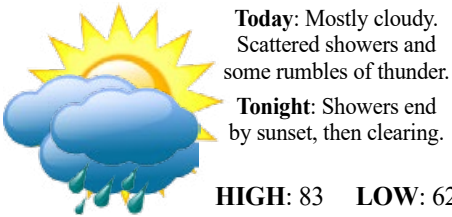


WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024

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TODAY'S WEATHER



CSO launches summer concert series at Coxhall Gardens

By **AMY ADAMS**
news@readthereporter.com

Many braved the heat Friday, June 21 to welcome summer with the Carmel Symphony Orchestra (CSO) as it kicked off its first-ever Summer Concert Series at Coxhall Gardens in celebration of the Summer Solstice.

The music of pieces like Vivaldi's "Summer," Mendelssohn's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," and Gershwin's "Summertime" filled the warm evening air as the sun set around 9:20 and the "Strawberry Moon" rose soon after on one of the longest days of the year.

"The start of summer and this unique full moon makes the pastoral setting of Coxhall Gardens the perfect place to relax and unwind," CSO Executive Director Anne Marie Chastain said.

Joining Principal Guest Conductor Joel Smirnoff and the CSO were violin soloist Cooper Olsen, former winner of the CSO Young Artist Competition and current student at the Indiana University Jacobs School



The Carmel Symphony Orchestra kicked off its first Summer Concert Series last Friday evening at Coxhall Gardens.

of Music, and soprano Asako Tamura, who launched her solo career singing with the Three Tenors during the World Cup Championships in Yokohama.

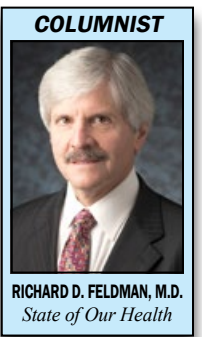
"We wanted to add a local celebration of this seasonal milestone and felt a collaboration of a wide and colorful group of artists would create the perfect solstice

event," Chastain said. "Around the world, many cultures host festivals focused on the solstice,

See Summer . . . Page 2

Reclassification of marijuana points to shifting federal attitudes

For many years much of the medical and public health communities have anxiously awaited the long-overdue federal Controlled Substances Act reclassification of marijuana to characterize it more accurately.



In 2022, President Biden requested the Health and Human Services Administration to conduct an extensive evaluation of marijuana's medical benefits and risks. As part of the evaluation, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration determined that marijuana has legitimate medical benefits and relatively low toxicity. The resulting 2023 HHS report concluded marijuana's reclassification from a Schedule I to a less restrictive Schedule III was appropriate. Now, the Biden administration announced a formal rulemaking process by the Department of Justice for the reclassification by the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Schedule I drugs, like heroin and ecstasy, are those with no accepted medical use and which have a high potential for abuse. Schedule I drugs are illegal for medical use, production, distribution, dispensing, and possession except for federally-approved research studies. Schedule III drugs, like acetaminophen with codeine, have low-to-moderate potential for dependence and have accepted medical use. Marijuana's current Schedule I classification designates it as more dangerous than fentanyl.

Rulemaking will proceed with a 60-day public-comment period. It may also require a public hearing and formal Congressional review before finalization. The DEA has final authority for any change in status, but given the Biden administration's strong support for reclassification, the DEA will almost certainly approve. Reclassification will take months to finalize.

I've written previously about the potential medical benefits as well as the untoward effects of marijuana use. Many studies have demonstrated various medical benefits and also that marijuana is far from a harmless drug. It's not my intention revisit these subjects now.

Public opinion drives public policy. Marijuana's reclassification initiative reflects that the clear majority of Americans want legalized marijuana, for better or for worse. Similarly, Prohibition ended because of the public's strong desire for alcohol.

A 2024 Pew Foundation report found that 88 percent of Americans favor legalization for either medical or adult recreational use. Fifty-seven percent favor both. Recreational marijuana is legal in 24 states and medically in 38. It's inevitable that more

See Marijuana . . . Page 2

Eleven of Hamilton County's finest graduate IMPD Leadership Academy

Submitted

Eleven Hamilton County police supervisors graduated last Friday from the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) Leadership Academy. This milestone underscores their dedication to professional growth and their unwavering commitment to enhancing public safety in Hamilton County.

The graduation ceremony took place at the iconic Indianapolis Motor Speedway. The IMPD Leadership Academy is a distinguished program designed to provide law enforcement officers with advanced leadership skills, strategic thinking, and ethical decision-making capabilities. The comprehensive curriculum includes intensive training sessions, case studies, and practical exercises that equip officers to address complex challenges and lead with integrity.

This graduation is a testament to the hard work and dedication of Hamilton County's police officers. It reflects



(FRONT ROW, from left) Sgt. Shane VanNatter (Carmel), Sgt. Jon Rice (Carmel), Sgt. Dewey Abney (Westfield), Lt. Thadd Haltom (Fishers), Sgt. Lindsay Bevilaqua (Westfield), and Sgt. Eddie Hanson (Hamilton County Sheriff's Department). (BACK ROW, from left) Sgt. Jason Shonkwiler (Noblesville), Sgt. Joshua Blocher (Noblesville), Sgt. William Knust (Noblesville), Lt. Jason Peasley (Fishers), and Sgt. Andrew Carey (Hamilton County Corrections).

their readiness to assume greater responsibilities within their departments and their

commitment to serving their communities with the highest standards of excellence. The knowledge and skills they have

acquired will undoubtedly contribute to the ongoing safety and well-being of Hamilton County residents.

Photo provided

"A tale of two counties"

Hamilton County Community Foundation releases community needs assessment report

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Community Foundation (HCCF) has commissioned a report identifying and analyzing the needs of community members in Hamilton County.

"Our Needs Assessment highlighted that Hamilton County is really a tale of two counties," HCCF President Tom Kilian said. "Our data shows that though many community members are thriving, many are worried about accessing essential services and resources such as affordable housing, dependable childcare, and reliable healthcare. This information will influence the priorities our strategic planning as well as play a role in guiding our grantmaking in the future."

The report presents data and recommendations surrounding five priority areas:

- Affordable Housing
- Education & Training
- Social Services



Kilian



- Childcare Solutions
- Transportation

These priorities not only reflect the acute needs within Hamilton County's community but also embody the essence of HCCF mission. They signal a call to action to leverage the platform and resources to catalyze change. HCCF invests over \$600,000 annually in the Hamilton County community through grants and strategic partnerships and this report will serve as a guiding resource.

HCCF's next step, which is currently underway, is to refresh its strategic plan to ensure it is aligned with the county's needs identified in this report. The refreshed strategic plan will be shared after it is completed.

Read the full report at [this link](#).



BGCN Director of Development Nathan Helm (left) and BGCN Donor Relations Associate Emily Crump (right) present a thank you poster from Club Kids to Walmart #923 General Manager Chris Gratzler.

BGCN grateful for Walmart's "Spark Good" grant in support of food programs

The REPORTER

The Tom & Soni Sheehan Boys & Girls Club of Noblesville recently presented Walmart #923 of Noblesville with a token of appreciation for the store's generous Spark Good grant of \$1,375 to support the Club's Meals 2 Members and Snack Pack programs.

The grant funding will be used to combat food insecurity by helping provide local youth with warm meals twice a week as well as snacks for the weekends. In 2023 alone, the Club served over 27,200 meals and snacks, ensuring kids had the nourishment they needed to succeed and start building great futures.

The Boys & Girls Club values Walmart's partnership and shared dedication to the healthy development of local youth.

Photo provided

MARIJUANA

from Page 1

states will follow. A Carnegie Mellon University study found more Americans now use marijuana daily than alcohol.

What will reclassification to Schedule III do?

The federal government has been permissive of states legalizing recreational use without interference. But reclassification won't affect the federal illegal status of recreational use, although it would appropriately lessen criminal penalties. Federal decriminalization or legalization would require Congressional legislation removing marijuana from the Controlled Substances Act.

Also, since 2014, Congress has allowed states to legalize medical marijuana

without restriction or prosecution despite being in conflict with preempting federal law. Reclassification would now federally legalize marijuana prescribing in states that have legalized medical marijuana.

According to the Congressional Research Service, prescribing would be limited to FDA approved and regulated prescription medications. This could take the form of synthetic or derived pharmaceuticals, extracts, or even regulated cannabis itself.

Importantly, FDA and DEA regulations make it very difficult to study schedule I drugs adequately. A lower classification would facilitate much needed thor-

ough research into marijuana's benefits and risks.

Reclassification is reflective of the evolving public acceptance of marijuana and the tremendous support for legalization. Further, it more justly treats the substance legally in relation to more dangerous and addictive drugs. Reclassification is a first step to reformulating the federal government's position.

A hugely significant change in federal attitude looms.

Richard D. Feldman, M.D. is an Indianapolis family physician and former Indiana State Health Commissioner who served in the administration of Governor Frank O'Bannon.

Time to get festive & patriotic in Sheridan!

By **CHUCK GODBY**
For The Reporter

The Sheridan Lions Club is once again staging the town's annual Fourth of July parade.

Registration for parade participants will start on Thursday morning at 9 a.m. at the Sheridan High School parking lot. There is no fee to participate. Registration concludes at 9:45 and the parade is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. It will make its way to Main Street and conclude at Biddle Memorial Park.

The local Lions are offering cash prizes for the best or most unique in these categories: Float (\$150), Tractor (\$50), Golf Cart (\$50), Antique Car/Truck (\$50), Bicycle (\$50), and Miscellaneous (\$50).

Sheridan Schools Superintendent David Mundy and his wife Megan are Grand Marshals for this year's event, which is recognized as one of the finest small-town parades.



Photo provided
Lions Club member Nate Mylet continues a Sheridan Fourth of July Parade tradition that began many, many years ago when the late Jesse Quick donned the clown makeup and drove the little car along the parade route. Jesse and Anne Quick dubbed Nate their "adopted grandson" so it was only natural that he continued for them.

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SUMMER

from Page 1

some lasting a week, so even though this event does not fall on the exact day we still want to celebrate the season."

In addition to the concert by the CSO, the pre-concert performance included Mr. Daniel, the Central Indiana Dance Ensemble, Kathak (North Indian) Dance Academy, Dhol Indian Drumming, the Indiana Association of Chinese Americans Lion Dance Team, and Indiana Ballet Conservatory.

Closing out the evening, Carmel Jazz Festival Artistic Director Blair Clark treated the crowd to Stevie Wonder's "You Are the Sunshine of My Life."

July 3 marks the next CSO concert under the stars at Coxhall Gardens with a tribute to Earth Wind and Fire at 8:30 p.m. Family-friendly entertainment begins at 5 pm. Ticket options include general admission, terrace seating, and a VIP experience with reserved seating, preferred parking, and private party in the Coxhall Mansion. For tickets, visit carmelsymphony.org/event/patriotic-concert-at-coxhall-gardens.



Reporter photos by Amy Adams
(TOP) Violinist Cooper Olsen joins the CSO for its Summer Solstice concert. (ABOVE) Soprano Asako Tamura sings a medley of Japanese folk art songs. (BELOW) Carmel City Councilmember Jeff Worell (left) served as master of ceremonies for the CSO concert.



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Opening Act: Bashari Asad - 6:45 p.m.

Patriotic Tribute to George M. Cohan with ATI - 8:00 p.m.

CSO featuring "Serpentine Fire":
The Music of Earth Wind & Fire - 8:30 p.m.

Jump start your holiday celebration! Scan the QR code to purchase tickets or visit CarmelSymphony.org



Kids in America to headline Noblesville Fourth of July Fireworks Festival

The REPORTER

The 2024 Noblesville Fireworks Festival has announced details for the free events taking place on Thursday, July 4, beginning at 4 p.m. with the Stars & Stripes Forever Parade through Downtown Noblesville.

“The Fourth of July is always a special day for my family and so many families throughout Noblesville, and our festivities have become a summer staple that brings our community together,” Mayor Chris Jensen said. “In addition to the festivities, we also take this opportunity to express our gratitude to those who have served and continue to serve our country, safeguarding our freedoms.”

The day kicks off at 4 p.m. with the annual Fourth of July Parade through downtown Noblesville, sponsored by Gaylor Electric. Registration to participate in the parade is \$25 (nonprofits are not charged) and entries must be submitted by Friday, June 28. Forms are available at NoblesvilleFireworksFestival.com.

The Fireworks Festival, sponsored by IDI Composites International, will take place at Forest Park from 6 to 10 p.m. The event will include traditional park amenities such as trails, shelters, shade, and playgrounds, including the newly remodeled south playground; along with festival attractions like inflatables, balloon twisters and face paint-



Photo provided

Rock out with Kids in America when they perform the best hits of the '80s during Noblesville's Fourth of July Festival.

ers in the Kids Zone. The Teen Zone also will have age-appropriate inflatables, Spyder bungee jump and a rock wall. New attractions this year include the return of a zip-line, inflatable corn maze and a two-person gyroscope.

Kids in America will perform iconic '80s music on the Pacers Sports and Entertainment Main Stage from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. The festivities will culminate with the annual fireworks show, which will begin at 10 p.m. and is sponsored by Midwest Paving, East Bank Apartments, Meijer, and Promenade Trails.

In addition to all the free events planned, Forest Park also features a limited VIP section where families and friends can purchase tables for the evening. These tables

offer up-close seating to the live music performance, an exceptional view of the fireworks, separate bathrooms, and a great meeting place to safely gather and eat in between activities. VIP table groups may bring in their own food and drink, participate in a table-decorating contest, and get access to separate VIP restroom options. Tables seat eight people and cost \$160. Funds received for VIP section accommodations help defray costs of hosting the community event.

Public parking will not be available at the park. Parking permits for the Noblesville Aquatic Center are available to purchase for \$25 prior to July 4. Proper tags must be displayed to be able to enter the north entrance from State Road 19 during the festival.

The July 4th Planning Committee has made traffic flow improvements to better manage end of event travel from Forest Park for motorists, pedestrians and trolley riders. The Noblesville Fireworks Festival offers free shuttle routes throughout and after the event to assist guests in getting to Forest Park from designated off-site parking lots.

VIP Tables and parking passes may be purchased online at NoblesvilleFireworksFestival.com or by calling the Noblesville Parks Department at (317) 776-6350.

The Noblesville Fourth of July parade, festival, and fireworks display is the longest continuously running celebration in Central Indiana and an annual tradition in Noblesville since 1997.

New speaker scheduled for Westfield Chamber's Thursday morning coffee

The REPORTER

Due to a scheduling conflict, a new speaker will present a different topic for this Thursday's Coffee Connections. The Westfield Chamber of Commerce apologizes for the late notice and appreciates attendees' understanding in advance.

Adam Grubb will serve as the June coffee speaker from 8 to 9 a.m. Thursday, June 27. He will speak on the “Magic of Corporate Values.”

Grubb stands at the helm

of Adam Grubb Media as its CEO, leveraging a wealth of experience garnered over numerous years dedicated to helping companies share their story through video marketing. With an infectious blend of enthusiasm and wit, he infuses each interaction with a dynamic energy that captivates audiences.

Please plan to attend Thursday and delve into the corporate world with Grubb and gain insights into his journey and expertise.

[Click here](#) to register.

Art/photo contest opens for new DNR license cards

The REPORTER

Hoosiers can submit their art and photos to serve as the background artwork for new durable cards for hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses for next year.

From July 1 through Aug. 2, Hoosiers are encouraged to submit up to two of their Indiana-based, nature and wildlife-themed artworks to DFWcontests@dnr.IN.gov. All 2-D art mediums (i.e., photography, painting, drawing, graphic design, etc.) are eligible, with the exception of art generated by artificial intelligence. The artist's name and city will be credited on the cards.

Four entries will be selected to be printed on licenses next year. The full list of contest guidelines is

at events.IN.gov/event/DF-WCardContest.

The new durable license cards are expected to be available in early 2025. Once the program is launched, anyone who purchases an Indiana hunting, fishing, trapping, or combo license will have the option of ordering their license in that form for a nominal fee to be added to the total license fee.

The durable cards will resemble the style of a credit card and be able to withstand harsh outdoor conditions. License holders will be able to choose which of the four selected artworks they would like to have on the front of their license card. The current printable licenses will continue to be available at no extra cost.

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For more information, scan below.





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Hodson earns rank of captain with Cicero PD



Photo provided
Cicero Police Department congratulates Ed Hodson on his promotion to the rank of Captain. Captain Hodson has been with CPD for 14 years and was previously a Sergeant on third shift. (ABOVE) Captain Hodson (left) is shown here with Police Chief Jeff Rednour.

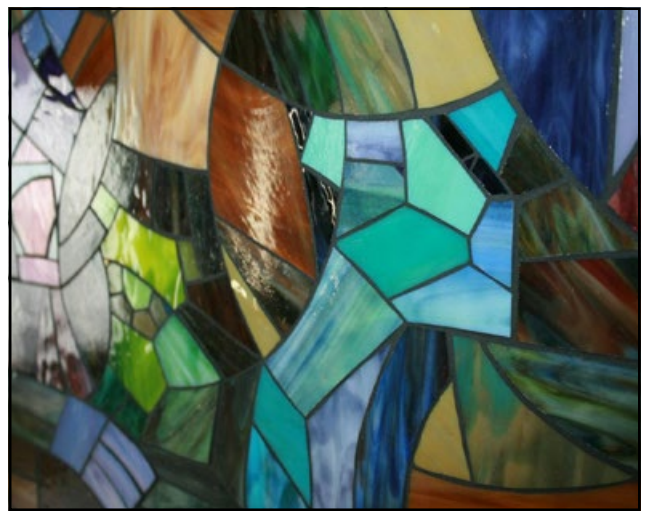


Photo provided

Bright & Bold: stained glass art

Submitted "Every piece of glass has a quality and potential that is just waiting to become something larger than itself," said the Nashville, Ind., glass artist. "I love that a bland-looking sheet of glass can become a stunning piece of art when it's cut up and arranged" differently.

Before meeting DeMaris, sign up to win one of her suncatchers each time you visit Indiana Artisan Gifts & Gallery during the July 13 *Meet Me On Main* in the Carmel Arts & Design District. The store is located at 22 N. Range Line Road, Carmel.

Letter to the Editor

Shaffer thanks Worrell & Ayers for voting against more housing in Carmel's Gramercy neighborhood

Dear Editor:
My thanks go out to Camel City Councilors Jeff Worrell and Teresa Ayers, who voted against adding 1,000 housing units and other paraphernalia to the Gramercy community between 126th Street and Carmel Drive.
Worrell and Ayers heeded the concerns of neighbors and the election-year complaints about congestion and the growth in apartment houses instead of single-family homes.
The addition of 1,000 to 1,500 more vehicles in that confined area insures massive traffic jams on two already over-worked arteries.
One has only to watch the massive roundabout lock-up in rush-hour traffic to predict what day-long lockups we will experience in years to come.
Adding \$53 million to the \$1.4 billion civic debt to inconvenience taxpayers further ain't no way to run a city.
Bill Shaffer
Carmel

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.

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The Flying Toasters rock Cool Creek Park with electrifying performance

Submitted by HCPR

Cool Creek Park was the place to be this past Friday evening as The Flying Toasters took the stage with an electrifying high-energy performance. The beloved local band, known for their dynamic covers of rock and pop classics, drew an enthusiastic crowd, despite the sweltering summer evening.

The Flying Toasters delivered a flawless set, blending timeless hits from the '70s, '80s, and '90s. Audience members were on their feet, dancing and singing along. Highlights included renditions of The Beatles' "Twist and Shout," Journey's "Don't Stop Believin'," and Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Free Bird."

The talented musicians showcased their impressive skills with seamless transitions and captivating solos. Each band member had their moment to shine, and it was

clear that The Flying Toasters delivered a memorable performance yet again at Cool Creek Park.

The fun at Cool Creek Park continues this summer: July 12, BroCountry; July 19, Trippin' Billies; and Aug. 2, der Polkatz. Get tickets online at MyHamiltonCountyParks.com or at the gate the night of the show. Gates open at 6 p.m. and show begins at 7 p.m.

Hamilton County Parks thanks the sponsors of the Cool Creek Summer Concert series: Title Sponsor Napleton Automotive Group, IU Health, Ashlin Hadden Insurance, The National Bank of Indianapolis, Renewal By Andersen, Compass Realty, Sobczak Construction Services, Community First Bank of Indiana, Keeler-Webb, Friends of Hamilton County Parks, Inc., Coxhall Guild, and Helium SEO.



Photos provided by Hamilton County Parks & Recreation



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Never seen before at Feinstein's

Upcoming tributes to Bob Dylan, Celine Dion, Heart & Tina Turner

Submitted

Situated in the heart of Carmel City Center and the Center for The Performing Arts, Feinstein's at Hotel Carmichael is unlike any other venue in the Midwest. This live entertainment venue offers an unforgettable nightlife experience and is recognized for honoring and paying tribute to the musical greats.

Coming this summer are four never-before-seen tributes at Feinstein's, including Bob Dylan, Celine Dion, Heart, and Tina Turner.

On Saturday, July 6, Feinstein's presents "Chrome Horse: The Bob Dylan Tribute." Drew Gabbert, a Texas-based veteran musician, has set the table and is serving up an authentic Dylan experience with a repertoire that spans six decades of material.

"Chrome Horse" is a high-energy, electrifying experience from start to finish. Expect incredible stage presence and undeniable talent – an unforgettable night of music and entertainment.

One of the things that sets "Chrome Horse" apart is the connection with fans. The interaction, including sharing stories, creates a sense of intimacy and a unique experience. This show goes above and beyond to create a visually stunning performance. Attention to detail ensures that every aspect of the show is memorable.

"Chrome Horse Tribute" is a must-see for all Dylan heads. Royal Albert Hall, Rolling Thunder Revue, Budokan – whichever

era of Dylan is your favorite, you'll find it among the Tribute's sprawling set list. Until the invention of the time machine, this is your chance to see vintage Dylan." @Sharkeybarcus, Lakewood, Ohio.

"Celebrating Celine" follows on July 12 and 13. Jenene Caramielo, who has delighted audiences the world over, delivers a stunning tribute show to the legendary Celine Dion with her breathtaking vocals.

Before traveling the globe as a sought-after headliner on luxury cruise lines or selling out top cabaret rooms such as Feinstein's 54 Below in New York City and the Royal Room in Palm Beach, Caramielo honed her craft with a wide variety of experiences and education.

A true crossover entertainer, she is as adept at belting a Celine Dion or Whitney Houston song as she is performing an aria or captivating audiences with Broadway show tunes. She has shared the stage with the group Chicago, has opened for The Beach Boys, has kicked off Major League Baseball games with our national anthem.

Her very own tribute show, "Celebrating Celine," is leaving audiences awestruck. Celine Dion fans will reconnect and reminisce with classic and contemporary hits like "Because You Loved Me," "My Heart Will Go On," "I Drove All Night," "Power of Love," and many more.

Accompanied by a live

band, Caramielo's breathtaking vocals deliver goosebumps. She brings to life the iconic songs of one of the greatest vocalists of our time while she commands the stage and bares her soul for all to see. This is a must-see show for any fan of Celine Dion or anyone who appreciates exceptional live music.

Look a little farther to Friday, Aug. 16 when Feinstein's will present "Barracuda – America's Heart Tribute." This is a brilliant salute to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductee.

Hailing from Nashville, Tenn., each extremely talented member is world traveled with an impressive resume. The band is known nationwide for its monster vocals, stellar musicianship, and dazzling live performances. This hand-picked act is the busiest Heart Tribute in the USA. Taking audiences on a musical journey back in time, "Barracuda" faithfully recreates Heart's radio and chart-topping hits that are loved by fans worldwide.

With their highly stylized concert presentation of Heart's greatest hits, no audience member will be disappointed.

On Thursday, Aug. 22, you'll enjoy "Simply the Best – A Celebration of Tina Turner." Join Feinstein's for a celebration of Tina Turner's musical legacy, her singular voice, and iconic hits.

All hail the "Queen of Rock 'n' Roll." Tina Turner's iconic voice and decades-spanning career gave

us songs that became part of the soundtrack of our lives. This celebration of Turner's musical legacy features hits like "Proud Mary," "What's Love Got to Do with It," "Disco Inferno," "Private Dancer," and "Simply the Best."

From the team that brought you the hit shows "All the Way: A Frank Sinatra Tribute," "One Voice: The Music of Manilow," "Sweet Caroline: The Life and Music of Neil Diamond" and "Because of You: A Tribute to Tony Bennett," join Don Farrell and the Terry Woods Jazz Quartet as they launch their next tribute show featuring Indy vocal sensation Tiffany Gilliam singing the songs of the woman who inspired millions.

Click here for tickets for all Feinstein's shows.

About Feinstein's at Hotel Carmichael

Feinstein's is situated in the heart of Carmel City Center and adjacent to The Center for The Performing Arts. Partnering with the legendary Michael Feinstein, the live entertainment venue offers an unforgettable nightlife experience, combining performances by some of the best with exquisite dining in an elegant setting. Featuring up to five events weekly, accommodating 135 people in the main dining room and bar, including an exclusive private dining room for up to 16, this small intimate venue offers you the perfect "front row" seat no matter where you are. Learn more at feinsteinshc.com.

ATI Executive Director Brian Frost joins this week's The Omnibus Show

The REPORTER

This week's episode of *The Omnibus Show* welcomed Brian Frost, who recently took over as Executive Director of Actors Theatre of Indiana with a veteran background in investment and real estate.

Frost discussed tips on pivoting in your career and life after retirement. He said there are four stages. He also discussed the intricacies of combining business and the arts and balancing the mindset of each. Finally, he charted out the challenges with Actors Theatre of Indiana.

He grew up in Plattsburgh, N.Y., and received a Bachelor of Arts from Union College in Schenectady, N.Y., with a major in economics. Frost then came to Indiana University School of Business in Bloomington to get his MBA.

Frost worked as an investment advisor for Robert W Baird and Prudential Securities, then for Fifth Third Bank. Since 2017, he has been a realtor/associate broker with his wife in her real estate business, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices.

"One of my jobs is to

provide leadership," Frost said. "I want to continue moving things in the right direction."

He is doing what he can to share information about Actors Theatre of Indiana – including programming and fundraising.

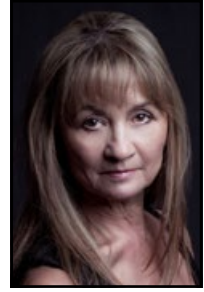
Next week's guests on *The Omnibus Show* will be Suzann DeLay and Ashley Jacobs – the mother/daughter duo from Central Indiana Dance Ensemble. DeLay is the Founding Director/Executive Director and Co-Owner of CIDE. Jacobs is Co-Artistic Director of CIDE, as well as the Co-Owner of the Central Indiana Academy of Dance.

About The Omnibus Show
The Omnibus Show is Carmel's No. 1 podcast, hosted by Dave Gibbs and produced for people who love interviews of interesting and accomplished people and who are life learners themselves.

Visit TheOmnibusShow.com for the audio podcasts and YouTube channel for more information and to sign up for the newsletter.



Frost



DeLay



Jacobs

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Letter to the Editor

Noblesville resident doubtful of Mayor Jensen's claim that cutting down trees is about public safety

Dear Editor:
Thank you for the opportunity to respond to **Mayor Jensen's guest column on June 21** where he congratulated the city of Noblesville for being named a Tree City USA for 34 consecutive years.

The opening two paragraphs of his narrative paint a glowing testimony to the city's efforts regarding the enhancement of the community's urban forests and how richly deserving the city is in this recognition. He notes that trees are a "critical asset of any city" and that Noblesville met one major criteria for being a Tree City USA by being committed to a \$2 per capita amount to be spent on urban forestry. With a population of 72,748 as for 2022, that amounts to \$145,496. For a city budget of \$116 million that amounts to 0.1 percent of the city's budget.

Unfortunately, the Mayor's actions are not in keeping with the image he is attempting to project in his glowing testimony — certainly not when it comes to sustaining and improving neighborhood landscapes where his constituents live.

In his opening two paragraphs, the mayor identifies all the good he and his staff have performed over the years regarding urban forestry and then spends seven paragraphs defending his actions in taking trees down throughout communities in Noblesville. To be fair, I live in one of those communities where approximately 300 mature trees out of 600 or so have been identified for removal over the next two to three years due to various and sundry reasons with the primary being that the roots of

these trees are causing the sidewalk to buckle and thus, are a threat to "public safety."

The side street that I live on is about two-tenths of mile in length and then dead-ends. Last night, I counted 32 trees and 29 of those 32 have been identified for removal due to their threat to "public safety" ... really? The fact 91 percent of a side street's trees have been identified for removal boggles the imagination and calls into question the integrity of the mayor's evaluation standards with regard to "public safety."

The result of Mayor Jensen's actions will be to denude our neighborhood of one of our most treasured community attributes. Property values will decline, and the general ambience of the community will suffer. According to a report on the Realtor.com website, "The visual appeal of trees is unmistakable—beautiful landscaping attracts buyers. Research has shown that planting large trees can increase property values anywhere from 3% to 15%, according to the Arbor Day Foundation."

Instead of seeking to preserve and sustain trees and address the desires of his constituents, the mayor and his arborist staff have opted to simply remove the trees as the optimal solution, and use "public safety" as the reason. As one neighbor pointed out, it takes two hours to cut a tree down, six to seven hours to repair a sidewalk, and 25 years to grow a tree.

Finally, the Mayor states in his narrative that the city has a strong commitment to our tree canopy. He goes on to state that investment in the tree canopy across our city is a top

priority.

I guess in the final analysis, it's simply too difficult to square these words of the mayor with his actions in our neighborhood. His statement about "public safety" is "government speak" at its best. I guess when I think of "public safety," I think of our police preventing and responding to crime, city services responding to emergencies, and making sure buildings and roads are safe to use. The fact a sidewalk has buckled by an inch doesn't rise as a public safety priority. In fact, the mayor must feel the same way because the most egregious examples of sidewalk buckling are found on the neighborhood's main thoroughfare, which isn't scheduled for its "public safety" upgrade until next year.

So much for prioritizing "public safety."

I can certainly be accused of being cynical and bitter about this, but after living in Noblesville for 25 years and nurturing my landscape and taking care of the trees planted in the right-of-way alongside my property, I believe I earned the right to be somewhat cynical. Mayor Jensen may say he has our "public safety" at heart, but these actions show me he doesn't have my or the community's best interest at heart.

Sorry to be a pessimist, but others in Noblesville need to beware ... he's coming to your neighborhood next in his pursuit of "public safety."

(1) Durrani, A. (2021). *Branch Out! How Trees Can Affect the Value of a Home.* realtor.com

Tom Roberts
Noblesville

Bret Richardson announces his run for Noblesville School Board

Submitted

Community and business leader Bret Richardson has announced his candidacy for the Noblesville Schools Board of Trustees.

Richardson is a Noblesville High School graduate and has extensive experience serving Noblesville's schools, students, and the community.

He is the incoming board president of the Noblesville Schools Education Foundation, was a swim and dive coach and volunteer for almost 20 years, is mentoring a student at North Elementary, volunteers frequently in support of students and staff, and completed the Noblesville Schools Miller Ambassadors program to learn about the district.

"As a longtime Noblesville Schools parent, grandparent, and volunteer, I have always been a strong advocate for students and teachers," Richardson said. "I am running for the school board to ensure we stay on the path of continuing our excellence in education. I will work to expand and grow opportunities for our students and staff, while carefully over-

seeing our tax dollars. I want to be sure Noblesville School continues to build a strong future for our community."

In addition to his support of the schools, Richardson is a longtime leader in the Noblesville community. He has been on numerous boards, including the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce, Noblesville Main Street, Noblesville Preservation Alliance, Noblesville Swim Club, and the Noblesville Noon Kiwanis Club. He served on the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department for 10 years, both as a road officer and Reserve Division Captain, and was also the co-chairperson for the City of Noblesville Bicentennial Committee.

Richardson and his wife Tammy have three daughters who graduated from Noblesville High School and three grandchildren in Noblesville Schools. Tammy is a former teacher and has worked as a secretary for 15 years at Noblesville East Middle School.

Please visit RichardsonForNoblesville.com to learn more.



Richardson

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ALERT: Indiana experiencing emergency blood shortage

Patient care at risk, Versiti Blood Center of Indiana issues plea for donors

The REPORTER

Versiti Blood Center of Indiana has issued an emergency appeal for blood donations due to a dangerously low blood supply. Certain blood types have less than a day's worth of availability, endangering the lives of local patients. Summer donations have plummeted to critical levels, with over 4,463 appointments missed in the past month alone.

All blood types are needed, with O-positive and O-negative being the most in demand. O-positive is the most common blood type, while O-negative blood is the universal type that can be safely received by all patients in emergencies when the blood type is unknown.

"We know summer is a

challenging time for blood donation, and we plan for it every year, but what we see today is dire," said Dr. Dan Waxman, vice president of transfusion medicine and senior medical director at Versiti. "Patients' lives are at risk. If you are healthy and able, we are pleading with you to donate blood this week."

In addition to unfilled appointments and a rise in cancellations and no-shows, Versiti's partner hospitals have required a significant volume of blood

this past month to support organ transplant procedures and other traumas.

"The demand for blood simply does not match the number of donors coming through our doors," Waxman said. "While we deeply appreciate our loyal donors who consistently show up, it's important to recognize that about 3 percent of people who are eligible to donate blood actually do. If it's been a while since your last donation or you're a first-time donor, we are excited to welcome you."

Donor center locations

- Carmel:** 726 Adams St., Suite 150
- Fishers:** 11005 Allisonville Road
- Indianapolis:** 3450 N. Meridian St.



versiti™

What happens if blood is not available for patients?

When the local blood inventory gets as low as it is now, it jeopardizes the health and safety of patients who rely on life-saving blood transfusions. In some cases, hospitals are forced to postpone surgeries or delay critical treatments.

Trauma victims from car accidents or shootings are

at the highest risk, as their survival often depends on a healthy blood inventory. If these types of cases occur in the coming days, there may not have the blood needed to keep them alive.

Patients undergoing organ transplants and battling cancer, and even mothers in labor, could face treatment delays or complications due to a limited blood supply.

To schedule an appoint-

ment to donate blood, call (317) 916-5150 or visit versiti.org. Walk-in donors are also welcome.

Donating blood takes about an hour. Anyone aged 16 or older who is in good health and meets eligibility requirements is encouraged to give. Parental consent is required for donors aged 16 to donate blood. Donors should bring a photo ID that includes their birth date.

Post Malone to make stop at Ruoff while on "F-1 Trillion Tour"

Submitted

On Tuesday, nine-times diamond-certified GRAMMY Award-nominated global superstar Post Malone announced his F-1 Trillion Tour, a momentous 21-show outing that will make a stop at Ruoff Music Center in Noblesville on Thursday, Sept. 12.

Last week, the singer re-

leased "Pour Me A Drink" featuring Blake Shelton, while also announcing that his debut country album *F-1 Trillion* will be out on Aug. 16. His first single off the upcoming album and mega-smash "I Had Some Help" with Morgan Wallen is continuing to dominate the charts. Upon release, it crash-landed at No. 1 on the

Billboard Hot 100, tallying "the highest weekly sales and streams since 2020" and remained at No. 1 for five consecutive weeks, emerging as "the longest running number one song of 2024."

"I love y'all so very much and I'm so excited to get out and play new music for you," Malone said.

Tickets

Tickets will be available starting with a Citi presale beginning at 10 a.m. today, June 26. Additional presales will run throughout the week ahead of the general sale beginning at 11 a.m. Monday, July 1 at live-nation.com.

Presale

Citi is the official card

of the Post Malone tour, and Citi cardmembers will have access to presale tickets beginning 10 a.m. today, June 26 until 11:59 p.m. Sunday, June 30 through the Citi Entertainment program. For complete presale details, visit citientertainment.com.

VIP

The tour will also offer

a variety of different VIP packages and experiences for fans to take their concert experience to the next level. Packages vary but include premium tickets, pre-show VIP Lounge, exclusive VIP gift item, and more. VIP package contents vary based on offer selected. For more information, visit vipnation.com.

What Will I Take with Me?



When all is said and done and this world is no more, what will I have to show for my life? When I cross the great divide from life to death what will I take with me? I cannot answer the first question for you, but I can the second – NOTHING but my soul. The only thing of eternal value is my soul. Am I making prudent use of it?

We meet at 15530 Herriman Blvd. in Noblesville. Our building is behind the doctor's office and at the stop sign.

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.



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

Letter to the Editor

To all HSE school board candidates: is it about politics or the kids?

Dear Editor:
Gone are the days when a stay-at-home mom with a couple kids in public school would run a low-spending campaign for school board with a few yard signs and bake sales.

Last November in a PBS interview with Julie Marsh, Professor of Education Policy at USC, she spoke about how much more money is being spent to win school board seats. The sophisticated campaign strategies being used, the negative campaigning, and the influence of political parties behind the scenes are turning school boards into political pawns. Is this also happening to the HSE school board?

Public schools and public school boards are designed to be non-political. When you go to vote for school board, you won't see Rs or Ds behind their names. When political action committees (PACs) are allowed to run candidates, create voting blocs, and influence school board policy, our community loses. School board members who cast votes according to the wishes of their PACs instead of their own conscience will put politics before the best interests of our children.

Currently, there are two PACs running candidates for HSE schools.

First, we have Democratic candidates supported by HSEqual. Any candidate running with the financial support and endorsement of this organization will more than likely be favoring a return to the promotion in our schools of CRT, SEL, DEI, Pan-orama, and to bring back the micro-

aggression policy.

Second, we have Republican candidates financially supported and endorsed by Fishers One. When Fishers One began it was a conservative, grassroots effort made up of volunteers upset with the academic decline of HSE schools. However, Fishers One has branched out to run Republican candidates for city council and become aligned politically.

But, voters do have one option come November: a candidate who is running her own campaign with no support from PACs. She has had four children attend our public schools. She is the incumbent with four years of experience. She loves our community, our schools, and has worked tirelessly for the best interests of the children.

That candidate is Suzanne Thomas. When Ms. Thomas was elected in November of 2020, our schools were already in academic decline. During her first two years in office, her voice was often the lone voice speaking out for our children. Ms. Thomas has implemented many policies as well as supporting others to help return our schools to be one of the best school districts in the state. You may read about her vision for HSE schools on Facebook page, [Suzanne Thomas for HSE School Board](#).

Just one of the goals she achieved was the re-insertion of the phrase "academic excellence" into the HSE district mission statement. Some might think this is a small thing, but it is the vision of our school leaders

which sets the tone for our entire school district.

Ms. Thomas has a stellar voting record. She is fiscally responsible, helping to save our community \$15 million with the renovation of Fishers Elementary. She is a supporter of all children, including support for all educational pathways: vocational, technical, university, military, and trades.

Suzanne Thomas appreciates our fantastic teachers and support staff. She supports our new superintendent, Mr. Mapes, and his vision to improve HSE schools.

Suzanne Thomas has the experience, the voting record, and the vision to help move HSE schools forward. She is in this race for 21,299 reasons; that number represents HSE student enrollment. Ms. Thomas is there for each and every child.

The school board isn't about politics for Suzanne, it's about the children. And in her own words, "This Mama Bear will continue to advocate for students, teachers, and families."

I urge all voters in the HSE school district to do your homework. Look up voting records. Go listen to the candidates. Choose your school board members wisely, they will set policy which shapes the vision of our public schools.

Please exercise your right to vote because your voice matters. Let's turn out in record numbers in November and vote for the candidates who are truly in it for the right reasons.

Kellie Kelly
Fishers

Fishers One endorses three candidates for HSE school board

Submitted by Fishers One

Grassroots community organization Fishers One has endorsed three candidates for the Hamilton Southeastern (HSE) School Board in the upcoming November election. The group says it is dedicated to improving the quality of education in schools and conservative leadership within the city of Fishers.

After discussing a variety of topics with the candidates and reviewing the criteria for endorsement consideration, the organization supports the following at-large candidates:

• **Greg Lannan** – Delaware Township At-Large Candidate

• **John Stewart** – Wayne Township At-Large Candidate

• **Terry Tolle** – Fall Creek Township At-Large Candidate

These candidates bring strong backgrounds, professional experiences, and community service, making them well-equipped to serve on the school board. Fishers

One is confident that Lannan, Stewart, and Tolle will work collaboratively with other school board members and the school administration to continue the district's progress into the future.

"With the successful 2022 election of four new board members, also endorsed by Fishers One, our district has already seen significant improvements, said group founder Diane Eaton. "We strongly believe that the addition of these three new board members will help HSE continue on the right path for success for our students and educators."

Every voter within the HSE school district will have the opportunity to select three at-large candidates. Fishers One urges the community to support Greg Lannan, John Stewart, and Terry Tolle in the upcoming November election.

For those interested in getting involved with Fishers One or learning how to support the endorsed candidates, please reach out to fishersoneteam@gmail.com.

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Reliable Energy president responds to OMS-MISO survey results

Submitted

Reliable Energy, Inc. (REI) President Jon Ford issued the following statement in response to the release of the 2024 OMS-MISO Survey. The survey highlights resource adequacy risks and how these risks could grow over time across all seasons without an increased power supply.

According to the results, MISO may experience a resource sufficiency ranging from a 2.7 gigawatt capacity shortfall to a 1.1 gigawatt surplus next summer.

"MISO initially expressed concerns in February in its Reliability Assessment Report regarding power shortages in states such as Indiana. The survey released yesterday presents even more compelling data the state cannot afford to disregard.

"MISO CEO John Bear has warned that Indiana and the 14 other states under MISO's power supply oversight need to postpone the closure of baseload power plants to meet demand and guarantee a continuous power supply for all residents, particularly during the warm summer months.

"It is the responsibility of the Indiana General Assembly and the next Governor of Indiana to collaborate with our state's utility regulators in response to MISO's call to ensure that the state has sufficient power to keep the lights on for all Hoosier

families and businesses."

OMS-MISO Survey Results Summary

The annual OMS-MISO survey results were released on June 20, providing insights into the electric capacity outlook for the 2025-2026 planning year. Here are the key findings:

1. Capacity Deficit: The survey indicates a growing capacity deficit beginning in the specified planning year. Next summer, MISO could experience resource sufficiency ranging from a 2.7 GW capacity shortfall to a 1.1 GW surplus.

2. Resource Management Challenges: To address this, stakeholders need to delay resource retirements, accelerate resource additions, and monitor large load increases. Collaboration among developers, utilities, regulators, and other stakeholders is crucial to ensure a reliable energy supply.

3. New Considerations: The survey now includes considerations for potential large load additions, such as data centers and manufacturing sites. Long-term growth driven by economic development and electrification is also factored in.

4. Collaboration: MISO emphasizes collaboration with state regulators to maintain a safe, reliable, and affordable electricity system. The survey enhances our understanding of resource adequacy.

OMS-MISO survey results indicate tight resource capacity in the upcoming planning year

Continued reforms needed to reliably manage resource transition

Submitted

On June 20, Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO) and the Organization of MISO States (OMS) released the annual OMS-MISO survey results, which indicate a growing capacity deficit beginning in the 2025/26 planning year.

Next summer, MISO could see resource sufficiency ranging from a 2.7-gigawatt capacity shortfall to a 1.1-gigawatt surplus, underscoring the need to accelerate resource additions, monitor large load additions, and delay resource retirements to reliably manage the anticipated growth in electricity demand.

"Ensuring a reliable energy supply is more critical than ever," said Josh Byrnes, OMS president and member of the Iowa Utilities Board. "As we face tightening capacity reserve margins compounded with rapid and large load additions, it is imperative for everyone from developers (new load and generation), economic development authorities, utilities, regulators, MISO, and other stakeholders to work in close coordination. Collaboration is essential to

meet the growing demands of the MISO footprint and the rapidly changing system. Working together will ensure we collectively navigate the challenges ahead to ensure resource adequacy."

This year's survey includes new considerations to reflect a potential range of new, large load additions such as data centers and large manufacturing sites that could be added to the system in the near term. It also includes strong long-term growth driven by economic development activities and increased electrification. If the higher range of load additions comes to fruition – without a corresponding increase in capacity additions – the MISO region will likely see increased capacity deficiencies in the future.

"As outlined in our Reliability Imperative, there is an urgent need to continue and increase collaboration with our state regulators to ensure the evolving generation fleet can meet the growing demands across our footprint," MISO CEO John Bear said. "Our work with OMS has always focused on having a better understanding of MISO's resource

adequacy picture, and this year's survey enhancements are an example of how this work must develop and evolve to maintain a safe, reliable and affordable electricity system."

OMS and MISO conduct the annual, voluntary survey to assess available resource capacity to serve the projected load over the next five years (i.e., planning years 2025/26 through 2029/30). The survey aligns with MISO's resource adequacy process, and capacity sufficiency is based on generating units' availability, also known as seasonal accredited capacity. MISO uses this survey along with other information, such as the **Planning Resource Auction** and **Futures**, to create a holistic picture of the near- and long-term outlook of the grid.

About Organization of MISO States

The Organization of MISO States Inc. is a non-profit, self-governing organization of representatives from each state with regulatory jurisdiction over entities participating in the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (MISO), a regional trans-

mission organization as defined by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The purpose of the OMS is to coordinate regulatory oversight among the states, including recommendations to MISO, the MISO Board of Directors, the FERC, other relevant government entities and state commissions as appropriate. [Click here](#) to learn more.

About MISO

Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) is an independent, not-for-profit organization that delivers safe, cost-effective electric power across 15 U.S. states and the Canadian province of Manitoba. 45 million people depend on MISO to generate and transmit the right amount of electricity every minute of every day. MISO is committed to reliable, nondiscriminatory operation of the bulk power transmission system and collaborating with all stakeholders to create cost-effective and innovative solutions for our changing industry. MISO operates one of the world's largest energy markets with more than \$40 billion in annual gross market energy transactions. [Click here](#) to learn more.

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Indiana leads on energy innovation

By RYAN CRNARICH
Guest Columnist

It's an exciting time to live and work in Indiana, as a spate of new clean energy and technology manufacturing projects are promising 21st century jobs and economic development in our communities. As global markets continue to evolve, these investments will help Indiana carve its own path toward American energy independence.

From electric vehicle (EV) battery production to innovative carbon capture and utilization (CCUS) technologies to new solar facilities, the investments Indiana is currently seeing in our energy, manufacturing, and technology industries are helping ensure a stronger, cleaner, and more sustainable future and economy for all Hoosiers.

Two new EV battery manufacturing plants – one in **Kokomo** and the other in **St. Joseph County** – currently under construction will help cement Indiana's

leadership in building out domestic EV supply chains. Not only will these facilities help keep manufacturing jobs here in the United States, but they will also strengthen our energy independence by reducing our reliance on hostile foreign countries like China to source the technologies necessary to advance EV adoption nationwide.

The first of these projects, a \$3.2 billion EV battery plant, is a collaboration between Stellantis and Samsung that will help create 1,400 jobs in and around Kokomo. Once complete, it will be the second StarPlus Energy gigafactory in the city – the first is on track to begin production in 2025. The EV battery plant in St. Joseph County, a partnership between General Motors and Samsung, represents the single largest EV investment in our state's history at \$3.5 billion. It is expected to employ 1,600 Hoosiers once production begins in 2026.

Meanwhile, federal investments coming to a Mitchell-based **cement plant** will

play a critical role in advancing CCUS technology in Indiana and across the country. Heidelberg Materials North America was selected by the U.S. Department of Energy to receive up to \$500 million to install a carbon capture and storage system at their facility. Once up and running, the CCUS project is expected to capture at least 95 percent of the carbon emissions, preventing 2 million tons of carbon dioxide from being released annually.

Further on the clean energy front, a new, \$800 million **solar cell manufacturing plant** in Southeast Indiana was announced by Governor Eric Holcomb last year. The plant will help boost Indiana's robust manufacturing sector, creating roughly 1,200 new jobs in Jeffersonville over the next several years. Once production begins at the end of 2025, this new facility will help advance domestic solar energy technologies, making solar more affordable and accessible for more Americans while diversifying our coun-

try's energy mix.

These innovations and advancements are only possible thanks to commonsense public policy that encourages private investment in new, emerging technologies. That is what makes it even more notable that Indiana has a leader like Senator Todd Young in Washington. Senator Young was the driving force behind the CHIPS and Science Act, bipartisan legislation that is working to ensure America leads the world in technological innovation.

Hoosiers should be grateful for Senator Young's leadership on this legislation as it is helping to strengthen our all-of-the-above energy strategy, including investments in critical clean energy technology and manufacturing. Continuing down this path will help ensure more jobs, a stronger economy, and a more sustainable future here in Indiana and throughout the nation.

Ryan Crnarich is a Butler University graduate and currently a J.D. candidate at IU McKinney School of Law.

What are your thoughts on how Indiana and the country as a whole should handle energy production moving into the future? Send your letters to News@ReadTheReporter.com.

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Indiana state treasurer puts major investment firm on ESG watchlist

By GARRETT BERGQUIST
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

State Treasurer Daniel Elliott's office on Friday said it is reviewing Indiana's investments in BlackRock Inc. over that firm's environmental, social and governance practices.

The announcement marks the first time the treasurer's office has pursued any action against an investment firm since the passage of a state law in 2023 that prohibits the state's retirement system from making environmental, social and governance, or ESG, commitments in its investments. Officials with the treasurer's office said BlackRock has been placed on an ESG watchlist, which triggers an automatic 180-day review of its investments. The Indiana Public Retirement System will have to research BlackRock's investments and present a report to the INPRS board determining whether BlackRock has, in fact, engaged in ESG investing.

ESG investing involves making investments based on potential impact on the environment or people. It

has become a favorite target of Republican lawmakers nationwide. According to The Pew Charitable Trusts, Indiana was one of 14 states to adopt laws banning ESG investing by its state retirement system during 2023.

Treasurer's office officials told News 8 the move does not automatically mean Indiana will divest from BlackRock. If state investors are not able to find an alternative with a similar or better rate of return, the state's investments in BlackRock will continue. Any final decisions on whether to continue investing in BlackRock will be up to the INPRS board.

In a statement to News 8, BlackRock officials said they have invested roughly \$95 billion in Indiana's public employee retirement system. They also pointed to studies that showed anti-ESG laws have had a negative impact in the states that have enacted them. Oklahoma's law, passed in 2022,



Elliott

is now on hold pending review by the courts. A study by the Oklahoma Rural Association estimated that state's ESG boycott had cost the state \$185 million to date.

"Contrary to the Treasurer's assertion, BlackRock has been singularly focused on delivering performance for INPRS, consistent with their objectives. We take direction from our clients, as our business is grounded in our fiduciary obligation to provide our clients with choice," BlackRock officials said.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/politics/indiana-state-treasurer-puts-major-investment-firm-on-esg-watchlist.

Nieshalla welcomes review of Indiana Pension Fund Manager to ensure fiduciary-only approach

The REPORTER

State Comptroller Elise Nieshalla, serving as a board member of the Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS), welcomes a report to the Board from State Treasurer Daniel Elliott on fund manager BlackRock, Inc.

Nieshalla says the report offers needed insights into the company's environmental, social, and governance (ESG) investing policies and how they are incorporating non-financial factors in their investment decisions. The Treasurer's findings were reported to the Board as required under state law enacted in 2023.

"We need fund manager partners who balance fiduciary duty with market risks to maximize return rather than prioritizing non-financial factors such as social, political and ideological interests," Nieshalla said. "As a board, we must review our relationship with BlackRock and its investing policies as a whole."

Nieshalla's comments

follow the June 21, 2024, Board meeting where the State Treasurer presented information that Black-



Nieshalla

Rock engages in the prioritization of ESG factors over acting in the best interest of the beneficiaries and their investment returns. The report refers to the company's Securities and Exchange Commission public filing that says "management and reputational risks related to ESG engagement may cause revenue and earnings to decline."

Nieshalla added, "I appreciate the efforts of our State Treasurer for his research and reporting and for INPRS' contribution to our due diligence as a board."

In accordance with Indiana statute, the next step requires the Board to consider other fund managers not engaged in prioritizing ESG factors that are comparable in financial performance to ensure the Board's fiduciary duty to beneficiaries. The Board has 180 days to fulfill this duty.

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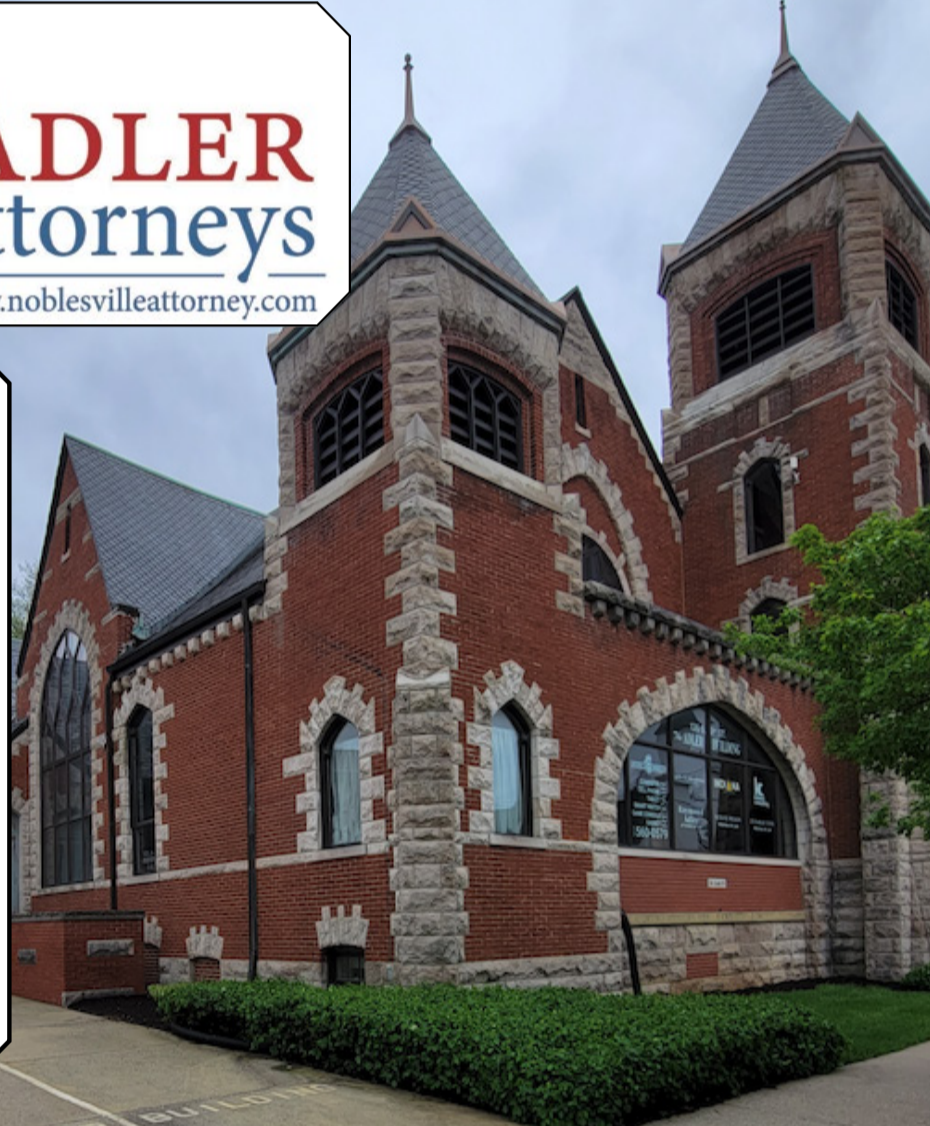
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TODAY'S BIBLE READING
THE ISRAELITES OPPRESSED

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, "When you are helping the Hebrew women during childbirth on the delivery stool, if you see that the baby is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live." The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live. Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, "Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?"

The midwives answered Pharaoh, "Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive."

So God was kind to the midwives and the people increased and became even more numerous. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own.

Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: "Every Hebrew boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live."

Exodus 1:15-22 (NIV)

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.

Meeting Notices

The Jackson Township Board will hold a regular public meeting to discuss general township business at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at the Trustee's Office, 506 W. Main St., Arcadia.

The Hamilton County Commissioners have canceled the highway meeting scheduled for Friday, July 5, 2024.

The Carmel Mayor's Housing Task Force will meet at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 27, 2024, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of Carmel City Hall, 1 Civic Square, Carmel.

Send Meeting Notices to:
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Students learn international business practices in Poland

Submitted

While doing research for her Master of Business Administration classes, Mikayla Tom wished she could interview an executive in an overseas company to ask questions about how human resources worked similarly and differently than in the United States.

This summer she had the opportunity to ask her questions at GFT, a technology company in Kraków, Poland, as part of an Indiana University Kokomo Experience and You (KEY) trip through the School of Business.

"I never thought I'd one day be able to have a conversation with the leader of an overseas company and ask about his recruiting process and how he keeps his company so diverse," she said. "Not only was I able to ask, but we connected through LinkedIn so I can reach out again with more questions."

"Nothing is really out of reach, and opportunities are really limitless," she added. "This trip left a deep impact on me. I definitely want to go back and continue to meet people and explore everything. I love Poland now."

Mikayla Tom was among 13 IU Kokomo students who spent 10 days in Poland, visiting businesses

to meet with industry leaders, and touring historical sites in Warsaw and Kraków.

The trip was led by Gloria Preece, assistant dean and director of the MBA and MPM programs, and assistant professor of personal financial planning and marketing, and Adam Smith, associate professor of marketing.

"Studying in Poland provides a rich cultural experience, with a history that blends various influences from both Eastern and Western Europe," Preece said. "Understanding Poland's history, including its transition from communism to a market economy, provides students with unique insights into economic and political transformations."

She noted that Poland has one of the fastest growing economies in the European Union, and the cities they visited are known for their vibrant business environments and innovative start-ups.

"Studying in such an environment provides insights into economic development, market trends and business strategies in a rapidly evolving economy," Preece said. "Exposure to these hubs allows students to learn about entrepreneurship, innovation, and modern business practice."

They visited the Ameri-



Photo provided by IU Kokomo

can Chamber of Commerce, Amazon, the World Bank, the National Bank of Poland, Google, the Volvo Tech Hub, and several locally owned businesses. The trip also included touring the Warsaw Uprising Museum, Wavel Castle, the Schindler's Factory Museum, and Auschwitz and Birkenau, among other sites.

Zoe Wainscott, Kokomo, had a personal interest in the trip, because her family immigrated from Poland generations ago. As a marketing and human resources major, she was curious to see those fields in real life in a country that only joined the European Union in 2004.

"I was interested in the placement Poland holds in the EU, being such a new country in it," she said. "Seeing the history we've read about, it is different seeing it in person, and how it's impacted the country around it. The people there were amazing and meeting them was impactful too."

MBA student Mattie Tom, Carmel, appreciated the opportunity to see more historical sites, as she and Mikayla Tom, who is her sister, went on IU Kokomo's

World War II trip in 2023. Visiting Auschwitz was a grim reminder of that chapter in history, she said.

"It was so much heavier," she said. "It's hard to explain the weight you felt there. There was no sense of hope. You can feel that once people arrived there, that's where they met their fate."

However, she enjoyed the kindness of the Polish people they met and was impressed with how generous they were with their time.

"We all talked about how interested and open they were," she said. "The CEO of Volvo spent three hours with us one day. I don't feel there would be a corporation here that would take the time for their CEO and leadership team to talk to a group of students."

International travel allows students to consider expanded opportunities, Smith said.

"They can see they have options outside of Kokomo, Indiana, or even the United States, to work for a company that has locations in many places. They can see that they are competing in a global marketplace."

Thanks for reading!

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REPORTER SPORTS WEDNESDAY

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CARMEL, FISHERS, GUERIN CATHOLIC, HAMILTON HEIGHTS, HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN, NOBLESVILLE, SHERIDAN, UNIVERSITY, WESTFIELD

Baseball

Reporter names all-county teams

Fishers' Jack Brown named Hamilton County Player of the Year

By CRAIG ADKINS
For The Reporter

Each season, it keeps getting more and more difficult to decide the all-county teams here in Hamilton County. Our nine teams continue to set and raise the bar with the level of competition they all face during their respective seasons.

Westfield (21-11) was the lone county team to make it out of its sectional, winning the toughest sectional in Indiana by beating Zionsville, Carmel and Fishers. The Shamrocks won the Lafayette Regional over McCutcheon (13-2) but fell in the Lafayette Semi-State semifinals to eventual Class 4A state champion Lake Central, 5-1.

Noblesville (22-7) went 12-2 in the Hoosier Crossroads Conference to finish as co-champs, sharing the title with Zionsville, making the Millers back-to-back HCC champions. University (15-12-1) won the Pioneer Conference with a 5-0 record. The Trailblazers have now won three Pioneer titles in a row and have strung together 21 straight league wins dating back to 2021.

All nine county teams finished with winning records. Fishers finished 22-9, followed by Guerin Catholic (21-6), Carmel (18-11), Hamilton Southeastern (15-

14), Hamilton Heights (15-14) and Sheridan (14-12).

Hamilton County was well-represented in the annual North/South All-Star series that took place June 21-23 at Huntington University's Forest Glen Park. Fishers' Jack Brown and Gavin Kuzniewski, Davis Wagner of Guerin Catholic and Carmel's Hunter Snow played for the South, while Noblesville's Nolan Decker and Westfield's Brayden Hibler were North teammates.

Jack Brown, senior (Fishers): the University of Louisville commit and South all-star was dialed in on the mound this season with a 7-1 record. Brown also sported a 2.06 earned-run average in 51 innings and struck out 67 while walking 25. At the plate, Jack hit .419, going 31-74 with two HRs and six doubles. In his four-year career as a Tiger, Brown hit .391 and notably had 87 RBIs, 25 doubles, scored 70 runs.

Davis Wagner, senior (Guerin Catholic): committed to Augusta University in Augusta, Ga., Wagner was recently named the Indiana District L Player of the Year. Hitting .412 to lead the Golden Eagles, Wagner belted six HRs and drove in 32 runs, along with scoring 25 runs, while also hitting 12 doubles. He had

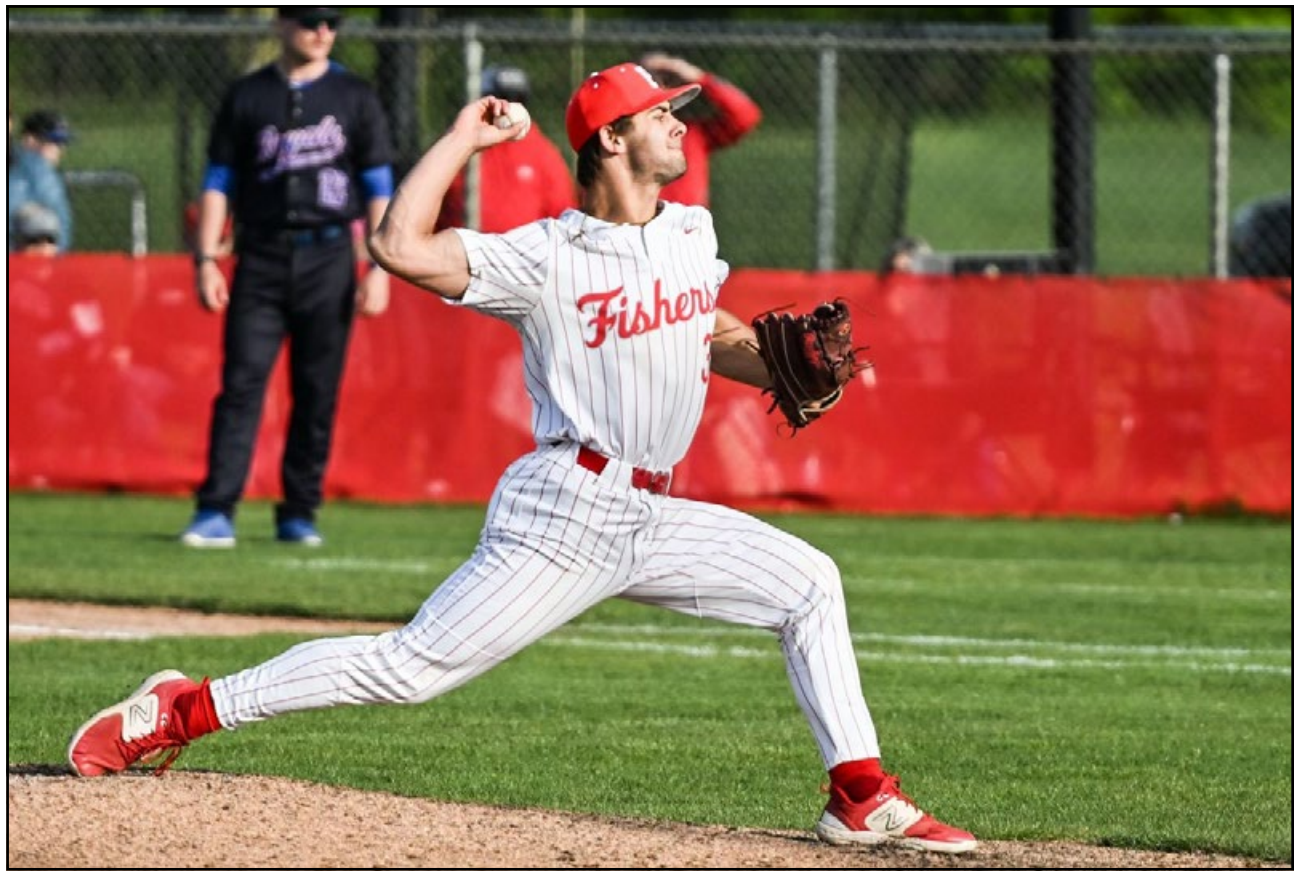


Photo provided

Fishers' Jack Brown is the 2024 Hamilton County Reporter Player of the Year. Brown was outstanding on both sides of the pitcher's mound: he compiled a 7-1 record with a 2.06 earned run average, while hitting .419 at the plate.

command on the hill, going 5-2, striking out 46 and only yielded nine walks.

Brayden Hibler, senior (Westfield): committed to the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, Missouri, Hibler was a four-year varsity standout for the Shamrocks. This season, Hibler played a significant role in Westfield's run to

semi-state. Brayden hit .295 this season with two HRs, 27 RBIs, scored 24 runs, hit seven doubles and legged out four triples.

Nolan Decker, senior (Noblesville): Decker is also a North all-star and will be heading to Troy University in Troy, Alabama to play for the Trojans. The two-way starter had a steady senior

season, batting .304 with 19 RBIs, 17 runs, two doubles and managed to draw 34 walks, good for second on the team. Nolan threw 44 innings as a starting pitcher with a 4-2 record, 3.34 ERA. Decker also struck out 56 while walking just 14.

Dean Mason, senior (Hamilton Heights): the Huskies' South football all-

star had quite the senior season on the diamond. Mason hit .362 with six HRs and 26 RBIs, while smacking six doubles and scoring 29 runs.

Hunter Snow, senior (Carmel): a South all-star selection for the Greyhounds, Snow will be headed to Baylor University in

See Baseball... Page 14

Swimming

USA Swimming celebrates record-breaking attendance at historic Olympic Trials

Carmel's Chris Plumb named assistant, Whitlock takes third in 1500

The REPORTER

USA Swimming, the national governing body for the sport of swimming in the United States, achieved a significant milestone and garnered international attention by breaking multiple attendance records at the 2024 U.S. Olympic Team Trials - Swimming presented by Lilly. On June 15, the meet welcomed a record-breaking 20,689 attendees at Lucas Oil Stadium, making it the largest gathering for a swim meet in history. The following day, 17,697 fans set a new mark for the most-attended prelims session in swimming history. The momentum continued throughout the week, and last Wednesday (June 19), fans pushed the record even higher, with a staggering 22,209 in attendance.

Across all sessions, the meet welcomed over 285,000 fans, more than a 60 percent increase from the previous total attendance record at Swimming Olympic Trials. Record attendance at the Toyota Aqua Zone and USA Swimming Live presented by Purdue University fan experiences and record retail sales added highlights to the nine-day event in Indianapolis. The Indiana Sport Corp was instrumental in transforming the city and galvanizing volunteers to execute this historic event.

"One of USA Swimming's main goals, aside from remaining the best swimming nation in the world, is to promote our sport and expose it to new audiences," said Tim Hinchey III, USA Swimming President and CEO. "As a host city, Indianapolis

has exceeded our expectations, with the most tickets we've ever sold for an event. This overwhelming support is a testament to the growing popularity of the top Olympic sport and a promising sign for its growth."

The historic Olympic Trials kicked off on June 15, the first swim meet in an NFL stadium. The Trials offered a unique experience for USA Swimming's passionate and loyal fanbase, growing the sport and boosting its exposure. Nine nights of prime-time coverage on NBC added broad exposure to the sport and set the stage for incredible athlete performances in the pool, where they set multiple world and American records.

The venue also showcased a first-of-its-kind 70' tall vertical digital board for athlete entrances and unique new premium hospitality options for fans, donors, and VIPs. Years of planning, design, preparation, and construction brought Hinchey's vision to life, creating an atmosphere usually reserved for premier professional sports. USA Swimming plans to build on its achievements in Indianapolis as it prepares for success in the pool in Paris.

Plumb named assistant Olympic coach

Carmel Swim Club head coach Chris Plumb has been named as one of the assistant coaches to the U.S. Olympic team.

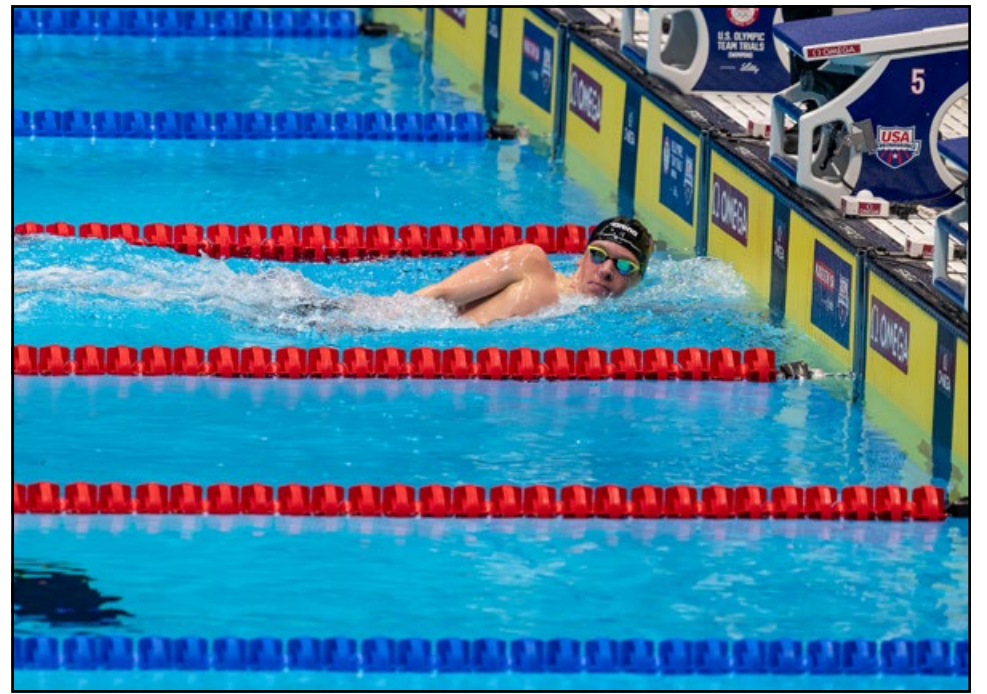
Plumb has been the CEO and head coach of the club since 2006. He has also served as the Carmel High School head coach during

that time; every single Greyhounds girls team that Plumb coached has won an IHSAA state championship, part of a national record 38 consecutive titles. Plumb has also coached the Carmel boys team to its current streak of 10 consecutive state championships.

Led by men's head coach Anthony Nesty (University of Florida) and women's head coach Todd DeSorbo (University of Virginia), the other assistant coaches are Carol Capitani (University of Texas), David Durden (University of California - Berkeley), Braden Holloway (North Carolina State University), Chris Lindauer (University of Notre Dame) and Greg Meehan (Stanford University).

"Choosing the assistant coaches, we looked to create an environment for competitive success, based on talent, trust, and team," said Lindsay Mintenko, Managing Director of the National Team.

"Anthony (Nesty) and I have been discussing potential assistant coach options with staff dynamics in mind for two years. We had such a great experience in Budapest at the 2022 World Aquatics Championships with staff



Julie Brown / File photo

Noblesville's Luke Whitlock, shown here during the Men's 800 freestyle prelims, finished third in the Men's 1500 freestyle last Sunday. Whitlock will go to the Olympics, as he qualified in the 800 race by finishing second in the finals.

and team performance - we were looking to emulate that again," said DeSorbo. "The staff we have put together is a group of people we trust, and we are confident in their ability to coach a variety of athletes to success. They will provide a great day-to-day environment and energy for the team to thrive. We look forward to spending the next five weeks with this

group of talented coaches and great people."

Whitlock finishes third in 1500

Noblesville's Luke Whitlock, swimming for Fishers Area Swimming Tigers, placed third in the finals of the Men's 1500 freestyle, the closing event of the Olympic Trials last Sunday.

Whitlock clocked in at

14 minutes, 53 seconds, just behind second place David Johnston, who finished in 14:52.74. The top two swimmers qualify for the Olympic team in that event; Robert Finke won the race in 14:40.28.

Earlier in the trials, Whitlock made the team in the Men's 800 freestyle. He finished second in that event with a time of 7:45.19.

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↑ **801**
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Hamlett named boys track & field head coach at Carmel

Courtesy Carmel Athletics

Brian Hamlett has been named as the new head coach of the Carmel boys track & field program.

Hamlett has 21 years of track coaching experience starting with his tenure as a head coach in Grayslake, Ill. Hamlett arrives at Carmel after serving for four years as the head coach of the girls track program at Brebeuf Jesuit and then transitioned to oversee both the boys and girls track programs at

Brebeuf during the 2024 season, leading the Braves to a sixth-place finish at the boys state meet.

Hamlett was a three-sport athlete in high school as he balanced football, track & field, and basketball. A four-year letterman at Southern Illinois University in football, he holds the school record for receiving touchdowns in a game. Coaching track



Hamlett

& field became his passion after college. As a track head coach, his transformational coaching focus on student-athletes led to much success at Brebeuf Jesuit both on and off the track.

Mr. Hamlett will teach Social Studies at Carmel High School in the fall. An introductory meeting for the team will be held after the start of the school year.

County golfers making impact at Boys State Junior Championship, naturally

The REPORTER

There's another big junior golf tournament taking place in Indiana this week, and Hamilton County golfers are making an impact, of course.

The Indiana Golf Association is hosting the Boys State Junior Championship, which began Monday at Purdue University's Ackerman-Allen Course. The tournament started with 36-hole stroke play Monday and Tuesday, and moves into match play today, with the top 64 qualifying.

Thirteen Hamilton County golfers have made it to match play, including three in the top 10. Westfield senior-to-be Will Harvey is tied for fourth with a three under par 140. Harvey blasted to a seven under par 65 in his first round, with seven birdies, then scored 75 in his second round, with two more birdies.

Jake Cesare, another incoming Westfield senior, is in seventh place with a two under 141. Cesare had

a bogey-free first round, finishing with a four under 67, totaling four birdies and 14 pars. He made four more birdies in his second round of 74.

Leo Wessel, a recent Guerin Catholic graduate, totaled a 144 for stroke play. Wessel carded an even par 71 during his first round, making four birdies, then scored 73 in his second round, draining two birdies.

Match play begins today at 8 a.m. for the first round. The second round of play (Round of 32) will take place once the first round is complete.

Here is a list of all Hamilton County golfers and their stroke play scores.

Advancing to match play

T4. Will Harvey, Westfield 65-75=140, **7.** Jake Cesare, Westfield 67-74=141, **10.** Leo Wessel, Indianapolis 71-73=144, **T15.** Hudson Kutchna, Westfield 74-72=146, **T28.** Kai Warner, Fishers

71-77=148, **T30.** Ryan Cesare, Westfield 72-77=149, **T33.** Mattingly Upchurch 76-74=150; Robbie Burt, Carmel 73-77=150, **T39.** Vijeet Akala, Fishers 79-73=152, **T47.** Thomas Klinker, Fishers 74-80=154, **T54.** Dustin Turpin, Noblesville 76-79=155; Lance Decker, Noblesville 75-80=155; Jordan Huxford, Fishers 78-77=155.

Missed cut

Jack Harris 76-81=157; Ethan Hoagland, Carmel 73-84=157; Tyler Marucci, Noblesville 79-78=157, Will Parenteau, Carmel 76-83=159, Mason Price, Carmel 79-83=162, Alex Gardner, Carmel 85-81=166, **T97.** Brandon Burt, Noblesville 82-85=167, Jaxon Henegar, Noblesville 81-87=168, Soren Baker, Westfield 83-86=169, Trey Kremer, Westfield 86-84=170; Johnny Quinn, Westfield 86-84=170, Liam Mullins, Carmel 87-89=176.

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Tell all your friends and neighbors about this great Resource Fair that is for all of us here in Hamilton County, Indiana.

Bring a neighbor, bring a friend, bring a Veteran!!!!

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BASEBALL

from Page 13

Waco, Texas to play baseball in the Big XII Conference. Hunter showed why he's headed south to continue his career in college. Hitting at a .357 clip for the Greyhounds, Snow also had a team-leading six home runs and 35 RBIs. He went 30-for-84 this season with 24 runs scored and six doubles.

Trevor Corbett, junior (Noblesville): the uncommitted Miller junior led the team with 29 RBIs and 36 runs scored and hit two home runs, both grand

slams, while hitting .297. Corbett also had four doubles, two triples and drew 25 walks. Through 84 games in three seasons, Trevor has a .341 average with 87 runs on 84 hits with 54 RBIs and drawn 73 walks.

Ty Anderson, senior (Westfield): Anderson has committed to continue his baseball and academic careers at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Ill. Ty was a vital part of the Westfield pitching staff over the last few seasons. During the

Shamrocks' tournament run to the semi-state, Anderson was on point. His senior campaign wound up 8-4 and a 2.06 ERA while striking out 78 in 68 innings.

Gavin Kuzniewski, senior (Fishers): the South all-star selection has been a leader for the Tigers for the past few seasons. The Ohio State signee posted a Fishers-best 1.97 ERA to go along with his 5-3 record this season. In 49.2 innings, Kuzniewski fanned 65 hitters and walked just 20.

The Reporter's 2024 All-County Baseball Teams

FIRST TEAM		
Name	School	Grade
Ty Anderson	Westfield	Senior
Jack Brown	Fishers	Senior
Trevor Corbett	Noblesville	Junior
Nolan Decker	Noblesville	Senior
Brayden Hibler	Westfield	Senior
Gavin Kuzniewski	Fishers	Senior
Dean Mason	Hamilton Heights	Senior
Hunter Snow	Carmel	Senior
Davis Wagner	Guerin Catholic	Senior
SECOND TEAM		
Name	School	Grade
Ryan Castetter	University	Sophomore
Beckett Doane	Noblesville	Sophomore
Bryson Dorsey	Guerin Catholic	Senior
Matt Drozlek	Westfield	Junior
McCoy Fulk	Noblesville	Junior
Aiden Ramsey	Noblesville	Junior
Aiden Reynolds	Noblesville	Sophomore
Kam Seitz	Hamilton Southeastern	Senior
JD Stein	Carmel	Junior
HONORABLE MENTION		
Name	School	Grade
Jimmy Caldwell	University	Senior
Huston Dunn	Fishers	Junior
Ben Hammond	Fishers	Senior
Ethan Lund	Hamilton Southeastern	Senior
Alex Rudolph	Westfield	Senior
Tate Troxell	Guerin Catholic	Sophomore
Dayne Voegel	Sheridan	Junior
Phoenix Vondersaar	Hamilton Heights	Senior
Tyler Walkey	Carmel	Senior

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