

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026

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



TODAY'S WEATHER



Today: Periods of rain.
Storms possible.

Tonight: Mostly cloudy.
Shower chances.

HIGH: 65 LOW: 53



Lawyer faces felony charges

Attorney for Mason Alexander's family allegedly crosses the line

By **STU CLAMPITT**
news@readthereporter.com

In what both the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department and a local attorney this newspaper uses as an expert source are calling an odd and potentially unprecedented case, the attorney for the family of a local teenager who died in a car crash in 2025 is facing felony theft charges for allegedly taking potential evidence from the vehicle involved in the accident.

Former Hamilton Southeastern High School football star Mason Alexander was tragically killed in a car accident on March



Masur

1, 2025. On Friday, Feb. 27, 2026, the driver of that car, Trey Williams, filed a plea agreement in that case. You can read more about that at [this link](#).

James D. Masur II, the attorney retained by Mason Alexander's mother, Kelly Harris, to protect the family's interests, now faces a Level 6 felony theft charge for taking the TCB2 (Telematics Computer Control Unit Module) from Jeffery Williams's 2016 BMW, the vehicle which was driven by Trey Williams in the crash that claimed Alexander's life.

See *Felony* . . . Page 2

Not even the right piece of equipment

The **REPORTER**

According to the **probable cause affidavit** filed by Sgt. Randy Dings of the Sheriff's Department, Masur was trying to take the "black box" from the BMW.

According to the affidavit, Masur "stated that he has done at least one case with a vehicle's 'black box.'"

How he obtained other black boxes was not specified.

The TCB2 is not in fact a black box. The TCB2 bridges

communication from internal and external sources in some modern vehicles. It enables features including over-the-air updates to vehicle software and remote diagnostics. It does not contain the same information as an EDR (Event Data Recorder), which is commonly referred to as a vehicle's "black box." EDRs record data such as throttle, speed, and braking information before and after crashes.

See *Equipment* . . . Page 2

What's my umbrella stand?

During a recent deep cleaning/decluttering session of our home, I paused in our laundry room and let out a dramatic sigh as I stared at one annoying object.

"Honey . . . let's get rid of this umbrella stand," I said to my husband John. "I hate it. It's always in the way and falls over constantly." John's eyebrows raised.

"Really? I thought you liked it." He replied.

"I did when it was upstairs . . . but it's never fit well in this room. Since it's just the two of us, we can put our umbrellas in the coat closet. Time to kick this thing to the curb."

Later, as I happily shoved the stand into the back of my car to be donated, I remembered the day my sister-in-law Janie gave it to me some 15 years ago. We were going through her storage facility before she and my brother moved.

"This would look so good in your house!" Janie exclaimed. At the time, I agreed with her. Our old home was the perfect setting for such a stand. When I placed it in our dining room, it looked like it had been there for decades.

We later moved it upstairs for an unusual purpose. My oldest son, Jonathon, enjoyed archery, so the stand became a cool place to store his arrows and other equipment. When he moved out in 2021, we brought the stand back downstairs.

At that point we had more items in the dining room, so the stand no longer fit. I placed it in the laundry/mud room by the back door, figuring we'd use it often since it is our primary entrance. But we ended up wrestling with the stand instead, as it's a cramped room. The stand would often fall over and apart. And don't get me started on the pain of dusting that sucker . . . it was a magnet for all things icky.

See *Umbrella* . . . Page 3

COLUMNIST



AMY SHANKLAND
Perfectly Imperfect

Fishers police urge parents to prioritize internet safety for children

By **CAT SANDOVAL**
[WISH-TV | wish-tv.com](mailto:WISH-TV@wish-tv.com)

Fishers Police Department on Tuesday, March 3 hosted an internet safety seminar following the disappearance and death of 17-year-old Hailey Buzbee.

No children were allowed at the seminar because police wanted to empower parents with the necessary tools, including finding hidden apps and accessing secret photos on cellphones.

Buzbee was a 17-year-old Hamilton Southeastern High School student who was reported missing in early January, sparking a search that garnered national attention. Police later discovered her remains in Perry County, Ohio, prompting an outpouring of support from friends, coworkers, and the community.

Police on Tuesday said the threat to children from online predators are very real. Sgt. Angela Ellison said, "Just like we wouldn't leave our doors and windows wide open at our homes, why would we do that on the internet? And that's what



Photo by WISH-TV

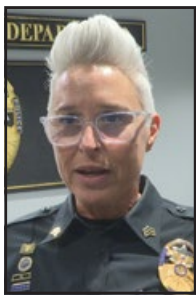
The Fishers Police Department will offer two more sessions on March 11 and April 2.

were doing when we give our kids a device with no parental guidance."

Fishers police said parents should talk to their kids early about internet safety.

Detectives said they have victims as young as 2 years old.

Ellison said, "Let's all



Ellison

great you think you're doing as a parent, how great you think

your kids are, that potential is out there."

Police recommended accepting friend requests only from people they've actually met.

Police added that another red flag is to be wary of online friends asking to move conversations to an encrypted messaging app, which makes it harder for authorities to access.

See *Safety* . . . Page 3

Westfield selects developer for Grand Park District Ice Hockey Facility

Submitted by
City of Westfield

The City of Westfield announced on Wednesday, March 4 it has selected Nicholas Family of Companies as the offeror for a new ice hockey facility in the Grand Park District, pending final contract negotiations. The project evaluation committee will provide the recommendation to the Westfield Redevelopment Commission for consideration as the city's next step in the public process.

The facility is planned to include three ice sheets, with the ability to expand to four in the future. Envisioned as a primary winter attraction to complement Grand Park's seasonality and promote year-round economic activity, the facility is expected to be a highly desirable destination for ice hockey tournaments and other winter sporting events. Local programming will help build a pipeline of youth athletes and include classes, youth sports organizations, leagues, and public skating.

The proposed location is at the northwest corner of Grand Park Boulevard and John Dip-



Rendering provided

This rendering shows how the ice hockey facility in the Grand Park District could look.

pel Boulevard.

"We've built Grand Park into a destination, but visitation isn't the same year-round," Mayor Scott Willis said. "That seasonality affects the hotels, restaurants, and shops that serve visitors. This ice hockey facility adds a winter anchor and helps us build a 365-day destination.

See *Ice Hockey* . . . Page 3



Willis



Fairman



Papanicholas

Sheridan Schools set to hold State of Finances meeting

Submitted by
Sheridan Community Schools

Sheridan Community Schools (SCS) is always grateful for the tremendous support from its community. A core value of SCS is their community-centered mindset, which is supported by the families, local organizations, and, of course, the community members who make an impact on the direction and path of the lives of the students, staff, and programs at SCS.

Later this month, SCS will hold its State of Finance Public Meeting. This meeting will take place from 6 to 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, March 18 in the Sheridan High School Auditorium. Any community member is invited to attend and hear district leaders share an overview of the current financial outlook for SCS. Leaders will specifically focus on the impact of Senate Bill 1, a property tax reform bill, and the challenges the district will face in the months and years ahead.

"As we move towards the future of SCS, we have some definite hurdles we are going to have to evaluate and overcome," Superintendent Dr. Dave Mundy said. "We always appreciate the input and thoughts of our community as we assess all our options moving forward. We are fortunate to have such a supportive community."

The meeting itself is designed to be informative and collaborative. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and learn more about where the district stands financially. Because SCS values community, that voice is essential as the district moves forward towards thoughtful and informed decisions that support students and ensure the continued bright future of the school system.



Mundy

Just because a lawyer said it, that does not necessarily make it legal

By **STU CLAMPITT**
news@readthereporter.com

The Reporter spoke with Attorney Mario Massillamany and Chief Deputy John Lowes from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department about issues surrounding this strange case.

"It's definitely an unusual case and I can't recall a time in my career where we've had a case like this," Lowes said. "I've been doing it for about 28 years now. I'm not saying it's not ever happened, I just don't recall a case like that. It's just really quite odd."

Massillamany, former general counsel for the Marion County Prosecutor's Office and a current criminal defense attorney who is not involved in the case, also called this situation "very odd."

"A client relies on you to provide them with the proper legal advice," Massillamany said. "The fact that [Masur] convinced one of the family members to basically be an accessory to theft with him, and then provided some of this information and data and evidence to the mother, means she could potentially be charged with receiving stolen property. He has put his clients in grave criminal peril by his advice and his actions."

Massillamany told The Reporter he does not think that outcome is likely because Mason Alexander's uncle, Rahvy Murray, did exactly the right thing.

"The uncle did the right thing by coming out and telling law enforcement," Massillamany said. "Looking at the probable cause affidavit, he could tell that this attorney was giving them bad advice and that this attorney was doing something that he [Murray] didn't believe was right. He did a great job contacting law enforcement and protecting himself by doing that. He and the other family members relied on the legal representation and legal advice from this attorney, and as such, I don't believe that they should be held liable for anything. They retained his counsel and relied on his advice. Unfortunately, his advice was not accurate, and it's now alleged to be criminal."

According to Chief Deputy Lowes, Murray reached out first to the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office about this situation. The Sheriff's Department was then brought in to handle the investigation. Lowes said he also believes neither Mason Alexander's uncle, Rahvy Murray, nor Alexander's mother, Kelly Harris, should be in danger of criminal prosecution.



Massillamany



Lowes

"I can't say with certainty, but I would say it is unlikely for that to happen because they did reach out for advice," Lowes said. "They were speaking to attorneys. They thought that seemed legitimate. And then, when they came to the point of believing that maybe it wasn't right, they reached out to share the information."

The Reporter was unable to confirm with the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office that charges will not be filed against Masur's clients. A gag order signed on the afternoon of March 4 by the judge in this case prevented the prosecutor's office from commenting.

In addition to the criminal charges Masur currently faces, he could also lose the right to practice law.

"In Indiana, all attorneys have to adhere to what is called the Indiana Rules of Professional Responsibility," Massillamany said. "It is a code of ethics that we have to adhere to. From these allegations, this attorney has [allegedly] violated multiple clauses within that code of ethics. He could potentially be facing disbarment due to his actions."

According to Massillamany, that call for disbarment would come through the Indiana Disciplinary Commission, and the Indiana Supreme Court would determine the penalty.

In addition to stating on record that Murray did the right thing when the family's attorney allegedly did all the wrong things, both Massillamany and Lowes had the same advice for anyone who thinks they might be in a similar situation.

"I think the lesson is to be careful when you're getting advice," Lowes said. "If it doesn't sound right, then you should question it and maybe seek a second opinion. But more importantly, if you want property or you believe there could be evidence, you should go through the right channels. Do a records request, or, if criminal charges are filed, go through the discovery process to be able to get that information. You can't take something without someone's permission. That's why we're where we are today – at least that's what the allegations are."

Massillamany echoed that advice, if you question the advice of your attorney, especially when it sounds like that advice may be contrary to law, you should get a second opinion.

"They should reach out and try to talk to another attorney, or they should contact law enforcement, depending on the situation," Massillamany said.

FELONY

from Page 1

According to the probable cause affidavit filed on June 13, 2025, by Sgt. Randy Dings of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department, roughly one week after the March 2025 crash, Masur contacted Mason Alexander's uncle, Rahvy Murray, to get Murray's help entering Miller's Towing, where the BMW was stored. Attorney Masur had supposedly already tried to get to the vehicle "by going under the fence surrounding the lot" when the towing company was closed.

According to the affidavit, Murray stated that Masur called him wanting him to go with him to the tow yard to obtain the vehicle's "black box." Murray stated he at first refused to go and questioned the legality of doing so. Murray stated that Masur assured him that it was okay to do so, and because Masur was an attorney, Murray trusted his legal opinion on the matter and went with him to the tow lot.

With Murray accompanying him, Masur returned to Miller's Towing during normal hours of operation. After providing a Miller's Towing employee with ID and documentation showing he was the attorney representing Alexander's mother, Masur took photos of the vehicle and enlisted the aid of that employee to remove the roof-mounted antenna, the attached TCB2, and its battery from the BMW.

Masur later gave those items, along with other items from the BMW, to Alexander's mother, Kelly Harris, during a meeting at Masur's law office. Harris signed a receipt drafted by Masur where she certified that she received three items

from Williams' BMW that were all "retrieved by Rahvy Murray."

Those items were actually retrieved by Masur, though reportedly in the presence of Murray.

According to the affidavit, Masur claimed he had been in contact with the insurance company and Jim Voyles, the attorney representing the Williams family.

Sgt. Dings spoke with both an insurance adjuster from Liberty Mutual/Safeco Insurance and with Attorney Voyles. Neither they nor any member of the Williams family gave permission to access the BMW or remove anything from it.

According to the affidavit, when asked by Sgt. Dings who gave him permission to take the items off the car and if he had gotten permission from the owner or insurance company, Masur said he thought it was the "junkyard" guy. Masur also claimed that "confirmed" with Sgt. Dings that his actions at the junkyard had been "cleared" by Sgt. Dings.

The affidavit states that Sgt. Dings made no such representation in either of his conversations with Masur or Murray.

This is likely to be a Level 6 felony because, according to the affidavit, the value of the property is at least \$750 and less than \$50,000. Specifically, the property's value is estimated by BMW to be \$1,753.24, which is based upon the cost to replace the parts if purchased from BMW.

Masur's jury trial is currently scheduled to begin July 15.

You can read the entire probable cause affidavit at tinyurl.com/MasurPCaffidavit.

EQUIPMENT

from Page 1

Chief Deputy John Lowes told The Reporter the Sheriff's Department crash investigation team was not, to the best of his knowledge, able to recover any relevant information on the crash from the vehicle. Such data recovery is done in the field with department equipment.

"I want people to know that when we're doing investigations, we do it thoroughly," Lowes said. "When appropriate, if someone has committed a crime, then we proceed to the prosecutor's office and hope to hold them accountable and ultimately have justice."

Hamilton County Reporter

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ANGELA SWENSON FOR JUDGE



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Still time to get tickets for Riley Children’s Foundation “Red for Our Kids Gala”

Submitted

Riley Children’s Foundation will hold its fourth annual Red for Our Kids Gala to celebrate the lives transformed by Riley Children’s Health and to raise funds for the organization’s wraparound services.

The Gala will take place from 7 to 11 p.m. Saturday, March 7 at JPS Events, 211 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis. [Click here](#) for tickets.

The money raised at this year’s gala will support the \$300 million Every Child Deserves Riley comprehensive campaign, the largest in the hospital’s history, which was launched at last year’s event.

The black-tie event will showcase the expertise of pediatric specialists at Riley and pediatric researchers at the Herman B Wells Center for Pediatric Research. One of the main attractions of the event is the Experience Riley activation, giving attendees an immersive, hands-on look into Riley’s clinical care and groundbreaking research. Some unique, visual activations include adaptive equipment used at Camp Riley, a powerful tool for performing intricate, minimally invasive procedures, and an exploration of brain tumor cells.

“We are grateful for the generosity of our supporters that helps us expand

services, advance lifesaving care, and ensure every child across Indiana has access to Riley resources,” Riley Children’s Foundation President and CEO Courtney Roberts said. “This year’s Red for Our Kids Gala will shine a light on our nationally-renowned talent and celebrate the countless patients who get to be kids again thanks to Riley Children’s Health.”

The \$300 million comprehensive campaign aims to raise funds to support Riley’s five priority pillars, identified to ensure full wraparound services for all children and their families in Indiana. The priority pillars include:

- Respond to the youth mental health crisis
- Bring the best and brightest to Indiana
- Pioneer research advancements
- Expand access to Riley expertise
- Support the entire family

Every dollar raised will be entrusted to the brilliant team of caregivers, scientists and others affiliated with Riley in 18 communities across the state – and will make a lasting impact on children’s health and on the lives of individual kids and families. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [rileykids.org/get-involved/events/red-for-our-kids](#).

The REPORTER

Nearly \$2.3 million in grant funding is being awarded to 110 Indiana youth-serving organizations through the Youth Worker Well-Being Project.

Locally, three organization in Hamilton County and one in Tipton County received funding totaling \$90,940:

- Sheridan Youth Assistance Program: \$10,000
- Student Impact of Westfield: \$49,540
- The Children’s Therapy Foundation, Inc.: \$11,400
- The Boys & Girls Club of Tipton County: \$20,000

A full list of Indiana youth-serving organizations that received awards can be found at [this link](#).

Grant opportunities were made available for eligible organizations to make intentional investments in improving workplace environments for youth workers. This includes investments in physical wellness in the workplace and creating environments and workplace cultures where youth-serving professionals are recognized and valued for their unique abilities, backgrounds, and ideas and can better manage stress.

Eligible activities funded through the initiative include training and consulting services, organizational assessments, and the development of programs that foster safe, healthy, and supportive workplace environments.

The Youth Worker Well-Being Project is a collaborative statewide effort to address individual

from Page 1

ciation, it’s all good.

So, Readers, as we approach a new season and that “spring cleaning” time of year, I hope you’ll ask yourself, “What’s my umbrella stand?” and successfully declutter your own home. The relief will be enormous.

Amy Shankland is an empty-nester, writer, and fundraising professional living in Noblesville with her husband John and two dogs. You can reach her via email at amys@greenavenue.info.

UMBRELLA

Ever since that Saturday morning, I’ve breathed a sigh of relief almost every day when I look at our laundry room.

How often do we hold onto an object just because someone gave it to us? At first, we’re grateful (if we like it). We don’t want to be unappreciative. Sometimes, we place it in our home and enjoy it for years. At other times, we may “regift it” and hope someone else will like it – being careful to not regift it where the original giver will see it!

SAFETY

“They can make themselves be or say anything they want that entices us to be friends with them and then bad things happen,” Ellison said.

Ellison said police have had internet safety session for 15 years. No one attended the last session in August, but Tuesday’s turnout was

the largest they’ve seen.

Ellison said, “It’s disheartening when we know we’ve done this. We’ve offered this. We’ve been doing this for 15 years offering this type of information and this kind of support to the community for internet safety.”

The next sessions will be

offerors, with their intentional focus on experience and relationships exhibiting a history of success within their current portfolio,” says Jenell Fairman, Westfield’s Executive Chief of Economic and Community Development. “Their presence will establish a quality destination within the southern area of the Grand Park District, bringing a new level of hospitality to Westfield.”

“We are honored to be selected by the City of Westfield for this transformational project within the Grand Park District,” said Nick Papanicholas Jr., CEO and Managing Director for the Nicholas Family of Companies. “Our mission has always been to build and invest in communities, and this facility represents far more than sheets of ice. It represents opportunity,

economic impact, and a home for youth athletes and families year-round. What excites us most is the alignment between Westfield’s long-term vision and our integrated, family-led approach to design, construction, and operations. By keeping every phase closely coordinated under one accountable team, we can deliver not just a premier tournament destination, but a welcoming, hospitality-driven environment that serves local programming as powerfully as it attracts regional and national events.”

The Westfield Redevelopment Commission anticipates executing a contract to begin design and predevelopment with Nicholas in early April. Design is expected to commence immediately with an anticipated opening date in 2028.

ICE HOCKEY

More consistent activity makes it easier for businesses to succeed and encourages more growth around the district.”

A June 2025 analysis by Hunden Partners estimates that over 30 years, the Westfield ice hockey facility could generate about \$498 million in new spending, \$220 million in new earnings, and more than 105 new full-time equivalent jobs, along with nearly \$8.7 million in County Hotel Occupancy Tax revenue.

In its proposal, Nicholas Family of Companies emphasized its hands-on, family-led approach and experience with similar ice facilities, including work in the Chicagoland market. The team described an approach that keeps design, construction, and early operations closely coordinated, giving the city a clear point of accountability. The emphasis on customer experience, hospitality, and single point of accountability were all primary factors in the selection of Nicholas to lead this project.

“Nicholas Family of Companies rose to the top of a list of highly qualified



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Letter to the Editor

HSE school board member gives his account on Mapes' resignation

Dear Editor:
Superintendent Mapes has resigned. As both a board member, and a father with children still in our schools, this loss feels deeply personal. It hurts. I wish I could've done more to avoid this outcome.

Mr. Mapes brought more than 35 years of outstanding leadership to Hamilton Southeastern Schools. He was quickly identified and unanimously selected by our full board. He successfully led districts across rural, suburban, and urban communities with unwavering professionalism, integrity, and a tireless focus on students first, winning local, state, and national awards along the way. He came to us determined to prioritize academics and real opportunities for every child. He did exactly that, exceptionally well. He's been remarkably present with our students and community.

His resignation is a genuine loss. It hurts because a leader of his caliber is exceptionally rare.

Make no mistake; our ongoing local drama, rooted in the inability to find common ground ultimately drove him away. Despite his proven experience, our persistent meddling, undermining, accusations, and lack of trust made it impossible for him to lead effectively and refocus our district. We had an opportunity to benefit from his steady and experienced hand, but both internal and external

forces pushed him away.

I was elected in 2022 to address the hyper-politicization that had overtaken the district during COVID. Families saw district communications calling America "inherently racist," policies asking staff to conceal a child's name, pronoun, or gender changes from parents, surveys asking students to tally friends by race or sexual orientation, and even open opposition to law enforcement. Many of us felt this culture crossed into indoctrination rather than education and didn't reflect our values.

I campaigned to return the focus to strong academics, safe schools, and teacher support without political influence. I truly believed this would lower temperatures and restore the culture we used to know.

Superintendent Mapes stood with me in this endeavor.

We were wrong.

Soon after our work began, a group of tenacious, partisan voices emerged, intent on revenge. They claim concerns about transparency, fiscal responsibility, nepotism, and tone, but those are not honest concerns. They just sound better to moderates and sell better than demanding a return to COVID times. They are deceptively raised to stir anger and build support for a single outcome: removing Superintendent Mapes, flipping the board, and returning to that ideology.

The underlying demand from many has been complete partisan loyalty: conform politically or face relentless attacks on your reputation and your family. They dominate social media, public meetings, and community conversation, amplifying minor matters while ignoring any success. These criticisms often turn deeply personal, even extending to Mr. Mapes' wife, a 30-year, highly respected teacher in her own right.

The Hamilton Southeastern family is still filled with good, kind, hardworking people; families, teachers, and neighbors who care profoundly about our children. That heart is still strong.

The drama and culture shift are coming from very few people, but at incredible volume. November gives us another opportunity to decide once again who will represent us, but our culture and our future is up to the rest of us. I will participate going forward as only a father and husband and pray for the leadership of others to find unity where I could not.

I have total respect for Superintendent Mapes. I thank him for his incredible contributions. I also have faith in our city. I remain hopeful that together we can still find common ground and preserve what drew so many of us here years ago.

Benjamin Orr
*Husband, Father,
 School Board Member*

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.

Anthem, OrthoIndy & Franciscan Health launch new orthopedic network

Submitted

Better outcomes at lower costs for Hoosiers is the goal of a new collaboration launched Jan. 1 by Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield with OrthoIndy and Franciscan Health/Forté Sports Medicine and Orthopedics.

The network addresses one of the most pressing challenges in orthopedic care: wide variations in quality and cost for procedures like knee and hip replacements depending on where care is delivered.

Through the network, available on all Anthem HealthSync plans, Anthem will guide members to high-quality, lower-cost surgeons and facilities. This approach ensures patients receive exceptional outcomes, outstanding care experiences, and up to 50 percent lower costs for orthopedic services.

"Innovative partnerships like ours with OrthoIndy and Franciscan Health/Forté Sports Medicine and Orthopedics demonstrate how we work with high-performing healthcare providers to improve quality and lower costs

for Indiana consumers," Anthem Indiana President Jessica Lopez-Liggett said. "Healthcare affordability is the number one concern for Hoosiers and their employers. That's why we will continue investing in top-performing healthcare providers that deliver best-in-class care and lower overall cost."

Patients who use the HealthSync Designated Orthopedic Network will benefit from several enhanced support services. OrthoIndy offers participating plan members "white glove" assistance, such as dedicated concierge scheduling from the first appointment to the post-surgical follow-up. Forté Sports Medicine and Orthopedics offers participating plan members direct access to a scheduling concierge who will oversee their scheduling of services and care.

The HealthSync Designated Orthopedic Network remains open to other eligible orthopedic groups. All selected facilities must meet rigorous qualifications, including achieving Blue Distinction Center designation

for superior patient outcomes and demonstrating favorable costs compared to peers.

"Over the past two years OrthoIndy has been collaborating with Anthem on this initiative to prioritize patients, employers, and clinical quality in creating this network," OrthoIndy President and CEO Matthew Lavery MD said. "We are proud to partner with Anthem across OrthoIndy's four Central Indiana locations to make our award-winning orthopedic care available to patients at a consistent value. This enhances our ability to provide patients with trusted options when and where they need them."

"Collaborating with An-

them on the HealthSync Designated Orthopedic Network allows us to focus on what matters most – our commitment to putting patients first while improving quality and affordability," Forté Sports Medicine and Orthopedics President Jonathan Smerdek MD said. "We're proud to partner with Anthem to put patients, employers, and clinical quality first. By combining high-quality orthopedic expertise with a value-based approach, we're helping ensure patients have access to the right care, at the right place, at the right cost."

For more information on the network and its benefits, visit Anthem.com/IndianaHealthSync.

Americans for Prosperity Indiana endorses Juanita Albright for State Senate

Submitted

This week, Americans for Prosperity Indiana (AFP-IN) announced its endorsement of Dr. Juanita Albright for Indiana State Senate District 31.

The endorsement recognizes Dr. Albright's commitment to fiscal responsibility, limited government, and economic freedom – values she has demonstrated throughout her career as a physician and elected official.

Dr. Albright is a Fishers Republican who has practiced medicine in Hamilton County for over 20 years and served as a former President of the Hamilton Southeastern School Board. She is running on a platform focused on lowering the cost of living, affordable healthcare, fiscal responsibility, quality education, and promoting public safety.

AFP-IN Deputy State Director Cody White released the following statement:



Albright

"These five candidates all share our commitment to making Indiana the crossroads of prosperity where all Hoosiers can thrive and continue our momentum in next year's session. AFP-IN will be out in force knocking on doors supporting them, and we look forward to another season of authentic grassroots engagement."

"I am honored to receive AFP's endorsement," Dr. Albright said. "With my experience on the local school board and decades in healthcare, I am used to tackling tough problems and finding creative solutions, and I plan to do the same at the statehouse."

Learn more about the candidate at AlbrightForIndiana.com.

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SOFT CLOSE BEGINS: Saturday, March 14th @ 6pm
PREVIEW DAY: Thursday, March 12th, Noon - 6pm
PICK-UP DAYS: Monday, March 16th, Noon-6pm
Tuesday, March 17th, Noon - 6pm

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Local author explores loss, grief & generational legacies

Submitted

Callie J. Smith, an Indiana voice in contemporary fiction, announces the upcoming release of her latest novel, *Kohelette*, a gripping exploration of loss, grief, and personal transformation. Published by Clay Patin Press, the book is forthcoming April 1.

“I think sometimes the shame associated with grief keeps people from talking about the very real human experiences of struggling with loss, resisting change, and not having the energy to move forward,” Smith said. “Stories of imperfect peo-



Smith

ple fumbling through these experiences can help us connect with our own griefs at a different level and find words for things we may not have verbalized yet.”

Kohelette delves into the life of Kohelette (“Lettie”), a middle-aged, single mother who needs new ways to support her family after losing her job. Emotional and financial pressures mount, and Lettie considers selling the family house, but the ghosts of relatives intervene, reminding her about the family dream of opening a yarn shop in the front room. She’s realiz-

ing she might want to make that dream her own. But will Lettie find a way to keep the house before losing more than she even knew she had? Domestic fiction meets magical realism in this story of piecing together a life after loss.

ISBN-13 (paperback edition): 979-8-9873209-6-9 / **ASIN** (ebook edition): B0GDMQXXMT

About Callie J. Smith

Callie J. Smith is an author based in central Indiana. She writes fiction and essays exploring everyday things like grief, hope, and creativity. She’s a clergy per-



Graphic provided

son in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and a member of the Indiana Writer’s Center. She’s online at calliejsmith.net.

Multigenerational volunteers power Red Cross’s mission

Submitted

People of all ages make up approximately 4,200 volunteers in the Indiana Region, including members of Gen Z who participate through nearly 20 Red Cross Clubs at universities and high schools across the Indiana Region.

Generation after generation – from Gen Z to the Silent Generation – local communities have shown that compassion is one of their greatest strengths. In moments when help can’t wait, volunteers of all ages and backgrounds come together to offer care, comfort, and hope. Their commitment reflects a shared humanitarian spirit that connects people across time and continues to make a meaningful difference through the Red Cross’s lifesaving mission – one that has supported families for more than half of the country’s 250-year history.

This month during **Red Cross Month**, the Red Cross honors how people today deliver support when help can’t wait. Every contribution matters; visit redcross.org to get involved by volunteering, making a financial donation, giving blood or taking a class in lifesaving skills.

Growing need for volunteers

Today, volunteers are mobilizing for nearly twice as many disasters as they did a decade ago, including home fires, the nation’s most frequent disaster. As these emergencies continue to increase, the need for compassionate, well-prepared volunteers has never been greater. From severe storms to home fires, communities rely on a dedicated volunteer network ready to respond at a moment’s notice. That’s why the Red



Cross is calling on more people to step forward: so no one has to face an emergency alone.

The Red Cross is proud that its volunteers reflect the diversity of the communities they serve. Individuals of all ages, backgrounds, and experience levels are encouraged to get involved.

Right now, the most urgent volunteer opportunities across the Indiana Region are:

- **Disaster Action Team (DAT):** Support local families after a home fire or other emergency. DAT volunteers offer emotional care, emergency financial assistance and recovery information to help households take their first steps forward.

- **Shelter Volunteers:** Assist residents staying in emergency shelters by helping meet their immediate needs and connecting them with additional resources and services.

- **Blood Donor Ambassadors:** Welcome and guide donors at blood drives, assist with registration, answer questions, share important information and provide support in the refreshment area.

- **Blood Transportation Specialists:** Help save lives by delivering blood products from Red Cross facilities to nearby hospitals. If you enjoy driving, have some flexible time and like connecting with people, this role could be a perfect fit.

Make a difference in your community. Put on a red vest and become part of the Red Cross volunteer team. Visit redcross.org to learn more and sign up today. Free online training will be provided.

Letter to the Editor

Reflecting on history of Women’s History Month

Dear Editor:

As we celebrate Women’s History Month in March, I encourage readers to reflect on not only those women who we know have been trailblazers, leaders, legislators, and authors but others who have also made their mark in society and the history of our nation.

Let’s include along with Florence Nightingale and Betsy Ross some others: Sarah Bradley Fulton, a field nurse during the Battle of Bunker Hill; Margaret Fuller, an early women’s rights activist; Lydia Taft, a woman who voted in 1756; Susan B. Anthony; Sojourner Truth – and the list goes on.

The commemoration began in 1978 as “Women’s History Week” in Sonoma County, Calif. In February 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued a presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8, 1980, as National Women’s History Week. In 1981, Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) and Rep. Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.)

co-sponsored the first join Congressional Resolution proclaiming a Women’s History Week. In 1987, Congress passed Pub.L.100-9 designating the month of March as Women’s History Month.

As we remember and celebrate not only the famous women noted above, but let’s give pause to consider how far women have progressed in the past 100 years. It was just over 100 years ago that we achieved the right to vote. Along the way we have fought for equal rights in employment, legal matters, property rights, and advocacy in health care issues. (Keep in mind that cardiac symptoms are the No. 1 cause of death for women.)

If you wish to know more about what those women in your life have endured, overcome, enjoyed, and experienced ... talk to them! If your mother or grandmother is living ask her to share her journey with you or another family member’s journey. Those women who went to work

in the factories when so many men were deployed during WWII have a very special story to tell of their experience. Sadly, most are gone now, but if you have access to those stories I encourage you to pass them along in your family legacy. Ensure that your daughters and your sons have access to learn about the contributions of women throughout the history of our country.

Finally, Hoosiers ... isn’t it time the State of Indiana elected a female United States senator or governor? While the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution does not endorse or champion political candidates from any political party, the inclusion of women in the representation of our government is of benefit to all citizens of our democratic republic.

Sharon McMahon
Past Regent, Horseshoe Prairie Chapter, NSDAR
Noblesville

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.

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State Sen. Kyle Walker welcomes eight Fishers students to Statehouse as pages

Submitted by Office of State Sen. Kyle Walker

State Sen. Kyle Walker (R-Lawrence) welcomed the following Fishers students to the Statehouse who served as Senate pages.

- Grace Fogarty attends Riverside Intermediate School
- Evan Gerber attends Hamilton Southeastern High School
- Evie Holladay attends Fishers High School
- Lily Holladay attends Sand Creek Intermediate
- Sophie Holladay attends Fishers High School
- Nazi Mostafa attends Fishers Junior High School
- Jude Troxell attends Fishers Junior High School
- Samuel Van Selow attends Fishers High School

Pages spend a day at the Statehouse touring the historic building, observing de-

bates from the Senate floor and interacting with their state senator.

“The Senate Page Program is a great experience for Hoosier students,” Walker said. “I have always enjoyed discussing how the Senate works with Senate pages and helping them understand their civic duties.”

Students in grades six through 12 participate in the page program on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays during the legislative session.

The 2026 Senate Page program has now ended. Parents interested in learning more about the program should visit IndianaSenateRepublicans.com/Page-Program. Applications for the 2027 program will be available at the end of 2026.



These students served as pages for State Sen. Kyle Walker: (from left to right, top to bottom) Grace Fogarty, Evan Gerber, Evie Holladay, Lily Holladay, Sophie Holladay, Nazi Mostafa, Jude Troxell, and Samuel Van Selow.

Photos provided

New at Sheridan Public Library

The REPORTER

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

Fiction

- Bride – Ali Hazelwood
- Brimstone – Callie Hart
- Easter Egg Murder – Leslie Meier
- Free Falling – Jill Shalvis
- In Her Defense – Philippa Malicka
- Jigsaw – Jonathan Kellerman
- Just For the Summer – Abby Jimenez
- Kiss the Girl – Zoraida Córdova
- Rage – Linda Castillo
- Recipe For a Charmed Life – Rachel Linden
- Stolen in Death – J.D. Robb

- Two Can Play – Ali Hazelwood
- When I Kill You – B.A. Paris
- Yours Truly – Abby Jimenez

Non-Fiction

- Lazy B – Sandra Day O’Connor

Children’s

- All at Once Upon a Time – Mara Rockliff
- Azmina the Gold Glitter Dragon – Maddy Mara
- Book That Can Read Your Mind – Marianna Coppo
- Chicka Chicka Peep Peep – Julien Chung
- Four Eyes – Rec Ogle
- I’m Just a Big Fish – Susie Lee Jin
- I’ve Got a Dog! – Sandra Boynton
- Legend of Thunder-ROARus – Marisa Aveling

- Little Freddie Two Pants – Drew Daywalt
- Pizza Face – Rex Ogle
- Unsettling Salad! – Aaron Reynolds

Inspirational Fiction

- Hiding the Witness – Deena Alexander
- Match Made at the Amish Inn – Marta Perry
- Rescue on the Farm – Allie Pleiter
- Royal Nanny – Melody Carlson
- Searching for Justice – Connie Queen
- Trained to Protect – Terri Reed
- Widower Takes a Wife – Emma Miller
- Wyoming Ranch Sabotage – Kellie Vanhorn

Movies

- One Battle After Another
- Sinners

Recent arrests serve as reminder to Hoosiers to be alert to signs of human trafficking

Submitted by Office of AG Todd Rokita

The recent arrests in Indianapolis of five people allegedly involved in a sex-trafficking ring should serve as a reminder to all Hoosiers to stay alert to signs of human trafficking. Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita said.

“Human trafficking is the evil exploitation of human victims for the sake of criminal predators’ profits,” AG Rokita said. “It’s a modern form of slavery that thrives in the shadows. With the help of Hoosiers statewide acting as eyes and ears, though, we can expose this crime, bring perpetrators to justice and save people’s lives.”

AG Rokita also expressed his gratitude for the work of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department for their investigative work leading to the recent arrests.

Large gatherings and travel hubs are known to create increased demand for trafficked individuals forced into manual labor, commercial sex acts or other exploitative services. People in certain roles – such as ho-

tel staff, restaurant workers, transportation providers and medical professionals – are especially likely to encounter trafficking victims and should stay alert.

Signs of human trafficking to watch for include:

- Individuals who appear fearful, submissive, or unable to speak for themselves.
- People living in cramped or poor conditions, or with their employer.
- Signs of physical abuse, malnourishment, or lack of personal freedom.
- Answers that seem scripted or rehearsed when questioned.
- Minors engaging in commercial sex acts, with or without overt signs of coercion.

If you suspect someone is being trafficked, contact local law enforcement right away or call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888.

Hoosiers are also encouraged to visit the U.S. Department of State’s [Safe Traveler’s](#) program and [Travel Advisory](#) website.

The Office of the Attorney General operates the [Address Confidentiality Program](#), which helps pro-

tect victims of certain crimes – including those who have been trafficked – by concealing their residential address from the public and thereby their victimizers.

Learn more about the program at the Attorney General’s [website](#).



Rokita

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Westfield Library Foundation recognizes 55 student artists

Youth Art Exhibit now on display through March

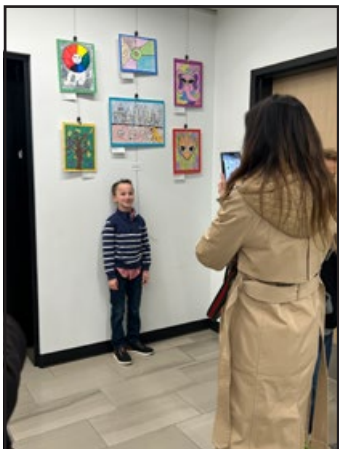
The REPORTER

Fifty-five student artists from seven Westfield schools were recognized Tuesday evening, March 3, during a special Youth Art Month reception at the Westfield Washington Public Library. The event celebrated the creativity and talent of local students whose artwork is now featured on the Michael and Karen Heaton Art Gallery Wall throughout March (Youth Art Month).

Participating schools include Maple Glen Elementary, Shamrock Springs Elementary, Carey Ridge Elementary, Washington Woods Elementary, Monon Trail Elementary, Oak Trace Elementary, and Westfield Intermediate School.

Students were recognized for their work with certificates at the reception.

“Our library is a place for stories in every form,” Westfield Library Foundation Executive Director Erin Downey said. “Featuring student artwork celebrates imagination, builds confidence, and reminds our young artists that their



Photos provided

You can see the work of young artists this month at the Westfield library. The exhibit will remain on display throughout March for the community to enjoy.

Ease the squeeze on your retirement income plan

Rising prices may not dominate headlines the way they did a year or two ago, but if you’re retired, you’re probably still feeling them. Even when overall inflation cools, the costliest expenses – like health care, utilities, insurance, and property taxes – tend to rise faster than broad inflation numbers suggest. That creates a squeeze that can make you question whether your income plan is built to last.

Fortunately, you often can adjust without drastic cuts that affect your lifestyle. Start by understanding where the pressure comes from and how to build more flexibility into your plan.

Inflation hits retirees differently

You’ve likely noticed your grocery bill, prescription drug costs, and heating expenses haven’t returned to “normal.” Even small increases compound over time and can chip away at your buying power.

If your income plan was created years ago, it may assume lower inflation or relatively stable price increases over time. Recent years have shown that’s not always the case.

Why some income plans feel strained

Any plan relying on fixed withdrawals or rigid budgets can feel tight when living costs rise. If you’re drawing from investments, you may hesitate to increase your withdrawals because of market volatility. And if you depend on fixed income sources like

Social Security or a pension, yearly cost of living increases may not keep pace with your expenses. You might live 25 to 35 years in retirement, giving small annual cost increases decades to add up.

What you can do without sacrificing stability

A few adjustments can help you stay ahead of rising costs and maintain your financial confidence.

First, review your withdrawal strategy. Ask your financial advisor about flexible approaches that increase income when markets and portfolios perform well and pull back during tougher times. This protects your long-term plan with room to respond to rising prices.

Next, rebalance your portfolio. You may uncover opportunities to shift toward investments with more consistent income or better tax efficiency. Sometimes a small tweak can generate extra cash flow without increasing overall risk.

Finally, look at your income sources. You may be less affected by rising costs if you delay taking Social Security, work a part-time job, add inflation-protected bonds or create predictable lifetime income with annuities, if they’re appropriate for your situation.

Don’t overlook health care

Health care costs often grow faster than general inflation. Medicare premiums and out-of-pocket expenses can rise annually, and the

See Squeeze . . . Page 9

Westfield Chamber announces next Coffee Connections

Submitted by Westfield Chamber of Commerce

The Westfield Chamber of Commerce’s October Coffee Connections is set for 8 to 9 a.m. Thursday, March 26 at the Westfield Washington Public Library, 17400 Westfield Blvd.

Danielle Stiles-Polk, President of the Hamilton County

Community Foundation (HCCF), will be the speaker at this month’s Coffee Connections.

This engaging event will provide timely updates on HCCF’s priorities, impact across Hamilton County, and a look at what’s ahead. Attendees will gain insight into the current state



of HCCF and key initiatives shaping the community. Additionally, Stiles-Polk will share current opportunities for partnership and involvement. [Click here](#) to register.



Stiles-Polk

Stony Creek church of Christ



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

WHY THE BIBLE?



EVIDENCES FOR THE BIBLE



This is the John Rylands Library Papyrus P52. It is the earliest New Testament manuscript discovered to date. It is dated possibly earlier than 100 AD, but no later than 150 AD. This fragment contains a Greek script of John 18:31-33 on one side and John 18:37-38 on the other.

Why is this significant?

- 1. THIS MANUSCRIPT’S DATE.** Before this discovery, critics argued the Gospel of John was written well into the second century, long after apostolic eyewitnesses to these events. But this manuscript is (at the latest) 120 years after the resurrection. Just compare it to other earliest copies of historical manuscripts around the same period: Pliny (300-440 years after), Suetonius (700-750 years), Caesar (850-900 years), or Tacitus (750-800 years).
- 2. THIS MANUSCRIPT WAS FOUND IN EGYPT.** This shows that John’s Gospel was copied, distributed, and in Egypt within a few decades of its original composition. This places the date of John’s Gospel to around 96 AD, during the life and authorship of the apostle John, roughly 60 years after the resurrection of Jesus.
- 3. THIS MANUSCRIPT’S TEXTUAL ACCURACY.** The content of the fragment matches the text of the Gospel of John as we know it today. This discovery supports the reliability of scripture and the accuracy of textual transmission.



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Sunday Bible Study | 10:00 AM

Sunday Worship | 11:00 AM

Wednesday Bible Study | 7:00 PM

Former Indy Mayor Greg Ballard announces run for secretary of state

By **ASHLEY FOWLER**
WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](#)

Former Republican Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard is running for secretary of state as an independent.

Ballard, who served as mayor of Indianapolis from 2008 to 2016, formally launched his campaign on Wednesday with a video posted by the YouTube account, “Greg Ballard for Indiana Secretary of State.”

“I ran as a Republican, but I governed for everyone. Today, things are different. Both political parties are broken, and we’re the ones paying the price,” Ballard said. “When politics becomes this toxic, it’s essential to have an independent voice overseeing our elections.”

Ballard goes on to say that Indiana’s current secretary of state, Republican Diego Morales, has “shown an eagerness to engage in partisan politics,” and he believes the office should “not be partisan.”

“I thought my career in public service had ended, but when you see something this broken, and you know you can fix it, you step forward. That’s why

I’m running for Indiana Secretary of State, and I’m doing it as an independent,” Ballard explained. “This office must not be partisan. It should be mainly focused on one thing: safeguarding the integrity and professionalism of our elections.”

But, he said, that’s not the only reason he’s running for office.

“During the past few years, I’ve met so many great people who want to step up and serve like I did, but don’t feel like they have a place in either party. Like me, they’re on the outside looking in. That’s not how Indiana is supposed to work. When voters truly have an option. When voters truly have an option, our elections are more competitive, our leaders are more accountable, and our government works better.”

Secretary of State Diego Morales is seeking reelection, but will likely face opposition at the state Republican Party convention. David Shelton, a Knox County clerk and chair of the county’s Republican Party, is also running.

On the Democratic side, the contest at that party’s convention will be between Beau Bayh, one of the sons

Statements

“As a fellow Marine, I appreciate Greg Ballard’s service to our country and his service to the City of Indianapolis. This race is a referendum on Diego Morales’s tenure as Secretary of State and we are building the only campaign that can defeat him, put an end to the blatant corruption, and restore the office to all Hoosiers.”

— **Beau Bayh,**
Democratic candidate for Secretary of State

“Secretary Morales welcomes all challengers. With the resources and a proven track record, he is ready to go toe-to-toe with anyone. And with this recent announcement it seems we now have two Democrats in the race – one is just calling himself an ‘independent.’

“The same group of people pushing an ‘independent’ candidate are the same ones who failed to stop Secretary Morales in 2022 and Governor Braun in 2024. Their record is one of consistent failure.

“As November approaches, Secretary Morales stands on a record of results. He has strengthened election integrity through enhanced voter ID and proof of citizenship requirements. He is driving economic growth by keeping Indiana as the best place to start a business.

“The Republican party will be unified and is ready to win in November.”

— **Office of Diego Morales,**
Indiana Secretary of State



of former governor and senator Evan Bayh, and former U.S. Army reservist and businesswoman Blythe Potter.

This story was original-

ly published by WISH-TV at [wishtv.com/news/election/former-indianapolis-mayor-greg-ballard-announces-run-for-secretary-of-state](#).

Noblesville man arrested, accused of rape of UIndy student in dorm room

By **KENDALL PIERSON**
WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](#)

A 21-year-old man was arrested and accused of raping a University of Indianapolis student on campus.

Police say the investigation began on Jan. 24 when University of Indianapolis Police received a call from a woman who said she believed she was drugged at a bar in downtown Indianapolis and then raped in her dorm room.

Court documents say she met Marwan Khalaf of Noblesville at the Metro Bar on Massachusetts Avenue and went back to her dorm room, where he repeatedly raped her. When she woke up one of the last times, he was gone.

According to court documents, she next went to shower and passed out again. She woke up in the shower at 7 a.m. Jan. 24 and called 911.

The student told investigators she had gone out alone on Jan. 23 and took an Uber to a few bars downtown before arriving at the Metro Bar at 12:51 a.m. Jan. 24. Court documents state that’s where she met Khalaf

and they danced together. Court documents say the bar refused to serve the student a drink because she was already intoxicated when she arrived. Khalaf then bought her a shot and they asked her to leave. She says Khalaf left with her and offered to take her home.

The student says she recalls his car being “parked directly across the street from Metro.” According to UIPD Detective Jay Arnold, the student’s identification card was used to enter the dorm at 2:13 a.m.

In an interview with detectives, Khalaf admitted to being at the bar and kissing her, but denied having sexual contact with the student. He told detectives he took care of her because she was drunk and said he left the dorm when it became light outside because his mother was calling him.

Khalaf has been charged with two counts of rape and one count of sexual battery.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at [wishtv.com/news/crime-watch-8/noblesville-man-charged-with-rape-of-uindy-student-in-dorm-room](#).

SQUEEZE

need for long-term care remains a big financial uncertainty for retirees. Building health care-specific inflation into your plan now can help prevent surprises later. Any savings you have in a health savings account can help

you cover health care costs. And many pharmaceutical companies offer financial assistance programs to help pay for costlier medications.

Stay flexible & informed

Today’s retirements look

different from those of even a decade ago. The key is staying flexible, reviewing your plan regularly and making small adjustments before pressure builds. A financial advisor can help you find the right approach to

navigating rising costs without disrupting the life you’ve worked hard to build.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC.

from Page 8

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TODAY'S BIBLE READING

TASSELS ON GARMENTS

The Lord said to Moses, “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘Throughout the generations to come you are to make tassels on the corners of your garments, with a blue cord on each tassel. You will have these tassels to look at and so you will remember all the commands of the Lord, that you may obey them and not prostitute yourselves by chasing after the lusts of your own hearts and eyes. Then you will remember to obey all my commands and will be consecrated to your God. I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt to be your God. I am the Lord your God.’”

Numbers 15:37-41 (NIV)

Meeting Notices

The Hamilton County Board of Zoning Appeals will not meet as scheduled on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, due a lack of petitions for consideration. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 22, 2026.

The Hamilton County Board of Commissioners will meet in an executive session at 1 p.m. Monday, March 9, 2026.

A regular meeting will follow at 2 p.m. in the Commissioners' Courtroom at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

The Carmel Fire Department Merit Board will meet in an executive session at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 10, 2026, pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b) (5) To discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees.

A regular meeting will follow at 6:05 p.m. or immediately after the executive session (whichever is later) on the second floor of the Carmel Fire Department, 210 Veterans Way.

Each year, the Hamilton County Reporter requests government entities to notify us of public meetings as their Open Door Law notification under I.C. 5-14-1.5-5. The Reporter publishes these notices as a public service in our Tuesday through Friday digital editions. Meeting notices for Open Door Law compliance can be sent to PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com.

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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.

Submit obituaries under 500 words online at ReadTheReporter.com/obitform.

New technology uses mechanical perfusion to make marginal lung donation viable for January 2026 lifesaving transplant

Submitted

Indiana Donor Network is the first organ recovery organization in the U.S. to utilize an in-house **machine perfusion system** that keeps donated lungs functional outside the human body and helps reassess the viability of marginally performing lungs for transplantation.

A new partnership between Indiana Donor Network, global medtech company **XVIVO**, headquartered in Sweden, and Beloit, Wis.-based **Perfusion Solution** is now being utilized by Indiana Donor Network clinical teams to better serve regional transplant centers and partner hospitals involved in lung recovery and transplantation.

“Advancements in technology are transforming organ transplantation at every stage – from the recovery of a donated organ to the moment it gives someone a second chance at life,” Indiana Donor Network Director of Organ Services Sherry Quire said. “Saving lives involves more than the successful recovery of a generous gift. We are committed to preserving and enhancing organ vitality outside the body so each transplant has the greatest possible opportunity to succeed.”

The system – involving the utilization of XVIVO’s

XPS™ Ex Vivo Lung Perfusion (EVLVP) platform, perfusion specialists and equipment of Perfusion Solution, and the clinical organ recovery staff of Indiana Donor Network – was initially implemented Jan. 29.

From recovery through perfusion to lifesaving transplant in one day

That day, an Indiana man hospitalized at a northeastern Indiana hospital died. The registered organ donor’s lungs were recovered then transferred to Indiana Donor Network Organ and Tissue Recovery Center in Indianapolis for clinical evaluation. After several regional transplant centers declined the lungs due to their marginal function, clinical teams from Indiana Donor Network, XVIVO, and Perfusion Solution went to work.

Indiana Donor Network led the clinical evaluation of the lungs. XVIVO activated its EVLP platform, which extended lung assessment and preservation time and increased the viability of the lungs outside the body for transplant. Perfusion Solution provided lung recovery perfusion equipment, clinical services, staffing, education, and ongoing training.

Once Perfusion Solution



INDIANA
DONOR NETWORK

Saving lives through organ and tissue donation

identified the lungs as candidates for EVLP, real-time data analysis of lung functionality guided perfusionists and clinical staff through the EVLP protocol, which provided perfusion for nearly five hours. EVLP significantly improved lung functionality.

Following the EVLP process, Indiana Donor Network secured a transplant center to accept the lungs, which were successfully transplanted to save an Indiana man’s life.

“Our collaboration with Perfusion Solution and Indiana Donor Network enabled a successful lung transplant, representing the first of many more lifesaving lung transplants that will be made possible through our EVLP model,” XVIVO CEO Christoffer Rosenblad said. “At XVIVO, we are driven by our vision that nobody should die waiting for a new organ. Strategic partnerships like this are crucial in making that vision a reality.”

About Machine Perfusion

Machine perfusion is a controlled process that simulates functionality of an organ outside the body, provides consistent oxygen and nutrients that stabilize a recovered organ, keep it functioning and preserves its health, function, and viability for successful transplantation.

Clinical teams have more time to assess a donor organ and even improve organ functionality prior to transplant when machine perfusion is utilized. Perfusion also makes it possible for surgeons to accept an organ for transplant that might otherwise be rejected due to diminished functionality. Additional time provided through perfusion also increases the

distance a donor organ can travel for transplant and the geographical reach of organ donation, which both ultimately lead to saving more lives.

“We believe the future of transplantation is driven by strong collaboration and organ procurement organization-led innovation,” said Jon Bohannen, executive vice president of sales and clinical integration at Perfusion Solution. “When OPOs, transplant centers and perfusion specialists operate as one coordinated team, together we honor the gift of donation by maximizing every viable organ. Through disciplined execution and shared clinical governance, we are helping transform marginal opportunities into lifesaving transplants. Collaboration is not just part of our model – it is the engine that allows us to save more lives.”

Implementation of the XVIVO and Perfusion Solution partnership is the latest way Indiana Donor Network is utilizing advanced machine perfusion technologies to keep organ donations animated and maintain their viability from recovery to transplant. **Kidney** and **liver** perfusion devices are also in use to keep those organs healthy, vibrant, nourished and animated while increasing time for clinical assessment and transport to awaiting recipients spanning more geographic locations within the U.S.



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REPORTER SPORTS THURSDAY

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

Golden Eagles football flies to 4A

By RICHIE HALL

sports@readthereporter.com

The Guerin Catholic Golden Eagles are flying up to a higher football class.

The IHSAA announced its classifications for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 school years on Wednesday. Guerin Catholic moved up to Class 4A in football after spending over a decade in 3A.

In terms of enrollment numbers, Guerin Catholic sits at 799, which is the second-smallest in Class 4A. The Golden Eagles' Circle City Conference rival Bishop Chatard is the smallest at 794. This does not count the two schools that are in 4A due to the success factor: Heritage Hills (which remains in 4A) and Bishop Luers (which moves into 3A by factor rules).

"We knew it was trending that way, and even the last time is was reclassified we were right on the dividing line," said GC coach Tom Dilley. "Not surprised, but certainly excited to take on that challenge. It's

a whole new level and a whole new opportunity to test ourselves, test our kids and hopefully push us to new heights."

Dilley had previously coached at Bishop Chatard, which won back-to-back 3A state titles in 2001 and 2002. He then coached at Lawrence North from 2003-12 when the Wildcats were in Class 5A, the highest class at the time.

Dilley played football at Penn High School, which won the first-ever 4A state title in 1983, his senior year and the first year for four-class football. (Class 5A was introduced in 1985 and Class 6A began in 2013.)

Schedule challenges

The Golden Eagles' move to 4A means they will match the class of its other Circle City rivals. Brebeuf Jesuit and Roncalli are also in 4A, along with Chatard.

Starting with the 2027-28 school year, Guerin Catholic and Brebeuf will join the Hoosier Heritage Conference. The Golden Eagles already have two of those teams, Pendleton

Heights and Mt. Vernon, on their schedule for the upcoming football season.

Both the Arabians and Marauders are also moving up, advancing to 5A from 4A. Pendleton Heights will be the second 5A team on GC's schedule; Guerin Catholic plays the Arabians in Week 2 after opening the season against 5A McCutcheon. The Golden Eagles play at Mt. Vernon for their Week 8 game.

"We play a tough schedule, here's no doubt," said Dilley. "We always have. We still need to do a better job of meeting the challenges of how our schedule was. I'm sure we'll run across some of the old tough programs that we've been accustomed to competing against."

As for other Hoosier Heritage schools, Greenfield-Central is moving up to 5A from 4A, while New Palestine is spending another year in 5A after winning the state title in 4A in 2024. The Dragons won an undefeated state title last season in their first year in 5A.

Yorktown is also in 4A, as is Lebanon, which will join the Hoosier Heritage in 2027.

"New class, new conference," said Dilley. "Should be exciting."

Other sports

Guerin Catholic's move to 4A football is the only change among Hamilton County schools and sports. The five largest county schools (Carmel, Fishers, Hamilton Southeastern, Noblesville and Westfield) are still in 6A, with Hamilton Heights staying in 3A and Sheridan remaining in 1A.

There were no changes to county classifications in the four-class sports (girls volleyball, basketball, baseball and softball), or in the three-class sport of soccer.

The IHSAA said in a press release that committee meetings of school administrators "from around the state will be conducted to make the sectional assignments. Their final recommendations will be presented to the IHSAA Executive Committee for its approval on May 5."



Mike Navarro / File photo

The Guerin Catholic football team will move up to Class 4A this season after spending over a decade in Class 3A. Pictured for the Golden Eagles is Kolbe Klee.

Boys Basketball

Golden Eagles overwhelm Frankfort

The REPORTER

Guerin Catholic's boys basketball team easily won its first-round game at Class 3A Sectional 25, beating host Frankfort 81-36 at Case Arena.

The Golden Eagles outscored the Hot Dogs in each quarter, leading 17-9 after the first period. Guerin Catholic led 41-20 at half-time and 60-28 after three periods.

Three GC players reached double-digit scoring, led by Carter Murans. He scored 24 points and had a perfect night from the field, making all 11 of his attempts.

Jake Grissom added 12 points, while Sawyer Holman came off the bench to score 10 points. Will Bach contributed nine points. Hayden Rogers dished out 10 assists, while Murans led the rebounds with five.

The Golden Eagles improved to 20-5 with the win, marking their fifth 20-win season in the past six years.

Guerin Catholic will play Danville Friday in the second semifinal game, which will begin around 7:30 p.m. Lebanon takes on Brebeuf Jesuit in the first semifinal, which starts at 6 p.m.

Girls Basketball

HCC announces all-conference girls basketball team

The REPORTER

The Hoosier Crossroads Conference released its All-Conference Girls Basketball team this week.

Here are the honorees from Hamilton County.

FIRST TEAM

Lillian Clark, freshman, Westfield – only one of two freshmen on the list. Averaged 14.4 points and 1.4 steal per game, made 45 percent of her field goal attempts and 40 percent of her 3-point attempts.

MaKayla Hatcher, senior, Westfield – averaged 9.2 points, 4.5 rebounds and 2.6 assists. Made 45 percent of her field goal attempts.

Kennedy Holman, senior, Hamilton Southeastern – averaged 17.6 points per game, along with 7.6 rebounds, 3.1 assists and 2.5 steals.

C.C. Quigley, senior, Noblesville – averaged 18.6 points, 8.6 rebounds, 1.1 assists and 1.1 steals per contest.

Kayla Stidham, senior, Hamilton Southeastern – averaged 14.6 points, 6.1



Julie Brown / File photo

Noblesville's C.C. Quigley (43) was named to the Hoosier Crossroads Conference First Team All-Conference. Also pictured is Maia Blower (13), who was named to the Second Team.

rebounds and 1.5 assists per game. Made 85 percent of her free throws.

Out of county honorees: Ashlee Baker, Franklin Central; Kenzie Chapman, Zionsville; Saniyah Davenport, Avon; Payton Du-

vall, Franklin Central; Elle McCulloch, Brownsburg; Emma Tinder, Zionsville; Laniah Walkine, Brownsburg; Emily Zack, Zionsville.

SECOND TEAM

Gabby Bassett, freshman, Westfield – only freshman on Second Team. Averaged 9.8 points, 4.4 rebounds and 2.0 assists. Made 80 percent of her free throws.

Maia Blower, sophomore, Noblesville – averaged 9.0 points, 4.9 rebounds, 3.4 assists and 2.4 steals.

Antonette Green, senior, Hamilton Southeast-

ern – averaged 4.6 points, 2.0 steals, 1.6 rebounds and 1.6 assists per game.

Ally Hutchinson, senior, Noblesville – averaged 11.2 points, 4.8 rebounds and 1.4 steals.

Reagan Reiff, sophomore, Fishers – averaged 8.5 points, 5.3 rebounds and 1.9 assists. Made 32 percent of her 3-point attempts.

Natalie Thomas, senior, Fishers – averaged 8.9 points and 3.4 rebounds. Made 55 percent of her field goal attempts.

Out of county honorees: Aniya Doughty, Franklin Central; Gabbi Harvey, Brownsburg.

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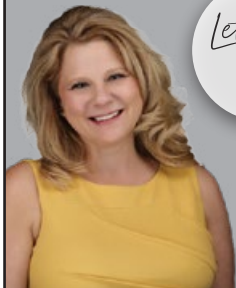
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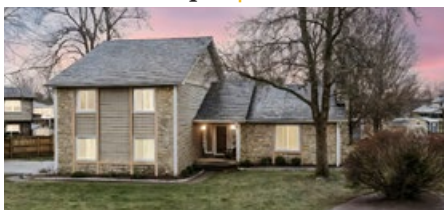
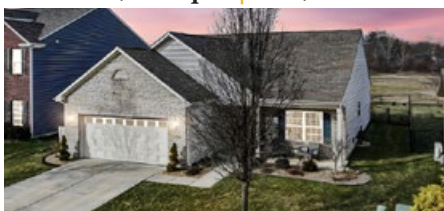
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Girls Basketball

Three county players to participate in Top 60 workout

The REPORTER

Three Hamilton County girls basketball players have been invited to participate in this weekend's *Hoosier Basketball Magazine* Top 60 Workout.

The local players participating are Kennedy Holman and Kayla Stidham from Hamilton Southeastern and C.C. Quigley from Noblesville.

Two sessions of the 44th annual Top 60 Senior Workout will be hosted by Hoosier Basketball Magazine in conjunction with the IHSAA and the IBCA on Sunday, March 8th at Beech Grove High School, 5330 Hornet Avenue.

Half of the Top 60 girls,

primarily from northern and southern Indiana, will participate in the first session (1 to 3 p.m.). The remaining players, primarily from central Indiana, will compete during the second session (3:30 to 5:30 p.m.).

Beech Grove coach Amy Selk will direct both sessions. Other outstanding Indiana girls' high school coaches from the IBCA have been invited to join the 2026 Top 60 staff: Ty'Ronda Benning (Delta), Keith Hollins (Pike), Gretchen Miles (Washington) and Nick Rogers (Pendleton Heights).

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

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Friday, March 6

BOYS BASKETBALL

Sectional 8 at Noblesville

Carmel vs. Noblesville, 6 p.m.

Fishers vs. Hamilton Southeastern, 7:45 p.m.

Sectional 24 at New Castle

Connersville vs. Yorktown, 6 p.m.

Delta vs. Hamilton Heights, 7:30 p.m.

Sectional 25 at Frankfort

Lebanon vs. Brebeuf Jesuit, 6 p.m.

Danville vs. Guerin Catholic, 7:30 p.m.

Sectional 38 at Elwood

Sheridan vs. Taylor, 6 p.m.

Elwood vs. Lapel, 7:30 p.m.

Sectional 42 at Cardinal Ritter

Covenant Christian vs. University, 6 p.m.

Park Tudor vs. Cardinal Ritter, 7:30 p.m.

GYMNASTICS REGIONAL

Noblesville at The Gymnastics Company, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 7

BOYS BASKETBALL

Sectional 8 at Noblesville

Championship, 7 p.m.

Sectional 24 at New Castle

Championship, 7 p.m.

Sectional 25 at Frankfort

Championship, 7 p.m.

Sectional 38 at Elwood

Championship, 7 p.m.

Sectional 42 at Cardinal Ritter

Championship, 7 p.m.

GYMNASTICS REGIONAL

Westfield at Portage, noon

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



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Gov. Mike Braun awards Coach Curt Cignetti Indiana's highest honor

Coach Cignetti receives Sachem Award, entire 2025 Hoosiers football team receives Sagamore of the Wabash

Submitted by Office of Governor Mike Braun

On Wednesday, March 4, Governor Mike Braun honored Indiana University football Coach Curt Cignetti for his inspirational leadership and service to the state of Indiana with the 2026 Sachem Award, Indiana's highest honor.

Gov. Braun also awarded every member of the undefeated 2025 championship-winning Indiana Hoosiers team with the Sagamore of the Wabash, accepted by Coach Cignetti and IU President Pamela Whitten.

"Never daunted, Coach Curt Cignetti represented the state of Indiana on the national stage and showed the world that the Hoosier values of grit, perseverance, and no-excuses hard work are the way to victory," Gov. Braun said. "I'm honoring Coach Cignetti with Indiana's highest award, and awarding the whole championship Hoosiers team with the Sagamore of the



Photo by Rachel Gillam / Indiana Athletics

(Seated, from left) Indiana University President Pamela Whitten, Indiana Hoosiers Head Coach Curt Cignetti, Governor Mike Braun. (Standing, from left) Indiana University Athletics Director Scott Dolson, Manette Cignetti, and First Lady of Indiana Maureen Braun.

Wabash to celebrate their historic achievement for our state."

First Lady and Indiana University alumna Maureen Braun helped Governor

Braun deliver the award. She graduated from IU in 1976, the last time a Hoosiers team went undefeated.

The Sachem is reserved for individuals who have

profoundly shaped Indiana through character, leadership, and service.

Only one award is presented per year, chosen by Indiana's Governor.

Men's Basketball

Boom stumbles late, drops fourth straight in Mexico City

Iraldi's near triple-double not enough in 122-110 contest

The REPORTER

The Noblesville Boom (14-13) dropped their fourth consecutive game on Tuesday night, falling to the Mexico City Capitanes (18-8), 122-110, at Arena CDMX.

M.J. Iraldi led the Boom with his third double-double of the season, posting 27 points, 10 assists and seven rebounds on 9-of-15 shooting from the field, while setting a career high in assists. DaJuan Gordon followed with a season-high 24 points, along with five rebounds, four assists and two steals. RJ Felton added 19 points off the bench.

Wade Taylor IV led a quartet of 20-point scorers for Mexico City, finishing with 22 points on 7-of-12 shooting, including 5-of-9 from beyond the arc. RJ Melendez (21 points), James Bouknight (20 points) and LJ Figueroa (20 points) combined for 61 points, while Andersson Garcia recorded a 10-point, 20-rebound double-double.

After falling into a 7-2 hole early, the Boom responded behind a 10-point first quarter from Iraldi, who opened the game a perfect 4-of-4 from the field. As a team, the Boom dominated inside, scoring 22 of their 27 first-quarter points in the paint to take a 27-18 lead into the second. The three-point shooting picked up in the back-and-forth second period, with

both teams knocking down five threes in the frame after hitting just one apiece in the first. Despite being outscored 42-35 in the quarter, Noblesville maintained a narrow 62-60 halftime lead. Mexico City's bench provided major support, accounting for 51.6 percent of the team's first-half scoring, led by Taylor (13 points) and Figueroa (12 points).

Coming out of the break, the Boom quickly rebuilt a 10-point advantage, matching their largest lead of the night, before the Capitanes responded with a 14-4 run to tie the game with 4:14 remaining in the third. The period ended level as both teams scored 32 points, with the Boom holding a

94-92 edge heading into the fourth. Everything shifted in Mexico City's favor in the final quarter. The Capitanes opened the period on a decisive 19-4 run to take a 13-point lead. They would lead by as many as 15 while holding the Boom to just 16 points - Noblesville's lowest fourth-quarter output of the season - to complete the two-game sweep.

The Boom return home to face the College Park Skyhawks on Thursday at The Arena at Innovation Mile. Coverage will air on ESPN+ beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets and team updates are available at [NoblesvilleBoom.com](https://noblesvilleboom.com), and fans can stream every game live at NBAGLeague.com.

Boom acquires Keion Brooks Jr. in trade with Birmingham Squadron

The REPORTER

The Noblesville Boom has agreed to a trade with the Birmingham Squadron to acquire forward Keion Brooks Jr. in exchange for the returning player rights to Steven Ashworth and a 2027 first-round pick,

Boom General Manager Chris Taylor announced today.

Brooks Jr., a Fort Wayne native, has appeared in 81 career games for the Squadron, averaging 15.8 points, 6.0 rebounds and 2.2 assists, while shooting 44.8 percent from the field and 33.0 percent from three-point range. He also played 14 games

(six starts) during the 2024-25 season with the New Orleans Pelicans, where he averaged 10.1 points and 4.1 rebounds, shooting 48.6 percent from the field, after going undrafted in the 2024 NBA Draft.

Prior to his professional career, Brooks Jr. spent five seasons in college, beginning at the University

of Kentucky (2019-22) before transferring to the University of Washington (2022-24). In 142 collegiate games, he averaged 13.1 points and 5.4 rebounds per game.

Brooks Jr. will be active for Thursday's game against the College Park Skyhawks at The Arena at Innovation Mile at 7 p.m.



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