

THURSDAY, JAN. 2, 2025

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



LIKE & FOLLOW US!

TODAY'S WEATHER



Today: Partly to mostly cloudy.
 Tonight: Around an inch of snow.

HIGH: 35 LOW: 21



Carmel to honor gold medalist Sky Simpson with street renaming

The REPORTER

The City of Carmel will honor class of 2020 Carmel High School graduate Sky Simpson, who won gold medals at the International Powerlifting Federation's World Open Equipped Powerlifting Championships in Iceland in November.

Simpson, who has Down Syndrome, won Gold in both back squat and bench press, as well as Silver in deadlift, which earned him Gold for overall weight lifted in his division.

In honor of Simpson, the street sign at Monon Green Boulevard and Range Line Road will be temporarily changed to "Sky Simpson Blvd." This location was selected as Simpson has been an employee at the Penn Station East Coast Subs shop located at that intersection since 2022.

The city will hold a dedica-



Sky Simpson (center) receives his medal in Iceland.

tion ceremony at 10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 6, 2025. Mayor Sue Finkam, City Councilmember Kyle Moran will be in attendance. Shannon Minnaar, and Coach

Reflections

If you think back on your life, can you remember something you needed most in your life that you never received? Something that really stands out that was a missing piece.

For me, as a disabled person, what I needed the most was someone "just like me." Someone I could relate to, look up to get advice from, a glimpse into my future perhaps? I wanted that more than anything. Without a diagnosis for so long, I felt incomplete. Unfinished. Like a mistake. It was impossible to find someone just like me because I did not fully know who I was. In many ways, my life seems like I have lived two different lives: before diagnosis, and after diagnosis.

It is a strange feeling. I often have a thought running through my head of what life would be like if people could see their entire future laid out before them. I go back and forth in my mind as to whether I think that would be a good thing or a scary thing. The conclusion I usually come to is that it is better that we do not know what lies ahead, but there are instances where it could be helpful. In the end, it is a pointless thought because no one can predict the future.

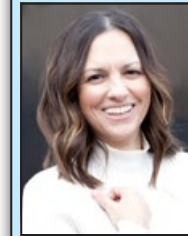
I think it would have been comforting for me to know that my disease would eventually have a name. That I was not a mistake. That I would be a guiding light for others, like the one I needed as a little girl/young woman. But we do not grow in comfort. We just get more settled in and well, comfortable.

Had I not gone through my experiences, I would not be able to encourage the undiagnosed/misdiagnosed. I would not have been as equipped to encourage others who are currently living in uncertainty. Or know how much the young lady living with muscular dystrophy is struggling with the decision to carry her own child would need someone who understands.

My life today is a reflection of the person I needed as a child. I think that living our lives in that way is not only a fulfilling way to live, but one that can make a drastic difference in the lives of others.

See Reflections . . . Page 2

COLUMNIST



AMY SHINNEMAN
 Disability in the City

Police SUV found damaged in Christmas Day hit-and-run; officer put on leave

By KYLA RUSSELL & GREGG MONTGOMERY
 WISH-TV | wishtv.com

A Cicero police SUV was found damaged Christmas night in what was initially dispatched as a hit-and-run with no injuries, according to the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office and on-line records.

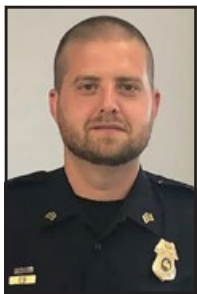
Cicero Police Department Capt. Ed Hodson is on administrative leave in connection to the investigation, as is policy, a Town Council member has told News 8. Hodson was promoted from a sergeant to a captain in June, according to a report in

the Hamilton County Reporter.

Council Member Joe Cox added, "The town will have no further comment until the investigation is concluded."

Deputies found the Ford Explorer "positioned off to the side of the roadway with its hazard lights activated and visible damage to the vehicle," a news release issued Monday from the sheriff's office said.

Online records show the crash was reported at 8:35 p.m. Wednesday at the inter-



Hodson

section of State Road 19/Cicero Road and 206th Street. Arcadia Police Department and sheriff's deputies responded to the crash.

Investigators with the sheriff's office found that the driver of the SUV had left the scene prior to law enforcement's arrival. The release from the sheriff's office did not name the driver.

The sheriff's office news release also said, "Charges related to the incident have been submitted to the Hamil-

ton County Prosecutor's Office for review. The Cicero Police Department has been informed of the incident and ongoing investigation."

The sheriff's office did not reply to an inquiry about what may have led to the crash.

Cicero is a town of 5,600 residents in Hamilton County. It's about a 45-minute drive north of downtown Indianapolis.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/crime-watch-8/police-suv-found-damaged-in-christmas-hit-and-run-officer-put-on-administrative-leave.

Ward honored at Big Cicero Creek Drainage Board meeting



Photo provided

Retiring Hamilton County Surveyor Kenton C. Ward was recently honored at the December meeting of the Big Cicero Creek Drainage Board. Ward was presented with a plaque by Board President Brad Bagwell recognizing him for his 33 years of service with the joint Drainage Board. Ward has served the Big Cicero Creek Drainage Board since its creation in 1991. The Board serves the Big Cicero Creek watershed which includes Tipton, Hamilton, Boone, and Clinton counties. (ABOVE) Ward (left) with Bagwell.

Zionsville-based Arby's owner celebrates opening its first local restaurant in Westfield

Submitted

The AES Restaurant Group, headquartered in Zionsville, recently opened its first local restaurant. On Friday, Dec. 27, AES Restaurants opened the doors of its state-of-the-art Arby's location in Westfield. Located at 1399 Chatham Commons Blvd., the Arby's location will serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and AES is proud to be a part of the Westfield community.

"We are so excited to finally have a restaurant in our own backyard," said Jay Bedrosian, President of the AES Restaurant Group. "With multiple members of our leadership team residing in Westfield, we cannot wait to share the AES Restaurant experience with the community."

The AES Restaurant Group, who owns and operates 188 restaurants in 16 states, says it looks forward to serving Westfield and the many people who visit throughout the year.

As part of its commitment to the community, Arby's hold a community open house at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 11. There will be special food offers, kids' activities, and opportunities to win, including a smoker. The AES Arby's team is working with city officials to play host to events



over the next few months to allow the community to experience the AES difference. All of the events will culminate with a Grand Opening event in the spring.

One of the events being planned is the introduction of the Westfield Police Department K9 officer "RB," who was purchased and trained through a donation from the AES Foundation back in July. Other events will be announced as they are finalized. In the meantime, please join the AES team for the Community Open House on Saturday, Jan. 11, and be sure to check your mailbox for some special offers to celebrate the opening of the new Arby's location.

To learn more about the AES Restaurant Group, you can visit AESRestaurants.com. To learn more about the AES Foundation, you can visit AESFoundation.com.

REFLECTIONS

from Page 1

We are all experienced in our own unique ways. Thank goodness!

As yet another year is set to end, and a new one begins, our minds start to become cluttered with thoughts of all the new habits we should start as we usher in a brand-new year. The truth is each day is a new beginning. You do not have to wait for a new year to make changes in your life. A reminder I often tell myself.

Since sharing my story, I have had the privilege of watching from afar, three brave young women who live with muscular dystrophy have babies of their own. I remember when the first young lady reached out to me asking for guidance. I thought, "Is this real?" That is when I really started to realize and see the reflection. It was a pivotal moment for

me. Since then, we have shared common struggles, and I have shared adaptations that worked for me and my babies. I have offered advice, while reminding them that they have come this far and they have what it takes. Trying to instill confidence and comfort.

I hope that you, too, will head into 2025 seeing yourself as a reflection of helpfulness. The world needs some of what you have to give because of what you learned by never receiving that thing yourself. Share your goodness!

Until next time ...

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

Calling all artists for Indiana Peony Festival design contest

By KELLIE McVEY
Indiana Peony Festival

As we near the end of 2024, our team is hard at work preparing for the fifth annual Indiana Peony Festival on May 17.

With our five-year anniversary just around the corner, we're more excited than ever to announce this year's highly anticipated design contest. We're passionate about celebrating this milestone and would like to showcase this throughout our 2025 merch.

We are looking for a design that represents our brand and encompasses the festival, but with a five-year celebratory twist: design that promotes our landmark event, but still highlights its original roots. The winning design will receive a \$1,000 cash prize plus public recognition for their work.

It's time to put your design skills to the test. Dream up your best design that men, women, and children will wear all year long. We're looking



Graphic provided

for versatility, passion, and 2025 IPF spirit.

Submissions are due by 11:59 p.m. Saturday, Jan.

25. [Click here](#) for additional submission details.

Live Music At Pasto Italiano
Music every Wednesday & Friday
1/2 Price Bottles of Wine On Wednesdays
Reservations Recommended
317-804-2051
3150 East State Rd. 32, Westfield
Catering: PastoItalianoWestfield@gmail.com

glimmer lights
Piney Acres Farm
NOV 7, 2024 - JAN 4, 2025
THURSDAY - SUNDAY • 6pm - 9:30pm
TICKETS STARTING AT \$10.00

See you in the parks!
MyHamiltonCountyParks.com
317.770.4400

Green Avenue
GRANT\$ & MORE
Your Road To Fundraising Success!
(317) 750-1204
www.greenavenue.info • amys@greenavenue.info

- Grant Research
- Proposal Writing
- Planning
- Other Fundraising

WESTFIELD LIONS FOUNDATION
WHERE THERE IS A NEED THERE IS A LION
2025
HAPPY NEW YEAR

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS IN 2024

Local Business Sponsors

- Beck's Hybrid
- BMO Bank
- Busby Eye Care
- Centier Bank
- Cerulean Private Wealth Advisors
- Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt
- Coots Henke & Wheeler PC
- EPYK Realty
- Esler's Auto Repair, Inc.
- Go With Chuck Goodrich Inc.
- Heartland Growers
- Indy Eye Physicians
- Lazar Insurance
- M & B Home Partners
- Proscrape Property Maintenance LLC
- Red Habernero
- Sagamore Advisors/Raymond James
- Sherwin Williams
- Sobczak Construction Services
- Sobczak Property Management
- Solid Wellness
- Sunbelt Rentals
- Sunshine Pediatrics
- Tech Electronics
- Westfield Lions Club
- Whitehouse Donuts

Special Thanks to



BOD Members

- Mike Birk
- Bruce Bowman
- Larry Clarino
- Rob Mangus
- Melissa Paradise
- Jeff Schnieder

In-Kind Donors

- Adkins Draperies and Blinds
- Elevation Excavation
- AEF Concrete LLC
- One Touch Design
- Scott Dafferner
- OpenText Corporation
- Kara Benson
- Perfectly Placed Décor
- Kandace Grabowski
- Roush Electric
- A Visit From Santa
- Steve Russell

Individual Donors

- Brian and Dianne Abraham
- Mike and Kathy Birk
- France Family Trust
- Jeff and Carrie Larrison

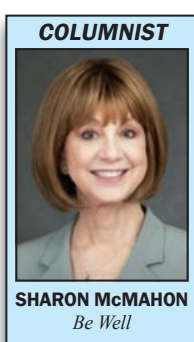
The Westfield Lions Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 public charity supporting the activities of the Westfield Lions Club
www.westfieldlionsfoundation.org

Don't just make resolutions, make this your year of decision

"You're going to be proud of me, Lucy ... I've decided that this next year is going to be my year of decision!" - Charlie Brown

Webster defines the word "resolution" as it pertains to this article as 'the act of finding an answer or solution to a conflict, problem, etc.: the act of resolving something.' and we all know that there is an expectation of sorts that most of us will have at least one or two of those resolutions as we enter another new year. However, I like Charlie Brown's perspective much better as it relates to a "year of decision."

Our lives are made up of decisions from the moment we open our eyes in the morning until we enter



SHARON McMAHON
Be Well

dreamland that same evening. Decisions vary from the mundane and completely simplistic (do I wear a red sweater or a black sweater today?) to critically important decisions regarding our health and relationships.

For my intent here, we will focus on decisions which may seem simplistic but can have a very positive effect on our fitness level and enjoyment of whatever stage of life in which we find ourselves. I am going to step out on a limb and use myself as an example ...

As a woman of a certain age, I sometimes have to ask myself "How in the world did I get here?" as I often feel little differently than I did in my 20s ... and society has a tendency to push aging folks more and more into the background of life.

Many of us who reach this stage of life have serious health issues which we are forced to confront and handle the best we can with

medication and medical assistance. Many of us are blessed that we do not take prescription medications and are able to maintain a positive level of energy most of the time. And, of course, most aging baby boomers fall somewhere in between the two.

Whatever stage you are in (and I am speaking of the "60+" group here) you still have daily decisions to make about your health and fitness. If you are over 60 and you have not had a complete physical in some time, start there. Your physician will order bloodwork and give you an examination which may include heart monitoring and other exams based upon family medical history and your own considerations. A vision exam, dental work and a complete skin examination by a dermatologist are always a good idea.

Once you have these items behind you and are cleared by your physician it is time to make the decision to work with a certified nutrition consultant and perhaps a fitness trainer to take charge of your health and

well-being to be the best you possible; not the 20-something you but the current you. Fortunately, many people approaching 70 and over are more active, healthy, and enjoying life now than at any point in history.

Make a decision this year to be the best you - not like a celebrity, or your neighbor, or best friend, but based on your own particular health and fitness decisions. Not only will you feel better, look better, and enjoy your life more completely, but your loved ones will benefit from the care you give yourself. Those we hold dear and who love us in return will benefit from our decision to evaluate and step forward in 2025 to an increased level of self-care and wellness.

In homage to my Scottish ancestry, I wish you all *Bliadhna Mhath Ur!*

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

Sheriff's Office investigates weapons complaint & multi-county pursuit

The REPORTER

At approximately 11:15 a.m. on Dec. 31, 2024, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) responded to the 16000 block of Province Court in Hamilton County near Fortville following a weapons complaint. The initial caller reported that her husband was threatened when leaving the neighborhood, stating that a suspect wearing a ski mask pointed an AK-47-style rifle at him.

Upon arrival, deputies confirmed that no shots had been fired but verified the reported threat involving the firearm.

A deputy patrolling the area located a vehicle matching the suspect vehicle's description, including its make, color, and license plate. As the deputy followed the vehicle out of the neighborhood and attempt-

ed a traffic stop, the suspects fled, initiating a pursuit.

The chase spanned multiple counties, beginning in Hamilton County, continuing through the Fortville area and Hancock County, and proceeding north on State Road 67 into Pendleton and Madison County before turning east onto U.S. 36 into Henry County. Hamilton County deputies terminated the pursuit near County Road 250 East on U.S. 36.

Shortly after, Middletown Police located the suspect vehicle, which had crashed at U.S. 36 and County Road 500 West. Witnesses reported seeing two black male suspects fleeing the crash site on foot, heading southeast into a nearby farm field.

Law enforcement established a perimeter and

deployed drones, K-9 units, and additional personnel in an effort to locate the suspects. Despite exhaustive search efforts, the suspects were not apprehended. The suspect vehicle was towed from the scene, and the investigation remains active and ongoing.

HCSO thanks the Henry County Sheriff's Office, the Madison County Sheriff's Office, New Castle Police Department, the Pendleton Police Department, the Middletown Police Department and Hamilton County EMA for their assistance.

HCSO is committed to ensuring public safety and resolving this matter. Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to call the non-emergency number at (317) 773-1282 or submit tips anonymously at [this link](#).

Paul Poteet ...
Your Hometown Weatherman!

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



Pre-enforcement period for Safe Zones begins on I-465, I-69 in Clear Path work zone

The REPORTER

INDOT's worksite speed control pilot program, known as Safe Zones, has been deployed in the current Clear Path I-465/I-69 construction zone on the north-east side of Indianapolis.

The program was authorized by House Enrolled Act 1015 during the 2023 legislative session to protect the lives of motorists and road workers across the Hoosier state. By statute, INDOT may deploy Safe Zones at up to four sites at any given time.

Deployment will begin with a minimum 30-day pre-enforcement warning period during which drivers will receive courtesy notices via mail. The active site on I-70 in Hancock County will be discontinued.

Here's how Indiana Safe Zones works:

- Signs will be posted as motorists enter and exit worksites notifying them that speed limits are being monitored by an automated system.
- The system will monitor the speed of vehicles using speed timing devices as they pass through work zones. When a vehicle is determined to be traveling 11 mph or more than the posted speed limit, the system will capture an image of the vehicle's rear license plate. After data is validated, violations will be certified and

INDIANA SAFE ZONES
Safe Speeds for Everyone

WORKSITE SPEED CONTROL PILOT PROGRAM
PRE-ENFORCEMENT WARNING PERIOD:

Indiana Safe Zones will be deployed on or after Wednesday, January 1, 2025, in the current Clear Path I-465/I-69 work zone in Marion County.

- A pre-enforcement warning period will begin at this time (on or after January 1).
- No violations will be issued during the pre-enforcement period, but courtesy notices will be sent via mail.
- The pre-enforcement period will last a minimum of 30 days.
- The active site on I-70 in Hancock County will be discontinued in late December.

Learn more: SafeZonesIN.com

INDIANA SAFE ZONES

Graphic provided by INDOT

issued to the owner of the vehicle by mail.

- After the pre-enforcement period ends, the first violation will result in a zero-fine warning, the second in a \$75 civil fine, and every violation thereafter a fine of \$150. In accordance with the statute, collected fines will go into the state's General Fund.
- Workers must be present at the site at the time of the event for violations to be valid.

Similar programs in other states have significantly improved work zone

safety. Two years after Maryland launched its program, speeding violations in construction sites fell by more than 80 percent and incidence of worksite-related crashes, fatalities, and injuries were at their lowest in more than 10 years. In the first year that Pennsylvania began continuously enforcing its program, it saw a more than 19 percent drop in worksite crashes. The first four months of INDOT's pre-enforcement launch of the program show more than a 70 percent decrease in excessive

speeding.

Data collected by Indiana Safe Zones will be used strictly for this program and will not be used for surveillance or other law enforcement purposes. INDOT will share annual reports throughout the five-year pilot program with members of the Indiana General Assembly and the traveling public.

To learn more about Indiana Safe Zones, including active locations and answers to frequently asked questions, visit SafeZonesIN.com.

Rep. Spartz: bold & decisive leadership needed to reverse this "Titanic" from its catastrophic course

Submitted

On Monday, Congresswoman Victoria Spartz (R-Ind.-05) released the following statement on her upcoming speaker vote on Jan. 3.

Congress has abandoned its constitutional duty to the American people to properly oversee the spending of their hard-earned money paid as taxes. Our next speaker must show courageous leadership to get our country back on track before this "Titanic" strikes an iceberg at any moment. Severe fiscal calamities often lead to unrest and more government control.

If we are serious about governing, our next SPEAKER must COMMIT PUBLICLY to create at least temporary structures in the House for: 1) authorizations; 2) reconciliation offset policies, and 3) spend-

ing audits. We also need to engage competent, unbiased "non-swamp" professionals to help us to at least start getting us gradually out of this serious fiscal mess. The current STRUCTURES, with their perverse incentives, have not been working for decades and will not suddenly start working.

We must have a vision and a concrete PLAN to deliver on President Trump's agenda for the American people, which I have not seen from our current speaker despite countless discussions and public promises.

The fate of our Republic is at stake and Congress, the ARTICLE 1 BRANCH, with its supreme powers of creating laws and managing our nation's finances, must start fulfilling its CONSTITUTIONAL DUTIES – not selling out our Republic at the expense of our children.



Spartz

Meeting Notice

The Clay Township Board and Trustee will meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2025, at the John W. Hensel Government Center, 10701 N. College Ave., Carmel.

Send your legal notices to
PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com



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

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 126th St Treasure Hunt Fri 8pm \$25K
Fishers, in 46038
317-842-5944 Breakfast 1st & 3rd Sun 8-11

Noblesville Post 45 Gil Soria
273 S 8th St Fri 645pm Treasure Hunt
Noblesville, in 46060 Sunday Football Menu
317-773-9985 Trivia Wednesdays 7pm

Sheridan Post 67 Tom DeShon
406 E 10th 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 9th 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
Meets 7pm the 1st Monday Monthly at the Fishers American Legion. Our website <https://www.hamiltoncountyveterans.com/> has 40 pages of resources for our Military Veteran community

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

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

Hamilton County Veteran Service Officers

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

From The Hamilton County Veterans Corp, Hamilton County Stronger Veterans Stronger Communities Coalition and Our Resource Partners,

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

New Years has always been a time for resolutions, big, small, health, wealth and wishful thinking,,,,, but most don't last. So, for 2025 let's start with one that can make a difference in not only your life, but the lives of those you love, are friends with and live next door or are far away. Call it 'Buddy Checks'. Letters, emails, phone calls, text messages – communications / correspondence / connection - with loved ones and friends who may be near, or far, so you can let them know they are not alone, you are here thinking of them and if they need anything, you are ready to help.

Also, if you have a loved one, relative, friend, neighbor who is deployed this holiday season, write them a letter, correspond and make that connection. Here is why. Throughout World War II, correspondence / connection - particularly letters from loved ones - maintained the morale of troops fighting across the globe. In 1945 alone, nearly three billion pieces of mail were exchanged between servicemembers and the friends and family who supported them on the home front. Wartime letters and diaries reveal that the mail call was one of the most cherished rituals of soldiers and sailors serving abroad. Craving news from home and words of encouragement, troops prized the letters that could, however briefly, allow them to escape the often harrowing and dangerous conditions in which they served.

So, for this New Year's resolution, let's all be thankful for what we have. Reach out to those neighbors, friends and family members who are deployed, away from home or still at home, so they may feel that connection and know they are not alone. Let's roll back the clock and write letters....



**Lower advertising cost.
Better customer service.**

**IF YOU
WANT SOME
≡ COME ≡
AND GET SOME**

Ads@ReadTheReporter.com



Letter to the Editor

Shaffer calls on Nieshalla to take a look at local debt

Dear Editor:

I applaud the 37 state financial officers who wrote the [Dec. 27 letter](#) to you with the call to action that noted:

1. 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.

While they represent 37 different states, the Indiana representative could well look homeward first.

Sauce for the federal goose is admirable, it's even more valuable for the state and local gander.

In Carmel – the city and township – its civic, township, schools, and library debt exceed \$2.2 billion.

Most of that debt was incurred without taxpayer approval.

Most of that debt was incurred by dodging around flaccid state laws.

All of the debt falls on future generations to pay.

The fiscal, moral and ethical disaster on the local level merely mirrors the federal debacle.

Bill Shaffer

Carmel

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. Please include your phone number and city of residence. The Reporter will publish one letter per person per week.

Young Democrats of America condemn surge in online hate against immigrant communities

Submitted

The Young Democrats of America released the following statement on Monday.

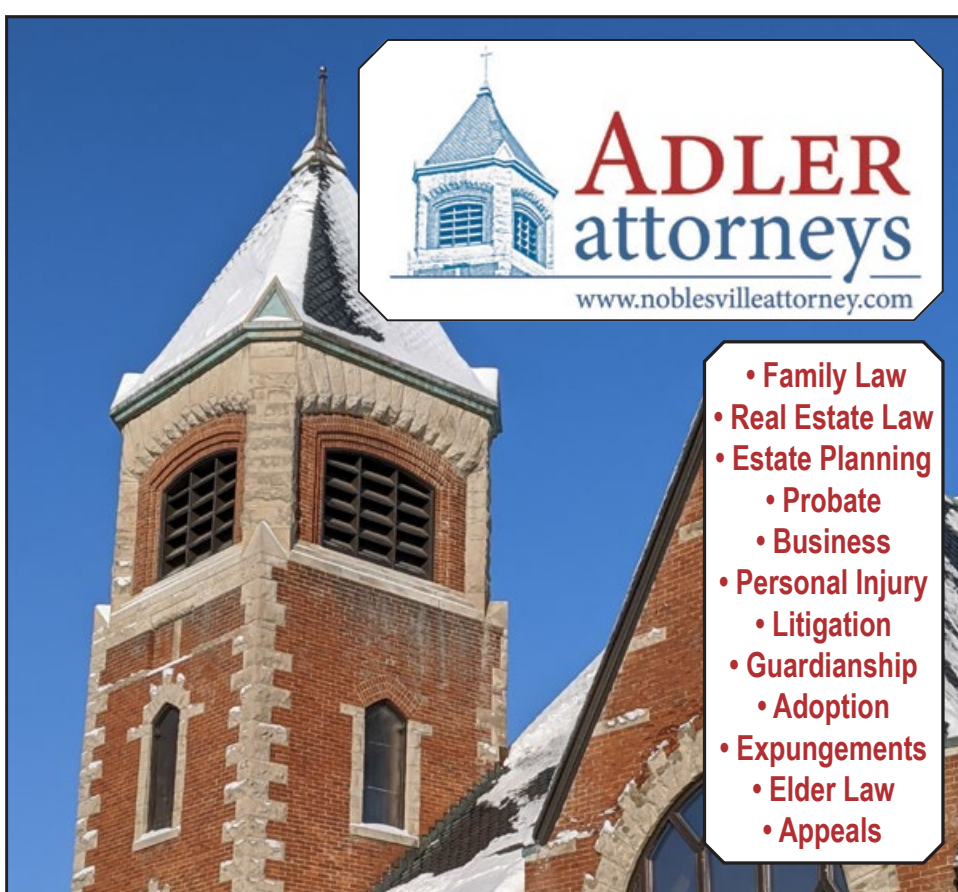
The recent rise in hateful, racist, and Hinduphobic rhetoric targeting Indian Americans, along with other immigrant communities, particularly online over the past week, is unacceptable and deeply harmful. Immigrants have always been central to the American story, enriching our culture, driving innovation, and building stronger communities. Such divisive rhetoric undermines the values of opportunity and equality

that are at the heart of our nation's proud tradition.

The Young Democrats of America strongly denounce this hateful rhetoric and reaffirm our commitment to fostering a more equitable and just society. Together, we must reject discrimination and honor the legacy of unity and progress that has shaped our country.

The Young Democrats of America (YDA) is the official youth wing of the Democratic Party of the United States and the oldest partisan youth organization in the country. To learn more, visit yda.org.

Thanks for reading the Hamilton County Reporter!



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

Franciscan Health Indianapolis welcomes first baby of 2025

The REPORTER

At 9:06 a.m. on New Year's Day, Tegveer Singh became the first baby born in 2025 at Franciscan Health Indianapolis.

Tegveer, the son of Navdeep Kaur and Amandeep Singh of Indianapolis, weighed in at 6 pounds, 11 ounces, and was 20 inches long.

At the end of December 2024, around 2,200 babies had been born at Franciscan Health Indianapolis for the calendar year.

The family of the first New Year's Day baby born at Franciscan Health Indianapolis receives a gift basket containing a variety of items for both baby and mother.

Each time a child is born at the hospital the lullaby "Jesus Loves Me" chimes throughout the hospital via the public address system.



Photo provided by Franciscan

Public school leaders' reports suggest no overall change in number of teaching positions since last school year

Submitted

The most recent **School Pulse Panel** (SPP) data from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), the statistical center within the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences, show that, when compared to last school year (2023-24), 31 percent of public schools reported losing teaching position(s) and 27 percent reported adding new teaching position(s).

The average difference in total number of teaching positions compared to last school year, accounting for both positions lost and positions added, rounds to zero. In addition, 50 percent of public school leaders reported feeling that their school is understaffed at their current staffing level. Also, compared to the 2021-22 school year, educators estimated that a lower percentage of students were behind grade level in at least one academic subject when starting the 2024-25 school year.

Public schools that lost teaching positions reported the reasons for losing teaching positions included decreased enrollment (55

percent) and loss of funding or budget cuts (52 percent). Public schools that added teaching positions reported the reasons for adding new teaching positions included increased enrollment (60 percent) and addition of new classes or courses (27 percent).

"Meeting the staffing needs, particularly in filling special education teacher vacancies, continues to be a challenge for schools," NCES Commissioner Peggy Carr said. "The percentage of schools feeling understaffed has risen to 50 percent, up from 45 percent in 2023. With changes in enrollment and budgets, policymakers and practitioners alike are navigating multiple competing priorities as they address these staffing challenges."

Nationally, 3 percent of all public school teaching positions were vacant as of October 2024, which was not measurably different from the percentage reported in October 2023. This year, 35 percent of public schools reported that they had at least one teacher vacancy as of October, compared to last year's 37 percent reporting at least one vacancy. The 35 percent includes 20 percent of public schools that were operating with multiple vacancies and 15 percent that were operating with one vacancy. Around a third of school leaders indicated they feel understaffed in special edu-

cation, at 34 percent.

Six percent of all public school non-teaching staff positions were vacant as of October 2024, which was not measurably different from the percentage reported in October 2023. For non-teaching positions, among those specific types of positions asked about, classroom aides and transportation staff had reported average vacancy rates of 7 percent. Forty-one percent of public schools were operating with at least one non-teaching staff vacancy, lower than the 45 percent reported in October 2023.

According to some leaders in schools with at least one teaching or non-teaching staff vacancy, these vacancies have resulted in an increased need to use teacher or non-teaching staff to handle tasks outside of their intended duties, 42 and 43 percent, respectively. Twenty-nine percent reported class sizes increased as a result of the vacancies, and 22 percent reported needing to share teachers and staff with other schools.

Additionally, school leaders estimated that 40 percent of students were behind grade level in at least one academic subject when they started this school year, a 5 percent decrease since the 2021-22 school year. Most schools reported that at least some students were behind in math and English language arts, at 98 percent each.

The findings released Dec. 12 are part of an experimental data product from the School Pulse Panel, NCES's innovative approach to delivering timely information regarding the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on public K-12 schools in the United States. The SPP data, collected Oct. 8 to 22, came from 1,491 participating public K-12 schools from every state and the District of Columbia. The data include information about summer school programs, including programs offered and student participation.

Additional data collected from 98 public K-12 schools in the U.S. Outlying Areas – American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands – are also available. Results from this collection include the finding that 82 percent of Outlying Area public schools reported feeling that their school was understaffed as of October.

Experimental data products are innovative statistical tools created using new data sources or methodologies. Experimental data may not meet all of NCES's quality standards but are of sufficient benefit to data users, in the absence of other relevant products, to justify release. NCES clearly identifies experimental data products upon their release.

All data released can be found on the [School Pulse Panel Dashboard](#).



LIFETIME LEGACY LAWYERS
Podcast

<https://lifetimelegacylawyers.com>

CLICK TO LISTEN

David (Dave) L. Lawson

October 2, 1935 – December 28, 2024



David (Dave) L. Lawson, 89, Fishers, passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 28, 2024, at Riverview Hospital. He was born at home on October 2, 1935, to Herman E. and Mary B. (Gilliam) Lawson in Noblesville.



He was a Noblesville High School alum, Class of 1953. Dave proudly served his country in the United States Army from 1958 to 1960. He was in Administration most of his life, retiring from the family business; Reynolds Farm Equipment. He was previously Branch Manager at American National Bank (Noblesville Branch) where he met the true love of his life, his wife, Mary. Prior to that, he worked at Myers Furniture, Noblesville. Dave loved the old Noblesville and Fishers communities, serving for a time on the Fishers Town Board, Hamilton County Council and as past- President of the Fishers Lions Club.

Dave also enjoyed motorcycling, owning many different bikes throughout his lifetime, and was Past President of Honda Sport Touring Association (HSTA) and a member of the Gold Wing Road Riders Association (GWRRA). He enjoyed singing and playing his acoustic guitar and was an avid fan of old country music and performers, counting Ray Price, Charley Pride, Merle Haggard and Steve "that kid" Wariner as his favorites; the latter, a friend. As a lifetime member of Fishers United Methodist Church, he and Mary volunteered on adult mission trips in New Mexico and South Dakota. David enjoyed traveling and RV camping with Mary, and they enjoyed a home for a few years in Central Florida. Most of all, Dave genuinely loved his entire family and gave generously.

He is survived by the joy of his life, his wife of 57 years, Mary (Reynolds) Lawson; children, Laurie (Tom) Benson, Michael (Alison) Lawson, Jeff (Melissa) Lawson; nine grandchildren, Eric (Heather) Benson, Sam (Allie) Lawson, Scott Lawson, Abby Lawson, Noah Swart, Ethan Swart, Raegan Lawson, Carter Lawson, Jack Lawson; and two great-grandchildren, Ruger Benson and Emerson Benson; and a brother, Richard (Barb) Lawson.

In addition to his parents, Dave was preceded in death by his brother, Bob; grandson, Kyle Benson; and his in-laws, Mac & Arline Reynolds.

Calling, visitation, and funeral services were held Thursday, January 2, 2025, at Fishers United Methodist Church, 9691 E. 116th St., Fishers, in the Main Sanctuary, followed by a private graveside service.

The family would like to thank Dr. Stephen Pence, Dr. Bruce Schilt, and the Emergency Room and Recovery Staff at Riverview Hospital as well as Paradigm Health & Hospice for their extensive care and services regarding Dave.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Fishers Come-To-Me Food Pantry, 9691 E. 116th St., Fishers, IN 46037. Condolences: randallroberts.com

Craig Alan Riker

February 11, 1979 – December 21, 2024



Craig Alan Riker, 45, passed away on Saturday, December 21, 2024. He was born on February 11, 1979, to Robert and Barbara (Abell) Riker in Plano, Texas.

Craig was loved by so many for his big heart. His contagious laugh, his ability to make you feel at home in his presence, his ornery smile, his sincere nature, and his big bear hugs endeared him to so many of us. Craig never really met a stranger and was able to make friends with just about anyone he came across. He was always up for a good time, and it was sure hard to not have one whenever he was around.

Craig loved working on cars and could fix just about anything. He enjoyed live music, campfires, kayaking & floating down the river, his green bottled beer, and spending as much time as he could with his friends. He was always there to lend a hand and was always willing to give you the shirt off his back ... Lord knows, he never wanted to wear one anyway. Craig was also the best worst dancer you've likely ever met – you couldn't help but want to dance along with him once he got his groove on.

He is survived by his children, Emma, Ethan, Madison, Alexis, and Logan; brother, Gregory Riker; sister-in-law Lori Riker; nieces and nephews, Kyle, Kinsey, Haley, and Emily; and his life-long friend and "brother," Jason Wise.

In addition to his parents, Craig was preceded in death by his brother, Donnie Riker, as well as so many family members and friends who have gone too soon.

Visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m., with services at 7 p.m., on Friday, January 10, 2025, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville. A celebration of life event will be scheduled to take place in the Spring of 2025.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

The Reporter's policy on obituaries

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

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

CONSECRATION OF THE PRIESTS

"Take from this ram the fat, the fat tail, the fat on the internal organs, the long lobe of the liver; both kidneys with the fat on them, and the right thigh. (This is the ram for the ordination.) From the basket of bread made without yeast, which is before the Lord, take one round loaf, one thick loaf with olive oil mixed in, and one thin loaf. Put all these in the hands of Aaron and his sons and have them wave them before the Lord as a wave offering. Then take them from their hands and burn them on the altar along with the burnt offering for a pleasing aroma to the Lord, a food offering presented to the Lord. After you take the breast of the ram for Aaron's ordination, wave it before the Lord as a wave offering, and it will be your share.

Exodus 29:22-26 (NIV)

Sandra Edwards

d. December 9, 2024

Sandra Edwards, 63, passed away at her home in Sheridan on December 9, 2024.



Quiet on the outside, Sandra was strong and unwavering in her love for her family. Sandra was a proud and loving mother to Jeremy (Adriana) Edwards and doting grandmother to Neil. She was a loving sister and a favorite aunt, which she liked to remind her niece and nephews of. She had the strongest hugs that her family misses so much. Sandra was a member of Community Bible Fellowship Church and loved and followed Jesus. Her life will be remembered as one of service. She literally and figuratively gave the coat off her back. Her legacy is the example she lived.

In lieu of flowers, send flowers to an important woman in your life. Why wait until she's gone? Or better yet, pick up the phone and tell her you love her. Don't take time for granted. Following Sandra's example, ask yourself, "How can I be a blessing today?"

A memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m. on January 10, 2025, at her church, Community Bible Fellowship Church, 231 E. 161st St., Westfield.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

The Hamilton County Reporter: it's what newspapers were like when they were good!

Randall & Roberts
Funeral Homes
317-773-2584
Our family has been serving Hamilton County since 1953

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

HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

Contact Information

Email
News@ReadTheReporter.com

Web Address
ReadTheReporter.com

Publisher Stu Clampitt
765-365-2316

Subscription Inquiries
Subscribe@ReadTheReporter.com
765-585-9519

Advertising & Public Notices
Ads@ReadTheReporter.com
765-365-2316

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

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

<p>MOVE IN READY!</p> <p>18794 PRAIRIE CROSSING DRIVE NOBLESVILLE</p> <p>Two-story home in Prairie Crossing. Lot borders the golf course. 4 BR, 2.5 BA home has many updates. Mature trees and landscaping. Listed at \$354,900</p>	<p>SOLD!</p> <p>540 ZEPHYR WAY WESTFIELD</p> <p>Beautiful 4 BR ranch on large lot with a fully fenced backyard. This home has been well maintained and has several recent updates! Listed at \$314,900</p>	<p>SOLD!</p> <p>1880 E. 75 NORTH LEBANON</p> <p>Completely remodeled ranch on 1.06 acres just outside of downtown Lebanon. Beautifully decorated and move-in ready! Listed at \$339,900</p>	<p>NEW LISTING!</p> <p>1940 NANTUCKET DRIVE 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! Listed at \$659,900</p>	<p>PENDING!</p> <p>67 APPLE TREE CIRCLE FISHERS</p> <p>Adorable 4 BR, 2.5 BA brick home situated on .38 acres in the heart of Fishers. Updated kitchen with granite counters, farm sink, stainless appliances. Updated HVAC and more. Listed at \$344,900</p>
--	---	--	--	--

"SPEAK TO DEAK!"

The Deakyne Team REALTORS®
www.speaktodeak.com
317.439.3258 PEGGY | 317.695.6032 JENNIFER



Wild weekend of wrestling

Fishers boys earn Spartan Classic title, Westfield's Porter Temples gets 100th win

The REPORTER

The Fishers boys wrestling team came home from Connersville as the Spartan Classic champion last weekend.

The Tigers won a close team race with Greenfield-Central, edging out the Cougars 241-236.5 points for the trophy. Three Fishers wrestlers also claimed individual championships in their respective weight classes, each winning five matches.

Chayce Yant was the winner at 132 pounds. After a first-round bye, Yant advanced to the finals with three technical falls and a pin, then easily beat Heritage Hills' Eli Hedges with a major decision in the championship match.

Xavier Smith rolled through the 175-pound class to finish first. Also receiving a first-round bye, Smith won his first two matches with pins, then took the next three with technical falls, culminating with a victory over Hagerstown's Roy Thornbury.

Chris Quarles took care of business at 190 pounds, winning all five of his matches by fall, including a pin of previously unbeaten Nathan Shafer of New Castle.

Owen Ingalls placed second at 120 pounds, finishing 3-1 for the tournament. Will Hruskoci placed third at 126, going 5-1, while Seth Lamb (at 113, 3-2) and Julian Burgett (at 215, 4-2) were both fourth. Camden Funk placed seventh at 285 with a 5-2 mark, while Andrei Bogdan was eighth at 157, going 6-3. Diego Carabano was 3-2 at 165 pounds.

Hamilton Southeastern and Carmel both got top 10 finishes at the Mooresville Holiday Classic last weekend.

The Royals scored 155.5 points in the tournament, while the Greyhounds placed sixth with 142 points. Perry Meridian was the team champion with 191 points.

Southeastern was led by three third-place finishers. Matthew Billet went 7-1 at 138 pounds; after a first-round win, Billet fell by decision to Carmel's Tyler Elliott. But Billet rolled through the consolation bracket, culminating with a 6-4 decision win over Lebanon's Seth Wilson in the third-place match.

Chris Casler finished 5-1 at 144 pounds. He reached the semifinals before falling to Jennings County's Lane Kirchner, but won two matches by fall in the consolation semis and the third-place match. Landon Hicks also went 5-1 at 157 pounds, making the semis before falling to unbeaten Brant Beck of Rochester. Hicks came back with a decision in the consolation semis, then won the third-place match over Mooresville's Steelee Lynn by major decision.

Nick Anderson took fourth at 120 pounds, with a 4-2 record for the tournament. Three of his wins were by fall. Cohen Davis also went 4-2 at 165 pounds to place fourth. AW VanKirk finished seventh at 285 with a 4-2 record, while Will Lakes placed eighth at 113, going 3-3. Cale Beaty went 3-2 at 106.

The Greyhounds picked up one championship, from Michael Major at 165 pounds. Major went 5-0, winning all five of those matches by fall. His first four pins came in the first period, then Major scored a third-period fall over Martinsville's Evan Hamblin in the championship.

Carlo Federici placed fourth at 113, going 4-2 for the tournament. William Massey placed fifth at 215 with a 4-2 mark, while Adel Navarette went 3-3 for sixth-place at 190. Elijah Penquite finished seventh at 138 with a 4-2 record, while Elliott was eighth at 138, going 3-3. Jackson Bui was 3-2 at 285.

Sheridan finished seventh as a team at the Eastern Holiday Classic last weekend.

The Blackhawks were 3-6 at the tournament, getting their wins over Clinton Prairie 60-21, Carroll 60-24 and Eastbrook 60-19. Two Sheridan wrestlers finished as champions of their weight classes: Ryker Ream was a perfect 9-0 at 190 pounds, while Camdyn Vespa finished 8-1 at 106 pounds.

Alex Cravens placed second at 157 pounds with an 8-1 mark. Caleb Alexander (at 132), Eli Smith (at 150) and Doug Earley (at 215) all were 5-4 for the tournament.

Westfield finished 11th as a team at the 46th Al Smith Classic Wrestling Invitational, which took place



Photo provided

The Fishers boys wrestling team won the Spartan Invite at Connersville last weekend. The Tigers had three individual champions, helping them to edge out Greenfield-Central for the team trophy.

last weekend in Mishawaka.

The Shamrocks scored 123 team points; Crown Point won the event with 293.5 points. Westfield had three wrestlers finish in the top five of their respective weight classes.

Connor Maddox finished first in the 106-pound division, winning all five of his matches. After a first-round forfeit, the freshman won his next two by technical falls, then got a 10-1 major decision victory in the semifinals. Maddox edged out Center Grove's Daniel Brown Jr. 5-4 in the championship bout.

Brayden Head placed fourth at 113 pounds, going 5-2 in his weight class. Head won by two decisions in the championship round, then following a quarterfinal loss, got two more decision victories and a forfeit in the consolation round to reach the third-place match. Head fell to Cathedral's Nathan Reyes by fall in that match.

Porter Temples finished fifth at 120 pounds, also with a 5-2 record for the day. Temples won his first match with a 7-5 decision, then scored a first-period pin to reach the quarterfinals.

Temples dropped that match to Center Grove's Royce Malone, then went 2-1 in the consolation bracket to reach the fifth-place match, which he won by fall. During the tournament, Temples cleared 100 match wins for his career.

Three Shamrocks went 3-2 for the day: Jon Stryker at 215 picked up two pins during the tournament for nine points; Alic Washburn at 138, and Jake Saez at 144.

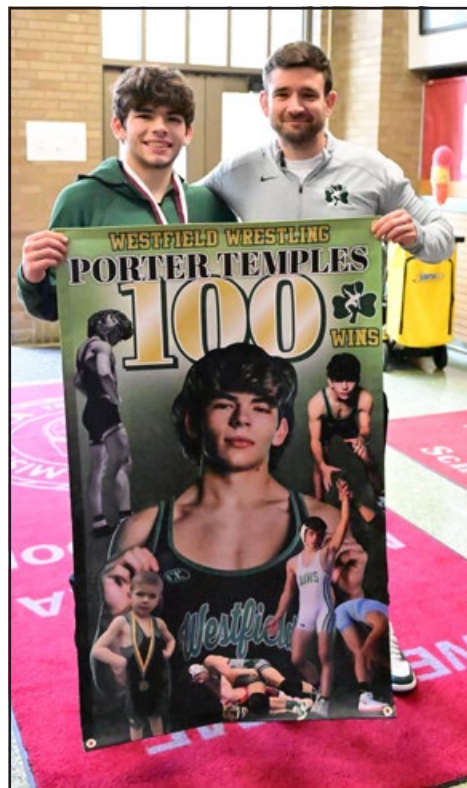


Photo by Manford Photography / Photo provided

(ABOVE LEFT) Porter Temples cleared 100 career match wins at the Al Smith Invitational. He is pictured with Westfield coach Tom Griffin. (ABOVE RIGHT) Sheridan's Ryker Ream (left) and Camden Vyspa both won individual championships at the Eastern Holiday Classic last weekend.



Photo by Manford Photography

Westfield's Connor Maddox won first-place at 106 pounds at the Al Smith Classic Wrestling Invitational last weekend in Mishawaka. Maddox went 5-0 in the tournament.

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!



CURRENT REAL ESTATE MARKET

CENTRAL INDIANA STATISTICS FROM THE 16-COUNTY REGION

November 2024
Average Sale Price
↑ **\$350,074**
compared to this time last year

Sales Increased
November pending home sales
compared to this time last year
↑ **11.3%**

↑ **291**
More Homes
For Sale
11/23 vs. 11/24

↑ **20.7%**
Price Increase
11/23 vs. 11/24

Months of Inventory Change
↓ **4.7%**
11/23 vs. 11/24

Interest Rates
30-Year Fixed
6.75%
With an APR of 6.88%

Talk To **Dani Robinson**
REALTOR/BROKER/SRES
317.407.6969

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

TOP COUNTIES
Hancock County
Sales Up 68.7%
Putnam County
Sales Up 46.2%
Johnson County
Sales Up 41.3%

DaniR@talktotucker.com | DaniRobinsonHomes.com

Joshua Herd
Photographer
joshuaherdphotography.com



Specializes in
senior portraits,
family portraits,
events/sports

317-670-4645 • jhphotos@yahoo.com

The Reporter brings you the
best local sports coverage.
Full stop.

NYSA

NOBLESVILLE YOUTH SPORTS ALLIANCE

ONE COMMUNITY • 6500+ KIDS • 17 PROGRAMS

www.noblesvillesports.com @noblesvillesports

Boys Basketball

Hounds split two games at Paul Loggan Classic

The REPORTER

Carmel's boys split a pair of games last weekend at the Paul Loggan Classic at North Central.

The Greyhounds cruised past Lake Central last Friday 57-26. Carmel led 9-3 after the first quarter, went up 29-8 by halftime and shut out the Indians in the third quarter, scoring 16 points for a 45-8 lead.

Nine different players scored for the Greyhounds, led by Aiden Dickerson's 12 points. Miles Wiley and Evan Harrell each added 10 points, while Jami-chael Fountain made three 3-pointers for nine points. Fountain and Harrell each pulled six rebounds, with Alex Couto dishing out six assists and getting four rebounds.

Carmel dropped its second game last Saturday



Reporter photo by Julie Brown

Carmel's Miles Wiley scored 10 points for the Greyhounds during their win over Lake Central last Friday.

55-44 to Evansville Reitz. The Panthers jumped out to a 19-5 lead after the first quarter. The 'Hounds cut it to 33-24 by halftime, but

Reitz stayed in front for the entire second half.

Couto scored 12 points for Carmel and Harrell scored 10 and collect-

ed eight rebounds. Couto handed out two assists.

The Greyhounds are 6-2 and host Cathedral on Saturday.

Trailblazers split pair of games at Lebanon tourney

The REPORTER

University's boys split a pair of games in the consolation bracket of the Lebanon Holiday Tournament on Saturday to bring home a sixth-place finish.

The Trailblazers rolled over Faith Christian 70-40 in their first contest of the game before dropping a 60-48 decision to Indianapolis Metropolitan.

University never trailed against Faith Christian with Peter Morales hitting two early three pointers to put the Blazers up 6-2. Morales added another three for nine points in the opening period and Cooper Cammack had two baskets in a 20 second span as University led 19-6 after one.

The Trailblazers opened the second quarter on a 9-2 spurt behind five points from Blake Gray and four from Max McComb. McComb would go on to score 11 points in the second as University opened up a 39-15 halftime advantage. Ten Trailblazers saw first-half action.

The third quarter was more of the same. Morales had a triple and Gray had two steals and layups for seven University points in the first 70 seconds. University kept pouring it on in the third quarter reaching a 35-point lead at 58-23 with 1:36 on the clock and instituting a running clock for the rest of the game.

McComb had a team-high 17 points. Morales had a career-high 16 points in his first varsity start. Gray had 14 and Cammack 12.

University and Metropolitan battled on even terms in the first half of the fifth-place game with the teams knotted at 26 at halftime. Neither team held more than a four-point lead and there were nine lead changes. University held what turned out to be their last lead at 26-25 on a Cammack bucket.

The game turned in the first five minutes of the third quarter as the Pumas outscored the Blazers 15-3. A Gray three pointer accounted for the only University points in that stretch. The Trailblazers battled for the rest of the game but were unable to get closer than seven the rest of the way.

Gray had 16 and Morales 11 to lead University. Morales earned a spot on the all-tournament team with 27 points in Saturday's two games.

University coach Justin Blanding was upbeat after the games. "We are playing great basketball and playing well enough to win games. We just have to close them. Now we have guys injured and are banged up pretty bad. During this time we had some young guys step up which is encouraging. With all the adversity the ball is going to start to bounce our way. Our record does not tell the story. We are a pretty good ball club."

University stands at 3-6 on the season. The Blazers are next in action Saturday when they travel to Bethesda Christian. Metropolitan, ranked 10th in Class 1A in the USA Today media poll, is 10-3.



Photo provided

The Guerin Catholic boys basketball team won the Ray Furney Classic at Lawrenceburg last weekend, winning all four of its games.

Golden Eagles dominate all four games at Ray Furney Classic

The REPORTER

Guerin Catholic's boys basketball team had a perfect time at the Ray Furney Classic at Lawrenceburg last weekend, going 4-0 to win the tournament.

The Golden Eagles started with a 60-45 win over Gainesville (Fla.) last Friday. Guerin Catholic led 16-12 after one quarter and 33-23 at halftime, then clinched the game by outscoring Gainesville 19-8 in the third.

Bryson Cardinal scored 20 points and collected nine rebounds, with Jake Grissom adding 13 points and seven rebounds. Ryne Paris also pulled seven rebounds and Hayden Rogers dished out five assists.

Guerin Catholic kept things rolling in its second

game, beating Jennings County 72-51. The Golden Eagles outscored the Panthers in each quarter, holding a 16-5 lead after the first period and 38-23 advantage at halftime.

Cardinal dominated the game, putting together a double-double of 32 points and 11 rebounds. Grissom scored 12 points. Paris grabbed four rebounds and Malcolm Houze handed out five assists.

In its third game, Guerin Catholic beat Whiteland 67-52 last Saturday. This game was tied 30-30 at halftime, but GC poured in 23 points in the third quarter to take control, then outscored the Warriors 14-9 in the fourth.

Three Guerin Catholic players reached double fig-

ures. Cardinal again was the leader with 24 points and eight rebounds, while Grissom put up 21 points. Paris scored 15 points and pulled five rebounds. Rogers dished out seven assists.

The Golden Eagles completed their unbeaten tournament with a 68-57 win over Silver Creek in the championship game. Guerin Catholic led 21-17 after the first period and 37-25 at halftime. The Dragons cut GC's lead to 46-41 by the end of the third quarter, but the Golden Eagles scored 22 points in the fourth to finish the game.

Cardinal once more had an outstanding game. He reached double-double status with 26 points and 10 rebounds; Cardinal was

named the tournament MVP. Houze scored 12 points on four 3-pointers. Paris collected seven rebounds.

Guerin Catholic is 10-2 for the season. The Golden Eagles are off until Jan. 10 when they host Bishop Chatard in a Circle City Conference game.

Hamilton County Reporter



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

Thank you, Hamilton County!

HC HAMILTON COUNTY
Web Television **TELEVISION** **HCTV1** .COM

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

Shamrocks take control, easily beat Richmond

The REPORTER

The Westfield boys basketball team beat Richmond 71-21 last Saturday on the road.

The Shamrocks were in control from the start, leading 19-4 after one quarter. Westfield then shut out the Red Devils in the second

period, not allowing them a point while scoring 23 points. The 'Rocks led 42-4 at halftime and the entire second half was played under a running clock. Westfield led 62-11 after three quarters.

Four Shamrocks reached double figures.

Cam Haffner made three 3-pointers on his way to 14 points. Durante Morton scored 13 points, while Will Harvey and Jalen Malone each added 11 points. Luke Vandegriff scored nine points.

Westfield is 6-1 and plays Saturday at Marion.

Girls Basketball

Westfield takes third place at Interra Classic

The REPORTER

The Westfield girls basketball team finished third at the Interra Classic, which took place last weekend at Northridge.

The Shamrocks won their first two pool games last Friday, beating Northwood 38-33 and Bishop Dwenger 62-32. Westfield dropped its third pool game to Penn 40-37 last Saturday, moving them to the third-

place game. The Shamrocks beat Floyd Central 42-37 in that game.

Westfield is 10-6 and plays in the Lauren Hill Classic Shootout this weekend at Lawrenceburg. The host Tigers play Beech Grove in the first game at 10 a.m., then the 'Rocks take on East Central at noon. The consolation game is set for 6 p.m. with the championship game at 7:45 p.m.

Huskies bounce back at second Waldron tournament game

The REPORTER

The Hamilton Heights girls basketball team split a pair of games at the Waldron Tournament last Friday.

The Huskies dropped their first game 52-19 to Union County. The Patriots led 34-7 at halftime. Katie Brown, Presley Cherry and Sarah Sherrill all scored

five points for Heights, with Brown and Abi Hilfiker each pulling five rebounds.

The Huskies bounced back in their second game, beating Waldron 61-57 in overtime. Heights led 11-8 after the first quarter and 29-22 at halftime, but the Mohawks came back in the third period to tie the game

at 38-38. Both teams scored 15 points in the fourth quarter, keeping the game tied at 53-53. Heights pulled ahead in the extra period, outscoring Waldron 8-4.

Four Huskies players reached double-figures scoring, and two earned double-doubles. Brown led

with 19 points, collected 13 rebounds and dished out six assists. Sherrill dominated the boards with 17 rebounds, also scoring 13 points and blocking three shots. Cherry added 12 points and pulled eight rebounds, while Hilfiker scored 10 points.

Heights is 4-11 and hosts North Miami on Tuesday.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Thursday, Jan. 2

BOYS BASKETBALL

Fishers Invitational

- Game 1: Fishers vs. South Dearborn, 10:30 a.m.
- Game 2: Chesterton vs. Evansville Bosse, 12:15 p.m.
- Game 3: Portage vs. Lawrence Central, 2 p.m.
- Game 4: Bloomington North vs. Fort Wayne Wayne, 3:45 p.m.
- Game 5: Loser Game 2 vs. Loser Game 1, 5:30 p.m.
- Game 6: Loser Game 4 vs. Loser Game 3, 7:15 p.m.

BOYS WRESTLING

Hamilton Heights, Noblesville at North Montgomery Holiday Duals, 9 a.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Guerin Catholic at University, 6 p.m.

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

Hounds finish as runners-up at Franklin Community Classic

The REPORTER

The Carmel girls basketball team finished as runner-up at the Walt Raines Classic at Franklin Community last Saturday.

The Greyhounds won their first game 58-45 over Jennings County. Carmel led 17-10 after one quar-

ter and 36-21 at halftime. Izzy Shepherd poured in 11 points in the half, with Mackenzie Woods adding 10. Carmel stayed comfortably in front during the second half, holding a 48-37 lead after three periods.

Shepherd finished

the game with 19 points, while Woods totaled 12. Mallory Bourquein scored 10 points.

In the championship game, the 'Hounds fell to South Bend Washington 60-53. Carmel led 16-8 after the first quarter, but the Panthers came back

to lead 27-26 at halftime. Washington led 46-43 after the third period.

Shepherd and Bourquein each scored 14 points, with Lauren Perry adding eight points.

The Greyhounds are 7-6 and host Hamilton Southeastern on Friday.

IBCA girls basketball poll – Week of Dec. 30

Rank	School	Points	Record
1	Hamilton Southeastern (21)	439	15-0
2	Lawrence Central (1)	408	14-1
3	Warsaw	405	13-0
4	South Bend Washington	366	14-1
5	Greensburg	338	16-0
6	Homestead	328	12-2
7	Northridge	302	15-2
8	Center Grove	273	12-1
9	South Knox	263	14-2
10	Bloomington South	227	14-1
11	Noblesville	197	10-3
T12	Brownsburg	160	10-3
T12	Columbia City	160	10-3
14	Silver Creek	131	11-2
T15	Floyd Central	107	12-2
T15	McCutcheon	107	15-3
17	Washington	105	15-3
18	Lawrence North	88	8-4
19	Penn	61	12-5
20	Plainfield	43	10-4

First place votes are in parentheses.

Other schools receiving votes, with records

Alexandria (16-0), Austin (12-1), Belmont (12-1), Corydon Central (11-3), Danville (13-3), Evansville Central (11-3), Evansville Reitz (13-2), Franklin Central (12-6), Lake Central (12-5), Northeastern (15-1), Norwell (10-5), Pike (9-3), Valparaiso (9-6).

The IBCA did not release boys basketball rankings for this week.

IBCA honors two county players, two teams for last week's performances

The REPORTER

Two Hamilton County basketball players and two other county teams received honors from the IBCA for their performances last week.

Guerin Catholic senior Bryson Cardinal and Noblesville senior Meredith Tippner were among those selected as winners in the IBCA/Franciscan Health Player of the Week. Both were named as the District 2 Player of the Week. Meanwhile, the Fishers boys' team and the Hamilton Southeastern girls' team each has been cited as an IBCA/Balloggy Team of the Week in another part of this season's IBCA recognition program.

Cardinal averaged 25.5 points, 9.8 rebounds and claimed MVP honors in propelling 3A No. 4 Guerin Catholic (10-2) to a 4-0 week and the championship of Ray Furney Holiday Classic in Lawrenceburg. The 6-7 forward scored 20 points with nine rebounds,

two assists, one steal and one block in a 60-45 victory over Gainesville (Fla.). He poured in 32 points with 11 rebounds, one assist and two steals in a 72-51 decision over Jennings County. Cardinal followed with 24 points, eight rebounds, one assist and two steals as the Golden Eagles beat Whiteland 67-52. He finished his week with 26 points, 10 rebounds, three assists, one steal and one block in a 68-57 title-game win over 3A No. 6 Silver Creek. Over four games, Cardinal was 39-of-70 on field goals, including one 3-pointer, and 23-of-29 on free throws.

Tippner tallied 25.5 points, 13.5 rebounds, 5.0 assists, 4.0 steals and 2.0 blocks as the 4A No. 13 Noblesville girls (10-3) won the Noblesville Holiday Tournament. The 5-10 guard poured in 33 points with 10 rebounds, five assists, four steals and three blocks as the Millers outlasted 3A No. 7 Norwell

73-71 in overtime. The University of Miami recruit then totaled 18 points, 17 rebounds, five assists, four steals and one block as Noblesville topped Valparaiso 43-37. For the two games, Tippner was 19-of-45 from the field, 3-of-9 on 3-pointers and 10-of-13 on freebies. Her 51 points moved her into fourth place on Noblesville's career scoring list with 1,488 points.

The Fishers boys, ranked first in 4A and the defending Class 4A champions, defeated two highly touted opponents to win the Henry Community Health Hall of Fame Classic and improve to 9-0. Sophomore Jason Gardner Jr. totaled 17 points with five assists, while sophomore Cooper Zachary tallied 11 points and four assists as the Tigers edged 4A No. 6 Warsaw 54-51 in the first round. In the title contest, Gardner notched 20 points and nine assists, senior Justin Kirby netted 20 points and Zachary had 18 points and seven assists as coach Garrett Winegar's squad outlasted 4A No. 4 Greenfield-Central 85-80.

The Hamilton Southeastern girls, ranked No. 2 in 4A, knocked off a pair of No. 1-ranked and previously undefeated foes to move to 15-0 overall and win the girls' Hall of Fame Classic. Senior Maya Makalusky poured in 35 points while junior Kennedy Holman added 12 points and junior Kayla Stidham had 11 points as coach Brian Satterfield's crew beat 2A No.

1 South Knox 67-59. Holman then tallied 15 points, Stidham netted 12 points, Makalusky provided 10 points and senior Addison Van Hoesen dropped in the game-winning shot as the Royals edged 4A No. 1 Lawrence Central 52-50 in the tournament final.

This is the 17th season for the IBCA Player of the Week program and the fifth season the awards are being presented by Franciscan Health Sports Medicine, an IBCA corporate partner. This is the first season for the IBCA Team of the Week program. The Team of the Week program is presented by Balloggy, another IBCA corporate partner.

Winners are chosen each week in the Player of the Week program from each of the IHSAA's three districts, and one Team of the Week is selected from the entire state. Former Martinsville boys' coach Kip Staggs oversees the selection of boys' honorees. Former Brownsburg girls' coach Debbie Smiley oversees the selection of girls' honorees.

Coaches may nominate players and teams via buttons on the IBCA website (in.nhsbca.org). Coaches must be a current-year member for their players and/or team to be selected for a weekly award. Girls' winners are chosen from now through Monday following the IHSAA girls' State Finals. Boys' winners are chosen from now through the Monday following the IHSAA boys' State Finals.

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



Paul Poteet...
Your Hometown
Weatherman!



SNYDER STRATEGY



317-345-3960

WandaLyons.com