

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2025

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Periods of rain, and some thunder possible early morning and afternoon, especially south.
Tonight: Scattered showers.



HIGH: 67 LOW: 51

Young artists visit, learn from one of their elders

Submitted by **Walt Thacker**

The youth members at the Hamilton County Artists' Association (HCAA) took a walking field trip over to Rodney Reveal's gallery in downtown Noblesville Wednesday evening.

Reveal is a lifelong citizen of Noblesville and is a nationally recognized artist who has his gallery located at 942 E Maple St. He has won numerous awards and has too many ribbons on display that can be counted.

The youth members were really enthralled with the detail of his work along with his value in color. They asked many questions and got answers they could understand and put to use in their own artwork.

There is a natural kinship among artists as we all see the world around us but we have



Rodney Reveal's Gallery and Frame Shop is located at 942 E. Maple St., Noblesville.

our own ways of expressing our impressions. Being an artist is a lifelong journey that begins in

our youth, and it's good to be exposed to art of all forms while in our youth.

At the HCAA, we're all about getting fine art out in the public eye.

A sight to remember

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



I play volleyball and am on the varsity cheer team for both football and basketball. I've lived in Sheridan my whole life and both of my parents live in Sheridan. As a sophomore in high school, I have never seen the Northern Lights or learned about them. However, I recently had the opportunity to see them through my cellphone camera.

It was Oct. 10, 2024. I was sitting at home about to go to bed and my dad called me and told me to hurry outside because something crazy was going on.

I rush outside and see him sitting in my hot tub taking pictures of the sky. I walked up and he showed me the most amazing photos he took. There were greens, blues, purples, and reds all around us, yet when I looked up all I saw was the normal dark color of the night sky. It was one of the craziest experiences I've ever had. It was so confusing because I knew that the Northern Lights existed, but I never would have thought I would be able to see them in my backyard. It also brought up many different questions, like: Why are they in Indiana? What makes them happen? Why can I only see them through my phone camera?

The Northern Lights, also known as the Aurora Borealis, happen due to geomagnetic storms. According to PBS News, a geomagnetic storm is "a disturbance in Earth's magnetic field caused by solar activity." It happens when charged particles from the sun collide with Earth's magnetic field. This could either cause the Aurora Borealis or affect satellites and power systems.

Seeing the Northern Lights is the only way most people can experience space weather. The Northern Lights normally occur in the auroral oval around the north pole. This oval consists of Canada, Iceland, Greenland, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and parts of Alaska. We could see the Aurora Borealis in October because there was a severe geomagnetic storm that caused the Northern Lights to spread farther down to us. It was only visible for seven hours. It was visible all across the U.S., except Hawaii. It was seen as far as Florida and even in urban areas like New York City. It was also visible in Europe, as far south as Turkey, and was also seen in China.

There are many reasons why I could only see the Aurora Borealis through my phone camera. One of them is that our eyes are a lot less sensitive to light than our phone camera is. Another reason is

See Sight . . . Page 2

Sheridan Elementary students explore Indy's best during week of field trips

Submitted by **Sheridan Community Schools**

This week, students at Sheridan Elementary School (SES) had the opportunity to take learning beyond the classroom and experience two amazing field trips that blended education, fun, and once-in-a-lifetime moments.

SES fourth graders revved up their curiosity with an incredible visit to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway (IMS), made possible through a unique lottery system open to all Indiana schools. Sheridan was lucky enough to snag a spot, and the result was a completely free, four-hour immersive experience into the history and science of the Indy 500.

Students learned about the iconic Yard of Bricks, the meaning behind racing flags, and the advanced science behind IndyCars. They explored the critical roles of health and nutrition for drivers, medical safety protocols, timing and scoring systems, and the many careers that make the race possible.

One of the most exciting activities involved students taking on the role of team managers. Each group received a "sponsorship" budget and had

to make decisions about car design, driver experience, and supply costs – turning math, strategy, and teamwork into an exciting real-world challenge.

For many students, this was their first time visiting the world-famous IMS, and their reactions said it all – they were fascinated, engaged, and inspired. It was a day full of learning and laughter, and one they won't soon forget.

Not to be outdone, SES third graders also got their own moment in the spotlight during Baseball in Education Day at Victory Field, home of the Indianapolis Indians. Sheridan was one of dozens of schools in attendance, and the experience was truly a home run.

The weather couldn't have been better, creating the perfect backdrop for a fun-filled day of baseball and learning. Nearly every student managed to snag an autograph from either Rowdy, the Indians' beloved mascot, or an actual player – making memories (and keepsakes!) to last a lifetime.

Adding to the excitement, over 50 parents joined the trip, creating a strong sense of community and support. The energy was high, the smiles were



Field trip week in Sheridan took fourth graders to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway (top) and third graders to Victory Field in Indianapolis (above).

wide, and the kids had an absolute blast.

These two fantastic field trips are shining examples of how SES is dedicated to providing enriching, real-world learning experiences. Whether

learning about the roaring engines of the Indy 500 or cheering from the stands at a baseball game, students got a taste of history, science, sportsmanship, and fun – all in one unforgettable week.

Sip, stroll & shop at Brunch & Blooms

By **KELLY McVEY**

President of Indiana Peony Festival, Inc.

We're a month out from the greatest weekend in Noblesville ... a weekend featuring peonies, shopping, sips and bites, and more peonies! If you're headed to our yearly festival, make sure to include our other daytime event in your weekend plans: Brunch & Blooms.

Our Brunch & Blooms event is a brunch and retail crawl perfect for all flower fanatics, food connoisseurs, and shopping professionals. This event runs parallel to festival day from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. We have more than 50 locations participating, ranging from restaurants, boutiques, and interactive attractions.

Plan to spend your entire day in downtown Noblesville.

Participating merchants

9th Street Bistro, A&B Farmhouse, Adriene's Flower & Gift Shop, Alexander's On The Square, Bar Ellis, Bash Boutique, Beauty & Grace Aesthetics, Bica Cafe, Bier Brewery, Camino & Company, Chapter Lounge, Debbie's Daughters, East Bank Apartments, Ginger's Cafe, Go & Do Apparel



& Goods, Greek's Pizza, Grindstone's Public House, Hamilton County Artists' Association, Hamilton County Historical Society, HMC Screen Printing, Indie Coffee Roasters, JJ Studio, Just Lagom, Karisma, Lash & Esthetics Studio, Linden Tree, Little Petal Farm, Logan Bridge



of Flowers, Logan Village Mall, Matteo's Ristorante, Mill Top Banquet and Conference Center, Noble Coffee & Tea, Noble Optique, NobleMade, Noblesville Antiques on the Square, Noblesville Creates, Noblesville

See Brunch . . . Page 2

Free course will give you tools to help prevent suicide

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Health Department and the Carmel Fire Department will play host to an informative and interactive Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR) Suicide Prevention Course.

The course will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 29, at Carmel Fire headquarters, 210 Veterans Way.

This in-person event will equip you with the skills and knowledge to recognize the warning signs of someone in crisis and how to help prevent suicide. Don't miss this opportunity to make a difference in your community.

This event is free but registration is required at [this link](#).



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BRUNCH

from Page 1

Preserving the American Dream

Main Street Farmers Market, Noblesville Preservation Alliance, Peony & Poppy, Primal Brewing, Rodney Reveal Studios, Rosie's Place, Silver Dollar, Smith's Jewelers, Syd's Bar & Grill, The Annex by Thistle & Thyme, The Courthouse Club, The Mix Marketplace, The Nesst, The Wild Bohemian Boutique, Thistle & Thyme, Uptown Cafe, Velvet Plum, Vintage Adventures

Grab a commemorative Brunch & Blooms map to be stamped at the more than 50 locations. Each stop along the way will provide an initial signature to sign-off on your visit.

The exploration doesn't stop there, though. The alleyways will be filled with beautiful floral installations and live music for all ages to enjoy – perfect for taking photos or a breather between shopping stops. Stay tuned for more details on the official map boundaries, where to pick up, and how you could win official Indiana Peony Festival Merchandise with a completed map.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Finally, we've saved the best activity for last: our

Peony Window Decorating Contest, sponsored by Noblesville's Hometown Window and Door Company. Stroll the square to see creativity come to life in each participating retailer's window. This contest invites all downtown merchants to create their very own peony display for all shoppers to see. The top five finalists will be chosen by Hometown Window and Door Company and Indiana Peony Festival organizers on Friday, May 9 and awarded a finalist piece to place in their window. From there, we are asking all observers to vote on their favorite finalist via social media from May 9 to 17.

The winning window will be announced on festival day and awarded \$1,000. Make sure to check out the Hometown Window and Door Company booth at the festival to hear more about contest voting perks, giveaways, and their small business. Who doesn't love a little window shopping?

Stay tuned for more exciting festival announcements coming soon!

Learn more about the festival at [IndianaPeony-Festival.com](#).

The imperative for rental caps & homeownership protections

As a Fishers City Councilor At Large, I am deeply committed to safeguarding the integrity of our neighborhoods and ensuring that the dream of homeownership remains attainable for our residents.

Fishers has long been celebrated for its strong sense of community, excellent schools, and thriving local economy. Central to this success is our high rate of homeownership, which stood at 76.1 percent between 2019 and 2023. This stability has been a cornerstone of our city's growth and prosperity

In recent years, we've witnessed a troubling trend: the increasing acquisition of single-family homes by institutional investors, both foreign and domestic, which poses significant challenges to our community's fabric and the broader national housing landscape.

The rise of institutional investors in our housing market

International buyers purchased \$42 billion worth of U.S. residential properties from April 2023 to March 2024, with the average purchase price reaching \$780,300 – the highest ever recorded by the National Association of Realtors. These purchases often in-

volve cash offers that outcompete local buyers, driving up home prices and making it increasingly difficult for American families to achieve homeownership. While international investment can bring economic benefits, the scale and nature of these acquisitions have raised concerns about affordability and accessibility for local families.

Moreover, institutional investors, including out-of-state entities, have been aggressively targeting single-family homes in our region. In central Indiana, approximately 45 percent of single-family rental properties are owned by out-of-state investors, many of whom make cash offers that outcompete local buyers. These practices not only drive up home prices but also reduce the availability of homes for first-time buyers.

The impact on local communities

The influx of investor-owned properties has tangible effects on our neighborhoods. Homes converted into rentals by absentee landlords often lack the maintenance and care provided by owner-occupants, leading to declines in property values and community cohesion. Furthermore, the

displacement of potential homeowners by investors exacerbates housing shortages and undermines the stability that comes with long-term residency.

Fishers' proactive measures & the need for national action

In response to these challenges, Fishers has proposed a rental cap ordinance, limiting the number of single-family homes that can be used as rentals within subdivisions. This policy aims to preserve the character of our neighborhoods and ensure that families have fair opportunities to purchase homes. In our city, some neighborhoods feature up to 40 percent of all single-family homes as rentals. Forty percent!

However, local efforts alone are insufficient to address a problem of national scope. States like Nebraska have proposed legislation to restrict corporate purchases of single-family homes, recognizing the broader implications for housing affordability and community integrity. It's imperative that we, as a nation, consider comprehensive strategies to regulate large-scale acquisitions that threaten the accessibility of homeownership.

A call to preserve the American Dream

Homeownership has long been a cornerstone of the American Dream, offering families a sense of

stability, investment, and community belonging. To protect this ideal, we must implement policies that prioritize residents over investors, ensuring that homes remain within reach for those who live and work in our communities.

I urge policymakers at all levels to consider measures such as rental caps, restrictions on bulk purchases by institutional investors, and incentives for local homebuyers. By taking decisive action, we can uphold the values that define our neighborhoods and preserve the opportunity of homeownership for future generations.

The questions posed the most ... **Why now? Why Fishers?**

My answer: **If not us, who? If not now, when?** Who will step up and defend those who simply want an opportunity for home ownership? When will communities rise up and say enough is enough?

It's time and the City of Fishers is poised to lead the way. Together, let's reaffirm our commitment to our communities. Let's welcome those who want to establish their roots in our neighborhoods with an opportunity for home ownership.

Todd Zimmerman serves as an At Large member of the Fishers City Council. He can be contacted at zimmermant@fishers.in.us.

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Thanks for reading!

SIGHT

from Page 1

because of the long exposure settings on phone cameras. Using long exposure on your camera settings allows the camera to collect more light over a longer period, making the faint lights more visible. One last reason is that the color perception of our eyes versus the camera is different. While our eyes would see the faint Auroras as mostly grey or white, the camera can pick up colors more clearly and easily.

I never thought seeing the Northern Lights at my age would be possible, but because of the severe geomagnetic storm on Oct. 10, I was able to see it through my phone camera.

Seeing it came with many questions, but I'm glad I finally got to answer them. For example, I was



Photo provided

able to figure out why the Aurora Borealis even happened. I was also able to figure out why it happened

so far down from its usual spots. Lastly, I found out why it was that I was only able to see it through my

phone camera.

I hope that one day I will be able to see the Northern Lights with my own eyes.

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Aristotle strength training

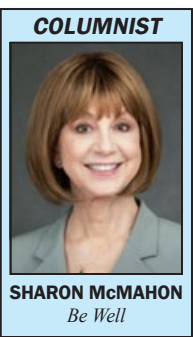
“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit.” – Aristotle

Let’s talk about those habits. We all have them. Some great ... some not so great! (I presume that Aristotle was

referring to positive habits. While I don’t necessarily agree with many of Aristotle’s philosophies, I do agree with the above quote.)

I am thinking about the warm weather and long days coming up (finally!) and how we can challenge ourselves in this topsy-turvy world of 2025 to be the best we can be, both physically and mentally. This column will focus on an area of fitness that is often neglected, especially for women and older adults. And I don’t want to lose you, dear Readers, at this point, so please stay with me as we talk about the ubiquitous strength training.

I frequently hear from clients, friends, and relatives that they feel them-



selves to be “too old” or that it is “too difficult” to strength train. Nothing could be further from the truth! Most are surprised to learn that the human body is capable of building muscle throughout

our lives.

A 1990 research group of nine people, ages 90 to 99 in a nursing home, were part of an eight- to 12-week group who participated in targeted muscle building exercises. Their quadriceps muscle gains improved by 174 percent over the period of the study.¹ In fact, a family friend who passed away just before his 104th birthday was still lifting weights at 103 years of age.

One thing I will remind you of is that strong quads will help support weak knees. A flexible, toned, and, yes, muscular body can help us to not only stay balanced and coordinated but help protect us in case of a fall or imbalance. It is important to remember that

our body parts should not be viewed as isolated from one another. Just as the strong quads help support your knees, a strong core (abdominals) can help support your lower back muscles.

If you can relate to either of these issues with knees and lower back, it would be to your advantage to consider strength training.

As we all deal with our genetics, body type, and any chronic health issues we face, we must make sure that the strength training program to build muscle is one that works for our body and our desired outcomes. The first step, naturally, is to talk with your physician either in your annual wellness visit or make an appointment to discuss your fitness goals. Remember that we do not need to wait until we are ill or in pain to see our physician!

Once you are aware of any health-related issues which may affect your strength training you can work with a physical therapist if needed, or a credentialed person who specializes in fitness. (This is very important; make sure that

your trainer is credentialed and experienced.) There are therapists who are certified specifically to work with those with physical disabilities and your physicians should be able to provide a reference for you. If you wish, do careful research on the types of weight or resistance training in which you are interested and devise your own plan. If you do this, begin with very light weights and careful movements and work up slowly to the resistance which will make a difference in both the way you feel and your physical appearance.

You can do this! It is important for your overall physical and even mental health. *Strength training is ageless!*

¹ intermountainhealth-care.org

Sharon McMahon, CNWC

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

Community News

Community Pork Loin Dinner

Sponsored by Sheridan Lions Club and Phi Beta Psi Sorority

When: Saturday, April 26, 4 to 7 p.m.

Where: Sheridan Elementary Cafeteria (parking in back of building)

Cost: Adults \$12, Kids 12 & under \$7, kids under 3 eat free

Menu: pork loin, hashbrown casserole, green beans, slaw, applesauce, cornbread & butter, and homemade desserts

Proceeds go toward community support and cancer research

Letter to the Editor

Shaffer decries millions in taxpayer subsidies for Carmel Christkindlmarkt

Dear Editor:

The Carmel Affiliate Review Committee report you covered (“**Carmel continues cutting costs across city accounts**,” April 18) was a balanced report highlighting organizational, operational, and fiscal glitches.

The Affiliate’s report detailed numbers that add up to a startling conclusion:

Without booze, the Markt would have lost \$1.5 million last year.

Markt financials list \$3.4 million in revenues in 2024 of which \$1.1 million came from the Markt’s own sales of alcoholic beverages.

Largely overpriced merchandise accounted for \$1.7 million in sales.

Markt financials don’t list how much of the \$8.5 million in taxpayer subsidies over the last few years went toward 2024 business.

As far as a Christmas treat is concerned, the Markt has become a bag of coal and a lump of switches.

Bill Shaffer
Carmel

Letters to the Editor do not reflect the opinions of The Reporter, its publisher or its staff. You can submit your own Letter to the Editor by email to News@ReadTheReporter.com. Please include your phone number and city of residence. The Reporter will publish one letter per person per week.

Noblesville Schools undertakes impressive change of course

Last year, I wrote a couple columns focused on the new Indiana High School Diploma requirements passed by the Indiana General Assembly. Noblesville Schools department chairs, student services, and other administrators have been working hard to translate the standards into a curriculum that will satisfy the new diploma requirements.

Noblesville West Middle School Principal Haughey gave a presentation on transforming math instruction. He spoke about their change in focus from memorization of math principles to conceptual understanding. The goal is to help kids have a better understanding, better retention, and real-world application. One example given is in the teaching of ratios and percentages and applying their learning to figuring sales tax, discounts, and interest rates.

Dr. Ryan Rich presented the strategic plan to achieve Academic Excellence. Several of the shifts due to the new Indiana High School Diploma requirements are:

1. Credits are no longer time-bound to a semester or year-long course, but rather, demonstrating proficiency in a course, or learning activity, or experience meeting certain requirements.

2. Change away from Spanish as a core subject in eighth grade to allow for more flexibility to allow students to take French or German, and world language placement can take place in freshman year or even hold until sophomore year.

3. Computer science course requirement is moved to middle school. Students will earn the required computer science credit by dividing up the standards between seventh and eighth grades.

4. The personal financial responsibility requirement for graduation will be moved to high school.



5. Reworking the course catalog to allow students to graduate with up to 30 credit hours in AP and dual-credit courses, which will allow them to qualify for Indiana College Core.

6. The Career & Technical Education program will be expanded to include opportunities in exercise science, fashion and textiles, digital design, as well as welding and construction trades that students can apply to the work-based learning hours needed to earn the Seal Plus designation.

7. The high school team administrators have been working to identify teachers who need credentialing to teach AP courses. There are four to five additional teachers who will need to receive AP certification in the future.

The adaptations to the curricula are both impressive and significant.

• First, I believe the shift in how a “credit” is earned allows for more flexibility for students in that they are no longer constrained to a course by time but can proceed to another course or another level according to their abilities thus allowing them to earn more credit hours.

• Second, I see the move of the computer science course to middle school as the sooner the better kind of commonsense approach.

• Third, moving the personal financial responsibility course to high school is most beneficial for students as they are closer to taking on part-time jobs, using credit cards, helping to pay for vacations, car insurance, etc.

Last, according to Governor Braun’s April 2 announcement, all seven of our state’s public colleges and universities and an increasing number of private institutions are guaranteeing automatic acceptance into their school for any student who applies and has successfully earned the En-

rollment Plus Seal. Reworking the course catalog is a critical step in earning the seal. For students earning the Employment Honors Plus Seal they can receive dedicated career support through the help of Ascend Indiana. This includes helping students get connected through interviews with some of our state’s top employers. Additionally, any student who completes the Enlistment and Service Honors Plus Seal will be uniquely qualified to join the Indiana National Guard and other military branches.

My only concern is as a former bilingual student, there is comfort in knowing that 2+2=4 in any language. The idea that we are now asking our multilingual students to explain their thinking could put them at a disadvantage if they do not have a level of proficiency in English. For now, I will

take a trust-but-verify approach to conceptual understanding.

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.

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Thanks for reading The Reporter!

Sheridan Middle School celebrates these three Students of the Month

Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

Sheridan Middle School recognizes three outstanding young men as Students of the Month. They have shown exceptional character, dedication, and leadership in and out of the classroom.

Henry Hewitt 8th Grade

Hewitt is a standout student who consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic and a cooperative spirit. In Algebra, he tackles challenging problems with determination and is always



Hewitt

willing to help others. His kind nature, positive attitude, and full effort make him a joy to teach and a role model for his peers.

Jacob Glunt 7th Grade

Glunt is known for his



Glunt

persistence and positive outlook. He manages his time well, stays actively involved in his learning, and brings curiosity and enthusiasm to everything he does. His bright attitude and commitment to



Hancock

success make him a valued part of the Sheridan community.

Charlie Hancock 6th Grade

Hancock is a motivated and detail-oriented student who approaches every task with care. Whether working independently or in a group, he is respectful, polite, and always puts forth his best effort. His strong character and work ethic set a great example for others.

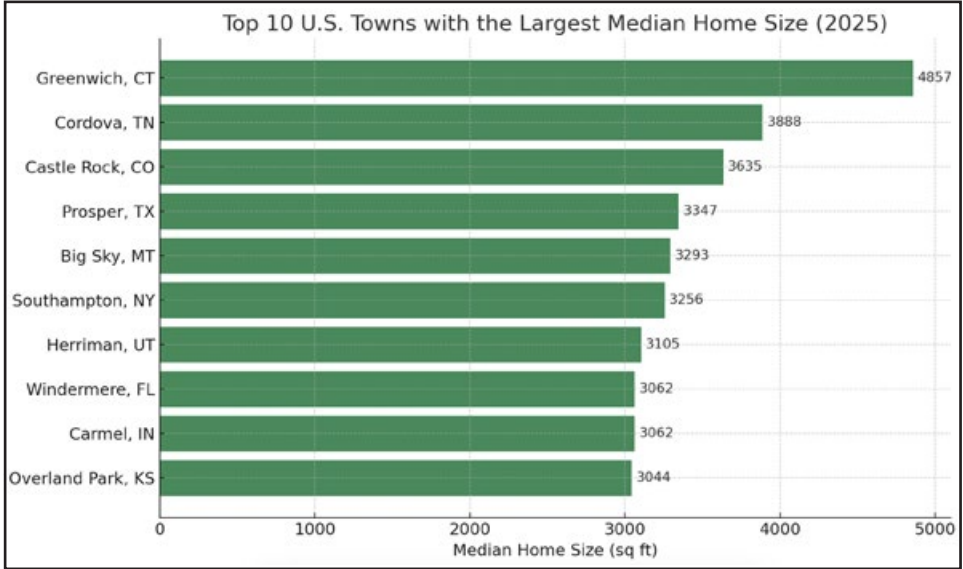
Congratulations for being outstanding representatives of Sheridan Middle School!

Carmel ranks No. 8 in U.S. for largest average home size, new data reveals

Submitted

A new analysis ranks Carmel among the top 10 U.S. cities (at eighth place together with Windermere, Fla.) with the biggest homes, based on the average square footage of owner-occupied houses.

According to the latest data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (2022 release), the average home in Carmel is 3,062 square feet, placing the city eighth nationally. That puts Carmel ahead of traditionally space-rich towns in Overland Park, Kan., and just behind Herriman, Utah (3,105 square feet) and Southampton, N.Y. (3,256 square feet).



Graphic provided by Anyhoa

“Carmel really stood out in the data,” said Oliver Lindebod, a researcher from Anyhoa who com-

pared the ranking. “At a time when many U.S. cities are shrinking home sizes, Carmel remains a place

where families have room to grow.”

[Click here](#) to view the full top 10 list.

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Community News

Eagle Creek Evangelical Christian Church invites you to gospel concert

Mark your calendar now for a special gospel concert at Eagle Creek Evangelical Christian Church in Westfield.

The concert will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, May 17.

The church is located at 18325 Eagletown Road.

Feel free to bring your friends – they will thank you! Light refreshments will be available.

Recycled Cycles in Westfield to hold used bike sale & donation day

The REPORTER

A used bicycle sale and donation day will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 17, sponsored by Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County, Inc. – Recycled Cycles, at the group's repair shop at 810 E. Main St., Westfield. The shop is located at the top of the drive, north of Big Hoffa's BBQ.

Around 40 top-condition bikes and high-end 700c wheels and other parts (Campy, Shimano, Sram) will be offered for sale at bargain prices. All bikes have been repaired, adjusted, lubricated, and inspected for safe use.

Payment by check is

preferred (sorry, no Venmo, PayPal, credit card, etc. will be available). Proceeds will be used to purchase parts to repair other bikes. Last year, Recycled Cycles repaired and gave away 400 bicycles to deserving families who might not otherwise have afforded new bikes, mostly for Christmas.

The group repairs child and adult bikes throughout the year under the sponsorship of Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County. Donations of any used bike no matter the condition will be accepted. Parts of irreparable bikes are salvaged to make whole bikes.

Fishers Parks giving away trees for Arbor Day

The REPORTER

Fishers Parks will hold a festive Arbor Day event at the AgriPark from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, April 25.

This free, family-friendly celebration offers a unique opportunity to receive a complimentary tree for your household (limit one per family), explore a special Arbor Day-themed StoryWalk, and participate

in engaging craft activities.

No registration is required. Simply enter through the front entry gate and head to the main event barn to collect your tree and enjoy the activities. Celebrate nature and community with Fishers Parks this Arbor Day.

[Click here](#) for more information about the tree giveaway.

Changing the game:

Pacers Sports & Entertainment, Kroger team up to score 50,000 diapers for local families in need

The REPORTER

Beginning today, Pacers Sports & Entertainment (PS&E) is teaming up once again with Kroger to tip off a diaper drive to collect 50,000 diapers for central Indiana families in need.

According to the Indiana Diaper Bank, one in two Hoosier families struggle to provide clean diapers for their baby, a challenge that can lead to health concerns and deepen financial hardship. Hoosiers can help those in need by dropping off diapers, with sizes 5 and 6 being the most needed, and wipes in donation bins located at participating Kroger locations through May 3.

"Parents shouldn't have to play defense when it comes to providing food or diapers for their children," said Tracy Ellis-Ward, a senior vice president at PS&E. "That's why we are once again partnering with Kroger to provide this critical assist for local families and give more babies a fair shot at a healthy start."

In 2024, PS&E and Kroger partnered for their first-ever diaper drive, collecting and donating 30,000 diapers to help those in need. This year, the partners are aiming even higher with a goal of distributing 50,000 diapers.

"Diapers are such a basic need for a baby's good

Participating Kroger stores

1217 S. Range Line Road, Carmel
11700 Olio Road, Fishers
9799 E. 116th St., Fishers
7450 Fishers Station Drive, Fishers
10679 N. Michigan Road, Zionsville

health," Kroger Central Division President Colleen Juergensen said. "As a grandma, I can understand how the expense of diapers might challenge struggling families. So, Kroger is honored to again join the Pacers, the Diaper Bank and our generous customers to assist families at such a crucial time in every baby's development."

The Indiana Diaper Bank will distribute donated diapers to its community partners like food pantries, community centers, day care and foster care programs, and homeless and domestic violence shelters. To make a monetary donation, Hoosiers can visit [givebutter.com/PacersSportsEntertainmentDiaperDrive2025](https://www.givebutter.com/PacersSportsEntertainmentDiaperDrive2025) where just \$1 can buy four diapers.

"We are incredibly grateful to Kroger, Pacers Sports & Entertainment, and our community for helping meet the need for the one in two families in Indiana in diaper need," **Indiana Diaper Bank** CEO Ashley Burns said. "This partnership reflects the heart of our mission – working together to eliminate diaper need to make sure every child is happy and healthy."



Graphic provided by Kroger

Kroger reveals customers' favorite Easter candy

Submitted

Kroger Central Division has revealed the area's favorite Easter candies in 2025.

Kroger customers are choosing Reese's Peanut Butter Eggs more than any other variety of candy during this holiday season. Cadbury Mini Eggs and Lindt Milk Chocolate Bunnies complete the top three.

"No one has better taste in candy than our Kroger customers at this time of year," said Eric Halvorson, Manager of Corporate Affairs for Kroger Central Division.

For holiday hosts looking for more Easter inspiration, Kroger recommends strolling down **The Fresh Lane**, the retailers blog, featuring fresh recipes and DIY ideas such as:

• **DIY Easter Treats and Homemade Candy:** A simple DIY guide for crafty bunnies to make Easter extra fun

with homemade candy ideas such as peanut butter eggs, candy-filled nests and pastel peppermint patties.

• **Build the Perfect Easter Basket:** Fun and easy basket ideas for the whole family.

• **Make the Best Carrot Cake Ever:** Nothing says Easter like carrot cake. Check out Kroger's guide with several recipes for this delicious dessert, featuring traditional from-scratch options and delightfully decorative dish ideas that are perfect for Easter.

Customers stocking their baskets can find all the essentials at Kroger, including Easter must-haves such as decorating kits and supplies, other seasonal candy, gift cards and more at Kroger.com or on the Kroger app.

With so many mouthwatering possibilities, Kroger is where big flavor meets big savings.

Become lifesaving volunteer by giving blood with Red Cross

The REPORTER

During National Volunteer Month in April, the American Red Cross asks donors to help keep the blood supply stable by making an appointment to give blood now. Type O blood and platelets are especially needed to ensure hospitals are fully stocked with lifesaving blood products this spring.

The Red Cross depends on thousands of volunteer donors to collect more than 12,000 blood donations every

single day. Blood drives and donation centers also depend on the generosity and valuable time of those who make it possible for the Red Cross to help people in need.

As spring travel and activities fill calendars, volunteer blood donations remain essential to critical medical care. Book a time to give blood now by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org), calling 1-800-RED-CROSS, or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

All who come to give

Upcoming donation opportunities

Fishers

April 17 from 1 to 6 p.m.: IU Health Saxony Hospital, 13100 E. 136th St.
April 23 from 1 to 6 p.m.: Billerica Park Multi-Purpose Community Building, 12690 Promise Road

Sheridan

April 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Majestic Care of Sheridan, 803 S. Hamilton St.

through April 30 will get an exclusive Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last, plus be automatically entered for a chance to win a \$5,000 prize. There will be three winners. See [RedCrossBlood.org/Hope](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org/Hope) for more information.

In May, all who come

to give May 1 to 18 will get a \$20 e-gift card to a merchant of choice. Plus, throughout May, those who come to give will be automatically entered to win a U.S. trip of choice for two. For details, visit [RedCrossBlood.org/May](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org/May).

Fishers Health Department director gives update on measles

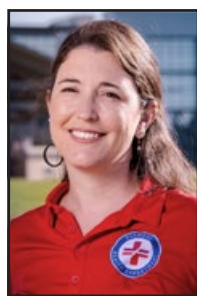
Submitted by Monica Heltz

In response to questions from residents regarding measles in the news, I would like to provide a few updates.

Measles is a highly contagious infection that spreads through respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks. Symptoms involve a high fever, cough, runny nose and a rash that starts at the hairline and spreads downward. If you suspect you or your child is exhibiting symptoms of mea-

sles, please call your healthcare provider immediately to seek guidance on evaluation.

Although measles is considered very serious, and there is a confirmed outbreak in Allen County (Fort Wayne area) with six confirmed, linked cases, there are currently no reported cases in Fishers. We calculate the risk to residents in Fishers and Indiana due to measles as low due to high vaccina-



Heltz

tion uptake.

Measles vaccination, obtained through the MMR vaccine typically at 12 to 15 months and at four to six years of age, remains the most effective prevention for

measles. There are currently no recommendations of boosters or early vaccination for most residents who have received two doses of MMR previously, or who have presumptive immunity (born before 1957).

If you have specific concerns due to an immunocompromising condition or are considering travel to an area with an ongoing measles outbreak, please consult with your healthcare provider, our team, or the local health department you are traveling to for specific guidance.

If you are in need of vaccinations, please schedule in our clinic or consult with your healthcare provider.

Monica Heltz serves as the Director of the Fishers Health Department.

Coxhall Guild wants you to go fly a kite

Submitted

The Coxhall Guild invites you to a Kite Festival from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 26 at Coxhall Gardens in Carmel.

The Coxhall Guild is playing host to this free kite festival along with the Hoosier Kiteflier's Society, which will have experienced members at the event flying colorful kites of all shapes and sizes in the southwest field of the park.

The event will also feature two Space & Flight

Shows by Professor Steve at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., musical performances by the Bach to Rock music school, stories about Kite Festivals in India told by Gita Kapur, as well as several vendor and concession booths, including the Carmel Firefighters along with a firetruck.

At least 500 pre-registered guests will attend, and the Coxhall Guild is already planning its second annual event for next April.

In the event of inclem-



ent weather, updates will be posted at [coxhallguild.com/kite-festival](https://www.coxhallguild.com/kite-festival) 24 to 48 hours in advance. The hope

would be to move some of the activities to the conference room in the mansion located on the property.

ON-LINE ONLY PERSONAL PROPERTY PUBLIC AUCTION INCLUDING Gerald & Pamela Shuck Thompson, Mathews, Coins, Toys, Golf Carts & More

BIDDING OPENS: Thursday, April 3rd @ Noon

SOFT CLOSE BEGINS: Saturday, April 19th @ 6pm

PREVIEW DATES: Thursday, April 17th from Noon - 6pm

PICK-UP DAYS: Monday, April 21st Noon - 6pm

Tuesday, April 22nd Noon - 6pm

Coins, Morgan Dollars, Silver Certificates; Proof Sets, Arrowheads; Vtg. Prison Locks, Padlocks; Advertising & Road Signs; Thermometers, Oil Lamps; St. Clair, Joe Rice, Fenton; Gibson, Prestige & More; Hull Pottery, Jadeite, Crocks; Nesting Hen Collection; Salt & Pepper Shakers; Sterling Silver & Costume Jewelry; Marbles, Cast Iron, Lightning Rods; Antiques & Uniques; Toys & Pet Supplies; Household & Furniture; Curio Cabinets; Antique Furniture; 6' Lifetime Tables; Electric Dryer, Lift Chair; Wrought Iron & Wicker Patio Furniture; Lots More Good Stuff!

Atlanta Indiana Post Office; Mail Sorter Desk; 1963 Coca-Cola Machine; Sports Trading Cards; Die-Cast Farm Toys, Cars & Trucks; Nascar & Hot Wheels; Cast Iron Railroad Crossing Sign; Char-Broil 6-Burner Gas Grill; Land Honor H-D Plate Compactor (New); Push Mowers, Yard Sprayers; Lawn Equipment & Tools; 1994 White LT 16 Riding Mower; Metal Shelving Units; Cement Mixer, Rolling Tool Chests; Stihl Chainsaw, McCullough Tree Saw; Sandblasting Cabinet; Hand Tools, Power Tools; Scaffolding, Drywall Lift; Work Benches, More!

2006 4 Wheel Drive Hummer H3; 1997 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo; w/ Hydraulic Soil Probe; 2012 Polaris Sportsman 550 4-Wheeler; Honda 110 3-Wheeler; 1942 FarmAll H Tractor; 2018 EZGO TXT48 Electric Golf Carts

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

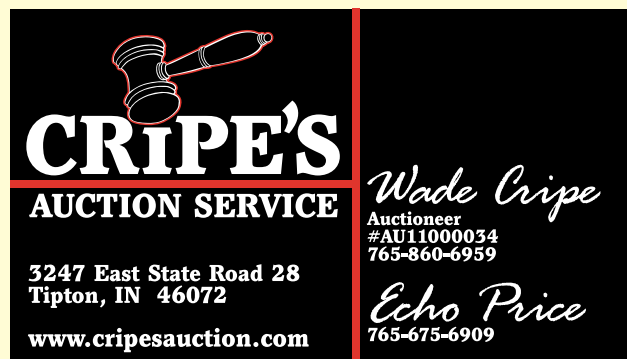
Cripe's Auction Service, 3247 E. State Road 28, Tipton, IN

765-675-6909

www.cripesauction@yahoo.com

Wade Cripe, Auctioneer

#AU11000034



Treasurer Elliott offers facts about TrustINDiana program

By DANIEL ELLIOTT
Indiana State Treasurer

There has been a lot of discussion regarding TrustINDiana this past week. Here are the facts:

- Every dollar TrustINDiana is able to make is one less dollar you could potentially be taxed by local governments.
- TrustINDiana serves as a unique resource by combining funds from lo-

cal governments to access more competitive investment opportunities than any one group could ever achieve on its own.

- This collective approach not only improves earnings but also prioritizes security, with strict guidelines in place to protect every taxpayer dollar that is



Elliott

Why should TrustINDiana matter to you?

For Hoosiers, TrustINDiana's impact is real and tangi-

ble. When public funds grow through smart, secure investments, local governments can stretch their budgets further to improve schools, enhance infrastructure, and provide essential services for residents. TrustINDiana exemplifies Indiana's commitment to responsible financial stewardship, ensuring that taxpayer dollars are used wisely to support the growth and well-being of communities across the state.

HOPE's Bingo Challenge fundraiser set for May 8

The REPORTER

HOPE Family Care Center, a free health care provider in Cicero, will hold its second annual HOPE Bingo Challenge 2025 from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, May 8 at Purgatory Golf Course's Clubhouse/The Lodge, 12160 E. 216th St., Noblesville.

HOPE has seen significant growth in both the need and the demand for its services. In 2024, HOPE saw major increases in total clinic visits (11 percent increase), dental visits (31 percent increase), and mammograms (27 percent increase). In addition, HOPE's Counseling Program continues to provide vital assistance to com-



munity members needing behavioral health services.

All these services are provided at no charge. HOPE relies on dedicated grants, fundraising events, and the generosity of individual and corporate contributors. HOPE's second annual Bingo Night will help generate needed funds to continue meeting the organization's vital community mission.

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available at HOPE's website or by contacting HOPE Clinic at (317) 984-3444.

Fishers native gains experience interning at Indiana Statehouse

Submitted by
Office of State Rep.
Alaina Shonkwiler

Fishers native Elisabeth Falk is gaining experience as an intern with State Rep. Alaina Shonkwiler (R-Noblesville) and her fellow members of the Indiana House of Representatives during the 2025 legislative session.

Falk, a Fishers Christian Academy graduate, is the daughter of Carlene and Todd Falk. She is currently a junior at Indiana University Indianapolis and majoring in criminal justice.

"This internship has opened my eyes as to what goes into the legislative process," Falk said. "This may seem like a simplistic answer, but there is so much more involved in ensuring legislation benefits all Hoosiers. I am happy to play a small but significant part in making meaningful change for our state."

As a legislative intern, Falk corresponds with constituents through phone calls, letters, and emails while also staffing committee hearings



Photo provided

Elisabeth Falk (left) and State Rep. Alaina Shonkwiler (R-Noblesville) (right) gather in the House Chamber as the legislative session convenes on Monday, April 14 at the Statehouse.

and floor proceedings.

"Elisabeth plays an integral role in helping both members and constituents throughout session," Shonkwiler said. "She is developing essential skills that will benefit her as a criminal justice major and into her professional career."

At the start of each year, the House of Representatives offers paid internship opportunities to college students, law-school students, graduate students, and recent college graduates for the duration of the annual legislative session.

Visit indianahouse-republicans.com/internship for more information about the House Republican internship program.

State Rep. Alaina Shonkwiler (R-Noblesville) represents House District 29, which includes a portion of Hamilton County.

Fishers invites families to Touch-a-Truck event

The REPORTER

Mark your calendars for Fishers Touch-a-Truck from 4 to 7 p.m. Monday, May 19 at the Nickel Plate District Amphitheater, 6 Municipal Drive.

This free family event gives children the exciting chance to explore fire trucks, police cars, tractors, and snowplows up close. Enjoy live demonstrations from Fishers Fire, Police (including K-9 units), Public Works, and Health Departments, plus kids' activi-

ties and food vendors.

If your child wants to use the inflatable play area, you MUST obtain a wristband BEFORE the event day. [Register now for your wristbands](#) and they will be available for pickup at Fishers Parks HQ, 8100 E. 106th St., Suite 150) weekdays from May 5 to 16 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. No day-of registration will be accepted.

For more information, go to fishersparks.com/touch-a-truck.

All Local, All the Time!
ReadTheReporter.com

FREE!

Kiwanis CLUB OF FISHERS presents

9000 EGGS!

The much-anticipated **Annual Egg Hunt** is back, bringing joy and excitement to families in the Fishers community!

Get your picture with the Easter Bunny! • Free & open to the public!
9000 eggs across 4 baseball fields! • For ages toddler to 12 years old!
Bring your own easter basket!

Saturday, April 19, 2025
10:00 AM at Roy G. Holland Memorial Park
1 Park Dr, Fishers, IN 46038

For more information, please contact Kiwaniscluboffishers3@gmail.com or visit us at [@kiwaniscluboffishers](#) on Instagram and Facebook.

Daily Local News THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

Thank you to our generous sponsors:

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Hamilton County Veterans Community Page

Hamilton County Veteran Community Page Survey

We need your help to improve your Hamilton County Veteran Community Page in the Hamilton County Reporter Newspaper. We wish to keep our Military Veteran community informed on what is going on so you all may stay connected and get the assistance you need to live a more fulfilled life here in Hamilton County. Please go to the following link to help us by answering the questions you see below. We appreciate you taking the time to help us make this the most informative page possible for our Service Members, Veterans, their families and



- caregivers! Please click here or scan the QR Code to take the survey – tinyurl.com/VeteransPageSurvey
1. Are you an active Service member, Veteran, family member of or a caregiver for a Service Member or Veteran?
 2. What do you like about the Veteran community page?
 3. What else would you like to see on this Veteran Community page?

Thank you in advance for your help in making this page YOUR 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 126th 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-Su 12-10pm or when empty.

Restaurant Breakfast 1st&3rd Sun 9-12, Food 12-8 Tu, 5-9 W, 12-9 Th, F 3-8 Sa, 12-5 Su

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

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 4th 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

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

Purple Star Schools. Take the Step.

Hamilton County Military Veteran

April 26 Find Out About Your VA Benefits & Resources

VETERANS BENEFITS & RESOURCE FAIR

ARE YOU CONNECTED?

- Enroll in VA healthcare
- File disability claims
- Toxic exposure screening
- Specialty care services:
 - Mental Health
 - Woman's Health
 - And more!



JOIN US!

Saturday, April 26, 2025
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Johnson County Armory
325 Minuteman Way, Franklin, IN 46131

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

www.va.gov/indiana-health-care/

[f](https://www.facebook.com/IndyVAMC) [i](https://www.instagram.com/IndyVAMC) [@IndyVAMC](https://www.tiktok.com/@IndyVAMC)

Coffee With a Vet Every Thursday 10am till noon

VETCENTER Connection. Community.

Join the Indy Vet Center for “The Weekly Grind”

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

Every Thursday from 10am till 12pm (noon)

Located at the Vet Center

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

Christina Owens
Veteran Outreach Program Specialist
Indianapolis Vet Center
317-749-9357- Cell
317-423-1685- direct
317-423-1680- main
6330 W 71st St
Indianapolis, IN 46278

Coffee with a Vet Last Saturday of Every Month

COFFEE With a VETERAN
Last Saturday of Each Month
8:00am-9:00am
Hosted by Clifton Morlan
University Veterans Post 360

A monthly veteran gathering to get to know veterans in your community.

INDY WARRIOR PARTNERSHIP

SCHOOL 7 HOUSE CAFE

5 Action Steps to Help Someone Having Thoughts of Suicide

- ASK**
“Are you thinking about killing yourself?”
- BE THERE**
Listen without judgment and acknowledge their feelings.
- HELP KEEP THEM SAFE**
Reduce their access to lethal items or places.
- HELP THEM CONNECT**
Call or text the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (988).
- FOLLOW UP**
Stay in touch to see how they're doing.

nimh.nih.gov/suicideprevention

Activities & Events

QPR Suicide Prevention Training Apr 29



QPR SUICIDE PREVENTION COURSE

April 29, 2025

6:00PM - 8:00PM

This is a FREE Course!



Carmel Fire Headquarters
210 Veterans Way
Carmel, IN 46032



Registration Required!

QUESTION. PERSUADE. REFER.

Three steps anyone can learn to help prevent suicide.



Save a Life Narcan Training Apr 29 In Fishers

You can be a Life-saver!

Learn how to save a life during an opioid overdose with naloxone!

Sign up for a FREE 30 min. naloxone* (Narcan) training:



Tues., April 29
6:30 p.m.
Nickel Plate Pavillion
Conference room

Wed., May 21
7 p.m.
Nickel Plate Pavillion
Conference room

Wed., May 28
7 p.m.
Nickel Plate Pavillion
Conference room



* Naloxone is a medicine that safely and rapidly reverses an opioid overdose. No prescription is required and it is available at no cost to you!

Christmas In June Care Package Drive



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

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

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

Carmel American Legion Post 155 - 852 West Main St, Carmel, In 46032

Carmel VFW Post 10003 - 12863 Old Meridian ST, Carmel, In 46032

Cicero American Legion Post 341 - 50 Washington Ave, Cicero, In

Fishers American Legion Post 470 - 9091 E 126th St, Fishers, In

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

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

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

Care Package Gifts Needed for Our Deployed Troops

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

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

Lynn at treasurer@hamiltoncountyveterans.com

Tracy at auxiliarypost470@gmail.com

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.

Railbike Season

Forest Park Rail Adventure

Experience the beauty of nature on the historic Nickel Plate rails. The Forest Park Rail Adventure is a 7-mile railbike ride through scenic Northern Hamilton County.

White River Family Cruise

Join us for the White River Family Cruise, a delightful, short rail bike adventure departing Hobbs Station. This family-friendly journey takes you on a charming ride over the tranquil White River and into the heart of Downtown Noblesville. Bike time on this ride is very short at 15-20 minutes plus a 1-hour layover in Downtown Noblesville.

Twilight Rail Ride

Take an evening rail bike ride and enjoy the sights and sounds of twilight. Bikes will depart from Hobbs Station in Noblesville for a 7-mile round trip ride.

RAILBIKE SEASON IS NOW OPEN!

ALL ABOARD! NICKELPLATEEXPRESS.COM

NICKELPLATEEXPRESS.COM

How retirement income is taxed & how to minimize your burden

Retirement may be the golden years, but taxes don't retire with you. Many Americans are surprised to find that the money they spent decades earning – Social Security benefits, pensions, and retirement account withdrawals – is still subject to taxation. Understanding these tax rules before you leave the workforce can make a significant difference in how much of your retirement income you actually get to keep.

Social Security: not always tax-free

Unlike in the past, Social Security benefits are no longer automatically exempt from taxes. The government determines taxation on these benefits using a formula called "combined income," which includes your adjusted gross income, tax-exempt interest, and half of your Social Security benefits. Yes, there is a proposal to eliminate taxes on Social Security, but for now, you'll still need to know how to calculate it:

- If this amount is between \$25,000 and \$34,000 for individuals (\$32,000 to \$44,000 for couples), up to 50 percent of your benefits may be taxed.
- If it exceeds \$34,000



This can come as a shock to retirees who believed their Social Security checks would be untouchable. The reality is that careful planning is needed to avoid unnecessary taxation.

Taxes on pensions & retirement account withdrawals

Pensions are relatively straightforward. If you contributed to your pension with pre-tax dollars, the full amount is taxable as regular income when you receive it. For Roth-based pensions, withdrawals are tax-free.

Withdrawals from tax-deferred accounts like traditional IRAs and 401(k)s are also fully taxable. Once you reach age 73, required minimum distributions (RMDs) force you to withdraw a set amount annually, which increases your taxable income – potentially pushing you into a higher tax bracket and triggering taxes on Social Security benefits as well.

On the other hand, Roth IRAs offer tax-free withdrawals in retirement, provided the account has been open for at least five years. Converting some of your traditional IRA or 401(k)

into a Roth account before retirement can be a strategic way to reduce future tax burdens.

Key tax changes to watch

The transition to retirement brings new tax realities. Some key changes include:

- **Loss of work-related deductions:** Without a job, you can't deduct expenses like 401(k) contributions or business-related expenses.
- **Higher medical deductions:** Medical costs can become a larger portion of income and may be deductible if they exceed 7.5 percent of adjusted gross income.
- **State taxes:** While some states don't tax retirement income, others fully tax pensions and Social Security. Where you live can impact your total tax bill significantly.

Strategies to minimize taxes in retirement

Managing income sources carefully can help lower the overall tax burden. Here are a few strategies:

- **Withdraw from taxable accounts first:** Tapping brokerage accounts before tax-deferred accounts can help control taxable income levels.
- **Delay Social Security benefits:** Waiting until age 70 to claim benefits increases payments and can allow

time to draw from taxable accounts first, reducing overall taxes.

- **Use Roth conversions strategically:** Converting portions of traditional IRAs to Roth IRAs during lower-income years can reduce taxable withdrawals later.

Be sure not to do the following:

- **Ignore required minimum distributions.** Missing an RMD can result in a 25 percent penalty.
- **Make large withdrawals without a plan.** A big lump-sum withdrawal from a 401(k) or IRA can push you into a higher tax bracket and trigger Medicare IRMAA surcharges!

Planning for taxes in retirement is as crucial as saving for retirement itself. Understanding how Social Security, pensions, and retirement withdrawals are taxed – and taking proactive steps – can make a substantial difference in preserving wealth during retirement.

Sylvia Gordon is the author of "Medicare Mama's Guide to Medicare and Social Security Retirement." She has over one million followers on social media where you can find her as "Medicare Mama" or @TheMedicareFamily. Her third-generation family insurance business is in central Indiana and licensed in all 50 states. Learn more at TheMedicareFamily.com.



Carmel invites you to Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony on April 24

The REPORTER

The City of Carmel will present its 2024 Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony to commemorate those who were killed and the loved ones who suffered through the Holocaust.

The ceremony will begin at noon on Thursday, April 24 at The Tarkington Theater, 3 Carter Green, Carmel.

Rabbi Benjamin Sendrow of Congregation Shaarey Tefilla and Rabbi Justin Kerber of Congregation Beth Shalom along with speakers and musical performers.

This year's keynote presenter is Graham Honaker, Associate Athletic Director for Development and NIL Strategy at Butler University. Honaker is the co-author

of several books including *A Blessing, Not a Burden: My Parents' Remarkable Holocaust Story and My Fight to Keep Their Legacy Alive* that he co-authored with Dr. Alex Kor.

Musical performances will feature cantor Melissa Cohen; the Carmel United Methodist Church Bell Choir; University High School of Indiana Choir and Sadie Cohen, Carmel High School sophomore and Miss Cardinal's Teen 2025.

The City of Carmel Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony is part of Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), an international holiday that commemorates the deaths of our six million brothers and sisters, both Jews and Gentiles.

Domestic Violence Prevention Network names Mariann McGee Bernlohr as interim director

Submitted

The Domestic Violence Prevention Network (DVPN) announced Tuesday the appointment of Mariann McGee Bernlohr as Interim Director, effective Monday, April 21.

Bernlohr brings nearly two decades of non-profit leadership and strategic consulting experience, with deep expertise in program development, governance, and capacity building to the organization.

A leader in the non-profit sector, Bernlohr is the founder and president of Iris Consulting, where she supports organizations in executive succession planning, board and staff development, and strategic growth. She most recently served as Senior Director of Affiliate Capacity Building at Horizons National, where she provided consulting and support to more than 70 affiliates across the country. Her leadership experience also includes serving as Executive Director of Horizons at St. Richard's Episcopal School, and management roles with the Governor's Office of Faith-Based & Community Initiatives and the YMCA.

"Mariann brings a calm, steady presence and a values-driven approach to her work, which is exactly what we need during this time of transition," DVPN Board



Chair Kristen Moreland said. "Her deep commitment to equity and community, coupled with her exceptional experience in non-profit governance and strategy, will help ensure the continuity of our mission while we plan for the future."

Bernlohr is actively engaged in the Indianapolis community, serving on the board of Indy Reads and as a founding board member of St. Nicholas Early Learning. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs from Indiana University and a Master's in Teaching from Hamline University.

"It's truly an honor to step into this role and be part of the critical work DVPN is doing to prevent domestic violence and support survivors," Bernlohr said. "I recognize the weight of this moment and the responsibility it carries. My priority is to listen – to the staff, to the survivors we serve, and to the community partners who know this work best. I'm committed to walking alongside this team with humility, accountability, and a deep respect for the lived experiences that shape this organization."

The DVPN Board of Directors will continue its search for a permanent executive director, with the goal of a full-time hire later this year.

Bill dismantling 17 Indiana judges or magistrates passes State Senate

By KYLA RUSSELL
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Seventeen courts or magistrates in Indiana could soon be dismantled if a newly amended bill passes through the Statehouse.

House Bill 1144 was authored by **State Rep. Chris Jeter, R-Fishers**. The bill's original copy, introduced in January, only added judges and magistrates to four counties in Indiana, including Hamilton, Elkhart, Vigo and Lawrence counties.

Last week, the bill was amended by the Senate Appropriations Committee. The new version gets rid of superior courts in Blackford, Carroll, Gibson, Greene, Jennings, Newton, Pulaski, Rush, and Scott counties. Owen and Monroe counties would lose their circuit courts, and the Marion County Juvenile Court would lose six full time magistrates.

The bill on Tuesday passed in the Senate with a 33-16 vote. A conference committee of members of

both the House and the Senate will work to resolve the differences created by the amendments.

Carroll County Superior Court Judge Troy Hawkins told I-Team 8 the changes could slash their judicial capacity in half.

"The main concerns revolve around access to justice for our citizens," Hawkins said. "It's going to cause significant delays and their ability to get into court, and to have that access to resolve their situation, whatever it may be criminal or civil."

Hawkins says these delays undermine the Constitution's speedy trial guarantees. The changes could also back up counties that experience an already overburdened system, leaving people in limbo.

The change could also have far reaching financial impacts. Hawkins says that even a few weeks of delays



Jeter

could cost counties like his tens of thousands of dollars.

"It will be a huge cost for our sheriff," Hawkins said. "It's going to cost for inmates who are there who can't get to court because there's only one person handling trials."

A financial analysis claims the move could help the state save about \$750,000 in 2027 and up to \$2.75 million by 2032.

"I would say obviously the amendment that was put into (HB) 1144 in the Senate is very much still a negotiation and they'll be ongoing talks as we work through the numbers, because not everything's reflected in the numbers or some counties that have unique stories," Jeter said.

Jeter says counties across the state come to the legislature in the summer and request new courts each budget year. The state

uses a "caseload study" to determine how much time judicial time is necessary for cases. It then surveys the number of cases filed to decide how many judges and magistrates are needed for the caseload.

For decades, the legislature has only added courts.

"This year, we are not only looking at where courts need to be added, but also where maybe they need to be eliminated or as I like to say, sort of moved to different areas," Jeter said.

Hawkins agrees that it is important to look at the courts counties have, and agrees many of them are in need. He also says the cost of the proposed changes would far outweigh what the state could save.

That's what prompted him to travel to the Statehouse on Thursday to ask for help.

"Rep. VanNatter has been unbelievably supportive, and I thank him for that, and Sen. Altig as well. But, we're hoping that our concerns are heard, and we can sit at the table and talk about serious change for the judiciary," Hawkins said.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/i-team-8/indiana-courts-disbanding.

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Orr Fellowship awards \$1K to budding entrepreneur

Eight early career professionals compete in the program’s annual pitch competition to help kickstart their own businesses

Submitted

On April 14, Orr Fellowship, an early career development program for versatile high-achievers and future-focused businesses in Indiana, held its annual pitch competition with eight young professionals competing for \$1,000 to launch their own businesses in Indiana.

Megan Green, a Pendleton native and University of Notre Dame alumna, won the \$1,000 prize with her business idea, “Home to Host.” Similar to vacation rentals, the concept would allow customers to rent a space that feels like home for half of a day or a full day, without committing to a full night’s stay or breaking any vacation rental rules.

“I am truly honored to have won and incredibly grateful for the experience,” Green said. “Orr’s Pitch Competition provided a valuable platform to share more about Home to Host and receive genuine feedback on an idea I’m deeply passionate about. I’m thankful to the judges, Orr’s Continued Learning team, my fellow presenters and the Orr Fellows who shared their feedback. Thanks to these individuals, I’m walking away from this

experience feeling encouraged, inspired and more energized than ever to bring this dream to life.”

The participating Orr Fellows presented eight different business pitches to an audience of hundreds of Orr Fellows and a judging panel of central Indiana business leaders at The Vogue, 6259 N. College Ave., Indianapolis. Each Fellow delivered a five-minute presentation followed by a Q&A with the judges: Jenn Schimmelpfennig from Pivot Brands; Katy Jenkins, an Orr Fellowship alumna and VP of Product Management, Platform, for Employ; and Jim Jay, an Orr Fellowship Board Member and Managing Partner of Chatham Equity Partners LLC.

“This year’s group of pitch competition participants did a phenomenal job presenting their business ideas, and made it a tough choice for the judges,” Orr Fellowship President Steven Emch said. “I’m proud of these budding entrepreneurs and believe all of their ideas have the potential to blossom into actual businesses.”

Orr Fellowship recruits, assesses and matches university graduates with



Photos provided
(RIGHT) Megan Green of Pendleton won this year’s \$1,000 prize for her business idea called “Home to Host.”

high-agency roles in growing Indiana businesses. Together, Orr Fellowship and partner companies give graduates the professional development resources and support network they need to accelerate their careers. Leading up to the pitch

competition, the participating Orr Fellows completed two workshops led by industry experts to help build their business pitches.

To learn more about Orr Fellowship and the economic impact study, visit orr.fellowship.org.



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Metropolitan Youth Ballet to stage "Cinderella" in Zionsville

Submitted

Escape into one of the most beloved of all fairy tales with Metropolitan Youth Ballet's (MYB) beautiful adaptation of *Cinderella*. This family-friendly production of a timeless classic has all the elements of the delightful story: a spirited heroine, a handsome prince, a magical fairy godmother, a spiteful (but hilarious) stepfamily, and a magical pumpkin, of course. *Cinderella* is on stage for two performances only: 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 23, and 2 p.m. Saturday, May 24. Both will take place at the STAR Bank Performing Arts Center, 1000 Mulberry St., Zionsville. Get your tickets at my-ballet.org/cinderella. Cost is \$27 for adults and \$22 for children, seniors, and the military. Audiences will experience every moment of *Cinderella's* story – from heart-break to joy – as MYB's

outstanding pre-professional company, the Be A Fairy community program dancers, and special guest artists bring the loveable characters to life with delightful choreography and plenty of comedic moments. Complete with elaborate costumes and staging, *Cinderella* is a production full of inspiration, humor, and happiness for the entire family to enjoy. The magic doesn't stop at the theatre doors. Visit the beautifully decorated lobby before and after the show for activities sure to enchant guests of all ages. Pick out a delicious treat at the Royal Delights Bake Sale. Browse the Ballet Boutique filled with custom-decorated pointe shoes, Fairy Godmother wands, tiaras, ballerina ornaments, fairy wings, books, jewelry, and more. Don't forget to take a few selfies and have your photo taken with your favorite dancers at the Cast Meet & Greet.

\$2.4 billion revenue drop leaves Indiana lawmakers with few options

By GARRETT BERGQUIST
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Lawmakers on Thursday again said they will try to avoid cutting the most critical services to close a multibillion-dollar revenue gap. State budget analysts on Wednesday afternoon announced they project Indiana will take in \$2.4 billion less in revenue between now and the end of the 2027 budget year than had first been forecast in December. Those December numbers had been driving budget planning until now. House Speaker Todd Huston, R-Fishers, said lawmakers will do everything they can to preserve K-12 education funding. He also indicated legislators will try to minimize cuts to the most critical programs. "We've always and will continue to prioritize agencies like FSSA (Family and Social Services Administration) and DCS (Department of Child Services), and fully fund what our Medicaid obligations are, those types of things," Huston said. "Obviously, there are programs that maybe

needed a closer review in an economic time like this, but we certainly don't want to impact programs that have an impact on everyday Hoosiers." That could be a hard promise to keep. The legislature's own budget planning documents show K-12 education is by far the largest category in the budget, accounting for 47 percent of all state spending. Medicaid is the second-largest, at 22 percent. When higher education, public safety and child services are added in, those five categories combine for nearly nine in 10 state dollars. Ball State University economist Prof. Michael Hicks said Indiana's state government is already very lean, so budget writers don't have much room to maneuver. "Certainly, we should expect state parks to suffer. Community funding in agriculture is going to be at some risk. I do think public safety is going to see cuts," he said. "The problem is, if we enter into a steep recession, the demand for those services and Medicaid and child services are going to be going up and the state has to cut those budgets."

Hicks said lawmakers likely will have to look into ways to raise revenue, such as raising taxes on cigarettes and alcohol, as legislative Democrats have long proposed. He said other options include delaying further income tax cuts or delaying the implementation of the property tax changes in Senate Bill 1, which Gov. Mike Braun just signed into law on Tuesday. Lawmakers could also use some of Indiana's roughly \$2.7 billion in reserves, but Hicks said economic activity will be slow as long as President Donald Trump's tariffs are in place. Rep. Gregory Porter, D-Indianapolis, the ranking Democrat on the House Ways and Means Committee, said Wednesday that relying on budget reserves to make up the lost revenue would leave the state short of cash in the event of an emergency. State budget analysts on Wednesday said the drop in revenue is due to a combination of weaker-than-expected jobs growth and projected losses to corporate income due to ongoing U.S. economic turmoil. Hicks echoed that view. When asked what drove the revenue drop, he replied, "There are three reasons: Tariffs, tariffs and tariffs." Former State Sen. Jim Merritt isn't sure cuts will be necessary. Merritt, a Republican who was in the Senate during the 2008-2009 financial crisis, said he thinks lawmakers should take a wait-and-see approach for now and get frequent revenue updates as Trump's tariff policy unfolds. He said the tariffs and their attending economic impacts could stop as quickly as they started. "I think it's highly possible the tariff issue is solved. I think it's highly possible that grants, that money coming from the federal government to help fund the General Fund of the state of Indiana is going to be there,"



Huston

he said. "They are not going to want to starve off the state of Indiana or any other state. They do not want to add a match to a fire that would create a recession." If revenue problems persist, Merritt said, lawmakers could hold a special budget session during the 2026 short session. He said lawmakers also could use a tactic employed during the financial crisis: withhold funding disbursements to counties for a few months and letting the counties run off of their own savings. Late Thursday afternoon, Senate President Pro Tempore Rod Bray, R-Martinsville, said Republicans hope to have a new budget proposal put together by Monday. He echoed Huston's assertion that lawmakers should make every effort to preserve K-12 funding. When News 8 asked about the possibility of budget work during the short session, Bray said he does not believe midcycle budget changes are a good idea. Senate Minority Leader Shelli Yoder, D-Bloomington, said the state could raise nearly \$3.6 billion over the next two years if it imposed a managed care assessment fee, or MCAF, on health insurers to help cover Medicaid costs and combined that with legalizing and taxing marijuana, pausing planned reductions in the state income tax and holding school vouchers down to 2021 levels. She said those actions would eliminate the need to cut any services. *This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/politics/indiana-budget-cuts.*

U.S. Senator Jim Banks introduces Family First Act to expand Child Tax Credit

Submitted by Office of U.S. Senator Jim Banks Last week, Senator Jim Banks (R-Ind.) introduced the Family First Act. The bill would strengthen support for working families by expanding the Child Tax Credit to \$4,200 for children under age six and \$3,000 for all other children – covering up to six kids per family. It also creates a new \$2,800 tax credit for pregnant mothers. Additionally, the bill simplifies the Earned Income Tax Credit

and eliminates unfair tax breaks like the state and local tax deduction for wealthy individuals. Rep. Blake Moore (R-Utah-01) is leading in the House. "Congress needs to do everything we can to help parents give their kids a shot at the American Dream," Sen. Banks said. "My bill cuts taxes, ends marriage penalties, and



Banks

streamlines benefits to support strong, working families." This legislation has been endorsed by the American Principals Project, American Compass, Americans United for Life, Catholic Vote, March for Life Action, Students for Life, and SBA Pro-Life America. [Click here](#) to read the full text of the bill.



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APRIL 24 - MAY 10

Illegal alien & convicted drug dealer sentenced to more than three years in federal prison

**Submitted by
U.S. Attorney's Office
INDIANAPOLIS**

Juan Morales, 49, of Mexico, has been sentenced to 37 months in federal prison followed by one year of supervised release after pleading guilty to illegal reentry of a removed alien after deportation.

According to court documents, on Nov. 6, 2024, Morales was convicted of operating a motor vehicle without ever receiving a license. Further investigation revealed that Morales had been removed from the United States on two separate occasions in 2007 and 2018.

Morales has a lengthy criminal history, including two previous federal convictions for illegal reentry, as well as two convictions in Indiana and Illinois for dealing cocaine and methamphetamine.

"While in the United States unlawfully for a third time, this defendant has repeatedly broken the law, demonstrating time and time again a fundamental lack of respect for this country," said John E. Childress, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern

District of Indiana. "Our office is committed to working with ICE and our other law enforcement partners to ensure criminal defendants like Mr. Morales cannot continue to pose danger to our communities."

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement investigated this case. The sentence was imposed by U.S. District Judge Richard L. Young.

Acting U.S. Attorney Childress thanked Assistant U.S. Attorneys Tiffany J. Preston and Samantha Spiro, who prosecuted this case.

This case is part of **Operation Take Back America**, a nationwide initiative that marshals the full resources of the Department of Justice to repel the invasion of illegal immigration, achieve the total elimination of cartels and transnational criminal organizations (TCOs), and protect our communities from the perpetrators of violent crime. Operation Take Back America streamlines efforts and resources from the Department's Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) and Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN).

Bonnie Josephine Watts

August 16, 1938 – April 9, 2025

Bonnie Josephine Watts, 86, Fishers, passed away at home on Wednesday, April 9, 2025. She was born on August 16, 1938, to Carson Haywood and Ollie Roe (Chapman) Mann in Jamestown, Ky. Bonnie was the proud owner and operator of B&C Clip n Curl Hair Salon for many years. She formed lasting friendships with many in Noblesville, where she opened and ran the salon alongside her dear friend Candy (Cody) Williams. Bonnie's outgoing nature ensured she never met a stranger, and her friendly enthusiasm left a lasting impression on everyone she met.

She was a loving mother and grandmother, whose sense of humor, warmth, and laughter brightened the lives of those around her. Bonnie had a quick wit and a playful spirit that made people feel instantly at ease. She was always willing to lend a hand – whether to a friend or someone she had just met. Mom passed away peacefully at home surrounded by love. Her presence will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew her.

She is survived by her children, Joyce Randolph, Stacy (Nicole) Watts, Opal (Mark) Francescon, and Destry (Stacia) Watts; grandchildren, Chessa Johnson, Joann (Ben) Friedman, Steven Randolph, Abigail Jones, Dreama Randolph, Maxine Randolph, Victoria Randolph, Mannley Randolph, Shannon Watts, Taylor Anderson, Mason Watts, Coralynn Watts, Tyler Francescon, Josie Francescon, Christian Francescon, Mackenzie Watts, and Xavier Watts; great-grandchildren, Poet Kenworthy, Melody Watts, Sabian Watts, Riffen Watts, Lydian Watts, Octavius Watts, Colton Anderson, Summer Anderson, and Luna Watts; and brother, Elwood (Diane) Mann.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Stanton Stewart Watts; daughter, Donna Johnson; and brothers, Lindol Eugene Mann and Philip Dexter Mann.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 26, 2025, at Randall & Roberts Fishers Mortuary, 12010 Allisonville Road, Fishers. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to the time of service at the funeral home. Burial will be at Highland Cemetery in Fishers.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Legion Fishers, Post 470, 9091 E. 126th St., Fishers, IN 46038.

Condolences: randallroberts.com



TODAY'S BIBLE READING

THE SIN OFFERING

The LORD said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites: 'When anyone sins unintentionally and does what is forbidden in any of the LORD's commands—

"If the anointed priest sins, bringing guilt on the people, he must bring to the LORD a young bull without defect as a sin offering for the sin he has committed. He is to present the bull at the entrance to the tent of meeting before the LORD. He is to lay his hand on its head and slaughter it there before the LORD. Then the anointed priest shall take some of the bull's blood and carry it into the tent of meeting. He is to dip his finger into the blood and sprinkle some of it seven times before the LORD, in front of the curtain of the sanctuary. The priest shall then put some of the blood on the horns of the altar of fragrant incense that is before the LORD in the tent of meeting. The rest of the bull's blood he shall pour out at the base of the altar of burnt offering at the entrance to the tent of meeting.

Leviticus 4:1-7 (NIV)

Meeting Notice

The Carmel Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a Hearing Officer meeting at 5:15 p.m. Monday, April 28, 2025, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of Carmel City Hall, 1 Civic Square. The regular board meeting has been canceled.

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.

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Mike Brady retires as NHS girls soccer coach

The REPORTER

Mike Brady, the long-time Noblesville girls soccer coach who led the Millers to five state championships, announced that he is retiring.

In a **Friday afternoon post on X** (formerly Twitter), Brady praised the city of Noblesville, the high school, the parents and of course, the players that he mentored over the past 22 years.

“I’ve witnessed tremendous growth within the city of Noblesville, yet it’s still a community that rallies around and supports its school and its students,” Brady said in the statement. “As the student population nearly tripled at the high school, the student boys continued to offer unwavering support of their friends and classmates. Parents volunteered countless hours so their daughters could have the best experience possible being a part of Noblesville soccer. You have all demonstrated that we truly are together.”

“To all the players that I



Photo by Andrew Trisler / Noblesville Athletics

Noblesville girls soccer coach Mike Brady announced his retirement from coaching on Friday. Brady compiled a 310-47-48 record in 22 seasons of coaching the Millers and led the team to five state championships. He is pictured here with the Noblesville team after winning the 2019 state title.

have been fortunate enough to coach, I’ve seen you learn that it’s important to set goals, and that there are some goals that can only be achieved with the help and support of others. I am grateful for every one of you and the lessons you have taught me. I wouldn’t have become the person I am if it weren’t for you. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your lives.”

Brady became the head coach of the Millers in 2003 after serving as an assistant coach the two previous years (2001-02). He went on to compile a record of 310-47-48, winning nine sectional and eight regional championships.

The past six years for Noblesville soccer have been something special. The Millers won five state titles, starting with two in

2019 and 2020. Noblesville lost to Homestead in the 2021 regional, but bounced back to win three consecutive state championships in 2022, 2023 and 2024.

Brady began his Noblesville coaching career on the boys soccer team. He was an assistant from 1993 to 1995, then served as the head coach in 1996, a year the Miller boys won sectional and regional titles.

Carmel High School hires Jessica Darmelio to be new girls basketball coach

The REPORTER

Carmel High School has a new girls basketball coach.

The Greyhounds announced that Jessica Darmelio was named as the new coach, with the official announcement on Friday. Darmelio coached the past three seasons at her alma mater, Franklin College, from which she graduated in 2014.

“We are excited for Jessica to lead our program and work with our student-athletes. She has great energy and is ready to make an impact on our current Greyhounds and younger players in our school district,” said Carmel Athletic Director Jim Inskeep in a **news release**.

Darmelio began her coaching career at Clinton Prairie, where she compiled a 51-21 record in three sea-

sons, 2015-18. She spent two seasons at Martinsville (2019-20), putting together a 37-11 record, then spent the 2020-21 season at Perry Meridian, leading the Falcons to an appearance in the sectional championship game.

After serving as an assistant coach at Marian University for the 2021-22 season, Darmelio was hired as the Franklin coach. She got the Grizzly Cubs moving in the right direction, as Franklin went from 8-15 during her first season to 17-10 in her second season. The Grizzly Cubs had another winning season in 2024-25, finishing 15-11.

Darmelio begins her coaching responsibilities immediately and will begin teaching at Carmel High School at the start of the new school year this fall.



Darmelio

Baseball

Pitching prevails as Fishers sweeps Noblesville in HCC play

By CRAIG ADKINS

For The Reporter

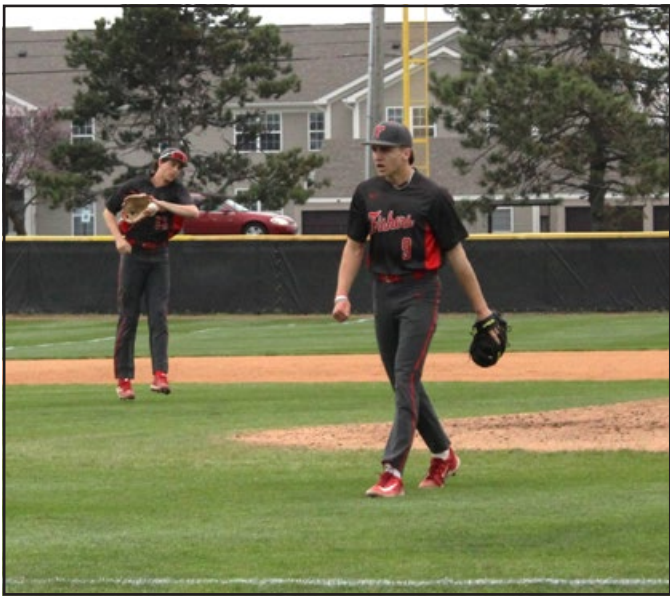
NOBLESVILLE – The weather had finally become “baseball weather,” and that brought on gusty winds for a typical Indiana spring Friday night. The Fishers Tigers and Noblesville Millers knew that offense could be at a premium.

The two teams combined for just seven hits, but Fishers found the way to push to the two-game Hoosier Crossroads Conference series sweep, defeating Noblesville on the road, 2-1.

Tiger leadoff hitter Deagan Repp took the first pitch of the game from Beckett Doane to deep right center for a double. Designated hitter Luke Cherry drove Repp in for the first score on a sacrifice fly to left to give Fishers an early 1-0 lead.

“To lead off the game and attack the first pitch, with Deagan Repp hitting a double to start the game, then we manufactured a run there with a sac fly from Luke Cherry, it was awesome,” said Fishers head coach Matthew Cherry.

Normally, the match-



Reporter photos by Richie Hall

(ABOVE LEFT) Fishers pitcher Hayden Werner threw a one-hit complete game for the Tigers, helping them to a 2-0 victory over Noblesville and a sweep of the Hoosier Crossroads Conference series. (ABOVE RIGHT) Noblesville's Garrett Dixon celebrates after making a play to throw out a runner at second base.

up between Noblesville and Fishers stays intense throughout and this one didn’t shy away from that.

“We knew coming into the series with their two guys, (Joe) Glander and Doane, that it was going to be a low-scoring game and we had to scratch across any run that we could. That’s why we’re always trying to steal and run and get into scoring position, because

we knew we weren’t going to get very many hits, so we needed to be in the right spot when we did,” continued Cherry.

Hayden Werner (2-0) pitched a solid game for No. 3 Fishers. The junior fanned nine Miller hitters throughout his seven innings. During the first six innings, Werner gave up just one hit and walked two.

Doane, the junior lefty,

got a little loose, hitting four different Fishers hitters in the first five frames. The Mississippi State commit finished with 11 strikeouts before giving way to sophomore Eli Hall for the final two innings.

“I thought the pitchers competed on the mound. Their guy threw really well and kept us off balance. Beckett and Eli competed,” said Noblesville head coach

Justin Kever. “Credit to Fishers. They put pressure on us both nights. We’re not playing good ball. We’ve got to get healthy. We’re falling short right now and the margin of error is pretty thin for us right now.”

The Tigers grabbed an insurance run in the top of the seventh. Pinch hitter Collin Hebert led off drilling a single up the middle. Carter Strole re-entered to run. Stroke stole second and would get over to third when pinch hitter Sean Frey bunted a base hit right past third baseman Chris Martz.

“The extra run at the end with Collin Hebert, he’s been doing that all year. Just pinch-hitting and making the most of his opportunities and battling with two strikes to get the leadoff hit,” Cherry said. “Then we got the bunt to move the runners

and then Zander attacked the first-pitch curveball to score that last run.”

Zander Carnahan sent a double to center to score Strole for a 2-0 lead.

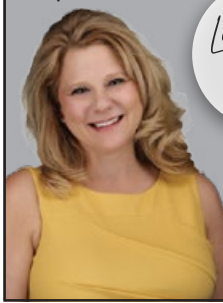
Werner stayed out on the mound to face Noblesville in the bottom of the seventh for the complete game.

Tanner Miller led off with a single up the middle. Two straight strikeouts of Aiden Reynolds and Glander put the Millers in a hole. They climbed out of it with Aiden Ramsey and pinch-hitter Jalen Stidham getting hit by pitches consecutively to load the bases. Martz walked to send Miller home to cut it to 2-1. Trevor Corbett came up with two down. Corbett got under a 1-1 pitch and flew out to center to end the game.

See Sweeps ... Page 14

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Softball

Millers stay perfect after beating LN

The REPORTER

The Noblesville softball team kept its perfect record intact on Friday, beating Lawrence North 11-1 in a six-inning home game.

The Millers led 5-0 after five innings, then put up six runs in the sixth inning. Addi Emmerson smacked a three-run double, then Bella Hughes cracked a double to bring in Emmerson and give Noblesville a 10-1 lead. Nevaeh Nash hit a center field single to score Hughes to end the game.

Delaney Rundle went 3-for-4 at the plate and scored two runs; Reese Newsom batted Rundle home in the first inning. Izzy Zapp and Nash both had two hits, while Hughes totaled two RBIs. Zapp, Rundle, Newsom and Brooklyn Grayson all scored two runs.

Addison Retzinger pitched a complete game, striking out 14 and only allowing two hits and one walk.

Noblesville is 5-0 and plays a doubleheader at Bloomington North today. The first game starts at 11 a.m.

Carmel took New Palestine, last year's Class 4A state runner-up, to extra innings on Friday before the host Dragons won 4-3 in nine innings.

New Palestine scored three runs in the third inning. The Greyhounds got two runs in the fourth inning when Ellie Goddard smacked a triple into left field, scoring Megan Pike and Winni Owens.

Goddard batted in the tying run in the sixth inning, sending Mia Fleming home with a center field hit. The score stayed at 3-3 until the bottom of the ninth inning, when the Dragons hit an

RBI single for the walk-off win.

Goddard, Fleming and Jayden Kleiner all had two hits. Keira Libel pitched a complete game for the 'Hounds, striking out two.

Carmel is 1-10 and plays a doubleheader today at Columbus North. The first game starts at 10 a.m.

Sheridan dropped a 16-9 home game to Cardinal Ritter on Friday.

The Raiders scored three runs in the top of the first inning, but the Blackhawks responded with four runs in the bottom of the inning. Sheridan loaded the bases, then Norah Adams was hit by a pitch, scoring Mac Smith. Adria Jump stole home plate, then Abbi Merritt got home when Ali Pickard drew a bases-loaded walk. Adams scored after Lainey Mendenhall drew a walk.

Ritter tied the game in the third inning, but Sheridan scored two in the bottom of the third for a 6-4 lead. Adams hit a single, Amiyah Doss cracked a center field double, then both got home on a Mendenhall base hit.

The Raiders put up six runs in the top of the fifth to lead 10-6. Sheridan got back three of those runs in the bottom of the inning. Adams sent a double into left field and scored on Pickard's RBI groundout. Mendenhall singled in Doss, then later scored on an Abby Dallas RBI groundout. The 'Hawks were within 10-9, but Ritter scored six runs in the seventh inning to clinch the win.

Adams and Mendenhall both had two hits, with Mendenhall totaling four RBIs. Adams pitched 6.1 innings, striking out 10.

Sheridan is 0-3 and plays Monday at Covenant Christian.

Baseball

Rocks come back, stun Bulldogs

The REPORTER

Westfield overcame a tough start on Friday to win a Hoosier Crossroads Conference game over Brownsburg 9-5 at the Shamrocks' field, earning a sweep of the conference series.

The Bulldogs blasted out of the gate in the first inning, putting up five runs on four hits, including three doubles. Westfield got one of those runs back in the bottom of the first: Drew Law led off with a single, then scored on Matt Drozlek's left field hit.

Lincoln Hoffman singled in Jake Russell in the second inning. The 'Rocks defense stepped up, taking care of Brownsburg three-up, three-down in the third, fourth and fifth innings. Luke Collinsworth tossed six consecutive strikeouts from the third out of the second inning to the second out of the fourth.

Westfield took the lead in the fifth inning by scoring six runs. Drozlek batted in Russell with a left field hit, then Beck Jordan sent a hit into left field to bring in Hoffman and Law. Andrew Noble came in to run for Drozlek and Nick Fero sent him home with a center field hit to give the Shamrocks a 6-5 lead.

The 'Rocks added two runs in the sixth inning. Caden Lindsey scored on Hoffman's sacrifice fly, then Law got his third run of the game after being singled in by Johnny Ewing. Fero led off the seventh inning with a triple and was brought in



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

Westfield's Drew Law scored three runs for the Shamrocks during their 9-5 win over Brownsburg on Friday.

by Anthony Cimini's center field double.

Law, Drozlek and Fero all had two hits. Collinsworth pitched six innings for the win, striking out 12 against two hits and no walks.

Westfield is now 4-0 in conference play and 8-1 overall. The 'Rocks play at Carmel on Monday.

Hamilton Southeastern fell to Zionsville 6-2 in a Friday HCC game at Ken Seitz Field.

Both teams scored a run in the first inning; Maddux Bach put the Royals on the board when he got home on a wild pitch. The Eagles led off the second inning with a home run, then scored two

more in the fourth for a 4-1 lead.

Bach batted in Southeastern's second run in the fifth inning, hitting a single to bring in Colin Kendrick. Bach had two hits on the night. Dylan Cope threw four innings, striking out five.

The Royals are 0-4 in the conference and 4-6 overall. Southeastern hosts a doubleheader with Bloomington South today, with the first game starting at 11 a.m.

Hamilton Heights dropped a 7-3 home game to Maconaquah on Friday.

The Huskies scored a run in the second inning when Dillon Pitts doubled in Nick Hulen. The Braves

tied the game in the fourth inning, then added two runs in the fifth inning for a 3-1 lead.

Heights got those runs back in the bottom of the fifth, as Levi Chandler and Logan Hickman scored after P.J. Wright reached on an error, tying the game at 3-3. But Maconaquah clinched the game in the sixth inning with a two-run double and two-run home run.

The Huskies were held to three hits, with Pitts and Kyle Michael both hitting a double and Adam Hughes hitting a single. Kaden Lawson threw five strikeouts in 2.2 innings.

Heights is 2-5 and plays this morning at Clinton Prairie.

Girls Tennis

Westfield tennis scores HCC sweep

The REPORTER

The Westfield tennis team took care of Hoosier Crossroads Conference opponent Avon Thursday in a 5-0 sweep.

After a rain delay, the No. 3-ranked Shamrocks took care of business, winning every match by straight sets over the No. 17 Orioles.

In singles, No. 1 Alexandra Grillo won 6-0, 6-0, No. 2 Juliette Grillo was a 6-1, 6-2 winner and No. 3 singles Addi Kooi was vic-

torious 6-2, 6-3. Jenna Berry and Bella Rivera won the No. 1 doubles match 6-3, 6-0 and Isla Harvey and Ellen Volz took the No. 2 doubles match 6-2, 6-0.

Westfield is 2-1 and plays in the Delta Invitational today.

Noblesville dropped a 4-1 HCC dual meet to No. 5 Zionsville 5-1 on Thursday.

No. 1 singles Bella Duncan won 6-2, 6-0 for the Millers' victory.

The Reporter brings you the best local sports coverage.

Full stop.



(weather permitting) Upcoming Broadcasts

Fri April 18 - Baseball
5:45 pm Zionsville vs **Hamilton Southeastern** | Baseball | Southeastern Sports Network
7:00 pm **Fishers** vs **Noblesville** | Hoosier Crossroads Baseball | HCTV Sports

Sat April 19 - Baseball & Girls Lacrosse
1:00 pm **University** vs **Noblesville** | IHSAA Baseball | HCTV Sports
1:20 pm Penn vs Chatard | Girls Lacrosse | Indiana SRN

Mon April 21 - Baseball
6:30 pm Rossville vs **Noblesville** | IHSAA Baseball | HCTV Sports

Tues April 22 - Softball and Girls Lacrosse
6:00 pm Franklin Central vs **Noblesville** | Hoosier Crossroads Softball | HCTV Sports
7:15 pm **Noblesville** vs **Hamilton Southeastern** | Girls Lacrosse | Southeastern Sports
7:20 pm Bloomington vs Roncalli | Girls Lacrosse | Indiana SRN

Wed April 23 - College Baseball and Boys Lacrosse
5:50 pm Ball State vs Indiana University | College D1 Baseball | Indiana SRN
7:55 pm Brownsburg vs **Hamilton Southeastern** | Boys Lacrosse | Southeastern Sports

Thurs April 24 - Softball, Baseball & Girls Lacrosse
5:15 pm Lawrence North vs **Hamilton Southeastern** | Softball | Southeastern Sports
6:30 pm Franklin Central vs **Noblesville** | Hoosier Crossroads Baseball | HCTV Sports
7:20 pm **Hamilton Southeastern** vs **Guerin** | Girls Lacrosse | Indiana SRN



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Carmel Marathon participant running for sexual assault survivors

By **ANDREW CHERNOFF**
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Training to run a marathon can be tough. But it's something that Serena Van Orman is used to doing, after having run in various events for a few years.

"It just started to become something really positive in my life to have something to train for, and to keep pushing myself to do," Van Orman said.

The next event Van Orman will compete in will be the **Carmel Marathon** today.

The Carmel Marathon is held in April each year. That month has an important meaning for Van Orman because April is **Sexual Assault Awareness Month**, and she is a sexual assault survivor.

"When I think about being a sexual assault survivor, it is something really heavy that you carry with you forever," Van Orman said.

Van Orman will have other sexual assault survivors on her mind when she competes this weekend.

"There are so many strong, powerful people in



Photo provided by Serena Van Orman
Serena Van Orman training with the mattress pack on her back.

my life and impactful people in the world who are survivors," Van Orman said.

If you're watching the Carmel Marathon, you'll probably be able to spot Van Orman. She'll likely be the only person running with a 15-pound mattress pack on her back.

"It's based on an activism piece done by a student – a college student – in 2014," Van Orman said.

The pack is an additional way for her to run for sexual assault survivors.

"I can run with a mattress in support of sexual assault survivors," Van Orman said. "And kind of do what she (the college student referenced above) did and apply this to my volunteer work with Firefly and my being a survivor advocate."

The pack has stickers saying "I believe survivors." It also features anonymous messages from other sexual assault survivors.

For instance, one message reads: "You got this! You are so much stronger

than you know."

Van Orman wore the mattress pack on her back last year as well in the Carmel Marathon.

As Van Orman referenced above, she is involved with Firefly Children & Family Alliance. According to the nonprofit's web site, "Our organization is built on the belief that giving kids and adults the chance to succeed creates stronger communities. We help Hoosiers overcome hardship and unhealthy behaviors. Our programs and services include child abuse prevention, home-based services, youth placement and recovery services."

Van Orman is also hoping to bring attention to the work Firefly does. On her fundraising page on Firefly's website, she wrote: "I'm running to remind myself and others that every mile counts – just like every story, voice, and act of support for survivors matters."

This story originally appeared on *WISH-TV* at wishtv.com/sports/carmel-marathon-serena-van-orman.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 19

BASEBALL

Fishers at Greenfield-Central, 10 a.m.
Guerin Catholic at PBR Tournament, 10 a.m. at Morgan Township
Sheridan at Shortridge, 10 a.m.
Bloomington South at Hamilton Southeastern, 11 a.m.
Hamilton Heights at Clinton Prairie, 11 a.m.
Carmel at Louisville Trinity doubleheader, noon
University at Noblesville, 1 p.m.

BOYS LACROSSE

Heritage Christian at Fishers, 10 a.m.
Roncalli at Guerin Catholic, 1 p.m.
Carmel at South Oldham (Ky.), 2 p.m.
Noblesville at Fort Wayne Carroll, TBA

GIRLS LACROSSE

Hamilton Southeastern at Kings (Ohio), 10:30 a.m.
Fishers at Bloomington North, 11 a.m.
Carmel at Olentangy Liberty (Ohio), 11:30 a.m.

GOLF

Fishers, Hamilton Southeastern at Danville Invitational, 8:30 a.m. at Twin Bridges GC
Guerin Catholic at Joe Moehring Invitational, 9 a.m. at Highland Lake GC
Guerin Catholic at Steve McClure Memorial Tournament, 9 a.m. at Southern Dunes GC
Noblesville at Twin Lakes Invitational, 10 a.m. at Tippecanoe Country Club
Carmel, Westfield at Highland Invitational, 10:30 a.m. at Highland Golf & Country Club
Sheridan at Covington Tournament, 1 p.m. at Rivercrest GC
Westfield at Don Dicken Classic, 1:30 p.m. at Stonehenge GC
Guerin Catholic, Westfield at Trojan Classic, 2 p.m. at Hickory Stick GC

SOFTBALL

Hamilton Southeastern at Harrison, 9:30 a.m.
Carmel at Columbus North doubleheader, 10 a.m.
Fishers vs. Rochester, 10 a.m. at Logansport
Cathedral at Westfield, 11 a.m.
Noblesville at Bloomington North doubleheader, 11 a.m.
Hamilton Southeastern vs. Crown Point, 1 p.m. at Harrison

TENNIS

Westfield at Delta Round Robin, 9 a.m.
Fishers at Homestead Invitational, 10 a.m.
Hamilton Heights at Lebanon, 10 a.m.

TRACK AND FIELD

Guerin Catholic at Hamilton Heights Big Orange Meet, 10 a.m.
Hamilton Southeastern Royal Relays (girls), 10 a.m.
Hamilton Southeastern boys at Ben Davis Relays, 11 a.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Noblesville at Zionsville Invitational
• vs. Warsaw, 9 a.m.
• vs. Lafayette Jefferson, 11 a.m.
• TBD, 12:30 p.m.
• TBD, 1:30 p.m.
Guerin Catholic at Cathedral Irish Quad, 9:30 a.m.
Westfield Tri Match (Franklin Community and Roncalli), 10 a.m.
Franklin Central at Carmel, noon

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

SWEEPS

from Page 12

Noblesville (5-7, 1-3 HCC) gets back at it at 1 p.m. today at home against the University Trailblazers (4-5).

Fishers (9-1, 4-0 HCC) is off to an undefeated start early in conference action.

"We've got a long way to go," stated Cherry. "We could easily drop the next four in the league that

we're playing. We could've easily dropped these two. It's the game of baseball. It could quickly turn. We've got to regroup and be ready to go again next week, keep battling."

The Tigers also have a quick turnaround. Fishers will face Greenfield-Central (4-3) in a 10 a.m. game at Kokomo's Championship Park.



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

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

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

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

Care Package Gifts Needed for Our Deployed Troops

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

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

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



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