

THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

TOTALITY IS COMING 4.8.2024

Heights DECA earns national recognition for Husky Fan Shop

The REPORTER

The Husky Fan Shop, the school-based enterprise at Hamilton Heights High School, was among 728 school-based enterprises (SBE) achieving GOLD for the 2023-2024 school year. It will be recognized during DECA's International Career Development Conference in Anaheim, Calif., held April 27 to 30.

Heights is among 12 chapters in Indiana to achieve GOLD certification.

In addition, earning GOLD certification qualifies two officers to attend the DECA International Career Development Conference (ICDC) in Anaheim. Hannah Beechler placed first in Sports & Entertainment Marketing, earning her the ticket to ICDC. Sara Totten also placed in the top 10 in Human Resource Management.

A school-based enterprise (SBE) is an entrepreneurial operation in a school setting that provides goods and services to meet the needs of the market. SBEs are managed and operated by students as hands-on learning laboratories that integrate National Curriculum Standards in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management. DECA advisors have used this effective educational tool for over four decades to provide their students with realistic and practical learning experiences that reinforce classroom instruction, enhance 21st century skill development, and prepare students for college and careers.

The Hamilton Heights DECA members who contrib-



Photo provided

Hamilton Heights High School students who also staff the Husky Fan Shop, model a selection of shirts available at the highly successful, student-run Husky Fan Shop. (Front row, from left) Maddie Heffelmire, Melissa Lovell, Sara Totten, and Autumn Anderson. (Back row, from left) Tquan Spencer, Isaiah Grimsey, Simon Knott, Jackson Massicotte, and Alex Furst. Check it out at huskyfanshoponline.com.

uted to the certification were led by Melissa Lovell, Store Manager. Other members included: Hannah Beechler, Sara Totten, Tquan Spencer, Jackson Massicotte, Autumn Anderson, Addison Mann, Isaiah Grimsey, Maddie Heffelmire, Sarah Toll, Addyson Ferguson, Jenna Gascho, Bella McDole, Micah Colvin, and Adalynn Gould, with the assistance of their DECA chapter advisor, Ms. Kim Kaiser. Other students assisting with the Husky Fan Shop were Simon Knott and Alex Furst.

See *Husky Fans* . . . Page A3



Photos provided

Heights senior Hannah Beechler (left) placed first in Sports & Entertainment Marketing at the DECA Indiana State Career Development Conference in Indianapolis, and Heights senior Sara Totten (right) placed in Top 10 in the written exam for Human Resources Management.



How sweet it is!

Do you ever think about the sweet moments you have missed?

It was just an ordinary Tuesday morning. Chuck had returned from an early doctor's appointment. When the garage warmed up, he would cut out more trees for this year's Christmas projects. I was cleaning the kitchen.

"Alexa, play James Taylor, 'How Sweet It Is.'"

I walked over to Chuck, put my left hand on his shoulder, and took his left hand in my right hand. He smiled. Chuck began to sing. Then we danced.

Oh, the beauty of that simple Tuesday morning moment in our kitchen.

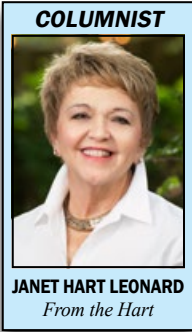
So much of life is rushed and planned. I get caught up in my to-do list. What if I am missing out on special moments because of my busyness?

As I travel further along my journey in life, I realize how important the small moments are. I don't want to miss any of them, yet I know I do.

At the risk of being too sappy and sentimental, I need to write about the sand in our hourglasses. I see it running ever-so-quickly into the bottom. How did that much sand get emptied so quickly? Each grain of sand represents a moment. Some moments were celebrated, some never noticed for what they held, and sadly, some have been forgotten.

I don't want to miss the beauty of the small moments that hold confetti and glitter.

See *Sweet* . . . Page A4



COLUMNIST JANET HART LEONARD From the Hart

State Representatives Schaibley & Torr presented with Carmel's highest civilian honor

The REPORTER

Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam awarded Indiana State Representatives Donna Schaibley and Jerry Torr with the Range Line Pioneer Award at the March 18 City Council meeting.

The award, established in 1992, is given to a person who has been a friend to the city.

"As mayor, I've witnessed firsthand the unwavering commitment of both Representatives Schaibley and Torr," Mayor Finkam said. "Their dedication is not merely measured in words, but in the tireless actions they undertake daily to uplift, support, and empower Hoosiers."

Before joining the legislature, State Representative Schaibley was a substitute teacher in Carmel Clay Schools where she focused on special education students. She lives in Carmel and serves House District 24 where she served as Vice Chair of the Public Health Committee.

State Representative Torr is a sixth-generation Hoosier that moved to Carmel in 1987 and is an active member of OneZone, the combined Carmel and Fishers Chambers of Commerce. He became the state representative for House District 39 in 1996 and notably authored the Daylight Saving Time bill in 2005.

The Range Line Pioneer Award has been given to 108 people and was most recently presented to retiring police chief Jim Barlow.



Schaibley



Torr

Why would you sponsor an eclipse?

The REPORTER

When staging two major community events in celebration of the upcoming Total Solar Eclipse, a world of preparation - and resources - are required. Hamilton County Parks and Recreation staff, collaborating with Hamilton County Tourism and Hamilton County Government, have been planning for this once-in-a-lifetime cosmic coincidence for more than a year.

Part of that planning included identifying and reaching out to organizations and businesses that recognized the value in sponsoring such unique events taking place at Cool Creek Park and Strawtown Koteewi Park on April 8. Fortunately, the parks department has partnered in the past with a number of local organizations and businesses that have a stake in serving Hamilton County.

One such organization that is providing support for the events is the Duke Energy Founda-



"We are excited to support the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department's efforts

to create a memorable and educational experience for our community during the total solar eclipse," said Mark LaBarr, government and community relations manager at Duke Energy. "Our financial support will enhance the festivities taking place at Strawtown Koteewi Park, where the Duke Energy Foundation-sponsored 'Be Naturally Curious' nature education trailer will provide hands-on programming for guests of all ages."

The Duke Energy Founda-



Photo provided by Hamilton County Parks & Recreation

Hamilton County Parks Superintendent of Natural Resources and Education Amanda Smith introduces a youthful and curious audience gathered inside the Duke Energy Foundation-sponsored nature education trailer to a variety of animals that ordinarily reside in the Cool Creek Nature Center.

tion is joined by other equally-community minded organizations and companies. Hamilton County Tourism, through its 2024 Tourism Gives Support Program, awarded funds in support of the event. The list of other sponsors of these special,

eclipse-inspired events includes Ashlin Hadden Insurance, Community First Bank of Indiana, Compass Realty, Fredericks Contractors, JP Morgan, and Sobczak Construction.

See *Eclipse* . . . Page A2



LaBarr

Attorney General's office shines light on COVID misinformation

The REPORTER

Last Saturday morning, Indiana Attorney General (AG) Todd Rokita released a multi-year analysis of COVID-19 data, shedding light on a great deal of misinformation about the pandemic that has been long accepted as factual.

In particular, the report, which is available at tinyurl.com/RokitaCovidReport, details inflated infection and death rates, uncovers the ineffectiveness of social distancing and mask mandates, and shows strong correlations between the e-learning programs and lower literacy rates.



Rokita

who died with COVID as having died because of COVID. Examples include gunshot wounds, fires, car accidents, blunt force trauma, drowning, and drug overdoses counted as COVID deaths.

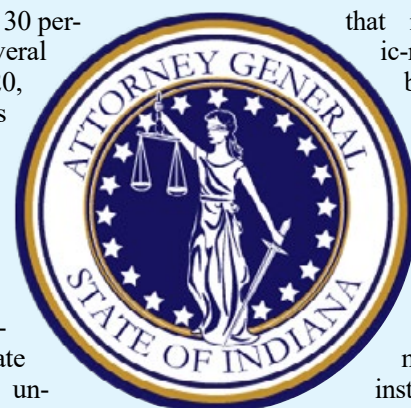
According to the AG's report, Indiana Management Performance Hub (MPH) reported positivity

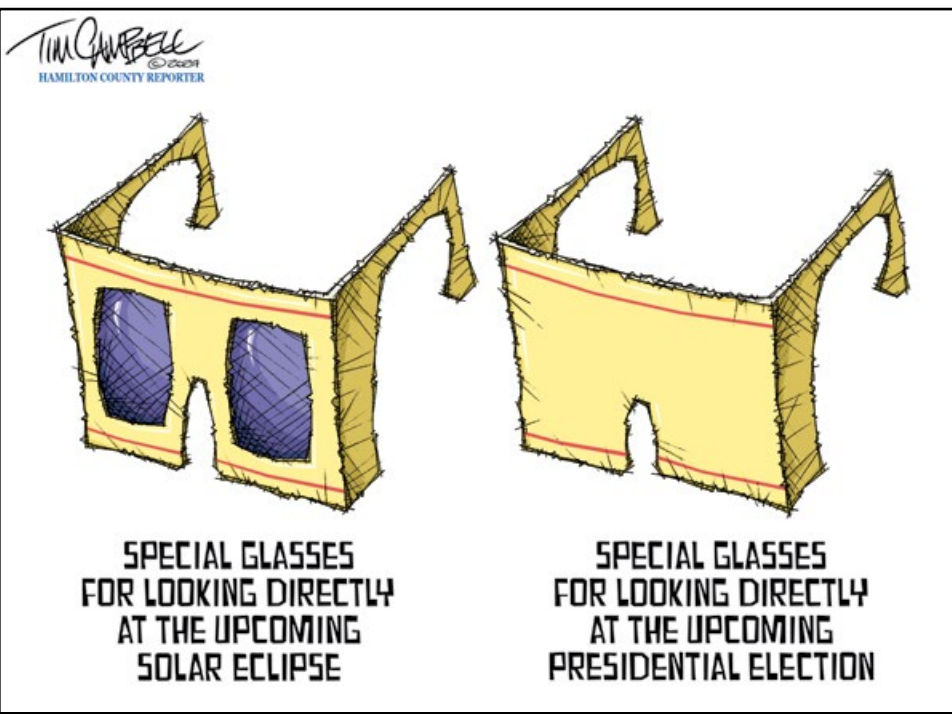
rates soared over 30 percent during several months of 2020, but the analysis (pulled from several studies, including one done by the University of Washington) found that Indiana's positivity rate was consistently under 5 percent during every month of 2020. Thus, lockdowns and mandates used by state officials were based on unsound positivity rates.

The AG's office strongly advises that policymakers establish a process

that requires pandemic-related decisions to be based solely on high-quality research and sound data rather than anecdotal findings. The office also recommends keeping Indiana's economy and educational institutions fully open for business during future public health challenges.

Again, the full report is available online at tinyurl.com/RokitaCovidReport, and The Reporter encourages readers to review it for themselves.





ECLIPSE

from Page A1

Don Nicholls, now retired Resource Development Specialist for Hamilton County Parks, understands better than most that prospective partners are selective about the organizations and events they choose to support.

“The Duke Energy Foundation is an excellent example of an organization that expects its support to be utilized in such a way as to better the community it serves,” Nicholls said. “It takes more than a village to stage such events. It takes companies like Duke Energy and our other valued sponsors to commit their resources to ensure a quality and memorable experience.”

For registration details about Hamilton County Parks and Recreation’s April 8 Total Solar Eclipse events: Moon Market at Taylor Center of Natural History and Park Side of the Moon at Cool Creek Park, or to view the collection of Total Solar Eclipse merchandise the parks department is offering in their online store, visit MyHamiltonCountyParks.com or call (317) 770-4400.



Photos provided by Hamilton County Parks & Recreation. The Duke Energy Foundation-sponsored “Be Naturally Curious” nature education trailer will offer programming throughout the Moon Market eclipse event at Strawtown Koteewi Park on April 8.

Noblesville’s own Quinn Conrad: National Merit Scholar Finalist



Photo provided by Noblesville Schools. Noblesville High School senior Quinn Conrad was recognized at a recent school board meeting as a National Merit Scholar Finalist. Less than 1 percent of students across the country who qualify for consideration are ultimately chosen as finalists. He has a 4.2 grade-point average, is involved in the coding club, National Honor Society, AI Club, and 4-H, and plans to attend Purdue University to study computer science.

Why is the Indiana Peony Festival held in Noblesville’s Seminary Park?

By KELLY McVEY
Indiana Peony Festival

The story of the Indiana Peony Festival is intimately tied to Seminary Park.

We’ve been asked “Why Seminary Park?” many times since our first festival in May 2021 – and it’s one we love to answer!

- **Rich History:** The county initially bought the land in 1844 for the town’s first schoolhouse, known as the County Seminary, and later it was the location of the Second Ward School, which served Noblesville students for more than 100 years. The land that Seminary Park is on has always been a rich part of downtown Noblesville!

- **Proximity to Downtown:** Three blocks away from downtown Noblesville, it’s so close to our downtown merchants! We love how many of you choose to venture downtown on the day of the festival, whether that is to shop the square or participate in Brunch & Blooms.

- **Parking Options Galore:** The park is perfectly



Photo provided. Seminary Park in Noblesville offers the perfect combination of amenities for the Peony Festival.

nestled between so many parking options – the old Firestone parking lots to the east, three parking garages to the north, and on-street parking throughout the downtown core, it’s a great option for residents and visitors alike.

And, of course, an opportunity for peonies to thrive! If you’re a gardener, you might know that peonies need LOTS of sunlight! The ample sunlight these blooms get in Seminary Park is vital and without this, we wouldn’t be able to enjoy all of these beauties on festival day!

While we love our neighbor, Forest Park, it doesn’t offer adequate parking, the proximity to our downtown merchants, and has a hard time getting enough sun-

light to get these more than 200 peony plants to grow with all the trees overhead.

If you haven’t yet heard, we have an expanded footprint this year, too!

On the day of the festival, we’re shutting down 10th Street to line it with vendors from Mulberry to Cherry Street. This will give visitors a bit more space within Seminary Park so you’ll be able to stroll the park and shop along the streets of our charming downtown!

We’re excited to continue hosting this kick-off to summer in the heart of our downtown, where you can peruse beautiful floral installations in the park, shop with local vendors along the

See Peony . . . Page A8

Mark Your Calendars Or Just Let The Reporter Do It For You

Check out our Hamilton County events calendar get the word out!

www.ReadTheReporter.com/events

Christ Lutheran Noblesville

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WHO IS JESUS...

The Devil rebelled and with his lies deceived Adam and Eve and the whole world was broken

People gather at Christmas because of Jesus’ birth to bring Hope and Joy.



Jesus’ birth would mean nothing if He did not complete His mission of Good Friday and Easter

Jesus taught us to Love God and Love your neighbor as yourself.

Greater love has no man than this: to lay down ones life for his friend. John 15:13.

Not only did Jesus die for us, He overcame death and Satan. He rose from the dead and still lives! To those who believe in his name, He gave the right to become children of God.



Holy Week

This is the feast of victory for our God. For Jesus was sacrificed to set us free. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

- Mar. 24th Palm Sunday Service 9 a.m.
- Mar. 25th - 27th Mon. - Wed. Prayer Services offered at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
- Mar. 28th Maundy Thursday Service offered at 7 p.m.
- Mar. 29th Good Friday Service offered at 7 p.m. with communion
- Mar. 30th Saturday Service of the great Vigil at 7 p.m.
- Mar. 31st Easter Sunday: Sunrise Service (Matins) at 7 a.m. Breakfast following... Easter Festival Service at 9 a.m.

Live Music At Pasto Italiano

Benito DiBartoli Every Wednesday (1/2 Price Bottles of Wine On Wednesdays)

Friday March 29

Bobby Stardust and Leta

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Live Music March 29 - Midnight Smith

Open Mic Tuesdays 7-10 p.m.

Trivia Wednesdays 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Keyboardist Dave Lowe every Thursday 6-9 p.m.

Patsy's Pub

17419 Suite C, Carey Rd., Westfield 317.867.0397

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Performers showcase personal musical style with Bach to Rock

By AMY ADAMS
news@readthereporter.com

The Wunderlich brothers, Valentin, 16, Lawrence, 14, Orlandis, 12, and Emeraldt, 10, were just a few of around 40 students who performed on March 17 at the Bach to Rock Spring Showcase at the Basile Westfield Playhouse, at 220 N. Union St., Westfield.

"All the students did a fabulous job, and that's how I know it's successful," said Kellie Miles, co-owner and co-manager of Bach to Rock Fishers. "It's all about them having fun and feeling confident."

Bach to Rock, "America's Music School" with locations in Carmel, Fishers, and Zionsville, offers group and private lessons for more than 1,000 students in the area.

"We have all ages, all levels, and all walks of life," said Zionsville instructor Baylie Owen. "We have beginners and people who have played music for a long time."

Bach to Rock offers early childhood classes for children as young as three, and Owen said par-

ents sometimes start taking lessons while they wait for their kids.

The school's unique instruction model provides not only weekly personalized lessons but also offers ensemble programs, like bands and glee clubs, which convene for weekly jam sessions.

"It's a holistic approach," Miles said. "Students are learning to read music, but then it takes those principles and applies them to all kinds of music genres."

In addition, students are encouraged to play the music they're playing.

The most recent showcase featured selections from Nirvana to Vivaldi played on instruments as varied as drums and violins.

"As a school, performance is part of making sure we're providing well-rounded music educations," Miles said. "That is a guiding principle across the board for Bach to Rock."

While the more formal showcase offers students a recital format performance twice a year, more frequent and informal open mic nights

also provide opportunities for ensembles to perform.

Musicians from Bach to Rock Fishers will be performing during Fairyville Creates in Downtown Noblesville April 17 to 20. The next open mic night for Bach to Rock Fishers will be May 17 at Books & Brews at 9402 Uptown Drive, Ste. 1400, in Indianapolis. Soloists will perform from 7 to 8 p.m., and ensembles will perform from 8 to 10 p.m.

Private lessons will continue throughout the summer, and summer camps will run weekly from the first week in June through the last week in July. The annual Battle of the Bands will welcome performers from all three area Bach to Rock locations for some friendly competition on June 16 at HI-FI Indy.

Bach to Rock Fishers is located at 12514 E. 116th St., Fishers. Visit bachtorock.com for more information and follow @b2rfishersin on social media for summer camp discounts.



Reporter photos by Amy Adams

(TOP) The Wunderlich brothers, from left, Orlandis, Emeraldt, Lawrence, and Valentin, play in a Bach to Rock band, LOVEblue. (ABOVE LEFT) Siblings Daniel and Janelle Pierre play "To God be the Glory." (ABOVE RIGHT) Tazmin Shiva plays "Lithium" by Nirvana.

HUSKY FANS

from Page A1



Photos provided

(TOP) Students attending the DECA Fall Leadership Conference were able to attend a Pacers game. (Front) Jenna Gascho. (Second row, from left) Tquan Spencer, Sara Totten, Autumn Anderson, Hannah Beechler, and Maddie Heffelmire. (Back row, from left) Addison Mann, Adalynn Gould, Sarah Toll, Addyson Ferguson, Melissa Lovell, Bella McDole, Jackson Massicotte, and Isaiah Grimsey. (ABOVE) Heights is among just 12 schools in Indiana to hold a DECA GOLD certification. Heights DECA members who attended the DECA Indiana State Career Development Conference in Indianapolis include (front row, from left) Addison Mann, Hannah Beechler, Autumn Anderson, Sara Totten, and Sarah Toll; and (back row, from left) Melissa Lovell, Isaiah Grimsey, Jackson Massicotte, Tquan Spencer, and Addyson Ferguson.

The Husky Fan Shop has operated for over six years and, students are to be commended for this achievement. The shop has received GOLD certification three of the past four years.

The Husky Fan Shop also earned the THRIVE recognition earlier in the year. Hamilton Heights DECA was among 525 chapters to achieve THRIVE level recognition this year and will be commended at the DECA ICDC.

Each fall, DECA offers four campaigns for chapters to complete as part of their program of leadership for the year. These campaigns are designed to grow membership engagement and build lasting partnerships within the school and local community. Chapters that achieve THRIVE level receive a commemorative pennant, flag, and plaque. Campaigns including the community service, ethical leadership, and social media promotion are performed to earn this honor.

The DECA organiza-

tion is made up of marketing students who manage and operate the Husky Fan Shop. The shop sells Husky apparel and accessories to promote school spirit.

The community service promotional campaign highlights activities that the Husky Fan Shop has participated such as "Back to School Bash," Cicero & Arcadia Street Festivals, and Ryan White Fest.

The promotional campaign featured new items the Husky Fan Shop offers in the shop to generate sales and recognition such as the "Red for Ed" shirts and senior tee shirts and yard signs. The "Red for Ed" shirts are designed with the help of HHCTA and offered to personnel to promote public education and recognition of our staff.

The Husky Fan Shop also has included new items such as school logo lanyards, license plates, baseball caps, beanies, earrings, and blankets. "Heritage" and "Husky Gear" items are stock items kept in the store.



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SWEET

from Page A1



Photo provided

When could I have danced? Moments when my heart would have smiled, missed.

We have this moment. Lord, let me hold onto this grain of sand. Let me see its value before I have to let it go. Allow me to cherish it for a bit longer.

Just when I thought our dancing moment couldn't get any sweeter ... it did.

"Janet, want to go to Costco and have lunch?" I burst out laughing. That same thought had crossed my mind. We had never been there for lunch but had talked about going.

There we were at Costco, having a late lunch on Tuesday afternoon. Chuck enjoyed the \$1.50 Hot Dog and drink Combo while I struggled to devour the massive slice of \$1.99 Cheese Pizza. It might not have been a royal feast, but to us, it was a pauper's delight. The price was right, and the company was perfect. We laughed at the cost of our ad-

venture and agreed we should do it more often.

I have a sign in our kitchen near where I write. It reads, *I still remember the days I prayed for the things I have now.*

When Chuck and I married, we vowed to love and cherish each other for better, for worse, for richer or poorer. There might have been a tacit agreement to never take each other for granted.

I hope to have more Tuesdays with Chuck like this past Tuesday.

It doesn't get much simpler or much sweeter than a slow dance in the kitchen while James Taylor and Chuck Leonard sing a love song and then lunch at Costco.

Thank you, James Taylor, for the reminder. How sweet it is!

Janet Hart Leonard can be contacted at janethartleonard@gmail.com or followed on Facebook or Instagram (@janethartleonard). Visit janethartleonard.com.

Fun fact: Lions do love pancakes!



Photos provided by Sheridan Lions Club / Chuck Godby

The exact numbers have yet to be calculated, but the Sheridan Lions Club concluded this year's annual Mark Sims Memorial Pancake Breakfast was a success. No exact head count was kept as only free will donations were accepted, but from 7 to 10 a.m. on March 16, the line of people on hand for scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy, and, of course, pancakes, was steady. The breakfast was held for the first time in the Sheridan High School cafeteria, and the local Lions praised the assistance of Kim Phillips, who was instrumental in keeping things running smoothly. In other Lions news, the local service organization voted to change its scholarship program and this year will offer two \$1,000 scholarships to a couple of Sheridan's graduating seniors bound for either college or trade school. The Sheridan Lions are always on the lookout for new members. (ABOVE LEFT) Vance Wallace (left) and Steve Bilby greeted breakfast goers at the door and accepted donations. (ABOVE CENTER) Tyler Henning makes sure the cooking surface is hot and ready to make pancakes. (ABOVE RIGHT) Aaron Gatewood makes sure there are plenty of clean trays.

Noblesville Lions supporting NHS in Indiana Show Choir Championships



Photo provided by Noblesville Lions Club / Jake Doll

On March 16, the Lions Club volunteered and supported NHS Choral Department by helping attendees to the Show Choir make their way around the building. The championship contests were open to schools in Indiana. NHS expected more than 800 high school students to attend. (Above) A few of the Lions who helped were (from left) Tim Baker, Walt Scheid, Jen Carr, Steve Shaw, and Cheryl Helton.

Noblesville & Carmel Lions clubs volunteer manpower serving Gleaners



Photo provided by Noblesville Lions Club / Jake Doll

Last Thursday, the Noblesville and Carmel clubs helped Gleaners with food service. The Gleaners mobile food pantry comes to the Hamilton County Fairgrounds on the third Thursday of every month from 4 to 6 p.m. The Carmel and Noblesville Lions are proud to volunteer their manpower and time to assist Gleaners with the distribution of food to those in need. All volunteers were kept very busy! (From left) Lions Lane Sims, Bob Yunker, Joe Arrowood, Matt Best, Ed Shea, Dale Unger, Gary Hipes, Steve Craig, Walt Scheid, Larry Jacobi, and Rom Williamson. Not pictured are Jeff Kozicki and Joe Connerley.

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HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER
USPS 22200 | Volume 2024, Issue 3.25

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The Hamilton County Reporter is published weekly by 4th Hawk Media LLC. Periodicals postage paid at Noblesville, Ind. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Hamilton County Reporter, 136 S. 9th St., Suite 12, Noblesville, IN 46060.

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Thanks for reading!

Carmel prevails against state in local income tax lawsuit

Court ruling stops transfer of certain city tax revenues to Fishers

Submitted by City of Carmel

Last Tuesday, the City of Carmel prevailed in the lawsuit filed against the State of Indiana to challenge the law that transfers Carmel's local income tax dollars to Fishers.

Local income tax dollars are used to fund essential city services and infrastructure projects that are beneficial to residents of Carmel, and includes funding for public safety, resident programming, street paving and sidewalk reconstruction, among others.

According to Carmel officials, this unconstitutional law has harmed the city and its residents since 2020 by taking Carmel's local income tax dollars and transferring

them to Fishers.

"I am thrilled this violation of the law has been settled and would like to thank the Honorable Judge John M.T. Chavis, II for striking down this unconstitutional special law and affirming what Carmel already knew; this special law unfairly targeted only one city in the entire state - Carmel," Mayor Sue Finkam said. "If we had not prevailed it would have resulted in approximately \$56 million of revenues moving from Carmel to Fishers, dollars that would have deprived our residents of critical infrastructure needed for our city."

The Court stated in its Order that, "Curing the evils of



Finkam

special legislation was the very reason why the Constitutional Convention of 1851 was convened. The Defendants have no cognizable interest in enforcing an unconstitutional law just as Fishers has no cognizable interest in receiving LIT Funds under an unconstitutional law."

With this ruling, the State of Indiana, through its Department of Local Government Finance, must now once again follow the state's general law and begin distributing local income tax funds through Hamilton County to Carmel and Fishers in the same manner as it had for decades until 2020.

The Court held that, "Whether labeling it the Defendants' failure to carry its burden to show that a general law cannot be made applicable or calling it Carmel's successful demonstration that the specified class's characteristics are not defining enough, the Fishers Transfer [of local income tax dollars] violates Article 4, Section 23."

"We strive to have cooperative relationships with neighboring cities," Mayor Finkam said. "However, when special laws are passed that overstep legal bounds and harm our community, we will act."

The Reporter's attempts to reach Fishers city officials for comment were unsuccessful.

Celebrate Holy Week with Sheridan First Christian Church

The REPORTER

Sheridan First Christian Church has announced its schedule for Holy Week.

The week began with the Parade of Palms to celebrate Jesus' triumphant parade into Jerusalem, which was held on Sunday, March 24.

On Thursday, March 28 at 7 p.m., Maundy Thursday services will be held during which the congregation will remember the night of the Last Supper.

Good Friday Services

will be held at noon on March 29, commemorating the crucifixion of Jesus and His death at Calvary. At 7 p.m. that same evening will be the "Office of Tenebrae," which means darkness. It allows one to reflect on Christ's arrest, crucifixion, death, and placement in the tomb.

Sheridan First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is located at 107 W. Third St. For more information, please call the office at (317) 758-4569.

Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam appoints Samantha Karn to serve as city's Corporation Counsel

The REPORTER

Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam announced last Tuesday that she has appointed Samantha Karn to serve as Corporation Counsel for the City of Carmel.

With extensive experience as legal counsel for municipalities, the healthcare industry and higher education, Karn will serve on Mayor Finkam's leadership team, and provide legal counsel to the Office of the Mayor and all city departments. Karn begins her role on Tuesday, April 9.

"I am so excited for Samantha to join my executive leadership team and am grateful to have the legal counsel of someone with her extensive knowledge and experience," Finkam said. "I look forward to working with her as a strategic partner on issues ranging from public safety to transparency in order to ensure that the priorities of my office are supported with expert legal counsel and care."

Karn previously served as Corporation Counsel for the City of Indianapolis, serving as a Cabinet member and legal and policy advisor to former Mayor Greg Ballard. There, she managed the city's legal office and oversaw teams negotiating collective bargaining agree-

ments, the modernization of the city's parking meter system, and high-profile civil cases.

For the immediate past six years, Karn has advised on complex labor and employment matters for Ascension Health Alliance and spent the preceding four years in Vice President and General Counsel roles for the University of Indianapolis, managing a portfolio of diverse issues including university policy, risk management and compliance and associate relations.

"The Mayor is putting together an outstanding team, and I'm honored for the opportunity to bring my energy and experience to serve the City of Carmel in her administration," Karn said. "I am passionate about working on issues that impact citizens every day and look forward to being a part of the city's progress for years to come."

Karn is a graduate of Indiana University Maurer School of Law and received her Bachelor of Arts from Indiana University, where she was a member of The Roadrunners Women's Championship Little 500 Team. She is also a graduate of The Richard G. Lugar Excellence in Public Service Series.



Karn

Historical Society announces retirement of long-time director

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Historical Society, located on the square in Noblesville in the Old Sheriff's Residence and Jail, announces the retirement of long-time Museum Director Diane Zeiss Nevitt.

Nevitt first became involved at the Historical Society over 30 years ago and served in several roles on the board before becoming the Museum Director in 1999. She retired at the end of 2023.

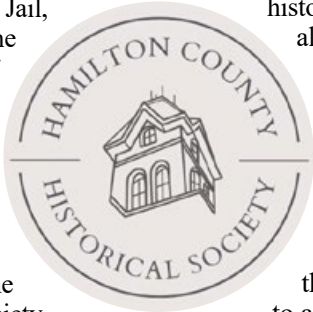
During Nevitt's tenure, the society offered programs, tours, and experiences for all ages. Many guests say they remember getting a tour from her in fourth

grade, then coming back as adults, sometimes with their own children. She also managed volunteers and provided research services for history and genealogy questions.

Nevitt's impact cannot be measured here, so the Historical Society invites the community to a retirement reception in her honor.

Please plan to attend the reception from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, April 28 at the Noblesville Township Community Center, 388 S. 8th St., Noblesville. There will be light refreshments and remarks at 2:30 p.m.

Please RSVP to info@hamiltoncoinhs.com or by calling (317) 770-0775.



Diane Zeiss Nevitt, HCHS Museum Director Emeritus, served the society for over 30 years.

Photo provided

Fishers opens nonprofit grant application

The REPORTER

The 2024 Fishers nonprofit grant application is now open through 4:30 p.m. on April 24.

The Fishers City Council established the Nonprofit Committee to manage the city's grant disbursement process. Final awards are subject to Council approval.

The Fishers Nonprofit Committee oversees the Nonprofit Grant Program, which awards funding to local organizations that create a sense of place, public interaction, or additional educational opportunities for Fishers residents. The City Council has allocated \$250,000 to nonprofit support for 2024.

"Every year, we witness the incredible impact these grants have on

our community, empowering local nonprofits to further their missions and enhance the quality of life for residents," said Cecilia Coble, president of the Fishers City Council and chair of the Nonprofit Committee. "The Nonprofit Grant Program exemplifies our city's commitment to fostering a vibrant, engaged, and inclusive community."

For more information and to apply for the grant, visit FishersIN.gov/NonprofitGrant.

Grant eligibility
• Applying organization must be a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit or have a fiscal sponsor.

• Organization must be located in Fishers or serve Fishers residents.
• Priority will be given to organizations that make a large impact on Fishers residents.
• Learn more about Grant Guidelines at fishersin.gov/boards-commissions/nonprofit-grant-committee.

Grant criteria
• **Proven success:** organization measures and tracks outcomes and has a record of achieving goals
• **Organizational strength:** organization demonstrates fiscal responsibility and has proper staff and board oversight
• **Cooperation & collaboration:** organization

uses innovative approaches to solve pressing issues in Fishers while collaborating with partners to best leverage efforts and reduce duplication of services
• **Reliability:** organization has the resources and plans available to maintain the work after the grant period ends
Fishers nonprofit grants will NOT support:
• Capital requests
• Grants to individuals
• Organizations or projects that discriminate based upon race, ethnicity, age, gender or sexual orientation
• Political campaigns or direct lobbying efforts by 501(c)(3) organizations
• Post-event or debt retirement expenses
• Projects aimed at promoting a particular religion



Coble

Hamilton County Health Department to hold Poison Prevention webinar

Experts to provide tips for preventing accidental poisonings at home

The REPORTER

March is Poison Prevention Month, a great time to raise awareness about the dangers of accidental poisoning and educate the public about the prevention of poisoning incidents, particularly among children.

That's why the Hamilton County Health Department is partnering with the Indiana Poison Control Center (IPC) to host a free webinar at 6 p.m.

on Wednesday, March 27.

"More than 90 percent of poisonings happen in the home," said Jim Ginder, Health Education Specialist at the Hamilton County Health Department. "Our goal is to educate parents and caregivers about common household hazards, effective child-proofing tech-



Ginder

niques, and what to do in case of an emergency."

"Most poison exposures are not life-threatening and can be handled at home with the help of a specialist," said Adam Overberg, Clinical Toxicologist and IPC Director. "Calling IPC is fast, free, and confidential, and can prevent unnecessary visits to urgent care

or an emergency room. But ultimately our goal is to prevent those exposures by creating a safe space for children."

Registration for the webinar is free and open to the public. Go to tinyurl.com/poisonprevention-webinar to register.

If a parent suspects their child has ingested a harmful substance, they should immediately call Poison Control (1-800-222-1222) for guidance.

Westfield receives \$2,500 grant from Visit Hamilton County

The REPORTER

The City of Westfield has announced that it has received a \$2,500 grant from Visit Hamilton County.

The grant will be used to purchase up to three Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) skating sleds for the Ice Ribbon at Grand Junction Plaza from Mobility Sports, a Fort Wayne, Ind.-based company.

The Ice Ribbon at Grand Junction Plaza held its inaugural 2023-2024 season, welcoming more than 4,000 guests. The purchase of the skating sleds will be a unique opportunity for individuals with diverse abilities to enjoy the Ice Ribbon during the winter months. The sleds are equipped with features that ensure safety and comfort, such as padded seats and backrests, footrests, and a pusher handle.

They are designed to be used by people with a wide range of disabilities, including those who use wheelchairs, crutches, or have limited mobility.

"We are thrilled to be able to make our Ice Ribbon more inclusive and welcoming to everyone in our community," Mayor Scott Willis said. "We are looking forward to expanding our relationship with the Westfield Mayor's Council on Disabilities to continue seeking opportunities like this and offering additional inclusive programming throughout the year."

Visit Hamilton County's Tourism Gives program granted \$95,000 to more than 30 Hamilton County non-profit and government organizations in 2024. Each grant is centered on one of the following areas: planet, prosperity, people, or place.



Willis

Thanks for reading The Reporter!



Westfield church to begin offering counseling service

Submitted

Hamilton County has one mental health provider for every 690 residents, well below the state average. When 20 percent of American adults have a mental illness each year and each provider sees only about 25 clients at a time, that represents a significant need for more professionals.

One church in Westfield wants to help improve that statistic.

Christ United Methodist Church in Westfield has been serving the city for more than 150 years, including a very popular preschool for the last 50 years. Based on a similar approach to ministry, the church plans to start a counseling center on Sept. 1.

The vision behind the Counseling Center is rooted in the church's understanding of the profound impact counseling can have on individuals' lives. With an aim to significantly enhance the accessibility of quality mental health services in Westfield, the people of the Counseling Center aspire to be a pivotal resource for those in need, offering a wide range of counseling services. The initiative is driven by a belief in the power of healing and the potential for counseling to foster growth, resilience, and recovery.

They will host seven full-time therapists who will provide individual and group therapy for mental health, relationship, and family counseling. To realize this ambitious project, the church has launched a fundraising campaign with the goal of raising \$40,000 to cover construction costs. This foundational step underscores the community's role in bringing the vision to life, inviting members and supporters to contribute financially and through advocacy. Beyond the initial setup, the center plans to achieve sustainability through rental fees from participating therapists, ensuring its ongoing impact on the community.

"This initiative is not just about establishing a counseling facility; it's about creating a movement towards a healthier, more resilient community," Christ United Methodist Pastor Dr. Jeremiah Gibbs said. "We envision a future where everyone in Westfield has access to the mental health support they need, embodying a collective effort to address and mitigate mental health struggles. With community support and professional collaboration, we are poised to make a significant difference in the lives of many, fostering a culture of care, understanding, and healing."

A generous donor has provided matching funds to double the first \$10,000 in gifts before March 26. You can contribute to the effort at christwestfield.org/counselingcenter. Licensed therapists, including those with associate license, who are interested in practicing at the center may also inquire through the website.



HAMILTON EAST PUBLIC LIBRARY

HEPL to bring dozens of writers to local author fair

The REPORTER

Hamilton East Public Library (HEPL) will soon hold its 2024 Local Author Fair at the FORUM Events Center in Fishers.

The Local Author Fair is a free, open house-style event for all ages. Support local storytelling with nearly 60 local authors and literary organizations from Fishers, Noblesville, Carmel, Westfield, Cicero, Indianapolis, New Palestine, Avon, Bargersville, and other central Indiana areas who will have exhibit space for the public to meet and mingle, with opportunities to purchase their books.

Authors will also be available for book signings. There will be many chances to win book bundles and other prizes for those who attend.

New to the fair this year are storytimes and short readings featuring participating authors throughout the afternoon.

The forum will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 20. Entry and parking are free, and registration is not required.

The FORUM Events Center is located at 11313 USA Pkwy., Fishers.

For more information, go to tinyurl.com/HEPLauthorfair2024.

All Local, All the Time!
ReadTheReporter.com

The Shack is back

Pizzas are stacked, seats are packed & everyone loves The Shack

By **STU CLAMPITT**
news@readthereporter.com

It used to be The Pizza Shack by the Tracks. Now it's just called "The Shack," but the pizzas are back, and they brought friends to the menu at 311 E. Jefferson St., Tipton.

According to new owner Brett Morrow, after extensive renovation, there are now two different kitchens offering two different menus, one of which is the beloved Pizza Shack favorites. The other is a more upscale menu. The Shack also now has multiple bars and will offer a buffet seven days a week.

"It's going from just a pizza menu to pizza with steak, chicken, fish, bar bites, ribs, other things, and from having no alcohol to having two bars, and the downstairs lounge will be open seven days a week," Morrow told The Reporter. "The upstairs lounge will be open initially every day because we have to have the capacity at the opening, but we want it to be Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays for the upstairs sports bar."

The Shack's renovations have increased capacity and customer options in a number



Reporter photo by Stu Clampitt

Dine in, carry out, daily buffets, two kitchens with two menus, two bars on separate floors ... but that's all just garnish. The meat of this story is in the headline "The Shack is back," and that's all you need to say!

of ways.

"There's still the main dining room, which is huge," Morrow said. "There's the lounge downstairs that seats 38. The buffet will be seven days a week for lunch and all day on Sunday and Monday. In addition, there's a hundred-seat banquet room that has an outdoor courtyard and an amazing sound system with DJ booth."

Morrow told The Reporter

the banquet room and courtyard will be available for rehearsal dinners, weddings, reunions, parties, and whatever else someone might need that space to accommodate.

One thing Morrow stresses is how helpful Tipton city officials were during this process. He said Tipton is a very welcoming community where everyone from the City Council to the Board of Zoning Appeals

went out of their way to help bring back The Shack.

The Shack is currently open at 311 E. Jefferson St. in downtown Tipton. Hours are 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday through Saturday.

Learn more and make a reservation at online TheShackTipton.com or by calling (765) 675-8787.



Reporter photo by Stu Clampitt (ABOVE, from left) Maggy Lewis, Bar Manager Haley Wood, and Matt Bonds stand ready to serve you.



Reporter photos by Stu Clampitt (TOP) Mike Berry and friends were spotted at The Shack Tuesday night. (ABOVE) Two of these ladies were celebrating birthdays at The Shack, hence the balloons. Happy birthday, and thanks for letting us get this shot!



(BELOW RIGHT) The Shack has two fully-stocked bars, one of which is upstairs and has outdoor balcony seating. Full menus are available at any seat in the house.



Reporter photo by Stu Clampitt

The Shack is fully staffed and more than ready for you to take a seat. Make reservations at TheShackTipton.com.

Crafts, activities & more at Noblesville Creates Fairyville

The REPORTER

The 12th annual Noblesville Creates Fairyville alights on the Noblesville Creates on 8th campus and all over Downtown Noblesville from April 17 to 20, with crafts and activities for all ages and most events free. Sponsors include J.C. Hart Company and the City of Noblesville.

This year, Noblesville Creates Fairyville is themed around the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse, placing a heavy emphasis on outdoor, nature-themed activities while highlighting the Noblesville Cultural Arts District and connecting people throughout Hamilton County.

There will be scheduled events throughout the festival, including a Fairy House Contest, Fairy Tea Parties, the Fairyville Parade, and, for adults, Fairyville After Dark and the Fairy Ball. Self-directed nature-themed activities will also be available in celebration of Earth Day.

Noblesville Creates' partners and other local businesses throughout downtown Noblesville will also offer various specials, events, and activities during Noblesville Creates Fairyville that are open to the public.

Noblesville Creates Fairyville Events Fairy House Contest April 17 to 20

The full collection of fairy houses made by local artists of all ages will be on display on the Noblesville Creates campus Wednesday, April 17 through Thursday, April 18 and moved to the Fairy Trail on Friday, April 19. Voting can take place Wednesday through Saturday at noon, in person and on Facebook. Winners will be announced on Saturday, April 22.

Registration for the Fairy House Contest is open through Saturday, April 13. Register at tinyurl.com/2379ubj8.

Fairy Friday

Noon to 9 p.m., April 19

Walk the Fairyville Trail, encounter real-life fairies, and explore activities and entertainments for all ages. After 6 p.m., live fairies and entertainment will begin to emerge.

Fairyville After Dark

6 to 9 p.m., April 19

Enchanting entertainment specifically for grownup fairies. More details coming soon.



Photo provided

Get ready, Noblesville! Countless real-life fairies will soon flock to and flutter around downtown.

Fairyville vendors

6 p.m., April 19 to 5 p.m., April 20

Fairy-inspired wares will be sold on the Noblesville Creates on 8th campus and around Noblesville Courthouse Square.

Fairyville Trail

April 19 to 5 p.m., April 20

The full collection of fairy houses made by local artists of all ages will be on display and open for voting along the Fairy Trail the afternoon of Friday, April 19 through 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 20.

Sprite Saturday

10 a.m. to 5 p.m., April 20

Participate in nature-themed crafts and activities led by Noblesville Creates and other partners around Noblesville Courthouse Square.

Fairyville Tea Parties

10 a.m. to 6 p.m., April 20

Bring your young fairy-lovers to the Birdie Gallery to drink tea, learn about fairy etiquette, and meet some real-life fairies. Your ticket includes food and drinks, an activity, and special interactions with the princess fairies. Each tea party runs approximately 45 to 60 minutes. Advance registration is required. (\$20 per person; each child must be accompanied by a paying, participating adult.)

The Sun & Shade Fairy Dance Parade

1 p.m., April 20

All fairies and humans can join the Mayor of Fairyville on this parade to celebrate the Eclipse. Along the parade route, the Mayor of Fairyville will tell a favorite fairy story about the sun and moon and teach every-

one the Eclipse Fairy Dance. **2nd annual Fairy Ball 7 p.m., April 20**

An immersive theatrical experience featuring variety acts by talented performers from around central Indiana. Expect the unexpected, fun, and weird. This event serves as a fundraiser for the Noblesville Creates Fairyville event and a fun time for adult fairies.

Noblesville Creates Fairyville is free to attend; some special events have costs and requirements.

To purchase tickets and learn more, go to noblesvillecreates.org/fairyville.

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Weather is unpredictable ... Paul Poteet isn't. Your Hometown Weatherman!



A rare, total solar eclipse will occur in Hamilton County on Monday, April 8, 2024 and not be repeated in this area until 2153! Hamilton County Parks is staging two events that will entertain and educate, in celebration of this celestial spectacle!



Moon Market | April 8 12 - 5 PM | Strawtown Koteewi Park

\$5 (€10 out of county)

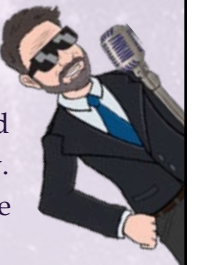
Invited artisans will be selling crafts and wares while respected eclipse expert W. Keith Turner presents fascinating eclipse programming. Guitarist Robin Harrison will set the eclipse to music. Special activities and the Duke Energy Nature Education Trailer will be part of the celebration. For-purchase food and drink will also be available.

Park Side of the Moon | April 8 10 AM - 5 PM | Cool Creek Park

\$10 (€15 out of county)

Get your eclipse on with *Echoes of Pompeii* A Tribute to Pink Floyd. Broadcast personality Paul Poteet* will serve as host, joined by noted stargazers, Dr. Doug Balogh and Jeff Attebury. Enjoy fun activities, vendors, and for-purchase food and drink throughout the day.

Meet Paul Poteet!



FREE eclipse viewing safety glasses will be issued to all attendees when entering the event grounds. Free parking for registered guests and the option to tailgate will be offered at both locations. Register at MyHamiltonCountyParks.com or scan the QR code below. Hurry, attendance capacities have been set at both park locations!



The perfect way to remember this historic event!

Hamilton County Parks and Recreation is offering commemorative eclipse merchandise online. A select number of the online items (viewing glasses, t-shirts and stickers) will also be sold at Cool Creek Nature Center until sold out. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Hamilton County Parks and Recreation.



Scan for event registration or eclipse merchandise online store.

Thanks to these valued sponsors for supporting these two very special events.



*Paul Poteet's hotel accommodations provided by Hotel Carmichael. "We love being Paul Poteet's hotel of choice! It is always a pleasure having him stay with us. Paul and all of our guests are incredibly important to us." - Hotel Carmichael Director of Sales and Marketing, Austin Campagna



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68 pearls clasp oval & rounded on the ends

Pearls. When my mother was a baby, her dad took a long string of natural pearls as payment for a debt a local jeweler could not pay. My mom told the story this way:

I wanted to wear them when I was married but no one was wearing long strings. My mother said get them restrung, so a jeweler made a short string with a double front. I always wore them when I dressed up. In 1948, my mother died. Not many keepsakes. She had said give her wristwatch to Verna. So I had the pearls restrung with a knot between each Pearl, two equal length strands and bought a new sterling clasp for the ones I gave Ruth.

Plate, blue trim on edge, was also a keepsake. It was the last piece of a set my folks bought when I was a baby. They used to say they averaged about a set per baby. I remember two or three sets after we were all good-sized. One set had bluebirds. They were pretty.

Large meat plate. Dad's sister Emma & Roy Mallory went to housekeeping with this. Never had children so eventually they gave the plate to Dad. After he gave it to me, I put our Christmas & Thanksgiving turkeys on it several times. You children liked to watch your dad carve them at the table.

Emma Mallory was married by my father to

COLUMNIST

RAY ADLER
Ask Adler

D. Hutsler when Verna & Raymond were small; we happened to be there. It was the first wedding they attended. Small upholstered rocker. 1938 antique store in Crawfordsville. Dealer said, "Quite old." Gate leg table-1938 Crawfordsville. Kitchen table - from Grandma Adler. She & Carl were married 11/22/13 [1913]. Stayed with her folks until spring. Went to house-keeping third house north of Harry Beaver. Had this table. We've used it since about 1967. The only thing we could find to remove the old varnish was Sal Soda. Bob Zwick's wife used Sal soda in hot water. We tried it & it worked like magic. He didn't say too, but I rinsed it with clear water & dried it with clean rags. Then we propped it up in the garage until thoroughly dry. Dad worked on the legs & finished the table with gym seal. It has lasted well.

A few years later Dorothy I. moved into her new house on Debeney Dr. She needed a kitchen table as her old house had a built-in breakfast nook. In the old summer kitchen on DI's farm (the old Stoneburner place west of us) someone had discarded a table. Dad & I offered to fix it up for temporary use. We stripped it & found a beautiful bird's eye maple table. Quite valuable.

I am fortunate enough to have so much in my life that I am grateful that I simply could not consolidate it to one column. I wrote a couple of weeks ago about the importance of acknowledging what we are grateful for and how it impacts your mindset.

In my last column I wrote about being grateful for my husband, our children, jobs, my family, friends, and the importance of purposeful intentionality when it comes to acknowledging your blessings and the impact it can have on your mindset.

I am grateful for my faith. Life is tough. If you don't have faith or a belief that you aren't here by accident, I don't know how people get through the curve balls life throws your way. I pray no matter what religion my children choose one day that they always know the love of Jesus in their heart and choose Him again and again.

I am grateful for my dad. I know that he is watching over me from heaven and am grateful for the example he set for my sister and me. I know that he still plays a role in my life, and I am grateful for the many signs that he still has his hand on us.

I am grateful for the childhood my mom and dad provided me. A person is so largely shaped by their

COLUMNIST

MEGAN RATHZ
When Nature Speaks

childhood and their first view of the world. I was blessed to grow up in a safe and loving environment that taught the importance of family, showed love, and instilled a belief of Jesus in the hearts of my sister and me.

I am grateful for my stepdad, Al. I am grateful that he showed up and stepped up when and how he did. I am grateful that he makes my mom happy and for what he has added to our family. I am grateful for what he means to my children and me.

I am grateful for my brother-in-law, Ben. He truly is a brother to my husband and me and I could not have handpicked someone better for my sister. I believe he was handpicked from heaven. I am grateful for the uncle that he is for my kids and what he has added to my life. I know he will be a wonderful father.

I am grateful to be an aunt to my nephew, Noah. I am grateful for the joy and light added to our family. He will forever have my heart and I love him as if he was my own.

I am grateful for my health. I do not take health for granted. I am grateful for a body that allows me to be there for my children.

I am grateful for my home. I am grateful for food. We work hard for our house, and I am so grate-

ful for it. I love our home and am grateful for feeling safe. I am grateful we provide for our children and that they are not hungry. It is a luxury that I know others are not afforded and I do not take it for granted. What are you grateful for? The more intentional we are with our gratitude, the more our mindset changes and our outlook brightens.

I am grateful for God winks. What are those you may ask? My friend uses this expression to describe those times that you know God is winking at you with a sign. It may be something as simple as a dragonfly passing by when I'm worried about something or when I know someone has crossed my path for a reason. Whatever the case, when God winks at you, you will know it; you just have to look for it.

I am grateful for nature. I am grateful for beautiful flowers that add color to my garden. I am grateful for the bumble bees and pollinators that dance in my garden. I love dragonflies and cardinals. I am grateful for tall trees and love the feeling when looking out on a vast body of water. I am grateful for my dogs, Elsa and Lucy. While they are poorly behaved, they both add so much to our family and love them dearly. They have personalities that are endearing and make you forgive them for (most) of the terrible things they do around my house.

I am grateful for South Haven, Michigan. This is a

place that has been an escape since I was a little girl. It has gone from a place I was taken to as a child that I now go to with my husband and children. I am grateful that this place has stood the test of time and that when we escape there, it seems time has stood still. My life is so different from when I first started going, but there's a familiarity to South Haven that warms my soul and renews me.

I am grateful for books. I am grateful for the places they allow my imagination to wander, even though you may think I'm a serial killer if you saw the books I gravitate to. I love murder mysteries that would make Keith Morrison blush on the grittiest *Dateline* episode.

I am grateful for my memories. It is memories that stay with you as a link to your past and provide comfort on hard days.

I am grateful for The Reporter, which allows me the privilege of writing freely and without barriers, including pieces about my faith and opinions.

There are many things I am grateful for. These are just a few of them. I encourage you to reflect on what gives you a sense of gratitude in your own life. It makes a difference and changes your perspective when you approach life with a grateful attitude.

Megan Rathz is a wife, mother, and teacher. She says everything she has ever learned in life came from her Master Gardener mother.

PEONY

from Page A2

streets of our historic downtown and enjoy good eats and peony-inspired treats from our downtown restaurants. We can't wait to see you in May!

Hey you, Peony People, we're calling all volunteers!

The Indiana Peony Festival is a huge lift, and we can't do it without our incredible team of volunteers!

We're powered by Peony People: Our celebration of the Indiana state flower and Noblesville's vibrant downtown is supported by the spirit and dedication of volunteers like you! As a non-profit organization, we lean on the support and enthusiasm of volunteers to bring our event to life, and to make each year even brighter and more memorable than the last.

Peony positions abound: Whether you're looking to roll up your sleeves planting peonies, want to help run a merch booth, or offer your skills in another capacity, we promise there's a place for you on our team.

Ready to make a difference and have fun along the way? We're looking for 34 more people passionate about peonies to join our volunteer team! Simply fill out this form and we'll be in touch about the exciting ways you can contribute to this year's festival and beyond. We can't wait to welcome you!

Find more information at indianapeonyfestival.com/volunteer.

Are you a florist? We need you, too!
The Indiana Peony Festival is looking for talented and artistic floral designers

to bring Seminary Park and downtown Noblesville to life.

• **The fourth annual Indiana Peony Festival** will take place on Saturday, May 18 and will have approximately 20 floral display areas throughout Seminary Park, 10th Street and in downtown Noblesville for florists of all experiences and backgrounds to adorn. The festival succeeds when our florists succeed!

• **Come, florists big and small!** The applicants chosen will be given a key area in the festival footprint to display their creativity and showcase their business.

• **Opportunities across the spectrum:** All types of floral displays are welcome for submission - there are opportunities for centerpiece all the way up to large displays showcased throughout the festival.

• **Where and when:** Florists will be permitted to construct their displays from noon to 5 p.m. on Friday, May 17 for the Seminary Park area and from 6 to 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 18 for displays along 10th Street and in downtown Noblesville.

Don't you worry - the Indiana Peony Festival will be providing the peonies for the displays. We are also negotiating special pricing for greenery and other florals through our friends at Kennicott.

Learn more at indianapeonyfestival.com/florist-callout.

More updates will be announced as Festival Weekend nears. Follow along at facebook.com/IndianaPeonyFestival and instagram.com/indianapeonyfestival.

The little things you can do to bring joy your work

Today we'll talk about three little things you can do to bring joy to your workplace: warmly greeting others, taking breaks, and wearing your smile.

How do you greet others when you begin your shift? Are you barely moving or alive? Do you at least smile and say, "Good morning, afternoon, or evening?" Or is the thought of speaking to others when you begin to work dreadful for you?

I am not a morning person. When I worked for the City of Noblesville, my day started at 8 a.m. (like many offices). Thankfully my morning walks helped me wake up and transformed me into my joyful self.

You may have to find your own routine to psych yourself up to greet others in a pleasant manner. Remember how we talked about acting enthusiastic to be enthusiastic? Some mornings even my walk wasn't enough. Once I announced, "Good Morning, Suite 275!" when I entered the mayor's suite, my mood and that of others who heard me were instantly uplifted.

COLUMNIST

AMY SHANKLAND
Perfectly Imperfect

A few people may not appreciate your positivity each day. But most will enjoy a happy person and they'll benefit from a positive ray of light to start their work.

Once our work begins, sometimes it can feel like there is no way we can possibly take 10 minutes for lunch, let alone any other break in the day. But that's exactly what we should do to be as productive and happy as possible.

Dale Carnegie said that it's important to rest before you get tired. His book *How to Stop Worrying and Start Living* shares examples of how successful people are more productive when they allow themselves to take breaks.

Let's think about a car. When a car starts to overheat, should we let it keep running or turn it off so the engine cools down? Of course we need to do the latter.

What about if it's low on fuel? Do we just keep driving and watch the warning light flash and the countdown of miles left until it's empty? Absolutely not. Unless we want to get stuck somewhere by the side of the road, we

need to find the nearest gas station and refuel.

The same thing applies to human beings. Whether your job is physical or more sedentary, you're using energy in some way. Our bodies need the occasional rest or meal so we can keep going.

And don't just take breaks during your work time. Remember to take the occasional long weekend or vacation to get completely away for a while. *Fortune* magazine says that Americans are terrible about taking the time off that they so desperately need.

The publication shares that more than half of us did not take all our allotted vacation time in 2016. The reasons for this vary, including worry about returning to a mountain of work and the feeling that no one else can do the job. However, *Fortune* states that most managers agree that vacation time helps with health and well-being, boosts morale, and alleviates burnout.

As counterintuitive as it is, to be joyful in our workplaces, we need to get away from them occasionally.

Finally, sometimes we just gotta be our own little cheerleaders. My last tip in this column is probably the easiest thing to do, but it's

also easy to forget. We gotta smile. It involves that "fake it til' you make it" mentality.

I'm not saying that we have to smile when something truly sad or upsetting is happening in our lives. Even I can't do that. But when we're having one of those "meh" days, sometimes putting that smile on our faces can help us sound and feel better. This works when we're on the phone, interacting with customers, or encountering a difficult coworker.

And let's smile and celebrate the little victories at work even when we're by ourselves! Why not do a little happy dance when we close that sale, impress our boss, get that raise or promotion, or put on a successful event? Sometimes no one else knows how hard we worked, so giving ourselves those silly rewards can mean a lot.

Smile and celebrate the little things as much as possible and you will be a positive force to everyone around you in the workplace.

Amy Shankland is a writer and fundraising professional living in Noblesville with her husband John, two sons, two dogs and a cat. You can reach her via email at amys@greenavenue.info.

Hear from Fifth District Congressional candidates at upcoming LWV voter forum

The REPORTER

The Leagues of Women Voters of Muncie-Delaware County, Anderson-Madison County, Hamilton County, and Howard County, in partnership with Woof Boom Radio and WXIN/FOX AND WTTV/CBS, will hold a Congressional District 5 Candidate Forum for the public before the 2024 Primary Election.

The Forum will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 4 in the Anderson High School Auditorium, 4610

S. Madison Ave., Anderson. Park in the North Lot and enter Door 1.

If you can't attend in person, hear it broadcast live on four radio stations in the 5th District, as well as streaming audio to websites and social media, and live video streamed on the platforms of WXIN/FOX and WTTV/CBS.

All candidates who had filed by the deadline have been invited. Participating in the forum are Raju Chinthala, Max Engling, Mark Hurt, Patrick Malay-

ter, Matthew Peiffer, Ryan Pfenninger, Lonnie D Powell, Larry L. Savage Jr., and Victoria Spartz.

The moderator for the forum will be Steve Lindell, Vice-President of Programming for Woof Boom Radio. He has been on 104.1 WLBC for 31 years and is the Director of News Operations for the entire East Central Indiana Woof Boom Radio group.

This is a non-partisan event and is being held not to endorse any party, but to help inform and engage the

citizens of Indiana Congressional District 5. Campaign handouts, campaign shirts, signs, and buttons are not allowed at the forum.

The forum is free and open to the public. Audience members will be able to submit questions for the moderator to pose to candidates. Questions from the audience will be screened for appropriateness, relevancy, and repetition by League members. As much as possible, the questions will be read as written by the citizen.

Hamilton County Reporter



✓ More News ✓ More Sports
... and more readers!
Thank you, Hamilton County!

My steel-toed summer

The other day, I noticed someone wearing steel-toe boots. Such formidable footwear signifies one thing in my mind: hard, physical work.

Manual labor has been a foreign concept to me, except for one summer when my toes were made of steel. Yes, I donned a pair of steel-toe boots way back between my junior and senior years of college as summer help at my father's aluminum plant.

Let me sugarcoat that experience as best I can: the aluminum plant was hell on earth.

We formed a line our first day – a couple dozen college kids – and were led by the HR manager into the belly of the beast. The noise was deafening, incessant, scary. Mastodon-like metal stamping machines boomed, rattling our teeth and bones. "This is the entrance ..." (boom) (boom) "... into plant one ..." (boom) (boom) ... "make sure your safety glasses are on" (boom) (boom) ... "Hey, is that a tooth?"

Through the Australian Outback-like heat and tornado-in-a-can-like drone, we passed massive machines with daunting names like Embosser, Leveler, Crusher, and Slitter used by our swing-shift fathers.

We hesitant college students on summer break were paraded down aisles past the machine operators, frenzied foremen carrying clipboards and hard-hatted workers lifting giant aluminum coils with hand-operated cranes.



COLUMNIST
SCOTT SAALMAN
Scaramouch
write on.

We'd mysteriously lose a summer helper or two at each stop, as if he or she had been handpicked and pulled, unseen, into the jungle of machinery by some savage supervising the start of their summer enslavement. The stronger-looking students were picked first, as if being drafted for a kickball team. There were hoots and catcalls and whistles. It was like we had wandered onto some nightmarish post-Apocalyptic planet. We dodged forklifts and management's golf carts under a steel girder sky where the dinosaur of manual labor never became extinct. This was madness, my own personal *Apocalypse Now*.

I recalled a prison documentary from the '70s, *Scared Straight*, during which a group of juvenile delinquents are forced to spend time with hardened convicts who deliver tough, foul-mouthed talk to encourage the kids into going straight and staying out of aluminum plants ... I mean, federal penitentiaries.

To survive the first day, I fantasized that the whole summer help thing was simply a guise concocted by our parents, in cahoots with plant management, to make us appreciate and not take for granted our cushy college lives, for surely it was illegal to allow students to be in such a harsh working environment.

I imagined the HR manager losing his poker face, smiling grandly, and saying,

"This is all a ruse, kids. Ha. Ha. Ha. You all can go home now. Leave your safety glasses, ear plugs and steel toes in the office. We hope you learned your lesson. Now get out of here you little scamps. Indulge in the hedonism of your last summer of freedom, for you are entitled to do so as incoming college seniors."

Then, I really stretched the scenario, imagining our fathers overtaking the aisle in chorus line fashion, tossing hard hats into the stale air like graduation mortarboards and singing in unison, "*Cause they say two thousand zero zero / Party over; oops out of time / So tonight I'm gonna party / Like it's 1999.*"

We were led past signs proclaiming so-and-so days since the last lost-time accident. I never saw a number in double digits on the signs.

We children of swing-shift parents began to sweat. Not the same sweat that formed during intramural, coed softball on campus. Not the same sweat that formed as we took a test that covered chapters that we couldn't keep our eyes open for while cramming the night before. This was our fathers' sweat. The hourly wage sweat. The hellish, have-to, hard-work sweat. The end-of-the-innocence sweat.

You don't know "hot" until you are a crew member on Heat Treat, a thermal process that cooks aluminum. It was 120 degrees near the furnace. We handled the heavy metal sheets slickened by mineral spirits and attached them to hangers on an overhead conveyor that fed into the oven.

Forklift cages, hammers and heavy-duty clamps were involved. After a load cooked, it was lowered into a pool of the darkest water I've ever seen. Steam rose with hellish hiss, engulfing us.

We became dependent on No Doz during the midnight shift. We cursed the flesh-raking itchiness of blue jeans sticking to our sweaty thighs at 2 a.m. We cursed our burning eyes, each eye-blink a cactus bite. The plant was a haze of metal dust.

The sweat. The hiss. The zero days since the last lost-time accident. The hard work. The dinosaur stomps of the stamping machines boosting our heartbeats. We were destined to never forget the dirge of our lost, last, free summer, that initiation into a swing-shift world that we all grew up with but never cared to hear the specifics of.

We were scared straight. The aluminum plant taught me to appreciate college more, as well as the post-grad succession of air-conditioned offices to which I remain exiled. Looking back, I have come to appreciate the blood, sweat and tears of that steel-toe summer, to have had a taste of a tougher life, a lesson learned. I am a proud summer help Heat Treat survivor.

But please, don't send me back out there.

Scott's new humor collection, Quietly Making Noise, is available on Amazon. Contact him to be a guest speaker at one of your gatherings. Contact: scottsaalman@gmail.com.

Strong because I am weak

A few weeks ago, I was once again headed to my regular neurology appointment. I dread those appointments because it's a hike from the car to the office. Often, I have someone with me and use my scooter.

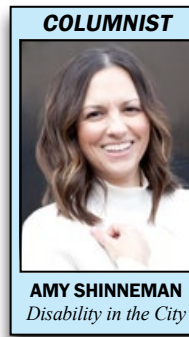
Occasionally, I like to prove to myself that I can still do it on my own. I'm stubborn like that. I can do it, but gosh it's so difficult.

Sometimes, I start to count my steps to take my mind off the sheer difficulty of what it takes me to get up there. One, two, three, four, five and then I often get distracted and think of something else. "Don't trip, don't trip, don't trip," I silently repeat.

This most recent time, I thought to myself, how ironic is it that the thing I want most in life and fight the hardest for every darn day, which is to keep walking, is also the most difficult thing for me physically? Why don't I just throw in the towel completely? It's a crazy mind game. Yet, I can't help but be grateful I can do it. I'm fortunate.

Usually, on the walk up to the office, I pass others who are in a similar situation to me. We lock eyes as we pass by one another, and it seems like a hundred unspoken words are shared in that fleeting moment. As if to say to each other, "I get you. I know how hard this is." And for some reason, that gives me the strength to get to my destination on the third floor. Once I'm at the check-in desk, I feel like I've crossed the finish line of a marathon, except no one is waiting for me at the end to say, "good job!" and hang a medal around my neck. It's then not lost on me that I must do it all again on the way back down. Back-to-back marathons.

I wouldn't have it any other way. I'm beyond grateful for the ability and independence.



COLUMNIST
AMY SHINNEMAN
Disability in the City

The mental strength I get each time I accomplish something that most people wouldn't bat an eye at is unmatched. What else is going to keep me going? Accomplishing hard things makes

us stronger. It's never easy, but in my experience, it is always worth it. Our challenges in life are largely what form us as individuals. It's not the easy things. It's the difficult things. As frustrating as it is, I just think there is a lot of truth in that. For me anyway, and I imagine many of you can relate.

Sharing vulnerabilities birthed from our weaknesses produces great strength. Being vulnerable is intimidating. Sometimes, I almost let that hold me back, but then I remember how much I needed someone like me when I was growing up. There are many who are disabled in the same way as I am. They need someone, too. If I can be an example to a younger person of what it can look like to successfully navigate life with a disability into the adult years, then I need to do it. To me, it's an act of service. Helping a fellow human being who may need a lifeline.

Much of my life I spent trying to make myself small and didn't want to be seen as my true self. I'm not willing to live like that or do that to myself anymore. Let's try to see people just as they are and respect them. Most people have more than they can handle on their plates. Let's try and just accept one another right where we are.

We are each strong in our own ways because of our weaknesses. Let them shine!

Until next time ...
Amy Shinneman is a former National Ambassador for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, disability blogger, wife, and mom of two boys. You can find her blog at humblycourageous.com and reach her on Instagram @ashinneman.

Let's get those endorphins pumping!

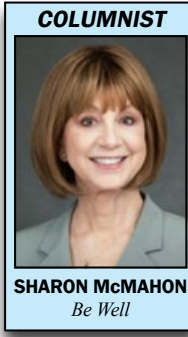
"It's a new dawn, it's a new day, and it's a new life for me / And I'm feeling good, I'm feeling good." – Michael Bublé

Show of hands ... who doesn't want to feel good ... no one? Okay, then let's discuss.

We all aspire to be our best selves with the dawn of each new day. Although there is no one-size-fits-all remedy for that, there are many ways to ensure that we at least give ourselves a head start. In this column we regularly address nutrition, exercise, mindfulness, and other topics which can make huge differences in our lives if we just give these topics the attention they deserve.

Let's explore "endorphins" today.

If you are not familiar with that word, let's start



COLUMNIST
SHARON McMAHON
Be Well

there. Endorphins are the body's natural pain relievers and mood boosters, to put it simply. Some people may be more acquainted with the hormone dopamine. Endorphins are neurotransmitters that help you cope with pain and stress; dopamine is a mood- and motivation-boosting neurotransmitter that's involved in the reward circuit in your brain. High endorphin levels can boost dopamine production. If your body cannot produce and release enough endorphins, you may develop issues which I will not address in this column, as those are possibilities you should discuss with your licensed health professional.

Let's talk about how you can increase your body's endorphin release by engaging

in certain activities.¹

- One very prominent and important way to achieve our goal is – news flash – exercise! A moderately intense pace seems to do the job.
- Acupuncture uses pressure points by placing fine needles into the skin at specific points around the body which trigger the release of endorphins.
- And, sex can also account for the release of endorphins – so says Harvard!
- Meditation allows you to focus your brain and along with deep breathing calms your mind and eases pain.
- Music! Whether you sing, dance, or play an instrument you release a rush of endorphins.
- Laughter not only releases endorphins it alters levels of serotonin and dopamine.
- Lastly, ultraviolet light stimulates the release of beta-endorphins in the skin,

so enjoy (within reason) the longer days ahead and include sunscreen for those long days in the sun.

As I tune in to some favorite TV shows and am assaulted with the barrage of election ads which will soon overpower us, I am reminded that I may need some added endorphin release this election year! Remember that those endorphins can assist you in handling pain issues and help you to manage stress in your life. Engage in some of the activities above (and anecdotally I understand chocolate may be included in that list) and feel good!

¹ health.harvard.edu
Sharon McMahon, CNWC
The opinions expressed in this article are not intended to replace advice of your personal physician or licensed health professional. Please consult your physician for any issues you may have related to nutrition or fitness activity.

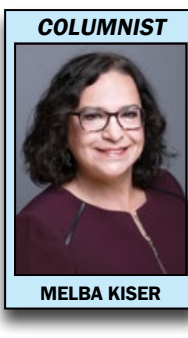
Only good news from Noblesville School Board

Noblesville High School is in the process of phasing out several traditional classes in the areas of textiles, broadcasting, audio and video production, and sports and entertainment broadcasting.

The good news is that the school is transitioning these disciplines into what they call Next Level Programs of Study CTE courses so students can continue on the Career and Technical Education pathway. By going to the CTE pathway courses the students will receive a more comprehensive CTE education in their area of interest.

The board approved these courses for the 2024-2025 school year.

Noblesville West Middle School highlighted a program to prepare students



COLUMNIST
MELBA KISER

for their future called BIT, Business Information Technology. This program is a part of the school improvement plan. The courses are nine weeks in length in areas like computer science, personal financial responsibility, and careers and getting your first job. They are specific to sixth, seventh, and eighth grade, respectively.

The policy adoption process continues with seven policies presented for a first read.

A policy on the participation of non-public school students in the public schools, C126, could use additional wording. As stated, the decision to allow a non-public school student to enroll in a class is at the sole discretion of the superintendent. There is no

means for a student or parent to redress the issue.

I believe the policy should include a means for a student or parents to raise the issue to the board of school trustees should there be a denial of a request.

There are two noteworthy mentions from the February school board meeting. The additional review of the NHS building addition provided an opportunity to improve the design of the bathrooms.

The first was the upgrade to the vape sensors. The new sensors will have a heat map, emergency lighting, a panic button, and identify a spoken word, such as "help."


The second was the addition of a monitor strike sensor that is part of the door hardware. This sensor will be able to detect how long a door has been locked. A timer in the door latch can send a notification

to the administrator team that the time limit has been reached. The cost for the upgrade can be absorbed into the contingency amount for the additional build.

Also at the February meeting, a motion was adopted to change the meeting time from 7 p.m. to 6 p.m. The reason given was that this was more convenient for families with young children. Time will tell whether this was correct or not.

The next regular school board meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16 at the Educational Services Center.

Melba Kiser is an outspoken advocate for financial responsibility and transparency in government at all levels. Her column appears at least once each month in The Hamilton County Reporter Newspaper.



NOBLESVILLE SCHOOLS

Board Highlights

March 19, 2024 Meeting

Submitted by Noblesville Schools

The school board has responsibility for major district functions including school district governance and oversight, setting school policies, approving funding, strategic planning, and hiring and evaluating the superintendent.

- Correction: in February's meeting recap, it was stated in error that the board unanimously approved changes to the architectural design of restrooms in the new Noblesville High School academic expansion. In fact, Laura Alerding voted against this measure. The final, approved restroom design creates separate areas for girls and boys, while allowing for enhanced restroom supervision and safety.
- The board recognized Director of Nursing Sandy Burnette and several NHS students for excellence in leadership, academics and music.
- Noblesville West Middle School presented on their Business Information Technology classes that equip all middle schoolers with skills in personal finance, career readiness and computer science.
- Select NHS courses were realigned to take advantage of career and technical education pathway opportunities for students, including classes in sports marketing, textiles, and video production.
- Board vice president Stephanie Lambert was absent.

Go to noblesvilleschools.org/domain/35 for meeting agendas, minutes, videos and more.

Good news from Stony Creek Church of Christ

Did men really live into their 900s before the flood?

Author's note: On occasion I receive letters from readers with questions. Sometimes I answer them privately, but sometimes the question is of such a nature that I feel a wider audience might find it interesting. This column is in response to a question.

For those who reject the inspiration of the Bible, the lifespans of man prior to the flood, as recorded in Genesis 5, provide rich fodder for their skepticism and full rejection of the text. Man living into his 900s is unknown to anything we have ever witnessed or known. That being the case, what is recorded in Genesis 5 must be a Jewish myth, or so critics argue.

I must admit at the outset that I cannot prove anything regarding the lifespan of



JOHN A. SMITH
Think on These Things

man in the antediluvian world, but I can raise some possible explanations that are reasonable conjectures.

As with many things in the Bible, we must walk by faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:10). God chose not to explain the lifespan of man prior to the flood, and we must accept it as He revealed it to us.

A variety of explanations have been offered through the years. Some have suggested that the numbers in Genesis 5 are months and not years. However, if this is the case Seth fathered his first child around age 5. Others have suggested that the genealogy is not meant to be a generation-by-generation genealogy, but each successive person was intended to represent a "clan." There is

no textual foundation for this speculation.

Death a result of sin

The lifespans of the antediluvians averaged over 900 years (912 to be exact) suggesting that environmental conditions were vastly superior to our age.

Adam and Eve were created to live eternally. The introduction of sin brought on death (Romans 5:12). However, the degenerating processes had only begun to take place with them and their immediate descendants. This could also account for their longer life spans.

There would also be a lack of disease at this early time. Since Adam and Eve fell from a perfect state, it would have taken some time for disease to increase. This could have also contributed to the longevity of the patriarchs. If the earth were to be populated by humankind (Gen. 1:26),

then long lifespans at the beginning were somewhat of a necessity. Otherwise, it would have taken an enormous amount of time to fulfill the commandment to fill the earth with people.

The canopy above the earth

The "canopy" above the earth provides another possible contributor. The climate prior to the flood was vastly different and a possible contributor. During the creation, it was said that the waters above were separated from the waters below, and during the flood, it is said that water came from both places (Genesis 1:7; 7:10).

The implication is that there was a canopy of water that protected human life from cosmic radiation and regulated climate. A "greenhouse effect" would have been created by this canopy above the earth assuring a perennial spring-like climate for the entire

earth. A vapor canopy would thus provide an ideal environment for abundant animal and plant life and for longevity and comfort in human life.

The antediluvian environment that was very different from what we might have imagined or have experienced. If we could only go back in time and see this amazing system functioning to support all forms of life as well as contributing to man's longevity, we would witness the glory of God at work.

This entire system ended with a worldwide cataclysmic flood.

A change in diet

I do not propose this as a definitive explanation, but as a possibility.

There was a change in the diet plan after the flood. Before flood the divinely appointed food was vegetarian, no meat was allowed, but after the flood, meat was allowed as a part of man's diet (Gen. 9:3). This is one of the most significant changes that directly affected man.

Today we find so many arguments stating the effect of meat eating on health. In fact, God may have allowed this habit to specifically shorten man's lifespan. Longer lifespan begat much sin – so much that God was forced to destroy the earth, so God may have purposefully shortened man's lifespan to limit sin.

Human genetic code

Another consideration is that, in the first few generations after creation, the human genetic code had developed few defects. Adam and Eve were created per-

fect. They were surely highly resistant to disease and illness. Their descendants would have inherited these advantages, albeit to lesser degrees. Over time, as a result of sin, the human genetic code became increasingly corrupted, and human beings became more and more susceptible to death and disease. This would also have resulted in drastically reduced lifespans.

We can't really be sure why people lived so long in Genesis 5. The main impact of the passage is to contrast the godly line of Seth with the ungodly lineage of Cain, to explain why humanity fell so far from the will of God. I cannot prove the genealogy in Genesis 5 to be literal; neither can the skeptic prove that it was false. I accept it by faith in the Holy Spirit-inspired Scriptures arising from the mind of God.

Write or call and let us know what you think. Would you like more information or a personal study of this issue? I would love to accommodate your request. Do you have questions or disagreements? We will be happy to study God's Word with you and help you find the "peace that passes understanding" (Philippians 4:7).

We hope you will accept our offer to visit and investigate. We meet at 15530 Herriman Blvd. in Noblesville. Our phone number is (317) 219-5852. We meet for Sunday morning Bible Study at 10 a.m. and have classes for all ages. Worship begins at 11 a.m. and we have a Bible Study Wednesdays at 7 p.m. A warm welcome awaits!

Special Series of Bible Studies!



May 9-12, 2024, we are excited to host a series of Bible lessons presented by **Max Dawson**. Although now living and preaching in Texas, Max is a native of Central Indiana and began his preaching life here. Max is a very capable, energetic, and knowledgeable Bible teacher. You will be blessed by his lessons.

Thursday to Saturday we will meet at 7:00 pm. Saturday at 6:00 pm we will have an hour devoted to singing hymns prior to Max's lesson. Sunday we will meet at our regular times.

At the **Stony Creek Church of Christ**, we assemble on Sundays and Wednesdays to seek a better understanding of Jesus and His ways. You are encouraged and invited to join us for those studies or call for a private study. We will soon offer bible Studies in Spanish on Sunday afternoons.



Stony Creek Church of Christ

"First Century Christianity in the Twenty First Century"

15530 Herriman Blvd., Noblesville

(317) 219-5852

Sunday Bible Study 10:00 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm

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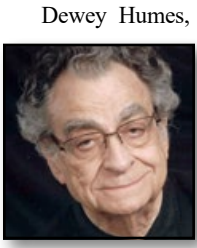
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Dewey Humes, Jr.

May 25, 1932 – March 19, 2024



Dewey Humes, Jr., 91, Westfield, passed away on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis. He was born on May 25, 1932, to Dewey and Clarice (White) Humes in Kentucky.

Dewey was a United States Army Veteran of the Korean Conflict. After retiring from Indiana Lumberman's Mutual Insurance Company, he enjoyed golf and motorcycles. Dewey was a member of the Elks, the Moose, and the American Legion. He was a true gentleman and will be missed by many.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Sharon Faye Humes; son, Dave Humes; grandson, Sean Austin Humes; and granddaughter, Courtney Humes Purslow.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son, Mark Alan Humes; and brothers, Charles Humes and Richard Humes.

Visitation and services were held on Monday, March 25, 2024, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville, with Pastor John Knaack officiating. Burial with Military Honors was at Hamilton Memorial Park Cemetery in Westfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Rescue Boutique, 1155 Main St., Zionsville, IN 46077.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Cary L. Stump

March 28, 1949 – March 21, 2024



Cary L. Stump, 74, Cicero, passed away on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at his home. He was born on March 28, 1949, in Gary, Ind.

Cary proudly served in the United States Army from 1969 to 1975 and was a Vietnam Veteran. He was a professional golfer and loved all things golf. Cary liked the Colts and the Pacers. He enjoyed watching old westerns and his favorite was *GunsMoke*. Most of all, Cary loved spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife, Carol Stump; brother, John (Janet) Stump; children, Darek Stump, Kaci Liner, and Jason Stump; grandchildren, Kaylea (Brodie) Shaffer, Griffin Liner, Ella Liner, Grissom Liner, Aidan, Caleb, and Sandy Stump; and cousin, Randy Baker.

He was preceded in death by his father, Garland Eugene Stump; and sisters, Betty Jean Bollinger and Monoka "Penny" Burnett.

Private family services will be held. The family has entrusted Randall & Roberts Funeral Home with Cary's care.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Cicero Fire Department, 1359 Stringtown Pike, Cicero, IN 46034.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Donald C. Worley

February 14, 1942 – March 18, 2024



Donald C. Worley, 82, Carmel, passed away on Monday, March 18, 2024, at IU Health North Hospital in Carmel. He was born on February 14, 1942, to Hershel and Emma (Dobbs) Worley in Remington, Ind.

Don proudly served his country in the Army Airborne Division as a motor pool sergeant in the Dominican Republic. He worked as a meat buyer and a professional photographer of weddings, races, parks, and nature. Don was an avid Harley rider and enjoyed fast cars and race cars. He was a huge NASCAR fan and traveled around the country attending races. Jeff Gordon was his favorite driver. Don also had a large collection of NASCAR jackets.

He is survived by his wife, Catherine Worley; daughters, Debbie Carroll, Shelly Schultz, and Kim Wheeler; son/grandson, Nathan Brooking II; five additional grandchildren; and his brother, Bill Worley.

In addition to his parents, Don was preceded in death by his brother, Larry Worley; and his sister, Barbara Worley.

Visitation and services were held on Monday, March 25, 2024, at First Christian Church of Noblesville, 16377 Herriman Blvd., Noblesville. Rev. Dr. Brooks Barrick officiated.

Memorial contributions may be made to First Christian Church of Noblesville, 16377 Herriman Blvd., Noblesville, IN 46060 (firstchristiannoblesville.org).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Mary Kathryn Ooley

June 2, 1926 – March 18, 2024



Mary Kathryn Ooley, 97, passed away on Monday, March 18, 2024, at the Laurels of Goshen. She was born on June 2, 1926, to Wilford and Helen (Person) Bailey in Marshall County, Ind.

On December 21, 1941, she married Doyle Ooley. They shared 57 years together.

Mary worked 20 years for Divco Wayne/Boise Cascade in Bourbon, Ind. She moved to work at Performance Press in Carmel for 18 years. She then worked in Marsh's Deli until she was almost 90.

She is survived by her daughter, Kathy (Dennis) Treber of Mentone, Ind.; sons, Donavon (Maria) Ooley of El Paso, Texas, and Larry (Becky) Ooley of Pendleton, Ind.; son-in-law, Bob Dalen of Noblesville; sister, Louise Reichert of Bourbon, Ind.; brother, Mike Bailey of Bremen, Ind.; 11 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; and 23 great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Doyle P. Ooley in 1999; daughter, Doyla Dalen; siblings, Eleanor Watkins, Bill Bailey, and Les Bailey; and grandchildren, Tracy, Christopher, and Stephen.

A celebration of Mary's life will be held at a later date. Randall & Roberts Funeral Home has been entrusted with cremation.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Louis "Lou" Mundy III

November 26, 1948 – March 10, 2024



Lou was born in Noblesville on November 26, 1948, to L.C. Mundy and Norma (Richardson) Mundy, both of whom preceded him in death.

He graduated from Noblesville High School in 1967, immediately enrolling in Indiana University where he completed his BS in Business in 1971.

Lou's career took him through various positions with the federal government; and early on, he was tapped to join the U.S. Department of State serving under Secretaries of State James Baker and Madeleine Albright.

He was posted in various countries during his tenure with the Senior Foreign Service, retiring as Inspector General in Cairo, Egypt.

Retirement years led him back to Bloomington, Ind., where he enjoyed following his beloved Indiana Hoosiers. In 2004, he met and married Elise Lawrence, formerly of Greenwood, Ind., and they enjoyed 12 years of all that Bloomington had to offer. In 2017, they moved to Franklin and found new and wonderful friendships in the Heather Glen at the Legends neighborhood. Golf became central to their lives as they wintered in Florida and spent the rest of the year in Franklin, Ind.

Lou is survived by his wife and soulmate, Elise Lawrence-Mundy of Franklin, Ind. He is also survived by his son Louis (LJ) and grandchildren Emily and Eliot, all of Chicago; Ill., and his sister Rosalind "Roz" and brother-in-law Paul Cortellini of Bloomington, Ind.

In keeping with Lou's wishes, there will be no formal service; however, a Celebration of a Life Well Lived is planned for late spring.

Those who may be interested may donate in Lou's honor to Tunnels to Towers Foundation 2361 Hylan Blvd., Stanton Island, NY 10306, or at t2t.org, or a local animal shelter.

Swartz Family Community Mortuary and Memorial Center, 300 S. U.S. 31 (Morton Street) in Franklin, Ind., is handling the arrangements. Online condolences may be sent to the family at swartzmortuary.com.

Steve Sutton

June 1, 1952 – March 16, 2024



Steve Sutton of Noblesville ate his final dessert on Saturday, March 16, 2024. After 71 years of enjoying life's best food, booze, and sweets, he finally asked for the check, and since he'd been a waiter and bartender in his earlier years, he knew he needed to leave a good tip. It was this: "Don't work too hard."

Born on June 1, 1952, to Jerry Sutton and Shirley Meara Thomas, he never went by his legal first name of Charles in an attempt to avoid the nickname "good-time Charlie." Despite his best efforts, the "good-time" lifestyle found him. He was a sociable man always in pursuit of fun and entertainment. After graduating valedictorian from Noblesville High School in 1970, he enjoyed exploring the country and sailing around the Virgin Islands. Jam sessions on the guitar and many other instruments were a major part of his life, and his ornery songs were sure to get the crowd laughing. When he wasn't out entertaining, he was stripping ... film negatives for the Noblesville Topics newspaper. And he had more stories about the exploits of him and the FNIA boys than anyone could ever recall.

His family was also incredibly important to him. As the oldest of six, he always knew best. While his stubbornness could get on his siblings' nerves, his three sisters - Karen Huffman, Nancy Williamson, and MaryAnne Doi - and two brothers - Brian and Kent Sutton - were often able to team up and outwit him, making holidays and gatherings a hilarious time for his many nieces and nephews. The banter did little to hide Steve's immense love and dedication to his family.

What Steve loved most in the world, though - even more than a Boston cream pie - was his daughter, Lauren. For 33 years he cared for her, taught her right from wrong, and made her smile. Last fall he kept his biggest promise to her and walked her down the aisle. She will miss all the joy he brought into her life, as will all his friends and family.

A final send-off will be held at Syd's Bar, 808 Logan St., on Thursday, April 4, 2024. Please join the family anytime between 4 and 7 p.m. in the upstairs lounge for one last "good-time" in honor of Steve.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Paul "LeRoy" Hurlock

March 2, 1942 – March 17, 2024



Paul "LeRoy" Hurlock, 82, Fishers, passed away on Sunday, March 17, 2024, at Envide Healthcare in Anderson. He was born on March 2, 1942, to Paul and Julian (Wagner) Hurlock in Noblesville.

Paul worked at Brookside Factory for over 20 years. He loved his animals, his tractors, gardening, and growing flowers. Paul was a big teaser who also loved BB guns. He loved his family, especially his grandkids.

He is survived by his sons, Christopher (Tiffany) Hurlock and Trevor (Rachel) Hurlock; daughter, Barbara "Denise" Hurlock; 11 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; several other loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren; brothers, Edward and Steven Hurlock; sister, Sandy Waterman; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Paul was preceded in death by his wife, Sharon Lee Hurlock; sister, Rita Hall; and granddaughter, Megan Holder.

Visitation and services were held on Monday, March 25, 2024, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan St., Noblesville. Reverend Jean Brindel officiated. Paul was laid to rest next to his wife at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hamilton County 4-H Council, Inc., 2003 Pleasant St., Noblesville, IN 46060.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Robert A. Smith

May 20, 1944 – December 26, 2023



Robert A. Smith, "Bob," 79, Noblesville, unexpectedly passed away on Tuesday, December 26, 2023, at IU Health Saxony in Fishers. He was born on May 20, 1944, to Richard and Elizabeth (Deming) Smith in Rochester, Ind.

Bob attended Indiana University, where he studied accounting and was a proud member of Phi Gamma Delta. He completed his law degree from Indiana University Law School in 1969. He practiced law for 53 years in several capacities, from Trial Attorney for the Federal Trade Commission in Washington, D.C., to Assistant Attorney General for the State of Indiana; he started general practice work in 1974 and civil trial work in 1980. He was with Lewis and Wagner Law Firm until he started his practice in 1990. His firm, Smith & Wade, was active until 2022. Bob had a successful career; he argued before the Indiana Supreme Court and Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, Chicago, among others.

Bob served, at various times, on the boards of The Indiana Forum, Inc., a public educational foundation, the Indiana Committee for Humanities, Inc., the Executive Committee of the Indiana State Bar Association, Legislative Section, the Executive Committee of the Indianapolis Bar Association, Litigation Section, and the Indiana State Bar Association, Executive Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution. He was a diplomat of the Defense Trial Counsel of Indiana.

He was active in the community of Westfield since it became a city; he sat on the Westfield Advisory Planning Commission, 2008-2019, and the Board of Zoning Appeals, 2008-2019, and was the Vice Chair for the Westfield Economic Development Foundation.

He is survived by his sons, Robert (Alexis) Smith and Chris (Betsy) Smith; daughters, Mitzi (Ed) Jones, Tracy Small, and Patti Bayless; 13 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; siblings, Richard (Marilyn) Smith, Linda (Rudy) Kroger, Shannon (Roy) Almquist, and Susan Bernstein; and several nieces and nephews and his very loved dog Sophie.

In addition to his parents, Bob was preceded in death by his wife of 38 years, Sandra Sue Smith, in 2015.

Visitation and a Celebration of Life Service was held on March 23, 2024, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Indiana Legal Services, Attn: Office of Fund Development, 1200 Madison Ave., Suite 300, Indianapolis, IN 46225 (indianalegalservices.org).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Dr. Truman Howard Lee

September 10, 1942 – March 17, 2024



Dr. Truman Howard Lee, 81, Carmel, passed away on Sunday, March 17, 2024, at Compass Hospice in Indianapolis. He was born on September 10, 1942, to Frederic and Mary (Benson) Lee in Winchester, Ind.

Dr. Lee worked as a physician for 31 years. He was a member of Westfield Friends Church and was proud of becoming a Christian at the age of 6. Dr. Lee enjoyed golf, helping his family, and attending his daughter's basketball games. His life motto: "Society owes me nothing!"

Dr. Lee is survived by his wife, Mary Frances Stalker Lee; daughter, Karen Lee; son, Kevin (Kayla) H. Lee; and grandson, Aiden Lee. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Luella L. Linville.

Visitation took place on Friday, March 22, 2024, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville. Services were held on Saturday, March 23, 2024, at the funeral home, with Pastor Joshua Cortez. Burial followed at Summit Lawn Cemetery in Westfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to Westfield Friends Church, 324 S. Union St., Westfield, IN 46074.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Raymond Frank Mora

September 30, 1937 – March 18, 2024



Raymond Frank Mora, 86, Fishers, passed away on Monday, March 18, 2024, at his home. He was born on September 30, 1937, to Frank and Ida (Boysko) Mora in Cleveland, Ohio.

Raymond received a bachelor's degree from Ohio University. He worked as a mechanical engineer for Unisys Corporation and Oakland University. Raymond enjoyed golf and fishing.

He is survived by his children, Steve Mora, Cindy (Matt) Hannon, and Adam Mora; grandchildren, Anthony Mora, Dominic Mora, Christina Mora, Raymond Mora, Donovan Mora, Joseph Mora, Tessa Hannon, and Eli Hannon; and his sisters, Marian Marko, Colette Seibert, and Clarice Lee.

In addition to his parents, Raymond was preceded in death by his wife, Antoinette Mora; infant son, Joseph Mora; and his brother, Leonard Mora.

Visitation and services were held on Friday, March 22, 2024, at Holy Spirit Parish at Geist Catholic Church, 10350 Glaser Way, Fishers. Private family burial was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield, Mich.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Missionaries Of Charity, 2424 E. 10th St., Indianapolis, IN 46201.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

The Reporter's policy on obituaries

The Hamilton County Reporter does not charge families for publishing obituary notices in our pages. Every obituary appearing in online editions Wednesday through Saturday also appears in our Monday print editions. In order to continue to offer this as a community service, we ask that obituaries not exceed 600 words. The limitations of space may not allow for longer ones to appear in print.

Families and funeral homes are asked to send obituaries to obits@ReadTheReporter.com.

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Russell Lowell Abel

January 10, 1924 – March 20, 2024

Russell Lowell Abel, 100, passed away on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at Five Star Residences of Noblesville.



He was born on January 10, 1924, to the Reverend Lester N. Abel and Mrs. Katherine E. (Pearson) Abel in Whiteland, Ind. He was one of four children: a brother, Billy L. Abel (wife Dottie), and two sisters, Vera L. Abel Holmes, and Mary L. Van Allen (husband Art). All preceded him in death.

Russell met Phyllis Taylor at Franklin College through his sister Mary, who walked to school with Phyllis. Their first date was to a dance at Franklin College, sponsored by the Independent Men's House. After one year of dating, Russell proposed, and she said yes. They were married with Russell's father officiating and began a marriage that lasted until Phyllis' death in 2015. His wife of 65 years, Phyllis Ann (Taylor) Abel, preceded him in death. He was looking forward to his reunion with Phyllis and others who preceded him.

Russell and Phyllis had two sons, David R. (wife Marcy) and Phillip L. (wife Carolyn); two grandchildren, Katherine E. Abel Mullins (husband Adam), and David Benjamin Abel (wife Annie); one great-granddaughter, Madison Raye Mullins; one step-granddaughter, Annie Bellamy; and two step-grandsons, Holden Bellamy and Austin Suel.

In his early years, Russell moved often as the son of Methodist Church minister who served churches in Acton, Switz City, Clarks Hill, Whitcomb, Westport, Milton, Vincennes, New Albany, and Shelburn.

Russell graduated from Jefferson Township High School in Grant County in 1942, attended Taylor University for two years, and then after service in the U.S. Army during World War II, graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Franklin College. He also earned a master's degree from Butler University, and a Doctorate in Education from Indiana University.

Russell rose to the level of First Sergeant in the Army of the United States serving in the Pacific Theater. He was awarded the Victory Medal World War II, American Theater Ribbon, Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon with one Bronze Star, Philippine Liberation Ribbon with one Bronze Star, and a Good Conduct Medal. Russell landed in Japan at the end of the war. Russell was honorably discharged on March 10, 1946.

Russell began his professional career as a teacher at Maywood Elementary School in Wayne Township. He also taught at John Strange Elementary school in Washington Township in Marion County. He became assistant principal at Westlane Junior High School in Washington Township Marion County and after three years was named principal.

He became a member of the Indiana Association of Junior and Senior High School Principals (IAJSHSP) and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASPP). He accepted the office of president of IAJSHSP in 1970. While in that office, the association became its own entity independent from the Indiana School Teachers Association (ISTA). Russell was selected as Executive Director of the IAJSHSP and served in the capacity for seven years before retiring in 1987. While in the office, the association became known as the Indiana Secondary School Administrators Association (ISSA) and developed a division of student activities which offered support to various student organizations in the state.

On April 8, 1987, the Indiana University School of Education Alumni Association presented him with the Education Alumnus Award for his achievements in the field of education.

On the national level, he was chairman of the State Executive Directors as part of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. He served in that capacity for two years.

A big part of Russell's adult life was spent in the church he loved. He taught adult Sunday school classes for 55 years in the United Methodist churches he attended. He was district leader for the Marion County Methodist Church district and served on the Council of Ministries as chairman.

He was a member of First United Methodist Church in Sarasota, and also First United Methodist Church in Noblesville. He attended various churches throughout his adult life, including Trinity, West Michigan Street where his father served, and Mt. Olive.

Visitation will be from 10 to 11 a.m., with services at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at Noblesville First United Methodist Church, 2051 Monument St., Noblesville. Rev. Brittany Stephan will officiate. Burial will be at Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis.

Memorial contributions may be made to Noblesville First United Methodist Church, 2051 Monument St., Noblesville, IN 46060; or Sarasota First United Methodist Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave., Sarasota, FL 34236. Condolences: randallroberts.com

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Track & Field

County scores multiple wins at Hoosier State Relays

Carmel girls place first in Large School Division

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

INDIANAPOLIS – The Hoosier State Relays is the de facto indoor track and field state meet for Indiana high school teams.

It can also be a preview for the outdoor track season. If that's the case, then this should be a very good year for Hamilton County after the performances at the HSR, which took place last Saturday at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

Three of the top five teams in the Large School girls division are from the county, including the top two. Carmel finished as team champion with 60 points, while Hamilton Southeastern scored 50 points to earn runner-up honors. Noblesville, the defending IHSAA outdoor track champion, was up there as well, placing fifth with 39 points.

The Greyhounds earned their victory by having all four of their relays finish in the top four, which is important because relays score double points at this meet. Carmel's best relay result was second place in the 4x400 relay, the final event of the night, and that clinched the victory. Gabriela Grande Rosas, Audrey Ricketts, Kendall Wien and Emily Norris competed in that event.

It all added up to what



Reporter photo by Richie Hall



Photo by Mike Kepner

(TOP) The Carmel girls track and field team won the Large School division team trophy at last Saturday's Hoosier State Relays, which took place at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. The Greyhounds had top-four finishes in all four relays. **(ABOVE)** Hamilton Southeastern's girls team finished as runner-up. The Royals had two event victories, winning the 4x800 and 4x400 relays, both in new meet record times.

'Hounds coach Aaron McRill said was "a really good day."

"We're still in the early phases of training," said

McRill. The coach said the team is looking to peak during the outdoor season, "but it's always nice to win

this thing. It's just a good start to the season."

See Girls... Page B2

Fishers boys finish as runners up in Large School Division

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

INDIANAPOLIS – Hamilton County's boys track and field teams had solid days at the Hoosier State Relays last Saturday, along with a handful of victories.

In the Large School division, Fishers made the podium with a strong runner-up finish. The Tigers scored 46 points, behind only Bloomington North, which rode two relay victories to a team score of 64 points.

Fishers more than held its own, though. The Tigers had two individual victories from athletes who will more than likely be making some noise throughout the outdoor season.

"They performed well," said Fishers coach Nathan Warnecke. The Tigers also had two relay place in the top four.

"They had a great day all around," said Warnecke.

Tyler Tarter claimed the 60 hurdles championship, clocking in with a new meet record time of 7.81 seconds. He finished the meet by joining Leo Morrow, Matthew Kim and Makell Wiggins to place third in the 4x400 relay.

"The past few weeks I've been focusing mainly on the 60 hurdles," said Tarter. "I've only done one longer distance hurdle workout just because I knew I had a shot at this state record, so I wanted to focus on that."



Photo provided

Fishers was the runner-up team in the boys Large School competition. The Tigers had two victories in individual events and were fourth in two relays.

On the other side of the distance spectrum, Sam Quagliaroli won the 3200 run. He finished that event in a time of 9:08.74. Quagliaroli teamed with Kim, Gage Sturgill and Declan Mohr for fourth place in the distance medley relay.

"I'm just trying to carry this momentum into all of our workouts and into our future races and outdoor season," said Quagliaroli. "But it's definitely a huge, huge first step as far as that goes."

Noblesville finished in ninth place with a score of 22 points. The Millers were led by their runner-up distance medley relay team of Jack Strong, Luke Mumaw, Alec Moor and Caden Click. Noblesville had

a seventh-place result from its 4x400 relay, while the Millers' 4x800 relay took eighth.

Hamilton Southeastern tied for 10th place with 21 points. Michael Griffith got

a victory for the Royals, as he won the long jump with a new record of 23 feet, 7.5 inches – which he said was a personal best by six inches.

See Boys... Page B2

Hoosier State Relay Results

SMALL SCHOOLS MEET

Girls results
Team scores (top five and all county): 1. Bishop Chatard 73, 2. Heritage Christian 53, 3. West Lafayette 46, 4. Concordia Lutheran 44, 5. Corydon Central 41, 6. Hamilton Heights 30.5, T25. Guerin Catholic 6.
3200 run: 12. Claire Milam (GC) 11:37.31, 17. Allie Bushey (HH) 12:02.95.
4x800 relay: 6. Guerin Catholic (Eva Parr, Brinna Wolf, Katie Kolb, Claire Flannagan) 10:04.12.
4x200 relay: 1. Heights (Norah Reiger, Lizzy Smith, Gracie Bortone, Waverly Woolever) 1:46.94, 23. Guerin Catholic (Mia Chang, Kathryn Demmings, Isabella Fisher, Isabella Smock) 1:56.80.
Distance medley relay: 9. Guerin Catholic (Parr, Grace Boivin, Flannagan, Camille Morrow) 13:17.99, 22. Heights (Bushey, Hattie Graham, Ayla Madara, Amira Leer) 14:20.99.
4x400 relay: 7. Heights (Reiger, Macie Smith, Bortone, Woolever) 4:15.34, 12. Guerin Catholic (Bailey Freese, Wolf, Parr, Kolb) 4:19.07.
Long jump: 14. Chang (GC) 15-8.75.
Shot put: 15. Hadleigh Cherry (HH) 32-2.25.
High jump: T4. Woolever (HH) 5-0, T6. M. Smith (HH) 5-0.

Boys results

Team scores (top five and all county): 1. Bishop Chatard 91, 2. Delta 51, 3. Oak Hill 37.5, 4. Guerin Catholic 36.5, 5. Park Tudor 28, T16. Hamilton Heights 10, T33. Sheridan 4.
3200 run: 10. Luke Moster (GC) 9:48.04.
60 hurdles – Finals: 6. Seffrin Smith (GC) 8.63.
4x800 relay: 4. Guerin Catholic (Wesley Street, Max Fish, Johnny King, Ben Grissom) 8:16.41.
4x200 relay: 7. Guerin Catholic (Nick Bauman, Hayden Cler, James Moody, Harrison Miller) 1:34.88, 18. Heights (Eric Balcom, Connor Baumann, Jack Bickett, Jaylyn Pugh) 1:36.47.
Pole vault: 1. Peyton McQuinn (HH) 15-0.
Shot put: 14. Will Duncan (HH) 45-10.25.
High jump: T3. Daniel Ernst (GC) 6-4, 5. Damon Winston (S) 6-3, 7. Smith (GC) 6-0.
Distance medley relay: 20. Guerin Catholic (Evan Stenke, John Constantino, Max Fish, Mohr) 11:22.67.
4x400 relay: 3. Guerin Catholic (Street, King, Grissom, Bauman) 3:32.76.

LARGE SCHOOLS MEET

Girls results
Team scores (top five and all county): 1. Carmel 60, 2. Hamilton Southeastern 50, 5. Noblesville 39, 9. Fishers 19, T18. Westfield 8.
60 hurdles – Finals: 2. Lucy Hauser (W) 9.12. Prelims: 20. Anna Williams (F) 9.74.
60 dash – Finals: 4. Maya Taylor (F) 7.69, 6. Emily Norris (C) 7.73. Prelims: 20. Rebecca Belanger (C) 7.94, 22. Mya Baker (N) 8.04.
3200 run: 10. Alivia Lozier (W) 11:12.81, 15. Ava Powers (HSE) 11:25.65, 22. Kennedy Applegate (N) 11:45.49.
4x800 relay: 1. Southeastern (Elizabeth Butler, Addison Smith, Maggie Powers, Ciara Kepner) 9:18.64, 2. Noblesville (Ansley Applegate, Riley Flynn, Gretchen Graham, Brinkley Cooper) 9:25.20, 3. Carmel (Olivia Mundt, Annabel Pollert, Larkin Taylor, Sadie Foley) 9:25.51, 9. Westfield (Ella Bozarth, Ena Durbin, Angelina Abriani, Jordyn Landrum) 9:40.59, 17. (Grier Swaim, Allie Belush, Elise Bryan, Kate Sheidler) 10:16.15.
4x200 relay: 3. Carmel (Belanger, Ashlyn Guarrant, Norris, Grande Rosas) 1:44.17, 4. Fishers (Mireya Benjamin, Zinnia Pineda, Brianna Geren, Taylor) 1:44.37, 7. Southeastern (Ava Khashani, Anissa Lammie, Camryn McKinney, Chloe

Senefeld) 1:44.70.

Distance medley relay: 4. Carmel (Audrey Ricketts, Lani Samms, Pollert, Foley) 12:24.95, 6. Southeastern (Butler, Maya Etheredge, Elise Herman, Powers) 12:33.85, 11. Noblesville (Nadia Perez, Cooper, A. Applegate, Flynn) 12:43.85, 17. Fishers (Isabella Murch, Scarlett Olson, Addison Kane, Ashley Wright) 12:56.88, 19. Westfield (Abriani, Boazrth, Ena Durbin, Gianna Ferren) 13:16.49.
4x400 relay: 1. Southeastern (Kepner, Smith, Lammie, Chloe Senefeld) 3:53.03, 2. Carmel (Grande Rosas, Ricketts, Kendall Wien, Norris) 3:59.39, 6. Westfield (Maggie Naas, Hauser, Abbi Van Bibber, Jordyn Landrum) 4:05.89, 11. Noblesville (Cooper, Gretchen Graham, K. Applegate, Aleigh Heavy) 4:08.53, 17. Fishers (Rylan David, Scarlett Olson, Dewyn Day, Marina Agapios) 4:10.42.
Pole vault: 1. Delaney Teachnor (N) 12-6, 4. Amelia Smith (N) 12-0.
Long jump: 5. Gabriela Grande Rosas (C) 17-10.5, 6. Belanger (C) 17-6, 14. Gracie Czubik (W) 16-8.5.
Shot put: 2. Hannah Alexander (N) 45-6.25, 5. Macey Miller (F) 39-11.5, 16. Katie Wooden (HSE) 33-11.25, 23. Jada Henson (W) 33-0.
High jump: 12. Emma Warner (C) 5-2, T13. Mallory Kixmiller (F) 5-0.

Boys meet

Team scores (top five and all county): 1. Bloomington North 64, 2. Fishers 46, T3. North Central 36; Zionsville 36, 5. Franklin Central 34, 9. Noblesville 22, T10. Hamilton Southeastern 21, 13. Westfield 18, T21. Carmel 8.
60 hurdles – Prelims: 12. Adom Quist (C) 8.32, 21. Jack Huisden (W) 8.64.
60 dash – Finals: 1. Tyler Tarter (F) 7.81. Prelims: 13. Dario Torres (N) 7.03, 20. Mason Alexander (HSE) 7.09.
3200 run: 1. Sam Quagliaroli (F) 9:08.74, 9. Ronnie Neal (N) 9:24.95, 16. John Libs (N) 9:36.40, 19. Riley Schamp (HSE) 9:38.30, 22. Nate Thomas (F) 9:57.80, 23. Max Meisner (C) 10:20.45.
4x800 relay: 3. Westfield (Will Snedeker, Caleb Haney, Jack Loisselle, Landon Jones) 8:01.42, 6. Southeastern (Ian Ross, Will Henning, Adam Warski, Deagan Baker) 8:03.74, 8. Noblesville (Bradyn Livingston, Cooper Click, Jack Shinneman, Jude Naville) 8:04.80, 10. Carmel (Cooper Szotek, Thomas Biltmeyer, Kiefer Jay, Drew Grogan) 8:08.79, 19. Fishers (Declan Mohr, Makell Wiggins, Bryson Slagle, Parker Melling) 8:17.83.
4x200 relay: 6. Westfield (Cade Parker, Cato June, Connor Seagrave, Deacon King) 1:31.52, 17. Southeastern (Chandler Weston, Alexander, Deion Miles, Christian Ortiz) 1:32.42, 21. Fishers (Leo Morrow, Ryan Thembulembu, Tristan Capps, Carsen Eloms) 1:33.48, 22. Noblesville (Torres, Sidney Weaver, Angel Wilson, Gavin Woodrum) 1:33.90.
Distance medley relay: 2. Noblesville (Jack Strong, Luke Mumaw, Alec Moor, Caden Click) 10:17.36, 4. Fishers (Matthew Kim, Gage Sturgill, Mohr, Quagliaroli) 10:22.98, 5. Carmel (Tony Provenzano, Cole Taylor, Carter Buhr, Kyle Grove) 10:23.54, 11. Southeastern (Nick Vega, Omar Elsayed, Ian Ross, Liam Powers) 10:39.54.
4x200 relay: 3. Fishers (Morrow, Tarter, Kim, Wiggins) 3:23.25, 7. Noblesville (Torres, Mumaw, Livingston, Wilson) 3:25.90, 9. Westfield (Huisden, Maxim Poirier, Mikeah Webster, Snedeker) 3:27.49, 10. Carmel (Gabriel Laboyteaux, Andrew Moss, Quist, Taylor) 3:28.14, Southeastern DNF.
Pole vault: 11. Connor Langsford (HSE) 13-6.
Long jump: 1. Michael Griffith (HSE) 23-7.5.
Shot put: 5. Joel Gates (F) 55-11.25, 6. Teddy Miller (HSE) 55-4.25, 7. Josiah Bird (HSE) 53-2.5, 13. Theo Thurmond (C) 49-5.75.
High jump: 13. Robert Campbell (W) 6-2, 16. Blake Braden (HSE) 6-0.

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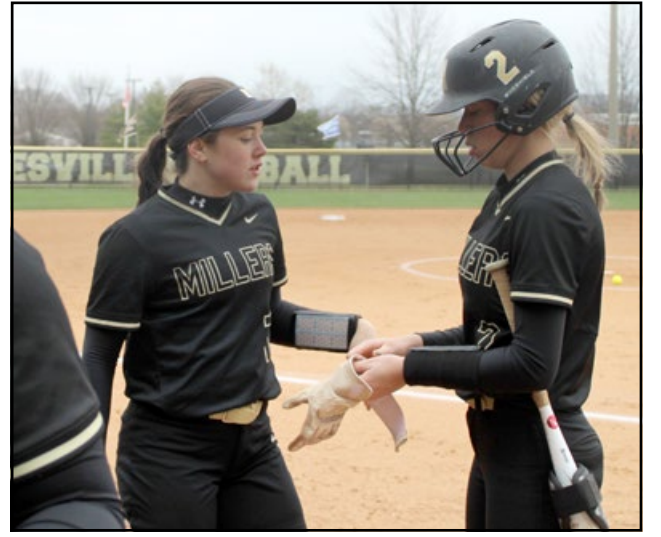
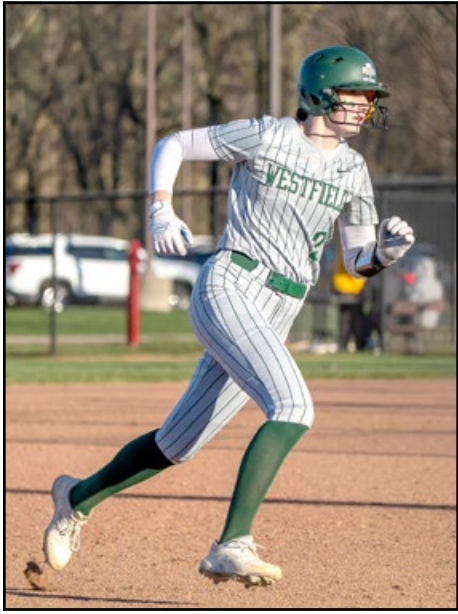
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February 2024 Average Sale Price \$319,007 compared to this time last year	Sales Increased February pending home sales compared to this time last year 0.6%	607 More Homes For Sale 2/23 vs. 2/24
4.5% Price Increase 2/23 vs. 2/24	Months of Inventory Change 0% 2/23 vs. 2/24	Interest Rates 30-Year Fixed 7.0% With an APR of 7.164%
TOP COUNTIES Henricks Co. Sales Up 22.3% Jennings Co. Sales Up 20.0% Montgomery Co. Sales Up 20.0%	FAIR HOUSING CASES Total-3 Rental-3 Sales-0 Other-0	

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Softball



(LEFT) Westfield's Chloe Tanner was one of several Shamrocks to get two hits during their win over Carmel last Wednesday. (RIGHT) Carmel freshman Emily Goddard had two hits for the Greyhounds.

Reporter photos by Julie Brown

Reporter photo by Richie Hall

Noblesville's Addi Emerson (left) gives encouragement to Nevaeh Nash before her at-bat during the Millers' game with Center Grove last Friday.

'Rocks roll past 'Hounds

By RICHIE HALL

sports@readthereporter.com

CARMEL – The Shamrocks kept their bats going last Wednesday night, as the Westfield softball team scored a 9-5 win over Carmel at the Greyhounds' Cherry Tree Softball Complex.

The game was close for the first two innings before the 'Rocks got some big hits in the third and fourth innings. Westfield added two more runs in the seventh inning to clinch the game.

The Shamrocks scored their first run in the first inning when Makayla Watson got home on Chloe Tanner's RBI groundout. Carmel freshman Ellie Goddard replicated that in the bottom of the first inning, scoring on Paxton Law's RBI groundout.

It was Grace Feltz's turn to get an RBI groundout in the top of the second. That resulted in a run for Avery Banas to put Westfield up 2-1. The Greyhounds answered when Katherine Warren got home after Emily Smith reached on a wild pitch.

The score was 2-2, but the Shamrocks changed that in the third inning with three runs. Cara Snedeker led off with a double and moved to third base on Ava Kainrath's left field hit. Anika Lawrence came in to run for Kainrath, and both she and Snedeker were soon home after Tanner hit a left field line drive. Sofia Easterhaus later doubled Tanner home.

"Like last night, we did it again tonight," said Westfield coach Brian Revercomb. "We made a lot of adjustments at the plate. Hitters are starting to get some timing down." The coach said it was "nice to see" that the Shamrocks hitters were making those adjustments on their own.

Jayden Kleiner hit a sacrifice fly in the bottom of the third to score Goddard, bringing Carmel within 5-3. But the score was soon 7-3 in favor of Westfield: Snedeker got on base with a two-out single, then Kainrath hit a center field home run to bring everyone home.

"Ava worked really hard in the offseason," said Revercomb. "She's stronger. She's a little faster. Just going to be a really key player for us this year."

Mia Fleming helped keep the Greyhounds in the game with a two-RBI single in the fifth inning that scored Kleiner and Goddard. But the 'Rocks got those runs back in the seventh inning. Easterhaus hit a bunt single to score Tanner, then freshman Sydney Jordan's line drive brought in Grace Fanelli, who earlier hit a double.

Snedeker, Kainrath, Tanner and Easterhaus all finished with two hits. Shea Vohs pitched five innings for the win, tossing four strikeouts.

"I thought she did a great job," said Revercomb. "Another kid that worked really hard in the offseason. Picked up about three or four miles an hour on her

pitches overall." Goddard finished with two hits, including a double. Chelsea Bennett struck out four in four innings.

"I think our pitchers did what they needed to do," said first-year Carmel coach Stephanie Kleiner. "We needed a few other things to fall our way and they just didn't. We need to string more hits together to be more effective offensively."

The Greyhounds are a young team this year, with Goddard and Grace Sharp playing varsity as freshman. Avery Cline is a sophomore, as are pitchers Bennett and Smith, neither of whom played last year because of injuries.

"So, this is their first time playing high school ball," said Kleiner. They are doing great. They're leading us on the mound."

Westfield made a huge comeback last Friday to beat North Central 11-9 in a home game.

The Panthers roared out to a 6-0 lead in the top of the first inning, then added a run in the second inning to go up 7-0. But the Shamrocks got a jump start in the bottom of the third with two big hits: Easterhaus smacked a leadoff double, then Kainrath blasted a home run to get Westfield on the board. Later in the inning, Marisa Stomer singled home Hayden Rice.

The 'Rocks kept the momentum going in the fourth inning. Makayla Watson led off with a single, then Easterhaus drew

a walk. Kainrath batted in Watson with a left field hit, and Easterhaus scored on an RBI fielder's choice.

Westfield was now within 7-5, and the Shamrocks took the lead in the fifth inning. Tanner led off with a base hit, then moved to second when Stomer reached on error. Tanner scored when Watson reached on error, then Easterhaus sent a line drive into right field to bring in Stomer and tie the game. Kainrath bunted Easterhaus in and Westfield was in front 8-7.

The 'Rocks weren't done yet. In the sixth inning, Stomer singled in Fanelli, Grace Feltz brought Shea Vohs home with a sacrifice fly, and Watson's center field hit scored Stomer. North Central scored two runs in the top of the seventh, but Westfield got the third out with a groundout.

Kainrath totaled four RBIs for the game; she and Easterhaus both had three hits, including a double for Easterhaus. Watson, Fanelli and Stomer all had two hits. Tanner went six and a third innings for the win, striking out 10.

Westfield opened its season with a 16-6 victory over Kokomo in a Tuesday home game.

Easterhaus hit a grand slam for the Shamrocks, with Watson getting four hits.

The Shamrocks are 3-0 and host Franklin Central on Tuesday for their first Hoosier Crossroads Conference game of the season. Carmel is 0-2 and hosts Plainfield on Monday.

Noblesville keeps the heat on Center Grove, falls 14-10

By RICHIE HALL

sports@readthereporter.com

NOBLESVILLE – On a chilly night last Friday, the Noblesville softball team gave a little bit of heat to one of Indiana's best teams.

The Millers took on Center Grove at Miller Park. The Trojans went up big in the second inning before Noblesville made a comeback and turned it into a back-and-forth contest. Center Grove pulled away in the seventh inning to win 14-10, but the Millers proved they could stay with a tough opponent.

"We competed great tonight," said Noblesville coach Deke Bullard. "I'm proud of the girl. They never didn't fight. We could have easily packed up our tents in the second inning when they went up 6-2. And we didn't."

The Millers actually led 2-0 in the bottom of the first inning after Mack

Harvey hit a home run into left field, also scoring Gabby Fowler (who we will be hearing more from in a little bit). The two had earlier combined for a double play in the top of the inning.

The Trojans let loose for six runs in the top of the second, including a two-run homer. But Noblesville worked its way back in the game, thanks to Fowler. She hit a center field home run in the bottom of the third to cut the CG lead to 6-4. Nevaeh Nash led off the inning with a single and went home on Fowler's blast.

Fowler homered again in the fourth inning, also scoring Delaney Rundle, and that tied the game at 6-6. Harvey came up next and was intentionally walked – then went to second and third bases on wild pitched. Addi Emerson singled her home to give the Millers a 7-6 lead.

See Heat . . . Page B3

GIRLS

Grande Rosas also helped out in the long jump with a fifth-place finish, while Rebecca Belanger followed her by taking sixth place. Both girls were part of the third-place 4x200 relay, along with Norris and Ashlyn Guerrant. Norris also was sixth in the 60 dash.

"This is not our main goal, but it sends a positive vibe out to the girls that hey, we're a good team," said McRill.

The Royals were fast in the relays, with two event victories. The team of Elizabeth Butler, Addison Smith, Maggie Powers and Ciara Kepner was a winner in the 4x800 relay, clocking in with a new meet record time of 9 minutes, 18.64 seconds. Southeastern then finished the meet with Kepner, Smith, Anissa Lammie and Chloe Senefeld taking the gold in the 4x400 relay with another new meet record time of 3:53.03.

"We really focused on the relays today since they count double," said HSE coach Julie Alano. "We loaded up two of them and had meet records."

Alano called the 4x4 relay time "unbelievable," and said that all of the runners in that event still have room to improve. "And I know they're already looking at our outdoor record, which is 3:45," said Alano.



(ABOVE LEFT) The Hamilton Heights girls 4x200 relay team finished in first place at the Hoosier State Relays Small School competition. (ABOVE RIGHT) Noblesville's Delaney Teachnor won the girls Large Division pole vault.

Southeastern's other two relays earned medals, which go to the top eight in each event. The distance medley relay placed sixth and the 4x200 relay was seventh.

The Millers were led by Delaney Teachnor, who triumphed in the pole vault with a best leap of 12 feet, 6 inches.

"I was really emotional," said Teachnor. "A few years ago I never thought I could even get into stager, so the fact that I even won, it was overwhelming. I give God all the glory."

Amelia Smith joined Teachnor in the top five by placing fourth. Hannah Alexander was the runner up in

the shot put with a best throw of 45 feet, 6.25 inches. Noblesville also got a runner-up finish in the 4x800 relay.

Fishers placed ninth as a team with 19 points. Maya Taylor finished fourth in the 60 dash, then was part of the Tigers' fourth-place 4x200 relay team, along with Mireya Benjamin, Zinnia Pineda and Brianna Geren. Macey Miller placed fifth in the shot put.

Westfield scored eight points to tie for 18th place. The Shamrocks' 4x400 relay team of Maggie Naas, Lucy Hauser, Abbi Van Bibber and Jordyn Landrum took sixth, with Hauser placing seventh in the 60 hurdles.

Huskies relay win
Hamilton Heights earned a top 10 finish in the Small Schools division, placing sixth with 30.5 points.

The Huskies picked up an event victory in the 4x200 relay. Norah Reiger, Lizzy Smith, Gracie Bortone and Waverly Woolever finished that race in 1:46.94. Woolever also tied for fourth in the high jump, with Macie Smith tying for sixth in that event. Heights' 4x400 relay team took seventh.

Guerin Catholic scored six points to place 25th. The Golden Eagles' 4x800 relay team of Eva Parr, Brinna Wolf, Katie Kolb and Claire Flannagan placed sixth.

BOYS

from Page B1



Reporter photo by Richie Hall
Hamilton Southeastern's Michael Griffith won the long jump in the boys Large School meet.

"I'm pretty excited," said Griffith. "I feel like this is a good preview of what could happen in the outdoor season." Griffith said this is only his second meet of the season because he's coming off the basketball season, so he still feels like he has room to improve.

Southeastern also earned medals in the 4x800 relay, which finished sixth, and from Teddy Miller (sixth place) and Josiah Bird (seventh place) in the shot put.

Westfield scored 18 points to finish 13th as a team. The Shamrocks were led by their 4x800 relay team; the group of Will Snedeker, Caleb Haney, Jack Loisselle and Landon Jones placed third. Westfield's 4x200 relay team placed sixth.

Carmel scored eight points for 21st place. The Greyhounds' distance medley relay team of Tony Provenzano, Cole Taylor, Carter Buhr and Kyle Grove was fifth.

Small Schools success

In the Small Schools division, Guerin Catholic placed fourth with 36.5 points. The Golden Eagles had three relays win medals, led by the 4x400 relay team of Wesley Street, Johnny King, Ben Grissom and Conor Baumann that placed third.

The GC 4x800 relay team was fourth and the 4x200 relay team took seventh. Seffrin Smith won two individual medals by placing sixth in the 60 hurdles and seventh in the high jump. Daniel Ernst tied for third in the high jump.

Hamilton Heights' Peyton McQuinn was the winner in the pole vault. His top vault was 15 feet, which he cleared on the second try to clinch the championship. McQuinn's victory placed the Huskies 16th in the team standings.

Sheridan's Damon Winston finished fifth in the high jump, scoring four team points for the Blackhawks. Sheridan tied for 33rd in the team standings.

from Page B1



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

Girls Lacrosse

Golden Eagles bolster record with 13-6 win over Noblesville

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

NOBLESVILLE – The Guerin Catholic girls lacrosse team has been busy during these first three weeks of the season – and productive.

The defending Class 2A state champion Golden Eagles scored a victory over county opponent Noblesville, 13-6, last Tuesday at the Millers' Beaver Materials Field. Guerin Catholic led 11-2 at halftime.

Golden Eagles coach Joe Bellflower was pleased with how his team played, both on offense and on defense. Katherine Constantino picked up five ground balls, while Alex Soucie collected three and Gabby Deer had two.

"Our defense is solid," said Bellflower. "We're returning all of our starters from last year." The coach estimated that his team is allowing "maybe four goals a game at the most."

Soucie scored five goals for GC, with Deer getting two goals. Six more Golden Eagles players scored one goal: Sarah Jacoby, Constantino, Jane Cline, Lila Jones, Sophia Adolay and Caroline Ford. Deer and Constantino both had one assist. Ruth Abdalla had four goalkeeper saves and Audrey Papay had three.

Guerin Catholic won its first five games of the year



Photos by Mike Navarro

(ABOVE LEFT) Guerin Catholic's Alex Soucie scored five goals for the Golden Eagles during their win over Noblesville last Tuesday. (ABOVE RIGHT) Noblesville's Emma Hammond scored two goals for the Millers.

before last Saturday, when the Golden Eagles took a trip to Louisville. Kentucky Country Day handed Guerin its first loss of the year, a 10-5 setback, but the Golden Eagles rebounded to beat Louisville Eastern 14-4. Soucie scored four goals in that game and Ford had three, while Constantino picked up six ground balls.

The Golden Eagles beat Westfield 13-3 last Thursday before playing at Zionsville next Tuesday. Guerin Catholic is 8-1 and takes three weeks off before rolling through the second half of its schedule.

"We're really happy," said Bellflower. "Our offense needs a little bit of

time to gel together. But things have been improving all season long. We're real happy, happy with where we're at right now."

New Noblesville coach

Noblesville has a new coach this season. Wylie Crisanti is now mentoring the Millers, after coaching college and high school lacrosse in Florida.

"They welcomed me here and the team has been great," he said.

Emma Hammond scored two goals for Noblesville, with Marisha Woehler, Hannah Miller, Lydia Dumas and Nataley Blackburn each scoring one. Chloe Barnett had two assists and collected two ground balls, with Miller

also getting two ground balls.

Crisanti complimented the Millers' attitude during the game, noting that they "won the second half 4-2," including making a run at the end of the contest.

"The attitude's the best part," said Crisanti. "We're a team. They know that. They stay together as a team even when we're down and that allows us to come back and fight back when we need to. They don't get down on themselves."

Noblesville is 2-1 after getting wins over Cathedral and Avon during the week of March 11. The Millers are off for Spring Break and return to action April 11 at Westfield.

Noblesville's own Hannah Alexander wins national weight throw championship

The REPORTER

Noblesville's Hannah Alexander won a national championship earlier this month.

The Millers senior won the girls weight throw event March 16 with a top throw of 16.27 meters (53 feet, 4.5 inches), which set a new meet record. This is Alexander's second national championship; she also won the Girls 15-16 discus throw at the 2022 USATF National Junior Olympic Championships.

The weight throw win adds to Alexander's long list of accomplishments.

In addition to the two national titles, she has also earned six All-American honors, four All-State honors, and is the defending state champion in the discus.

The weight throw is not an event that is contested in Indiana, so Alexander works on the event outside of her school practice times and competitions and competes for her club team. After she



Photo provided

Noblesville senior Hannah Alexander won the girls weight throw event at the 2024 Adidas Indoor National Championship last Saturday.

competed in the Hoosier State Relays indoor meet last Saturday (see related story), Alexander will look forward to the outdoor season and to helping the Noblesville girls in their chase for back-to-back team state titles. Alexander will attend Indiana University in the fall and is excited to be part of the Hoosiers women's track and field team.

Basketball

HSE girls & Fishers boys will take part in Hall of Fame Classic

The REPORTER

Two Hamilton County basketball teams – one girls, one boys – will be among the eight teams competing in the 2024 Henry Community Health Hall of Fame Classic.

The Hamilton Southeastern girls will play on Friday, Dec. 27. The Royals take on South Knox in the second first-round game, after the 11 a.m. opener between Lawrence Central and Homestead.

Southeastern finished the previous season 21-4 and is returning the core of its team, led by 6-3 junior forward and Indiana University commit Maya Makalusky. She averaged 26.1 points

and 5.6 rebounds per game. Also returning for the Royals are 6-0 sophomore forward Kayla Stidham (11.9 points, 4.1 rebounds) and 5-8 sophomore Kennedy Holman (11.7 points, 5.3 rebounds).

Head coach Brian Satterfield is 56-15 through 4 seasons with the Southeastern girls, collecting over 14 wins in each of the last three seasons (last two seasons with 21 wins), since switching to the girls team from the boys after the 2021-22 season.

This will be Hamilton Southeastern's third trip to New Castle for the Hall of Fame Classic, playing also in 2004 and 2012.

The Fishers boys team will participate in the Classic on Saturday, Dec. 28. The Tigers play in the first game against Warsaw at 11 a.m.; that will be followed by a first-round contest between Greenfield-Central and Heritage Hills.

In both the girls and boys tournaments, the consolation game takes place at 6 p.m., with the championship game to follow.

While the 28-1 Tigers graduate some key players after they compete in the Class 4A state championship game on March 30, they return four juniors and two freshmen.

The junior class is led by 6-2 JonAnthony Hall who averages 11.2 points per game along with four rebounds and three assists. The two freshmen returning are 5-9 Cooper Zachary with 7.5 points and 3.8 assists per game, and 6-0 Jason Gardner Jr. who averages 7.2 points, 2.9 rebounds and 2.4 assists per game.

Head coach Garrett Winegar is 77-23 in his fourth year at Fishers with a 95-29 overall with a previous one-year stint at Warren Central.

This will be Fishers' first trip to New Castle to play in the Henry Community Health Hall of Fame Classic.

On wings of Goodyear

COLUMNIST



ZECH YODER
Checkers to Wreckers

We will not soon forget the 2024 Spring Bristol race. For one, they got rid of the dirt ... finally. Second, it was the best short track race in the NextGen era and probably the best race at Bristol

and since the track was reconfigured in 2007.

Within the first 20 laps, I realized that this was looking to be a good race. There were multiple passes for the lead and the top five cars were in a tight pack.

Then it happened. The tires. The tires started giving up.

Kyle Busch, who is arguably the best active driver at Bristol, went from leading the race to spinning out in a matter of laps. He had worn through his tires. At the exact same time, the eventual race winner, Denny Hamlin, who had led the race as well, fell back and wore through his tires. The drivers and fans had finally gotten what they wanted: a tire wear race.

Upon realizing what was going on, NASCAR and Goodyear went into panic mode. Teams were only getting 34 laps on a set of tires. Might the teams run out of tires before the end of the race? Good-year, so concerned about the tires, even gave a press conference in the middle of the race. Many remember the tire debacle at the 2008 Brickyard 400 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Could this be a repeat of the Indy disaster?

Then something amazing happened. Tire management. Something we

have not seen in NASCAR for quite a while.

Teams and drivers had a choice to make. Were they going to run hard and get to the front early or slow down, preserve their tires, and

outlast those who abused their tires? The "tire problem" created an incredible race. We saw drivers go to the front early and then fall back in the field. We saw drivers sliding around the racetrack and holding on for dear life. And at the end of the day, we saw two veteran drivers racing on worn tires for the win. This was the race that everyone had asked for.

To be clear, the tire wear was excessive. Forty to 50 laps on a 500-lap race is too much. But now we know that Goodyear can build such a tire. As NASCAR heads to Richmond and Martinsville in the upcoming weeks, I am hopeful the Goodyear will not change the time compound. Both tracks are likely to wear the tires less than Bristol and the teams will make adjustments to the cars to reduce tire wear. If tire wear is just a little less than the Bristol race, Richmond and Martinsville could put on two great races.

Has NASCAR and Goodyear found a solution to the short track problem? I'm not convinced yet, but it sure seems like they are headed in the right direction.

Zech Yoder is a local resident, an attorney at Adler Attorneys in Noblesville, and a lifelong race fan.

Purdue guard Braden Smith continues to make impact on Westfield basketball program

By **ANDREW CHERNOFF**
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

WESTFIELD – Purdue University sophomore guard Braden Smith is having an impressive season for the Boilermakers.

Smith is averaging 12.5 points per game, while also dishing out 7.3 assists per game.

Stats like that have helped Smith become a top-five finalist for the Bob Cousy Award, which recognizes the top point guard in Division I men's college basketball.

"He makes us go," Purdue head coach Matt Painter said. "He's such a facilitator. He's a guy that can make shots, make plays, gets the ball where it needs to be."

Smith got to showcase those skills in Indianapolis, where Purdue played its first two NCAA tournament games.

What made last weekend even more special for Smith is that he gets to play in Gainbridge Fieldhouse, which is less than a 40-minute drive from where he grew up in Westfield.

"It's unbelievable," Smith said. "People followed. They still paid attention, not only

to Purdue basketball, but me as well. So, it's unbelievable, and I'm sure it will be a good home crowd."

There was a lot of support for Smith from the Westfield community inside the arena. One of those fans this weekend who will be supporting Smith is Shane Sumpter, Smith's former head coach at Westfield High School.

"I've known Braden since he's been five years old," Sumpter said. "Just seeing him grow up and doing what he's doing, and doing what he loves. It's very special."

Smith was part of Westfield's 2021-22 basketball team, which captured the program's first-ever sectional title.

His impact though continues to resonate within the program. He's still in touch with some of the players, like senior guard Trey Buchanan. Buchanan told News 8 Sports' Andrew Chernoff that one of the biggest things he learned from Smith was leadership skills.

"Just the way he went about himself and led the team," Buchanan said. "Once he left – that year we had eight seniors I think, my sophomore year. So, when I

came in as a junior, I kind of had to take it upon myself to use some of those skills that he had when it came to leadership."

But it's not just high school basketball players who Smith is impacting. He's also having a big influence younger kids in the Westfield community.

"There's a lot of little kids running around wanting to be the next Braden Smith,"

HEAT

Both teams got hot at the plate after that. Center Grove went up 8-7 in the top of the fifth with an RBI single and sacrifice fly. Noblesville took the lead back in the bottom of the fifth, jumping ahead 9-8: Macie Duvall scored when Makayla Jacquay reached on error, then Jacquay later got home on a Rundle single.

A two-run single pushed the Trojans ahead 10-9 in the top of the sixth. The Millers tied the game at 10-10 in the bottom of the inning, with Duvall scoring again after Chloe Vetter hit a sacrifice fly. But the Trojans

ran away with the seventh inning, putting up four runs.

Nash, Fowler, Harvey and Duvall all had two hits. Fowler totaled four RBIs for the game. Emme Yee pitched five and a third innings in relief, striking out five.

Noblesville has scored 25 runs in its first two games; the Millers totaled 13 runs against Western Boone in their Tuesday opener.

"If you're putting up that many runs, you're going to have some chances to win," said Bullard. "We definitely are not disappointed in our performance tonight. We'll take that and build on that

and go into Tuesday and play another very talented Avon team that's going to be tough to play in our first (Hoosier Crossroads) Conference game."

The Millers will host Avon, with the first pitch at 6 p.m.

Noblesville took care of business in its season opener last Tuesday, beating Western Boone 13-3 in a five-inning away game.

The Millers scored three runs in the first inning; Fowler doubled in Delaney Rundle for the first RBI of the season. Ha-

ley Schatko also hit an RBI double. In the third inning, Rundle blasted in an RBI triple and Harvey's two-RBI double gave the Millers a 7-0 lead.

Noblesville put up six runs in the fourth inning. Rundle sent a double into center field to score two runs, then Schatko later smacked a three-run double. Schatko totaled four RBIs and Rundle was 4-for-4 at the plate, driving in three runs.

Harvey totaled two hits and three runs. Vetter and Jacquay both hit one double. Claire Cullen got the pitching win, striking out five.

from Page B2

Three county players join "Supreme 15"

Westfield's Buchanan, Noblesville's Fine, Fishers' Garner chosen for senior honors

The REPORTER

Three Hamilton County boys basketball players are among the 15 seniors and 15 underclass boys' basketball players that have earned IBCA/Franciscan Health "Supreme 15" All-State honors for 2023-24, it was announced last Friday.

The IBCA also named Large School All-State teams (15 seniors, 15 underclass) and Small School All-State teams (15 seniors, 15 underclass).

The "Supreme 15" is the top honor awarded, and players were voted to that group without regard to school size. The Large School and Small School all-state teams are secondary accolades - the Large School group including players from Class 3A and Class 4A schools and the Small School group including players from Class A and Class 2A schools. Players who make the Supreme 15 are not considered for Large School or Small School honors.

In addition, 90 more seniors and 90 more underclass players were selected honorable mention all-state. The honorable mention laurels are awarded without regard to school size.

Westfield's Trey Buchanan, Noblesville's Aaron Fine and Fishers' Keenan Garner were among the players voted to the 2024 IBCA/Franciscan Health Supreme 15 Senior

boys' team. The other players are, listed alphabetically: Isaac Andrews, Wapahani; Jack Benter, Brownstown Central; Flory Bidunga, Kokomo; Kobi Bowles, Lawrence North; Micah Davis, Franklin Community; Evan Haywood, Brebeuf Jesuit; Jevon Lewis, Fort Wayne Wayne; Malachi McNair, Evansville Harrison; Tyler Parrish, Chesterton; Ron Rutland III, Indianapolis Attucks; Jacob Smith, Lake Central; and K.J. Windham, Ben Davis.

Those voted to the 2024 IBCA/Franciscan Health Supreme 15 Underclass boys' team are, listed alphabetically: Dezmon Briscoe, Indianapolis Attucks; Julius Gizzi, New Palestine; Damien King, Anderson; Brady Koehler, Indianapolis Cathedral; Chase Konieczny, South Bend St. Joseph; Braylon Mullins, Greenfield-Central; Dominique Murphy, East Chicago Central; Kellen Pickett, Fort Wayne Blackhawk Christian; Steven Reynolds, South Bend Washington; Azavier Robinson, Lawrence North; Tre Singleton, Jeffersonville; Trent Sisley, Heritage Hills; Jack Smiley, Valparaiso; Jaymen Townsend, Marion; and Mark Zackery IV, Ben Davis.

Westfield's Nic Book, Guerin Catholic's Robert Sorensen and Noblesville's Hunter Walston were all

named to the Senior Large School All-State team. Guerin Catholic junior Bryson Cardinal, Carmel junior Alex Couto and Fishers junior JonAnthony Hall were all named to the Underclass Large School All-State team.

Hamilton Southeastern's Donovan Hamilton and Fishers' Taden Metzger were both named as Senior Honorable Mention. Noblesville sophomore Justin Curry and Carmel sophomore Evan Harrell were both named Underclass Honorable Mention.

The IBCA/Franciscan Health All-State teams are selected through a process organized by the Indiana Basketball Coaches Association and presented by Franciscan Health Sports Medicine.

All IBCA-member head coaches have the opportunity to nominate players. A panel of 22 IBCA coaches - 16 from the current regional areas plus six district representatives (two each from IHSAA Districts 1, 2 and 3) and the committee chairman - then meet to review the nominations, vote and finalize the selections. The committee chairman, former West Lafayette coach David Wood, presided over the meeting but did not vote.

Those on the IBCA boys' all-state committee for 2024 included Chris Benedict of Whitko and Alaa Mroueh of East Chicago Central from

District 1, Daniel Cox of New Castle and Tyler Scherer of McCutcheon from District 2 and Kyle Simpson (for J.R. Holmes) of Bloomington South and Fonso White of Floyd Central from District 3.

Completing the voting panel were Mike Hackett of Munster, Ryan Osborn of Carmel, Chris Hawkins of Indianapolis Attucks and Nathan Fleenor of Evansville Harrison in Class 4A; Aaron Wolfe of NorthWood, Matt Kostoff of Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger, Bobby Allen of Guerin Catholic and Gene Miiller of Washington in Class 3A; Kent Chezem of North Judson, Matt Luce of Wapahani, Mark James of Triton Central and David Benter of Brownstown Central in Class 2A; and Kevin Krieger of Morgan Township, Cory Dunn of Rossville, Remus Woods of Indianapolis Lutheran and Josh Thompson of Barr-Reeve in Class A.

Franciscan Health Sports Medicine is making a financial contribution to the IBCA Scholarship Fund as the presenting partner of the IBCA All-State Teams. As part of the partnership, Franciscan Health Sports Medicine will provide plaques to Supreme 15 honorees and certificates to players receiving Large School All-State, Small School All-State or Honorable Mention All-State recognition.



Photo by Joshua Herd



Photo by Joshua Herd



Photo by Julie Brown

Westfield's Trey Buchanan (top), Noblesville's Aaron Fine (center) and Fishers' Keenan Garner (above) have been named to the IBCA's Supreme 15 Senior boys team.

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