

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2020

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Partly sunny with scattered showers and storms until late afternoon.
Tonight: Partly cloudy, cooler, and less humid.
HIGH: 83 LOW: 60



People of faith in Fishers gather for Black Lives Matter

By LARRY LANNAN
LarryInFishers.com

It was a religious gathering to work for justice and peace at the Central Green in downtown Fishers. Representatives from various faiths spoke before a crowd of about 60 people. They came together as Christians, Muslims and those of the Jewish faith to declare that Black Lives Matter.

"Justice is what God is all about," Bishop Andrea Williams, the organizer of the Monday evening event, told the crowd. "Righteousness is what God is all about. Without truth there can be no justice, and without justice there can be no truth."

Muzaffar Ahmad, a 20-year resident of Fishers and a Muslim, said as an immigrant to the United States, he can practice his religion freely here. But, as with all other nations on the planet, there are injustices here.

"My humble request to everybody here is, do not let this momentum go away until we make this a better place," Ahmad told those assembled. "Keep coming back to these events, keep writing, keep yelling Black Lives Matter."

The crowd observed 8 minutes and 46 seconds of silence, symbolizing the amount of time a knee was on George Floyd's neck. The crowd then marched from Liberty Plaza down the Central Green, past City Hall to the Amphitheater.



Bishop Andrea Williams told the crowd on Monday that justice and righteousness is what God is all about.

STEAM kits will expand young learners' minds at Westfield Public Library

The REPORTER

The Westfield Library Foundation has been awarded a Powerful Communities – Local Impact Grant from Duke Energy. The grant funds a "Library of Things" for the Westfield Washington Public Library.

The "Library of Things" provides STEAM kits that can be checked out from the library. Young patrons may explore a variety of subjects including science, technology, engineering, arts and math. These hands-on kits foster curiosity and learning, as well as critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Kits include:

- All About Dinosaurs
- All About Magnet
- Building and Design
- Circuits and Technology
- Construction and Build
- Decimals and Rounding
- DIYs and Art Facts
- Electronics and Coding
- Estimation and Patterns
- Everyday Science
- Examine Science and Nature
- Food and Nutrition
- Gadgets, Gizmos and Gears
- Imagination and Stories
- Machines and Contraptions
- Math Patterns and Tactics
- Robotic and Coding
- Sounds, Music and Band
- Stamps and Drawing
- Understanding Our Universe

"These kits make learning fun by powering curiosity and generating excitement for STEAM-related careers," said Mark LaBarr, Duke Energy Government and Community Relations Manager in Hamilton County.

Erin Downey, Executive Director of the Westfield Library Foundation, said, "I am very excited about the partnership with Duke Energy. It provides new and focused programming for the patrons of the library, as well as demonstrates Duke's continued commitment to Westfield and Washington Townships."

"With summer looking very different this year, we are thrilled to provide an innovative, educational and fun program for our K-12 patrons. We are grateful to Duke Energy for their support," said Sheryl Sollars, Director of the Westfield Washington Public Library.



LaBarr



Downey



Sollars

Fishers mayor appoints Monica Heltz as new Public Health Director

The REPORTER

Fishers Mayor Scott Fadness has announced his appointment of Monica Heltz, DNP, MPH, APRN as Public Health Director of the Fishers Health Department. The Fishers Health Department Board approved the hire and appointment of Heltz at its last board meeting.

In her role as Public Health Director, Heltz will lead the development of the Fishers Health Department which was established in April 2020. The full-service health department is completing its transition of duties from the Hamilton County Health Department.

Since April 24, the

Fishers Health Department has, in parallel, launched Hamilton County's first dedicated, free COVID-19 testing center in addition to traditional health department services to support Fishers residents.

Heltz has two decades of public health experience, with experience in environmental health, tuberculosis, immunizations, home visiting, and sexually transmitted infections. Heltz joins the Fishers Health Department from the Marion County Public Health Department where she held

roles as nurse practitioner, Northeast District health office nursing coordinator, and TB program coordinator.

Heltz has presented regionally and nationally, with poster presentations at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement Annual Meeting, TB Controller's Association Annual Meeting, and American Public Health Association Annual Meeting. She has also presented nationally for the New Jersey Medical School Global TB Institute



Heltz

See Health . . . Page 2



File photo

Former bank building now leasing office space

By FRED SWIFT
ReadTheReporter.com

A downtown Noblesville landmark, the former Key Bank building, has been renovated and is now opening as an office building to be known as the Gordon Building.

Daren Ratcliffe, president of Noblesville Premium Properties, has announced an open house at the facility, 110 N. 9th St., to be held June 17 beginning at 4:30 p.m. The public may tour the building and enjoy refreshments and music until 6:30. Sixteen office suites are

now for rent in the historic building that housed banking institutions from 1910 until Key Bank closed the location last year.

Firms that lease space will have access to a conference room, a cafe-style break room, elevator service, parking, and a copy room.

Carmel Symphony Orchestra to hold virtual summer music camp

The REPORTER

From learning how to make a maraca to the special effects possible on a harp, kids of all ages will have plenty to learn this summer at Carmel Symphony Orchestra's "Virtual Summer Camp" to be presented with a series of eight short videos beginning June 15 and running weekly through Aug. 3.

The videos are free and each will be made appropriate for a specific age group. Each video features a member or special guest of the CSO.

Students who sign up will receive



Hymes

instructions on how to access each video through [Facebook](https://Facebook.com) and [YouTube](https://YouTube.com).

"With some of our educational programs postponed until next season, we wanted to make sure to have summer activities for our youngest audience members," said Janna Hymes, Artistic Director of Carmel Symphony Orchestra. "We are presenting these eight videos throughout the summer that are fun, enriching and captivating. We can't wait to see you online and share the wonders of music!"

See Music Camp . . . Page 2

Carmel firefighters distributing masks, hand sanitizer today at CVS

The REPORTER

The Carmel Fire Department has scheduled another COVID-19 information booth to hand out information on virus prevention and safety and answer questions from the public. Firefighters will offer free bottles of hand sanitizer and disposable face masks while supplies last. The type of masks being distributed are similar to what you would

find in a doctor's office waiting room.

CFD will be in front of the CVS Pharmacy located at 4721 E. 126th St. from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. today. The booth will be set up outside of the store east of the entrance.

During the event, representatives from CFD will wear masks and keep to physical distancing guidelines to avoid possible

spread of the virus. The event is open to the public and visitors should also wear masks and maintain proper distance from others as they approach the booth.

The goal of this booth is to provide the community with COVID-19 information, including handouts showing the City of Carmel and Carmel Fire Department "Best Practices" for dealing with the virus.



Your Friends in the Insurance Business

Visit our website at BraggInsurance.com

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MUSIC CAMP

Novel coronavirus – it’s still here

from Page 1

The first 25 to call the CSO office at (317) 844-9717 will receive a free T-shirt and ticket vouchers to upcoming concerts.

Below is the schedule for videos to be featured:

June 15: Laura Recendez - Make a maraca, learn rhythms, play along with Latin flute music. (Early childhood elementary)

June 22: Keli Fiesel Welsh - A series of short activities, rhythm, movement, echo. (Early childhood elementary)

June 29: Melanie Mashner – Harp demonstration and special effects. (Elementary-middle school)

July 6: Rich Dole – Trombone, Jazz Improvisation. (Middle-high school)

July 13: Melanie Mashner – Harp demonstration, special effects (2nd video, early childhood elementary)

July 20: Cooper Olsen – Our CSO Young Artist winner will be interviewed by Janna Hymes along with his teacher, Mimi Zweig. We will also feature pre-recorded violin performances. (Middle-high school)

July 27: Sarah McLaughlin – Song writing. (Middle-high school)

Aug. 3: Amanda Cornet – Creating a jingle for lyrics, program into BandLab App. (Middle-high school)

All videos are subject to change.

By **LARRY LANNAN**
LarryInFishers.com

There has been a lot in the news lately, but one consistent fact centers on the novel coronavirus – it is still here and continues to be a threat. Let's review the latest numbers.

In Indiana, as of this Sunday afternoon writing, the COVID-19 death toll stands at 2,121. The death toll in Hamilton County is 94. We still do not know how many of those 94 deaths are Fishers residents. The City of Fishers has promised that number will be released, but has not done so yet.

The numbers we do have for Fishers show 2,406 COVID-19 tests have been conducted, representing just under 2.6 percent of the city's population. 30 of those tests came back positive. Of the 30 positives, five of those residents were asymptomatic.

In the United States, 112,000 deaths have been recorded. Worldwide, the number of fatalities stands at 393,000. As you can see, our nation has 28 percent of the world's COVID-19 deaths. The U.S. has 4.4 percent of the world's population.

Health experts urge anyone who has participated in recent public demonstrations to get tested for novel coronavirus. Residents of Fishers have free testing available. To begin the process of obtaining a free test from the City of Fishers, use [this link](#).



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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.

- Standard autonomous emergency braking with forward-collision warning
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Intersection of Strawtown Avenue, Prairie Baptist Road closed

The intersection of Strawtown Avenue and Prairie Baptist Road is closed to thru traffic while safety improvements are made. Construction is expected to last for a period of 75 calendar days, tentatively opening up to all traffic by Aug. 24. Strawtown Avenue will be closed between Craig Avenue and Cyntheanne Road, and Prairie Baptist Road will be closed between Strawtown Avenue and 226th Street. Residents will continue to have access to their properties throughout construction.

More to CARES Act than stimulus checks

Submitted

Editor's note: The following was written by Peachin Schwartz & Weingardt (PSW). They are CPAs and advisors who deliver accounting, tax planning, consulting and assurance solutions.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Relief Act (CARES Act) provides many provisions for individuals above and beyond the well-publicized recovery rebate for individual taxpayers. Here are some of the additional provisions that could be beneficial to you depending on your personal situation:

Charitable Contributions

For tax years beginning in 2020, you can now deduct an additional \$300 in charitable contributions in addition to the standard deduction as a deduction against your income. If you itemize your deductions, there is no limitation on the amount of charitable contributions.

Retirement Plans

The CARES Act makes several changes to retirement accounts. To allow taxpayers access to their funds, the 10 percent additional tax on early distributions is waived for any qualified coronavirus-related distributions from a retirement plan. Eligible individuals who take such distributions can include them in gross income over a three-year span and have three years to repay the amount. The aggregate amount of distributions received by an individual which may be treated as coronavirus-related distributions for any tax year shall not exceed \$100,000.

To qualify as a coronavirus-related distribution, the distribution must be from an eligible retirement plan and be made on or after the date of the enactment of the CARES Act and before Dec. 31, 2020. In addition, it must be made to an individual who is diagnosed with the virus SARS-CoV-2 or with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) by a test approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or whose spouse

or dependent is diagnosed with such virus or disease by such a test, or who experiences adverse financial consequences as a result of the coronavirus. Adverse financial consequences can include consequences from being quarantined; being furloughed or laid off or having work hours reduced due to such virus or disease; being unable to work due to lack of child care due to such virus or disease; closing or reducing hours of a business owned or operated by the individual due to such virus or disease.

In addition, for the 2020 calendar year, the required minimum distribution (RMD) requirements generally applicable to retirement plans are suspended with respect to defined contribution retirement plans, including IRAs. As a result, plan participants and beneficiaries will not be required by law to take RMDs for the year. If the participant dies before minimum distributions have begun, and the entire remaining interest must be distributed within five years of the participant's death, then 2020 will be excluded from the five-year period.

Educational Assistance

Payments made before Jan. 1, 2021, by an employer to either an employee or a lender to be applied toward an employee's student loans can be excluded from the employee's income. The payments can be of principal or interest on any qualified education loan. An employer may pay up to \$5,250 each tax year toward an employee's student loans, and that amount would be excludable from the employee's income. The \$5,250 cap applies to the new benefit for student loan repayment assistance and other educational assistance already provided, such as for tuition, fees and books. Any excess of benefits is subject to income and employment taxes.

These are just a few of the provisions of the CARES Act. Please contact your CPA or financial advisor with any questions you may have regarding these new provisions.

Kingerys celebrating 50 years



On Saturday, June 13, 2020, Mel and Alice Kingery will celebrate 50 years of marriage. The Kingerys are former Noblesville residents who now live in Cleveland, Tenn.

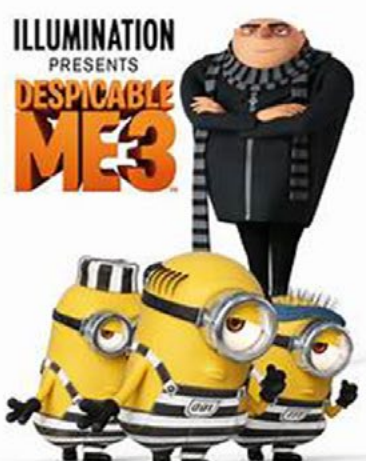
Photo provided

"Social Distancing"

FREE Outdoor Movies In Your Car at Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds



Friday
June 12th



FREE Movies for the public,
starts approx 9:15 pm
Watch movies in Your Car
and listen on the FM radio
Cars spaced min. 6 ft distanced

Call your local "eatery"
and bring your carry-out early
at 8 pm to the 4-H Grounds
for a "DINNER AND MOVIE" night

Visit Wafford Theater Facebook page for info and weather alerts

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TODAY'S BIBLE READING

Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands. But the multitude of the city was divided: and part held with the Jews, and part with the apostles.

Acts 14:3-4 (KJV)

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Meeting Notices

The Hamilton County Parks & Recreation Board will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2020, at the Cool Creek Park Nature Center, 2000-1 E. 151st St., Carmel.

The Noblesville Board of Public Works and Safety will hold a special meeting at 9 a.m. on Friday, June 12, 2020, in the Council Chamber at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St., Noblesville.

Public Notices

Notice of Adoption of Ordinances

Annexing Certain Real Estate to the City of Westfield, Indiana

Ordinance 20-15, An Ordinance Annexing Certain Real Estate to the City of Westfield, Hamilton County, Indiana, was adopted by the Westfield Common Council on June 8, 2020. The annexation area consists of approximately 45.45 acres +/- to be known part of the Chatham Hills subdivision, generally located on the west side of Horton Road south of 206th Street.

Ordinance 20-16, An Ordinance Annexing Certain Real Estate to the City of Westfield, Hamilton County, Indiana, was adopted by the Westfield Common Council on June 8, 2020. The annexation area consists of approximately 38.593 acres +/- to be known part of the Chatham Hills subdivision, generally located on the east side of the Horton Road north side of 199th Street.

These ordinances shall be effective in accordance with Indiana upon their passage by the Council, publication in accordance with law, and upon the passage of any applicable waiting period, all as provided by the laws of the State of Indiana. These ordinances in their entirety are available for inspection by contacting the Westfield Clerk-Treasurer's Office located at 130 Penn Street, Westfield, Indiana, or by calling (317) 804-3020.

Dated this 9th day of June, 2020.

6/10/2020

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Notice is hereby given that the City of Noblesville Common Council will hold a public hearing during its regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on June 23, 2020, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 16 South 10th Street, Noblesville, Indiana.

The purpose of the public hearing is to consider additional appropriation authority in the Cumulative Capital Improvement (CCI) Fund to fund the accelerated transition to Microsoft Office's 365 platform, which had been planned for 2021 but was made necessary in 2020 by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The foregoing appropriations are in addition to all appropriations provided for in the existing budget and tax levy.

Taxpayers of the City of Noblesville appearing at the hearing shall have a right to be heard in respect to this additional appropriation.

Dated this 10th day of June, 2020.

CITY OF NOBLESVILLE
/s/ Evelyn L. Lees, Clerk
6/10/2020

RL3485

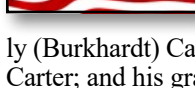
James R. Carter II July 28, 1950 – June 8, 2020

James R. Carter II, 69, Arcadia, passed away on Monday,



June 8, 2020 at Hancock Regional Hospital in Greenfield. He was born on July 28, 1950 to the late James and Frankie (King) Carter in Bonny Blue, Va.

Jim was a graduate of Noblesville High School and proudly served his country in the United States Army. For 37 years, he worked for Firestone Industrial Products, retiring as the National Account Manager. Jim was a member of First Christian Church of Noblesville and the Noblesville Lions Club. His priorities in life were Faith, Family, Friends and Service.



Jim is survived by his wife, Beverly (Burkhardt) Carter; sons, Chad (April) Carter and Brian Carter; and his grandson, Cole Carter.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, June 12, 2020 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan St., Noblesville, with visitation from 11 a.m. to the time of service at the funeral home. Pastor John Davis and Rev. Cheryl Russell will officiate. Burial will be at Oaklawn Memorial Gardens in Indianapolis.

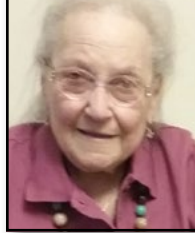
Memorial contributions may be made to American Kidney Fund, 11921 Rockville Pike, Suite 300, Rockville, MD 20852; or American Diabetes Association, 8604 Allisonville Road, Suite 140, Indianapolis, IN 46250.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Elvira Anna Marie Barchetta White

July 16, 1930 – June 7, 2020

Elvira Anna Marie Barchetta White, most commonly known as Vera, passed on peacefully on Sunday, June 7, 2020.



She was born of Julius and Emma Barchetta, both Italian immigrants, on July 16, 1930 and grew up in Detroit, graduating from Redford High School and Wayne State University. Vera continued her education several years later receiving her Master's degree in journalism from Ball State University.

She was a teacher of history, social studies and journalism and actually started the journalism program and school paper at Carmel Junior High in the late 1960s.

Vera taught for several decades and held her students to high expectations and standards. She was totally not politically correct and had little patience for whiney, well-connected parents who thought their children deserved special considerations.

Vera was an accomplished pianist and quite talented at art and all kinds of crafts. In the early 1970s, she learned to fly and successfully soloed in a Piper PA-28, an accomplishment that amazes her children now more than it did then!

Vera is survived by her three children, Mark (Linda) White, Eddyville, Ky., Michael (Deadra) White, Noblesville, and Julie (Bruce) Hanson, Baltic, S.D.; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in passing by her parents; her former husband, Bertram T. White; and her only granddaughter, Abigail Lynn White.

Arrangements and a private service will be provided by Randall & Roberts Funeral Homes. Burial will be at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Humane Society for Hamilton County, 1721 Pleasant St., Suite B, Noblesville, IN 46060.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Senior Home Companions earns top workplaces 2020 designation

The REPORTER

Senior Home Companions has been awarded a Top Workplaces 2020 honor by the *Indianapolis Star*. The list is based solely on employee feedback gathered through a third-party survey administered by employee engagement technology partner Energage, LLC. The anonymous survey uniquely measures 15 drivers of engaged cultures that are critical to the success of any organization including alignment, execution and connection.

"We are honored to receive the Top Workplaces 2020 designation," said Senior Home Companions President David Morgan. "We are a family here. We believe in hiring great people, creating a phenomenal work environment and serving our clients with open hearts."

Senior Home Companions is supported by 328 employees and a 90 percent retention rate. Employees gave top marks to the organization's level of engagement, professional development, satisfaction, service to clients and overall culture.

"Having a positive culture is everything," said Senior Home Companions Vice President Carrie Cash. "Not only is Senior Home Companions a fun place to work, but our success is rooted in the belief and embodiment of our core values of respect, integrity, compassion, effectiveness, stewardship, a commitment to community and fun."

"In times of great change, it is more important than ever to maintain a connection among employees," said Eric Rubino, Energage CEO. "When you give your employees a voice, you

come together to navigate challenges and shape your path forward based on real-time insights into what works best for your organization. The Top Workplaces program can be that positive outcome your company can rally around in the coming months to celebrate leadership and the importance of maintaining an employee-focused culture, even during challenging times."

About Senior Home Companions

Senior Home Companions provides non-medical, elderly care companion services to older adults in both Indiana and Florida. As a privately owned company, Senior Home Companions is dedicated to serving with integrity, effectiveness and compassion. For more information, visit senior-homecompanions.com.

About Energage

Energage offers a fully unified SaaS platform, plus support and professional services, to help organizations recruit and retain the right talent. As a B-Corporation founding member, Energage has committed itself to the purpose of making the world a better place to work together. Based on 14 years of culture research, the engine behind 51 Top Workplaces programs across the country, and data gathered from over 20 million employees at 60,000 organizations, Energage has isolated the 15 drivers of engaged cultures that are critical to the success of any business, and developed the tools and expertise to help organizations measure, shape and showcase their unique culture to achieve a sustainable competitive advantage. For more information, visit energage.com.



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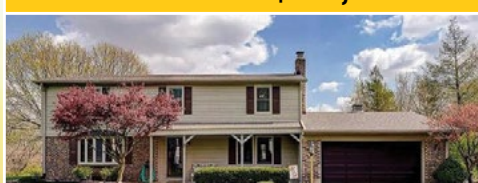
20645 Alpine Drive Noblesville • \$219,900

PENDING



Cute as a button ranch with 3 BR, 2 BA on large professionally landscaped lot, large family rm w/fireplace, new luxury vinyl flooring + new carpet, windows, siding and appliances, many other recent updates. BLC# 21706935

20045 Wagon Trail Drive Noblesville • \$394,900



Beautiful home 4 BR, 4 BA on over 1/2 acre in a serene neighborhood/no HOA. Backyard oasis w/16x32 in-ground pool/w cover, paver patio, decks, mini barn. Finished basement, wet bar, theater room, so much more to see. BLC# 21706931

302 Riverwood Drive Noblesville • \$149,900

PENDING



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

1103 Riverview Drive Greenfield • \$179,900

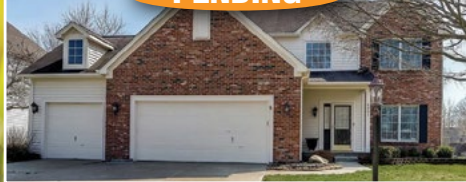
PENDING



Spacious and sparkling clean all brick ranch w/3BR, 2BA, hearth room w/brand new gas insert, all appliances stay in spacious kitchen, 4 season sunroom overlooks large deck, oversized garage + a shed for storage. BLC# 21706930

8861 Lavender Court Noblesville • \$329,900

PENDING



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

5818 Mill Oak Drive Noblesville • \$264,900

NEW LISTING!



Fantastic 2 story in popular Mill Grove w/3 BR, 2.5 BA, huge upstairs bonus room could be 4th BR, large kitchen has breakfast bar + center island, family room with fireplace, huge garage w/storage racks, park-like backyard w/custom 2 tier deck. BLC# 21711820

The Deak Team
REALTORS

Jennifer



F.C. TUCKER COMPANY, INC.

Peggy

Hamilton County Sports

Sports Editor Richie Hall

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

From "Straight Off The Couch" to state . . .

Teams from Carmel, Guerin Catholic, Westfield qualify for Team Finals

By RICHIE HALL

ULEN - Indiana's high school boys golfers are getting to play in their state tournament, and it is inspiring some creativity.

On Monday, the 2020 Boys Team State Qualifier took place at several golf courses around Indiana. Three Hamilton County programs – Carmel, Guerin Catholic and Westfield - had players competing at Ulen Country Club in Lebanon.

Since this isn't a school-sponsored event, it allowed the programs to field multiple teams, which GC and Westfield did. Guerin Catholic's teams competed under the name Pebble Brook Junior Golf, while Westfield formed the Rocks Junior Golf Club. As for Carmel? It only had one team, but it probably had the most creative name of the bunch: Straight Off The Couch.

Senior Clay Stirrsman explained the origin of the name.

"Throughout quarantine, you're not playing as much golf as you're used to," said Stirrsman. "I got the text that the guys wanted to play in this event. We tried to qualify when I was on the couch, and I said 'You know what? Why not 'Straight Off The Couch,' because that's kind of how it was."

For coming off the couch, the Carmel team did pretty well. SOTC had the low score of the Ulen qualifier with a 294. Junior Sam Booth led the way with a 68, the lowest individual score of the day. Luke Prall carded a 73 and Stirrsman, serving as the coach of the team, had a 74.

"I think we did well," said Stirrsman. "I think we weren't expecting too much, just come out here and have fun with four of the seniors, and Sam got to tag along. We had a great day and for Sam

to show up and lead the team is great. I think everyone enjoyed it, even though we haven't all been playing too much golf. We all had a good day and we're looking forward to Wednesday and Thursday."

The top three teams at the qualifier advance to the Boys Team Finals, which take place today and Thursday at Purdue University's Ackerman-Allen Course.

Guerin's Pebble Brook Junior Golf Team 1 finished in second place with a team total of 298. Andrew White was Pebble Brook's low man with a 72, followed by Connor McNeely with a 73 and Jacob Modleski with a 74.

Westfield's RJGC Shamrocks earned the third spot with a 312. Drake Biggs led the team with a 74.

The Team Finals begin at 11 a.m. today, with 18 teams competing in the event. The Shamrocks tee off between 11:50 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., with SOTC going off between 2:20 and 3 p.m. Pebble Brook starts between 3:10 and 3:50 p.m.

Several other teams with county players competed at other qualifiers across the state. Carmel sent a second team to Harrison Hills in Attica, Fox Prairie Noblesville and Golf Royals (Hamilton Southeastern) competed at The Players Club in Yorktown, as did two more Pebble Brook teams. RJGC had a team play at Brookwood in Fort Wayne.

AT ULEN COUNTRY CLUB

Team scores: Straight Off The Couch 294, Pebble Brook Junior Golf Team 1 298, Rocks Junior Golf Club – Shamrocks 312, Pebble Brook Junior Golf Team 2 314, RJGC – Future Rocks 337, RJGC – Team 1 341, Raiders Golf Club 346,



Reporter photos by Richie Hall

Carmel's Clay Stirrsman is part of Straight Off The Couch, which finished first at the Ulen Team State Qualifier on Monday. SOTC advanced to the Team Finals, which begin today at Purdue University's Ackerman-Allen Course.

Brownsburg Bulldogs 356, Tigers Golf 360, Team Trojan 373, Trojan Horse 417, Far From Par 419. SOTC scores: Sam Booth 34-34=68, Luke Prall 37-36=73, Clay Stirrsman 36-38=74, Lucas Stittle 38-41=79, Nick Katsis 42-39=81.

Pebble Brook Team 1 scores: Andrew White 37-35=72, Connor McNeely 36-37=73, Jacob Modleski 38-36=74, Ben Burgan 41-38=79, Christian Hein 40-46=86.

RJGC Shamrocks scores: Drake Biggs 36-38=74, Joe Sawyer 41-35=76, Alec Cesare 40-39=79, Nolan Hall 44-39=83, Spencer Howe

39-46=85. Pebble Brook Team 2 scores: Bryce Smerek 40-38=78, Connor Reitz 37-41=78, Jack Sciaudone 39-39=78, Leo Wessel 41-39=80, Scotty Smith 40-45=85.

RJGC Future Rocks scores: Cohen Steill 42-39=81, Matt Shull 42-41=83, Clark Schwartz 44-40=84, Gabe Nixon 45-44=89, Owen Gift 48-51=99.

RJGC Team 1 scores: Luke Snyder 46-38=84, Isaac Lutz 43-42=85, Camden Kooi 45-40=85, Brennan Decker 45-42=87, Jacob Riddle 48-42=90.



LEFT: Joe Sawyer plays for Westfield's Rocks Junior Golf Club and is part of the team that placed third and qualified for the Team Finals.

RIGHT: Guerin Catholic had two teams play at Ulen, with its Pebble Brook Junior Team 1 finishing second and earning a spot in the Team Finals. Pictured: Ben Burgan, Andrew White, Bryce Smerek, Connor McNeely, Jacob Modleski.



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Indiana Women's Player of the Year ready to say "I'm back" . . .

Brittany Kelly nears return to Woodland Country Club after ovarian cancer fight

By CHARLIE CLIFFORD
WISH-TV
Brittany Kelly is walking down the fairway at Ironwood Golf Club, just a 3 wood away from her parents' backyard, with a completely new perspective on life.

"I want to make sure I'm here for a reason, to help as many people as I can through this journey that I have had to go through," Kelly said.

Kelly, a former prep golf standout at Hamilton Southeastern High School and collegiate star at Ball State University, is a gift to golf and to aspiring young girls everywhere.

Kelly is the PGA assistant golf professional at Woodland Country Club in Carmel — coming off an incredible run of golf herself in 2019.

Quickly, let me rattle off what Kelly just pulled off:

- Indiana Women's Open Champion.
- Indiana Women's Player of the Year.
- Key member of the United States inaugural PGA Cup Championship team.
- Qualified for LPGA Championship at Hazeltine National Golf Club.

Those were just the major achievements.

Behind the scenes during the PGA Cup event this past fall, however, another battle was brewing. Kelly was dealing with a pain that wouldn't go away and after undergoing surgery during the winter to remove a mass half the size of a football, her worst fear was confirmed: cancer.



Photo courtesy WISH-TV

After an incredible run of golf in 2019, Brittany Kelly faced ovarian cancer this year. She began treatments in February, but her final treatment is scheduled for later this June, and she can't wait to return to her job as assistant golf professional at Woodland Country Club.

"It was Stage 1, Grade 3, clear-cell ovarian cancer," Kelly said. "They decided to start my first treatment at the end of February, six cycles (in total)."

Kelly quickly shared her story and the fight ahead. A battle cry of "BK Strong" spread across the central Indiana golf community via social media.

These days, she can get a few swings in ahead of the home stretch at the hospital. Her final treatment is right around the corner later this June.

"Oh, my gosh, she has been through a ton and she has handled it so well," said Brittany's mother, Joni Kelly. "Much better than I could have ever handled it."

Brittany's father, Ken Kelly, said, "Brittany, all of her life, has been a competitor and a fighter."

A few weeks after her final treatment, Kelly hopes to return to her home away from home, Woodland Country Club. July 1 is her target date to get back to helping members improve their

games and to start tinkering again with her own swing.

During our recent visit together, Kelly's boss at Woodland, Patrick White, put together a pump-up video for her treatment. It is clear, those closest to Brittany Kelly can't wait to hear her yell out a simple phrase — "I'm back."

"That is what I've been waiting for," Kelly said. "I want to get back. I want to see them (Woodland members). I want to be back to normal."

"They're awesome people and Woodland is a special club. I have a great staff, my boss is absolutely amazing."

There is a leaderboard out there of folks who show us how to live. And Brittany Kelly — is right near the top.



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