

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2025

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy morning.  
Becoming partly cloudy  
in the afternoon.  
Tonight: Clearing and colder.

HIGH: 33 LOW: 17



# Unforgettable fun at Sheridan Elementary Family Game Night

Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

Families came together for an unforgettable evening of fun and learning during the Sheridan Elementary School's (SES) K-2 Family Game Night on Tuesday, Feb. 25.

The event, designed to foster family engagement and reinforce key learning skills, brought together students, parents, and educators for an interactive experience filled with laughter, teamwork, and friendly competition. It was a wonderful opportunity for families to bond and engage in meaningful activities that contributed to both academic growth and personal connections.

Classic board games gave the families an opportunity to engage in activities that promote problem-solving, cooperation, and strategic thinking. Popular stations included math and literacy games, building challenges, and group activities encouraging communication and critical thinking. These games helped to reinforce important skills while still providing a fun and relaxed environment for everyone.

"Our goal was to create an event where families could connect through play while reinforcing key learning skills," SES Counselor Amanda Williams said. "It was wonderful to see parents and children work-



Photos provided by Sheridan Community Schools

Great games, good friends, and tasty food . . . does it get any better than that?

ing together, having fun, and building memories."

The evening gave families and the community the opportunity to become more engaged and excited with what their students are learning in school.

The evening also featured pizza and lemonade, providing a delicious treat as families gathered around to enjoy each other's company. Many families appreciated the event, with one parent saying, "It's so great to take a break from screens and enjoy quality time together. The kids loved it, and we can't wait for the next one!"



A big thank-you goes to the dedicated staff, volunteers, and community members who made the night successful. With such positive feedback, SES looks forward to hosting more events

that bring families together for learning, laughter, and fun in the future, reinforcing the school's commitment to creating an engaging and inclusive environment for all students and their families.



Photo provided by Pooja Thakkar  
Our columnist says she has found friendship, warmth, and connection through sharing her cooking.

## From my kitchen to my village

When I came to the States 18 long years ago, I didn't know anything about the people, culture, lifestyle, or family values. The only thing I knew was how to cook good food and socialize.

I was born and raised in a joint family of 120 people – yes, I know you're surprised, as many of you had that many people on your wedding guest list! Growing up in such a crowd, I learned early on that survival skills were essential to carve out a space for myself. Those skills became my greatest asset when I moved to this foreign world as a newlywed, tagging along with a stranger – my husband – after our arranged marriage. (Well, that's a long story, worthy of another whole column.)

At first, I knew no one except for my husband's handful of friends – some married, others about to get hitched. So, I started inviting them over for tea and evening snacks right after work, weekend dinners, and even midnight munchies. Every meal I shared became an opportunity – not just to serve food, but to create connections. Exchanging recipes, sharing food stories, and discussing family traditions helped me break the ice, stay connected, and build delicious memories with new friends along the way.

Despite being miles away from home, I found so much in common with others in the ingredients we used, traditional recipes we cherished, and kitchen tips we swapped. In India, I was always surrounded by seasoned chefs – my mom, aunts, grandmothers, and even neighbors who still make

See Kitchen . . . Page 2

## Ecuador: a unique vacation

Editor's note: The Sheridan Student Column is brought to readers by Sheridan High School's 10th grade honors English class, taught by Tanya Busaiah.

My name is Eli Bales, and I am currently a sophomore at Sheridan High School.

Over the years, I have traveled to many places, but none quite as extravagant as Ecuador. Located in northern South America, one would assume its proximity to the equator would make it a warm, beachy place, but it is quite different from that. Due to its mountainous terrain, the elevation causes the average temperature to be much cooler and much more comfortable (in my opinion) than the heat one may expect while traveling to a beach in a place like Florida. Due to its mountainous terrain, there's also quite a bit of walking up and down slopes as well as in the city.

I traveled with my parents and brother Zach. We first flew from Indianapolis to Atlanta, Ga., which was about two hours. We stayed there for another couple of hours before flying to the capital of Ecuador, Quito, which was around a five-hour flight. We traveled at night, which allowed us to see the beautiful lights of the city from above.

After we touched down, we stayed the night in a hotel before meeting with my aunt in the morning. She's been to Ecuador

See Ecuador . . . Page 2

# Auditor's Office earns prestigious national award for financial excellence

The REPORTER

Hamilton County has once again received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for its 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. This marks the 36th consecutive year the county has earned this top recognition – the highest honor in governmental accounting and financial reporting.

"This award reflects Hamilton County's unwavering commitment to financial transparency and accountability," Auditor Todd Clevenger said. "It's a testament to the dedication of our finance team, elected officials, department heads, and financial advisors at Baker Tilly."

The GFOA's rigorous eval-



Clevenger

uation ensures the county's financial reporting meets the highest standards, including a constructive spirit of full disclosure that clearly communicates Hamilton County's financial health. Each year, new government accounting standards raise the bar for compliance, making this achievement even more significant.

"Our success is built on the strong foundation laid by former County Auditors Robin Mills and Dawn Coverdale," Clevenger added. "While we have earned this recognition consistently, it requires relentless effort and collaboration to maintain these standards."

This award underscores Hamilton County's dedication to responsible financial management, ensuring taxpayer dollars are managed efficiently and transparently.

# Grant dollars allow County Health Department & Trinity Free Clinic in Carmel to expand dental services

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Health Department has awarded more than \$3.2 million in Health First Indiana (HFI) grants to local partners since the program's launch in 2024. The funding comes from Senate Enrolled Act 4, which provides vital funding to local health departments to fund evidence-based programs in their communities.

Among the many recipients of those dollars in Hamilton County is Trinity Free Clinic in Carmel. HFI grant dollars have allowed the clinic to expand its free dental services, doubling the number of low-income, uninsured, and underinsured residents it serves. The clinic has also used the funds to purchase a state-of-the-art dental scanner and mill to provide same-day crowns and dentures.

"We are incredibly grateful for the funding from the Health First program," Trinity Free Clinic Executive Director Mel Wischmeyer said. "We've seen firsthand how life-changing dental care can be for children and adults alike. For many, it's not just about fixing teeth – it's about restoring confidence, improving nutrition, and maintaining social connections."

Trinity Free Clinic recently treated the victim of a violent assault whose mouth had been wired shut. Unable to afford dental care, the wires prevented him from speak-



Wischmeyer



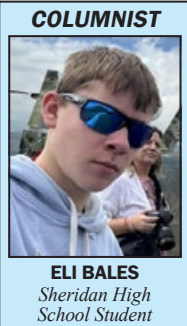
LeMaster

veloped a treatment plan to help restore his oral health. "Unfortunately, stories like these are not all that uncommon," Wischmeyer said. "We've met people denied promotions and demoted to lesser positions due to poor oral health. We recently helped a teen who wouldn't eat lunch at school because she was too embarrassed to take out her poor functioning retainer in front of her friends. These are, in some cases, life-changing procedures."

HFI funding has also enabled the Health Department to enhance local programs in mental health, maternal and child health, chronic disease prevention, and emergency preparedness.

"We are excited to see the positive impact of these grants on our community," Hamilton County Health Department Administrator Jason LeMaster said. "By working together with partners like Trinity Free Clinic, we are ensuring that our residents, particularly children and underserved populations, get the health care they need."

For more information on the Health Department's Health First Indiana initiative, [click here](#), or to learn more about Trinity Free Clinic's dental services, visit [trinityfreeclinic.org/dental](#).



ELI BALES  
Sheridan High School Student



# 3 COMEDIANS, 1 FREE EVENT



## PIZZA & PUNCHLINES

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**Brynn Cummings**  
AGT Semi-finalist

**Chad Thornsberry**  
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# ECUADOR

*from Page 1*



Photo provided by Eli Bales

**Don't let the name of the country fool you. Just because of its proximity to the equator, Ecuador has a rather pleasant climate due to the mountains.**

many times due to her husband, my uncle, being a native. We then grabbed a taxi and traveled to the airport where we flew to another city, Cuenca. There, it is much less crowded due to it being a smaller city as well as a lesser-known tourist destination. We met with my Ecuadorian uncle and took a taxi to the condo where we would stay.

After dropping off our luggage, we almost immediately went out to see the city square, which, luckily, was very close to us. My uncle, the native in our group, gave us a little tour as we checked out the nice little shops. After walking around for a while, we headed back to the condo and started to settle in.

We spent a few days in Cuenca, exploring the city and shopping for souvenirs, and we even went to a hot spring. We eventually met up with some of my uncle's family, who were fluent in English, and we discussed what we would do next.

The day after that, we packed our stuff into a travel van and went to one of my uncle's mother's houses, still in Cuenca. It was a cute little apartment-esque house with a colorful assortment of flowers lining the balcony. We stayed there for a while, and I went out shopping with my uncle's sister (aunt-in-law) as well as her

daughter. We had an excellent meal there, comprised of many different colorful foods, and I discovered a variant of the pineapple called the milagro pineapple. In my opinion, it's much better than the generic Hawaiian kind. Instead of being bright yellow like you'd expect, it was quite pale on the inside. After that, we finally traveled to our second destination, my uncle's house, in an area called Eungea.

Before that, however, we traveled to a beautiful ruin of the Inca civilization known as the Ingapirca. Built in the 15th century, it's about 550 years old and was a checkpoint for messengers of the Incan empire, which itself began in the 13th century and lasted until the late 1500s. We had a great time taking pictures with alpacas and family while also learning about the purpose of the building.

Much higher in the mountains, it was cooler and much less populated than the city. Almost the entire property was a large garden, where my uncle grew many colorful plants as well as cross-bred some unique ones. One of the crossbred plants was particularly interesting, as it was a cross between an orange and another tropical plant I forget the name of. It was bright orange and very

sour if not eaten with the skin. My brother was even able to make all-natural lemonade with the bright yellow lemons that flourished around the property. There, we did many fun things, such as helping my uncle's mother cook, going fishing even higher in the mountains, where it was extremely cold, having a cookout, and cheering for Ecuador as they made their run in the American Cup (a soccer tournament). Up in the mountains was the most enjoyable part of the trip for me.

After Eungea, we flew back and spent a few days in Quito, where we initially flew in. We went on a tour of many shopping-themed towns on the city's outskirts, some themes being leatherwork, jewelry, and weaving. On our last day, we did a lot of souvenir shopping, ensuring we got all the good stuff before leaving. We said our goodbyes to my uncle's family and went on our way back to the U.S.

This trip changed my views on how one should vacation, and I know I will return in the future. I hope everyone has this amazing ability to travel out of the country and experience the unique culture of another country at least once in their lives, as it is one of the most memorable trips you could ever take.

## KITCHEN

*from Page 1*

# TASTE OF COMMUNITY

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- 🗣️ Tell the story behind your family's treasured recipe.
- 👤 Reflect on how food has shaped your identity and community.

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something special whenever I visit. But here, in the U.S., food became my medium to find my village.

As the saying goes, “It takes a village,” and for me, food was my bridge to finding one. Fast forward to today, and I have hosted countless gatherings at home, at the temple, at my workplace, and in the community. I have also at-

tended numerous networking events where food has always been my trusty ice-breaker. Every meal I have shared over the years has not only brought people together but has also woven my own story of belonging.

Through food, I have found friendship, warmth, and connection. It has been my anchor, my language,

and my way of saying, “You are welcome here.” In every cup of chai poured, every dish served, and every recipe exchanged, I have built my own village – one meal at a time.

*Pooja Thakkar is working to build connections through cuisine. You can read her column each Saturday in the pages of The Reporter.*

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The logo for 'SHOP - LOCAL -' features the word 'SHOP' in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. Each letter is contained within a colored square: 'S' is red, 'H' is orange, 'O' is green, and 'P' is blue. Below these squares, the words '- LOCAL -' are written in a red, cursive-style font on a yellow rectangular background.





# JERSEY BOYS

**This Tony Award winner for Best Musical includes:**

**“Sherry”**

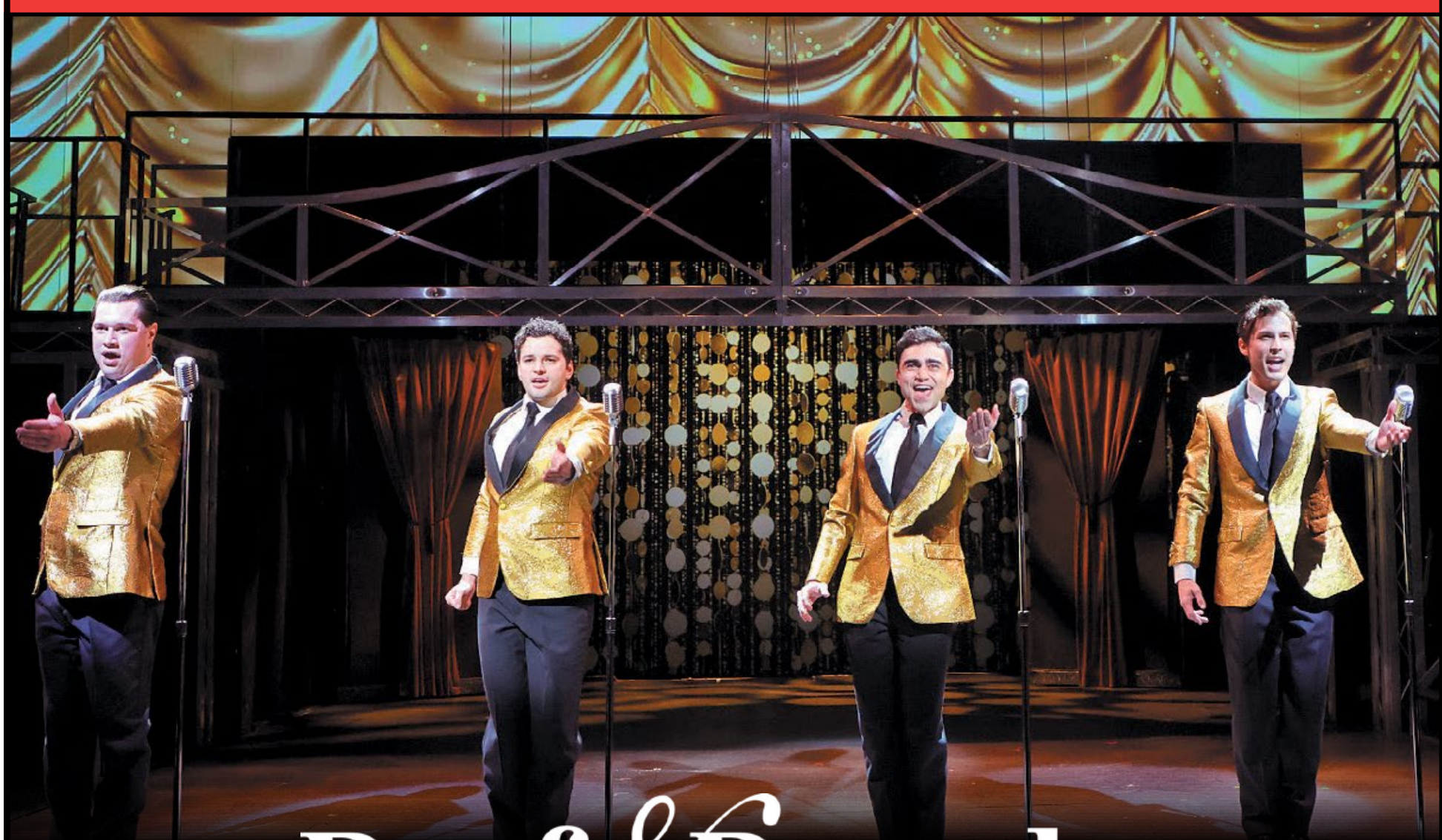
**“Big Girls Don’t Cry”**

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# Tipton to install new state-of-the-art playground equipment at City Park

### The REPORTER

Tipton city officials announced Friday plans to install new playground equipment at Tipton City Park, with construction scheduled to begin the first week of March. The equipment represents the largest playground investment the city has made in the past 30 years.

The new playground structure was purchased through a matching grant partnership with GameTime and Omnia Partners. The equipment exceeds ADA compliance standards and provides enhanced connectivity features for children of all abilities.



Schmicker

“This significant investment in our park system reflects our commitment to creating inclusive recreational spaces that serve all residents,” Tipton City Park Superintendent Diana Tomlinson said. “The Tipton City Park has always

been a valuable gathering place for our community, and this new equipment ensures it will continue to be a source of joy, activity and connection for generations to come.”

The new installation will replace aging equipment that has required multiple repairs in recent years, providing a safer and more accessible play environment for community children.

The project aligns with Tipton's 2025 Strategic Vision, which includes a focus on reinvigorating community pride through initiatives that promote the city's unique identity and enhance quality of life for residents.

“When families choose where to live and build their futures, community amenities like the Tipton City Park play a crucial role in that decision,” Mayor Kevin Schmicker said. “This



Renderings provided by City of Tipton

The new playground equipment will exceed ADA compliance standards, meaning children of all abilities will be able to enjoy time spent at the park.

investment isn't just about new playground equipment – it's about pride in our community spaces, creating lasting memories for our children, and demonstrating our commitment to Tipton's future. Our park has always been the heart

of community gatherings, family celebrations and childhood adventures, and this upgrade ensures that tradition continues.”

Construction is expected to be completed in time for late spring recreational use.



Photo provided

BGCN Donor Relations Associate Emily Crump (left) and Chick-fil-A Regional Director of Marketing Sarah Harlowe.

## Chick-fil-A raising funds for great futures

### The REPORTER

Recently, the Tom & Soni Sheehan Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville (BGCN) was presented a generous \$1,460 check from proceeds of Chick-fil-A's Charity Night to support BGCN on Feb. 25.

Funds will be allocated to support the Club's affordable after school and out-of-school programs that focus

on academic success, good character & citizenship, and healthy & active lifestyles.

“Chick-fil-A SR 37 and Saxony were excited to partner with the Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville for many reasons, all of which align with the true spirit of Noblesville: serving our youth and their families in a meaningful, impactful way,” Sarah Harlowe said.



Photos provided

(From left to right, top to bottom) Luke Jarymowycz Jr., Matthew Jarymowycz, Kai Maki, Hayden McDonald, Katherine Schultheiss, Cross Adams, Emma Duell, Jackson Hanners, Jonas Harley, Hadden Irwin, Mia Smith, Kingsley Southard, Anika Veerapaneni, and Kylee Zoba.

## State Senators Walker & Baldwin welcomes local students to Statehouse

### The REPORTER

State Senator Kyle Walker (R-Lawrence) and State Senator Scott Baldwin (R-Noblesville) welcomed the following Hamilton County students to the Statehouse who served as Senate pages in January.

- Luke Jarymowycz Jr., Fishers, attends Guerin Catholic High School
- Matthew Jarymowycz, Fishers, attends Saint Louis de Montfort Catholic School
- Kai Maki, Fishers, attends Oaks Academy Mid-

- dle School, pictured with State Sen. Spencer Deery (R-West Lafayette)
- Hayden McDonald, Fishers, attends Riverside Junior High
- Katherine Schultheiss, Fishers, attends Fishers Junior High School
- Cross Adams, Carmel, attends Guerin Catholic High School
- Emma Duell, Noblesville, attends Noblesville High School
- Jackson Hanners, Carmel, attends Clay Middle School
- Jonas Harley, Noblesville, attends Noblesville High School
- Hadden Irwin, Noblesville, attends Noblesville High School
- Mia Smith, Carmel, attends Carmel High School
- Kingsley Southard, Noblesville, attends Noblesville High School
- Anika Veerapaneni, Carmel, attends Carmel High School
- Kylee Zoba, Carmel, attends Carmel High School

“Being a page provides a first-hand look at the legislative process for young Hoosiers,” Walker said. “I was happy to welcome local students last month and answer their questions about how our government operates.” Pages spend a day at the Statehouse touring the historic building, observing debates from the Senate floor and interacting with their state senator. “It was a pleasure to welcome these students to the Senate and answer their questions about local government and how it operates,” Baldwin said. “I look forward to welcoming additional local students as this session progresses.” Students in grades six through 12 participate in the page program on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays during the legislative session. Groups serve on Wednesdays. To learn more about the Senate Page Program, visit [IndianaSenateRepublicans.com/Page-Program](https://IndianaSenateRepublicans.com/Page-Program).

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Hamilton Co. Invasives Partnership

# March is Invasive Species Action Month in Hamilton County

## The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Invasives Partnership (HIP) launches Invasive Species Action Month this March, calling on residents to act in the fight against invasive species. Whether by removing invasive species, attending an educational workshop, or making the switch to native plants, there are many ways to get involved and make a difference.

“Invasive species are one of the biggest threats to our local parks and natural areas,” HIP Coordinator Claire Lane said. “This month is all about action – challenging people to take real steps to help – starting in their own yards.”

Throughout March, HIP partners are offering a variety of volunteer opportunities, educational experiences, and a special landscaping with natives workshop to equip residents with the tools they need to restore biodiversity in their community.

**Key events & ways to get involved**

- Volunteer experiences: Hands-on opportunities to remove invasive plants

and restore native habitats across the county.

- **Landscaping with Natives Workshop** – March 12, 6 p.m. at Cool Creek Park Nature Center: Learn how to transform your yard with native plants, access free native landscaping plans, and connect with local experts and plant retailers.

- **Educational content on social media:** Follow @hamiltonswcd on **Instagram** and **Facebook** for facts, tips, and calls to action throughout March.

HIP encourages all Hamilton County residents to take three key actions this month:

1. Remove invasive species like Callery pear, burning bush, and wintercreeper.
2. Learn and share information with neighbors and friends.
3. Switch to native plants in landscaping to support pollinators and local wildlife.

For more information on how to participate in Invasive Species Action Month, visit [hcinvasives.org](http://hcinvasives.org) or follow @hamiltonswcd on social media.



## The REPORTER

Carmel is observing National Disability Awareness Month in March and will be part of several special events.

**Community Sensory Day**  
**Saturday, March 8,**  
**11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
**Midtown Plaza**

Come to Midtown Plaza for snacks courtesy of the city’s partners at BraunaAbility, free giveaways and sensory activities, videos hosted by the Carmel Advisory Committee on Disability (CACD) and a family-friendly movie.

**Adaptive Virtual Art Exhibit**

This annual virtual exhibit in partnership with the Carmel Arts Council will be featured on the Midtown screen throughout the month of March with artists’ works also featured in the City of Carmel weekly e-newsletter.

**Carmel Clay Public Library March Disability Awareness Book List**

The library will share a list of recommended books to highlight authors with a disability or books with characters with a disability.



Photo provided by City of Carmel

(ABOVE) Last year’s Community Sensory Day event at Midtown Plaza was a great success. (BELOW) Closed captioning is visible on the movie showing in Midtown Plaza on the big screen.

**Hamilton County Disability Resource Fair**  
**Wednesday, March 26,**  
**6 to 7:30 p.m.**

**Carmel High School accessABILITY Center for Independent Living, Inc.** will hold the Hamilton County Disability Resource Fair to provide information about community resources and services for individuals with disabilities and their families.

**Closed Captioning**  
Carmel is committed to inclusive and accessible environments for all. If your business needs assistance to enable closed captioning



(CC) on your TV screens, visit [Hamilton County Tourism's website](http://HamiltonCountyTourism.com) for resources.



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It’s halftime at the Statehouse

New at Sheridan Public Library

Feb. 20 was the last day the House or the Senate could pass bills to the other chamber. There were no committee hearings during the week of Feb. 24. Both chambers of the legislature will be back in session on the week of March 4.

Fourteen of the 45 bills assigned to the Education and Career Development Committee in the Senate will be sent to the House for consideration. Out of 67 proposed bills in the House Education Committee, only 18 passed and will cross over.

A Senate education bill of importance is **SB 146** titled Teacher Compensation. Three main areas directly impact the compensation:

1. First, it requires the DOE to prepare a report for the General Assembly before Nov. 1, 2025, of the feasibility and cost of either increasing a school corporation’s employee health plan or the cost of allowing a school corporation employee to elect to participate in



a state health plan if the state health plan is less expensive.

2. Second, the bill establishes the Indiana Teacher Recruitment Program. The purpose of the program is to provide grants to training and recruitment programs for teachers in critical shortage areas.

3. Third, the bill increases the minimum salary for each full-time teacher from \$40,000 to \$45,000 for each school year beginning, June 30, 2025. If a school corporation determines that it cannot establish a minimum salary of \$45,000 for each full-time teacher, the school corporation shall submit a report to the Department of Education explaining its inability to meet the minimum threshold requirement.

The House passed a bill, **HB 1634**, that deals with Math Education. There are several important sections in that proposed bill:

1. The first is that the bill requires the DOE to conduct a review of accredited teacher preparation

programs for elementary school teacher candidates. If a program falls short of the requirements, they need to institute an improvement plan. Any program that fails to meet the criteria of the improvement plan shall have the word “accredited” revoked by the DOE.

2. The next section of the bill deals with middle school math students. Middle school students who score at proficiency or higher on the ILEARN assessment and who earn a “C” or higher in their math coursework will automatically be enrolled in an advanced math course. There is an option for a parent to opt out their student.

As was the case with reading in the last session, HB 1634 has requirements for screenings, evaluations, and interventions for students in kindergarten, grades 1 and 2 who may be at risk of not meeting grade-level proficiency in Math. Currently, this is set to take effect beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. In addition, if a school determines that a student in kindergarten through grade 8 is at risk of not achiev-

ing grade-level proficiency in mathematics, the school must provide intervention based on the student’s individual needs.

The Senate bill addresses the ongoing discussions over giving teachers greater compensation for the valuable role they play in our children’s education. I believe that the three areas listed above demonstrate our collective agreement.

The House bill addresses an issue I wrote about in **my August 2024 column**. That is the dismal standing of United States students in the fields of math and science. Our legislature is making strides by creating a new diploma framework. The last legislative session addressed reading proficiency. Now this session has worked to address math proficiency. I look forward to the next session addressing the area of science.

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

The REPORTER

Here are some of the new items that can be found at the Sheridan Public Library.

Fiction

- Blessings on State Street – Rachael Bloome
- Blink of Time – Katie Winters
- Dead Med – Frieda McFadden
- Don’t Let Her Stay – Nicola Sanders
- Fallen Woman’s Daughter – Michelle Cox
- The First Husband – Elisabeth Carpenter
- Grits and Grievances – Rachel Hanna
- Her Sister’s Murder – Tara Taylor Quinn
- Medici Return – Steve Berry
- Summer Rose – Katie Winters

Non-Fiction

- Let Them Theory – Mel Robbins
  - Let’s Cook Together – Kindersley Dorling
  - Source Code: My Beginnings – Bill Gates
- Inspirational Fiction
- Mother’s Gift – Kathryn Springer
  - Mysterious Amish Bach-

- elor – Vannetta Chapman
- Secret Between Them – Donna Gartshore
- Target Acquired – Lynette Eason
- With This Ring – Amy Clipston

Children’s

- Arctic Animals – Nick Ackland
- Chef’s Kiss – Jeffrey Burton
- Easter in the Barnyard – Dandi Daley Mackall
- Love – Helen Mortimer
- Minnie Loves Easter – Allison Grote
- Nibbles Colors – Emma Yarlett
- Poke-a-dot First Colors – Melissa & Doug
- Poke-a-dot First Shapes – Melissa & Doug
- Poke-a-dot First Words – Melissa & Doug
- Secret Admirers & Other Gross Stuff – S. Kendall

Young Adults

- Better Than the Movies – Lynn Painter
- Elders Quest – Erin Hunter
- Nothing Like the Movies – Lynn Painter

Movies

- Aftermath
- It Ends With Us

Sheridan Public Library has full list of events for March calendar

Submitted

The Sheridan Public Library, 103 W. 1st St., has all sorts of fun activities available for all ages. See the list below and visit [sheridan.lib.in.us](http://sheridan.lib.in.us) for more information. Support your local library!

Babies & Toddlers

March 3, 10, 17, 24 at 10:30 a.m.: Discovery Time (up to 3 years)

Preschool

March 5, 12, 19, 26 at

10:30 a.m.: Little Learners Story Time (ages 3 to 6)  
March 25 at 6 p.m.: PJ Story Time (ages 3 to 6)

Grades K-5

March 6 at 3:30 p.m.: After School Club: Pokémon Party; no registration; bring your own cards to trade  
March 20 at 3:30 p.m.: After School Club: Tinkers & Thinkers; design and test your own paper airplanes

Grades 6-12

March 13 at 3:30 p.m.: Chess Club; no experience necessary

March 15 at 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Magic the Gathering; led by David King  
March 18 at 3:30 p.m.: Teen Volunteer: Movie Day/ Stuff Easter Eggs for Hunt

Adults

March 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.: Color Me Away; stress-relief adult

coloring; supplied provided  
March 5, 12, 19, 26 at 11 a.m.: Needle Crafters  
March 5, 19 at 3 p.m.: Adult Bingo (Sponsored by Robert Owen)  
March 5 at 6 p.m.: Pinners (Pinterest Group)  
March 6 at 5:30 p.m.: Up-cycled Craft: Paper Jewelry  
March 7 at 10 a.m.: Up-cycled Craft: Paper Jewelry  
March 13 at 3:30 p.m.: Chess Club; no experience

necessary  
March 15 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Magic the Gathering; led by David King  
March 19 at 5:30 p.m.: Sheridan Readers: A Most Clever Girl: The Story of an American Spy by Stephanie Marie Thornton

All Ages

Month of March: Book Madness; vote for your favorites to narrow down the bracket  
March 3 to 8 during li-

brary hours: Drop-in for Dr. Suess: Read Across America fun and activities  
March 13 at 6 p.m.: Family Bingo Night; free event, fun prizes  
March 22 at 11 a.m.: STEAM Celebration with Professor Steve’s “Unseen Forces” science show

\*\*\*

For more information on programming and services, visit [sheridan.lib.in.us](http://sheridan.lib.in.us).

American Bank of Freedom

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



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(463) 622-2930

Member  
FDIC





# 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  
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**

**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  
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 Post 470** Pat Menc  
9091 E 126<sup>th</sup> St Treasure Hunt Fri 8pm \$25K  
Fishers, in 46038 Trivia Wed 6pm  
317-842-5944 Breakfast 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun 8-11  
M 3-10p, Tu-Su 12-10pm or when empty.  
**Restaurant Breakfast 1<sup>st</sup>&3<sup>rd</sup> Sun 9-12,  
Food 12-8 Tu, 5-9 W, 12-9 Th, F 3-8 Sa, 12-5  
Su**

**Noblesville Post 45** Gil Soria  
273 S 8<sup>th</sup> St Fri 645pm Treasure Hunt  
Noblesville, in 46060  
317-773-9985 Trivia every 1 & 3 Sat 7pm  
M-Th 11a-10p, F11a-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**

**Sheridan Post 67** Tom DeShon  
406 E 10<sup>th</sup> St  
Sheridan, In 46069  
317-758-5007  
M 3-9p, Tu-Th 11-9p, F Sa 11-10p, Su 1-6p  
**Restaurant Lunch Tu-F 11a-2p, food service  
till close**

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

**Noblesville Post 6246** Eric Behrends  
654 S 9<sup>th</sup> St  
Noblesville, In 46060  
317-773-9956  
M-Th 11a-10p, F 11a-12a, Sa 12p-12a, Su  
12p-8p  
**Restaurant M-F 6-9p**

### Non-Profit Veteran Orgs

**Hamilton County Veterans Corp**  
P.O. Box 503  
Noblesville, in 46061  
[secretary@hamiltoncountyveterans.com](mailto:secretary@hamiltoncountyveterans.com)  
Meets 7pm the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday Monthly at the  
Fishers American Legion. Our website  
<https://www.hamiltoncountyveterans.com/>  
has 40 pages of resources for our Military  
Veteran community

**Navy Club Hamilton County Ship 29**  
Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Wed 530pm dinner 630pm meeting  
at Gingers Cafe 1111 S 10<sup>th</sup> St Noblesville

## Hamilton County Veteran Service Officers

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

## Hamilton County Military Veteran

Learn 3 Steps On How To Control Bleeding  
at Carmel Fire Dept HQ March 13

Hamilton County Health Department Presents

## FREE STOP THE BLEED COURSE

March 13, 2025  
6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Carmel Fire Department Headquarters  
210 Veterans Way  
Carmel, IN 46032

Register Here



Stop the Bleed course teaches you 3 steps to control the bleeding before emergency crews arrive - apply pressure with your hands, pack the wound & press and how to apply a tourniquet. This is for anyone interested in learning this lifesaving skill.




March 18 Job Fair Downtown Indy from 10am till 2pm at Frederick Douglass Park Family Center

Edna Martin Christian Center & Indy Parks Present

## Higher Me! Career Education & Resource Fair

Empowering Community to Take Control of Their Future

Tuesday March 18th, 2025  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Frederick Douglass Park Family Center  
1616 East 25th Street

Why Attend?

- ✓ Employment Opportunities
- ✓ Community Resources
- ✓ Education and Training Info

Scan to Register

For Details Contact Nicholas Calvert  
317-637-3776  
[Ncalvert@ednamartincc.org](mailto:Ncalvert@ednamartincc.org)




Fund Raiser for Recovery Café of Hamilton County  
March 21, Raise Your Paddle and Make a Bid

RAISE the PADDLE  
Give the Gift of Love

Friday, March 21, 2025

Auction Style Event benefiting  
Recovery Café Hamilton County

Delaware Township Community Center  
9094 E 15th St, Fishers

Coffee Bar and Appetizers at 6:00PM  
Paddle begins at 6:30PM



Noblesville American Legion Weekend Breakfast

AMERICAN LEGION

Breakfast Every Saturday & Sunday: 8am to 12pm

American Legion Post 155  
852 W. Main Street  
Carmel, IN 46032




## Activities & Events

National Vietnam War Veterans Day Mar 29, 2025

★ FIND ★ THANK ★ REPAY ★

NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY  
INDIANA

WELCOME HOME  
VIETNAM VETERANS  
WHVV.ORG  
FREE LUNCH SERVED

MARCH 29, 2025  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
2:00 pm - Ceremony & Awards  
Indiana National Guard Armory  
325 Minuteman Way - Franklin, IN 46031

Huey Helicopter Rides  
Weather Permitting

SPECIAL FEATURE  
The Journey Home  
Armory Auditorium Showtimes  
11:00am 1:00pm 3:00pm

ALL event attendees receive a copy of  
A Time To Honor - Stories of Service, Duty, and Sacrifice  
BOOK/DVD

WE ♥ OUR VIETNAM VETERANS  
Public Welcome FREE ADMISSION  
Let us thank these heroes!

MUSIC, Food, Door Prizes  
plus Special Recognition for Vietnam Era Veterans

DAR  
Daughters of the American Revolution  
INDIANA

Sammy L. Davis  
Medal of Honor - Vietnam  
WHVV.ORG  
Contact: Jill Frewell  
317-549-5900 JDF@whvv.org  
★ INDIANA GOLD STAR

We Will Never Forget...

Watch 'The Journey Home' Movie Trailer

<https://vimeo.com/521654918>

Volunteer to help Honor, Remember and Welcome  
Home our Vietnam Veterans

<https://www.signuggenius.com/go/20F0B4CA4AD2BA6F85-55185776-march#/>

Since August 2015, our mission at Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans has been to FIND, THANK and REPAY Hoosier Vietnam Era Veterans. WHVV & community partners have held over 250 special "Welcome Home" events in ALL 92 Indiana Counties with the Indiana Vietnam Veterans Gift Program, A TIME TO HONOR book & DVD set. This extremely successful statewide outreach program honors, remembers and preserves the memories of Hoosier Vietnam Era Veterans. A 2021 collaboration with Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution has been a key component to many of these community events taking place ensuring all Indiana public libraries and high schools have a donated copy of A Time To Honor. We connect Veterans to earned benefits and resources. We have impacted over 20,000 military families!

Our final "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans" appreciation event with this Vietnam Gift Outreach will be on National Vietnam War Veterans Day, Saturday, March 29th, 2025. This is the last year for the Department of Defense 50th Commemoration of the Vietnam War. The event will take place at the Johnson County Indiana National Guard Armory, 325 Minuteman Way, Franklin, Indiana, 46131.

Highlights include a luncheon, Huey Helicopter Flights provided by Columbus Indiana Huey, a special viewing of The Journey Home documentary. All attendees will receive a copy of A Time To Honor—Stories of Service, Duty and Sacrifice book/DVD. Our Honored Guest is Indiana's own Medal of Honor Recipient Sammy L. Davis. Invited special guests include former Vice President Mike Pence, Governor Braun, The Adjunct General of Indiana Larry Muennich, Senator Aaron Freeman, Franklin Mayor Steve Barnett, Indiana State Daughters of the American Revolution Regent Elaine Sholtz, MG Ret. R. Martin Umbarger, Indiana Department of Veteran Affairs Director Jake Adams, and officials from the Department of Indiana American Legion, VFW Department of Indiana, Indiana DAV, AMVETS, Civil Air Patrol, DAR Leadership, IMMVG, and others. It is free and open to the public.

We hope you will consider joining us to make this a very special day for Indiana Vietnam Veterans

## Christmas In June Care Package Drive



"Christmas in June" Care Package Drive for our  
Deployed Hoosiers - Feb 12<sup>th</sup> till May 10<sup>th</sup>

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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 126<sup>th</sup> St, Fishers, In  
Noblesville American Legion Post 45 - 273 S 8<sup>th</sup> St, Noblesville, In 46060  
Noblesville VFW Post 6246 - 654 S 9<sup>th</sup> St, Noblesville, In 46060  
Sheridan American Legion Post 67 - 406 E 10<sup>th</sup> 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 5 - 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](mailto:treasurer@hamiltoncountyveterans.com)  
Tracy at [auxiliarypost470@gmail.com](mailto:auxiliarypost470@gmail.com)

# Nickel Plate HERITAGE RAILROAD

20 EST 17

## ENJOY THE RICH HISTORY OF RAIL TRAVEL!

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

The Nickel Plate Express operates on 12.5 miles of the former Nickel Plate Road between Noblesville and Atlanta.  
Excursions board in Noblesville at 825 Forest Park Drive.

## Trailer Park Tragedy

Dust off your best trailer park attire and get ready for an evening of laughs, suspense, and unforgettable fun! In this interactive murder mystery, guests are the actors. Enjoy the show plus a BBQ dinner.

March 29 and 30

## Easter Express

All aboard for a springtime Easter adventure. Enjoy an interactive story with the Easter Bunny and Farmer Brown, a sweet treat and our special Nickel Plate bunny punch.

April 12, 13 and 19

## Spring Field Trip Days

Learn about railroad history, safety and more aboard the historic Nickel Plate Express. Take a 45-minute train ride, talk with the Conductor and Engineer and see history in action. Tickets are just \$12 per person.

April 29 and May 13

## Railbike Season

Bike the historic line north and south from Forest Park using unique "railbikes" that operate on the existing railroad tracks. The NPX Railbike is the first of its kind in Indiana and one of the few available in the Midwest!

Opens April 4!

ALL ABOARD! [NICKELPLATEEXPRESS.COM](http://NICKELPLATEEXPRESS.COM)

NICKELPLATEEXPRESS.COM



# Noblesville FD responds to two house fires, no injuries reported

**The REPORTER**

The Noblesville Fire Department (NFD) responded to two residential fires Thursday, ensuring the safety of all residents and pets involved.

The first fire was reported in the 4800 block of Ashbrook Drive. The incident was discovered when the homeowners' in-home security system detected smoke and alerted Hamilton County Public Safety Communications, which dispatched emergency services. Fire crews arrived promptly, entered the home, and quickly extinguished the fire, limiting damage to the kitchen area. The cause of the fire has not been released. No injuries were reported, and the homeowner's pets were safely evacuated.

The second fire occurred in the 1100 block of Funny Cide Drive. The homeowner contacted 911 after her children alerted her to the fire. The family safely evacuated before emergency responders arrived. Upon arrival, firefighters encountered heavy smoke coming from the residence. Crews located the fire on the second floor and successfully extinguished it. The home sustained substantial damage, but no injuries were reported to civilians, pets, or firefighters.

NFD reminds residents of the importance of working smoke detectors in every home. With the upcoming time change, now is an excellent time to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors to ensure they are functioning properly.



Photos provided by Noblesville Fire Department



## Art Association of Madison County Student Exhibition opens Sunday

**The REPORTER**

The Anderson Museum of Art (AMOA) will serve as the hosting venue for the 26th annual Art Association of Madison County (AAMC) Student Exhibition, a showcase of exceptional young talent from across the community.

This year's exhibition features 349 remarkable pieces created by 240 students from 10 Madison County schools, celebrating local youth's creativity and artistic expression. The exhibition will be on display for two weeks, from Sunday, March 2, to Saturday,

March 15.

The public is invited to attend the Opening Reception from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 2, with an awards ceremony at 3 p.m. During the ceremony, 60 awards will be presented to recognize outstanding student artists.

Thank you to Nick Martin, Outreach Education Specialist at AMOA and local artist, for serving as this year's judge.

Please join in and celebrate the incredible work of these young artists and support the future of the arts in Madison County.

### Gallery Hours

Opening Reception: Sunday, March 3 from 2 to 5 p.m.

**Week 1**

**Monday, March 3:**  
noon to 6 p.m.  
**Tuesday, March 4:**  
noon to 6 p.m.  
**Wednesday, March 5:**  
noon to 6 p.m.  
**Thursday, March 6:**  
noon to 6 p.m.  
**Friday, March 7:**  
noon to 6 p.m.  
**Saturday, March 8:**  
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Week 2**

**Sunday, March 9:** 2 to 5 p.m.  
**Monday, March 10:**  
noon to 6 p.m.  
**Tuesday, March 11:**  
noon to 6 p.m.  
**Wednesday, March 12:**  
noon to 6 p.m.  
**Thursday, March 13:**  
noon to 8 p.m.  
**Friday, March 14:**  
noon to 5 p.m.  
**Saturday, March 15:**  
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Thanks for reading!**

# Stony Creek church of Christ



We are a group of Christians doing our best to follow the Bible and nothing more. No outside organization(s). No man-made traditions. No additions or subtractions. Just hearts fully set on Jesus, His church, His word, and living His ways. We would LOVE for you to come join us or let us know if you are interested in having a personal Bible study.

## THE BIBLE AND SCIENTIFIC FACTS.

Most people don't know that the Bible revealed a wealth of incredible scientific and medical facts long before science discovered them.

The Bible Reveals...	Passage Found.	Date Science Discovered.	Years prior.
There was an origin of creation and life.	Genesis 1:1; 2:7 (1440-1400 BC)	1920's	3,300+
Earth is free floating.	Job 26:7 (7th to 4th Century BC)	1650's	2,000+
Earth is round.	Isaiah 40:22 (740-681 BC)	16th century (first practical proof)	2,200+
First law of Thermodynamics.	Genesis 2:1 (1440-1400 BC)	1850's	3,200+
The Hydrologic Cycle.	Ecclesiastes 1:7 (930 BC)	1580's	2,500+
Life is in the blood.	Leviticus 17:11 (1440-1400 BC)	1620's	3,000+

And those are just a few of many examples.

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

📞 317-219-5852

✉ speakingtruthinlove4.15@gmail.com

### Our Assembly times:

Sunday Bible Study | 10:00 AM

Sunday Worship | 11:00 AM

Wednesday Bible Study | 7:00 PM





# ReadTheReporter.com



Obituary

Lawrence Neil Horn

January 15, 1935 – February 27, 2025

Lawrence Neil Horn, 90, Noblesville, passed away peacefully at Harbour Manor Nursing Home on February 27, 2025. Neil was born on January 15, 1935, in Battle Creek, Mich., to parents, Lawrence and Lucrecia Horn.

He is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Marjorie L. Horn. Also surviving are four daughters, Debra Roop (Bruce), Decatur, Ind.; Sherry Amstutz (Dan), Velpen, Ind.; Jennifer Horn, Cape Coral, Fla.; and Jenise Snyder (Nick), Noblesville; three sons, Stanley Horn (Nancy), Noblesville; Lon Fox (Robin), Yorktown, Ind., and Tracy Fox, Cicero; 14 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and siblings, Dewey Horn and Linda Freeman, both of Michigan.

Neil was preceded in death by his brother, Ron Horn; sister, Nancy Sickler; and sister-in-law, Miriam Horn.

Neil served the Lord in the Ministry for 17 years and orchestrated several building projects for those churches. He spent the next 27 years as an insurance agent, working with churches and pastors to make sure they were insured correctly.

He was a member of Harbour Shores Church where he taught Bible Study classes. He started Fellowship After 55 for the senior members along with a Nursing Home Ministry to bring church services to the nursing homes.

Another passion of Neil's was for Jewish Missions. He started the Jew First Society. They raised money twice a year and all proceeds went to seven ministries in Israel to win their own people to the Messiah.

Neil's life verse: Philippians 1:6 "And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."

Services will be held at Harbour Shores Church, 8011 E. 216 St., Cicero, on Saturday, March 8, 2025. Viewing will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with the service starting at 1 p.m. Burial to follow at Hamilton Memorial Park, 4180 Westfield Road, Westfield.

Funeral arrangements being handled by Randall & Roberts Funeral Homes of Noblesville.

Memorial Contributions may be made to Jew First Society, P.O. Box 365, Noblesville, IN 46061 ([tothejewfirst-society.org/donate](mailto:tothejewfirst-society.org/donate)).

Condolences: [randallroberts.com](http://randallroberts.com)



LIFETIME LEGACY LAWYERS  
Podcast

<https://lifetimelegacylawyers.com>

CLICK TO LISTEN

The REPORTER

The Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel offers the following opportunities for educational experiences.

From Africa to Ireland with PB&J

Families joined in a celebration of West African culture Saturday at the Studio Theater (above) when Indianapolis-based Epiphany Dance Collective performed for the monthly Peanut Butter & Jam series.

The next PB&J on March 8 offers an early taste of St. Patrick's Day with singer-songwriter **Katherine Nagy & Friends** performing Irish folk tunes and original songs inspired by Nagy's childhood in Ireland. Joining her will be Bethany Robinson (bass, vocals), Tim Wright (banjo, pedal steel) and Dmitri Alano (Irish flute, bagpipes). Tickets are only \$10 per child, with two free adult admissions included per order.

Luminaries to learn about black composers

The next installment of the Luminaries speaker series – taking place Tuesday, Jan. 28 – features local musicians Trevor Conerly (saxophone) and Andrew Brown (piano) performing and discussing the works of black composers. **Tickets are just \$10** for the 2 p.m. presentation, "The Music and Lives of African American Classical Composers."

Your turn in the spotlight

Allied Solutions Center isn't just a wonderful place to watch the world's greatest performers – it's also the



Photo provided

World-renowned pianist Lang Lang will return to the Palladium on March 28.

perfect place to begin your own journey to the stage under the guidance of local arts professionals.

Last Friday, graduates of our five-week **Songwriting: Melody & Lyrics** course performed their new creations in a final "Songwriters in the Round" concert at the Studio Theater. Tomorrow night in that same space, the equally courageous grads of our four-week **Intro to Stand-Up Comedy** course will deliver their "tight five" comic routines before a live audience. **Tickets are just \$10** to watch your friends and neighbors try to be funny.

On April 10, our annual **World Voice Day** celebration invites anyone and everyone (the first 30 to sign up, at least) to sing a song of their choice on the Palladium stage. No previous experience is required, but here's a pro tip: Many of the performers will be veterans of our four-week **Group Vocal Coaching** course, which begins a new section March 12 for teens and adults who want to be better

singers.

Luminaries: Telling stories through dance

Iris Rosa Santiago is a native of Puerto Rico and Professor Emerita of Indiana University, with over four decades of international research and teaching on dance technique, history and choreography of the African American and African Diaspora. She is the Artistic Director of Seda Negra/Black Silk Dance Company and owner of Iris Rosa Dance Studio in Indianapolis. She also was a 2024 winner of Allied Solutions Center's **New Works** arts commission program.

In other words, Professor Rosa knows a thing or two about dance, and she'll be sharing that expertise at the **March 25 session of Luminaries**, our weekday speaker series. Her presentation, *Choreographing Dance Narratives: What Inspires My Creativity*, will focus on the ideas, feelings and lived experiences that fuel her storytelling in the dance discipline. She'll also screen some videos of her work.

Don't miss the free classical music talks

Lang Lang, one of the world's great pianists, will return to the Palladium on

March 28 with a **program of Fauré, Schumann, and Chopin**. For non-experts attending the show, wouldn't it be great to get a little pre-concert primer, some expert insights on the selections to be performed?

Fortunately, this happens before every classical concert at Allied Solutions Center. Complimentary for ticket holders, music professor Dr. Heather Platt of Ball State University leads a *Classics in Context* discussion from 7:15 to 7:45 p.m. in the Palladium's Robert Adam Room. To get the most out of the performance, just show up a little early.

Bookies to meet in April

The Palladium Bookies reading club will meet next on April 14 to discuss *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride, a mystery novel centered on a theater and market that provide a community hub for Black residents and performers in 1920s Pennsylvania.

The Bookies meet every other month to discuss books about the performing arts. It's casual, fun and free. Just grab a book and RSVP to [Outreach@TheCenter-Presents.org](mailto:Outreach@TheCenter-Presents.org).



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[www.wstevenscpa.com](http://www.wstevenscpa.com)  
W. Stevens LLP DBA Noble Business Advisors

Thanks for reading  
The Reporter!



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

Constituent Services



Help with Federal Agencies

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

- Social Security issues
- Medicare claims
- Veterans benefits
- Passport assistance
- IRS questions



US Flag Requests

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



Military Academy Nominations

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



US Capitol and White House Tour Requests

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



TODAY’S BIBLE READING

THE TABLE

*They made the table of acacia wood—two cubits long, a cubit wide and a cubit and a half high. Then they overlaid it with pure gold and made a gold molding around it. They also made around it a rim a handbreadth wide and put a gold molding on the rim. They cast four gold rings for the table and fastened them to the four corners, where the four legs were. The rings were put close to the rim to hold the poles used in carrying the table. The poles for carrying the table were made of acacia wood and were overlaid with gold. And they made from pure gold the articles for the table—its plates and dishes and bowls and its pitchers for the pouring out of drink offerings.*

*Exodus 37:10-16 (NIV)*

Alix Leon McKeeman

December 12, 2005 – February 23, 2025

Alix Leon McKeeman, 19, Noblesville, passed away on Sunday, February 23, 2025, at his home after a long battle with Type 1 Diabetes and Addison’s Disease. He was born on December 12, 2005, to Denny and Jessica (Pugh) McKeeman in Tipton.



Alix worked in the To Go station at Bob Evans. He was really into video games, and loved cars, music, and exploring new places outside. Alix enjoyed spending time with his friends and putting together Legos, especially Formula 1 and *Star Wars*.

He is survived by his mother, Jessica (Zack) Down; father, Denny (Rochelle) McKeeman; stepfather, Mark Goulding; siblings, Charleigh Down, Cheyenne Down, Waylon Down, Aiden McKeeman, Emma McKeeman, and Macy McKeeman; grandparents, Dennis McKeeman, Christa & Terry Fouch, James Goulding, Kevin Pugh (Anne Dillman) Pugh, and Steve & Denise Down; aunts and uncles, Kia (Chad) Albano, Karly (Darin) Murphy, Travis (Megan) McKinzie, Jackie Pugh, Jamie (Justin) Waldren, Ann (Lenny) Chacko, Rhiannon Down, Beth (Brett) Gyl-ling, Ethan Down, and Cicely Down; and several cousins.

Alix was preceded in death by his grandmothers, Betty McKeeman and Janet Goulding.

Visitation will be from noon to 2 p.m., with a memorial service at 2 p.m., on Sunday, March 2, 2025, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville. Rev. Stanley R. Sutton will officiate.

Condolences: [randallroberts.com](http://randallroberts.com)

Lorena Maruice Shumar

February 22, 1935 – February 24, 2025

Lorena Maruice Shumar, 90, Fishers, passed away peacefully at her home with her daughter by her side on Monday, February 24, 2025.

Born on February 22, 1935, in Dog Creek, Ky., to Ewell and Vera (Bradley) Johnston, Lorena, one of 14, grew up on the family farm where she developed an unshakable work ethic, a deep love for helping others, and a love for ice cream. Even as a young girl, she dreamed beyond the boundaries of her rural upbringing, determined to make a difference in the lives of those she loved.

With a heart full of ambition and generosity, Lorena left the farm to pursue work, vowing to give back to her family. Her selflessness showed early on when she saved her first eight paychecks to purchase a dining room table and chairs for her parents, promising her mother, “This is just the beginning.” And, indeed, it was. Throughout her life, Lorena gave boundlessly, not only to family and friends but also to strangers, always believing in the power of kindness. She was a passionate supporter of The Salvation Army and never hesitated to lend a helping hand where it was needed most.

Lorena found immense joy in life’s simple pleasures. She adored her soap operas, treasured time spent with family, loved working out, and, never turned down an opportunity to try a new restaurant. After years of caution due to health concerns, she was thrilled to celebrate her 90th birthday by dining out with her beloved daughter, Donna, savoring every moment (and every bite of biscuits and gravy) during their two-and-a-half-hour meal. In recent years, she surprised everyone with her newfound love for Taco Bell nachos and cheese, often teaming up with her son, Rick, to playfully convince Donna it was part of a balanced diet.

Lorena cherished traditions, always bringing her family together through laughter and fun. She loved playing board games and made friendly competition out of Christmas Bingo every year. She most recently was taught how to play Trouble by her great-grandsons, creating cherished memories. And when it came to meals, she had a knack for making the ordinary special – most notably convincing her family that Stouffer’s macaroni and cheese was homemade, a well-kept secret she carried with a mischievous smile for more than 30 years.

Travel was another of Lorena’s great passions. Alongside Donna, she explored breathtaking destinations from the Grand Canyon and Mount Rushmore to the iconic sights of Paris, London, and Egypt. One of the most cherished adventures of her lifetime was a journey to the Holy Land, an experience she held close to her heart.

A hardworking and dedicated woman, Lorena was the proud former owner of the La Ja 15 Cocktail Lounge. She later served in dietary services at Community Hospital, The Sheraton, and Lantern Road Elementary School. Her time



at the elementary school brought her immense joy – she loved interacting with the children and often shared humorous stories from the cafeteria. Her kindness extended to her colleagues, making it a tradition to bake each staff member a birthday cake, ensuring they felt special on their day. She was a woman who cared deeply and lived fully, embodying warmth, resilience, and an ever-present sense of humor.

Lorena attended St. Louis de Montfort Catholic Church and lived her faith through her actions, always offering love and generosity to those around her.

She is survived by her son, Rick Shumar, and daughter, Donna Shumar; three granddaughters, Brooke Huffman (Bryce), Shannon Hurley (Ryan), and Victoria Hittinger (Ryan); six great-grandchildren, Cameron Huffman, Landon Hurley, Cruze Hurley, Hudson Hurley, Davis Hurley, and Matthew Hittinger; and seven siblings, Odaline Clemens, Royce Johnston, Denise Sims, Judy Clemens, Wayland Johnston, Dwight Johnston (Brenda), Maryla White, and many cherished nieces and nephews.

She is reunited in heaven with her beloved husband, Archie James Shumar; her parents; and six siblings, Bernita Sims, Juanita Higdon, Wilfred Johnston, Freeman Johnston, Armond Johnston, and Georgetta Smith.

Lorena’s legacy of love, laughter, and generosity will live on in the hearts of those she touched. She embraced every day as a gift, inspiring those around her to do the same. She will be deeply missed but forever remembered.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:15 a.m. on Monday, March 3, 2025, at St. Louis de Montfort Catholic Church, 11441 Hague Road, Fishers, with Rev. Thomas J. Haan officiating. Visitation will be from 10 to 11 a.m. Eulogy will be delivered at 11 a.m. prior to the beginning of the service at the church. Entombment will be at Calvary Cemetery in Indianapolis.

Memorial contributions may be made to Salvation Army, 6060 Castleway West Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46250 ([centralusa.salvationarmy.org/indiana](http://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/indiana)).

Condolences: [randallroberts.com](http://randallroberts.com)

The Reporter’s policy on obituaries

The Hamilton County Reporter does not charge families for publishing obituary notices in our pages. Every obituary appearing in online editions Wednesday through Saturday also appears in our Monday print editions. In order to continue to offer this as a community service, we ask that obituaries not exceed 500 words. The limitations of space may not allow for longer ones to appear in print.

Families and funeral homes are asked to submit obituaries at [ReadTheReporter.com/obitform](http://ReadTheReporter.com/obitform).



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

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

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

**Subscription Inquiries**  
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**Sports Editor Richie Hall**  
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## Boys Swimming State Prelims Carmel advances 23 to finals, Fishers sends 12

### The REPORTER

The Carmel boys swim team is ready to make it 11 in a row.

The Greyhounds qualified 23 swimmers from Friday night's IHSAA state preliminaries into Saturday's state finals. Twenty-one of those swimmers made it to the "A" Final, or championship heat, with the other two moving on to the "B" Final, or consolation heat.

Carmel picked up top seeds in four events. William Allen clocked in at 1 minute, 37.23 seconds to earn the first seed in the 200 freestyle, while Andrew Shackell swam the butterfly event in 47.29 seconds for a top seed there. The Greyhounds also earned top seeds in the medley relay (1:29.40) and the 200 free relay (1:23.54).

Allen led a parade of three "A" Final qualifiers in the 200 free, with Ethan Zhang qualifying third and Lewis Zhang fifth. That was the first of four "Triple A" qualifying events for the 'Hounds: Yi Zheng (second), Cory Han (fourth) and Michael Gorey (eighth) all reached the fast heat of the individual medley, while Allen (second), Anderson Kopp (third) and Lewis Zhang made the championship final of the 500 free. Kopp, Carter Hadley and Han went 3-4-5 in the backstroke for three more "A" qualifiers.

William Pugh qualified eighth in the 50 free to make the fast heat in that event. Hadley (third) and Ethan Zhang (fifth) both reached the championship heat of the 100 free, while Gorey (sixth) and Zheng (seventh) made the "A" Final of the breaststroke. Carmel's 400 free relay qualified third, giving the Greyhounds their 21st "A" Final of the meet.

Pugh placed 13th in the butterfly and William Lathrop was 14th in the 100 free; both made the "B" Finals of their respective events.

Fishers sent 12 swimmers into today's finals, with seven reaching the "A" Final and five going to the "B" Final.



Reporter photos by Richie Hall

(TOP) Carmel's Carter Hadley qualified for two "A" Finals during the IHSAA boys swimming state prelims Friday. Hadley will swim in the championship heat of the backstroke and 100 freestyle during today's state finals. (ABOVE LEFT) Fishers' Alex Koo talks to Tigers coach Joe Keller after competing in the 50 free. Koo advanced to the "A" Final of both the 50 and 100 freestyle events. (ABOVE RIGHT) Hamilton Southeastern's Jihoon Jung qualified for the "A" Final of the individual medley and butterfly events. (BELOW LEFT) Noblesville's Liam Hayward swam in the backstroke during the prelims. He helped the Millers' medley and 400 free relays qualify for the "B" Final in both events. (BELOW RIGHT) Westfield's Garreth Thomas advanced to the "B" Final of the individual medley.

Jonathan Hines earned the top seed in the 500 free, swimming that event in 4:21.52. Hines also picked up the second seed in the 200 free. Alex Koo made two fast heats, placing fourth in the 100 free and sixth in the 50 free. The Tigers also sent all three relays to the "A" Final, qualifying third in the 200 free relay and eighth in the medley and 400 free relays.

Fishers' "B" Final qualifiers include two in the 500 free, with Anthony Adams Jr. taking ninth and Caden

Askren placing 10th. Adams also qualified 13th in the 200 free to make the "B" Final there. Also advancing were Luis Sanchez, taking 12th in the IM and Hudson Lee, who placed 15th in the butterfly.

\*\*\*

Hamilton Southeastern has six swimmers in today's finals, three each in the "A" Final and "B" Final.

Jihoon Jung has two of those championship heat swimmers, qualifying third in the IM and sixth in the butterfly. Collin Huston placed fifth in

the breaststroke. The Royals also qualified all three of their relays into the "B" Final, with the 200 and 400 free relays placing ninth and the 200 free relay taking 15th.

Noblesville and Westfield both advanced two swimmers to the "B" Final. The Millers made the "B" heat in the 400 free relay, which took 12th, and the 200 free relay, which placed 14th.

Garreth Thomas placed 15th in the IM, advancing him to the "B" heat in that event. Westfield's 400 free relay qualified 16th to reach

the "B" heat.

Championship Saturday begins at 9 a.m. with the diving prelims and semifinals,

with the finals in swimming and diving starting at 1 p.m.



### State Qualifiers

Positions 1-8 qualify for "A" Final (championship heat), positions 9-16 qualify for "B" Final (consolation heat), positions 17 and 18 are alternates.

**200 medley relay:** 1. Carmel (Anderson Kopp, Yi Zheng, Andrew Shackell, Michael Gorey) 1:29.40, 8. Fishers (Luis Sanchez, Quinton Upshaw, Hudson Lee, Alex Koo) 1:32.93, 9. Hamilton Southeastern (Jacob Frey, Collin Huston, Jihoon Jung, Derek Robison) 1:33.06, 14. Noblesville (Jackson Teske, Joshua Naas, Liam Hayward, Brayden Wright) 1:36.06, 18. Westfield (Alex Munn, Griffin Barents Froman, Garreth Thomas, Esteban Roussel) 1:37.43.

**200 freestyle:** 1. William Allen (C) 1:37.23, 2. Jonathan Hines (F) 1:37.67, 3. Ethan Zhang (C) 1:38.14, 5. Lewis Zhang (C) 1:39.00, 13. Anthony Adams Jr. 1:41.26.

**200 individual medley:** 2. Zheng (C) 1:48.26, 3. Jung (HSE) 1:48.60, 4. Cory Han (C) 1:48.67, 8. Gorey (C) 1:50.75, 12. Sanchez (F) 1:52.14, 15. Thomas (W) 1:54.02, 17. Huston (HSE) 1:56.06.

**50 freestyle:** 6. Koo (F) 20.82, 8. William Pugh (C) 21.06.

**100 butterfly:** 1. Shackell (C) 47.29, 6. Jung (HSE) 49.09, 13. Pugh (C) 50.55, 15. Lee (F) 50.63, 20. Thomas (W) 51.28.

**100 freestyle:** 3. Carter Hadley (C) 45.11, 4. Koo (F) 45.41, 5. E. Zhang (C) 45.57, 14. William Lathrop (C) 46.46, 25. Camden Bailey (HSE) 47.67, 28. Robison (HSE) 48.25.

**500 freestyle:** 1. Hines (F) 4:21.52, 2. Allen (C) 4:22.95, 3. Kopp (C) 4:23.75, 6. L. Zhang (C) 4:29.71, 9. Adams (F) 4:35.38, 10. Caden Askren (F) 4:36.09.

**200 freestyle relay:** 1. Carmel (Shackell, Pugh, E. Zhang, Zheng) 1:23.54, 3. Fishers (Koo, Upshaw, Lee, Hines) 1:24.70, 15. Southeastern (Bailey, Robison, Zach Marchisin, Nolan Pugh) 1:27.71, 18. Noblesville (Nass, Wright, Drew Setmeyer, Isaiah Vohs) 1:28.51.

**100 backstroke:** 3. Kopp (C) 49.06, 4. Hadley (C) 49.48, 5. Han (C) 49.53, 17. Sanchez (F) 51.38, 20. Thomas Johanneman (F) 52.25, 22. Hayward (N) 52.53, T24. Jacob Frey (HSE) 52.79.

**100 breaststroke:** 5. Huston (HSE) 55.81, 6. Gorey (C) 55.87, 7. Zheng (C) 56.08, 18. Barents Froman (W) 59.08, 19. Upshaw (F) 59.16, 20. Luke Feller (C) 59.17.

**400 freestyle:** 3. Carmel (Han, Allen, L. Zhang, Lathrop) 3:05.04, 8. Fishers (Lee, Adams, Johanneman, Hines) 3:08.96, 9. Southeastern (Jung, Bailey, Robison, Huston) 3:09.84, 12. Noblesville (Naas, Setmeyer, Vohs, Hayward) 3:12.87, 16. Westfield (Munn, Thomas, Barents Froman, Zach Welch) 3:14.11.

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Boys Basketball

# Sheridan cruises past Waldron

**The REPORTER**  
Sheridan sailed to victory in its regular-season finale Friday, winning 67-45 at Waldron.  
The Blackhawks got off to a good start, leading 24-10 after one quarter. Sheridan extended its lead to 43-24 by halftime and was up 51-35 after three periods.  
Trey Page put on another long-range shooting show, draining seven 3-pointers while scoring 30 points. Caleb Wright made three triples on his way to 17 points and also dished out seven assists. Damon Winston led the rebounds with nine and handed out four assists. Devon Hamilton collected seven rebounds.  
Sheridan is 16-5 and travels to Frankton next Friday for Class 2A Sectional 39. The Blackhawks drew the bye and will play the winner of Tuesday’s first-round game between Taylor and Tipton.

SHERIDAN 67, WALDRON 45				
Sheridan	FG	FT	TP	PF
Trey Page	9-15	5-6	30	2
Caleb Wright	7-14	0-0	17	2
Damon Winston	3-11	1-4	7	1
Devon Hamilton	0-1	3-4	3	1
Carson Wright	2-2	0-0	4	1
Dayne Voegel	0-0	1-2	1	1
Chance Spencer	2-3	1-2	5	2
Jax Peerman	0-1	0-0	0	0
Brayden Whisman	0-0	0-0	0	0
Totals	23-47	11-18	67	10
Score by Quarters				
Sheridan	24	19	8	16 – 67
Waldron	10	14	11	10 – 45
Sheridan 3-point shooting (10-25) Page 7-12, Cal. Wright 3-8, Winston 0-4, Peerman 0-1. Sheridan rebounds (33) Winston 9, Hamilton 7, Spencer 4, Page 4, Cal. Wright 4, Car. Wright 3, Peerman 1, Whisman 1.				

# SPORTS SCHEDULE

**Saturday, March 1**  
**BOYS SWIMMING**  
IHSAA state diving prelims and semifinals, 9 a.m. at IU Natatorium  
IHSAA state swimming and diving finals, 1 p.m. at IU Natatorium  
**GYMNASTICS SECTIONALS**  
Guerin Catholic, Westfield at Lafayette Jefferson, 9 a.m.

**Tuesday, March 4**  
**BOYS BASKETBALL**  
Sectional 8 at Carmel  
Carmel vs. Noblesville, 6 p.m.  
Westfield vs. Fishers, 7:45 p.m.  
Sectional 24 at New Castle  
Jay County vs. Yorktown, 6 p.m.  
Connersville vs. Hamilton Heights, 7:30 p.m.  
Sectional 25 at Frankfort  
Frankfort vs. Danville, 7 p.m.  
Sectional 39 at Frankton  
Taylor vs. Tipton, 6 p.m.  
Elwood vs. Frankton, 7:30 p.m.  
Sectional 42 at Park Tudor  
University vs. Covenant Christian, 6 p.m.  
Park Tudor vs. Cardinal Ritter, 7:30 p.m.

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



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Men’s Basketball

# Braden Smith breaks Purdue basketball all-time assists record

**By JOSH BODE**  
*WISH-TV | wishtv.com*  
Purdue guard Braden Smith set the Purdue all-time assist record on Friday night against UCLA.  
He passed Bruce Parkinson for the top spot in Boilermaker history. Parkinson played for Purdue from 1972-1977 and had 690 assists in his Purdue career. His record stood for 48 years.  
Smith has led the Big Ten in assists for the past two seasons. Heading into Friday’s game, he was second in the country in assists (243) and assists per game (8.7).  
He also led all of Division I basketball last season in total assists with 292.  
He was able to break the record in less than three seasons in West Lafayette. He has the two highest season totals for assists in Purdue history.  
Former Purdue star Zach Edey knew he was an incredible passer from the moment he first saw Smith play at Purdue.  
“He’s going to hit you right on target,” Edey said. “He’s going to throw a good pass. I think that’s kind of underrated. A lot of people can make the pass, but not a lot of people can make that pass accurately in a pocket, and he can. So, it’s special, what he does.”  
Before Friday’s game, Smith was averaging 15.8 points, 4.6 rebounds, and 8.7 assists per game this season. He’s shooting 44.4 percent from the field and 38.2 percent from three-point range.  
Smith is a Westfield native, and was the 2022 Indiana Mr. Basketball winner.  
*This story originally appeared on WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/braden-smith-breaks-purdue-basketball-all-time-assists-record.*

# Mathias’ 32-point performance not enough against Clippers

**The REPORTER**  
The Indiana Mad Ants hit the west coast Thursday night for the first of a two-game series with the San Diego Clippers. Despite a 32-point outburst from Dakota Mathias, the Mad Ants fell to the Clippers by a final score of 110-100. The Purdue alum went 7-for-11 from downtown and tied his season high in threes.  
Thursday’s game marked just the third ever matchup between the Clippers and Mad Ants. Jah-lil Okafor scored the first points of the night. Kyle Mangas recorded a steal on defense, and he found a driving Okafor who finished with a one-handed dunk.  
San Diego started the game on a 10-4 run. Dakota Mathias cut into the deficit with a close-range jumper halfway through the quarter. He was fouled on the play and made the free throw to complete the three-point play. On the next possession, Josiah-Jordan James knocked down a three-pointer to make it a two-point deficit.  
In the final minutes of the quarter, the Mad Ants trailed 25-15. Ishmael Lane scored on a put-back layup to cut into the deficit. 30 seconds later, De’Vion Harmon drained a three-pointer to continue the comeback effort. At the end of the first quarter, Indiana trailed 25-20. Harmon and Mangas each had five points for Indiana.  
Mathias scored the first points of the second quarter for the Mad Ants. The Purdue alum made a field goal from downtown giving him six points on the night. The basket cut the deficit back to two points. Indiana regained the lead a minute later after Obadiah Noel made a free throw worth two points.  
Trailing 33-32 with 6:30 to go in the first half, McGriff put the Mad Ants back in front with a corner three. Two possessions later, Okafor was left wide open in the front court, and he finished with a one-handed dunk.  
Down to 2:30 remaining in the second quarter, Mathias connected on a three-pointer giving him 11 points on the night. After some empty possessions, Indiana found themselves trailing 53-44 going into halftime. Mathias led the team with 11 first-half points.  
Harmon scored the first points of the second half for the Mad Ants. About 90 seconds into the quarter, Harmon knocked down a corner three giving him 10 points for the game.  
The Mad Ants fell behind by as much as 18 points in the third quarter. Indiana continued to battle back and brought the deficit to nine points. Mathias led the charge with a free throw worth three points, a conventional three-pointer and another one-for-three free throw in consecutive possessions. The Mad Ants trailed 83-74 heading into the fourth quarter. Mathias led all scorers with 23 points after three quarters of play.  
Mathias scored the first points of the fourth quarter for Indiana. Following a couple empty possessions, the Purdue alum cut into the deficit with a three-pointer. Mathias made five of his first eight attempts from downtown.  
The Mad Ants trailed 109-92 with 2:00 left in regulation. The club continued to fight back and trim the deficit. On back-to-back possessions, Mathias and Mangas made three-pointers to make it a 109-98 game with 1:24 to go, but the Clippers held on.  
The Indiana Mad Ants will conclude their two-game series with the San Diego Clippers on Saturday. Tip-off is scheduled for 10 p.m. The Mad Ants return home for back-to-back games on Monday and Tuesday. Both games are scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Indiana welcomes the Raptors 905 on Monday and the Long Island Nets on Tuesday.

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