

**FRIDAY, DEC. 27, 2024**

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



**TODAY'S WEATHER**

Today: Periods of rain.  
 Tonight: Periods of rain.



HIGH: 53 LOW: 50



# Suttons to be honored for 47 years of Christian service

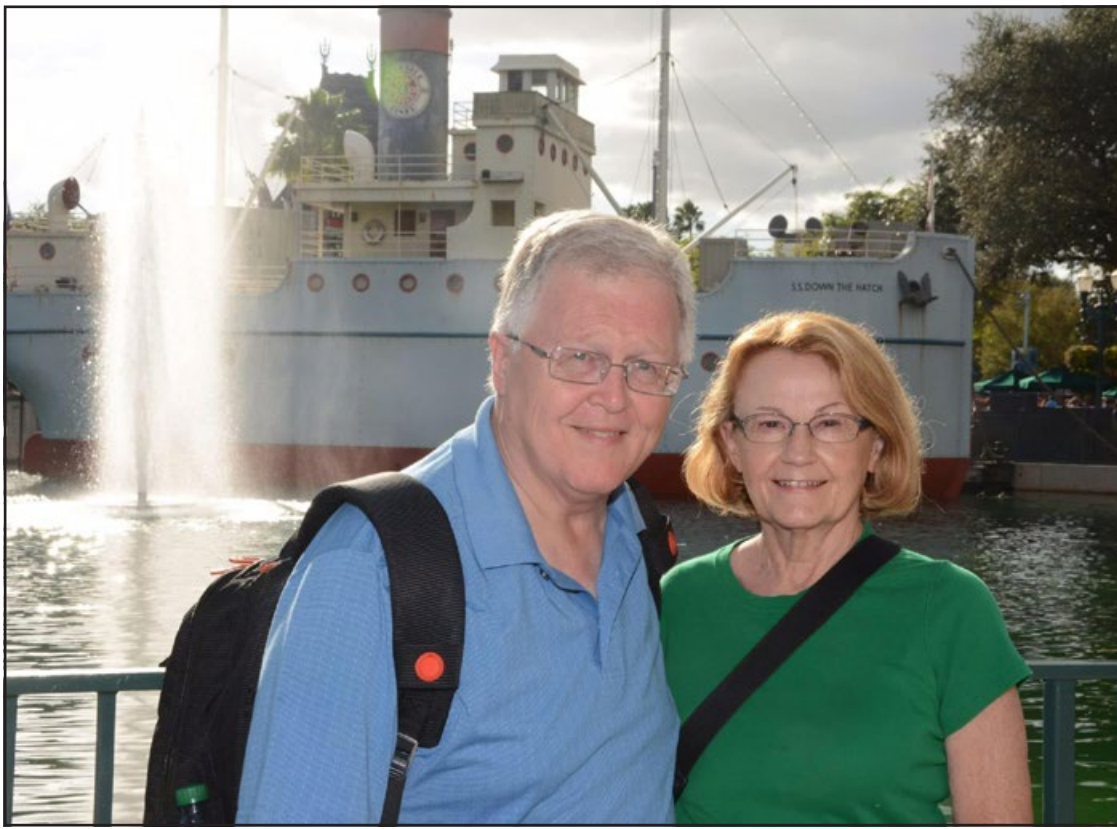
**Submitted by Beth Bay**

Pastor Stan Sutton and his wife Jan of Refuge Christian Church will soon retire after 47 years of service.

Pastor Sutton will give his final sermon as Refuge's senior minister at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 29, at the church, located at 11772 E. 196th St., Noblesville.

The Suttons have served Refuge Christian Church since 1977. The congregation wants you to help "pack the pews" on this special day of celebration, so if you have attended Refuge at any time in the last 47 years or if either Stan or Jan has ever had an impact on your life, please plan to join for this Sunday's service.

A reception to honor Stan and Jan will follow in the Fellowship Hall immediately after the service. There will be a table for cards or gifts.



**Pastor Stan Sutton and his wife Jan have faithfully served Refuge Christian Church and the Noblesville community since 1977. Please plan to attend this Sunday as a thank-you for those 47 years of dedication.**

## It's time to stop those Christmas songs ... or is it?

I'm someone who embrace EVERYTHING about the holidays. Advent is one of my favorite times of year. Bring on the anticipation about the birth of Christ, advent calendars, movies, lights, decorations ... and of course, music!

You'll always find me decorating my house the day after Thanksgiving (I'm a traditionalist, can't help it) with Christmas music playing. I play it with Alexa in the evenings. I play it on my computer while I work during the week. And of course, it's always on when I'm in my car.

So, when Christmas comes and goes, I get a little blue thinking about no more anticipation, calendars, movies, and music. The lights and decorations, for me at least, get to stay around until Epiphany weekend. That helps.

But do we really have to give up ALL the "Christmas music?" I say, definitely not. Because a lot of the songs we listen to aren't truly Christmas songs. They're actually winter songs.

Hear me out. Do any of the following songs mention Christmas? Get out your phone, computer, or other device and look. Take your time, I'm not going anywhere.

1. Jingle Bells
2. Sleigh Ride
3. Let it Snow
4. Winter Wonderland
5. Baby It's Cold Outside (I know this one creeps some people out nowadays, but it's still played often)
6. A Marshmallow World
7. Susie Snowflake
8. Frosty the Snowman

You'll see that none of these – and many other supposedly "Christmas" songs – mention the holiday. They just talk about winter.

**See Songs ... Page 2**



**COLUMNIST**

**AMY SHANKLAND**

*Perfectly Imperfect*

## Bolt for the Heart does more good work than most Westfielders know



Photo provided by City of Westfield

**The City of Westfield appreciates Bolt for the Heart being such a great partner of the police department and the Westfield community. Not only has Bolt for the Heart provided AEDs for the city's police officers, but also city parks and trails. Thank you, Bolt for the Heart!**

# Glynn set to serve as next director of Office of Community & Rural Affairs

**Submitted**

Lieutenant Governor-elect Micah Beckwith and Governor-elect Mike Braun have announced Fred Glynn as the newly appointed Director of the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA).

As director, Glynn will lead the agency as it works with local, state, and national partners to provide assistance and resources to help all communities meet their goals in economic growth and community development. The incom-

ing administration continues to emphasize the importance of balance between service to the public and success in the private sector.

"Fred is the perfect combination," Beckwith said. "It takes a resilient and determined person to succeed in the corporate world, but it takes a selfless, genuine person to willingly give that up to serve their community. Fred checks both boxes, which



**Glynn**

makes him an excellent choice, and I look forward to collaborating with him in the future."

Prior to his appointment to OCRA, Glynn worked as a true Hoosier entrepreneur with over 20 years of experience in both business and finance. His emphasis on practical and innovative solutions gave him a leg up and helped numerous Indiana-based companies thrive. Despite his private sec-

tor success, Glynn primarily focuses on giving back to his community and assisting in the betterment of Indiana. He has also served Hamilton County as a councilman.

"I appreciate the confidence Lt. Governor Micah Beckwith has placed in me for this pivotal role," Glynn said. "I look forward to working on bringing a more interactive experience with local government agencies, and a more streamlined process to OCRA for the betterment of our communities across the state of Indiana."

## What are doctors to do when abortion laws are not clear?

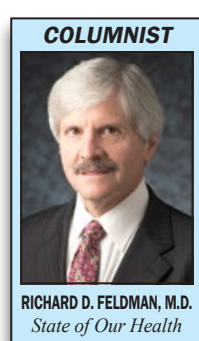
This column neither supports or opposes abortion rights. It focuses solely on the adverse unintended consequences of restrictive state abortion laws and their exceptions affecting obstetrical practice.

Most laws have exceptions including preserving the mother's life, preventing significant harm to the mother's health, the presence of lethal fetal abnormalities, and pregnancies resulting from rape and incest. These latter two have problematic aspects, but let's focus on maternal life and health exceptions.

Abortion-law exceptions often leave clinicians in impossible, confusing, and uncertain situations attempting to practice appropriate evidence-based medicine while risking adverse consequences. Sanctions include loss of medical licenses, monetary fines, lawsuits, and even imprisonment if their decisions are second-guessed and legally challenged as violating medical-exemption provisions.

Physicians are trained to "First, do no harm." They must follow accepted ethical standards, practice within "standard of care," deliver care in "good faith," and exercise "reasonable medical judgement." These responsibilities are actually used in exemption language. How does one determine with certainty and objectivity that a medical decision was made consistent with these obligations?

Most exemptions are written broadly and are open to opinion and subjectivity. How ill must a mother be to qualify as



**COLUMNIST**

**RICHARD D. FELDMAN, M.D.**

*State of Our Health*

**See Laws ... Page 2**

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# Great end-of-year Deputy Mayor

Photo provided by Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam  
 A well-deserved congratulations to Mary-Margaret, a dedicated Carmel Elementary student with a passion for English Language Arts, on her role as the last Deputy Mayor of 2024. Her exceptional skills in reading and comprehension were evident when she recently reviewed Mayor Sue Finkam's report to the City Council. A big thank you to Mary-Margaret for her outstanding contribution and hard work.



## SONGS

So why do we have to stop listening to those? I say we make a separate category of seasonal songs that are for winter only. I see many advantages to this. First, we can extend some of the joy of the holiday season.  
 Second, many of these songs can lift your spirits when the January blues hit. I've written about the January blues ... they're real

for so many of us. Even though it's only Dec. 27 today, don't let your guard down. They're around the corner and they can be brutal.  
 Third, they make winter sound kind of fun. For someone who struggles with winter every January - March (let's face it, in Indiana, March is really a winter month) I need to embrace the fun of the season.

As I wrote this, I wondered if perhaps someone else had the same idea. Lo and behold, Spotify has a playlist called "Vintage Winter Music"! YouTube has "Mix-Winter Music." I may have squealed a bit at the discovery. It features many of the songs I listed above.  
 I hope you'll join me in keeping some of the magic of the holiday season go-

ing. You can find me walking through downtown Noblesville humming "Winter Wonderland" with a gleam in my eye this January ... or February ... or March.  
*Amy Shankland is a writer and fundraising professional living in Noblesville with her husband John, two sons, two dogs, and a cat. You can reach her via email at [amys@greenavenue.info](mailto:amys@greenavenue.info).*

from Page 1

## LAWS

being at risk of death or substantial and/or permanent morbidity? Must the risk be immediate or likely over time? What maternal conditions qualify if there is no list in the law? If there is a list, are other conditions excluded? These laws do not account for combinations of medical conditions that together become life-threatening. Some states have multiple bans with conflicting exception provisions producing uncertainty and confusion. And there are unresolved conflicts between federal and state laws that place hospitals and doctors in "catch-22" situations.  
 There is peril in exceptions being underdefined, and conversely, too specific. It's impossible to create inclusive lists of qualifying conditions. In Texas, attempts to clarify vague exemptions with more detail resulted only in minimal improvements.  
 Recent articles including a report by the Kaiser Family Foundation give clinical examples. They include descriptions of patients who were refused emergency abortions because they

were not sick enough or not bleeding enough, only to return in critical condition. A woman with a life-threatening ectopic pregnancy was refused treatment until it ruptured. Termination care was delayed in cases of inevitable miscarriage until serious predictable complications arose. In states with restrictive abortion laws, pregnancy-termination delays have even occurred in fetal demise cases placing mothers at risk for severe complications.  
 A March of Dimes report found that one-third of U.S. counties do not have an obstetrical provider, and the situation is worsening. The fewest number of obstetrical providers are in states with restrictive-abortion laws.  
 During a General Assembly hearing, an obstetrician from Indiana University School of Medicine was testifying. She interacts with practicing obstetricians, medical students, and residents. I publicly asked her, "Is it true that threats of legal sanctions arising from

navigating abortion laws discourage medical school graduates from entering OB/GYN and prompt OB/GYN's to avoid practicing in abortion-restrictive states, leave practice early, or drop obstetrics and limit their practices to gynecology?" She answered without hesitation or qualification, "Yes."  
 No one really has answers to these untenable situations. It's impossible for a law to completely capture whether an exception applies. Second opinions and expert review panels would help, but these wouldn't be realistic in situations demanding immediate actions.  
 Imagine doctors watching while patients grow sicker and sicker until the condition deteriorates to the point of the exception indisputably applying.  
 What are doctors to do?  
*Richard D. Feldman, M.D. is an Indianapolis family physician and former Indiana State Health Commissioner who served in the administration of Governor Frank O'Bannon.*

from Page 1

# FROM MONGOLIA TO CARMEL, ONE LIFE LIVED IN ART

“ My father was an artist and I grew up seeing him painting and sketching and drawing. I was stunned how the paintings were coming to life - seeing the progress of them. This was really the first passion that I developed, when I was sort of watching and being part of his progress. ”

-Dr. Urchanchimeg (Orna) Tsultem



# GET AHEAD OF THE WEATHER

## WINTER IS COMING... ARE YOUR PIPES PREPARED?

When temperatures start to drop, freezing pipes become a serious problem for Hoosiers at home. A frozen pipe can burst, prevent water from flowing, and even disrupt your heating system.

To combat this icy threat to your comfort and safety, always prepare your pipes for the upcoming cold weather. **The experts at Indiana American Water recommend taking the following precautions before the thermostat drops too low:**

1.



Check your pipes for cracks and leaks.

3.



Insulate pipes in unheated areas of your home.

2.



Turn outdoor faucets off for the season.

4.



Schedule seasonal maintenance on your plumbing and heating systems.



INDIANA  
AMERICAN WATER

**Contact Indiana American Water to learn more about how to protect your pipes and other water infrastructure and resources this winter.**

At Indiana American Water, we work hard year-round to ensure our customers have reliable access to clean, fresh water no matter what weather extremes come their way. Contact us today to learn more about how to protect your home's water supply and infrastructure or for help with an already frozen pipe



# Ascension St. Vincent YMCA to open in Westfield on Jan. 4

**The REPORTER**

The YMCA of Greater Indianapolis will hold its grand opening of its newest facility, the Ascension St. Vincent YMCA in Westfield, at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, at 874 Virginia Rose Ave., Westfield.

This modern community center represents a significant milestone in advancing health, wellness, and community connection for Westfield and the surrounding areas.

Purposefully designed to reflect the needs and aspirations of the community, the Ascension St. Vincent YMCA offers an array of amenities to support healthy lifestyles, foster relationships, and inspire personal growth.

- Key features include:
- A fully equipped wellness center with state-of-the-art free weights and cardio equipment.
  - Group exercise studios for fitness classes catering to all levels and interests.
  - A gymnasium for sports and recreational activities.
  - An indoor walking track, providing a safe and inviting space for physical activity year-round.
  - A teaching kitchen designed to host cooking demonstrations and nutri-

tion classes.

- A Play & Learn Center, offering childcare services while parents engage in fitness and wellness activities.

- Community gathering spaces to encourage collaboration, connection, and a sense of belonging.

“In Westfield, sports, wellness and community come together in a unique way, and we are proud and privileged to be part of that story,” said Gregg Hiland, President and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Indianapolis. “This new Ascension St. Vincent YMCA in Westfield will strengthen that distinctive identity and help realize our vision of a healthier, more equitable and more connected community.”

**Come celebrate**

The Grand Opening event will commence at 11 a.m. and will feature a variety of activities to honor this exciting new chapter for the Westfield community. Highlights include:

- Flag-raising ceremony
- Remarks from community leaders emphasizing the YMCA’s commitment to strengthening the community, including: Gregg Hiland, President and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Indianapolis; Stephen Masoncup, Ascension St. Vincent, and Westfield Mayor Scott Willis.



- Ribbon-cutting ceremony, officially marking the facility’s opening.

- Tours of the facility, offering a firsthand look at the many resources and opportunities available at this dynamic community hub.

“We are proud to support the Ascension St. Vincent YMCA in Westfield,” said Kevin Speer, Senior Vice President, Ascension and Chief Executive Officer, Ascension Indiana. “Contributing to the health, fitness and well-being of all individuals is the essence of our mission. Not only for our many hospitals and

medical facilities but by supporting projects like the YMCA, which will help improve the health of the citizens of Westfield and Hamilton County.”

This event is free and open to the public, and no prior registration is required. The YMCA invites individuals and families to join in the celebration, explore the new facility, and discover the many ways the Ascension St. Vincent YMCA can support their health and wellness journeys.

For additional details about the new facility and its programs, visit [indymca.org](http://indymca.org).

# Carmel Community Players thanks everyone for their support, invites you to take part in end-of-year giving

**Submitted**

What a year it’s been, and what exciting things there are to come. Carmel Community Players’ (CCP) 2024-2025 production season is charging ahead with incredible energy.

The revival of the Youth Education Program is nothing short as another semester of exciting monthly Master Classes is set to begin soon. CCP also announces an Awards Program, in which cast and crew members may be nominated and awarded at the Annual Meeting, concluding the 2024-2025 season.

As a self-funded, not-for-profit community theatre, CCP relies on the generosity of family, friends, patrons, and the business community. Without this financial support, CCP would struggle to put on the high-quality live theatre for which the organization has earned a reputation since 1993. Your attendance, participation, and donations of all kinds help ensure CCP’s continued efforts to make the arts available and accessible.

Consider one of several ways you can give back:

**Celebrate**

Celebrate the arts by coming to support one of CCP’s shows. Upcoming productions and ticket purchase options can be found at [this link](http://this link).

**Participate**

Try volunteering for an evening as an usher or perhaps taking on a backstage role in a production. You might also think about auditioning for a show or enrolling in a class. Each of these opportunities offers a chance to discover where your unique talents and abilities can contribute meaningfully, helping to sustain operations and enrich the community.

For more information, email [info@carmelplayers.org](mailto:info@carmelplayers.org) with the subject “Volunteer.”

**Donate**

Consider making a donation. Your contribution directly supports essential expenses such as sound and lighting, costumes and sets, marketing and advertising, production licensing, and lease obligations. Every single donation makes a significant impact, no matter the amount, and your support is genuinely valued.

More information can be found at [this link](http://this link).

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All in all, your presence allows CCP to serve the community, showcase talents, share stories, teach and learn, and unite everyone. Thank you for being such an integral part of CCP’s journey. Your support throughout 2024 has been greatly appreciated.

# Actors Theatre of Indiana Board will match last-minute donations

**The REPORTER**

The Board of Directors of Actors Theatre of Indiana (ATI) delivered a last-minute Christmas gift to all fans of Broadway in Your Backyard in Carmel.

Board Members have will dig deep in their pockets to match up to \$5,000 for any donations to ATI that are made in the final days of 2024.

That gives you only five more days to make a difference for the performing arts in Carmel and in the state of Indiana. Please consider a truly end-of-year contribution and then watch it double thanks to the generosity of ATI’s Board Members.

**Why do this? Here is a recap of the season so far!** 2024 has been very ex-

citing for ATI. The 2024-2025 season kicked off with the successful production of *Ring of Fire*, followed by a packed house for *The Maltese Falcon: A Musical Nightmare*, the first new work presented in this year’s ATI Lab Series.

Now more than ever, everyone wants to forget their troubles for a few hours and

laugh, sing, and cozy up with loved ones and just feel happy. That is ATI’s goal for this season, and you can tell from the title of the most recent hit production, *She Loves Me*, that ATI is staying the course.

In addition to these productions, ATI has conducted numerous workshops with high schools, engaged with senior centers, and imple-



mented other community outreach programs that have made a significant impact. Your support and commitment make it all possible.

As ATI strives to add to

the community’s culture, you are invited to donate in order to help ATI in continuing to provide this engagement to the community.

[Click here](#) to donate.

# FREE COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY

## BEGINNING JANUARY OF 2025

# THE GOSPEL OF MARK

## THE AUTHORITY OF OUR KING

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# 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)

**The Hamilton County Veterans Corp, Hamilton County Stronger Veterans Stronger Communities Coalition, All Our Partners and Friends, Are Wishing Our Active Military, Veterans and their Families a Very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a Happy & Healthy New Year !!!**

**Whether you are home or away on this Christmas Day, or any day, we are thinking of you and we thank you for your commitment, dedication, service, sacrifice and bravery while protecting our Freedoms at home and overseas.**



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Letter to the Editor

# Nieshalla & colleagues urge fiscal responsibility

*Editor's note: Indiana Comptroller Elise M. Nieshalla asked The Hamilton County Reporter to publish the following letter, written by her and 36 other state financial officers across America. The letter was addressed to Members of Congress, including Speaker Mike Johnson of Louisiana.*

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We, the undersigned 37 state financial officers, are responsible for overseeing key elements of our states' fiscal wellbeing, and we have grave concerns regarding the national debt. We concur with Senate Resolution 600 and House Resolution 190, which declare the deteriorating federal fiscal situation is "unsustainable, irresponsible and dangerous," as well as a "national security threat." It gives us great pause that we are speaking of our nation, which serves as the beacon of freedom and opportunity for the world.

Balancing the budget and reducing spending are among the most difficult, yet essential, actions you could take. That is why we have come together to support you in making these critical decisions. We are committed to raising awareness of the debt crisis in our states and rallying support for Congress to develop and implement a long-term plan to restore America's financial solvency.

The following facts are deeply concerning:

- In FY2023, the federal govern-

ment collected \$4.5 trillion in revenue and had expenditures of \$6.3 trillion.

- The cost of servicing the debt in FY2024 increased 30 percent from FY2023 to over \$1 trillion this year – more than the annual cost of Medicare (\$839 billion) and of the military (\$820 billion) (See [cbo.gov/publication/59727](https://www.cbo.gov/publication/59727).)

- The national debt is \$36 trillion and increasing by nearly \$2 trillion per year. (It took 205 years for our country to accumulate its first trillion dollars in debt.)

Coupled with higher interest rates, the nearly 50 percent increase since 2019 in federal spending, that has continued well beyond the public health emergency, has drastically accelerated the deterioration of our nation's fiscal position.

This is a crisis many decades in the making, with responsibility shared by both parties. Solving it will be a generational challenge. Not solving the problem presents high risk that our creditors will question America's financial stability, the dollar will be replaced as the reserve currency, and we will lose our nation's status as the global leader. To prevent this looming day of reckoning, which could easily occur within our and our children's lifetimes, requires a commitment to begin addressing this situation "Day One."

This upcoming year we will have a new President and a new session of Congress, which provides a clear op-

portunity to enact a national financial restoration plan by 2026, when we will celebrate the 250th Anniversary of our Declaration of Independence. To respectfully offer perspective about what is possible, in 2019 federal spending was \$4.5 trillion, approximately equal to our current federal revenues.

We write to ignite a much-needed sense of urgency. Our call to action includes the following:

1. Ensure total 2025 federal spending is less than in 2024.
2. Implement a concrete plan to put the federal government on a path to a balanced budget as soon as feasible.
3. Unleash economic prosperity by cutting red tape and tapping into our nation's vast natural resources with a timeline for reducing the debt that is empowered by a growing economy.

These three actions represent a powerful, disciplined, and promising path forward. By combining fiscal responsibility with our centuries worth of energy resources that leverage advanced, clean technologies – we can produce a steady climb out of our massive pit of debt. In 2025, we urge you to make restoring America's financial solvency a "Day One" priority for the sake of our states and the country. Our hard-won independence depends on it.

**Elise M. Nieshalla**  
Indiana Comptroller  
and 36 other state financial officers

## New 'Help Moms and Babies' network launches

*First of its kind site to help support moms & unborn babies in Indiana*

### The REPORTER

Indiana Right to Life launched a new online network last week that will match Hoosier support with pregnancy resource centers throughout the state.

The Help Moms and Babies network center will enable Hoosiers to directly donate items and funding to the more than 100 pregnancy resource centers operating in Indiana.

"Too often we wait for government to be the solution, and until programs like Real Alternatives came along to walk beside our PRCs, many of these centers relied fully on the good will and generosity of their communities and churches for decades to be the resources to support moms and babies," Indiana Right to Life President and Chief Executive Officer Mike Fichter said.

Fichter said abortions are down 98 percent in Indiana and that Hoosiers are asking to get more involved to support prolife efforts.

The Help Moms and Babies network center will act, in part, like a baby-shower registry – where Hoosiers can go online to select the PRC they want to support, and then peruse what items the PRC needs and in what quantities. Donors can then

select which items they want to donate and in what volume. They can also donate funding, but the Help Moms and Babies network provides for both options.

The site is tied to Amazon.com, which processes the selection transactions and then delivers the items to the PRCs automatically.

"Hoosiers can now provide support from wherever they are, 24/7 and 365 days a week," Fichter said.

The Help Moms and Babies network is the first such platform in Indiana of its kind, with 35 PRCs participating at the initial launch. Fichter said the network will be bringing all interested PRCs on board throughout 2025, and is in discussions to expand the network to a nationwide scale.

"Last year Indiana Right to life was very instrumental in bringing awareness to our ministry," said Yadi Garcia, chief executive officer of Angelcare in Trafalgar, Ind. "They shared our Amazon wish list [publicly] and we had an online baby shower. It was so successful in generating support. So am excited about this new website."

Access the Help Moms and Babies online network at [HelpMomsAndBabies.org](https://www.HelpMomsAndBabies.org).

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.



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

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# Chanukah takes over annual Winterlights at Newfields

**The REPORTER**

The fifth annual Chanukah takeover of Winterlights, a partnership between Newfields and the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis, will take place from 5 to 9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 29 at Newfields, 4000 N. Michigan Road, Indianapolis. Thousands of people have already purchased tickets for this event.

During this special night, you can see the windows of the Lilly House lit up with Menorahs while listening to an exclusive Chanukah-coordinated blue-and-white light show of Ma'Oz Tzur, a traditional Chanukah song.

Participants will be able

to celebrate more Chanukah festivities than ever before and enjoy the wonder of winterlights with more than 1.5 million lights glittering on 100-year-old trees in the historic garden, along with Chanukah music. Potato latkes will also be available for purchase.

Chanukah commemorates the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem after a successful revolt by a band of Jewish fighters called the Maccabees against the Syrian-Greek empire that had attempted to destroy the Jewish faith. As part of the rededication, the victorious Jews needed to light the Temple's menorah (seven-branch candelabrum),



but they only had enough oil to last one day, and it would take eight days to prepare more. Miraculously, the one-day supply of oil lasted for eight days, which is why Chanukah lasts for eight days.

A chanukiah (nine-branch menorah — one candle for each day of Chanukah plus another candle, called the shamash, to light them) is lit each night, starting with one candle on the first night and adding a can-

dle each day until the whole chanukiah is lit on the last night of Chanukah. The chanukiah is traditionally placed in a window facing the street, sharing the light and celebration with the world.

Visit [jewishindianapolis.org/chanukah](http://jewishindianapolis.org/chanukah) for holiday resources and upcoming programs in the Indianapolis Jewish community.

**About the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis**

The Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis is the central philanthropic, planning and community relations organization of the Jewish community. The Federation and its agencies, in cooperation with the synagogues, function to promote the general welfare of the Jewish community and to ensure the creative survival and continuity of the Jewish people. The Federation community mission is grounded in a pluralistic understanding of the historical, moral and cultural values of Judaism.

# Sen. Young applauds passage of bill to authorize 2026 World Cup Commemorative Coin

**The REPORTER**

U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.), a co-chair of the Congressional Soccer Caucus, and Senator Laphonza Butler (D-Calif.) applauded unanimous Senate passage of their bipartisan legislation to authorize production of coins to commemorate the 2026 FIFA World Cup, which will be hosted by the United States, Mexico, and Canada.

The bill was passed in the House earlier this year and now heads to the President's desk to be signed into law.

Under the bill, the coins will be minted at no additional cost to taxpayers, and the proceeds will support U.S.-based soccer programs, specifically for youth and underserved communities.

"As a co-chair of the Congressional Soccer Caucus and an avid soccer fan, I am excited to welcome the FIFA Men's World Cup back to the United States for the first time in over three decades," Sen. Young. "Our bill will preserve the legacy of the 2026 World Cup and support soccer programs across America."

U.S. Representatives Darin LaHood (R-Ill.-16), Rick Larsen (D-Wash.-02), Don Bacon (R-Neb.-02), and Kathy Castor (D-Fla.-14), also co-chairs of the Congressional Soccer Caucus, sponsored the legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives.



**Young**

**Background**

Congress can authorize two commemorative coins to be produced by the U.S. Mint during each calendar year to celebrate major American events and raise money for important causes. The FIFA World Cup 2026 Commemorative Coin Act will authorize production of \$5 gold coins, \$1 silver coins, and half-dollar clad coins to commemorate the event.

The 2026 World Cup is being planned and executed by FWC2026 US, Inc., a designated 501(c)(4) not-for-profit. Proceeds from coins sales will be go to FWC2026 US, Inc. to help U.S.-based soccer programs and activities, including efforts to grow the sport of soccer throughout the United States, with a focus on youth, inner cities, and underserved communities.

# Governor-elect Braun announces key leadership appointments

**The REPORTER**

Governor-elect Mike Braun announced on Monday 20 appointments to lead various state agencies and departments as his administration prepares to take office in January 2025.

The appointments include:

- Steve Russo, Executive Director of the Indiana Public Retirement System
- Holly Lambert, Insurance Commissioner
- Lindsay Hyer, Executive Director of the Professional Licensing Agency
- Thomas Fite, Director of the Department of Financial Institutions
- James Michaels, Superintendent of the Indiana School for the Blind
- Dr. David Geeslin, Superintendent of the Indiana School for the Deaf
- Dr. Lindsay Weaver, Commissioner of the Indiana State Department of Health
- Steve Cox, Director of the Indiana Broadband Office
- Dan Huge, Chairman of the Indiana Finance Authority
- Don Lamb, Director of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture
- Lloyd Arnold, Commissioner of the Department of Corrections
- Alan Morrison, Director of the Department of

**Natural Resources**

- Kevin Garvey, Commissioner of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles
- Mitch Roob, Secretary of the Family and Social Services Administration

- Jake Adams, Department of Veterans Affairs
- Fred Glynn, Executive Director of the Office of Community and Rural Affairs
- Brandon Clifton, Indiana Department of Administration Commissioner
- Pete Miller, Executive Director of the Indiana Management Performance Hub
- Kent Abernathy, Indiana Department of Transportation Commissioner
- Adam Krupp, Director of the Department of Child Services

**These appointments are in addition to the previously announced cabinet members:**

- Secretary of Business Affairs, Mike Speedy, will also serve as the head of the Department of Labor
- Secretary of Commerce, David Adams, will also serve as head of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation
- Secretary of Education, Dr. Katie Jenner, will also



**Braun**

serve as head of the Department of Education

- Secretary of Energy and Natural Resources, Suzanne Jaworowski
- Secretary of Health and Family Services, Dr. Gloria Sachdev

- Secretary of Management and Budget, Lisa Hershman, will also serve as the Director of the Office of Management and Budget
- Secretary of Public Safety, Jennifer-Ruth Green, will also serve as the Director of Homeland Security
- Secretary of Transportation and Infrastructure, Matthew Ubelhor
- Superintendent of the Indiana State Police, Anthony Scott
- Adjutant General of Indiana, Brigadier General Lawrence Muennich
- Lieutenant General, Micah Beckwith
- Chief of Staff, Joshua Kelley

**The following senior staff positions have also been named:**

- Jason Johnson, Deputy Chief Of Staff, Legislative Affairs
- Jessica Wedgewood, Deputy Chief Of Staff, Operations
- Patrick Price, Governor's Legal Counsel

# Franciscan Health achieves Platinum Level status from Quit Now Indiana for smoking cessation

**The REPORTER**

Franciscan Health was recognized this month for achieving Quit Now Indiana Champion Platinum Level status for smoking cessation.

The recognition encompasses all of the Franciscan hospitals in Indiana: Carmel, Crawfordsville, Crown Point, Dyer, Indianapolis, Lafayette, Michigan City, Mooresville, Munster, Orthopedic Hospital (Carmel), and Rensselaer.

A Quit Now Indiana Champion is a health system, medical provider, or employer that values and promotes Quit Now Indiana Tobacco Treatment Services. Franciscan is one of only four health systems in Indiana to achieve Quit Now Indiana Champion Platinum Level status.

"This recognition highlights the ongoing dedication of our organization and commitment of count-



less employees focused on prioritizing health and wellness for individuals and communities we serve," said Beth Segal, director of clinical services and hospice at Franciscan Health.

Quit Now Indiana Champions are leading the way in helping Hoosiers end their tobacco use and begin recovery. The levels are designated by the health system's number of referrals to Quit Now Indiana, as well as having 100 percent tobacco-free grounds policy that protects all from secondhand smoke, promotes a healthy environment and a tobacco treatment policy or workflow.

"Everyone deserves the opportunity to be as healthy as possible," said Irene Boone Phillips, program coordinator for Tobacco

Prevention & Cessation Coalition at Franciscan Health. "Tobacco products are the only consumer products on the market that cause disease and death when used as intended. Receiving the Quit Now Indiana Platinum status affirms Franciscan Health's commitment to saving lives and helping the communities we serve recover from nicotine addiction."

The Quit Now Indiana (QNI) Champions Program was launched to promote Quit Now Indiana Tobacco Treatment services, encourage evidence-based health system change strategies, and recognize health systems, medical providers, and employers that champion Quit Now Indiana and other Tobacco Treatment elements.

Learn more at [QuitNowIndiana.com](http://QuitNowIndiana.com).

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**TODAY'S BIBLE READING**

**CONSECRATION OF THE PRIESTS**

*"Bring the bull to the front of the tent of meeting, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on its head. Slaughter it in the Lord's presence at the entrance to the tent of meeting. Take some of the bull's blood and put it on the horns of the altar with your finger, and pour out the rest of it at the base of the altar. Then take all the fat on the internal organs, the long lobe of the liver, and both kidneys with the fat on them, and burn them on the altar. But burn the bull's flesh and its hide and its intestines outside the camp. It is a sin offering.*

*"Take one of the rams, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on its head. Slaughter it and take the blood and splash it against the sides of the altar. Cut the ram into pieces and wash the internal organs and the legs, putting them with the head and the other pieces. Then burn the entire ram on the altar. It is a burnt offering to the Lord, a pleasing aroma, a food offering presented to the Lord.*

*Exodus 29:10-18 (NIV)*

**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).

**—CICERO—**

**Legal Notice  
Plan Commission**

The Cicero/Jackson Township Plan Commission will meet on January 8th, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the Red Bridge Community Building, 25 Red Bridge or 697 West Jackson Street, Cicero, Indiana 46034, in order to hear the following petitions:

**Docket No. Ordinance Amendment PC-0125-02-R5**

A Zoning Ordinance Amendment concerning Article 3 "R5" of the Cicero/Jackson Township Zoning Ordinances in order to add the following language to read:

For lots that were legally subdivided and in existence on or before November 21, 2023, the minimum lot area for use as a single family residential use shall be 5,000 square feet in the "R5" district.

Project Address: Jurisdictional area of the Cicero/Jackson Township Plan Commission – all of the Town of Cicero and part of Jackson Township.

The petition may be examined at the office of the Cicero/Jackson Township Plan Commission, 331 E. Jackson St., Cicero, IN 46034.

Interested parties may offer an oral opinion at the Hearing. Comments may be also mailed to Cicero/Jackson Plan Commission at P.O. Box 650 Cicero, IN 46034. Comments may also be dropped off in the Cicero Utilities payment drop box located at 331 E. Jackson St. Cicero, IN. Comments may also be emailed to [fzawadzki@townofcicero.in.gov](mailto:fzawadzki@townofcicero.in.gov) Comments must be received by 3:00 pm on the date of the hearing. Written comments will be read aloud during the public hearing and entered into the record of the Hearing.

The Hearing may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary.

Petitioner's Name: Cicero/Jackson Township Plan Commission  
Date: 12/20/2024  
RS474

12/27/24, 12/30/24

**United Way of Central Indiana announces finalists for 2025 ELEVATE awards**

**Submitted by United Way of Central Indiana**

The finalists for the 2025 ELEVATE awards are advocating for their neighborhoods, helping families find stability and mentoring underserved youth.

They champion the rights of immigrants, empower students of diverse backgrounds, amplify under-represented voices, and ensure their communities have access to vital resources and information.

Their work supports families in need of healthy food and children in need of medical care.

Last Thursday, United Way of Central Indiana named 25 finalists for the ELEVATE awards, an annual event that recognizes the region's top young philanthropists, advocates and volunteers ages 21 to 40. Now in their seventh year, the awards also serve as a fundraiser for United Way's basic needs initiatives.

Winners will be announced at the event, scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Feb. 22 at THE LUME, inside the Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields. This year's ELEVATE, "Timeless Inspiration," draws its theme from THE LUME's Salvador Dali exhibition, *Dali Alive*. ELEVATE is sponsored by Old National Bank.

Tickets starting at \$40

can be purchased at [uwci.org/elevate](http://uwci.org/elevate).

An external committee composed of volunteers from the community selected the finalists from a pool of nearly 100 nominees. The 2025 finalists are:

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advocate of the Year**

- Wendy Catalan Ruano, Starfish Initiative
- Jessi Crouse, Indiana University Health
- Samantha Douglas, Christ Up
- Leah Johnson, Loudmouth Books

**Volunteer of the Year, presented by The National Bank of Indianapolis**

- Stephanie Marshall, Brendon Park Civic Association
- Logan Metzger, Adjutant Solutions Group
- Josie Pipkin, Indiana University
- Matt Waweru, Dittoe Public Relations

**United Way Champion of the Year**

- Brandon Cobb, Eli Lilly & Company
- Rachel Maxey, MD-wise
- TJ O'Neil, Walker Information
- Adrienne Roman, Illumina
- Anna Sherrill, DePauw University

**Nonprofit Employee of the Year, presented by Delta Faucet Company**

- Alyssa Brelage, Alzheimer's Association Greater Indiana Chapter
- David Carpenter, Meals on Wheels of Central Indiana



**United Way of Central Indiana**

- Sarah Daniel, Unconditional
- McKenna Houston, STARTedUP Foundation
- Michelle Turchan, Riley Children's Foundation

**Volunteer of the Year, presented by The National Bank of Indianapolis**

- Stephanie Marshall, Brendon Park Civic Association
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**Nonprofit Employee of the Year, presented by Delta Faucet Company**

- Alyssa Brelage, Alzheimer's Association Greater Indiana Chapter
- David Carpenter, Meals on Wheels of Central Indiana

selected by panel of judges:

- Brandi Davis-Handy, president, AES Indiana
- Eric Hessel, vice president of programs, Hendricks County Community Foundation
- Alberta Jose, manager of recruitment and admissions, Per Scholas
- Andrea McGordon, community development manager, Sr, VP, Old National Bank
- Jimmie McMillian, chief diversity officer, Penske Entertainment Corporation; United Way board member
- Andrea Neely, president and CEO, Simon Youth Foundation
- Mike Simmons, founder and CEO of Bridge Builder Strategies; adjunct professor at Butler University

All finalists also are eligible to win the People's Choice Award, presented by Katz, Sapper & Miller. Members of the public can vote for their favorite finalist at [uwci.org/elevate](http://uwci.org/elevate).

The winners will be

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**Contact Information**

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

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

**Publisher Stu Clampitt**  
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**Sports Editor Richie Hall**  
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Beautiful 4 BR ranch on large lot with a fully fenced backyard. This home has been well maintained and has several recent updates!  
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Completely remodeled ranch on 1.06 acres just outside of downtown Lebanon. Beautifully decorated and move-in ready!  
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# REPORTER SPORTS FRIDAY

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

## Carmel's own Sky Simpson takes three gold medals at IPF Powerlifting Championships

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

It wasn't that long ago that Carmel's Stephen "Sky" Simpson was too anxious to get off the bench to play on the Unified Football team.

Look at him now. Simpson spent part of last November in Reykjavik, Iceland, where he put on a show while winning gold medals in the 2024 International Powerlifting Federation (IPF) World Open Equipped Powerlifting Championships.

Simpson won three gold medals in the Special Olympics 93-kilogram division (93 kilograms is around 205 pounds). He won two of the three individual events, taking the squat and bench press while finishing second in the deadlift, then placed first in the total standings to win the gold medal there.

"It was good for me," said Sky, who turns 24 in February. He competed with another athlete from his gym, Ben Boehn, and enjoyed having him there as well.

The World Open took place from Nov. 11 to 16 in the Iceland capital. Simpson started with the squat, which he won with a lift of 127.5 kilograms. Next was the bench press, and Simpson was first in that event as well with a lift of 97.5 kilograms. He finished with Unified football, he wouldn't even get off the bench. When Sky wouldn't get off the bench, the kids would just surround him and make him feel good and make him laugh a little bit. By the third game, he was trotting on the field. It was really cool as a dad to see that. Unified track was the same thing."

Other people started telling Stephen that he needed to get his son into weightlifting, which Sky began to do about four years ago. Stephen jokingly said he blames Carmel High School for this, adding that he doesn't believe Sky would be this far along without his initial participation in Unified sports.

"I think all of that has worked to make Sky much more confident in himself, more outgoing and take risks in social settings," said Stephen. "That's so important for the kids to be able to have the courage to go out there and be themselves. Unified sports is huge for these guys. Sky's chance was Unified sports."

Moran, the owner and head coach of Moran Academy for Strength and Speed in Carmel, said he met the Simpsons in early 2021, with Sky coming to his academy specifically for power lifting.

"He picked up on it pretty quick," said Moran. "From Day 1, you could tell he liked the idea of getting big and strong." Moran said Sky was "already pretty strong," but the focus was now on getting him strong for the sport of powerlifting.

Sky Simpson's first competition was the Special Olympics Indiana Summer Games of 2021. He was a winner right off the bat, finishing first in the bench press, deadlift and total. Sky then competed in a couple more Summer Games before branching out and



(ABOVE) Carmel's Stephen "Sky" Simpson won three gold medals at the 2024 International Powerlifting Federation (IPF) World Open Equipped Powerlifting Championships in Reykjavik, Iceland. Simpson competed in the Special Olympics 93-kilogram division. He is pictured with his coach Kyle Moran. (BELOW) A couple hundred spectators watched Sky Simpson compete, and the event was also broadcast live on YouTube.

phen Simpson. "When he first started with Unified football, he wouldn't even get off the bench. When Sky wouldn't get off the bench, the kids would just surround him and make him feel good and make him laugh a little bit. By the third game, he was trotting on the field. It was really cool as a dad to see that. Unified track was the same thing."

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competing in more meets. Sky qualified for the World championships through a Power Lifting America competition.

When he's not in the gym, Sky works at the Penn Station restaurant on Range Line Road in Carmel. "He's the guy that washes all those pounds of potatoes," said Stephen.

Penn Station conducts roundups for certain causes, and Sky hands out free cookies and greets people for he gets to work.

"Penn Station is a really good supporter for Down Syndrome," said Stephen.

Moran said that Sky Simpson's next meet will be

in February in Indianapolis. The coach said he likes his athletes to compete "three or four times a year," while training in the gym in the interim.

"Having him and Ben in the gym as well have created a pretty big culture change in the gym in general," said Moran. The coach has enjoyed watching Sky learn the etiquette in the weight room as well as his continued expanding confidence.

"Now he'll do box jumps and broad jumps," said Moran. "He's created the confidence and the body awareness to do pretty much anything we ask of him."

## Boys Wrestling Carmel & Fishers each compete in weekend invites

### The REPORTER

The Carmel boys wrestling team finished as runner-up at the Kyle Osborn Invitational last Saturday at McCutcheon.

The Greyhounds scored 199 team points; Harrison won the event with 234.5 points. Carmel had three individual champions: Carlo Federici won the 113-pound division, Alex Agee was first at 132 and Elijah Penquite was the 144-pound winner.

Four Carmel wrestlers placed third: Jordan Penquite at 106, Tyler Elliott at 138, Adel Navarrete at 190 and Will Massey at 215. Two more finished fourth: Eli Isen at 165 and Jackson Bui at 285.

Brock Raasch (at 120), Sully Mayhar (at 126), Braydon Mack (at 150) and Elliott Johnson (at 175) all

finished in fifth place. Jordan Jay took sixth at 157.

Fishers placed fifth at the Columbus East Invitational last Saturday.

The Tigers scored 137.5 team points. Camden Funk finished third at 215 pounds for Fishers' highest individual place, while Ryan Dungee took fourth at 285 pounds and scored the most team points with 20; Dungee went 4-2 but won all four matches by fall.

Seth Lamb (at 113), Mason Quarles (at 120) and Andrei Bogdan (at 157) all got fifth-place finishes. Will Hruskoci (at 126), Ellis Burns (at 138) and Mustafa Ellakany (at 165) all placed sixth in their weight classes. Zeke Kramer took seventh at 150, while Graham Imes placed eighth at 175.

## Women's Basketball



Image provided by Visit Indy

## WNBA All-Star Game's host committee seeks artists for murals

By **JEFF ZWEIGEL**  
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Indianapolis on July 19 will host the 2025 WNBA All-Star Game, and organizers are asking for your help to get the Hoosier state ready for the big weekend.

The WNBA All-Star Indy Host Committee is looking for local artists to create two original murals that will be displayed at the downtown Indianapolis Arts Garden during All-Star weekend.

They say the murals will

reflect the theme "Red Hot Summer" as women's basketball reaches its pinnacle in "Indy's Home Court," according to a news release issued Monday from Indy-Arts Council.

The deadline to apply is 11:59 p.m. Feb. 23. An application workshop will be the night of Feb. 12 via Zoom.

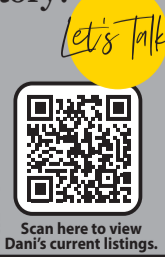
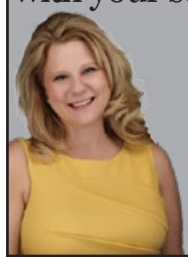
This story originally appeared on WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/entertainment-news/2025-wnba-all-star-game-indy-mural-artists-sought.

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## CURRENT REAL ESTATE MARKET

CENTRAL INDIANA STATISTICS FROM THE 16-COUNTY REGION

<p>November 2024 Average Sale Price</p> <p>↑ <b>\$350,074</b> compared to this time last year</p>	<p>Sales Increased</p> <p>November pending home sales compared to this time last year</p> <p>↑ <b>11.3%</b></p>	<p>↑ <b>291</b> More Homes For Sale 11/23 vs. 11/24</p>
<p>↑ <b>20.7%</b> Price Increase 11/23 vs. 11/24</p>	<p>Months of Inventory Change</p> <p>↓ <b>4.7%</b> 11/23 vs. 11/24</p>	<p>Interest Rates 30-Year Fixed</p> <p><b>6.75%</b> With an APR of 6.88%</p>

**FAIR HOUSING CASES**  
Total- 3  
Rental- 3  
Sales- 0  
Other- 0

**TOP COUNTIES**  
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Sales Up 46.2%  
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## SPORTS SCHEDULE

**Friday, Dec. 27**

**BOYS BASKETBALL**  
**Homestead Holiday Tournament**  
 Hamilton Southeastern vs. South Bend St. Joseph, 10 a.m.  
 Hamilton Southeastern vs. Valparaiso, 6 p.m.  
**Lebanon Holiday Tournament**  
 University vs. Evansville North, 6:30 p.m.  
**Noblesville Holiday Tournament**  
 Noblesville vs. Brebeuf Jesuit, 11 a.m.  
 Crown Point vs. Gary 21st Century, 11:45 a.m.  
 Consolation game, 6 p.m.  
 Championship game, 7:45 p.m.  
**Paul Loggan Invitational at North Central**  
 Carmel vs. Lake Central, 3:15 p.m.  
**Ray Furney Classic at Lawrenceburg**  
 Guerin Catholic vs. Gainesville (Fla.), 3 p.m.  
 Guerin Catholic vs. Jennings County, 7 p.m.  
**Rider Realty Switzerland County Holiday Classic**  
 Hamilton Heights vs. Paoli, 11 a.m.

**BOYS WRESTLING**  
 Carmel, Guerin Catholic, Hamilton Southeastern at Mooresville Holiday Classic, 9 a.m.  
 Fishers at Connersville Spartan Classic, 9 a.m.  
 Sheridan at Eastern Holiday Classic, 9 a.m.  
 Westfield at Mishawaka Al Smith Invitational, 10 a.m.

**GIRLS BASKETBALL**  
 Fishers vs. Evansville Central, 5:30 p.m. at Washington  
**Carroll Holiday Tournament**  
 University vs. Western, 3 p.m.  
**Henry Community Health Hall of Fame at New Castle**  
 Homestead vs. Lawrence Central, 11 a.m.  
 Hamilton Southeastern vs. South Knox, 12:45 p.m.  
 Consolation game, 6 p.m.  
 Championship game, 7:45 p.m.  
**Interra Classic at Northridge**  
 Westfield vs. NorthWood, 11:30 a.m.  
 Westfield vs. Bishop Dwenger, 4 p.m.  
**Sheridan Blackhawk Holiday Tournament**  
 Seeger vs. Sheridan, noon  
 Tri-Central vs. Eastern Hancock, noon  
 Consolation game, 5 p.m.  
 Championship game, 5 p.m.  
**Waldron Tournament**  
 Franklin County vs. Waldron, 10 a.m.  
 Hamilton Heights vs. Union County, noon  
 Consolation game, 4 p.m.  
 Championship game, 4 p.m.

**SWIMMING**  
 Carmel at Homestead Diving Invitational, 10 a.m.  
 Carmel Holiday Invitational, 3 p.m.

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

## Grayson commits to Duke University



Photo courtesy Noblesville Athletics  
 Noblesville's Brookelyn Grayson has committed to the Duke University softball team. (Front row, from left) Thomas Grayson (father), Brookelyn Grayson, and Callie Grayson (mother). (Back row, from left) Noblesville Girls Basketball Head Coach Donna Buckley, Charlie Grayson (brother), and Grant Grayson (brother).

## Grand Park Event Center to hold first Westfield Youth Sports Pickleball Jam

**The REPORTER**  
 The second annual Holiday Pickleball Festival hosted by Grand National Racquet Center announces the first Westfield Youth Sports Pickleball Jam, set to take place Sunday, Dec. 29 at the Grand Park Event Center.  
 Scheduled for 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., this clinic will be a fundraiser where a portion of the proceeds will go towards the Westfield Youth Sports scholarship program which

supports kids who may not otherwise have an opportunity to participate in the sports program.  
 The community will be able to participate in a beginner clinic and then put what they learned into action by playing in a ladder format exhibition. No skill level is required to play. There will be a youth event in the morning and an adult event in the afternoon with courts available to play on in between.  
 "We are excited to provide an opportunity for the youth of Westfield to learn a new sport," Westfield Youth Sports Executive Director Molly Wright said. "Pickleball is a sport that is growing quickly among all ages, and this provides exposure of the sport to both kids and adults. Plus, the funds raised will go towards



our scholarship program. For the 11 sports we offer we won't turn away and our scholarship needs have doubled in the last two years. Get your kids out and do something fun over the holiday!"  
 The Westfield Youth Sports Pickleball Jam promises to be an action-packed evening of athleticism, sportsmanship, and holiday cheer. Stay and play pickleball alongside the community by renting your own court and enjoy food and drinks offered by the on-site full-service restaurant and bar! Visit [HolidayPickleballFestival.com](http://HolidayPickleballFestival.com) for details.

# Thanks for reading The Reporter!

**HAMILTON COUNTY TELEVISION**

**Logan Street SIGNS & BANNERS**

**Wed Dec 18 - Boys Basketball**      **Upcoming Broadcasts**  
 7:20 pm Chatard vs Washington | Varsity Basketball | Indiana SRN

**Fri Dec 20 - Boys & Girls Basketball**  
 5:45 pm **Fishers** vs Hamilton Southeastern | Girls Basketball | Southeastern Sports  
 5:50 pm Covenant Christian vs Greenwood Christian Academy | Dblhdr | Indiana SRN  
 7:15 pm **Fishers** vs **Hamilton Southeastern** | Boys Basketball | Southeastern Sports  
 7:20 pm Chatard vs Washington | Boys Basketball | Indiana SRN

**Sat Dec 21 - Boys/Girls Basketball**  
 11:00 am Tri-State Evansville Bosse Shoot-Out | Boys Basketball | Indiana SRN  
 12:00 pm **Westfield** vs **Noblesville** | Junior Varsity | Girls Basketball | HCTV Sports  
 1:30 pm **Westfield** vs **Noblesville** | Varsity | Girls Basketball | HCTV Sports  
 7:20 pm Indianapolis Shortridge vs **Fishers** | Boys Basketball | Fishers Sports Network  
 7:20 pm South Putnam vs Covenant Christian | Girls Basketball | Indiana SRN

**Fri Dec 27 - Noblesville High School Boys Varsity Tourney**  
 10:00 am Brebeuf vs **Noblesville** | Game 1 | HCTV Sports  
 11:45 am Crown Point vs 21st Century of Gary | Game 2 | HCTV Sports  
 6:00 pm Consolation | Game 3 | Noblesville Boys Holiday Tourney | HCTV Sports  
 7:45 pm Championship | Game 4 | Noblesville Boys Holiday Tourney | HCTV Sports

**Sat Dec 28 - Noblesville High School Girls Varsity Tourney**  
 10:00 am Norwell vs **Noblesville** | Game 1 | HCTV Sports  
 11:45 am Valparaiso vs Ft Wayne Snide | Game 2 | HCTV Sports  
 6:00 pm Consolation | Game 3 | Noblesville Girls Holiday Tourney | HCTV Sports  
 7:45 pm Championship | Game 4 | Noblesville Girls Holiday Tourney | HCTV Sports

Available on the Web [www.HCTV1.com](http://www.HCTV1.com)

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

During last Sunday's win against Texas, he scored 23 points on 10-17 shooting while recording nine rebounds and four assists.  
 The former Duke standout has played in 15 games for the Mad Ants averaging 18.6 points, 8.7 rebounds, and 3.3 assists per game while shooting 64.5 percent from the field.  
 Okafor and the Mad Ants return home tonight, Dec. 27, to take on the Salt Lake City Stars (Utah Jazz affiliate). Tip-off will be at 6 p.m. The two clubs will play again the following day at

## Jahlil Okafor named to 2024 All-Winter Showcase Team

Averaged 22 points & nine rebounds on 67 percent shooting

**The REPORTER**  
 Indiana Mad Ants center Jahlil Okafor has been named to the All-Winter Showcase Team. The NBA G League announced the selections Monday.  
 Okafor averaged 22 points and nine rebounds in both victories in Orlando, Fla. The 29-year-old shot 67 percent from the field (18-27) during the Winter Showcase.  
 In last Friday night's victory over Rio Grande Valley, Okafor scored 21 points on 8-10 field goals. He grabbed nine rebounds and dished out four assists.

the same time.  
 \*\*\*  
 The Indiana Mad Ants are the G League affiliate of the Indiana Pacers. The franchise is currently playing in its 18th season dating back to 2007-2008. The Mad Ants have been a part of Pacers Sports and Entertainment since 2015. The club plays their home games at the Gainbridge Fieldhouse located at 125 S. Pennsylvania St. in downtown Indianapolis. Purchase Mad Ants tickets at [this link](http://thislink) or visit the Gainbridge Fieldhouse Box Office.

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