

Global Game Night at WHS celebrates diversity & service

By AMY ADAMS
news@readthereporter.com

The Service Over Self (SOS) Club held its annual Global Game Night on Wednesday, Jan. 22 at Westfield High School (WHS). Students and families gathered in the main cafeteria to share international food and cultural activities.

Tables filled the main cafeteria representing Brazil, Egypt, Germany, Ghana, India, Italy, Pakistan, the Hmong culture, and the Muslim Student Alliance. Guests and participants could sample treats like Naab Vaam, a tapioca coconut milk drink, and participate in activities like having their hands painted with henna.

Junior Khadiga Moawad said her older sister Habiba, who has now graduated, was among the SOS members who came up with the idea for the event a few years ago.

Megan Springer, a developmental reading specialist at WHS, is an SOS sponsor.

"This is a night that highlights different cultures and promotes diversity but also has a service component," Springer said.

She said SOS was created in



(From left) Taylor Farrar, Khadiga Moawad, Jen Rodriguez, an exchange student from Italy, and Quinn Ferguson gather at the photo spot. See more photos at [ReadTheReporter.com](#).

2020 by merging the Key, LEO, and Interact Clubs so that students no longer have to choose between clubs for service projects.

SOS blends the best of all three clubs. For example, the Interact Club sponsored an in-

ternational project each year, and the Key Club held an annual food drive. The Global Game Night brings together both of those traditions, as admission for the event was two cans of nonperishable food which will

go to Open Doors of Westfield.

SOS also garners the support of the Westfield Kiwanis, Lions, and Rotary Clubs.

Vice-President Olivia Foor-Lecea said she likes that the event creates connections.

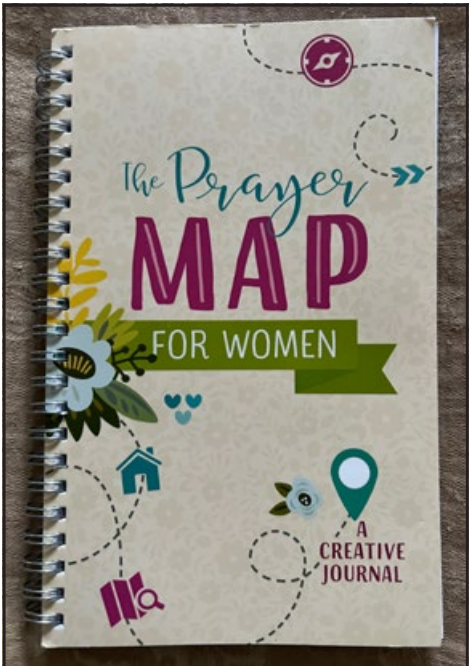


Photo provided by Amy Shankland
Writing in a journal like this one can offer many benefits.

Sometimes you gotta write it out!

After my "let's embrace winter column" last week, I realized that we all can't be perky and happy about winter 100 percent of the time – including myself. Throw in all the bad things currently happening in our world and even the cheeriest of us can feel down.

I've had a lot of family members and friends experiencing sadness and hardships lately. Sometimes I feel so helpless.

However, I've been turning to something I've been doing such I was a child to help – my writing. Specifically, a wonderful prayer journal that a certain fellow columnist with the initials "JHL" gave me last month.

Journals can often overwhelm and scare people. One friend admitted to me that she has several notebooks where she started to journal, then never continued. I think we all feel this pressure that if we have a journal, we have to write in it every single day. Or that it must be something spectacular, expensive, and pretty. Nothing could be further from the truth.

You can write in your journal, whether it's a plain notebook or something fancy, on an "as needed" basis. The Journal Police will not come and get you if you don't write in something expensive and gorgeous every day.

See *Write It Out* . . . Page 2



AMY SHANKLAND
Perfectly Imperfect

Sheridan snowplows help New Orleans battle historic snowfall

By CAT SANDOVAL
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

New Orleans saw a historical record-breaking snow this past week, with some areas being hit with as much as 10 to 12 inches.

But help is on the way! Fourteen Hoosier snowplow trucks have taken to the Big Easy to help clear the snow, and they brought their salt along with them!

At the center is Sheridan-based snow company **Sherco Group**, formerly Sherley Snow Removal. The company and their freelancers are tasked with historical snow removal.

The last time New Orleans saw snow of this magnitude was in 1895.

"It kind of seemed surreal knowing I'm driving the plow truck to chase a winter storm," Levi Jett, a snow industry consultant for Sherco, said.

Jett is currently in New Orleans and said the snowplows from Indiana have already cleared snow at the airport, as well as bridges and high traffic areas. They also helped clear paths for hospitals and emergency responders.

"Today we've been asked to plow the Causeway Bridge, which is the largest bridge in America at 26 miles," Jett said.

According to Ashley Pettit-Godbey, Sherco's office manager, clearing the snow has created fans.

"A lot of the guys noticed a

lot of people standing outside the roads waving and are so excited and are thanking them for what they're doing. The tireless sleepless nights, it all makes up for it in the end," she said.

There is still a lot of snow removal work to be done. Because the roads are untreated, Pettit-Godbey says the snow sticks easily. The snowpacks as more vehicles drive through it and it making it harder to plow.

But that's not the only obstacle.

Derek Delph is snowplow operator who will be making a trip to New Orleans. He says he's taking additional plows along with him because some are breaking due to uneven roads. "I think their manhole

covers are a couple of inches above ground," he said.

The plow drivers intend to stay till the end of the week, but they also want to reassure Sheridan residents that they haven't forgotten them this winter season.

"Anybody that's up in Sheridan that's uneasy at seeing part of their snow contractor go to New Orleans, don't be, because we have plenty of people on reserve," Jett said.

The city is expecting an additional 15 to 20 more trucks from Indiana to help.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at [wishtv.com/news/local-news/indiana-response-snow-new-orleans](#).

Noblesville High School Jazz Band to open for Grammy-winning jazz artist Wynton Marsalis

By COLIN BAILLIE
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

The Noblesville High School Jazz Band will hit the stage at the Palladium in Carmel Sunday to perform alongside one of the biggest names in modern-day jazz.

The high school band was selected to open for the **Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra**. The group features more than a dozen soloists, ensemble players, and arrangers in jazz music.

It was founded in 1988 and has been led since 1991 by artistic director **Wynton Marsalis**, a world-renowned trumpeter and nine-time Grammy Award winner. His composition titled "Blood on the Fields" was the first jazz work to win the Pulitzer Prize for Music.

"This is like the '96 Bulls and Michael Jordan inviting you to come play basketball with them," Peter Luttrul, the high school jazz band's director, said. "And this is the kids first time really to show off what they can do and I couldn't be happier for them or the program."



Senior Jazz Band member Zach Swanson spoke with News 8's Colin Baillie live from Noblesville High School Thursday morning.

Luttrul says when they'd be the opening act for the jazz legend, he and his students were shocked.

"They asked us to choose some of [Duke] Ellington's music and that's something that's really in the kids' bag, and Jazz of Lincoln Center didn't even ask to hear us, they just trusted us," Luttrul added.

Along with Ellington, the band will perform everything

from new compositions to historic pieces and arrangements by Count Basie, Thelonious Monk, and other greats.

For senior band member Zach Swanson, this means the world to open up for someone he has grown up listening to.

"It really is an honor that they asked us to play for them. I'm just really looking forward to just playing with some of the best musicians," he said.

Swanson also says he and his band members are ready to perform on the big stage. "I really think that we're honored to be asked to do something like this," he said.

For more information and tickets for the show, [click here](#).

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at [wishtv.com/news/education/noblesville-high-school-jazz-band-performance](#).



Photo provided by CCPR
The grant will be used to purchase 20 binoculars for various CCPR programs.

Carmel Clay Parks & Rec receives Birdathon grant from Amos Butler Audubon Society

The RPEORTER

Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation (CCPR) received a \$2,800 grant from the **Amos Butler Audubon Society's** Birdathon to promote the enjoyment and stewardship of birds of central Indiana.

Funds for Birdathon are raised during an all-day sponsorship event. Audubon Society staff and board members compete to locate as many bird species as possible within a 24-hour period. The National Audubon Society successfully raises \$30,000 each spring to fund bird research and conservation, environmental education, and habitat restoration across the United States.

CCPR was awarded a \$2,800 grant from the Amos Butler Audubon Society to purchase 20 binoculars for use in recreation programs, Summer Camp Series,

See *Birdathon* . . . Page 2

From the desk of Hamilton Heights Superintendent Dr. Derek Arrowood

Update No. 143

Something pretty cool happened over the weekend.

Three Hamilton Heights wrestlers, Kendall Moe, Zoe Pugh, and Izzy Bailey, qualified to compete at the inaugural IHSAA girls wrestling state finals held at the Indiana State Fairgrounds Coliseum on Friday. They were among a total of 224 wrestlers representing 121 member schools at the highly anticipated event.

Kendall, a junior, topped her perfect season (25-0) by winning the 105-pound championship. Kendall is now a three-time state champion after winning the 98- and 100-pound titles previously during the IHSGWA state finals. Senior Zoe Pugh, a two-time medalist, placed fourth.

The event's roots started with Coach Gary Myers and a vision for a girls' wrestling program. Congratulations!

I would like to give a shout out to Kaden Derrer, Quentin Derrer, Cooper



DR. DEREK ARROWOOD
Heights Superintendent

Rollins, Caden Hine, and Lauren Happel. These students made an outstanding showing at the National Western Roundup at the Denver Stock Show in Denver, Colo. Their impressive performance in the Livestock Judging events brought personal accomplishments and accolades for our district.

Under the leadership of Emilie Carson, Hamilton Heights' Agricultural Education and FFA Advisor, and Coach Spencer Carson, our students were a competitive force on a national stage. This is a testament to the strong agricultural education and leadership development programs at Hamilton Heights. Congratulations on your individual and team achievements at this event!

Congratulations to Hamilton Heights band students Rachel England (trumpet) and Kaylee Roberts (euphonium) who were selected to perform in the Indiana Music Educators Association (IMEA) Hon-

or Band. They represented Hamilton Heights well with an incredible performance at the Embassy Theater in Fort Wayne on Sunday.

You won't want to miss our latest HHSC Monthly Video Update. Highlighted in this edition are some high school students caught doing good things, amazing 4-H students, the district's inclement weather delay and closing process, our fantastic HHSC School Board, HHHS Athletic signings, Husky Hero SROs, and a Sagamore of the Wabash. Check it out [here](#).

All updates and these bi-monthly messages can also be found on our website at hshuskies.org.

This year's annual Kindergarten Roundup will take place on Thursday, Feb. 27 from 3:45 to 6 p.m. at the elementary school. Doors A and K will be open for this event. Registration will be live on Monday, Feb. 24 by 4 p.m.

Our Kindergarten educators are phenomenal in providing an exceptional blend of engaging, inspiring, and fun learning experiences that are the building

blocks of early literacy, socialization, communication skills, independence, and success in school for our littlest Huskies.

[Click here](#) for more information on what you need to do to begin your child's educational journey at Heights for the 2025-26 school year.

The sixth annual Hickory Classic basketball event vs. the Tipton Blue Devils is set for next Wednesday, Jan. 29 at the Hoosier Gym in Knightstown beginning at 6 p.m. Doors open at 5 p.m. (for players and fans). The eighth-grade girls (on court first) and boys will compete in a fun evening of Hoosier Hysteria. Heights' reserved seating capacity is 250. Admission is free for HHMS students and younger and \$5 (cash only) at the gate for all others. The game will also be live streamed [here](#).

While this snowy and icy blast from Mother Nature isn't necessarily giving us much to cheer about, we always have something to celebrate when it comes to our students and staff. Stay warm and stay safe.

#WeAreHuskies

Two new State Troopers assigned to Hamilton County

The REPORTER

On Jan. 9, 30 newly appointed Indiana State Troopers graduated from the 86th Indiana State Police Recruit Academy.

Six of these troopers are being assigned to the Indiana State Police Indianapolis Post and will begin their next phase of training: a three-month field training period riding with veteran troopers. The purpose of the field training is to put into practical application the training received over the duration of the formal academy. Upon successful completion of field training, each trooper will be assigned a state police patrol vehicle and will begin solo patrol.

These troopers have already completed over 1,100 hours of structured training in law enforcement techniques as well as hands-on and scenario-based training at the Indiana State Police Recruit Academy. The curriculum included criminal law instruction, emergency

vehicle operations, psychology, traffic law, crash investigation, self-defense, first responder, and other general enforcement related training.

Two troopers, Samuel Miller and Jarison Salomon Wood have been assigned to patrol Hamilton County.

Trooper Samuel Miller is from Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., and is a 2014 graduate of The Masters School. He serves as a member of the Army National Guard where he achieved the rank of E-5 Sergeant. He was deployed to Kenya with the Airborne Infantry

Unit. Trooper Miller is married and resides in Hamilton County.

Trooper Jarison Salomon Wood grew up in Brus Laguna, Honduras, graduating from Tree of Life Ministry in 2009. Salomon Wood joined the United States Army and achieved the rank of E4 Specialist. Trooper Salomon Wood is married with four children and resides in Hamilton County.



Miller



Salomon Wood

Carmel announces inaugural 'She L.E.A.D.S.' conference

The REPORTER

The City of Carmel will be the site of the inaugural She L.E.A.D.S. 2025 Mayor's Conference, hosted by Mayor Sue Finkam, on Thursday, Feb. 20 at 502 East Event Centre.

The conference aims to empower women and middle school-aged girls in Carmel through Leadership, Empowerment, Advancement, Development and Service.

"Women and young girls are the backbone of a thriving community," Mayor Finkam said. "She L.E.A.D.S. is a call to action to empower today's women and equip tomorrow's leaders. By fostering connec-

tions, providing resources, and showcasing women as role models, we ensure Carmel remains a place where all generations of women can thrive and lead."

The She L.E.A.D.S. bridges generations to create mentorship, professional growth, and career exploration opportunities. The event's interactive programming presented in two engaging segments is designed to inspire attendees to dream big and achieve their goals.

• **Women's Segment (11 a.m. to 4 p.m.):** At-



Finkam

tendees will participate in professional development opportunities, including a keynote address by a local author, panel discussions with community and business leaders and networking sessions. Topics include leadership, time management and personal and professional growth. Prizes such as leadership coaching sessions with AD-VISA Leadership Coaches will also be awarded.

• **Middle School Girls' Segment (4 to 7 p.m.):** This session features hands-on demonstrations explor-

ing an array of career paths including construction, science and technology. Activities will help students discover their "why" and engage with mentors through a group activity, fostering curiosity and exploration. Participants will receive a Certificate of Completion signed by Mayor Finkam and have the chance to win prizes.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the conference and register for She L.E.A.D.S. below.

The city is also seeking volunteers to assist with event logistics, registration and activities. Interested individuals can sign up to volunteer at [this link](#).

Sarah Winchell of Fishers earns Highest Honors at UW-Stevens Point

The REPORTER

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point honored more than 2,600 undergraduate students for attaining high grade-point averages during the fall semester of the 2024-2025 academic year.

Among the honorees was Sarah Winchell of Fishers, who received Highest Honors.

Full-time undergrad-

uates who earned grade points of 3.90 to 4.0 (4.0 equals straight-A) are given the highest honors designation. High honor citations go to those with grade point averages from 3.75 to 3.89 and honor recognition is accorded to those with grade point averages from 3.50 to 3.74.

Personalized certificates of scholastic achievement are sent to those who earned highest honors distinction.

WRITE IT OUT

from Page 1

I've been writing in my prayer journal about once a week for the past couple of months. It feels tremendous to just pour out my worries and heartaches to give them to God. I know He can work miracles and do wonders.

I realize not everyone believes in God. It's also good to just grab your pen (or logon and type in your online journal if that's your thing) and simply pour everything out to the Universe.

I also use my journal to remember all my blessings. Sometimes we get caught up in our little pity parties and forget all the good in our lives. After seeing my blessings listed in front of me, I always feel a bit lighter.

"But Amy," some of you may be saying, "I'm not a writer. I can't really do this."

Once again ... there's no Journal Police. What you write is for your eyes only. It doesn't have to have perfect phrases, grammar, spelling, etc. You can write a couple of sentences, some paragraphs, or even multiple pages.

I always feel better after writing in my journal. Just seeing the words on the page gives me comfort, and they often relax my mind to help me see a solution ... even when that solution may be just remembering to trust in the Lord.

It's also amazing to go back and read my musings to see how God has answered my prayers. I often gasp in wonder and joy! He usually has better answers than I could ever foresee.

If you're struggling with your mental health this winter, I encourage you to try writing in a journal (but please, if you need more help, don't hesitate to contact a professional.) "Writing It Out" may be one of the best therapies we can use in life - and we can do it any time for free.

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

BIRDATHON

from Page 1

Master Naturalist classes, and Citizen Science volunteers. In 2024, over 70 individuals enrolled in various birding classes from July through December and used the newly purchased binoculars for bird watching and education.

"Birding is a great activity that anyone can enjoy, and thanks to this grant from Amos Butler Audubon Society, we're able to provide

the one piece of equipment that makes birding easier," CCPR Park Operations Manager Jerry Kozlansky said. "We're adding more classes this year because the interest has gotten so high."

Individuals interested in a recreation program centered around birding may sign up for CCPR's Birding 101 class [here](#). This course is free, but registration is required.

ON-LINE ONLY PUBLIC AUCTION

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BIDDING OPENS: Friday, Jan. 17th @ 3pm

SOFT CLOSE BEGINS: Saturday, Feb. 1st @ 6pm

PREVIEW DAY: Thursday, Jan. 30th from Noon - 6pm

PICK-UP DAYS: Monday, February 3rd from Noon -6pm

Tuesday, February 4th from Noon - 6pm

Ford 351 Windsor Motor ; (Completely Re-Built); 1998 2-Axle Trailer; 2007 Quality Utility Trailer; 2019 Cargo Mate Utility Trailer; Morgan Dollars, Proof Sets & Coins, Casino Tokens; Hoosier Lottery & Gambling Items, Pacers & Sports Collectibles; Elvis Presley, Harley-Davidson, Signs, Advertising, Jewelry; Depression Glass, Antiques & Uniques; NEW Small Appliances, Kitchen, Canning Jars, Household & Furniture; Salt & Pepper Shakers, Cast Iron, China, Mirrors & Decor, Avon; Frigidaire Side by Side, Electronics, Cameras, Soft Goods, Longaberger; Crocks & Pottery, Toys, Dolls, Comic Books, Leather Jackets; Mounted Buck, Hornets Nests, Outdoor Patio Furniture; Hand Tools & Tool Boxes, Power & Woodworking Tools; Air Compressors, Ladders, Weldmate 100 Portable Welder; Electrical Box Lots, 3-Phase Lathe, Industrial Pedestal Bench Grinder; Mi-T-M Hot Water Pressure Washer; Chicago Electric 3-1/2 Gallon Parts Washer; Fimco 60-Gallon Sprayer, Stihl 250 Chainsaw, Yard Carts & Utility Trailers; Flat-Bottom John Boat & Fishing Gear; (2) 8' x 12' Storage Sheds, Shelving & Storage Cabinets, Totes

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Absentee Bidding is still Available

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www.cripesauction@yahoo.com

Wade Cripe, Auctioneer

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Second Friday Gallery Hop: six exhibits plus free dessert

The REPORTER

Fishers Arts Council (FAC) and the City of Fishers, along with Fishers Art Center Noblesville Creates at Meyer Najem, High Frequency Arts, and Ignite Studio are ready to share incredible art and music at the Second Friday Gallery Hop from 4 to 9 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 14.

While most gallery locations are walkable, FAC recommends driving to some locations to make sure you get to it all in one night. The Gallery Hop sponsor, Four Day Ray, offers free dessert with your dinner purchase of \$25 or more, if you visit all participating art galleries.

Fill your Valentine's Day with art, music, poetry, and more all for free as you make your way around Fishers. Start your adventure at Ignite Studio in Hamilton East Public Library in Fishers at 4 p.m. to enjoy live music by Steve Newby and explore the Comic Book in a Day exhibit presented by Noblesville Creates. The library closes at 6 p.m., so get your Gallery Hop card stamped before you move onto your next location.

From 5 to 7 p.m., you can check out the Meyer Najem 2nd Floor Gallery, 11787 Lantern Road, featuring original artwork by McCordsville artist, Bobbi K Samples. *Color in Silence* features her newest abstract floral paintings done in acrylic. This exhibit "explores the delicate balance between subtlety and expression, where each bloom speaks to the quiet power of individualism. In the interplay of neutral tones and bursts of color, the pieces



Art provided

See Bobbi K. Samples' "Color in Silence: Hot Pink" (above left) at Meyer Najem, C. Pyle's "Fade to Black" (above center) at Fishers Art Center, and Casey Williams' "Gaze of the Silent Night" (above right) at the Art Gallery at City Hall.

reflect the hidden emotions that surface when we embrace our true selves." Live music will be performed by Mario Joven and Steve Goodman. Samples' exhibit is managed by Noblesville Creates and is on display through March 28.

Any time from 5 to 7:30 p.m., take Lantern Road south to the Hub & Spoke building at 8100 E. 106th St. to step into High Frequency Arts' "Fragments of Identity" exhibit with live music by Andy Schomburg, refreshments, cash bar, and artist vendors. Discover the multifaceted nature of identity in this evocative portraiture exhibition. This collection of artwork delves into the fragments that shape who we all are. From bold abstractions to intimate realism, each artist offers a unique perspective on the human experience, capturing emotions, stories, and complexities through their art.

The Art Gallery at City Hall in the Fishers Municipal Center at 1 Municipal Drive, presented by FAC, will be open from 5 to 9 p.m. with live music from Chad Mills from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. *The Golden Age: Artists 50 & Better* will be on display, featuring 2D and 3D works of 28 individuals who are incredibly creative in their golden age. Refreshments and cash bars will be available at both the Art Gallery at City Hall and Fishers Art Center during their open hours.

Fishers Art Center, just across the breezeway from the Art Gallery at City Hall, showcases *White Noise Collection* New Works by C. Pyle from 6 to 9 p.m. The Fishers Art Center proudly presents an exhibit of new works by mixed media, abstract painter, C. Pyle. Within her new series *White Noise Collection*, Pyle explores the complexities

of color and texture while limiting her color palette to tones of white. A self-taught abstract artist, Pyle gives her emotions a clear voice, allowing pain and brokenness to be articulated through beauty. After a near-fatal car accident devastated her life, she turned to art as a form of physical and cognitive therapy. C. Pyle's inspirational journey of healing, exploration, and discovery affirms the significance of creativity as a form of wellness, an imperative the Fishers Art Center shares with the prolific artist. Live music will be performed by Jason Reinhardt from 6 to 8 p.m.

Also opening at 6 p.m., the FAC Hub Gallery, inside the Hamilton County Community Foundation at 11810 Technology Drive, features *My Art is My Movement* by Indianapolis artist Johnson Simon. "My style of work is expressionistic. I use heavy dark lines along with vibrant

colors to display a sense of motion and flare. I especially enjoy watching dancers and athletes, and make a conscious effort to transfer the graceful display of dance and athleticism into my art. The human body is both complicated and elegant, and with the extra component of motion added, it is a vessel unlike any other in this world." Live music will be performed by Molly DeRose; refreshments and a cash bar will be available. The gallery is open until 8 p.m.

Each location will have a Gallery Hop card available for you to pick up and get stamped along your journey. Anyone who collects all the stamps by completing the hop can get a free dessert from Four Day Ray with their \$25-and-over dinner purchase, limit one dessert per table. You must show your completed hop card when ordering. This free

dessert offer will only be available Feb. 14 to 16. If you have questions about the hop, please contact FAC. Additional performers and any time changes will be posted on [FishersArtsCouncil.org/galleryhop](https://fishersartscouncil.org/galleryhop).

About the Fishers Arts Council

Fishers Arts Council is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts organization whose mission is to support, advocate, and cultivate visual and performing arts opportunities that educate and/or enhance the lives of those who live, work, and visit Fishers. Visit the brand-new gallery space inside Fishers Municipal Center at 1 Municipal Drive. FAC also maintains the FAC Hub Gallery at the Collaboration Hub at Hamilton County Community Foundation, 11810 Technology Drive, Fishers. Check out [FishersArtsCouncil.org](https://fishersartscouncil.org) or call (317) 537-1670 for more information.



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Military Academy Nominations

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



US Capitol and White House Tour Requests

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

West District Office: (317) 848-0201

East District Office: (765) 639-0671

www.spartz.house.gov

Hamilton County Veterans Community Page

Hamilton County Veteran Service Organizations

American Legion Posts
Carmel Post 155 Kim Kilburn
852 West Main St Breakfast Sat & Sun 8-12
Carmel, In 46032 Treasure Hunt Fri 7p
317-846-0001 Tx Holdem Thurs & Sat

Cicero Post 341 Tye Anderson
50 Washington Ave Treasure Hunt Tues 7p
Cicero, In 46034 Weekly Draw Su 6p, W 7p
317-984-4441 Bingo Fri 6p, Weekly Draw 8p

Fishers Post 470 Pat Menc
9091 E 126th St Treasure Hunt Fri 8pm \$25K
Fishers, in 46038
317-842-5944 Breakfast 1st & 3rd Sun 8-11

Noblesville Post 45 Gil Soria
273 S 8th St Fri 645pm Treasure Hunt
Noblesville, in 46060 Sunday Football Menu
317-773-9985 Trivia Wednesdays 7pm

Sheridan Post 67 Tom DeShon
406 E 10th St
Sheridan, In 46069
317-758-5007

VFW Posts
Carmel Post 10003 Darin Bibeau
12863 Old Meridian St
Carmel, In 46032 Breakfast 2 & 4 Sat 8-11
317-846-0917 Thurs Treasure Hunt 7pm
Noblesville Post 6246 Eric Behrends
654 S 9th St
Noblesville, In 46060
317-773-9956

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

Navy Club Ship 29
Noblesville, In
president@hamiltoncountyveterans.com
Meets 2nd Thurs 630pm at Gingers 1804
Conner St Noblesville

Hamilton County Veteran Service Officers
317-776-9610 Hours – 9am-4pm Weekdays
CVSO – Tom Logan
Tom.logan@hamiltoncounty.in.gov
Assistant CVSO – Robin Wilson
robin.wilson@hamiltoncounty.in.gov
Assistant CVSO – Caroline Franz
caroline.franz@hamiltoncounty.in.gov
Admin Assistant – Christina Ellis
christina.ellis@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Fishers Woodworking Program Through the VA

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PGA HOPE
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- NO PRIOR GOLF EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY
- NO VA DISABILITY RATING REQUIRED
- VETERANS DO NOT NEED TO HAVE COMBAT EXPERIENCE OR DEPLOYMENTS TO PARTICIPATE

ALL EXPENSES RELATED TO PGA HOPE ARE COVERED
MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 20

HIGHLAND GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB 1050 WEST 52ND STREET, INDIANAPOLIS IN 46228

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER

DATES

February 12	9:00am - 10:30am
February 19	9:00am - 10:30am
February 26	9:00am - 10:30am
March 5	9:00am - 10:30am
March 12	9:00am - 10:30am
March 19	9:00am - 10:30am

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT INDIANA GOLF DIRECTOR OF PLAYER DEVELOPMENT, ANDREW JENT
317.739.3012 AJENT@INDIANAGOLF.ORG [HTTP://INDIANAGOLF.ORG/](http://INDIANAGOLF.ORG/)

January Hamilton County Veterans Care Package Drive for Our Deployed Hoosiers - We Need Goods and Donations

Hamilton County Veterans Corp Care Package Drive for our Deployed Hoosiers



Please help us collect items to send care packages to our deployed Hoosier troops. Purchase items 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 on January 25th for packaging. 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 the Legion & VFW where you leave the goods for the care packages. We need the good and funds delivered by January 24, 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 Items Needed for Our Deployed Troops	
Hygiene and Personal Care <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deodorant• Toothpaste• Toothbrush• Shampoo/Conditioner• Body Wash• Wet Wipes• Female Hygiene Products• Hand Warmers• Manicure Set• Back Scratchers• Socks (no tube socks), foot powder• Hand Sanitizer• Cleaning Cloths/Spray (for glasses/goggles)	Snack Items – cont <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gum• Candy <p>*All food items must be store-bought.</p> <p>Down-Time Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Small Balls or Footballs• Puzzle Books• Travel-Size Games• Coloring Books• Pens/Pencils• Colored Pencils• Pencil Sharpeners• Letters thanking them for their service
Snack Items <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Microwaveable popcorn• Microwaveable noodle cups/mac & cheese• Fruit Cups/Anchors/crackers• Protein Bars• Jerky or Meat Sticks• Sunflower Seeds• Freeze-Dried Fruit (Single Serve)• Hot Sauce Packets• Single-Serve Peanut Butter or Nutella• Single-Serve Cereals (Boxes or Cups, no bags as they will crush easily)• Pop-Tarts• Nuts/Trail Mix (Single Serve Preferred)• Powdered Drink Mixes like Crystal Light or Sports Drinks (Single Serve)	Please AVOID the following items as we will not be able to include them: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NO AEROSOLS or SPRAYS IN CANS• No Pork or Pork By-Products (Slim Jims are OK)• Tobacco or Alcoholic Beverage Products• Bars of Soap• Anything packaged in glass• Sharp Objects (Knives, Tools, Safety Pins, etc.)• Pornography or other culturally sensitive material• Bagged Potato Chips (they are too easily crushed)• Unwrapped Candies• Nail Polish• Perfume or Cologne

Questions or if you wish to volunteer for packaging day, please contact:
Lynn at treasurer@hamiltoncountyveterans.com
Tracy at auxiliarypost470@gmail.com

If your local American Legion or VFW Posts are not wanting to help collect goods for this Care Package Drive, bring them to the Fishers American Legion Post 470.

Activities & Events

Roudebush VA Resource Fair Jan 25, 10am-2pm

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, January 25, 2025
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Roudebush VA Medical Center
1481 West 10th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202

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](#) [x](#) [i](#) [@IndyVAMC](#)

Indy Vet to Vet Meetings Every Week Day See Where and When

<https://indyvettovet.org>

★ MEETING RULES

- 1. THE RULE OF SAFETY**
We promise to do no harm to ourselves or others.
- 2. THE RULE OF ANONYMITY**
What is said here stays here. (Unless we hear of someone in danger of violating Rule #1, in which case we owe it to that fellow Veteran to help keep him or her safe.)
- 3. THE RULE OF HONESTY**
Say what you mean. Mean what you say. We are not here to try to impress each other with our military service or combat experiences. We are all in this together.
- 4. THE RULE OF RESPECT**
Please arrive on time. Please do not engage in side-conversations during the group. Please mute cell phones. If we do not see eye to eye, we can agree to disagree

★ PEER FACILITATORS
Our group facilitators are Veterans, just like you. We are not employees of the VA.

★★★★★★★★

To be a peer facilitator, all you need is interest, drive, motivation, a commitment to sobriety, and some experience navigating the mental health system.

If you are interested in becoming a peer facilitator, please talk with the facilitator of any meeting you attend.

GROUP LOCATIONS

MONDAYS 10AM-11AM
VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA
611 NORTH CAPITOL AVE

TUESDAYS 6PM-7PM
NEIGHBORCARE OF CHAPEL HILL
230 WELCOME WAY BLVD

WEDNESDAYS 6PM-7PM
VETERANS VILLA
3731 STATION ST

THURSDAYS 6PM-7PM
Lincoln Apartments
530 North Holmes Ave

FRIDAYS 8AM-9AM
ASSESSMENT & INTERVENTION CENTER
2878 E PLEASANT RUN PKWY NORTH DR

Donations are needed for us to continue to do our work, help veterans, maintain our non-profit, and travel the state for outreach. Indy Vet to Vet presently has five weekly meetings all over the city and holds outreach events monthly. Our volunteer force of dedicated veterans matches our all-volunteer force of dedicated soldiers and sailors, past, present, and future who have kept us free and safe. Donations provide support for Veterans of any age and of any way.

For general questions, contact Aaron Shaw at
317-737-6927

Veteran's Coffee Social the Last Saturday at 8am

INDY WARRIOR PARTNERSHIP

Veterans Coffee Social

A gathering to get to know veterans in our community

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

SCHOOLHOUSE CAFE

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Westfield mayor speaks on Grand Park Sports Campus expansion plans

By COLIN BAILLIE
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Construction of a new stadium, ice rinks, and an expansion of Grand Park Sports Campus – which gets an **estimated 5.5 million visitors annually** – is set to begin this year in Westfield. The new additions will include a new outdoor 10,000-seat stadium, four ice rinks, a hotel, and a convention center. “We want to see Grand Park be a full day opportunity for our tourists,” Westfield Mayor Scott Willis said. “If they can come here and park and experience Grand Park all day long,

from the games, to the entertainment, to the food, that’s a win for our residents.” **Phase 1** is set to begin this year and will include a parking garage, hotel and completion of the Indy 11 headquarters, Willis said. “The plan with the new vision for Grand Park is to expand that operation,” Willis said. “Their women’s team has upgraded to a Super League that is kind of the top tier for **women’s professional soccer**. They have an agreement if you have this



Willis

say whether the men’s Indy Eleven team will be joining the women up in Westfield. “We’ll let that play out over time,” Willis said. “Certainly I don’t want to say anything that may or may not be true or change, but we would love to have Indy Eleven as much as we can of their organization.

franchise within so many years, you have to have at least a 5,000-seat stadium. We’re going to build that and host them at Grand Park.”

We would love them.” City leaders plan to take about 10 years to completely roll out the expansion. Willis said the cost of the project could be “upwards of a couple of a billion dollars over the life of the project.” He adds that there will be no new taxes created around Grand Park: “Your taxes are not going to go up.” Most of the money will be from private investors, Willis said. *This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/local-news/westfield-mayor-grand-park-expansion.*

Hamilton East Public Library among more than 100 selected by PLA to boost digital literacy

The REPORTER
Hamilton East Public Library (HEPL) is among over 100 public libraries nationwide awarded funding by the Public Library Association (PLA) to increase digital literacy using **DigitalLearn.org** resources, powered by a generous \$2.7 million contribution from AT&T. The **PLA Digital Literacy Workshop Incentive** and the new **PLA Digital Navigator Workshop Incentive** support public libraries in their work of improving basic digital skills among families and communities. The workshops will utilize DigitalLearn training materials, created in collaboration with AT&T, that are freely available to anyone through DigitalLearn.org and AT&T ScreenReady. HEPL is working to help bridge the Digital Divide. They offer programs

to help build basic technology skills, such as using email, navigating the internet, building cybersecurity awareness, knowing more about using Android/iOS devices, and more. Over the next few months, HEPL will increase its already robust computer and technology learning opportunities through this grant. And, for the first time ever, HEPL is offering some of those sessions in languages other than English. “Our very mission, here at Hamilton East Public Library, is to be our community’s essential connector to information and ideas,” HEPL Director of Public Services Amber Wright said. “One way we are continually working towards this is to help reduce the digital divide.” PLA President Michael Lambert said, “PLA is proud to support pub-

lic libraries in being at the forefront of boosting digital literacy skills and bridging the digital divide in their communities. With another year of PLA’s sustained collaboration with AT&T, more learners across the nation than ever before will get connected to vital digital literacy skills and technology resources at the library.” PLA’s free training site, **DigitalLearn.org**, helps community members build skills and confidence using technology. HEPL will help patrons utilize these resources in upcoming workshops. More details and a full listing of workshops can be found on **HEPL’s Digital Literacy Workshop blog**. **About Hamilton East Public Library**
Hamilton East Public Library is dedicated to serving the community. The library’s aim is to foster a sense of connection and en-

lightenment. With welcoming staff by your side, HEPL is here to assist you in your quest for knowledge and to help you explore a universe of ideas. **About the Public Library Association**
The Public Library Association (PLA) is the largest association dedicated to supporting the unique and evolving needs of public library professionals. Founded in 1944, PLA serves nearly 9,000 members in public libraries large and small in communities across the United States and Canada, with a growing presence around the world. PLA strives to help its members shape the essential institution of public libraries by serving as an indispensable ally for public library leaders. For more information about PLA, contact the PLA office at 1 (800) 545-2433, ext. 5PLA, or pla@ala.org.

Letter to the Editor

Briggs revisits memories of Kennedy inauguration

Dear Editor:
Memories of an Inaugural from the past to our current Inaugural, both experiencing snow and cold days.
On Jan. 19, 1961, on the eve of Inauguration Day for President John F. Kennedy, a Nor’easter snow storm pushed through the Ohio Valley heading towards the East Coast. The wind and snow blew all night long around my family’s little farm house with the snow filling in all the nooks and crannies of the clapboard keeping us warm. The storm moved out the next morning with clear blue skies and bitter cold temps. With no school due to the storm, it was a perfect day to watch the Inauguration on TV, the first ever televised in color. I remember President Kennedy in his top hat and wife Jacqueline who looked smart and classy with her fur hat, coat and muff protecting her hands in the bitter cold. I especially remember President Kennedy making his famous statement of, “And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country.” Anyone who was alive during that era will always remember that statement. During those campaign months, the election was very evident to all ages throughout our country. My eighth-grade classmates were allowed to write the names of the two candidates, Nixon and Kennedy, on the blackboards in every classroom. Nixon’s percentage win was 98 percent. This election was never mentioned during the time period after the 2020 election chaos. We all knew John F. Kennedy won the election as his father, Joseph Kennedy, bought it for him. It took another day before it was called with the count being held up in Chicago. With the very low temperature effects in this year’s Inauguration, a wise decision was made to move it into the Capitol Rotunda. This is a room filled with beautiful paintings of the early history of our country and I believe it should be used for every Inauguration thereafter. And with a final note, First Lady Melania Trump and Second Lady Usha Vance looked sharp and classy along with Ivanka Trump in their Inaugural outfits and evening gowns. It is wonderful witnessing class again in the White House.
Mari Briggs
Sheridan

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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SCAN HERE TO REGISTER!

Metropolitan Youth Ballet to cut ribbon on new Zionsville location

The REPORTER

The Metropolitan Youth Ballet (MYB) of Indiana and the Zionsville Chamber of Commerce will hold a ribbon cutting at noon on Thursday, Jan. 23 at MYB's

new location, 6210 Technology Center Drive Suite 200, Zionsville.

More information about MYB's dance education, arts, and culture programming is available at my-ballet.org.

MHS Serves program launches youth mental health partnership

The REPORTER

MHS Serves, a health equity program from **Managed Health Services** (MHS), a managed care entity that has been serving the state of Indiana for over 25 years, announced Wednesday the next funding opportunity for community organizations focused around youth mental health.

This new partnership opportunity, Youth Mental Health Empowerment Program, will support the expansion or enhancement of current programs, services, initiatives, and resources that directly address youth access to healthcare, mental health, and trauma-informed care. In collaboration with **Indiana Minority Health Coalition** (IMHC) and **Black Onyx Management**, MHS Serves will aim to make an impact for historically underserved populations in accessing mental health resources.

These partnership funds will be used for professional development, training opportunities, program implementation resources, technical assistance and consulting services, enhancement of infrastructure such as upgrades or expansions to direct mental health care services access points, and public

awareness with tools such as social media campaigns and community workshops.

"I'm proud to announce that the next funding opportunity from MHS Serves will focus on youth mental health," MHS Interim President and CEO Christina Hage said. "We recognize the demand for youth mental health services is a critical need for the communities in which our members live and work, and by addressing this need by funding professional support, technical and programming resources, and public awareness we continue our mission of transforming the health of the community we serve, one person at a time."

The application for partnership funding is open now and can be found in the Application Portal at **MHS Serves**. Applications will close at 11:59 p.m. Feb. 20. Organizations that have questions about the application process should email strategicpartnerships@mhsserves.org for more information or attend one of the information sessions from 10 to 11 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 16, 11 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Jan. 29, or 11 a.m. to noon Friday, Feb. 7. Registration can be found at mhsserves.org.



Brooke's Place to hold third annual Trivia Night

The REPORTER

Brooke's Place for Grieving Young People, Inc. will hold its Third Annual Trivia Night on March 26, 2025. At this event, enjoy a fun-filled night of competition while making a difference in the lives of bereaved children, teens, young adults and their caregivers. During the event, Brooke's Place will celebrate its 26th year of providing

grief support services to the central Indiana community.

The event will take place at Barnes & Thornburg LLP, 11 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and trivia will begin at 6:30 p.m. Individuals can purchase tickets for \$50, teams of four for \$180, and teams of eight for \$360. Ticket prices include food and beverages. The

deadline to RSVP is March 12. To register for the event, visit brookesplace.org/events/bptrivia-25.

About Brooke's Place

Established in 1999, Brooke's Place provides ongoing grief support groups, therapy services, and community education to empower children, teens, young adults, and their families to thrive in the midst of

grief. For the last 26 years, Brooke's Place has served more than 30,000 individuals. With an estimated 73,000 children expected to suffer the death of a loved one in central Indiana before the age of 20, there will always be an ongoing need in our community for the programs provided at Brooke's Place. To learn more, please visit brookesplace.org.

Senate panel approves teacher pay raise bill despite debate

By **GARRETT BERGQUIST**
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Despite disagreement over how much, a Senate committee unanimously approved a bill to teacher pay raise.

The measure, which passed the committee Jan. 22, would **raise the minimum salary** for teachers in Indiana to \$45,000 per year, the same amount Gov. Mike Braun proposed in his budget. Current law requires teachers to be paid at least \$40,000 per year.

Sen. Fady Qaddoura, D-Indianapolis, said he supports the \$5,000 raise but it would still leave teachers at less than 150 percent of **the federal poverty line** for a family of four. Qaddoura proposed raising teacher pay to \$65,000 per year and tried

to amend the bill Wednesday afternoon to do so.

Qaddoura's proposal failed on a party-line vote. Bill author Sen. Linda Rogers, R-Granger, said she doesn't believe the state budget could support a larger raise.

"The data shows that we can move to \$45,000, and eventually I would love to see us at \$65,000 but we have to remember that we have a tight budget and school corporations also have tight budgets," she said.

Rogers later told News 8 her bill likely will stick with the \$45,000 figure rather than attempting to find a level between \$45,000 and \$65,000. She said the bill would still mean an immediate pay raise for roughly 6,000 teachers who

make between \$40,000 and \$45,000 per year.

The teacher pay issue has played a key role in battles over education funding at the Statehouse for years.

According to the National Education Association, the average teacher in Indiana starts at \$42,735 per year, with overall teacher pay averaging \$57,015. Those numbers place Indiana 28th and 36th in the nation, respectively.

Qaddoura, who also serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee and the State Budget Committee, said there's enough money in the budget to support a higher teacher salary if lawmakers scale back appropriations elsewhere, such as school vouchers and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation.

In addition to the pay raise, Rogers' bill would provide up to 20 days of paid parental leave for full-time teachers and 10 days of leave for part-time teachers. It slightly increases the share of state tuition support schools must put toward teacher compensation, from 62 percent to 65 percent. Rogers said all of the provisions in her bill would help public school corporations hire and retain teachers.

Because the bill involves a budget item, it has to go to the Senate Appropriations Committee for additional review before it heads to the full Senate for further consideration.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/education/indiana-senate-teacher-pay-raise-approval.

CCHA Law welcomes Ian Goodman

The REPORTER

Church Church Hittle and Antrim (CCHA Law) recently announced that Ian Goodman has joined the firm, contributing his extensive expertise to the firm's Business Services and Litigation practice groups.

Goodman brings a wealth of experience advising businesses on corporate and commercial matters, including business creation, mergers and acquisitions, and day-to-day legal counseling. His practice also extends to technology law, where he provides guidance on vendor contracts, software as a service (SaaS), data privacy, and artificial intelligence.

In addition to his business acumen,

Goodman is a seasoned litigator and trial attorney. He has represented clients in complex business and insurance disputes, as well as civil rights and criminal matters. His diverse legal experience adds tremendous value to the clients and communities CCHA Law serves.

He is admitted to practice in Indiana, as well as the Southern and Northern Districts of Indiana. He is an active member of



Goodman

the Indianapolis Bar Association, where he has served as Secretary of the Board of Directors and participated in numerous sections and committees. A Distinguished Fellow and graduate of the Bar Leader Series, he also provides pro bono services through Indiana Legal Services, the District Court for the Southern District of Indiana, and various political organizations. "Ian's diverse experience and dedication to client service make him an

exceptional addition to our team," CCHA Law Managing Partner Alex Pinegar said. "We are thrilled to have him on board as we continue to expand and enhance our services."

Goodman earned his Bachelor of Science degree and Juris Doctor from Indiana University and the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law, respectively.

CCHA Law welcomes Ian Goodman to the firm and looks forward to the contributions he will make to the firm's legacy of legal excellence and community service.

New women's fashion store "VERVE" to bring a fresh shopping experience to Carmel's City Center this summer

Submitted

Carmel City Center is set to welcome an exciting addition to its vibrant shopping district with the opening of VERVE, a new curated women's fashion store launching this summer. Designed to complement the upscale charm of the area, VERVE will showcase an exquisite collection of renowned designers and beloved brands, offering residents and visitors a chic, curated shopping experience.

The store's owner describes the store's aesthetic as "beautiful, feminine, timeless – with just a splash of signature pink." To enhance the shopping experience, the store's clothing organization system and layout are being developed by local Carmel favorite California Closets, with the store's interior design crafted by esteemed Hamilton County Commercial Designer Jill Duzan.

VERVE's brand roster will feature coveted names like Alice + Olivia, L'Agence, ALC, 120% Lino, Milly, Ramy Brook,

LoveShackFancy, Dorothee Shumaker, Simkahi, Cinq à Sept, and more, ensuring a perfect blend of luxury and everyday wear for style-conscious shoppers. VERVE's inventory will not disappoint, including accessories, jewelry, handbags, shoes, event wear, and more.

Situated in the heart of Carmel City Center, VERVE will occupy a 2,000 square-foot retail space within the newly completed Wren Building. The store's location is directly connected to the Hotel Carmichael, an architectural gem named after iconic Hoosier musician Hoagy Carmichael. Reflecting the hotel's Great American Songbook theme, VERVE draws inspiration from jazz legend Ella Fitzgerald and the storied Verve Records label, which was established for her in 1956.

"VERVE is the ideal name for this store," the owner said. "It embodies elegance, individuality, and innovation – the same spirit that guided Ella Fitzgerald and Verve Records. We're excited to bring that energy to Carmel."

VERVE will feature a rear entrance to the expanded Hotel Carmichael, making it convenient for travelers, while also boasting ample parking at plaza level, in nearby garages or via City Center complimentary valet service for local shoppers.

"City Center is the perfect spot with the 'it' Carmel vibe," the owner added. "Whether it's a quick stop or an all-day outing, this destination has it all."

In addition to fashion, VERVE will foster community connections by sharing an event space with Indy Homes' new real estate headquarters. Plans include hosting engaging events such as sip-and-shop evenings, book clubs, private parties, and more, providing a unique social hub for Carmel residents.

Join the VERVE Team

VERVE is currently hiring for an experienced Store Manager and Stylists. Interested candidates can apply at ShopVerve.com. The store also invites fashion enthusiasts to share their favorite designers and brands on the website.

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Go beyond the stage at the Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts

The REPORTER

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

Brrrr! Think warm thoughts about summer camps

One way to escape the chilly winter blues is to think about fun and enriching activities our kids can enjoy when the weather becomes more reasonable. Registration is underway now for two arts-based summer camps here at Allied Solutions Center.

Jungle Jams is a week-long, animal-themed day camp that introduces kids ages 5 to 7 to basic musical concepts through games and activities that also promote positive character qualities. **Register now** for this year’s Jungle Jams camp, scheduled July 21 to 25. Space is limited.

The Prism Project at the Center, now in its third season, is a month-long performing arts day camp for children and young adults with a range of physical, cognitive and sensory disabilities. With

thoughtful one-to-one support and guidance, the campers develop and present an original stage production designed around their unique talents and abilities. **Register now** for the 2025 Prism Project camp, running May 28 to June 20 with a public performance June 22.

By the way, the Prism Project depends on volunteer Buddies to create a supportive environment for the performers. Volunteering is an especially rewarding and valuable experience for high school and college students considering careers that involve people with disabilities. For more information, send a note to **Outreach@TheCenter-Presents.org**.

Luminaries to learn about black composers

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



Photo provided

Beginner Ukulele classes start again on Feb. 12.

presentation, “The Music and Lives of African American Classical Composers.”

Don Was on tap for next JazzTalk

He’s the president of Blue Note Records, producer for such artists as Wayne Shorter and the Rolling Stones, and bassist/bandleader of the Pan-Detroit Ensemble, **playing the Palladium on Feb. 28**. Don Was is also the guest for the Feb. 10 episode of **JazzTalk**, the online interview

show hosted by veteran jazz musician and educator Todd Williams. Music fans can tune in free of charge and even pose their own questions for Mr. Was. **Register here** for the next JazzTalk.

Children's performance to feature African traditions

The February **Peanut Butter & Jam** performance for kids ages 1 to 7 features the Indianapolis-based Epiphany Dance Collective, which cele-

brates and preserves the dance and drumming traditions of West Africa. The group will perform at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in the Studio Theater, and kids and parents alike will be invited to join in and learn a few steps. **Get your tickets now** for PB&J with Epiphany Dance Collective.

Space still available in upcoming classes

It’s not too late to register for upcoming classes at Allied Solutions Center, in-

cluding:

- **Beginner Ukulele** for adults and teens, Wednesday evenings Feb. 12 to March 12

- **Group Vocal Coaching** for teens and adults, Wednesday evenings March 12 to April 2

- **Child & Adult Music** for ages 1 to 5: 10:30 a.m. Fridays, Feb. 21 to March 28

Click here for more information on an entire menu of educational and experiential offerings for all ages.

17 films showcased by Heartland Film receive 52 Oscar nominations

The REPORTER

The 97th Academy Awards will take place on Sunday, March 2, and the nominations were announced Thursday. Heartland Film was one of the first to showcase Oscar-nominated films through the Indy Shorts International Film Festival (Indy Shorts) in July, the Heartland International Film Festival (HIFF) in October, and by presenting the Truly Moving Picture Award (TMPA) to select studio titles.

This year, 17 films celebrated by Heartland Film received 52 total Academy Award nominations, including 10 films from HIFF, three shorts from Indy Shorts, and four recipients of the TMPA.

Both Opening and Closing Night films of the 33rd Heartland International Film Festival received nominations. The HIFF Closing Night film, *Emilia Pérez* from Netflix, received the most Oscar nominations at 13, including Best Picture. The HIFF Opening Night film and Humor & Humanity Award Winner, *A Real Pain* from Searchlight Pictures, received two nominations for Best Supporting Actor and Best Original Screenplay.

“It’s exciting to see how many Oscar nominated films were showcased at Indy Shorts and the Heartland International Film Festival this past year,” Heartland Film’s Artistic Director Greg Sorvig said. “Both festivals have made **The 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World**’ list in 2023 and 2024, and I believe one of the ‘coolest’ parts about attending our festivals is being among the first in the world to see these award-contending films.”

The festival audience shouldn’t be surprised that *September 5* from Paramount Pictures is nominated for Best Original Screenplay, as they voted it the Narrative Special Presentation Audience Choice Award Winner. This was the first award the film received on its journey to the Oscars. The Academy Members also shared similar views as the Heartland International

Film Festival jury members. The \$20,000 Documentary Grand Prize HIFF Award-Winning film *Porcelain War* received a nomination for Best Documentary Feature.

HIFF audiences had the opportunity to meet the director of A24’s *Sing Sing*, which received three Oscar nominations. Greg Kwedar attended the Special Presentation screening at the Heartland International Film Festival and was the recipient of the Pioneering Spirit Award.

The 2024 Indy Shorts International Film Festival also showcased Academy Award nominees. The Indy Shorts Narrative Audience Choice Award Winner, *The Last Ranger*, and Indy Shorts Official Selection, *Anuja*, were both nominated for Best Live Action Short Film. The Indy Shorts Official Selection, *Instruments of a Beating Heart*, was nominated for Best Documentary Short Film.

“Heartland Film received thousands of film submissions across both of our festivals,” Sorvig said. “From those, we carefully curate a film lineup to bring meaningful stories to Hoosier audiences. It’s rewarding to see these films earn Oscar nominations and be recognized at the highest level in our industry. Congratulations and best of luck on March 21!”

* * *

Below are the Academy Award-nominated films that Heartland Film honored in 2025. The full list of nominees can be found **here**.

- *A Complete Unknown* | Eight nominations, including Best Picture | Truly Moving Picture Award Winner 2024
- *A Real Pain* | Two nominations | Heartland International Film Festival 2024, Opening Night and Humor & Humanity Award Winner
- *Anuja* | Best Live Action Short Film | Indy Shorts International Film Festival 2024
- *Emilia Pérez* | 13 nominations, including Best Picture | Heartland International Film Festival 2024, Closing Night

- *Flow* | Two nominations | Heartland International Film Festival 2024, Special Presentation
 - *Gladiator II* | Best Costume Design | Truly Moving Picture Award Winner 2024
 - *Instruments of a Beating Heart* | Best Documentary Short Film | Indy Shorts International Film Festival 2024
 - *The Last Ranger* | Best Live Action Short Film | Indy Shorts International Film Festival 2024, Narrative Audience Choice Award Winner
 - *Memoir of a Snail* | Best Animated Feature Film | Heartland International Film Festival 2024, Special Presentation
 - *Nickel Boys* | Two nominations, including Best Picture | Heartland International Film Festival 2024, Special Presentation
 - *Porcelain War* | Documentary Feature Film | Heartland International Film Festival 2024, Documentary Grand Prize Winner
 - *The Seed of the Sacred Fig* | International Feature Film | Heartland International Film Festival 2024, Special Presentation
 - *September 5* | Original Screenplay | Heartland International Film Festival 2024, Narrative Special Presentation Audience Choice Award Winner
 - *Sing Sing* | Three nominations | Heartland International Film Festival 2024, Special Presentation and Director Greg K. Kwedar received the Pioneering Spirit Award
 - *Sugarcane* | Documentary Feature Film | Heartland International Film Festival 2024, Special Presentation
 - *Wicked* | 10 nominations, including Best Picture | Truly Moving Picture Award Winner 2024
 - *The Wild Robot* | Three nominations | Truly Moving Picture Award Winner 2024
- About Heartland Film, Inc.**
- Heartland Film is a non-profit arts organization that runs the 11-day Heartland International Film Festival in October, the Academy Award-Qualifying Indy Shorts International Film

Festival in July, the Truly Moving Picture Award and other year-round programs. Based in Indianapolis, Heartland Film was founded in 1991 with the mission to curate, promote and celebrate thoughtful and engaging films from diverse perspectives. Over the years, Heartland Film has presented \$3.5 million in cash prizes – the largest total amount awarded by any film festival in North America – presented more than 200 studio films with the Truly Moving Picture Award, and showcased more than 2,000 feature and short films, including 10 Oscar-winning short film titles.

MovieMaker Magazine named both the Indy Shorts and Heartland International Film Festival on the top 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World list for 2023 and 2024. The eighth annual Indy Shorts International Film Festival is scheduled for July 22 to 27, 2025, and the 34th Heartland International Film Festival will run Oct. 9 to 19, 2025. For more information, visit **HeartlandFilm.org**.



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Meeting Notices		
The Noblesville Schools Board of Trustees and the Noblesville Common Council will have a joint meeting at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2025, in the Council Chambers at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St.	Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) The Hamilton County Council Finance Committee will meet to discuss county finances at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2025, at Big Woods Hazel Dell, 14741 Hazel Dell Crossing, Noblesville.	The Hamilton County Commissioners will meet at 1 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 27, 2025, in the Commissioners’ Courtroom at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

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Thanks for reading The Reporter!

New year, new ways to grow & connect with Songbook Foundation

Submitted by the Songbook Foundation

As The Great American Songbook Foundation welcomes the start of 2025, it's the perfect time for fresh beginnings and exciting opportunities. Whether you're setting new goals or simply embracing a clean slate, the Great American Songbook Foundation is here to inspire your journey.

As we look forward to the promising year ahead in 2025, we also pause to acknowledge the profound impact of the recent Southern California wildfires. These devastating events have deeply affected countless lives, including members of our cherished community.

In these challenging times, we find solace in the enduring power of the Great American Songbook. Its timeless works have long offered a refuge – a source of comfort, joy, and a momentary escape from life's trials and hardships.

Save the date for a showstopping experience

We are excited to bring you new events and experiences in 2025. Join us as we honor the trailblazing icons who took the variety TV genre to its creative zenith both in front of and behind the camera with a screening of the PBS special *Showstoppers! Great Women of TV Variety*.

We couldn't think of a better time than Women's History Month to celebrate the history-making women of the 1960s and '70s TV variety scene, including Songbook Hall of Fame members Diahann Carroll, Mitzi Gaynor, Ella Fitzgerald, and the Lennon Sisters. Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 2, 2025, at the Tarkington at Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts.

You won't want to miss this special screening experience, which will also feature appearances by some very special guests and an engaging pop-up display of treasured artifacts preserving the careers of the film's stars.

Applications open for 2025 Songbook Academy

Start the new year making a potentially life-changing

impact on a talented high school singer by sharing the 2025 Songbook Academy application with them. The Songbook Academy offers an impactful week of mentorship, performance opportunities, and community for young vocalists passionate about music.

Here's what participants have to say:

- "This program transformed me as a performer and person." – Liris Robles
- "I gained confidence, lifelong friends, and tools to shape my music career." – Adrienne Nicastro
- "It's an experience like no other – I recommend it to every young singer I meet." – Tyler Steffen

Applications close March 23, 2025. Don't miss the chance to share this incredible opportunity with a young artist in your life. Application fee waivers and **financial aid** are available.

[Click here](#) to learn more and apply.

New treasures for the new year – Archives Spotlight: The Mancini Collection

Henry Mancini is best known for his work as a conductor and composer of such standards as "Moon River" and the soundtracks to *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and the *Pink Panther* films. The Songbook Library & Archives is currently processing a collection of Mancini materials, including his estate's photo archive. This collection includes thousands of photos of Mancini, his famous friends, and his family. Be on the lookout for photos from this treasure trove of Songbook images. [Click here](#) to explore the collection.

Plan your giving for 2025

Consider making a lasting impact through a planned gift. Generosity comes in many forms, and planned gifts are often the most advantageous way to support the causes that matter most to you. By making a planned gift, you can establish your legacy and help the Foundation continue to inspire and educate by preserving and celebrating the music of the Great American Songbook.

Make 2025 a year of enduring impact by including



Graphic provided

the Songbook Foundation into your giving, and become an instrumental part of preserving this treasured era of American music. Join the **Legacy Society** through one of the many different gift options available to you. Contact our team for more information on how to create a plan that honors your philanthropic goals.

[Click here](#) to learn more about planned giving.

Celebrating Songbook Academy Mentors

January is National Mentoring Month. The Harvard School of Public Health and MENTOR officially designated the occasion in 2002, and we are proud to perpetuate the goal of ensuring that young people have upstanding role models whose footsteps they can follow.

Every year, Songbook Academy faculty and guest mentors go above and beyond to provide students with more than just vocal coaching and musical direction. They become role models who serve in a position that many young artists may not have experienced before Academy week. They teach mindfulness, provide emotional support, and boost confidence and morale.

[Click here](#) to meet the Songbook Mentors.

Everything old is new again – Broadway Spotlight: Audra McDonald in Gypsy

If you haven't heard, six-time Tony Award winner Audra McDonald is dazzling audiences as she continues to lead the latest revival of *Gypsy* into 2025. This iconic musical, with lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and a score by the legendary Jule Styne, features timeless hits like "Everything's Coming Up Roses" and "Let Me Entertain You." This new production breathes fresh life into one

of the most celebrated musicals in Broadway history.

The Great American Songbook Foundation is proud to preserve and celebrate the legacies of Broadway songwriters such as Styne. Among the collections are materials from Styne's Kennedy Center Honors tribute, including a medley of his greatest hits arranged by Ray Charles that features *Gypsy*'s iconic "Everything's Coming Up Roses" sung by Tyne Daly, Jack Jones, Hal Linden, Maureen McGovern, Ann Reinking, and Tommy Tune.

The current revival is a powerful reminder of the timeless impact of Styne's work and how stories like *Gypsy* continue to inspire and resonate with audiences, celebrating the lasting influence of the Great American Songbook on Broadway and beyond.

Kick off 2025 in perfect harmony

This January, let the power of music inspire your New Year's resolutions. Designed with older adults in mind but meaningful for all ages, Perfect Harmony's ***New Year's Resolutions through Music*** offers uplifting resources to help you embrace new beginnings. Whether you're learning something new with **"Do-Re-Mi,"** staying active to **"Twist and Shout,"** building connections with **"You've Got a Friend,"** or sparking adventure with **"Put On Your Sunday Clothes,"** these songs will keep you motivated all year long.

Explore free videos on the [YouTube page](#) or visit [TheSongbook.org/ph-resources](#) to start your year in Perfect Harmony.

Perfect Harmony is made possible in part by generous support from our partners, Senior Home Companions and Story Cottage.

Franklin Lee Crider

July 10, 1943 – January 21, 2025

Franklin "Frankie" Lee Crider, a lifelong lover of laughter, family, and the great outdoors, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at the age of 81. He was born on July 10, 1943, to the late William and Mamie (Sullivan) Crider.

Frankie spent 54 glorious years of marriage to his one and only, Dorcas (Trout) Crider, whom he married on June 20, 1971. Together, they built a life filled with love, laughter, and countless memories, most of which included Franklin's infamous sense of humor and love for being the center of attention.

Franklin was the type of person who never met a stranger and was known to light up any room with his personality. Frankie had a fulfilling career, retiring as a Foreman for INDOT. He enjoyed the simple pleasures in life: fishing, hunting, and camping with Dorcas and the family, and, of course, spending quality time with his beloved dogs, RJ and Gordy. Above all else, Franklin was a family man and loved being with his family, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife, Dorcas Crider of Tipton, Ind., and his many loved ones who will miss his infectious laugh, corny jokes, and ever-present love. Frankie was preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, January 27, 2025, at Hartley Funeral Home, 209 W. Jackson St., Cicero. The funeral service will take place following visitation at 1 p.m. at Hartley Funeral Home, with Monroe Jones officiating. Burial will follow in Cicero Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that memorial contributions be made to the Alzheimer's Association and organizations that support those with dementia. Online condolences may be shared at [hartleyfuneral-homes.com](#).

Ruth Stoops

July 25, 1930 – January 21, 2025

Ruth Stoops, 94, Noblesville, passed away peacefully in her home on January 21, 2025.

Ruth was born on July 25, 1930, to Arza and Orpha Guilkey and was one of nine children. Growing up in rural Noblesville, she and five of her siblings attended Klepher school, a one-room schoolhouse heated with a pot-bellied stove. She remembered that she was the only person in her fifth-grade class, and when her family moved into town the school closed.

During her high school years, Ruth was employed at Franklin Ice Cream, the Diana movie theatre, Murphy's Dime store and Forest Park Inn. After high school she worked at Public Service.

Ruth married Bill Stoops in 1953 and she left work to raise their four children. As the kids grew, Ruth returned to work and was employed at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles with her sister-in-law, Marjorie Guilkey, and later at McMahon's/Kraft where she worked until 1974.

Nearing retirement, Ruth and Bill moved to Bill's family farm in rural Noblesville. Life on the farm was appreciated for its peace and quiet and lazy days sitting in the sun. Quilting and crocheting as well as gardening and canning her amazing zucchini relish were a few of the activities that Ruth enjoyed; she did not, however, enjoy helping to raise Bill's chickens.

Staying active in community activities, Ruth cherished time spent with friends in her Red Hats group and loved joining classes at the Senior center, especially line dance with her teachers and friends. Volunteering at the Noblesville food pantry and St. Vincent DePaul and looking after Bill kept Ruth busy. After Bill's passing, Ruth moved into town to be closer to her sisters.

Ruth was unusually lucky to have her four sisters nearby for over 90 years. Their love, support, kindness, friendship, and laughter were among the biggest blessings of her life.

Ruth is survived by her children, Susan (Denis) Scott, Sandra Poor, and Sara (Roy) Hammond; her grandchildren, Heath (Candice) Scott, Julie Scott (Jesse) St. Cyr, Katherine Poor (Ben Salk), Amanda Ruth (Joseph) Crosland, Christine (Bill) Raper, Megan Hammond, and Samuel L. Stoops; her great-grandchildren, Mekanna (Arthur) Johnne, Bridger Scott, Brittan Scott, Bear Scott, Ella Scott, Claire St. Cyr, Andrew St. Cyr, James St. Cyr, Allison St. Cyr, Natalie St. Cyr, Emma Ruth St. Cyr, Caroline St. Cyr, August Crosland, Zula Crosland, Acadia Salk, Margot Salk, and Billy Raper; and great-great-grandson, Oliver Scott. She is also survived by sisters, Harriet (Guilkey) Wise, Patricia (Guilkey) Paskins, and Barbara (Guilkey) Lawson.

Ruth was preceded in death by her mother, Orpha (Garverick) Guilkey, and father, Arza Guilkey; husband, Billy Lee Stoops; son, Samuel Mark Stoops; Sandy's partner, James Gibbons; granddaughter, Kelly Sue Scott; brothers, Carrol, Roland, Dallas, and Max Guilkey; and sister, Phyllis Mendenhall.

Ruth was able to stay in the comfort of her home because of the wonderful caregivers from Suburban Health, especially Tracey McCreary. Tracey's loving care and friendship during our mom's final years was immeasurable and we will never be able to thank her enough. Paradigm Hospice provided comfort and care in the final days, and we wish to recognize and thank them.

Visitation and celebration of life will be from 10 a.m. to noon on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at Randall and Roberts, 1150 Logan St., Noblesville. The funeral will immediately follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to her church family at Victory Chapel Community Church, 13350 E. 216th St., Noblesville IN 46060 ([victorychapel.me/visit-us](#)). Condolences: [randallroberts.com](#)

Ball State University appoints Dr. Nancy Abashian as new dean of University Libraries

The REPORTER

Dr. Nancy Abashian will join Ball State University as dean of **University Libraries**, effective April 14.

Dr. Abashian brings nearly two decades of leadership experience in academic libraries, including her current role as senior director for public services and the Office of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) at Binghamton University Libraries in New York.

"Dr. Abashian impressed us throughout the national search process with her commitment to fostering innovation, inclusion, and collaboration," said Dr. Anand R. Marri, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at Ball State. "Her extensive experience in strategic planning, program development, and public services positions her to make a significant impact on our campus. I am also deeply grateful to Dr. Amy Petts for

her outstanding service as interim dean of University Libraries, ensuring a seamless transition."

At Binghamton, Dr. Abashian has led initiatives that showcase her ability to integrate cutting-edge technology and innovative services into library operations. Notably, she planned and executed a multi-year, multi-million-dollar project to create a high-density storage facility, relocate more than 850,000 items, and implement advanced library systems. She also played a key role in the university's strategic planning process.

Her efforts extend beyond her institution. Dr. Abashian led the State University of New York's Alma implementation team, fostering collaboration among 64 campuses and broadening access to resources through

innovative approaches to shared services. A passionate advocate for professional development, she also established scholarships and grant funding to support underrepresented students and faculty.

"I am incredibly excited and honored to join the Ball State University community as dean of University Libraries," Dr. Abashian said. "Ball State's commitment to student success, a spirit of discovery, and a culture of engagement deeply resonates with me. I look forward to collaborating with faculty, staff, and students to enhance library services, foster a vibrant and inclusive learning environment, and contribute to the University's continued growth and excellence."

Dr. Abashian holds a bachelor's degree in human development and a Ph.D.

in community research and public affairs from Binghamton University, as well as a Master of Library Science from the University at Buffalo. She is also a recipient of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship and a graduate of Harvard University's Leadership Institute for Academic Librarians.

Ball State University Libraries supports the University's mission and enduring values by creating transformative experiences for diverse communities of learners through excellent resources, expert research assistance, dedicated study and learning spaces, and innovative services and technologies for knowledge discovery and dissemination, lifetime learning, and community engagement.

For more information, visit the University Libraries [website](#), email [libemail@bsu.edu](#), or call (765) 285-5143.



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Thanks for reading!

TODAY’S BIBLE READING

THE GOLDEN CALF

“Do not be angry, my lord,” Aaron answered. “You know how prone these people are to evil. They said to me, ‘Make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don’t know what has happened to him.’ So I told them, ‘Whoever has any gold jewelry, take it off.’ Then they gave me the gold, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!”

Moses saw that the people were running wild and that Aaron had let them get out of control and so become a laughingstock to their enemies. So he stood at the entrance to the camp and said, “Whoever is for the Lord, come to me.” And all the Levites rallied to him.

Then he said to them, “This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘Each man strap a sword to his side. Go back and forth through the camp from one end to the other, each killing his brother and friend and neighbor.’” The Levites did as Moses commanded, and that day about three thousand of the people died. Then Moses said, “You have been set apart to the Lord today, for you were against your own sons and brothers, and he has blessed you this day.”

Exodus 32:22-29 (NIV)

Larry Lee Glass

October 13, 1947 – January 22, 2025

Larry Lee Glass, 77, Noblesville, passed away on Wednesday, January 22, 2025, at Well-brooke of Westfield. He was born on October 13, 1947, to Paul and Lois (Bonewitz) Glass in North Manches-ter, Ind.

Larry received a bachelor’s degree from Indiana University and was immediately drafted into the Army, serving during Viet Nam. He worked as an insurance office man-ager for many years. Larry enjoyed hunting and watching sports, especially high school football. He was very proud of his four grandchildren.

He is survived by his daughter, Megan (Chad) Bradley; grandchildren, Madeline Glass, Brendon Glass, Phoebe Bradley, and Jack Bradley; and brothers, Jerry Glass and Gary Glass.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Dina Glass; and son, Charlie Glass.

Private family services will be held. Randall & Roberts Funeral Homes has been entrusted with Larry’s care.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Indiana State Parks (indiananrf.org/one-time-gift-form-designated).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Gary Lee Rosemary

October 29, 1948 – January 23, 2025

Gary Lee Rosemary, 76, passed away peacefully at his home in Noblesville.

Gary grew up in Plainfield, Ind., and was involved in the school band, the Plainfield United Methodist Church and Boy Scouts. Gary attended Purdue University, receiving his Bachelor’s Degree. He moved to Michigan where he met, married, and started a family with his wife Kathy, later returning to Indiana.

He was forever a Boy Scout – always prepared, knowl-edgeable, enjoying the outdoors, and inventing creative solutions. Over the years, many friends and family mem-bers found themselves appreciative to be camping with him because he either had what you needed or could craft it for you. If you needed a piece of furniture refinished, Gary was your man. There are several pieces in his home and in oth-ers’ homes that he brought back to life.

Music was an ongoing part of his life whether it was play-ing the saxophone in the high school band or singing in the church choir for the last 30 years. Gary was active with the Belfry Theater, acting, singing or stage managing, frequently putting his Boy Scout and carpentry skills to good use.

Gary also had a love of trains; whenever he was trav-eling, a train museum or depot was always on the list of places to see. He was an active member at the Train Club in Kokomo and often set up model trains, especially during the holiday season. Several of his traveling high-lights were riding the Canadian Pacific Railway from Toronto to Vancouver as well as train trips from Chicago to San Francisco, Seattle, and back. He and Kathy shared many fun adventures, and even in later years while staying closer to home they never lost their zest to find interesting things and embrace life.

We know Gary is forever riding the rails in the sky!

Gary is survived by his wife, Kathryn Ann (DeNolf); daughter, Jennifer Lee (Chad) Saalfrank; two granddaugh-ters, Samantha Lee and Cora Rosemary Saalfrank; and sis-ter, Jane (Tom) Iles.

He was preceded in death by his son, Matthew Alan; parents, Francis Lee and Cora Lee (Agee) Rosemary; and sister, Cynthia Anne Rosemary.

Visitation will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. Friday, January 31, 2025, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 West-field Road, Noblesville. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, February 1, 2025, at Noblesville First Unit-ed Methodist Church, 2051 Monument St., Noblesville. Rev. Brittney Stephan will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Noblesville First United Methodist Church Music Min-istry (noblesvillefirst.com/give).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Michael Rae Thistlethwaite

March 22, 1954 – January 21, 2025

Michael Rae Thistlethwaite, 70, Cicero, passed away on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, sur-rounded by his loving family.

He was born in Lebanon, Ind., on March 22, 1954, to the late Meveral and Shirley (Uhler) Thistlethwaite. On November 2, 1985, Michael mar-ried Connie (Pickard) Thistlethwaite, and together they shared 40 years of loving marriage.

Michael retired in 2020 from CNH Industrial, where he worked in Inventory Control. He was a dedicated member of Arcadia Christian Church, and his passions included building with Legos, woodworking, and anything that allowed him to work with his hands. Michael also enjoyed traveling, was a huge NASCAR fan, and had a particular love for westerns and western movies. He en-joyed playing cards and cherished spending time with his card group, friends, and family. Michael was particularly fond of his Dodge truck and loved taking drives to remi-nisce about the old days.

Michael is survived by his wife, Connie Thistlethwaite of Cicero; his stepson, James Kinnaman of Cicero; his grandchildren, Dakota (Tori) Jamison of Cicero and Char-lie Kinnaman of Lebanon; his great-grandson, Roy Jami-son of Cicero; his sister, Patricia Ann (Tim) Maddox of Lebanon; as well as several nieces, nephews, and great- and great-great-nieces and nephews.

Michael was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Meveral Cyrus Thistlethwaite; and his sister, Mar-gery Louise Burkhardt.

Michael’s wishes were to be cremated and Hartley Fu-neral Homes has been entrusted with his care.

A time for visitation will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, February 1, 2025, at the Arcadia Christian Church 26901 State Road 19, Arcadia. A memorial service will start at noon on Saturday, February 1, 2025, at Arcadia Christian Church, with J.R. Moffatt officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to Angels’ Attic in Arcadia.

Online condolences can be left at hartleyfuneralhomes.com.

The Reporter’s policy on obituaries

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

Families and funeral homes are asked to send obituaries to obits@ReadTheReporter.com.

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NEW LISTING!



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Swimming



Reporter photos by Richie Hall

(ABOVE LEFT) Westfield's Gracie Alley swims in the 500 freestyle during the Shamrocks' dual meet with Avon Thursday. (ABOVE RIGHT) Henry Pham checks his time after finishing the 100 freestyle.

Westfield welcomes Avon for final meet of regular season, girls win

By RICHIE HALL
sports@readthereporter.com

WESTFIELD – The IHSAA swimming sectionals are now less than two weeks away, and the preparation for those post-season meets has begun.

Westfield hosted Avon for its final meet of the year at the Westfield Aquatic Center. The Shamrocks split with the Orioles: Westfield's girls team won 119-67, while Avon edged out the 'Rocks boys 90-86.

Shamrocks coach Darrick Thomas said the team's "mission for the night was just accumulate some times where we need to see some times, so we can make good decision on our lineups for sectionals for the girls and the guys."

The girls sectionals begin on Feb. 6, with the boys

sectionals starting on Feb. 20. Before the sectionals start, Westfield will compete in the Hamilton Southeastern Reserve Championship meet, which takes place on Saturday, Feb. 1.

Westfield's girls won eight of the 12 events. Kiarra Thomas got a double victory in the butterfly and backstroke events. Evie Wheat won the individual medley, Addison Goodwin took the diving event, Laney McCulloch was first in the 500 freestyle and the 'Rocks swept all three relays.

In the boys meet, Westfield won five events, including a pair of double winners. Garreth Thomas was first in the IM and butterfly, while Zach Welch paced the 500 free and the breaststroke. The Shamrocks also won the medley relay.

"We had a really good meet," said Darrick Thomas. "We've had a long stretch of meets. We had our Senior Night last Thursday night and then we had a club meet Friday, Saturday, Sunday. So, lots of racing the last 14 days. Kids really are livening up and ready for tapers, so we're getting excited for the championship season."

GIRLS MEET
Team score: Westfield 119, Avon 67.

200 medley relay: 1. Westfield "A" (Kiarra Thomas, Nora Sperry, Evie Wheat, Bridget Mick) 1:53.32, 3. Westfield "B" (Ellie Hill, Hailey Noiro, Bella McNally, Gracie Alley) 2:06.83.

200 freestyle: 2. Laney McCulloch, 5. McNally 2:13.31, 6. Carly Davis 2:15.60.

200 individual medley: 1. Wheat 2:14.36, 2. Sperry 2:17.51, 3. Kate Cassidy 2:23.76.

50 freestyle: 2. Mick 26.36, 3. Maggie Alley 26.61, 5. Anna McKeown 28.17.

One-meter diving: 1. Addison Goodwin 199.35, 2. Alexis Ball 157.40.

100 butterfly: 1. Thomas 1:00.87, 2. Macy Brown 1:01.83, 3. Sperry 1:02.31.

100 freestyle: 2. Wheat 56.03, 3. Cassidy 56.50, 4. M. Alley 57.12.

500 freestyle: 1. McCulloch 5:19.79, 2. G. Alley 5:21.61, 4. McNally 5:51.17.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Westfield "A" (Cassidy, Thomas, M. Alley, Greta Smith) 1:44.45, 3. Westfield "B" (Mick, Hill, Eliana Morse, Davis) 1:49.53.

100 backstroke: 1. Thomas 1:03.07, 2. Brown 1:03.96, 3. Smith 1:07.21.

100 breaststroke: 2. Davis 1:17.68, 4. Hailey Noiro 1:20.87, 6. Charlotte Willhite 1:22.83.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Westfield "A" (Brown, M. Alley, Smith, Wheat) 3:47.08, 3. Westfield "B" (G. Alley, McNally, Davis, Morse) 4:09.79.

BOYS MEET
Team score: Avon 90, Westfield 86.

200 medley relay: 1. Westfield "A" (Landon Wendel, Griffin Barents Froman, Garreth Thomas, Zach Welch) 1:44.07, 2. Westfield "B" (Aiden Willig, Esteban Roussel, Noah Lorincz, Henry Pham) 1:50.61.

200 freestyle: 3. Wendel 1:57.04, 5. Jackson Burgess 2:06.18, 6. Willig 2:07.39.

200 individual medley: 1. Thomas 2:01.21, 2. Barents Froman 2:01.93, 4. Roussel 2:17.78.

50 freestyle: 2. Pham 24.36, 3. Lornicz 24.84, 6. Max Hood 28.03.

100 butterfly: 1. Thomas 55.48, 2. Lorincz 57.82, 4. Wendel 59.10.

100 freestyle: 3. Pham 55.26, 4. Roussel 55.57, 6. Silas Hendrix 58.56.

500 freestyle: 1. Welch 4:45.83, 3. Barents Froman 5:04.67, 6. John Obusek 6:09.62.

200 freestyle: 1. Westfield "A" (Wendel, Barents Froman, Thomas, Welch) 1:33.46, 3. Westfield "B" (Obusek, Roussel, Pham, Lorincz) 1:39.69.

100 backstroke: 3. Burgess 1:04.31, 4. Willig 1:12.46, 5. JP Mikels 1:13.42.

100 breaststroke: 1. Welch 1:06.76, 5. Hendrix 1:14.20.

400 freestyle relay: 3. Westfield "A" (Willig, Burgess, Obusek, Mikels) 3:53.39, 5. Westfield "B" (Alex Faulkenberg, Avi Avynath, Hood, Josh Alonso) 4:30.40.

HSE boys win at Zionsville, girls finish with tie

The REPORTER
The Hamilton Southeastern swim teams traveled to Zionsville on Thursday for a dual meet.

The Royals won the boys meet 93-87, picking up four event victories. Jihoon Jung was a double winner, taking the 200 freestyle and butterfly races. Collin Huston won the breaststroke and Southeastern was first in the medley relay.

The girls meet finished in a 93-93 tie. The Royals won six events; individual winners were Kiley Zoeller in the 50 free, Ellason Miller in the butterfly, Naomi Haines in the backstroke and Kendall Dieckman in the breaststroke. Southeastern also won the medley and 400 free relays.

GIRLS MEET
Team score: Hamilton Southeastern 93, Zionsville 93.

200 medley relay: 1. Southeastern "A" (Naomi

Haines, Kendall Dieckman, Ellason Miller, Kiley Zoeller) 1:47.45, 3. Southeastern "B" (Kinsey Bogaards, Lauren Ing, Lacey Huston, Payton Walker) 1:53.16.

200 freestyle: 3. Miller 2:01.29, 5. Izzy Schmitt 2:05.15, 6. Brooklyn Penn 2:06.37.

100 individual medley: 2. Dieckman 1:00.81, 3. Bogaards 1:03.12, 5. Huston 1:06.21.

50 freestyle: 1. Zoeller 24.91, 4. Mia Henderson 25.92, 6. Walker 26.14.

One-meter diving: 2. Zoe Rehm 212.60, 5. Juliet Pearce 122.90, 6. Abigale Earl 77.75.

50 butterfly: 1. Miller 26.72, 2. Haines 26.78, 4. Huston 27.73.

100 freestyle: 2. Zoeller 55.08, 3. Henderson 55.96, 6. Ella Chesterfield 59.07.

500 freestyle: 3. Schmitt 5:31.17, 4. Penn 5:39.88, 5. Molly Hultgren 5:47.79.

200 freestyle relay: 2. Southeastern "A" (Haines,

Miller, Walker, Henderson) 1:40.40, 3. Southeastern "B" (Anna Irish, Chesterfield, Sophia Croy, Penn) 1:44.91.

50 backstroke: 1. Haines 27.64, 3. Bogaards 29.41, 5. Kelsey Graham 30.24.

50 breaststroke: 1. Dieckman 31.11, 3. Ing 32.05, 6. Jocelyn Graham 33.67.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Southeastern "A" (Zoeller, Henderson, Bogaards, Dieckman) 3:35.35, 4. Southeastern "B" (Penn, K. Graham, Chesterfield, Schmitt) 3:51.33.

BOYS MEET
Team score: Hamilton Southeastern 93, Zionsville 87.

200 medley relay: 1. Southeastern "A" (Jacob Frey, Collin Huston, Jihoon Jung, Derek Robison) 1:35.78, 3. Southeastern "B" (Alden Sealls, Jagger Chan, Josh Lawrence, Xander Goss) 1:46.40.

200 freestyle: 1. Jung 1:47.01, 4. Chan 1:53.47, 6. Sealls 1:56.64.

100 individual medley: 2. Huston 54.31, 4. Frey 57.94, 5. Lawrence 59.48.

50 freestyle: 2. Robison 23.04, 4. Zach Marchisin 23.85, 6. Ryland Williams 25.06.

One-meter diving: 2. Joseph Justice 127.20.

50 butterfly: 1. Jung 23.58, 3. Lawrence 25.98, 4. Goss 26.20.

100 freestyle: 2. Robison 50.57, 4. Nolan Pugh 52.03, 6. Goss 56.07.

500 freestyle: 2. Ivan Semko 5:03.65, 3. Bryce Salvadori 5:04.90, 5. Carter Nelsen 5:29.72.

200 freestyle relay: 2. Southeastern "A" (Marchisin,

Chan, Goss, Pugh) 1:34.87, 3. Southeastern "B" (Williams, Grayer Belaire, Semko, Salvadori) 1:41.52.

50 backstroke: 2. Frey 25.28, 3. Marchisin 27.30, 4. Sealls 27.93.

50 breaststroke: 1. Huston 27.27, 2. Pugh 28.80, 4. Chan 29.29.

400 freestyle relay: 2. Southeastern "A" (Jung, Huston, Pugh, Robison) 3:19.48, 3. Southeastern "B" (Marchisin, Sealls, Lawrence, Frey) 3:27.92.

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Girls Basketball

Blackhawks keep it steady, roll past Delphi

The REPORTER

The Sheridan girls basketball team rolled to another Hoosier Heartland Conference win Thursday, beating Delphi 67-42 in an away game.

The Blackhawks steadily built a lead during the first three quarters. Sheridan held a 19-12 advantage after the first period, with Brielle Garner hitting two 3-pointers and Cecilia Timme also scoring six points. The 'Hawks led 38-23 at halftime; Kenzie Garner scored eight points in the second quarter and had 12 at halftime.

Sheridan kept its foot on the gas in the third quarter, leading 57-32 by the

end of the period. Kenzie Garner added another nine points. Both teams scored 10 points in the fourth, as the Blackhawks had the game in hand by then.

Three players finished in double figures, with Kenzie Garner scoring 21 points and pulling 12 rebounds for a double-double. Cecilia Timme added 15 points and Brielle Garner hit three 3s on her way to 13 points.

Cecilia Timme collected seven rebounds, with Brielle Garner and Sadie Timme both pulling five rebounds. Kenzie Garner dished out five assists and blocked two shots, with Cecilia Timme handing out

SHERIDAN 67, DELPHI 42				
Sheridan	FG	FT	TP	PF
Nova Cross	3	0-0	6	6
Kenzie Garner	10	0-0	21	3
Cecilia Timme	7	1-1	15	2
Brielle Garner	5	0-0	13	0
Sadie Timme	2	0-0	5	2
Shelby Eaton	2	0-0	5	4
Mak Southerland	1	0-0	2	0
Brooklynn Conley	0	0-0	0	0
Sammy Smith	0	0-0	0	1
Alivia Gould	0	0-0	0	0
Totals	30	1-1	67	18
Score by Quarters				
Sheridan	19	19	19	10 - 67
Delphi	12	11	9	10 - 42
Sheridan 3-pointers (6) B. Garner 3, K. Garner, S. Timme, Eaton.				

four assists. Brielle Garner made four steals.

Sheridan is 6-0 in conference play and 18-1 overall. The Blackhawks are back home on Tuesday, hosting Clinton Central in another HHC contest.

Special Olympics Indiana expands its Train 4 Life program to include Noblesville

Wellness program focuses on strength building & holistic health habits for individuals with intellectual disabilities

The REPORTER

Special Olympics Indiana has expanded its Train 4 Life initiative, bringing its free fitness program designed for people with intellectual disabilities (ID) that includes partnerships with facilities in seven communities.

Train 4 Life focuses on fitness, nutrition and mental health for Special Olympics athletes ages 13 and older. The 12-week program includes pre- and post-program biometric and fitness testing, group workouts, weekly nutrition and healthy lifestyle education. By developing these healthy choices within individuals, the program allows athletes to see measured outcomes and continue good habits throughout their lifetimes.

Studies have shown that nearly three-quarters of adults with ID and half of youth with ID are overweight or obese. People with ID are four times more likely to acquire Type 2 diabetes and a quarter of them have low bone density.

Preliminary results from the five pilot programs in 2024 include:

- 76.6 percent improvement in upper body strength.
 - 40.6 percent improvement in lower body strength.
 - 14.5 percent improvement in endurance.
 - 2 percent improvement in blood pressure.
- “This program is an incredible opportunity for our athletes to get health and fitness training outside of their chosen sports seasons,” Special Olympics Indiana President and CEO Jeff Mohler said. “By improving their physical fitness and well-being, we are helping to set them up for longer, more fit lives.”

The program’s 2025 sites include:

- CrossFit HSE, Noblesville
- Mad Apple CrossFit, Fort Wayne
- Purdue University Recreation, West Lafayette



Special Olympics Indiana

- Reclaim, Greensburg
- THIRST, Terre Haute
- Three Cord Fitness, Greenwood
- Unbreakable Athletics Academy, Plainfield

Participants will work out alongside individuals without intellectual disabilities in order to build a sense of mentorship, friendship and community. The program’s model is designed to meet individuals where they are and set achievable goals as they progress and take on increasing physical challenges.

Special Olympics Indiana will continue to monitor and report results. The goal is to expand the program to all 92 Indiana counties.

“Through the Train 4 Life, we are helping athletes improve their performance on the field while also making a measurable impact on their long-term health,” Special Olympics Indiana Manager of Health and Fitness Kyle Moran said. “By partnering with gyms that hold the same values as Special Olympics Indiana, we build up both our athletes and our communities – one rep at a time.”

About Special Olympics Indiana

Special Olympics Indiana is a nonprofit organization that is part of the global Special Olympics movement, created by the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation for the benefit of persons with intellectual disabilities. Its vision is an inclusive world, driven by the power of sport, through which people with intellectual disabilities live active, healthy, and fulfilling lives.

Motz signs with DePauw University



Photo courtesy Noblesville Athletics

Noblesville’s Olivia Motz has committed to the DePauw University women’s swimming team. (Front row, from left) Joni Motz (mother), Olivia Motz, and Joe Motz (father). (Back row, from left) Noblesville Swimming & Diving Assistant Daniel Kanorr, Noblesville Swimming & Diving Head Coach Jess Preston, Lauren Motz (sister), and former Noblesville Swimming & Diving Head Coach Aleks Fansler.

Tippner signs with University of Miami



Photo courtesy Noblesville Athletics

Noblesville’s Meredith Tippner has committed to the University of Miami women’s basketball team. (Front row, from left) Matt Tippner (father), Meredith Tippner, and Katie Tippner (mother). (Back row, from left) Noblesville Girls Soccer Head Coach Mike Brady, Perry Williams (Papaw Perry), Nancy Gross (grandmother), Noblesville Girls Soccer Assistant Kristin Hetzel, and Noblesville Girls Basketball Head Coach Donna Buckley.

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SPORTS SCHEDULE

Friday, Jan. 24

BOYS BASKETBALL

Avon at Fishers, 7:30 p.m.
Brebeuf Jesuit at Guerin Catholic, 7:30 p.m.
Brownsburg at Westfield, 7:30 p.m.
Carmel at Pike, 7:30 p.m.
Hamilton Southeastern at Zionsville, 7:30 p.m.
Noblesville at Franklin Central, 7:30 p.m.
Sheridan at Delphi, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Avon at Fishers, 6 p.m.
Brebeuf Jesuit at Guerin Catholic, 6 p.m.
Brownsburg at Westfield, 6 p.m.
Hamilton Southeastern at Zionsville, 6 p.m.
Pike at Carmel, 7:30 p.m.
Hoosier Conference third-place game
Hamilton Heights at Lafayette Central Catholic, 7:30 p.m.

SWIMMING

Carmel, Hamilton Southeastern at
Warren Central Warrior Diving Invitational, 6 p.m.
Fishers Tigers College Events Classic, 6:30 p.m. at IU Natatorium

Saturday, Jan. 25

BOYS BASKETBALL

Fishers at Fort Wayne Carroll, 4:30 p.m.
Brownsburg at Carmel, 7:30 p.m.
Hamilton Heights at Maconaquah, 7:30 p.m.
Mount Vernon at Hamilton Southeastern, 7:30 p.m.
Muncie Central at Westfield, 7:30 p.m.
Purdue Polytechnic North at Sheridan, 7:30 p.m.

BOYS WRESTLING

Hoosier Heartland Conference meet, 9 a.m. at Delphi

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Noblesville at Franklin Central, 12:30 p.m.
Hamilton Southeastern at Center Grove, 7:30 p.m.
Homestead at Carmel, 7:30 p.m.

GYMNASTICS

Noblesville at Concordia Lutheran Carter Classic, 11:30 a.m.

SWIMMING

Noblesville, Fort Wayne Carroll at Fishers, 1 p.m.
Pioneer Conference meet, 1 p.m. at Ball State University

Sunday, Jan. 26

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Pairings show, 5 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 27

GYMNASTICS

Westfield at Logansport (with Huntington North), 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 28

BOYS BASKETBALL

Secena at Guerin Catholic, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Decatur Central at University, 6 p.m.
Anderson at Noblesville, 7:30 p.m.
Ben Davis at Westfield, 7:30 p.m.
Carmel at Cathedral, 7:30 p.m.
Clinton Central at Sheridan, 7:30 p.m.
Hamilton Southeastern at Pike, 7:30 p.m.
Lawrence North at Fishers, 7:30 p.m.

SWIMMING

Guerin Catholic, University at Schools with No Pools meet,
5:45 p.m. at IU Natatorium
Hamilton Heights boys at Anderson, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 29

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Sheridan at Southmont, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 30

GIRLS BASKETBALL

University at Speedway, 6 p.m.
Hamilton Heights at Heritage Christian, 7:30 p.m.
Pendleton Heights at Noblesville, 7:30 p.m.

GYMNASTICS

Fishers, Lapel, Westfield at Noblesville, 6 p.m. at Hollywood Cheer and Tumble

Friday, Jan. 31

BOYS BASKETBALL

Anderson Prep Academy at University, 7:30 p.m.
Ben Davis at Carmel, 7:30 p.m.
Franklin Central at Fishers, 7:30 p.m.
Hamilton Heights at Tipton, 7:30 p.m.
Noblesville at Hamilton Southeastern, 7:30 p.m.
Sheridan at Taylor, 7:30 p.m.
Westfield at Avon, 7:30 p.m.
Guerin Catholic at Lafayette Central Catholic, 8 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Guerin Catholic at Lafayette Central Catholic, 6 p.m.
Sheridan at Taylor, 6 p.m.
Carmel at Ben Davis, 7:30 p.m.
Franklin Central at Fishers, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 1

BOYS BASKETBALL

Noblesville at Guerin Catholic, 2:30 p.m.
Carmel at Fishers, 7:30 p.m.
Covenant Christian at Sheridan, 7:30 p.m.
Hamilton Southeastern at Pendleton Heights, 7:30 p.m.
University at Indianapolis Lutheran, 7:30 p.m.

BOYS WRESTLING SECTIONALS

Carmel, Fishers, Hamilton Southeastern, Sheridan, Westfield at Frankfort
Guerin Catholic, Hamilton Heights, Noblesville at Elwood

GYMNASTICS

Noblesville at Bloomington South Invitational, noon
Westfield at Shelbyville, 10 a.m.

SWIMMING

Noblesville, Westfield at Hamilton Southeastern Reserve Championships, 9 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 3

BOYS BASKETBALL

University at Bishop Chatard, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 4

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Fishers, Guerin Catholic, Noblesville at New Palestine, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 5

BOYS BASKETBALL

KIPP Legacy at Hamilton Heights, 7:30 p.m.

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



Graphic courtesy IMS

Five central Indiana artists selected to welcome Indy 500 race fans in May

Submitted by IMS

The five artists selected to create the 2025 Welcome Race Fans artworks, a culmination of the Hoosier hospitality that welcomes visitors to Indianapolis throughout the Month of May, were announced Jan. 21 by Indianapolis Motor Speedway and the Arts Council of Indianapolis.

Selected from a pool of 58 applicants, the five artists who will create this year’s welcoming artwork are Sarah Anderson, Xavier Gray, Caroline Hays, Cassie Mitchell and Frances Ruiz.

Since 2016, Welcome Race Fans artwork has exemplified what May means to Indianapolis, both on and off track. Each year, Central Indiana artists are challenged to bring to life what “The Greatest Spectacle in Racing” means to the Racing Capital of the World. While some artists utilize vibrant colors with bold strokes and others manipulate computer

coding, all Welcome Race Fans artists rely on their personal connections to tell the beautifully unique story of Indianapolis and its culture.

“The Welcome Race Fans art is one of the first things thousands of visitors see when they come to the city of Indianapolis and IMS for the Month of May,” IMS President J. Douglas Boles said. “This Hoosier hospitality is just one of the many reasons the Month of May is so special to so many.”

Each artist will create a piece of original artwork, to be placed throughout the city, using their own unique processes and styles to showcase the intersection of art and motorsports. For the first time since the program’s inception, both two- and three-dimensional pieces of art – like sculptures, carvings and papercraft – were considered and may be created for the program.

• SARAH ANDERSON is a full-time ceramic artist who

creates illustrative characters on the surface of clay through the use of sgraffito. Bright colors and exaggerated creatures are the hallmarks of Sarah’s work and create her uniquely identifiable brand.

• XAVIER GRAY, whose name is derived from his children’s middle names, is a multidisciplinary artist whose work blends street art, graphic design and personal storytelling. Often featuring repetitive images that create a dynamic visual rhythm and positive affirmations that inspire and uplift, Xavier’s work invites viewers to engage with the transformative power of creative expression.

• CAROLINE HAYS is an artist and educator who focuses her artistic practice on the layers of history that shape a place. Through her use of mixed media and layering, Caroline hopes to bring light to the memories, histories and connections people have to places.

• CASSIE MITCHELL, a junior at Marian University, has a deep passion for art and community service. She is dedicated to inspiring the younger generation by promoting the importance of art and works to elevate and support artistic initiatives that make a difference in the community.

• FRANCES RUIZ is inspired by her upbringing in Puerto Rico and experiences in Indiana. She employs vibrant colors and dynamic lines to evoke movement and convey a sense of emotion in her compositions. Her work has been described as “painting with paper” due to the intricate details and precise representation found in her collages.

The five Welcome Race Fans artworks will be unveiled April 29.

To explore the full list of Indy 500 community initiatives and programs, visit [IMS.com/Community](https://www.indy500.com/Community). To see an up-to-date calendar of IMS events, [click here](#).

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