

All Hoosiers can now get free COVID-19 test

WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Beginning Monday, the state is opening OptumServe-operated sites to anyone who wants to get tested for the coronavirus, Dr. Kristina Box said during Friday's briefing from state officials.

Previously, testing was limited to people showing symptoms or in at-risk categories. The tests are free.

Children under 12



Box

years old can also be tested at these sites.

"We recognize that this is a significant change from our focus on high-risk individuals and those who are symptomatic," Box said. "But, our testing capacity has improved significantly since the start of this pandemic and we want Hoosiers to take advantage of that."

There are 204 testing sites. In Hamilton County, Hoosiers can find testing sites via the state's testing map at coronavirus.in.gov/2524.htm.

People who live outside of Indiana but work in Indiana must schedule an

appointment for the testing by calling 888-634-1116.

Earlier on Friday, the Indiana State Department of Health announced 452 new COVID-19 cases and 16 additional deaths.

In total, there are 39,146 cases of COVID-19 and 2,214 deaths related to the virus in Indiana.

According to the department, 335,180 tests have been administered in the state.

Election will bring not so obvious changes

While it may not appear obvious to the casual observer, last week's local election may signal big changes. For one thing, next year Hamilton County may well be represented in Congress by a foreign-born woman: Victoria Spartz.

Already a state senator, she is an American success story. Born 42 years ago in Soviet-controlled Ukraine, she is now an American citizen and Republican nominee for the United States Congress.

How did it happen? It is probably a long story, but the short version is that she met Jason Spartz from Noblesville on a train in Europe.

They fell in love, married and decided to make their home in Noblesville where the Spartz family are longtime residents. The couple now have two daughters.

Victoria pursued her education here, earning an MBA degree from Indiana University, among other impressive credentials.

But, getting elected in November may not be as easy as other Republicans have experienced in previous years. And, this is where we get into another of the changes signaled by last week's election.

For the first time in more than a century, the signs are that Republicans will have to campaign in the fall election. Democrats are on the prowl. Their candidates for president received 28,000 votes, which is an astounding number in Hamilton County, while GOP presidential candidates were getting 41,000. That margin is far less than Republicans want to see.

Democrat leadership, sensing a change in the wind, is pleading for candidates to fill the ticket which is now nearly devoid of county-level candidates.

More than 72,000 voters cast ballots in the primary, more than half by absentee or early voting. This may also signal change. This year the big early vote was largely due to the pandemic, but if voters find it convenient to vote in this way, it may become a popular method of voting and something election officials will have to prepare for.



FRED SWIFT
The County Line

See Changes . . . Page 2

Fishers Parks Department reopens city's playgrounds, water attractions

The REPORTER

Fishers Parks playgrounds and splash pads reopened on Friday, coinciding with Governor Holcomb's Back on Track Indiana plan. Saxony Lake & Beach opens Sunday, June 14.

Fishers Parks and the Department of Public Works plan the following:

- Fishers Parks playgrounds are open. Drinking fountains in Fishers Parks remain closed.
- Splash pads at Billerica Park and Holland Park are open. Face coverings

are recommended for ages 2 and up outside the water area (not to be worn in the water area).

- Saxony Lake and Beach opens on Sunday, June 14, and will be open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Shelter and facility rentals for up to 250 people continue. [Click here](#) to make a reservation.
- Athletic field rentals for non-contact sports for groups of 250 resume.

All park amenities are planned to be fully operational during Stage 5, which

is set to begin on July 4. This includes venue rentals for more than 250 individuals.

As Fishers Parks phases toward fully opening, under the guidance of the Fishers Health Department, residents are encouraged to take the necessary precautions to slow the spread of COVID-19:

- Practice social distancing: Stay six feet apart and avoid congregating
- Wash your hands frequently or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Wear a face covering if

you are over the age of 2

Fishers Parks' reopening schedule is subject to change dependent upon the Governor's Back on Track Indiana plan and subsequent Executive Orders.

Follow Fishers Parks on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) for the latest information on events and cancellations. Fishers Parks will reassess cancellations with each Phase of the Governor's Back on Track Indiana Plan.

To learn more about the Fishers Recovery Plan, visit FishersRecovery.com.

Tenth Street Photography donates \$800 to BGCN



Photo provided by Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville

Tenth Street Photography owners Fred and Lori Koppold recently presented a check to Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville (BGCN) Executive Director Becky Terry. Throughout the past two months, Fred and Lori partnered with the Club to raise funds through the Front Porch Project for Club Kids where clients were able to take part in safe, socially-distanced photography sessions that included a donation to BGCN. More than 30 local families participated in the promotion that raised \$800 for the Club.



Photo provided

This Black Lives Matter sign was vandalized two nights in a row last week in Carmel's Woodland Green neighborhood.

Vandalized BLM sign sparks Carmel sit-in

By DAN KLEIN
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

The vandalism of a sign in support of the Black Lives Matter movement has sparked an opportunity for black voices to speak in their community.

The vandalism happened to Ashten Spilker two nights in a row last week along the quiet neighborhood street she calls home in Carmel. But when two of her friends, who are black, asked for help to plan a sit-in and bring awareness to the issue, she jumped at the chance. The damaged sign is an experience which has changed her view of the neighborhood, saying it made her feel unsafe in a way she never expected to feel.

"This neighborhood means so much," Spilker said.

The home is one her grandparents lived in for more than 40 years before they passed away.

But her simple message of #BlackLivesMatter got more complex Thursday

morning. She woke up to find the sign vandalized, posting her first ever Facebook video. She fixed it, only to have it happen again on Friday. Still, she's clear this story, "this isn't about me, this isn't about my sign."

It may have ended there, until two of her friends from high school, both who are black, contacted her, asking for her help to plan a sit-in in Carmel.

So Sunday afternoon, June 14, there will be a rally at the Carmel gazebo with speakers, performers, food and even a raffle to raise money for causes like the bail fund.

Spilker said organizers are planning on reaching out to the Indy10 Black Lives Matter movement for suggested causes. It will feature minority-owned businesses. One of the speakers is the president of the Black Student Union at Carmel High School. There will be a march at the conclusion. Spilker initially planned for 60 people, but more than a thousand so far have shown

interest on social media.

Her message to the vandals is one you might not expect.

"As to who it was, that doesn't matter to me," she said. "I actually just need to say 'thank you.' Thank you for putting a fire under our butts to do something like this and put something like this on."

Spilker said she was shocked and saddened by the damage to her sign.

"But it also made me really determined," she said. "For a neighborhood that shaped me, this is what it shaped me into."

She said the Woodland Green neighborhood looks a little different now, even if the sign has been left untouched for almost a week.

"I would love to say no, but I think there are wounds that are going to have to heal," Spilker said.

The rally is planned for Sunday afternoon between 3 and 5 p.m. Spilker and the other organizers are meeting with Carmel police to map out a route for a march at 5 p.m.



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Hello, Hamilton County With Mr. Weatherman, Paul Poteet





Click to play video

Feel free to share The Reporter with friends and family.

Riverview Health changing visitation restrictions Monday

The REPORTER
As of Monday, June 15, Riverview Health inpatients who do not have COVID-19 or suspected COVID-19 may have one designated visitor.

Visiting hours are limited to noon to 6 p.m. every day.
To protect the health of all staff, patients and visitors, COVID-19 patients or those who are suspected to have

COVID-19 may not have any visitors.
Visitors must:
• Be 18 or older
• Not be ill
• Enter through Entrance 1

(Emergency entrance)
• Bring and wear a mask at all times
• Practice social distancing
• Not gather in waiting rooms or public areas

Recycled Cycles in Westfield holding sale, donation day Saturday, June 27

The REPORTER
A used bicycle sale and donation day will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 27, sponsored by Recycled Cycles at the group's repair shop at 840 E. Main St., Westfield. More than 20 top-condition bikes will be sold at

bargain prices. The bikes selected to sell are brands such as Trek, Giant and other quality names. Proceeds will be used to purchase parts to repair other bikes. Last year, Recycled Cycles repaired and gave away over 400 bicycles to deserving families who might not otherwise have

afforded new bikes for Christmas.
The shop is located at the top of the drive, northeast of Big Hoffas Smokehouse BBQ.
The group repairs child and adult bikes throughout the year under the sponsorship of Good Samaritan Network in Hamilton

County. Donations of any used bike will be accepted. Parts of unrepairable bikes are salvaged to make other whole bikes. Donation receipts will be issued for any bike dropped off.
All bikes will be inspected, repaired, lubricated and adjusted for safe use.

CHANGES

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Such a change would also mean candidates would need to find earlier and more effective ways of campaigning to catch voters' attention well before the actual election date.


Yet another change which will be seen as a result of the recent election is the power shift on the County Council. A more fiscally progressive faction on the seven-member council added another member at the expense of the sometimes reluctant more conservative faction.

County Commissioners were thrilled over this change because some of their plans for meeting future needs, as they put it, have been delayed or sidetracked by the council in recent years.

The unexpected defeat of Kim Good for county treasurer signals change in that office as Susan Byer

likely takes over in January. A staff shake-up is possible.

Amid all the possible changes, one position and one approach to county government is not likely to change. Steve Dillinger will remain a county commissioner, the longest-serving commissioner in the state. Assuming election in November, he will be headed for 36 years in office.



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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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Letter to the Editor

Westfield reader: Westfield Schools needs McGuire's leadership now more than ever

Editor's note: This letter is in response to the announcement by Westfield Washington Schools that Westfield High School principal Dr. Stacy McGuire will soon serve instead at Administrator of Alternative Learning.

Dear Editor:

My initial reaction seeing Dr. McGuire a.k.a. Stacy Mac not being WHS Principal yesterday was that of shock and then of love/appreciation. She and my mother graduated from WHS when it was still at the middle school, so my family has known her for a long time.

Dr. McGuire started her career at WHS as a biology teacher and became principal a short time later. She has impacted so many student's lives and has seen us go from under 100 students a class to over 500. Her leadership has been vital to our success along with all the building changes that have come with it, especially now.

Stacy Mac is dearly loved in our community by teachers, parents and students. Not to mention she is always at school events such as sports, band, theater and more with many times being at multiple events a day. With everything happening this past year, her messages of positivity got us through the toughest of times. From the '80s to now, her presence will be missed by all.

After having reviewed information pertaining to this decision, I feel that it is my responsibility to share what I have learned.

Dr. McGuire is being REMOVED as principal of WHS. This is a decision that was made by Dr. Grate and the school board with a 3-2 vote. I am appreciative to have Dr. Grate as our Superintendent, but this is the wrong move. This vote was held on Sunday, June 7 unbeknownst to the public.

We at WHS had no clue that Stacy Mac, OUR principal, might be "reassigned." This new position of Administrator of Alternative Learning for Westfield Washington Schools was created solely for her. Like many others, I did not understand why someone else could not be in this role. Especially with the aforementioned changes we are going through, we NEED Dr. McGuire's leadership.

Here's why. Dr. McGuire's contract is up for renewal at the end of next school year, 2020-21. This is being seen NOT as a promotion but as a way to push Dr. McGuire out of the school system. If she is in this new role, instead of the principal of one of the best schools in the state, it is easier to push her out. In every situation, we deserve transparency.

Last night, a student started a [petition on Change.org](#) protesting this move. There are currently over 2,800 signatures, and if you are upset by this move as I and many others are, I encourage you to take action.

Below are the email addresses of Dr. Grate and the school board members who voted in favor of this decision. School Board members Bill Anderson and Rebecca Ogle were the two no votes.

grates@wvs.k12.in.us
lutzdu@wvs.k12.in.us
pictora@wvs.k12.in.us
willisa@wvs.k12.in.us

If I am compromising my position at WHS by sharing this information, then so be it. As a former WHS mascot, my love for WWS and Stacy Mac is more important. Through truth and transparency is the only way business should be conducted, especially when it's a big decision such as this. Dr. McGuire is our ROCK and we need her now more than ever.

Sincerely,
Victor R. McCarty
 Westfield

Letters to the Editor do not reflect the opinions of The Reporter, its publisher or its staff. You can submit your own Letter to the Editor by email to News@ReadTheReporter.com.

Meeting Notices

The Carmel Redevelopment Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of Carmel City Hall, 1 Civic Square, Carmel. Public attendance will be limited to 25 people. A virtual executive session will precede at 5:30 p.m.

The Hamilton Heights School Board will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, in the Media Center at Hamilton Heights Middle School, 420 W. North St., Arcadia. An executive session will precede at 5:30 p.m.

The Noblesville Council Finance Committee meeting scheduled for 8:15 a.m. on Thursday, June 18, 2020, has been moved to room A214 at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St., Noblesville.

The Noblesville Police Merit Commission meeting scheduled for 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, has been canceled.

The Hamilton County Board of Zoning Appeals – South District will meet at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24, 2020, in the Commissioners' Courtroom/Council Chambers on the first floor of the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

The Hamilton County Board of Zoning Appeals – North District will meet at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24, 2020, in the Commissioners' Courtroom/Council Chambers on the first floor of the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

Jocelyn Vare calls for accountability at all levels of government

Fishers City Councilor participates in virtual Indiana Democratic Convention panel on WISH-TV

Submitted

As a panelist during the Indiana State Democratic Convention, which took place this year in a virtual environment due to safety concerns related to COVID-19, Fishers City Councilor Jocelyn Vare reiterated the need for accountability at all levels of Indiana government.

Appearing alongside Hoosier Women Forward founder Liane Groth and Indiana Young Dems president Arielle Brandy on WISH-TV on June 4, Vare reminded Hoosiers about the importance of voting for candidates who align with their values, not necessarily their political party.

"You don't have to be a Democrat to vote for Democrats," Vare said. "My election to City Council proves that – I earned support from both sides of the aisle. Fishers was a longtime Republican stronghold in Hamilton County, but in 2019 I was one of two Democrats elected to City Council, and I believe this represents a desire for better balance in our community. Voters in Hamilton County have experienced firsthand the consequences of one-party rule,

which starts with a complete lack of accountability. They demand leaders who put their interests first, regardless of party."

Vare says she believes that increased accountability is a first step in bringing about positive change in all areas of her community, including diversity, racial equality and improved community engagement across the board.

In a recent Facebook post, Vare thanked the Fishers Police Department for anticipating a new call for transparency and openly releasing use of force, training and other policies, as well as auditing and reporting standards on the City's website, but indicates this should be the beginning of a broader discussion in the community.

"We saw change in action at last week's Fishers Equity Awareness Demonstration, which was organized by local students who peacefully called for justice," Vare said. "In the coming days and weeks, I am committed to working with students, local activist groups and my fellow City Council members to deepen our community's conversa-



Photo provided

During the virtual Indiana Democratic Convention panel on June 4, Vare reminded voters that accountability is the first step towards positive change in the community.

tion about racial equality. It is incumbent upon all of us to open our minds to new ideas and learn about the history that has brought our country to this point. Now is the time for less talking and more listening."

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Latest COVID-19 mutation may indicate the virus is weakening

By DR. MARY GILLIS, D.Ed.
WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](#)

The most recent coronavirus mutation may indicate the virus is weakening, according to a new published paper. The article, published in the [Journal of Virology](#), was led by Efrem Lim, PhD and assistant professor in the School of Life Sciences at Arizona State University.

Lim and his team as-

essed the genetic code of COVID-19 using a new technology called next-generation sequencing, which is a method used to determine the order of chemical letters of a genome. The coronavirus' genetic material is made up of 30,000 chemical letters.

To assess the current COVID-19 genetic sequence, authors collected 382 nasal swabs from people potentially infected

with the coronavirus.

Results showed 81 chemical letters completely vanished from the coronavirus' genetic material – possibly indicating the virus might slowly becoming less potent. Plus, authors add, this is the first time in all of the COVID-19 mutations a permanent deletion of chemical letters occurred.

The novel coronavirus has mutated multiple times

since it was first discovered in November 2019. The latest viral change is similar to one that occurred in SARS over 15 years ago. SARS is also a coronavirus and when it mutated back in 2003, the mutation lessened the virus' strength.

While the study drew international attention, more research is needed to follow the coronavirus as it continues to spread, change and adapt.

State approves Anthem financial relief program for those affected by pandemic

The REPORTER

Indiana Department of Insurance Commissioner Stephen W. Robertson recently approved a request from Anthem to provide financial relief to individual plans and fully-insured employer groups in the form of premium credits.

The premium credits program ranges from 10 to 15 percent for Anthem medical plans and 50 percent for dental, which in-

clude individual grandfathered plans, small group plans, large group plans, and national accounts with Anthem medical and/or dental plans.

Anthem is providing \$14.4 million of financial assistance to Hoosiers to ease the burden COVID-19 is placing on affiliated health plans' consumers and employer customers, care providers and non-profit partners across the country.

The credit will be applied against the July premium – most customers will see the credit on their August premium invoice, reducing the premium amount paid by customers for that month.

"I want to personally thank Anthem for offering this premium credits program to help provide Hoosier employers some financial relief and assistance for their financial wellness during the COVID-19 pan-

demic when many individuals and employers are struggling," said Commissioner Robertson.

The Indiana Department of Insurance continues to issue news and update guidance regarding the actions taken by the Department as Indiana responds to the COVID-19 pandemic. Visit the Department's [COVID-19 Actions webpage](#) for links to current guidance.

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

And they called Barnabas, Jupiter; and Paul, Mercurius, because he was the chief speaker. Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people.
Acts 14:12-13 (KJV)

James Michael “Mike” Held November 27, 1945 – June 10, 2020

James Michael “Mike” Held, 74, Fishers, passed away on Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at his home. He was born on November 27, 1945 to Jim and Marian (Schmalstig) Held in Cincinnati, Ohio.



Mike was a proud graduate of Xavier University, and was a faithful member of Holy Spirit at Geist Catholic Church. Always the life of the party, Mike never met a stranger, and impacted countless friends and families

with his story-telling, quick wit, and his infectious laugh and smile. His wife Patti was his best friend, and the apple of his eye. He was a proud dad and “crapaw” to his grandkids who treasured his family every sport there was, being outdoors, and mostly, making others smile.

He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Patti Held; daughters, Karly (Adam) Stevenson, Lindsey (Jeff) Carmichael and Michelle Held (Jason Allen); siblings, Dave (Jane) Held, Marilyn (John) Whittman, Judy Held (Don Benge), Sue (Don) Bryant, Di Icenogle-Held, Joe (Nancy) Held and Barbee (Keith) Beito; grandchildren, Luke and Kinley Stevenson, Zoey Carmichael, Jakob Anderson and one little granddaughter on the way; in-laws, Bob and Virginia Ruchle; sisters-in-law, Sherry Bednarik (Bill Clary) and Lynn (Patrick) Broderick; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his grandchild, Clay Stevenson, in 2014.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at Holy Spirit Parish at Geist Catholic Church, 10350 Glaser Way, Fishers, with Rev. Michael Bower and Rev. Dan Gartland officiating. Visitation will be from 9:30 a.m. to the time of service at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Indiana Chapter, 11550 N. Meridian St., Carmel, IN 46032, or American Heart Association, 3816 Paysphere Circle, Chicago, IL 60674.

Condolences: [randallroberts.com](#)

Thanks for reading!

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7110 Oakview Circle Noblesville • \$379,900

PENDING

Stunning 4 BR, 2.5 BA in Oakbay. Updated kitchen with new SS appliances, wine fridge. Master BA redone 2020, finished basement, park-like backyard, 3-car garage with workshop. BLC# 21714855

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

PENDING

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

2618 Inlet Drive Cicero • \$489,900

NEW LISTING ON THE WATER!

On the water beautiful 3 BR, 2.5 BA ranch with walkout lower level, updated kitchen and baths, outdoor kitchen on deck, screened porch lower level, boat dock and lift included. BLC# 21716575

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 one. BLC# 21698357

5818 Mill Oak Drive Noblesville • \$264,900

PENDING

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

Jennifer

Peggy

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Hamilton County Sports

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Sports Editor Richie Hall

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Twitter: @Richie_Hall

Raising \$2,000 for RBI Indy . . .

Reds star Tucker Barnhart, other pro and college players come to Grand Park

By RICHIE HALL

WESTFIELD - After months of lockdown and quarantine, so many people are ready to get outside and play ball – from the little kids to Major League Baseball players.

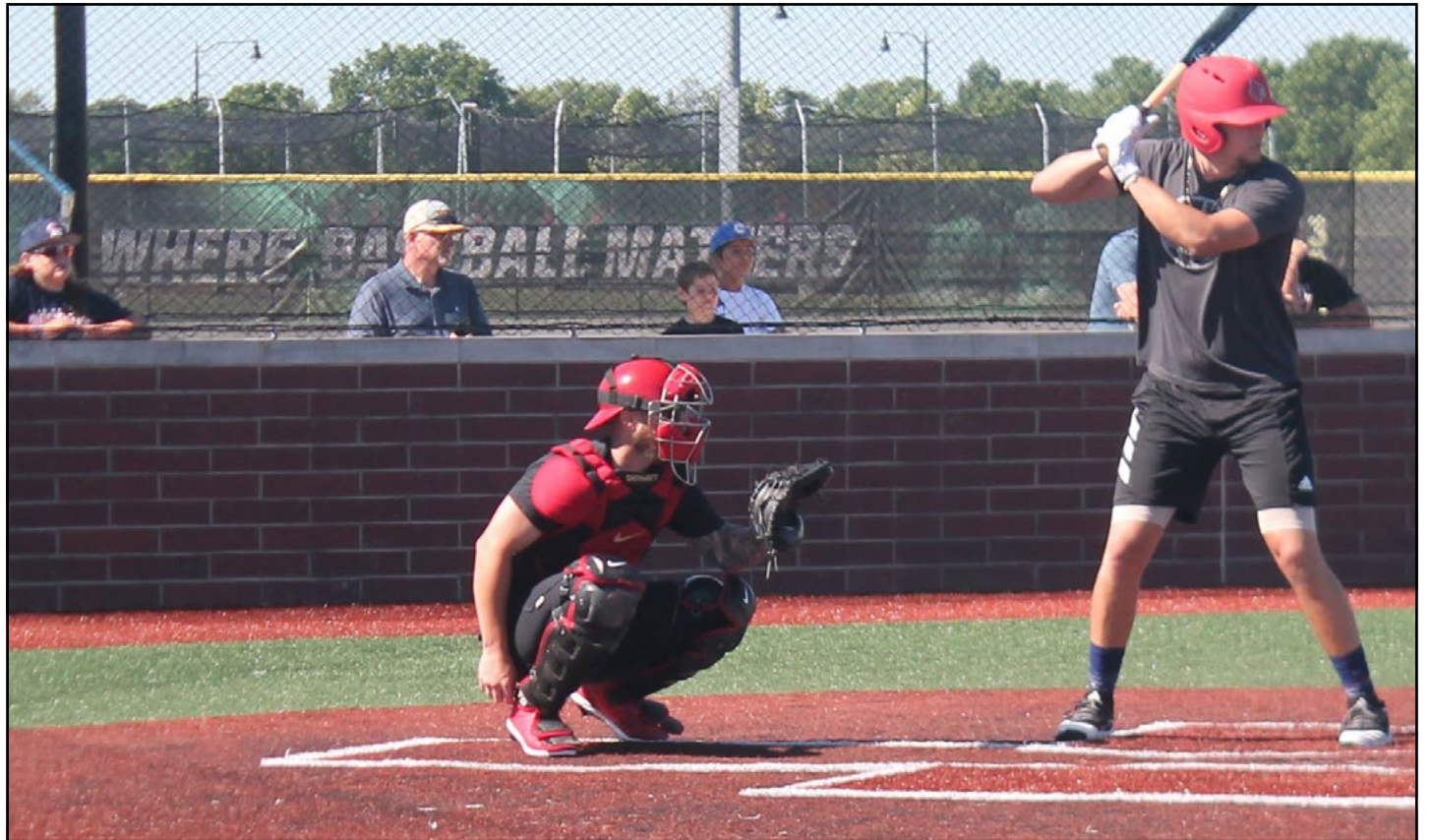
A few of those major-league stars made their way to Grand Park Friday morning, including Tucker Barnhart. The Cincinnati Reds catcher posted on Twitter earlier in the week about having a workout at some of the fields on the campus. Barnhart and some other players had been doing that at ProX in Westfield, but the Brownsburg native and former Mr. Baseball tweeted out the suggestion of going outside.

“I was kind of naïve in thinking it wouldn’t really explode a little bit,” said Barnhart. “Once I started getting texts from guys in Ohio and a couple from Kentucky, I was like ‘Oh, boy, this could be a little bit larger than I thought,’” said Barnhart.

Fairly soon, it wasn’t just other players expressing interest. Fans asked if the workout would be open to the public. Barnhart liked the idea, and suggested raising donations for a charity. A \$5 admission was established, with the proceeds going to Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities (RBI), an MLB youth outreach program designed to increase participation and interest in baseball and softball among underserved youth.

The result was a resounding success – a home run, if you will. A good time was had by the players and the fans, and \$2,000 was raised for RBI. Barnhart met with people from RBI and some young players after the workout.

“We were bouncing around some ideas, and when the idea came up of RBI,



Reporter photos by Richie Hall

Cincinnati Reds catcher Tucker Barnhart gets into position during a practice for pro and college baseball players that took place Friday morning at Grand Park. Barnhart, a Brownsburg graduate and former Mr. Baseball, joined his fellow players in helping to raise \$2,000 for Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities (RBI), a Major League Baseball youth outreach program.

it was a no-brainer,” said Barnhart. “Obviously they have a great relationship with Major League Baseball, so that’s one of things.

“For me, some of the best advice I’ve ever gotten growing up, and I told it to the kids, was ‘Never be bigger than the game.’ And to me, what that means and the way that I take that is, whenever you

are in a position to give back things that you were taught growing up that helped mold who you are, not only as a player, but as a person, I feel like RBI does a great job of that. They give opportunity to people that may not have always had opportunities to get out and play.”

Barnhart wasn’t the only former Mr. Baseball in attendance. MLB veteran Clayton Richard, a McCutcheon star who also won the Mr. Baseball award, was there to throw a few pitches as well, with Barnhart catching him. Around 40 college and pro players wound up attending, and so did many fans.

“As players, we feed off fans, whether it’s five or whether it’s 50,000,” said

Barnhart. “It’s a blast to play in front of people. I’m a baseball fan. So for me, just being able to sit on the side and watch guys play and watch guys compete. That makes you want to do better.”

While the whole event was fun, Barnhart admitted that he hopes they don’t do it again – that would mean the players are in Spring Training and ready to get out and play ball.

“If we have to do it again, there’s no better place to do it than here,” said Barnhart. “We got a really good contingent of guys that came out today, and then I think that it’ll only get bigger if we ended up doing it again. In my opinion, it went well.”

Grand Park recognized as “Best Soccer Facility” in 2020 by Connect Sports

This week, the Grand Park Sports Campus was recognized as one of the top soccer facilities in the country. Connect Sports, a national media outlet, conducted a nation-wide poll of sports industry professionals to choose their preferred facilities. Grand Park finished as a front-runner in the “Best Soccer Facility” category.

“Anyone who has been to Grand Park knows that we work hard to get it right,” said Mayor Andy Cook. “We built the campus to create an economy for our city. We have been successful at that. Our continued success has been in the ability to strive year-after-year to be the best sports campus in the country.”

“We take great pride in providing quality – both on and off the field,” said William Knox, Grand Park Director. “Our team is dedicated to field maintenance to create the best playing surfaces in the country. It is an honor for our work to be recognized. We are thankful for all of the athletes, tournament organizers and families that choose Grand Park.”

A premier facility for soccer, Grand Park features 31 multi-purpose fields along with ample parking for large-scale tournament events. The soccer facilities include seven synthetic fields with lighting, 23 natural grass fields and one championship field with lights – all featuring

See *Grand Park* . . . Page 6



MLB veteran Clayton Richard throws a few pitches at Grand Park. Richard is a McCutcheon graduate and former Indiana Mr. Football and Mr. Baseball.

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Harris, Bruch also finish in top 10 . . .

Cailyn Henderson places third at Women's State Amateur Championship

Westfield's Cailyn Henderson finished third at the Indiana Golf Association Women's State Amateur Championship, which concluded with third-round play Friday at Old Oakland Golf Club in Indianapolis.

Henderson, who just completed her sophomore season at the University of Indianapolis, had a Friday score of 74, resulting in a three-day total of 214. Henderson was two under par for the tournament and made three birdies in her third round.

Erica Shepherd of Dye's Walk Country Club won the championship, totaling a seven-under par 209 for the event. Shepherd had an under-par round all three days and carded a three-under 69 on Friday, making a birdie on five of her last 10 holes.

Julia Potter-Bobb of Indianapolis was the runner-up, shooting a 213 for the tournament. Potter-Bobb scored 73 for her final round.

Two other Hamilton County golfers finished in the top 10. Carmel's Haylin

Harris tied for fifth with a three-day total of 223. Harris scored a 74 on Friday, making two birdies.

Westfield's Jocelyn Bruch took eighth place, totaling 227. Bruch shot a 75 for her third round, also getting two birdies.

Here are results for other Hamilton County players:

82-91=257; Erin Evans, Carmel, 89-86-82=257, 63. Michaela Headlee, Carmel, 90-82-86=258, 64. Elizabeth Hedrick, Carmel, 91-86-83=260, T65. Caroline Whallon, Noblesville, 85-90-86=261; Sarah Brenneman, Noblesville, 84-92-85=261, T67, Kaylee Imel, Carmel, 89-91-83=263, T71. Mckayla Tallman, Westfield, 91-87-87=265, 74. Ellie Karst, Noblesville, 85-89-93=267, 81. Taylor Caldwell, Noblesville, 95-96-95=286, 85. Shelley Kohlmeier, Noblesville, 106-102-102=310.

Third-round birdies made: Kuc 1, Lewis 1, Hruskoci 1, A. Hedrick 1, Beeson 1, E. Hedrick 1, Whallon 1, Brenneman 1, Imel 1, Tallman 1.

T15. Sophie McGinnis, Westfield, 73-77-83=233, T25. Katelyn Kuc, Carmel, 78-81-79=238, T28. Morgan Lewis, Fishers, 79-82-78=239; Sydney Hruskoci, Fishers, 81-73-85=239, T30. Angelica Pfefferkorn, Carmel, 79-82-79=240, T38. Ava Hedrick, Carmel, 83-83-78=244, 47. Macy Beeson, Noblesville, 88-76-83=247, T60. Kennedy Brooker, Fishers, 84-

GRAND PARK

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state-of-the-art irrigation and drainage. The park also features upscale concession/restroom buildings. Centrally located in Westfield, Indiana, Grand Park Soccer Fields have hosted many high-profile events, including Big Ten Soccer Finals and US Club Soccer's NPL Finals and National Cup, and is the official training facility for Indy Eleven USL professional soccer team.

To read the full listing by Connect Sports, visit <http://www.connectmeetings.com/sports/features/bestsports-facilities-2020-edition>.

To learn more about Grand Park facilities, visit <https://grandpark.org/facilities/>.



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