

SATURDAY, DEC. 11, 2021

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Early showers, then mostly cloudy, with temps falling into the upper 30s. Wind gusting to 40 mph.
Tonight: Clearing and cold. Wind gusting to 20 mph.
HIGH: approx. 60 LOW: 27



Fishers students sweep state ‘We the People’ competitions

The REPORTER

Fishers High School has won the 2021 Indiana Bar Foundation We the People High School competition. The 12-member team emerged from a group of 11 schools to win the state title. The team is coached by Liz Paternoster.

Fishers Junior High School won Tuesday's We the People Middle School competition.

"These students are such excellent representatives of their schools and themselves," said Bar Foundation President and CEO Charles Dunlap. "To emerge from this high-level competition as champion reflects the effort invested in preparation and practice."

Other awards presented

- Second Place: Hamilton Southeastern High School
- Third Place: Plainfield High School

Unit-specific awards

- Unit 1: Castle High School, Newburgh

- Unit 2: New Palestine High School, New Palestine
- Unit 3: Franklin Central High School, Indianapolis
- Unit 4: North High School, Evansville
- Unit 5: Homestead High School, Fort Wayne
- Unit 6: Covenant Christian, Indianapolis

We the People is a curriculum-based national program to help students better understand the philosophies, application, interpretation, and evolution of the U.S. Constitution and enhance civic education in schools across the nation.

After studying the We the People curriculum, participating classes research and prepare for competition. Students prepare statements covering six units of study, present those to a panel of judges in a Congressional hearing format, and then answer questions related to the topic. Classes are then scored by a panel of three judges.



Photo provided
The 12-member Fishers High School team will represent Indiana at the We the People National Finals next spring.

Fishers High School will represent the state in the We the People National Finals in the spring.

TODAY: Carmel PorchFest at Midtown Plaza

The REPORTER

Come out to Midtown Plaza in Carmel from 2 to 4 p.m. for holiday music from PorchFest musicians, food and beverage vendors, and a visit from a surprise guest at this family-friendly event. Midtown Plaza is included on the Carmel Holiday Trolley route, sponsored by Allied Solutions, which runs from 2 to 9 p.m. today.

Musical groups will include Sweet Tunes at 2 p.m., Typical Summer at 2:30 p.m., Odd Man In at 3 p.m., and Keller & Cole at 3:30 p.m.

[Click here](#) for event details.

Applicants seek \$70M in Rescue Plan Act funds

By FRED SWIFT
ReadTheReporter.com

Hamilton County officials have received 109 applications for funds from the American Rescue Act grant of \$65.5 million received from the federal government. The money is designed to compensate local government agencies, small businesses and non-profit community assistance organizations for losses suffered during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The applications total \$70,041,611. Thus, not everyone is going to get all that they requested, but most will benefit substantially. This became clearer Wednesday when county commissioners and council members gathered to review applications from small business owners. No final decisions were made but will likely be known next week when officials meet again.

The huge relief grant comes in two parts: \$32.7 million this year and the same amount in June of next year. The grant was made to county government while millions more were given to Hamilton County's eight cities and towns, based largely on population.

County government agencies and offices are seeking \$10.9 million, with about half of this already approved for massive drainage improvements, parks and other county operated facilities and services.

Sixty-one private businesses have applied for \$6.75 million. No awards have been granted pending more investigation. Action is likely to be taken on these applications on Dec. 14.

Thirty-nine non-profits and charitable groups within the county have applied for \$19.2 million with three approvals granted for \$3.3 million so far. A decision on the remaining 36 requests is expected next week.

Lady Huskies invite you to ‘Pink Out for Breast Cancer’

The REPORTER

Put on your pink and plan to attend the Hamilton Heights girls basketball team's second annual Pink Out on Tuesday, Dec. 14 where the Huskies take on the Bishop Chatard Trojans. The game will be on the Huskies' home court beginning at 6 p.m. for the junior varsity game followed by varsity play at 7:30 p.m.

Pink Out for Breast Cancer is designed to help raise awareness and money for those battling breast cancer. About one in eight U.S. women (about 13 percent) will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime. In 2021, an estimated 281,550 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed in women in the U.S. About 2,650 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed in men this year.

During half time of the varsity game nine local breast cancer survivors will be honored and recognized. In addition, back by popular demand is the Chuck a Duck event (\$5 for three ducks). Guests will have the opportunity to chuck their way to a chance to win four dif-



Photo provided
Members of the Hamilton Heights girls basketball team cordially invite the community to wear pink and come out in force in support of breast cancer survivors at their second annual Pink Out on Tuesday, Dec. 14 at Hamilton Heights. Proceeds from this event will be donated to the IWIN Foundation.

ferent gift cards kindly donated by local businesses. Special thanks to Big Dog's BBQ, Pizza House, and 10 West in Cicero for their donations of \$50 gift cards and to Jennifer Jacobi for \$25 gift card for Chantilly Crepes. The ducks can be purchased at the game, or through a player or player parent.

All proceeds will be donated to the IWIN Foundation, based in Indianapolis. IWIN has been supporting individuals statewide receiving treatment for breast cancer by relieving emotional, physical, and financial burdens and much more for more than two decades. The basis of the IWIN Program is to give these courageous individuals the strength to endure treatment, empower them to continue their fight against breast cancer, and place them on the path to survivorship.

Noblesville firefighters quickly put out Friday morning residence fire



Photo provided by Noblesville Fire Department
Just before 6 a.m. Friday, the Noblesville Fire Department (NFD) responded to a residence fire at 708 St. James Place. Crews were met with heavy smoke and fire extending from the home. Firefighters were able to make an aggressive exterior attack and quickly extinguish the fire. The homeowners were not home at the time. Hamilton County Communications dispatched the fire after a citizen driving by saw smoke coming from the home. There were no injuries to citizens or firefighters. The cause and origin of the fire are still under investigation. NFD was assisted by the Noblesville Police Department.

Ten Westfield freshmen tapped for ACTS youth leader program

The REPORTER

Congratulations to these 10 Westfield High School freshmen who have been chosen to represent WHS in this year's A Chance To Serve (ACTS) program.

The 2021-22 WHS ACTS students are:

- Angelina Abriani
- Cooper Bohn
- Drew Law
- Gabby Smith
- Johnny Ewing
- Mayah Lopez
- Megan Krueckeberg
- Mialena Gordeua
- Michael Mannella
- Mikeah Webster

ACTS is a youth leadership program put on by Purdue University Extension. Ten freshmen (nominated by their teachers) from each of three schools – Westfield, Hamilton Southeastern, and Noblesville – will meet to learn how to have a leadership voice in their schools and communities.

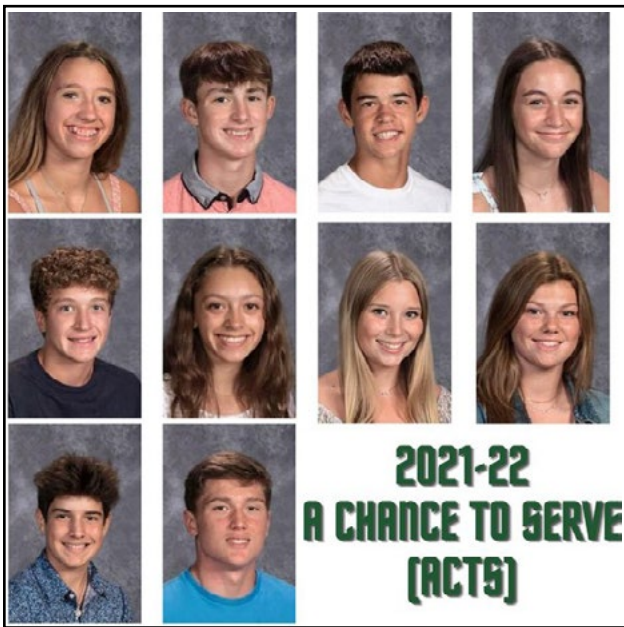


Photo illustration provided
These kids will meet six times throughout this school year. Each of the meetings will have a different focus and the students will be able to get a taste of how things work in the community.

At the end of the year, the students will select a community board they will serve on as voting members throughout their sophomore year. Mentors from these organizations will work with the students throughout the year.




**From our family to yours,
We wish you a
Merry Christmas!**





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Home Auto Business Life



191st Street reopens, some work ongoing

Effective immediately, 191st Street between Cyntheanne Road and Prairie Baptist Road is open to all traffic. Some incidental work may still be ongoing, so be sure to use caution while driving through this site. Your continued patience during construction is appreciated. Safe travels!

Prevail's Winter Appeal is Out!

Since 1986, Prevail has provided healing to over **75,000** community members.

YOUR support makes that possible.

We need YOU to save lives!



Click to Give

Heights COVID update from Supt. Arrowood

This week we received 17 positive test confirmations for four high school, six middle school, five elementary school students, and two staff members. We have followed our established protocols as outlined in our **Re-Entry Plan** and continue to work in collaboration with and under the guidance of our local and state health partners. We send our best wishes for a

COLUMNIST



DR. DEREK ARROWOOD
Heights Superintendent

full and speedy recovery.

Hamilton County remains at the Orange Advisory Level (2.5) indicating a high spread with the recommendation to increase self-protective measures. Our local health officials continue to emphasize the importance of vaccination, boosters, and other prevention strategies needed to protect against COVID-19 and the flu.

Latest COVID report for Hamilton Heights

Positive Confirmations, Dec. 6-10

High School: 4
Middle School: 6
Elementary School: 3
Staff: 2


Thank you for being mindful of the impact we each have on the health, safety, and well-being of others and continuing to follow good health and safety practices in this season of celebration.

#WeAreHuksies

Hello, Hamilton County
With Mr. Weatherman, Paul Poteet



Click to play video



Advocating for
Victims of Crime and Abuse
prevailinc.org






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:

- Individually packaged snacks
- Lysol
- Hand sanitizer
- Disinfecting wipes

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



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TEST DRIVE TODAY



Photo provided

Second show added for *Croce Plays Croce*

March 19 concert at the Tarkington in Carmel will have performances at 5 & 8 p.m.

The REPORTER

Due to popular demand, the Center for the Performing Arts has added a second performance when *Croce Plays Croce* comes to the Tarkington on March 19, 2022.

The production features singer-songwriter A.J. Croce paying tribute to his late father, Jim Croce, a folk-pop singer who died in a 1973 plane crash while his star was still on the rise. Along with such hits as "Operator," "You Don't Mess Around with Jim" and "Time in a Bottle" (written for A.J.

himself), the performances will include the younger Croce's original material and other classic songs that influenced both artists.

The 8 p.m. show at the 500-seat theater is sold out. The new 5 p.m. show is on sale now, with tickets at \$55 and \$65, a selection of student/youth tickets at \$15, and discounts for military personnel and first responders. Tickets are available at the Palladium Box Office, online at TheCenterPresents.org and by phone at (317) 843-3800.

Croce Plays Croce is part

of the Center's Katz, Sapper & Miller Pop/Rock Series and the 2021-2022 Center Presents Season sponsored by Allied Solutions.

For these performances, all patrons regardless of age must show proof of COVID vaccination or a negative test taken within 72 hours of the performance. The Center also requires masks or face coverings to be worn at all times in the venues, except when actively eating or drinking. The latest health and safety policies and protocols are available at TheCenterPresents.org/Health.

Democratic State Senators respond to Governor Holcomb's vaccine push

Submitted by Indiana Senate Democrats Press Office

Indiana has seen a sharp increase in COVID-19 cases in the past two weeks, reaching numbers not seen in nearly a year.

Concurrently, Statehouse Republicans announced their priority legislation that would directly oppose the wishes of businesses and healthcare leaders, even as Indiana remains 39th nationwide in vaccination rates and is one of six states that make up more than half of recent U.S. hospitalizations.

State Senators Tim Lanane (D-Anderson) and Fady Qaddoura (D-Indianapolis) released the following statements:

"I appreciate Governor Holcomb speaking out about the importance of the COVID vaccine in recent days, but we are a long way from fixing the lasting,



Lanane

sometimes deadly, effects of its irresponsible politicization," State Sen. Lanane said. "As I say in my op-ed, 'Over the past two years, Republican state leaders have shown persistent ambivalence or outright opposition to vaccination efforts across Indiana.' HB 1001 is just the most recent example of it. Indiana's skyrocketing hospitalization rate isn't random – it's the tragic outcome of a partisan war on public health and safety. Republican leaders need to step up and get Hoosiers vaccinated, now."

"Governor Holcomb is



Qaddoura

right to support businesses' ability to mandate vaccines if they choose," State Sen. Qaddoura said. "HB 1001 is bad for business, bad for Hoosiers and puts an unfunded mandate on all sizes of businesses. Indiana is already lagging in vaccination rates – the last thing we should be doing is discouraging folks from getting vaccinated. I hope that all of my colleagues will join Governor Holcomb's call for vaccines and allow businesses to make the best decisions for their business. We shouldn't politicize Hoosiers' health or lives."



Holcomb

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The Feeding Team meets a veteran at local food pantry

This month's column is about a neighbor we met almost two years ago while stocking pantries in Northern Hamilton County. This was our first encounter with a veteran in need.

We have come to learn that much of Northern Hamilton County is a food desert, and meeting "Arch," who was already at the pantry that Friday we learned a great deal more.

You see, Arch was a retired Navy veteran with a big, bushy, full beard. His hat proudly reflected his service in Vietnam – it was pristine and showed zero wear. He was dressed well, sporting full old-school suspenders, and he walked with the aid of a cane. Arch is in his eighties and lived alone in a small apartment nearby. He had no transportation but walks to the pantry every few days to collect meals.

He immediately engaged us as we walked up with crates of food to load. "Why are you doing this," he wanted to know, "are you part of some church or are you just nuts?" He laughed as he asked the question. We answered his questions and explained what Feeding Team is about and our mission is to always have a meal available when any neighbor is hungry.



COLUMNIST
MARK HALL
The Feeding Team Feature

Arch explained that he has a pension, and after paying his rent and utilities, he was left with slightly over \$100 to feed himself each month. Living in a food desert, he could get eggs and milk

at the gas station but relied on the pantries to get meals. We thanked him for his service and helped him load up his bag with whatever he wished. Arch was both thankful and gruff. He appreciated the anonymity that the pantries afforded and at the same time resented his need for them.

It was disheartening to see a veteran living in Hamilton County in such a situation. We explained that hundreds of neighbors come together to support food-challenged neighbors just like him.

Arch and the thousands of other food-challenged neighbors in Hamilton County are why we do this. Many friends ask, "Why do this? What's in it for you?" The answer is always the same: Serving people feeds my soul. It is a calling, not work.

There were many suppers when we as a young couple with young kids could only afford Dinty Moore beef stew and a potato for dinner. Surreal moment. This is why

FeedingTeam.org
Facts
36 pantries
6,000 meals in September
24 volunteer families
Festival pantry donations exceeded 7,500 items

the pantries exist. As a typical young family, we could not always make ends meet. Arch needs food too.

This is why feedingteam.org exists – all starting from a can of beef stew. Thank you for embracing the pantries. We love serving with you.

In future columns we will share more stories from neighbors about how your generosity served them in times of need. Be assured that the face of hunger in Hamilton County is not what you may think.

In practical terms, this simple way to help neighbors is having real impact on lives, families, and our communities. Thank you. A few meals can change the course of a person's life. A can of green beans means so much more when you have nothing to feed your kids. Want to get involved? Go to feedingteam.org.

Mark and Lisa Hall are the Founders of Feeding Team. They may be reached at lisa@feedingteam.org and mark@feedingteam.org or by calling (317) 832-1104.

Representative Victoria Spartz Constituent Services



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- Veterans benefits
- Passport assistance
- IRS questions



United States Flag Requests

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Military Academy Nominations

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Anderson Office
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Carmel Office
(317) 848-0201

www.spartz.house.gov

Beckman Coulter Life Sciences to hold job fair next Tuesday

The REPORTER

Building on a commitment to its Indianapolis headquarters, Beckman Coulter Life Sciences has announced plans to add nearly 150 jobs to the Central Indiana economy by the end of 2021.

Beckman Coulter Life Sciences is a global leader in life sciences instrumentation, reagents, and software. While the company's products have been used in laboratories and medical facilities in the fight against COVID-19, the company also provides research solutions in areas which include cancer, cardiovascular disease, agriculture, and forensics.

"Our team members repeatedly tell us they're driven by knowing they are doing meaningful work that is truly making a difference," said Jason Lanie, Vice President and General Manager of the Biotechnology Business Unit and Indianapolis Site Leader. "So much of what we develop, design, and manufacture is on the front lines, accelerating answers in cutting-edge research and testing around the world which can help save lives."

A record demand for products is driving the expansion and investment in

new jobs, which represents a growth of more than 20 percent for the company's central Indiana workforce. New positions are primarily in Manufacturing and Operations, but also include Customer Support, Engineering, and Marketing and Communications.

All hourly associates hired by the end of the year are eligible for a one-time bonus of up to \$1,500. Additional benefits include immediate health, dental, and vision insurance benefits along with up to four weeks of paid vacation during the first full year of service.

The company employs just under 800 people in Indianapolis with corporate headquarters located in the Park 100 complex at 5350 Lakeview Parkway South Drive. Manufacturing production operations are located nearby at 5355 76th St., making the company a 24/7 operation with open positions on a variety of shifts.

"We are one of the best-kept secrets in Indianapolis, but we've been here for more than 20 years," Lanie said. "Indiana has played a strong role in our success and growth, thanks to the area's impressive talent pool, educational opportu-



Photo provided
Richard Harris puts the finishing touches on a Beckman Coulter Life Sciences centrifuge inside the Indianapolis facility.

nities, culture, and prime location at the crossroads of America. We're excited to continue offering Hoosiers a positive work environment with a commitment to diversity and inclusion, which is part of why we're a preferred employer where people come to build their career."

The company will hold an in-person job fair from 3 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 14 at the OrthoIndy Foundation Pike YMCA. For in-person, on-the-spot interviews, candidates should bring a photo ID and arrive at 5315 Lafayette Road, Indianapolis.

Open positions include

Production Supervisor, Utility Operator and Manufacturing Associates. Recruiting and hiring efforts started earlier this year and will continue until all positions have been filled. Job postings are continuously updated at beckman.com/careers.

Braun-led challenge to Biden vaccine mandate passes Senate in bipartisan vote

The REPORTER

Senator Mike Braun's formal challenge to President Biden's vaccine mandate for private businesses under the Congressional Review Act passed the U.S. Senate by a bipartisan vote on Tuesday.

This challenge was supported by the entire Senate Republican Conference, joined by Democratic Senators Joe Manchin and Jon Tester. Congressman Fred Keller (Pa.-12) introduced the same resolution in the House of Representatives, which has been cosponsored by every House Republican.

The Congressional Review Act is the official process for Congress to elimi-

nate an Executive Branch rule.

"No one should be forced to choose between getting a

vaccine and losing their job," Sen. Braun said. "The bipartisan Senate passage of my challenge to President Biden's vaccine mandate on private businesses sends a crystal-clear mes-

sage to the White House: Back off, and stop this crazy federal overreach. Now, following this bipartisan victory in the Senate, we look to the House of Representatives for five Democratic Representatives who will stand up for small business owners and the rights of their constituents against this big government-gone-wild mandate."



Braun

Young, colleagues urge Social Security to reopen field offices to the public

The REPORTER

U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.) joined Senators Tim Scott (R-S.C.), ranking member of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, and Mike Crapo (R-Idaho), ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee, in sending a letter urging Acting Social Security Administration (SSA) Commissioner Kilo Kijakazi to immediately reopen the SSA's field offices to the public.

Sen. Young's office has received numerous complaints from constituents unable to schedule in-person appointments in a timely manner and from Hoosiers — often elderly — who have had difficulty navigating the online options.

"Social Security is a bedrock of our nation's social safety net, especially for our nation's seniors aged 62 or older who comprise more than four-fifths of all Social Security beneficiaries," the senators wrote. "On March 17, 2020, the Social Security Administration (SSA) suspended in-person services because of the COVID-19 pandemic. This suspension created a disruption to the millions of new applicants and beneficiaries receiving Social Security benefits. On behalf of the nearly 70 million Americans who re-

ceive benefits from SSA, we reiterate the need to reopen the field offices as quickly as possible. Our nation's seniors and beneficiaries of SSA programs deserve no less."

Nearly 21 months ago, the SSA suspended in-person services because of the COVID-19 pandemic. While the SSA reportedly submitted its reentry plan to the Office of Management and Budget in July 2021, the SSA still has failed to fully reopen its offices to the public. This has resulted



Young

in disruptions to the millions of applicants and beneficiaries receiving Social Security benefits, including:

- Challenges for individuals, especially seniors in rural areas, who do not have reliable telephone or internet access;
- A reduction in Supplemental Security Income awards and disability benefit approvals; and
- Mail backlogs and delays in providing benefit payments.

[Click here](#) to view the full letter.



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Meeting Notices

The Hamilton Heights School Corporation Board of Trustees will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021, in the Orange Bowl and Hamilton Heights Middle School, 25150 State Road 19, Arcadia.

The Carmel Redevelopment Commission will meet in an executive session at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021, in the Department of Community Services Conference Room on the third floor of Carmel City Hall, 1 Civic Square, Carmel. The purpose of the Executive Session is to discuss pending litigation in accordance with IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(B); and/or to discuss the purchase or lease of real property in accordance with IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(2)(D); and/or to receive information about and interview prospective employees in accordance with IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b)(5).

A regular meeting will follow at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers on the second floor of Carmel City Hall.

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners will meet at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2021, in Conference Room 1A at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville. The meeting may be accessed virtually by calling (219) 225-8177 and entering conference ID 222 615 982# when prompted.

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) the Hamilton County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Committee will meet at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2021, in Conference Room 1A at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville. The meeting may be accessed virtually by calling (219) 225-8177 and entering conference ID 222 615 982# when prompted.

— Atlanta —

Notice
The Atlanta Town Council will hold a Special Meeting on December 15, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. 105 E. Main St. Atlanta, IN 46031. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss employment opportunities.
RL5277 12/11/21

— Westfield —

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WESTFIELD REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
Notice is hereby given that the Westfield Redevelopment Commission will meet in a Special Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, December 13, 2021 at the Westfield City Hall, 130 Penn Street, Westfield, IN 46074.
Agenda Items:
• Consideration of Legacy Sports Group Agreement
• Consideration of Treerunners Agreement
• 2022 Meeting Schedule
Westfield Redevelopment Commission
RL5278 12/11/21

Obituary

Maxiene Rogers
d. December 3, 2021

Maxiene Rogers, Carmel, passed away peacefully on December 3, 2021.



Maxiene was employed with Eastern Airlines in Sales Management for 38 years. She was a member of the Eastern Airlines Retirement Association and an affiliate member of the Retired Eastern Pilot Association.

Other memberships include King of Glory Lutheran Church, where she served on several committees and ministries. Maxiene was a longtime member of the Carmel Golden K Kiwanis Club where she was actively involved.

Maxiene is survived by her chosen family, Alan, Dinah, Laurie, Adam, Ashley, and Logan Burns.

In fulfilling Maxiene's requests, funeral services will be private.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in memory of Maxiene can be directed to King of Glory Lutheran Church, 2201 E. 106th St., Carmel, IN 46032 or Carmel Golden K Kiwanis Club, 15120 Count Fleet Court, Carmel, IN 46032.

Bussell Family Funerals is privileged to assist the family in arrangements.

Condolences: bussellfamilyfunerals.com

BUSSELL FAMILY FUNERALS

1621 E. Greyhound Pass
Carmel, IN 46032
(317) 537-2001
www.bussellfamilyfunerals.com

Donna Bussell

Thanks for reading!

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

Philippians 1:19-26 (NIV)

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Girls basketball Defense leads Tigers past Millers

By RICHIE HALL

NOBLESVILLE - The defense of the Tigers ruled the night at Noblesville on Friday, as Fishers clashed with the Millers in a big Hoosier Crossroads Conference girls basketball game at The Mill.

The Class 4A No. 7 Tigers used its solid defense to take control during the middle quarters, then held firm in the fourth to beat the 4A No. 1 Millers 57-45. It was an important win because both teams were unbeaten in HCC play coming into the game. Fishers is now all by itself on the top of the conference standings at 3-0.

Noblesville skipped out to a 6-0 lead, with Brooklyn Smitherman scoring four of those points. Ashlynn Shade was on fire early as well, hitting three 3-pointers on her way to 11 first-quarter points. Shade's third 3 of the period gave Noblesville its largest lead of the game at 12-5.

The Tigers began to work their way back into it during the last part of the first, cutting the Millers' lead to 17-15 by the end of the quarter. Joirdyn Smith and Talia Harris both had 3-pointers for Fishers.

Kate Thomas finished the period with a putback, and that started a 9-0 run for the Tigers. Ava Carter made two baskets to start the second quarter, then Thomas nailed a 3. Fishers led 22-17 and would never trail again.

"I was really proud of our kids," said Tigers coach Lauren Votaw. "We told them coming in that Noblesville is a phenomenal shooting basketball team, and we had to make sure that we were there on the catch. Obviously, early we gave them some looks. Shade hit a few over us early, we gave up a couple more in the first half, and we really just talked about, 'You've got to be there on the catch. You got to be there in the catch. Nothing easy.' That was our goal and I was really proud of our kids. I truly believe they left about everything they had out there tonight."



Reporter photos by Kent Graham

Fishers' Hailey Smith (center) scored 17 points for the Tigers during their win at Noblesville Friday night. Also pictured for the Millers are Ashlynn Shade (left) and Reagan Wilson (right).

Fishers led 27-25 at halftime, but opened the second half on a blistering 14-2 run to lead 41-27 with 4:46 left in the third quarter. Thomas started the run with a layin, then Karina Scott threw in a 3.

After that, Hailey Smith took over. After missing the last few games with

a concussion, Smith came back in a big way, scoring nine points in the third quarter. Her three-point play pushed the Tigers' lead up to 14 points, their largest advantage of the game.

"They were just awesome on the defensive side and we didn't handle that challenge very well," said Noblesville

coach Donna Buckley. It was the first time this season that the Millers had been held to under 50 points.

Smith showed her toughness throughout the game, including taking a second-quarter charge.

"I stayed on the floor a little longer, because I was like, 'All right, let me regather everything,'" said Smith. "But after that, I was like, 'I'm cool.'"

"They had to be tough," said Votaw of her team. "They were tough. I was proud of them. Hailey stood in there and took that charge, fully knowing that it probably wasn't going to feel very good. I was just really proud of everybody. We did a lot of subbing there late, just calling people off the bench. They were ready to step in and do their job."

Fishers led 43-33 after three quarters. The Millers didn't go away, of course, cutting the Tigers' lead to five points on three different occasions. Two free throws from Kaitlyn Shoemaker kept Noblesville within 50-45 with 41.2 seconds left.

But Fishers finished the game from the free-throw line, making seven of eight foul shots during the last 29 seconds. Harris went 4-of-4 from the line, giving the Tigers their final points.

"I'm just going out there, leading my team, doing whatever we need us to do," said Harris. "Rebounding, taking charges, whatever."

Smith finished the game with 17 points, six rebounds and four assists, while Harris had 11 points and six rebounds. Thomas also had a strong game, with nine points and nine rebounds.

Shade led the Millers with another double-double of 19 points and 14 rebounds. Shoemaker had nine points and four steals.



Fishers' Joirdyn Smith goes up to the basket as Noblesville's Kaitlyn Shoemaker defends.

 See *Tigers* . . . Page 8

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Carmel pulls away from Noblesville

CARMEL 64, NOBLESVILLE 49				
Noblesville	FG	FT	TP	PF
E.J. Smith	5-10	5-6	18	0
Aaron Fine	3-9	0-0	9	0
Cooper Bean	1-8	2-2	5	2
Preston Roberts	5-6	3-3	13	3
Cameron Karns	0-0	0-0	0	4
Hunter Welston	0-0	0-0	0	3
Luke Wilson	1-1	0-0	2	0
Evan Wright	0-0	0-0	0	1
Luke Etchison	0-0	0-0	0	0
Aiden Brewer	1-2	0-0	2	0
Nolan Decker	0-0	0-0	0	0
Totals	16-36	10-11	49	13
Noblesville 3-point shooting (7-19) Smith				

Carmel 3-point shooting (4-9) Weldy 2-4, Suder 1-2, Orme 1-1, Whack 0-1, Clevinger 0-1.

Carmel rebounds (23) Orme 8, Suder 5, Bonds 3, Whack 2, Weldy 2, White 2, Richards 1.

Score by Quarters

Noblesville	12	3	19	15	49
Carmel	11	10	26	17	64

RIGHT: Carmel's Sam Orme scored 13 points and had eight rebounds for the Greyhounds during their 64-49 win over Noblesville Friday at the Eric Clark Activity Center.

**BELOW: Noblesville's
E.J. Smith (1) scored
18 points for the
Millers.**



Fishers is 9-1 for the season and hosts Pendleton Heights on Monday. Nobles-

Fishers	FG	FT	TP	PTS
Karina Scott	1-4	2-3	5	2
Joirdyn Smith	1-8	0-0	3	1
Kate Thomas	4-12	0-2	9	2
Hailey Smith	4-11	8-13	17	2
Olivia Smith	2-3	1-2	5	4
Ava Carter	3-4	1-3	7	1
Talia Harris	3-3	4-6	11	1
Alycia Triplett	0-0	0-0	0	0

Totals	18-45	16-29	57	13
Fishers 3-point shooting (5-16)	J. Smith			
1-5, H. Smith 1-4, Thomas 1-3, Scott 1-2,				
Harris 1-1, Carter 0-1.				
Fishers rebounds (42)	Thomas 9, Harris 6,			
H. Smith 6, O. Smith 3, Scott 2, J. Smith 2,				
Carter 2, Triplett 2, team 10.				
Noblesville	FG	FT	TP	PF
Kaitlyn Shoemaker	3-8	2-2	9	3
Aslynn Shade	7-15	2-2	19	4
Reagan Wilson	1-12	1-2	3	4
Meredith Tippner	2-7	0-0	4	4
Brooklyn Smitherman	2-2	0-1	4	3

Brooklyn Ely	2-5	0-0	6	0
Ava Shoemaker	0-4	0-2	0	1
Dani Mendez	0-0	0-0	0	1
Totals	17-53	5-9	45	20
Noblesville 3-point shooting (6-26) Shade				
3-6, Ely 2-5, K. Shoemaker 1-4, Wilson				
0-6, Tippner 0-3, A. Shoemaker 0-2.				
Noblesville rebounds (25) Shade 14,				
Tippner 4, Smitherman 3, Wilson 2, A.				
Shoemaker 1, team 1.				
Score by Quarters				
Fishers	15	12	16	14 - 57
Noblesville	17	8	8	12 - 45

from Page 7

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Tigers beat Columbus North, stay undefeated

An outstanding performance from freshman Jalen Haralson led Fishers to a 57-40 win over Columbus North Friday at the Tiger Den.

Class 4A No. 5 Fishers led 16-12 after the first quarter, with Haralson scoring 10 points during that period. Sean Millsaps helped out with two 3-pointers, and he was also just getting warmed up.

The Tigers led 30-21 at halftime, with Millsaps scoring eight more points, including two more triples. Fishers added another 20 points in the third quarter; Millsaps threw in two more 3s and Haralson scored nine. The Tigers led 50-32 after three and held that margin during the fourth period.

Haralson finished the game with 25 points. Millsaps totaled six 3-pointers on his way to 20 points.

Fishers is 5-0 and will travel to Carmel tonight to play the 4A No. 9 Greyhounds.

FISHERS 57, COLUMBUS NORTH 40					
Fishers	FG	FT	TP	PF	
Sean Millsaps	7	0-0	20	2	
Jalen Haralson	12	0-0	25	0	
Bryce Williams	0	0-0	0	0	
Charles Smith	2	4-5	8	2	
Payton Weemer	0	0-0	0	0	
Myles Stringer	0	0-0	0	3	
Aiden Zimmer	0	0-0	0	2	
Joshua Forbes	1	0-0	2	1	
Grant Haworth	0	0-0	0	1	
JonAnthony Hall	0	0-0	0	0	
Carter Jones	0	2-2	2	0	
James Stasey	0	0-0	0	0	
Nathan Baker	0	0-0	0	0	
Totals	22	6-7	57	11	
Score by Quarters					
Columbus North	12	9	11	8	40
Fishers	16	14	20	7	57
Fishers 3-pointers (7) Millsaps 6, Haralson 1.					

Huskies pick up first win at Cass

Hamilton Heights won its first game of the season Friday, and the Huskies picked the perfect time get that first victory.

Heights traveled to Lewis Cass for its Hoosier Conference East Division opener and came home with a 63-52 win. The Huskies outscored the Kings in each of the four quarters, leading 16-15 after the first period and 27-24 at halftime.

Tillman Etchison scored 13 points in the first half, including 10 in the first quarter. Heights then added 18 points in the third period to go up 45-38; Braden Kinder helped out with six points, including a 4-of-4 effort from the free throw line. Luke Carroll and Isaac Tuma both added five.

The fourth quarter was a repeat of the third, with the Huskies pouring in another 18 points. Maddox Bohland hit a 3-pointer, but all the other points were scored from the free-throw line. Etchison was 8-of-10 from the line, helping to seal the win.

Etchison finished the game with 21 points, while Kinder added 16 points and Carroll scored 14. Carroll led the rebounding with eight, followed by Bohland with five.

Heights is 1-3 and hosts Delta tonight.

HAMILTON HEIGHTS 63, LEWIS CASS 52					
Heights	FG	FT	TP	PF	
Luke Carroll	4-8	6-8	14	5	
Isaac Tuma	1-2	4-5	6	3	
Maddox Bohland	2-5	1-2	6	2	
Braden Kinder	4-10	8-10	16	2	
Tillman Etchison	4-8	11-14	21	1	
Cooper Vondersaar	0-0	0-0	0	1	
Collin Gilmore	0-0	0-0	0	4	
Totals	15-33	30-39	63	18	
Score by Quarters					
Heights	16	11	18	18	63
Lewis Cass	15	9	14	14	52
Heights 3-point shooting (3-8) Etchison 2-3, Bohland 1-3, Carroll 0-1, Kinder 0-1. Heights rebounds (18) Carroll 8, Bohland 5, Kinder 3, Tuma 2.					

Southeastern falls at North Central

Hamilton Southeastern dropped a 69-48 game at North Central on Friday.

The Panthers led 16-11 after the first quarter. The Royals played North Central even in the second period, and were still within 26-21 at halftime. But NC began to pull away in the second half, leading 45-35 after three quarters, then pouring in 24 points in the fourth.

Caleb Smock threw in five 3-pointers for Southeastern, giving him 15 points. Donovan Hamilton and Sam Jacobs both scored 10 points. Hamilton also collected five rebounds, while Deion Miles handed out seven assists. Reph Stevenson added six points.

The Royals are 2-3 for the season and host Fishers next Friday in the Mudsock game.

NORTH CENTRAL 69, HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN 48					
Southeastern	FG	FT	TP	PF	
Reph Stevenson	3-6	0-0	6	1	
Caleb Smock	5-7	0-0	15	0	
Deion Miles	0-2	0-0	0	2	
Sam Jacobs	5-10	0-0	10	4	
Michael Griffith	1-1	0-0	2	3	
Donovan Hamilton	3-10	4-4	10	2	
Joshua Jones	2-5	0-0	5	0	
Alex Troutman	0-1	0-0	0	0	
Tyler Lacy	0-2	0-0	0	0	
Eli Robinson	0-0	0-0	0	2	
Kasey Ash-Simpson	0-1	0-0	0	0	
Totals	19-45	4-4	48	14	
Score by Quarters					
Southeastern	11	10	14	13	48
North Central	16	10	19	24	69
Southeastern 3-point shooting (6-16) Smock 5-6, Jones 1-3, Hamilton 0-2, Lacy 0-2, Miles 0-1, Jacobs 0-1, Troutman 0-1. Southeastern rebounds (19) Hamilton 5, Stevenson 2, Jones 2, Troutman 2, Griffith 2, Jacobs 1, team 5.					



Photo by Si DeVaney III
Sheridan freshman Caleb Wright makes a shot during the Blackhawks' boys basketball game at Clinton Central on Friday.

Blackhawks drop HHC game to Bulldogs

Sheridan dropped a Hoosier Heartland Conference game Friday at Clinton Central, by the score of 59-38.

The Bulldogs led 14-7 after the first quarter and 28-15 at halftime. Ethan Moistner scored 11 first-half points for the Blackhawks. Clinton Central pulled away in the third quarter, pouring in 20 points to take a 48-27 lead.

Moistner finished the game with 17 points.

Sheridan is 0-2 in HHC play and 1-4 overall. The Blackhawks play next Friday at Eastern as part of a conference girls-boys doubleheader.

CLINTON CENTRAL 59, SHERIDAN 38					
Sheridan	FG	FT	TP	PF	
Caleb Wright	2	0-0	4	4	
Evan Grinstead	1	0-0	3	1	
Tyler Garner	3	0-0	6	3	
Nathan Hinshaw	1	0-0	2	4	
Ethan Moistner	7	1-3	17	1	
Carson Huffman	2	0-0	4	2	
David Will	0	2-2	2	1	
Carson Aleman	0	0-0	0	1	
Evan Knapp	0	0-0	0	0	
Brant Barker	0	0-0	0	0	
Totals	16	3-5	38	17	
Score by Quarters					
Sheridan	7	8	12	11	38
Clinton Central	14	14	20	11	59
Sheridan 3-pointers (3) Moistner 2, Grinstead 1.					

Short-handed 'Blazers cruise to victory

A short-handed University team still was overwhelming on Friday night, as the Trailblazers sailed past Seecina 77-55 at the U Center.

Trailblazers coach Brandon Laffer- man said his team was only able to dress six varsity players for the game because of illness and injuries. The coach said he was "incredibly proud of my team" for coming together and beating "a very solid Seecina team."

Larry Pierce scored 19 points for University, the first of four players in double figures. Seth Hogg added 18, Andre Ozlo- wski scored 14 and Rob Russell had 12.

Complete stats were unavailable at press time.

The Trailblazers are 3-1 and play their first Pioneer Conference game tonight at Liberty Christian.

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Sheridan's Ashley Webel made three 3-pointers for the Blackhawks during their 54-50 win Friday at Clinton Central.

Another HHC win for Sheridan . . .

Blackhawks come back against CC

Sheridan overcame a first-quarter deficit to win a hard-fought Hoosier Heartland Conference game at Clinton Central Friday, by the score of 54-50 to extend its winning streak to six games.

The Bulldogs led 21-13 after the first period. The Blackhawks' defense held CC to nine points in the second quarter, enabling Sheridan to cut the lead to 30-27 by halftime. Ashley Webel got things going offensively, hitting three 3-pointers during the second.

The 'Hawks trailed 41-38 after three quarters, but pulled ahead in the fourth. Taylor Bates helped out with seven points, making 5 of 6 foul shots to help seal the victory.

Bates was the leading scorer with 18 points. Berkley Williams added 13 and Webel finished with 11.

Sheridan is 3-1 in conference play and 7-2 overall. The Blackhawks are off until next Friday, when they play another HHC game on the road at Eastern.

SHERIDAN 54, CLINTON CENTRAL 50					
Sheridan	FG	FT	TP	PF	
Ashley Webel	4	0-1	11	3	
Cecelia Timme	3	0-0	7	3	
Berkley Williams	3	5-11	13	0	
Chaney Smith	2	0-0	5	4	
Taylor Bates	5	8-10	18	2	
Lilly Chesney	0	0-0	0	0	
Jacquellynne Bates	0	0-0	0	1	
Totals	16	13-22	54	13	
Score by Quarters					
Sheridan	13	14	11	16	54
Clinton Central	21	9	11	9	50
Sheridan 3-pointers (7) Webel 3, Williams 2, Timme 1, Smith 1.					

Shamrocks stun No. 9 Zionsville

Westfield scored a convincing win over Class 4A No. 9 Zionsville Friday night, beating the Eagles 57-37 in an away Hoosier Crossroads Conference game for its sixth straight win.

The two teams played to a 13-13 tie after the first quarter. After that, the Shamrocks outscored Zionsville in each of the next three periods. Westfield led 27-24 at halftime, then blasted through the second half, outscoring the Eagles by 30-13.

Olivia Robey led the 'Rocks with 17 points. Alyssa Crockett was next with 15 points, including an 11-of-12 performance from the free-throw line. Crockett also led the rebounds with seven and handed out four assists.

Westfield is 1-1 in conference and 9-2 overall. The Shamrocks continue HCC play Tuesday at Avon.

WESTFIELD 57, ZIONSVILLE 37					
Westfield	FG	FT	TP	PF	
Ellie Kelleher	3-6	0-0	6	1	
Alyssa Crockett	2-10	11-12	15	4	
Chesney Tebbe	0-3	0-0	0	4	
Olivia Robey	6-12	2-2	17	2	
Hailey Remaks	2-5	0-1	4	4	
Emmrey Collinsworth	3-5	0-0	8	1	
Kiki Loveless	0-2	1-2	1	1	
Mikayla Rudolph	2-4	2-2	6	0	
Aubrey Crockett	0-0	0-0	0	0	
Lindsey Van Dyke	0-0	0-0	0	0	
Totals	18-47	16-19	57	17	
Score by Quarters					
Westfield	13	14	17	13	57
Zionsville	13	11	8	5	37
Westfield 3-point shooting (5-19) Robey 3-5, Collinsworth 2-4, Al. Crockett 0-3, Kelleher 0-2, Rudolph 0-2, Remaks 0-2, Tebbe 0-1.					
Westfield rebounds (32) Al. Crockett 7, Loveless 4, Tebbe 3, Rudolph 3, Robey 3, Collinsworth 2, Remaks 2, Au. Crockett 1, Kelleher 1, team 6.					

'Blazers stay perfect in PAAC North

University improved its Pioneer Athletic Academic Conference North Division record to 2-0 Friday by winning 66-8 at Muncie Burris.

The Trailblazers were in control from the beginning, and didn't allow the Owls any points in the second half. Three players scored in double figures, led by Payton Seay with 19 points. Patty Chikamba scored 15 points and Kelsey DuBois added 12. Chikamba, Seay and Arrior Sherrod all made two 3-pointers.

DuBois collected six rebounds and also made six steals, with Seay getting six steals as well, along with four rebounds. Chikamba handed out five assists.

University is 7-2 overall and finishes division play tonight at Liberty Christian.

UNIVERSITY 66, MUNCIE BURRIS 8				
University	FG	FT	TP	PF
Kelsey DuBois	5-11	2-3	12	0
Patty Chikamba	6-14	1-2	15	2
Kamryn Washington	2-4	0-0	4	0
Payton Seay	8-14	1-3	19	1
Jordan Patterson	1-3	0-0	2	2
Arrior Sherrod	2-3	0-0	6	1
Anyah Jordan	0-2	0-0	0	4
Becky Williams	2-2	2-3	6	2
Abby Hannon	0-1	0-0	0	1
Alex Feeney	1-4	0-0	2	0
Totals	27-58	6-11	66	13
Score by Quarters not available				
University 3-point shooting (6-17) Chikamba 2-6, Seay 2-5, Sherrod 2-3, DuBois 0-1, Washington 0-1, Patterson 0-1.				
University rebounds (25) DuBois 6, Seay 4, Washington 3, Williams 3, Sherrod 3, Chikamba 2, Feeney 2, Jordan 1, Patterson 1.				

Royals cruise past Avon

Hamilton Southeastern cruised to a big Hoosier Crossroads Conference win on Friday, beating Avon 75-46 in a home game.

The Royals led 19-15 after the first quarter, then exploded for 27 points in the second period on their way to a 46-23 halftime lead. Riley Makaluksy was outstanding in the second quarter, scoring 16 points. Maya Makaluskus had seven first-quarter points, then added nine more in the third period. Southeastern led 65-36 after three.

Riley Makaluskus finished with 30 points and seven rebounds, with Maya Makaluskus adding 16 points. Makayla Hinshaw had a great game, with 15 points and a 6-of-6 effort from the free-throw line. Olivia Brown handed out 12 assists to go with seven rebounds, with Zoe Bolding also collecting seven rebounds.

The Royals are 7-4 and are off until next Saturday, Dec. 18, when they play

the Mudsock game at Fishers.

HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN 75, AVON 46

Southeastern	FG	FT	TP	PF
Maya Makaluskus	7-12	0-0	16	4
Makayla Hinshaw	4-5	6-6	15	2
Riley Makaluskus	8-12	13-14	30	1
Olivia Brown	2-8	0-0	4	2
Zoe Bolding	2-6	0-0	4	2
Caleigh Scott	0-0	0-0	0	2
Gabi Layman	1-6	0-0	3	0
Lauren Stewart	1-7	0-0	3	2
Maine Hooks	0-0	0-1	0	4
Totals	25-56	19-21	75	19

Score by Quarters

Avon	15	8	13	10	46
Southeastern	19	27	19	10	75

Southeastern 3-point shooting (6-21) M. Makaluskus 2-5, Stewart 1-6, Layman 1-4, R. Makaluskus 1-2, Hinshaw 1-2, Brown 0-1, Bolding 0-1.

Southeastern rebounds (30) R. Makaluskus 7, Brown 7, Bolding 7, Hinshaw 3, Layman 3, M. Makaluskus 1, Stewart 1, Scott 1.

Four-time Indianapolis 500 winner Al Unser dies at 82

Alfred "Al" Unser, the second member of the Unser auto racing dynasty to win the Indianapolis 500 and the second INDYCAR SERIES driver in history to win four times at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, died Dec. 9 at his home in Chama, New Mexico, after a 17-year battle with cancer. He was 82.

Born in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on May 29, 1939, Unser followed his three older brothers and the generation of Unser brothers before them into auto racing. He was known as a quiet sponge, absorbing the lessons learned by his family members.

Initially, the Unsers were known for their prowess of the famed Pikes Peak Hill Climb, with Unser's uncle, Louis Jr., the first to race up the Colorado mountain in 1926. Louis went on to win the sprint to the top a record nine times, and the family's win total stands at 25, including two wins by Al Unser (1964-65).

The first generation of racing Unsers had been pointed toward competing at Indianapolis, but the pursuit was abandoned when Joe, the middle of three brothers, died testing a car in Colorado in 1929. Twenty-nine years later, in 1958, Unser's oldest brother, Jerry Jr., finally got the family to the "500."

Third son Bobby earned his first chance at Indy in 1963, with Al following him in 1965 as part of the decorated rookie class that included fellow future winners Mario Andretti and Gordon Johncock, plus Formula One veteran Masten Gregory and motorcycle ace Joe Leonard, who won Indy's pole in 1968.



Unser won his first "500" in 1970, two years after Bobby won his first. Unser then became the fourth driver to repeat as Indy's champion, something no other member of his family achieved.

Unser added Indy victories in 1978 and 1987 to join A.J. Foyt as a four-time winner. Rick Mears became the third member of the exclusive club with his 1991 victory. Helio Castroneves became the fourth in 2021.

In 1992, Unser finished third in the "500," but that's not what defined the day. The race winner was his son, 30-year-old Al Unser Jr., making Unser the only driv-

er in history to have a sibling and a son win Indy. Unser Jr. won his second "500" in 1994, pushing the family's total to nine IMS victories. No other family has won more than four.

Combined, the Unsers have made 73 career starts in the "500," a figure eclipsed only by the 76 of the Andrettis. The Unser participation: Al (27 races), Bobby (19), Al Jr. (19), Johnny (five), Robby (two) and Jerry (one).

While Unser was known for his driving patience, he also holds the record for the most laps led in the "500." Leading the final lap of the 1987 race allowed him

to tie Ralph DePalma's 75-year-old record (612). Unser led 31 more laps over his final five IMS starts to push the all-time mark to 644.

Unser made 27 starts in the race, third-most in history behind only Foyt (35) and Andretti (29), and his final victory allowed him to break brother Bobby's mark as the oldest race winner – 47 years, 350 days.

Unser won three INDYCAR SERIES season championships – in 1970, 1983 and 1985 – and eight 500-mile races. In 1978, he won the INDYCAR SERIES

NBA standings

Eastern Conference					Western Conference				
American	W	L	PCT.	GB	Northwest	W	L	PCT.	GB
Brooklyn	18	8	.692	-	Utah	18	7	.720	-
Philadelphia	14	12	.538	4.0	Denver	12	13	.480	6.0
Boston	13	14	.481	5.5	Minnesota	11	15	.423	7.5
Toronto	12	14	.462	6.0	Portland	11	15	.423	7.5
New York	12	14	.462	6.0	Oklahoma City	8	17	.320	10.0
Central	W	L	PCT.	GB	Pacific	W	L	PCT.	GB
Chicago	17	9	.654	-	Golden State	21	4	.840	-
Milwaukee	17	10	.630	0.5	Phoenix	21	4	.840	-
Cleveland	15	12	.556	2.5	L.A. Clippers	14	12	.538	7.5
Indiana	12	16	.429	6.0	L.A. Lakers	14	13	.519	8.0
Detroit	4	21	.160	12.5	Sacramento	11	15	.423	1050
Southeast	W	L	PCT.	GB	Southwest	W	L	PCT.	GB
Miami	15	11	.577	-	Memphis	15	11	.577	-
Washington	15	11	.577	-	Dallas	12	13	.480	2.5
Charlotte	15	13	.536	1.0	San Antonio	9	15	.375	5.0
Atlanta	13	13	.500	2.0	Houston	8	17	.320	6.5
Orlando	5	21	.192	10.0	New Orleans	8	20	.286	8.0

Pacers beat Mavs, increase win streak to three

By BRENDAN ROURKE
Courtesy nba.com/pacers
Despite losing head coach Rick Carlisle to health and safety protocols, the Pacers (12-16) knocked off the Dallas Mavericks, 106-93, in front of a raucous crowd at Gainbridge Fieldhouse. The victory clinched Indiana's first three-game winning streak of the season.

Indiana brought a bit of everything to the matchup for acting head coach Lloyd Pierce. After ending the first quarter on 9-of-25 shooting, the squad turned it around in the second by finishing 12-of-22 with six 3-pointers. When Dallas threatened down the stretch, the Pacers' defense forced the Mavs' offense into a 4:30 scoring drought. Leading 98-93 with 2:33 left, Caris LeVert and Malcolm Brogdon both hit dagger threes to put the game away for good. LeVert finished with a team-high 26 points, six boards, five assists, and two steals in the win.

"I think, for us, we tried to do it for Rick (Carlisle) tonight," LeVert said post-game. "We know how much this game meant to him."

Three others finished in double figures for Indiana. Domantas Sabonis (24 points, 10 rebounds) and Myles Turner (17 points, 10 boards) both finished with double-doubles, and Brogdon finished with 12 and eight assists. The Blue & Gold also got big minutes from Kelan Martin and Oshae Brissett off the bench, finishing with +/- ratings of +14 and +12, respectively.

"I just thought our guys were locked

in," Pierce said. "This could have gone in any way. These situations are always tricky. Someone's out — especially a head coach — you're playing at home against a team with a lot of emotion...I thought we just tried to be Indiana and play Indiana basketball."

Dallas (12-13) earned an early lead behind the hot hands of its 3-point threat, Kristaps Porzingis. The 7-3 power forward started 3-of-4 from the floor, including 2-of-3 from deep, to take a 10-4 lead at the 8:03 mark.

The Blue & Gold used a small 6-0 spree to knot things up at 10 after Chris Duarte sank a pair of free throws. Later, with 3:54 to play, Turner earned Indiana's first lead of the game, 15-14, on a deep three from the top of the key.

However, the Mavs quickly regained a lead using an 8-2 rally. A baseline trey by Brogdon after three-straight offensive boards brought Indiana back to within two with 33.8 seconds left. Yet, the visitors kept a 26-22 advantage after one.

The visitors stretched their lead to eight before Indiana caught fire. The squad rattled off seven straight, including five quick ones from Brissett on consecutive possessions, to cut the lead to 30-29 with 10:00 to play.

Later, Brissett continued to provide the fireworks. After LeVert nailed a three to earn a 36-34 lead, the former Syracuse forward powered home a Karl Malone-esque, one-handed slam in transition to stretch the lead to four.

Then, consecutive triples by LeVert

and Martin concluded a streak of nine straight makes as Indiana stretched its lead to 44-36 with 6:18 to play. The Mavs managed to cut the lead to four, but the Pacers went right back to work after a timeout.

Hustling for a putback dunk, Duarte earned a trip to the charity stripe for a pair of free throws. Then, Sabonis added five more to extend the Pacers' lead to 51-42 with 3:34 to play.

The Pacers then went cold, tallying just two points in a 3:29 span. The Mavs threatened to take the lead into the half. However, Turner knocked in his second trey with 5.0 seconds left to give Indiana a 56-54 advantage at the break.

The Pacers methodically picked apart the Mavs' defense in the early moments of the third. Three of the squad's first four buckets of the frame carried an assist, including LeVert's dish for a Sabonis layup that gave Indiana a 65-59 lead with 8:33 to play.

Over the next few minutes, the story remained the same. Indiana patiently found several buckets in the paint to maintain a steady lead over the midway mark of the third. Sabonis was the primary beneficiary, notching eight, including a pair of free throws at the 4:44 mark to grab a 73-67 lead.

However, Dallas quickly responded with a run of seven unanswered to earn a one-point edge with 3:27 left. Turner ended the spree with a massive driving dunk, pushing the Pacers back in front,

75-74.

The Mavs used another small spurt of 6-0 to regain a five-point edge. However, the Pacers quickly flipped the script to end the frame.

The Blue & Gold tallied seven straight — five from LeVert — over the final 1:04 to grab an 82-80 edge entering the fourth. LeVert's spurt included an ice-cold three with 2.4 seconds left to excite the crowd.

The Pacers' frontcourt crashed the offensive boards to extend their lead early in the fourth. Brissett and Martin hustled for putbacks on consecutive possessions to give the Pacers an 87-80 lead with 10:11 remaining.

But Dallas came roaring back, responding with seven straight to knot the score at 87 on Doncic's layup with 8:40 left.

Utilizing their tough defense, the Pacers clung to a slim lead. The squad held Dallas scoreless for a 4:30 span. Meanwhile, Brogdon muscled in two reverse layups to stretch Indiana's lead to 94-89 at the 4:51 mark. LeVert added four more to give Indiana an eight-point edge.

Leading 98-93 with 2:33 to play, Brogdon and LeVert drilled back-to-back threes in 36 seconds to stretch the lead to double-digits. The buckets shut the door for good and capped another stellar performance from the Blue & Gold.

Indiana rounds out its six-game home-stand with a tough matchup against Steph Curry and the Golden State Warriors on Monday night.

AL UNSER

“Triple Crown” of 500-mile races (Indianapolis, Pocono and Ontario), a feat that remains unmatched.

Unser's career begin in 1957 by racing modified roadsters, midgets and sprint cars. He made his championship dirt car debut in 1964 at Milwaukee driving for J.C. Agajanian, but that was his only start that season, and it lasted only 51 laps before the engine failed.

Coincidentally, it had been at Foyt's urging that car owners began to consider Unser for the sport's better rides. Foyt had seen how smooth Unser had driven on the nation's dirt tracks, and he praised Unser's quiet, easygoing and disciplined style.

“He was a very smart race car driver,” Foyt said.

Unser's first full INDYCAR season was in 1967, when he finished second to Foyt in the “500,” and the next year started a dominant period in the sport's history. After winning five races for car owner Al Retzliff, Unser joined Vel's Parnell Racing for the 1969 season, where he won five additional races with ace mechanic George Bignotti at the controls. The pairing might have won more often if not for Unser breaking his leg at IMS ahead of that year's race.

In 1970, Unser added 10 more victories, including five in a row and eight of nine in a single stretch. Over a two-season stretch he won 11 of 13 and 13 of 16 races -- 25 wins over four years.

Unser's first “500” victory came in the No. 2 Johnny Lightning Special, a Colt/Ford that led 190 of the 200 laps from the pole. The margin of victory over Penske Racing's Mark Donohue was 32.19 seconds.

“Al was the class of the field,” Johnny Rutherford said.

Unser's second Indy win was with a similar car, but its path to victory was not as smooth. Unser started in the fifth position and only led 103 laps, including the final 83. McLaren's Peter Revson finished second, 22.48 seconds behind the winner.

Unser nearly became the first and only “500” driver to three-peat. He finished second to Donohue in 1972.

In 1978, Unser drove for the Chaparral team in what was considered a second-tier ride. Yet, he was competitive throughout the race, dueling with Danny Ongais until Ongais retired with engine failure to hand Unser a commanding 35-second lead. Unser might have finished with that margin but, in a rare miscue, he struck a tire on his final pit stop. Tom Sneva tried to capitalize, but he came up eight seconds short.

Unser and Sneva were locked in a much closer battle in the 1983 “500,” and this one included Al Jr. in his first IMS race. Unser had his son protecting him from the charging Sneva, who eventually worked past both to take his only Indy win. After the race, USAC penalized Al Jr. two laps for interference.

The Speedway's first father-son pairing was a preview of things to come. In 1985, the Unsers battled each other all the way to CART's final race, with the father passing Roberto Moreno for fourth place in the closing laps on Miami's Tamiami Park road course to beat his son for the season title by a single point.

Unser fought back tears describing the “empty feeling” of having to beat Al Jr. for the championship.

Unser won three races for Penske Racing, but the last one wasn't scheduled. In 1987, the team needed a replacement for Ongais, who had suffered a concussion in a first-week crash in Turn 4 during practice. Unser, who was unemployed and still in Indianapolis to help his son's struggling car, had been unhappy with Penske for releasing him at the end of the previous season, but he knew this was too good of a car to turn down.

Unser signed on the condition he would receive a new Cosworth engine to go with a year-old March which had been retrieved from a hotel lobby near the team's headquarters in Reading, Pennsylvania. On the second weekend of qualifying, Unser earned the 20th starting position, his second-lowest effort since becoming an Indy winner.

Andretti dominated the race, leading 170 of the first 178 laps, even lapping Unser, who couldn't believe he had been driving so slowly.

“After that, I stood up in that car and started driving it like I should have to start with,” Unser said.

When Andretti's car suddenly slowed with ignition issues, Roberto Guerrero assumed the lead. But Guerrero still had to pit one more time, and he had been nursing a troublesome clutch. Sure enough, he had trouble getting the car to leave the pit box, and the engine stalled. As Guerrero's crew pushed him back to re-fire the engine, Unser sailed past on the front straightaway. Eighteen laps later, victory was again his.

“Everybody said, ‘I can't believe he won the race,’” Unser said. “I said, ‘I can't, either!’”

In 1992, Unser replaced the injured

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Nelson Piquet at Team Menard. He finished third to give John Menard's organization and the Buick engine their best “500” finishes.

Unser drove for eight different teams in the late stage of his career between 1987 and 1994, finally deciding to retire on May 17, 1994 when he couldn't get the underfunded car he was driving at the Speedway up to speed. Al Jr. won the race 12 days later from the pole on his father's 55th birthday.

Unser finished with 39 INDYCAR wins, sixth on the all-time list. He won the prestigious Hoosier Hundred at the Indiana State Fairgrounds four consecutive years (1970-73).

“Al was one of the smartest drivers I ever raced against,” Andretti said. “I often said that I wished I could have had some of his patience.”

Unser illustrated his versatility by finishing fourth in the 1968 Daytona 500, one of his five NASCAR Cup Series races. He also finished fourth in a Cup road race in Riverside, California. He was USAC's Stock Car Rookie of the Year in 1967 and captured the International Race of Champions title in 1978.

Unser was inducted into the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Hall of Fame in 1986 and the International Motorsports Hall of Fame in 1998. His collection of trophies and cars is housed at the Unser Racing Museum in Albuquerque.

Unser is survived by wife, Susan, and son, Al Jr. He was preceded in death by daughters Mary and Deborah. Bobby Unser died May 2, 2021 at age 87. The brothers had long been neighbors in Albuquerque.

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