

**SATURDAY, Nov. 23, 2024**

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



**TODAY'S WEATHER**

Today: Mostly cloudy.  
 Tonight: Partly cloudy.

HIGH: 46 LOW: 34



**(From left) CALEA Commissioner Marlon Lynch; Erin Crask, Hamilton County Public Safety Communications; Travis Comer, Records and Accreditation Specialist for Hamilton County Public Safety Communications; Mike Hubbs, Director of Public Safety Communications; Hamilton County Commissioner Christine Altman; and CALEA Executive Director Craig Hartley.**

# Hamilton County 911 team earns CALEA accreditation

*Perhaps only county in USA to be fully certified across inter-agency departments*

**The REPORTER**  
 The Hamilton County 911 Communications Team recently completed the process for the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

The milestone was celebrated during the CALEA Conference from Nov. 13 to 16, marking Hamilton County as one of very few, if not the only, county in the

nation to have all its municipal police departments, Sheriff's Office, and 911 Center nationally accredited. The rigorous process includes comprehensive evaluations, adherence to best practices, and a commitment to continuous improvement.

"Achieving CALEA accreditation is no small feat," 911 Director Mike Hubbs said. "The process requires extensive prepa-

ration, dedication, and teamwork. We faced numerous challenges, but our team worked tirelessly to meet the stringent standards set forth by CALEA. It is a true testament to our commitment to excellence in public safety."

Hamilton County Commissioner Christine Altman expressed her pride in the achievement, saying, "I am incredibly proud of the work our agencies

have put into earning this accreditation. It speaks volumes about our dedication to providing the best possible service to our community. Holding ourselves to such high standards ensures that we are always prepared to respond to emergencies effectively."

It took Hamilton County 911 Communications two years to complete the CALEA accreditation process.



**The latest awardees include (from left to right, top to bottom) the media classes at both HSE and Fishers high schools, FJHS music teacher Amanda Cornet, Bill DeLisle on behalf of the Southeastern Media Network, Lauryn Gerard on the behalf of HSE High School's United Performing Arts Program, Kelly Wolf on behalf of the Southeastern Elementary Lego STEAM Lab, and James Ziino for virtual reality curriculum at Fishers High School.**

# Fadness surprises local teachers with highest grant funding yet

*Fishers sets record with over \$170K awarded for new Educator Innovation Grants*

**The REPORTER**  
 Fishers Mayor Scott Fadness recently visited local schools to surprise six teachers with more than \$170,000 in funding as part of the new Educator Innovation Grant program, marking the highest grant amount awarded so far.

The program launched this year, with \$500,000 allocated from the 2024 budget to em-

power educators within Hamilton Southeastern Schools with the resources to bring innovation to the classroom and inspire students to rethink learning.

Recent grant recipients included:

- **HSE High School and Fishers High School:** \$82,100 to pilot a Career Exploration Virtual Reality Experience enabling media classes at both high

schools to create local career exploration content that students can experience through virtual reality. The program will provide virtual experiences in various career pathways and industries, helping students overcome time, geography, safety, and financial constraints when seeking career opportunities. By collaborating with LearningTimeVR, students will co-create VR con-

tent, gaining valuable technical skills and ensuring that career exploration material remains current and relevant. This VR initiative also has the potential for use in city economic development, allowing prospective companies and professionals to immerse themselves in the local economic environment.

**See Grants . . . Page 2**

# Santa House on the Square returns to Noblesville

**The REPORTER**  
 The Hamilton County Historical Society has announced the hours of the 61st season of the Santa House on the Square.

This experience, free with donations encouraged, includes a visit with the big man himself inside his house and a candy cane for each child. This year, the Historical Society is extremely grateful for the sponsorship of Fredericks Contractors.

Two special dates to watch for:

- **Friday, Dec. 6** is First Friday in Noblesville, and the His-



torical Society Museum (next door to the Santa House) is hosting a free Holiday Open House with an enhanced museum Christmas experience, courtesy of Fredericks Contractors support.

• **Saturday, Dec. 7** is the Cookie Crawl in Noblesville, along with the Noblesville Preservation Alliance Holiday Home Tour, and the Museum is participating in both. See Santa, gather cookies, and admire decorations all in one day.

**About the Historical Society**  
 The Hamilton County Historical Society, located on the

**Santa House Schedule**

**Sunday, Dec. 1:** 2 to 6 p.m.  
**Thursday, Dec. 5:** 5 to 7 p.m.  
**Friday, Dec. 6:** 5 to 9 p.m. (First Friday; Holiday Open House)  
**Saturday, Dec. 7:** noon to 5 p.m. (Cookie Crawl)  
**Sunday, Dec. 8:** noon to 3 p.m.  
**Friday, Dec. 13:** 5 to 8 p.m.  
**Saturday, Dec. 14:** noon to 5 p.m.  
**Sunday, Dec. 15:** noon to 3 p.m.  
**Thursday, Dec. 19:** 5 to 8 p.m.  
**Friday, Dec. 20:** 5 to 8 p.m.  
**Saturday, Dec. 21:** noon to 5 p.m.  
**Sunday, Dec. 22:** noon to 5 p.m.  
**Monday, Dec. 23:** 5 to 8 p.m.

southwest corner of the square in Noblesville, is in the Old Sheriff's Residence and Jail. The museum is open on Fridays and Saturdays from noon to 5 p.m. and is free (donations encouraged). In addition to exhib-

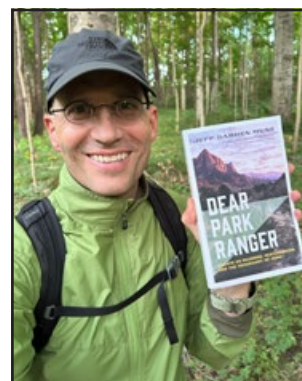
its on Hamilton County history, the museum includes rooms restored to the 19th century as well as three floors of jail cells. Follow along on Facebook and Instagram and check out [hamiltoncoins.com](http://hamiltoncoins.com).

# The Moon, the River, a Best Friend

**By JEFF DARREN MUSE**  
 Guest Columnist

*Columnist Scott Saalman is too busy reading books to write a Scaramouch column this week. He highly recommends Dear Park Ranger*

*by Hamilton County resident Jeff Darren Muse, for your holiday book gift giving. What follows is one of the book's essays, in its entirety. You can also see Jeff read this essay from his hospital bed at this Facebook link: [facebook.com/100066199974843/videos/pcb.850668087149849/612738094420847](https://facebook.com/100066199974843/videos/pcb.850668087149849/612738094420847).*



**Photo provided Hamilton County resident Jeff Darren Muse.**

**August 27, 2007**  
**Skagit River, WA**

Ned and I started paddling at four o'clock this afternoon. An upriver wind chafed our faces as the milky green melt of four hundred glaciers carried us downstream. We meandered twenty-five miles from Rockport, under Concrete's steel Tinkertoy, the Dalles Bridge, then beyond the bluffs of Cape Horn, where the Skagit doubles back for a horizon-wide view of craggy Sauk Mountain, named for the Sah-kumehu tribe. Late summer withers the peak's avalanche chutes - tawny meadows, a hint of gold. Several miles later, at the old ferry crossing in Birdsvie, we pulled ashore on this gravel bar, its beach woven with polished rocks and piles of bark-stripped logs. We ate cold pizza and watched the sun set. No tent. No hassle.

The dew is falling thick and fast, smearing these few words. Rising through the cottonwoods, a full moon casts the sand and driftwood around this camp in a shadow-carving glow. We settle into our sleeping bags on plastic tarps, curling the edges to protect our gear. It's no use. We know we'll wake up soaked.

"It'll be sunny tomorrow," Ned says, his last words for the night. Then I zip my bag around my body, the scrape of nylon giving way to water sounds, to rolling waves and eddies curling against the shoreline.

The moon, the river, a best friend. What feels like a best friend. Within weeks, he'll be gone, back to Idaho, back to Driggs.

**See Best Friend . . . Page 2**

# TODAY: Light the World Giving Machines unveiled at Clay Terrace

**The REPORTER**

The Light the World Giving Machines are returning to Indiana this holiday season, offering Hoosiers a simple yet profound way to give back to those in need.

Located at Clay Terrace in Carmel, the Giving Machines will be open to the public 24/7 through Jan. 5. Last year, more than 50,000 Indiana residents embraced the spirit of giving, donating over \$250,000 to local and international charities. This year promises even greater impact with expanded partnerships and new opportunities to help our community. One hundred percent of all donations go directly to the participating charities.

The season begins at today at 1:30 p.m. at the unveiling event at Clay Terrace, where local and national faith leaders, alongside community and charity representatives, will gather to unveil the Giving Machines in a special ceremony.

This year's event will feature family-friendly activities, including a theatrical unveiling, a Rube Goldberg machine, and a chance to hear directly from the inspiring charities making a difference every day.

**Save the date . . .** In addition to the Unveiling Ceremony, the Light the World Giving Machine Indy campaign will host a Community Kickoff Event at 11 a.m. Dec. 3.

**See Giving Machine . . . Page 2**



## GRANTS

• **Amanda Cornet (eighth-grade teacher at Fishers Junior High School):** \$2,400 for Professional Development for Music Learning Theory. Cornet will attend professional development in Asheville, N.C., where she will learn from American composer & violinist Christian Howes, to enhance student learning of music and ultimately increase the difficulty of music being played by students and improve students' sight-reading skills.

• **Bill DeLisle (HSE High School):** \$57,000 to support the Southeastern Media Network (SMN), founded in 2023 that synchronizes six student-led teams, including Newsroom, Yearbook, Public Relations, Broadcast, and Sports Media. SMN, the most comprehensive student media staff in Indiana, offers hands-on, real-world opportunities to enhance communication and media skills, fostering pathways into post-secondary education or the media industry. The grant will facilitate the growth of SMN, which has tripled in enrollment over the past two school years and provide updates to resources that meet 21st-century media program needs.

• **Lauryn Gerard (HSE High School):** \$1,000 for the United Performing Arts (UPA) Program to enable students with and without

disabilities to collaborate in choral performances, bridging a gap in inclusive arts programs. This program innovates learning for students with disabilities in the performing arts and creates leadership opportunities for students in the choir and drama programs.

• **Kelly Wolf (third-grade teacher at Southeastern Elementary):** \$6,128 for the Southeastern Elementary Lego STEAM Lab. Wolf's project will use Lego Education BricQ Motion Sets and Lego SPIKE Essential Sets to introduce students to complex concepts such as force, motion, energy, and coding, encouraging problem-solving and critical thinking.

• **James Ziino (Fishers High School):** \$22,000 for the Virtual Reality Curriculum. The proposed VR project will allow students to experience a wide range of educational content interactively. This program at Fishers High School will allow students to explore historical sites, scientific concepts, and cultural landmarks from around the world.

The city has awarded over \$251,223 in grant funding to 17 educators from 10 schools, impacting over 12,500 students to date. In May, six educators were awarded more than \$50,000 in grant funding for projects including updates to the maker space

at Riverside Intermediate School, 3D printers for the Fishers Maker Playground's Fifth-Grade Study Trips, and bringing Vex Robotics, a computer science and coding program to the classroom.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, and project requests have no funding cap.

"I'm excited to see our local educators embracing this opportunity and taking on projects that enrich their classrooms and emphasize their dedication to lifelong learning through professional development," Mayor Fadness said. "Their creativity, innovation, and passion are truly inspiring and highlight the outstanding quality of the HSE Schools system, reflected in this year's unprecedented level of grant funding."

Grants are awarded by a selection committee comprised of former educators from HSE Schools, community entrepreneurs, and HSE alumni. Committee members include Mike Fasold (retired junior high educator), Kaleigh Arndt (former elementary educator), Brad Jackson (retired junior high educator), Amy Murch (Conner Prairie teacher in residence), and Jordyn Alexander (HSE alumna and City of Fishers Chief of Staff).

Learn more about the grant program at [fishersin.gov/InnovationGrant](https://fishersin.gov/InnovationGrant).

## BEST FRIEND

from Page 1

"It actually snows there," he once told me. Here, on this valley bottom, it mostly rains. And Ned doesn't like rain.

\* \* \*

We're on our way to Skagit Bay – or so we tell ourselves. Come morning, stocking caps on, we'll shake off the dawn-wet chill like French Canadian voyageurs, taking breakfast after an hour or two in the canoe. Ned's got the broad shoulders of an athlete, though not from gym weights or ball fields, but from mountaintops, sheer cliffs, places I don't go. He may not know it, but I'm giddy, thrilled that the paddle in his hands is adventure enough for his days off. I supervise him at work, but rarely does it feel like that. I hired him, I told my boss, "because this place needs a Ned." Our plan came together only last night as our schedules and aspirations aligned for the first time this summer. We're thriving on the spontaneity of the trip, the uncertainty around each bend. "A quick journey," I promised my wife. She shoved us off, waved.

All told, we'll cover some seventy miles from my house in Rockport to the Skagit Delta on Puget Sound. If the wind and tides will let us, if our backs hold



Photo by Jeff Darren Muse

The Skagit River meanders downstream of Rockport, Wash., in July 2007.

later, we'll hit saltwater by early evening tomorrow. Thanks to her cell phone, a friend from headquarters will meet us wherever we end up – Mount Vernon, Fir Island, the Swinomish Channel in La Conner. "Just call me," she said. "I've got a truck, plenty of room."

But Ned and I agree – about paddling, about life – we want the sea. We want what glaciers want. We want as far as we can go.

How about you? How far? A Fishers resident not far from his 1969 birthplace, Jeff Darren Muse is the author of *Dear Park Ranger: Essays on Manhood, Restlessness, and the Geography of Hope*, published by Wayfarer Books in May 2023. Two months

later, Muse was diagnosed as having terminal brain cancer. At that time, he and his wife lived in New Mexico, where they both worked for the National Park Service in careers that had begun decades earlier in Washington's Skagit Valley. In *Dear Park Ranger*, you can learn about many people, places, and eras they have known throughout the United States. Likewise, check out [jeffdarrenmuse.com](https://jeffdarrenmuse.com) for links to online and in-store purchasing for the holidays. In 2024, Muse has participated in numerous events and received honors from *Foreword INDIES Book of the Year Awards*, *Nautilus Book Awards*, and *Indiana Authors Awards*. Email him at [jeffdarrenmuse@gmail.com](mailto:jeffdarrenmuse@gmail.com).

## GIVING MACHINE

from Page 1

This special event will feature speeches from charity representatives, state and local officials (Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam, Indiana Treasurer Daniel Elliott, and Indiana Comptroller Elise Nieshalla), as well as live music. The event is a wonderful opportunity for the public to come together and hear firsthand about the impact these donations will have on local charities.

"The return of the Giving Machines to Indiana shows what an incredible impact Hoosiers had for our local and global charities last

year," Light the World Indianapolis Co-chair Bob Petersen said. "Visitors can simply walk up to the machine, choose an item, and change lives for neighbors here in Indiana and around the world."

Nonprofit beneficiaries selected this year include:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana
- Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Indiana
- Helping Veterans and Families (HVAF) of Indiana
- Horizon House
- Second Helpings
- Care.org

• Right to Play  
The Giving Machines, sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, provide an instant act of kindness and service for people looking to help those in their communities and around the globe. Since the Giving Machine opened eight years ago, 2.2 million people have donated \$32 million in goods and services to care for those in need. Visitors donate by purchasing items ranging in price from \$3 to \$300. [Click here](#) to learn more about the Giving Machines.

# Hello, Hamilton County



# American Bank of Freedom

[www.americanbankoffreedom.bank](https://www.americanbankoffreedom.bank)



## Certificate of Deposit Specials

6 Months  
**4.85%**  
APY\*

8 Months  
**4.70%**  
APY\*

\*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is current as of this issue and subject to change at any time. APY assumes that interest remains on deposit until maturity. Minimum deposit of \$1,000 to open this account with a maximum deposit of \$240,000 per account. Minimum balance requirement of \$1,000 to earn interest. A penalty will be imposed for early withdrawal. Fees may reduce earnings. Accounts may be subject to other fees, contact your local branch to learn more.

APPLIES TO NEW DEPOSITS ONLY.  
American Bank of Freedom, Member FDIC.

Stop by or call your local branch today to learn more!

**Westfield Branch**  
14611 N. Gray Road  
Westfield, IN 46062  
(463) 622-2930





# Carmel Education Foundation awards Fall 2024 grants to support innovative classroom projects & student wellness

## The REPORTER

The Carmel Education Foundation (CEF) has announced the recipients of its Fall 2024 Great Idea Grants, funding innovative projects that inspire academic achievement and lifelong learning in Carmel Clay Schools. These grants are part of CEF’s commitment to providing resources that elevate learning in classrooms, schools, and departments across the district.

This season, CEF awarded over \$15,000 in grants to educators, empowering them to implement creative solutions and impactful initiatives that enhance the educational experience. The awarded projects address diverse areas, including STEM education, wellness, and community engagement, ensuring equitable and accessible opportunities for all students.

CEF Executive Director Jennifer Penix expressed her excitement about this year’s grant recipients.

“Our grants are an investment in the incredible educators who make Carmel Clay Schools exceptional,” Penix said. “These projects showcase their creativity and dedication, and we are thrilled to support their efforts in fostering a dynamic and enriching learning environment.”

A team of Engineering and Technology teachers at Carmel High School – Zachery Jones, Zac Bonewit, and Sid Swartzendruber – shared:



(ABOVE LEFT, from left) Zac Bonewit, a student, Sid Swartzendruber, and Zachery Jones. (ABOVE RIGHT, from left) Carmel Middle School Principal Deanna Pitman, Kristen Irwin, Katie Russo, and CEF Program Manager Stacey Hetrick.



Photos provided by Carmel Education Foundation

“Thanks to CEF’s support, students in our automotive classes now have access to mobile toolboxes, enabling them to work on live vehicles and complete structured repairs,” the teachers said. “This hands-on experience is essential for preparing them for real-world automotive careers and building vital skills for their future.”

Kristen Irwin and Katie Russo, teachers at Carmel Middle School, expressed enthusiasm for their STEM-focused project: “This grant will fund two robotic kits that will allow our students to build and program robots, preparing them to excel in regional and state competitions,” Irwin and Russo said. “The project not only enhances STEM skills but also fosters teamwork and critical thinking through hands-on, competitive robotics experiences. We’re excited to see our students rise to the challenge!”

In addition to educator grants, CEF has awarded over \$5,000 to 12 schools that promoted their annual Ghosts and Goblins 5K/2K event. These funds are being used to fuel wellness activities at each school, including a family color run at Woodbrook Elementary and yoga classes for all of the more than 700 students at Clay Center Elementary.



Photos provided by Carmel Education Foundation

Thanks to participants in this year’s Ghosts and Goblins 5K/2K, over \$5,000 was awarded to 12 Carmel Clay schools that promoted the event.

The Carmel Education Foundation continues to play a vital role in supporting academic achievement and lifelong learning for Carmel Clay Schools.

Through educator grants, scholarships, and wellness initiatives, CEF empowers students and educators to thrive.

To learn more about

CEF’s initiatives or to join their efforts in supporting local schools, visit [ccs.k12.in.us.edu/foundation](https://ccs.k12.in.us.edu/foundation) or email [foundation@ccs.k12.in.edu](mailto:foundation@ccs.k12.in.edu).

# It’s a huge passion, a giant frustration, and a colossal risk.

# And yet they call it a small business.

How do we know so much about running a small business? Because we are one. It’s why we treat our commercial banking customers the way we’d want to be treated. That’s what it means to be highly un-bank-like.

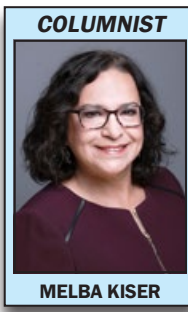
HIGHLY UN-BANK-LIKE.

Community **FIRST**  
Bank of Indiana



# A brave new world: 21<sup>st</sup> century education

In my August column, I wrote about the new diploma+ plans the Indiana legislature was considering. On Nov. 19, I attended a meeting in Fishers where State Representative Robert Behning, also the Chairman of the House Education Committee, and Patrick Mapes, Superintendent of HSE schools, were speaking.



MELBA KISER

countries for their critical thinking skills found that approximately 14 percent of U.S. students can't distinguish facts from fiction.

Another issue the legislature is trying to resolve is chronic absenteeism in our schools. Statewide, 23 percent of our middle school students are chronically absent and that number increases to 32 percent in high school. For perspective, that number is enough to fill 2,750 school buses.

Enter the new diploma+ program. Starting in eighth grade, students will be moving towards career exploration. One of the ways for them to do this is with the use of virtual reality goggles. The schools will be

amassing a library of career apps that the students can select from to "see" what career may interest them. This will allow many students to start the process of determining which diploma path is right for them with the added benefit that some students will decide that maybe a career they were thinking of is not right for them. In addition to the use of the goggles, students in high school will have expanded work/study programs and apprenticeship opportunities.

To execute the diploma+ program the legislature has set the effective dates as the 2028/2029 school year. Implementation of the new diploma means looking at the ways that having three different paths towards graduation will affect not only the students but also the teach-

ers as well as community business leaders.

In the end, several of the outcomes of this monumental task could be:

1. To better prepare our students for the future and bring them more in line with the other developed countries.

2. Reduce the absenteeism rate by offering students options that are more relevant to their interests.

3. Increasing the satisfaction of graduates because they have a better idea of what they want to pursue after graduation.

4. Increasing the percentage of students who are college graduates because they know their chosen career path requires a college education.

5. Providing better trained and productive employees for businesses.

There will be many questions that need to be answered as legislators, the Department of Education, and school administration and teachers go through this process. Some of those questions raised at the Nov. 19 meeting were:

- Who assumes the liability if a student is injured in the process of their training?
- Why are critical thinking skills not included as part of the skill development areas?
- Why was a low score of 31 determined for achievement on the ASVAB which is needed for the Enlistment & Service seal?
- How many other states are updating their diploma requirements?
- Do the Indiana higher education schools accept the new diploma?

With so much work to be done and so much at stake for our children's futures, the time to start thinking about how this will impact all of us is now. We have the opportunity to have an impact on how this program will be developed and how it will be rolled out. If we wait, it may be too large an obstacle to change.

Melba Kiser is an outspoken advocate for financial responsibility and transparency in government at all levels. Her column appears at least once each month in *The Hamilton County Reporter Newspaper*.

Letter to the Editor

## Fishers reader says HSE school board's rejection of Operation Education was reasonable & logical

Dear Editor:

In this new era of hyper-politicized school boards, what needs to be emphasized in the wake of the charter school withdrawing its application to HSE Schools is that the community's loud rejection of their proposal was not politically motivated. The Opportunity Education Charter School as presented at the most recent school board meeting just showed a decided lack of forethought and due diligence, so much in fact that even some of the conservative board members were vocally uneasy with it.

A fringe, uninformed minority within Fishers will dismiss as political theatrics what ultimately was a very reasonable, logical, and nonpartisan response to a monolithic superintendent who decided to wing it because he assumed he already had the votes.

Recognizing that not all students are destined for the collegiate path toward a career, HSE Schools has for a long time identified a need to beef up its Career and Technical Education (CTE) offerings to students. Our district leadership conducted zero feasibility studies for improving this existing CTE infrastructure, reached out to zero nationally recognized CTE charter schools, and tried to unilaterally select an out-of-state charter program that in 19 years of existence specialized in only small college prep schools, had never opened or operated a CTE school, and had zero faculty on staff with meaningful CTE experience.

When a representative for Operation Education was asked at the school board meeting why HSE Schools should fund a charter program with no CTE track record whatsoever, he stood at the podium and with a straight face replied, "It's a leap of faith."

A leap of faith.

I think this was the moment when nearly everyone at the school board meeting realized how unserious Operation Education was, and that the only reason they had even made it that far in the application process was because they were chummy with district leadership. This wasn't a win for liberals or a loss for conservatives; it was a statement of basic fairness and a repudiation of cronyism.

To borrow some old teaching lingo, Superintendent Mapes and his Operation Education pals didn't show their work, and they were graded accordingly.

Brian Sweany  
Fishers

Letters to the Editor do not reflect the opinions of The Reporter, its publisher or its staff. You can submit your own Letter to the Editor by email to [News@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:News@ReadTheReporter.com). Please include your phone number and city of residence. The Reporter will publish one letter per person per week.

## Don't miss last Noblesville Flower Market of the year

Submitted by

Indiana Peony Festival

Next week on Wednesday, Nov. 27, between 5 and 8 p.m., come out for the last Noblesville Flower Market of the year, sponsored by Noblesville Ace Hardware and Keep Noblesville Beautiful. There is a lot of festive fun in store for the holiday flower market. Come grab all the essentials to get you ready for the hosting season.

Vendors will feature Thanksgiving bouquets, decorative sweet treats, seasonal wreaths, festive greenery, hostess gifts, and more. The perfect one-stop-shop to help prep for your long weekend plans. But wait, it doesn't stop there. There will also be a DIY wreath bar, hot cocoa, endless options for early Christmas shopping, and word on the street is ... Santa might make an appearance! Ho, Ho, Ho!

This month's Flower Market will feature several

vendors, including:

**Florists**

- Camino & Company
- Abloom Farms
- Timeless Blooms
- Cedar Rose Flowers
- Flying Dirt Farms
- Louloud Fields

**Vendors**

- Just Lagom
- Susanna Rose Art
- Hawley Trucker Hat Bar
- Food & Beverage**
- Chick-fil-A
- Primeval Brewery
- Sprinkle Joy Bakes
- Bouge Cookie Company

Enjoy live music from Glen Seland as you stroll and shop the park. Stop by the Ace Hardware tent where they hand out complimentary Christmas popcorn to all market goers. Lastly, make sure to check out all of the bright and jolly photo ops, too. You won't want to miss this floral, holiday event in charming Seminary Park.

## Man struck and killed by semi on I-69 in Fishers

By JAY ADKINS

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

A man was struck and killed by a semitruck on Interstate 69 on Friday morning, Indiana State Police said in a news release.

At 4:23 a.m. Friday, emergency responders were dispatched to I-69 northbound near the 208.6-mile marker for reports of a serious crash. First responders arrived and found a man lying unresponsive in the roadway.

The man was later pronounced dead at the scene. No other injuries were reported.

Investigators believe the man was crossing I-69 from the west to the east and was struck in the center lane of the northbound side by a semi-tractor trailer. The

semi driver remained on scene and waited for police to arrive. A vehicle belonging to the victim was found on a city street in Fishers with two flat tires. At this point, investigators are not sure why the man was crossing the interstate or where he may have been going.

As standard practice with all fatal crashes, tests for intoxication are pending.

The Hamilton County Coroner's Office responded to the scene to recover the remains of the victim. The northbound lanes of I-69 were closed for several hours for on-scene investigation and clean-up.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at [wishtv.com/news/local-news/man-struck-and-killed-by-semi-on-i-69-in-fishers](http://wishtv.com/news/local-news/man-struck-and-killed-by-semi-on-i-69-in-fishers).

The humorous and heartfelt story of how PETER became PAN.

Winner of 5 TONY AWARDS

by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson, adapted for the stage by Rick Elice

# PETER AND THE STARCATCHER

NOVEMBER 15-24, 2024

Directed by Lori Raffel

TICKETS: \$18 (Fri, Sat, Sun)  
Thursday: \$13

VENUE: The Cat in Carmel,  
254 Veterans Way Carmel 46032

Thursday, Fridays, Saturdays - 7:30 pm  
Sundays - 2:30 pm

317-815-9387 • [WWW.CARMEPLAYERS.ORG](http://WWW.CARMEPLAYERS.ORG)

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE FEB 28-MAR 9, 2025  
Ruthless! APR 4-13, 2025  
THE END OF THE ROAD: CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST JUN 13-22, 2025  
AMERICAN SON AUG 8-17, 2025

CITY OF CARMEL INDIANA

# WESTFIELD — IN LIGHTS

**DECEMBER 7**  
GRAND JUNCTION PLAZA | 3 - 6 P.M.  
presented by Downtown Westfield Association

- Tree Lighting Ceremony at 6 P.M.
- Frosty the Snowman
- Llama Walking Attraction
- Carnival Games & Prizes

@WESTFIELDWELCOME  
WESTFIELD WELCOME

Thanks for reading The Reporter!



— Good news from Stony Creek Church of Christ —

# Let us give thanks!

There was a man with a habit of grumbling about life, but every time his family ate, he always gave thanks for the food.

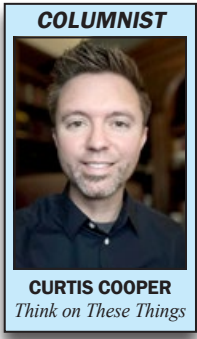
One day after complaining about work and then complaining about the food, after he gave thanks for the food, his little girl asked, "Daddy, does God hear us when we pray?" "Why, of course," he replied. "He hears us every time we pray."

She paused for a moment and asked, "Does He hear everything we say the rest of the time?" "Yes, dear, every word," he replied, excited that his daughter was thinking about God. But his pride came before his fall with her next question, "Then, which does God believe?"

Can you relate? I know I can.

**Ephesians 5:20** says, "Give thanks always for all things." Can we all agree we are more likely to complain about everything than we are to give thanks for everything? That is so sad because we are so blessed! But here we are, in America, one of the richest nations, blinded to our blessings and seeking things to gripe about.

Ever notice how we do that? We do not praise and thank God like we should! Also, notice it says we are to ALWAYS give thanks for ALL THINGS. There has been no shortage of God's blessings; likewise, there should be no limit to our gratitude. Do we understand why the Bible puts so



COLUMNIST

CURTIS COOPER  
Think on These Things

much emphasis on giving thanks? **Let us not forget that giving thanks has always been the battleground.**

In **Genesis 3:1-4**, God knew what man needed was a heart of gratitude towards Him and what He had given them, but Satan convinced Eve she had the right to feel ungrateful and slighted by God. Satan got Eve focused on God's one restriction rather than the many, many blessings God provided for them (all those trees, except the one tree) in this wonderful garden.

Do you know how I know they were not grateful? Because God's blessings were not good enough. Is that not true with us? I get focused on the one thing God says I cannot enjoy and suddenly I struggle to find a way to be thankful for an entire world full of blessings. So, what do I do? I become ungrateful and complain.

**Romans 1:26-31** has this whole list of ungodly, terrible things that are fundamentally destructive to societies, nations, and the world. Paul says in Rome (where they live) there were people like this. In **Romans 1:21**, Paul says, "because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, NOR WERE THANKFUL, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened."

Do you know what happened in Rome? Or Greece, Babylon, Egypt, Jerusalem, or any society that has ever

been destroyed because of ungodly corruption? Do you know why the world is being destroyed? At the heart of it all, people are ungrateful. Let us remember that the next time we complain, instead of giving thanks.

**Let us not forget for whom we are to give thanks.**

Psalm 103 commands us to thank God and forget none of His benefits. 1 Timothy 6:17 says, "God gives us richly all things to enjoy."

**Do we give thanks for our food?** Are we thankful that we do not have to worry about where our next meal comes from? Or do we take our food for granted?

**Do we give thanks for our possessions?** We tend to have an overabundance of those in this country. Even when we do not, we are rich compared to most people in the world. They are gifts – let us not lose sight of the Giver.

**Do we give thanks for our life/health?** In **Isaiah 38:1-6** Hezekiah was in tears, pleading with God and God gave him 15 more years. But **Isaiah 38:15-20** recounts a prayer where Hezekiah said, "If I am dead, I can not praise you, let me live and I shall praise you." Let us use what time we have left to praise and give thanks to God who has given us life.

**Do we thank God for His offer of salvation?** We are all lost and dead in our sins (Rom 6:23; Eph 2:2-3), but because of God's great mercy and love (sacrificed His only begotten Son) to extend a message of forgiveness and grace to you

(Eph 2:4-9). What will you do about that? Will you repent and be baptized for the forgiveness of your sins, just like those lost souls did in Acts 2:38, 41? There is no greater blessing to give thanks. Grace leads to forgiveness, and forgiveness leads to thankfulness. Are you grateful? Have you been forgiven?

*Visitors are welcome and valued. We meet at 15530 Herriman Blvd., Noblesville. Our phone number is (317) 219-5852. We meet for Sunday morning Bible Study at 10 a.m. and have classes for all ages. Worship begins at 11 a.m. and we have a Bible Study Wednesdays at 7 p.m. A warm welcome awaits!*

## Register for ASIST Suicide Intervention Course at Franciscan Health in Carmel

### The REPORTER

Franciscan Health in conjunction with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention will be hosting a LivingWorks Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) course on Wednesday, Dec. 4 and Thursday, Dec. 5 at Franciscan Health Orthopedic Hospital, 10777 Illinois St., Carmel.

The course will run from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day and attendees must be present for both days of the course to receive certification. Also, attendees must [register](#) for the course.

LivingWorks ASIST is a two-day, two-trainer, workshop designed for members of all caregiving groups. Family, friends, and other community members may be the first to talk with a person at risk but have little or no training. ASIST can also provide those in formal helping roles with professional development to ensure that they are prepared to provide suicide first aid help as part of the care they provide.

The emphasis of the course is on teaching suicide

See *ASIST* . . . Page 6

# SHOP SMALL IN WESTFIELD

**SHOW YOUR SUPPORT ON NOVEMBER 30**

Discover the charm of Westfield by shopping small and supporting our local businesses!

To learn more about the exciting, upcoming events in Westfield, scan the QR code!

@CITYOFWESTFIELDIN

CITY OF WESTFIELD - GOVERNMENT

# Stony Creek church of Christ

We are a group of Christians doing our best to follow the Bible and nothing more. No outside organization(s). No man-made traditions. No additions or subtractions. Just hearts fully set on Jesus, His church, His word, and living His ways. Our goal in all we do is to simply speak the truth in love.

For more information about LIVE studies (Morning Meditations), short devotional videos or our community meet-up studies, please search:

- On Facebook: Truth in Love
- On YouTube: SpeakingTruthinLove4.15
- On TikTok: speakingtruthinlove4.15

We would LOVE for you come join us this Sunday!  
Or if you are interested in having a personal Bible study please reach out and let us know.

**15530 Herriman Blvd,  
Noblesville, IN 46060**  
(BEHIND THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE AT THE STOP SIGN)

**317-219-5852**

**speakingtruthinlove4.15@gmail.com**

**Our Assembly times:**

**Sunday Bible Study | 10:00 AM**

**Sunday Worship | 11:00 AM**

**Wednesday Bible Study | 7:00 PM**

EPHESIANS 4:15



# Northern GOP Club gives thanks for local nonprofits



The Northern Hamilton County GOP Club met Thursday evening, where attendees gave thanks for several local nonprofits, including The Feeding Team, Shepherd's Center of Hamilton County, HOPE Family Care Center, Sweet Aroma, HAND, Shop For Kids, and the local Youth Assistance Programs. Thank you to everyone who attended.

Reporter photo

## ASIST

from Page 5

first-aid to help a person at risk stay safe and seek further help as needed. Participants learn to use a suicide intervention model to identify persons with thoughts of suicide, seek a shared un-

derstanding of reasons for dying and living, develop a safe plan based upon a review of risk, be prepared to do follow-up, and become involved in suicide-safer community.

The learning process used is based on adult learning principles and highly participatory. Graduated skills development occurs through mini lectures, facilitated discussions, group



### Franciscan HEALTH

simulations, and role plays. The course will be led by Tina Hoffman, Commu-

nity Health Improvement coordinator at Franciscan Health.

Register here for the December 4-5 ASIST Suicide Intervention Course.



CONGRESSWOMAN  
**VICTORIA SPARTZ**  
PROUDLY SERVING **INDIANA'S** 5TH DISTRICT

### Constituent Services



#### Help with Federal Agencies

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

- Social Security issues
- Medicare claims
- 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.

West District Office: (317) 848-0201

East District Office: (765) 639-0671

[www.spartz.house.gov](http://www.spartz.house.gov)



# 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/unsoiled 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=10R0400>

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

We warmly invite you to join us in remembrance, healing, and community. Whether you're seeking support or offering it, your presence would mean so much.

### 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

# GIVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC.

A CSO PERFORMANCE IS THE PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFT!

PERFORMING AT THE PALLADIUM AT THE ALLIED SOLUTIONS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

**DECEMBER 15 | 2:00 PM**  
**HOLIDAY POPS MATINEE**  
Designed for families, this 1-hour concert has singalongs, excerpts from the Nutcracker with the Indiana Ballet Conservatory and cookies and crafts in the lobby.  
Presented by IU Health North Hospital

**DECEMBER 15 | 7:00 PM**  
**A HOLIDAY IN VIENNA**  
Join us for holiday classics, singalongs and some elegant and romantic Viennese pieces evoking the old-world charm of Vienna.  
Presented by IU Health North Hospital

**JANUARY 25 | 7:30 PM**  
**BREAKIN' CLASSICAL**  
Liven up your new year as the high-energy artistry of breakdancing meets the timeless inspiration of classical music.

Scan the QR codes, visit [CarmelSymphony.org](http://CarmelSymphony.org), or contact the Fifth Third Bank Box Office at (317)843-3800 for tickets.



Letter to the Editor

# Stronger together: let's unite for youth mental wellness

Dear Editor:

As Thanksgiving approaches, my mind starts to wander toward all that we have to be grateful for at The Chris Center (TCC). Starting with you. This has been a year of unprecedented support – from new and old friends alike.

Thanks to your commitment to strengthening youth mental wellness, we have been able to take many first steps that were just a dream a year ago. This year, we developed and implemented a new Mental Wellness Toolkit that:

- Allows our PAWS therapy dog handlers to have a deeper impact on the students we serve
- Equips our handlers to harness teachable moments during the student-dog interaction
- Gives handlers the ability to teach wellness skills that can last the students a lifetime and strengthen their resiliency

TCC worked with Dr. Leanne Nieforth, assistant professor of Human-Animal Interaction at Purdue University's Center for the Human-Animal Bond to develop this toolkit. This partnership, and resulting curriculum, represent a significant and wildly important first step for The Chris Center in trying to truly move the needle in youth mental wellness.

Through our partnership with Dr. Nieforth, TCC has had the unique opportunity to participate in meaningful academic research. What a privilege and honor to be able to contribute to the growing body of knowledge about therapy dogs and mental wellness!

The ripple effects of this entire project are nothing short of profound.

We can only do this transformative work with you walking alongside us, and I'm excited to see what lies ahead for us in the coming year. (And I do mean us!)

We know none of the youth we serve stand alone. They have parents/guardians, as well as teachers and counselors supporting them. So, when we think about truly serving the student, we must start to consider this holistically.

How can we help those who support our students reinforce the coping strategies we teach during our programs?

Through an Innovation Grant from the Marion County Commission on Youth (MCCOY), we are taking the next logical step to strengthen our school partnerships. By helping teachers and counselors better understand – not just our work – but our impact on their students, they can meaningfully integrate our programs into the school day. At the same time, we are learning the unique needs of educators and their students.

When we better support the schools, we better support their students.

As our work transcends beyond the student to their schools and families, we start to have a systems level impact.

The Chris Center is ready for that first step.

We have spent the year developing our organization's first strategic plan, which will guide us into 2028. In full transparency, I am very excited about this plan providing the structure and direction we need to grow our programs and impact.

Our grit, tenacity, and sheer scrappiness got us to this point of structural, financial, and programmatic stability; the stability needed make the systems level impact we aim to make in the coming year.

When she founded The Chris Center three years ago, Nancy Elbert reminded us what it's like for families who can't access mental health services for their children in need. We can't solve the mental health crisis, but we can add a layer of help ... a layer of support.

It's tough being a kid these days. And it's tough being a parent who can't access mental health resources in a timely manner. It's tough being a teacher or guidance counselor who is now responsible for filling that mental health gap with few-to-no additional resources. None of us can do this work alone. But we can do it together ...

Nancy and her family want to help double your impact. The Elbert Family – in memory of their son, brother, dad, uncle, and friend, Chris Elbert – will match your donation, up to \$5,000!

We are truly Stronger Together.

Please support our end-of-year giving campaign with a donation that is meaningful to you. Here is how your support will make a direct impact on youth mental wellness...

- \$50: supplies a therapy dog visit
- \$100: supports art supplies for a Mindful Arts session
- \$250: sponsors a PAWS training workshop
- \$500: sponsors and alpaca fieldtrip
- \$1,000: sponsors four new therapy dog teams

**Any amount helps, any amount matters.** It's impactful when we all do our part ... TOGETHER.

Thank you for your donation. Thank you for supporting youth mental wellness with The Chris Center.

With gratitude,  
**Sandra Moreira, MD, MBA**  
 The Chris Center

Letters to the Editor do not reflect the opinions of The Reporter, its publisher or its staff. You can submit your own Letter to the Editor by email to [News@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:News@ReadTheReporter.com). Please include your phone number and city of residence. The Reporter will publish one letter per person per week.

## Metropolitan Youth Ballet to present annual *Nutcracker* spectacular

### The REPORTER

The Metropolitan Youth Ballet of Indiana (formerly Ballet Theatre of Carmel Academy) announces its highly anticipated production of *The Nutcracker* from Dec. 20 to 22 at STAR Bank Performing Arts Center in Zionsville.

This beloved holiday classic, featuring stunning choreography, vintage hand-painted backdrops, enchanting music, and beautiful costumes, will bring the season's magic to life for audiences of all ages. The Metropolitan Youth Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker* features a cast of more than



70 talented dancers ages 5 to 18 from across the metro Indianapolis region under the direction of Artistic Director Jane Hachiya-Weiner and Associate Artistic Director Frank Weiner.

Off-stage, the beautifully decorated theatre lobby will play host to the Sugar Plum Boutique for last-minute holiday shopping, the Land of Sweets Bake Sale for a delicious intermission treat, and a post-show cast

meet and greet, including photo and autograph opportunities, all included in the ticket price.

"We are incredibly excited to bring this classic holiday ballet to the stage with our pre-professional company dancers – many of whom have been training with MYB for years – along with special guest artists from the nationally recognized collegiate ballet programs at Indiana Uni-

versity Jacobs School of Music and Butler University Jordan College of the Arts," Hachiya-Weiner said. "Our production will showcase our talented dancers' artistry and provide countless experiences for the Indianapolis, Boone County, and Hamilton County communities to experience the joy and wonder of *The Nutcracker*."

While *The Nutcracker* is a long-standing part of MYB's repertoire (per-

**Production dates & times**

- Friday, Dec. 20: 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 21: 2 and 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Dec. 22: 2 p.m.
- Location: STAR Bank Performing Arts Center, 1000 Mulberry St., Zionsville
- Ticket Information: \$22 Child/Senior/Military; \$27 Adult at [my-ballet.org/nutcracker](http://my-ballet.org/nutcracker)

formed since 2011), 2024's production is particularly significant as it is the premier performance staged under MYB's new branding. "It's an exciting new chapter for us, and we can't wait to share it with families across Central Indiana," Board of Directors Interim President Kara Stephenson said. "We are the same organization, presenting the same professional-level, family-friendly *Nutcracker*, just under a new name, and we invite guests to join us for what we promise will be another magical celebration of ballet and the holiday season!"



# ICE — — RIBBON

## NOVEMBER 23 - JANUARY 4

### THURSDAYS - SATURDAYS

Glide on the Westfield Ice Ribbon located at Grand Junction Plaza, the coolest spot in downtown Westfield! Strap on your skates and enjoy sessions with family and friends.

SCAN HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS!





@WESTFIELDWELCOME



WESTFIELD WELCOME



# Grace Care Center gets holiday boost from Duke Energy Foundation

**The REPORTER**

Nonprofits across the state, including eight in northern and north-central Indiana, will benefit from grants from Duke Energy Foundation.

The funding, which totals more than \$100,000 for organizations statewide, will help provide hunger relief and address other crucial community needs ahead of the holidays.

Locally, Grace Care Center Foundation of Hamilton County received \$5,500 to purchase food distributed through the Choice Food Pantry and Mobile Choice Food Pantry.

"These organizations and I'm so grateful that are consistently there for



LaBarr

when hardships arise," Duke Energy Indiana Government and Community Relations Manager Mark LaBarr said. "There's often an increased need for their services during the holiday season, and we're able to collaborate

with them and boost their positive impact on our local communities."

**About the Duke Energy Foundation**

The Duke Energy Foundation provides more than \$30 million annually in philanthropic support to meet the needs of communities where Duke Energy customers live and work. The Foundation is funded by Duke Energy shareholders.

# Shonkwiler named SRO of the Year



Photo provided by Noblesville Schools

Noblesville Schools is celebrating school resource officers throughout the district, and this week, recognizing Noblesville Police Department Sergeant Jason Shonkwiler as SRO of the Year.

# Prosecutor: 'Very troubling' KKK fliers don't rise to level of being a crime

By **KODY FISHER**  
WISH-TV | [wistv.com](http://wistv.com)

Police in Carmel know who disseminated Ku Klux Klan fliers around the Hamilton County city earlier this week.

The Carmel Police Department says the person who passed out those flyers lives out of state, and what he did not rise to the level of a crime.

The message in the fliers mirrors a topic that was a hot button issue during the presidential election: immigration.

Hamilton County Chief

Deputy Prosecutor Joshua Kocher told I-Team 8, "While these flyers do promote a message that we do not support and that we find very troubling, and everything that the Ku Klux Klan represents, there aren't threats contained in these flyers, and certainly not threats targeted to any specific individuals that would give us the rise to charge someone with the crime of intimidation."

There are also First Amendment protections for what the person did.

"One of the bedrocks of our society is the First

Amendment to the United States Constitution, which allows freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and so while we might abhor the ideas promoted, that doesn't mean we can treat as criminals people who put forward those ideas."

The **Anti-Defamation League (ADL) Midwest** says attacking minorities with hateful propaganda is not the way to solve problems.

Suzanne Rothenberg, a spokesperson for ADL, said, "However you feel about social causes like, in this instance, immigration,

it is never acceptable to intimidate your neighbors by littering hate speech in our communities. When our neighbors get targeted for the problems we're facing in society we're giving up our power to actually solve these problems."

Carmel Police Department issued a statement: "The Carmel Police Department is committed to defending the safety of all our citizens and we condemn hateful speech or actions."

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at [wistv.com/news/i-team-8/carmel-ku-klux-klan-fliers](http://wistv.com/news/i-team-8/carmel-ku-klux-klan-fliers).

# Pendleton District welcomes new Lateral Probationary Trooper Michael Bertacini

**Submitted**

On Thursday, two probationary troopers graduated from the 86th Indiana State Police Academy, Lateral Class.

One of those probationary troopers, Michael Bertacini, is being assigned to the Indiana State Police Pendleton Post and will begin his next phase of training, which includes a two-month field training period riding with veteran troopers. Upon successful completion of field training, the trooper will be assigned a state patrol vehicle and will begin solo patrol.

These officers have already completed over 800 hours of structured training in law enforcement techniques, as well as hands-on training at the Indiana State Police Recruit Academy. The curriculum included criminal and traffic law instruction, emergency vehicle operations, psychology, crash investigation, self-defense, first responder, and other general law enforcement-related training.

Trooper Bertacini is a native of Oakland, Iowa. He graduated from Riverside High School in 2014. After high school, he continued his education at Kirkwood Community College and the University of Iowa. He began his law enforcement career at the Kansas City Police Department in Missouri.

During his four-year career at Kansas City, Bertacini received a lifesaving

award for his quick actions in providing medical attention to a victim of a shooting.

He later moved to Nashville, Tenn., where he worked for the Nashville Police Department until

being hired by the Indiana State Police. While employed by Nashville, he received a letter of commendation from the Chief for his role in apprehending a suspect in a vehicle burglary ring.

Bertacini currently lives in Hamilton County with his fiancée, Colleen. They plan to relocate to Madison County. He will be assigned the north zone patrolling the counties of Madison, Delaware, and Randolph.

# 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.



See you in the parks!



MyHamiltonCountyParks.com

**Live Music At Pasto Italiano**



Benito DiBartoli Every Wednesday  
1/2 Price Bottles of Wine  
On Wednesdays  
Reservations Recommended

**317-804-2051**

3150 East State Rd. 32, Westfield



- Grant Research
- Proposal Writing
- Planning
- Other Fundraising

Your Road To Fundraising Success!

**(317) 750-1204**

[www.greenavenue.info](http://www.greenavenue.info) • [amys@greenavenue.info](mailto:amys@greenavenue.info)

# NICKEL PLATE EXPRESS

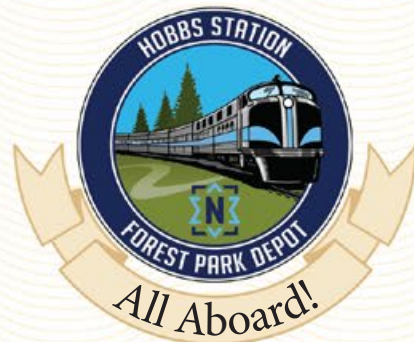
ENJOY THE RICH HISTORY OF RAIL TRAVEL!

Sit back and enjoy the sights, sounds and experience of a ride in our 1950s Santa Fe equipment.

The Nickel Plate Express operates on 12.5 miles of the former Nickel Plate Road between Noblesville and Atlanta.

Excursions board out of Noblesville at 825 Forest Park Drive.

[NickelPlateExpress.com](http://NickelPlateExpress.com)



# New Year's Eve Soul Train

Step back in time to the sensational 1970s as you embark on a vintage train ride to Earthly Endearments in Atlanta. Don your best disco attire and get ready for a night of funk, fun, and fabulous memories.

December 31

[NickelPlateExpress.com](http://NickelPlateExpress.com)

**WESTFIELD IN LIGHTS**  
**GIRL SCOUTS GINGERBREAD COMPETITION**  
**DECEMBER 7, 2024**  
HOSTED BY BROWNIE TROOP 2397

PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO BENEFIT  
HANDS OF HOPE & CURE SMA

LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE WONDERFUL ORGANIZATIONS:  
<https://handsofhopein.org/> \* <https://www.curesma.org/>

VOTE ONLINE FOR YOUR FAVORITE GINGERBREAD DISPLAY:  
<https://my.cheddarup.com/c/online-gingerbread-competition/barriers/timing?cart>  
(online voting begins Friday, 12/6 at 3:00 PM and ends Saturday, 12/7 at 4:45 PM)

VOTE IN PERSON FOR YOUR FAVORITE GINGERBREAD DISPLAY:  
at Christ United Methodist Church  
(318 N Union Street, Westfield)  
\*dollar bills only - no change please\*  
(in-person voting begins Saturday, 12/7 at 3:00 PM and ends Saturday, 12/7 at 4:45 PM)

AWARDS  
JUDGES CHOICE:  
1ST, 2ND, & 3RD  
PEOPLE'S CHOICE:  
1ST, 2ND, & 3RD

WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT WESTFIELD IN LIGHTS ON THE MAIN STAGE AT 5:20 PM!

Please contact Anne DeWeese or Chelsie Markland with questions:  
[adeweese@c21scheetz.com](mailto:adeweese@c21scheetz.com) \* [chelsie7markland@gmail.com](mailto:chelsie7markland@gmail.com)



**TODAY'S BIBLE READING**

**THE TABERNACLE**

Make fifty loops along the edge of the end curtain in one set and also along the edge of the end curtain in the other set. Then make fifty bronze clasps and put them in the loops to fasten the tent together as a unit. As for the additional length of the tent curtains, the half curtain that is left over is to hang down at the rear of the tabernacle. The tent curtains will be a cubit longer on both sides; what is left will hang over the sides of the tabernacle so as to cover it. Make for the tent a covering of ram skins dyed red, and over that a covering of the other durable leather.

Exodus 26:10-14 (NIV)

# Westfield community invited to free Thanksgiving meal

**The REPORTER**

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

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



Graphic provided by Westfield Washington Schools

is to bring the entire Westfield community together.

However, this event is more than a meal – it's an opportunity to build community, share con-

versation, and foster connections. All families are welcomed to sit around the table and enjoy hot food, conversation, and care.

Rocksgiving is made possible by the generos-

ity of the Duke Energy Foundation, Coca-Cola, Riverview Health, Texas Roadhouse, BMW Dreyer & Reinbold, Northview Church, and Westfield Washington Schools.

[Click here](#) to volunteer.

## Latest Fishers road construction updates

**The REPORTER**

**Gobbler's Jog 5K**

Road closures will be in place between 7 and 9:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Day for the Gobblers Jog 5K. Northbound Pennington Road and a portion of 131st Street (in Saxony) will be closed during the event. [Click here](#) to view the route map. Find out more about the 5K at [this link](#).

**Wishbone 5K**

Road closures will be in place between 7 and 9:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Day for the Wishbone 5K. The race begins in the YMCA parking lot, will go south to 126th Street, west on 126th, around the top of the circle at Lantern Road, continuing westbound on 126th to Saksons Boulevard; south on Saksons; west on Ellipse Parkway and around Ellipse Circle to Farley Drive,

north on Farley, south on Turkel Drive, east on Sunblest Boulevard to Lantern; south on Lantern to the trail, then north on the trail to the finish at 126th Street. This route will be closed to vehicular traffic. [Click here](#) to view the route map. Find out more about the 5K at [this link](#).

**Sidewalk improvements**

Howard Companies will conduct sidewalk repair improvements in the Avalon Neighborhood beginning Dec. 9, and CC&T will continue sidewalk repairs in Meadow Brook the week of Nov. 25.

The sidewalk work will consist of removal and replacement of sidewalk panels which pose a toe kick trip hazard. Sidewalk within driveways is not included in the scope of this project.

# NOBLESVILLE SCHOOLS Board Highlights

Nov. 19, 2024 Meeting

**Submitted by Noblesville Schools**

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

- Noble Crossing's Amy Brown was recognized by the board for being named the Indiana Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year.

- Noble Crossing Elementary presented on service and leadership, highlighting their veteran programs and service dog learning.

- Dr. Jerome McKibben from McKibben Demographic Research presented a recent demographic study for Noblesville Schools.

Go to [noblesvilleschools.org/leadership/school-board](http://noblesvilleschools.org/leadership/school-board) for meeting agendas, minutes, videos, and more.

**Meeting Notices**

The Noblesville Common Council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2024, in the Council Chamber at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St.

The Noblesville Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2024, in the Council Chamber at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St.

The Carmel Fire Department Merit Board will meet in an executive session at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2024, pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(5) To discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees.

The Atlanta Plan Commission will meet at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 25, 2024, at Atlanta Town Hall, 105 E. Main St.

A regular meeting will follow at 6:15 p.m. or immediately after the executive session (whichever is later) at the Carmel Fire Department, 210 Veterans Way.

The Carmel Plan Commission will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2024, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of Carmel City Hall, 1 Civic Square.

**Send Meeting Notices to:** [News@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:News@ReadTheReporter.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).

**Randall & Roberts Funeral Homes**

1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville  
1150 Logan Street, Noblesville  
12010 Allisonville Road, Fishers

317-773-2584

*Our family has been serving Hamilton County since 1953*

## HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

**Contact Information**

**Email**  
[News@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:News@ReadTheReporter.com)

**Web Address**  
[ReadTheReporter.com](http://ReadTheReporter.com)

**Publisher Stu Clampitt**  
765-365-2316

**Subscription Inquiries**  
[Subscribe@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:Subscribe@ReadTheReporter.com)  
765-585-9519

**Advertising & Public Notices**  
[Ads@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:Ads@ReadTheReporter.com)  
765-365-2316

**Sports Editor Richie Hall**  
[Sports@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:Sports@ReadTheReporter.com)  
Twitter: @Richie\_Hall

**Mailing Address**  
136 S. 9th St., Suite 12  
Noblesville, IN 46060

<p><b>NEW LISTING!</b></p> <p><b>18794 PRAIRIE CROSSING DRIVE</b> 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. <b>Listed at \$354,900</b></p>	<p><b>PENDING</b></p> <p><b>540 ZEPHYR WAY</b> 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! <b>Listed at \$314,900</b></p>	<p><b>PENDING</b></p> <p><b>1880 E. 75 NORTH</b> LEBANON</p> <p>Completely remodeled ranch on 1.06 acres just outside of downtown Lebanon. Beautifully decorated and move-in ready! <b>Listed at \$339,900</b></p>	<p><b>NEW LISTING!</b></p> <p><b>1940 NANTUCKET DRIVE</b> CICERO</p> <p>Immaculate lake house on Morse Reservoir. 3 BR, 2.5 BA, two living spaces, gas fireplace, kitchen with 2 pantries. All appliances included in the sale. Come take a look today! <b>Listed at \$659,900</b></p>	<p><b>PENDING</b></p> <p><b>275 WYANDOTTE COURT</b> 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. <b>Listed at \$264,900</b></p>
--	---	--	--	---

**"SPEAK TO DEAK!"**

**The Deakyne Team REALTORS®**  
[speaktodeak.com](http://speaktodeak.com)

317.439.3258 PEGGY | 317.695.6032 JENNIFER

F.C. TUCKER COMPANY





# REPORTER SPORTS WEEKEND

Sports Editor Richie Hall | Sports@ReadTheReporter.com | Twitter @Richie\_Hall

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

## Hamilton County High School Football Semi-State



Photo by Joshua Herd

The Westfield football team is heading back to the Class 6A state championship game. The Shamrocks beat Crown Point 30-7 at Riverview Health Stadium to return to the state finals for the first time since 2021.

# WESTFIELD WINS SEMI-STATE

### Rocks crush Crown Point for ticket to state championship

By RICHIE HALL

sports@readthereporter.com

WESTFIELD – Minutes after the Westfield football team punched its ticket to the Class 6A state championship game, junior defensive lineman Alex Aramboles repeated something his head coach once said to the Shamrocks.

“We don’t lose the same way twice,” Josh Miracle told his team.

Last year, Westfield dropped a semi-state game at Crown Point in double overtime. The ‘Rocks avenged that loss this year on their home field, running away from the Bulldogs 30-7 at Riverview Health Stadium to win the 6A north semi-state and return to the state finals for the first time since 2021.

Aramboles said that in last year’s game, the Shamrocks started out slow. They made sure not to do that again.

“This year, we came in fast,” said Aramboles. “We came in hot. We were ready to go.”

Westfield’s defense was ready, with Cato June making a first-quarter interception to give the ‘Rocks the ball on CP’s six-yard line. Deacon King handled things from there, running the ball four yards for Westfield’s first touchdown of the game. Owen Wright’s extra point kick would be the first of many points for the kicker.

The Bulldogs answered back, with quarterback Noah Ehrlich connecting with Logan Urbaniak for a 44-yard touchdown reception. Oliver Brewer made the extra-point kick to tie the game at 7-7,



(ABOVE LEFT) Westfield’s Beau Braun scored on a 66-yard touchdown reception. (ABOVE RIGHT) Westfield’s Cato June made two interceptions, including one in the first quarter that set up the Shamrocks’ first touchdown.

and that would be the score after one quarter.

Westfield would make a big play midway through the second quarter. Carsen Melvin threw a perfect pass to Beau Braun, who dashed into a wide-open field and ran all the way to the end zone. The play totaled 66 yards, and the Shamrocks took the lead for good.

The ‘Rocks scored again on their next drive. King took off for a 19-yard TD run and Wright made his third extra-point kick of the game to put Westfield ahead 21-7.

“I think our defense helped us a lot, getting those stops and not letting them score those quick touchdowns,” said King. “And I feel like our offense just grinding away at the clock and scoring when we needed to was really helpful.”

That would be the Shamrocks’ last touchdown of the contest, but Wright wasn’t done scoring points. He booted a 44-yard field goal for the final play before halftime, sending Westfield



Photos by Joshua Herd

WESTFIELD 30, CROWN POINT 7			
Score by Quarters		Westfield Scoring	
Crown Point	7 0 0 0-7	First Quarter	6:27 – Deacon King 4-yard run (Owen Wright kick)
Westfield	7 17 0 6-30	Second Quarter	6:26 – Beau Braun 66-yard pass from Carsen Melvin (Wright kick)
Team stats	CP WFLD	Third Quarter	2:18 – King 19-yard run (Wright kick)
First Downs	9 15	Fourth Quarter	10:16 – Wright 37-yard field goal
By Rush	5 9	3:55 – Wright 23-yard field goal	
By Pass	4 6		
By Penalty	0 0		
Rushes-Yards	30-46 40-179		
Passing Yards	139 138		
Comp-Att-Int-TD	9-21-2-1 12-16-0-1		
Fumbles-Lost	1-0 1-1		
Penalties-Yards	3-25 0-0		
Punts-Average	5-27.0 1-36.0		
Westfield individual stats			
Rushing: King 28-155, Melvin 11-42, Broc Parker 1-0.			
Passing: Melvin 12-16-138.			
Receiving: Braun 4-84, Nick Fero 2-36, Parker Knott 2-16, Preston Pakala 2-6, King 1-minus 1, Parker 1-minus 3.			

into the locker room with a 24-7 lead.

Neither team scored in the third quarter. Westfield began a long drive with 3:17 left in the third that culminated in another Wright field goal, this one for 37 yards with 10:16 left in the game.

Wright finished the Shamrocks’ scoring with a third field goal, connecting from 23 yards at the 3:55 mark.

“I only started playing football two years ago, and so being able to be a part of this

See Rocks . . . Page 12

## Offseason woes

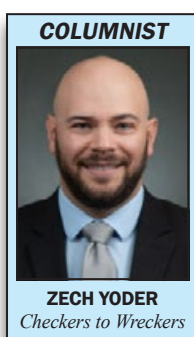
The last eight weeks of the NASCAR Cup Series season was anything but smooth. Now NASCAR heads into the off-season with more controversy than I can remember. It seems there is little that is not in dispute. The 2025 season is less than three months away and it feels like there is a mountain of unanswered questions.

On track, the two biggest questions are the current points system and officiating.

As I discussed a few weeks back, NASCAR is going to need to address its current playoff system. While Joey Logano was certainly a legitimate champion and won the 2024 Cup Series Championship fair and square, there was no shortage of vitriol regarding how he went about doing so. It seems many NASCAR fans are tired of all the chaos created by the current points system and would prefer to go back to the chase format of the mid-2000s.

I don’t believe that NASCAR needs to abandon the playoff system, but I would prefer the Championship 4 be extended beyond a single race. A two or even race Championship 4 might make the playoff feel less arbitrary.

The officiating in 2024 has been interesting to say the least. Certainly, the teams and manufacturers did not make it easy on NASCAR when Ross Chastain and Austin Dillion ran a blockade for Chevy team-



ZECH YODER  
Checkers to Wreckers

mate William Byron at Martinsville to ensure Byron would advance to the Championship 4. Nor was it easy when Austin Dillion punted Joey Logano at Richmond and then right-rear-hooked

Denny Hamlin coming to the checkers to take the win.

But there were other calls throughout the year that left teams and fans puzzled.

For example, NASCAR lifting the red flag and going back to caution without rolling the cars or the pace car at Talladega. Or the disastrous damaged vehicle policy (DVP) that caught out various drivers. Or the numerous yellow flag inconsistencies throughout the season. Or the 27-minute fiasco at Martinsville involving Christopher Bell’s alleged wall ride.

NASCAR chief operating officer Steve O’Donnell recently stated that he doesn’t believe NASCAR has an officiating problem. I beg to differ. Whether those at NASCAR what to admit it or not, the officiating must improve. I am optimistic that many of the officiating controversies will be straightened out by the time the Daytona 500 comes around.

Finally, the largest off-season woe is the lawsuit between 23XI/Front Row Motorsports and NASCAR. At this point, both teams will enter the 2025 season without charters or a guaranteed starting spot. It is also

See Woes . . . Page 12

## Girls Basketball

# Royals take down Franklin Central in conference opener

The REPORTER

Hamilton Southeastern won its Hoosier Crossroads Conference opener Friday night, beating Franklin Central 55-44 in an away game.

The Class 4A No. 2 Royals slowly built a lead in the first half, going up 12-7 after one quarter and 28-18 at halftime. Southeastern increased its advantage to 41-29 after three quarters.

Maya Makalusky scored 31 points, draining five 3-pointers, and led the rebounds with seven. Kayla Brinley collected five rebounds and Kennedy Holman had four rebounds and two blocked shots. Antonette Green dished out four assists.

The Royals are 5-0 and host Brownsburg on Tuesday for another HCC game.

## Girls Basketball

# Fishers comes back to edge Westfield

The REPORTER

Westfield got off to a quick start at Fishers and led at halftime, but the Tigers cooled the Shamrocks down in the final two quarters to come back for a 32-30 win.

The Friday night Hoosier Crossroads Conference girls basketball tilt had a little bit of a different twist. After Westfield’s football team won its regional game last week, this game got moved to a varsity only game at 6 p.m. This allowed time for the Westfield girls to get back home to cheer on their football squad to a semi-state victory.

The ‘Rocks got off to a quick start and led 13-6 after one quarter. With a low scoring second that Fishers took 6-5, Westfield still led by a half dozen at halftime, 18-12.

The Tigers came out in the second half and were able to outscore the Shamrocks 10-6 in both the third and fourth quarters.

Pushing past the ‘Rocks

in the final two frames helped Fishers come back for the win.

Lindsey Van Dyke tied for game-high honors with 11. Sam Price followed with eight, along with Aubrey Crockett (5), Meg Hamilton (4) and MaKayla Hatcher (2) all contributing.

Westfield (2-3, 0-1 HCC) has now dropped three in a row. The Shamrocks have their second consecutive road game at Pike (2-1) on Tuesday.

Freshman Riley Schellhammer also tied for game-high in points with 11, knocking down a pair of 3s and making 5 of 6 free throws. Nevaeh Dickman had 10 and Allison Scheu seven to help pace the Tiger comeback.

Fishers (4-2, 1-0 HCC) won its second in a row. The Tigers will stay in the HCC and visit Zionsville (2-2, 0-1 HCC) on Tuesday. The Eagles lost on the road last night at Avon, 68-35.

FISHERS 32, WESTFIELD 30				
Westfield	FG	FT	TP	PF
Meg Hamilton	1	1-2	4	4
Aubrey Crockett	2	0-0	5	3
MaKayla Hatcher	1	0-0	2	3
Lindsey Van Dyke	5	1-1	11	1
Sam Price	3	2-2	8	3
Mia Crask	0	0-0	0	1
Olivia Murray	0	0-0	0	1
Totals	12	4-5	30	16
Westfield 3-pointers (2) Hamilton, Crockett.				
Fishers	FG	FT	TP	PF
Riley Schellhammer	2	5-6	11	1
Alanna Anthony	0	0-0	0	1
Nevaeh Dickman	3	4-6	10	3
Allison Scheu	3	1-2	7	2
Natalie Thomas	1	0-0	2	1
MaKayla Triplett	0	0-0	0	2
Ella Burleson	0	0-0	0	1
Nicole Ellison	0	2-2	2	0
Akya Koenig	0	0-0	0	0
Totals	9	12-16	32	11
Fishers 3-pointers (2) Schellhammer 2.				
Score by Quarters				
Westfield	13	5	6	6-30
Fishers	6	6	10	10-32

HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN 55, FRANKLIN CENTRAL 44				
Southeastern	FG	FT	TP	PF
Maya Makalusky	9-19	8-8	31	2
Kayla Brinley	1-3	0-0	3	3
Kennedy Holman	2-8	2-4	6	0
Kayla Stidham	3-6	1-1	9	1
Addison Van Hoesen	2-4	0-0	6	3
Antonette Green	0-1	0-0	0	2
Abby Brown	0-1	0-0	0	1
Maine Hooks	0-0	0-0	0	0
Totals	17-42	11-13	55	12
Score by Quarters				
Southeastern	12	16	13	14-55
Franklin Central	7	11	11	15-44
Southeastern 3-point shooting (10-23) Makalusky 5-10, Stidham 2-4, Van Hoesen 2-3, Brinley 1-3, Holman 0-2, Green 0-1.				
Southeastern rebounds (23) Makalusky 7, Brinley 5, Holman 4, Stidham 3, Van Hoesen 2, Green 1, Hooks 1.				

**Fishers High School has won the WISH-TV banner.**  
The Tigers were announced as the winners of the banner Friday night live on WISH-TV, the Reporter’s news-gathering partner. Sports director Anthony Calhoun will be at Fishers Tuesday to present the banner.

**Correction**  
The Noblesville girls basketball team’s Hoosier Crossroads Conference opening game took place Nov. 9 when the Millers played Avon. Incorrect information appeared in the Friday edition. Noblesville is 1-1 in HCC play. The Reporter regrets the error.

**Joshua Herd Photographer**  
joshuaherdphotography.com  
Specializes in senior portraits, family portraits, events/sports  
317-670-4645 • jhphotos@yahoo.com

What’s your Real Estate Story? Born, raised and still living in Hamilton County, it is Dani’s goal to help you reach yours! Talk to Dani today for all your real estate needs. She knows this area and wants to help you with your story!

Let's Talk  
Dani Robinson  
REALTOR®/BROKER/SRES  
317.407.6969  
DaniR@talktotucker.com | DaniRobinsonHomes.com

**CURRENT REAL ESTATE MARKET**  
CENTRAL INDIANA STATISTICS FROM THE 16-COUNTY REGION

October 2024 Average Sale Price  
↑ **\$343,809**  
compared to this time last year

Sales Increased  
October pending home sales compared to this time last year  
↑ **6.6%**

Months of Inventory Change  
↑ **8.3%**  
10/23 vs. 10/24

Interest Rates  
30-Year Fixed  
**7.0%**  
With an APR of 7.1%

↑ **746**  
More Homes For Sale  
10/23 vs. 10/24

**FAIR HOUSING CASES**  
Total – 4  
Rental – 4  
Sales – 0  
Other – 0

**TOP COUNTIES**  
Johnson County Sales Up 39.8%  
Hancock County Sales Up 37.5%  
Hamilton County Sales Up 20.0%

Tucker  
F.C. TUCKER COMPANY





# NOBLESVILLE YOUTH SPORTS ALLIANCE

ONE COMMUNITY • 6500+ KIDS • 17 PROGRAMS

www.noblesvillesports.com @noblesvillesports

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

**Saturday, Nov. 23**

### BOYS WRESTLING

Fishers at John Hurrle Invitational, 9 a.m. at Arsenal Tech  
Hamilton Southeastern at Jasper Invitational, 9 a.m.  
Noblesville at Hamilton Heights Super 6, 9 a.m.  
Sheridan at Cloverdale, 9 a.m.  
Westfield at Perry Meridian Capital City Classic, 9 a.m.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

Fort Wayne Carroll at Carmel, 1:30 p.m.  
Guerin Catholic at Heritage Christian, 2:30 p.m.  
Homestead at Noblesville, 6:30 p.m.

### GIRLS WRESTLING

Noblesville at Ben Davis Invitational, 8 a.m.  
Fishers, Hamilton Heights, Sheridan at Clinton Prairie Girls Open Invitational, 9 a.m.  
Hamilton Southeastern at Jasper Invitational, 9 a.m.

### SWIMMING

Westfield girls Kristin Rice Invitational, 10 a.m.

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

**HAMILTON COUNTY TELEVISION**  
www.HamiltonCountyTV.com

On your Amazon Fire TV or Device  
Search for Hamilton County TV

www.HCTV1.com

www.HCTV2.com  
Be Sure to Subscribe and Click the Bell to receive notifications of new videos

On your Roku TV or Roku Device  
Search for HCTV1

LIFETIME LEGACY LAWYERS  
Podcast  
<https://lifetimelegacylawyers.com>  
CLICK TO LISTEN

**ADLER attorneys**  
www.noblesvilleattorney.com

- Family Law
- Real Estate Law
- Estate Planning
- Probate
- Business
- Personal Injury
- Litigation
- Guardianship
- Adoption
- Expungements
- Elder Law
- Appeals

136 South Ninth Street  
Noblesville, IN 46060  
alli@noblesvilleattorney.com  
(317) 773-1974

RENTAL SPACE AVAILABLE  
AT THE HISTORIC ADLER BUILDING  
Please call Kim Watson 317-773-1974 for details

## Reporter names cross country Runners of the Year

### Carmel's own Sadie Foley recognized

#### The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Reporter has named Carmel junior Sadie Foley as its Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year.

Foley was consistently solid for the Greyhounds

during this season, one that ended in a state championship. Foley won the Hamilton County meet and placed well in each part of the post-season, finishing third at the sectional, second at the regional and 12th at the state meet.



Mike Kepner / File photo

#### All-County Girls Cross Country Teams

NAME	SCHOOL	GRADE
<b>FIRST TEAM</b>		
Elizabeth Butler	Hamilton Southeastern	Senior
Riley Flynn	Noblesville	Senior
Sadie Foley	Carmel	Junior
Margo Halle	Carmel	Freshman
Alivia Lozier	Westfield	Sophomore
Annabel Pollert	Carmel	Sophomore
Larkin Taylor	Carmel	Sophomore
<b>SECOND TEAM</b>		
Ansley Applegate	Noblesville	Junior
Catherine Campbell	Hamilton Southeastern	Senior
Brinkley Cooper	Noblesville	Senior
Bella Murch	Fishers	Senior
Ella Gaddis	Carmel	Senior
Olivia Mundt	Carmel	Senior
Jayde Stamm	Noblesville	Sophomore

#### Honorable mention

Allie Bushey, Hamilton Heights; Caitlin Hawkins, Fishers.

## Fishers' own Sam Quagliaroli recognized

#### The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Reporter has named Fishers senior Sam Quagliaroli as its Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year.

Quagliaroli enjoyed a dominant season for the Tigers, running away with sectional and regional ti-

ties before claiming the individual state championship in a time of 14 minutes, 46.9 seconds, helping Fishers get on the podium with a fifth-place finish.

Quagliaroli also triumphed at the county and Hoosier Crossroads Conference meets.



Mike Kepner / File photo

#### All-County Boys Cross Country Teams

NAME	SCHOOL	GRADE
<b>FIRST TEAM</b>		
Banner Barnes	Noblesville	Sophomore
Jonah Kaul	Carmel	Sophomore
John Libs	Noblesville	Junior
Luke Mosler	Guerin Catholic	Senior
Liam Powers	Hamilton Southeastern	Junior
Sam Quagliaroli	Fishers	Senior
Nate Thomas	Fishers	Junior
<b>SECOND TEAM</b>		
Jack Capes	Carmel	Senior
Ty Conner	Westfield	Senior
Zach Flint	Carmel	Junior
Ronnie Neal	Noblesville	Senior
Will Snedeker	Westfield	Senior
Jack Strong	Noblesville	Senior
Nicolas Vega	Hamilton Southeastern	Senior

#### Honorable mention

Parker Melling, Fishers; Isaiah Vohs, Noblesville.

## ROCKS

team, contributing, getting us to a state championship, it's awesome. It's unbelievable," said Wright. The kicker also credited the Westfield fans for cheering them on.

"I didn't know how much they were going to show out," said Wright. "It was cold, but they brought their 'A' game today and they definitely helped us with this one."

The semi-state victory was the third time this season the Shamrocks held an opponent to seven points or less. Miracle agreed that it was one of Westfield's better defensive

games of the season. Arambolles made three sacks, while Mikeah Webster had 12 tackles, including one for a loss.

"I think those guys have played some pretty good defense here in the last month," said Miracle. "Cato having two takeaways is huge. He's really improved over the course of the year, just a big-time playmaker for us. Our front got a lot of pressure then at the end, too, to seal the game."

"When our offense plays good, that really helps our defense. When the defense

isn't playing that well, offense picks it up and vice versa," said Arambolles, who also said the two sides "bring each other up as a team."

Melvin had a solid game at quarterback, completing 12 of 16 pass attempts for 138 yards.

"I think he made some really good decisions," said Miracle. "There's some plays in there, too, where it was just making the right decision, throwing it away and living another down, too. And I think sometimes that goes unnoticed when you're

from Page 11  
making the right plays and had some good timely runs on the move as well."

King led the rushing with 145 yards, while Braun totaled four catches for 84 yards.

Westfield is 12-1 and plays Brownsburg next Friday at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis for the Class 6A state championship. The Bulldogs held off Center Grove 31-27 to win the 6A south semi-state. It will be the first time two Hoosier Crossroads Conference football teams will meet in a state championship game.

## WOES

conceivable, though not likely, that 23XI could lose one or two of its drivers. Neither Tyler Reddick nor Bubba Wallace are under a contractual obligation to continue with the Hamlin/Jordan duo if the team does not have charters. This lawsuit has the potential to wreak havoc on

the garage area.

Frankly, I believe NASCAR has much more to lose than either 23XI or Front Row Motorsports, and the longer it goes the worse it gets for NASCAR. It cannot start the 2025 season with a championship caliber team fighting to make the

race each week, especially when that team is owned by Michael Jordan.

NASCAR is in a tight spot right now. I believe that many of the issues described above arise from NASCAR's concentrated efforts to expand its fan base and viewership. It must take

from Page 11  
care not to alienate its longtime fans. A three-month break might be beneficial for all.

I can't wait to see what the 2025 season brings.

Zech Yoder is a local resident, an attorney at Adler Attorneys in Noblesville, and a lifelong race fan.

**Hamilton County Reporter** Like us on Facebook

✓ More News ✓ More Sports  
... and more readers!

Thank you, Hamilton County!

**SNYDER STRATEGY**

317-345-3960 WandaLyons.com