

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2024

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



TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Mostly to partly sunny.
 Breezy, and less humid.
 Tonight: Mostly clear.
 HIGH: 79 LOW: 57



Spanish teacher Deb Mansfield named Husky Hero for April

The REPORTER

Deb Mansfield, Spanish teacher at Hamilton Heights High School (HHHS), has been named the Husky Hero for the month of April.

Mansfield, who is in her sixth year at Heights, is known for helping her students to experience "life" as individuals who are seen, known, and valued. This is a driving factor in her motivation to teach at Heights. It is her intention to be attentive to the lives of her students, to create and cultivate space for students to know they are priceless, to ignite their potential, and to provide opportunities for them to see their personal strengths so they can contribute to the world and make it a better place.

"Please consider Mrs. Debra Mansfield as the husky hero of the month, as my family considers her as our hero," Sara Smith said. "Our daughter struggled figuring out her way in life as a freshman this year. She felt so conflicted socially, emotionally, and spiritually that it seemed like she didn't even know who she was anymore. Mrs. Mansfield was the light in the darkness for her. Whenever she went to school, Mrs. Mansfield was



Deb Mansfield, Spanish Teacher for Hamilton Heights High School, was selected as the Husky Hero for the month of April. (From left) Whitney Gray (HHHS Assistant Principal), Deb Mansfield, Amber Bowen, baby Laken Bowen, Craig Bowen (F.C. Tucker), and Melissa Martin (HHEF President/HHSC Integration Coach).

always so loving, supportive, and reassuring for our daughter. In addition to being a major impact in school, Debra was also a significant role model outside of school through her involvement with Young Life. Our daughter now says that her favorite day of the week is Thursday, because

she gets to spend time with Debra and the Young Life group on that day. After this semester, we are in awe of how happy and motivated our daughter is, and we owe that to Mrs. Mansfield. Mahatma Gandhi said that 'a true hero is not defined by their strength, but by their ability to

inspire and lead others.' That is exactly what Mrs. Debra Mansfield is: a (husky) hero."

"Hamilton Heights has allowed me to work with some very talented, caring, and overall exceptional people who have

See Mansfield . . . Page 2

Dear Disability,
 Half a century. That's how long I've been on this earth with you. That boggles my mind. I'm angry. I'm grateful.

The childhood memories with you become more of a blur with each passing year. The bullying you invited in just by being you. The insecurities that slowly took root deep inside my bones. The wonderful friends who didn't care about how you made me walk.

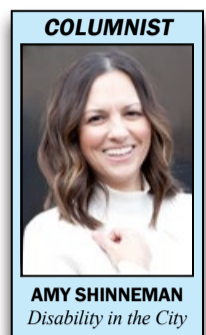
Sometimes, if I'm lucky, I have a flash of days gone by. I'm transported to the moment. The sounds, the smells, the sense of comfort if it's a good memory. Other days, I'm not so lucky. The anxiety, the trauma, mixed with the sounds and smells that haunt me from the bad memories.

Dare I say, no soul survives 50 years without some deep wounds from something. Mine is no different. Wounded, scarred, blessed, all because of you. You are good and awful all at once, making my head spin. You are a master at bringing out the very best in people as well as the very worst.

I've often wondered why each of my 50 years has been riddled with you. To describe you simply as "hard" seems like such an injustice to these years, to you. I can't think of a word that accurately describes what it has been like to always live with you. Maybe you need a new word all for your own?

Physical ease has always been out of reach because of you. I admire it from afar. Quietly coveting the ease, I see in others. Often, closing my eyes and imagining it. Telling no one how often these thoughts invade my brain.

See Dear Disability . . . Page 2



Community Health Network announces plans for \$335M hospital in Westfield

By **ASHLEY FOWLER**
 WISH-TV | wistv.com

Community Health Network, one of the largest hospital networks in Indiana, announced plans Monday for a new health care campus in Westfield.

The 425,000-square-foot facility will be built on the site of a former business park near 196th Street and US 31 at an expected cost of \$335 million.

When complete, the Westfield campus will include an emergency department, ambulatory surgery center, medical office building, and a six-story patient tower, the health network said in a release.

Community plans to offer services including women's health, orthopedics, primary care, and behavioral health. The new facility will also provide labor and delivery services with Neonatal Intensive Care Unit rooms.

The project also includes the reconstruction of two existing buildings, located at 19800 N.



A rendering of the future Community Health Network healthcare campus in Westfield, designed by Guidon. Completion of the medical office building is expected in the first quarter of 2025. The surgery center, hospital service building, and hospital tower are projected for completion in mid-2026.

East St. and 19900 N. East St. Community says it will save about \$50 million by renovating the buildings instead of building from the ground up.

Hospital leaders expect the medical office building to be complete in early 2025. Construction of the surgery center,

hospital services building, and hospital tower will wrap up in mid-2026.

"This expansion reflects our responsiveness to Westfield's growth and needs," Jason Fahrlander, Community's COO, said in a statement. "This new state-of-the-art healthcare campus

aligns with our mission to enhance health and well-being in the communities we serve."

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wistv.com/news/local-news/community-health-network-announces-plans-for-335m-hospital-in-westfield.

Janus grateful for \$15,000 grant from Hamilton County Community Foundation

The REPORTER

Janus Developmental Services, Inc. has received a generous \$15,000 grant from the Hamilton County Community Foundation, an affiliate of CICF.

This funding will significantly help Janus in its mission to support adults with differing abilities in Hamilton County.

Janus offers a variety of programs tailored to empow-



er each individual to explore their interests and gain new skills by providing opportunities for community volunteering, commissioned artwork creation, workforce development for successful careers, and more. These

programs aim to equip individuals with the skills and experiences necessary to lead independent and fulfilling lives, which is only made possible through the generous support of our community. This grant marks a significant

step towards transforming lives.

Learn more about Janus at janus-inc.org, and learn more about the Hamilton County Community Foundation at hamiltoncountycityfoundation.org.

Quinkydinks

When my son was a young man, if something unusual would happen, my wife or I might use the term coincidence. Unable to say the word, he pronounced it "quinkydinks." I have used that word ever since.

I have had several quinkydinks in my practice of law as well as outside the practice. One apparently Godly woman came to me with a great moral case but an apparently non-existing one legally. After putting a large amount of money in her account after a victorious court case I pondered about the quinkydink of it all.

You see, it all started in Syria when a missionary converted a family to Christianity. Because of the hostilities to Christians, the family moved to the United States and their son started working for a large company in Chicago. Dissatisfied with a change in responsibilities due to a downturn in the economy, he decided to go to law school in Indianapolis, and spent a short time in Noblesville, where we became acquainted.

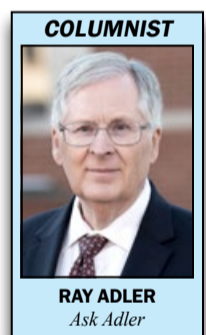
After law school, he took a job with the same large company but in China. Home on leave from China, he had an occasion to meet an old friend who had received a call from my client. The client had previously sought services from another lawyer who had passed away mid-stream in litigation. My China friend was asked by his buddy to whom to refer the case, as it was a complicated matter that the other lawyer didn't handle.

Of course, my Noblesville friend referred the case to me.

Action had been filed on behalf of the client, but the case appeared to have been wrongly filed, as no case of action appeared to exist. I counseled dismissing the defendants. The problem was that one defendant wanted to take a deposition first. During the deposition, the out-of-state attorney became quite belligerent with my client, who was faithfully answering all questions, admitting that no lawsuit had been requested from the deceased attorney, only an investigation on what to do. When I warned the out-of-state attorney to be more civil and he did not comply, I terminated the deposition and sought Court intervention.

On the date of hearing, the out-of-state attorney did not appear but sent yet another out-of-state attorney of a softer gender. Working on the internet on another problem, I came across information that later was important in my client's case.

See Quinkydinks . . . Page 2



Want to learn inner workings of Fishers government?

The REPORTER

Registration for the fall session of the Fishers City Government Academy (CGA) is open now.

Go behind the scenes of local government and hear from staff, tour city facilities,

and engage in the collaborative city governing process.

The deadline to apply is July 12. [Click here](#) to register.

The academy is free and open to Fishers residents who are ages 18 and older. At the

end of the nine-week course, participants will have a greater understanding of how Fishers government works.

The fall session of CGA meets twice a month from 6 to 8 p.m. and runs from Thursday, Aug. 8 through Wednesday, Dec. 11. Visit FishersIN.gov/CGA to view the full Fall 2024 schedule.

Curious about other residents' experiences in the program? [Watch this video](#) from a previous session as residents share what they learned.

MANSFIELD

from Page 1

played a major role in my life these past few years," Mansfield said. "The kindness and patience I have received from staff and students at HHHS is something that I, too, want to reciprocate to others. Therefore, to be nominated and selected as a Husky Hero is a reflection of those I work with. It is also a gift that I will cherish and not take for granted."

Mansfield added, "The Husky Hero award will serve as a reminder to me that what I do in and out of my classroom matters. It will inspire me to continue to reach out to my students in every way possible."

"The constant theme with our Husky Hero win-

ners is that they connect with students really well; Debra is no different," HHHS Principal Jarrod Mason said. "She has a huge heart, and she gets to know her students and connects with them in many ways. I think that really speaks to why she won this award."

Do you know a Husky Hero? Nomination forms and information about this special recognition program for Hamilton Heights employees are available at bit.ly/hhschuskyhero. The Husky Hero Recognition program is made possible through the Hamilton Heights Educational Foundation in partnership with Craig and Amber Bowen (FC Tucker). #hhed-foundation

DEAR DISABILITY

from Page 1

If I had a day to escape you, I once thought I'd go out and run a marathon in my temporarily healed body. But no. Now, I'd settle for a skip up a flight of stairs. A simple, peaceful walk in nature. A day to go back in time, and effortlessly lift my babies up towards the sky, spinning them round and round, while meticulously memorizing the sounds of their squealing laughter.

But we are running out of time for any hope of mo-

ments like those. Now, you have met your match with the thing called aging. Because of you, the process is accelerated. The natural deterioration no one escapes, but combined with you, I have almost no defense left. You are a beast all on your own, but together, you are the ultimate weapon to take me down. Coming at the speed of a bullet train.

I'm terrified.

I'm not giving up.

I'm humbled. I'm coura-

geous.

I once thought of you as only ugly, worthless, and evil. Those thoughts don't exist anymore on their own. Slowly, new thoughts of you have taken root, extracting the insecurities from my bones piece by piece. Beautiful, graceful, patient, divine.

For most of these 50 years, I saw you as a mistake, begging for a do over. But that's not your truth. You were meant to

be. For me.

As we usher 50 in, hand in hand, I see it now. I see it so clearly. YOU are ME.

Love,

Amy

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.

QUINKYDINKS

from Page 1

The opposing counsel made a representation to the Court that only hours before I had seen as false in my internet search. This internet evidence, found the morning of trial, allowed me to prove the representations of opposing counsel to be less than candid, which greatly perturbed the judge. The case was not won by any efforts of my own but lost by the untruthful actions of the opposing party. Moral justice prevailed and another quinkydink was born.

Another quinkydink started when I received one of the usual letters lawyers receive from the penitentiary asking for help. A prisoner wanted to be released from prison. I don't remember the exact details, but it seems like the pris-

oner had been convicted of rape, robbery, burglary, murder, theft, drugs, and assorted other crimes. The difference in his story was the support of the prison warden who asked that he be released!

It appeared that when he went into prison, he decided the easiest occupation was to be the assistant in the chapel. While there, he found Christ. As reported by the warden, he became a new man. Although his past record was horrendous, with the support of the warden, he was released early from prison.

And yet another quinkydink happened on Mother's Day numerous years ago. The pastor had asked all the ladies over 70 to stand up and then he consecu-

tively requested ladies to set down naming off additional ages, until the oldest lady in the church was left standing. She was given a round of applause at which point everyone was asked to stand to sing. I had injured my back in my thirties, and on occasion had to use my grandma's walker to complete my functions at the Courthouse. My back hurt so bad that I wanted to sit down but felt embarrassed that I couldn't stand as long as the oldest lady in the church.

After the song ended, the pastor, who had never mentioned healing before or after to my knowledge, called out that God had told him that someone with neck or back pain needed to come forward and be healed.

Since I was the sixth or seventh person in the pew row, I remember thinking to God that if He were going to heal me, I didn't need to come forward, he could do it right there. My back pain instantly ceased.

Thinking that it was all in my head, later that day I was working in a building using a floor scraper scrapping up PVC tile to lay down carpet. I wanted to test whether the healing was real. I had worked enough scraping the floor that had I not been healed, I would not have been able to walk the next day. No problems, no pain, and none since. For some unknown reason, God chose to heal me that day.

Some may call it a quinkydink.



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Housing, youth engagement highlight Finkam's first six months as Carmel mayor

By GARRETT BERGQUIST
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

Mayor Sue Finkam said several of her initiatives since taking office have gotten more public input than she had expected.

June marks six months in office for Finkam, who succeeded longtime mayor Jim Brainard after Brainard chose not to run for another term. Changes are already evident in the office itself. The Republican is moving her own office into a smaller conference room and turning the current office into an emergency operations center.

Finkam in February launched a task force to review Carmel's housing inventory and pricing, and the needs of its residents. In an interview with News 8 for Sunday's "All Indiana Politics," Finkam said the response to the task force has been tremendous, so much so she has decided to delay the release of the task force's report, originally set for July.

"We've had such robust meetings with experts weighing in, we haven't had time for our community to give their two cents on some of the data, so we want to make sure we allow am-



Photo by WISH-TV
Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam, a Republican, talks with News 8 at City Hall.

ple time for that," she said. "I'd rather have public input baked into the report than not."

Carmel officials sent out a community survey in February to gauge residents' satisfaction with city services. Respondents overwhelmingly indicated they were satisfied, though some indicated they were unfamiliar with some of the city's departments and services. Finkam said she will send the survey results to a marketing company and share them with each department to look for areas to improve.

Finkam said one unexpected development has

been excitement among school-age girls about Carmel having a woman mayor. Finkam is actually the third woman to hold the office, following Jane Reiman and Dorothy Hancock, who combined led the city from 1980 until 1992.

"Just seeing how excited they are, and they want to be engaged in civil leadership is important," she said.

Finkam has recently begun having fifth-graders deliver her reports to the City Council. She said it's exciting to see young people become interested in leadership and it's critical to prepare young people to lead.

"You never know where these types of things may lead but I hope in 15 to 20 years, Carmel has managed to grow and release tons of civic leaders across the country because of little opportunities they got to engage with city government here, and that matters," she said.

All Indiana Politics airs at 9:30 a.m. Sunday on WISH-TV.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/politics/housing-youth-engagement-highlight-finkams-first-six-months-as-carmel-mayor.



Get creative with Tina Mangos

The REPORTER

Local artist Tina Mangos offers these upcoming events. Come and learn the art of creative living.

Social Dance

Just for fun or a social event. Bring your dance partner to the new Westfield Washington Township building on from 7 to 8 p.m. Mondays, June 10 to 24. At any skill level, learn practical moves in swing, slow dance, and Latin. Email TinaTango@aol.com if you don't have a partner.

[Click here](#) for more information and to register.

Salsa Freestyle

Men and women, come to Athena House for a fun workshop in Salsa dance from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 26. You'll learn footwork, turns, and technique that apply to partner dancing, but we'll do it solo. Then put it together in a line dance routine to hot Afro-Cuban music. Cost is \$20; register by June 24 at [this link](#).

"Grown-up" artwork

Fishers Arts Council has a new exhibit of "grown-up" artists' work. Come to the free reception from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday,

June 14 at the FAC Collaboration Hub Gallery, 11810 Technology Drive, Fishers. It's a huge variety of art by talented "golden age" artists, including Mangos herself.

Young Art Camps

Children from age 8 through teenagers of all skill levels can take part in art camps June 10 to 13.

• **Mornings, 9 to 11:30 a.m.:** "Black & White" – sketching and shading. Objects, figures, and outdoor scenery. Relaxed, engaging experience. Black graphite on white and white charcoal on black. Success for any skill level.

• **Afternoons, 1 to 3:30 p.m.:** "Cookies & Canvas – at the beach." Mangos will team up with Donel Hakes of The Treat Boutique, who will teach cookie decorating. Participants will get cookies to eat and to take home. They'll also create a beach scene that's painted on canvas.

A relaxed, yet challenging experience.

Cost is \$130; [click here](#) to register.

Learn more at TinaMangosArts.com or email TinaTango@aol.com.



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West District Office: (317) 848-0201

East District Office: (765) 639-0671

www.spartz.house.gov

Noblesville Schools hands out 783 diplomas

The Noblesville High School Class of 2024 had 783 graduates and earned over \$5 million in scholarships. Commencement was held Tuesday, June 4 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds Farmers Coliseum. (Photos provided by Noblesville Schools)



(TOP LEFT) Students take selfies before the commencement ceremony. (TOP RIGHT) Students with NHS teacher Amanda Giordano. (ABOVE LEFT) The senior members of the Noblesville High School Student Council.



(ABOVE LEFT) Students prepare backstage before the ceremony. (ABOVE RIGHT) Choir Director John Neubauber leading senior choir students in performance.



(ABOVE LEFT, from left) Assistant Superintendent Ryan Rich, CFO David Hortemiller, Assistant Superintendent Heather Hendrich, and Superintendent Dan Hile get ready to lead the processions of leadership, faculty, and students. (ABOVE RIGHT, from left) School Board members Joe Forgey, Stephanie Lambert, Christi Crosser, Laura Alerding, and Misti Ray.

Don't just ride the rails ... Bike them!

Forest Park Rail Adventure

An 8-mile round trip rail bike ride starting at Hobbs Station in Forest Park.

White River Family Cruise

Enjoy this short, scenic rail bike ride from Hobbs Station in Forest Park.



NickelPlateExpress.com/railbike-rides

Coroner & Health Department warn against emerging drug

Submitted by
Hamilton County
Coroner's Office

On Wednesday, the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) issued an alert to coroners, law enforcement, and first responders about an emerging drug called medetomidine, a non-opioid sedative used in veterinary medicine.

According to the IDOH, medetomidine is being mixed with illicit substances, while most commonly detected alongside fentanyl, xylazine, and heroin.

Medetomidine was first approved by the Food and Drug Administration in 1996 for veterinary use, specifically as a sedative for

dogs. It has also been determined that medetomidine was found to be stronger and longer acting than xylazine.

Medetomidine is commonly referred to as the "Zombie Drug." Symptoms often include sedation, analgesia, dry mouth, respiratory depression, hypnotic effects, dilated pupils, hypothermia, muscle twitching, slow heart rate, and initial hypertension followed by



Ginder



Jellison

prolonged hypotension.

The illegal use of medetomidine has recently been detected in returned syringes at multiple Marion County Syringe Service Program sites.

According to Health Education Specialist Jim Ginder of the Hamilton County Health Department, medetomidine does not respond to Narcan or naloxone; however, because medetomidine is common-

ly mixed with fentanyl and other opioids the use of Narcan is recommended during a suspected overdose.

The Hamilton County Health Department does offer free Narcan and Narcan classes to the public.

"The Hamilton County Coroner's Office has not yet seen medetomidine during our investigations of fatal overdoses," Coroner Jeff Jellison said. "Because of its widespread use just south of our county border, the community must remain on alert. Medetomidine is commonly mixed into pills and powders often purchased on the street or from internet black market pharmacies."

Iowa State University announces graduates with local connections

The REPORTER

More than 4,450 graduates received degrees from Iowa State University this spring. Graduate and undergraduate commencement ceremonies were held May 9 to 11 at Hilton Coliseum.

Of the 4,455 students who graduated in May, a total of 4,591 degrees were awarded (3,884 undergraduate, 552 graduate and 155 professional) with some students earning multiple degrees.

The following students

are from Hamilton County or have family in the area:

- Morgan Reigeluth of Fishers, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Interior Design, Cum Laude
- Zachary Steinmetz of Fishers, Bachelor of Science, Genetics (AGLS),

Summa Cum Laude

- Jackson LeRoy of Grimes, Iowa, Entrepreneurship

- Lexie Balkema of The Woodlands, Texas, Bachelor of Science, Biology, Summa Cum Laude, Honors Program Member

Letter to the Editor

Westfield reader: call local elected officials about Duke Energy rate increase request

Dear Editor:

Duke Energy is currently in the process of requesting a \$500 million per year rate increase and updating their 20-year plan to determine their fuel needs to serve their customers.

It has come to my attention that they are currently meeting with our elected representatives to discuss the rate case.

Keep in mind that:

1. Duke is a monopoly utility. You do not have the freedom to get your electricity from anyone else.
2. Duke only gets 9 percent of its energy from clean renewable resources. The rest comes from dirty fossil fuels which are contributing to the climate crisis.
3. Duke's rate structure forces those who use the least energy to pay the highest rates.
4. Your elected officials are "elected" and we pay their salaries. If they are meeting with Duke, we need to let them know that these extreme bill increases will affect all our pocketbooks.

Speak up by contacting your mayor/city councilor to express your concerns, signing the petition at sc.org/dukeistheworst, and attending the public hearing being held at 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 27 at the Hamilton East Public Library, 5 Municipal Drive, in Fishers.

Monica Cannaley
Westfield

Letters to the Editor do not reflect the opinions of The Reporter, its publisher or its staff. You can submit your own Letter to the Editor by email to News@ReadTheReporter.com. Please include your phone number and city of residence. The Reporter will publish one letter per person per week.

Civic in seconds

The REPORTER

Here is the latest news from the Civic Theatre, 3 Carter Green, Carmel.

Trivia Night

The last day to buy your Trivia Night tickets is this Friday, June 7. On Thursday, June 13, your team could win an exclusive party at *Kinky Boots*, *Pride & Prejudice*, or Civic's 10th production of *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Trivia Night will be held at Half Liter BBQ, 5301 Winthrop Ave., Suite B, Indianapolis.

Click here to learn more and register as a team or individual today. This event is 21 and over only.

Finding Nemo Jr.

Marlin, an anxious and over-protective clownfish, lives in the Great Barrier Reef with his kid Nemo,

who longs to explore the world beyond their anemone home. But when Nemo is captured and taken to Sydney, Marlin faces his fears and sets off on an epic adventure across the ocean. With the help of lovable characters such as optimistic Dory, laid-back sea turtle Crush, and the supportive Tank Gang, Marlin and Nemo both overcome challenges on their journey to find each other and themselves.

The show runs Friday, June 21 to Wednesday, June 26. **Click here** for show-times and to buy tickets.

Kinky Boots auditions

Auditions for the fall production of *Kinky Boots* will be held at 7 p.m. on June 17 and 18. **Click here** for more information and to register.

David Mannella of Westfield earns degree from Benedictine College

The REPORTER

David Mannella of Westfield has graduated cum laude from Benedictine College in Atchison, Kan., majoring in Accounting and Finance.

The college graduated 485 students at the end of the academic year during ceremonies on May 11. It was the largest graduating class in the school's history.

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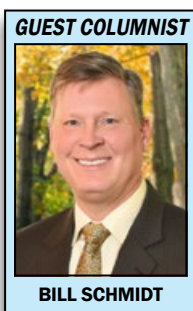
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Designing a more sustainable future with landscape architecture

With the increase in flooding, global temperatures, and scarcity of resources posing persistent threats, our planet is faced with the urgent need for sustainable solutions.



BILL SCHMIDT

slows the rate at which stormwater enters our sewers and waterways, thereby mitigating the potential for flooding.

These techniques utilize native plants that are not only attractive

but also filter water, contributing to both groundwater recharge and transpiration.

Carbon emissions

As more carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere each year, landscape architects can incorporate strategies to help reduce its impact on our environment. Landscape architects understand that successful carbon capture requires strategic long-term planning.

When designing natural areas on a project, trees and plants with deep root systems can be incorporated to not only scrub carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, but also store carbon safely in the plant structure and underground. To illustrate, a single mature tree can capture 48 pounds of carbon dioxide a year, releasing clean oxygen back into our atmosphere in exchange.

The urban heat island effect

Unlike rural areas, developed cities often experience consistently higher temperatures – a phenom-



Photo provided

This sign at Meadowlark Park in Carmel explains the watershed effect and where water ends up.

enon called the urban heat island effect.

In Indianapolis, for instance, temperatures can be over nine degrees hotter than surrounding areas. This is caused by a combination of high-density development and an abundance of heat-absorbing dark materials like roofing and asphalt, commonly used in urban construction. These surfaces absorb and trap heat throughout the day, creating a persistent thermal blanket over the city that can last long after sunset. This not only leads to higher temperatures but also worsens air quality by trapping pollutants that would otherwise escape in the cooler nighttime climate.

Landscape architects

incorporate solutions to this problem in their urban designs. Trees, green spaces, reflective (high albedo) materials, and green roofs provide shade, improve air quality, and lead to lower heat retention as the sun sets.

The challenges facing our planet are great, but well-designed, sustainable spaces offer a path toward resilience. Through green design, landscape architects are creating spaces that are better for our environment and healthier to live, work, and play in.

Bill Schmidt, PLA, ASLA, LEED AP, is the Director of Landscape Architecture at Weihe Engineers, Inc.

Dawson, Haney & Helvey launch their campaigns for Noblesville School Board

Submitted

On May 24, three Noblesville residents filed as candidates for the Noblesville School Board. Dave Dawson, Alison Hanley, and Brad Helvey have agreed that academic mastery, fiscal stewardship, and greater transparency between the school district and parents/taxpayers are their points of focus.

Dawson, Hanley, and Helvey agree that a rigorous and positive learning environment clearly focused on

academics will foster greater improvement in academic proficiency for Noblesville students. They believe students can rise to the learning and achievement levels of the highest scoring schools in the county and the state of Indiana.

The candidates maintain that proper fiscal stewardship involves accountability to Noblesville taxpayers, while simultaneously ensuring that proper resources are in place for students

and teachers. They believe this balance is integral to an exemplary school district. They plan to press for greater transparency in the fiscal/budgeting process and to provide detailed information for all proposed referendums and infrastructure projects.

Finally, all three candidates are committed to open communication between the schools, parents, and taxpayers in matters regarding curriculum, academic pol-

icy, health and extracurricular activities, and the handling of taxpayer money.

Dave Dawson, Alison Hanley, and Brad Helvey invite all Noblesville residents to support them in their bid to become the next three Noblesville School Board members.

To learn more, visit each of their campaign websites: linktr.ee/dawsonforschoolboard, hanley4schoolboard.org, and helveyfornoblesvilleschools.com.



Photo provided

The first nine penny ponies were white, and they weren't even named Sandy!

Inflation never touched Sandy the Penny Pony

The REPORTER

On Wednesday, Midwest retailer Meijer celebrated its beloved penny pony Sandy's 62nd birthday, a milestone dating back to the grand opening of the first Meijer supercenter on June 5, 1962.

Sandy is best known by customers and their families as an icon of the Meijer culture and community, bringing joy and routine to the family shopping experience.

While Sandy can be quickly spotted at the front of each Meijer, the appearance has shifted over its more than six-decade long residency. At the time of the 1962 grand opening, a total of nine white (not the rich brown hue seen today)



Photo provided

In 1999, as an ode to the legacy, LEGO created a life-sized model of Sandy.

penny ponies were present, and the name "Sandy" was nowhere to be found. The phrase "Ride the Champion" was printed on the original with a cost of 10 cents per ride, which was immediately reduced to one cent by the company's Co-Founder Fred Meijer.

Live Music June 7 - Kevin Rafferty
 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

Live Music At Pasto Italiano
 Benito DiBartoli Every Wednesday
 1/2 Price Bottles of Wine On Wednesdays
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317-804-2051
 3150 East State Rd. 32, Westfield

Bien Mexicana
 150 S Peru St, Cicero

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Noblesville Creates welcomes artists Chicqiela Elbert-Velazco & Susan Morgan to Stephenson House

The REPORTER

Noblesville Creates (NC) welcomes Chicqiela Elbert-Velazco and Susan Morgan's exhibit *The Visual Odyssey of Two Old Women* exhibit among its other artists of the month in June.

Stephenson House Chicqiela Elbert-Velazco & Susan Morgan

Artwork created across a lifetime documents not only a progression of skills and ideas, but of the journey of life itself. Elbert-Velazco and Morgan came to this realization after reflecting upon their portfolios.

Their shared exhibit, *The Visual Odyssey of Two Old Women* revolves around their coming of age growing up on farms in middle America. Their entirely unique work mirrors experiences with cultural and social norms from the 1950s through today.

Elbert-Velazco is a retired art teacher from the Anderson Community School Corporation. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees at Ball State University in Art Education. Her career spanned from 1976 to 2006, and today she continues to teach art at various non-profit organizations. Morgan obtained her bachelor's in fine arts from Anderson University in 1981, and a master's degree from Ball State University in 1990. She went on to lead a career as an art teacher for grades K-12.

Both artists have led similar artistic careers, but their work is very different. Elbert-Velazco's drawings, paintings, and photographs showcase a passion for farming, family, and animals. The style of her work tends to oscillate between representational and abstract realism. Her process varies as well. She may work from her sketches and photographs or work intuitively to define



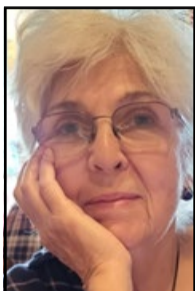
Art provided

See works such as "Autumn Squash" by Susan Morgan (above left) and "Contented Piglets" by Chicqiela Elbert-Velazco (above right) at the exhibit this month at Stephenson House in Noblesville.

images emerging from rubbed textures called "frottage."

On the flip side, Morgan's "artistic endeavors are illustrative with a \$2.75 side of graphical humor." She notes that she learned survival skills growing up with eight older siblings. Art helped her cope with the chaos. Acrylic paints allow her the freedom to work quickly and accommodate her "incredibly short attention span." Her work is executed fast, on a big scale, and utilizing lots of color.

The Visual Odyssey of Two Old Women shows how two artists can share both similarities and differences in personalities, experiences, and creative language. The full exhibit can be seen in the Stephenson House June 7 through June 29, Wednesday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors can



Elbert-Velazco



Morgan

meet Elbert-Velazco and Morgan during their June First Friday reception from 6 to 9 p.m.

Noblesville City Hall Art in Bloom

In celebration of spring and the annual Indiana Peony Festival, Noblesville City Hall has adorned the gallery space with beautiful blossoms and blooms of art. The exhibit remains open through June 28.

Noblesville City Hall is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Meyer Najem Claudia & Friends

See the full exhibit, *Claudia & Friends*, through June 29. This exhibit is viewable at the Meyer Najem 2nd floor gallery, 11787 Lantern Road, Fishers, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Four Day Ray Liz Hamstra

The full exhibit, *Into the*

Kaleidoscope, can be seen through June 29 at Four Day Ray Brewing, 11671 Lantern Road, Fishers, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday and Monday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Meet the artist at the reception from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 25 at Four Day Ray.

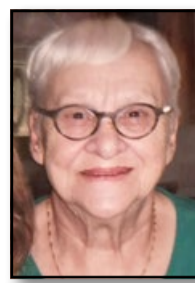
About Noblesville Creates

Noblesville Creates champions the arts as an essential element of the economic health and cultural vitality of Noblesville and central Indiana. As Noblesville's local arts agency, NC catalyzes opportunities for the arts and local creatives of all skill levels to thrive and lead in central Indiana. NC is also the Region 7 Arts Partner for the Indiana Arts Commission, serving the six counties at the center of the state. NC cultivates classes, events, programs, and services for art-lovers and artists of all backgrounds and experience levels. Start your creative journey with NC: they'll help you connect and flourish.

Vinita Eileen Conaway

August 8, 1929 – June 3, 2024

Vinita Eileen Conaway, 94, Cicero, passed away peacefully on June 3, 2024, at The Waters of Tipton.



Eileen was born on August 8, 1929, to Alvin and Margaret (Caylor) Hunter in Arcadia.

Eileen married Henry Howard Conaway on October 23, 1948, who preceded her death in 2002. Eileen and Howard were employed at Hamilton Heights School Corporation for many years before their much-deserved retirement. They enjoyed making a difference in the lives of the many teachers, staff, and children throughout their tenure.

In addition to her husband, Eileen was preceded in death by her daughter, Linda Sue Grishaw; son-in-law, John David Grishaw; three brothers, Joseph, Donald, and Robert Hunter; as well as great-grandson, Carson Tate Grishaw.

She is survived by her son, Bill (Kim) Conaway of Arizona; sisters, Cora McCoy of Cicero, and Vonda Foster of Missouri; and brother, David (Karen) Hunter of Indianapolis. She is also survived by her three grandsons, Doug (Lori) Grishaw of Arcadia, Wes (Shaunna) Grishaw of Richmond, Va., and Brian (Sherri) Grishaw of Cameron, N.C.; and one granddaughter, Christina Conaway of California. She was blessed by many great-grandchildren: Eric (Kasey) Biddle, Cole Biddle, Colt and Morgan Grishaw, Gage (Susan) Grishaw, Evan and Ian Messena; and five great-great-grandchildren.

She was a member of the Omega Christian Church and the Women of the Legion Auxiliary for several years. Eileen loved doing word searches, jigsaw puzzles, crocheting, and spending time with her family and friends.

At Eileen's request, there will be a small graveside service at 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 6 at Cicero Cemetery.

Hartley Funeral Home in Cicero has been entrusted with Eileen's care.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Online condolences may be made at hartleyfuneral-homes.com.

Dennis Robert Darst

June 16, 1941 – May 31, 2024

Dennis ("Denny") Robert Darst, 82, Fishers, passed away on May 31, 2024, in his home surrounded by his beloved wife and sons and his precious dog, Pepper.



Denny was born on June 16, 1941, to John ("Jack") and Dorothy Darst in Greeley, Colo. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Lois; children, Scott (April) Darst and Randall (Janelle) Darst; grandchildren, Michael (Kristen), Jonathon, Hannah, Mitchell, and Marie; great-grandchildren, Aila, Aiden, and Asher; as well as his Swedish "son" (foreign exchange student) Gunnar (Helen) Novik; and grandchildren, Benjamin and Jacob.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his stepmother, Vi; his brother, Rick; and his sister, Joan.

Denny graduated in chemical engineering and management from the University of Colorado (go Buffs!) where he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He spent most of his professional career in market research at Dow Chemical in Midland, Mich., and Dow Brands in Indianapolis. He established relationships with a group of co-workers that became lifelong friends and continued into retirement as the "Guy-group" gathered annually. He finished his career in partnership with Lois building and operating a custom home deck construction business for 10 years in Midland.

Denny enjoyed supporting and celebrating his boys and grandchildren in all their sporting endeavors. He was an excellent woodworker and craftsman and realized his lifelong dream of designing and building his and Lois' dream home on their beautiful northern Michigan, Burt Lake property ("God's Country," as he affectionately called it) where family and friends gathered, played, and created memories for over 45 years.

A private celebration of life for family and friends will be scheduled at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the following: Facioscapulohumeral Muscular Dystrophy Info - Treatment - FSHD Society; or Burt Lake Preservation Association (blpa.org).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Robert Franklin Rhode

January 15, 1970 – May 31, 2024

Robert Franklin "Frank" Rhode, 54, passed away at his mother's home in Kirklin, Ind., on Friday morning, May 31, 2024. Born January 15, 1970, in Lafayette, Ind., he was the son of Kenneth Eugene Rhode and Carolyn Lynn (Lewis) Rhode-Kercheval.

After graduating from McCutcheon High School in Lafayette, Frank continued his education at Purdue University, where he earned his Associate Degree in Business. He worked as a welder with Wabash National in Lafayette for several years and later hired on as a forklift operator with Subaru.

He was currently attending Apostolic House of Prayer.

Frank was the family "wild child." He lived life on his terms and faced every adventure head on at 100 mph. He had a love for music and was always up for a concert. He also had a great appreciation for outdoor adventures, be it camping, hunting, fishing, or just hanging out on the boat all day. Another of his favorite things was watching the Indianapolis Colts play. Win or lose, they were his team, season after season, without fail.

Family was the most important thing in Frank's life. Any occasion for family and friends to get together was his perfect recipe for happiness, especially if good food was involved.

Frank is survived by his parents, Kenneth Eugene Rhode and Carolyn Lynn (Lewis) Rhode-Kercheval; son, Justin Kai Rhode of Lafayette; three granddaughters, Aubrie Elliott, Mia Rhode, and Kaylin Rhode; two brothers, Shannon E. Rhode of Frankfort and Joseph N. Rhode (Breanna) of Kirklin; half-brother, Michael Shane Houston of Kirklin; sister, Patricia L. Rhode (Steve) of Lafayette; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Alicia Marie Elliott-Rhode; maternal grandparents, Robert and Zell Lewis; paternal grandparents, William and Leona Rhode; and by his stepfather, Larry James Kercheval.

Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 6, 2024, at Tippecanoe Memory Gardens, 1718 W. 350 N., West Lafayette, Ind.

In lieu of flowers, Memorial Contributions may be presented to the American Cancer Society.

Condolences: kerchevalfuneralhome.com

Outlook Hamilton celebrating grand opening anniversary in a big way

Matthew Lamping, who appeared on NBC's "The Voice," to perform free concert

The REPORTER

It has now been a year since Outlook Hamilton opened its doors, and the community will celebrate the anniversary in a big way from 4 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 13.

Local singing sensation Matthew Lamping, who recently appeared on NBC's *The Voice* will perform at a free concert to mark the special occasion. The public

is invited to attend the event happening at the 55-and-older Active Adult apartment community, which is located at 12975 Harrell Pkwy., Noblesville, just northwest of Hamilton Town Center.

When guests first arrive, they will be greeted with balloons and a festive atmosphere. There will be food and drinks available, and the opportunity to meet Lamping, who started playing guitar

and piano at a young age with his brothers and dad and has made a career out of performing.

Lamping is a solo act musician and will offer guests a wide variety of music. He may even take requests during the event.

"Matthew has performed here before and the residents really like him, so when it came to plan our anniversary event, we decided to in-

vite him back," said Michele Clemen, Real Estate Associate for Greystar, which manages Outlook Hamilton.

In addition to enjoying the concert, food, and socializing, guests will have the opportunity to tour the community. There will be four different one-and-two-bedroom models open for touring.

Guests will also be able to check out the onsite fitness center, movie theater, sports lounge, and resort-style pool. Resident ambassadors will be on hand at all four locations to answer any questions people may have about what it's like to live at Outlook Hamilton.

"As part of our commitment to providing resort-style living, Outlook Hamilton offers residents onsite fitness classes three times a week; and there is an onsite lifestyle coordinator who arranges activities designed to nurture each resident's mind, body and soul," Clemen said. "Recent activities include a Cinco de Mayo event with a Mariachi band, and an onsite visit by the Easter Bunny. We are excited to open our community up to the public and give them the opportunity to learn what living in a 55+ active adult community is all about."

About Outlook Hamilton

Outlook Hamilton is a 55-and-older Active Adult rental apartment community that offers residents a renewed sense of purpose with the luxury of time to explore a lifestyle that fulfills them and brings meaning to their day. The community celebrated its grand opening in May 2023. For more information, call (317) 463-0558 or go to OutlookHamilton.com.

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Treena Mae (Fosnight) Gordon

December 12, 1959 – June 1, 2024



Treena Mae (Fosnight) Gordon, 64, Sheridan, peacefully passed in her home, surrounded by her loving family, on June 1, 2024. Born December 12, 1959, in Noblesville, she was the daughter of Richard Harold Fosnight and Linda Louise (Kelshaw) Fosnight.

Don't worry about being different and standing out from the crowd! Rather, stand proud and stand tall, and appreciate the majestic beauty of your uniqueness. Treena was true to her uniqueness and very self-assured. She was a lover of babies, sunflowers, giraffes, a good romance, Diet Pepsi, chocolate, but most of all, her family. If you were lucky enough to know her, you quickly learned that she was sharp-witted, hard-headed, and always spoke the truth. I loved in her own way and was often willing to lend a helping hand.

Treena met her husband, Sonny Jay Gordon, while delivering papers for the *Indianapolis Star*. Sonny fell hard for Treena's commanding confidence, sarcastic nature, wild wit, and helping heart. Their love grew into a 33-year marriage. Sonny, alongside their family, built Treena her dream home. Surrounding the property, she cultivated beautiful flower gardens; she especially loved creating walls of sunflowers and tending to her vegetable garden. For most of their marriage, Treena graciously cared for her mother-in-law, Elsie, who came to live with them shortly after they said, "I do." Treena and Elsie were quite the pair, and quite the comical duo. Treena's helpful heart shined bright during her time caring for Elsie May.

Beyond her marriage, family was a central part of Treena's life. She often gathered with her aunt Louise, sisters, and cousins, and welcomed caring for her nieces and nephews. She was all in when it came time to cuddle babies or play with toddlers. Treena comes from a large family, and one of her favorite pastimes was hosting family gatherings during the summer. She enjoyed traveling with her husband and aunt. Treena thrived in the familiarity of her routine and surroundings and was happiest in her home with her family.

Treena was a mother of two sons, Robert Eldridge and Matthew Eldridge. She became a mother early in life and made many sacrifices for her children. Her boys were her pride and joy. She loved them deeply. As they aged, her nurturing love transitioned into tough love. Her sons reflect her sharp wit and sarcastic nature. Both of Treena's sons married, and she was blessed with four grandchildren: Morgan, Lucas, Landon, and Spencer Eldridge. She delighted in each of them and doted on them as often as she could. She was part-time caregiver to Landon and Spencer during their toddler years and brought them as much joy as they brought her.

Treena lived life her way. She loved, she grieved, she created, she nurtured, she stood firm, and she was uniquely herself. She will be greatly missed, but forever treasured.

Treena is survived by her husband, Sonny Jay Gordon; two sons, Robert Shannon Eldridge (Brandy Ann Kaufman) of Noblesville and Matthew Wayne Eldridge (Sadie) of Sheridan; four grandchildren, Morgan Eldridge (fiancé, Nathan Ritz), Lucas Eldridge, Landon Eldridge, and Spencer Eldridge; brothers, Richard Verne Fosnight (Pamela) of Sheridan, Freddie Eugene Fosnight (Robin) of Sheridan, and Teddie Fosnight of Sheridan; sisters, Beverly Ann Jones (Bryan) of Westfield, Benita Louise Johnson (Jeff) of Noblesville, and Donna Marie Smith (Garry) of Westfield; brother-in-law, Mark Edwards of Sheridan; many nieces and nephews; and by her mother, Linda Louise (Kelshaw) Fosnight.

She was preceded in death by her father, Richard Harold Fosnight; brother, Sammie Jay Fosnight; and sister, Wanda Kay Askren-Edwards.

A celebration of Treena's life will be held from 1:30 to 4 p.m. on Saturday June 8, 2024, at Sonny and Treena's home, 4303 W. 176th St. (State Road 32), Sheridan.

Treena will be laid to rest in a private ceremony at Eagle Creek Cemetery in Westfield.

Condolences: kerchevalfuneralhome.com

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

JACOB BLESSES HIS SONS

Then Jacob called for his sons and said: "Gather around so I can tell you what will happen to you in days to come.

"Assemble and listen, sons of Jacob; listen to your father Israel.

"Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, the first sign of my strength, excelling in honor, excelling in power. Turbulent as the waters, you will no longer excel, for you went up onto your father's bed, onto my couch and defiled it.

"Simeon and Levi are brothers—their swords are weapons of violence. Let me not enter their council, let me not join their assembly, for they have killed men in their anger and hamstringed oxen as they pleased. Cursed be their anger, so fierce, and their fury, so cruel! I will scatter them in Jacob and disperse them in Israel.

Genesis 49:1-7 (NIV)

Glenn "Fred" Lynch

d. June 1, 2024

Glenn "Fred" Lynch, 74, Noblesville, went home to be with the Lord on June 1, 2024, in Indianapolis. He was known as the mayor of Conner Street, the life of the party, and a loyal and selfless individual. Glenn was a perfectionist in everything he did and a good friend to many.

Glenn was retired from Ford Motor Company after 43 years of dedicated service. His passion for roller-skating, camping, people-watching, motorcycles, cars, Legos, construction projects, and collecting items such as Hot Wheels, restaurant silverware, and hotel towels was unmatched. However, his greatest hobby was caring for his beloved wife.

He is survived by his wife, Dianna Lynch; children, Chris Lynch, Angel Holmes (Jennifer Williams), Tawnia "Brat" Lynch, and Donovan "Bub" Lynch (Sam "Helen" Lynch); grandchildren, Austin Holmes (Sammi Holmes), Dominick Lynch (Casey O'Bryan), Layne "Hollywood" Holmes (Alexis Holmes), Brayton "B" Lynch, and Paityn "P-Dad" Lynch; great-granddaughters, Caroline "Squeaker" Holmes and Ava "Peanut" Holmes; brother, Benny "Bing Bing" Lynch (Nancy Lynch); and several nieces and nephews.

Glenn was preceded in death by his father, Jesse "Jay" Lynch, and mother, Edith "Becky" Louise Lynch.

A visitation will be held at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville, on Saturday, June 8 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with a service following at 1 p.m. Casual attire is requested per Glenn's wishes.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Leukemia Research Foundation, 191 Waukegan Road, Suite 105, Northfield, IL 60093 (leukemiaresearch.org).

Glenn Lynch will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Until we see him again, "Keep it under 100."

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.

Garry Lee Cummins

September 17, 1943 – June 1, 2024

Garry Lee Cummins, 80, passed away on June 1, 2024, at IU Health Methodist Hospital.

On September 17, 1943, Garry was born to Cash and Vera (Barker).

Garry was a former electrician at the Chrysler Transmission plant in Kokomo. He was employed there for 40 years before his retirement. Following retirement, he had a few opportunities to do a little traveling with his wife. He first went on an Alaskan cruise, and then they decided to take another cruise to the Caribbean. Garry also made a few trips to see his daughter and her family in Arkansas.

Locally, he enjoyed going to auctions and rummage sales looking for treasures from the past. At home, Garry enjoyed working on his flower beds and working in his yard. He also enjoyed hanging out with his goldendoodle, Riley.

For most of Garry's adult life, his focus for himself and his family was his faith in Jesus Christ. He loved to share his faith and he took part in the local prison ministry as well as some involvement in the Gideons until his health wouldn't allow him to continue. Garry was a member of Oasis Community Church in Tipton, Ind.

Garry is survived by his wife, Alice (Pitcher) Cummins; daughter, Cheryl (Bill) DeYoung of Benton, Ark.; son, Ryan Cummins of Greentown, Ind.; sister, Marlene (Deane Markley) Cummins of Tipton; grandchildren, Zack (Rachel) DeYoung of Benton, Ark., Kaylan (Dylan) Dietrick of Tipton, Maggie (John) Chen of Centerton, Ark., Adam Cummins of Kokomo, and Payton (Dylan) Ditchen of Kokomo; great-grandchildren, Malakhi Dietrick, Grayson Cummins, and Addison Dietrick; niece, Shannon St. John of Cicero; great-niece, Tori (Brandon) Hughes of Indianapolis; great-nephew, Cameron Ewing; as well as several cousins throughout Hamilton and Madison counties. Garry is also survived by many dear friends, including Charles Hudson, who led him to Jesus Christ many years ago.

Visitation was held on Wednesday, June 5, 2024. An additional visitation will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. on Thursday, June 6, 2024, at Hartley Funeral Home, 209 W. Jackson St., Cicero. The funeral service will be at 11 a.m. on June 6, 2024, the funeral home, with burial to follow at Tipton Cemetery.

Online condolences may be made at hartleyfuneralhomes.com.

Meeting Notices

TriCo Regional Sewer Utility will hold its monthly Board of Trustees meeting at 6 p.m. on Monday, June 10, 2024, at 7236 Mayflower Park Drive, Zionsville.

The Carmel Clay Schools Board of Trustees will meet in an executive session at 6 p.m. on Monday, June 10, 2024, at the Carmel Clay Schools Educational Services Center, 5201 E. Main St., Carmel.

A workshop session will follow at 6 p.m. at the same location.

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) The Hamilton County E911 Executive Board will meet to discuss E911 operations at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, June 10, 2024, in Room A213 at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St.

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1, the Sheridan Public Library Board of Trustees will meet in an Executive Session to discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, June 10, 2024, prior to the regular board meeting.

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b) (9), the Sheridan Community Schools Board of Trustees will meet in an executive session at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, June 10, 2024, at Sheridan Middle School, 3030 W. 246th St., to discuss a job performance evaluation of individual employees. This subdivision does not apply to a discussion of the salary, compensation, or benefits of employees during a budget process. A regular meeting will follow at 6:30 p.m. in the Library/Media Center at the middle school.

The Hamilton County Board of Zoning Appeals will meet at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, in the Commissioners' Courtroom/County Council Chambers on the first floor of the Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

The Hamilton County Plan Commission will meet at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, in the Commissioners' Courtroom/County Council Chambers on the first floor of the Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

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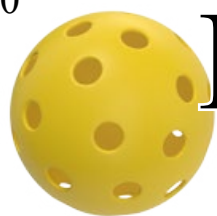
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Indy in 'Drivers' seat in new National Pickleball League

Local players help Drivers to win first NPL championship

By RICHIE HALL

sports@readthereporter.com

Imagine being in your 50s and getting the chance to be part of a championship sports team.

Ken Julian of Westfield got to do that last year. He was a member of the Indy Drivers, one of the teams in the new National Pickleball League. The NPL was established in 2022 as the first pro pickleball league, featuring players ages 50 and up.

The NPL was founded by three champion pickleball players, including one with local ties. Rick Witsken, a two-time tennis state champion for Carmel High School, joined Beth Bellamy and Michael "Hammer Mike" Chen in founding the league. Indianapolis was one of the six cities with an NPL team, joining Denver, Oklahoma City, Austin (Texas) and Boca Raton and Naples (both in Florida).

The Drivers are owned by the husband-and-wife team of Phil Cohn and Paula Nahmias. Cohn was a student of Witsken's, and he returned the favor by selecting Witsken as the No. 1 overall pick in the first NPL Draft.

The Drivers became the first champions of the new league last season during the NPL's first-ever championship weekend, which took place Oct. 13 to 15 at Chicken N Pickle in Glendale, Ariz. The Drivers beat the Austin Ignite by winning seven consecutive matches; the mixed doubles team of Kim Jagd and Tao Thongvanh came back to



(ABOVE LEFT) Indy Drivers owners Phil Cohn and Paula Nahmias hold up the National Pickleball League championship trophy after their team won the inaugural NPL Championship. The Drivers won seven matches in a row to clinch the trophy. (ABOVE RIGHT) Westfield's Ken Julian was one of the players on the Drivers' championship team last year and returns to the team this season.



Photos provided

win the match and clinch the team championship.

"We had an incredible lineup," said Cohn. "At the onset, we had four of the best women players in the entire world."

"We were a little surprised that we made it to the finals," said Cohn. "We were taking on a giant known as Austin." However, Cohn said the team "had a pretty smart strategy going

on," as the Drivers mixed up their lineup when they took on the Ignite.

And it worked. "We were elated, it was a great feeling," said Cohn. "I was surprised, but not shocked."

"Even from day one, as Phil said, I went around telling my family and friends, we have this professional team and we are winners," said Nahmias. "I knew for

some reason going in we were going to win the championships."

Team camaraderie was an essential part of the victory, and Cohn credits Nahmias for helping to keep everyone together. Every Saturday night, Nahmias would set up what amounts to a team restaurant that served as a getaway for the team. Cohn said that "seemed to garner in real time like everyone could be an extended family to one another."

"My wife is the absolute queen of bringing people together," said Cohn.

"The Saturday evening dinners, I made a point to put together a comfortable spread for the entire team," said Nahmias. "As we ended the Saturday night, everyone made a point to let each other know how much fun they had."

Pickleball has grown exponentially over the past few years, and it's no surprise that people with previous athletic experience take

to the game quickly. Julian, 57, is one of those people. He played tennis and basketball in high school, continuing to play those sports into adulthood.

Julian began playing pickleball about three years ago and was hooked after one or two times on the court. "I'm highly competitive," he said. "I was looking for an activity to do."

Julian then started playing in local tournaments, wanting to see how far he could go in this new sport. He was drafted by the Indy Drivers after connecting with Witsken and going through the combines.

There was more to pickleball than just playing for Julian. He has Parkinson's disease, and keeping active helps him manage it.

"Outside of medicine, exercise and activity is the best thing you can do for the disease," said Julian. "Cardio, balance, eye-hand coordination. It's important to do those. Pickleball is a perfect

sport. It's helped me push back on the disease."

Witsken and Julian will be back with the Drivers this season. They will be joined by another local player, Carmel's Heather Ifert. Cohn said they drafted Dan Wuerffel, a former NFL quarterback and Heisman Trophy winner, but traded him for Witsken.

"It's nice to be the defending champions going in with this team," said Cohn.

The 2024 NPL will have double the teams this season with 12. All six of last year's teams are back in the league, and they are now competing with franchises in Columbus (Ohio), Houston, Seattle, Coachella Valley, Kansas City and Princeton.

The NPL began its season May 17 with its Chicago tournament, which took place at Pickle Haus in Algonquin. The league's next event is June 21-23, the NPL Columbus tournament that takes place at Paddle Taps in Worthington (Ohio).

Two Hamilton County girls players get top-scorer status in All-Stars vs. Junior All-Stars

The REPORTER

The Indiana All-Stars faced off against the Junior All-Stars Wednesday at Kokomo's Memorial gym.

The girls went first, with the Juniors beating the All-Stars 83-80. Two Hamilton County players were among the top scorers: Noblesville's Meredith Tippner led the way with 22 points, also dishing out six assists and collecting five rebounds.

Hamilton Southeastern's Maya Makalusky reached double-double status with 14 points and 12 rebounds. Sheridan's Kenzie Garner scored two points. Tippner threw in three 3-pointers and Makalusky made two 3s.

For the All-Stars, No-

blesville's Reagan Wilson scored six points, while Hamilton Heights' Camryn Runner added two points.

In the boys game, the All-Stars took care of the Junior All-Stars 104-96. Noblesville's Aaron Fine scored six points and dished out four assists, with Fishers' Keenan Garner pulling seven rebounds to go with four points. Westfield's Trey Buchanan scored three points.

Mr. Basketball Flory Bidunga added 34 points and collected 22 rebounds for one more double-double.

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Softball

Royals going for first state title since 2010

The REPORTER

It will be a case of unstoppable force meeting immovable pitching Friday night at Purdue University for the Class 4A softball state championship.

Hamilton Southeastern will take on New Palestine for the title, with first pitch at 8 p.m. at the Boilermakers' Bittinger Stadium. The Royals will be trying for a third state title, while the Dragons, after winning six Class 3A state titles, are looking for their first championship in 4A.

If New Palestine knows how to do anything, it's run. The Dragons have put up 288 runs this season on their way to a 25-4 record and a No. 4 ranking in the Softball Coaches Association of Indiana poll. New Pal puts up nearly 10 runs per contest (an average of 9.93) and has smacked 50 home runs.

Three Dragons players bat over .400. Senior shortstop Allie Blum leads the way with a .560 average, with a team-leading 51 hits, 61 runs and 52 RBIs for the season. Blum has also hit 21

home runs.

Senior right fielder Sydney Oliver is close behind with a .510 average, collecting 50 hits and 40 RBIs. Junior Maddie Engle, the team's center fielder, bats at a .407 clip with 38 RBIs and eight homers.

Another senior, Courtney Study, is the New Palestine pitcher. She is 17-2 for the season with 73 strikeouts and a 1.99 earned run average.

Dominant post-season

Seven of the Dragons' 19 regular-season victories were by the 10-run rule, and they were only pushed to extra innings once. That was New Pal's regular-season finale, a 7-6 loss to Avon May 18 in eight innings.

The Dragons shook off that setback to dominate during the post-season, outscoring their opponents 72-7 with three of their six tournament wins being shutouts. New Palestine flew through the Pendleton Heights sectional, beating Muncie Central 21-0 in a five-inning quarterfinal, the host Arabians 9-0 in

the semifinals and Greenfield-Central 10-4 in the championship.

The Dragons played their regional at Cathedral, cruising past the Irish 12-1 in five innings. New Pal got its revenge against Avon at the Bedford North Lawrence semi-state, taking care of the Orioles 6-0 in the semis, then beating Center Grove 14-2 in a five-inning championship.

If the Dragons have been the unstoppable force when it comes to runs, then Southeastern's Grace Swedarsky has been immovable in the pitcher's circle – or make that unhittable. The sophomore has thrown 257 strikeouts over 19 games, compiling a 17-2 record with a 1.50 ERA.

The Royals can hit, of course. Senior Addy Justice leads the way in that department, collecting 45 hits over the season with a .464 average. Senior Lani Wyrick is next with a .396 average, including 18 RBIs, and leads the team in runs scored with 31. Another senior, Reese Garland, is on top of the

RBI list with 23, along with five home runs. Senior Alex Kiemeyer has four homers for the season.

Southeastern has been solid for the post-season, outscoring its opponents 28-3 with four shutouts. The Royals won the Carmel sectional by beating Westfield 6-0 in the quarterfinals, Zionsville 2-0 in the semifinals and Noblesville 5-2 in the championship to break a seven-year sectional title drought.

Southeastern hosted Logansport in what turned into a two-day regional thanks to the weather. But the Royals got it done 9-0 to advance to the Harrison semi-state, which also was affected by weather. HSE beat Fort Wayne Carroll 2-0 in last Saturday's semifinal, then went back to Harrison Monday to beat defending 4A state champion Penn 4-1 in the championship.

It may have taken an extra two days, but the Royals got the victory – and are back in the state finals for the first time in 10 years. Southeastern won its two



Reporter photo by Julie Brown
Hamilton Southeastern sophomore pitcher Grace Swedarsky has thrown 257 strikeouts this season with a 1.50 earned run average. The Royals will play New Palestine Friday in the Class 4A state championship.

state championships in runner-up to Bloomington 2007 and 2010 and was the South in 2014.

Record-setting driver Parnelli Jones passes away at 90

Submitted by IMS

Parnelli Jones, the 1963 Indianapolis 500 winner and the first driver to qualify for the "500" faster than 150 mph, passed away peacefully with his family by his side June 4 in Torrance, California. He was 90.

One of the most versatile drivers in history, Jones was so highly rated by all his competitors, including several of the best from Europe. He only competed in the Indianapolis 500 seven times yet led in all but two of them for a total of 492 laps, still the eighth-highest laps led total in the race's history. And in the only two starts he didn't lead – 1965 and 1966 – he ran many laps in second place, finishing in that position in 1965 and retiring from there with mechanical trouble in 1966.

Jones, who was born Rufus Parnelli Jones on Aug. 12, 1933, in Texarkana, Arkansas, is the only person ever to have led the Indianapolis 500 for 400 or more miles on two occasions. The first came when he won in 1963 and the second when his Andy Granatelli-entered, STP turbine-powered car failed after leading 171 of the first 196 laps in 1967.

Winner of the pole position with track-record qualifying speeds faster than 150 mph in 1962 and 1963, Jones never started lower than sixth in any of his seven "500s."

Even after retiring from INDYCAR SERIES competition as a driver, somewhat prematurely in 1968 at the age of only 34, the street-smart Jones continued to be a winner. He fielded a team with a longtime business partner Vel Miletich that won the "500" in 1970 and 1971 with a pair of PJ Colt chassis, built in-house under the direction of chief mechanic George Bignotti and driven by Al Unser. This combination also won the United States Auto Club

National Championship in 1970 followed by a second and third straight title in 1971 and 1972 with former motorcycle racing stand-out Joe Leonard behind the wheel.

Vel's Parnelli Jones Racing even briefly ventured into Formula One. They fielded Mario Andretti in the 1974 season-closing Canadian and United States rounds, followed by the entire Grand Prix circuit in 1975, and all the races up through the Long Beach, California, round in spring 1976, at which point lack of sufficient sponsorship brought the campaign to an end.

During this same period, the team also fielded Andretti and Unser in the Sports Car Club of America's Formula 5000 road racing series and the USAC Dirt Car (later Silver Crown) series on 1-mile dirt ovals, the two drivers consistently recording top-three finishes in each of these widely contrasting forms of motorsport.

Jones was named after a local judge, Rufus Parnell, whom his mother respected. The family moved from Arkansas to Fallbrook, California, when Jones was 2 and then to Torrance, California, when Jones was 7.

At age 17, while racing old cars in Gardena, California, Jones needed an alias to prevent race officials from learning he wasn't the minimum legal age of 18 to compete.

Jones' school friend, Billy Calder, came up with an idea to solve the problem. There was a girl in their school named Nellie, and Calder used to tease Jones about her liking him. Calder knew Jones' middle name was Parnell, and he would joke around with him, calling him "Parnellie." Calder painted the name "Parnellie" on the jalopy door, and the rest is racing history, with the "e" dropped somewhere along the way.

In 1963, Jones won the Indianapolis 500 in the No. 98 Watson-Offy nicknamed "Calhoun," although the race was not without controversy. Late in the running, oil began to seep from a tiny crack in an externally mounted oil tank, placing Chief Steward Harlan Fengler in the unenviable position of having to decide whether or not to black-flag the leader. While he was still deliberating, the leak stopped, and Jones was allowed to continue to the victory.

In 1968, Jones was supposed to drive the much-revised No. 40 turbine in the "500," but he ended up never turning a lap, having weighed his chances of winning against the growing responsibilities of his many business investments and his family. He decided instead to step down and turn over the car to Leonard, who was driving for the team Jones co-owned with Miletich.

Although he was now no longer an Indianapolis 500 driver, that did not mean Jones was through with driving. He became part of Ford's effort to win the SCCA Trans-Am championship, and he won the driver's title in 1970. In off-road racing, he teamed up again with Stroppe to score five major wins with a much-modified Ford Bronco, sponsored by Olympia Beer and affectionately nicknamed "Big Oly." The combination won the Baja 1000 in 1971 and 1972, the Baja 500 in 1970 and 1973, and the Las Vegas Mint 400 in 1973.



Photo courtesy IMS

Statements from Roger Penske and Indianapolis Motor Speedway President J. Douglas Boles about 1963 Indianapolis 500 winner Parnelli Jones, who died June 4 at age 90 in Torrance, Calif.:

"The racing world has lost a great competitor and a true champion. Parnelli Jones was one of the most accomplished racers in history, and his determination and will to win made him one of the toughest competitors I have ever seen. From racing against him on track to competing against him as a fellow team owner, I always respected Parnelli's passion and commitment to the sport he loved. I was proud to call Parnelli a good friend for many years, and our thoughts are with his family as we remember one of the true legends of motorsports."
— Roger Penske

"In over 115 years of racing at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, there have been many iconic moments and a handful of iconic drivers. Parnelli Jones was a total icon, both for his driving skill and the magical moments he created in the Indianapolis 500. He will always be known for his speed, talent and fearless approach, and for his personal demeanor and character. The first to officially break 150 mph at Indy, he also will be remembered for driving the famed STP turbine to near-victory in 1967 and as the winning Indy 500 owner in 1970 and 1971. His fingerprints on our sport go well beyond the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. A winner in virtually everything on wheels including USAC, NASCAR and off-road racing, he is truly one of the most versatile competitors the sport has ever seen. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends."
— J. Douglas Boles

Jones is survived by his wife of nearly 57 years, Judy, and sons PJ and Page, both of whom had professional racing careers. PJ Jones followed in his father's footsteps by starting the Indianapolis 500 in 2004 and 2006. Page Jones was making great strides on Midwest short tracks until he suffered serious injuries in a crash in 1994, ending his driving career.

Parnelli Jones was in-

ducted into numerous Halls of Fame, including the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Hall of Fame, the National

Motorsports Hall of Fame and both the National Sprint Car and National Midget Halls of Fame.

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