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THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER
NEWSPAPER

Hamilton County's Hometown Newspaper

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FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2023

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TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Showers likely, with some afternoon thunderstorms.
Tonight: Partly to mostly cloudy. Scattered showers and storms.

HIGH: 75 LOW: 62

Paul Poteet .com

Heights students earn Level 1 Mini Excavator Certification

The REPORTER

Eight Hamilton Heights High School students recently completed a two-day course to earn their Level 1 Mini Excavator Certification.

Safety and maintenance education in the classroom was a big part of leading up to specific focus on this piece of equipment. It involved taking written exams, including one on safety, which requires a perfect score, followed by a day of hands-on equipment operations in the Sandbox, the district's outdoor classroom.

Those students who just notched a valuable post-graduation credential include Lola Wilson, Logan Mise, Sam Force, Arthur Smith, David Eads, Dakota Killen, Nate Williams, and James Zachary.

Students learned about the anatomy and moving parts of an excavator, how to maintain



Photo provided

Hamilton Heights High School students who recently earned their Level 1 Mini Excavator Certification last Friday are pictured with their teacher. (From left) Lola Wilson, Logan Mise, Sam Force, CTE teacher Kevin Sheets, Arthur Smith, David Eads, Dakota Killen, Nate Williams, and James Zachary.

and inspect excavators, as well as how to safely use forks and attachments among other important aspects of this piece of heavy equipment under the supervision of certified McAlister/Caterpillar trainer, Ridge Inman.

Heights' Construction (Vertical and Horizontal) Trades Education (CTE) program offers students valuable hands-on experience, certifications, and



Photo provided by Amy Shankland

Our columnist's new space-saving appliance is taking her to new levels of happiness.

Feeling like a Ninja

You know you've reached middle age when a small appliance gets you all excited. But I'm over the moon happy about our recent purchase and am eager to share it with you all. You're welcome.

Our \$15 thrift store bargain toaster oven bit the bullet a little over a week ago. We had certainly gotten our money's worth. The sucker lasted for about three years before finally deciding it preferred to just gently warm our bread versus toast it.

My husband John looked at me and said "We are NOT doing a thrift store purchase again. We can go buy something new this time." I (surprisingly) agreed with him. We determined our budget and ventured to Kohl's.

While there, we discovered the Ninja® Foodi™ 8 in 1 Air Fryer Oven. I resisted this sucker for all of 30 seconds. Did we really need something that not only baked and toasted our food, but could also air fry, dehydrate, air broil, and warm it?

Naturally I pulled out my phone to see the product reviews, earning an eye roll from John. Hey, due diligence is important. I was pleased to see lots of 4+ star reviews.

What really won us over was the "get extra-large capacity without sacrificing counter space" claim. Most 120-year-old homes don't have tons of kitchen space ... or closet space ... or any space for that matter.

This thingee would not only cook our food a variety of ways, but it tilted up on its back when not in use. It even had a little "FLIP" indicator when it was safe to do so. That feature drew a little squeal from me.

We decided this was what we wanted, but apparently lots of Kohls' shoppers

COLUMNIST

AMY SHANKLAND
Perfectly Imperfect

Sheridan High School maintains performance-qualified status

The REPORTER

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) has announced that Sheridan High School has maintained its identification as a performance-qualified high school for the 2023-2024 school year.

IDOE implemented this valuable recognition to honor and distinguish schools that have consistently demonstrated exceptional performance and achievement in various educational areas. By granting this prestigious title, the IDOE acknowledges the commitment and efforts of these schools in providing an outstanding learning environment for their students.

The primary criterion for achieving the High-Performance High School Designation is academic excellence. Schools must exhibit sustained high achievement across multiple indicators, including standardized test scores, graduation rates, and college readiness measures. By meeting or surpassing these benchmarks consistently, Sheridan High School has established



Photo provided by Sheridan Community Schools

Sheridan High School earned this designation by being placed the highest performance and improvement category by the Indiana Department of Education.

itself as an educational leader in the state.

See Qualified . . . Page 2

See Ninja . . . Page 2

Indiana Lions Speech & Hearing visit Noblesville Lions

Photo provided by Noblesville Lions Club

On Wednesday, the Noblesville Lions Club was visited by Indiana Lions Speech & Hearing guests Lee Flower and Gary Chastain. They provided the club with information on the Lions S&H group, and all that the group does for communities. Indiana Speech & Hearing became a state project of the Lions of Indiana in 1980. Over 7,358 hearing aids have been provided by this organization for the Lions. If you know of someone from birth to senior citizen who needs speech or hearing help, go to IndyLionsSpeechHearing.org. Quite a few programs are available for those in need who cannot afford the normal costs. (Above) Lee Flower (left) receives thanks from Lions Club Vice President Walt Sheid.

INDIANA PEONY Festival
MAY 20, 2023

Graphic provided

Brunch & Blooms added to Indiana Peony Festival lineup

The REPORTER

What's better than a festival celebrating the state flower on a beautiful spring Saturday? The Indiana Peony Festival suggests adding brunch to the menu!

"Brunch & Blooms" is set for May 20, corresponding to the third annual Indiana Peony Festival. Sponsored by the Lacy Arts Building, Brunch & Blooms features nine downtown Noblesville restaurants serving peony-inspired specialty food and drink in seven outdoor locations from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. — four of them in "full bloom" with peony-inspired decorated alleys and live music throughout downtown. Participating retailers will also provide peony incentives and have specialty peony merchandise for sale.

New to Brunch & Blooms this year is a family-friendly lounge area hosted by The Lacy Arts Building, 848 Logan St., providing a lounge area for kids, parents and other Brunch & Blooms patrons offering soft space seating, kids craft activities, nursing and baby changing stations, and kid's music with Mr. Daniels and the Rainbows.

A peony festival tent will be located at the courthouse lawn providing commemorative Brunch & Blooms maps and buttons to the first 500 guests. Visiting 10 or more participating retailers enters attendees in a raffle to win a grand prize drawing.

Participating al fresco dining locations include:

- 9th Street Alley: 9th Street Bistro – Breakfast Burritos (meat and veg), Nutella Muffins, Mimosas and Bloody Marys
- South Alley: The Nesst – Cevapi and Peony Cocktail; Uptown Café – Cinnamon Rolls
- East Alley: Matteo's Ristorante Italiano – Wine, beer and mimosas; Syd's Fine Food & Spirits – Pork Tenderloin Sliders with Gravy, Turkey and Beef Manhattans
- North Alley: Texy Mexy – Breakfast Taco's and Peony Margaritas & Bloody Maria Shooters
- Noble Coffee & Tea Outdoors – Brunchables for both kids and adults
- Primeval Brewing Outdoor Patio – German Brunch and Peony Daymosa
- Debbie's Daughters Bakery & Café –

See Brunch . . . Page 3

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SCAN ME



CERTIFIED

essential career-ready skills upon graduation inside and outside the classroom. This specialty course was made possible through Heights' Construction Trades educator, Kevin Sheets in collaboration with the district's industry partners at MacAllister/Caterpillar, Reith-Riley, Beatty Construction, and E&B Paving.

"I am very proud of these students who earned their Level 1 Mini Excavator certification," Sheets said. "Industry-recognized certifications are important for students to achieve and demonstrate to potential employers the skills they have accomplished while in high school. It does require an investment of time, knowledge, and actual experience to learn to safely operate this type of equipment. They also earned their OSHA 10 safety certification and demonstrated their knowledge of the safety rules regarding running one of these machines in the field."

In fact, senior Lola Wilson, who is planning on studying construction management at Purdue University in the fall, has an internship with the Indianapolis-based Sheil Sexton Company. "Among the top 10 percent of her class, Lola is taking the CTE pathway

toward a career in an industry and is representative of the next generation of tradespeople," Sheets noted.

"Our CTE program, the first in the state and now in its fifth year, is designed to give students valuable certifications and hands-on experience to better position them to enter the construction workforce in a high-wage career after graduating from high school," Sheets said. "There is a great need for skilled tradesmen and women in the vertical and horizontal trades. This highly desirable career path offers incredible opportunities to earn high wages and benefits. We are committed to growing our CTE program and providing even more opportunities for students to gain real-world experience that helps develop skilled workers, entrepreneurs, and community leaders."

Sheets has received calls from educators around the state and beyond for help in modeling their program after the one at Hamilton Heights.

"I believe this program would not be as successful as it is if it weren't for the leadership and vision of our administration," Sheets said. "I am grateful to our principal, Jarrod Mason, and Superintendent Dr. Ar-



Photo provided Ridge Inman, a certified instructor with MacAllister/Caterpillar, shares tips for operating a mini excavator safely with students working on their Level 1 certification in the Sandbox.

rowood for their support and encouragement of our 'thinking outside the box' to help our students achieve and succeed in the program. I also want to thank MacAllister/CAT trainer Ridge Inman for his involvement in the program and supervision during the hands-on portion in the Sandbox. Thank

you to MacAllister/CAT, Reith-Riley, Beatty Construction and E&B Paving for your partnership in providing opportunities for our students to gain real-world experience in heavy equipment operation that prepares them for life and careers in the construction industry beyond high school."

QUALIFIED



Apart from academic excellence, the High-Performance High School Designation also recognizes schools that foster a positive and inclusive school climate. This includes promoting a safe and supportive environment, cultivating strong relationships between students and staff, and encouraging student engagement and participation in extracurricular activities.

The High-Performance High School Designation holds significant benefits for schools, students, and the wider community. Additionally, because of this designation, schools are allowed certain waivers and flexibility in order to plan programming that best fits the students and community.

The High-Performance High School Designation

bestowed by the Indiana Department of Education represents a prestigious honor for schools that excel in academic achievement, school climate, and overall educational excellence.

"This recognition acknowledges the outstanding efforts of educators, students, and our wider school community in creating an exceptional learning environment, within a small, caring school environment," Principal Rick Davis said.

Performance-qualified high schools meet certain established criteria which allows for flexibility in administration and instruction. This flexibility helps to provide curriculum, instruction, programs, and educational innovations that drive student engagement and achievement.

Sheridan High School earned this designation by being placed the highest performance and improvement category by the Indiana Department of Education and has continued to hold onto the designation.

"This is a credit to our dedicated staff, students, and community," Davis said. "It is just one more example of how we as a small school can serve our students with incredible academic opportunities within a small, nurturing school environment."

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INDIANA PEONY Festival

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 3RD ANNUAL

INDIANA PEONY FESTIVAL

MAY 20, 2023

SEMINARY PARK | NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

INDIANAPEONYFESTIVAL.COM

Check back often for updates to the Indiana Peony Festival's weekend of events.



The Indiana Peony Festival is grateful for the continued support of Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville

NINJA

agreed, because they only had the display model. John looked up the same item on his phone and saw that Best Buy had one left. We zoomed across 37 to purchase it.

Of course, we had to test it out as soon as we got home. John baked up some pizza rolls and was pleased at how hot and crispy they turned out.

Conveniently, we were having breakfast for dinner that Sunday evening, so I got to test out the nine slices of bread toasting capacity. Every slice came out perfectly brown, something we weren't even used to thanks to the thrift store toaster oven. I almost didn't remember what real toast looked like.

At this point I must insert the disclaimer that I'm not getting a dime from Ninja Kitchen, this product's creators, for this column. I'm just an (almost) empty nester mama who appreciates the simple joys and victories in life.

I'm looking forward to using this appliance often in the hot summer months when we won't feel like turning on the oven or firing up the grill. Thanks, Ninja Kitchen, for giving us a little more counter space AND darn good toast. It's a win-win.

Thanks for reading

The REPORTER

Noblesville’s own Kristin Wentz awarded ISU’s Hines Memorial Medal

The REPORTER

Noblesville resident Kristin Wentz has been awarded the Hines Memorial Medal from Indiana State University for spring 2023. Wentz is a Theater major who graduated with a 4.0 grade-point average from Indiana State University on May 6. The Hines Memorial Medal is awarded to stu-

dents who entered Indiana State University as first-time college freshmen and are graduating with the highest honors classification cumulative GPA. This prestigious award is named after **Linnaeus Neal Hines**, Indiana State’s fourth president, from 1921 to 1933, who served two terms as the Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Sign up now for Chris Center’s Summer Camp

The REPORTER

Check out these ‘paws-worthy’ opportunities for young people from The Chris Center. **Summer Camp at Stone Farm** A fun, unique, calming, and creative experience for teens ages 12 to 19 years old, it’s unlike any other camp they’ve been to. Teens will have the opportunity to explore nature, practice mindfulness, and interact with the amazing alpacas. **Click here** for more information, including dates and registration information. **2nd annual Golf Outing** This year’s golf outing will be held on Thursday, Sept. 21 at Plum Creek Golf Course, 2401 Lynnwood Blvd., Carmel. The annual golf outing will fill your day with activities, lunch, a 50/50 raffle, prizes, auction goods, free

drinks, and the satisfaction of knowing you’re helping the teenagers in your community. Spread the word and bring your friends. **Click here** to register and learn more. **Alpaca Adventure Program** Two more dates are open, so register now while space is available. Located at Stone Farm, 14950 Little Eagle Creek Ave., Zionsville, this program provides teens with the unique opportunity to observe and interact with alpacas while focusing on mindfulness, stress reduction, self-esteem, empathy, social interactions, and personal growth. **Click here** for more information, including dates and registration information. *Learn more about The Chris Center at **ChrisCenterPaws.com**.*

Noblesville will soon have new 55-and-over community

The REPORTER

The city of Noblesville will soon have a new community designed exclusively for people ages 55 and better. Joined by the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce, partners, and respected business contacts, the Justus Companies recently celebrated the Promenade Trails groundbreaking on a 30.25-acre site adjacent to Promenade Apartments, near the northeast corner of Little Chicago Road and State Road 32. With over 60 years of experience in senior housing, The Justus Companies has successfully developed multiple large communities from inception to completion. Known for its quality standards, Justus operates its communities with a strategic focus on hospitality, wellness, and personalized service. “Aptly named Promenade Trails, this new pedestrian-friendly community will feature both individual cottages and apartment homes spread across a beautiful campus of mature trees, sparkling ponds, a central park area and walking paths connected to nature trails,”

The Justus Companies President/CEO Walt Justus. The 59 single-story cottage homes surround the Community Building consisting of 151 apartment homes. Whether retired or simply an empty nester, residents of Promenade Trails will experience the comforts and convenience of maintenance-free living without the responsibilities of home ownership. The Cottage floor plans range from duplexes for a homelike feel to multiplex dwellings with a modern urban feel – all offering two bedrooms and two baths (1,297 to 1,467 square feet). Cottage home construction begins mid-May, and Promenade Trails is expected to begin welcoming its first cottage residents in late 2023. Meanwhile, construction of the Community Building will also be in full swing and is expected to open mid-2025. This grand three-story Community Building will include penthouses with floor to ceiling windows and a variety of one- and two-bedroom floorplans (714 to 1,595 square feet).

See Promenade . . . Page 4

From the desk of Hamilton Heights Superintendent Dr. Derek Arrowood

Update No. 107

Wednesday was School Nurse Day, a part of a weeklong celebration of Nurse Appreciation Week. We are extremely fortunate to have a team of compassionate, committed, and highly skilled nurses serving our students and staff.

Our school nurses are on the front lines every day providing comfort and care for students and staff while promoting health and wellness through information, outreach, prevention, and education, among a few of their many responsibilities. These extraordinary individuals play a significant role in keeping our schools, students, and communities safe. Thank you Jami Steffen (HHHS), Lori Jones and Tracy Shaffer (HHMS), and Tasha Smith and Emily Wooldridge (HHES) for all you do!

Last Friday, eight high school students enrolled in our Construction Trades Education (CTE) program put their knowledge gained



DR. DEREK ARROWOOD
Heights Superintendent

in the classroom to the test at the Sandbox, our outdoor classroom. At the end of the day, all proved they knew what they were doing, demonstrated their knowledge and safe handling of this piece of heavy equipment, and earned their Level 1 Mini Excavator Certification. In addition, this certification gives them another edge toward a career in an industry that needs talented young workers.

Our CTE program, the first one in the state and currently among two that offers this type of experiential learning program, continues to grow in size and scope offering students valuable hands-on experience, certification, and essential career-ready skills upon graduation. The program is under the leadership of Construction Trades teacher Kevin Sheets. The two-day interactive course complies classroom instruction, and testing was made possible through our industry partners at Reith Riley,

MacAllister/Caterpillar, Beatty Construction, and E&B Paving. Well done! Keep up the good work!

Speaking of good work, Bret Bailey, who has served as our middle school principal since 2014, has just been notified he was selected as the Indiana Association of School Principals District 5 Middle School Principal of the Year! District 5 includes schools in Miami, Howard, Tipton, Boone, Hamilton, and Madison counties. This is a high honor and speaks volumes about Bret’s vision, leadership, dedication, and hard work for students, families, and staff at Hamilton Heights.

I get to see the impact of Bret’s work every day. I know firsthand Bret’s value at Heights and the amount of time, thought, and meaningful action he invests to foster a culture of trust with students, staff, and the community. He has successfully helped build a collaborative culture working closely with staff on professional learning communities to strengthen curriculum, innovative programming, assessments, and interventions.

It’s paying big dividends in positive student behavior, achievement, and outcomes. He inspires, motivates, engages, and continues to set the bar high. Through this honor, his peers recognize it too. Congratulations!

While we are talking about good work and impact, the Hamilton Heights Educational Foundation is readying for its 34th annual Golf Outing on Thursday, June 8 (rain date June 15) at Bear Slide Golf Course in Cicero. The community is invited to join friends, neighbors, and colleagues for a day of fun and networking on the green to support the work of this worthwhile organization. All proceeds from the event supports student achievement at Heights. This year’s title sponsors are Beck’s Hybrids, Beaver Materials, and Blades Audio Video Security. To register, sponsor and/or for more information about this year’s event **click here**. I look forward to seeing you there!

Thank you for your partnership, participation, and commitment to our schools! **#WeAreHuskies**

BRUNCH

Strawberry Crumble Muffins, Cinnamon Rolls, Coffee and Lemonade

Participating Brunch & Blooms merchants include: 3 Rusty Nails, 9th Street Bistro, Alexander’s on The Square, Bash Boutique, Bica Café, Caravan Classes, Debbie’s Daughters Bakery & Café, Expressions in Design, Just Lagom, Karisma, The Lacy Arts Building, Linden Tree, Logan Village Mall, Matteo’s Ristorante Italiano, Mod Cat Boutique, Nickel Plate Arts, NobleMade, Noblesville Antiques on the Square, Noble Coffee & Tea, Noble Optique, Persimmon Avenue,

Primeval Brewing, Shine Yoga, Smith’s Jewelers, Syd’s Fine Foods & Spirits, Texy Mexy, The Mix Marketplace, The Nesst, Thistle and Thyme, Uptown Café, Vintage Adventures, and The Wild Bohemian Boutique.

The Indiana Peony Festival kicks off the weekend on Friday night with “Peonies in the Park,” a ticketed fund-raising event scheduled from 6 to 9 p.m. at Seminary Park, featuring incredible floral installations, peony-inspired food and drink – think St. Elmo’s world-famous shrimp

cocktail – music and much more. The generous donation and participation support of this Indiana Peony Festival initiative helps to increase the peony beautification footprint in Noblesville and beyond and promotes horticulture education about the much-beloved state flower.

The Indiana Peony Festival powered by Duke Energy returns to historic Seminary Park in Noblesville the next day (Saturday, May 20). The free event, scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., features more than 70 vendors celebrating Indiana’s state flower, the peony, with

beautiful floral installations decorating the park as well as arts and crafts, food and drink, entertainment, and educational presentations. For more information, visit **IndianaPeonyFestival.com**.

About the Indiana Peony Festival

The mission of the Indiana Peony Festival is to inspire Indiana residents to celebrate the state flower, to enhance Noblesville through peony beautification projects, and to promote Hamilton County as a desired visitor destination during May, when peonies are in bloom and Indianapolis 500 festivities occur.



Saturday, May 13

Donate food directly at your own mailbox on Saturday May 13

It will be picked up by your postal worker that day.

Help your Hamilton County food pantries feed over 24,000 food insecure friends and neighbors in our local communities.

Items Helpful to Donate

Canned Chicken and/or Tuna	Chef Boyardee with meat cans	Helper Mixes
Canned Meat Stews or Chunky Meat Soups	Cereal Boxes - i.e. Cheerios, Chex preferred	Mac and Cheese Individual Cups or Boxes
Canned Fruits	Peanut Butter and Jelly - small jars preferred	Individual Packed Fruit and/or Applesauce Cups
Pancake Mix/Syrup/Oatmeal packs	Pasta Sauce – cans preferred/Pasta Boxes	Granola Bars or Microwave Popcorn

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Community Free Shred Day!

Wednesday, June 7
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Donations are welcome!
All proceeds will go directly to Westfield Youth Assistance Program

Community First Bank, 707 E SR 32, Westfield
Limit of 5 Boxes per vehicle. CFBIndiana.com/shred



2023 BICENTENNIAL MAY EVENTS



HAMILTON COUNTY BICENTENNIAL TRAVELING EXHIBIT

May 6-12, *Sheridan Public Library, West 1st St., Sheridan*
 May 13-19, *University High School, West 116th St., Carmel*
 May 20-26, *Trinity Free Clinic, West 146th St., Carmel*
 May 27-June 2, *Country Moon Winery, Prairie Baptist Rd., Noblesville*

Learn about all five of our Bicentennial themes: Arts, Diversity/Inclusion, Education, Historic Preservation, and Parks/Environment. Contact the hosting organization for information on when the exhibit is open to the public.

FREE

ADAMS TOWNSHIP FAMILY STORYTELLING

May 4, 6-7 p.m.

Sheridan Public Library, West 1st St., Sheridan

Storyteller Debby Gullery (pictured left) from Storytelling Arts of Indiana will lead the public in an interactive workshop on family histories and the importance of passing stories through generations.

FREE

DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT AT BIDDLE PARK

May 13, All Day, *Biddle Memorial Park, East 10th Street, Sheridan*

Join Sheridan Parks at Biddle Park as they debut their new-and-improved disc golf course. Each hole at this historic park includes a course map and local-history fact. Watch or participate in a tournament, with prizes for the top teams. (Teams must register. Call 317-758-5170.)

FREE

SHERIDAN COMMUNITY CHOIR PATRIOTIC MUSICAL

May 20, 7 p.m., and May 21, 3 p.m.,

Six Points Church, West 226th Street, Sheridan

The Sheridan Community Choir will present a Patriotic Musical for the whole community. Join us for one of two performances!

FREE



ADAMS TOWNSHIP SIGNATURE EVENT

"WAITING ON THE BUS DOWNTOWN" MURAL UNVEILING

May 6, 2023, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sheridan Historical Society
 South Main Street, Sheridan | **FREE**

See artist Melinda Spear-Huff's 8'x7' mural portraying transportation history in Sheridan, specifically the bus line that had a stop right next to her studio. Also enjoy activities including a Model T and antique car show from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in Veteran's Park, the dedication of new veteran banners, and the Sheridan alumni banquet at 5 p.m. at Sheridan Elementary School. (For alumni information, call 317-758-5170.)

Access the entire **2023 Bicentennial Event Lineup**
 and get event/program details: **HamCoTurns200.com**

Bicentennial Partners



HAMILTON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Making an impact at Hamilton Heights

The REPORTER

The Hamilton Heights Youth Assistance Program (HHYAP) held its annual Impact Awards Dinner on Wednesday at Beck's Hybrids near Atlanta.

The program recognizes students in each grade who successfully maneuvered through a challenge in their life. Students can be nominated by a teacher, guidance counselor, administrator, or any staff member who feels a student is deserving of the award.

This year's award recipients are as follows:

- Kindergarten: Aaliyah Eastland, presented by Sara Smith
- 1st grade: Brandon Dillard, presented by Tracy Zachary
- 2nd grade: Tommy Kloepfer, presented by Tracy Zachary & Chelsea Kleyla
- 3rd grade: Evelyn Young, presented by Marianne Collar
- 4th grade: Ethan Vondersaar, presented by Taylor Krueger; and Ryan Donnelly, presented by Lauren Knapp
- 5th grade: Drew Champion, presented by John Walsh
- 6th grade: Sanyia Thomas, presented by Emily McClelland
- 7th grade: Avery Patterson, presented by Bonny Stites
- 8th grade: Hattie Graham, presented by Kari Beery
- 9th grade: Eva Pierce, presented by Caty Wiegman
- 10th grade: Adalyne Price, presented by Caty Wiegman
- 11th grade: Aerial Trump, presented by Dee Roper
- 12th grade: Ethan Mead, presented by Krista Shields

In addition, Sabrina Duncan was presented with the Tony Etchison Memorial Award.

Thank you to HHYAP Impact Awards Committee Members Michelle Heiser, Toby Etchison, and Jeanann Dodson.

HHYAP Board Members include Jeremy Hunt, Jeanann Dodson, Sarah Buckner, Sydney Loomis, Zach Smith, Perry Williams, Jessica Heiser, Natasha Robinson, Judge Paul Felix, Judge Michael Casati, and Tricia Akers.

Learn more at youthassistance.org/hamiltonheights.



Reporter photos
(Top left) A total of 14 students received Impact Awards from the Hamilton Heights Youth Assistance Program this year. Ten of those students are pictured here. (Top right) Hamilton Heights Middle School Principal Bret Bailey has been selected as the Indiana Association of School Principals District 5 Middle School Principal of the Year. District 5 includes schools in Miami, Howard, Tipton, Boone, Hamilton, and Madison counties. (Above left) Cheryl and Chris Faulkner, owners of Big Dog's Smokehouse BBQ, 29 E. Jackson St., Cicero, provided a delicious meal. (Above right) Heights Superintendent Dr. Derek Arrowood and Board President Arnett Cooper share a few words.

State Reps. Huston & Goodrich welcome Fishers student pages to the Statehouse

The REPORTER

Indiana House Speaker Todd Huston (R-Fishers) and State Rep. Chuck Goodrich (R-Noblesville) recently welcomed local students to the Statehouse where they participated in the Indiana House Page Program during the 2023 legislative session.

As pages, the students assisted lawmakers and staff with daily duties, toured offices of all branches of government in the Statehouse, and they joined Huston and Goodrich on the House floor to witness and learn about the legislative process.

"I always enjoy getting to meet and talk with student pages during session," Huston said. "This is a great opportunity for our next generation of Hoosier leaders to explore public service, and I hope to see more Hamilton County students at the Statehouse next year."

These Fishers students served as pages during the 2023 legislative session:

- Sarah Almayah attends Fishers High School
- Taylor Bowman (pictured with State Rep. Doug Miller of Elkhart) attends Fall Creek Junior High School
- Ethan Hamelmann attends Heritage Christian



Local students who paged for State Reps. Todd Huston and Chuck Goodrich included Sarah Almayah, Taylor Bowman, Ethan Hamelmann, Faith Helton, Brooke Parnin, Nicholas Rivotto, and Alex Stempkowski.

- Faith Helton attends The Classical Academy
- Brooke Parnin attends Hamilton Southeastern High School
- Nicholas Rivotto attends Hamilton Southeastern High School

ern High School

- Alex Stempkowski attends The Classical Academy

"Visiting the Statehouse gives young Hoosiers a closer look at the legislative process and the ability to interact with their elected representatives," Goodrich said. "This experience is a great way for students to bring their history and government books to life."

Students ages 13 to 18 should consider participating during the 2024 legislative session. Hoosiers can visit IndianaHouseRepublicans.com/pageprogram or call 1-800-382-9841 to learn more.

House Speaker Todd Huston (R-Fishers) represents House District 37, which includes a portion of Hamilton County.

State Rep. Chuck Goodrich (R-Noblesville) represents House District 29, which includes a portion of Hamilton County.

Photos provided

Weather is unpredictable ... Paul Poteet isn't.

Your Hometown Weatherman!

Student Impact of Westfield welcomes Champion's Path

The REPORTER

Student Impact of Westfield has announced it will play host to a new organization called Champion's Path beginning on Sept. 15 in the newly constructed larger building.

Champion's Path is a private, veteran-owned company which offers world-class life preparation, academic, and career guidance training for young adults, approximately ages 16 to

24. Champion's Path courses are taught exclusively by successful business owners, who all have U.S. Marine, U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM), or high-level U.S. military leadership experience.

According to Student Impact of Westfield Executive Director Danyele Easterhaus, "Since 1999, Student Impact has been on a successful mission to walk alongside students in grades 5 through 12 and help them build relationships through love and acceptance in a safe and consistent environment. To meet that mission, we have, and are always striving, to provide programs helping young adults find fulfillment in their lives."

Champion's Path will conduct its program at the Student Impact building in the evenings, after Student Impact programming has

ended.

Champion's Path introduces a group of people who care and understand the challenges faced by today's young adults as they decide how to transition to adulthood and the responsibilities that accompany this stage of life.



McCulloch

"We understand that many parents are increasingly concerned that their young adults are struggling to develop a realistic plan for what they will do after high school or college," Champion's Path Director of Operations Jennifer McCulloch said. "We also know that even for college students or other young adults in the workforce, finding appropriate direction, identifying opportunity and successfully finding the right fulfilling career can be overwhelming."

The Compass Course, which begins on Sept. 19, is composed of an intensive, five-week curriculum, meeting one evening per week. The Compass Course will help young adults build their own custom academic and career plan, which is designed to help to direct them on their own unique path toward an honorable, successful, and fulfilling life. As part of the course, students are also taught how to improve their social me-

dia skills, communication skills, financial stewardship skills, and job interviewing skills.

The course's highly accomplished and unique instructors also stress foundational values throughout the course that span and impact all career fields, such as integrity, work ethic, leadership, courage, and honor.

It is the goal of Champion's Path to help students identify potential academic majors, vocations, training skill institutions, colleges, internships, military, or appropriate careers which will fit their personal goals. Upon graduation from the course, students will have a custom academic and career plan, along with a Champion's Path Diploma. Additionally, each student will have a private, six-month post-graduation follow-up meeting with Champion's Path staff to help ensure they are following their plan and moving in the right direction.

As part of each course, students will periodically meet remarkable special guest speakers, such as professional athletes, health care executives, business owners, technology lead-



ers, and public officials (Democrat and Republican). At graduation, students will be able to meet with program sponsors, which will include college admissions specialists, vocational school specialists, private companies, and military recruiters who are interested in meeting and working with Champion's Path graduates.

Students will also compete for various scholarships provided by participating sponsors (which will be announced in August 2023) including employers, technical schools and universities.

To learn more about Champion's Path, enroll in a course, provide scholarships, become a sponsored employer or institution, or list your relevant employment opportunities on the Champion's Path website, please visit Champions-Path.net or contact Jennifer McCulloch at (317) 690-6821 or via email at jen@championspath.net. You may also visit Champion's Path on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com).

Learn more about Student Impact of Westfield at TheRockWestfield.org or on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com).

Carmel Democrats giving back to community with environmental cleanup

Submitted by Carmel Democratic Club

The Carmel Democratic Club has organized an Environmental Cleanup Day in conjunction with Carmel Clay Parks Department, Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District, and HIP (Hamilton County Invasives Partnership).

The event will take place from 10 a.m. to noon on Monday, May 15 at River Heritage Park, 11813 River Road, Carmel.

The Democratic Club monthly meeting in April welcomed speakers to educate the group on the threat of invasive species to the state and specifically to local

parks, plants, and animals. Democrats say protecting the environment will be a key issue this fall for many people at the voting booth. The City of Carmel boasts some of the most beautiful parks in Indiana, and protecting them and keeping them thriving is important to everyone who enjoys this community.

Club members, along with Democratic candidates running for municipal office in Carmel, will gather at River Heritage Park to clean up invasive plants that choke out native species and threaten the native plants and wildlife of the community.

U.S. Senator Todd Young says he will not support Trump for re-election

By JASON RONIMOUS WISH-TV | wishtv.com

In an interview with CNN and posted to [Twitter](https://twitter.com) on Thursday, Indiana's GOP Sen. Todd Young said he will not support Donald Trump in his presidential bid.

Young told CNN's Manu Raju, "I think President Trump's judgment is wrong. In this case, President Putin and his government have engaged in war crimes. I don't believe that's disputed...That's why I don't intend to support him for the Republican nomination."

When asked what was the reason for Young not supporting Trump, Young replied "Where do I begin?" In a [CNN town hall](https://www.cnn.com)

meeting on Wednesday night, Trump did not express support for Ukraine and would not condemn Russian President Vladimir Putin as a war criminal.

Trump stated, "I want everybody to stop dying." He also said he didn't think of the conflict in terms of "winning and losing."

Young was one of four senators to not support Trump in his 2020 re-election run and has often been a critic of the former president, including Trump's desire to have former Vice President Mike Pence to overturn the 2020 election.

Young also said he would 'reserve judgment' on the raid of Donald Trump's Mar-A-Lago estate.



Young

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AG Todd Rokita asks Hoosiers to report signs of human trafficking

The REPORTER

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita is asking Hoosiers to stay alert for signs of human trafficking in communities across Indiana and to report any suspicious activities to authorities.

Unfortunately, large events bringing throngs of spectators are known to create increased demand for trafficked individuals providing manual labor, sex for hire and other services. This month, Indianapolis hosts the Indy 500 and the National Gymnastics Association Midwest Region Championships.

“Human trafficking is

a modern form of slavery,” AG Rokita said. “We need the eyes and ears of people everywhere to help us root out this evil enterprise, rescue victims and put away perpetrators.”



Rokita

- Has an employer holding their identity documents
- Shows signs of physical abuse
- Is submissive or fearful
- Is unpaid or paid very little
- Is under 18

and working in the commercial sex industry

If you have suspicions that someone is being trafficked, you should immediately call local law enforcement. You may also call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888.

In the U.S., the scourge of human trafficking is propagated in significant part by criminal cartels operating out of Mexico.

“Stopping human trafficking is one more reason we must secure the southern border,” AG Rokita said.

In addition to **waging lawsuits** to force federal officials to crack down on border security and illegal immigration, AG Rokita and his team are engaged in other efforts to combat human trafficking.

The Office of the Attorney General operates the Address Confidentiality Program, which helps protect victims of certain crimes – including those who have been trafficked – by concealing their residential address from the public and thereby their victimizers. Learn more about the program at the Attorney General's [website](#).

Local Republicans getting together for breakfast May 17

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Republican Party's May Chairman's Breakfast will be from 7:30 to 9 a.m. on Wednesday, May 17, at Matteo's Ristorante Italiano, 40 N. 9th St., Noblesville.

Hamilton County Elections Administrator Beth Sheller will provide a rundown of Primary Election results. Additionally, Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen will speak about some new developments in Noblesville, including the

partnership agreement with the Indiana Pacers.

RSVP early so you don't miss out; reservations must be made by 5 p.m. on Monday, May 15. Cost is \$30 per person for non-members. [Click here](#) to register.

* * *

Later that evening, the Hamilton County Young Republicans will get together for food, drinks, and fun at Sun King Brewery, 351 Monon Blvd., Carmel. The event begins at 6 p.m. [Click here](#) to register.



Photo provided by Carmel Police Department

Carmel PD & the case of the mysterious graffiti

The REPORTER

The Carmel Police Department is investigating criminal mischief that occurred at approximately 9 p.m. on Saturday, May 6 at the Midtown North Parking Garage.

During this incident, someone spray painted graffiti on multiple walls and discharged four fire extinguishers. The police are attempting to identify and speak to the two individu-

als pictured here regarding
any knowledge they may
have about this incident.

If you have any information regarding the identity of these individuals or this incident, please contact Officer M. Miller at the Carmel Police Department at (317) 571-2500, or Crime Stoppers of Central Indiana at (317) 262-8477 (TIPS). Please reference CPD case number 23-32394.



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Where better for the most accurate forecaster and the most active volunteer we know to meet for lunch than at a place with “prodigy” right in the name? Hoosier Weather Daddy Paul Poteet and Volunteer Extraordinaire Emily Pearson shared burgers and laughs with our publisher this week at Prodigy Burger Bar – West Carmel, 4335 W. 106th St. Poteet and Pearson got along like two P's in a pod. We don't really understand the Mona Lisa milkshake, but if it had been a menu option, they surely would have tried one!

Reporter photo by Stu Clappitt

Centier Bank promotes Linda Risch to Community Relations Officer serving Greater Indy

The REPORTER

Michael E. Schrage, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Centier Bank, has announced the recent promotion of Linda Risch to Community Relations Officer serving the bank's Greater Indianapolis market.

Risch joined Centier in 2019, serving as the branch manager of the brand-new Fishers Crossing Branch, where she led her team in fostering relationships with clients in the Fishers community. She's been in banking for the past 13 years in management roles, focusing mainly on retail banking.

In her new role as Community Relations Officer, Risch focuses on expanding Centier Bank's presence in the Greater Indianapolis market through community outreach, volunteerism, business development, CRA, financial education, and philanthropy.

The Fishers native resident said she's excited to lead

Centier's outreach efforts while continuing to support clients and communities.

"I am thrilled to step into my new role while continuing to represent a company that I love and serving the Fishers community," Risch said. "I have greatly enjoyed serving my neighbors for the past three years. I'm excited to create long lasting partnerships that enrich lives for an even better tomorrow."

Risch, who is no stranger to volunteerism and philanthropy, won the bank's Servant Heart Award in 2022. She has led Centier To You financial education courses as a volunteer at Dove Recovery House for Women, Habitat for Humanity, and Hamilton County Jail.

Community Relations Manager Dakita L. Jones congratulates Risch on her promotion and said there



Risch

is no better person to lead the community relations effort in the Greater Indianapolis area.

"Linda is a true Servant's Heart," Jones said. "She is always participating in community events and introducing people to the Centier difference. I'm very proud to work alongside her to share our strong reputation with more clients and organizations in the community."

For more information about Linda Risch, email lrishc@centier.com. For more information about Centier Bank, go to centier.com.

Westfield Chamber Calendar of Events

MAY

20th Chamber Golf Outing
10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday, May 15
Location: The Club at Chatham Hills

Noblesville/Westfield Legislative Coffee
7:30 to 9 a.m., Friday, May 19
Topic: The Bridgewater Club

Young Professionals Happy Hour
5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 23
Location: Grand Junction Plaza

DWA Party on the Patio
5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 23
Location: Grand Junction Plaza
Party Theme: Indy 500

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Meeting Notices

The Hamilton County Board of Zoning Appeals will meet at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 24, 2023, in the Commissioners' Courtroom on the first floor of the Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

The Clay Township Board will meet at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at the John W. Hensel Government Center, 10701 N. College Ave., Carmel.

The Noblesville Schools Board of Trustees will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, in the Board Room at the Noblesville Schools Educational Services Center, 18025 River Road, Noblesville.

Send Meeting Notices to:
Notices@ReadTheReporter.com

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State Route 32 Hamilton County

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

INDOT will host a public information meeting regarding the project to improve the State Route 32 Corridor - Hamilton County that connects Westfield and Noblesville, IN.

Wed. May 17, 2023

Prairie Waters Event Center
4180 Westfield Road
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5:30 PM | Doors Open
6 - 6:30 PM | Presentation
6:30 - 7:30 PM | Open House

www.improvetomove32.com

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TODAY'S BIBLE READING

Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books.
Revelation 20:11-12 (NIV)

Matthew “Matt” Alan Johnson
May 10, 1965 – May 9, 2023

Matthew “Matt” Alan Johnson, 57, Russiaville, went to be with the Lord at 6:46 a.m. on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at Community Howard Regional Health. He was born in Kokomo on May 10, 1965, the son of Jack and Lois (Roberts) Johnson.

Matt was a graduate of Western High School. He earned an associate degree in Computer Drafting from Purdue University. He was employed at Fortune Management in Kokomo. Matt prioritized his relationship with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He formerly attended the Methodist Church in West Middleton, and more recently attended church in Lapel, Ind. He was active on the Sunday Worship team and played drums. He was musically gifted and played in the Western High School Marching Band and Purdue University Marching Band. Matt was the kindest man with the best manners. He enjoyed coaching P.A.L. soccer, listening to music, watching Sci-Fi movies, and was an avid Green Bay Packers fan. He adored time spent with his nieces and nephews.

Matt is survived by his mother, Lois Johnson; brothers, Martin Johnson and Mark Johnson; numerous nieces and nephews; and several cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father, Jack Johnson; brother, Michael Johnson; paternal grandparents, Glenn Johnson and Loretta Mitchell; and maternal grandparents, Ray and Lydia Roberts.

Friends are invited to visit with the family from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 13, 2023, at Stout & Son Funeral Home, 200 E. Main St., Russiaville. Funeral service will begin at noon on Saturday at the funeral home, with Pastor Andrew L. Cole officiating. Burial will follow in Russiaville Cemetery.

Contributions may be made in Matt’s memory to the Western High School Marching Band. Messages of condolence may be left online at stoutandson.com.



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B. Jack Cooper
November 17, 1941 – May 9, 2023

B. Jack Cooper, 81, Arcadia, passed away peacefully on May 9, 2023, surrounded by family on the farm he loved.

Jack was born on November 17, 1941, to Roland Cooper and Stella (Amburgy) Cooper in Stay, Ky. The family soon moved to Ohio and ultimately settled in Waynesville, where Jack grew up helping his father on the family farm.

Jack attended Milligan College in east Tennessee, where he met his wife of almost 60 years, Marilyn Knapp. After marrying Marilyn on June 8, 1963, and graduating from college, Jack took on a supervisory position at General Motors in Anderson, Ind., where he worked for 31 years until his retirement in 1996 to focus fulltime on farming. Jack and Marilyn raised three children during those years: Connie (“Sis”), Scott, and David.

Jack had a great love for his family and his farm. He bailed hay for almost his entire life. He farmed, gardened, and raised animals on the same land in Arcadia for more than 50 years and was actively farming at age 81. Jack could often be spotted during harvest time in his 1973 red Chevy two-ton truck, hauling grain to the mill.

A man of deep faith, Jack was an elder at Arcadia Christian Church for many years. Jack was honest to the core with a strong work ethic and a kind heart. He loved his wife, children, and grandchildren – and also enjoyed his John Deere equipment and Cadillac. Family highlights included vacation trips to Florida, east Tennessee, and Arizona, as well as a trip with Marilyn and church friends to Israel.

Jack is survived by his wife Marilyn; his daughter Connie Marie Dove and son-in-law Ronald G. Dove, Jr. (Derwood, Md.); his son Scott Wayne Cooper and daughter-in-law Kimberly (Kiburis) Cooper (Howell, Mich.), his son David Christopher Cooper (Noblesville); and his four grandchildren, Christopher Dove, Michaela (Dove) Herron married to Sterling Herron, Daniel Cooper, and Benjamin Cooper. Jack is also survived by Marilyn’s younger brother, John Knapp, whom Jack always considered as a second brother, as well as John’s wife Sharon Knapp, Jack’s sister-in-law Sharon Cooper, brother-in-law Pete Cochran, and sister-in-law Judy Knapp.

Jack was preceded in death by both his parents, his brother Bill Cooper, and his sister Betty Ruth Cochran, as well as Marilyn’s parents Raymond and Elizabeth Knapp and older brother Larry Knapp.

Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 13, 2023, at Arcadia Christian Church, 26901 N. State Road 19, Arcadia. A funeral service will be held immediately thereafter.

Donations may be made to the Missions Fund at Arcadia Christian Church, 26901 N. State Road 19, P.O. Box 544, Arcadia, IN 46030.

Jack will be laid to rest at Cicero Cemetery, 5 Morse Court, Cicero.

Arrangements are entrusted to Hartley Funeral Homes Cicero Chapel, where you may leave condolences at hartleyfuneralhomes.com.

Thanks for reading!

Central Indiana home
real estate market
continues steady pace

The REPORTER

The residential real estate market in central Indiana continued at a steady pace in April, despite prices continuing to inch up.

According to F.C. Tucker Company, part of the Howard Hanna family of companies, in April 2023, central Indiana housing inventory increased 41.9 percent compared to April 2022. Pending home sales decreased 16.4 percent, and year-to-date home sale prices increased 7.1 percent.

- The average April 2023 home sale price for the 16-county central Indiana region was \$330,798, an increase of 6.8 percent compared to April 2022.
- Pending home sales decreased, down 16.4 percent compared to this time last year.
- Available housing inventory increased, up 41.9 percent compared to April 2022.

In April 2023, 3,195 central Indiana homes were purchased, down 16.4 percent from the 3,820 sold in April 2022. Specifically:

- Madison County experienced the greatest increase in pending home sales in April 2023, up 13.5 percent compared to this time last year.
- Jennings County pending sales had the greatest decrease with 59.1 percent fewer homes sold in April 2023 compared to April 2022.

Central Indiana year-to-date home sale prices increased slightly, up 7.1 percent overall:

- Brown County recorded the highest average year-to-date home sale price increase at 27.8 percent.
- Hamilton County had the highest average year-

to-date home sale price in the region at \$485,697.

- Homes sold in 49 days on average, which is 145 percent slower than in 2022, and all homes in central Indiana remained on the market longer than they did in April 2022. Decatur County homes remained on the market 22.2 percent, or eight days, longer than in 2022 – selling the fastest in the 16-county central Indiana area.

Central Indiana experienced a 41.9 percent increase in overall available home inventory in April 2023, compared to April 2022, with 822 more homes available for sale.

- Johnson County had the largest inventory increase – up 102 percent compared to April 2022.
- Jackson County experienced the largest decrease in inventory – down 36.1 percent compared to this time last year.

“We’re continuing to see a strong residential real estate market this spring,” F.C. Tucker Company President Jim Litten. “It’s a stable, dependable market where prices are attainable, yet growing at a healthy rate, and homes are staying on the market longer than this time last year which creates a less frenetic experience for home buyers.”

Of the pending home sales in the region last month, five were priced \$2,000,000 or higher; 38 were priced \$1,000,000 to \$1,999,999; 351 were priced \$500,000 to \$999,999; 1,054 were priced \$300,000 to \$499,999; 969 were priced \$200,000 to \$299,999; 632 were priced \$100,000 to \$199,999; and 146 were priced at \$99,999 or less.



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Contact Information

Email
News@ReadTheReporter.com

Web Address
ReadTheReporter.com

Publisher Stu Clampitt
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Track & Field

Greyhounds start off strong, win Hamilton County boys meet

By **RICHIE HALL**
sports@readthereporter.com

NOBLESVILLE — It was a perfect night for a track and field meet Thursday as Guerin Catholic hosted the Hamilton County boys meet.

It was also a perfect opportunity for the Carmel Greyhounds to show what they can do. Carmel won a competitive meet, scoring 143 points and claiming seven of the 16 individual events.

“We’ve lost a lot of meets due to weather and we haven’t been able to run a lot of our guys, and so we don’t have a lot of times that have showed up in the top 10,” said Greyhounds coach Ken Browner. “This was really a good weather day that we had, and our guys were able to get out and finally race, produced some really good times, as you’ve seen in a number of the events. And I think it just sets us up very well going into the tournament, and so we just got to keep building.”

Carmel began the meet with a win in the 4x800 relay, then finished a very close first in the 4x100 relay, edging out Hamilton Southeastern by .005 seconds. Camren Avant was a member of that relay, and he would later win a second event in close fashion: Avant was first in the 200 dash by 0.03 seconds.

Kole Mathison provided some excitement for the ‘Hounds in the 800 dash. The senior practically sprinted the entire distance to finish in 1 minute, 50.80 seconds, by far a new county meet record.

“Kole Mathison is a phenomenal young man,”

said Browner. “Whatever he does just does not surprise me anymore, because Kole’s the ultimate competitor and he just loves to race and just get after people.”

Tony Provenzano, already a county champion in the 4x800 relay, picked up a second win in the 3200 run. Provenzano won that race by over 21 seconds. Carmel had a nice day in the field as well, with Aydrin Caldwell winning the high jump and Drew Franklin claiming the discus.

Hamilton Southeastern placed second with 124 points. The Royals won three events, including a 1-2 finish in the long jump. Lamine Sall was the winner, while Michael Griffith was the runner-up, both clearing over 22 feet.

Griffith joined the double-winner club with a first-place finish in the 400 dash, while Mason Alexander was first in the 100 dash.

Fishers placed third with 103 points. Tyler Tarter had the most wins of the day with three, as he easily swept the 110 and 300 hurdles, then was part of the Tigers’ winning 4x400 relay. As a result, Tarter earned the high-point scoring award at the end of the meet. Sam Quagliaroli gave Fishers a fourth team win by placing first in a close 1600 run.

Noblesville placed fourth with 85 points. The Millers got second-place finishes from Christ Degni in the 100 dash, Asher Propst in the 1600 run, Caden Click in the 3200 run, and the 4x400 relay team.

Westfield finished fifth as a team with 81 points. Tom Ewing placed second in both the discus and the shot put.



Carmel won the Hamilton County boys track and field meet Thursday at Guerin Catholic. The Greyhounds scored 143 points and won seven events.

Guerin Catholic’s Jack Weber led his team with a second-place finish in the 400 dash.

Hamilton Heights had two field event wins. Colin Wilson was first in the shot put, while Peyton McQuinn won the pole vault.

Team scores: Carmel 143, Hamilton Southeastern 124, Fishers 103, Noblesville 85, Westfield 81, Guerin Catholic 42, Hamilton Heights 39.

4x800 relay: 1. Carmel (Andrew Cebalo, Tony Provenzano, Drew Grogan, Everett Carlisle) 7:56.07, 2. Fishers (Makell Wiggins, Cooper Kane, Tommy Clark, Ethan Nix) 8:01.37, 3. Westfield (Caleb Haney, Landon Jones, Anthony Sulewski, Luke Sullivan) 8:04.49, 4. Guerin Catholic (Jack Weber, Ethan Hines, Luke Mosier, Ben Grissom) 8:04.88, 5. Noblesville (Jack Strong, Alec Moor, Luke Mumaw, Ashton Burns) 8:18.64, 6. Southeastern (Noah Anderson, Adam Warski, Will Henning, Ian Ross) 8:25.95.

110 hurdles – Finals: 1. Tyler Tarter (F) 14.49, 2. Adom Quist (C) 15.06, 3. Clayton Allen (HSE) 15.45, 4. Jack Huisden (W) 15.87, 5. Drew Willman (C) 16.00, 6. Seffrin Smith (GC) 16.11, 7. Ben Kern (N) 16.75, 8. Landon Shackelford (W) 16.79. Prelims: 9. Elijah Adams (HSE)

16.68, 10. Damon Winston (Sheridan) 17.15, 11. Wesley Street (GC) 17.30, 12. Kortez Foster (F) 17.78, 13. Tyler Overton (HH) 18.35, 14. Ethan Feliciano (N) 18.45, 5. Anden-et Wolfgang (HH) 19.19.

100 dash – Finals: 1. Mason Alexander (HSE) 11.09, 2. Christ Degni (N) 11.17, 3. Cameron Wilson (N) 11.382, 4. Jaylen Zachery (C) 11.384, 5. Cade Parker (W) 11.46, 6. Christian Ortiz (HSE) 11.53, 7. Joe Syrus (F) 11.57, 8. Josh Payton (F) 11.66. Prelims: 9. Hayden Cler (GC) 11.61, 10. John Miles (W) 11.78, 11. Carson Benton (C) 11.87, 12. Kevin Speck (S) 11.88, 13. Robert Sorensen (GC) 12.08, 14. Eli Kolb (S) 12.17.

1600 run: 1. Sam Quagliaroli (F) 4:16.04, 2. Asher Propst (N) 4:16.76, 3. Tate Meaux (F) 4:18.99, 4. Thomas Bltimier (C) 4:23.11, 5. Connor Mallon (C) 4:23.60, 6. Ronnie Neal (N) 4:24.51, 7. Andrew Smith (HSE) 4:30.08, 8. Jack Lo-iselle (W) 4:30.51, 9. William Cummings (W) 4:37.52, 10. Deagan Baker (HSE) 4:45.92, 11. Johnny King (GC) 4:45.96, 12. Rudy Bowman (HH) 4:46.48, 13. John Constantino (GC) 4:52.35, 14. Hudson Holt (HH) 5:07.88.

4x100 relay: 1. Carmel (Desmond Duffy, Camren Avant, Nate Struve, Uchenyo Ojata) 42.343, 2. Southeastern (Silas Newton, Chris-




Fishers’ Tyler Tarter was the meet’s high-point scorer; he won both hurdle events and was part of the Tigers’ winning 4x400 relay.



(Above left) Hamilton Southeastern’s Lamine Sall won the long jump. (Above center) Fishers’ Colin Swain sails over the pole vault bar. (Above right) Fishers’ Sam Quagliaroli holds off Noblesville’s Asher Propst to win the 1600 run.

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MEET

from Page 12



(Above left) Noblesville's Derrell Coleman runs the second leg of the Millers' 4x400 relay. (Top right) Hamilton Heights' Peyton McQuinn won the pole vault. (Above right) McQuinn consults with his coach and father Mason.

tion Ortiz, Ethan Falconer, Mason Alexander) 42.348, 3. Noblesville (Derrell Coleman, Degni, Sidney Weaver, Wilson) 42.57, 4. Westfield (Parker, Jacob Good, Gabe Arambolles, Mikeah Webster) 43.03, 5. Fishers (Syrus, Payton, Tristan Capps, Robert Seay) 43.38, 6. Guerin Catholic (Luke Moody, Cler, Nick Bauman, Alex Gibbs) 43.98, 7. Heights (Alex Knepper, Conor Baumann, Eric Balcorn, Jaylyn Pugh) 45.47.

400 dash: 1. Michael Griffith (HSE) 49.81, 2. Weber (GC) 50.04, 3. Cole Taylor (C) 50.24, 4. Matt Dunlap (GC) 50.38, 5. Sevin Barringer (N) 50.51, 6. Gabriel LaBoiteaux (C) 50.74, 7. Noah Link (HSE) 51.20, 8. Calvin Lighty (N) 51.40, 9. Will Snedeker (W) 52.20, 10. Owen Flynn (W) 52.30, 11. Jayden Chambliss (F) 52.80, 12. Aiden Orton (HH) 55.61, 13. Kolb (S) 56.88, 14. Austin Day (HH) 57.68.

300 hurdles: 1. Tarter (F) 38.60, 2. Willman (C) 40.16, 3. Quist (C) 40.85, 4. Kern (N) 41.29, 5. Huisden (W) 41.77, 6. Allen (HSE) 41.93, 7. Adams (HSE) 42.04, 8. Street (GC) 42.81, 9. Overton (HH) 42.97, 10. Charlie Naas (W) 44.10, 11. Peyton Cash (N) 44.26, 12. Emmanuel Cowherd (F) 44.99, 13. Wolfgang (HH) 49.20.

800 run: 1. Kole Mathison (C) 1:50.80, new meet record, 2. Matthew Kim (F) 1:52.65, 3. Colin Lakomek (W) 1:52.67, 4. Charlie Leedke (C) 1:53.12, 5. Moor (N) 1:56.53, 6. Steven Case (HH) 1:56.69, 7. Sam Hinds (W) 1:56.73, 8. Ross (HSE) 1:57.22, 9. Clark (F) 1:57.40, 10. Strong (N) 1:58.63, 11. Henning (HSE) 2:02.11, 12. James Crocker (GC) 2:04.53, 13. Max Fish (GC) 2:06.71.

200 dash – Finals: 1. Avant (C) 22.33, 2. Ortiz (HSE) 22.36, 3. Falconer (HSE) 22.42, 4. Degni (N) 22.47, 5. Cavitt Fowler III (F) 22.85, 6. Wilson (N) 22.96, 7. L. Moody (GC) 23.10, 8. Good (W) 23.32. **Prelims:** 9. Struve (C) 23.36, 10. Connor Seagrave (W) 23.63, 11. Pugh (HH) 23.86, 12. Capps (F) 24.03, 13. Speck (S) 24.12, 14. Baumann (HH) 24.48, 15. James Moody (GC) 26.57.

3200 run: 1. Provenzano (C) 9:12.24, 2. Caden Click (N) 9:33.70, 3. Sam Rinker (N) 9:39.04, 4. Liam Powers (HSE) 9:39.80, 5. Austin Wilson (F) 9:53.89, 6. Nate Thomas (F) 9:56.14, 7. Riley Schamp (HSE) 10:05.00, 8. Liam Oman (C) 10:06.00, 9. Drew Lovelace (W) 10:12.97, 10. Hunter Kinzel-Gorman (GC) 10:31.02, 11. Owen Mohler (W) 10:34.32, 12. Nathan Traub (GC) 10:39.57, 13. Isaiah Heuer (HH) 11:02.56, 14. Max Bowman (HH) 11:28.23.

4x400 relay: 1. Fishers (Tarter, Leo Morrow, Fowler III, Wiggins) 3:23.87, 2. Noblesville (Lighty, Coleman, Elliott Soderberg, Barringer) 3:25.41, 3. Southeastern (John McCoy, Link, Ortiz, Griffith) 3:25.44, 4. Guerin Catholic (Dunlap, Gibbs, Bauman, Grissom) 3:26.12, 5. Westfield (Hinds, Landon King, Webster, Flynn) 3:26.45, 6. Carmel (Taylor, Avant, Willman, Mathison) 3:27.18, 7. Heights (Orton, Overton, Tyler Runyan, Case) 3:41.86.

High jump: 1. Aydrion Caldwell (C) 6-6, 2. Rowan Hall (HSE) 6-2, 3. Robert Campbell (W) 6-2, 4. Daniel Ernst (GC) 6-2, 5. Runyan (HH) 6-1, 6. Seffrin Smith (GC) 5-8, 7. Tristan Johnson (F) 5-8, 8. Gabriel Davis (C) 5-8, 9. Jackson Cantlon (HH) 5-6; Blake Braden (HSE) 5-6, 11. Camden Bush (F) 5-6.

Pole vault: 1. Peyton McQuinn (HH) 15-4, 2. Connor Langsford (HSE) 13-6, 3. Alex Wilson (W) 13-6, 4. Colin Swain (F) 11-6, 5. Lucas Bland (W) 11-0, 6. Carter Jay (C) 11-0, 7. Dean Watson (C) 10-6, 8. Evan Seneff (HSE) 10-0, 9. Justin Overton (HH) 9-6, 10. Max Wambach (N) 9-0.

Long jump: 1. Lamine Sall (HSE) 22-2.75, 2. Griffith (HSE) 22-1, 3. JonAnthony Hall (F) 21-4.25, 4. Campbell (W) 20-7.5, 5. Coleman (N) 20-7, 6. Arambolles (W) 20-5.25, 7. Sorensen (GC) 19-6.5, 8. Gabriel Davis (C) 19-6.5, 9. Cameron Parker (GC) 19-2.75, 10. Weaver (N) 18-4.25, 11. Denkota Fletcher (F) 18-3, 12. Dax Woodfork (HH) 17-3.75, 13. Beau Snarr (C) 16-4.75, 14. Speck (S) 16-4.75.

Shot put: 1. Colin Wilson (HH)



(Top left) Fishers' Tyler Tarter cruises to a win the 110 hurdles. (Top right) Hamilton Southeastern's Michael Griffith (center) won the 400 dash. Also pictured are Noblesville's Sevin Barringer (left) and Guerin Catholic's Jack Weber. (Above left) Carmel's Tony Provenzano won the 3200 run. (Above right) Carmel's Kole Mathison (right) and Westfield's Colin Lakomek race in the 800 run.

61-0, 2. Tom Ewing (W) 56-7, 3. Drew Franklin (C) 53-1, 4. Josiah Bird (HSE) 48-11, 5. Joel Gates (F) 48-2, 6. Owen Gerig (HSE) 46-7, 7. Josh Brown (HH) 45-6, 8. William

Goodvine (W) 45-4, 9. Daniel Armstrong (F) 45-3, 10. Vincent Neal (C) 41-9, 11. James Kuhlman (N) 41-9, 12. Sam Setmeyer (F) 38-7, 13. Ryan Howard (GC) 24-9.

Discus: 1. Franklin (C) 172-6, 2. Ewing (W) 169-11, 3. Wilson (HH) 157-10, 4. Gates (F) 151-11, 5. Bird (HSE) 146-2, 6. Hayden Pentecost (W) 134-1, 7. Alex Herring (C) 133-9,

8. Andrew Giger (F) 114-0, 9. Kuhlman (N) 113-4, 10. Jaden Dunbar (S) 99-0, 11. Gabe Bellan (N) 95-3, 12. Tresdon Hamilton (S) 93-93, 13. Howard (GC) 59-0.

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SPORTS SCHEDULE

Friday, May 12

BASEBALL

Brownsburg at Noblesville, 6 p.m.
Franklin Central at Fishers, 6 p.m.
Hamilton Heights at Twin Lakes, 6 p.m.
Roncalli at Carmel, 6 p.m.
Westfield at Hamilton Southeastern, 6 p.m.
Guerin Catholic at Heritage Christian, TBA

BOYS LACROSSE

Carmel at Cathedral, 7:30 p.m.
Crown Point at Fishers, 7:30 p.m.
Hamilton Southeastern at Zionsville, 7:30 p.m.

SOFTBALL

Lafayette Central Catholic at Hamilto Heights, 5:30 p.m.
Guerin Catholic at Western Boone, 5:30 p.m.
Westfield at Southmont, 5:30 p.m.
Terre Haute North at Carmel, 6 p.m.

TENNIS

Guerin Catholic at Lafayette Central Catholic, 5 p.m.
South Bend St. Joseph at Carmel, 5 p.m.
Westfield at Park Tudor, 5 p.m.

Saturday, May 13

BASEBALL

Sheridan at Madison-Grant, 11:15 a.m.
Carmel vs. Evansville North, 12:30 p.m.
at Bloomington North
Greenfield-Central at Guerin Catholic
doubleheader, 3 p.m.

University at Pioneer Conference crossover game, TBA

BOYS LACROSSE

Crown Point at Noblesville, 11 a.m.
Westfield at South Bend St. Joseph, 1 p.m.
Culver Academies at Hamilton Southeastern, 5 p.m.

GOLF

Carmel, Hamilton Southeastern at Brownsburg
Invitational, 8 a.m. at the Trophy Club
Hoosier Heartland Conference meet, 8 a.m. at Carroll
Fishers, Noblesville at Mooresville Invitational,
8:30 a.m. at Heartland Crossing
Westfield at Franklin Community Invitational,
9 a.m. at The Legends
Hoosier Conference meet, 10 a.m. at Western
Guerin Catholic, Westfield at Angola Invitational,
12:30 p.m. at Glendarin Hills

SOFTBALL

Sheridan at Madison-Grant Argyll Classic, 9 a.m.
Hamilton Southeastern at Fort Wayne Carroll, 10 a.m.
Carmel at Crown Point, 11 a.m.
Mooresville at Westfield, 11 a.m.
Noblesville at Leo doubleheader, 11 a.m.
Hamilton Southeastern vs. South Bend St. Joseph,
noon at Fort Wayne Carroll
Carmel at Munster, 3 p.m.
Guerin Catholic at Shelbyville Golden Bear
Invitational, TBA

TENNIS

Fishers at Brebeuf Jesuit, 10 a.m.
Noblesville at Brown County, 10 a.m.
Hamilton Heights at Western, 11 a.m.

Monday, May 15

BASEBALL

Columbus North at Fishers, 6 p.m.
Mount Vernon at Carmel, 6 p.m.
Sheridan at Hoosier Heartland Conference
tournament, 6 p.m.
Westfield at Kokomo, 6 p.m.
Guerin Catholic at Noblesville, 7 p.m.

GOLF

HCC meet, 10 a.m. at Bear Slide
Sheridan vs. Hamilton Heights and Frankton,
4:30 p.m. at Cool Lake
University vs. Bethesda Christian, 5 p.m. at Wood Wind

SOFTBALL

North Central at Guerin Catholic, 5:30 p.m.
Westfield at Western, 5:30 p.m.
Harrison at Carmel, 6 p.m.
McCutcheon at Noblesville, 6 p.m.

TENNIS

Carmel at Noblesville, 5 p.m.
Eastern at Hamilton Heights, 5 p.m.
Fishers at New Palestine, 5:30 p.m.
Westfield vs. North Central, 5:30 p.m. at Noblesville
IHSAA pairings show, 7 p.m.

UNIFIED TRACK

Kokomo at Fishers, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, May 16

BASEBALL

Hamilton Southeastern at Center Grove, 6 p.m.
Kokomo at Hamilton Heights, 6 p.m.
Sheridan at HHC tournament, 6 p.m.

BOYS LACROSSE

Cathedral at Noblesville, 7 p.m.
Brebeuf Jesuit at Guerin Catholic, 7:30 p.m.
Center Grove at Westfield, 7:30 p.m.

GOLF

Guerin Catholic, Westfield at Carmel Invitational,
3:30 p.m. at Woodland Country Club
Sheridan vs. Tri-Central, 4:30 p.m. at
Tipton Municipal Golf Course

SOFTBALL

Sheridan at HHC tournament, 5 p.m. at Rossville
Lafayette Jefferson at Guerin Catholic, 5:30 p.m.
Avon at Westfield, 6 p.m.
Hamilton Southeastern at Franklin Central, 6 p.m.
Noblesville at Zionsville, 6 p.m.
Shelbyville at Carmel, 6 p.m.

TENNIS

Eastern at Hamilton Heights, 5 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD

Girls sectional, 5:30 p.m. at Hamilton Southeastern
UNIFIED TRACK

Westfield and Western at Hamilton Heights, 5:30 p.m.

Please email schedule changes or corrections to
sports@readthereporter.com.

Baseball

No. 2 Millers sweep Brownsburg in HCC series doubleheader

By CRAIG ADKINS
sports@readthereporter.com

The Brownsburg-Noblesville Hoosier Crossroads Conference series shifted to a doubleheader on Thursday at Dunker Field with the impending inclement weather for Friday. The first of the twin bill served as Brownsburg's designated home game.

The Millers spread out their runs strategically en route to holding on for a 3-2 league win in the first game.

Trevor Corbett and Aiden Reynolds led off with back-to-back singles. Nolan Decker grounded out to short with one out that scored Corbett for an early 1-0 lead in the top of the first.

Decker would help his own cause in the top of the third. The junior hit a sacrifice fly to right that scored pinch runner McCoy Fulk

from third for a 2-0 advantage.

Brownsburg cut into the Noblesville lead in the bottom of the third. Caden Dougherty took a one-out triple off of the glove of Aiden Ramsey to left center. Dougherty scored on a double to right center that narrowed the gap to 2-1.

Noblesville tacked on another run in the top of the fifth. Trevor Corbett wasted no time, dropping down a lead off bunted that rolled behind pitcher Mason Tibbs. Corbett advanced to second on a passed ball and then scored on a double by Aiden Reynolds, pushing the lead to 3-1.

The Bulldogs added another run in the bottom of the sixth. Colin McNeer doubled with one out and was driven in on Mason Tibbs single up the middle for a 3-2 count that would wind up as the

final.

Decker struck out six Bulldogs in 5.2 innings to get the win. Lucas Stephan came on for the save in the sixth and fanned three of the seven hitters he faced.

Reynolds led with three hits, while Corbett and Ramsey each had two.

Game two started as a pitcher's duel. Neither Walker Brodt nor Bryce Riggs gave up a hit until the third.

Nathan Walsh had a one out triple to center, but was stranded at third on Riggs' seventh strikeout.

Tyler Utterback singled to shallow right center with one out. Trevor Corbett doubled to right to send Utterback home for 1-0.

Aiden Reynolds walked for two on. Bryce Riggs got hit by a pitch to load the bases. Nolan Decker then grounded into right, playing

both Corbett and Reynolds for 3-0.

Jack Shade reached on an infield single, sending Decker home and upping the score to 4-0.

Riggs was cruising on the mound, whiffing 13 on the night, including striking out the side to end the game. This is his second consecutive outing with 13 strikeouts. The win moves the senior right-hander to 6-0 on the season.

He scattered seven hits over seven innings, while yielding no walks to the Bulldogs.

The HCC series sweep of Brownsburg (9-10, 3-9 HCC) improves Noblesville to 18-5 overall and 9-3 in HCC action.

The Millers are off until hosting 3A No. 2 Guerin Catholic (20-2) in a battle of highly-ranked foes on Monday at 7 p.m.

‘Rocks take down Royals in conference game, Fishers scores late to beat Flashes

The REPORTER

The Westfield baseball team won a Hoosier Crossroads Conference game over Hamilton Southeastern 2-0 on Thursday.

The Shamrocks scored their first run in the fourth inning. Evan Russ led off with a double, and was eventually brought in by Tyler Gentry's right field hit. Westfield added a second run in the fifth inning when Eli Manbeck singled in Caden Lindsey.

Brayden Hibler, Alex Rudolph and Gentry all had two hits, with Hibler crack-

ing a third-inning triple. Ty Anderson pitched a dominant complete game, striking out six while allowing just one hit and one walk.

Maddux Bach had the lone hit for the Royals. Ty Bradle also pitched a complete game, striking out five.

Both teams are 6-5 in the conference. Westfield 12-9 overall, while Southeastern is 11-12. The two teams will play tonight at the Royals' Ken Seitz Field.

Fishers scored late runs to beat Franklin Central

on the road 3-1 in an HCC game.

The Flashes got their run in the first inning, and held that 1-0 lead through four innings. The Tigers tied the game in the fifth inning when Brevin Barker got on base with a bunt single, moved to second base on an error and to third base on a passed ball, then scored on Noah McPeek's RBI groundout.

Fishers scored the go-ahead run in the sixth inning. Caulin Brown got on base with a single, and Michael

Hughes came in to run for him. Hughes stole second, then was brought home by Gavin Kuzniewski's right field hit. McPeek scored the Tigers' third run in the seventh inning, going home on Gavin Clayton's sacrifice fly. Kuzniewski finished the game with two hits. Jack Brown got the complete-game win, tossing nine strikeouts.

Fishers is 7-4 in the conference and 16-10 overall, and hosts Franklin Central tonight to complete the conference series.



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Millers girls lacrosse ends season with two wins

The REPORTER

The Noblesville girls lacrosse team finished the regular season with two victories.

Last Friday, the Millers traveled to Brebeuf Jesuit. The Junior Varsity Gold team won 9-4, with Brie Hassan scoring three goals and getting four draw controls. Clara Peters and Lily Kane had two goals each and Neve Sloffer and Emersen Leo both had one goal.

In the varsity game, Noblesville won 13-5. The Millers led 5-3 at halftime, then outscored the Braves 8-2 in the second half.

Noblesville's offense came out strong, and the majority of the Millers' goals were assisted. Hannah Miller commanded the draw controls winning seven of 14. Marisha Woehler led the offense with three goals and four assists. Nataley Black-

burn also had a hat trick with one assist. Guinnie Salas, Hannah Miller and Emma Hammond all contributed two goals and Sophie Reagan had one. The Noblesville defense also had a strong showing winning 22 ground balls. Lila Julian had four forced turnovers, while Hammond and Bailey Stooksberry both had three forced turnovers. Goalkeeper Lauren Fischer, made seven saves on the night.

On Tuesday, the Millers traveled to Cathedral for their regular-season finale. First, the Noblesville JV Black team played and won 13-8. The Millers led 8-2 at halftime.

Ashley Ralph led the scoring attack with six goals on the night, while Cristina Andrews contributed two goals. Riley Hodges, Lily Kane, Katelyn Etchison, Brie Hassan and Neve Sloffer each contributed a goal.

The defense was anchored by goalkeeper Devyn Pewarski with 11 saves. Defenders Kyra Knight had six forced turnovers and Adeline Haney was responsible for three forced turnovers. The JV Black team finished the season with six straight wins and an overall record of 10-2-1.

Noblesville won the varsity game 15-7. Cathedral jumped out to a quick, early lead, scoring its first goal in under 20 seconds. The Millers immediately responded, scoring the next six goals before the Irish would see the back of the net again. The half ended with Noblesville up 8-3.

The second half started off in similar fashion with Cathedral getting on the board first with a quick goal. Again, The Millers responded, scoring the next four goals.

On defense, Tori Cook

had four ground balls while Avery Pohlman and Lila Julian each had three ground balls. Goalkeeper Adi Terry had seven saves; one ground ball, one forced turnover and one interception. On offense, the Millers had four different players with five total points (the total of assists and goals). Chloe Barnett had four goals and one assist; Blackburn had three goals and two assists; Hammond had three goals and two assists; and Woehler had two goals and three assists. Molly Adams, Kaelyn Seyfried, and Pohlman each had one goal.

The victory over Cathedral was the Millers' eighth straight win, and they finished the regular season with a 10-5 record. Noblesville will host Bishop Chartard at 6 p.m. tonight in the first round of the IHSGLA Class 2A Regional Tournament.

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10th annual Umoja Games will bring global participation to Grand Park in Westfield

The REPORTER

The Umoja Outreach Foundation, a non-profit that unites the Muslim community through sports, will host its 10th annual Umoja Games Soccer Tournament at Grand Park Sports Campus in Westfield, July 7-9.

The Umoja Games is the marquee event for the organization, featuring soccer games for boys and girls of all ages. The tournament brings thousands of families from across the continent and beyond, giving them an opportunity to build new relationships and become a part of a unified community.

"Umoja Games has created a united Umoja family, using soccer as a driving force that transcends cultural, ethnic or geographic differences that otherwise exist in Muslim communities," said Umoja Outreach Foundation Co-Founder Mustafa Dinani. "Our focus at each tournament is to create a unique and inclusive experience for everyone so that they want to return year after year."

What started as a 100-participant adult men's tournament in 2012 has grown to an annual event with more than 1,000 participants. Most notably, the youth and women's divisions have seen the largest growth in participation. The Umoja Games currently stands as the largest Muslim girls and women soccer tournament in North America.

The City of Westfield and the Grand Park team look forward to hosting the event for the first time this year.

"Westfield is honored to host the Umoja soccer tournament," said Westfield Mayor Andy Cook, "and we welcome the games to the nation's finest youth sports facility, Grand Park."

The Umoja Games is open to spectators at no cost. Visitors are encouraged throughout the event to learn more about the different cultures present in the tournament and enjoy a special bazaar that will feature goods sold by members of the Umoja community.

"In all our interactions with the Umoja team, it's clear how unique and passionate this community is," said Hamilton County Sports Authority Director Karen Radcliff. "We look forward to welcoming Umoja participants to Hamilton County this July."

More details on the Umoja Games can be found at UmojaOutreach.org/Games.

About Hamilton County Sports Authority

The Hamilton County Sports Authority creates positive economic and community impact by attracting, supporting, and developing sporting events, facilities and clubs for Hamilton County. Learn more at visithamiltoncounty.com/sports.





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