

THURSDAY, FEB. 13, 2025

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy morning.
Partly sunny afternoon.
Tonight: Clearing and colder.

HIGH: 27 LOW: 8



Fishers HS ‘We the People’ team gets Senate recognition



State Sen. Kyle Walker (R-Lawrence) congratulates Fishers Junior High School on winning first place at the Indiana Bar Foundation Middle School **We the People** state championship. Walker encourages these students to learn and be involved in their local government.

Photo provided

The price of vulnerability

At times, when I think about all the life experiences I have publicly shared – deeply personal stories of hardship and triumphs throughout my lifetime as a disabled person – it takes my breath away. Occasionally, I go into panic mode, questioning my decision to share so much. After all, once it is out there, it is there to stay.

I was on the phone with my college-aged son a couple of days ago. I have discovered that part of the beauty of having grown children is that the relationship broadens and some mature life conversations start to take place. We were discussing some positive feedback I received recently about my writing. It was timely feedback, as I was questioning my choice to be so vulnerable as the feedback came in. Should I be doing this? Does it even matter with so much else going on in the world? Sharing my little old life?

What my son said to me made me think. He said, “the reward is far greater than the cost if you take advantage of it.”


I agreed.

The reward of helping a fellow human being is one of the best rewards there is. Obviously, there came a time when I decided I wanted to take the risk of being vulnerable. Sharing from the heart, authentically, will always reach someone. We discussed that all humans have a story and a choice to be vulnerable. Sometimes, those impactful vulnerabilities that are ours to share or not to share come at an extremely high price. For me, that price has been living my 50 years disabled.

Vulnerably telling my story has taught me that while living disabled causes many hardships, it has allowed me to share very impactful stories that have the potential to reach both disabled and non-disabled people. It has surprised me that it has affected people who are not disabled because when I set out on my “new mission” of sharing my story, I had only imagined it helping those who are more “like me.” Sometimes, our minds tend to think on such a small scale. That has been the case, too, but the things that those who don’t live disabled have told me they have learned from me has been so enlightening to me.

See Price . . . Page 2

COLUMNIST



AMY SHINNEMAN
Disability in the City

Greg & Lisa Conner establish Ivy Cares Nursing Emergency Fund

The REPORTER

Ivy Tech Community College Hamilton County announces the establishment of the Ivy Cares Nursing Emergency Fund, made possible through the generous support of Greg and Lisa Conner. This fund will provide critical financial assistance to nursing students facing unexpected challenges, ensuring they can continue their education and contribute to the healthcare needs of Hamilton County.

The Connors’ deep-rooted ties to Hamilton County and passion for healthcare inspired this contribution. Greg, a 2001 Noblesville High School graduate, grew up in Noblesville and currently serves as President of Vanderlande North America, a Toyota Automated Logistics Company. Lisa, originally from Rahway, N.J., has called Indiana home for many years. She pursued her passion for healthcare by earning a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Indiana University and a Master of Science in Nursing from Ball State University. She has worked as a Family Nurse Practitioner with Riverview Health since 2012.

“Healthcare is an extremely underserved field,” Greg said. “We wanted to help create an avenue for members of this community to not only find their way into healthcare but also be able to financially make it possible.”

Lisa added, “I am proud to work in healthcare, serving the community we live in. Through this contribution, we are excited to support future nurses and the mission of Ivy Tech.”

The Connors emphasize the importance of having healthcare professionals from Hamilton County serving their own community.

“A big part of healthcare is about relating to your patients,” Lisa said. “You’re often interacting with people at the most vulnerable times in their lives. Having local professionals who share a connection with the community is vital.”

Ivy Tech Hamilton County Chancellor Dr. Rachel Kartz expressed her gratitude for the Connors’ generous donation.

“The Ivy Cares Nursing Emergency Fund will be a lifeline for our nursing students,” Dr. Kartz said. “Greg and Lisa’s commitment to supporting healthcare education in Hamilton County reflects the very best of community partnership. Their contribution will have a lasting impact on our students and the broader healthcare landscape in our county.”

Outside of their professional commitments, the Connors remain active in the local community. Greg serves as President of the Friends of Central Pool, which operates the Forest Park Aquatic Center, while Lisa volunteers with Hinkle Creek Elementary and serves as President of the Noblesville Swim Club Board of Directors.

“We are so fortunate to live in such a great community,” Greg said. “Noblesville and Hamilton County mean the world to our family, and we are firmly committed to helping ensure future generations have an even greater experience.”



Photo provided

Greg and Lisa Conner’s deep-rooted ties to Hamilton County and passion for healthcare inspired them to establish the Ivy Cares Nursing Emergency Fund for Hamilton County nursing students.

For more information about the Ivy Cares Nursing Emergency Fund or to learn how to support Ivy Tech Hamilton County, please contact Kelly Wallace, Executive Director of Development Ivy Tech Community College, Hamilton County Campus, at (765) 203-1341 (texts are welcome) or by emailing kwallace138@ivytech.edu. You can also donate online at ivytech.edu/givenow.

Westfield Washington Schools names principal for new Midland Crossing Elementary

The REPORTER

The Westfield Washington Schools (WWS) Board of Trustees has appointed Mary Beth Fischer as the principal of Midland Crossing Elementary, the district’s newest elementary school, set to open in August 2026. Fischer, who currently serves as the principal of Maple Glen Elementary, will officially assume her new role on July 1, 2025.

Fischer joined Westfield Washington Schools in July 2017 and has been a dedicated leader in the district for eight years. She graduated from DePauw University with a bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education and later earned her master’s degree in Educational Administration from Butler University.


Her career in education spans nearly two decades. She began in Hamilton Southeastern Schools, teaching second and third grade at Durbin Elementary from 2007 to 2012. She then served five years as the assistant principal at Noble Crossing Elementary in Noblesville Schools (2012 to 2017) before becoming the principal at Maple Glen Elementary in 2017. In 2022, she was recognized as the Indiana Association of School Principals (IASP) District 5 Principal of the Year for outstanding leadership.

“As a proven leader and dedicated advocate for student success, Mary Beth Fischer is the ideal choice to lead Midland Crossing Elementary,” Superintendent Dr. Paul Kaiser said. “Her experience, leadership, and passion for education will create a strong foundation for our newest school, ensuring that students, staff, and families thrive in a positive learning environment.”

Reflecting on her time at Maple Glen Elementary, Fischer said, “I am deeply grateful for my time there, where the support and kindness of the staff, students, and families have meant so much to me.”

Beyond her professional achievements, Fischer is a proud Westfield resident. She lives with her husband, Marcus, and their five children. She is deeply connected to the community and committed to fostering an exceptional educational experience for all students.

As Fischer transitions into her new role, WWS will begin the search for the next principal of Maple Glen Elementary, ensuring a seamless leadership transition while maintaining the school’s tradition of excellence.



Fischer



Classical favorites highlight CSO’s Carmel Artist Showcase Feb. 23

The REPORTER

The Carmel Symphony Orchestra (CSO) will celebrate favorites by Pierre, Mozart, Rachmaninoff, and Sibelius in the **Carmel Artist Showcase**, set for 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23 at the Palladium at the Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel.

Led by Carmel High School’s Maestro Thomas Chen, experience the thrill of the best young Indiana music talents as the 2024 Concerto Competition finalists perform with the CSO in a program featuring piano, clarinet, harp, and violin solos.

This concert underscores the mission of the CSO to support emerging careers while inspiring a new generation of musicians and music enthusiasts. Between opening and closing pieces with the Symphony alone, four young artists will each perform an iconic concerto with the Symphony showcasing the beautiful sound their instrument:

- Harpist **Emma Levesque**, will perform *Konzertstück* by French composer Gabriel Pierné, a hidden gem of the Romantic repertoire. This one-movement work brims with energetic brilliance, soaring melodies, and French elegance, making it a thrilling opening concerto of the evening.
- **Rohan Eapen**, a senior at Hamilton Southeastern High School, then takes on one of the most beloved piano concertos ever written, Sergei Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 2, performing the first movement which opens with a hauntingly dramatic theme with sweeping romanticism.

See Showcase . . . Page 2

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Chocolates?!
Diamonds?!
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LOCAL NEWS!

Community News

Sheridan's Phi Beta Psi Sorority
invites you to . . .

Euchre Night

Saturday, Feb. 22
Check-in/dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Game 7 p.m.
Cost \$20 (\$5 food + \$15 game)
Bring \$ to pay the pig
Located at The Studio on Main
302 S. Main St., Sheridan

SHOWCASE

from Page 1

Program

Edvard Grieg | Peer Gynt Suite No. 1, Op. 46
Gabriel Pierné | Konzertstück, Op. 39
Emme Levesque, harp
Sergei Rachmaninoff | Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor, Op. 18, I. Moderato
Rohan Eapen, piano
~ Intermission ~
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart | Clarinet Concerto in A major, K. 622, I. Allegro
David Drury, clarinet
Jean Sibelius | Violin Concerto, Op. 47, I. Allegro moderato
Miranda Isbitts, violin
Georges Bizet | L'Arlesienne Suite No. 2, IV. "Farandole"
Georges Bizet | Carmen Suite No. 1, V. "Les Toreadors"

• After intermission clarinetist **David Drury**, a student of CSO principal clarinetist Emily Cook, will play Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's final instrumental work, the Clarinet Concerto, a masterpiece of warmth and elegance that was completed mere weeks before the composer's death in 1797.

• The fourth and final young artist to perform will be violinist **Miranda Isbitts** sharing Sibelius' Violin Concerto. The opening movement's brooding intensity creates a spellbinding atmosphere before the solo violin enters with a passionate and virtuosic theme.

[Click here](#) for tickets. Reserved seats start at \$67. Senior and student discounts available.

Meet and greet the musicians for this performance at the CSO After Party in the Brham Founders Club.

Tickets are available as a \$25 add-on to the regular ticket price, or available as a season benefit to Gold Level donors to the CSO.

About Carmel

Symphony Orchestra

The Carmel Symphony Orchestra is a Resident Company of the Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel. The 65-member orchestra of professional musicians performs at The Palladium, a 1,500-seat concert hall at the Center. Founded in 1976, the CSO performs concerts featuring an eclectic repertoire of some of the world's greatest symphonic music. The CSO is committed to enhancing our community's quality of life through creative, artistically excellent performances and educational experiences for diverse audiences of all ages. Learn more at [carmel-symphony.org](#).

Aloha! Don't miss Kalani Pe'a's Hawaiian soul

The REPORTER

Kalani Pe'a is a Hawaiian singer-songwriter who performs his original Hawaiian songs alongside affectionate bilingual arrangements of R&B favorites, a style he calls "Hawaiian contemporary soul." An avid performer since childhood, he worked as a teacher and children's book author before turning to a career in music.

See Pe'a perform at The Palladium at the Allied Solu-

tions Center for the Performing Arts at 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22. [Click here](#) for tickets.

Pe'a has released five albums since 2016, three winning the Grammy Award for Best Regional Roots Music Album and his latest, *Kuini*, nominated for 2025. He was the first Hawaiian singer to perform in Lincoln Center's American Songbook series and also has performed in Carnegie Hall's Musical Explorers youth program.



Photo provided

Table captains needed for Janus' upcoming Create Connect Commit breakfast

The REPORTER

Janus Developmental Services has announced the 17th annual Create Connect Commit (CCC) Fundraising Breakfast, set for March 18 at 502 East Event Centre in Carmel. The breakfast will take place 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Janus is looking for table

captains to host a table for the event and invite friends and colleagues to come support the organization and enjoy a complimentary breakfast. Once again this year, tables will have seating for eight to 10 guests.

Please contact Jerry Jamison, Senior Director of

Development, by email at jjamison@janus-inc.org or phone (317) 773-8781, ext. 100, if you would like to participate as a table captain. You will receive an electronic copy of the invitation to send to your guests. You will also receive a help sheet with details of how

to have a successful table. Jamison is available to answer questions anytime regarding this event.

If you have any additional questions about sponsorships for this event, please reach out. Janus thanks you in advance for your support.

PRICE

from Page 1

To be vulnerable you don't have to write about it and share with the public. You can be vulnerable in a one-on-one conversation and have meaningful impact, too. I have had many conversations with others who have been vulnerable with me, and it motivated me to make changes in my own life. Vulnerability is powerful when used with good intentions.

In my experience as a disabled person, I have also noticed that many feel comfortable being vulnerable with me. They share deeply person things with me and tell me they have never shared those things with many – or anyone. I have even had strangers come

up to me and share very intimate details of their lives because they thought it may help me in some way. Sometimes that is an amazing thing, and sometimes it is very awkward for me.

The scariest part about being publicly vulnerable is, of course, the risk of criticism or harmful comments. On the flip side of that, taking in all the good that can come from it is where the risk becomes worth it. Being vulnerable comes with the automatic responsibility of managing emotions in a healthy way. Understanding that not everyone is going to like, get, or agree with what you are saying. Weighing the outcomes before making that

decision. Finding the balance between oversharing and not sharing enough to make the difference you could make.

Ultimately, what it came down to for me was that in order for me to be authentic – for people to truly know and understand me as a person hoping to do a small part to educate others on life with a disability – I had to be comfortable with vulnerability and view it through a positive lens. For a long time, I viewed vulnerability as a negative thing. Once I changed my perspective, it allowed me to be more aligned with my path in life.

The ripple effect from choosing to share our vul-

nerabilities could spread farther than we could ever imagine. At the end of our conversation, my son said to me, "Your shift from being less vulnerable and open about your disease pre-diagnosis to where you're at now has been something I've really modeled my own life after."

Think of the ripple effect just he could have. The possibilities are endless.

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](https://www.instagram.com/ashinneman).

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Progress underway at State Road 37 & 141st Street interchange in Fishers



Photo provided by City of Fishers

Construction continues to move along at State Road 37 and 141st Street on the west side of Fishers. The winter months slow down activities, but you'll notice there is still progress. Last month, beams were placed and you can see the visible changes. Please remember winter weather can impact road conditions, so to drive carefully and cautiously through this construction zone. There will be more to see and share once spring construction season kicks off. In the meantime, stay in the know on all construction happenings [@drivefishers on X](#) and [37thrives.com](#).



Merchants Capital surpasses \$1.08B in tax credit equity raised in 2024

The REPORTER

Merchants Capital recently announced \$1.08 billion in fund investments closed across the firm’s multi-investor, proprietary and state credit offerings for the year ended Dec. 31, 2024.

The firm’s capital raise, which has surpassed \$2.1 billion since the platform launched in 2021, comprises \$900 million in multi-investor offerings, \$68.8 million in state credit syndications and \$1.1 billion in proprietary fund investments.

In January 2025, the firm closed Merchants Capital Tax Credit Equity Fund 21, LLC, a \$131.2 million multi-investor fund with eight bank investors. In September 2024, the firm closed Merchants Capital Tax Credit Equity Fund 19, L.P., its largest ever fund capital raise at \$293 million with a large institutional investor.

“Successfully raising \$1.08 billion in tax credit equity in one year is a remarkable achievement,” Executive Vice President Julie Sharp said. “In only four years, we have built a \$2.1 billion investment portfolio managed on behalf of more than 40 institutional investors that provides capital for the construction and

preservation of safe, quality affordable housing for more than 19,000 families in 26 states.”

“Our success is a testament to our team, the support of our investor and developer partners and the innovative platform we have built across all business lines at Merchants Capital,” Executive Vice President Linda Hill said.

“It has been extremely rewarding to build out an equity originations platform in a firm that offers industry-leading debt products and balance sheet solutions for affordable housing developers,” Executive Vice President of Acquisitions Josh Reed said. “We are grateful to our developer and investor partners, who make our success possible.”

“Our remarkable production results reflect strongly on the capabilities and investments we have made in our asset, fund and risk management team of professionals, who are steadfast in their dedication to our investor and developer partners,” Executive Vice President of Syndications and Tax Chris Messmann said.

To learn more about Merchants Capital and its services, visit [merchants-capital.com](#).

Letter to the Editor

Are you a secret admirer of the Great American Songbook Foundation?

Dear Editor:	your estate plans through your will, retirement assets, or life insurance, we’d love to hear from you!	sion for the Great American Songbook Foundation, please let us know through this easy Letter of Intent .
So many of you love the Songbook Academy, the weeklong summer intensive for 40 high school students from across the country. And many of you love our preservation efforts through the Songbook Library & Archives, or the Perfect Harmony program. But what we don’t know is if you’re admiring us ... from the future!	After all, your future gift will ensure this treasured era of music will be preserved and heard for years to come, and we’re dedicated to ensuring it is allocated as you intended.	Want to learn about your giving options to sustain music and arts education? Visit us here .
Are you one of our Secret Admirers? If you’ve included the Great American Songbook Foundation in	Planned gifts of any amount will be recognized through our Legacy Society program where we honor those who have chosen to sustain our mission through these meaningful gifts.	We look forward to hearing from you – and hopefully uncovering a few more of our Secret Admirers!
	If you’ve already made a provi-	With gratitude, Kathy Pataluch, MPA <i>Director of Individual Development The Great American Songbook Foundation</i>

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.

Main Street Productions, Inc. Presents

GEEZERS

a play by Tommy Lee Johnston



the fine art of growing old...

Directed by Lori Raffel

February 6th – February 16th, 2025

Thursday, Friday, Saturday Shows at 7:30 pm,
Sunday Shows at 2:30 pm



Basile Westfield Playhouse
220 North Union St., Westfield, IN - (317) 402-3341
For reservations visit our website:
www.basilewestfieldplayhouse.org



Hoosier Weather Daddy?



PaulPoteet.com
ReadTheReporter.com

State Senator Walker honors two local Olympic gold medalists

The REPORTER

State Sen. Kyle Walker (R-Lawrence) is honoring two Olympic athletes from Senate District 31 with Senate Resolutions.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 18 congratulates Fishers native and Hamilton Southeastern alumni **Noah Malone** on winning the gold medal in the men's 100 meter T12 event. Malone also competed in the men's 400 meter T12 event and the Universal Relay during the **2024 Paris Paralympics**.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 19 congratulates Indianapolis native and Ca-

thedral High School alumni **Cole Hocker** on winning the gold medal in the 1500 meter track and field event at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

"I am proud to author these resolutions honoring and congratulating Noah and Cole on their outstanding accomplishments," Sen. Walker said. "Watching these remarkable athletes compete on the world stage while representing Indiana was truly inspiring."

These resolutions passed by the Senate and will now move to the House of Representatives for consideration.

Westfield set to proclaim Disability Awareness Month & announce Sensory Day

The REPORTER

The City of Westfield will proclaim March as Disability Awareness Month on Monday, Feb. 24 during the City Council meeting.

The proclamation, which will be presented to Nicole Southerland, chairperson of the Westfield Mayor's Council on Disabilities (WMCD), is one part of a much broader initiative to promote inclusivity and accessibility in Westfield.

"My administration is extremely proud to support the council on disabilities and their initiatives through this proclamation," Mayor Scott Willis said. "Westfield would not be the fantastic community we know and

love without all of our residents. I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to celebrate and honor them in this way."

To kick off Disability Awareness Month, the WMCD will hold its inaugural Westfield Sensory Day from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 1 at the Westfield Washington Public Library, 17400 Westfield Blvd.

This free community event provides sensory-friendly crafts and activities for



Southerland



Willis

all ages, complimentary refreshments courtesy of **Bee Free**, and the opportunity to learn about new adaptive programming coming to Westfield from resource booth vendors. The newly launched community art exhibition program will have art displayed for the very first time during the event. In addition, there will be a sensory story time from 1:30 to 2 p.m. followed by a closed caption (no sound) movie

screening at 2:30 p.m.

"People with disabilities – whether seen or unseen – are vital members of our community," Southerland said. "It's essential that we not only acknowledge their importance, but also their contributions to Westfield. Events like this ensure they not only feel comfortable in their community, but also wholeheartedly embraced by it. We're grateful the city shares our vision for inclusivity and awareness."

Westfield Sensory Day is sponsored by **Hampton by Hilton**. For more information about the Westfield Mayor's Council on Disabilities or the Westfield Sensory Day, visit westfieldin.gov/WMCD.

Have coffee on Friday with State Rep. Garcia Wilburn

The REPORTER

State Rep. Victoria Garcia Wilburn will hold Valentine's Day constituent coffee hours in District 32. As the 2025 legislative session continues, Garcia Wilburn invites constituents to come with questions about pending legislation and state government.

• **Fishers:** 7:30 to 9 a.m. at The Well Coffeehouse, 8890 E. 116th St. #120

• **Carmel:** 1:30 to 2:30 at Starbucks, 11435 Spring Mill Road



Garcia Wilburn

Tickets selling quickly for Carmel Community Players' Pride and Prejudice

The REPORTER

Whether you're head over heels, cynically single, or just in the mood for a few laughs, *Pride and Prejudice* has a little something for everyone. Treat your Valentine to a love story for the ages.

Tickets may be selling quickly, but you can still see Carmel Community Players' production through March 9 at The Cat, 254 Veterans Way, Carmel. This comedy is directed by Samantha

Kelly is rated PG for some mild adult humor.

Synopsis

The original "enemies to lovers" story, Lizzy Bennet has no interest in playing the traditional courtship game. With her sharp wit and rebellious spirit, she's on a mission to dodge loveless matrimony while chuckling at everyone else's romantic misad-



ventures. Enter Mr. Darcy: the human embodiment of everything she can't stand – prideful, arrogant, and with enough rudeness to make even a cactus seem cuddly. Yet, as Lizzy soon finds out, first impressions can be trickier than trying to dance in Regency-era attire without tripping over your own feet. Adapted from

Jane Austen's classic by Kate Hamill for the stage, this tale reminds us that sometimes you have to dig deeper before deciding someone's character – or lack thereof.

Show Dates

- Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m.
- March 1 at 7:30 p.m.
- March 2 at 2:30 p.m.
- March 6 at 7:30 p.m.
- March 7 at 7:30 p.m.
- March 8 at 7:30 p.m.
- March 9 at 2:30 p.m.

[Click here](#) to get tickets before it's too late.

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THE REPORTER

COMMUNITY
ART EXHIBITION

presented by
Westfield Mayor's Council on Disabilities

The Westfield Mayor's Council on Disabilities (WMCD) in partnership with the City of Westfield is launching a Community Art Exhibition program where individuals with varying disabilities can submit artwork in any form to the council. **Please submit artwork to one of the following locations:**

Westfield City Services
2728 E. 171st Street

Westfield Washington Township
17400 Westfield Blvd.

You can submit artwork at any time to be displayed in the community throughout the year. However, if you'd like your artwork to be featured at the Westfield Sensory Day event at the Westfield Washington Public Library, be sure to submit it by February 24!

Visit westfieldin.gov/wmcd to learn how to get involved!

Westfield
mayor's council on disabilities

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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 126th St Treasure Hunt Fri 8pm \$25K
Fishers, in 46038 Trivia Wed 6pm
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
317-773-9985 Trivia every 1 & 3 Sat 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

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

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



Welcome to the annual Community Integration Survey!
This survey aims to understand how communities can best support veterans, service members, families, and caregivers of veterans or military personal to enhance their quality of life and prevent veteran suicide. We seek your valuable input to improve local services and appreciate your participation in this important effort.

Who Can Take the Survey?: Veterans and service members. However, family members, caregivers, and community advocates may participate.

Click here to take the survey -
<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8145625/IW/P2025>

America's Warrior Partnership is administering this survey in partnership with community-based organizations and we need your input.

Hamilton County Military Veteran

Join the Indy Vet Center for “The Weekly Grind” Every Thursday 10am-noon



We are starting a new coffee time open to ALL veterans weekly here at the Vet Center. This is not counselor led or directed in anyway, it is just an open invitation to have some coffee with your community.

Started February 6th and happening every Thursday afterwards from 10am till 12pm (noon)
Located at the Vet Center

6330 West 71st St
Indianapolis, IN 46278
317-423-1680

Christina Owens
Veteran Outreach Program Specialist

Indianapolis Vet Center
317-749-9357- Cell
317-423-1685- direct
317-423-1680- main
6330 W 71st St
Indianapolis, IN 46278

Coffee With a Vet at Schoolhouse 7 Café



Veterans Coffee Social

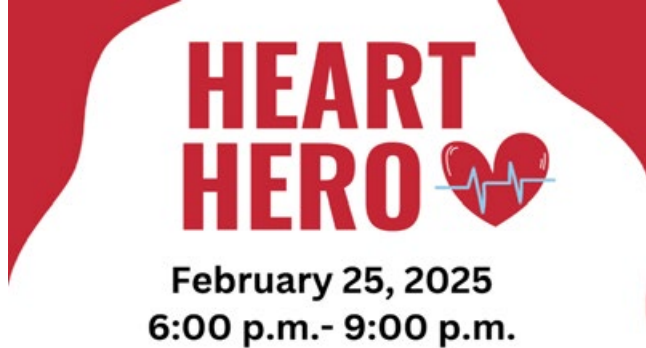
A gathering to get to know veterans in our community

Last Saturday of the month, 8am-9am
@ Schoolhouse 7 Café
12125 Cynthianne Rd,
Fishers, IN



Thank you to our sponsor: Cliff Morlan, University Veterans Post 360

Heart Hero CPR Class Feb 25th - Sign Up NOW!



February 25, 2025
6:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.

JUVENILE SERVICES CENTER
18106 CUMBERLAND ROAD
NOBLESVILLE, IN 46060



Purple Star School Program Invite Schools to Join

Purple Star Schools are public or charter schools who have shown a commitment to supporting the unique academic and social-emotional needs of military-connected children and their families during times of transition.

Purple Star Schools. Take the Step.

Activities & Events

American Legion & VFW Bar & Restaurant Hours

Carmel Legion

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

Carmel VFW

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

Cicero Legion

M-Th 3-10p, F-Sa 12-11p, Su 12-10p.
Restaurant Tu, W, F 4-8pm, Public P/U Tu-W, F eat in or carry out

Fishers Legion

M 3-10p, Tu-Su 12-10pm or when empty.
Restaurant Breakfast 1st&3rd Sun 9-12, Food 12-8 Tu, 5-9 W, 12-9 Th,F 3-8 Sa, 12-5 Su

Noblesville Legion

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

Noblesville VFW

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

Sheridan Legion

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

Christmas In June Care Package Drive



“Christmas in June” Care Package Drive for our Deployed Hoosiers - Feb 12th till May 10th

Please help us collect gifts to send care packages to our deployed Hoosier troops for a “Christmas in June”. Purchase gifts on the list below and bring them to your local Hamilton County VFW or American Legion Post where they will be collected and brought to the Fishers American Legion Post for wrapping and packaging on May 10 at 5pm. We also need to raise money for shipping costs, so please donate online at <https://donorbox.org/hamilton-county-veterans-corp> or drop off funds at your Legion & VFW where you leave the goods for the care packages. We need the gifts and funds delivered by May 2nd 2025. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!!!**

Here are your local Hamilton County VFW & American Legion Post's addresses.

Carmel American Legion Post 155 - 852 West Main St, Carmel, In 46032
Carmel VFW Post 10003 - 12863 Old Meridian ST, Carmel, In 46032
Cicero American Legion Post 341 - 50 Washington Ave, Cicero, In
Fishers American Legion Post 470 - 9091 E 126th St, Fishers, In
Noblesville American Legion Post 45 - 273 S 8th St, Noblesville, In 46060
Noblesville VFW Post 6246 - 654 S 9th St, Noblesville, In 46060
Sheridan American Legion Post 67 - 406 E 10th St, Sheridan, In

Care Package Gifts Needed for Our Deployed Troops

Suggested items requested by those deployed include Card games (Phase 10, Uno...), Puzzles, small boxes of Keurig cups, Graphic t-shirts Men's and Women's (Sizes S – 3x), water bottles, throw blankets, Decorations -Christmas lights, signs, banners as people love to decorate their living quarters or office space. If you've been deployed, bring what you wanted back then.

Questions or if you wish to volunteer for packaging day, please contact;

Lynn at treasurer@hamiltoncountyveterans.com
Tracy at auxiliarypost470@gmail.com

Veterans Benefits & Resource Fair - Lafayette Clinic

Saturday February 22, 10am till 2pm

VETERANS BENEFITS & RESOURCE FAIR
ARE YOU CONNECTED?



- Enroll in VA healthcare
- File disability claims
- Toxic exposure screening
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 - Mental Health
 - Woman's Health
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Saturday, February 22, 2025
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Lafayette VA Clinic
940 Park East Boulevard, Lafayette, IN 47905

Representatives will be on-site to answer your questions about VA Eligibility & Enrollment, PACT Act, Federal and State VA Benefits, Filing Claims, and MyHealtheVet. Toxic Exposure Screening will also be available.

www.va.gov/indiana-health-care/ [f](https://www.facebook.com/IndyVAMC) [i](https://www.instagram.com/IndyVAMC) [@IndyVAMC](https://www.tiktok.com/@IndyVAMC)



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Campagna



Chandrakumar



DeLong



Murdock



Shupe

Five Hamilton County women selected as 500 Festival Princesses

The REPORTER

The 500 Festival announced on Tuesday the five college-aged women from Hamilton County who have been selected as 2025 500 Festival Princesses.

• **Emily Campagna** (Carmel) – graduate of North Central High School, and a junior at Indiana University majoring in political science.

• **Valliei Chandrakumar** (Carmel) – graduate of Carmel High School, and a senior at Indiana University Indianapolis majoring in nursing.

• **Holly DeLong** (Noblesville) – graduate of Noblesville High School, and a senior at Indiana University majoring in marketing.

• **Chelsea Murdock** (Fishers) – graduate of Hamilton Southeastern High School, and a sophomore at Ball State University majoring in secondary English education.

• **Laura Shupe** (Carmel) – graduate of Westfield High School, and a sophomore at Butler University majoring in healthcare and business.

The **500 Festival Princess Program**, presented by The National Bank of Indianapolis, has a long-standing tradition of recognizing Indiana’s most community-driven and scholarly-minded young women. As 500 Festival Princesses, these women will have the chance to develop their professional skills, create meaningful connections statewide, and receive leadership guidance from the 500 Festival Board of Directors.

The 2025 500 Festival Princesses represent 17 Indiana colleges and universities and 20 cities and towns across the state. With a cumulative grade-point average of 3.70, this year’s 500 Festival Princesses were selected from hundreds of applicants based on leadership, academic stewardship, community involvement, and their embodiment of the Hoosier spirit. This year’s class represents a diverse group of women with various areas of study that include education, biomedical health sciences, and communications studies.

They play a significant role in advancing the 500 Festival’s mission of fostering a positive and lasting impact on Indianapolis and the state of Indiana while celebrating the legacy of the Indianapolis 500. Princesses will have the opportunity to experience the Month of May in a unique and impactful way by educating Hoosiers about the rich history of the 500 Festival and Indianapolis 500 through statewide outreach, serving their communities, and celebrating the iconic spirit of the Indianapolis 500, impacting over 50,000 Hoosiers through more than 1,500 hours of community service. Their outreach efforts will include partnering with organizations they are passionate about, visiting local schools and hospitals, and attending community events.

Click here to request a visit from a 500 Festival Princess.

The 500 Festival Princess Program is supported by The National Bank of Indianapolis, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, and the

500 Festival Foundation.

Each princess will be awarded a \$1,500 scholarship, generously provided by Marlyne Sexton, philanthropist and president of The Sexton Companies, in partnership with the 500 Festival Foundation. Khamis Fine Jewelers, the proud and official partner of the program, will present each princess with a custom pendant necklace featuring a checkered outline of the state of Indiana and an INDYCAR design, symbolizing the iconic May festivities surrounding the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and the Indianapolis 500.

The 500 Festival Queen Scholar will be announced on Saturday, May 17 during the 500 Festival **Breakfast at the Brickyard**, presented by Midwestern Engineers, Inc. The 500 Festival Queen Scholar will receive an additional \$1,500 scholarship.

To learn more about the 500 Festival Princess Program, please visit 500Festival.com/Princess or search #PrincessProgram on social media.

Carmel-Clay GOP invites you to chili

The REPORTER

The Carmel-Clay Republican Club will hold its annual Chili Supper on Thursday, Feb. 27 at VFW Post #10003, 12863 Old Meridian St. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and food will be served at 6 p.m.

State Rep. Danny Lopez will be featured guest.



Lopez

RSVPs are preferred by not required; call Peg Durrer at (317) 408-0200 or email Dixie Packard at dixie.packard@gmail.com. The suggested donation is \$20 per person. All proceeds will benefit the Republican Party’s efforts in Carmel.

Sen. Young’s legislation to recover billions in COVID relief fraud advances

The REPORTER

The Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship recently passed the Complete COVID Collections Act, legislation introduced by U.S. Senators Todd Young (R-Ind.) and Joni Ernst (R-Iowa) to ensure that billions of stolen taxpayer dollars are recovered.

Young and Ernst introduced the bill after the Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery (SIG-PR) warned its authority was expiring and fraudsters would get away with stealing more than \$200 billion.

“Programs designed to provide relief to our small

businesses were repeatedly taken advantage of, leaving small businesses hurting and taxpayers on the hook,” Sen. Young said.



Young

“I’m glad to see this effort to recover taxpayer dollars and protect Americans from fraud and abuse pass out of committee. I look forward to voting for this bill on the Senate floor.”

Senators Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.), James Lankford (R-Okla.), Josh Hawley (R-Mo.), Eric Schmitt (R-Mo.), and John Curtis (R-Utah) also co-sponsored the legislation.

Click here to read the full text of the legislation.

Thanks for reading The Reporter!



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www.spartz.house.gov

Love is in the aisles this Valentine’s Day at Kroger

Retailer shares the love with an array of sweet gifts

Submitted

Kroger is ready to help you share the love this Valentine’s Day with Bloom Haus floral bouquets, savory date night recipes, and swoon-worthy savings on gifts for all lovebirds. Customers can also get special gifts delivered straight to their loved ones’ doors with DoorDash and Uber Eats.

“Valentine’s Day is about celebrating the people who bring us love and joy from Valentines to galentines, kids and furry friends. Kroger has special gifts for everyone,” Kroger Central Division President Colleen Juergensen said. “Embrace the holiday with flowers, fresh dipped berries, heart-shaped sushi platters and intricate charcuterie boards that are perfect for your celebration.”

Flowers are a beautiful gesture of love and appreciation for any Valentine and The Kroger Co., America’s largest florist, is making Valentine’s Day easy with convenient, on-demand flo-

ral delivery DoorDash and Uber Eats. Customers can place orders on DoorDash and Uber Eats to be prepared and packed with care by in-store floral associates with delivery facilitated by couriers directly to customers’ doorsteps.

Try floral delivery on-demand from DoorDash to receive \$20 off any Bloom Haus order of \$40 or more now through Feb. 15. Check [DoorDash](#) for more details.

Celebrate the sweetest day of the year with special gifts for everyone on the shopping list:

• **For your soulmate:** Make dinner an experience by cooking a romantic dinner together at home. Try a [classic chicken parmesan recipe](#) with Barilla Limited Edition heart-shaped pasta or create a mouthwatering [surf and turf meal](#) with premium selections from the meat and seafood counter. For a convenient and festive dinner option, pick up a heart-shaped sushi platter

to share. *Hot Deal:* Buy one sushi item, get one 20 percent off from Feb. 12 to 15. Round out the evening with the ever-romantic dessert – chocolate dipped strawberries made fresh in-store.

• **For your Galentine:** Host a [Galentine’s Day](#) party with friends and create different types of boards – from a classic savory charcuterie board to a dessert board filled with sweet treats and everything in between. Get cheese inspiration from Murray’s Cheese shops inside stores for a “Brie Mine” in-store tasting event from noon to 4 p.m. Feb. 14. Wrap up Galentine’s Day by showing the besties extra love with beauty and skincare products from MCoBeauty, Australia’s fastest-growing beauty brand. *Hot Deal:* Enjoy 50 percent off MCoBeauty products between Feb. 9 and March 1.

• **For the kiddos:** Continue the celebration and share the love at home with Tyson Nuggets of Love

Heart-Shaped Chicken Patties or bake [homemade heart-shaped pizzas](#). Treat the kids to festive balloons, cuddly plushies and candy.

• **For the furry friends:** Don’t forget to spoil the pets this Valentine’s Day with extra love and attention – and belly rubs. Treat the pups to Pup-Peroni Original Beef Flavor Dog Treats and give the kitties a chicken feast with Luvsome Chicken Purée Lickable Cat Treats.

Find even more [Valentine’s Day inspiration](#) at Kroger’s blog. [The Fresh Lane](#) is brimming with additional date night recipes, sweet treats and charcuterie ideas.

Customers can get these [Valentine’s Day](#) favorites and more in-store or through Kroger Pickup and Delivery, offering the same products at the same low prices no matter how they shop. Save even more with [Boost by Kroger](#), the delivery membership that can save customers up to \$1,100 per year on fuel and grocery delivery.

Senator Jim Banks introduces Respect Parents’ Childcare Choices Act

Submitted

Senator Jim Banks (R-Ind.) introduced on Wednesday the Respect

about this option.

• **Flexible childcare for working parents:** Allows married parents working a combined 40 hours per week to receive direct CCDBG support instead of using third-party providers.



Banks

• **Ending marriage penalties:** Reforms eligibility criteria to ensure single parents aren’t disqualified from assistance if they get married.

• **Protecting religious providers:** Ensures religious childcare providers can continue receiving federal funds while maintaining their faith-based practices.

• **Increased funding:** Raises CCDBG funding by \$5.25 billion to help more families access childcare, replacing the \$5.3 billion Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, which primarily benefits upper-income households.

[Click here](#) to read the full text of the bill. This legislation is endorsed by Heritage Action, American Principles Project, and American Compass.

Parents’ Childcare Choices Act. The bill reforms the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) with the aim of better meeting families’ needs, giving parents control over childcare decisions, and ensuring vouchers support all caregiving options.

“The Biden administration’s burdensome overregulation increased the cost of childcare and withheld funding from the childcare arrangements many families prefer,” Sen. Banks said. “Big government never works. The Respect Parents’ Childcare Choices Act puts families first and gives parents the freedom to choose what works best for them.”

Key provisions are:

• **Support for relative caregivers:** Eases regulations for grandparents, aunts, uncles, and in-home caregivers using CCDBG vouchers and requires states to inform families annually

Last-minute Valentine’s Day gifts available at your local Meijer



Photo provided

If you’ve been hit with panic, realizing that Valentine’s Day is less than 24 hours away, you’re not alone. Whether you need to add a finishing touch or are in full last-minute mode, stores like [Meijer](#) offer a wide selection of bakery treats and candies, at-home meal ingredients, and seasonal gifts and cards, Hamilton County customers can benefit from a one-stop shop for the holiday. What’s more, with demand for flowers on Valentine’s Day exponentially higher than on any other day of the year, prices are often higher for the holiday, too. To offer additional cost-value within the floral department, Meijer now offers a Build Your Own Bouquet opportunity with a wide selection of bold and bright flower stems to pull together for family and friends.

Vivante invites you to Galentine’s Brunch, Bubbles, & Besties

Submitted

Gather your besties and raise a glass to friendship at Vivante’s Galentine’s Brunch on Feb. 15 and 16. This special brunch experience is designed to celebrate the love and laughter shared among friends with a delectable menu, vibrant atmosphere, and perfectly paired beverages.

Guests will indulge in thoughtfully crafted brunch specials, including:

- **Cauliflower Cake Benedict** – A flavorful vegetarian dish featuring a cauliflower and parmesan cake, topped with a perfectly poached egg and rich hollandaise sauce, served with dressed mixed greens.
- **The Gal’s Hash** – A hearty and wholesome vegetarian hash made with swiss chard, garbanzo beans, black beans, corn, peppadew peppers, onions, and sweet potatoes, served

with two eggs any style.

- **Breakfast Bakes** – A savory treat with egg, bacon, green pepper, onion, and cheese baked into a flaky crust (three per order), served with hollandaise on the side.

To complete the experience, diners can elevate their brunch with the Mimosa Party, featuring a selection of bubbly and four fresh juices – Orange, Pineapple, Grapefruit, and Cranberry – or opt for a nonalcoholic cocktail for a refreshing twist, including:

- **Espresso “no” Martini** – A smooth and rich alcohol-free espresso martini.
- **NA-Mosa** – A delightful alcohol-free twist on the classic mimosa or beer-mosa.
- **Lemon Bliss** – A refreshing nonalcoholic lemon drop with a lavender twist.

“At Vivante, we believe



Photo provided

every occasion is worth celebrating, and Galentine’s is the perfect excuse to gather, indulge, and toast to the amazing friendships in our lives,” said Chris Coorts, Executive Chef at Hotel Carmichael. “Our culinary team has created a menu that’s both flavorful and fun, ensuring a memorable experience for all who join us.”

Located inside Hotel Carmichael, Vivante offers an elegant yet inviting atmo-

sphere, making it the ideal setting for a stylish brunch with your closest friends. Whether you’re toasting with mimosas or savoring every bite of a chef-inspired dish, Galentine’s Brunch at Vivante promises an unforgettable experience.

Reservations are highly encouraged. To secure your spot for this limited-time brunch experience, visit [vivantecarmel.com/reservations](#) or call (317) 688-1952.

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Applications open for United Way pitch competition

The REPORTER

Applications are now being accepted from nonprofits interested in winning funding by showcasing their innovative ideas at a pitch contest in May.

At Propel, human services organizations will pitch their ideas on how to reduce barriers for those from under-resourced communities or asset-limited backgrounds. The competition seeks to advance new ideas that lead to better outcomes for those most in need. Propel is open to nonprofits serving residents in Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Marion, Morgan, or Putnam counties.

Grants will be awarded when finalists make their pitches live May 8 at Salesforce in Indianapolis.

Interested nonprofits



United Way of Central Indiana

can apply through Feb. 28 by submitting a five-minute video pitch of their idea. Applicants do not need to be accredited with United Way to participate. For more information or to apply, go to uwci.org/propel.

This will be United Way's fourth Propel. In the event's inaugural year in 2022, five organizations pitched their ideas, winning \$45,000. The competition has grown each year since, with **more than \$100,000 awarded at last year's Propel**. In all, more than \$250,000 has been awarded through the event.

Ben Harper & The Innocent Criminals returning to Palladium this June

The REPORTER

Following up on his 2023 solo debut at Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts, Grammy-winning singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Ben Harper is returning with his band.

Ben Harper & The Innocent Criminals will perform at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, June 8, at the Palladium, 1 Carter Green, Carmel. Tickets from \$55 will go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 14 at TheCenterPresents.org, by phone at (317) 843-3800, or in person at the Palladium's Fifth Third

Bank Box Office.

Harper is one of the boldest and most versatile songwriters of his generation, working in a cross-section of genres from pop, reggae and soul to blues, rock, funk and folk. He has recorded 18 studio albums and amassed a worldwide following, earning three Grammy Awards and eight nominations while selling more than 16 million records. He has written songs for such artists as Mavis Staples, Natalie Maines and the Blind Boys of Alabama and recorded with the likes of Harry Styles, Keith Rich-



Photo provided

ards, John Mayer, John Lee Hooker, and Ringo Starr.

The concert is part of the Printing Partners En-

core Series and the 2024-2025 Center Presents Season sponsored by Allied Solutions.

Organ donations in Indiana reach record high for ninth consecutive year

Indiana Donor Network coordinates 1,388 donated organs, saving 1,216 lives in 2024

The REPORTER

Indiana Donor Network, the federally designated organ recovery organization that coordinates organ, tissue and cornea donation in Indiana and transplantation throughout the U.S., transplanted 1,388 donated organs in 2024, saving 1,216 lives.

The milestone is a new high for transplanted organ donations in the 38-year history of Indiana Donor Network and represents a 22.4 percent increase in annual transplants compared to 2023, when 1,134 were successfully performed, which was a record at the time.

"As we look ahead to 2025, we are setting even higher goals, knowing that

we have not yet reached the full extent of the impact we can make," President and CEO Kellie Tremain said. "We will continue to push boundaries and find new ways to save and heal more lives than ever before."

Also last year, 1,592 tissue and cornea donors resulted in 17,360 tissues recovered by Indiana Donor Network to help save and heal lives and restore sight, a 14.3 percent increase from 2023 and another annual record in tissue recovery for the organization.

Organ donation in Indiana has trended upward since 2016, when 606 lifesaving organs were transplanted. The number of organ transplants in the state has risen each year – 2017 (620), 2018 (634), 2019 (665), 2020 (857), 2021 (932), 2022 (972), and 2023 (1,134).

Other major milestones achieved by Indiana Donor Network in 2024:

- Provided programs, grief and counseling services, and support to 2,815 family members of organ and tissue donors.
- Signed up more than 1.1 million Indiana residents to be organ and tissue donors; today, more than 4.6 million Hoosiers have made a choice to save lives through donation.
- Managed 375 dedicated advocates who volunteered more than 17,000 hours.
- Led 1,300 school and community presentations, reaching more than 318,000 Hoosiers throughout the state.
- Generated more than \$210,000 in net proceeds from four fundraising events to support Indiana Donor Network Foundation and its mission to provide financial assistance and support for organ transplant recipients, those waiting for a lifesaving transplant and donor families.
- Grew staff to 359 em-



Saving lives through organ and tissue donation

ployees statewide, creating its largest staff since the organization was founded in 1987.

"We achieve our mission through the generosity of donor heroes and their families who say 'yes' to lifesaving donation," Tremain said. "To maximize these gifts, our organization has grown in many ways. We expanded our team with more hospital liaisons and donor referral coordinators. "We have a more specialized staff today as we have brought many services in house, including our own biopsy lab and ambulance service, which improve our efficiencies," she continued. "We also broadened our donation eligibility requirements, which allows more Hoosiers to be lifesaving organ donors."

More than 48,000 organ transplants were performed in the U.S. in 2024. More than 103,000 people are waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant, including more than 1,300 Indiana residents. Every day, 17 people die waiting while ev-

ery eight minutes, another person is added to the list.

One organ donor can save eight lives. One tissue donor can heal more than 75 others. One cornea donor can restore sight to two people.

Despite age or medical history, anyone can sign up to be an organ donor. There are four ways that Hoosiers can sign up to become an organ donor:

- They can say "yes" when conducting business at their local Bureau of Motor Vehicles branch.
- They can sign up online at DonateLifeIndiana.org.
- They can say "yes" when they apply online for a hunting, fishing or trapping license through the state Department of Natural Resources.
- They can sign up when applying for or renewing their professional license to work in Indiana through the state's Professional Licensing Agency.
- They can say "yes" through the Health app on their iPhone or iPad.

Noblesville's residential real estate market quiets, home prices increasing

Submitted

January's residential real estate market was quieter in Noblesville compared to the rest of Hamilton County, with sale prices continuing to increase.

- In Noblesville:**
 - Closed home sales decreased 4.8 percent.
 - Noblesville homes spent 20 days longer on the market compared to this time last year.
 - Home sale prices increased 21.5 percent to a median sale price of \$410,000.
 - The median price per square foot of a home in Noblesville also increased 4.4 percent to \$165.
- In Hamilton County:**
 - Pended home sales increased 7.8 percent.
 - Homes spent six days longer on the market than this time last year.
 - Home sale prices in-



creased 5.7 percent to a median sale price of \$443,997.

- Available inventory increased 5.6 percent.

"We typically expect to see a slower market at the beginning of a new year just after the holiday season, and this year is no exception," F.C. Tucker Company President Jim Litten said. "However, the continued increase of available inventory means prospective buyers will have a robust select of homes to choose from during the busier spring season."

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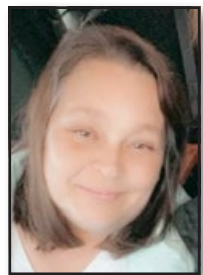
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BY ED DIXON

Ronna “Marie” (Blackstone) Grace*April 25, 1968 – January 26, 2025*

Ronna “Marie” (Blackstone) Grace, 56, Sheridan, passed away on Sunday, January 26, 2025, at IU North Hospital in Carmel. Born April 25, 1968, in Noblesville, she was the daughter of Ronald Dean “Ronnie” Blackstone and Dena M Beard.

She was a 1986 graduate of Marion-Adams High School and a member of the Sheridan First Christian Church.

For 20 years, Marie worked as a CNA, beginning her career at Sheridan Health Care and Rehabilitation, before moving to Harbour Manor in Noblesville. During her years in healthcare, her patients became her extended family. She was not only a caregiver, but also an advocate and friend.

Marie put more love into the world than most people could in multiple lifetimes. And that love was always focused on those she loved most in this world ... her family. She loved movie nights with the family, just as much as suffering through another Colts game with her husband because “she loved him so.” But when it came to the grandkids, everything else took a back seat.

Marie made sure to have a little fun along life’s journey. She enjoyed singing and dancing, and loved just about any game you could get her to play, especially Yahtzee and music trivia. She loved her leather purses and handbags, as well as her favorite perfume by Clinique, Happy. Going out to eat with the family was always a special treat, and if the destination was O’Charley’s or Rio Grande, that always made it better. Adding new things to her Holstein dairy cow collection really made Marie happy. If it was cow-related, she had the perfect spot for it. Although her collection of memorabilia was impressive, she always felt that if she could have had a baby cow wandering around in her backyard, then her collection might have come close to being perfect.

Marie leaves a legacy of love and compassion and a lasting imprint on the hearts of all who knew her. She led by example, showing her family that bravery, strength, and hard work are just as important as trust and forgiveness, and to always be willing to give more than you receive.

Marie is survived by her loving husband, David Allen Grace. She and David were married on January 4, 2003. Also surviving is her mother, Dena M Beard; son, Ethan Brooks Blackstone (fiancée, Logan Elizabeth) of Sheridan; three daughters, Lauren Marie Frank of Kokomo, Natalie Elizabeth Frank of Sheridan, and Megan Michelle Frank (Allen) of Sheridan; “bonus daughter” and friend, Anita Johnson; grandchildren, Isabelle Marie Frank, Brookston Lee Blackstone, Amelia Grace Cole, and Benjamin Mackenzie Smith-Frank; sister, Jama L. Barker (Steven) of Sheridan; nieces and nephews, Lydia, Elliot, Gideon, Emma, Lilli, and many other nieces, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins; and her precious furbabies, Mitzy, Miles, and Ronnie.

She was preceded in death by her father, Ronald Dean “Ronnie” Blackstone; maternal grandparents, Brooks and Opal Beard; paternal grandparents, Charles “Gene” and Margaret Blackstone; great-grandmother, Bessie Beard; cousin, Autumn Danae; and her best friend, Wendy Forbush.

A celebration of Marie’s life will take place at 6 p.m. Saturday, February 15, 2025, at Christ Tabernacle Church, 1600 W. 236th St., Sheridan, with visitation from 3 p.m. until the time of service. Pastor Rich Barker will be officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be presented to Kercheval Funeral Home, P.O. Box 42, Sheridan, IN 46069, to help with funeral expenses.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Kercheval Funeral Home in Sheridan.

Condolences: kerchevalfuneralhome.com

Lloyd A. Coverdale (Shorty)*April 22, 1955 – January 14, 2025*

Lloyd A. Coverdale passed away peacefully at home hospice on January 14, 2025, in Tualatin, Ore.

Lloyd was born on April 22, 1955, in Noblesville to James E. and Ellen (Sherley) Coverdale. Lloyd joined the Air Force in 1973 and converted to AF Civil Service as a software developer in 1987.

On June 25, 1994 he married Nancy (Roberts) Coverdale. After moving to Portland, Ore., he started bartending, which was a natural for him, and later moved on as a beer sales representative. He truly made a name for himself in the beer business with his attitude, integrity, and friendship. He was a graduate of Hamilton Heights High School.

Lloyd is survived by his loving wife of 30 years, Nancy; and his two sons, Paul (Melissa) Coverdale and Christopher (Andrea) Stauty; as well as his grandchildren, Victoria Coverdale, Sofia Coverdale, Sabastian Coverdale, and Alexia Stauty; and great-grandson, Edward McClain. He is also survived by his brothers, Paul (Teresa) Coverdale and David (Rose) Coverdale; and sister, Anita Coverdale; along with many nieces, nephews, and grand-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jim and Ellen Coverdale; and his brother, Larry.

A celebration of all things Lloyd (Shorty) will be held in the Spring of 2025.

The Neptune Society of Portland, Oregon has been entrusted with cremation services.

William Jensen Branock*February 9, 2025*

William Jensen Branock was delivered into the arms of Jesus on Sunday, February 9, 2025, at St. Vincent Fishers Hospital.

He is survived by his parents, Chandler & William Austin Branock; grandparents, Jane & Kevin Hayes, Gina Gross, Bob Gross, and Cheryl & Eric Branock; great-grandparents, Janet Beanblossom and Mary & Charles Scahill; aunts & uncles, Mikaylah & Billy Stumbo, Justin & Kara Branock, and Cameron Branock & Jen Ward; several cousins; as well as a large extended family.

Visitation will be from noon to 1 p.m., with funeral services at 1 p.m., on Saturday, February 15, 2025, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville. Pastor Michael Fuqua will officiate. Burial will be at Hamilton Memorial Park Cemetery in Westfield.

“Even the smallest one can change the world.” – Peter Rabbit

Memorial contributions may be made to Now I Lay Me Down To Sleep (nowilaymedowntosleep.org/donate).

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 submit obituaries at ReadTheReporter.com/obitform.

TODAY’S BIBLE READING**MATERIALS FOR THE TABERNACLE**

Moses said to the whole Israelite community, “This is what the Lord has commanded: From what you have, take an offering for the Lord. Everyone who is willing is to bring to the Lord an offering of gold, silver and bronze; blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen; goat hair; ram skins dyed red and another type of durable leather; acacia wood; olive oil for the light; spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense; and onyx stones and other gems to be mounted on the ephod and breastpiece.

“All who are skilled among you are to come and make everything the Lord has commanded: the tabernacle with its tent and its covering, clasps, frames, crossbars, posts and bases; the ark with its poles and the atonement cover and the curtain that shields it; the table with its poles and all its articles and the bread of the Presence; the lampstand that is for light with its accessories, lamps and oil for the light; the altar of incense with its poles, the anointing oil and the fragrant incense; the curtain for the doorway at the entrance to the tabernacle; the altar of burnt offering with its bronze grating, its poles and all its utensils; the bronze basin with its stand; the curtains of the courtyard with its posts and bases, and the curtain for the entrance to the courtyard; the tent pegs for the tabernacle and for the courtyard, and their ropes; the woven garments worn for ministering in the sanctuary—both the sacred garments for Aaron the priest and the garments for his sons when they serve as priests.”

Exodus 35:4-19 (NIV)

Meeting Notices

The Noblesville Downtown District Council Committee will meet on the following dates in 2025. Meetings will be held at 9 a.m. in room A213 at City Hall, 16 S. 10th St.

Feb. 21	Aug. 29
March 28	Sept. 26
April 25	Oct. 31
May 30	Nov. 21
June 27	Dec. 19
July 25	

The Noblesville Utilities Council Committee will meet on the following dates in 2025. Meetings will be held at 9 a.m. in the administration conference room at the Utility Office, 197 Washington St., unless otherwise noted.

Feb. 27
May 29
Aug. 28
Nov. 20

— COUNTY —

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF LAND OCCUPIERS TO BE HELD FOR THE HAMILTON SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
To all occupiers of lands lying within the boundaries of the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District, notice is hereby given that on the 25 day of February, 2025, beginning at 11 A.M., an annual meeting will be held for the purpose of making a full and due report of their activities and financial affairs since the last annual meeting and to elect a supervisor for the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District of the State of Indiana.

All land occupiers and other interested parties are entitled to attend. The meeting will be held at the Delaware Township Community Center at 9094 E. 131st St. Fishers, IN 46038.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Rodney Rulon, Chairperson

Dated this 12th day of February, 2025.
R5698

2/13/25, 2/17/25, 2/24/25

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Publisher Stu Clampitt

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Girls Swimming

Greyhounds ready to make it No. 39

Olympic gold medalist going for fourth butterfly state title in a row

The REPORTER

Carmel is ready to keep its state championship streak rolling at the IHSAA girls state swimming and diving meet.

The Greyhounds hold six top seeds for the state preliminaries, which begin at 6 p.m. Friday at the IU Natatorium in downtown Indianapolis. Carmel qualified all 27 of its swims from last Saturday's sectional finals, putting the 'Hounds in great position to win its 39th consecutive state title.

One of Carmel's swimmers is competing for an extra bit of history. Senior Alex Shackell will try for her fourth consecutive butterfly state title. The Olympic gold medalist is by far the top seed in that event, with her sectional time of 50.68 seconds nearly two seconds ahead of the second seed. Fishers' Emily Wolf is ranked No. 2 with a sectional time of 52.66 seconds.

Junior Molly Sweeney is the two-time defender of both the individual medley and breaststroke events. Sweeney holds the top IM seed time of 1 minute, 59.76 seconds and is the second seed in the breaststroke at 1:01.65. Valparaiso junior Madeline Moreth has the No. 1 breaststroke seed, at 1:00.68.

Senior Lynsey Bowen will go for her third consecutive 200 freestyle state title. She is the first seed in that event as well, with a time of 1:48.07. Carmel also holds the top seed in all three relays; the Greyhounds' relay success is unsurpassed over the past 20 years. Since the 2009 state meet, Carmel has won 45 of 48 relay events, including 16 straight in the medley and 400 free relays.

While the Greyhounds are once again the overwhelming favorite, other Hamilton County teams are looking for high finishes as well.

Fishers has its sights on the runner-up trophy; the Tigers made the podium four years in a row before having that streak interrupted by Penn last year. The Kingsmen placed second with 212 points, while Fishers was third with 202 points.

The Tigers have 17 swims at state. They qualified 14 at the sectional finals, then received three callbacks on Tuesday, with

those swims fast enough to fill a field of 32 in each event. Lily Ziino earned a spot in the 200 free, Mia Wilson got the call in the 500 free and Frankie Ramey received a callback in the breaststroke, giving Fishers three swimmers in that event.

Wolf is the top seed in the 500 free, in addition to her second seed in the 200 free. Wolf's 500 sectional time of 4:43.89 is over 11 seconds ahead of the second seed, Carmel's Alexandra Ward (4:55.09). Wolf is also seeded second in the butterfly.

Fishers' main competition will be Fort Wayne Carroll. The Chargers have 19 swims at state, including the top-seeded backstroke swimmer, sophomore Kate Feters (54.24 seconds).

Hamilton Southeastern will be going for a top-five finish at state. The Royals also have 17 swims, with 14 qualifying at the sectional and three callbacks. Mia Henderson received a 200 free call back, along with Isabelle Schmitt in the 500 free and Kinsey Bogaards in the backstroke.

Southeastern's relays will be strong, with fourth seeds in the medley and 400 free relays. Royals freshman Kendall Dieckman also has the potential to make a splash at her first IHSAA state meet: she is seeded sixth in the 500 free and eighth in the individual medley.

Noblesville junior Eryn McMahon won the HSE diving regional on Tuesday and has a chance at the medals stand at state, along with Carmel junior Helena Gibson and Hamilton Heights senior Campbell Lively-Mason. Also look out for Millers junior Haddie Vohs, who is seeded sixth in the 200 free. Vohs also qualified in the butterfly, as did Noblesville's 200 and 400 free relays.

Westfield had two of its 500 free swimmers, Kate Cassidy and Delaney McCulloch, receive callbacks to state, joining freshman Evelyn Wheat in the butterfly. The Shamrocks have all three relays at state as well.

Heights has four swims at state. Ayla Madara and Amira Leer both qualified in the 500 free, with Madara also earning a place in the 200 free. The Huskies' 400 free relay received a callback as well.




Reporter photos by Julie Brown

(TOP) Carmel's Alex Shackell will go for a fourth consecutive butterfly state championship this weekend at the IHSAA state swim meet. The Greyhounds are swimming for a 39th consecutive state title. (ABOVE) Carmel's Faith Gorey is seeded second in the 100 freestyle.

Hamilton County State Qualifiers

200 medley relay: 1. Carmel 1:40.09, 4. Hamilton Southeastern 1:43.04, 6. Fishers 1:43.88, 18. Westfield 1:48.75.	(C) 23.99, 27. Maryn Sims (C) 24.16.	la Schmitt (HSE) 5:10.13, 18. Wilson (F) 5:10.71, 19. Kate Cassidy (W) 5:11.35, 22. Delaney McCulloch (W) 5:13.61.
200 freestyle: 1. Lynsey Bowen (C) 1:48.07, 5. Kayla Barr (C) 1:49.79, 6. Haddie Vohs (Noblesville) 1:50.03, 7. Emma Schumacher (F) 1:51.04, 11. Alexandra Ward (C) 1:51.50, 15. Ayla Madara (Hamilton Heights) 1:52.17, 20. Mia Henderson (HSE) 1:53.71, 22. Lilly Ziino (F) 1:54.64.	One-meter diving: 5. Eryn McMahon (N) 410.05, 6. Helena Gibson (C) 406.15, 7. Campbell Lively-Mason (HH) 401.95.	200 freestyle relay: 1. Carmel 1:32.26, 4. Fishers 1:35.72, 7. Hamilton Southeastern 1:37.00, 18. Westfield 1:38.94, 22. Noblesville 1:39.28.
200 individual medley: 1. Molly Sweeney (C) 1:59.76, 4. Lucy Enoch (C) 2:01.77, 5. Leah Debosch (C) 2:02.95, 8. Kendall Dieckman (HSE) 2:03.78, 9. Avery Hannon (F) 2:04.50, 10. Claire Francis (F) 2:04.56, 17. Kinsey Bogaards (HSE) 2:07.01, 21. Mia Wilson (F) 2:07.93.	100 butterfly: 1. Alex Shackell (C) 50.68, 2. Emily Wolf (F) 52.66, 6. Vohs (N) 54.66, 7. Savannah Irizaarry (C) 55.07, 8. Bowen (C) 55.17, 12. Ellason Miller (HSE) 55.25, 17. Evelyn Wheat (W) 56.22, 18. Naomi Haines (HSE) 56.27, 27. Lacey Huston (HSE) 57.21.	100 backstroke: 7. Barr (C) 56.21, 9. DeBosch (C) 56.47, 11. Clarke (C) 56.93, 12. Haines (HSE) 56.95, 17. Bogaards (HSE) 57.68.
50 freestyle: 6. Kiley Zoeller (HSE) 23.59, 8. Emma Schwertfeger (F) 23.64, 10. Clark (C) 23.81, 17. Priscilla Smith	100 freestyle: 2. Faith Gorey (C) 50.04, 7. Addyson Czarniecki (C) 51.36, 10. Schwertfeger (F) 51.51, 12. Sophia Floyd (C) 51.88, 13. Kiley Zoeller (HSE) 52.16, 15. Henderson (HSE) 52.42.	100 breaststroke: 2. Sweeney (C) 1:01.65, 4. Enoch (C) 1:02.70, 8. Francis (F) 1:03.48, 9. Czarniecki (C) 1:03.49, 12. Lauren Ing (HSE) 1:04.44, 16. Polina Sopova (F) 1:05.65, 21. Frankie Ramey (F) 1:06.85.
	400 freestyle relay: 1. Carmel 3:21.46, 2. Fishers 3:25.39, 4. Hamilton Southeastern 3:27.02, 14. Westfield 3:35.45, 15. Noblesville 3:35.66, 25. Hamilton Heights 3:40.59.	

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Marcum signs to play soccer for Anderson University

The REPORTER

Hamilton Heights senior Natalie Marcum has signed a letter of intent to play soccer for Anderson University in Anderson, Ind., this fall. The university is a member of the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) and an NCAA Division III athletic institution. She is the daughter of Shawn and Brenda Marcum.

Marcum, who is undecided about her career plans at the moment, chose Anderson University because it is a faith-based institution of higher education with good academic options and where she can play soccer at the collegiate level.

Marcum, who was named a Top Team Player, a member of the All-Conference Team and All-Academic team twice, Offensive Player of the Year, and MVP, is as strong in the classroom as she is on the field. She has played soccer since the age of five, playing high school and club soccer throughout the year. She also participated in gymnastics for 12 years.

It is her high school and club soccer coaches – Hamilton Heights High School Head Girls Soccer Coach Travis Kauffman, Assistant JV Coach Diane Handy, and Sean Yau of the Hamilton North Futbol Club – Marcum credits as being influential in her development as a player.

“For four years as a



Hamilton Heights' senior Natalie Marcum has signed a letter of intent to play soccer for the Anderson University Ravens this fall. Marcum (seated) is pictured with her Hamilton Heights High School coaches Travis Kauffman and Diane Handy.

Photo by Jen Kauffman

varsity player, Natalie has been a constant for our program,” Kauffman said. “Her on-field skills always impacted our offense as she consistently scored and was a team leader in assists. As she continued to mature on the field, her role in the program continued to grow, too. She has been the kind of teammate, leader, and captain that I love to have; she is confident, focused, consistent, and very individually talented but what has made her so special is the

respect she's earned from her teammates and the leadership she's provided.”

Kauffman continued, “She has been a trusted voice on the field and has always been a supportive and encouraging teammate who has made others and the team better by her effort. Natalie has been part of the heart of this team and the culture that we've tried to create. Her absence will most definitely leave a huge hole to fill but I've no doubt that who she's been

and what she's done for the program has been an example others will want to emulate.”

“We are very excited for Natalie and the opportunity she has in front of her to continue her soccer career at Anderson University,” Hamilton Heights Athletic Director Kurt Ogden said. “Natalie has been an outstanding role model for other athletes both on and off the field and we're certain that she'll do the same for the Ravens as well.”

Gymnastics

Millers place seventh at Lafayette Jeff Invite

The REPORTER

The Noblesville gymnastics team placed seventh at the Lafayette Jefferson Invitational last Saturday.

The Millers scored 95.40 as a team. Valorey Bittles had the highest place and individual score, taking third on the uneven bars with an 8.70. Hailey Nobbe placed fifth on the bars with an 8.25.

Bittles would go on the finish 12th in the all-around with a total of 32.90. McKenna Watson took 12th on the vault with an 8.60.

Complete Noblesville scores now follow.

All-around scores: Valorey Bittles 32.90, Emmerson Leckrone 31.00, McKenna Watson 29.25.

Vault: Bittles 8.60, Bittles 8.15, Leckrone 8.05, Alexis Mitcham 7.55.

Uneven bars: Bittles 8.70, Hailey Nobbe 8.25, Leckrone 7.65, Watson 6.65, Lilly Martin 5.00.

Balance beam: Bittles 7.55, Leckrone 7.35, Martin 6.90, Watson 6.65, Mitcham 6.10.

Floor exercise: Bittles 8.50, Leckrone 7.95, Watson 7.75, Mitcham 7.30, Martin 6.65.

Stick & Hack opens in Fishers, redefining golf with community & connection

Submitted

Stick & Hack has officially opened its doors in Fishers, offering golfers a space where connection and community are just as important as perfecting your swing. OneZone and Fishers city officials gathered to celebrate with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and refreshments courtesy of Sahms Catering, the preferred caterer for events hosted at Stick & Hack.

Located at 9003 Technology Lane, Suite 3, Fishers, public play is available hourly between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. Monday through Friday. Memberships are available for frequent golfers, and if competition is your thing, choose from a variety of leagues or test your skills in an upcoming tournament.

Stick & Hack combines cutting-edge golf simulation technology with a welcoming atmosphere that brings people together. Plus, as the official indoor golf club for **Indy Fuel** and **Indy Ignite**, you are likely to spot a local athlete.

Here's what makes Stick & Hack more than just a place to play:

- **Top-tier tech, zero pressure:** Hone your skills or just hit for fun with Uneekor EYE XO2 launch monitors, delivering pro-level precision so you can play famous courses – or just track your progress – with ease.

- **A space to gather:** Whether hosting a corporate event, celebrating a milestone, or organizing a night out with friends, Stick & Hack offers a unique event space that blends play and connection seamlessly.

- **Upscale drinks, down-to-earth vibes:** Sip on premium wines and beers (yes, even draft options!) while connecting with fel-

low golfers and friends in a warm, relaxed atmosphere.

- **Open to all:** With all-day public tee times available, as well as low-cost membership options and a no-pressure loyalty program, there's a perfect fit for anyone looking to swing, sip, and socialize at Stick & Hack.

- **A place to belong** At Stick & Hack, golf is just the beginning. This isn't your typical simulator – it's your new favorite hangout. From social leagues to casual rounds with friends, it's all about building a community where everyone feels welcome, no matter their skill level.

- **Why you'll love it**

- **For the competitor:** Get the data you need to perfect every shot with dual high-speed cameras tracking your club, ball, and swing.

- **For the socializer:** Meet like-minded golf enthusiasts, network with professionals, or enjoy the company of friends.

- **For everyone:** Stick & Hack is the perfect place to get started. No intimidation – just a chance to have fun and improve.

A technology game-changer

Powered by the Uneekor EYE XO2 system, Stick & Hack delivers a premium golf experience that feels as close to the real thing as you can get indoors. With precise club and ball tracking, detailed swing analysis, and compatibility for all skill levels (and both lefties and righties), this is next-level tech made simple and approachable for everyone.

Whether you're swinging for birdies, beers, or both, Stick & Hack is where you'll want to be. Come for the golf, stay for the good times.

Racing

Doug Boles named President of INDYCAR and Indianapolis Motor Speedway

Submitted by IMS

Penske Entertainment announced several updates to its senior leadership structure Tuesday in order to best position the organization to capitalize on significant growth opportunities ahead.

Key changes shared include:

- Doug Boles will serve as President of both INDYCAR and Indianapolis Motor Speedway, succeeding Jay Frye.

- Mark Sibla will be promoted to Senior Vice President, INDYCAR Competition & Operations.

- Kyle Novak will become INDYCAR's Vice President of Officiating and Race Control.

- Alex Damron has been named Chief Marketing Officer, INDYCAR, while also continuing as Vice President of Corporate Communications for Penske Entertainment.

- Louis Kissinger will be promoted to General Manager, Indianapolis Motor Speedway Operations.

Doug Boles brings decades of motorsport experience to his new responsibilities, including being the President of Indianapolis Motor Speedway since 2013. At IMS, he oversaw the sell-out of the 100th Indianapolis 500, the first full-capacity crowd in the event's storied history. In addition, he's managed more than \$150 million in strategic investment at the Racing Capital of the World, including “Project 100” and significant infrastructure improvements following the acquisition of IMS by Penske Corp.

Across his tenure at IMS, he has been particularly lauded for his promotional prowess and strategic marketing capabilities, growing the Speedway's global reach and better connecting Indy 500 fans to the NTT INDYCAR SERIES. As a founding partner and Chief Operating Officer at Panther Racing and as Hulman & Company's Vice President of Communications, he has

worked extensively within the INDYCAR paddock, as well. At Panther Racing, Boles helped lead the team to 15 INDYCAR SERIES race wins and two INDYCAR SERIES championships, in addition to seven INDY NXT by Firestone race wins and a championship. In total, he has more than 20 years of executive leadership experience in motorsports, within team operations, sponsorship, marketing, public relations and more.

“Doug is the ideal choice to lead both INDYCAR and IMS as we enter a new era of opportunity and visibility,” said Penske Entertainment President & CEO Mark Miles. “He's an exceptional leader and motivator who is appreciated by our fans and respected by our owners, drivers, partners and additional key stakeholders.”

Said Boles: “Racing is in my DNA, and no form of racing resonates more personally and strongly with me than the NTT INDYCAR SERIES. I'm honored to lead the amazing team at INDYCAR, and I truly believe the future is bigger and brighter than ever for our sport and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. I'm extremely grateful to Mark Miles for this opportunity, and fans can rest assured the hard work is already under way and 2025 will be a fantastic season.”

Boles becomes President of INDYCAR as Frye departs the organization following 10 years in the role. During Frye's tenure, he led a period of tremendous successes at INDYCAR, including securing the entitlement series sponsorships with Verizon and NTT, the development of the AK18 universal aero kit, development and implementation of the total driver cockpit safety solution aeroscreen and state-of-the-art hybrid technology introduction. In addition, Jay Frye also oversaw an expanded grid with incredible competition.

“It has been an absolute honor and privilege to be the President of INDYCAR and work alongside the dedicated and talented men and women at INDYCAR and in the INDYCAR paddock,” Frye said. “The growth and success the series has had over the last 10 years would not be possible without the commitment and collaboration of the owners, drivers and teams.”

In both his role at INDYCAR and as IMS President, Boles will report to Penske Entertainment President & CEO Miles. As Boles manages strategic vision and priorities across both INDYCAR and IMS, several additional staffing updates will help oversee day-to-day operations within each organization.

At INDYCAR, Mark Sibla has been named Senior Vice President of INDYCAR Competition and Operations. He has been a senior member of INDYCAR's management team for more than a decade and will lead workstreams focused on general operations and special initiatives such as development of the new car.

Also at INDYCAR, Kyle Novak begins an enhanced role as Vice President of Officiating and Race Control. In this position he will lead both the Race Control and Race Tech teams at INDYCAR, responsible for ensuring rigorous and equitable enforcement of NTT INDYCAR SERIES and INDY NXT presented by Firestone competition regulations. Novak has served as INDYCAR's Race Director since the 2018 season and was elected to the FIA General Assembly in 2022.

In addition, as INDYCAR prepares for new levels of audience exposure through its relationship with FOX Sports, Alex Damron has been named Chief Marketing Officer, charged with fully implementing a maximized and unified promotional plan for the sport. In this role,

he will lead the marketing and communications teams at INDYCAR. He will also continue as Vice President of Corporate Communications for Penske Entertainment, responsible for overseeing IMS PR efforts and Penske Entertainment's photo and editorial operations.

“We're confident Alex is ready for this opportunity,” Miles said. “He's played an integral role in our transition to FOX Sports, driving significant work to implement the phenomenal promotional initiatives we've already seen, ensuring we can quickly and efficiently leverage new opportunities.”

At IMS, Kissinger steps into the role of General Manager, IMS Operations, leading teams responsible for suite/hospitality sales, track operations and event

See Boles . . . Page 12

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6:00 pm **Westfield vs Hamilton Heights** | JV Basketball | Husky Sports (PPV)
7:20 pm Union High vs Providence Cristo Rey | Varsity Basketball | Indiana SRN
7:20 pm Beech Grove vs Covenant Christian | Varsity Basketball | Indiana SRN
7:15 pm **Sheridan vs Carroll(Flora)** | Varsity Basketball | Bragg Sports Media
7:15 pm **Westfield vs Hamilton Heights** | Varsity Basketball | Husky Sports (PPV)
7:25 pm **Center Grove vs Fishers** | Varsity Basketball | Fishers Sports Network
7:30 pm Brownsburg vs **Noblesville** | Varsity Boys Basketball | HCTV Sports

Sat Feb 15 - IHSAA Girls Basketball Regional
6:45 pm 2A Regional | Lewis Cass vs **Sheridan** | Bragg Sports Media
7:00 pm 4A Regional | Homestead vs **Hamilton Southeastern** | Southeastern Sports Network

Mon Feb 17 - Boys Basketball
7:20 pm Columbus North vs Covenant Christian | Varsity Basketball | Indiana SRN

Tues Feb 18 - Boys Basketball
5:50 pm Columbus Christian vs Horizon Christian | Boys Basketball | Indiana SRN
7:20 pm Lafayette Jeff @ Washington | Varsity Basketball | Indiana SRN
7:20 pm Lutheran @ Covenant Christian | Varsity Basketball | Indiana SRN
7:20 pm Greensburg vs Seymour | Varsity Basketball | Indiana SRN

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BOLES

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operations. Kissinger began his career at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway serving as a distinguished Orr Fellow, with his most recent role being Director of Event Operations & Experience at IMS. The 2025 NTT INDYCAR SERIES season launches on Sunday, March

2 with the Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg presented by RP Funding on FOX. The NTT INDYCAR SERIES is the only premier motorsport in the United States with every race broadcast on network television. For more info, visit INDYCAR.com.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Friday, Feb. 14
BOYS BASKETBALL
Brownsburg at Noblesville, 7:30 p.m.
Center Grove at Fishers, 7:30 p.m.
Guerin Catholic at Danville, 7:30 p.m.
Hamilton Southeastern at Carmel, 7:30 p.m.
Sheridan at Carroll, 7:30 p.m.
Westfield at Hamilton Heights, 7:30 p.m.
Pioneer Conference third-place game
Shortridge at University, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS SWIMMING
State prelims at IU Natatorium, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 15
BOYS BASKETBALL
Carmel at Avon, 7:30 p.m.

BOYS WRESTLING
Semi-state at New Castle, 9 a.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL REGIONALS
At Lapel
Sheridan vs. Lewis Cass, 7 p.m.
At Marion
Hamilton Southeastern vs. Homestead, 7 p.m.

GIRLS DIVING
State prelims at IU Natatorium, 9 a.m.

GYMNASTICS
Noblesville at Connersville Invitational, 10 a.m.
Westfield at Logansport, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 18
BOYS BASKETBALL
Fishers at Lawrence North, 7:30 p.m.
Jay County at Hamilton Heights, 7:30 p.m.
Sheridan at Western Boone, 7:30 p.m.
University at Westfield, 7:30 p.m.

GYMNASTICS
Hoosier Crossroads Conference meet, 6:30 p.m. at Gymnastics Company

Thursday, Feb. 20
BOYS SWIMMING SECTIONAL PRELIMINARIES
Fishers, Hamilton Heights at Hamilton Southeastern
Guerin Catholic, Noblesville, Westfield at Carmel
University at Lawrence North

GYMNASTICS
Fishers at New Palestine, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 21
BOYS BASKETBALL
Edinburgh at Sheridan, 7:30 p.m.
Hamilton Heights hosts Hoosier Conference playoff game, 7:30 p.m.
Hamilton Southeastern at Brownsburg, 7:30 p.m.
Noblesville at Avon, 7:30 p.m.
Warren Central at Carmel, 7:30 p.m.
Westfield at Franklin Central, 7:30 p.m.
Zionsville at Fishers, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 22
BOYS BASKETBALL
Decatur Central at University, 3:30 p.m.
Providence at Carmel, 5:30 p.m.
Guerin Catholic at Roncalli, 7:30 p.m.

GYMNASTICS
Noblesville, Westfield at Southmont Mountie Invitational, noon

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Men's Basketball

Mad Ants acquire Yor Anei from available player pool

The REPORTER

The Indiana Mad Ants acquired Yor Anei from the available player pool. This move was made official Tuesday night. Anei, 25, most recently played for the Wisconsin Herd earlier this season. This move comes after Jahlil Okafor signed a 10-day contract with the Indiana Pacers

earlier this week.

Anei played in 16 games for the Herd before being waived on December 28th. He averaged 4.4 points and 2.1 rebounds per game with the Bucks affiliate.

The 25-year-old also appeared in six games for the Herd during the 2023-24 season. That same season, he played in at least one

game for the Motor City Cruise, Westchester Knicks and Raptors 905.

Anei was a three-star recruit out of Lee's Summit West High School in Missouri. He began his collegiate career at Oklahoma State and finished 8th in the NCAA in blocks his freshman year. His 85 blocks tied the school's block record.

After three years at Oklahoma State, Anei transferred to SMU. In his lone season with the Mustangs, he led the American Athletic Association in blocks. He transferred to DePaul and spent his final two years of college with the Blue Demons. In his first year in the Big East, he led the conference with 49 blocks.

Hicks, Dennis and Lane carry Mad Ants past Skyhawks

The REPORTER

The Indiana Mad Ants continued their three-game road trip Wednesday night in a rematch with the College Park Skyhawks. Two days after being thwarted by College Park, the Mad Ants got their revenge with a 119-113 victory on Wednesday.

RayJ Dennis, Steph Hicks and Ishmael Lane all recorded double-doubles in the victory.

The Mad Ants suited up just eight guys Wednesday with Dakota Mathias and Quenton Jackson being late additions to the list of inactives. Ishmael Lane scored the first points of the night for the Mad Ants. The big man scored while being guarded by former NBA center Tony Bradley. Lane used the spin move and scored with a shot off the glass.

Halfway through the first quarter, Cameron McGriff scored his first points of the night with a two-handed dunk. On the next possession, RayJ Dennis scored his second bucket with a running layup. Indiana trailed 24-18 with 5:30 to go in the quarter.

Despite a 22-8 run from College Park to start the game, Indiana continued to battle and went on a 16-4 run to make it a two-point game. In the final moments of the quarter, Stephan Hicks scored his first points of the night with a layup. 30 seconds later, De'Vion Harmon made a fastbreak layup. The Mad Ants trailed the Skyhawks 39-30 after one quarter of play. Lane led the club with eight points.

Hicks scored the first points of the second quarter.

The veteran guard absorbed contact while making a close-range field goal. He made the free throw to convert the and-one. Two possessions later, Lane demonstrated his range with a corner three.

Trailing 60-43 with five minutes left in the half, Dennis added to the point total with a running layup. On the next possession, Noel knocked down a corner three. McGriff drew a foul next time down the floor and made the one-for-two free throw attempt.

In the final minutes of the second quarter, Lane drew a foul and converted the one-for-two free throw attempt. After a miss from College Park, McGriff was fouled on the opposite end. He knocked down the free throw worth two points. Next time down the floor, Keisei Tominaga was fouled. With the Skyhawks over the limit, Tominaga went to the line and made his one-for-two free throw.

With 45 seconds to go in the half, Tominaga added to his point total with a contested close-range field goal. As time was winding down, Hicks sank an off-balance three-pointer. Indiana trailed 65-61 heading into halftime. Lane and Noel led the Mad Ants with 13 points at the break.

Lane scored the first points of the second half. The big man drained a mid-range jumper to make it a two-point game. Two possessions later, he tied the game with a powerful two-handed dunk. Indiana began the half on an 11-2 run and had a 72-67 lead with eight minutes left in the quarter.

At the halfway point of the quarter the Mad Ants lead was 72-69, Noel knocked down a three-pointer to improve the lead. On the next possession, Dennis scored with a running layup.

Under three minutes to go in the quarter, the game was tied at 80. Dennis broke the tie with a contested layup. On the next possession, Tominaga drained a three-pointer. 30 seconds later, Dennis lined it up and knocked it down from long range. Next time down the floor, Tominaga sank his second three of the night. At the end of the third quarter, the Mad Ants had a 91-86 lead. Lane and Noel led all scorers with 19 points each heading into the fourth quarter.

Dennis scored the first points of the quarter for the Mad Ants. The two-way guard made a close-range floater giving him 20 points for the night.

Despite leading for the first half of the fourth quarter, College Park fought back to take the lead with 6:30 remaining. Noel cut into the deficit with a contested layup. He missed the free throw, but McGriff was there for the offensive rebound. On his putback attempt, he was fouled and made the one-for-two free throw. Dennis regained the lead for Indiana with a three-pointer on the next possession.

The Mad Ants had a 108-106 lead with 2:30 remaining in regulation. Hicks added to the lead with a baseline drive ending with a layup. On the next possession, Dennis drove the lane and was rewarded with a

close-range field goal. The lead was 112-108 for Indiana with a minute to go.

In a two-point game, a turnover from Tominaga resulted in a foul a shooting foul on McGriff. Daeqwon Plowden tied the game with a pair of free throws. Dennis regained the lead with a contested fadeaway jumper. College Park called a timeout with 23.7 seconds left on the game clock.

On the next possession for College Park, Bradley drew a foul against Lane. The veteran center made one of his two free throws. For Indiana, Dennis was fouled just past the timeline. The Illinois native knocked down of his free throws to make it a 116-113 lead for Indiana with 16.2 seconds left.

College Park called their final timeout following Dennis' free throws. Good defense from the Mad Ants resulted in a missed three for the Skyhawks. Hicks grabbed the rebound and was fouled in the backcourt. With 9.7 seconds to go, he made one of his two free throws to make it a 117-113 game. McGriff blocked a three-point attempt from College Park resulting in a rebound. Hicks grabbed the rebound, was fouled, and iced the game with two free throws.

The Indiana Mad Ants conclude their road trip tonight against the Birmingham Squadron (New Orleans Pelicans affiliate). Tip-off is scheduled for 8 p.m. The next home game for the Mad Ants will be Thursday, Feb. 20 against the Maine Celtics. Tip-off for that game is scheduled for 12:30 p.m.

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