

Westfield mayor: Don't call police with social distancing concerns

By JENNY DREASLER
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Westfield Mayor Andy Cook is stepping up and putting his foot down, saying the Westfield Police Department will not enforce social distancing guidelines.

Cook says police have "more important things to do." The reason behind his move comes after residents complained to police. "They were calling the cops and wanting them to do something about it and they have a lot more important things to do," said Cook.

State officials have asked people to call police with concerns about improper social distancing or the violation of "essential businesses" orders from Gov. Eric Holcomb.

Cook says his office has gotten some bizarre requests over the past week. Many complaints came in on Facebook, but some people in Westfield even called police dispatch to complain people were hoarding toilet paper at the grocery store.

He says others demanded Westfield police get involved when they believed social distancing requirements weren't being met and they wanted to see something done.

The mayor posted this statement to social media:

"The importance of our public safety teams is important now more than ever. As we navigate this new and temporary 'normal,' I want to be clear, Westfield Police officers enforce laws, not social distancing guidelines or grocery store purchasing limits. It is my expectation that, in this crisis, we all work together to minimize the threat of exposure and follow the rules. We CANNOT have our police officers or firefighters exposed to the coronavirus. We need them saving lives and enforcing laws. If you have an issue at a particular store or situation, I would suggest you kindly speak to the store management or those involved and take your business elsewhere. There are extraordinary times. I ask for your patience and support."

Cook says the police force is busy focusing on other issues. He says domestic violence has gone up unfortunately during the "stay at home" order and police need to focus on matters such as that.

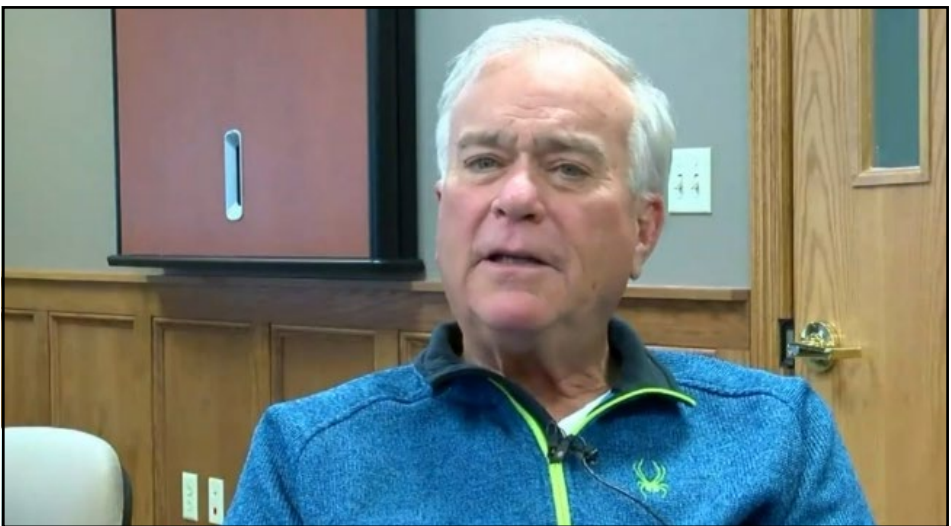


Photo provided

Cook says the police force is busy focusing on other issues. He says domestic violence has gone up, unfortunately, during the "stay at home" order and police need to focus on matters such as that.

"I have got to protect them (police officers)," said Cook. "I can't have them unnecessarily mingling with the public, so to speak, and I don't mean that in a bad term. But look, they are our first responders."

He had some advice for people if they get frustrated.

"I think, with kindness, people can take care of those things, and you do it kindly but you also do it with your dollar. Hey, if that store isn't doing it right, then go some place else," said Cook.

The mayor says since he put out the message, the calls to police have decreased, but he still encourages everybody to use common sense and just be patient.

Feeling down? Go help others

I've always believed that helping others is the best way to help yourself. Now, more than ever, we need to be reaching out – virtually or at a safe distance – to others.

If you need some inspiration, just hop on social media – carefully. I say that because the uplifting stories can sometimes get lost among the sad ones. Yes, we need to be informed to protect everyone and our families. But don't overload yourself with the bad news as I've accidentally done a time or two in this crisis (then fell into a sobbing mess).

Donate to a non-profit if you can. This doesn't even have to be monetary. A couple of weeks ago I donated (gasp!) toilet paper to Shepherd's Center. I almost felt like I needed to do this in secret with armed guards surrounding me at midnight.

Check in on your neighbors who may have lost part – or all – or their income. Wave at them from a distance as you go on a walk.

I love seeing the creative ways people are staying in touch with one another. I asked relatives and friends to send me messages this week that I could write on signs to show my mother. She is on "lockdown" like so many others around the country in assisted living facilities. A fellow Reporter columnist inspired me with that idea weeks ago.

By the way, the elderly need you now more than ever. It's not good for anyone to be isolated from others. But it's especially dire for them. Some call it a serious public health concern in even ordinary circumstances.

My mother is lucky. Yes, she has to stay in her room most of the time, but staff members check in on her and attend to her needs.

COLUMNIST



AMY SHANKLAND
Sandwiched

Governor's order shuts down public schools for remainder of school year

The REPORTER

On Wednesday, Governor Eric Holcomb and Indiana Public School Superintendent Jennifer McCormick announced all K-12 schools will remain closed and provide remote learning for the remainder of the school year.

During Wednesday's briefing, McCormick said high school seniors on track to graduate when facilities closed March 19 will be provided with the flexibility they need to earn an Indiana diploma. The Indiana public schools leader said high school seniors enrolled in the second semester will get credit toward graduation. Local districts would determine if middle schoolers and other high schoolers will earn credits.

School districts will be required by April 17 to submit "a continuous learning plan." McCormick later added that these



Holcomb

learning plans will address issues that districts are facing, and the state can then find ways to help districts in remote learning, addressing students "at risk," and other matters.

McCormick said local districts will have to be creative and review options on what graduation ceremonies look like for high school seniors.

Hamilton Heights Superintendent Dr. Derrick Arrowood, in a letter to his staff, said, "I know this news is not a surprise given the gravity of the current situation. There is strong evidence to support the effectiveness of school closures as a means to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and the reality is that these closures may be longer than expected, or imagined."

Following Governor Holcomb's announcement, Westfield Washington Schools is-



Photo provided

McCormick said that the state will help school districts with remote learning plans and address "at risk" students.

sued a statement saying, "This news brings great sadness to our teachers and students who were planning to finish the school year together. This is not how we envisioned the end of our school year, however these

Tell us about it . . . Big upgrade planned for fairgrounds

Over the next few years, the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds is likely to take on a new and improved appearance. There is a move afoot to vastly update the facilities located on East Pleasant Street in Noblesville.

So far, the plans are being kept quiet for some reason. It never ceases to amaze me how some governmental entities want to keep good news quiet until a project is approved.

The public, which ultimately pays for the fairgrounds, has a right to know about upcoming projects before they go, in this case, to the County Council for consideration.

Susan Peterson, the very well qualified and effective director of local 4-H operations, has not returned calls for information about the planned improvements.

The fairgrounds is regarded by many as a good facility with an impressive exposition and office building, attractive grounds and possibly the only air conditioned llama barn in the nation.

However, there are needs. My sources tell me that a new show arena is planned along with possibly replacing some of the aging animal barns and likely other upgrades. Hopefully, more parking areas will be in the mix.

Unfortunately, the fairgrounds is pretty well landlocked by the expanding city, but engineers and planners can no doubt find ways to utilize the existing ground.

The fairgrounds' major event of the year is, of course, the annual county 4-H fair in July. The local fair is one of the few, if not only, non-commercialized fairs. In other words, no carnival to distract from the 4-H competition now geared to include both the rural and urban youth.

The 4-H folks have a good thing going with the future in mind. They should tell us about it.

COLUMNIST



FRED SWIFT
The County Line

Carmel testing firefighters, police officers, first responders, city employees for COVID-19

The REPORTER

Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard has announced that all City of Carmel first responders and city employees working with the public are being tested this week and will continue to be tested weekly. Shifts of City of Carmel workers are getting the test through a drive-up access at Aria Diagnostics.

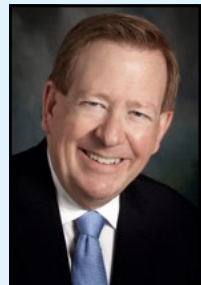
"This local lab has the capacity to administer testing to our City of Carmel employees within a few days for those who are in essential jobs requiring interaction with the public or who work with crews or teams," Brainard said. "If we can identify people who have the COVID-19 virus, then we can better prevent the spread. This is what the U.S. would have been able to do if tests had been available six weeks ago."

If the spread can be slowed, it is possible that hospitals and healthcare workers can be kept from being over-

whelmed, which will also give more time for the scientific community to develop a vaccine.

"It should save lives if we can test our first responders and city staff who are dealing with many people in the public and are asymptomatic but are carrying the virus," Brainard said. "Then, those people will know to self-quarantine in order to further prevent the virus from spreading. We must do all we can to level the curve and keep our health care facilities from being overwhelmed."

These tests are becoming available as the formula for the testing can be more quickly duplicated in labs across the country. The benefit of quicker result turnaround times makes this a valuable tool in our fight against COVID-19. Brainard consulted with area hospitals



Brainard

and medical professionals before proceeding with the City of Carmel frontline employee testing.

"Some may question the necessity for widespread testing of our city staff, but we cannot afford to err on the side of caution for this killer virus that has changed our way of life around the world," Brainard said. "We need to stand strong as a community as we keep physically distancing while staying connected socially through online resources. We will get through this together."

The mayor added that he has been advised that simply because someone has tested negative, they could still contract the virus and spread it, which is why continuing to practice physical distancing and hand washing is still vitally important.



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Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Member SIPC

Noblesville Lions Dodgeball Tourney moved to Sept. 12

The REPORTER

Due to COVID-19, the Noblesville Lions Club has moved the annual dodgeball tournament to Saturday, Sept. 12. It will begin at noon at the Ivy Tech Gym, 300 N. 17th St., Noblesville.

The tournament will follow a double elimination format with two dodgeball leagues and two cornhole leagues. There will be a maximum of 10 teams in each of the two leagues in both dodgeball and cornhole, equaling a total of 40 teams.

In the dodgeball competition it will require the best two out of three games to advance in a bracket. Cornhole will require one game to advance in a bracket.

The entry donation is \$40 per team, which will include admission to the tournament for family members of the team. The entry donation is totally refundable up to 10 days before the tournament. If a team wishes to participate in both tournaments, they will have an entry fee for both tournaments of \$80 total.

The two leagues' winners will play each other for the tournament championship. Tournament champs in both dodgeball and cornhole will receive embroidered baseball caps, and runners-up will receive medals.

Teams interested in more information or participating in the tournament should text or call Steve Shaw at (317) 727-1771 or Larry Jacobi at (317) 508-0571, or call Jerry Graham at (317) 435-4752.

Thanks for reading the Hamilton County Reporter!

HELP from Page 1

She can at least go on walks in the hallway, which is how I was able to see her through a door with a window.

But other older folks in their homes aren't surrounded by a caring staff. And many aren't able to use technology to stay in touch, with the exception of a phone.

Now's the time to get "old fashioned" and reach out to elderly family and friends with a letter, a card, or a gift. One way I do this is through Send Out Cards (sendoutcards.com). I've used this service for almost a year now for my business, but occasionally I'll use it personally as well. It's a fun, safe way to spread joy to others!

I've seen other wonderful ways to lift people's spirits such as "drive by" parades and sing along phone calls. Finally, if you truly can't leave the house or are short on funds, prayer is absolutely free and incredibly effective!

Yes, this is a challenging time. But it's also a time to dig in, get creative, and show your love! You'll improve the health of others, lift them up, and raise your own spirits.

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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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Victoria Spartz earns endorsement of Club for Growth PAC

Submitted

Club for Growth PAC announced on Tuesday its endorsement of State Senator Victoria Spartz for the race in Indiana's 5th Congressional District.

Club for Growth PAC is a political arm of the Club for Growth, the nation's leading group promoting economic freedom through legislative involvement, issue advocacy, research and education.

"I am very honored to get the endorsement of The Club for Growth, one of the leading free-enterprise organizations in the nation," Spartz said. "As a finance professional and business owner in the 5th

District, I understand the importance of strong pro-growth and pro-market economic policies to benefit and create prosperity for all citizens in the 5th District, unleash the human ingenuity, and empower individuals to pursue their happiness in whichever way they choose. Our nation is going through some challenging times – not the first time and not the last time, but we will overcome these challenges and will come out stronger in the end!"

Club for Growth PAC President David McIntosh



Spartz

issued the following statement regarding the endorsement:

"Growing up in Soviet Ukraine and witnessing the devastation of socialism has made Victoria Spartz a principled, free-market conservative who understands the importance of a strong and free economy to Indiana families. Spartz has proven herself in business and in government as a State Senator, and we are looking forward to supporting her campaign."

For more information about Club for Growth, visit clubforgrowth.org.

Public safety planning, training both essential

The current global pandemic crisis we are experiencing proves that no community is immune to the potential hazards of life. Whether it be a blazing fire in a high-rise office building; a tornado swooping into an outdoor concert; or – what we are currently experiencing, a global pandemic. Such possibilities cause me to think of our first responders and how important it is that they be highly trained to deal with all types of disasters. And the importance of a coordinated response managed through an emergency operations center.

Yet, just a few years ago, in 2015, our Hamilton County Council voted to reject a solid plan put forth by our county's public safety organizations – who had worked with and secured partial funding from the Township Trustees, mayors, city and town councils – and had the support of the County Commissioners for the construction of a new public

GUEST COLUMNIST



SUE MAKI
County Council Candidate

lic safety training facility. The City of Westfield was to contribute the land and was to play a key role in operating and maintaining the facility.

Despite its enormous amount of support, this County Council voted against funding a portion of the facility. The reason? They claimed fire safety was a township function. While this basic premise is true, the need for emergency preparedness, training and response capabilities is a concern of the whole County and is growing along with our population. County government is the natural connector of our communities and its leadership in emergency preparedness is obvious. The centralized 911 center and the need for a County Emergency Operations Center shows the role the County should play.

I've spoken to government leaders and public safety officials across the County and it is clear to them that the need for a centralized public

safety training facility still exists; the idea has not gone away. These leaders have told me they are hopeful that a new County Council, one that supports the needs of our brave first responders, will take office and reverse this short-sighted decision.

Centralized training in a single location would greatly enhance the ability of our emergency personnel to respond effectively during a disaster. It would also eliminate the need to travel 35 miles away for training, as they do now, taking with them equipment that is not available to be used in Hamilton County until they return.

When I ran for Hamilton County Council two years ago, I supported a county-wide public safety training facility, and I continue to do so. Our physical safety and well-being is one of the reasons so many want to come to live here. I will make it a top priority once again.

Sue Maki is running for an At-Large seat on the Hamilton County Council. Learn more about Maki at ElectSueMaki.com.

Horizon Bank expands live video banking with extended hours

The REPORTER

Horizon Bank has deployed several Live Video Banking machines in Indiana and Michigan to help more customers bank remotely during this time. From the convenience of your car, you can connect to a Horizon advisor using videoconferencing and complete almost any transaction you normally would do in the branch.

Horizon's Live Video Banking combines personalized service of a knowledgeable advisor and full self-service technology – offering extended hours to

better serve customers from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

"This is just one more way Horizon is expanding our remote banking options to better serve customer needs during this public health crisis. Live Video Banking is a safe alternative and our customers will continue to receive exceptional service and sensible advice via live videoconferencing," said Horizon Bank Chairman and CEO Craig Dwight.

While this machine also functions as an ATM, it can now go the extra mile to

allow you to speak directly with a Horizon Bank video banker to complete transactions like:

- Deposit cash or checks
- Withdrawals dispensing different denominations – \$1s, \$5s, \$20s and \$100s
- Cash checks as late as 9 p.m.
- Make payments to Horizon loans
- Transfer money between accounts
- Check images printed on receipts

[Click here](#) to learn more about Live Video Banking and view a list of locations that have this option.

Help local business make masks for senior community

The REPORTER

Calling all seamstresses! Local business Always In Stitches is offering free mask kits for those who have time to help make them.

Mike Delph from CarDon and Associates has made 150 mask kits available for free. The finished masks will be designated for CarDon's use only. CarDon is a Midwest Senior Living Community.

"Each kit costs us \$30

in fabric, and each kit makes 20 masks," said Always In Stitches owner Lyneen Burrow. "Each mask takes approximately 20 minutes to finish."

Always In Stitches also has mask kits for personal use available for \$30 per kit. These kits also make 20 masks. You are welcome to



Burrow

keep these masks for your own use, or you can donate them back to Always In Stitches where they are sure to get a good home.

The kits can be shipped to your home for free.

Please email capi@alwaysinstitches1.com or visit alwaysinstitches1.com for more information.

Fishers Arts Council offering four-part lecture series this year

The REPORTER

The Fishers Arts Council (FAC), with support from Nickel Plate Arts, Ignite Studio and Hamilton County Tourism, will offer a free four-part lecture series. The series is intended for artists to help with their business, community and professional skills.

Due to the COVID-19 virus, at least the first session of this series will be offered online. While intended for artists, the series is open to the public. However, registration is required.

The series takes place from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on the following Thursdays:

- April 23: Marketing for Artists – Skill Building

- June 25: Inside the Gallery World – Be in the Know

- Aug. 20: Exhibiting Artists – Learn the How

- Oct. 22: Hoosier Success Stories – Be Inspired

For more information and registration, visit FishersArtsCouncil.org.

Background

In early 2019, FAC board member and mixed media artist Olivia Holt felt that something was missing in Hamilton County – information for artists to help them become entrepreneurs. While there are many established artists in Fishers and Hamilton County, there are always those who want to grow, to connect with their

community, and to share their art.

After surveying artists and community members over the course of six months, Holt found what they wanted: Marketing help, community connections, getting into galleries and more. With this feedback, she developed her program.

In late 2019, Nickel Plate Arts recognized that several local arts groups had similar ideas to Holt's, and with the help of Hamilton County Tourism, a 2020 season of programming was born.

For more information and to get your questions answered, visit info@fishersartscouncil.org.

Hello, Hamilton County With Mr. Weatherman, Paul Poteet

Click to play video

Feel free to share The Reporter with friends and family.

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TODAY'S BIBLE READING

And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man. And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.

Acts 9:6-8 (KJV)

Patricia May Jones

January 1, 1939 – April 1, 2020

Patricia May Jones, 81, Westfield, formerly of Noblesville, passed away on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis. She was born on January 1, 1939 in Noblesville.

Patricia graduated from Noblesville High School and retired from King Systems after over 20 years. She enjoyed being with her grandkids and loved her dog, Quinn.

Patricia is survived by her daughter, Amanda (Scott) Reed; son, Brad (Denise) Jones; brothers, Steve (Karen) Swinford and Stanley (Lupe) Swinford; sisters, Sally Swinford and Tracy Swinford; as well as several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father, Herbert and Doris Swinford; mother, Katherine (King) and Robert Hartsock; daughters, Terry Ake and Brenda Jones; brother, Syd Swinford; and her sister, Vona Weaver.

Private family services will be held with burial at Oaklawn Memorial Gardens in Indianapolis. A public celebration of life will be held at a later date. Patricia's care has been entrusted to Randall & Roberts Funeral Homes.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Public Notice

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION AND OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING DESIGNATION OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA

Notice is given that the Common Council of the City of Noblesville on the 24th day of March, 2020, approved Resolution RC-10-20 preliminarily designating an economic revitalization area within the City of Noblesville. The substance of the Resolution was a designation of a 12.1 acre parcel of real estate located at the southwest corner of 146th Street and Bergen Boulevard, Noblesville, Indiana as a revitalization area and granting a ten (10) year declining real property abatement pursuant to Indiana Code 6-1.1-12.1-17(b). A copy of the Resolution, including the designation of the area affected, is available for inspection online at www.cityofnoblesville.org in the March 24, 2020 Council agenda, or <https://www.cityofnoblesville.org/egov/apps/document/center.egov?view=item;id=8469>.

On April 14, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., the Noblesville Common Council will consider a final Resolution confirming Resolution RC-10-20. Prior to the consideration of that hearing, the Noblesville Common Council will hold a public hearing to hear all remonstrance and objections from interested persons concerning the designation contained in the Resolution. The public may also participate in the public hearing by calling into the Council meeting at 317-776-6333. When prompted enter Conference ID: 38924689, followed by the # key.

ss/ Evelyn Lees
Clerk City of Noblesville
4/3/2020

RL3307

The REPORTER

As Hoosiers await federal stimulus checks designed to help mitigate financial effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, they should be prepared for phone calls from scammers posing as Internal Revenue Service (IRS) agents, Indiana Attorney General Curtis Hill said Wednesday.

Some Indiana residents have reported receiving such calls, in which scammers attempt to obtain the personal and financial information of would-be

victims.

"The IRS will never call you demanding payments or personal financial information such as your Social Security number, credit card number or bank account number," Hill said. "If you receive such calls, you should take note of the phone number, hang up and report the incident to our office."

Complaints about IRS



Hill

tying their calls to the anticipated relief payments.

Scammers often make themselves seem believable by reciting personal information they already have obtained such as an

individual's name and address. Senior citizens are sometimes particularly susceptible to believing that such calls are legitimate.

Hoosiers who believe they have encountered possible scams may file a complaint with the Office of the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division by [going online](http://goingonline) and clicking "File a Complaint." If you need more information about services provided by the office, you may call 1-800-382-5516.

Jessica Williams Schnelker joins CCHA

The REPORTER

Church Church Hittle + Antrim (CCHA) welcomes Jessica Williams Schnelker to the firm's Litigation Practice Section. Jessica is a trial lawyer with experience representing clients at every stage in litigation, from initial case evaluations all the way through trial and appeals. Jessica's trial experience includes serving as counsel in multiple federal and state jury trials, including trials in Indiana, Michigan, Georgia and Nevada.

"Jessica has extensive experience evaluating cases for trial, preparing corporate representatives for trial testimony, arguing dispositive trial motions, and cross-examining expert witnesses. Jessica is a thoughtful and detailed attorney who will serve our CCHA clients passionately," said CCHA Managing Partner David Day.

Jessica Williams



Schnelker

Schnelker graduated from Hamilton Southeastern High School and Purdue University and received her law degree from Notre Dame Law School. She was named an Indiana Super Lawyers® Rising Star from 2017-2020 and received the 2018 Young Lawyer of the Year award from the Defense Trial Counsel of Indiana. She is involved with Kids' Voice of Indiana and

serves as a Board Member of Coburn Place.

"I am thrilled to work with CCHA to help our clients solve complex legal matters," she said. "Additionally, I appreciate the strong community focus CCHA continues to demonstrate, both inside and outside the courtroom."

In her life outside of work, she enjoys reading, yoga and spending time with her friends and family. Read more about Jessica Williams Schnelker on the CCHA website.

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Well cared for and updated 3 BR, 2 BA manufactured home on large lot with over two car port. Home has living room, updated kitchen with breakfast room and breakfast bar. Property is also being sold with two more lots and a mobile home rental. All appliances will stay. BLC# 21701401

18756 Mill Grove Drive
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NEW PRICE



Many recent updates in this 2 story, 4BR, 2.5BA home. New carpet, fresh paint, new roof 2020. All kitchen appliances stay, basement, adjacent multi-acre common area. BLC# 21695300

455 North 17th Street
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PENDING



Cute and move in ready, 4 BR, 2 BA with finished basement, main level has hardwood floors. Kitchen w/SS appliances, fenced rear yard, many updates "A real Gem". BLC# 21695622

5593 South Flinchum Way
Noblesville • \$279,900

SOLD!



Lovely 2 story in Hazel Dell Woods with 4 BR & 2.5 BA. Finished basement, fresh paint, kit appliances stay, home on over a 1/2 acre lot and this home is move-in ready. BLC# 21696880

8861 Lavender Court
Noblesville • \$329,900

NEW LISTING!



Beautiful well maintained 4 BR, 2.5 BA w/3-car garage, finished basement w/rec room, kitchen has loads of counter space and all appliances stay. Prof. landscaping, stamped patio + fire pit. Don't miss out on this on BLC# 21698357

Coronavirus cancellations

Send your event cancellation notice to Notices@ReadTheReporter.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.

Parks and restrooms will remain open, and increased cleaning and sanitation measures are being taken multiple times every day.

A list of precautions provided by the CDC can be viewed online at [this link](#).

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 Strawtown Koteewi Park, remain closed until further notice.

Additionally, as a pre-

cautionary measure, all park programs, events and facility rentals are suspended through April 15.

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

Prevail providing services despite temporary closure

To Our Community,

Over the past week Prevail staff have continued to provide limited staffing in the office, while meeting most of the needs of our clients by phone. With the Governor's announcement requiring us all to stay home, we will be closing the office and asking all employees to work from

home. If you are in need of Prevail services, please call us! Our community is very important to us and we will continue to serve those who need us.

Our business line, 317-773-6942, will be available for voicemail messages that will be checked throughout the day (with an option to press 1 to be

forwarded to the crisis line) and our crisis line, 317-776-3472, will be answered live during this time.

We look forward to continuing to support those who need our services in new and creative ways!

For more information, visit prevailinc.org.

Riverview Health closes physician offices, limiting orthopedic hours

The REPORTER

Riverview Health has closed all but three primary care offices and limit hours for orthopedics offices.

The three primary care offices that will remain open include Noblesville Family Medicine, Sheridan

Family Medicine and Hazel Dell Family Care. The open orthopedics offices will be Riverview Health Orthopedics & Sports Medicine – Carmel and Riverview Health Orthopedics & Sports Medicine – Westfield.

Patients needing to schedule an appointment, refill a prescription or otherwise consult with their provider should call their physician's office.

No walk-ins will be allowed at any of the open offices.

PrimeLife temporarily closes doors

The REPORTER

Due to the growing serious health threat of the coronavirus, PrimeLife Enrichment has temporarily closed its Center, located at 1078 Third Ave. SW in Carmel, effective immediately.

The facility will remain closed at least until April 6 and potentially longer.

Handy also announced that the Central Indiana Council on Aging (CICOA) will deliver lunches

to those in need. She encouraged PrimeLife Enrichment members to contact CICOA for additional information.

Visit primelifeenrichment.org for more information.

Janus postpones fundraising breakfast

The REPORTER

Janus is committed to the safety and well-being of all staff and clients and is strictly following guidance and recommendations set out by local authorities and the Center for Disease

Control and Prevention.

Janus has decided to move the Create, Connect and Commit Fundraising Breakfast from Friday, April 24 to Friday, Aug. 14. The breakfast will be held from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

at the 502 East Event Center in Carmel.

Please plan to attend the breakfast on Aug. 14. Feel free to RSVP to Patty Steffen at psteffen@janus-inc.org prior to July 24.

Corrections Advisory Board cancels meeting

The Hamilton County Community Corrections Advisory Board meeting originally scheduled for Thursday, April 2, 2020, has been canceled.

Hamilton North Public Library closes branches

The Hamilton North Public Library is closed to the public until April 16.

Comprehensive Plan Update meeting postponed

The Hamilton County Plan Commission Comprehensive Plan Update public hearing scheduled for White River Township on April 16, 2020 has been postponed. A new date will be announced when officials have decided the coronavirus is no longer a threat.

Sheridan

Sheridan Historical Society's Heritage Celebration Dinner postponed until fall

The REPORTER

The Sheridan Historical Society has canceled its annual Heritage Celebration Dinner, which was sched-

uled for Thursday, April 16. The dinner will be rescheduled for some time in the fall of 2020.

The Sheridan Historical

Society thanks everyone for their support during these troubling times and reminds everyone to STAY HOME and STAY SAFE.

Sheridan Economic Development Commission cancels meeting

The Sheridan Economic Development Commission meeting originally scheduled for Monday, April 6, 2020, has been canceled.

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 April events

The REPORTER

In order to keep Chamber members safe and healthy, all April events

have been canceled:

- Westfield Young Professionals (April 2)
- April Coffee with the

Chamber (April 14)

- Luncheon (April 16)
- Business After Hours (April 23)

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.

Carmel

Four more concerts rescheduled at Palladium

The REPORTER

The Center for the Performing Arts has rescheduled four more Center Presents concerts that had been postponed in response to public health guidelines for COVID-19.

The new dates at the Palladium are:

- Peking Acrobats: Oct. 4

- Brubeck Brothers Quartet: Dave Brubeck Centennial Celebration: Nov. 1
- Gaither Vocal Band: Nov. 7

George Hinchliffe's Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain: April 30, 2021

Previously purchased tickets will be honored on the new dates, and tick-

et sales have resumed at TheCenterPresents.org. Ticket holders with questions can contact Patron Services at Tickets@TheCenterPresents.org. The rescheduled performances will be part of the 2020-21 Center Presents 10th Anniversary Season sponsored by Allied Solutions.

Brainard closes playgrounds, tennis courts, basketball courts, along with Monon Greenway and Midtown Plaza

The REPORTER

Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard on Thursday issued a clarification of orders from the Governor's office as it pertains to places of amusement. Under the state's order, playgrounds, tennis courts, basketball courts and other similar areas of outdoor interaction have been closed.

In addition, Brainard has ordered all golf courses closed in Carmel because

golfers are touching flags, using carts, retrieving balls from cups – which poses a problem because the COVID-19 virus can live on these kinds of surfaces for up to three days.

Brainard has also ordered the closure of a section of the Monon Greenway and Midtown Plaza due to overcrowding, which hinders compliance with social distancing restrictions in place during

COVID-19 quarantine. Indiana Code Section 10-14-3-29 allows the mayor to take actions such as this during emergency situations.

The portion of the trail between Gradle Drive to the south and Main Street to the north will be closed until further notice. Seating and equipment are being removed from Midtown Plaza to further deter people from gathering there.

Monon Community Center closes

The REPORTER

The Monon Community Center is closed until further notice.

The closure includes all Monon Community Center amenities: Fitness cen-

ter, 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 recommen-

dations from public health officials.

For the most up-to-date information, please visit carmelclayparks.com/coronavirus-information.

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 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.

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

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 update 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.

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.

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

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 for now. The shop will remain open for shipping and pickups. We

are taking additional safety precautions, including curbside 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.

Atlanta Town Council closes public places

At the Atlanta Town Council meeting on Friday, March 27, the following closures were announced and will remain in effect until further notice:

- Town Hall
- Community Center
- Playground at the park, but not the park itself

The Easter Egg Hunt has also been postponed until further notice.

Atlanta Town Council meeting canceled

The Arcadia Town Council meeting originally scheduled for Monday, April 6, 2020, has been canceled.

Noblesville

NHS Alumni Banquet canceled

The REPORTER

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

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.

Noblesville cancels three upcoming meetings

The City of Noblesville has canceled three upcoming meetings:

- 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

Cicero

Cicero Town Council cancels meeting

The Cicero Town Council meeting originally scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, 2020, has been canceled.

Thanks for reading!

Hamilton County

Sports



Sports Editor Richie Hall

Rhall1977@gmail.com

Twitter: @Richie_Hall

Noblesville, Carmel, Westfield, Sheridan, Hamilton Heights, Fishers, University, Guerin Catholic, Hamilton Southeastern

IHSAA cancels spring sports season

The IHSAA announced the cancellation of the 2020 spring sports season on Thursday.

The announcement came shortly after Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb announced that all K-12 schools in the state would remain closed for the school year, instead using remote learning. The announcement came around 2:30 p.m., and the IHSAA released the following statement just before 4 p.m.

“The Indiana High School Athletic Association staunchly supports our Governor, our State Commissioner of Health and our State Superintendent of Public Instruction in their herculean efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are extremely fortunate in Indiana to have these exemplary leaders providing guidance and care to all Hoosiers.

“With the announcement today of the closure of K-12 schools throughout Indiana for the remainder of the school year, the IHSAA announces the cancellation of all spring sports tournament series events for the 2019- 20 school year.

“It is imperative that our students, coaches, officials, administrators and parents be encouraged in every manner to adhere to the guidance provided by our leadership. The Association understands the extreme seriousness of this pandemic and joins in support of current measures being implemented as well as future considerations. In unwavering support yet with extreme sadness, we must cancel our spring sports programming. We join all Hoosiers in anticipation of a triumphant homecoming back to our schools in the fall of 2020 complete with a full complement of IHSAA sports.

“The Association continues to remind its member schools and the general public to follow the guidance of the governor and the Indiana State Department of Health via [IN.gov/coronavirus.](https://www.in.gov/coronavirus/)”

Schools were originally set to open up on May 4, and there was hope that an abbreviated spring sports season could still take place. The IHSAA’s announcement left student-athletes, coaches and administrators across the state sad and disappointed that no one, especially the seniors, would be able to play for their schools.

Westfield athletic director Andy Tebbe posted a message on the school’s athletic website expressing his thoughts about the cancellation and empathizing with those who are being affected “physically and emotionally” by the COVID-19 pandemic and the toll it is taking.

“Our spring sport student-athletes and



Kent Graham/File photo

Noblesville’s Chloe Tragesser (left) is one of two Millers softball players that were supposed to play in their senior seasons this year. The IHSAA canceled the spring sports season on Thursday after Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb announced that all schools in the state would be closed for the remainder of the academic year. Also pictured is Fishers’ Courtney James, who was to play her senior season for the Tigers.

coaches find themselves living in an empty promise,” said Tebbe. “The promise of competing for championships, the promise of showcasing their improved skills and abilities that were developed over the past year, and the promise of playing a sport they have loved their entire lives. I wish I had answers or the right words to help you navigate through this experience. And for our senior student-athletes, this broken promise is tenfold.”

The full statement can be read [here](#).

The Noblesville softball Twitter account (@MillerSoftball) posted a tweet that celebrated the team’s two seniors, Chloe Tragesser and Rylie Moore. “Thank you for everything you have given to the program. The foundation you helped establish will be seen in many player’s future,” it said.

The Hamilton Southeastern baseball team was to enter the season as defending

Class 4A state champions. A tweet from the team’s Twitter account (@HSERoyalsBase) thanked the senior players and their families, saying they have “left an incredible mark on our program and we thank you for it.”

High school sports, like most sports across the country, have been at a standstill since mid-March. The cascade began after an NBA player tested positive for COVID-19, setting off the wave of postponements and cancellations across professional, college and high school sports.

The IHSAA was in the middle of the boys basketball tournament at the time, but it was suspended just before the March 14 regionals. After that, several schools closed and switched to remote learning, prompting the cancellation of the tournament. The last high school sporting event of the year, therefore, was the gymnastics state finals, which was

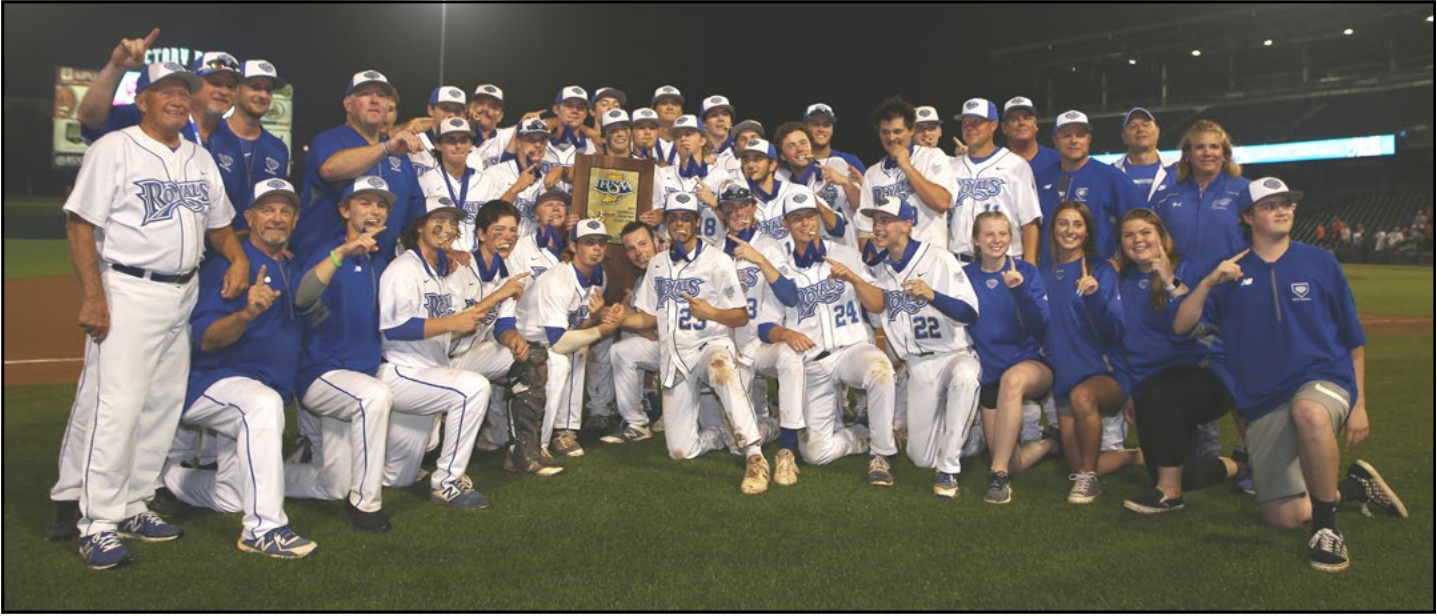
conducted March 14 in an empty Worthen Arena at Ball State University.

On Tuesday, Indiana University announced it had canceled all on-campus events through July 31. That included the IHSAA state track and field and state Unified track championships, which have been taking place at IU since 2004.

LACROSSE SEASON CANCELED

Also on Thursday, the Indiana High School Lacrosse Association and the Indiana Girls Lacrosse Association announced that seasons in the sport of lacrosse were also canceled. Lacrosse operates separately from the IHSAA.

The two organizations issued a joint statement (available [here](#)) that was posted on Twitter Thursday afternoon. “We hoped this day would never come, but like so many other professional and collegiate sports, we must do what is in the best interest of our players, coaches, and fans’ safety during this unprecedented pandemic,” the statement said.



Kirk Green/File photo

The Hamilton Southeastern baseball team was to enter the season as defending Class 4A state champions.

Reporter invites seniors to share their stories

The Reporter would like to invite senior athletes to tell their stories about their high school experiences in our new Senior Spotlight feature. It will give these student-athletes an opportunity to discuss the lessons they have learned from them and how they will use that experience after graduation.

All seniors who wish to participate can contact sports editor Richie Hall at rhall1977@gmail.com or by the Reporter’s Facebook page.

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Officials to receive 2020 Gardner and Ball awards . . .

Slater, Wier to be honored by Indiana Basketball Coaches Association

Game officials Jay Slater and Gary Wier will be recognized with special awards for 2020 by the Indiana Basketball Coaches Association.

Slater and Wier will be honored as respective winners of the Roy Gardner and Mildred Ball awards as outstanding officials throughout long careers on the hardwood. The two officials are being cited for their work impacting the game floor, Slater from 1986 to present and Wier from 1981 to 2013.

Slater just completed his 34th year of officiating and has worked the boys' basketball State Finals on four occasions and the girls' basketball State Finals on four additional occasions. The Sullivan resident is a member of the Wabash Valley Officials Association, which he has served as president, a board member and the group's baseball chairman.

Wier officiated for 32 seasons, including three times in the boys' basketball State Finals and five times in the girls' basketball State Finals. He was the winner of the 2013 Interscholastic Athletic Official Award for excellence in girls' basketball. The Plainville resident is a past member of the Southwestern Officials Association, and he retired from officiating at the end of the 2012-13 season because of knee issues that ultimately prompted a knee replacement.

The Gardner Award is named after the late Roy Gardner, a Lawrenceburg native, Ball State graduate and former Batesville High School math teacher who worked three boys basketball State Finals and officiated in the Big Ten from 1959-69. He passed away in 1977, and the IBCA has presented an award in his name since 1978. Gardner was inducted into the Ball State Athletics Hall of Fame in 1981 and the Ripley County Basketball Hall of Fame in 2003.

The Ball Award is named after Mil-

dred Morgan Ball, a graduate of Gary Roosevelt High School and Indiana University who served as an IHSAA assistant commissioner from 1977-97. During her time at the IHSAA, Ball was responsible for licensing and training of contest officials and also worked with the National Federation of High School Associations rules committee. The IBCA has presented an award in her name since 1997. She was inducted into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in 1998.

These awards typically are presented during the IBCA's annual clinic during April, but this year's clinic has been postponed from the original April 24-25 dates. The honorees will receive the awards at a date to be determined. For more information about the IBCA, go to www.ibcacoaches.com.

2020 IBCA Roy Gardner Award

Jay Slater of Sullivan is the winner of the 2020 Roy Gardner Award.

Slater is a 1976 graduate of Shakamak High School, where he played basketball and baseball. He later attended Heritage Environmental Institute.

Slater started his officiating career during the 1986-87 basketball season. Over 34 seasons, he has had the opportunity to work four boys' basketball State Finals (2008, 2011, 2014 and 2017) and four girls' basketball State Finals (2007, 2010, 2013 and 2016). He also worked two Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame Classic tournaments – the girls in 2003 and the boys in 2004.

Slater also is a football and baseball official. In football, he has officiated in two IHSAA championship games (Class 5A in 2014 and Class 6A in 2018) as well as the 2019 Indiana North-South All-Star Classic. In baseball, he has been voted the top district umpire five times by high school regional baseball coaches and has officiated in seven State Finals games

(2007, 2010, 2011, 2014, 2015, 2018 and 2019).

Slater also has officiated at all levels of college baseball for the past 18 years and in the American Legion program. His previous American Legion tournament assignments include 24 years of state sectionals, 18 years of state regionals and six years of American Legion State Finals. He umpired in the Great Lakes National American Legion Regional seven times (2008 in Chillicothe, Ohio; 2010 in Mattoon, Ill.; 2011 and 2012 in Midland, Mich.; 2013 and 2014 in Terre Haute; and 2015 in Alton, Ill.).

Slater is a member of the Wabash Valley Officials Association. He previously served as a board member and president of the association. Slater has served as the baseball chair for the past 15 years and lead clinician for the past 12 baseball clinics. He credits his success to the great group of officials he has worked with and learned from over the years.

Professionally, Slater has worked for Sony in Terre Haute for more than 29 years. He currently is the Safety and Environmental Specialist at Sony.

His hobbies include playing drums for his worship team at Abundant Grace House of Prayer in Sullivan and supporting his favorite sports teams – the Indiana Hoosiers, Cincinnati Reds and Chicago Bears.

Slater notes that he would not have been able to accomplish what he has in officiating without the love and support of his wife, Cindy. The couple has two adult children – Heather and Ashlee. They also

have seven grandchildren – Kate, Addie, Ridge, Sadie, Charlee, Lexi and Quinn.

2020 IBCA Mildred Ball Award

Gary Wier of Plainville is the winner of the 2020 Mildred Ball Award.

Wier officiated boys basketball and girls basketball for 32 years. During his officiating career, he worked 17 sectionals, 11 regionals, six semi-states and three State Finals in the boys' tournament (2003, 2007 and 2010). On the girls' side, he worked 21 sectionals, 16 regionals, eight semi-states and five State Finals (1999, 2002, 2005, 2008 and 2012).

He was the recipient of the 2013 Interscholastic Athletic Official Award for excellence in the sport of girls' basketball. He is a past member of the Southwestern Official Association. Knee issues and a subsequent knee replacement prompted Wier's retirement as a basketball official in 2013.

Wier is a 1978 graduate of Shakamak High School, where he excelled in basketball – at one time holding the school record of 1,206 points – and competed in track & field. He went on to Rend Lake Junior College, competing in basketball there and graduating in 1981.

He has been employed with the Indiana State Police since 1988.

Wier and his wife, Jill, have been married for 35 years. Jill Wier, who works in health care, officiated volleyball for 35 years; for 11 years, Gary and Jill officiated volleyball together. The couple has one son, Mitch, 30, a former U.S. Marine who has been employed with the Indiana State Police since 2014.



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