to the Janus Guild to help fund programs for Janus participants. You will tour a beautifully decorated home with 41 Christmas trees and all the other decorations to go along with them. Enjoy Christmas cookies, a special Christmas

coffee or Christmas punch, all while getting into the holiday spirit and visiting with friends and family.

Tickets are sold in time slots, so it is easier for everyone to enjoy. Time slots are 1 to 2 p.m., 2 to 3 p.m., and 3 to 4 p.m.

Purchase tickets online at [tinyurl.com/bdrfeek](http://tinyurl.com/bdrfeek). You will receive an email with the event details.

You can also purchase a ticket through a Guild Member or Jerry Jamison by emailing [jjamison@janus-inc.org](mailto:jjamison@janus-inc.org).



## Noblesville Fire works to make Christmas bright for local kids

### The REPORTER

The Noblesville Fire Department (NFD) is seeking assistance from the community to ensure local families have a joyous holiday season. NFD is currently accepting donations for its annual food and toy drive to benefit approximately 100 less fortunate families in Noblesville.

2024 marks the 47th anniversary since the program started. NFD has partnered with Kroger for food needs and Meijer for toys.

NFD is accepting canned goods, non-perishable food items, and new, unwrapped toys now through Friday, Dec. 6. Donations may be dropped off at any of the Noblesville Fire Stations or at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St. Deliveries to the families will take place on Sat-

urday, Dec. 14.

NFD is also accepting monetary donations (checks are preferred – made payable to the NFD Hamilton County Community Foundation). Secure online donations may be made through the Central Indiana Community Foundation donor portal at [cicf.org/giving/give-now/existing-fund](https://cicf.org/giving/give-now/existing-fund). If making an online donation, please type “Noblesville Firefighters Fund” under the Fund Name section.

The Noblesville Firefighters Food and Toy Drive has been fortunate for the support of many great partners in the past 46 years. Many thanks go to all citizens, businesses, and organizations who have selflessly donated.

For more information, call NFD at (317) 776-6336, extension 0.

### Drop-off Locations

- Station 1** – 135 S. 9th St. (Downtown at Ninth Street and Maple Avenue)
- Station 2** – 400 S. Harbour Drive (South Harbour)
- Station 3** – 2101 Greenfield Ave. (The Wellingtons)
- Station 4** – 20777 Hague Road (North and East Harbour)
- Station 5** – 10170 E. 191st St. (The Meadows)
- Station 6** – 16800 Hazel Dell Road (Hazel Dell)
- Station 7** – 15251 Olio Road (Behind Ruoff Music Center)
- Noblesville City Hall** – 16 S. 10th St. (Downtown at 10th and Conner streets)

## Racers prepare to give back on Thanksgiving at YMCA 5K in Fishers

### The REPORTER

This Thanksgiving, thousands of runners will lace up to support their neighbors’ health and well-being at a 5K in Fishers hosted by YMCA of Greater Indianapolis.

From runners in turkey costumes to families jogging together before the big feast, the 5K offers a festive atmosphere and a great way to give back in gratitude.

The Wishbone 5K will take place at Fishers YMCA, 9012 E. 126th St. There is an 8 a.m. start and registration is \$39. Regis-



ter at [tinyurl.com/FishersYMCA5K2024](https://tinyurl.com/FishersYMCA5K2024).

In addition to the welcoming and joyful environment, participants can vie for overall and age group awards and enjoy fun, custom event swag. Virtual options also available so participants can log your miles at a convenient place and time.

## grace CARE CENTER

### Grace Care Center joins forces with Market District & Coca-Cola to spread holiday cheer to families in need

### The REPORTER

Grace Church and Grace Care Center announce a partnership with Market District and Coca-Cola Consolidated, who are stepping up in a big way this holiday season.

Together, they are providing 600 turkeys, hams, and cases of Coca-Cola products to help families in central Indiana celebrate the holidays with joy and dignity.

The donation arrives at a crucial time as Grace Care Center prepares for its busiest season yet.

“We’re seeing a record number of families seeking assistance this year,” Grace Care Center Foundation Executive Director Cara Augspurger said. “Right now, more than one in three people in Central Indiana are facing poverty or are just one unexpected emergency away from it. This partnership allows us to bring comfort and hope to families who need it most.”

**Providing more than just a meal**

The Care Center offers a welcoming, supportive environment where individuals, known as Friends, can choose their own groceries – ensuring families get what

they need and preserving a sense of dignity and control.

**A partnership making real impact**

This year’s collaboration showcases the power of community partnership.

“We’re incredibly grateful to Market District, Coca-Cola, Kenny Moore of the Indianapolis Colts, and entire Colts organization for rallying around this cause,” Augspurger said. “Their support means that we can help more families than ever before, ensuring that no one has to face the holidays without the essentials.”

**Join in making a difference**

The generosity of local partners like Market District and Coca-Cola Consolidated makes a powerful statement about what’s possible when businesses and community organizations come together. This holiday season, you can join them in making an impact. To support the Grace Care Center’s ongoing work, please consider making a donation or volunteering your time.

For more details on how to get involved, visit [gcc foundation.us](https://gccfoundation.us) or reach out to Cara Augspurger directly at [cara@gccfoundation.us](mailto:cara@gccfoundation.us).

## MDFF to hold free Trivia Night to raise funds for muscular dystrophy

### The REPORTER

On Tuesday, Dec. 3, the Muscular Dystrophy Family Foundation (MDFF) will play host to a free Trivia Night on Giving Tuesday, Dec. 3, the national day of charity giving. Trivia begins at 6:30 p.m. at Ale Emporium, 11501 Geist Pavilion Drive, #100, Fishers.

This is the second year MDFF has partnered with Ale Emporium to bring a fun trivia night to the community and help raise funds and awareness about muscular dystrophy.

Come hear a personal story about muscular dystro-

phy from MDFF Board Vice President David Thyen, take part in unique raffles, and enjoy laughs as you play trivia. Ryan from Indy’s Live Trivia will run the game. The event will also feature a \$5,000 anonymous matching gift this year, so all contributions made at Trivia Night will go even further to support MDFF’s mission. The heated porch at Ale is family-friendly, so children are welcome.

Register now at [mdff.org/mdff-trivia-night](https://mdff.org/mdff-trivia-night).

### What does MDFF do?

MDFF serves Hoosier families navigating living life with muscular dystrophy.

The organization does this through direct financial assistance for equipment, home modifications, and accessible vehicles. The provision of such equipment, modifications, and repairs can greatly contribute to much-needed dignity, improved quality of life, and increased independence for individuals facing the progressive challenges of this disease as well as their families.

This year, MDFF will give away two large accessible transit vans to deserving families. The Rodriguez-Bravo Family from Fort Wayne received the keys to their van

in October. The Wickizer Family will receive their van in later November.

Applications for the 2025 Accessible Van Giveaway Program open on Dec. 1. Requirements to apply to a van are A) be diagnosed with muscular dystrophy or a neuromuscular disease (according to the applicable diseases listed on the national Muscular Dystrophy Association website), B) reside in the state of Indiana, C) have a need for a mobility van, and D) have the financial resources to pay for insurance, plates, and maintenance of the vehicle.

## Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital patient from Carmel serves as ‘Coin Toss Kid’ at Colts game

### Submitted

A patient from Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital (PMCH) at Ascension St. Vincent had the special chance to take the field at Lucas Oil Stadium during a recent home football game. Mason Dusko, a 5-year-old from Carmel, served as the Colts “Coin Toss Kid” just before kickoff – walking to midfield for the coin toss and meeting players from both teams.

Mason was born 10 weeks early and spent nearly six months in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. At just one week old, he was diagnosed with Necrotizing Enterocolitis (NEC), an intestinal disease with mortality rates as high as 50 percent. Because of his fragile immune system and frequent gastrointestinal complications, Mason is a frequent visitor to the hospital. Due to his cardiovascular complications and

the risk to his life, he will never be allowed to participate in his favorite contact sports of football, baseball, and basketball.

Despite all the obstacles, Mason is a very happy and strong child with an infectious personality. Mason was also featured in the Colts’ game day program, *The Scout*.

“Our dedicated staff and professionals at Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital work miracles for their patients every day,” said Kevin Speer, JD, Senior VP Ascension and CEO Ascension St. Vincent. “We are pleased to be able to join the Colts in celebrating these kids who will always be a part of our extended family.”

The opportunity for PMCH patients to participate is part of a new long-term partnership between Ascension St. Vincent and the Colts. Fans attending

home games at

Lucas Oil Stadium will see new signage promoting the partnership, while radio listeners will hear the play-by-play action on the newly named Ascension St. Vincent Radio Network.

“The Colts family is beyond excited to begin this new partnership with

Ascension St. Vincent and Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital,” Colts Owner & CEO Jim Irsay said. “We look forward to working together in the



Photo provided

years to come to highlight health and wellness in our communities and help improve health outcomes for our friends, fans and neighbors across Indiana.”

## Indiana Department of Education awards Heights elementary & middle schools with ‘Purple Star’ status

### The REPORTER

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) announced this month newly designated and/or redesignated Purple Star schools.

These schools are awarded for their significant display of commitment to service members, veterans, and students and families connected to our nation’s military. Hamilton Heights Elementary School and Hamilton Heights Middle School have been designated as Indiana Purple Star Schools.

This designation lets military parents know, whether they are on Active Duty, in the National Guard, Reserves, or no longer actively serving, that a school is dedicated to helping their child gain the educational skills necessary to be college-, work- and life-

ready. It additionally indicates that a school supports the social and emotional wellbeing of military kids adjusting to new schools and the absence of a parent during deployment.

Hamilton Heights Elementary and Middle schools met the identified criteria through their outstanding commitment to supporting military-connected students and families through dedicated programs, resources, and initiatives.

Schools receiving the Purple Star designation must meet the following criteria:

- Have an assigned point of contact for military families
- Meet all grade-level training requirements for point of contact
- Have a dedicated web-

page providing recognition and resources for service members, veterans and students and families

- Host an annual military program (e.g., Veterans Day, 9/11, etc.)

- Have a public military display recognizing service members

- Submit a school board resolution publicizing support for military students and families

- Ensure military service members and their immediate family members meeting minimum job qualifications for open positions at the school will be guaranteed a job interview.

“HHES is honored to be awarded this special recognition for our efforts to honor our local veterans through a variety of programs and activities; from our Veterans Day pro-

gram and veteran readers for younger students, to K-Kids serving at the local Veterans Day breakfast and special projects supporting Honor Flights,” said Special Education Teacher Tracy Zachary, who helped lead the charge toward the designation. “As a school we are proud to provide our younger students with meaningful experiences. These events teach the importance of service and help students understand what it truly means to be a hero. We are truly blessed for the partnership our school has with our veterans in the Heights community.”

Schools that earn this designation are awarded for a period of three years. More information can be found at [in.gov/doe/educators/purple-star-school-applications](https://in.gov/doe/educators/purple-star-school-applications).

## Westfield Washington Public Library expands Spanish-language book collection

*Expanding collection designed to meet needs of growing Hispanic population*

### The REPORTER

The Westfield Library Foundation (WLF) recently purchased 172 new Spanish-language books for the Westfield Washington Public Library as part of an effort to promote literacy and cultural representation among the city’s growing Hispanic population.

Anuar Velazquez, a WLF board member and a dedicated advocate for the community, emphasized the importance of this investment.

“Increasing the representation of authors and

books in Spanish is crucial for our Spanish-speaking students and citizens, including those learning the language,” Velazquez said. “When people read in a language spoken at home, it not only boosts literacy but also instills pride in their cultural identity.”

Velazquez, who is himself a first-generation immigrant, is passionate about ensuring that families feel welcomed and empowered.

“My journey has inspired me to find ways to connect with these families,” he said. “I know firsthand how trans-

formative access to resources can be.”

The new books are for the young and old, with a focus on children, to ensure that families can engage with literature together.

“We are committed to making the library a welcoming hub,” WLF Director Erin Downey said. “We hope this new collection fosters inclusivity and allows communities that may have felt marginalized to see themselves in the



Velazquez



Downey

stories they read.”

In addition to the new collection, the library has recently enhanced its outreach efforts to Spanish-speaking families by offering English language classes and Spanish story times.



# County Parks honored with state award for HC Farms

## The REPORTER

Hamilton County Parks and Recreation (HCPR) recently received the Clark Ketchum Conservation Award at the annual Indiana Park and Recreation Association (IPRA) conference.

This prestigious honor recognizes outstanding achievement in conservation stewardship. HCPR earned the award for its transformative work on HC Farms, a 107-acre property in Westfield that showcases the department's commitment to preserving natural resources and creating exceptional recreational opportunities to the community.

"We are truly honored to receive this award," HCPR Director Chris Stice said. "This award isn't just about what we've accomplished – it's about what lies ahead. We are committed to continuing our mission of conservation and providing meaningful outdoor experiences for our community. This recognition inspires us to keep pushing the boundaries of what's possible in parks and recreation."

HC Farms is home to a diverse range of ecosystems, including seven streams, wetlands, and dramatic ravines with cliffs rising 30 to 40 feet. This topography is



Photo provided by HCPR  
(From left) Chris Stice, HCPR Director; Jeff Spicer, Project Manager for Stantec; Brad Baldwin, DNR In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Program Director; Bruce Oldham, HCPR Deputy Director; Erica Foreman, HCPR Resource Development Specialist, Wil Rettinger, HCPR Park Development and Operations Strategist; Thomas Vlasic, HCPR Program Assistant; and Kyle Stocks, HCPR Facilities and Grounds Manager.

a rarity in Hamilton County and underscores the urgency of preserving this land, which was previously slated for luxury housing development.

In partnership with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the National Park Service, HCPR secured more than \$2.8 million in funding through Indiana's In-Lieu Fee Program and the Land and Water Conservation Fund. These funds supported extensive restoration efforts completed

by Stantec, a third-party entity. The restoration efforts included conversion of farmland to wetland areas, stream rehabilitation, and invasive species management.

When it opens to the public in 2025, HC Farms will feature 2.5 miles of trails, including ADA-accessible routes, allowing visitors to explore prairies, wetlands, and old-growth forests. The project's success lies not only in its environmental impact but also in its community

focus, creating a space for education, recreation, and connection to nature.

"When you walk through HC Farms, you can't help but feel a profound sense of peace and wonder," Stice said. "From the towering sycamores to the meandering streams, it's a place that showcases Indiana's natural beauty like no other. To know that our work will help protect and preserve this land for generations to come is incredibly humbling."

# The Ice Ribbon at Grand Junction Plaza opens this Saturday

## The REPORTER

Create new winter memories with family and friends in the heart of downtown Westfield at The Ice Ribbon at Grand Junction Plaza, 225 S. Union St. The state-of-the-art synthetic ice ribbon opens for its second season on Saturday, Nov. 23. Tickets for skate sessions are on sale now.

During the season opening celebration, which takes place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., attendees can enjoy a live DJ, caricature artists and food vendors including DonutNV, Tapestry Coffee, and Almost Paradise Farm.

"The ice ribbon is a great way for families to get outside this winter," Mayor Scott Willis said. "We can't wait to see its growth this year, as it serves as yet another fantastic way for our community to come together in the heart of downtown Westfield."

Skating sessions will run Thursday through Saturday; times can be found below. All skate sessions are 90 minutes in length and reservations must be made online. The ticket price for ages 11 and over is \$12 per skate session. For ages 10 and under, the price is \$10 per skate session. This cost includes your skate rental fee; processing fees are not included. Skate aids will be available on a first-come, first-served basis for no additional fee.

- Skate sessions**
- Thursdays: 4 to 5:30 p.m.; 6 to 7:30 p.m.
  - Fridays: 4 to 5:30 p.m.;

6 to 7:30 p.m.; 8 to 9:30 p.m.

• Saturdays: noon to 1:30 p.m.; 2 to 3:30 p.m.; 4 to 5:30 p.m.; 6 to 7:30 p.m.; 8 to 9:30 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased at [TheIceAtGrandJunction.com](http://TheIceAtGrandJunction.com).

Additional hours will be available during Winter Break. Please note that some skate sessions may vary due to special events. The city is collaborating with the Mayor's Council on Disabilities to provide sensory-friendly activities. Additionally, thanks to a grant from Hamilton County Tourism, the Ice Ribbon will feature two accessible skate sleds for use.

Parking is available west of Park Street and Poplar Boulevard in two parking lots and designated on-street spots on Jersey, Mill, and Park streets. Accessible parking spaces are available on Mill Street.

The Ice Ribbon at Grand Junction Plaza will feature Glisce Eco-Rinks. Glisce uses a sustainable skating technology that does not require water or energy and does not produce carbon emissions. Additionally, Glisce is involved in a program called Plant for the Planet, a global nonprofit organization focused on reforestation and climate advocacy. For each Glisce sheet, a tree is planted in partnership with Plant for the Planet.

The city will hire several seasonal, part-time employees for Ice Ribbon operations. More information can be found at [tinyurl.com/westfieldemployment](http://tinyurl.com/westfieldemployment).

# Westfield City Council considers \$125M downtown development

By GREGG MONTGOMERY  
WISH-TV | [wistv.com](http://wistv.com)

A multimillion-dollar downtown development first unveiled in June was introduced Monday night to the Westfield City Council.

The mixed-use development called Park and Poplar would sit along the west side of the downtown area at the southeast corner of Park and Poplar streets. The project would include retail and office spaces, a hotel, brownstone apartments, and a parking garage, the city government says.

In June, the project was estimated to feature \$164 million in public and private funding. In a news release issued Monday night, the city government estimated the development to be \$125 million.

The Central Indiana Redevelopment Authority



Rendering provided by City of Westfield  
An image provided in November 2024 shows the Park and Poplar mixed-use development. It's proposed for the west side of the downtown Westfield area at the southeast corner of Park and Poplar streets.

provided a \$4 million grant for the development.

Jeremy Lollar, vice president of development at Old Town Companies, says the project will continue the mayor's vision to redefine downtown Westfield.

A public hearing on the project will be 7 p.m. Dec. 2 at the Westfield Advisory Plan Commission meeting. No agenda was posted for that meeting on Monday night.

The City Council could

approve the project as soon as Jan. 27.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at [wistv.com/news/business/westfield-city-council-considers-125-million-downtown-development](http://wistv.com/news/business/westfield-city-council-considers-125-million-downtown-development).

# Grand Universe releases plans for Science, Technology & Space Campus near Grand Park

## The REPORTER

Grand Universe, an innovative and immersive STEM Learning Experience, announced plans for a more than 66-acre multi-use development near Grand Park in Westfield on Monday evening.

The development, comprised of four districts, will be a dynamic destination for



learning, recreation, and leisure. It will offer educational value, entertainment, local and tourism appeal, a hotel, observatories, and cultural spaces centered around science, space, engineering, and technology. Investment for Phase 1, which includes the science and space center, includes more than \$300 million. Future investments could total north of \$700 million.

The Grand Universe District will contain a state-of-the-art science and space center for learning and exploration, as well as a STEM pavilion with related events and amenities. At 170,000 square feet, the Grand Universe Center for Science and Space Exploration will feature one of the world's largest full-dome planetariums, which will create a 360-degree theatre experience.

The Resort District will include a space-themed hotel and a state-of-the-art convention center, providing visitors with accommodations, dedicated parking, and access to all Districts, events, amenities, and the Monon Trail.

The Town Center District will include commercial and mixed-use properties, creating spaces integrating retail, office, and high-density

multi-family uses.

The Sports Entertainment District will include sports, art, and entertainment viewing facilities with outdoor plazas and dining. It is also expected to include a creek park with natural elements and open spaces to accommodate a number of trails.

"Grand Universe has been dreamed and talked about for years and it's great that we are one step closer to making this project a reality," Mayor Scott Willis said. "This project will be a tremendous asset to the Grand Park area, offering an exciting new space where residents and visitors can come together to dine, connect, and explore."

Grand Universe has partnered with The Hagerman Group, Browning Day Architects and Jarbo Marketing to develop this extraordinary project.

This was introduced at the Nov. 11 Westfield City Council meeting and will have a public hearing at the Dec. 2 Advisory Plan Commission (APC) meeting at 7 p.m. at City Hall. The City Council and Redevelopment Commission will consider tax increment financing to assist with infrastructure costs in February 2025.

# Carmel's bond rating reaffirmed

## The REPORTER

Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam announced Friday that S&P Global Ratings reaffirmed the city's 'AA' rating for three property tax bonds currently being pursued by Chief Financial Officer Zac Jackson.

Most of the bond proceeds are expected to fund several capital projects such as the construction of new roundabouts and raised pedestrian crosswalks, necessary improvements to Bear Creek Park,

and upgrades to several fire stations.

In its assessment, S&P Global Ratings noted: "The city's growing tax base, coupled with its strong management, continues to support Carmel's stable financial profile, characterized by modestly strong reserves and consistent operating performance."

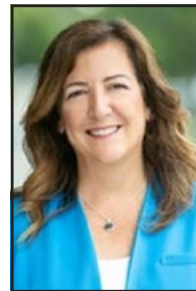
Jackson said the affirmation from S&P is among the highest rating currently given to any sim-

ilarly sized city in the state.

"The rating illustrates Mayor Finkam's commitment to improving the overall financial health of Carmel," he said, noting that the remaining bonds will reduce the city's interest rates on current debt without extending the overall maturity dates of those debts.



Jackson



Finkam

"I appreciate the City Council's partnership on these bonds and for helping to identify and prioritize the most critical capital projects," Mayor Finkam said.

# Carmel selects investment advisor representative

Submitted by  
City of Carmel

Following a comprehensive search process, the City of Carmel selected an investment advisor representative to support its 457(b) and 401(a) deferred compensation plan for employees, former employees, and retirees.

HUB International was unanimously selected as the most qualified investment advisor for the city, given the firm's innovative approach to guiding employees in investment decisions.

Part of a comprehensive review of all financial contracts in support of Mayor

Sue Finkam's commitment to ensure the financial well-being of the city and its workforce, the pursuit of an advisor was supported by representatives from fire and police unions, as well as specialists in retirement education, human resources, and finance.

"HUB International showed that they can provide unique educational opportunities at the local level," Carmel Fraternal Order of Police President Blake Lytle said. "They will provide continuous contact with the employees and the city as well as have access to national resources. With

each employee having a unique situation, it is reassuring to have a partner in your backyard that can pull resources from across the United States."

Mayor Finkam said the selection process included an emphasis on fiscal responsibility, enhanced services to employees, and technological advancements.

"We have a strong commitment to continually improve the services and benefits we offer to our dedicated city employees," Mayor Finkam said. "Our financial well-being is a priority for this administration, and this partnership will fur-

ther enhance services for our employees."

Kristi Baker, managing partner with HUB International, said the firm is excited to partner with Carmel in managing a successful retirement plan that supports overall financial wellness.

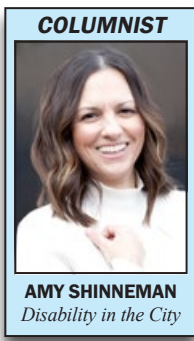
"We are most looking forward to working with the city employees to instill confidence in how to achieve their retirement goals," Baker said.

The contract with HUB International is expected to be finalized later this month, with the firm serving city employees beginning in January 2025.



# Day in the life I am . . . the Ticket Master!

If you are interested in learning how things work daily from a perspective of someone who is disabled, I think this may help you understand a little bit more. I personally love hearing about how others go about their lives. I find it interesting to learn how people cope with their hardships in life. That gives me a better understanding of them as a person.



**AMY SHINNEMAN**  
Disability in the City

**6 a.m.**

There is not a day that goes by that my strength, and what I will have to do during my day on such limited strength does not cross my mind within a few seconds of opening my eyes. *I can do this, right?* I think to myself. Being able to rise is a gift. Sitting up in bed is always a challenge for me, especially as I am just getting going. I take my first step of the day, and I often think of a baby giraffe taking its first steps for some reason. Teetering on my weak legs and trying to steady myself between the wall and the bed. As the years go by, it gets harder and harder.

As I find my way to the coffee pot, I know which walls and furniture I can hold on to get there. I often count my steps when I walk. It helps me focus. Losing my train of thought when walking often causes me to stumble.

**6:45 a.m.**

After I have had my coffee, I make my way to change for my daily workout. By this point, my walking feels a little less baby giraffe and more just like walking with heavy weights on my body. Often, my workouts happen in the pool. I have learned to not even let excuses creep in my head. It is non-negotiable.

**8 a.m.**

Head to the shower, which is another feat of physical strength. It takes great energy to shower, dress and put shoes on. Shoes are my nemesis!

See *Day in the Life . . . Page A9*

## Cupboard

January 5, 1985 – Another of mom's stories on her giving things away. (She always said that to be sure the person gets what you want them to have, be sure and give it to them while you are alive and can see it has happened. My folks did that.)

A few years after we were married, Dad's folks got new kitchen linoleum and a cabinet. They put the old small cabinet in their basement and gave us the top half of the cupboard to use in our basement. The bottom half of the cupboard went to Dorothy I. in Ft. Wayne.

In her new house Dorothy I. wanted a cupboard, so Dad suggested putting the old one back together. Our piece needed a lot of fixing which Dad did & gave it to her one birthday. Gram lived here (1974-1980). Dorothy I. had it all refinished & it is beautiful.

Blue vase, white flowers wedding gifts from Bob & Thelma Brown

Thimbles – To Theresa, Large, bent, many holes, belonged to my Grandmother Melinda Jane Howard. She died 1935.

Sterling Silver – My mother gave to her niece Vera Elizabeth Howard who died when I was 7 or 8. Aunt Dora gave the thimble to me. (Probably because it was small & so were my fingers)

Sterling Silver – purchased at antique shop in Plum Tree. Star on inside & size 9 brass thimble-belonged to Verna Howard.

Bent thimble probably steel. I gave to Gram when she lived here as she had lost hers. She mashed it so it would stay on her finger.

The aluminum one with streak of red is one Theresa Mae used.

Have an assortment of steel thimbles I bought to use at one of my circle projects. They are in sewing machine or on spool holder. I use whichever one happens to fit.

Other thimbles around are gifts from people who think I collect. I don't – family ones are the only ones I'm interested in.

Since Theresa is the seamstress, she may have them all, if she wants. Somewhere in the house is a little thimble rack to hang on the wall.

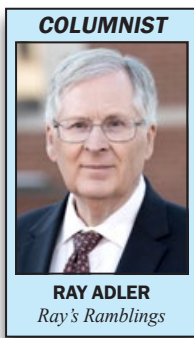
Theresa has the family ones except Sterling silver. It is in my sewing machine drawer. My mom gave to Vera. Vera's mom (Aunt Dora) gave to me when Vera died. My finger was only one small enough to use it.

My mother's butter paddle.  
My mother's glass churn (I told Theresa she could have it)

Copper wash boiler. My folks gave us this. We used it to heat water on wash day. If clothes needed to be boiled, it was used.

It also held a large amount of cans so was used to cold pack meat, corn, and other vegetables. (Verna has this.)

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.



**RAY ADLER**  
Ray's Ramblings

Like for many families, the last three months of the year starts the whirlwind of busyness for us. It seems like Halloween leads directly into Thanksgiving, then to Christmas and on through New Year's Day.

Of course, there's no shortage of events along the way that make for great traditions. From trunk-or-treats and haunted houses, to big dinners, to light displays and going to see Santa, there are plenty of cool things to fill your calendar.

Some of these events require tickets to be purchased. And with several family members and the popularity of some of these events, it can be nerve-racking to make sure to buy the correct number of tickets for the exact agreed upon date and time. Swifties know what I'm talking about.

Three specific events come to mind for my family – mostly because I'm the one in charge of getting the tickets.

It starts in August when the



**TIM RATHZ**  
Forty-something in Fishers

tickets for Yuletide Celebration in downtown Indianapolis go on sale. Yes, I said August. This means I have to start singing my fa-la-las and put myself in the Christmas spirit when it's 105 degrees outside. But I guess I do what I gotta do for my family. Maybe I can soften the blow by playing Beach Boys Christmas music. Best of both worlds.

The next event is the Sullivan Express to Pumpkintown at Allisonville Home and Garden by Sullivan. After that is the Sullivan Express Christmas train at Sullivan Hardware. Now at least these tickets go on sale closer to the actual holidays.

All three of these events are so popular that if you don't log in and buy tickets at the exact time they go on sale, the chances of getting the date and times you want are pretty much zero.

And this is where the pressure comes into the mix.

At each of these events, I have no fewer than nine people that I must not let down. So, if I

## Season of giving: making the holidays brighter for foster youth

As the holiday season approaches, like me, I bet you are looking forward to being with friends, family, and your chosen family for gatherings filled with laughter, love and good food. However, I can't help but think about the young people we support at Foster Success – those who often face the holidays with a sense of isolation and uncertainty.

For many, the holidays heighten feelings of loneliness and exclusion. While others are surrounded by family and friends, those who have aged out of Indiana's foster care system find themselves lacking what we take for granted such as love, connection,



**TRAVIS D. TESTER**

safety, and support – absences that have a lifelong impact on their health, education and opportunities.

Foster Success is dedicated to helping teens and young adults navigate the transition out of foster care by providing essential resources like education, basic needs assistance, financial literacy training, health and wellness services, and job skill development. We are the ONLY statewide organization doing this work and supported more than 1,100 young people last year across Indiana. According to our 2023-2024 Impact Report ([fostersuccess.org/our-impact](https://fostersuccess.org/our-impact)) 70 percent of young people we support

don't want to have to sit in the corner by myself at Thanksgiving, I have to make a plan for my ticket purchasing process.

On the day tickets for an event go on sale, I wake up as usual and take my Zoloft. Then I remember it's ticket day and immediately take another one. Then I have to start pumping myself up like I'm about to take the field at the Super Bowl. Ok, it's game time.

T-minus 30 minutes: I lock myself in a secluded space and open the ticket purchasing website. Because ticket days determine my standing in the family, I open the site on a desktop, laptop and my phone all at the same time.

T-minus 15 minutes: I constantly check and refresh the website to make sure they don't open the queue early.

T-minus 5 minutes: My palms start to sweat. There is a lump in my throat. My heartbeat is elevated and my breathing deepens.

T-minus 2 minutes: Another Zoloft.

T-minus 1 minute: I'm in full blown hyperventilation.

My eyes are seeing double. I've pooped myself without noticing.

T-minus 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1: In the words of the great Shaboozey, "Oh my, Good Lord."

When the site opens for purchasing those coveted tickets, I'm in a zone. A tornado landing on my head couldn't distract me. It's like my hands have minds of their own, as I click and buy. By the time I come to, several minutes later, I look at the screens to see what happened while I was blacked out.

I did it! I got the exact days and times my family wanted. I even got us front row tickets to Yuletide.

I AM THE TICKET MASTER!!!

The moral of the story is . . . If you don't want rocks for Halloween or coal in your stocking, make sure you are fully prepared for ticket buying day. Plenty of finger exercises and some Zoloft should do.

Tim Rathz can be reached at [40somethinginfishers@gmail.com](mailto:40somethinginfishers@gmail.com). Follow on Facebook or Instagram.

## Myriad of brain droppings on his mind

In 1997, comedian George Carlin published his very funny book, *Brain Droppings*, which, according to the cover, contains "jokes, notions, doubts, opinions, questions, thoughts, beliefs, assertions, assumptions, and disturbing references" and "comedy, nonsense, satire, mockery, merriment, sarcasm, ridicule, silliness, bluster, and toxic alienation."

With apologies to Carlin and most of my fellow Hoosiers, here are some of the latest Brain Droppings dripping from my own brain.

- This just in: President-elect Trump agrees to compete on *Dancing With The Czars*.

- Here at Scaramouch Research Ranch, we have learned that the most effective "safe word" during sex is a full yawn.

- I visit the dentist twice a year just so no one can accuse me of not flossing.

- This just in: President-elect Trump endorses third division of the Christian biblical canon: *The New and Improved Best Testament Yet (Or Project 2025, For Short)*. Expresses dismay that *The Plot Against America* title was already taken by Phillip Roth.

- Based on the wardrobe of most people in the voting line in 2024, the true fabric of our nation is stretchy pants.

- My wife insists I finish the Boar's Head in the fridge "before it goes good." Should I worry?

- I finally found a way to put my telekinesis to practical use, thus speeding up the time to make a peanut butter and



**SCOTT SAALMAN**  
Scaramouch

jelly sandwich.

- This just in: High-school students dismayed to receive Fs on essay test for writing only cuss words. "The instructions clearly said to write in cursive," they argued.

- I became even more uneasy in the dentist chair when "Twist and Shout" played on the overhead speaker.

- I post on Facebook for the "dislikes."

- I wonder if flies ever say, "My god, they're dropping like us."

- Winning word in latest national spelling bee: Bzzz.

- Finally found my feminine side. She didn't like me either.

- This just in: *The Onion* buys Alex Jones' Infowars. This just in: *The Onion* really did buy Alex Jones' Infowars. Chalk one up for the good guys.

- I wish I had a Yawn Talker translator.

- Keith Richards' ears are a work of art!

- This just in: *The Onion* buys the *New York Times*, publishes first headline: Trump Wants Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to Lead Health and Human Services. This just in: Correction, *The Onion* did not buy *NYT* ... that headline was a legitimate *NYT* headline.

- A song I don't want to hear just by my colonoscopy anesthesia takes full effect: "Working In The Coal Mine." The last words I don't want to hear the doctor say: "Nurse, release the canary."

- This just in: President-elect Trump names Boris Badenov new CIA chief.

- I finally found my femi-

nine side. Now, I'll never get any work done.

- There's nothing more awkward than sitting across from a person who is a soup blower.

- In 2024, Indiana lifted a decades-old ban on "happy hour." Contrary to popular belief, the law had nothing at all to do with buying cheap booze in bars. It actually meant Hoosiers were now allowed to be happy for one hour a day.

- I wish I had a Jimmy Buffet mustache.

- This just in: President-elect Trump appoints Natasha Fatale as First Lady.

- If your hand and arm no longer fit in the Pringles can, you probably don't need more Pringles.

- This just in: In defiance of the number-one rule for efficiency, "reduce redundancy," President-elect Trump names Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy co-leaders of Department of Government Efficiency.

- My pet's name is my mother's maiden name. It helps me get thru online security questions quicker.

- This just in: *Curb Your Enthusiasm* fans express relief after actress Cheryl Hines hints at divorce from RFK Jr., citing, "The dead bear cub thing ... the severed whale head ... that bizarro brain worm thing ... that alleged affair with a journalist ... finally, Robert jumped the shark. Seriously. He really did jump a shark."

- 50/50 odds that Pete Rose made it to heaven.

- This just in: President-elect Trump names Kristi Noem director of first national "all-kill" animal shelter and Pet Sematary.

- This just in: Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy argue

young people with a chosen family so they may too not feel alone any time of the year.

As we gather with friends and family this holiday season, I invite you to reflect on the power of community and how awareness and simple actions can improve the lives of those within it immeasurably.

Join us in this mission – consider investing in these young people with your time or treasure today to help brighten the holidays for those who need it most. Go to [fostersuccess.org/invest-time-gifts](https://fostersuccess.org/invest-time-gifts).

Travis D. Tester, CFRE, of Indianapolis, is the Chief Development & Communications Officer at Foster Success. More information about Foster Success can be found at [fostersuccess.org](https://fostersuccess.org).

over whose name should appear first on their shared office door.

- Surprising someone with a marriage proposal while in a hot air balloon is cheating.

- This just in: McDonald's customers stunned when President-elect Trump runs through restaurant shouting, "I drink your milkshake!"

- This just in: Catch-and-release program encouraging humane deer hunting practices deemed failure.

- This just in: In surprise reversal of fortune, President-elect Trump eats RFK Jr.

- This just in: Mike Braun wins Indiana governor race. So much for happy hour.

- This just in: President-elect Trump names Kid Rock U.S. Poet Laureate.

- This just in: President-elect Trump signs new memoir deal detailing his relationship with women. Tentative title: *The Art of the Feel*.

- Recently, while perusing family vacation photos from the 1970s, I noticed a group shot of us in the Smokies being photobombed by Ted Kaczynski. I guess he was just starting out.

- I wasn't popular in high school. I played Spin-The-Bottle by myself.

- Dippin' Dots has yet to apologize for decades-old "ice cream of the future" claims.

- Tornado season always disappointed. No one's errant trampoline ever landed in our yard, the only way we could've afforded one. But Dad did end up with a really bitching aluminum shed.

- I have tons of "baseball" caps, but none of those backwards ones I see people wearing. Where can I get one?

Email Scott at [scottsaalman@gmail.com](mailto:scottsaalman@gmail.com).



# Personal connection to 106 years of honoring veterans

Veterans Day 2024 holds special significance as it marks 106 years since the end of World War I, which formally concluded on November 11, 1918, at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

Originally known as Armistice Day, it was established to honor the end of WWI and the sacrifices made by those who served. The day was later renamed Veterans Day in 1954 to recognize all U.S. veterans, both living and deceased, from all wars.

In 2024, Veterans Day continues to be a meaningful occasion for the nation, as it highlights not only the dedication and sacrifices of veterans but also the ongoing challenges they face, such as access to healthcare, mental health support, employment, and housing. This day serves as an opportunity for communities across the United States to come together, show gratitude, and advocate for the well-being of veterans and their families.

For me, this day reminds me of the lessons I learned as a young officer, the interconnectedness I share with my veteran friends, and my family's long tradition of service in the United States Military.

First, I am a proud United States Air Force Veteran and 100 percent disabled. By definition, I am a combat veteran; however, I prefer to reserve that distinction for those who actually engaged the enemy, exchanged gunfire, and witnessed destruc-



**TIFFANIE DITLEVSON**  
What Really Matters

tion and/or loss of life. As a young Mortuary Officer, I had the opportunity to care for fallen military members and fulfill our nation's commitment of ensuring dignity, honor, and respect for deceased comrades. Acting as an intermediary

between the U.S. government and grieving families, I learned three tough lessons in that role that have shaped every facet of my professional life: the priority of work must be excellence; the easy way is neither the best way nor my way; and the opportunity to serve others in great need is a great honor. If you know me or my work, then you have witnessed how hard I work on my projects, for my clients, and my devotion to community service and philanthropy.

Second, Veteran's Day warms my heart because of the interconnectedness that exists among military members who served our nation. I am so proud to belong to this elite cohort of patriots, servants, warfighters, and trailblazers. You must know, among comrades, there is mutual appreciation for answering the call to serve the nation; mutual respect for sacrificing youth, health, dreams and family in effort to fulfill sworn duties; and mutual gratitude for those among us who demonstrated extraordinary bravery, supported warfighters, or maintained day-to-day operations. Every service member contributes to the military's mission and work must be performed with great integrity and

attention to detail – artillery, infantry, flying, cooking, packing parachutes, aircraft maintenance, recruiting, drill instructors, and combat journalism. Simply put, everyone matters in the military.

Finally, Veterans Day reminds me of my robust family tree and our tradition of military service. Within my family, our history of service in the United States military dates back to the American Revolutionary War, through many conflicts both foreign and domestic. They include:

- Lt Col JOHAN LOUNDES and Captain WILLIAM BOWDEN who fought against British rule and for American sovereignty in the American Revolution.

- Captain CHARLES WILLIAMS who fought in the War of 1812 against Great Britain.

- Private MOSES PHILLIPS. A freeman of color who enlisted in the Union Army in 1864 – U.S. Colored Troops, Regiment 6, Company D during the Civil War. He was COUNTED as a person upon enlistment and not as property.

- Corporal HOMER MALACHY PHILLIPS, serving in the Third Battalion, 24th Infantry, a BUFFALO soldier regiment, I Company, in 1917 who survived race riots in Texas waged against soldiers of color.

- My great-uncle HAROLD PHILLIPS, a Montfort Point Marine who served during WWII. His unit was credited with DESEGREGATING the United States Marine Corp – ENDURING HOSTILITIES ON THE BATTLEFIELD AND WITHIN ITS RANKS. An hon-

or recognized with the Congressional Gold Medal in 2011.

- My grandfather, Sergeant First Class WILLIAM BRYANT. A soldier who grew up fatherless and raised mainly by great neighbors. He enlisted in the U.S. Army, served during WWII in Northern Africa and was among the battalion of men waiting to defeat the Nazi Desert Fox General Erwin Rommel ... who never showed up.

- My father, Sergeant Major JOHN A HILL. Another soldier who enlisted in the Army after graduating from Burlington High School in 1959. My dad was a track and field star ... with records that still stand 60 years later. He served 30 years in the Army, did two tours in Korea and one in Vietnam, a Signal Soldier. He doesn't talk about any of it, but he earned a Legion of Merit, became a Sergeant Major, and is demanding.

These great men came before me and raised their hands to fight for American freedom, liberties, and way of life. With great pride, I know my family embodies this quote from our 40th President Ronald Reagan:

*"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same."*

God Bless the United States of America and all of our Veterans!

*Tiffanie Ditlevson is a reporter, veteran, and mom who serves as an At-Large member of the Fishers City Council. Email her at [tiffanie.ditlevson@talktotucker.com](mailto:tiffanie.ditlevson@talktotucker.com).*

## From grief to joy

If you're an empty nester, or a soon-to-be one, chances are you've lost one or both parents. I've shared with you all about the loss of my father-in-law Ron last April.

Ron – or Bopah, as I say because that's what his grandkids called him – was 88 and battled cancer in his last few months. My husband, John, and I dreaded losing him, of course, along with so many other family members and friends. However, we also dreaded what would happen for what we thought would be months and months of work afterwards – preparing to sell his home and property.

See, Bopah just didn't have a two-story American Foursquare home on two acres in a little town about an hour south of Chicago. He also had a pole barn ... and a semi-trailer ... and an outdoor cathouse ... all filled to the brim with STUFF. Let's just say he liked to go to garage sales and hand onto things in case he "needed them."

For years, I must admit, I dreaded what we'd have to do when he passed away. But when it finally did happen last spring, I felt energetic and had a "we can do this" attitude. Team Shankland went into action.

Our team leaders included John, me, his brother Ron, and his sister-in-law Shelley (hereby referred to as The Queen of Organization). She makes me look like an amateur). All four of us had started helping Bopah reduce his clutter for a couple of years, but it felt like we barely made a dent.

After Bopah's Celebration of Life, we invited family members and friends over to the property to look around and take what they wanted. That helped a lot. Our sons Jonathon and Jacob helped John clear out the semi-trailer, which someone hauled away for scrap metal. With the 4th of July being a Thursday, we all took July 4 to 7 off for a long "power weekend" to get more done.

Thanks to a burn barrel, a large dumpster, a trailer, and The Queen's numerous trips to Goodwill (no organization offered pick up, unfortunately), we conquered a tremendous amount of clutter. Someone hauled away more scrap metal. A single mom down the road received a lot of furniture and other items, which was wonderful for both her and us.

We put other items by the country road, which passersby stopped and picked up. A few weeks later, Ron, John, and Queen Shelley held a huge pole barn sale. I was busy attending a writer's conference that weekend, so I became the Head of Marketing for the sale to help bring in customers. The pole barn's contents lessened dramatically.

A dear friend of the family helped BIG TIME with other tasks, including cleaning Bopah's basement. (Thank you, Debbie!)

Finally, we were ready to sell the property "as is" – in August! I was shocked. And in early October, it sold – and not just to anyone. A family Bopah knew purchased it for their home and future animal sanctuary! Bopah was a huge animal-lover, so we felt like this was a God moment for sure.

We've been getting pictures this fall of their progress with the home and property. Our jaws dropped this week to see the pole barn EMPTY with kennels in place for large dogs. That's a sight I never thought I'd see.

The joy we've felt seeing this is hard to describe. It's certainly eased our hearts to see all the good happening at Bopah's place. We are grateful and awestruck at the good souls who pitched in to make this all happen.

It's certainly a tremendous lesson for me – that, though losing someone is painful, sometimes it can also later bring moments of pure joy and unexpected blessings.

*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](mailto:amys@greenavenue.info).*

## Winter Art Sale offers one-of-a-kind gifts & support for local art community

### The REPORTER

Check out artwork and wares from local artists and artisans at the inaugural Winter Art Sale from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14 at the Fishers Art Center, 1 Municipal Drive.

The free event is a great opportunity to find one-of-a-kind gifts, including paintings, jewelry, textiles, ceramics, and more. Attendees can also purchase festive refreshments.

"When you buy gifts made by local artists, you're really giving to the artist and the recipient, so you'll feel twice as good," said Shannon Bennett, vice president of events and exhibitions.

### About Fishers Art Center

A partnership between the City of Fishers and Indy Art Center, the Fishers Art Center opened in 2024 inside the Fishers Arts & Municipal Complex. It offers studio art classes for all ages and abilities, kids camps, workshops and free exhibitions. Find out more at [FishersArtCenter.org](http://FishersArtCenter.org).

## Step back in time at Conner Prairie's A Merry Prairie Holiday

### The REPORTER

Conner Prairie is ready to welcome families and friends to kick-off the holiday season at *A Merry Prairie Holiday* presented by Everwise Credit Union, where timeless traditions of the 1800s meet spectacular new experiences.

From interactive light displays to heartwarming holiday tales, Conner Prairie is bringing together the best of the past and present to create a unique winter wonderland that will enchant all ages. *A Merry Prairie Holiday* presented by Everwise Credit Union will be open Fridays through Sundays, Nov. 29 and 30 and Dec. 6 to 22.

### Key Attractions Historic Holidays in Prairietown

Immerse yourself in the warmth and charm of the holidays as you wander through historic Prairietown. Experience time-honored holiday traditions of the 1800s with immersive and interactive activities that offer a glimpse into festive celebrations of the past.

### Spectacular Reynolds LED Lights Display

Wander through acres of Conner Prairie adorned with thousands of shimmering LED lights in our expanded Reynolds Lights Display. The captivating lights create an enchanting atmosphere that captures the

wonder of the season.

### Magic Lantern Crankie Show

Gather in the Potter Shop Kiln Shed for an immersive storytelling experience with the "Holidays from Around the World" Crankie Show. This interactive, old-fashioned art form brings diverse holiday traditions to life, perfect for those curious about global celebrations.

### 3D Holiday Show at the William Conner House

Returning to delight visitors, the historic William Conner House transforms into a magical 3D projection mapping show. This season's presentation of *'Twas The Night Before Christmas* transports guests 200 years back in time, bringing the holiday classic to life through immersive visuals and captivating animation.

### Frosty's Skating Rink

Swap skates for socks at Frosty's Skating Rink. Slide and glide as if on real ice. New this year, enjoy lively snowball fights. Be sure to bring cozy socks for this unique activity.

### North Pole Village

Step into the North Pole Village and meet Santa, Mrs. Claus, and their cheerful elves as they prepare for the big night. Capture the magic with a holiday selfie with Santa and get an up-close look at the elves' preparations.

### Meet Trinket Puddingmoon, Santa's List Keeper

Have you been naughty or nice this year? Santa's official list keeper, Trinket Puddingmoon, can tell you. Check in with her to see which list you made this season.

### Café on the Common & Blitzen's Bandstand

Warm up with seasonal treats at Café on the Common, choose from our wide array of holiday-inspired cocktails and enjoy festive tunes at Blitzen's Bandstand, where local artists will be performing holiday classics throughout the season.

### Kringle's Carousel & Polar Bear Plunge Tubing Hill

Round out your day with a spin on Kringle's Carousel or thrill at the 150-foot Polar Bear Plunge tubing hill, offering a rush of holiday excitement for all ages.

From immersive experiences to the warmth of holiday traditions, *A Merry Prairie Holiday* at Conner Prairie offers something special for every visitor. Join us at Conner Prairie this season to create cherished memories that celebrate the joys of the past with the delights of the present.

## DAY IN THE LIFE

### 9 a.m.

I do my errands such as grocery shopping, doctor appointments, or whatever else needs to be done outside the home. The main thing I have to check before venturing out on my own is the wind speed. I know, this may seem silly. If it is over 10 mph, I cannot go out on my own. It takes the smallest of things to knock me off balance and I fall. I cannot express enough the deep concentration it takes just to walk into a store. The last thing I want is a public fall. I value my independence, so I try to choose wisely so I can keep it.

### 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

During this long span of time is when I do my writing for my freelance job, this newspaper column, my blog, meetings, phone calls, and get household tasks done. During

that time, I also do laundry and make dinner. I try to prep dinner earlier in the day because by dinnertime my strength has really declined.

It has been a year since I have started using my manual wheelchair in the house. I like the feeling of successfully learning how to do things from my wheelchair. It makes me feel like I am helping to prepare for what my future will look like. There is a difference between being pessimistic and being prepared. I typically rely on my wheelchair later in the day.

### 6 to 10 p.m.

Often, by this time, I've hit a wall and I'm pretty much down for the evening, not walking much. If I have evening plans, then I would have had to try and plan my day around that. I would have to have added rest

to be able to make that happen on a physical level. Otherwise, I just do not have it to give. That is why spontaneous plans cause me anxiety.

### 10 p.m.

I try to get to bed around this time. Tip ... I always sleep in satin pajamas, which has been truly life changing for me. It helps me to be able to move around in bed so much easier. It is a wonderful thing to try if you have mobility issues. Because they are slippery, it does a lot of the work for you.

When the normalcy of life and disability intertwine, that is what makes our lives unique. When our struggle mixes with the mundane, that is when things can feel the hardest.

Most do not escape hardships in life. Maybe your thing isn't physical like mine, maybe

from Page A8



### Gift memberships

Give the gift of experiences, instead of more stuff. A membership to Conner Prairie lasts for an entire year, but the memories will last a lifetime. Purchase a gift membership at [connerprairie.org/support/membership/gift-membership](http://connerprairie.org/support/membership/gift-membership).

### Tickets available now

- Members: \$13
- Nonmembers: \$26
- Access Pass: \$5

Access Pass is made possible thanks to the generous support of Duke Energy. Access Pass is a program developed and administered through The Children's Museum of Indianapolis. Conner Prairie is proud to join forces with other museums and cultural attractions to make fun family learning more accessible. Indiana families must meet certain requirements to qualify for the Access Pass program. To learn more, go to [connerprairie.org/plan/hours-and-admission/access-pass](http://connerprairie.org/plan/hours-and-admission/access-pass).



# Tipton announces new Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA)

## The REPORTER

The City of Tipton announces the creation of a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA), allowing residents and visitors to enjoy alcoholic beverages outdoors and in specific establishments throughout Tipton.

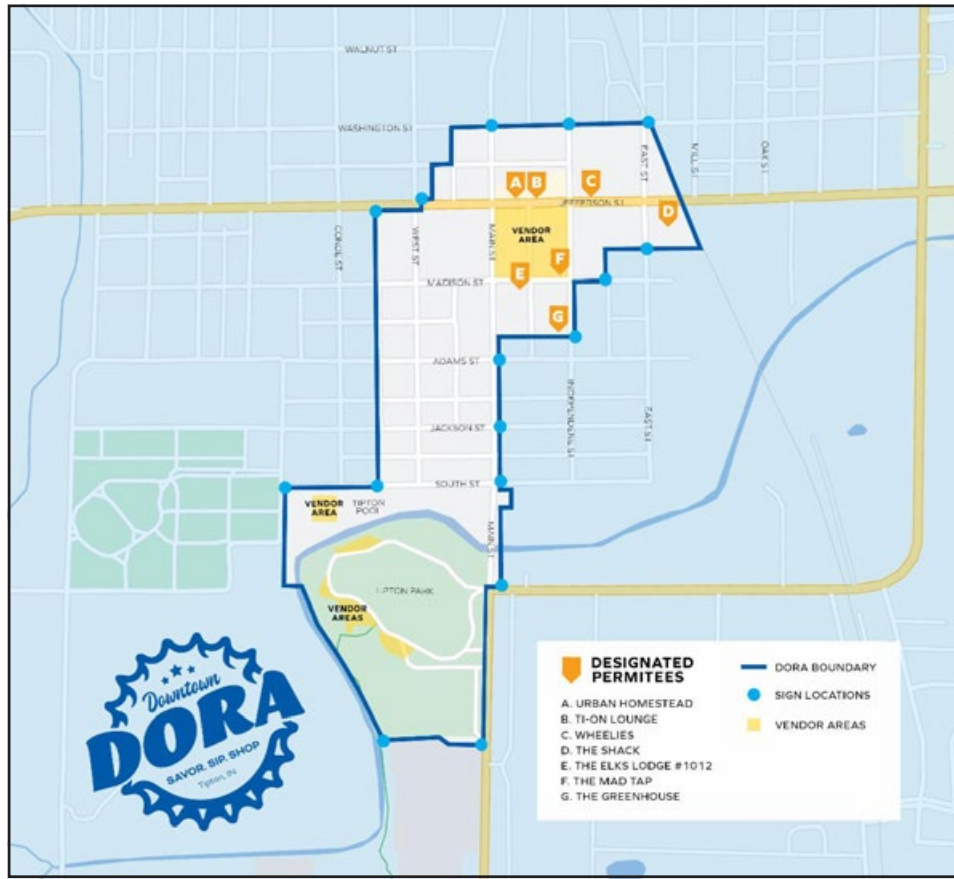
The establishment of the DORA, authorized by Indiana Code 7.1-3-31 and approved by the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission (ATC), was previously approved by the Tipton City Common Council in September to enhance the downtown experience and support local businesses.

"Establishing Tipton's Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area presents an exciting opportunity to enhance the downtown experience," Mayor Kegan Schmicker said. "By encouraging visitors to stay longer and explore, we aim to increase the time and money spent in our local shops and restaurants, fostering a more vibrant community for both residents and guests. This initiative aligns with our commitment to supporting local businesses and creating a welcoming, dynamic atmosphere in downtown Tipton."

A DORA allows patrons 21 years and older to purchase alcoholic beverages from approved businesses within the DORA and carry them outside to be consumed within the DORA's boundaries. Beverages may be taken around the designated DORA, either while relaxing outdoors, enjoying one of the many downtown events or while shopping at retailers permitting DORA beverages in their businesses.

"When we opened The Mad Tap, we wanted to create a family-friendly social hub, a place for the community to gather," said Mindy Mason with The Mad Tap. "I believe DORA will provide an additional attraction for people to get out in Tipton and roam around the shops, dining spots and other downtown events, all while enjoying a beer or a cocktail if they choose."

The new DORA encompasses a defined area in downtown Tipton, as outlined in the city ordinance and accompanying map. Participating establishments within the district will be designated as permittees, allowing patrons to purchase alcoholic beverages and enjoy them while exploring the area. Visitors will be able to enjoy drinks in specially marked DORA cups within the district's boundaries, which excludes all



Graphic provided

residential properties.

### Key details

• **Operating hours:** The DORA will be active seven days a week, from noon to 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and from 10 a.m. to midnight on Friday and Saturday. Special event organizers can request amended DORA hours for specific occasions.

• **Effective date:** The DORA will come into effect on Dec. 7 at 10 a.m.

• **Participating businesses:** Participating establishments include: Urban Homestead, Wheelies, The Shack, TI-ON Lounge, The Elks Lodge #1012, The Mad Tap, and The Greenhouse. Additional businesses within the district can apply to become designated permittees through the City of Tipton.

• **Additional permittees:** Additional businesses within the district can apply to become designated permittees through the City of Tipton by submitting a designated permittee application to the Mayor's Office. It then must be approved by the City Common Council and the Indiana ATC.

• **Vendor participation:** Temporary vendors can participate during special events by applying for a Special Event Permit. Approved vendors will be allowed to sell alcoholic beverages in designated vendor areas within the DORA.

• **Beverage limits:** Patrons may carry up to two open containers of alcoholic beverages at a time. The containers must be in designated DORA cups, with restrictions on size—beer and flavored malt beverages (16 ounces), wine/cider/hard seltzer (12 ounces), and

mixed drinks (10 ounces, with no more than 2 ounces of liquor).

• **Safety and enforcement:** The City of Tipton Police Department will monitor the DORA to ensure compliance with safety regulations. Businesses within the area maintain the right to restrict or prohibit alcohol on their premises.

• **No glass containers:** For safety, glass containers will only be allowed in designated outdoor dining areas and cannot be carried into the DORA's open spaces.

• **Branding and signage:** The City of Tipton has established a unique brand for the DORA, with consistent signage and specially marked DORA cups. Visitors will see clear boundary markers and signage to guide them through the area. Signage attached at the end of this release.

• **Community-driven initiative:** The DORA was developed with input from local businesses and residents, and it is part of the city's ongoing efforts to revitalize the downtown area and promote a vibrant social scene.

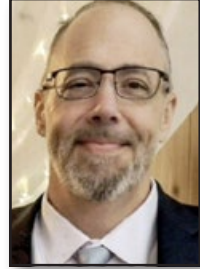
"We're thrilled to see DORA coming to Tipton, especially as it coincides with the opening of Wheelies," said Cliff Ragan with Wheelies. "This is an exciting opportunity to bring our community together, creating a lively atmosphere that will make it easier for visitors to explore all that Tipton has to offer - from unique shops to cozy bars and restaurants. DORA will help put Tipton on the map as a destination spot, and we're excited to welcome everyone to experience both Wheelies and our wonderful downtown!"

## Obituary

### Christopher R. Thieman

December 30, 1972 – November 13, 2024

Christopher R. Thieman, 51, died on November 13, 2024, at his residence in Noblesville.



Chris was born on December 30, 1972, in Indianapolis and grew up in Noblesville, the son of Ronald G and Catherine L (Callahan) Thieman. He married Christie Eubanks on July 17, 1999, at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in Noblesville. She survives in Noblesville. He is also survived by sons Kyle & Tori (Heath) Thieman plus their daughter Noramae of Cicero, and Jacob & Lauren (Hornback) Thieman of Noblesville.

He is also survived by his sister, Heather (Thieman) & Eric Hendrich of Noblesville and their sons Koy Hendrich & girlfriend, Delaney Teachnor, and Quin Hendrich. He is survived by his mother-in-law Phyllis (Manring) & Doug Pike of Elwood; sister-in-law Kim (Eubanks) & Jeremy Winn of Whitestown and their children Olivia (Winn) & Nate Gonzalez and Gabe Winn & fiancée Jade; step-brother-in-law Justin & Kristy Eubanks of Pendleton and their children Austin, Lilli and Kinslee; step-sister-in-law Jami and Rodney Ballard of Pendleton and their children Elizabeth and Brian.

Chris graduated from Noblesville High School in 1991, attended St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer and graduated from Indiana Wesleyan University. He worked for Sallie Mae & USA Group – Fishers for 20 years in IT. He then worked for Interactive Intelligence / Genesys – Indianapolis as an IT Database Administrator for eight years. Chris was currently at Progressive Insurance – Carmel as an IT Database Consultant. He enjoyed working with the people at the various companies through the years and made many special friendships. Chris appreciated all the support given to him through the years but especially by the Progressive Insurance employees over the last several years through his illness.

Chris had been active with the Noblesville Youth Baseball organization as a coach, working volunteer and board member for over 15 years. He also had been active with Boy Scouts when Kyle and Jacob were growing up. Chris enjoyed above all else, spending time with his family and friends and going to school and sporting events of his children and nephews. He enjoyed having gatherings with the Sheltons, Furiaks, Browns, and Cappellettis, camping with family and friends, barbequing and smoking meats for various occasions but especially the holidays. Chris was a fan of the Noblesville Millers, Boston Red Sox, Indiana University, and UConn Women's Basketball. Being a supportive father was his most important role in life.

The family wants to thank all of the medical staff that have worked with Chris for the last several years – your care, kindness, and friendship meant a lot to him and us. Thank you.

Friends called at the Randall & Roberts Funeral Center at 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville, on Sunday, November 17, with a service following. A private burial for the immediate family was held at the Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville.

In lieu of flowers, please send a donation to Noblesville Youth Baseball, P.O. Box 721, Noblesville, IN 46061, or to a charitable organization of the donor's choice.

Condolences may be left at randallroberts.com.

## Obituaries

### Robert "Bob" Eugene Gordon Jr.

August 12, 1939 – November 10, 2024

Robert "Bob" Eugene Gordon Jr., 85, passed away at home after a rapid battle with cancer on the Lord's Day, November 10, 2024.

Bob was born August 12, 1939, in Chicago, Ill., to Robert Gordon Sr. and Ethel Gordon Garner.

Bob graduated from Walnut Grove High School in 1957. He then attended Ball State University, where he obtained a bachelor's degree in 1961 and a master's degree in 1965. He married his high school sweetheart and forever love Ann Nance on June 4, 1961, at Omega Christian Church.

Bob started his teaching career in Noblesville from 1961 to 1966. He then furthered his career by serving as a teacher and Principal at Tipton Elementary from 1966 to 1989. From 1989 until his retirement in 2001, Bob was the Principal at Hamilton Heights Elementary School.

Bob was a beloved baseball coach and mentor to many young men. Bob's Omega Christian Church Family ordained him as an Elder on April 13, 2014. Bob was an avid sportsman. He played baseball, basketball, and golf, trained and hunted bird dogs, fished, and fished some more! He enjoyed spectating these sports along with Cubs games, Masters Tournaments, Colts games, and racing. Bob was also an avid reader and historian; he loved books almost as much as fishing. When Bob wasn't dedicating his career to the betterment of our youth, he would spend time on the farm or in the garden. Most of all, Bob was an involved, loving leader of his family and the most genuine friend one could have.

Bob is survived by his devoted wife, Ann (Nance) Gordon; sons, Robert Kip (Diane) Gordon of Vevay, Ind., and Edward Trent (Heather) Gordon of Arcadia; daughters, Nancee Dee (Paul) Crouse of Cicero, and Angie Lou (Neal) Fine of Noblesville; six grandchildren, Josie (Grant) Achenbach of Cicero, Sophie Scott (Josh) Brinkman of Cleveland, Ohio, Orion Gordon of Cicero, Adeline Gordon of Cicero, Anna Fine of Noblesville, and Sky Gordon of Arcadia; two great-grandchildren, Otto and Lally Achenbach; brothers, Bill (Joan) Gordon of Frankton, Ind., and Jack (Sandy) Gordon of Cookeville, Tenn.; stepbrothers and stepsisters, nieces, and nephews of the Russell Garner family.

Bob is preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation took place Friday, November 15, 2024, at Cicero Christian Church, 1715 Stringtown Pike, Cicero. The funeral service was held Saturday, November 16, 2024, at Cicero Christian Church with Pastor Neal Brown officiating. Burial followed in Arcadia Cemetery in Arcadia.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Omega Christian Church.

Online condolences may be given at hartleyfuneralhomes.com.

### Kiley Renay Holman

October 18, 1978 – November 12, 2024

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of

Kiley Renay Holman on November 12, 2024, at the age of 46. Kiley was born to Rick and Gina (DeSimone) Ashcraft in Hugo, Colo., on October 18, 1978.

Kiley received a marketing degree from Arizona State University, an area where she thrived in connecting to the needs of others, all while being creative. Kiley's ability to create, refurbish, and construct was unmatched.

She had a CAN-DO, determined attitude in all areas of her life. Anything was possible if she set her mind to it, and she would make it happen! Most would say that she was a fighter, determined, relentless, would not take no as an option; they were absolutely right. Kiley inspired all those around her with her kind, outgoing spirit and welcoming smile and laugh. She loved her people well and often referred to them in recent years as Team Kiley.

Kiley loved a good workout in the gym, a long run, or a hike. Always up for an adventure, you would find her landed someplace with a beach, a mountain, on a horse, in a Jeep, or live country music. She enjoyed exploring both new and familiar places, work allowed for her to do much of that. Growing up, Kiley always took any possible opportunity to take a horse for a ride, marvel her ski instructor abilities and hit up the volleyball court.

Kiley often referred to her wonderful daughters as "my best ever," and that they are, her BEST EVER. Kiley took great pride in raising her girls, attending their volleyball and softball events, whether as a coach or mom, were among the very top of her list of joys.

Left to mourn her loss is her mother, Gina (Kent) Bradburn; father, Rick (Peggy) Ashcraft; daughters, Laynie Renay Holman and Bristol Belle Holman; siblings, Chad (Sunni) Ashcraft, Sara (Chris) Riedel, Anna Ashcraft, and Alexis Bradburn; grandmother, Betty Pickenpaugh; as well as her nieces and nephews, Cruz Ashcraft, Cooper Riedel, Brenley Riedel, Parker Ashcraft, Wynna Riedel, and Hayzen Riedel; a host of family members; and countless friends.

The first celebration of Kiley, in the form of "Kiley's After Party" will be held from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Monday, November 25, 2024, at the Indianapolis Executive Airport, 11329 State Road 32, Zionsville. After-parties in Arizona and Colorado will be held at a later date. Randall & Roberts Funeral Home has been entrusted with Kiley's care.

Memorial contributions may be made to Colorectal Cancer Alliance, 1025 Vermont Ave. NW, Suite 1066, Washington, DC 20005 (colorectalcaner.org).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

### Dorothy M. Beaver

March 6, 1931 – November 6, 2024

Dorothy M. Beaver, 93, Jamestown, Ky., passed away on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at Fair Oaks Health Systems. Dorothy was born in Indianapolis on March 6, 1931, a daughter of the late Alice (Payne) and Bethel Hall. She was a housewife.

Dorothy is survived by a daughter, Annette Crowell, Jamestown, Ky.; four sons, Bob Crowell, Jamestown, Ky., Phillip "Konch" Beaver, Seymour, Ind., Jack "Pete" Beaver, Clay City, Ind., and Joe Beaver, Cicero; three sisters, Peggy King, Noblesville, Joann Murdock, Noblesville, and Kay Beshear, Noblesville; as well as several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Jack Beaver; son, John Crowell; and daughter, Connie Hays.

Care and Cremation were chosen.

Condolences: pruitffuneralhome.com

# Noblesville author tackles holiday stress

## The REPORTER

Clay Patin Press has announced the release of *The Joy of a Field*, the third title in its Sacred Grounds series of women's fiction by Indiana author Callie J. Smith.

"The winter holidays are supposed to be a wonderful time, but they can also hold more events, gatherings, family visits, trips to schedule, things to plan, expectations to meet, and challenging gift-giving situations than any other time of year," Smith said. "The pressure is important to pay attention to, both for our own health and for that of the people around us."

*The Joy of a Field* offers a humorous and fun read while also raising important questions about expectations during this unique time of year.

Meant for readers who resonate with the experience of stress at the holidays, *The Joy of a*

*Field* follows Kat Kent, a 30-something barista who has to set aside her hopes for a simple holiday season. Her new significant other, Paul Miles, begins interviewing for a job six hours away at the same time that a mystery art buyer begins raising questions Kat isn't sure she wants answered during her busiest time of the year. When Paul's parents show up for their visit, they bring a whole new set of troubles that threaten to push Kat and Paul to their limit. They do their best to make it through a first holiday together, but will the new year bring the new beginnings they need?

### About Callie J. Smith

Callie J. Smith is an author based in Noblesville as well as a clergy person. She writes fiction and essays exploring topics like memory, grief, creativity, and hope. For more information, go to [CallieJSmith.net](http://CallieJSmith.net).





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**Jarrod Thomas Mason**

*May 8, 1976 – November 12, 2024*



Jarrod Thomas Mason, 48, Arcadia, passed away on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at IU Health Methodist Hospital.

Jarrod was born in Anderson, Ind., to Stephen D. and LouAnn (Caplinger) Mason. Jarrod's early childhood was spent in Anderson where he attended Pendleton schools during his primary years. After that, he moved to Atlanta, where he attended Hamilton Heights Schools until his graduation in 1994. He went on to attend Ball State University, earning a bachelor's degree in Education and a master's degree in Educational Administration.

After a yearlong internship at Carmel Clay Schools, he began his career in education at Frankfort High School, Frankfort, Ind., as an English teacher. From there he became the Assistant Principal at Frankfort High School. In the Fall of 2008, he returned to his Alma Mater to become the principal at Hamilton Heights High School. Now back in the community he was raised, educated, and loved so much, he and his family put down their roots.

Jarrod became a leader, mentor, and friend to many. He surrounded himself with like-minded and dedicated individuals, who, like him, put the students, staff, and community's best interests first. Jarrod was always a man who realized that he was only as good as the people around him. And there were many of them that he held as dear, close friends. He often led by example and knew that doing what is right can be hard, but sometimes you had to do hard things.

Jarrod was a lover of many things. First and foremost, on that list was his family. He met his wife Charlotte "Char" (Thomsen) at Ball State University where they were both athletes. They would marry on June 3, 2000, and have three amazing children: Dean, Taylor, and Cyrus. He adored his family and the moments they shared. The countless miles spent in cars, at a ball field, or fishing on the lake – that's where he loved to be. Jarrod loved the outdoors and was the definition of an outdoorsman. Hunting, fishing, playing catch with his kids, and being king of his grill were true passions ... But don't forget his yard!

Jarrod's legacy will live on through his family, the impact that he has had on the Hamilton Heights Community, and the positive influence that he has had on his students throughout his career.

A Celebration of Life Service was held Sunday, November 17, 2024, at the Hamilton Heights Student Activity Center (SAC), 420 W. North St., Arcadia, with J.R. Moffatt officiating.

Immediately following the service, the family greeted the community for a time of fellowship in the East Gym of the SAC, as well as an opportunity to pay final respects to Jarrod.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Jarrod Mason Scholarship Foundation.

Jarrod's care has been entrusted to Hartley Funeral Homes, Cicero. Online condolences can be given at [hartleyfuneralhomes.com](http://hartleyfuneralhomes.com).

**Cyndie Moore**

*March 14, 1955 – November 11, 2024*



Cyndie Moore, 69, a kind, fun-loving, caring individual from Fishers, went to her Heavenly home on Monday, November 11, 2024. She was at Community Hospital North in Indianapolis surrounded by her family when she passed after a courageous battle with cancer. Cyndie was born on March 14, 1955 to Albert and Marilyn (Hornbach) Scott in Indianapolis.

Cyndie was a 1973 graduate of Hamilton Southeastern High School. She worked as a clerk for the Hamilton County Government Center and as a legal assistant for S. Neal Ziliak in Noblesville and Orfanos & Alvarado in Fortville until she retired in 2016. She was married to the love of her life, Douglas Moore, for 46 years before he passed away in 2018. Cyndie enjoyed being crafty, loved her Bible journaling gatherings and was active in a card group (especially liked euchre). Cyndie played softball in her younger years and spent many days watching Doug, her sons and granddaughters play sports. Bowling was another sport she spent lots of time playing and watching over the years. She was always up for a gambling getaway to Four Winds Casino, going to her favorite music concerts and enjoyed lots of fun and laughs on her trips with her girlfriends. Her smile would light up a room and her laughter was contagious. Cyndie had a great sense of humor and delighted in spending time with her family and friends. She also cherished cuddling with her precious little dog, Dory.

She is survived by her sons, Matt (Jody) Moore, Brian (Michelle) Moore, and Brad (Alisa) Moore; seven granddaughters, Maddie, Rylie, Kelsey, Kaylee, Mariah, Alivia, and Sophia Moore; sisters, Carla (Bill) Bowman, and Cheryl Morgan (Abby); brother, Douglas (Roseanne) Scott; brother-in-law, Stephen (Bonnie) Moore; and her special companion, Mark Kratky.

In addition to her parents, Cyndie was preceded in death by her devoted husband of 46 years, Douglas R. "Doug" Moore in 2018; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, David & Barb Moore; sister-in-law, Lucinda Moore; and in-laws, Lloyd & Dorothy Moore.

A memorial service is scheduled from 4 to 5 p.m. on Thursday, November 21, 2024, at Randall & Roberts Fishers Mortuary, 12010 Allisonville Road, Fishers. Pastor Jeff Alexander will officiate. A celebration of life will follow after the service until 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

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

Condolences: [randallroberts.com](http://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 500 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](mailto:obits@ReadTheReporter.com).

**Tommy Ray Lewis**

*September 3, 1956 – November 13, 2024*



Tommy Ray Lewis, 68, Arcadia, passed away on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at IU North Hospital. On September 3, 1956, he was born in Mountain Home, Ark., to Truman and Margie (Pherigo) Lewis.

On July 15, 2000, Tommy married Patricia Susan (Rostermundt) Gruhn Lewis, and together they shared 24 wonderful years of marriage. Tommy retired from a fulfilling career in construction and was a dedicated member of the Church of Christ. He cherished his time fishing at Lake Norfolk in Arkansas and attended an annual fishing trip in Michigan with friends. A true sports enthusiast, Tommy was an avid fan of the Kansas City Chiefs.

Tommy is survived by his beloved wife, Patricia Susan Gruhn Lewis, of Arcadia; his mother, Margie Marie Lewis, of Clarkridge, Ark.; sons, Matthew (Amanda) Lewis of Rea Valley, Ark., Michael (Tara) Melton of Gassville, Ark., Kyle Lewis of Tampa Bay, Fla., and Devin Lewis of Mountain Home, Ark.; daughter, Ashley (Cody) Gott of Mountain Home, Ark.; stepsons, David (Kathy) Ertz and Daniel Ertz; sisters Helen (Eddie) Parks of Clarkridge, Ark., Ann (Kenny) Thomas of Noble, Mo., and Tonya (Paul) Strain of Clarkridge, Ark.; brother, Bill (Angela) Lewis of Shawnee, Kan.; 13 cherished grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Truman Ray Lewis.

In accordance with Tommy's wishes, he will be cremated with a burial to take place at a later date. The family has entrusted his care to Hartley Funeral Homes in Cicero.

Online condolences can be given at [hartleyfuneralhomes.com](http://hartleyfuneralhomes.com).

**Dora M. Isenhower**

*July 23, 1931 – November 12, 2024*



Dora Minnie "Dot" (Maxwell) Isenhower, 93, Lebanon, Ind., passed away on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at Witham Memorial Hospital. Dora was born on July 23, 1931, in Montgomery County, Indiana, as the fourth of seven children of Carl Frederick "Fred" Maxwell Sr. and Margaret Viola (Doyle) Maxwell.

She grew up on a farm near Darlington before moving with her family to Clinton County, near Mechanicsburg. Dora attended Buntin #1, a one-room schoolhouse, until sixth grade, then completed her education at Center #5 and graduated from Kirklin High School in 1949.

Dora married Charles Leslie Isenhower on December 30, 1949, in Boone County. They were married for 60 years until Charles' passing in 2010. Together, they raised five beautiful daughters: Cynthia "Cindy" Sue Hinton, Diana Lynn Kercheval (deceased), Terri Ellen McGee, Sheila Kay Redman, and Linda Lou Jones. They also raised their grandson, David Joel Isenhower, as their own.

While raising her children, Dora attended night school at Ruth Beck's Approved University of Cosmetology in Indianapolis, becoming a licensed cosmetologist and opening her own salon in Sheridan, which she successfully ran for many years. In retirement, Dora remained active by founding and serving as president of the Boone County Right to Life for many years, alongside her husband Charles. She educated the community and passionately advocated for the rights of unborn children.

Dora was a devoted member of the Household of Love and Faith Church, leading Bible studies, caring for foster children, and ministering to the elderly. Her love for the Bible took her on three trips to Israel and one to Italy. She lived out James 1:27 in her care for others and prayed daily for her family and friends to know, love, and follow the Lord Jesus Christ.

Dora is survived by her daughters Cindy, Terri, Sheila, and Linda, as well as her grandson David, who she raised as a son. She is also survived by her siblings Mable Louise Jarrett and Paul Edwin Maxwell. Dora was a loving grandmother to 15 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren, and many great-great-grandchildren.

Dora was preceded in death by her husband Charles, her daughter Diana, and her siblings Lloyd Gene Maxwell, Floyd Eugene Maxwell, Carl Frederick Maxwell Jr., and Kenneth Dale Maxwell.

Visitation took place Monday, November 18, 2024, at Myers Mortuary, 1502 N. Lebanon St., Lebanon. The funeral service will be conducted by Pastor Ryan Vinson at 11 a.m. Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at Myers Mortuary, followed by interment at Oak Hill Cemetery in Lebanon.

Memorial donations may be made in her name to the Boone County Right to Life, P.O. Box 264 Lebanon, IN 46052.

Dora's love, strength, and faith continue to inspire her family and all who knew her. May she rest in eternal peace, reunited with her loved ones.

Online condolences: [MyersMortuary.com](http://MyersMortuary.com)

**Norma Jean Tharp**

*July 3, 1934 – November 10, 2024*



Norma Jean Tharp, 90, Arcadia, passed away on November 10 at Five Star Residence memory unit, Noblesville, from complications of dementia.

Known as both "Jean" or "Norma Jean" (or sometimes as "Normie" by her beloved husband Walt a/k/a "Fluto"), she was born July 3, 1934, in Wabash, Ind., to Philip and Bessie Marie Siders. A 1953 graduate of Jackson Central High School, on November 25, 1955, she married Walter Raymond Tharp, a 1951 Jackson Central High graduate and a U.S. Navy veteran. After a short time living in New Albany, they made their lifelong home together west of Arcadia. Jean, after working as a flower arranger, became a nurse's aide for many years. She retired from Riverview Hospital in 1990. She was a member of Cicero Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Jean would perhaps be best characterized as a salt-of-the-earth country wife and mother with a faith in Jesus that was simultaneously simple, deep, unshakeable, and genuine, never with any false airs or showiness. Her love of traditional Christian hymns exemplified this strong faith – the Gaither gospel artists come to mind, and she could be expected to spontaneously break into religious song in both her best and worst moments. She had a love of country music with a special love of Willie Nelson and Randy Travis. Burt Bacharach's "What the World Needs Now Is Love" was a favorite and it is no understatement that she spoke often of the universal need for love for all of God's creatures as mattering more than anything else in life.

In retirement, she and beloved husband Walter sampled numerous mutually held interests and hobbies, including pioneer/reenactment rendezvous at Mississinewa Reservoir and trips as far as Maine in their fifth-wheel RV, to growing plants in their homespun greenhouse, and a fling with all things gourd-related. Cookouts on Sunday after church with their children rounded out their time and love together.

Jean was preceded in death by a stepbrother, John Brane, Markle, Ind. Surviving are two half-brothers, Gary Smith, Tipton, and Alan Siders, Chicago area; and two sons and a daughter: Dennis Tharp, Madison, Ind.; Ryan Tharp, Arcadia; and Susan (Tharp) Garrity, Arcadia; as well as four grandchildren, Abigail Lowery, Kelsey Knighthawk, Daniel Garrity, and Katherine Garrity (deceased 2022), and a great-granddaughter Juniper Lowery.

Visitation and funeral services were held at Cicero Seventh Day Adventist Church, 24445 S.R. 19, Cicero, on Thursday, November 14, followed by graveside service at Cicero Cemetery, 7810 W. 236th St., immediately west of the bridge spanning Morse Reservoir.

Finally, the family wishes to acknowledge the extraordinary affection by and between Jean and the caregivers at Five Star Residence, Noblesville. The farewell emotion, the tears of staff and the extent to which Jean touched them was evident and we are deeply grateful for the care and the love she received there.

The family requests no flowers but instead, a donation can be made to the American Legion, 50 Washington Ave., Cicero, IN 46034, (317) 984-4441.

Online condolences may be made at [hartleyfuneralhomes.com](http://hartleyfuneralhomes.com).

**glimmer lights**

**Pinetree Acres Farm**  
[pinetreeacresfarm.com](http://pinetreeacresfarm.com)

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| <p><b>NEW LISTING!</b></p>  <p><b>18794 PRAIRIE CROSSING DRIVE</b><br/>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.<br/>Listed at \$354,900</p> | <p><b>PENDING</b></p>  <p><b>540 ZEPHYR WAY</b><br/>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!<br/>Listed at \$314,900</p> | <p><b>PENDING</b></p>  <p><b>1880 E. 75 NORTH</b><br/>LEBANON</p> <p>Completely remodeled ranch on 1.06 acres just outside of downtown Lebanon. Beautifully decorated and move-in ready!<br/>Listed at \$339,900</p> | <p><b>SOLD!</b></p>  <p><b>909 FENNEL COURT</b><br/>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.<br/>Listed at \$344,900</p> | <p><b>PENDING</b></p>  <p><b>275 WYANDOTTE COURT</b><br/>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.<br/>Listed at \$264,900</p> |
|---|---|---|---|--|

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## HAMILTON COUNTY SPORTS

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

### — High School Football Regional Championships —

# Shamrocks defend regional title, sailing on to semi-state

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

**FISHERS** – There were big plays all over the field last Friday night between Westfield and Fishers at the Tigers' Everwise Credit Union Field in the Class 6A Regional 2 championship game.

The last big play of the game belonged to the Shamrocks. With just over a minute to go on first-and-10, Deacon King sprinted 49 yards into the end zone for his second touchdown of the game. An Owen Wright extra point kick then sealed up a 42-28 victory for Westfield, which defended its regional title.

The regional victory is the eighth for the 'Rocks in program history and the fourth in the last five years. It was also a hard-fought contest, with Fishers improving after taking a 46-12 loss to Westfield during the regular season.

"It was a blowout last game, so I feel like they upped their run defense," said King.

The Shamrocks scored first, finishing a nearly seven-minute opening drive with a 28-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Carsen Melvin to King. Wright kicked the extra point, as he would do for all six of Westfield's touchdowns in the game.

The Tigers tied the game early in the second quarter with their own long drive. Quarterback Caden Hill capped Fishers' downfield march with a five-yard run into the end zone. Jon Tangara kicked the extra point, the start of a 4-for-4 night.

The game was tied at 7-7, but not for long. The Shamrocks' Cato June collected the Tigers' kickoff return and took it 94 yards for a touchdown.

June said when he caught the ball, "I was supposed to go to the right, but I saw somebody get through the gap, and so I tried to lower my shoulder to run him over. Spun off of it, I looked to my left and I saw green, and I just ran."

When asked is a play like that is either instinct or something that is practiced, June said it's "a little of both."

"Mainly instinct," said



Photos by Joshua Herd

(ABOVE) Members of the Westfield football team happily show off the regional trophy after beating Fishers 42-28 last Friday at the Tigers' field. The regional win is the fourth in the last five years for the Shamrocks. (BELOW) Westfield's Deacon King rushed for 220 yards in the regional game. He caught a touchdown pass in the first quarter and made a 49-yard TD run in the fourth quarter. (BOTTOM) Fishers' Caden Hill totaled 249 yards passing, rushing for one touchdown and throwing for another.

June. "With ball carrier vision, that's instinct, but in practice, our scout teams give a great look, so I learned how to bounce and read everything that the defense is doing on kickoff."

Melvin scored on a quarterback keeper later in the second quarter, and Westfield went into halftime with a 21-7 lead.

But the Tigers came back during the third period. A 31-yard pass from Hill to JonAnthony Hall got Fishers to the one-yard line, and Ryan Themblembu easily punched the ball in for a TD on the next play. The Tigers tied the game with 33 seconds left in the third quarter when Themblembu ran the ball four yards for a touchdown.

Westfield took the lead back early in the fourth quarter when Melvin sent a seven-yard touchdown throw to Beau Braun. The 'Rocks held Fishers to a three-and-out on the next play, then began another touchdown drive. Melvin finished that one with a 14-yard keeper to the end zone.

The Tigers made a furious drive, one that required only 75 seconds to make seven plays. Hill threw the ball on all seven, making five of them, including an eight-yard pass to Vincent Rozzi that brought Fishers within 35-28. But King's



long touchdown run got Westfield out of danger. He finished the game with 220 yards on 33 carries.

"We try to focus and get back in the moment of each play and executing what we do," said Shamrocks coach Josh Miracle. He credited his staff with putting the team "in a great position to succeed and just practicing those pressure situations."

Miracle also mentioned his offensive linemen. "You got (Avery) Huggins, you got (Job) Mavricks, (Isaac) Cole. You got Tristan Cooke-Dennis on that right side and then Malachi (Mills)," he said. Hill was 21-of-37

throwing the ball for 249 yards, with Hill making eight receptions for 115 yards. Fishers finished the season 7-5 and won its first sectional title since 2017.

"I'm so proud of our kids," said Tigers coach Curt Funk. "We played Westfield Oct. 11 and they really beat us up pretty good. And our kids, from then until tonight, have just believed in the process and just trusted each other. And we had opportunities tonight. Unfortunately, we fell short to a really, really good Westfield team."

The Shamrocks are 11-1 and host Crown Point Friday in the Class 6A north semi-state game.

### Girls Basketball



Photo by Julie Brown

Fishers' Allison Scheu scored in double digits for the Tigers in both of their games last Saturday at the Fishers Classic.

# Tigers split games at Fishers Classic

## The REPORTER

Fishers split a pair of games at its own Fishers Classic last Saturday at the Tiger Den.

The Tigers played Fort Wayne Carroll in a morning game, falling 63-59. The Chargers led 17-16 after one quarter and 31-28 at halftime. Nevaeh Dickman scored 10 points in the first

quarter. Fishers was still in the game after three periods, trailing 44-42, but Carroll outscored the hosts 19-17 in the fourth quarter.

Dickman led the Tigers with 17 points, while Allison Scheu poured in 15 points, including two 3-pointers.

See **Tigers . . . Page B2**



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

Guerin Catholic senior Annie Murphy scored 11 points during the Golden Eagles' home game with Greenfield-Central on Saturday.

# Golden Eagles face two tough teams to begin season

## By RICHIE HALL

sports@readthereporter.com

**NOBLESVILLE** – Guerin Catholic played two tough teams last week.

First, the Golden Eagles dropped an away game at Yorktown 64-53 last Tuesday.

The Tigers got out to a fast start, outscoring the GC 19-8 in the first quarter. Yorktown put up another 20 points in the second period

for a 39-20 lead. The Tigers maintained that margin in the second half.

Guerin Catholic did outscore the Tigers in the second half, cutting Yorktown's lead to 47-31 at the end of three quarters. Senior Ava Bills scored eight points.

The Golden Eagles poured in 22 points in the fourth; senior Annie Murphy and

See **Tough . . . Page B3**

# Blackhawks' season ends at South Putnam, boast sectional title

## The REPORTER

Sheridan saw its season come to an end last Friday at South Putnam, as the Class 1A No. 6 Eagles ran away from the Blackhawks 60-19 to claim the Regional 23 championship.

South Putnam went up 16-0 in the first quarter before Sheridan got on the board with a one-yard touchdown run by Owen Bell. The Eagles scored again to lead 24-16 after one quarter; they made three two-point conversions after each touchdown.

The 'Hawks cut into that lead midway through the second quarter when Jon Barnes scored on a four-yard

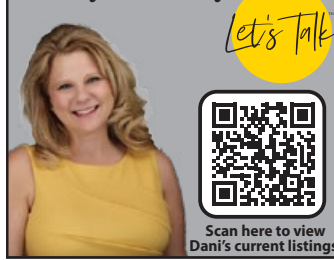
touchdown run, with Bell making the extra-point kick. But South Putnam blasted through the remainder of the quarter, leading 46-13 at halftime.

The Eagles scored another touchdown midway through the third quarter, instituting a running clock for the remainder of the game. Sheridan got one more touchdown, with Caleb Alexander collecting a 55-yard pass from Bell.

Alex Cravens led the Blackhawks' rushing with 74 yards, while Bell totaled 121 yards passing.

Sheridan finished the season 7-6, including its 22nd sectional championship.

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↑ **16.1%**  
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## Girls Wrestling



Photo provided

Sheridan's Aubrey Koch finished first in the 110-pound weight class at the Alexandria Monroe girls wrestling tournament on Nov. 9.

## Sheridan's Koch finishes first in her weight class

## The REPORTER

The Sheridan girls wrestling team kicked off the inaugural IHSAA wrestling season with a strong showing at the Alexandria Monroe High School tournament on Nov. 9.

The Blackhawks were led by Aubrey Koch, who finished first at 110 pounds. Koch won the championship match by pinning her opponent with seconds left in the second period.

Devyn Pewarski and Eva Todd both finished 3-1 in their weight classes, while Anna Hamersley went 2-2 to place third in her division. Madison Underwood, Gracie Stowers and Ryleigh Hampton all earned fourth-place finishes.

"Every single one of our wrestlers showed guts, wrestled un intimidated and has something to smile about walking away from this tournament." Said Blackhawks assistant coach Colin Warner.

"We competed with 24

other teams today and got a lot of compliments on how well our girls wrestled," said Sheridan head coach Jason Hamersley.

Last Saturday, Sheridan competed at the Purdue Polytechnic Invitational, scoring 61 points to tie for ninth place out of 26 teams.

Todd scored 18 points in the 145-pound division, finishing fourth in her bracket with a 3-2 record. Hamersley went 4-2 to finish fifth at 135 pounds and score 17 team points. Koch placed fourth at 110, earning 16 points, and Pewarski also placed fourth in her bracket, scoring 10 points. Also competing for Sheridan were Underwood at 155, Stowers at 115 and Hampton at 120.

"It's clear the work our ladies are putting in the room is translating to success on the mat," said Warner. "We can coach and fix technique, but we can't coach want-to and these girls want-to. It's a very exciting program to be part of."

## Girls Basketball

## Royals race past Franklin Community

## The REPORTER

Hamilton Southeastern won an away game 69-13 at Franklin Community last Wednesday.

The Class 4A No. 2 Royals led 46-9 at halftime. Maya Makalusky led Southeastern with 33 points and six 3-pointers. Kayla Stidham added 11 points. Addison Van

Hoesen collected five rebounds, with Makauskay and Antonette Green both getting four. Kennedy Holman dished out five assists and Stidham handed out four assists.

The Royals are 3-0 and host Cathedral on Tuesday, then begin Hoosier Crossroads Conference play Friday at Franklin Central.

## Huskies fall to Frankton, Jay County in road games

## The REPORTER

Hamilton Heights dropped an away game at Frankton Tuesday 51-37.

The Eagles led 9-4 after one quarter and 27-10 at halftime.

Katie Brown led the Huskies with 15 points, including three 3-pointers. Presley Cherry scored 17 points, while Sarah Sherrill led the rebounds with five.

Heights played another away game last Saturday, falling 57-37 to Jay County.

The Patriots led 12-4

after one quarter, but the Huskies came back in the second period to cut that lead to 20-19. Jay County took over in the second half, outscoring Heights 37-18.

Cherry led the Huskies with 11 points, including a 6-of-6 effort from the free-throw line. Brown scored eight points and collected five rebounds. Sherrill scored seven points and also had five rebounds. Lillie Champion contributed six points.

Heights is 0-4 and hosts Lapel on Tuesday.

## TIGERS

from Page B1

In its evening game, Fishers beat Columbia City 57-53. The Tigers got off to a good start, leading 22-17 after one quarter. Fishers cruised into halftime with a 40-28 advantage. Dickman again led the way with 14 first-half points, Riley Schellhammer had nine points in the half and Scheu added eight in the second quarter.

The Tigers maintained a 49-35 lead after three quarters. The Eagles made a comeback in the fourth period, but Fishers was able to hold on. Schellhammer scored six points during the fourth.

Dickman and Schellhammer both scored 18 points, with Schellhammer

making two 3s. Scheu totaled 12 points.

Fishers began the week last Wednesday by picking up a road victory at Anderson with the score of 64-20.

The Tigers led 18-8 after one quarter and 41-12 at halftime. Schellhammer scored 15 points in the first half, while Dickman scored all of her 13 points in the first half. Schellhammer drained three 3-pointers in the third quarter, bringing her game-high total to 24 points; she made four triples for the entire game.

Scheu finished the game with 11 points. Nicole Ellison scored eight points in the second half.

Fishers is 3-2 for the season.

## Girls Basketball

## Millers keep moving with win over Bishop Chatard

## The REPORTER

Noblesville ran its record to 2-0 for the season with a 56-45 victory at Bishop Chatard last Tuesday.

The Millers led 15-8 after the first quarter. Meredith Tippner scored seven points in that period, and she was just getting started. Tippner made two

3-pointers in the second quarter, helping to keep Noblesville ahead as the Trojans cut the Millers' lead to 27-23. C.C. Quigley scored eight points in the first half.

Both teams scored 14 points in the third quarter, so Noblesville stayed in front 41-37 going into the fourth. Tippner added

another eight points, while freshman Maia Blower threw in two 3-pointers. The Millers outscored Chatard 15-8 in the fourth period, with Tippner pouring in 11 points. Kate Rollins had four points in the fourth.

Tippner finished with a career-high 32 points, including three 3s, pulled

nine rebounds and handed out four assists. Quigley had eight points and Rollins scored seven. Brooklyn Grayson made five steals.

Noblesville begins Hoosier Crossroads Conference play Friday at Brownsburg, then returns to The Mill on Saturday to host Homestead.

## Hounds defeat Crispus Attucks to obtain first win of season

## The REPORTER

The Carmel girls basketball team won its first game of the season last Friday, beating Crispus Attucks 63-40 on the road.

The Greyhounds were

in control from the beginning, leading 17-7 after one quarter. Izzy Shepherd scored 11 points in that period. Carmel extended its lead to 34-13 by halftime, with Mallory Bour-

quein adding five points in the second quarter. The 'Hounds poured in another 20 points in the third period.

Shepherd led Carmel with 20 points, while Bour-

quein added 13 points. All 10 Greyhounds players scored at least two points.

Carmel is 1-2 and plays Tuesday at Zionsville, then hosts Fort Wayne Carroll Saturday afternoon.

## Blackhawks back in a fury, taking down two teams to open the season

## By RICHIE HALL

sports@readthereporter.com

**SHERIDAN** – The expectations are high for the Sheridan girls basketball team this year.

The Blackhawks return several players from last year's history-making team, one that won the program's first-ever regional title and came within an overtime period of reaching the final four in Class 2A. Sheridan began its season last Monday by playing at Carroll and ran away from the Cougars in the fourth quarter, winning the game 44-24.

Last Tuesday, the Hawks played their first home game of the season by taking on traditional powerhouse Lebanon. Sheridan again broke loose after a tight first half, outscoring the 3A Tigers 20-5 in the third quarter on its way to a 53-30 victory.

"We're excited about it," said Blackhawks coach Jaidlin Bradshaw. "We were a little nervous

playing back-to-back nights to open the season up, especially with traveling to Carroll last night. It's a long drive, and then turning back around and hosting Lebanon here tonight. Both Carroll and Lebanon are always super aggressive, physical games for us. I was just glad the girls were able to match that intensity and energy."

The Cougars had Sheridan down 12-10 after the first quarter. The Hawks were able to edge ahead 18-17 by halftime, then began to roll in the second half. Sheridan led 27-21 after three quarters, with Kenzie Garner scoring eight points in that period, including a pair of 3-pointers.

The Blackhawks then soared through the fourth, outscoring Carroll 17-3. Garner scored 14 points, while Cecilia Timme had eight points. Both are coming off solid fall sports season, with Garner playing volleyball and Timme

playing soccer.

"They don't ask for time off," said Bradshaw. "They're ready to transition right into the next thing. I think too, having successful sports seasons has really helped the girls to be excited to come in and have a good winter sport season as well."

Back home at Larry Hobbs Hall, Sheridan outscored Lebanon in each of the four quarters. The Blackhawks led 13-8 after one, then went into halftime with a 23-16 advantage. Garner scored 13 points in the first half.

Sheridan turned up the defense in the third period, outscoring the Tigers 20-5 for a 43-21 lead. Garner added another eight points, with Nova Cross and Timme both scoring four.

"Sometimes they just need to regroup," said Bradshaw. "I feel like we get a little frazzled sometimes with a bunch of different things, so it's nice to see them be able to regroup

at halftime and come out and then implement what we talked about."

Garner finished with 24 points, while Timme totaled nine.

Sheridan has a week off, then plays at home again Tuesday, welcoming Brebeuf Jesuit, then play at Covenant Christian on Thursday. The Blackhawks will be getting more attention this season as they try to make another post-season run, but Bradshaw mentioned that her team now has the experience of knowing they can make that run.

"It's certainly like a blessing and a curse, because it's pressure, but it's a good kind of pressure," said Bradshaw. "We have high expectations and we've always, as a staff, had high expectations for our girls. But now I think they know that they can do these things, and I think it's just a whole another level of pressure and scary and exciting and awesome all at the same time."

## Rocks fall to No. 1 Lawrence Central

## The REPORTER

Westfield was dealt with its first loss of the season Wednesday by the No. 1 team in Indiana.

The Shamrocks fell to defending Class 4A state champion Lawrence Central 53-26 at CSI Gymnasium. The Bears scored the first 11 points of the game

before Westfield got on the board, but the Rocks were able to stay within 18-8 by the end of the first quarter.

"That was a hard start, but I felt like we responded well," said Westfield coach Kelsey Steele. "We called a time out and we got some things rolling."

Westfield played LC

even in the next two periods, as both teams scored nine points in the second quarter and seven in the third. Aubrey Crockett scored seven points in the first half. But the Bears ran away with the fourth period, outscoring the Shamrocks 19-2.

Crockett finished the game with 12 points.

"It's still November," said Steele. "I just told them, it's the third game of the year. We'll find things, we'll grow from them, we'll learn from them and we'll just hope to build off them."

Westfield is 2-1 and hosts Mount Vernon Tuesday.

## University falls to Danville in nail-biter

## By RICHIE HALL

sports@readthereporter.com

**CARMEL** – It's likely that no Indiana girls basketball team has challenged itself during the early season like University has.

The Class 2A Trailblazers began their season last Saturday with a close loss to 4A Lafayette Jefferson, then returned to the U Center on Wednesday for their home opener against Danville one of the top teams in 3A. University battled the Warriors throughout the entire game before being edged out by Danville 52-51.

"Oh my gosh, I was proud of the effort our kids gave," said second-year Blazers coach Lisa Pryor. The coach said she challenged her team, "and they accepted it. "They gave 100 percent," she said.

University led the Warriors 11-9 after one quarter. Taylor Seay, back for her senior season after missing her junior year due to

injury, scored five points, including a 3-pointer. Seay would go on to score in each quarter of the game.

"I'm just so happy for her," said Pryor. "Outside of our team, this is a kid who has endured a lot of injuries and the emotional toll that it can take, especially leaving something that you've done for a long time."

Pryor said Seay "asked to come back to the team," and the Trailblazers were "happy to welcome her back. And she's just been really working hard and has done everything that we've asked her to do and has had a really great attitude while she's done it."

Danville worked its way to a 23-21 lead by halftime, with Madison Wethington making two 3-pointers for six points. Seay answered that with six points of her own.

University began the second half with an 8-0 run to lead 29-23. Leah Norvell and Seay both nailed 3s,

then Anyah Turley finished the spurt with a layin. The Warriors came back again, beginning a back-and-forth between the teams. Norvell went on to score seven points in the third, including a layin to give the Blazers a 37-36 lead, but a Danville basket ended the quarter and put the Warriors up 38-37.

Consecutive baskets from Addison Davis gave Danville a 49-41 lead in the fourth quarter, but University refused to go away. Norvell threw in another 3 to cut the lead to 50-46, then a Seay layin with under 30 seconds to go put the Trailblazers within 51-48. Wethington hit a free throw with 6.3 seconds left, but Sydney Culp gave University the last word with a triple at the buzzer.

"I haven't looked at the final count for our turnovers, but I know for a fact that they're much lower than what they were Saturday," said Pryor.

The coach said she challenged her team to take care of the basketball, "and I'll do that every single game," said Pryor. "And I felt like they really put more thought into it. They were settling, not as frantic, and it looked like that's what Danville really wanted was to make people frantic, and just make a bad pass and they pick off those passes, right? So, I figured if we could eliminate that, then that would put us in a good position."

Seay finished the game with 20 points and Norvell totaled 12; both made two 3-pointers. Mack Feeney collected seven rebounds, dished out four assists and blocked two shots. Norvell and Gabby Culp each grabbed six rebounds.

University is 0-2 and begins a six-game road swing on Tuesday with a trip to Roncalli, then play at defending 4A state champion Lawrence Central on Friday.



# Carmel football coach speaks to The Reporter following resignation

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

Longtime Carmel football coach John Hebert has resigned.

Hebert spoke to the Reporter last Thursday, reflecting on his multiple decades of coaching for the Greyhounds, one of the most successful high school football teams in Indiana, if not the entire country.



Hebert

"It's been 24 hours, and I've probably been contacted by hundreds of people, former assistant coaches, friends that are assistant coaches," said Hebert. "It's just a reminder of what a great network of community the sport of football can provide."

Hebert, 54, began his career in 1993 – "when I was out of college," he said – coaching for Clay Middle School and mentored teams at both Clay and Carmel

Middle School for the next few years.

"It was fun at that age," said Hebert.

Hebert moved up to the high school in 1998, coaching the Carmel freshman team, then became a varsity coach for the 2002 season. He spent the 2003 and 2004 seasons at Westfield before returning to Carmel in 2005 under Mo Moriarty.

Moriarty was succeeded by Kevin Wright in 2010. "I coached for him until I became head coach in 2015," said Hebert.

The Greyhounds have had a consistent record of success under Hebert. During the period from 2015 to 2020, Carmel won no less than a sectional championship in the post-season. The 'Hounds also claimed regional titles in 2015 and 2017, were state finalists in 2018 and won Class 6A state

titles in 2016 and 2019.

"There's only four coaches that have won two 6A titles," said Hebert. The others are Mike Kirschner at Ben Davis (2014, 2017), Jayson West at Warren Central (2013, 2018) and Eric Moore at Center Grove, who has won four 6A titles (2015, 2021, 2022, 2023).

"Coach Hebert has been an invaluable part of our school and I have a great deal of respect for the work that has been done during his tenure," said Carmel athletic director Jim Inskip. "He has dedicated himself to the program and our student-athletes, emphasizing the importance of teamwork and character. I am thankful for his leadership and the manner in which he has represented the athletic department."

Hebert is grateful for the amount of messages and support he has received since the news of his resignation went public. "Every time I get to a message and I'll try to re-

spond to it, and I've got there or four new messages waiting," he said.

The coach said it's "humbling and hard to really put a concrete value on," but at the same time, pointed out that it's the by-product of a long career.

"I'm trying to really stay in a grateful mindset," said Hebert. "I've just been so fortunate to have all these experiences and know all these people and have all these great relationships with people that I really respect."

And Hebert hasn't closed the door on coaching again. In fact, he's keeping that door very much open.

"I'm just not done," said Hebert. "I feel great. Physically, mentally and I love coaching. It's just what I've always loved to do. I'm going to keep myself open to the next big challenge that comes my way. I've already had a few people reach out. I know there's something out there for me."

# TOUGH

from Page B1

junior Dana Dues both added eight points, with Dues draining two 3-pointers.

Bills finished the game with 15 points, Murphy added 14 and freshman Caroline Ford came off the bench to score 10 points.

Guerin Catholic returned home to the Eagles Nest last Saturday to play Greenfield-Central, falling to the Cougars 59-37.

Greenfield got off to a 6-1 start before a three-point play by Ford cut the lead to 6-4 with a three-point play. Later, Murphy answered a basket by the Cougars' Madison Sonsini by nailing a 3-pointer, keeping the Golden Eagles within 8-7.

But Greenfield-Central took control, going on a 14-2 run that bridged the first and second quarters. The Cougars led 13-7 at the end of the first; senior Madi Cain began the second period with a basket, after which Greenfield scored nine unanswered points.

"I think we played hard the whole game," said Golden Eagles coach Danielle Cardinal. "I think that's one thing these girls do really, really well is play hard. I think overall, we just didn't take care of the ball. And when you have that many turnovers, it's really tough to stay in a ball game, because you're just giving them opportunity after opportunity. But they're a great team. They're very well-coached. They have awesome players and they play at a level that's really, really hard to compete with."

The Cougars went into halftime leading 28-16. Ava Bills hit a 3 during the second quarter and Ford added four points. The Golden Eagles stayed with Greenfield-Central for most of the

third period, with Murphy scoring five points, including a triple to keep GC within 35-23.

Murphy, Cain, Reagan Haines and Bills are the four seniors on this year's Golden Eagles team.

"They're excellent leaders," said Cardinal. "They do a really good job communicating with the kids. They do a good job of keeping things in the locker room the way they need to be, on the floor the way they need to be. I'm very, very lucky. They're very good leaders."

The Cougars finished the third quarter on a 9-0 run to lead 44-23, then put in four more points to start the fourth period, giving them a 48-23 lead. Greenfield kept its lead above 20 points for the remainder of the game, although Guerin Catholic did have some bright spots: Ford hit another 3 and sophomore Chika Ohale scored four points in that quarter.

Cardinal had good things to say about both of those young players. She compared Ford to "an Energizer Bunny. She can run for hours and never get tired, so she just adds a level of energy and effort."

As for Ohale, Cardinal said she "is really good. Chika is sneaky good. She's super quick and just always is in the right place at the right time. She's been a big surprise for us this year. She's had a really good start to the season."

Murphy and Ford both finished the game with 11 points. Bills scored seven points, followed by Ohale's four points. Cain and Addy Horvath both scored two points.

Guerin Catholic is 1-2 and plays its Circle City Conference opener Saturday at Heritage Christian.

# Pete Smith announces Noblesville Elks Hoops Shoot contest set for Dec. 8

## The REPORTER

The Noblesville Elks Hoops Shoot contest for girls and boys is less than a month away.

Pete Smith, 43-year Elks' member and local Hoop Shoot Director, has announced the event will be held on Sunday, Dec. 8 at the Noblesville Boys and Girls Club. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. for registration and warm-ups, with competition beginning promptly at 11 a.m. There is no registration in advance.

The contest is open to all boys and girls who live in the area. Everyone is asked

to enter the Boys & Girls Club Community Center at Door No. 4 on the north side of the facility that faces Ivy Tech. Basketballs are provided. Contestants compete in one of six divisions:

- Boys, ages 8-9
- Girls, ages 8-9
- Boys, ages 10-11
- Girls, ages 10-11
- Boys, ages 12-13
- Girls, ages 12-13

If the contestant will be age 7 on April 1, 2025, they are **too young** to participate.

If the contestant will be age 8 or 9 on April 1, 2025, they shoot in the 8-9 age

group.

If the contestant will be age 10 or 11 on April 1, 2025, they shoot in the 10-11 age group.

If the contestant will be age 12 or 13 on April 1, 2025, they shoot in the 12-13 age group.

If the contestant will be age 14 on April 1, 2025, they are **too old** to participate.

The participants will shoot 25 free throws to determine the local Elks Lodge Champion in each age group. The six winners will qualify to advance to the District competition. All

rules have been set by the National Elks Association.

The Noblesville Elks Lodge is proud to have had six of their past champions advance not only from their local competition, but have then won at the district level, state level, regional level, and have competed at the Elks Hoop Shoot National Championship in Springfield, Mass. One of the Noblesville Lodge's national finalists, Ryan Cline, won a National Championship in 2010.

Questions should be directed to Coach Smith at [pete@ckarphealth.com](mailto:pete@ckarphealth.com).

**Thanks for reading the Hamilton County Reporter!**

## —ARCADIA—

**NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**  
Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of Town of Cicero, Hamilton County, Indiana that the proper legal officer of the Town of Cicero at their regular meeting place at 70 N. Byron Street, at 7:00 PM, on the 3rd day of December, 2024, will consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for current year.

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| <b>FUND NAME: GENERAL FUND</b>                 |                  |
| 1101069314 Town Council Attorney               | \$ 30,000        |
| 1101069399 Town Council Contingency            | \$ 55,000        |
| <b>TOTAL - TOWN COUNCIL</b>                    | <b>\$ 85,000</b> |
| 1101220310 Plan Mapping Software               | \$ 1,000         |
| 1101220314 Plan Legal                          | \$ 2,082         |
| <b>TOTAL - PLAN</b>                            | <b>\$ 3,082</b>  |
| 1101362110 Fire Overtime                       | \$ 16,500        |
| 1101362116 Fire Fill-In                        | \$ 38,000        |
| 1101362112 Fire Degree/Certifications          | \$ 12,200        |
| <b>TOTAL - FIRE</b>                            | <b>\$ 67,000</b> |
| 1101370111 Police Wages                        | \$ 950           |
| 1101370125 Police Degree/Certifications        | \$ 3,000         |
| <b>TOTAL - POLICE</b>                          | <b>\$ 3,950</b>  |
| 2202001312 LRS Engineering                     | \$135,300        |
| <b>TOTAL - LRS</b>                             | <b>\$135,300</b> |
| 4402001436 CCD Miscellaneous                   | \$ 80,381        |
| 4402001441 CCD Vehicles                        | \$ 33,794        |
| <b>TOTAL - CCD</b>                             | <b>\$114,175</b> |
| 4401001434 CCI Miscellaneous                   | \$ 37,627        |
| <b>TOTAL - CCI</b>                             | <b>\$ 37,627</b> |
| <b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>                      | <b>\$446,134</b> |
| <b>FUND NAME: WATER UTILITY CASH OPERATING</b> |                  |
| 6101001601 Salaries                            | \$ 16,000        |
| 6101001602 Certifications                      | \$ 4,000         |
| 6101001626 Trans & Distr.                      | \$ 8,797         |
| <b>TOTAL WATER UTILITY CASH OPERATING FUND</b> | <b>\$ 28,797</b> |
| <b>FUND NAME: WASTEWATER UTILITY CASH OP</b>   |                  |
| 6201001722 Collect Exp-Maint, Mat & Supplies   | \$ 20,644        |
| 6201001742 PERF                                | \$ 4,000         |
| <b>TOTAL WASTEWATER UTILITY CASH OP FUND</b>   | <b>\$ 24,644</b> |

Taxpayers appearing at the meeting shall have a right to be heard. The additional appropriations as finally made will be referred to the Department of Local Government Finance. The Department of Local Government Finance will make a written determination as to the sufficiency of funds to support the appropriations made within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a Certified Copy of the action taken.

Date: November 15, 2024  
Fiscal Officer: Rhonda Gary  
R5278 11/18/24

## —COUNTY—

### NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

Pursuant to IC 5-3-1-2(b) Notice is hereby given that the Hamilton County Council of Hamilton County, Indiana will meet Wednesday, December 4, 2024 at their regular meeting place of One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, Indiana. The regular meeting of the Hamilton County Council will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Courtroom. Purpose of this meeting is for consideration of transfer of funds, 2024 and 2025 144 amendments, reduction of funds and to consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year. The Council will hold a public hearing for the additional appropriations. Any person having concerns or questions on said appropriations shall be heard at the public hearing.

|                            |                       |            |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| 1000 General Fund          | Interfund Transfer    | 16,394,560 |
| 1219 Parks and Recreation  | Capital Outlays       | 38,000     |
| 1222 Community Corrections | Professional Services | 54,000     |
| 8201 CDBG Grant            | Professional Services | 1,102,706  |
| R5279                      |                       | 11/18/24   |

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**Request for Proposal/Qualifications**  
Hamilton County Department of Parks & Recreation, Hamilton County, Indiana (the "Department") is requesting Statements of Proposal/Qualifications from interested parties to design, build, operate, and/or maintain the Strawtown Koteewi Park Archery Project ("the Project"). In accordance with IC 5-23-5, the Hamilton County Park Board invites any and all qualified parties to submit Statements of Proposal/Qualifications (PSOQ) to enter a public-private partnership for delivery of the Project. An electronic PDF of PSOQ in response to the County's RFPQ shall be received via email by the Hamilton County Parks & Recreation until **4:00 p.m., local time, on December 3rd, 2024**. The electronic PDF of the PSOQ should be emailed to Park Development & Operations Strategist, Wil Rettinger ([Wil.Rettinger@hamiltoncounty.in.gov](mailto:Wil.Rettinger@hamiltoncounty.in.gov)) in order to be considered. The Department reserves the right to modify or cancel the Project at any time before a developer enters into a formal agreement with the Department, including at any point during the scoping period. The Department reserves the right to reject any and all PSOQs at its sole discretion. The Department may enter into discussions with any individual developer to clarify and assure a full understanding and responsiveness to the solicitation requirements. Additional information and a document outlining submittal requirements shall be available upon request via email directed to Deputy Director Bruce Oldham ([Bruce.Oldham@hamiltoncounty.in.gov](mailto:Bruce.Oldham@hamiltoncounty.in.gov)).

R5280 11/18/24, 11/25/24

## —WESTFIELD—

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND QUALIFICATIONS THE CITY OF WESTFIELD FIBER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

#### INTRODUCTION

In accordance with IC 5-23-5, the City of Westfield (the "City") is issuing this Request for Proposals and Qualifications (the "RFPQ") seeking proposals and statements of qualifications from qualified offerors for the development and construction of new utility infrastructure to support public facilities and planned development in the City (the "Development Area").

The public infrastructure to be developed and constructed a new fiber loop and related infrastructure and utility work (all such development and construction is referred to as the "Project"). The Project scope will be finalized during a scoping period with the selected development team. The selected development team must have the capability to design, construct, operate, and maintain the Project.

The City anticipates entering into a public-private partnership agreement with an offeror pursuant to IC 5-23 to provide the work, labor, equipment, and materials to develop and construct the Project within the budgetary and the time limitations required by the City. The selected offeror will be required to obtain a payment bond in an amount not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the final cost of the Project and a performance bond in an amount not less than fifty percent (50%) of the final cost of the Project.

Given the complexity, fast-paced nature, and the need for considerable coordination among those working on each phase of the Project, the City highly encourages a full-service approach to submitting proposals in response to this RFPQ to include both design and construction services.

For the avoidance of doubt, in the context of this RFPQ, the term "develop" as defined by IC 5-23-2-5.5 shall mean to install and construct the Project Infrastructure, and the term "construct" as defined by IC 5-23-2-4 shall mean the process of building and assembling the Project Infrastructure.

#### RFPQ PROCESS, TIMELINE AND SCOPING PERIOD

The anticipated timeline for selection of a developer and execution of a public-private partnership agreement for the development and construction of the Project is as follows:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| November 18   | First publication of notice of the RFPQ in the local newspaper  |
| November 25   | Second publication of notice of the RFPQ in the local newspaper   |
| December 3  | Deadline to submit proposals via email by 3:00 p.m.   |
| December 10   | Most qualified offeror is selected by City's committee (the "Committee")  |
| December 10   | Scoping Period with selected offeror begins   |
| As long as necessary                                    | Scoping period deliverables are assembled by the selected offeror, to include budgeting, design, and coordination assistance  |
| Upon receiving satisfactory scoping period deliverables | Selected offeror notified of recommendation to award public-private agreement   |
| 7 days prior to public hearing                          | Notice of public hearing on recommendation to award a public-private agreement published in local newspaper at least 7 days prior to public hearing and basis for recommendation available for inspection and copying at City hall. |
| 7 days after notice is published                        | Public hearing held by City to consider the recommendation to award a public-private agreement to selected offeror and consideration and approval of the BOT agreement.   |

All offerors will be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revision of proposals; provided, however, offerors shall not contact any City official or employee during the period from the issuance of this RFPQ until the most qualified offeror is notified of selection by Committee.

The final scope of the Project is to be determined in the scoping period described in the timeline above (the "Scoping Period"). The Scoping Period is anticipated to be a very intense and fast-paced process, with the goal of construction commencing no later than the Spring of 2025. The schedule will ultimately be determined during the Scoping Period, as it will be dependent upon several milestones coordinated by the City. Accordingly, during the Scoping Period, the selected offeror must be readily available, willingly share information, and actively engage with the City in order to finalize the scope, schedule, and costs of the Project. Proposals shall include the fees that would be charged, if any, for participating in the Scoping Period, as further discussed below. All data, information and materials collected, assembled, prepared, and exchanged during the Scoping Period shall be solely owned by the City, and, by submitting a proposal, offerors release all rights in any such items to the City and the City may use the information from the proposals and Scoping Period for its use and benefit.

As the Scoping Period concludes, the City will request that the selected offeror submit a final and best offer to include pricing to develop and construct the Project and then engage in further negotiations leading to a guaranteed maximum price ("GMP"), time schedule, and schedule of values for the development and construction of the Project. A recommendation to award an agreement to develop and construct the Project to the offeror with a GMP, time schedule, and schedule of values that is advantageous and acceptable to the City may then be made by the Committee to the City.

In the alternative, a recommendation may be made to award an agreement to develop and construct a distinct phase of the Project, including a recommendation to award an agreement for different phases of the Project to separate offerors, in which case each of the awarded offerors shall be expected to coordinate their work on the phase awarded to them with any and all other offerors accordingly.

The foregoing notwithstanding, the City reserves the right pursuant to IC 5-23-5-8 to terminate this RFPQ process at any time without making a recommendation to award an agreement to any offeror.

Pursuant to IC 5-23-5-6, the Committee will not disclose the contents of proposals received in response to this RFPQ prior to making a recommendation to the City regarding the award of agreements, if any. If this RFPQ process is terminated without recommendation for an award as provided for above, then pursuant to IC 5-23-5-12 the City may, at its option, either return proposals to the offerors without disclosing the contents of the proposals, or it may retain the proposals in which case the contents thereof become subject to public disclosure.

All of the foregoing decisions by the City may be made at their sole discretion.

#### PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENTS: SUBMITTAL

Proposals in response to this RFPQ must be submitted by electronic mail in Adobe PDF format no later than 3:00 p.m. on December 3, 2024 to the following e-mail address: [clarsen@westfield.in.gov](mailto:clarsen@westfield.in.gov). Proposals received after 3:00 p.m. on December 3, 2024 will not be considered.

Proposals shall not exceed 20 pages in length, and shall include the following:

- Letter of Interest and General Information
  - o Provide a cover letter expressing the offeror's interest in the Project and including the offeror's general information including name, principal office address, and contact information for a designated point of contact, including telephone number and e-mail address.
- Experience
  - o Include a general overview of the offeror's organization, including type of organization, company, and overview. If the proposal is submitted by a team or joint venture, include such information for each member thereof, including an organizational chart showing the various team members.
  - o Describe the offeror's experience working on construction projects with local government units in Indiana. Demonstrate the offeror's experience with projects of similar scope and scale. Include a description of at least three (3) such projects that the offeror has successfully developed and constructed.
  - o Identify key members of the offeror who will work on the Project, including a project manager with the availability, capacity, and experience to manage the Project.
- Provide references. Provide the telephone number and e-mail address of a reference contact for each of the projects described above.
- Financial Capacity
  - o Demonstrate the offeror's responsibility and financial ability to develop and construct the Project in a timely and quality manner by providing information concerning the offeror's general financial and credit condition.
- Project Approach
  - o Describe the offeror's approach to developing and constructing the Project within an aggressive time-period, including coordination with utility providers, and subcontractors. The Project schedule will ultimately be determined during the Scoping Period, and the information in this section will be for informational purposes only.
- Scoping Period Fee
  - o Offerors may request a fee to defray their costs of participating in the Scoping Period if they are selected (a "Scoping Period Fee"), with the understanding that such a request and the amount requested is among the criteria upon which proposals will be evaluated. In such event, invoices from the selected offeror for the Scoping Period Fee shall not be submitted until the conclusion of the Scoping Period.
  - o The City will not pay a stipend or otherwise reimburse offerors for the costs of preparing and submitting a proposal, and all such costs will be at the sole cost and expense of each offeror.
- Additional Information
  - o Offerors may include in their proposals any other information that they deem pertinent. Proposals need not contain Project pricing information, as that will be refined and determined during the Scoping Period and requested later in the Scoping Period process.

#### PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals will be evaluated by the Committee. While scoping period fees will be an important factor in evaluating the offerors, the most important criteria will be the offerors' demonstrated ability to design, construct, and develop the Project. Upon receiving the proposals, the Committee will hold one or more meetings to discuss the contents of the submitted proposals, with the goal of selecting the most qualified offeror to participate in the Scoping Period. The deliberations of the members of the Committee are confidential.

R5271

11/18/24, 11/25/24

**Submit Public Notices To:**  
[PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com)



NOBLESVILLE

CITY OF NOBLESVILLE NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received: By/At: 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.

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.

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 ardedwald@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.

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.

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 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.

Equipment Pre-Purchase PROJECT LOCATION: Fishers High School 13000 Promise Road Fishers, IN 46038

DRAWINGS AND SPECIFICATIONS: Relevant drawings and specifications are available online at the Eastern Engineering Online Plan Room.

RECEIPT OF QUOTES: Bids received after the designated day and time listed below will be returned unopened. Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, marked with the name and address of the bidder, and clearly identified as follows:

BID OPENING: Each quote will be opened at the HSE Administration Building, 13485 Cumberland Road Fishers, IN 46038 by the Owner on Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at 1:30 PM local time.

Site Visit: Interested vendors wishing to make a site visit to view the existing pool dehumidification units to be replaced shall coordinate necessary site visits with Owner. Contact Jerry Enyart, email: jenyart@hse.k12.in.us, phone: (317) 594-4380

Any questions concerning this project shall be directed to RE Dimond and Associates, Inc, 317-634-4672. Contact Mike East mike.east@redimond.com. R5257 11/18/24, 11/25/24

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 day such bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Council Chambers of City Hall. No late bids will be accepted.

All bids and proposals shall be properly and completely executed on the proposal forms provided with the plans and specifications, which will include the non-collusion affidavit as required by the State of Indiana. The bid envelope must be sealed and have the words "BID - 24-STR-08 Tarkington and Palladium Surface Replacement".

A bid bond or certified check in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount bid must be submitted with each bid. A one hundred percent (100%) performance and payment bond will also be required of the successful bidder. It is intended that actual construction of all work divisions shall be started as soon as practicable, and each bidder shall be prepared to enter promptly into a construction contract, furnish a performance bond, and begin work without delay in the event the award is made to him.

The Project consists of, but is not necessarily limited to, the following: PROJECT DESCRIPTION This project is for the replacement of the existing surface of the loading dock at the Palladium at the Center for the Performing Arts and the entrance drive for the Tarkington Parking Garage.

Contract Documents for the Project have been assembled into one bound project manual, which together with drawings, may be examined at the following locations: City of Carmel Department of Engineering - 1st Floor One Civic Square Carmel, IN 46032 (317) 571-2441

Copies of such drawings and project manuals must be obtained from Reprographix (Reprographix.com). Payments and costs of Contract Documents are non-refundable.

Bidders shall assure that they have obtained complete sets of drawings and Contract Documents and shall assume the risk of any errors or omissions in bids prepared in reliance on incomplete sets of drawings and Contract Documents. This Project will be funded by the City of Carmel.

A pre-bid conference for discussions of the Project, the bidding requirements and other important matters will be held on November 20, 2024 at 10:00 AM in the Caucus Room on the 2nd Floor of City Hall (One Civic Square). All prospective bidders are invited to attend the pre-bid conference. The pre-bid conference is not mandatory.

For special accommodations needed by handicapped individuals planning to attend the pre-bid conference or public bid opening meeting, please call or notify the city of Carmel, Engineer's Office, at (317) 571-2441 at least forty-eight (48) hours prior thereto.

No bidder may withdraw any bid or proposal within a period of thirty (30) days following the date set for receiving bids or proposals. The Carmel Board of Public Works and Safety reserves the right to hold any or all bids or proposals for a period of not more than thirty (30) days and said bids or proposal shall remain in full force and effect during said period. The City of Carmel 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 solicitations when it is not in the best interests of the governmental body as determined by the purchasing agency in accordance with IC 5-22-18-2

Jacob Quinn Clerk R5221 11/11/24, 11/18/24

COUNTY

CORRECTIVE NOTICE

The Hamilton County Drainage Board on November 25, 2024 will meet in the Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center, Commissioners Courtroom, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, IN 46060 on the following items: A. F. Ingerman Drain R5261 11/18/24

CORRECTIVE NOTICE

The Hamilton County Drainage Board on November 25, 2024 will meet in the Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center, Commissioners Courtroom, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, IN 46060 on the following items: West Arcadia, Miller Arm of the Wilson-Nagle Drain Anchorage Drain, Bank Stabilization Project Elwood Wilson Drain, Craig Holleran Arm Reconstruction Long Branch Drain, Sanctuary at 116th Street Arm, Cold Creek Court Redesign R5262 11/18/24

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) (Products) must be delivered to Dan Brita, Westfield Washington Schools, 19500 Tomlinson Road, Suite B, Westfield, IN 46074 and via britad@wvs.k12.in.us

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 offerors 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 fair and 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

WESTFIELD

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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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 offerors 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.

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Questions regarding the contract(s) or requests for fair and 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

Notice

Notice of Public Meeting: Riverview Health will hold two public meetings on November 26th at 4pm and 5pm in the second-floor conference room at Riverview Health Westfield Hospital. In compliance with IC 16-21-2-11.5, these meetings will discuss the Westfield Endoscopy Center. The scope of work includes renovating the 6th floor of the Riverview Health Westfield Hospital at 17600 Shamrock Blvd and the project is scheduled to be completed in 2025. R5252 11/15/24, 11/18/24

FISHERS

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION OF THE HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN SCHOOLS, HAMILTON COUNTY, INDIANA, TO ENTER INTO A PROPOSED AMENDED AND RESTATED LEASE OF FALL CREEK INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL FACILITIES OPERATED BY THE SCHOOL CORPORATION

Owners of real property, and registered voters residing, in the Hamilton Southeastern Schools, Hamilton County, Indiana (the "School Corporation"), hereby are given notice that the Board of School Trustees of the School Corporation (the "Board") has determined, at its meeting held November 13, 2024, that if a valid petition requesting the application of the referendum process is not filed in accordance with Indiana Code § 6-1.1-20-3.5, as amended, within thirty (30) days after the School Corporation published the notice of the preliminary determinations made in the October 23 Preliminary Determination Resolution, as hereinafter defined, (i) a need exists for the 2025 Fall Creek Intermediate School Renovation and Update Project, as defined and described in the resolution adopted by the Board on October 23, 2024 (the "October 23 Preliminary Determination Resolution"), and (ii) to the extent permitted by law to take all of the necessary steps to finance all or a portion of the costs of all, or as many as is possible based on the facts and circumstances at the time, of the projects identified in the 2025 Fall Creek Intermediate School Renovation and Update Project by entering into a proposed lease (the "Fall Creek Intermediate School Lease") between the Hamilton Southeastern Consolidated School Building Corporation, as lessor (the "Building Corporation"), and the School Corporation, as lessee, upon all or any portion of any of the premises subject to the Fall Creek Intermediate School Lease. The Building Corporation, as lessor, will issue first mortgage bonds in one or more series secured by and payable from the lease payments under the Fall Creek Intermediate School Lease (collectively, the "2025 Fall Creek Intermediate School Renovation and Update Project First Mortgage Bonds").

The total maximum original aggregate principal amount of the 2025 Fall Creek Intermediate School Renovation and Update Project First Mortgage Bonds to be used to pay for all or a portion of the costs of the 2025 Fall Creek Intermediate School Renovation and Update Project will not exceed \$35,500,000. The maximum term for each series of the 2025 Fall Creek Intermediate School Renovation and Update Project First Mortgage Bonds will not exceed twenty (20) years from the date of issue, and the lease rental set forth in the Fall Creek Intermediate School Lease will have a maximum term not to exceed twenty-two (22) years, beginning on the date that the Fall Creek Intermediate School Lease is recorded by the School Corporation and the Building Corporation.

Dated: November 18, 2024. HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN SCHOOLS, HAMILTON COUNTY, INDIANA By: Patrick Mapes, Superintendent R5256 11/18/24, 11/25/24

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Notice is hereby given that SEALED BIDS will be received: BY AND AT: Hamilton Southeastern Schools Central Office 13485 Cumberland Road Fishers, IN 46038 (317) 594-4100 ATTN: Jerry Enyart

FOR: Fishers High School Pool Dehumidification Replacement – Equipment Pre-Purchase PROJECT LOCATION: Fishers High School 13000 Promise Road Fishers, IN 46038

DRAWINGS AND SPECIFICATIONS: Relevant drawings and specifications are available online at the Eastern Engineering Online Plan Room.

RECEIPT OF QUOTES: Bids received after the designated day and time listed below will be returned unopened. Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope, marked with the name and address of the bidder, and clearly identified as follows: Fishers High School Pool Dehumidification Replacement – Equipment Pre-Purchase

BID OPENING: Each quote will be opened at the HSE Administration Building, 13485 Cumberland Road Fishers, IN 46038 by the Owner on Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at 1:30 PM local time.

Site Visit: Interested vendors wishing to make a site visit to view the existing pool dehumidification units to be replaced shall coordinate necessary site visits with Owner. Contact Jerry Enyart, email: jenyart@hse.k12.in.us, phone: (317) 594-4380

Any questions concerning this project shall be directed to RE Dimond and Associates, Inc, 317-634-4672. Contact Mike East mike.east@redimond.com. R5257 11/18/24, 11/25/24

SHERIDAN

NOTICE OF EXECUTION OF LEASE

Pursuant to action previously taken by the Board of School Trustees (the "Board") of Sheridan Community Schools (the "School Corporation"), a Lease Agreement (the "Lease") between the School Corporation and Sheridan Community School Building Corporation (the "Building Corporation") was executed and entered into on November 11, 2024. The Lease covers the site of the proposed renovation of a portion of the Sheridan Middle/High School building located in Sheridan, Indiana. A copy of the Lease is on file in the Administration Building of the School Corporation, 24795 Hinesley Road, Sheridan, Indiana, and is available for inspection during normal business hours. Dated this 18th day of November, 2024.

/s/ Secretary, Board of School Trustees Sheridan Community Schools R5260 11/18/24

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 92.99 OF THE TOWN OF SHERIDAN'S MUNICIPAL CODE Notice is hereby given that at a meeting held on November 7, 2024, the Town Council of the Town of Sheridan, Indiana (the "Town") adopted an Ordinance amending Section 92.99 of the Town's Municipal Code. The amendment increases the minimum fine for a public nuisance from \$100 to \$300 and the maximum fine from \$500 to \$1000 for each offense. A copy of the Ordinance is on file at the Town Clerk-Treasurer's office.

Elizabeth A. Walden, IAMC, CMC, CMO Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Sheridan, Indiana R5258 11/18/24

FALL CREEK TOWNSHIP

Notice - SPECIAL MEETING

Location: 11595 Brooks School Road, Fishers, Indiana 46037 Time & Date: November 21, 2024, beginning at 6:30 p.m. that day. Agenda: Executive Session: 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. 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; [I.C. 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(B)(D)] R5263 11/15/24, 11/18/24

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 L21, 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.

All proposals will be considered by the OWNER at a public meeting held in the Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center in Noblesville, Indiana, Commissioners' Courtroom, and opened and read aloud at 1:45 p.m. local time, December 9, 2024.

The work to be performed and the proposals to be submitted shall include a bid for all general construction, labor, material, tools, equipment, taxes, permits, licenses, insurance, service costs, etc. incidental to and required for this project. All materials furnished and labor performed incidental to and required by the proper and satisfactory execution of the contracts to be made, shall be furnished and performed in accordance with requirements from the drawings and specifications included in these documents.

Bidding documents will be available beginning at 9:00 am, on November 14, 2024. Copies of the Proposal, Specifications, Contract Documents and Plans must be obtained from Hanson Professional Services Inc. or contact Rich McPhail, at rmcphail@hanson-inc.com for further information. Cost for obtaining the Contract Document & Plans from Hanson Professional Services Inc. will be \$75.00 and made payable to Hanson Professional Services Inc. (by check only). Payments and costs of Contract Documents are non-refundable. Interested parties can view the Contract Documents online at www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov. Documents posted on the county website are for informational purposes only. It shall be the responsibility of the individual to periodically check for addendums posted online. Contract Documents and Plans must be obtained through Hanson Professional Services Inc. to be eligible to bid on this contract.

Each proposal must be enclosed in a sealed envelope with the county supplied sealed bid notice, bearing the title of the project, bid opening date and the name and address of the bidder firmly affixed. The bidder shall affix identifying tabs to the following sheets of each proposal: Form 96 Non-Collusion Affidavit Bid Bond Financial Statement Itemized Proposal Receipt of Addendum (if applicable) Employment Eligibility Verification Drug Testing Program Compliance

Each individual proposal shall be accompanied by a certified check or acceptable Bidder's Bond, made payable to the Hamilton County Auditor, in a sum of not less than ten percent of the total amount of the proposal, which check or bond will be held by the said Hamilton County Auditor as evidence that the bidder will, if awarded a contract, enter into the same with the OWNER upon notification from him to do so within ten days of said notification. Failure to execute the contract and to furnish performance bond to Hamilton County, Indiana, will be cause for forfeiture of the amount of money represented by the certified check, or bidder's bond, and for liquidated damages. Form 96, as prescribed by the Indiana State Board of Accounts, shall be properly completed, and submitted with bid proposals. The Commissioners at their discretion reserve the right to waive any and all informalities in the bidding. All bids submitted shall be valid for 90 days from the opening of the bids. Robin M. Mills Hamilton County Auditor Dated: October 23, 2024 R5193 11/11/24, 11/18/24

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 L21, 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.

All proposals will be considered by the OWNER at a public meeting held in the Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center in Noblesville, Indiana, Commissioners' Courtroom, and opened and read aloud at 1:45 p.m. local time, December 9, 2024.

The work to be performed and the proposals to be submitted shall include a bid for all general construction, labor, material, tools, equipment, taxes, permits, licenses, insurance, service costs, etc. incidental to and required for this project. All materials furnished and labor performed incidental to and required by the proper and satisfactory execution of the contracts to be made, shall be furnished and performed in accordance with requirements from the drawings and specifications included in these documents.

Bidding documents will be available beginning at 9:00 am, on November 14, 2024. Copies of the Proposal, Specifications, Contract Documents and Plans must be obtained from Hanson Professional Services Inc. or contact Rich McPhail, at rmcphail@hanson-inc.com for further information. Cost for obtaining the Contract Document & Plans from Hanson Professional Services Inc. will be \$75.00 and made payable to Hanson Professional Services Inc. (by check only). Payments and costs of Contract Documents are non-refundable. Interested parties can view the Contract Documents online at www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov. Documents posted on the county website are for informational purposes only. It shall be the responsibility of the individual to periodically check for addendums posted online. Contract Documents and Plans must be obtained through Hanson Professional Services Inc. to be eligible to bid on this contract.

Each proposal must be enclosed in a sealed envelope with the county supplied sealed bid notice, bearing the title of the project, bid opening date and the name and address of the bidder firmly affixed. The bidder shall affix identifying tabs to the following sheets of each proposal: Form 96 Non-Collusion Affidavit Bid Bond Financial Statement Itemized Proposal Receipt of Addendum (if applicable) Employment Eligibility Verification Drug Testing Program Compliance

Each individual proposal shall be accompanied by a certified check or acceptable Bidder's Bond, made payable to the Hamilton County Auditor, in a sum of not less than ten percent of the total amount of the proposal, which check or bond will be held by the said Hamilton County Auditor as evidence that the bidder will, if awarded a contract, enter into the same with the OWNER upon notification from him to do so within ten days of said notification. Failure to execute the contract and to furnish performance bond to Hamilton County, Indiana, will be cause for forfeiture of the amount of money represented by the certified check, or bidder's bond, and for liquidated damages. Form 96, as prescribed by the Indiana State Board of Accounts, shall be properly completed, and submitted with bid proposals. The Commissioners at their discretion reserve the right to waive any and all informalities in the bidding. All bids submitted shall be valid for 90 days from the opening of the bids. Robin M. Mills Hamilton County Auditor Dated: October 23, 2024 R5193 11/11/24, 11/18/24

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: MALL STRUCTURE PLANS WHISTLER ROAD OVER FORKNER DITCH JACKSON TOWNSHIP HAMILTON COUNTY, INDIANA PB-22-0858

Proposals may be forwarded individually by registered mail or delivered in person, addressed to the Hamilton County Auditor, 33 North 9th Street, Suite L21, 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" will be considered. Any bids submitted by CONTRACTORS not approved for this item on the list will be returned to the bidder unopened.

All proposals will be considered by the OWNER at a public meeting held in the Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center in Noblesville, Indiana, Commissioners' Courtroom, and opened and read aloud at 1:45 p.m. local time, December 9, 2024.

The work to be performed and the proposals to be submitted shall include a bid for all general construction, labor, material, tools, equipment, taxes, permits, licenses, insurance, service costs, etc. incidental to and required for this project. All materials furnished and labor performed incidental to and required by the proper and satisfactory execution of the contracts to be made, shall be furnished and performed in accordance with requirements from the drawings and specifications included in these documents.

Bidding documents will be available beginning at 9:00 am, on November 8, 2024. Copies of the Proposal, Specifications, Contract Documents and Plans must be obtained from SJCA Inc. or contact Sherly George, P.E., at sgeorge@sjcainc.com for further information. Cost for obtaining the Contract Document & Plans from SJCA Inc. will be \$75.00 and made payable to SJCA Inc. (by check only). Payments and costs of Contract Documents are non-refundable. Interested parties can view the Contract Documents online at www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov. Documents posted on the county website are for informational purposes only. It shall be the responsibility of the individual to periodically check for addendums posted online. Contract Documents and Plans must be obtained through SJCA Inc. to be eligible to bid on this contract.

Each proposal must be enclosed in a sealed envelope with the county supplied sealed bid notice, bearing the title of the project, bid opening date and the name and address of the bidder firmly affixed. The bidder shall affix identifying tabs to the following sheets of each proposal: Form 96 Non-Collusion Affidavit Bid Bond Financial Statement Itemized Proposal Receipt of Addendum (if applicable) Employment Eligibility Verification Drug Testing Program Compliance

Each individual proposal shall be accompanied by a certified check or acceptable Bidder's Bond, made payable to the Hamilton County Auditor, in a sum of not less than ten percent of the total amount of the proposal, which check or bond will be held by the said Hamilton County Auditor as evidence that the bidder will, if awarded a contract, enter into the same with the OWNER upon notification from him to do so within ten days of said notification. Failure to execute the contract and to furnish performance bond to Hamilton County, Indiana, will be cause for forfeiture of the amount of money represented by the certified check, or bidder's bond, and for liquidated damages. Form 96, as prescribed by the Indiana State Board of Accounts, shall be properly completed, and submitted with bid proposals. The Commissioners at their discretion reserve the right to waive any and all informalities in the bidding. All bids submitted shall be valid for 90 days from the opening of the bids. Robin M. Mills Hamilton County Auditor Dated: October 23, 2024 R5194 11/4/24, 11/18/24

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.



COURT NOTICES

29D01-2410-EU-000484 Hamilton Superior Court 1 NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION IN THE HAMILTON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT 1 PROBATE DIVISION

29D03-2410-EU-000481 STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF HAMILTON IN THE HAMILTON SUPERIOR COURT 1

29D02-2410-EU-000483 STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF HAMILTON IN THE HAMILTON SUPERIOR COURT

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF HAMILTON IN THE HAMILTON SUPERIOR COURT

29D03-2411-EU-000497 Hamilton Superior Court 3 FRANK D. OTTE OLIVIA A. HESS

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF HAMILTON IN THE HAMILTON CIRCUIT COURT

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF HAMILTON IN THE HAMILTON CIRCUIT COURT

29D02-2411-EU-000493 NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION IN THE HAMILTON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

29C01-2411-MI-012455 STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF HAMILTON IN THE HAMILTON CIRCUIT COURT

29D01-2411-EU-000495 STEPHEN W. COOK Attorney for Estate NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

29C01-2411-MI-012455 STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF HAMILTON IN THE HAMILTON CIRCUIT COURT

FISHERS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED AMENDED AND RESTATED LEASE OF CERTAIN SCHOOL FACILITIES TO THE HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN SCHOOLS, HAMILTON COUNTY, INDIANA, AND ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2025 FALL CREEK INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL RENOVATION AND UPDATE PROJECT

SHERIDAN

Names And Addresses Of Owners and/or Occupants And Persons With Substantial Interest: INDY FLIPPER LLC; MICHAEL BURTON; UNKNOWN OCCUPANT at 408 S. Main St, Sheridan IN 46069;

WESTFIELD

PUBLIC NOTICE Please be advised that the Westfield-Washington Township Plat Committee will meet at 11:00 a.m., Monday, November 25, 2024, at the Westfield City Services Center, 2728 E 171st St, Westfield, Indiana, or in a virtual format viewable at https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofWestfieldIN,

Table with 2 columns: (a) Judgment Amount Due At Time Of Tax Sale, (b) PLUS 10% of Item 9(a) if redeemed WITHIN 6 (six) months of the date of the tax sale, AND/OR 15% of item 9(a) if redeemed AFTER 6 (six) months of the date of the tax sale.

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:

PUBLIC NOTICE Request for Proposal / Qualifications ("RFPQ") In accordance with IC 5-23-5, the City of Westfield, Indiana ("City"), invites any and all qualified parties to submit a statement of qualifications and a proposal, to develop, construct, and furnish the new City fire department station #85 ("Project"), in Westfield, Indiana. The RFPQ will be available on or after November 18, 2024, at the City or can be obtained by emailing Deputy Chief James Roberts at jroberts@westfield.in.gov.

CARMEL

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS CARMEL, INDIANA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FROM THE MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS BUDGET (FUND#1203) Ordinance D-2746-24

FISHERS

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF ABINGTON INC. D/B/A WESTHAVEN DEVELOPMENT INC. Notice is hereby given that ABINGTON INC. D/B/A WESTHAVEN DEVELOPMENT INC. a corporation existing under the Indiana Business Corporation Law with its principal place of business located at 10200 Lantern Road, Fishers, IN 46037, is about to be voluntarily dissolved under and pursuant to Resolutions of its Board of Directors and Shareholders in accordance with the Indiana Business Corporation Law.

COUNTY

NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1, the Hamilton County Airport Authority Board will meet in Executive Session at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 21, 2024, in Beck's Hybrids Conference Room at the Indianapolis Executive Airport, 11329 E. St. Rd. 32, Zionsville, Indiana. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the purchase or lease of real estate IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(D).

COUNTY

Public Notice Duke Energy, Indiana (Duke Energy) (1000 E Main St, Plainfield IN 46168) is submitting a Notice of Intent to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management of our intent to comply with the requirements of the Construction Stormwater General Permit to discharge storm water from construction activities associated with their Circuit 6917 GLT Project located in Sections 12, 13, 15, Township 19 North, Range 3 East and Sections 9, 17, 18 and 20 of Township 19 North Range 4 East, within Hamilton County, Indiana. Runoff from the project site will ultimately discharge to Lindley Ditch, Jones Ditch and Hinkle Creek via unnamed tributaries and roadside ditches or swales. Questions or comments regarding this project should be directed to Julie.Evans@duke-energy.com.



# Hamilton County Veterans Community Page

## Hamilton County Veteran Service Organizations

### American Legion Posts

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

Cicero Post 341 Tye Anderson  
50 Washington Ave Treasure Hunt Tues 7p  
Cicero, In 46034 Weekly Draw Su 6p, W 7p  
317-984-4441 Bingo Fri 6p, Weekly Draw 8p

Fishers Post 470 Pat Menc  
9091 E 126<sup>th</sup> St Treasure Hunt Fri 8pm \$25K  
Fishers, in 46038  
317-842-5944 Breakfast 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun 8-11

Noblesville Post 45 Gil Soria  
273 S 8<sup>th</sup> St Fri 645pm Treasure Hunt  
Noblesville, in 46060 Sunday Football Menu  
317-773-9985 Trivia Wednesdays 7pm

Sheridan Post 67 Tom DeShon  
406 E 10<sup>th</sup> St  
Sheridan, In 46069  
317-758-5007

### VFW Posts

Carmel Post 10003 Darin Bibeau  
12863 Old Meridian St  
Carmel, In 46032 Breakfast 2 & 4 Sat 8-11  
317-846-0917 Thurs Treasure Hunt 7pm

Noblesville Post 6246 Eric Behrends  
654 S 9<sup>th</sup> St  
Noblesville, In 46060  
317-773-9956

**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](mailto:secretary@hamiltoncountyveterans.com)  
Meets 7pm the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 126<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:president@hamiltoncountyveterans.com)  
Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:Tom.logan@hamiltoncounty.in.gov)  
Assistant CVSO – Robin Wilson  
[robin.wilson@hamiltoncounty.in.gov](mailto:robin.wilson@hamiltoncounty.in.gov)  
Assistant CVSO – Caroline Franz  
[caroline.franz@hamiltoncounty.in.gov](mailto:caroline.franz@hamiltoncounty.in.gov)  
Admin Assistant – Christina Ellis  
[christina.ellis@hamiltoncounty.in.gov](mailto:christina.ellis@hamiltoncounty.in.gov)

## Hamilton County Military Veteran

Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County Needs Your Help For their Holiday Goods Drive. Help Your Neighbors This Holiday Season With Goods and \$\$\$



### Holiday Goods Drive for Good Samaritan Network

Help Hamilton County families by donating new or gently used items to Good Samaritan Network Hamilton County. GSN is preparing for their Holiday Assistance program and they need your help to make the Holidays brighter for our neighbors!!

Donations can be dropped off at our SOUTH WAREHOUSE, 12933 Parkside Dr., Fishers, IN Monday through Friday 9am-12pm and 1pm-3pm. Go to the back of the warehouse, honk your horn if the door is closed and we will help unload your goods – do not leave them sitting outside! If you need a receipt for the donation, they will get you one.

Recommended In-Kind Donation should be gently used, undamaged/soiled items.  
• Baby Supplies (diapers, wipes, clothing, crib, etc.) • Bicycles – NEW or GENTLY USED ONLY \ (children/youth/adult) • Clothing, Coats, Shoes, Boots, hats, gloves, mittens, scarves (children/youth/adult) – NEW or GENTLY USED ONLY • Emergency Supplies (batteries, flashlights, can opener, plastic utensils, plates, napkins, wet wipes, etc.) – UNUSED/UNOPENED • Gift Cards (Shoe stores, Meijer, Walmart, Marsh, gas cards, etc.) • Household Items (towels, washcloths, bedding, dishes, glassware, kitchen utensils, lamps and small appliances etc.) NEW and GENTLY USED ONLY • Household Paper Supplies (facial/toilet tissue, toweling, napkins, utensils, paper plates, etc.) – UNUSED/UNOPENED • Hygiene Supplies – (deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap, etc.) – UNUSED/UNOPENED • School Supplies (pens, pencils, folders, binders, etc.) • Toys (infants/children/youth) – NEW or GENTLY USED ONLY • Hand tools and small power tools • Housewares: dishes, glassware, kitchen utensils, lamps, and small appliances • Non-perishable Food

If you cannot find time to deliver the goods to the GSN warehouse, you may leave them at your neighborhood American Legion or VFW Post here in Hamilton County before Nov 16.

Good Samaritan Network Serving Hamilton County Since 1980

### Good Samaritan Network at [www.gsnlive.org](http://www.gsnlive.org)



### Holiday \$\$ Donations to Good Samaritan Network

Funds raised go directly to support your neighbors for Thanksgiving, Christmas and year round. GSN's signature Holiday Assistance program significantly impacts thousands of families every year. Families may receive food baskets for both Thanksgiving and/or Christmas. Additionally, families receive new or gently used toys, clothing and goods for the Christmas season as part of our Christmas Distribution.

Thank you for your kind donations, especially this year in the face of job loss and insecurities, and for making the Holidays a little brighter for Hamilton County families!

Please donate here:  
<https://gsnlive.kindful.com/?campaign=1080400>

Apply for Donations here. If you and your family live, work or attend school in Hamilton County, Indiana, and are in need of Holiday Assistance, apply here. For Thanksgiving, please submit your application by the first Sunday in November. For Christmas, please submit it by the last Sunday in November. ONLINE applications must be completed by the first Sunday in December.  
[https://gsn.formstack.com/forms/holiday\\_assistance\\_registration\\_2024\\_online\\_copy](https://gsn.formstack.com/forms/holiday_assistance_registration_2024_online_copy)

Good Samaritan Network Serving Hamilton County Since 1980

### Indiana Veteran Legislative Day – Meet Your Legislators at the Statehouse Jan 14, 2025



### 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 Center  
1481 West 10<sup>th</sup> 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

## Activities & Events

Fishers Survivor of Suicide Loss Day Nov 23

### Fishers American Legion Breakfast 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

### Carmel American Legion Breakfast Sat & Sun

### Wreaths Across America for Crown Hill

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