

■ TODAY'S VERSE

1 Thessalonians 5:18

In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.



20 Shopping Days left to a very Honest Hoosier Christmas. Look around at your decorations. Is it more about Santa Claus or more about the real reason for the season?

■ HAMILTON HAPPENINGS

A new ministry, Widows of Hope, has begun at Emmanuel United Methodist Church. Pastor Bonnie Zickgraf is the ministry facilitator and a peer widow. The Rev. Jesse Mullins is the lead pastor. The group will meet on Fridays from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Come in Door No. 5 and go to the first main hallway on the left to the Community Room. Emmanuel is located at 16000 Cumberland Rd. in Noblesville. For urgent questions, contact the church or text at (863) 258-8079.

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

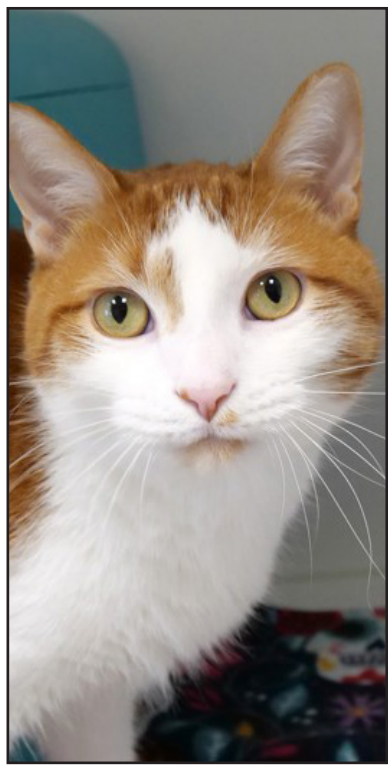
"I want to become small again this Christmas so that I can feel again the entire joy of Christmas without the worries of the world on my mind."

Unknown

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

What goes Ho, Ho, Ho, thump?  
*Santa laughing his head off!*

■ ADOPT A PET MORT



Mort has been searching for his place in the world ever since he was first found wandering as a stray. This 7-year-old male domestic shorthair has been available for adoption at the Humane Society for Hamilton County (HSHC) since 10/24/25. Mort is the kind of companion who will teach you the true meaning of trust, and once he lets you into his world, you will discover the love behind a bond built from patience, respect, and genuine connection. To meet Mort, please fill out an adoption application at [hamiltonhumane.com/adopt](http://hamiltonhumane.com/adopt), then stop by HSHC anytime 12-5 PM daily (closed Wednesday).

# The TIMES

NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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## BOOMER BITS...Tips and Advice from Boomers to Boomers

### Consider 'Wearing Out' Factor



#### ASK RUSTY

Social Security Advisor

*a retirement life as soon as financially possible.*  
**Signed: Glad I claimed at 62**

**Dear Glad I Claimed at 62:**

Thank you very much for your excellent perspective on the "wearing out" factor. And please know that I wholeheartedly concur with your opinion that waiting for a higher Social Security benefit is not always the most prudent choice. For perspective, however, we have found that far too many people claim Social Security as soon as they are eligible at 62 simply because "it is there," without fully analyzing whether that is the best option considering their personal circumstances.

You are correct – enjoying your retirement life while you are still physical  
**See Rusty Page 3**

**Dear Rusty:** Enjoyed your recent article on claiming SS benefits. I feel, however, any decision making should also include what I call the "wearing out" factor. Yes, financial need, health, and longevity are definite criteria for a decision. The inevitable problem (I just turned 83) is the speed at which many of us descend down the back side of that hill after we hit around age 65. Yes, one might live to 85-90 but as you age after 65, many physical

limitations begin to appear. Only then does one realize their earlier retirement decision (waiting to max out SS) might not have been honestly evaluated to the extent needed. I speak from experience: after having reached 60 in excellent health, I took early retirement from work, then Social Security at 62, and glad I did so. I figure the degree of slope on the backside of that "hill" will increase with age (it did quickly for me), so one best start enjoying

## Managing Holiday Stress With Help

**By: Dr. Donald Tavakoli**

UnitedHealthcare National Medical Director for Behavioral Health

For many, the holiday season is a time filled with celebration and opportunities to connect with loved ones. The same season can also contribute to heightened stress, anxiousness, and sad feelings as many people may experience increase mental health challenges during the holidays.

This time of year can be especially difficult for those facing pressures related to navigating complex family relationships. Cultural and social expectations

related to gift giving and traditions may also lead to financial strain and alienation for some.

With mental health concerns continuing to rise, access to digital tools and resources can offer help throughout this holiday season and beyond.

#### Digital Tools for Mental Health This Holiday Season

While one should use caution about which resource to use for sound information, technology has quickly become an important ally in helping to improve mental health. Digital resources are increasingly accessible and

flexible, which may make it easier for individuals to manage their wellness, even when typical routines are disrupted by the unique stresses of the holidays.

Here are a few ways digital capabilities may help:

Wellness Applications Can Give Personalized, Self-Directed, On-Demand Resources – Digital platforms such as Calm Health offer on-demand wellness content and tools for individuals with low severity mental health needs and can refer out for higher severity needs. To help someone understand

**See Holiday Stress Page 5**

### ■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

**1.** With the holiday season under way, the United States Postal Service is reminding customers of the importance of keeping walkways, sidewalks, and areas around mailboxes clear from snow and ice so letter carriers can provide safe and timely mail delivery. Snow and patches of ice in front of mailboxes can make it difficult for letter carriers to safely deliver the mail. Residents maintaining a clear path to the mailbox – including steps, porches, walkways, and street approach – will help letter carriers maintain consistent delivery service. Customers receiving curbside delivery should also ensure clear access to their mailboxes for letter carriers who deliver from the street. Postal employees make every reasonable effort to deliver mail in many difficult weather conditions. With your help, we can keep our letter carriers, your neighbors, and your property safe. Thank you for protecting our letter carriers as we continue to bring packages and correspondence to your door each day.

**2.** The Hoosier Lottery and Indianapolis Colts partnered to provide one my-LOTTERY member the chance to win up to \$250,000 during an on-field promotion at Nov. 30 game at Lucas Oil Stadium. During halftime of the Colts versus Houston Texans game, Jeffrey Golden of Solsberry won \$10,000 by selecting two out of 10 cards containing prize amounts to reveal his total prize. "To be out on the field at Lucas Oil Stadium was amazing," said Golden. "It was a wonderful experience, and to win \$10,000 was the best."

**3.** The Indiana Department of Natural Resources seeks nominations of passionate outdoor recreation enthusiasts to serve on the Indiana Trails Advisory Board. The TAB openings are for representatives of trail-user groups including hikers, mountain bikers, trail support groups, users with disabilities, and more. Nominees should be involved with a regional or statewide organization, club, or association related to the trail-user group they would represent. Selected board members would serve a three-year term starting in March 2026 and attend quarterly meetings at varying locations around the state. TAB meetings are in person and take place on the first Thursday of March, June, September, and December at 3 p.m. local time. Nominations will be accepted by the DNR Division of State Parks until Dec. 30. To learn more about the TAB and nomination information, see [on.IN.gov/trails-board](http://on.IN.gov/trails-board).

## Give the Gift of Making Memories

Stuck staring at your gift list? Experience-based gifts are a thoughtful way to create lasting memories, and the Better Business Bureau in Indiana has tips to help you shop smart and give with confidence this holiday season.

Meaningful gifts don't have to come in a box.

With concerns that product prices will rise this season due to tariffs, consumers may be looking for different gift options.

Gifts "experiences" can be an excellent way for your recipient to create memories that last longer than material goods. These gifts are often surprises and a great way to save money.

What sort of "experiences" are we talking about?

Give the gift of a local adventure. Think about where your gift recipient lives. Do an online search for some fun activities or locations in the area. Consider looking at theatres, concert venues or sporting venues and purchasing tickets to an upcoming event or show. You can even top off the gift with an additional surprise dinner reservation and a gift card to the restaurant.

Learning can be fun, too! Many cities have restaurants that offer cooking classes and wine tastings, or unique small businesses that provide art workshops and DIY-type classes. If your gift recipient is a crafty, hands-on person, this gift will surely be a hit!

Family gifts for the year ahead. If you're shopping for a family with children, consider looking at memberships to local zoos, museums, nature centers or aquariums. These memberships can last a few months or up to a full year, meaning your gift can keep giving well past the holiday season.

Wrap up wellness and relaxation. Spa gift cards, yoga passes, a fitness class pass or a subscription to a meditation app are all great options for someone who loves to relax and rejuvenate.

For the charitable one. If you have someone in your life who is passionate about giving back to the community, consider

**See Memories Page 3**

# The TIMES

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## Greg Garrison Announces Retirement at Year End

Hamilton County Prosecutor Greg Garrison will retire at the end of the year due to health concerns. His final day in office will be Dec. 20. Garrison shared the news with colleagues in a letter on Tuesday.



Hamilton County Prosecutor Greg Garrison

“I am writing today with a heavy heart and an important message for my colleagues in public service,” the letter states. “I have recently encountered serious health concerns that, while not preventing me from continuing my work at present, make it necessary for me to move swiftly toward concluding my duties as Prosecutor. Until then, I remain fully committed to ensuring a smooth and responsible transition.”

Chief Deputy Prosecutor Josh Kocher will assume the role beginning Dec. 20. Kocher, who has served as a Hamilton County prosecutor since 2006 and as Chief Deputy since 2023, said he is honored to continue the office’s mission. “Greg has been a mentor, a friend,

and a role model,” Kocher said. “I am grateful for the trust he has placed in me and fully committed to ensuring a seamless transition.”

Hamilton County Commissioners President Steve Dillinger expressed gratitude for Garrison’s leadership and longstanding commitment to justice. “Greg’s knowledge of the law, his commitment to victims, and his steady hand in the face of difficult cases have made our county safer and stronger,” said Dillinger. “We thank him for his dedication and wish him and his family the very best as he focuses on his health.”

# Getting Going



Photo courtesy Andy Chandler

Lawmakers are back in Indianapolis as the next session gets going. Members of the Indiana House recite the pledge of Allegiance during the opening of the afternoon session Tuesday, including Rep. Alaina Shonkwiler from Noblesville.

## Westfield in Lights Tomorrow

The City of Westfield’s beloved holiday spectacular, Westfield in Lights, presented by The Farmers Bank, returns to Grand Junction Plaza (225 S. Union Street) on Saturday from 3 – 6 p.m.

This fun and festive Westfield tradition is sure to get you into the holiday spirit with performances on The Farmer’s Bank main stage, retail and gift vendors, build-a-buddy stations, a caricature artist, free carnival-style games, a llama walking attraction, miniature horse and Highland cow meet-and-greet exhibits. The annual tree lighting ceremony will begin at 6 p.m.

### Getting There

Free parking is available west of Park Street and Poplar Boulevard on designated on-street spots (Jersey, Mill, and Park Streets), and in The Union parking garage, which is accessible via the west entrance. The first three hours of parking at the garage are free.

Additional free parking will

be available at the Westfield Washington Public Library (17400 Westfield Blvd.) and a free shuttle will be provided from the library to Grand Junction Plaza from 2:30 - 7 p.m.

Mill Street will be closed between Park Street and Jersey Street beginning at 12 p.m. (noon) on December 6.

- Main Stage Schedule
- 3 p.m.: Bach to Rock
  - 3:30 p.m.: Westfield Middle School Choir
  - 4 p.m.: Oak Trace Treble Choir
  - 4:30 p.m.: Westfield Intermediate School Choir
  - 5 p.m.: Central Indiana Dance Ensemble
  - 5:30 p.m.: Union Bible College
  - 6 p.m.: Tree Lighting Ceremony with special guests Santa and Mrs. Claus
- Pictures with Santa
- Tenth Street Photography will be hosting Pictures with Santa sessions at the Westfield Washington Public Library on December 5 and 6. Reserve your session at westfieldin.gov/westfieldinlights.

Families attending the December 6 photo sessions will also be able to enjoy story time and cookies with Mrs. Claus.

Ice Ribbon Skating Sessions

The Ice Ribbon at Grand Junction Plaza is hosting three special skating sessions during Westfield in Lights:

- 3 - 3:45 p.m.
- 4:15 - 5 p.m.
- 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.

The Ice Ribbon is powered by Glice, an eco-friendly “iceless” skating experience great for young children and beginner skaters. Sessions are 45 minutes each and cost \$10 per skater. Skate rental is included in the ticket price. Ticket registration for all three sessions will open at 2 p.m. on December 6 at theiceatgrandjunction.com. Tickets must be purchased online. Cash will not be accepted.

For more information about Westfield in Lights, visit westfieldin.gov/westfieldinlights.

## Riverview Health Hosts Second Annual Health Summit

After the overwhelming success of its inaugural event, Riverview Health is excited to announce the second annual Women for Women Health Summit on Thursday, February 5, 2026, at The Bridgewater Club in Carmel. This year’s summit will offer an expanded program and venue to meet growing interest from women seeking trusted information and resources on health topics that matter most during midlife and beyond.

What sets Riverview Health apart is its commitment to women caring for women. Riverview has been intentional about building a team of highly skilled female providers who understand first-hand the challenges women face in being heard and supported when addressing their health concerns. This summit reflects that mission, providing education and resources from experts who truly understand.

Highlights of the Evening:  
Keynote Speaker: Lindy Thackston, Fox59 Anchor,

will share her personal cancer journey and path to healing, offering inspiration and practical insights.

Expert Panel Discussions:  
Led by an all women panel of Riverview Health specialists, covering hormones, lifestyle

### Event Details:

Date:  
Thursday, February 5, 2026  
Time:  
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
Location:  
The Bridgewater Club

medicine, mental wellness, pelvic health and more.

Networking & Resource Expo: Explore self-care, family medicine, pelvic floor therapy, imaging services and more.

“Last year’s Women for Women Health Summit was sold out with a waiting list, which shows how much women in our community want trusted information about

their health,” said Dr. Shalin Arnett, OB/GYN and certified menopause specialist. “I’m thrilled to return this year as we expand the event to reach even more women and provide practical tools for navigating perimenopause, menopause and beyond.”

### Why Attend?

The Women for Women Health Summit is more than an event—it’s a movement to help women take ownership of their health, embrace change and live their best lives. From managing menopause to strengthening mental resilience, Riverview Health is committed to being your trusted partner in every stage of life.

Registration Information:  
Space is limited to 150 attendees. Cost is \$10 with proceeds going to the Riverview Health Foundation Women’s Endowment Fund. For more details and to reserve your spot, visit riverview.org/women4women.

SAGAMORE NEWS MEDIA

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# Applications are Open for Indiana Senate Page Program

The Indiana Senate is accepting applications for the 2026 Senate Page Program, said State Sen. Scott Baldwin (R-Noblesville).

Through the full-day program, students in grades six through 12 tour Indiana’s Statehouse, listen to debates from the Senate floor and help staff with age-appropriate tasks. Students also have the opportunity to meet their state senator.

“In the classroom students learn about government, and through the Senate Page Program, students get a behind-the-scenes look at how government operates,” Baldwin said. “I always

enjoy welcoming local students to the Statehouse each year for this excellent learning opportunity, and I look forward to meeting with these future leaders this session.”

The Senate Page Program will begin in January and continue throughout the legislative session. Pages are scheduled for Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. They begin their day at 8:30 a.m. and are dismissed at 3:30 p.m. Groups serve together on Wednesdays. Indiana law permits eligible students to serve as a Senate Page one day per legislative session and receive an excused absence from school for their participation. Positions fill quickly,

so it is important to apply early.

Students or parents should submit an application corresponding with the date they would like to page. Once the application is submitted, the Senate Page Office will reach out to confirm the paging date and ensure all required participation forms are signed.

For more information or to apply, visit [www.IndianaSenateRepublicans.com/Page-Program](http://www.IndianaSenateRepublicans.com/Page-Program).

Baldwin represents Senate District 20, which includes Noblesville, Carmel, Cicero and unincorporated areas of Hamilton County.

# Noblesville Creates Welcomes Dandridge as New Deputy Director

Noblesville Creates is excited to announce the appointment of Victor Dandridge as the organization’s new Deputy Director, a newly created role designed to guide the organization into its next era of growth, leadership, and creative impact.

Victor Dandridge’s journey with art and storytelling began in childhood through his love of comics, which sparked a lifelong passion for creativity and self-expression. He studied commercial art at Fort Hayes Metropolitan Education Center and the Columbus College of Art and Design before launching his own publishing imprint, Vantage:Inhouse Productions, and co-founding U Cre-8 Comics, an educational initiative using comics to inspire creativity in classrooms and libraries.

Victor’s first connection to Noblesville Creates came as a featured guest artist and host at the organization’s annual event, Comic Book in a Day. “From that very first experience, I had an absolute ball,” he says. “It tapped into my calling, helping emerging artists find their footing.”

That passion for mentorship and creative empowerment ultimately led Victor to join Noblesville Creates as Deputy Director. “It was a lightbulb moment,” he explains. “This is what I wanted to be doing—supporting artists, building community, and leading creative growth. The universe gave me a push.”

In his new role, Victor will focus on advancing Noblesville Creates’ mission through leadership, collaboration, and innovation. “My job is to disrupt stagnation,” he says. “Noblesville Creates is both a resource for artists and a vehicle for creativity itself. Sometimes those missions can feel at odds, but I’m here to help us move forward. You can’t have progress without a little disruption.”

Victor’s approach aligns with Noblesville Creates’ 2025–2029 Strategic Plan, which emphasizes leadership, community engagement, and economic development. As he relocates from Columbus, Ohio, he looks forward to integrating into the Noblesville community and fostering meaningful connections between local creatives and opportunities. “Integrating into the community will naturally build leadership,” he notes. “As I learn the people and the place, I’ll help identify opportunities for growth and collaboration. Trust will follow, and that trust will move our goals forward.”

Victor brings a unique perspective on the value and impact of the arts. “Art isn’t just a painting on a wall,” he says. “It’s the logo on your toothpaste, the design of your neighborhood, the way we express ourselves. When we tell stories that highlight creativity’s role in everyday life, people begin to see how vital the arts truly are.”



Victor Dandridge

Victor has set three key goals for his tenure: understanding the full scope of his position, increasing public awareness of Noblesville Creates’ programs, and cultivating excitement for what’s next. “It’s not just about maintaining what we already do,” he says. “It’s about expanding our reach so more people know about the creative opportunities available, and getting to the point where people can’t wait for our next event.”

Noblesville Creates invites the community to welcome Victor Dandridge to the team. His creativity, energy, and leadership are poised to strengthen the organization’s role as a hub for artistic expression, community engagement, and creative growth.

“My vision,” Victor says, “is to make Noblesville Creates an executive vehicle for creative accomplishment, where anyone who connects with us walks away knowing that their idea could become reality.”

# Duke Energy Offers Tips for ‘12 Days of Savings’

The holidays are a time for family and celebration, but they often bring higher energy use as temperatures decline. To help customers stay energy smart, particularly during this week of cold temperatures across Indiana, Duke Energy is introducing ‘12 Days of Savings’ – simple energy efficiency tips designed to help customers save energy and money.

“It may not officially be winter yet, but cold weather has obviously arrived,” said Stan Pinegar, president, Duke Energy Indiana. “Our goal is to make it easy for customers to take small steps during the holidays that improve energy efficiency and deliver real savings.”

Below are practical habit changes, minor projects and programs that can make a meaningful difference in energy savings not just over the next 12 days, but all winter long.

Use outside LED lights – including in your holiday lighting displays – that have combined photosensors that turn off during the day.

Replace your most frequently used indoor incandescent lightbulbs with energy-efficient LED bulbs. ENERGY STAR®-qualified LEDs, for example, use 75% less energy and last up to 25 times

longer than traditional bulbs. Check out our online store for lighting options.

Replace your air filter if needed and set a reminder to check it periodically to help your heating system run more efficiently and last longer. Always follow the manufacturer’s recommendations.

Adjust your thermostat to the lowest comfortable setting. The closer you match your thermostat to outdoor temps, the more you can save. Even a couple degrees make a difference.

Leave blinds and/or curtains open during sunny winter days to allow the sun’s rays to warm your home but close them at night to help with insulation.

Caulk and weatherstrip windows and doors and seal air leaks in duct work – it can save you up to 20% in heating costs.

Set your water heater to 120 degrees. Water heating is typically the second-biggest user of energy in your home.

Insulate the pipes extending from your water heater, using foam pipe insulation on the first 6 feet for maximum savings.

Check for cracks or deterioration of the

seals on your refrigerator door and replace worn seals promptly. Try the dollar bill test to check the seal – close the door on a dollar bill and it should stay there without falling.

Change ceiling fan settings to spin in a clockwise direction in the winter, which pushes warm air back down into the room. Most fans have a switch that allows you to reverse the motor.

A free Home Energy House Call can help you identify simple ways to reduce energy use and increase efficiency. Participants receive free home efficiency products, such as weather stripping, caulking, low-flow showerheads and more, plus a personalized energy usage report with expert energy-saving advice. You may also learn if you qualify for rebates on efficiency upgrades. Schedule your assessment today to start saving.

Sign up for usage alerts to track your energy usage and cost during the month so that you can make adjustments before the end of your billing cycle. You can watch a video on how to track your usage here.

For more information, visit [duke-energy.com/SeasonalSavings](http://duke-energy.com/SeasonalSavings).

## RUSTY

Continued from Page 1

ly able is a valid consideration. And that is why we always suggest that evaluating both your financial needs as well as your health and life expectancy is important. Fulfilling one’s “bucket list” is, indeed, an important consideration and if claiming Social Security at age 62 (after evaluating all factors) enables one to do that, then that is exactly the right choice. It obviously was for you.

Age does, indeed, tend to slow us down, so if taking the SS money early means being able to enjoy life while you still can, then that is a good decision. But having more money as you age can also make your “golden years” a lot more comfortable.

As we have recently witnessed, inflation has an insidious way of reducing our financial comfort in retirement. Despite having a retirement pension from your primary working career, imagine how another 25% in your monthly Social Security payment (had you claimed at full retirement age instead of age 62) would help make your senior years more comfortable.

The fact is that no one can predict how long they will live nor whether they will do so in good health. All we can do is evaluate all our options under varying circumstances and make our claiming decision based on that analysis. And that is precisely

what we advocate for at the AMAC Foundation’s Social Security Service. In no way did I intend to say that claiming at 62 was never the right choice; only that everyone should look at their complete personal circumstances when deciding when to.

*This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. Russell Gloor is the, National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens. To submit a question, visit our website ([amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory)) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org).*

## MEMORIES

Continued from Page 1

making a donation to their favorite nonprofit or setting up a volunteer day for an upcoming event that supports a favorite cause.

Now that you have some ideas in mind, BBB has tips for how to shop smart for these experiences:

Check reviews before buying. If you’re buying an experience for someone in an area you’re not familiar with, doing your research is key. Look up customer reviews on various websites, including BBB.org. Look for the BBB Seal to find BBB Accredited Businesses. With experience-type gifts,

customer reviews can give you a good idea of whether the experience is worth gifting.

Plan ahead for any holiday-related experiences. If you’re gifting a holiday-related experience, like a holiday show or an outdoor lights experience, buy your tickets in advance so they don’t sell out. This is also a great time to consider making your “experience” gift a group event where the whole family can join.

Purchase directly from the source. It’s a good idea to buy your gift directly

from the business instead of going through a third-party vendor. Sometimes, experiences sold in tourist-heavy locations on third-party sites can be scams.

Check restrictions and expiration dates. If you’re buying a gift card, voucher or certificate for an experience, communicate any restrictions or expiration dates to your recipient so they know when and how to use the gift. Oftentimes, the recipient will schedule their experience on the date of their choice, so it will be important that they know

how to do this.

Read refund and cancellation policies. If the event is postponed or cancelled, get the details on what happens next so you can notify your recipient. If this happens, consider gifting a different experience with the refunded money.

Watch for hidden fees. Booking costs or service charges can add up. If you want to save money on gifting an experience, look for options that don’t include extra fees.

Use a credit card for better protection. Credit cards usually offer protection against scams and fake websites when purchasing online.

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# Matt Painter Bringing in Another 7-Footer to Purdue



**SPORTS,  
SPORTS, &  
MORE SPORTS**  
with Ken Thompson

Let's catch up on some news from the past few weeks while pushing the delete button on my DVR to remove the Old Oak- en Bucket game from memory. ...

Yes, Big Ten, Matt Painter has another 7-footer coming to your basketball court in 2026-27.

Sinan Huan, a 7-foot, 225-pound center from Beijing, is attending Georgetown Prep in Washington, D.C. Huan is ranked as high as 36th nationally by On3/Rivals. He averaged 11.3 points, 4.6 rebounds and five blocked shots per game over a seven-game stretch for China in the FIBA U19 World Cup this past summer.

Huan, Jacob Webber (33rd by On3/Rivals) and Luke Ertel (42nd by 247Sports) gives Purdue its first recruiting class of three top 50 players since the 2007 group of Robbie Hummel, JaJuan Johnson, Scott Martin and E'Twaun Moore in 2007.

"Sinan gives us exactly what we were looking for in the center position," Painter said. "He is a player that can change the game on the defensive end, not just blocking shots but by being a deterrent in the lane. He has an absolutely huge upside in terms of playing inside and outside. What really drew us to him is giving us another big presence to go with Daniel (Jacobsen) and Raleigh (Burgess). We knew we needed help on the frontline after losing Oscar (Cluff), Trey (Kaufman-Renn) and Liam (Murphy), and we are really excited about his upside on both ends of the floor."

Ertel, a 6-2 guard from Mount Vernon, is 247Sports' top-ranked player in Indiana. Webber and fellow Purdue signee Rivers Knight play at La Lumiere.

"We have a lot of similarities in this group, mostly in everyone's ability to shoot. I think that is the one thing that really jumps out," Painter said. "We need that from this group in that the defense has to worry about everyone and our spacing. That gives you great balance and you can do a lot of things with that. All three guys are going to be outstanding players and are very skilled

from Durham, N.C. for his senior season. Knight averaged 17.4 points, 10.2 rebounds and 4 blocks per game for Jordan High School. He was a 39-percent 3-point shooter and 54 percent overall.

"We are very fortunate to get Rivers," Painter said. "He didn't play this past summer (injury) and wasn't on a lot of radars. Rivers has great size and a quick release – he is a prolific shooter and can really stretch the defense at that four position. He has range to 25 feet and can consistently knock them down. He has more to him as a player that he will show this season at La Lumiere."

This and that Tuesday night's 81-65 victory at Rutgers broke a losing trend for the top-ranked Purdue men's basketball team in December Big Ten road openers.

Since the conference began scheduling two games in December 2017, the Boilermakers have struggled:

2024: Losing 81-70 at Penn State

2023: Losing 92-88 in overtime at Northwestern

2022: Winning 65-62 in overtime at Nebraska

2021: Losing 70-68 at Rutgers shortly after earning the school's first No. 1 ranking

2020: Losing 70-55 at Iowa

2019: Losing 70-56 at Nebraska

2018: Losing 76-57 at No. 7 Michigan

2017: Winning 80-75 at Maryland

Trey Kaufman-Renn is making a strong opening statement to earn All-America honors alongside Braden Smith. With his fourth double-double of the season – 19 points and 13 rebounds at Rutgers – Kaufman-Renn is averaging 15.5 points and 11 rebounds a game. ...

Since earning the No. 1 Associated Press ranking for the first time during the 2021-22 season, Purdue has been atop the poll 17 weeks. In that same

span, Auburn and Houston are next at 11 weeks. ...

No team in the country has been better in November than the Boilermakers, whose 109-62 victory against Eastern Illinois improved Purdue to 35-1 since the start of the 2021-22 season.

That includes five consecutive regular season tournament championship, the latest of which was an 86-56 whipping of No. 15 Texas Tech in the Baha Mar Championship. Nine of the 12 wins from the 2021 Hall of Fame Tipoff Classic, the 2022 Phil Knight Legacy, the 2023 Maui Invitational, the 2024 Rady Children's Invitational and this year's tournament in the Bahamas have come against ranked opponents.

Braden Smith is closing in on the Big Ten career assists record held by Michigan State's Cassius Winston (890). After handing out eight assists at Rutgers, Smith's total stands at 829. ...

Painter won his 500th career game when the Boilermakers topped Akron 97-79. The 55-year-old Painter is in his 22nd season overall, having won 25 games in his only season at Southern Illinois.

The active coaches who reached 500 victories in fewer games than Painter, who did

it in his 720th game? You may have heard of them: Mark Few of Gonzaga, John Calapari of Arkansas, Bill Self of Kansas, Rick Pitino of St. John's and Tom Izzo of Michigan State. ...

Painter improved to 12-5 in showdowns between Associated Press Top 10 teams with the 87-80 victory at Alabama. The win was Purdue's first non-conference triumph away from Mackey Arena since an 89-83 victory at No. 7 Louisville on Dec. 4, 1982.

Hall of Fame adds two Boilers

Brandon Brantley and the late Jaraan Cornell are part of the 2026 Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame class.

Brantley was a 1991 Indiana All-Star from Andean. He was a starter on three consecutive Big Ten championship teams at Purdue before playing 10 years of pro ball overseas.

He joined Matt Painter's coaching staff in 2013 and has been recognized for tutoring Purdue big men Caleb Swanigan, Isaac Haas, Matt Haarms, Trevion Williams, two-time national player of the year Zach Edey and Trey Kaufman-Renn.

Cornell, who passed away on June 6, led South Bend Clay to the 1994 state championship and was the

MVP of the state finals as a sophomore. He left Clay as the all-time leader in points (1,700) and rebounds (784). He was a member of the 1996 Indiana All-Star team and a third-team Parade All-American.

He is 19th in career scoring at Purdue (1,595) and holds the school-single season record for 3-point accuracy (.500 on 61 of 122 in 1998).

Other notable inductees include 1987 co-Indiana Mr. Basketball Jay Edwards of Marion and Rick Fox of Warsaw, who enjoyed a 13-year NBA career with the Boston Celtics and Los Angeles Lakers.

Former Indiana Pacers guard John Barnhill was elected posthumously. He starred at Evansville Lincoln in the 1950s and became a three-time NAIA All-American at what is now Tennessee State University. Barnhill played seven seasons in the NBA before his ABA tenure with Indiana and the Denver Rockets. He helped the Pacers win the 1970 and 1972 ABA titles.

*Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the Lafayette Journal & Courier and an award-winning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many years.*

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION**  
The City of Fishers, Hamilton County, Indiana ("City"), pursuant to Ind. Code §6-1.1-18-5, hereby provides NOTICE that the City's Common Council ("Council") will conduct a public hearing during its December 15, 2025 regularly scheduled Council meeting for considering the following additional appropriation(s) in excess of the budget for the current year and for the upcoming budget year of 2026.

	Addition	Reduction
Health First Indiana Fund – Salaries & Benefits 2025	\$74,205	\$0
Health First Indiana Fund – Supplies 2025	\$7,470	\$0
Health First Indiana Fund – Professional Services 2025	\$9,000	\$0
Health First Indiana Fund – Capital 2025	\$2,250	\$0
Health First Indiana Fund – Salaries & Benefits 2026	\$317,890	\$0
Health First Indiana Fund – Supplies 2026	\$44,960	\$0
Health First Indiana Fund – Professional Services 2026	\$275,800	\$0
Total 2025	\$92,925	\$0
Total 2026	\$638,650	\$0

The Council meeting will take place at 7:00 pm at the Fishers City Hall Auditorium, One Municipal Drive, Fishers, IN 46038. Taxpayers appearing at the meeting shall have the right to be heard. The additional appropriations as finally made will be referred to the Department of Local Government Finance (Department). The Department will make a written determination as to the sufficiency of funds to support the appropriation within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a Certified Copy of the action taken.

Dated this 1st day of December, 2025  
CITY OF FISHERS  
Lisa Bradford  
City Controller  
Hamilton County, Indiana

TL22975 12/5 1t hspaxlp

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## Carmel's Rental Registration Begins

The Carmel City Council recently voted unanimously to extend the registration deadline for rental dwellings to Feb. 1, 2026.

Properties existing prior to the Feb. 1, 2026 enforcement date (legacy dwellings) must be registered by Jan. 31, 2026. Registering by this date ensures a permit is issued, even if the dwelling is in a subdivision with more than the new 10 percent rental limit.

While the standard registration fee is \$5

per property, a tiered late fee structure will be applied starting Feb. 1, 2026, assessing a \$100 late fee for registrations 30 days late and a \$200 late fee for registrations 60 days late.

Those interested in registering a property may access the Rental Registration page at this link.

In addition, those who submitted their email address to receive updates about the process will receive a reminder with a link to the registration site.

## HOLIDAY STRESS

Continued from Page 1

the support they may need, Calm Health offers industry-standard screenings. This type of resource provides personalized programming to help empower people to address stress, anxiety, and other challenges commonly faced during the holidays. Many of these tools also have meditation, mindfulness, and sleep content that users can access on their own terms to help manage their emotional well-being.

Virtual Behavioral Coaching Can Provide Targeted Support for Holiday Stressors – Virtual platforms often offer tailored human support to help address specific situations, pairing users with virtual coaches who can provide helpful tools for managing their thoughts and emotions. Whether navigating challenging family conversations or dealing with heightened anxiety, these digital programs are designed for these common stressors.

Telehealth Can Offer Convenient Access to Mental Health Care – Typically, millions of people travel during

the holiday season. Routine activities like exercise, sleep, and other routines can get off track, putting some people at risk for depression and anxiety. Connecting with telehealth resources allows individuals to access care from virtually anywhere, to help ensure that support is within reach.

### Take a Proactive Approach

One of the most effective ways to help manage mental health is to take proactive steps before symptoms reach their peak. Now is the perfect time to check in with your primary care provider or therapist to discuss mental health strategies for the season. Additionally, reaching out to your insurance provider to explore the mental health resources available through your plan may provide options for early intervention.

During this busy time of year, please try to remember that prioritizing your mental well-being can help you experience more balance and enjoyment during the holidays.

## Don't Forget, Shoveling Snow Can Be Deadly



### American Heart Association®

Walking in a winter wonderland may sound serene and peaceful, however, shoveling your sidewalks to take that walk could quickly change delightful to deadly. According to the American Heart Association, the world's leading nonprofit organization focused on heart and brain health for all, research shows that the exertion of shoveling snow may lead to an increased risk of a heart attack or sudden cardiac arrest. In rural communities where EMS responses can be delayed and minutes matter, it's important to be aware of the signs and symptoms and seek treatment quickly.

The American Heart Association's 2020 scientific statement, Exercise-Related Acute Cardiovascular Events and Potential Deleterious Adaptations Following Long-Term Exercise Training: Placing the Risks Into Perspective—An Update, notes snow shoveling among the physical activities that may place extra stress on the heart, especially among people who aren't used to regular exercise. Numerous scientific research studies over the years have identified the dangers of shoveling snow for people with and without known heart disease.

"Research has found that the strain of heavy snow shoveling may be as demanding on

the heart than taking a treadmill stress test. Combined with the dangers of exertion in extremely cold weather, you're looking at a perfect storm for a heart-related event," said Larry Markham, MD, president of the

"The movements of snow shoveling are very taxing and demanding on your body and can cause significant increases in your heart rate and blood pressure," Markham said. "Combined with the fact that the exposure to cold air can constrict blood vessels throughout the body, you're asking your heart to do a lot more work in conditions that are already diminishing the heart's ability to function at its best."

Markham cautioned that the impact of snow removal is especially

Markham recommends the following tips to reduce increased risk from snow shoveling:

If you have known or suspected heart disease or risk factors for heart disease, get someone else to do your snow removal for you!

If you must shovel the snow, start gradually and pace yourself. Always cover your mouth and nose, wear layered clothing, as well as a hat and gloves.

Ideally, push or sweep the snow rather than lifting and throwing it, that action involves a little less exertion.

Be extra careful when the wind is blowing, the wind makes the temperature feel even colder than it is and will increase the effects of the cold on your body.

If you are able, use an automated snow blower rather than shoveling. While you should still proceed with caution and be mindful of how your body is feeling, research shows that

using a snow blower doesn't raise your heart rate quite as high as shoveling.

The American Heart Association urges everyone to learn the common signs of a heart attack and stroke. If you experience chest pain or pressure, lightheadedness or heart palpitations or irregular heart rhythms, stop the activity immediately. Call 9-1-1 if symptoms don't subside shortly after you stop shoveling or snow blowing. If you see someone collapse while shoveling snow, call for help and start Hands-Only CPR if they are unresponsive with no pulse.

Learn more about cold weather and cardiovascular disease [heart.org](http://heart.org).

### About the American Heart Association

The American Heart Association is a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives. Dedicated to ensuring equitable health in all communities, the organization has been a leading source of health information for more than one hundred years. Supported by more than 35 million volunteers globally, we fund groundbreaking research, advocate for the public's health, and provide critical resources to save and improve lives affected by cardiovascular disease and stroke. By driving breakthroughs and implementing proven solutions in science, policy, and care, we work tirelessly to advance health and transform lives every day. Connect with us on [heart.org](http://heart.org), Facebook, X or by calling 1-800-AHA-USA1.

American Heart Association's Indianapolis board of directors. "The impact can be worse on those people who are the least fit."

Markham noted several ways snow shoveling affects heart health:

The act of shoveling snow is mostly arm work, which is more taxing and demanding on the heart than leg work.

While straining to lift heavy loads, such as a shovelful of snow, you often unconsciously hold your breath, which causes big increases in heart rate and blood pressure.

Exposure to cold air causes constriction of blood vessels throughout the body, disproportionately raising blood pressure and simultaneously constricting the coronary arteries.

concerning for people who already have cardiovascular risks like a sedentary lifestyle or obesity, being a current or former smoker, having diabetes, high cholesterol or high blood pressure, as well as people who have had a heart attack or stroke.

"People with these characteristics and those who have had bypass surgery or coronary angioplasty simply should not be shoveling snow in any conditions," he said. "We often see events in people who are usually sedentary, they work at a computer all day or get little or no exercise. Then once or twice a year they go out and try to shovel the driveway after a heavy snowfall and that unexpected exertion can unfortunately lead to tragedy."

## Real-Time Holiday Mail Counter Live at USPS

The United States Postal Service's busiest holiday season is in full swing as its real-time Holiday Mail Counter goes live online, and Postal Service leaders say they are ready to deliver for every American's holiday mailing and shipping needs.

The Postal Service has made continued investments in network transformation and modernization, boosting the strong and reliable service customers have come to expect throughout the organization's 250 years of service to the nation. As it expands its role as the nation's end-to-end carrier of choice, the Postal Service's improvements in infrastructure, technology, and shipping standards are core components of holiday readiness in Indiana and across the nation.

The holiday season is the busiest time of year for the Postal Service and one of the most critical opportunities to serve

communities in Indiana. Throughout its 250 years of service, the organization has evolved from horseback and steamships to the Next Generation Delivery Vehicles serving communities today. Thanks to investments made in Indiana and across the country, and the dedication of the USPS workforce, the Postal Service is prepared to deliver this holiday season reliably, quickly, and affordably.

The Postal Service has opened hundreds of expanded facilities with new state-of-the-art sorting machines, bringing the Postal Service total to 614 packaging sorting machines across the country. These investments have resulted in a daily processing capacity of approximately 88 million packages – up from 60 million last holiday season. The Postal Service also plans to hire 14,000 temporary employees to support the holiday season,

complement the full-time workforce, and ensure the Postal Service can handle the extra holiday volume across the country.

The Postal Service remains the most affordable way to send mail and packages. This holiday season, customers can expect their mail and packages to be delivered, on average, in less than three days. For shipping within the same regional service areas, holiday customers can expect a 2–3-day turnaround.

Local hours at all post offices are available at [USPS.com](http://USPS.com).

The Postal Service has also launched a live holiday counter, keeping tally of how many mailpieces and packages have been accepted into the network this holiday season.

For holiday related information – including how to order free Postal Service shipping supplies – visit [usps.com/holiday-news](http://usps.com/holiday-news).

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# Fishers Event Center Marks Amazing First Year



The Fishers Event Center is celebrating a milestone first year following its opening on Nov. 22, 2024. In a whirlwind inaugural year, the ultra-modern, 7,500-seat venue established itself as a key player in the region's entertainment landscape hosting big name shows and sporting events (Alabama, Cirque du Soleil, comedians Jeff Foxworthy and Leanne Morgan, country stars Megan Moroney and Blake Shelton, Nathaniel Rateliff, John Legend's 20th Anniversary tour, various Indy Fuel (ECHL), Indy Ignite (Major League Volleyball) and Fishers Freight (Indoor Football League) match-ups and more), while also serving as a community hub for graduations, elevated private events, donation sites, local

including towels and wash cloths, blankets and sheets, bath mats, toys, harnesses, leashes, collars, treats and food, dog beds and more.

**Kids Coats** (provides gently-used winter coats to families in Hamilton County, Ind., at no charge): A total of 228 items collected including adult and kids coats, scarves, hats, gloves and pants.

**The Marigold Project:** To honor the Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats sold out show, the venue created a custom stamp featured on marigold seed packets which were distributed at the concert in exchange for donations to The Marigold Project, a foundation established by Rateliff in 2017 supporting community and non profit organizations working on issues of

and musicians in a variety of ways, including:

Hosting the Summer Elevation Series, a rooftop recording session featuring eight Indiana bands. The series was featured across the venue's channels, exposing the participating bands to more than 200,000 listeners.

Commissioning 12 creators to produce 80 pieces of unique art ranging from murals to one-of-a-kind artist gifts, many showcased throughout the venue inspired by various aspects and characteristics of the venue itself. Images of the works displayed at the venue are available here.

Partnerships including:

14 nonprofit organizations to staff concessions, keeping resources community-based. These organizations included PEAKE, Central Indiana Kids, Children With A Purpose, Helping Hands for Kids, Speed Athletics Booster Club, For the Kids, Inc., En-Familie, Alite Kids, Nostalgia Dance Center, Patricia Pearls, Hamilton Southeastern Royal Guardians, Troop 1709 dba Scouting Friends, Indiana Guide Right Foundation, and With Ones Family.

25 local farmers and businesses, with a focus on bringing the freshest, locally sourced culinary ingredients to every event.

Unveiled multiple inclusivity initiatives, including:

Becoming a KultureCity certified sensory inclusive venue.

A Universal Changing Table to accommodate individuals of all ages, sizes and levels of mobility.

A Sensory Room Presented by DAMAR® open to fans, guests, and customers with sensory sensitivities.

A Mother's Room Presented by IKEA®

Various other ADA accommodations including accessible parking and drop-off locations, wheelchair assistance, assistive listening and more.

For more information, visit Fishers Event Center Accessibility Guide.

Served up:  
5,687 feet of smashburgers – four empire state buildings stacked!

10,001 pounds of popcorn – the weight of an entire school bus!

10,601 feet of hot dogs – the length of 29 football fields!

23,470 gallons of beer – enough to fill a backyard swimming pool!

rock and more in an intimate setting. Upcoming events include:

AEW Presents Dynamite (Wednesday, December 3)

Amy Grant, Cece Winans and Michael W. Smith: Christmas Together Tour (Thursday, December 4)

The Mudsock Rivalry Basketball Game - Fishers vs. Hamilton Southeastern

## FISHERS EVENT CENTER SUPPORTS LOCAL

8

LOCAL BANDS

FEATURED IN SUMMER ELEVATION SERIES



14 LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS CONCESSION STANDS

12 LOCAL ARTISTS

COMMISSIONED TO PRODUCE OVER 80 PIECES OF UNIQUE ART



25 INDIANA BUSINESSES AND LOCAL FARMERS TO OFFER FRESH AND DIVERSE FOOD OFFERINGS.



artists and more.

"Community is at the heart of what we do and why we're here," said Fishers Event Center General Manager Mitch List. "Beyond the wide variety of events we host, we are continually focused on uplifting and supporting our community, and over the last year this has included celebrating local artists and musicians by providing a space for them to showcase their work, supporting and partnering with local nonprofits, and partnering with local farmers and businesses to bring the freshest, locally sourced culinary ingredients to every event. These are just a few of the ways we support the community who has supported us."

### FISHERS EVENT CENTER'S FIRST YEAR - BY THE NUMBERS:

Hosted 141 events, welcoming 527,313 of patrons

Serving as a donation site, helping to compile more than 1,000 donated items and raising over \$5,000 for organizations including:

Indy Humane: Fishers Event Center staff donated individual items and helped collect, package and deliver an impressive 837 items

economic, racial and social justice. In total \$5,445 in donations were raised for The Marigold Project.

Celebrated with 2,055 high school graduates, serving as the graduation ceremony venue for Hamilton Southeastern High School, Fishers High School, Cathedral High School.

Supported local artists



Continued its commitment to sustainability initiatives including energy conservation measures, biodegradable and recycled materials and more:

19,000 pounds of soybean oil, directly impacting local Indiana farmers

90% of concession vessels are biodegradable and made from an Eco-Friendly material; the other 10% are made from recycled plastics. All napkins are made from

(Friday, December 19)

RAFO4 presented by Real American Freestyle - Unscripted Wrestling (Saturday, December 20)

Professional Championship Bull Riders (Saturday, January 10 & Sunday, January 11)

An Evening with Blues Traveler and Gin Blossoms: Presented by Hamilton Southeastern Education Foundation (Friday, February 20)



recycled materials. Packaged soda products come from Coca Cola, and are made using recycled plastic materials.

98% of the disposables in catering and suites come from World Centric or VerTerra. These products are all sustainable and compostable. Ball Cup Company is used to provide the recyclable aluminum draft beer cups and mixed cocktail cups used at all bars. The venue is also partnering with Tossware, which incorporates recycled plastic into all of its products, to produce the batch cocktail carafes and cups, as well as Churchill Container for the custom cocktail cup and has several sustainability programs.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** The Fishers Event Center hosts a wide variety of community events and concerts spanning genres including theater, sports, comedy, family, country,

Conan Gray: Wishbone World Tour with special guest Esha Tewari (Saturday, February 21)

Heart: Royal Flush Tour with special guest Lucinda Williams (Sunday, March 15)

THIRD DAY 30th Anniversary Tour with very special guest Zach Williams (Thursday, April 30)

...and much more! Visit FishersEventCenter.com for a full list of events.

**BEFORE YOU GO:** For a full list of upcoming events and ticket information, visit FishersEventCenter.com. Fans can sign up for the venue newsletter to stay informed of event announcements and presale options. Review the Know Before You Go information, including details on the venue's hassle-free free flow pre-pay parking, clear bag policy, cashless policy, local directions, suggested lodging and venue maps, here.