

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020

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**TODAY'S WEATHER**

  
Today: Mostly cloudy, with scattered afternoon showers.  
Tonight: Showers likely, and some thunder possible.  
HIGH: 64    LOW: 51



**paulpoteet.com**

# Local medical lab testing for COVID-19

WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](http://wishtv.com)

A medical lab on 96th Street says it can have COVID-19 results within two days and has already found patients testing positive for the virus in the area.

Aria Diagnostics, 635 W. 96th St., said Tuesday it has 3,000 tests available and can do up to 5,000 tests per day, but the business hasn't seen anywhere near 5,000 people come through its drive-thru in the time its been available.

In the last several weeks, Aria says it developed a COVID-19 virus test that complies with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The test takes up to 48 hours to get results.

"The CDC didn't allow for private commercial labs to do this until just last week," Aria Diagnostics partner Zak Khan said. "As soon as they did it, we found it incumbent on us to play a role to provide these tests to the community."

With the volume of tests Aria has available, the business expected to be swamped with people coming to get tested, but the staff administering the tests says they've maybe seen close to 50 people in the two days they've been testing.

"How do we get out, more people, the word out so that more people get tested so we can start mitigating the risk of the spread of the coronavirus any further than it already has gone?" Khan said.

Not just anybody can drive up to the lab and get tested. Everyone through there needs to be referred by a physician. To get the tests



Photo provided

Aria staff say close to 50 people have come through for drive-thru testing in the two days it's been offered.

to more people, doctors need to know the testing is ready and available.

"Whether they decide to test a patient or not has been from a position of scarcity because there weren't enough tests. The test kits themselves weren't available," Khan said. "Now, we have plenty of test kits, thousands of test kits and the capacity to do thousands of tests since the CDC allowed commercial labs to do it, so, I'd strongly urge physicians to re-evaluate the protocol. Because now, we can test. So instead of testing or deciding the protocol based from a position of scarcity to test based on a protocol of a desire to test everybody so we can mitigate the risk of this coronavirus growing and spreading."

In the end, it's up to the physician if the patient gets

tested or not, but Aria says it's also up to patients to be their own advocates.

"If a patient feels they might have been exposed, they might reach out to the physician, let them know, 'Hey, I might have been exposed,'" Khan said. "The other ICD-10, which is the diagnosis code in order to order the test, is actual exposure where they say 'Hey, I was somewhere and I know that I've been exposed to coronavirus.' Those are the two ways a patient might reach out to their physician and ask to be tested."

Aria says it's still trying to let physicians know that it's available for testing. Aria has [forms on its website](#) to give to physicians.

Aria Diagnostics is an independent medical lab certified by the state. The state health department says it makes biannual checks on certified labs to ensure they're doing things reliably, accurately and timely.

# Westfield Schools, Sodexo helping Riverview Health



Photo provided

Sodexo's Luke Hildebrand dropped off a donation of 588 cans of healthcare-grade hand sanitizer to Riverview Health Wednesday morning on behalf of Westfield Washington Schools and Sodexo. Sodexo provides food services and maintenance services for Westfield Washington Schools.

# County Parks closes playgrounds Parks, public restrooms remain open

## The REPORTER

For the health and well-being of the community, playgrounds in all Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Parks are NOW CLOSED until further notice.

The department regrets the inconvenience this may cause families and children and hopes everyone understands these difficult decisions are being made to safeguard

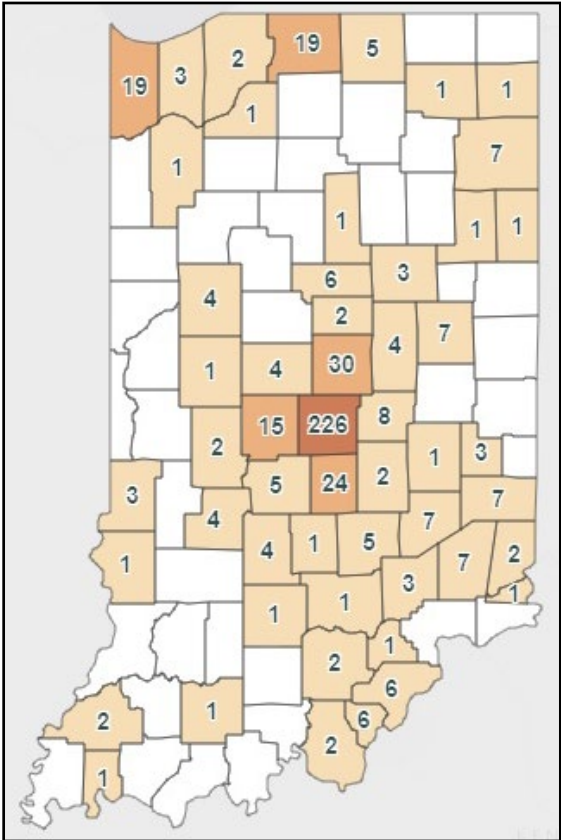
the health of the community during the COVID-19 outbreak. Parks and restrooms will remain open, and increased cleaning and sanitation measures are being taken multiple times every day.

Isolated recreation, such as hiking trails and nature play in the parks may still be enjoyed, but CDC-issued precautions regarding social distancing of at least six feet

should be taken when in the park, and especially when using the park restroom facilities. A list of precautions provided by the CDC can be viewed online at [this link](#).

Park staff look forward to the time when they will be able to reopen the playgrounds and facilities for the enjoyment of the community and appreciate your patience and support at this time.

# Frankton resident who tested postive for COVID-19 dies in Hamilton County



Graphic provided

According the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), on Tuesday the state experienced it largest uptick in coronavirus cases with 115 people testing positive. In Hamilton County, a total of 30 cases have been identified. Hamilton County has also recorded its first death. A Frankton resident who tested positive for COVID-19, and was hospitalized in a Hamilton County hospital, has died. ISDH is issuing daily updates at 10 a.m. at [this link](#).

# At a time like this, remember Fred Rogers – look for the helpers

I was thinking this morning about the worst blizzard to hit Indiana in anyone's memory. It was the late 1970s and I was working the afternoon news shift at a radio station. We got the word a blizzard warning was in place for the following morning. The staff members at the station just looked at each other with bewildered faces. It was the first time anyone had seen a blizzard warning

**COLUMNIST**



**LARRY LANNAN**  
[LarryInFishers.com](http://LarryInFishers.com)

in Central Indiana. My good friend at the station worked the morning shift, usually alone. He called me immediately and asked my help handling duties the following morning and I quickly said yes.

The wind and snow were so bad he used a CB radio to relay a phone message to me to meet up with him across a field ... he could not get into my apart-

ment complex parking lot.

We spent the morning describing everything we could learn from all our news sources. Indiana's governor at the time was Otis Bowen and he needed the National Guard to get him from the governor's residence to the Statehouse.

The local radio station owner was listening at the breakfast table, and told his family he was very concerned about what my partner and I were saying on the air, that we were making too much of the snow and were needlessly scaring people

all over the county.

Then, the owner tried to get to work. He finally called on a neighbor with a snow plow and arrived at the station late in the morning. He changed his tune and realized my partner and I were not overstating the situation, we were describing it accurately.

Why did I think about that this morning? Because there are so many people today like my former employer, the radio station owner. The experts in

**See Helpers . . . Page 2**

# Carmel City Court responds to COVID-19

## The REPORTER

In response to concerns about COVID-19, the Carmel City Court, working with local officials and monitoring the situation with guidance from health officials, will remain open but will immediately adjust the manner in which operations are conducted in order to protect the public health.

Administrative Rule 17 describes the Indiana Supreme Court's ability to oversee the local administration of trial courts in the event of any unanticipated work interruption.

Trial courts can utilize the rule by petitioning the Supreme Court

for emergency relief, if needed, based on local circumstances such as a public health crisis. Judge Brian G. Poindexter has petitioned the Indiana Supreme Court for emergency relief in response to the pandemic that threatens our community.

The Indiana State Department of Health, which is Indiana's lead agency on COVID-19, has the latest information about the virus. The best approach is to use fundamental healthy practices, such as washing your hands, covering



Poindexter

your mouth with your arm or a tissue rather than your hand, and staying home when you are ill.

Maintaining required court operations is important so that the public is guaranteed due process and access to justice. The health and safety of court employees and the community are equally important.

Therefore, Carmel City Court will be working to develop a number of changes in daily operations, with

**See City Court . . . Page 2**





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HELPERS

communicable diseases and epidemiology have been telling anyone who will listen for weeks that our political leaders needed to take action in order to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

At this point, we are faced with a shortfall of test kits, no vaccine and a dangerous run on our health-care system more than a little likely. If I were someone in charge, I would want this virus to just slowly go away, but reality is much different. Now, we are faced with a virtual shutdown for much of the American economy.

When people ask me what to think about all this, I always respond with one phrase – listen to the experts. They know what they are talking about. When the experts recommend action, it is likely time to act.

We were likely late in

acting in this case and that will, based on the experts, require us to hunker down even longer before life can even begin to transition to anything close to normalcy.

I have been heartened by the response of people in Fishers and the surrounding area. Government officials, nonprofit groups and just groups of regular citizens are doing everything possible to help with those in need during this unusual time.

Mayor Scott Fadness took action and declared a local disaster emergency, limiting travel in the city. He also made clear local public safety officials will be enforcing the governor's order to close restaurants and bars, limiting them to carry-out and delivery service.

The city has established a hotline dedicated to coro-

navirus questions. That number is (317) 595-3211. Anyone in need of food or supplies should call that number for assistance.

The city also reminds everyone that you should call your physician's office before going in person, or call the hotline for advice on where to go from there.

Many people in and around Fishers are offering help and are providing that help to many of our residents. That famous saying from Fred Rogers ... whenever some bad happens look for the helpers.

We have many helpers and I salute you all, all the way from the mayor down to residents doing what they can to help.

I have no idea how long we will need to keep ourselves at home, but we are all in this together. Let's do it together.

CITY COURT

from Page 1

additional details coming soon. The court has already continued a number of public hearings to aid in the reduction of transmission of the virus.

**Court Employees**

All staff of the Carmel City Court and City Clerk's Office will be in contact with the Judge, City Clerk or direct supervisor for instruction, employees will come to work if they have been designated as essential staff at the court, while others may be instructed to work remotely.

**Litigants/Parties to a Case**

Individuals who are scheduled to come to Carmel City Court for a hearing, for a criminal matter or traffic infraction/ordinance, during the month of March and April should contact the court at (317) 571-2440. The court, on its own motion, has already continued a number of matters given the present public health

concerns. You should contact the Clerk of Court to learn the new date.

If represented, litigants should be in contact with their attorney to receive the advice of counsel.

**Attorneys**

Lawyers who are scheduled to appear during the month of March and April should expect that the matter will be continued by the court to a new date. Lawyers with matters scheduled in the month of May should consider filing a motion to continue or check with the court on potential dates for rescheduling.

**E-filing and Odyssey**

Indiana's e-filing system is working. Cases and documents can continue to be filed through the statewide system.

The statewide case management system (Odyssey) is working. Litigants, attorneys, press and the public can continue to view case information on [mycase.in.gov](http://mycase.in.gov).

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Not all courts use Odyssey; see a listing of courts online.

**Jail**

The Hamilton County courts are working with the County Sheriff to ensure public safety. Anyone arrested or defendants already in jail will have their cases addressed quickly by a judge or magistrate. The courts have the ability to address matters involving incarcerated individuals both in person or electronically to assure due process and access to justice.

**Probation and Court-ordered Services**

Hamilton County court runs the Hamilton County probation department/court ordered services. All individuals on probation should continue to be in contact with their officer and are expected to continue to appear in person for drug screens and as otherwise directed by their probation officer.

**If you read it here, you'll read it first !**



**PREVAIL**  
Advocating for  
Victims of Crime and Abuse  
[www.prevailinc.com](http://www.prevailinc.com)

I was born and raised right here in Noblesville. I grew up in a home without domestic violence or assault – it wasn't something I saw, or even heard about. But when I was introduced to Prevail of Central Indiana, I was shocked by the number of individuals who are affected by domestic violence. In 2018 alone, Prevail helped more than 4,000 clients in Hamilton County. (Nearly 80 percent of clients are women and children.) Domestic violence and abuse are hard topics to discuss, so you don't often hear about them. But at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, we're breaking the taboo and raising awareness for Prevail, an organization that helps families in Hamilton County.

– Mike Bragg, GM of Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville

**To help Hamilton County families affected by domestic violence and sexual abuse, you can donate the following items:**

- Art supplies (for children to journal and express their emotions)
- Bottled water (8 oz. bottles, preferably)
- Individually packaged snacks
- Gas cards (many women have no access to funds after fleeing their abuser)

**Drop off items at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, 14701 Tom Wood Way.**





## What's new for 2020? The Atlas Cross Sport.



All **Atlas Cross Sport** models come with a touchscreen infotainment display with both Apple CarPlay and Android Auto integration. Navigation is optional, as is a reconfigurable digital gauge display and SiriusXM satellite radio. The Volkswagen Car-Net connectivity app allows for remote starting and analytics while a 4G LTE Wi-Fi hotspot allows occupants to remain connected to the internet with their smart devices while on the go.

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# Coronavirus cancellations

Send your event cancellation notice to [Notices@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:Notices@ReadTheReporter.com)

## Atlanta

### Mr. Muffin's closes train layout display to public

#### Submitted

For the health and safety of our customers and friends, the layout at Mr. Muffin's Trains in Atlanta will be closed until after April 1. We will reassess the situation at that time.

The shop will remain open for shipping and pick-

ups as long as the Indiana government allows. We are taking additional safety precautions, including more frequently disinfecting public spaces, and are willing to accommodate special needs such as curb-side pickup.

We strongly recommend placing credit card

orders via the [website](#); you can still pick up the order by clicking the "Pickup in Store" button in the shopping cart. We'll pull the product and notify you when it's ready to pick up.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call (765) 292-2022 or visit [MrMuffinsTrains.com](#).

## Countywide

### Hamilton County Parks closes playgrounds

Parks, public restrooms remain open

#### The REPORTER

For the health and well-being of the community, playgrounds in all Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Parks are NOW CLOSED until further notice.

The department regrets the inconvenience this may cause families and children and hopes everyone understands these difficult decisions are being made to safeguard the health of the community during the COVID-19 outbreak. Parks and restrooms will remain open, and increased cleaning and sanitation measures are being taken multiple times every day.

Isolated recreation, such

as hiking trails and nature play in the parks may still be enjoyed, but CDC-issued precautions regarding social distancing of at least six feet should be taken when in the park, and especially when using the park restroom facilities. A list of precautions provided by the CDC can be viewed online at [this link](#).

Park staff look forward to the time when they will be able to reopen the playgrounds and facilities for the enjoyment of the community and appreciate your patience and support at this time.

The Cool Creek Nature Center located in Cool Creek Park, and the Taylor Center of Natural History

and Koteewi Range Sport and Target Archery Center, both located in Strawn Koteewi Park, remain closed until further notice.

Additionally, as a precautionary measure, all park programs, events and facility rentals are suspended through April 15. The duration of this action may be extended based on health risks assessed at the end of this defined time period.

To receive ongoing updates regarding HPCR park operations, the public is encouraged to visit the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation [Facebook page](#) or call the HPCR Administrative Office at (317) 770-4400.

## Noblesville

### NHS Alumni Banquet canceled

#### The REPORTER

The NHS Alumni Board has made the decision to cancel the 2020 NHS Alumni Banquet.

The board apologizes for any inconvenience this has caused you, but your health and safety are a top priority. The board hopes for a great turn out for the 2021 banquet to be held on April 24, 2021.

All reservation checks received, will be returned as soon as possible.

The organization is still taking donations for the scholarship fund and/or general fund. Goldstar donations of \$250 or more and in memory donations to help with scholarships for those graduating seniors for next year will still be accepted. All names will

be posted in the 2021 newsletter.

Those donations can be sent in a separate check to NHS Alumni, P.O. Box 818, Noblesville, IN 46061. Please include a note with your check to let the NHS Alumni Board know what your donation should be used for so your name can be added to the 2021 newsletter.

### Community First Bank limits lobby traffic, remains open for business

#### The REPORTER

During this time of extra caution due to COVID-19, Community First Bank (CFB) of Indiana remains committed to the health and well-being of its customers, employees, and surrounding communities.

All CFB branches have temporarily closed the lobbies to walk-in traffic. The Pebble Village branch in Noblesville will remain fully staffed and able to assist customers.

Banking will still be carried out via four drive-

up locations, six 24/7 ATMs, online banking, mobile app, night depository, and in-person appointments by request (including new account openings, loan appointments, etc.).

Please call (765) 236-0600 with any questions.

### Upcoming Noblestories presentation canceled

#### The REPORTER

The Noblestories presentation, sponsored by the Noblesville Preservation Alliance (NPA) and scheduled for March 29 at Preser-

vation Hall in Noblesville, has been postponed until further notice in recognition of the potential dangers posed by the coronavirus.

NPA will reschedule at

a future date once the scope of the outbreak has been determined and public health officials are assured that public gatherings are safe again.

#### Noblesville Redevelopment Commission cancels meeting

The Noblesville Redevelopment Commission meeting originally scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2020, been canceled.

#### Noblesville cancels three upcoming meetings

The City of Noblesville has canceled three upcoming meetings:

- County Council Roads Committee, originally scheduled for April 3, 2020
- Tree Board, originally scheduled for April 6, 2020
- Plan Commission, originally scheduled for April 20, 2020

## Carmel

### Carmel Community Players reschedules final two shows of this year's season

#### Submitted

*Editor's note: Carmel Community Players (CCP) released the following information Tuesday concerning the rescheduling of upcoming shows amid the COVID-19 outbreak.*

Dear Patrons: CCP is closely following all protocols related to containment and prevention of COVID-19, and taking every step necessary to ensure the safety of our audiences, performers and crew. The following is an update on CCP performances, which can change at any time. If so, we will continue to up-

date you, our loyal patrons.

The remaining two shows of our 2019-20 season will be delayed as follows:

*The Last Five Years*, which had been scheduled to run from April 24 to May 10, will shift forward to July 17-26, assuming rehearsals can start up again by May/June, for performances at The Cat.

These July dates had previously been planned for CCP's final show of the season:

*Shipwrecked! An Entertainment!* will be presented Sept. 18-27. This was the

time slot originally planned to open our 2020-21 season.

We will officially start our 2020-21 season in December, and will announce the full season at our Annual Membership meeting, which is normally held in May.

We hope to confirm the date of our annual meeting in April, but this will depend on the status of the COVID-19 guidelines.

\*\*\*

[Click here](#) to make a tax-deductible donation to Carmel Community Players. For more information, call (317) 815-9387 or visit [carmelplayers.org](#).

### Walk Off The Earth rescheduled for August 9 at the Palladium

#### The REPORTER

Canadian indie-pop band Walk Off The Earth has set a new date for its debut at the Center for the Performing Arts – Aug. 9.

WOTE's previously scheduled April 17 date was among the Center Presents performances canceled this week in response to new public health guidelines on COVID-19. But the group, known for its vocal harmonies, gymnastic

musicianship and whimsical videos, is rescheduling the U.S. tour in support of its new album, HERE WE GO!

The local performance is now set for 8 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 9, at the Palladium, 1 Center Green, Carmel. Tickets purchased for the previous date will be honored, and ticket sales have resumed at TheCenterPresents.org.

The band shared the

news with its fans – "wotelings" – via social media.

"In light of the ongoing public health concerns, we've decided to move our upcoming Here We Go US leg to August," they posted. "We love and value each and every one of you, and your safety and well-being is of the utmost importance to us ... We look forward to being back on the road soon and seeing you all this summer!"

### Monon Community Center closes

#### The REPORTER

The Monon Community Center is closed until further notice.

The closure includes all Monon Community Center amenities: Fitness center, indoor aquatics, gymnasium, KidZone, indoor track, group fitness classes, personal training and private lessons. The closure will be assessed on a daily basis based on recommendations from public health officials.

For the most up-to-date information, please visit [carmelclayparks.com/coronavirus-information](#).

#### virus-information.

Please note that Carmel city parks remain open, and everyone is encouraged to stay active and spend time outdoors if possible while continuing to practice safety measures, social distancing and protocols recommended by the CDC.

While the Monon Community Center will re-open as soon as conditions warrant, the following are canceled through April 10, at which time cancellations will be reassessed and impacted parties will be notified: Rec-

reation programming, aquatic programs, swim lessons, rentals, volunteer events and organized events (Hamilton County Homeschool Hoopla, Summer Hiring Event, Barrier-Free Theatre Performance, Swim Meet).

In accordance with Carmel Clay Schools, the before- and after-school program Extended School Enrichment is also closed through April 10, including School's Out Spring Break Camp.

During the closure, CCPR will continue to pay full- and part-time staff.

### Center for Performing Arts extends cancellations through May 11

#### The REPORTER

The Center for the Performing Arts is extending its previously announced suspension of all performances and other events on its campus through May 11.

The cancellations include performances by Actors Theatre of Indiana, Carmel Symphony Orchestra, Central Indiana Dance Ensemble, Civic Theatre, Gregory Hancock Dance Theatre and Indiana Wind Symphony, as well as education events, rental events and Center

Presents performances.

All ticketholders will be contacted and provided refunds or the option to donate the purchase amount to the presenting organization to help defray costs associated with the cancellations. The Center will work to reschedule the canceled events as feasible.

The Center will continue to follow the guidance of public safety officials and will reassess the suspension as needed.

The Center's offices will

remain in operation during standard business hours. The Box Office and the Great American Songbook Exhibit Gallery at the Palladium will be closed to the public through May 11, but ticket sales for events not affected by the suspension will continue online at [TheCenterPresents.org](#) or by phone at (317) 843-3800.

Patrons with questions or concerns may contact the Patron Services department at (317) 843-3800 or [tickets@TheCenterPresents.org](#).

## Westfield

### Westfield Lions Club postpones Poker for Sight tournament

#### The REPORTER

The Westfield Lions Poker for Sight Texas Hold 'Em Poker tournament, originally scheduled for April 17 and 18, will be postponed until Friday and Saturday, June 12 and 13.

The Lions Poker for Sight tournaments are the largest fund raisers for the Westfield group. They are a

vital part of the club's philanthropic endeavors every year.

The drawing for the winner of the Zac Brown Band Concert VIP tickets will also be moved to the night of June 13 at the final round of the Poker for Sight Tournament.

For more information or to register for Lions

Poker for Sight go to [lions-poker.org](#).

For more information on the Westfield Lions Club go to [westfieldlions.org](#).

The Westfield Lions Club will keep everyone posted on additional developments as time gets closer. Thank you all for your support.

### Community First Bank limits lobby traffic, remains open for business

#### The REPORTER

During this time of extra caution due to COVID-19, Community First Bank (CFB) of Indiana remains committed to the health and well-being of its customers, employees, and surrounding communities.

All CFB branches have temporarily closed the lobbies to walk-in traffic. The Oak Ridge branch in Westfield will remain fully staffed and able to assist customers.

Banking will still be carried out via four drive-

up locations, six 24/7 ATMs, online banking, mobile app, night depository, and in-person appointments by request (including new account openings, loan appointments, etc.).

Please call (765) 236-0600 with any questions.

### Westfield Chamber cancels three events

#### The REPORTER

The Westfield Chamber of Commerce has released notices of the following cancellations:

- "Shark Tank" Luncheon: This event has been postponed until further notice.
- Westfield Young Professionals: At

this time all events are TBD. The next meet up is scheduled for April 2.

• **Coffee with the Chamber:** At this time all events are TBD. The next coffee is scheduled for April 14.

The Chamber will announce updates and changes as they occur. For more information, visit [westfield-chamber.org](#).

#### Westfield GOP Club postpones Congressional debate

The Westfield GOP Club has postponed the 5th District Congressional Debate. The Club's goal is to reschedule the debate for sometime in April. Updates will be provided.

## Fishers

#### Fishers GOP Club cancels Meet & Greet

The Fishers GOP Club has canceled its Meet & Greet scheduled for April 9 at the Delaware Township Community Center.

#### Lobby closed at Fishers Police Department Headquarters

The Fishers Police Department has closed the lobby of its headquarters. Please call (317) 595-3300 to speak to Records staff and (317) 773-1282 to speak with a Fishers police officer.

## Thanks for reading!



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By Lorraine Hansberry

March 20th & 21st 2020

March 27th & 28th 2020

April 3rd & 4th 2020

April 10th & 11th 2020

POSTPONED UNTIL A LATER DATE

Directed by Nancy Lafferty



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All Sunday Shows at 2:30 pm

# Carmel Clay Parks issues advisory for Flowing Well

**The REPORTER**  
Carmel Clay Parks Department officials are discouraging people from using its popular artesian well. A statement issued by Carmel Clay Parks said, “Because Flowing Well is an artesian well, the City cannot turn the water off. However, we are strongly discouraging the use of the well at this time due to its communal nature. This will better respect the goal of social distancing in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.”

# Fishers Parks & Rec offering creative activities for families

**The REPORTER**  
Cooped up in the house? Fishers Parks & Recreation is working to give you ways to creatively play and explore more in your own backyard – from STEM projects and communicating with and learning about your neighbors. Follow Fishers Parks & Recreation on Facebook and Twitter for daily posts of activities for you and your family to try during social distancing. While playgrounds and parks buildings are closed, the parks are still open. Fishers Parks & Recreation has 24 parks properties totaling 591 acres and 131 miles of nature and multi-use trails.

Letter to the Editor

## Carmel reader hopeful that outdoor play continues after COVID-19 pandemic ends

Dear Editor:

As a retired physician who specialized in child and adolescent psychiatry, a current member of the board of Hamilton County Parks and Recreation, and a concerned member of our Hamilton County community, I want to share my thoughts about the positive opportunity that the coronavirus pandemic has afforded us.

Our public playgrounds are closed to eliminate the spread of the virus from our equipment and close contact among its users. This allows us to make good use of our natural surroundings in ways that we used to do before public playgrounds were readily available.

There is clear evidence that nature promotes good mental health. Playing in the outdoors is a joy. It is up to all of us now to remind ourselves that nature’s balance beam is a fallen tree trunk. A low branch is a perfect trapeze. Creek stomping is a gift. Hiking is perfect for both a healthy body and mind. Hide and seek among trees can be a family event. Crunching fallen leaves produces giggles. A blade of grass between thumbs makes the best whistle.

There are so many ways that we can make playgrounds out of our natural surroundings. My hope is that after the coronavirus pandemic is under control, the children, parents and grandparents will remember how much fun being in nature is and will continue to use our parks for good health and enjoyment. Play benefits all ages!

**Judith Campbell, MD**  
Carmel

# Hoosier physicians applaud Governor’s “stay-at-home” order

**The REPORTER**  
Hoosier physicians applauded Gov. Eric Holcomb for the “Stay-at-Home” order issued Monday, effective through April 7, and other measures the governor announced to contain the spread of COVID-19.

Dr. Lisa Hatcher, MD, president of the Indiana State Medical Association, issued the following statement:

“Indiana’s physicians are on the front lines in the COVID-19 pandemic, leading medical teams that are working around the clock to prevent the virus while treating other patients. We applaud the actions taken by Gov. Holcomb to help contain the spread, which has continued to put greater stress on our health care system. Now it’s up to the citizens of Indiana to do their part. Given the limited supplies necessary to protect health care workers and patients with COVID-19, staying home is the only way Hoosiers can prevent becoming infected with the coronavirus and overwhelming our hospitals.

“The Indiana State Medical Association is grateful that Gov. Holcomb is creating emergency operation centers around the state to monitor the response to COVID-19 and inventory medical supplies and medical personnel needs so that health care professionals have the equipment and staff necessary to overcome this pandemic.”

**About ISMA**  
With 8,500 members, including physicians and medical students, the Indiana State Medical Association (ISMA) is the largest physician organization in the state and is dedicated to maximizing physician impact. Learn more about ISMA by visiting [ISMAnet.org](http://ISMAnet.org).

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# Indiana Hospital Assoc. pleased with statewide COVID-19 response

## The REPORTER

The Indiana Hospital Association (IHA) says hospitals across the state are committed to working together to care for patients on a daily basis, and certainly during this public health emergency. Planning with state and federal stakeholders for emergencies like natural disasters, bioterrorism, and infectious disease outbreaks is something IHA members do regularly.

In collaboration with State Health Commissioner Dr. Kris Box and FSSA Secretary Jennifer Sullivan, IHA is facilitating region-

al calls around the state to specifically accelerate COVID-19 preparation efforts. All hospitals, including those that are part of regional health systems, rural hospitals, and even behavioral health and specialty hospital members, are participating to ensure that resources are allocated appropriately to ensure the best possible patient care. IHA sincerely appreciates the leadership of Governor Holcomb's administration during this crisis.

Doctors, nurses and other caregivers are committed to taking care of Hoosiers

but are also asking for your help. Hoosiers are strongly encouraged to follow public health guidance and stay at home to minimize the spread. If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, you are urged to contact your medical provider before accessing care in an emergency room or other setting.

The Indiana State Department of Health's [dedicated webpage](#) or [CDC guidance](#) provide updated, accurate information.

To learn more about the Indiana Hospital Association, visit [IHAconnect.org](#).

## TODAY'S BIBLE READING

*And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles. And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him. As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison. Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.*

Acts 8:1-4 (KJV)



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### Meeting Notice

The City of Noblesville has canceled three upcoming meetings:

- County Council Roads Committee, originally scheduled for April 3, 2020
- Tree Board, originally scheduled for April 6, 2020
- Plan Commission, originally scheduled for April 20, 2020

### Public Notice

**Central Indiana First Steps**  
Notice to families of children born between 1/1/2010 and 12/31/2011 who received First Steps services in Hamilton, Hendricks, Johnson, Marion, Morgan or Tipton Counties: First Steps is required to retain the Early Intervention file for five years after the child exits the program. After that time, parents or legal guardians are entitled to the file. If you would like to claim your child's file, please contact the SPOE office before April 3, 2020. **Any file not claimed before April 3, 2020 will be destroyed.**  
All requests should be relayed via phone or email to Kesha Germany at (317) 472-6154 or [kgermany@cibaby.org](mailto:kgermany@cibaby.org).  
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Part of Valparaiso team that made MVC championship game...

# Kiser reflects on career, 'special' senior season

By RICHIE HALL

John Kiser got to do something a few weeks ago that few of his fellow college basketball players also got to do: Play in a championship game.

Kiser finished his senior season at Valparaiso University by playing in the championship contest of the Missouri Valley Conference tournament. It was the former Noblesville star's final game of a remarkable career that saw him go from a walk-on as a freshman to a senior that earned awards, honors and the satisfaction of a solid career.

"It's been a fun and challenging journey," said Kiser. "Coming in I didn't really know what to expect but I decided that I was gonna make the most of everything."

While Kiser played sporadically during the first part of his freshman season, Kiser was a regular on the floor in the second half. In Valpo's next-to-last game of the season against Milwaukee, Kiser earned the first start of his career. He was part of a team that finished the season 24-9 and received a berth into the NIT.

Kiser earned a scholarship his sophomore year and became a solid contributor to the team over his next three seasons. After two 15-win seasons during his sophomore and junior years, this season's Crusaders team finished 19-16. Younger players stepped up for Valpo this year, including sophomore Javon Freeman-Liberty, far and away the Crusaders' leading scorer with a 19.0 points per game average.

"This season was extremely special to me because of the guys I got to play with," said Kiser. "Seeing my teammates grow throughout the year and the team grow together was something I didn't get the last two years. I really wanted the team to get back on track with where we were my freshman year and this year was a huge step. I look forward to seeing what these guys do in the upcoming years."



Photos provided

John Kiser finished his senior season on the Valparaiso University men's basketball team by helping the Crusaders to the championship game of the Missouri Valley Conference tournament. The former Noblesville star went from being a walk-on as a freshman to earning All-Bench and All-Tournament honors as a senior.

Valpo fans may have gotten a sneak preview in how the Crusaders performed during the MVC tournament. Valparaiso entered as a No. 7 seed, winning its first-round game over the University of Evansville 58-55 on March 5. Kiser had six points and five rebounds in that game.

In the March 6 quarter-finals, the Crusaders upset the No. 2 seed, Loyola of Chicago, the first time Valpo had ever won against the Ramblers. The Crusaders got past Loyola 74-73 in overtime, with Kiser providing the assist on the game-winner, a layup by Eron Gordon. Kiser scored 12 points in that game, matching his career-high from earlier in the season (he also scored 12 points in Valparaiso's Jan. 18 game with Indiana State).

The Crusaders continued their run in

the March 7 semi-finals, beating Missouri State 89-82. Kiser scored 17 points to set a new career-high mark. Valpo's run finally ended in the championship game on March 8, when it lost to Bradley 80-66 after playing four games in four days. Kiser scored eight points.

"The Missouri Valley Conference is a bottom to top hard conference to play in," said Kiser. "Anyone could win on any given night and that showed in the tournament. Winning games back to back to back and playing the fourth one on that fourth day is a very difficult thing to do physically and mentally. Not being able to sleep at night and hearing the crowd and band playing while you tried to sleep was exhausting. The championship game was heartbreaking but we had achieved so much to the point and just ran out of gas at the end. It was cool for this year that we were the only like Cinderella story to happen in March. It was very fortunate for us to even play our conference tournament and I will always be thankful for the experiences and memories that I made."

Kiser has been honored for his contributions to the Crusaders' team this season, starting with being named to the MVC All-Bench team, Scholar-Athlete and the All-Tournament team. He was also named as an MVC Scholar-Athlete Honorable Mention during his sophomore year. Kiser is majoring in Mechanical Engineering and said he has "had a few job interviews that I am continuing to pursue but nothing set in stone yet."

"Valpo has been amazing to me," said Kiser. "It's really just a place that has everything and you can make the most of it if you want to. The professors are all amazing and really care that you are doing well. And the people here at Valpo really make the place what it is."



Photos provided

John Kiser is pictured on Senior Day with sister Anna Kiser and parents Brian and Chris Kiser.

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# 2020 Indiana Boys Junior All-Stars named

Twenty players have been selected for the IndyStar Indiana boys Junior All-Stars for 2020.

Those voted to the six-player Core Group are Brooks Barnhizer of Lafayette Jeff, Caleb Furst of Fort Wayne Blackhawk Christian, Trey Kaufman of Silver Creek, J.R. Konieczny of South Bend St. Joseph, Khristian Lander of Evansville Reitz and Keon Thompson of Merrillville.

In addition to the core group, seven players each were voted to teams labeled Red Group and Blue Group.

The Red Group players are Jalen Blackmon of Marion, Luke Brown of Blackford, Michael Eley of Fort Wayne Snider, Luke Goode of Homestead, Christopher Mantis of Lowell, Malik Stanley of Warren Central and Blake Wesley of South Bend Riley.

The Blue Group players are Shamar Avance of Lawrence North, Lincoln Hale of Linton-Stockton, Jake Heidbreder of Floyd Central, Connor Hickman of Bloomington South, Kooper Jacobi of Silver Creek, Blake Sisley of Heritage Hills and Pierce Thomas of Brownsburg.

The coaches for the Junior All-Stars have not yet been announced.

The Junior All-Stars will play one game against the Kentucky Junior All-Stars, set for June 1 at Floyd Central High School. The Junior All-Stars also will play one game against the Indiana All-Star senior girls on June 3, at a site to be announced. Both games will be doubleheaders with the 2020 Indiana girls Junior All-Stars, who were chosen in early March.

The players listed as core group players will play in two games each. The players listed in the Red and Blue groups each will play in one game -- the Core and Blue groups on June 1 versus the Kentucky Juniors, and the Core and Red groups on June 3 against the Indiana Seniors.

The Indiana senior All-Stars will play the Kentucky senior All-Stars on June 5 at Great Crossing High School in Georgetown, Ky. The Indiana senior All-Stars will play Kentucky's seniors again on June 6 in Southport Fieldhouse in Indianapolis. The senior game in Indianapolis has been moved to Southport for 2020 because Bankers Life Fieldhouse will be undergoing renovations and not be available in June.

The Junior All-Star team is determined by the 20-member Indiana Basketball Coaches Association all-state panel in conjunction with its selection of the IBCA/Subway Underclass All-State Team. The selection process allows all IBCA-member head coaches to nominate players through the IBCA all-state process. Representatives from 16 regional areas from across the state, three district representatives from the three IHSAA districts (one each from District 1, District 2 and District 3) and the committee chair then meet to review the nominations, vote and finalize the selections.

The IBCA/Subway boys basketball Senior All-State and Underclass All-State teams for 2020 will be released later this week.

A list of those chosen as 2020 boys Junior All-Stars follows.

## 2020 IndyStar Indiana Boys Junior All-Stars

### CORE GROUP

Name, Ht., Pos., PPG, High School, College Choice  
Brooks Barnhizer, 6-6, G, 20.7, Lafayette Jeff, undecided  
Caleb Furst, 6-10, F, 21.7, Fort Wayne Blackhawk Christian, Purdue  
Trey Kaufman, 6-9, F, 25.8, Silver Creek, undecided  
J.R. Konieczny, 6-7, G, 23.5, South Bend St. Joseph, Notre Dame  
Khristian Lander, 6-3, G, 21.0, Evansville Reitz, Indiana  
Keon Thompson, 6-3, G, 28.1, Merrillville, undecided

### RED GROUP

Name, Ht., Pos., PPG, High School, College Choice  
Jalen Blackmon, 6-2, G, 29.8, Marion, undecided  
Luke Brown, 6-2, G, 32.3, Blackford, undecided  
Michael Eley, 6-4, G, 21.2, Fort

Wayne Snider, undecided  
Luke Goode, 6-6, F, 17.6, Homestead, undecided  
Christopher Mantis, 6-6, G, 24.8, Lowell, undecided  
Malik Stanley, 5-11, G, 21.0, Warren Central, undecided  
Blake Wesley, 6-4, G, 26.0, South Bend Riley, undecided

### BLUE GROUP

Name, Ht., Pos., PPG, High School, College Choice  
Shamar Avance, 6-0, G, 14.4, Lawrence North, undecided  
Lincoln Hale, 6-4, G, 23.4, Linton-Stockton, undecided  
Jake Heidbreder, 6-4, G, 20.0, Floyd Central, undecided  
Connor Hickman, 6-2, G, 14.5, Bloomington South, undecided  
Kooper Jacobi, 6-6, F, 17.3, Silver Creek, undecided  
Blake Sisley, 6-9, F, 19.4, Heritage Hills, undecided  
Pierce Thomas, 6-5, G, 13.6, Brownsburg, Butler



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