# THE HAMILTON COUNTY Hamilton County's Hometown Newspaper READ THE REPORTER-COM Facebook.com/HamiltonCountyReporter

## Thursday, March 27, 2025

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





TODAY'S WEATHER Today: Partly to mostly cloudy. Scattered afternoon showers possible. Tonight: Scattered showers and storms.

HIGH: 57 LOW: 47



COLUMNIST

Chronic trauma

from public falls or accidents ... and the

list goes on. If you have lived all or most of

your life disabled, well, you get the picture.

It is years upon years of trauma. My sense

of security always threatened. If it seems

extreme that I am referring to these things

a "trauma," consider yourself fortunate that

lives in a way we were never able to. Re-

flection often becomes a regular part of life.

that I am a catastrophic thinker. As I un-

packed this reality recently, I wanted to

understand why I am this way. It quickly

became clear to me that I do this as a de-

fense mechanism. If I can get ahead of

what "may" happen, then when that thing

happens, I will somehow be better prepared

for said catastrophic event. People with all

kinds of trauma do this very same thing. I

am in good company. Of course, it doesn't really make sense because you cannot pre-

pare for trauma. You want to think you can because somehow that brings comfort. A

façade of control.

As we get older, we start to examine our

One thing that I recognize in myself is

you do not live that experience.

Living with a dis-

There is medical trauma, trauma from

ability, life can be a

steady stream of traumatic experiences.

unsolicited comments when out in public, trauma from being

excluded from soci-

ety because of lack of

accessibility, trauma

# Brick by brick

# Westfield Washington Schools' young builders shine in Lego House Competition

#### The REPORTER

Future architects, engineers, and designers took their first steps toward becoming "Life-Ready" at the annual Lego House Builders Competition.

Washington Westfield Schools students from all six elementary schools - Carey Ridge Elementary School, Maple Glen Elementary School, Monon Trail Elementary School, Oak Trace Elementary School, Shamrock Springs Elementary School, and Washington Woods Elementary School - competed and showcased their building skills.

Student teams, supported by their dedicated Lego coaches, practiced their building skills and learned from local professionals in architecture, construction, interior design, and engineering. During the competition, students worked in plying the skills they developed set as they presented clearly and



pairs to construct Lego houses during their practice sessions. effectively to judges. The entire within 60 minutes, adhering to After the construction, the experience required students to specific design criteria and apteams tapped into another skill

See Builders . . . Page 3

### See Trauma . . . Page 2

# **S&P** Global gives county 'AAA' long-term rating

\$36M earmarked for new police & fire training center The REPORTER

Standard & Poor's (S&P) Global Ratings has assigned its highest possible 'AAA' long-term rating to Hamilton County's an-

ticipated \$36 million Series 2025 ad valorem property tax lease rental bonds.

S&P also affirmed the county's 'AAA' rating on its other outstanding general obligation and lease debt, with a stable outlook for the

county's finances. Officials plan to use the bond proceeds to construct a public safety training facility for local police and fire departments. The training center is set to include classroom space, a four-story fire training burn tower, SWAT training area, outdoor



**Dillinger** 

hope to break ground on the project this year. "We are proud to be able to fund this important public safety project with low-cost borrowing," said Steve Dillinger, president of the Hamilton County Commissioners. "Our strong rating and stable outlook will allow us to finance essential projects, like

ditional burden on the taxpayer." S&P's report emphasized the county's "robust tax-base growth" and "strong budgetary management practices" and acknowledged Hamilton County's status as one of the wealthiest counties in Indiana, noting that its financial standing enables it

the new training center, without placing ad-

to manage debt levels effectively. "We are thrilled to receive the 'AAA' rating," said Sue Maki, president of the Hamilton County Council. "It underscores our county's sound fiscal management, strong economic growth, and future financial stability."

# Church Basement Ladies serves up heaping helpings of humor at Beef & Boards

### The REPORTER

Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre has the recipe for fun this spring with Church Basement Ladies, the relatable and rib-tickling show about the stalwart women of a rural Minnesota church. The timer is set for this original production that got the Church Basement Ladies series cookin', and it'll be ready to enjoy starting Thursday, April 17.

Hilarity takes over when the four Church Basement Ladies do their best to organize food, stave off potential disasters, share and debate recipes, keep the pastor on due course, and try to solve the problems of their changing rural Minnesota church in 1964. Together they tackle both food and food for thought while managing a record-breaking Christmas dinner, the funeral of a dear friend, a Hawaiian Easter fundraiser, and a hot July wedding.



Photo provided by Beef & Boards Tickets are available now for Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre's production of Church Basement Ladies, which opens Thursday, April 17. Get yours at BeefAndBoards.com.

Watson as the matriarch Vivi-Returning to reprise their as the unforgettable Mavis Beauty and the Beast) as Karin

roles from the original produc- Gilmerson. Joining them in tion at Beef & Boards are Licia the church basement kitchen are Carrie Neal (A Christan Snustad, and Karen Pappas mas Story, White Christmas,

Engelson, and Anya Burke as Karin's daughter, Signe. John Vessels (Beauty and the Beast,

See *Ladies* . . . Page 2

# Indiana Peony Festival & Smith's Jewelers unveil commemorative five-year charm

By KELLY McVEY

President, Indiana Peony Festival, Inc.

In celebration of the Indiana Peony Festival's special milestone this year, Premiere Sponsor Smith's Jewelers has helped create the first, official Indiana Peony Festival commemorative charm for the five-year anniversary.

Over the years, we've witnessed birthdays, girls trips, engagements, and so many other special moments at the festival. We wanted to create and provide something peony lovers could collect and grow with through the years, much like our festival.

We introduce to you ... the inaugural commemora-





The inaugural commemorative charm by Smith's Jewelers celebrates the Indiana Peony Festival's fifth birthday. It can be worn either as a bracelet or a necklace.

silver charm is made locally, in-store and, available for pre-order now. Alongside chain) will range from \$80 to the charm, a necklace and/or \$120. Not only are you sup-

This two-sided, sterling purchase from Smith's Jew- a portion of charm sales will elers. Charms will be \$50, and a starter kit (charm and ana Peony Festival.

bracelet will be available for porting a small business, but be donated back to the Indi-

See *Charm* ... Page 2



Paid for by official funds authorized by the House of Representatives.

**Join Our Quarterly Town Halls** 

**Hamilton County: IMMI Conference Center** 18880 N. East St, Westfield, IN 46074 Friday, March 28 | 6pm-8pm

**Delaware County: Muncie City Hall** 300 N High St, Muncie, IN 47305 Saturday, March 29 | 11am-1pm

Contact us at 317-848-0201 if you have any questions.

spartz.house.gov



# **Adventure Area**



## **Trauma**

An example of trauma for me was the story I wrote about when the lady at the store came up behind me and screamed at me, shaming for the way that I walk and telling me surely, I could do better. I could not be prepared for an incident this test was at the Mayo like that, yet I know that is what I risk by being out in public. It has happened before; it will happen again. Imagine being publicly shamed for just being yourself and getting groceries for your family.

story on one of my social media accounts about a tromyography (EMG). It is a test that measures electrical activity of muscles and the nerves that control them. For the test, they "shock" different parts of my legs, some of the shocks strong enough to lift my legs off the bed. For the other part of the test, they use an acu-

puncture needle which they stick in different muscles and bear down on the needle to test muscle function. Neither feels good.

Throughout my life, I have had this done several times. The first memory of Clinic. I remember crying for my dad because I didn't understand what they were doing and it hurt. Luckily, they went and got him so they could finish the test, and he could comfort me.

I have had a lot of those I recently shared a short type of medically traumatic experiences. As I have gotten older, sometimes medical procedure I recent- I want to scream and cry ly had done called an Elec- during these procedures, but of course I've learned that I have to stay strong as it would be strange for an adult to scream and cry like a child would, but that doesn't mean that sometimes I don't have the desire to do so. I often get in my car after procedures like this to sit and wait for the strong

from Page 1

emotions to pass through

Recently, I have also discovered it is very healing to take time and let those strong emotions pass through me. To process them, and not hold them in. In doing so, it has helped me with anxiety that I tend to carry.

Coping skills are important tools to have when dealing with chronic trauma. I have learned that I need to take time to process these events. Reaching out to a professional who understands the effects, rather than continue to stuff them down, has been very helpful to my mental health.

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.

from Page 1

### **LADIES**

AddamsFamily, Smoke on the Mountain) joins these ladies in the role of Pastor E.L. Gunderson.

Based on the Scandinavian Lutheran humor writings of Janet Martin and Suzann Nelson, authors of Growing Up Lutheran: What Does This Mean?, the women of Church Basement Ladies are familiar and down-toearth characters who can be found in any denomi-

Church Basement Ladies is rated G and is on stage for 37 performances through May 18 in the intimate space of Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre. Tickets range from \$57 to CHARM

\$85 and include Chef Larry Stoops' dinner buffet and select beverages. Children under age 3 are not admitted.

To see the complete performance schedule and to purchase tickets online. BeefAndBoards. com. Tickets are also available by calling the Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre Box Office at (317) 872-9664.

Discounts are available to groups of 20 or more. Call the Group Sales department at (317) 872-0503, or email **groups**@ beefandboards.com for details.

DINNER THEATRE

Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre, Indiana's only year-round professional dinner theatre, has been serving up exceptional entertainment since 1973.

from Page 1

This one-of-a-kind charm will also be for sale at the Peonies in the Park fundraising event on May 16 and on Festival Day. This exclusive charm will only be available for purchase until May 17. So get yours while supplies last. Pre-orders are available online at smiths onthesquare.com/ipf.

Beyond offering a unique charm for peony and festival lovers to begin collecting, Smith's Jewelers will also offer assistance for those hoping to plan or celebrate their own special moments or milestones during the festival. Look no further than here for the perfect gift and/or tradition to start this spring!





GIVEDAY.ORG/HAMCO

**HELP US REACH OUR \$30,000 GOAL!** 







**CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO** 

# **Indiana Peony Festival** 2025 Sponsors

**Premier Sponsors** 

Smith's Jewelers - Indiana Peony Festival Church Church Hittle + Antrim - VIPP, Peonies in the Park Event City of Noblesville

### **Gold Sponsors**

Ascension St. Vincent-Fishers - Florals 46 & Spruce – Demonstrations Hamilton County Tourism

# Silver Sponsors

Duke Energy – Kids Zone Godby Home Furnishings – Transportation Hometown Windows - Food Court and Window Contest Beaver Materials - Music

> Promenade Trails - Hospitality Tent Lacy Building - Wi-Fi Connections GKM Property Services - Beer Garden Ace Hardware - Peony Tent

### **Bronze Sponsors**

Peterson Architecture Harbour Trees Mill Top Banquet and Conference Center Musselman Landscape Solutions Gaylor Electric

### **Copper Sponsors**

Martin & Martin Insurance Agency Randall & Roberts Funeral Home Kluth-Richardson Family & Cosmetic Dentistry Christi & Craig Crosser

demonstrate collaboration, communication, creativity, and perseverance.

Students were honored with certificates of achievement at four levels: Master Builder, Advanced Builder, Skilled Builder, and Novice Builder, recognizing their accomplishments and growth.

"This competition is an incredible opportunity for our students to experience hands-on learning and explore potential careers in design and construction," said Karen Gorgan, WWS Instructional Coach and event coordinator. "It fosters creativity, teamwork, and critical thinking – essential skills for future success."

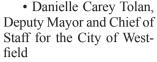
The event would not have been possible without the dedicated support of community judges and volunteers. A special thank you to this year's judges:

- JR Pettit, Project Superintendent at CORE Con-
- Kathryn Roche, Interior Designer at Schmidt Associates
- Jonathan Haggarty, Executive Vice President at Meyer Najem Construction
- Jenny Davy, Manager of Orientation and Training Services, Integrity Learning Center
- Mirlege Castor, Project Engineer at Garmong Construction
- · Will Wingfield, Road Project, and Planning Study Communications Expert
- Ron Hitch, Manager of Control Systems at Allison Transmission
- Susan Ottinger, Textile Specialist, Seamstress, and Librarian
- Tyler Herring, Ball State Architect Graduate









- Michelle Walker, Special Education Teacher, and Aspiring Treehouse Designer
- · Colin Schermann, Preconstruction Manager at Meyer Najem Construction

A special thank you to Adult Host Libby Baud, Assistant Principal at Maple Glen Elementary, Student Hosts Lily Bullard and Leo Mestrich, fourth graders at Maple Glen, Judging Coordinator Jane Hitch, Principal at Oak Trace Elementary, and all the parents who came to cheer on our builders.

#### **Westfield Washington School Team Coaches**

- Jody Simms, Carey
- Ridge Elementary School · Karen Grogan, Maple Glen Elementary School
- Emily Wong, Monon Trail Elementary School
- Mattie Stautzenbach,
- Oak Trace Elementary School
- Tiffany Timme, Shamrock Spring Elementary School
- ington Woods Elementary School

"The

· Sandy Nerney, Wash-









Photos provided by Westfield Washington Schools

Schools and future events,

visit wws.k12.in.us.

Students from all six Westfield Washington elementary schools were judged and awarded certificates from four categories: Master Builder, Advanced Builder, Skilled Builder, and Novice Builder. See more photos online at ReadTheReporter.com.

community professionals highlights the strength of our community and the valcollaboration ue we place on real-world

between our schools and learning experiences for stu- Builders Competition condents," said Dr. Paul Kaiser, Superintendent of Westfield Washington Schools.

The WWS Lego House and ensuring that every stu-

dent is "Life-Ready." tinues to be a shining exam-For more information about Westfield Washington ple of the district's commit-

ment to fostering creativity

NMLS#409183

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# Fishers Century Club awards donation to support school safety

The REPORTER

The Fishers Century Club held its quarterly gathering last Tuesday, March 18, at The Club Coworking event space, where attendees heard from three impactful charitable organizations and selected one to receive the group's collective donation.

Presenting organizations included Diversion Indv. Come to Me Food Pantry, and the winning group, the Indiana School Resource Officers Association (IN-SROA) Foundation.

The INSROA Foundation is a newly formed organization focused on ensuring that School Resource Officers (SROs) locally and across Indiana receive high-quality, ongoing training – without having to carry the financial burden themselves. In Indiana, SROs have the opportunity to become members of INSROA, which grants them access to resources for success and state-of-the-art training. Currently, INSROA members have a \$50 annual membership fee, which includes membership to the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO). Additionally, there is a cost of \$150 for SROs to attend the annual Indiana School Safety Conference.

The INSROA Foundation's mission is to relieve the financial burden of the costs associated with mem-



The Fishers Century Club meets quarterly to hear from three charities. The group of men then choose one to donate a collective contribution.

bership and training so that leased soon. every SRO across the state of Indiana is able to become a member and attend trainings that improve school safety and positive relationships with students.

'School Resource Officers serve the mission of keeping our students, staff, and communities safe," said Officer Greg Zimmerman, a Carmel-based SRO and representative of the INSROA Foundation who presented to the group. "We are incredibly grateful to the Fishers Century Club for helping us fund training opportunities that enhance school safety and bring awareness to new technologies and strategies that help protect Indiana's children every day."

The Foundation is also planning to host its inaugural fundraising gala this fall, with the goal of expanding its donor base and increasing support for these critical officers in our state. Details

Fishers Century Club founder Adam Kallick shared his personal connection to the cause.

"Supporting safety is very close to me," Kallick said. "In my professional work, one of my clients is the national leader in frictionless gateway weapons detection technology. It is important to provide our schools with the right tools and training to keep students safe. That's why I'm proud our group is backing the IN-SROA Foundation and the essential work they're doing for SROs across Indiana."

The INSROA Foundation is also working to educate communities and school systems about advancements in safety tools, protocols, and equipment, while ensuring that every SRO has access to continuing education, regardless of district budget constraints.

The Fishers Century about the event will be re- Club, a men's crowd-giv-

ing organization, meets quarterly to hear from three charities and make a collective contribution to one. The group's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 24.

For more information and a list of previous winners, please visit **fishers** centuryclub.com or visit facebook.com/fisherscenturyclub. Those who wish to participate in the group who are unable to make it to meetings can visit the online Grapevine site at tinyurl. com/FCCGrapevine.

> About Fishers Century Club

The Fishers Century Club is a group of individuals committed to making a positive impact on the local community. Through collective giving and active participation, the club aims to support and uplift deserving charities, ultimately contributing to the betterment of Fishers and local community.

# Nickel Plate Heritage Railroad's first Annual Meeting set for April 16

The REPORTER

The Nickel Plate Heritage Railroad (NPHR) will hold its first Annual Meeting at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 16 at Mustard Seed Gardens, 77 Metsker Lane, Noblesville.

This inaugural gathering will bring together board members, stakeholders, volunteers, and community supporters to celebrate achievements, discuss future plans, and strengthen the vision for the organization's continued success.

The meeting will provide key insights into NPHR's impact over the past year, including ridership statistics, events highlights, financial updates, strategic planning initiatives. Attendees will also get an exclusive look at upcoming programs, expansion efforts, and opportunities for community involvement.

"This annual meeting marks a significant milestone for Nickel Plate Heritage Railroad, providing us with the opportunity to reflect on our achievements, recognize those who have contributed to our success, and chart an exciting course for the future," NPHR Executive Director Emily Reynolds said. "We invite all those who have supported our mission whether through ridership,

donations, or volunteer efforts - to join us as we share our vision, celebrate our growth, and look ahead to new opportunities that will keep our railroad thriving for years to come."

Who should attend?

Board members, donors, volunteers. community leaders, and supporters of Nickel Plate Heritage Railroad are all welcome to attend the inaugural Annual Meeting.

The event will include a review of recognition of outstanding contributors and a Q&A discussion about the organization's future goals. Attendees will also have the opportunity to network with fellow supporters and learn more about upcoming initiatives for NPHR.

"The work being done at Nickel Plate Heritage Railroad is truly impressive - not just in preserving history, but in creating unforgettable experiences that give back to our community in meaningful ways," NPHR Board President Christine DeJoy said. "Our organization is growing by leaps and bounds, and it's all thanks to our dedicated staff who bring an incredible passion to everything they do. I couldn't be more proud to be part of this journey and I'm excited to have the community hear all about it at this annual meeting.

# DNR grant program funds sediment removal at Morse Reservoir

The REPORTER

Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Director Alan Morrison announced this week that organizations in 20 Indiana counties across the state will receive \$1,116,940 in grants to fund 53 lake and stream projects through the Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) program.

Within Hamilton County, a sediment removal projceived \$64,000.

In addition to the Morse Reservoir project, Dearborn, Fayette, Fulton, Johnson, Knox, Kosciusko, La-Grange, LaPorte, Marion, Marshall, Monroe, Noble, Owen, Porter, Pulaski, Putnam, St. Joseph, Steuben, and Sullivan counties also received money.

Grants totaling \$643,300 will support 11 sediment or logjam removal projects ect at Morse Reservoir re- in 10 counties. Another

\$473,640 will be used to support 42 projects to combat aquatic invasive plants, involving 52 bodies of water in 13 counties.

The grants are funded through the LARE fee paid annually by boat owners when they register their crafts with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. This user-funded program benefits boaters all over the state by allowing for the completion of lake and stream projects

that would be difficult for bank erosion and the forlocal organizations to fund on their own. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis, and local sponsors share at least 20 percent of the cost.

Funded projects for the planning and removal of sediment and logiams help improve recreational access by removing nutrient-rich sediment and woody debris near inlets or navigational channels, helping prevent

mation of new channels. These types of projects receive the highest priority for LARE funding, and they are only funded for projects focused on large-quantity debris removal. Aquatic invasive plant control grants help control or manage aggressive non-native species that can outcompete native species and dominate plant communities. The grants can also provide economic ben-

efits to lake communities by improving lake conditions for those who fish or boat.

A list of grant recipients and sediment and logjam removal projects by body of water, county, project type, and grant award can be found at lare.dnr.IN.gov and clicking on project awards at the top of the page.

Reports on all past LARE-funded projects can be found at larereports. dnr.IN.gov.



Paid for by official funds authorized by the House of Representatives.

# North GOP keeps constituents informed





The Northern Hamilton County GOP Club held its monthly dinner meeting Monday at Red Bridge Park in Cicero. This month's speakers were Hamilton County Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt (not pictured), Hamilton County Councilor Mark Hall (above left), and Cicero Street & Utilities Director Terry Cooper (above right).

# **Fishers Youth Initiative** seeks executive director

Current leader Brittany Rayburn will step down in May

#### The REPORTER

Fishers Youth Initiative (FYI), formerly the Youth Mentoring Initiative and Fishers Youth Assistance Program, launched on Wednesday its search for a new executive director. The announcement follows the resignation of Brittany Rayburn, current FYI executive director.

Rayburn led the organization through the first phase of the merger of the two youth-focused nonprofits. Her last day with FYI will be May 28.

"We're grateful for Brittany's steadfast leadership for the last four years as YMI's executive director, and recently during the transition to become Fishers Youth Initiative," FYI Board of Directors Co-President Matt Schluet-



er said. "As we look ahead, we are excited to bring together critical services and support to youth in Fishers and look forward to bringing in a dynamic leader that can continue to grow FYI's impact."

The Board of Directors will launch a search committee to identify FYI's new executive director. The position posting can be found at this link. Interested candidates may inquire directly to FYI Co-President Anderson Schoenrock at schoenrock@ memoryventures.com.

FYI will hold its annual spring fundraiser, Wines Around the World, on Friday, May 16. Tickets and sponsorships are available at this link.

#### About Fishers Youth Initiative

The mission of Fishers Youth Initiative is to ensure that every young person in the community has the opportunity and support to build a positive future by connecting them with a network of compassionate volunteers and programs.

# "Poker for Sight" Friday and Saturday APRIL 25th & 26th, 2025 FORMER LEGACY CHURCH 2140 GREENFIELD AVENUE NOBLESVILLE, IN 46060 Over \$25,000 in Prizes \$135 Cash at the Doc **EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS:** Receive a discount on your Buy-in for reserving your seat early. Details and registration at **lionspoker.org** ALL PROCEEDS GO TO CHARITY Approved by the state of Indiana Charity Gaming Division Permit #011908

# Thanks for reading, Hamilton County!

# Make this May a hole-in-one

Sponsorships still available for Westfield Chamber golf outing

Swing into spring with **fieldchamberindy.com**. ne Westfield Chamber of **Sponsorship** Commerce's 22nd annual Golf Outing on Monday, May 12, presented by Abbott, Bondry Consulting, Community First Bank of Indiana, the City of Westfield, and Community Health Network at The Bridgewater Club, 3535 E. 161st St.

The golf outing is much more than just a round on the course but an opportunity to network and discover what makes Westfield thrive in central Indiana. Proceeds from this event support the Westfield Chamber and its Academic Scholarship

#### Fund. **Golfer information**

At this time, capacity for golfer teams has been reached. A waitlist for interested parties is open, however. If spots come available, it will be first-come, first-served off the waitlist. If you would like to put your team on the waitlist,

please email dlacey@west- tion set up, and much more.

## opportunities

Click here to purchase a sponsorship opportunity on the Westfield Chamber website. Once your payment is received, a Chamber Staff Member will reach out to obtain a high-resolution version of your company's artwork. Arrival and setup instructions will be sent the week prior to the event. Email info@westfieldchamberindy.com any sponsorship questions.

**Volunteer at the outing** There's an opportunity

for the non-golfers in your office to participate. To pull off a successful golf outing, the Westfield Chamber needs more than two dozen volunteers on the day of the event. Volunteers will be needed to help people check in, help to marshal the sponsors to their holes, driving volunteers on the course, ground support across the course, 19th Hole RecepClick here to sign up to vol-



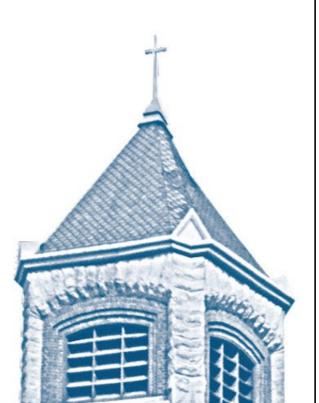
136 SOUTH 9TH STREET SUITE 400 **NOBLESVILLE**, IN 46060 317-773-1974

1010 WEST 8TH STREET SUITE 5 ANDERSON, IN 46016 765-642-2080



# RENTAL SPACE AVAILABLE

at the Historic Adler Building. Contact Kim Watson at 317-773-1974 for details.





www.ReadTheReporter.com

# State leaders gather for annual prayer breakfast







Reporter photos by Devin Norrick

The annual Indiana Leadership Prayer Breakfast took place Tuesday morning at the Indiana Roof Ballroom, 140 W. Washington St., Indianapolis. Among the several speakers was Governor Mike Braun and author, theologian, and social critic Dr. Os Guinness who said in his closing, "Have faith in God. Have no fear." (TOP) Governor Mike Braun addresses the crowd. (ABOVE LEFT) Former Congressman, Governor, and Vice President Mike Pence speaks with Lt. Governor Micah Beckwith. (ABOVE RIGHT) Lt. Gov. Beckwith confers with Dr. Guinness.

# Health First Indiana leads to better public health here at home

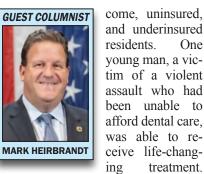
As a Hamilton **GUEST COLUMNIST** County Commissioner, I am proud to support Health Indiana First (HFI), a transformative initiative that strengthens public health across our state. Born from **Senate** 



Since its launch in 2024, this state and local partnership has enabled the Hamilton County Health Department (HCHD) to enhance critical services in areas like mental health, maternal and child health, chronic disease prevention, and emergency preparedness. These programs are not only improving health outcomes but are also building a foundation for a healthier, more prosperous community.

Through HFI funding, HCHD has already awarded more than \$3.2 million to local partners to deliver essential services and ensure that residents can easily access the care they need.

Trinity Free Clinic, for example, the largest provider of free health services in central Indiana, used grant dollars to expand its dental services, allowing it to increase walk-in dental care and serve more low-in-



wires from his mouth and helped restore his ability to eat, speak, and regain his dignity.

HFI funding has also enabled the Health Department to roll out new initiatives like radiological nuclear detection, Car Seat Safety and Safe Sitter Training, and the CredibleMind selfhelp website – tools our residents can take advantage of to lead healthier lives and create a safer community for everyone.

As we look ahead to 2025, I urge the General Assembly to continue providing this critical funding in future state budgets and encourage qualified community organizations to apply for these critical funds.

For more information, visit hamiltoncounty.in.gov/1858/ Health-First-Hamilton-County.

Mark Heirbrandt serves as a Hamilton County Commissioner. He represents District 3, which include Adams, Fall Creek, Jackson, Washington, Wayne, and White River townships, along with the municipalities of Arcadia, Atlanta, Cicero, Sheridan, and Westfield.





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! Please let us know if you are interested in having a personal Bible study.



# AND ARCHAEOLOGY DISCOVER

Consider just a few of many archaeological discoveries that prove the Bible's accuracy in revealing historical people, events, and places (from "Archaeological Finds.").



The Tel Dan Stele was discovered in Israel and is dated back to the ninth century BC. It mentions the "House of David," shattering the long-held view of many skeptics that David was a mythical person.

The Mesha Stele describes Moab's subjection under Omri, the king of Israel. It also references the personal name of the God of the Bible (Yahweh), and very likely contains a reference to the "House of David."

The **Pilate stone** provides archaeological evidence for the existence of the man who sentenced Jesus to death on the Cross. Skeptics frequently denied his existence until the discovery of this stone, which identifies Pontius Pilate as the Prefect of Judea.



15530 Herriman Blvd, Noblesville, IN 46060

(BEHIND THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE AT THE STOP SIGN)



317-219-5852

**Our Assembly times:** 

Sunday Bible Study | 10:00 AM Sunday Worship | 11:00 AM speakingtruthinlove4.15@gmail.com Wednesday Bible Study | 7:00 PM





# 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 1st & 3rd Sun 8-11 M 3-10p, Tu-Su12-10pm 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

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 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 10th 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 2nd & 4th Sa 8a-11a, Lunch 11a-2p & food service till 8p daily

Noblesville Post 6246 Eric Behrends 654 S 9th 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 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 Hamilton County Ship 29** Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Wed 530pm dinner 630pm meeting at Gingers Cafe 1111 S 10th 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

### **Hamilton County Military Veteran | Activities & Events**

Apr 2, VA Claims & Veterans Career Day 3-7pm Carmel American Legion Post 155, 852 W Main St

VA Claims and **Career Day** ARE YOU CONNECTED?



•Enroll in VA healthcare

 File disability claims HamCo CVSO Onsite Indiana Wesleyan Indiana Tech Military One Source

-Career Specialists

WorkOne Central



### **JOIN US!**

April 2, 2025 from 3-7pm

Questions - kludeker-seibert@hamiltoncountyphhc.org

Carmel American Legion Post 155 852 West Main St Carmel, In.

Representatives will be on-site to answer your questions about Federal and State benefits.

Career professionals will be onsite to assist our Military Veteran Community to advance their career and find employment.

Veteran Welding Workshop Through ASAP April 5th







# **Welding Workshop**

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1-3 PM

O Indianapolis Art Center 820 E 67th St

#### Spark your creativity, literally.

Learn the basics of welding with hands-on instruction, by the end of this workshop you will have at least one metal work of art to take home.

https://asapasap.org/event/sparks-fly-weldingworkshop/?mc\_cid=264b342a31&mc\_eid=710e89d7e2

For safety, participants must have full vision capabilities, gripping strength with both hands, and adequate hand-eye coordination. Welders must wear a cotton shirt, pants, and closed toe shoes. No sandals, shorts, or synthetics.

**Veterans Sign Up For Free Golf Starts April 16** 



QUESTIONS?

Veterans Sign Up For Free Golf Starts April 19



Veteran Public Speaking Workshop Through ASAP



QUESTIONS?

ASAP is a creative community where Veterans thrive through the arts. Free arts, comedy, speaking, classes/workshops, activities and events for our Military, Veterans, their Families and Caregivers. https://asapasap.org

#### **Public Speaking Workshop**

April 13 = 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm District Theater 627 Massachusetts Ave, Indianapolis, In.



Program Type

PLEASE CONTACT INDIANA GOLF DIRECTOR OF PLAYER DEVELOPMENT, AND 317.739.3012 AJENT@INDIANAGOLF.ORG HTTP://INDIANAGO

Veterans Apply here https://www.tfaforms.com/5027807? campid=701Up00000HAKOgIAF

This interactive 3-hour workshop equips participants with the tools and confidence to share their stories. advocate for causes, and excel in professional and personal com

Designed specifically for individuals with military backgrounds, the workshop focuses on leveraging their unique experiences to captivate audiences, foster connections, and inspire action. Through hands-on exercises, personalized feedback, and proven techniques, participants will leave with practical skills to become effective and compelling speakers.

### About the Instructor

Jeff McKinney, PhD, is an experienced coach, facilitator, teacher, and mentor who supports his clients as they navigate their journey of self-awareness and transformation by supporting and challenging them to grow personally and professionally. He strives to ensure that the people who experience his coaching or training leave those interactions with knowledge and tools to take the action necessary to change for the better.

Veterans Apply here https://www.tfaforms.com/5027807?campid=701Up00000HAKOgIAP

**Christmas In June Care Package Drive** 



HAMILTON COUNTY eterans

### "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

### Care Package Gifts Needed for Our Deployed Troops

Noblesville VFW Post 6246 - 654 S 9th St, Noblesville, In 46060

Sheridan American Legion Post 67 - 406 E 10th St, Sheridan, In

Noblesville American Legion Post 45 - 273 S 8th St, Noblesville, In 46060

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

# Nickel Plate HERITAGE RAILROAD

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!

NICKEL PLATE EXPRESS, COM

ALL ABOARD! NICKELPLATE EXPRESS.COM

# **NOBLE BUSINESS ADVISORS**

Wendy Stevens CPA, CGMA, MSA Certified Business Advisor

Phone | 317.281.9063 • Fax | 317.219.0510 wendy.stevens@wstevenscpa.com 52 South 9th Street, Suite 3 . Noblesville, IN 46060 www.wstevenscpa.com

W. Stevens LLP DBA Noble Business Advisors







# Glass Menagerie is worth a look

By ADAM CROWE

A Seat on the Aisle

Unless you skipped school a lot as a child, you most likely were made to read/study an "important" author or piece of literature. Sometimes it was a bore, other times a revelation. The tag of "important" could often seem like a negative, especially if the reader wasn't quite ready for the task.

Poor Tennessee Williams has spent the last 80 years in that "important" category. In reality, it is those who choose to skip this quintessential American playwright that are the poorer for it.

Indiana Repertory Theatre's current production is Williams' The Glass Menagerie, his first big suc-

Yes, the play premiered in 1944, but that certainly does not make it in any way antiquated or less relevant than it was at its premiere. Directed by James Still, this production shimmers, as it

Billed as a "memory" play, the cast effortlessly fills every moment with a sense of loss and regret, but also with the warmth that some memories can bring.

As an aside, I overheard



Photo by Zach Rosing

Amanda (Julie Fishell) with her son Tom (Felipe Carrasco).

say that she was sure that she knew the show, only to makes it as alive and as vital discover that her memories were of A Streetcar Named *Desire*. Given the numerous film and video productions are wonderful: Edward T. of that show, it's not really a Morris' set, Yao Chen's cossurprise. Williams still gets the credit.

But The Glass Menagerie has always stood on its own as a powerful and poetic experience. Tennessee Williams' musings on stifled ambitions, loss, and regret are indeed "important."

I am grateful that the

ater's treatment of the piece as anything written in this century.

The technical aspects tumes, Michelle Habeck's lighting, Melanie Chen Cole's sound, and Andrew Elliot's hair designs are all excellent. The cast includes Julie Fishell as Amanda Wingfield, Felipe Carrasco as Tom Wingfield, Delaney Feener as Laura Wingfield,

an usher at intermission Indiana Repertory The- The Gentleman Caller. All are stellar.

Bottom line: Like that usher, maybe you only think of Streetcar's Stanley and Blanche when thinking of Mr. Williams. I urge you not to make the mistake of missing the Wingfields of his The Glass Menagerie.

The show runs through April 6 at The Indiana Repertory Theatre in downtown Indianapolis. Tickets are available at **irtlive.com**.

Read more great play reviews from A Seat on the Aisle and Sam Bell-Gurwitz as at asota.wordpress.com.

# ReadTheReporter.com

After 50 years of very successful row crop farming, and known for his exceptional care and maintenance of his equipment, LARRY HARPER has decided to retire. We are honored Larry has decided to sell his like-new late model equipment with us in this on-line only auction. Don't miss this unique opportunity to purchase like-new, late model, well maintained equipment.

> BIDDING OPENS: Monday, March 17th @ Noon SOFT CLOSE BEGINS: Monday, March 31st @ 2pm

PREVIEW DATES: Tuesday, March 25th - Thursday, March 27th From 9am - 5pm Or by appointment only

PICK-UP DAYS: Tuesday, April 1st - Friday, April 4th from 9am - 5pm Or by appointment only LARRY HARPER

2017 JD S680 Combine, 2022 JD C16F Corn Head, 2023 Kinze 3665 16/32 Bean Planter; 2021 Kinze 4905 16-Row Blue Drive Corn Planter; 2024 J&M LC290 Seed Tender, (2) 2023 Brent 757 Grain Train Gravity Wagons; Sunflower 1434-33 Disk, JD 2320 Tractor w/ 62" Mid-Mount Mower Deck; AcrEase 60" Pull-Type Finish Mower, Hiniker Big Ox HB10 Terracing Blade; JD 7000 4-Row 30" 3-pt Planter, Katolight 25KW Generator; 4' Woods 3-pt Rotary Cutter, Kinze 500-Gallon Liquid Tank

### JACK COOPER ESTATE

2015 16' Premier Livestock Trailer, 1973 Chevrolet 2-Ton Grain Truck, NH 256 Hay Rake; JD 7000-6-Row 30" Planter, J&M Gravity Wagons, Hay Wagons, JD 8300 Grain Drill w/ Grass Seeder; IH Disk, 7' JD Grader Blade, 3-pt. JD 3-Bottom Moldboard Plow, NH 144 Inverter; NH Hayliner 276 Square Baler, NH 328 Manure Spreader, New Idea 325 2-Row Corn Picker; 1985 JD Turbo 7720 Combine, JD 643 Corn Head, JD 918 Bean Head; JD Row-Crop Cultivator, 16' Dunham Cultipacker; Filson Squeeze Cattle Chute, Bunk Cattle Feeder, Steer Stuffer Feeder, Gates, Dog Kennel **ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT** 

JD 2840 Diesel Tractor, Hay Wagons, Batco 1314 Conveyor & 1365-8 Grain Conveyor; 15' JD 750 No-Till Drill, 24' Hiniker 1224 Fld. Cult., 18-1/2' JD 220 Disk, 15' Brillion Cultimulcher; 300-Gal Fr. Mount Tank off 8000-Series Tractor, 1000-Gal Water Wagon on Gear w/ Pump; 1996 JD 510 7-Shank Ripper, 1995 DMI 730 13-Shank Ripper, Koyker Mfg FLEXSTORE Bag Unloader; Brant Drive-Over Grain Deck, JD #38 Sickle Bar Mower, 200-bu Gravity Wagon/Seed Tender w/ Roll Tarp; Clay Belt Conveyor, Killbros 350 Wagon on Kewanee 47 Gear; Best Way Pro 2 1000-Gal Sprayer (60' Booms, 440 Raven Monitor w/ Radar); 2011 International ProStar Semi, 1964 Lowboy 39' Detach Trailer w/ Pony Motor; 2013 JD 5085M Tractor w/ JD H260 Loader

Additional Equipment, Vehicles, & Trailers will be added to the On-Line Sale Bill As They Arrive

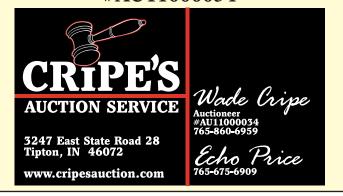
To View Complete Sale Bill Including Pictures & Terms and to Register & Start Bidding:

Click the Calendar Link @ www.cripesauction.com

Absentee Bidding is still Available PREVIEW - PICKUP & PAY AT

Cripe's Auction Service, 3247 E. State Road 28, Tipton, IN 765-675-6909

> www.cripesauction@yahoo.com Wade Cripe, Auctioneer #AU11000034



# "A win for Hoosier farmers"

### Braun signs HEA 1149 into law

Braun

**Submitted by** Office of the Governor

Governor Mike Braun signed House Enrolled Act 1149 into law on Tuesday.

This bill aims to help Hoosier farmers by creating a new online portal, giving them a one-stop shop for tools communicate with the state government and get information they need to be successful.

"This new online portal was part of my Freedom and Opportunity agriculture agenda and is a win for Hoosier farmers," Gov. Braun said. "It's a one-stopshop to help Hoosier farmers navigate state and federal agencies, avoid red tape, and communicate with the state government what we can do better to help them be successful."

HEA 1149 was authored by Rep. Kendell Culp, and co-authored by Rep. Mike Aylesworth, Rep. Dave Heine, Rep. Justin Moed. The bill was sponsored by

Sen. Jean Leising, Sen. Daryl Schmitt, Sen. Gary Byrne, Sen. Susan Glick, and Sen. Shelli Yoder.

The Indiana State Department of Agri-

> culture will create and maintain this new online portal, with features like: Helping

Hoosier farmers navigate agriculture-related issues across state and federal agencies.

Centraliz-

ing funding information, including a searchable database of grants with deadlines and eligibility. • Offering regulatory

checklists to help farmers avoid violations when entering new markets.

· Connecting users to tools like data visualizations and technical support.

• Tracking lost farmland.

• Collecting public comments on federal regulations affecting Indiana's rural economy.

· Gathering user feedback from farmers to improve the portal and government services.

## Senator Banks introduces Ensuring Veterans' Final Resting Place Act of 2025

The REPORTER

On Tuesday, U.S. Senators Jim Banks (R-Ind.) and their families choose. Susan Collins (R-Maine)

introduced the Ensuring Veterans' Final Resting Place Act of 2025.

Currently, veterans can receive VA burial benincluding headstones, markers, or urns. However, those who

choose an urn or plaque nation's heroes, and my bill lose eligibility for burial in a VA cemetery, even if their spouse remains eligible. This bill would allow veterans with VA-provided full text of the bill.

urns or plaques to be buried in VA national cemeteries if

> Rudy Yakym (R-Ind.-02) introduced the bill in the House.

> > "Military spouses countless sacrifices in support of our servicemembers," Sen. Banks said. "We have a sacred

**Banks** duty to honor our ensures veterans, and their spouses are laid to rest with the respect they have earned."

Click here to read the



The REPORTER

siers statewide.

The Indiana Depart-

ment of Transportation is

aware of a tolling-related

text message or "smish-

ing" scam targeting Hoo-

ing to come from INDOT

or tolling service providers

alert recipients of a "final

notice" regarding unpaid

tolls and mention addition-

al fines, late fees, suspen-

sion of vehicle registration,

and further legal action, in

addition to a link for pay-

will not notify drivers of

unpaid tolls via text mes-

"INDOT does not and

impoundment,

False messages appear-

# USS Indiana returns from deployment INDOT warns public

**Submitted by SRS 32 Public Affairs** 

The Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS Indiana (SSN 789), commanded by Cmdr. Kyle McVay, returns to its homeport today, March 27, after a scheduled deployment, at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Conn.

The crew of Indiana executed the chief of naval operations' maritime strategy in supporting national security interests and maritime security operations during their six months at sea.

Fast-attack submarines are multi-mission platforms enabling five of the six Navy maritime strategy core capabilities - sea control, power projection, forward presence, maritime security, and deterrence. They are designed to excel in anti-submarine warfare, anti-ship warfare, strike warfare, special operations, intelligence, surveillance



Photo by Senior Chief Mass Communication Specialist Leah Stiles, U.S. Navy The First Navy Jack is raised during the commissioning ceremony of the Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS Indiana (SSN 789) on Sept. 29, 2018 at Port Canaveral, Fla. Indiana is the U.S. Navy's 16th Virginia-class fast-attack submarine and the third ship named for the state of Indiana.

and reconnaissance, irregu- response to regional crises. lar warfare and mine war-

SSN 789 was commisfare. Fast-attack submarines sioned in September 2018 project power ashore with and is the third U.S. warspecial operations forces ship named after the state and Tomahawk cruise mis- of Indiana. It has a length siles in the prevention or of 377 feet with a beam of

state tax credit,

worth up to \$500

on their total con-

Looking ahead:

expanded eligi-

bility in 2026

A big change

tributions.

34 feet and a crew of more than 134 personnel.

Today's event will be livestreamed over multiple intervals at facebook.com/ NavalSubmarineBase-NewLondon.

### sage," INDOT Strategic texts. Braun signs executive order making permitting

information public

**Braun** 

of toll-related text scam

Communications Director

Natalie Garrett said. "We

urge members of the public

to exercise extreme caution

before opening suspicious

links. The best thing to do

scams have been ongoing

since the spring of 2024.

The FBI issued a warning

on April 12, 2024, citing over 2,000 complaints of

false text messages repre-

senting toll collection ser-

vices. The agency encour-

ages victims of fraudulent

messages to report them

to its Internet Crime Com-

plaint Center at ic3.gov,

and to delete the texts. Do

not respond to any of these

"smishing"

is delete these messages."

Various

#### Submitted by Office of the Governor

signed an executive order Wednesday directing the

Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Department Transportation (INDOT) to publicly report permitting data

to make this process more transparent, efficient, and to support growth.

Under the order, these agencies will be required to post monthly permitting data to their official websites. This includes the number of permit applications received, average processing times, the percentage of permits issued within statutory timelines, and updates

on pending applications.

"My administration is Governor Mike Braun committed to transparency and accountability, and we're taking action to make



able and makes them more

efficient." The executive order also mandates that agency lead-

ership regularly review their permitting processes to ensure compliance with timelines, identify opportunities for improvement, and maintain high-quality standards for issued permits. The order takes effect

immediately.

# INvestABLE Indiana surpasses \$23 million in savings as eligibility expands for millions more Americans

#### The REPORTER

As Indiana recognizes March Disability Awareness Month, the Treasurer of State's Office celebrates a year of tremendous growth and new opportunities for INvestABLE Indiana, the state's Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) savings program.

Designed to help individuals with disabilities save without jeopardizing critical benefits, such as Medicaid or Supplemental Security Income (SSI), INvestABLE Indiana now boasts over \$23 million in assets under management (AUM), with account owners saving an average of \$11,000 each.

"With more than 2,100 Hoosiers using INvest*ABLE* accounts, it's clear folks are taking the reins on their fi-

Indiana Treasurer of State Daniel Elliott said. "Hardworking Hoosiers with disabilities deserve the freedom to save without worrying about losing the benefits

they rely on. This program makes sure they can do just that – build a nest egg while keeping a safety net.'

#### **New enhancements** & tax incentives

This past year, INvest-ABLE Indiana introduced a Money Market investment option, giving account owners another low-risk way to grow their savings. Additionally, Indiana taxpayers who contribute to their own or a loved one's INvest-ABLE account can now re-



**Elliott** 

is coming. Starting Jan. 1, 2026, the age of onset for ABLE eligibility will increase from 26 to 46 years old. This means millions more Americans, including one million veterans, will soon be eligible to take advantage of ABLE accounts.

"We've seen such positive changes with ABLE and it's exciting that so many more Hoosiers will soon be eligible to add this to their toolbox," INvest-ABLE Executive Director Amy Corbin said. "Trav-

ceive a 20 percent eling the state and hearing stories from account owners and their support systems on how this program is changing and improving lives is incredibly heartening."

Claire, an INvestABLE account owner, shares that she used her account to pay for Erskine Green Training Institute (EGTI). "My parents moved my 529 college fund into ABLE so I could attend EGTI," she said. "Another use is for medical and counseling appointments."

As INvest*ABLE* Indiana continues to grow, the Treasurer's Office remains committed to giving Hoosiers with disabilities the tools they need to secure their financial future. To learn more or to open an account, visit in.savewithable.com.



CONGRESSWOMAN

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.



www.spartz.house.gov

# **US Capitol and White House Tour Requests**

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



## TODAY'S BIBLE READING

SETTING UP THE TABERNACLE

"Place the altar of burnt offering in front of the entrance to the tabernacle, the tent of meeting; place the basin between the tent of meeting and the altar and put water in it. Set up the courtyard around it and put the curtain at the entrance to the courtyard.

"Take the anointing oil and anoint the tabernacle and everything in it; consecrate it and all its furnishings, and it will be holy. Then anoint the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils; consecrate the altar, and it will be most holy. Anoint the basin and its stand and consecrate them.

"Bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance to the tent of meeting and wash them with water. Then dress Aaron in the sacred garments, anoint him and consecrate him so he may serve me as priest. Bring his sons and dress them in tunics. Anoint them just as you anointed their father, so they may serve me as priests. Their anointing will be to a priesthood that will continue throughout their generations." Moses did everything just as the Lord commanded him. Exodus 40:6-16 (NIV)

#### **Meeting Notices**

The Hamilton County Board of Zoning Appeals will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 23, 2025, in the Commissioners' Courtroom / County Council Chambers on the first floor of the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

TriCo Regional Sewer Utility will hold a Budget and Finance Committee meeting at 7:30 a.m. Friday, April 4, 2025, at 7236 Mayflower Park Drive, Zionsville.

Send Meeting Notices to: News@ReadTheReporter.com

#### The Reporter's policy on obituaries

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

Families and funeral homes are asked to submit obituaries at **ReadTheReporter.com/obitform**.

# Kroger brings back biggest-ever Customer Appreciation Week

#### **Submitted**

The Kroger Co. launched the return of Customer Appreciation Week on Wednesday, the retailer's mega-sales event honoring customers with its hottest deals and digital coupons.

"We know our customers are faced with many choices when it comes feeding their families and as America's grocer, we are proud every time they chose Kroger," said Mary Ellen Adcock, Kroger Senior Vice President and Chief Merchant and Market Officer. "We are thrilled to bring back our customer appreciation event with even more deals and discounts to express thanks to our customers for giving Kroger a seat at their table.'

During the one-week event, through April 1, customers can get even more great deals on Kroger's Our Brands favorites and national brands across the store. They're invited to visit Kroger.com/appreciation

to save big and learn more.

Customers can look forward to Kroger's hottest deals and digital coupons to stock up their pantries, load up on essentials to watch college hoops, prepare for the Easter Bunny and more.

#### Stock up on staples

• Kroger Brand Cheese six- to nine-ounce in select varieties: three for \$5 with card when customers purchase three or more with loyalty card

• Kroger Brand Pasta in select varieties: only 99

cents with loyalty card

- Kroger Brand 32-ounce Broths in select varieties: only 99 cents with loyalty card
- Powerade, Body Armor and Arizona single serve: only 88 cents with loyalty card
- Starbucks Bagged Coffee or KCups: \$6.99 with digital coupon

### Go mad for basketball watch parties

- Doritos, including the new Doritos Zesty Jalapeño Popper flavor, Lay's Potato Chips, Cheetos, and Tostitos in select sizes and varieties: \$1.99 each when customers purchase four with loyalty card
- Buy five, save \$1 each MEGA event mix and match on dozens of participating items such as Ritz Crackers, Philadelphia Cream Cheese, Gatorade, Coffeemate, Velveeta, Pringles, Häagen-Daz Ice Cream and save \$1 each when customers buy five or more with loyalty card

#### Hop into Spring

- Easter Candy: 33 percent off with digital a coupon
- Mix and Match Beauty Event – stock Easter baskets with beauty and personal care items from Dr. Teals, Dove, Pantene and more. Purchase \$15 in participating beauty and personal care items and save \$5 with loyalty card.
- Get ready for Spring break travel: earn up to 4X Fuel points on Kroger purchases from March 28 to 31

with a digital coupon and on hundreds of gift cards

• Spring Cleaning – stock up on essentials with Kroger's household mix and match event. Purchase two participating items and save \$10 with loyalty card

Click here for a complete list of deals.

Boost by Kroger Plus members can enjoy even more exclusive savings during customer appreciation week and may redeem Boost exclusive offers up to five times. Boost expands on savings available to customers through Kroger's free loyalty program. Members can save customers up to \$1,100\* per year on fuel, exclusive savings, streaming options\*\* and grocery delivery.

\* Savings for Boost \$99 membership, based on two deliveries per week, \$91 weekly grocery spend, 13 gallons per fill-up and Fuel Point redemption twice per month. Along with streaming value of \$119 based on \$9.99 monthly fee for Disney+ Basic (with ads) and Hulu (with ads), and \$11.99 monthly fee for ESPN+.

\*\* Eligible subs only. Restrictions Apply. See retailer site for details.

Boost by Kroger Plus member exclusive offers include:

- Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh Lunch Meat in Select nine-ounce varieties: \$1.99 with a digital coupon
- Private Selection Bread and Buns in Select Varieties: \$1.49 with digital coupon

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# REPORTER SPORTS THURSDAY

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

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

### Softball-





Reporter photos by Julie Brown

(ABOVE LEFT) Hamilton Southeastern junior Grace Swedarsky threw eight strikeouts in three innings. (ABOVE RIGHT) Southeastern junior Kenzie Lee had a great start to the season, as she hit two home runs during the Royals' season-opening win at North Central on Wednesday.

# Royals overpower Panthers to start season

By RICHIE HALL

sports@readthereporter.com

### **INDIANAPOLIS**

Whatever nerves Kenzie Lee had during Hamilton Southeastern's season-opening softball game went away after one swing.

The junior helped the Class 4A defending state champion Royals' season get off to a great start, hitting two home runs in their 14-2, five-inning win Wednesday at North Central. Lee batted in seven runs for Southeastern, making it a memorable start to her varsity career.

"Last year, I got called up for our sectional tournament and I got called up for our Terre Haute tournament," said Lee. "But this is a passion for softball," said my first season playing varsity, fully varsity."

Second-year coach Emily Pusti said that this year's Royals team has "a lot of fresh faces" all across the board, from freshman to senior. Southeastern graduated several seniors from last year's team, but the team.

"They're the types of players that are not only just talented, but they're just good overall, kids that have Pusti. "We're just trying to focus on that and then continue to grow that passion. And then as they share in that, I think that's what's going to help them bond is recognizing the overall goal that they all have together is the same goal."

The Royals jumped out to also has some key players a 2-0 lead in the first inning. back from last season, in- Junior Addison Richmond cluding ace junior pitcher led off with a double and Grace Swedarsky, to com- eventually scored on a wild plement those new faces on pitch. Senior Makena Burl-

ond run when senior Maya Leah Paris reached on error. Valenta hit a sacrifice fly.

Southeastern broke the game open in the third inning. Valenta singled in then moved to third base on freshman Madison Burlingame's double. Senior Brooke Bauer drew a walk to load the bases, then Lee stepped up and hit a grand slam, sending it perfectly over the center field fence.

Just like that, HSE led 7-0. The Royals weren't done, doubling their lead in more runs. Junior Kaitlyn Burdick led off with a dou-

Madison Burlingame drew a walk, then sophomore Haleigh Seitz reached on error.

Lee came up again, and freshman Lilly Palmer, smacked her second home run of the game, with this one going over the right field fence. Southeastern led 12-0 at that point. The Royals scored two more runs later in the inning, with Richmond batting in sophomore Tori Bricker and senior Chloe Smith with a left field single.

"Everybody that was the fourth inning with seven here and not injured, they all played tonight," said Pusti. "We had a lot of freshmen ingame got home for the sec-ble, then scored after senior that are ready to step in, and ball Complex.

we had two freshmen that were available to play tonight that got to play and I think they stepped up to it."

After Lee's two hits, eight different players had one hit for Southeastern. Richmond and Valenta both totaled two RBIs.

Meanwhile, Swedarsky had a solid start in the circle. She pitched the first three innings, striking out eight and allowing no hits. Junior Natavia Wright pitched the final two innings, striking out three.

The Royals play their next game Friday, taking on Carmel at Cherry Tree Soft-

Basketball-

# Hamilton Southeastern High School to host Chipotle High School Nationals

### The REPORTER

Chipotle Nationals will host its 16th annual tournament from April 2 to 5 at Hamilton Southeastern High School in Fishers. The top high school basketball teams in the country will compete in this post-season tournament.

"We are thrilled to welcome the Chipotle High School Nationals to Hamilton County and Hamilton Southeastern High School," said Carl Daniels, Director of the Hamilton County Sports Authority. "This prestigious event brings together the nation's best high school basketball teams and future college and professional stars, and we are proud to provide an awesome venue for them to compete. With nation-

al television coverage and an elite level of play, this tournament will once again shine a spotlight on Fishers and Hamilton County as a premier destination for championship-caliber

Ten games will be available across ESPN platforms, including the boys' championship game airing on ESPN. Thirteen total teams in the boys' and girls' fields are ranked in the SC Next Top 25. All ten boys' teams are ranked in the top 10, while three of the girls' teams are ranked in the top 10 in the nation. The tournament will showcase 41 ESPN ranked boys players and 19 espnW ranked girls players, including 11 total All-Amer-

The four-day tournament begins Wednesday. April 2 with the boys' opening round starting at 6:15 p.m. The boys' quarterfinals follow on Thursday, April 3 starting at 2 p.m. on ESPN2. The girls' semifinals are set for Friday, April 4, starting at 10:30 a.m. on ESPNU and the boys' semifinals starting

at 2:30 p.m. on ESPN2. The tournament culminates on Saturday, April 5, with the girls' championship at 10 a.m. on ESPN2 and the boys' championship at noon on ESPN.

"We are excited to return to Indiana and make

See *Nationals* . . . Page 12





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# Hamilton County Reporter reveals 2025 all-county wrestling teams

# Carmel senior Michael Major named Wrestler of the Year

#### The REPORTER

Carmel senior Michael Major is this year's Hamilton County Reporter Wrestler of the Year.

Major finished his seastate tournament, winning runner-up in 2021.

Junior

Senior

Junior

Senior

Junior

<u>Grade</u>

Junior

Senior Sophomore

Freshman

Sophomore

### Hamilton County Reporter's All-County Wrestling Teams

Hamilton Heights

<u>School</u>

Westfield

**FIRST TEAM** <u>Name</u> Julian Burgett Michael Cain Connor Maddox Michael Major Job Mavrick Xavier Smith Porter Temples Chayce Yant **SECOND TEAM** 

Carmel Westfield **Fishers** Westfield **Fishers** <u>School</u> Noblesville

Hamilton Southeastern Carmel Noblesville **Fishers** 

Chris Casler Ream, Sheridan

Carlo Federici Zach Nekolite Carter Niccum Chris Quarles Justin Tilton Alic Washburn

Jackson Apple

Freshman Westfield Senior Senior Hamilton Heights Westfield HONORABLE MENTION: Simon Kuhn, Hamilton Heights; Ryker

sectional, regional and semi-state championships. At the IHSAA state finals, Major finished second at 165 pounds, following in the footsteps of his older son with a 40-4 record and brother Robert Major, who roared through the IHSAA was the 160-pound state

Manford Photography / File photo

Carmel senior Michael Major is this year's Hamilton County Reporter Wrestler of the Year. Major finished as the state runner-up at 165 pounds this season.

## Nationals—

from Page 11

Hamilton High School the home of the 2025 Chipotle High School Basketball Nationals tournament," said Paragon Marketing President Rashid Ghazi. "The tournament is sure to be an exciting four days of elite high school basketball. Many thanks to Chipotle, our title sponsor, for championing high school athletics. We are proud to provide a platform for the next generation of athletes to compete with their teams for the final time on ESPN against the best high school competition."

To learn more or purchase tickets for the event, visit

Southeastern ChipotleNationals.com. **About Hamilton County** Sports Authority

Hamilton **County** Sports Authority, a division of Hamilton County Tourism, is committed to developing first-class supporting facilities, high-quality training programs, promoting regenerative tourism, and cultivating local, national, and international sporting events. Through these efforts, HCSA aims to inspire athletes, engage the community, and enhance the economic and social well-being of Hamilton County.





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basketball players have earned IBCA/Franciscan Health "Supreme 15" All-State honors for 2024-25, it was announced Wednesday. The IBCA also named Large School All-State teams (15 seniors, 15 underclass) and Small School All-State teams (15 seniors, 15 underclass). JonAnthony Hall and

Boys Basketball

Justin Kirby from Fishers, and Bryson Cardinal from Guerin Catholic., were voted to the 2025 IBCA/ Franciscan Health Supreme 15 Senior boys' team. The other seniors honored are, listed alphabetically: Chase Barnes, Fort Wayne Wayne; Dezmon Briscoe, Crispus Attucks; Michael Cooper, Jeffersonville; Julius Gizzi, New Palestine; Damien King, Anderson; Brady Koehler, Cathedral; Chase Konieczny, South Bend Saint Joseph; Braylon Mullins, Greenfield-Central; Dominique Murphy, East Chicago Central; Kellen Pickett, Fort Wayne Blackhawk Christian; Azavier Robinson, Lawrence North; and Tre Singleton, Jeffersonville.

Six players make IBCA Supreme 15 lists Six Hamilton Coun- mores, Jason Gardner Jr. Large School team, while are among the 15 seniors Noblesville junior Justin named to the Underclass Medicine. and 15 underclass boys' Curry on the 2025 IBCA/ Large School team: West-Franciscan Health Supreme 15 Underclass boys' team. The other players are, listed alphabetically: Keriawn Berry, Avon; Luke Ertel, Mt. Vernon; Brayden Goff, Northview; Terrence Hayes Jr., Gary 21st Century; Kai McGrew, Lawrence North; Brennan Miller, Lawrence North; Jaylan Mitchell, Neill, Bloomfield; Steven Reynolds III, South Bend Washington; Brady Scholl, Northridge; Dikembe Shaw, Crown Point and

Noah Smith, Plainfield. The "Supreme 15" is the top honor awarded, and players were voted to that group without regard to school size. The Large School and Small School all-state teams are secondary accolades – the Large School group including players from Class 3A and Class 4A schools and the Small School group including players from Class A and Class 2A schools. Players who make the Supreme 15 are not considered for School honors.

Two Fishers sopho- was named to the Senior Basketball Coaches Assofield junior Drew Haffner, Carmel junior Evan Harrell and Noblesville junior Baron Walker.

In addition, 94 more seniors and 93 more underclass players were selected honorable mention all-state. The honorable mention laurels are awarded without regard to school Evansville Reitz; Blake size. In total, 277 players - 139 seniors and 138 underclass players - were recognized on the 2025 IBCA boys' basketball All-State teams. In total, 670 players were nominated (271 seniors, 399 underclass) from 316 schools.

County senior Honorable Mention players are: Nathan Baker, Fishers; Max McComb, University; Durante Morton, Westfield; Ryne Paris, Guerin Catholic; Gavin Saunders, Hamilton Heights and Caleb Wright, Sheridan. Guerin Catholic sophomore Jake Grissom was named to the underclass Honorable Mention list.

The IBCA/Franciscan Large School or Small Health All-State teams are selected through a process Carmel's Alex Couto organized by the Indiana

ciation and presented by ty boys basketball players and Cooper Zachary, join three county players were Franciscan Health Sports

All IBCA-member head coaches have the opportunity to nominate players. A panel of 22 IBCA coaches - 16 from the current regional areas plus six atlarge representatives (two each from IHSAA Districts 1, 2 and 3). David Wood, former coach at West Lafayette, is the non-voting committee chairman.

Franciscan Health Sports Medicine is making a financial contribution to the IBCA Scholarship Fund as the presenting partner of the IBCA All-State Teams. As part of the partnership, Franciscan Health Sports Medicine will provide plagues to Supreme 15 honorees and certificates to players receiving Large School All-State, Small School All-State or Honorable Mention All-State recognition. Those items will be made available to each recipient's coach during April, allowing his coach to present the award to each player prior to the end of the 2024-25 academic year.

The IBCA thanks Franciscan Health Sports Medicine for being a partner in this annual project.



# Seven players selected for Top 60 Senior Workout

#### The REPORTER

Seven Hamilton County boys basketball players will be among the participants at the Hoosier Basketball Magazine Top 60 Senior Girls workout on Sunday.

These boys were selected from approximately 1,500 senior players statewide. Statistical evaluation, game observation and statewide research were conducted throughout the

nament to determine *Hoo-* remaining players, mostly sier Basketball Magazine's Top 60.

Two sessions of the Top 60 Senior Workout will be hosted by Hoosier Bas-Spring Road, Indianapolis.

Half of the Top 60 boys, primarily from Northern and Southern Indiana, will participate in the first ses-

from Central Indiana, will compete during the second session, which takes place from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Hamilton County's ketball Magazine, in con-seven participants are Najunction with the IHSAA than Baker, JonAnthony and the IBCA, at Marian Hall and Justin Kirby of University, 3200 N. Cold Fishers; Bryson Cardinal of Guerin Catholic; Max McComb of University. Durante Morton of Westfield and Caleb Wright of Sheridan. Carmel's Alex

unable to participate due to injury.

Guerin Catholic head coach Bobby Allen will direct both sessions. Fishers head coach Garrett Winegar, along with Jimtown's Tyler Leighton, Jennings County's Michael Mc-Bride and East Chicago Central's Alaa Mroueh, have been invited to assist with on-court coaching.

Both sessions are open to the public for admission fee of \$9.

# Emler Swim School opens Saturday in Westfield

#### The REPORTER

Emler Swim School is now in Westfield at 15955 Spring Mill Depot Drive, Suite 105. The school will hold its Grand Opening from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 29.

Olympic Gold Medalist Amanda Beard will be there to sign autographs. Be sure to drop by for giveaways, treats, a bounce house, and family open swim. This event is free and open to anvone.

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ning swim lessons to families in the heart of Indiana. With 50 years of proven expertise, the school's expert instructors are dedicated to teaching children water safety and swimming skills in a fun, nurturing, and safe environment.

Mark your calendars for the official ribbon-cutting ceremony with the Westfield Chamber of Commerce at 3 p.m. Tuesday, April 15.

To learn more about Emler Swim School, visit Emler Swim School of emlerswimschool.com or

# **SPORTS SCHEDULE**

### Thursday, March 27

**BOYS LACROSSE** 

Fishers at Park Tudor, 6 p.m. Barrington (III.) at Westfield, 7 p.m. Noblesville at North Central, 8 p.m. **SOFTBALL** 

Guerin Catholic at Lapel, 5:30 p.m. Fishers at Warren Central, 6 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD

Brownsburg at Westfield boys, 5 p.m. Westfield girls at Brownsburg, 5:30 p.m.

**VOLLEYBALL** 

Cathedral at Carmel, 7 p.m. Franklin Central at Hamilton Southeastern, 7:30 p.m.

Lawrence North at Westfield, 7:30 p.m. Noblesville at Guerin Catholic, 7:30 p.m.

### Friday, March 28

**BOYS LACROSSE** Barrington (III.) at Carmel, 6 p.m.

Guerin Catholic at South Oldham, 6:30 p.m. **GIRLS LACROSSE** 

Westfield at Penn, 7:30 p.m.

**SOFTBALL** Lapel at Hamilton Heights, 5:30 p.m. Hamilton Southeastern at Carmel, 6 p.m.

### Saturday, March 29

**BOYS BASKETBALL STATE FINALS** At Gainbridge Fieldhouse

Class 2A

University vs. Manchester, 12:45 p.m. Class 4A

Fishers vs. Jeffersonville, 8:15 p.m.

**BOYS LACROSSE** Missouri Country Day School at Hamilton Southeastern, 7 p.m.

**GIRLS LACROSSE** 

Hamilton Southeastern at South Bend St. Joseph/Penn play day, noon Carmel at Detroit Country Day School, 12:30 p.m.

SOFTBALL

Indy Marlins at Guerin Catholic, 11 a.m. Westfield at Center Grove, noon

TRACK AND FIELD

**Hoosier State Relays** Class 4A, 5A, 6A meet, 9 a.m.

Class 1A, 2A, 3A meet, 3:30 p.m.

**VOLLEYBALL** 

Westfield at Carmel North/South Classic, 10 a.m. Guerin Catholic, Hamilton Southeastern at Fishers March Madness, 11 a.m.

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





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