

Five days of Cicero celebration starts with first queen pageant

“Except . . .”

The REPORTER

As Independence Day nears, the Town of Cicero is gearing up for its annual Lights Over Morse Lake Festival. There's something for everyone across five days of one big patriotic party. From a carnival to hot air balloon rides, to face painting, to basketball, cornhole, and pickleball tournaments, to bingo, to live music, and even a golf cart wash fundraiser and more ... if you don't have fun in Cicero this year, it's probably your own fault!

New this year will be the crowning of the first-ever Festival Queen on Friday. Read all about it below.

Friday, June 30

The Town of Cicero kicks off the Lights Over Morse Festival on Friday, June 30 by crowning its first Festival Queen.

The inaugural Miss Lights Over Morse Lake Queen Pageant will be held at 6:30 p.m. at Cicero Christian Church, 1715 Stringtown Pike, and girls aged 17 to 20 from the Hamilton Heights school district will compete for scholarships. The co-chairs of the queen pageant are Nikki Hurdley and Lisa Everling, and committee helpers include Kristen Moon and Jessica Higbotham.

Thanks to these sponsors: BerryComm (Title Sponsor), Lunar Companies, Dr. Raymond Baumgartner, Lisa Ever-

Contestants in Cicero's inaugural Lights Over Morse Lake Festival Queen Pageant



Tatym Green



Karma Collier



Allie Matthews



Ashlyn Fletcher



Hadleigh Cherry



Emma Linville



Faith Hittle



Devyn Taylor



Haley Ringer



Kylie Apple

This year, the Lights Over Morse Lake festival will hold its inaugural queen pageant, and these 10 young ladies will compete to wear the first crown.

ling, and Pizza House.

Also, during the intermission of the Queen Pageant will be the first Little Miss Lights Over Morse Lake Showcase. Girls must be between ages 4 and 7 and in the Hamilton Heights school district. Sashes and tiaras will be donated by Lisa & Brian Bear, and every girl is a winner. The Little Miss Lights pageant chair is Lisa Bear. For more information, go to lightsover-morselake.org/pageant.

Other fun activities on opening day include:

- Food & craft vendors at Community Park, 139 Stringtown Pike, 4 to 8 or 9 p.m.
- Carnival behind the Hamilton North Public Library, 209 W. Brinton St., 4 to 11 p.m.
- Golf Cart Wash Fundraiser (for Legacy H.S. Varsity Basketball) at Red Bridge Park, 697 W. Jackson St., 6 p.m.
- Music Bingo at the Community Park Shelter, 6 to 8 p.m.
- Outdoor Movie Night at Cicero Christian Church Shelter/North Lawn, 9 p.m.

See *Lights* . . . Page 2

Grandpa Howard related this story of picking corn by hand. Before mechanical corn pickers were in use, corn was shucked by hand. Seventy-five or 80 bushels was considered a fair day's work. Cribbing did not begin then until about the first week of November. Consequently, those with a large acreage were anxious to hire help, in order to gather the crop before bad weather.

Bob Judy, a prominent farmer who lived near Judyville in Warren County, offered to provide board and lodging, and also pay \$0.02 per bushel above the customary price to each man who could furnish their own team and wagon. The extra wages and the prospect of five or six weeks of work induced Grandpa's father and a near neighbor whose name was Enoch to accept the offer. However, they planned to spend every second weekend at home.

They placed tall "knock boards" on their wagons in view of the big loads expected. But when the time came to go, Enoch was reluctant to leave his family. His wife gave him assurance by promising to write often. The letters came regularly, but since he was not literate, Grandpa's father read them for him. One morning just before starting to work he opened the letter and gave it to Grandpa's father. Grandpa began, "Dear Enoch: We are all well—"

See *Except* . . . Page 2

COLUMNIST



RAY ADLER
Ask Adler

Carmel's Jim Brainard honored by U.S. Conference of Mayors

The REPORTER

Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard, who has served on the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) for more than two decades – including in a leadership role for the past 13 years – was honored recently, along with three other mayors who have chosen to step down as mayors of their cities.

The honor was presented at the 91st annual Meeting of the Mayors held in Columbus, Ohio.

"It was an honor for me to represent the City of Carmel at the Mayors' conferences over the years," Brainard said. "It is important for leaders to gather and share best practices and solutions for building better cities across the country. I learned a lot and enjoyed sharing the successes we have experienced in Carmel with my colleagues."

Mayor Brainard has served on the USCM Executive Committee and as a Trustee since 2010.

He has also served on a number of USCM committees



Photo provided

(From left) Mayor Ken Miyagishima of Las Cruces, N.M.; Mayor Luke Bronin of Hartford, Conn.; Mayor Brainard; Mayor Sylvester Turner of Houston, Texas; and Tom Cochran, CEO and Executive Director of the USCM.

and boards, including:

- Standing Committee for Transportation and Communications, 2010 to present
- Standing Committee for Tourism, Arts, Parks, Entertainment and Sports, 2010 to present
- Task Force on Energy Independence and Climate Protection, Co-chair, 2005 to present
- Standing Committee for Community Development and Housing, Vice Chair, 2005
- Advisory Board, 2002 to 2010
- Council for Investment in the New American City, 2001
- Presidential Transition Team, 2000
- Urban Economic Committee, 2000

Noblesville Schools appoints two new district leaders

The REPORTER

Noblesville Schools appointed two new district leaders at the June 20 Board of Trustees meeting.

Julie Thacker was named Executive Director of Student Services and Rob Williamson was named Director of Transportation. Thacker will replace Laura Denis, who is relocating out of state, and Williamson will take over for Brian Zachery, who has announced his retirement effective Jan. 1, 2024.

Thacker joins the district from Plainfield Schools, where she is currently principal of Central Elementary School. She has also held positions as a guidance director, assistant principal, and middle school English teacher. In her role as Executive Director of Student Services, Thacker will oversee counseling, nursing, social workers, Little Millers Preschool, Miller Explorers, and other support services designed to ensure students can best focus on learning.

See *Noblesville Schools* . . . Page 2



Thacker



Williamson

Republicans welcome Scott Willis to breakfast meeting

Submitted by Hamilton County GOP

The Hamilton County Republican Party Breakfast Club welcomed Scott Willis, the Republican candidate for Westfield Mayor, as its recent meeting. The breakfast club, led by Hamilton County Republican Party Chairman Mario Massillamany, witnessed an overwhelming response with a full house.

The gathering took place at Bridgewater Country Club, where local Republican supporters, community mem-

bers, and elected officials came together to hear Willis present his vision and plans for the future of Westfield. The event provided an opportunity for attendees to engage with the candidate directly, ask questions, and gain insights into his platform.

Willis shared his extensive knowledge and passion for Westfield. With a strong focus on promoting economic growth, enhancing infrastructure, and prioritizing public safety, he demonstrated his commitment to serving the residents and advancing the city's interests.

The Hamilton County Republican Party Breakfast Club has a long-standing tradition of holding events that foster community engagement, provide a platform for Republican candidates, and promote open dialogue on important local issues. Chairman Massillamany, a respected leader within the Republican Party, expressed his gratitude for the enthusiastic response and participation from the community.

See *Breakfast* . . . Page 2



Photo provided

Westfield's Republican mayoral candidate Scott Willis, who currently serves on the city council, was the guest speaker at the Hamilton County Republican Party Breakfast Club's most recent meeting.

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"Don't Get Around Much Anymore"
"It Don't Mean A Thing"

LIGHTS

Saturday, July 1
Saturday, July 1 is Kids Day at the Lights Over Morse Lake Festival in Cicero.

- 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament: 9 a.m. at Community Park, 139 Stringtown Pike
- Princess/Superheroes & Face Painting: 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Hamilton North Public Library Pavilion, 209 W. Brinton St.
- Barnyard Party Pals: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Community Park
- Carnival: Behind the Hamilton North Public Library, noon to 11 p.m. \$25 per day, all day – \$3 off coupon.
- Tethered Hot Air Balloon Rides: 7:30 p.m. to sunset at Cicero Christian Church, 1715 Stringtown Pike. \$15.
- Cicero Friends of the Park Bingo: 5 to 7 p.m. at Community Park Picnic Shelter. \$1 per game with cash prizes for the winners.

New this year is the Inaugural “Pickleball Blast” Tournament at 9 a.m. Saturday in Community Park. All proceeds benefit Central

Indiana Teach One to Lead One, a community mentoring group. For more information or to register, go to lightsovermorselake.org/pickleball-tournament.

Finish the evening by listening to the high energy, multi-genre band The Bishops from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Hamilton North Public Library Pavilion.

Sunday, July 2
There are lots of fun, family friendly activities set for Sunday, July 2 at the Lights Over Morse Lake Festival in Cicero.

- Cornhole Tournament, noon (registration at 11 a.m.) at the south end of Community Park, 139 Stringtown Pike. Cost is \$30 per team. Cash prizes and trophies to the top three teams. To register, visit lightsovermorselake.org/cornhole-tournament.
- Cicero’s Kids Got Talent Show, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Hamilton North Public Library Pavilion, 209 W. Brinton St. There will be cash prizes for winners in the following age categories: 6 and under, 7 to 10, 11 to

15, and 15 to 18. To register, visit lightsovermorselake.org/ciceros-got-talent.

- The Hamilton County Community Band, under the direction of Brian Swart, will perform from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the Community Park Shelter.
- Golf Cart Scavenger Hunt, 4 to 6 p.m. Starts and ends at the Cicero Christian Church Shelter, 1715 Stringtown Pike.
- Tethered Hot Air Balloon Rides, 7:30 p.m. to sunset at Cicero Christian Church. \$15.
- Krista & the Night Shift (traditional and modern country music) will be in concert from 8 to 10 p.m. at the Hamilton North Public Library Pavilion. Opener Mikey Good will start at 6 p.m.

Monday, July 3
The fun continues Monday, July 3 at the Lights Over Morse Lake Festival in Cicero.

Stop by the Festival Office/Camper in Community Park, 139 Stringtown Pike, to view 11 beautifully painted rain barrels, presented by

Cicero Friends of the Park and sponsored by the Cicero Storm Water Management Board. There will be a silent auction (which ends at 4 p.m. on July 2) and all proceeds benefit the Cicero Parks Department.

Visit the Food & Craft Vendors in Community Park from 4 to 8 p.m. and bring the kids to the Carnival from 4 to 11 p.m. behind the Hamilton North Public Library. Barnyard Party Pals will also be in Community Park from 3 to 9 p.m. Finish the day with the Big 80’s Band in Concert from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Hamilton North Public Library Pavilion.

Tuesday, July 4
Start the Fourth of July holiday at Selah’s Grace 5K Run/Walk at 7:30 a.m. Registration starts at 7 a.m.

at the Cicero Parks Department Building, 1050 S. Pearl St.

Selah’s Grace is a non-profit support group for families who have experienced pregnancy and infant loss. This 5K is sponsored by Cicero Christian Church. Sign up at runsignup.com/Race/IN/Cicero/Selahs-Grace5KRunWalk.

The annual Cicero Fourth of July Parade will kick off at 11 a.m. Line-up starts at 10 a.m. This huge parade is always a fan favorite. Parade Grand Marshals will be Greg & Kathy Bowman. For more information or to register, visit lightsovermorselake.org/parade. Thanks to parade sponsor Adler Attorneys.

Another annual favorite is the United Family Wes-

leyan Church Free Fair from 4 to 8 p.m. at 210 Washington Ave. There will be lots of free food and games for all ages.

Cicero has saved the best for last – the grand finale Fireworks Show at 10 p.m. Fireworks will be shot off a barge in Morse Lake in front of the Jackson Street Bridge. Find lots of great viewing on the east and west sides of the Jackson Street bridge. The bridge will be closed to vehicles at 8 p.m. Parking is \$10 at Red Bridge Park (proceeds benefit Cicero Friends of the Park).

Come celebrate the country’s birthday in Cicero this year! For more information and a complete festival event listing, visit lightsovermorselake.org.

from Page 1

EXCEPT

“That’s all I want to hear now, finish reading it when we have more time,” Enoch declared, as he reached for the letter. In their bedroom that night, he handed it back to Grandpa’s father who read as follows, “Dear Enoch: we are all well, except Cora (a small daughter) she has had a sore throat but is better.” This news excited Enoch and he exclaimed, “Except ... Holy Heavens, I thought they were all well. Cora might have choked to death.”

After spending a sleepless night, he started home at daybreak to be with the family and Bob Judy was short one corn husker.

Grandpa told me that

“except” is a word that we should not overlook, even though it is often in fine print and less conspicuous in boldface type. It means to take or leave out; admit; or exclude, therefore it may be more deprecating than it appears for it connotes restriction or reservation. Watch out for the word “except” was his caution.

Grandpa also told me that early one morning several years ago, a neighbor came to his place riding a nice-looking medium-size brown mare. Forthwith, he said, “I want to trade for your bay horse.” Not being a “horse trader,” or a very good judge of horses, Grandpa wasn’t interested

until he was offered \$100 to boot. Whereupon, Grandpa remarked, “What is wrong with the mare?” He replied, “She is sound all right, except, being what is called a cold collar.”

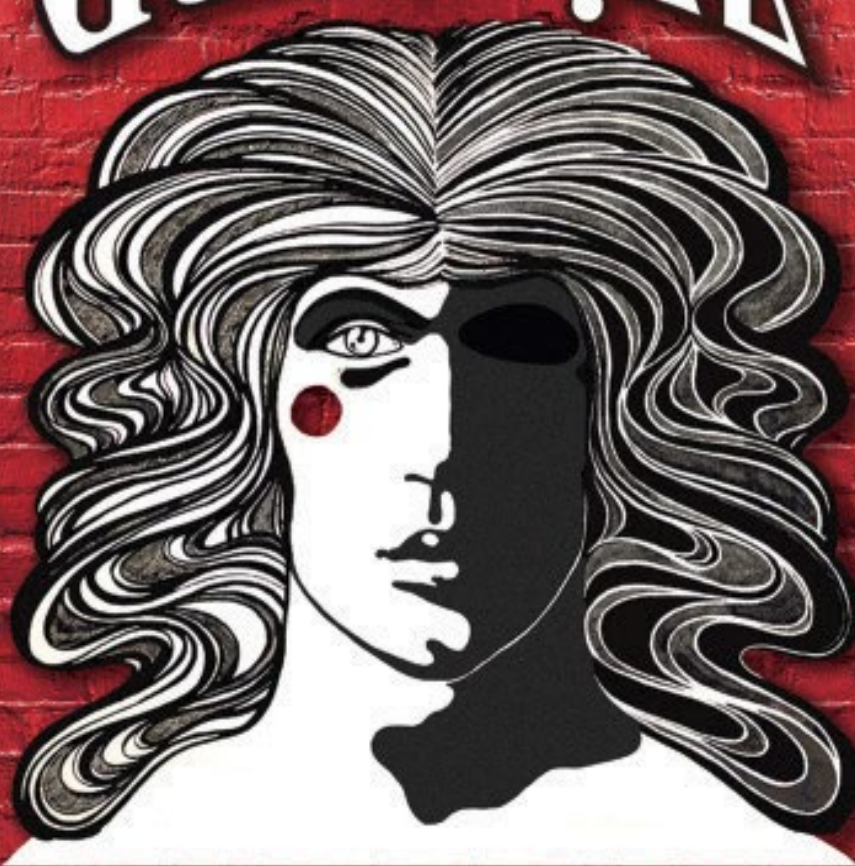
Thinking perhaps the fault could be remedied by kind treatment, the deal was soon made. A short time afterwards when the mare was hitched beside another horse to an empty wagon, she put her head over the horse’s neck and refused to tighten the traces. Yes, she was all right, except ... which reduced her value in Grandpa’s estimation 100 percent.

Watch out for the word “except” was his repeated caution.

from Page 1

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She holds a master’s degree in school counseling from Indiana State University, a bachelor’s degree in English from Ball State University, and is currently pursuing her PhD in Education Administration. She also has licensing in School Administration and as an Educational Specialist.

Williamson steps into the position of Transportation

Director after serving as an assistant principal at Noblesville East Middle School since 2015. He brings a wide range of experience in safety, leadership, scheduling, and planning. In his new role he will oversee all aspects of the Transportation Department including staffing, routing, maintenance, and safety. He holds a master’s degree in

education from Olivet Nazarene University, a bachelor’s degree in mathematics education from Purdue University, and leadership licenses from Indiana University Purdue University (IUPUI) and Ball State University.

Thacker will begin July 1, 2023, and Williamson will take over Transportation effective Jan. 1, 2024.

from Page 1

BREAKFAST

“The turnout for our event featuring Scott Willis was exceptional,” Massillamany said. “It’s a testament to the dedication and commitment of Hamilton County residents to stay informed and actively participate in the political process. We are proud to provide a

platform for candidates like Scott Willis to connect directly with our community members.”

The Hamilton County Republican Party encourages all residents to stay engaged, educate themselves about the candidates and their platforms,

and exercise their right to vote in the upcoming election. The party remains committed to promoting Republican values, supporting candidates who prioritize the needs of the community, and ensuring a prosperous future for Hamilton County.

from Page 1

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 Brandon Severance Senior Full-time Employment Design & Build	 Luke Dowdy Senior Full-time Employment The Dilling Group	 Sam Anderson Junior Paid Summer Internship Edwards Electrical & Mechanical	 Benjamin Culp Senior Full-time Employment Ferrer Mechanical and Electrical	 Nathan Dowdy Senior Full-time Employment Ferrer Mechanical and Electrical	 Isaiah Easton Junior Paid Summer Internship Ferrer Mechanical and Electrical
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 Nikola Kozakiewicz Senior Paid Adult Internship Gaylor Electric	 Alex Meeker Senior Paid Adult Internship Gaylor Electric	 Blake Presits Senior Paid Adult Internship Gaylor Electric	 Adrian Rodriguez Senior Paid Adult Internship Gaylor Electric	 Avion Rush Senior Paid Adult Internship Gaylor Electric	 Logan Skaggs Senior Paid Adult Internship Gaylor Electric
 Alex Threet Senior Paid Adult Internship Gaylor Electric	 Michael Tubb Senior Paid Adult Internship Gaylor Electric	 Alex Bourke Junior Paid Summer Internship Jack Laurie Group	 Isaiah Norvell Junior Paid Summer Internship Jack Laurie Group	 Sarah Snell Senior Full-time Employment Jack Laurie Group	 Lily Stratton Junior Paid Summer Internship Jack Laurie Group
 Carson White Junior Paid Summer Internship Jack Laurie Group	 Alex Jenks Senior Full-time Employment Lehman's Mechanical Contractors	 Cameron Olson Senior Full-time Employment Meyer Najem	 Caden Drish Senior Full-time Employment Patterson Horth General Contractors	 Eli Winebrenner Junior Paid Summer Internship Patterson Horth General Contractors	 Ryan King Junior Paid Summer Internship Wurster Construction

Alzheimer's Foundation of America to hold free educational conference on July 19

The REPORTER

The Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) will hold a free Alzheimer's & Caregiving Educational Conference for Indianapolis-area residents from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, July 19 at the Indiana Biosciences Research Institute, 1210 Waterway Blvd., Indianapolis, as part of its 2023 national Educating America Tour.

The free conference is open to everyone and will allow participants to learn from experts in the field of Alzheimer's disease, brain health, and caregiving. To register, go to alzfdn.org/tour. Advanced registration is highly recommended as registration closes at noon on Monday, July 17.

"Knowledge is a useful and powerful tool that can help make any situation easier to navigate, especially something as challenging as caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease," AFA President & CEO Charles J. Fuschillo, Jr. said. "Connecting families with useful, practical information and support that can help them now and be better prepared for the future is what this conference is all about. Whether Alzheimer's is affecting your family, you are a caregiver or just want to learn more about brain health, we invite you to join us on July 19."

Sessions during the AFA conference will include:

Legal Planning for Persons with Dementia

Estate planning is not just something that you do to protect your loved ones and distribute your assets after you die; it also covers a number of critical decisions that need to be made while your loved one is alive so that their health, legal, and financial wishes are carried out as they would want.

Attorney Robert W. Fechtman, JD, CELA, will discuss the importance of estate planning. He will provide an overview of wills, special needs trusts, powers of attorney, guardianships, and advance directives, as well as how to protect individuals who have lost the ability to manage their personal and financial affairs.

Fechtman is an Elder Law Attorney and Proprietor of the Fechtman Law Office in Indianapolis. He focuses his practice on the problems of older and disabled individuals. He is a frequent writer and speaker on a variety of estate planning, disability and elder law topics. He is a board member of the of the National Elder Law Foundation and a member and two-time Past President of the Indiana Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys.

The Beauty of the Brain

When most people visit their doctors, they often get physicals, but they neglect their brain health. Aside from getting a memory screening, there are

certain activities one can do to maintain and improve cognition. Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH, will offer ways to protect brain health and optimize brain care with evidence-based recommendations, as well as discuss research related to brain health and brain care.

Dr. Boustani is a Richard M. Fairbanks Professor of Aging Research at the Indiana University School of Medicine. He is a geriatrician, a neuroscientist, and a scientist with extensive experience in designing, evaluating, implementing, and disseminating healthcare innovations with a main focus on brain health.

Five Ways to Master Caregiving Without Breaking a Sweat

Caring for a loved one with a dementia-related illness is a labor of love that often comes with many physical, mental, and emotional challenges. Angelica Baginske, RN, QMCP, will recommend strategies that caregivers can use to provide optimal care. She will talk about becoming equipped with knowledge and resources, being an advocate, communicating your needs, and celebrating every moment with your loved one.

Baginske is the Director of Alzheimer's and Dementia Services of Northern In-

diana. She has spent much of her career as an Assisted Living and Memory Care Director, a Program Designer, and a Director of Nursing.

Free, confidential memory screenings will be conducted throughout the day.

For more information or to register for the July 19 conference, visit alzfdn.org/tour. Those who cannot participate in the conference or have immediate questions about Alzheimer's disease can connect with licensed social workers seven days a week through AFA's National Toll-Free Helpline by calling (866) 232-8484 or web chatting at alzfdn.org by clicking the blue and white chat icon in the lower right-hand corner of the page. The web chat feature is available in more than 90 languages.

About Alzheimer's Foundation of America

The Alzheimer's Foundation of America is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide support, services and education to individuals, families and caregivers affected by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias nationwide and to fund research for better treatment and a cure. Its services include a National Toll-Free Helpline (866-232-8484) staffed by licensed social workers, the

National Memory Screening Program, educational conferences and materials, and "AFA Partners in Care" dementia care training for healthcare professionals.

For more information

about AFA, call (866) 232-8484, visit alzfdn.org, follow along on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [LinkedIn](#). AFA holds Charity Navigator's top 4-star rating.

Joel Coston of Fishers makes dean's list at Aurora University

The REPORTER

Aurora University in Aurora, Ill., has named Joel Coston of Fishers to the dean's list for the spring 2023 semester. Coston is majoring in Communication.

The dean's list recognizes full-time undergraduate students who have earned a 3.6 grade-point average or higher.

Founded in 1893, Aurora University is a four-year, private, nonprofit, accredited higher education institution located on a 39-acre campus in Aurora, the second largest city in Illinois. The university serves 4,000 undergraduate and approximately 1,900 graduate students across more than 100 academic programs. Learn more at aurora.edu.

Westfield Farmers Market is back, baby!

Submitted

The Westfield Farmers Market continues from 5 to 8 p.m. today and every Thursday at Grand Junction Plaza, 225 S. Union St.

June 22 Market vendors

The following is a list of vendors that have confirmed their participation for today's Market. The list is subject to change without notice.

- A Couple Kids Family Farm
- Babydoll Boutique
- Baked, A Cookie Company, LLC
- Becky the Bakerster
- Chez Pauline homemade French bakery
- Creolicious Bakery
- Cynthia Frank designs
- Dragonwood LLC
- Eagle Creek Apiary
- Etta's Goody Goodies
- Fox Holler Woodworks
- Glauco Co.
- Grace over Grace Boutique
- H&S Knife Sharpening
- Happy Mutt Pet Bakery
- Hidden Acres
- Hoosier Kettle Corn
- Lazy Labs Bakery
- Lucky Lemon Bakery
- Mary D Jellies and Preserves, LLC
- Middlefork Meadows LLC
- Old Major
- Orange Cat Creations
- PipKing Creations with Soule
- Poppin' Sweet Confections
- Revolt CBD LLC
- Shellacakes Sweets and Treats
- Simply From Scratch
- Textbook Repository
- The Goodie Basket
- Variegated Designs
- With the Grain Woodshop
- Witness Graphics

Food & Beverage Vendors

- Arepas
- Bearded Burger
- Grand Junction Brewing Co.
- Overflow Coffee OTR
- Papa Floyd's Polar Snow



- Polish Cottage Polska Chata LLC
- Sloppy's
- Taco Express LLC
- The Walking Waffle Co
- Community Partners**
- Girl Scouts of Central Indiana
- Hamilton County Bicentennial
- Trinity Free Clinic

This week's live music

Each week the Westfield Farmers Market features live music from some of the Indianapolis area's best and brightest. This week will feature Marrielle Sellars. Come out and enjoy a beautiful evening in the Grand Junction Plaza. All the music events are free and open to the public.

About the Market

The Westfield Summer Farmers Market and Winter Market are managed and operated by the Downtown Westfield Association. Interested in volunteering at the Market or have an idea or question? You can reach the Market Manager Nick Stepaniak at markets@westfieldchamberindy.com.

The Market would not be possible without the support of the City of Westfield, the Westfield Welcome Department, and the Parks & Trails Department – especially the city staff from those departments who help support the weekly market.

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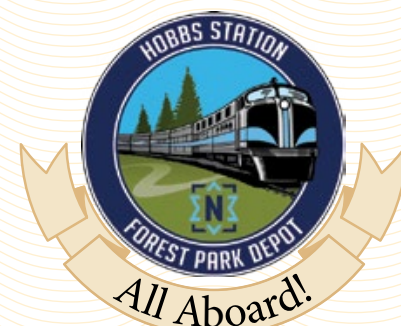
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September 16 and 17

NickelPlateExpress.com

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September 24 and 25

NickelPlateExpress.com

Ice Cream Express

Ride the rails on our little red caboose to the Arcadia train depot! Once there you will disembark to enjoy an ice cream treat and an opportunity to tour the historic depot. A perfect way to spend a Friday evening as a family! This is a round-trip ride departing from Hobbs Station inside Forest Park in Noblesville and returning.

NickelPlateExpress.com

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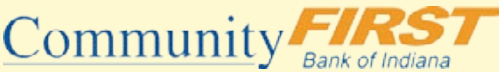
Bicentennial Bash

Stella Luna and the Satellites

June 30

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Thanks to these supporting sponsors



COMPASS



Cool Creek Park | 2000 E. 151st St., Carmel/Westfield

Songbook Academy mentor team announced for 2023 music intensive

The REPORTER

With only a month until Songbook Academy 2023, the Great American Songbook Foundation has announced a national sponsorship and a cast of Broadway stars and other entertainment professionals to serve as guest mentors at its 14th annual music intensive for the nation’s top high school singers.

At this year’s Songbook Academy, taking place July 15 to 22 at the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel, the industry mentors will include:

- **Michael Feinstein**, a five-time Grammy Award nominee and music preservationist, is the founder of the Great American Songbook Foundation, known for his piano and vocal work, his signature cabaret clubs across the nation and his projects for public broadcasting. His latest album is *Gershwin Country*, featuring duets with Dolly Parton, Brad Paisley, and other country stars.
- **Ali Stroker** made history as the first actor in a wheelchair to appear on Broadway in Deaf West’s acclaimed 2015 revival of *Spring Awakening*. She then won the 2019 Tony Award for Best Featured Actress in a Musical for her role as Ado Annie in Rodgers and Hammerstein’s *Oklahoma!* She next stars in Netflix’s upcoming limited series, *Echoes*.
- **Andréa Burns** won a Drama Desk Award as the original Daniela in Lin-Manuel Miranda’s Broadway musical *In the Heights*. Other Broadway credits include *The Rose Tattoo* opposite Marisa Tomei, *The Nance* opposite

Nathan Lane, *The Ritz*, *The Full Monty* and starring as Belle in Disney’s *Beauty and the Beast*. Burns currently appears as Rosie in *Up Here* on Hulu as well as Isabel on HBO Max’s *Generation Por Qué?*

- **Liz Callaway** is a Tony nominee, Emmy winner and recording artist who made her Broadway debut in Stephen Sondheim’s *Merrily We Roll Along*. She has gone on to star in *Baby, Miss Saigon*, *The Look of Love* and *The Three Musketeers*, and for five years appeared as Grizabella in *Cats*. She has provided the singing voice for numerous animated movies, and her extensive concert career has included appearances in London, Paris, Sydney and throughout the U.S.
- **Liam Forde** is an actor, singer, songwriter and voice teacher who performs on the New York concert and cabaret circuit. His 2022 debut album of original pop/jazz songs, *Great to Be Here*, was called “a dreamy pop debut” by *Huffpost*. Off-Broadway credits include *The Mountaintains Look Different* (Mint Theater Co.) and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Theatre for a New Audience).
- **Nasia Thomas** can currently be seen as Anna of Cleves in *Six* on Broadway. Other Broadway credits include Caroline, or Change (revival), *Ain’t Too Proud: The Life and Times of the Temptations* and Little Eva in *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*. She also performed in the National Tour of *Beautiful* and has appeared on TV in *The 4400* and *That Damn Michael Che*.

Other special guests assisting with this year’s Academy include:

- Vocal coach **Devin Ilaw** is a New York City-based artist and educator whose Broadway credits include *Miss Saigon* (Thuy) and *Les Misérables* (Montparnasse). He currently serves on the voice faculty at NYU (New Studio on Broadway) and New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts. He will serve as a vocal coach throughout Academy Week.
- **Eleri Ward** is a New York City-based actor, singer, and musician and a 2012 alumna of the Songbook Academy. Her home-recorded 2021 indie-folk album of Sondheim songs, *A Perfect Little Death*, has been hailed as “hauntingly beautiful” by *Forbes* and “an incandescent new record, something genuinely new” by *American Theater Magazine*.

The Ella Fitzgerald Foundation Charitable Foundation Mentor Champions support the national faculty teams who guide the students throughout the week. This year’s faculty includes music directors Jeff Harris, Russ Kassoﬀ, Daryl Kojak, Beckie Menzie, and Melanie Shore, along with vocal coaches Kathleen Hacker, Elaine Moebius, Mary Michael Patterson, Lynne Rothrock, and Catherine Walker.

The central Indiana-based Efroymsen Family Fund is continuing its national Songbook Academy partnership this year with a \$100,000 grant to the Songbook Foundation. Additional support is provided by the City of Carmel, Salon 01, and the Blanche & Irving Laurie Foundation.

Songbook Academy Week includes **three public performance events** at the



Photos provided
(Clockwise from upper left) Michael Feinstein, Andréa Burns, Ali Stroker, Liz Callaway, Liam Forde, Eleri Ward, Devin Ilaw and Nasia Thomas will serve as guest mentors and coaches at Songbook Academy 2023.

Center’s Palladium concert hall, which will take place before a live audience and also will be livestreamed for viewers worldwide:

- **Public Masterclass** – 2 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 18 (rescheduled from July 19). Ten randomly selected participants will perform and receive real-time critiques from Songbook Foundation Founder Michael Feinstein and Tony Award-winning actor and speaker Ali Stroker.
- **Songbook Showcase** – 2 to 5 p.m. Thursday, July 20. Each of the 40 national finalists will have a turn in the spotlight to perform a selected song.
- **Songbook Academy in Concert** – 7 p.m. Saturday, July 22. Michael Feinstein will emcee as all 40 singers perform in choral numbers, small group ensembles and featured solos to celebrate their growth over the course of the week. The dynamic musical revue also will include tributes to legendary songwriters, interview clips gathered during the week and guest performances by Songbook Academy alumni.

For the July 18 and 20 events, on-site tickets and livestream registration are pay-what-you-can with no minimum price. For the final concert, on-site tickets start at just \$25, and the livestream option is pay-what-you-can with a \$10 minimum. Tickets are on sale now at [TheSongbook.org](https://thesongbook.org), by phone at (317) 843-3800 or toll-free at (877) 909-2787.

About the Great American Songbook Foundation

The mission of the Great American Songbook Foundation, founded in 2007 by five-time Grammy Award nominee Michael Feinstein, is to inspire and educate by celebrating the Great American Songbook – the timeless standards of pop, jazz, Broadway and Hollywood. Headquartered at the Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel, the Foundation advances this rich legacy by curating physical artifacts of its creators, performers and publishers; operating a multimedia exhibit gallery; overseeing the Songbook Hall of Fame; offering programs for the public and research opportunities for scholars and artists; and providing educational opportunities for student musicians, including the annual Songbook Academy summer intensive. The Foundation is a Cultural Affiliate of the Los Angeles-based Grammy Museum. More information is available at [TheSongbook.org](https://thesongbook.org).

About the Efroymsen Family Fund

The Efroymsen Family Fund, a donor-advised fund of the Central Indiana Community Foundation, continues a long legacy of charitable commitment by the Efroymsen family in central Indiana. The Efroymsen Family Fund was established in 1998 by Dan and Lori Efroymsen to promote the viability of communities and to date has awarded more the \$127 million in grants in central Indiana and beyond. For more information, visit efroymsenfamfund.org.

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Academy Sports + Outdoors to open new Westfield/Carmel store

The REPORTER

Academy Sports and Outdoors, Inc., a leading full-line sporting goods and outdoor recreation retailer whose mission is to provide "Fun for All," will continue its new store expansion by opening its first two locations in Greater Indianapolis this fall with stores in Westfield/Carmel and Avon.

The approximately 75,000 square-foot Westfield/Carmel store will be Academy's fifth in Indiana, while the approximately 60,000-square-foot Avon store will be Academy's

sixth in the state.

At 4 p.m. on Wednesday, June 28, customers are invited to the Westfield site in Village Park Plaza for a United States Flag Raising Ceremony. That's located on the east side of U.S. 31 between 146th and 151st Streets.

To help kickstart the fun in Indianapolis, Academy has signed a multi-year deal to serve as a Proud Partner of the Indianapolis Colts. With the partnership, Academy and the Colts will collaborate on fun community events, social media, digital content, and more to enhance both the fan and customer experience.

The locations will carry

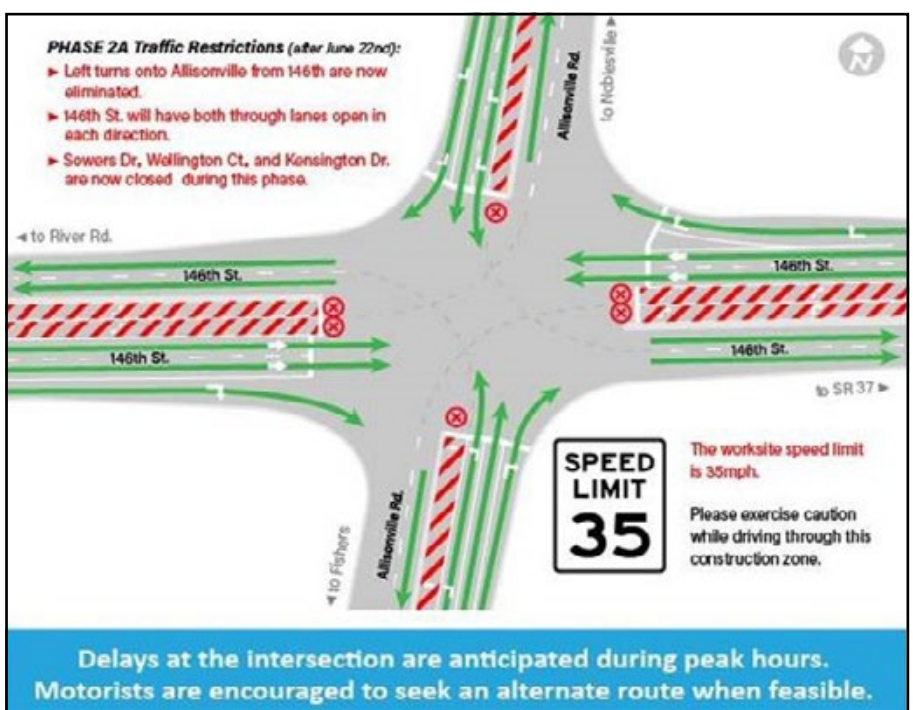
a wide assortment of sports and outdoors products for customers to have fun out there. Academy is focused on providing the best service, experience, and value to help customers pursue the activities that they love and make new memories on any budget. Customers can expect to find Academy team members who are passionate, along with a unique assortment from top brands like Nike, adidas, Columbia, The North Face, Wolverine, Berkley, Winchester, Carhartt, and Under Armour, plus Academy's private label brands like Magellan Outdoors, Freely, H2OX, R.O.W., BCG, and Mosaic.

Academy's new stores

will also provide a dynamic and fun shopping experience while offering convenient options, such as buy online pick-up in store service, and free shipping on most online orders over \$25. Customers can also take advantage of a suite of in-store services that will include free assembly on grills and bikes, scope mounting, bore sighting, line winding/spooling, and the ability to purchase hunting and fishing licenses.

The two locations are expected to bring a combined 120 new jobs to the communities. Individuals interested in careers at Academy Sports + Outdoors can visit careers.academy.com to apply for open positions.

Major traffic pattern change today at 146th & Allisonville



Graphic provided

Beginning on or after Thursday, June 22, construction crews will shift from Phase 1 traffic restrictions to Phase 2A traffic restrictions. These restrictions will eliminate left turns from 146th Street onto Allisonville Road and will reopen to two thru lanes on eastbound and westbound 146th Street. Sowers Drive, Wellington Court, and Kensington Drive will be closed at 146th Street during this phase. Phase 2A is anticipated to last through the end of October.



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**UNDER
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*116th Street reopens between
Eller Road and River Road*

Effective immediately, the lane restrictions along 116th Street between Eller Road and River Road are no longer in place, and 116th Street is now open to all traffic. Thank you for your patience throughout construction. Safe travels.

A graphic for Noblesville Schools Board Highlights. At the top is the school's logo, a gold 'N' inside a dark blue square with a white border. Below the logo, the text 'NOBLESVILLE SCHOOLS' is written in a large, bold, dark blue sans-serif font. Underneath that, 'Board Highlights' is written in a very large, bold, black sans-serif font. Below this, 'June 20, 2023 Meeting' is written in a smaller, italicized, dark blue serif font. A horizontal line separates this header from the main content. The main content is titled 'Submitted by Noblesville Schools' in a bold, black sans-serif font. Below this title is a bulleted list of three items: 1. Executive Director of Learning Dr. Jennifer Wheat-Townsend updated the board on the use of federal emergency relief funds given during the pandemic. The district is using these funds for a variety of academic support and mentoring programs. 2. The board appointed Julie Thacker as the district's new Executive Director of Student Services and Rob Williamson as the new Director of Transportation. 3. Annual updates to student handbooks were approved by a vote of 3-1, with Laura Alerding voting against the handbooks. Alerding stated that she had concerns about wording in the district's mission and vision statements, which appear in the handbooks. Below the list, it says 'Board member Misti Ray was absent.' At the bottom, there is a call to action: 'Visit the school board area of the Noblesville Schools website for meeting agendas, minutes, videos and more.' The words 'Noblesville Schools website' are in blue, and the rest of the text is in a dark blue serif font.

Kroger 'Symphony on the Prairie' summer season kicks off this Friday

New this year: buy tickets to three or more concerts and automatically receive a 10 percent discount

The REPORTER

It's officially summer and the 2023 season of Kroger Symphony on the Prairie has arrived. Concerts begin Friday, June 23 at the Conner Prairie Amphitheatre in Fishers.

This Friday and Saturday, conductor Enrico Lopez-Yañez takes you on a fun-filled adventure with a thrilling program that explores the wizarding world of Harry Potter through its most iconic music.

Season highlights include 12 performances by the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, including Opening Weekend June 23 and 24 highlighting the beloved music of *Harry Potter*; the patriotic Star-Spangled Symphony celebration June 30 to July 3 complete with fanfare and fireworks; a live-to-film performance July 7 and 8 of the legendary *Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark* featuring the iconic soundtrack by composer John Williams; and Arrival from Sweden: Music of ABBA accompanied by the ISO July 14 and 15.

The 2023 season also features the popular Face-2Face with the music of

Billy Joel and Elton John, The Marshall Tucker Band, TUSK: the Ultimate Fleetwood Mac Tribute Band, two nights of Queen with Gary Mullen and the Works, and much more. There's something for everyone with 25 concerts to choose from.

Families will be delighted with the July 15 concert featuring Arrival from Sweden: Music of ABBA with the ISO. Concert ticket includes a 6:30 p.m. **'Teddy Bear' performance*** with ISO musicians at the small shelter near the playground. ***Ticket required for the ABBA performance in order to see the Teddy Bear event.**

Buy tickets now on the ISO's website. Tickets may also be purchased at central Indiana Kroger stores, at the Hilbert Circle Theatre Box Office at 45 Monument Circle, Indianapolis, or by calling the Box Office at (317) 639-4300. Purchase tickets to three or more concerts and automatically receive a 10 percent discount. No code needed. Discount calculated at checkout.

2023 Kroger Symphony on the Prairie schedule

**Denotes concerts fea-*

turing the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra

June

***June 23 & 24:** The Music of *Harry Potter* – Conductor Enrico Lopez-Yañez takes you on a fun-filled adventure with a delightful program that explores the wizarding world through its most iconic music.

***June 30 to July 3:** Star-Spangled Symphony – Your favorite patriotic celebration complete with fireworks. Featuring Conductor Alfred Savia and vocalist Vanessa Thomas.

July

***July 7 & 8:** *Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark* in Concert featuring the ISO led by former ISO Assistant Conductor Jacob Joyce. The original film will be shown on the large screens as the orchestra performs the soundtrack. Program starts at 8:30 p.m.

***July 14 & 15:** Arrival from Sweden: Music of ABBA with Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly leading the ISO.

***July 21 & 22:** Broadway under the Stars – Join Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly for this exciting performance of all your

Broadway favorites featuring the ISO Pops Chorus and vocalists Ted Keegan, Victor Robertson, Katie Swaney, Christina Nicastro, and AshLee Baskin.

July 28 & 29: Face-2Face: A Tribute to Billy Joel & Elton John.

August

Aug. 4: Greatest Love of All: A Tribute to Whitney Houston (not associated with the Estate of Whitney Houston)

Aug. 5: TUSK: The Ultimate Fleetwood Mac Tribute Band

Aug. 11: The Fab Four: The Ultimate Tribute

Aug. 12: Here Come the Mummies with Rock E Bassoon (featuring musicians of the ISO)

Aug. 18: Marshall Tucker Band

Aug. 19: Unforgettable Fire: U2 Tribute Show

Aug. 25 & 26: One Night of Queen with Gary Mullen and the Works

September

Sept. 1: Aeromylth: The Ultimate Aerosmith Tribute Experience

Sept. 2: Pyromania: The Def Leppard Experience

Sept. 3: Voyage – The Ultimate Journey Tribute Band

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

"I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?"

The Lord said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."

Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is more than I can bear. Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me."

But the Lord said to him, "Not so; anyone who kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times over." Then the Lord put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him. So Cain went out from the Lord's presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

Genesis 4:8-16 (NIV)



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Meeting Notice

The Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District Board will meet at noon on Monday, June 26, 2023, in the Commissioners' Courtroom at the Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

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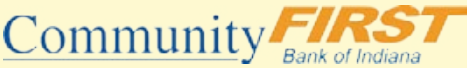


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Golf

Former Golden Eagles state champ wins Amateur Championship trophy

The REPORTER

Last year at this time, Connor McNeely was celebrating a state championship with the Guerin Catholic Golden Eagles.

McNeely got to pick up another big trophy on Wednesday. The Noblesville man won the Indiana Amateur Championship, which took place this week at the Pfau Course at Indiana University. McNeely scored a 211 over 54 holes, finishing two-under par for the entire tournament.

The 2022 Guerin Catholic graduate played great golf throughout all three rounds. McNeely began with a brilliant first round score of four under par 67, the lowest round by any golfer for the tournament. McNeely made three birdies and drained eagles on two holes, No. 9 and No. 16.

McNeely continued his solid form in the second round, where he carded an even-par 71, making three birdies. In the third round, McNeely held off a back-nine run by Lafayette's Nic Hoffman, who briefly took the lead before McNeely moved back in front. McNeely also showed his mental toughness, shrugging off a double bogey on the 11th

hole by putting in a birdie on the 12th hole. He ran out the next six holes with pars on each one.

McNeely played golf for Butler University during his just-completed freshman year, but is transferring to the University of Cincinnati for his next school year.

Hoffman finished second with a 213, going even par for the tournament.

Another Noblesville man finished in the top three at the Amateur. Kenny Cook placed third with a 214 for his three rounds. Cook went under par for his first two rounds, carding one-under 70s each day. He made three birdies in the first round and two more in the second. Cook scored a 74 in his third round, also making two birdies.

Luke Prall, a Carmel graduate now playing at Purdue University, finished in a four-way tie for fourth place with a score of 215. Prall had a great first round, going three under with a 68, draining six birdies along the way. Prall was even par at 71 for his second round (three birdies), and scored a 76 in the third round (one birdie).

One more Noblesville golfer finished in the top

10. Drew Shafer scored 73s in each round to finish with a 219, good for 10th place. Shafer totaled three birdies in the first round, four in the second and one in the third.

Here is a list of Hamilton County results.

1. Connor McNeely, Noblesville, 67-71-73=211, 3. Kenny Cook, Noblesville, 70-70-74=214, T4. Luke Prall, Carmel, 68-71-76=215, 10. Drew Shafer, Noblesville, 73-73-73=219, T13. Sam Firebaugh, Carmel, 72-74-75=221; Andrew Rhodes, Westfield, 73-74-74=221, T20. Lucas Beck, Carmel, 77-74-72=223; Alec Cesare, Westfield 75-74-74=223, Caleb Bopp, Fishers 73-76-74=223; Drew Dunkerly, Carmel, 72-73-78=223, T26. Travis Sterrett, Noblesville, 71-76-77=224, T28. Jake Cesare, Westfield 70-81-74=225; Cole Starnes, Fishers, 72-74-79=225, T35. Owen Sander, Carmel, 79-71-78=228; Sam Booth, Carmel, 73-75-80=228, T42. Stephen Kocerha, Carmel, 72-77-80=229, 62. Lane Zedrick, Fishers, 78-77-82=237, T63. Brian Pannell, Carmel, 74-81-83=238, 67. Nolan Hall, Westfield 81-73-85=239.



Photo provided

Connor McNeely, a 2022 Guerin Catholic graduate, won the Indiana Amateur at The Pfau Course at Indiana University this week. McNeely finished the 54-hole tournament with a two-under par score of 211.

Baseball

Six Hamilton County players will take part in 2023 North-South All-Star Weekend

The REPORTER

Six Hamilton County baseball players are scheduled to play in the 2023 North-South All-Star Weekend, which takes place this weekend at Loeb Stadium in Lafayette.

Three county players will participate on the North team: Noblesville pitcher Bryce Riggs, Sheridan pitcher Sebastian Salazar and Westfield catcher Collin Lindsey. Also, Noblesville assistant coach Kevin Fitzgerald will serve as an assistant coach on the North squad.

The South team will also feature three players, all of them pitchers. Hamilton Southeastern's Ty Bradle, Fishers' Kyle Manship and University's Jake Hooker will all head to the mound for the South.

First, the All-Stars will be recognized at a banquet Friday night at the stadium. The first game takes place at noon Saturday, then the second game is set for noon Sunday.



Kent Graham / File photo

Westfield's Collin Lindsey is one of six Hamilton County baseball players that will participate in the 2023 North-South All-Star Weekend, which takes place this weekend at Loeb Stadium in Lafayette.

HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

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Lucas Oil Stadium will host State Farm All-Star Saturday Night on Feb. 17, 2024, as part of the NBA All-Star 2024 weekend. All-Star Saturday Night features many fan-favorite showcases, such as the AT&T Slam Dunk, the Starry 3-Point Contest and the Kia Skills Challenge.

Indianapolis will play host to State Farm All-Star & NBA All-Star games

The REPORTER

The NBA All-Star 2024 Host Committee has announced that State Farm All-Star Saturday Night will be held at Lucas Oil Stadium on Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024. As one of the most anticipated events during NBA All-Star, State Farm All-Star Saturday Night brings together many of the league’s brightest stars to showcase their skills in AT&T Slam Dunk, the Starry 3-Point Contest, and the Kia Skills

Challenge. The 73rd NBA All-Star Game will be held on Sunday, Feb. 18 at Gainbridge Fieldhouse. 10,500 tickets will go on sale to the public for \$24, \$49, and \$79 on July 24. Fans in Indiana will have the first opportunity to buy and should sign up to receive more information about the on-sale process at Pacers.com/AllStar2024. Additionally, the Host Committee will purchase and distribute 2,400 tickets free of charge

to local partners, community groups, and non-profits. “State Farm All-Star Saturday Night is one of the most exciting and entertaining nights in all of sports, and holding it at Lucas Oil Stadium, one of football’s most iconic venues which was also thoughtfully designed for basketball events, enables us to make it more accessible than ever to our community,” said Rick Fuson CEO of Pacers Sports & Entertainment. “This focus

on community is one of the ways that will make NBA All-Star 2024 in Indianapolis so special and unique, and I am grateful to our friends and partners at the NBA and the Capital Improvement Board for working with us to make this possible.” The Host Committee also announced that, thanks to the generosity of IndyGo, the Indianapolis Foundation, and donors to the Indy Championship Fund, IndyGo buses will be free

for all riders for the duration of NBA All-Star 2024 from Feb. 15-18. Buses will offer extended service, ensuring that riders will have easy transportation home following downtown events. The Pacers Bike Share, operated by the Indianapolis Cultural Trail, will also be free during the four days of NBA All-Star 2024. “Between two top-tier sports venues, four days of free public transit, and one of the most walkable downtowns in America, NBA All-Star has never been more accessible or fan-friendly,” said Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett. “It’s no surprise. When it comes to hosting large events, Indianapolis does it like nobody else.”

and fan-first NBA All-Star 2024.” The walkability and connectivity of downtown Indianapolis help make the city ideal for hosting large events of this kind. For decades, city and state leaders have invested in downtown sports amenities that are both world-class and convenient for fans and visitors, and the proximity of Lucas Oil Stadium to Gainbridge Fieldhouse, the Indiana Convention Center, and other key locations will make the NBA All-Star 2024 experience as fan-friendly and community-centric as possible.

“NBA All-Star and All-Star Saturday Night exemplify how our community comes together to celebrate our venerated sport of basketball with exciting and affordable events, and we can’t wait to welcome fans to Lucas Oil Stadium for the activities we’re hosting, said CIB Executive Director Andy Mallon. “I am grateful to IndyGo and Pacers Bike Share for offering free transportation for those wanting to make the trip from the Fieldhouse to the Stadium, and for those who haven’t visited the Stadium in a long time or who are ready to make their first visit, NBA All-Star Saturday Night is the perfect time to check it out.” For more information and to keep up with the latest NBA All-Star 2024 announcements, visit Pacers.com/AllStar2024 and follow @NBAAllStar across social media. Visit NBA-Experiences.com for more details on exclusive NBA All-Star 2024 experiences customized for fans around the world.



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