



What kind of life are new diploma standards getting kids ready for?

Westfield teachers speak out about proposed Indiana diploma requirements

By AMY ADAMS
news@readthereporter.com

In March 2024, when the Indiana Department of Education unveiled a proposed revamp to the requirements for students to obtain high school diplomas, educators across the state took notice.

Westfield High School teachers have been speaking out about the overhaul and their concerns over what they perceive as lowered standards, lack of clarity, and a quick turnaround time. With a recent revision to the initial proposal being announced by the IDOE on Wednesday, Aug. 14, some WHS teachers are glad their voices are being heard but believe there is more work to be done.

The March announcement by the IDOE proposed replacing the current Core 40 requirements and multiple diploma options with a base diploma requiring 42 credits intended to meet goals set forth through Indiana Graduates Prepared to Succeed (GPS). Among other changes, the recently released update adds the option for students to earn honors and technology "seals" to add to the base diploma.

Charlene Heinzman, WHS German teacher and president of the American Association of Teachers of German in Indiana, was present last Wednesday for the rollout of the revised plan. She said she could hear whispers in the background when the announcement was made and quite a few voices saying, "Yes, but ..."

"I thought it was very evident right from the get-go that they took the feedback and reworked it because it was very



Westfield High School teachers, from left, Andrew Schaaf, Charlene Heinzman, Jennifer Hasler Troutman, Dawn Knight, and Nikki Heflin discuss proposed IDOE changes for high school diploma requirements.

Reporter photo by Amy Adams

different than draft one," she said. "They reformatted it to make it more readable and more easily understood, but it still left a lot of questions with a lot of people."

Heinzman said one of her initial concerns was with the lack of clarity in the original language of the document, and Heinzman wasn't the only WHS teacher who began expressing apprehensions.

WHS Spanish teacher Jennifer Hasler Troutman said she felt the newly proposed diploma requirements would limit the flexibility of students by forcing them to choose at an early age what course of study

they wanted to pursue.

WHS English teacher Dawn Knight said she worries that the new base diploma won't keep Indiana students competitive in college admissions, both in and out of state.

Chef Nikki Heflin, WHS Family and Consumer Sciences teacher, expressed similar doubts about students being adequately prepared for employment. Having recently been named the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher of the Year, she said she doesn't

want to see vital teaching curriculum removed from career and technical programs.

WHS math teacher Andrew Schaaf not only teaches geometry, which all students are required to take, but he also teaches AP Stats and finite math, which appeal to students seeking college entrance, and he teaches a math course at Indiana University. He further understands the perspective of parents because his son is a student of the Class of 2029, which is the first class that will be affected by these new requisites. Schaaf said he believes the proposed base

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"There are places where standards are being lowered. I don't know of a situation in my 30 years of teaching when lowering standards is good for kids in any way."

— WHS English teacher Dawn Knight

Some lawn & garden wisdom

As Chuck walks in the back door, he asks, "Honey, have you noticed the grass the 'unnamed' internet company planted in our front yard?"

He notices my scowl. "You mean the crappy grass that has turned into four patches of mostly weeds?"

After it was planted, we discussed how quickly it grew. We "expected" it to flourish and blend in with our lawn. Looks can be deceiving. Appearances can prove false.

That quick growth soon became an eyesore as we noticed more weeds and sparse, thin blades of grass uglifying our lawn.

Isn't it true that what we quickly allow in our lives can turn into something we didn't expect, and not in a good way?

Relationships. Opportunities. Grass.

The promises tell us things will be wonderful. Later, the only things that we see are disappointment, red flags, and weeds.

These things can affect our attitude, mental health and outlook on life.

Yikes.

As Chuck walks in the front door, he asks, "Honey, have you noticed the sunflower growing by our mailbox?"

He notices my smile. "You mean the rogue sunflower that I did not plant but is slowly growing and is perfectly planted right in front of our porch?"

It's been several weeks since we first noticed the sunflower. Slowly, over time, we started to see it growing taller, and eventually, we saw a bloom. As the sun makes its way through the sky, the bloom follows its direction. It seems to thrive in the sunlight.

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JANET HART LEONARD
From the Hart

Hope is always free thanks to Prevail



Reporter photo

Prevail Inc.'s annual Celebration of Hope Gala was held last Saturday night at the Embassy Suites Conference Center in Noblesville. The Gala serves as the organization's cornerstone in its fundraising efforts in providing lifesaving services, free of charge, to victims of domestic violence and abuse. Even though the event is over, you can still donate anytime online at prevailinc.org/donate. Be sure to read The Reporter this week for more photos and information from the Celebration of Hope Gala.

Carmel Symphony Orchestra bringing Motown & Disco to Coxhall Gardens

The REPORTER

Experience the fusion of the Carmel Symphony Orchestra (CSO) with the iconic sounds of Motown and Disco at 8:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 23 at Coxhall Gardens.

The CSO will be under the direction of conductor Mélisse Brunet, and joined by vocalists Gavin Hope, Tracey Gallant, Andrea Koziol, and Stephanie Martin of the Motown & Disco group Jeans 'n Classics. Wear your best Disco outfits and join the fun.

Get your tickets at tinyurl.com/CSOMotownDisco.

A star performer in the arts and entertainment scene, Gavin Hope's close-knit company of top players and vocalists has been captivating audiences for nearly three decades with their impressive symphonic rock performances. This team of artists tours year-round, joining symphonies across the country as special guests, showcasing their exceptional talent and close-knit camaraderie.

"This event marks the final concert of the Summer Series, and we are excited to introduce a funky and upbeat theme to get the crowd on their feet," CSO Executive Director Anne Marie Chastain said. "We wanted to create a complete experience where we feature a popular genre of music that also had an iconic fashion style associated with it."

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Classic cars abound as Cruise Indy event supports families of fallen & disabled military personnel & first responders

Submitted by Office of the Attorney General

Their shared passion was vintage vehicles.

Their common cause was raising money for scholarships for family members of fallen and disabled military service members and first responders.

The occasion was an event last Saturday called "Cruise Indy" in which participants drove their beloved cars and trucks to three Carmel locations where music blared, food trucks fed the hungry, and other festivities entertained the masses.

"It's great to be here with a bunch of patriots and a bunch of gearheads," proclaimed Attorney General Todd Rokita. "It's so great when we can use our hobbies to support bigger causes that we all believe in!"

Rokita, the event's keynote speaker, drove his own 1993 Corvette to the Indiana Spine Group in the 13000 block of North Meridian Street — one of the three stops along the cruise. The other stops were at the Meridian Mark office complex and the American Legion.

The aim of the Cruise Indy event was to raise \$25,000

for Folds of Honor, a charity that provides educational scholarships to spouses and children of individuals who have died or become disabled while serving in the U.S. military. Since 2007, Folds of Honor has provided more than 52,000 scholarships totaling over \$240 million in all 50 states.

And now Folds of Honor is expanding its mission to include the family members of first responders — police, firefighters, EMTs, and paramedics.



Photo provided by Office of the Attorney General
AG Todd Rokita speaks with Cruise Indy attendees.

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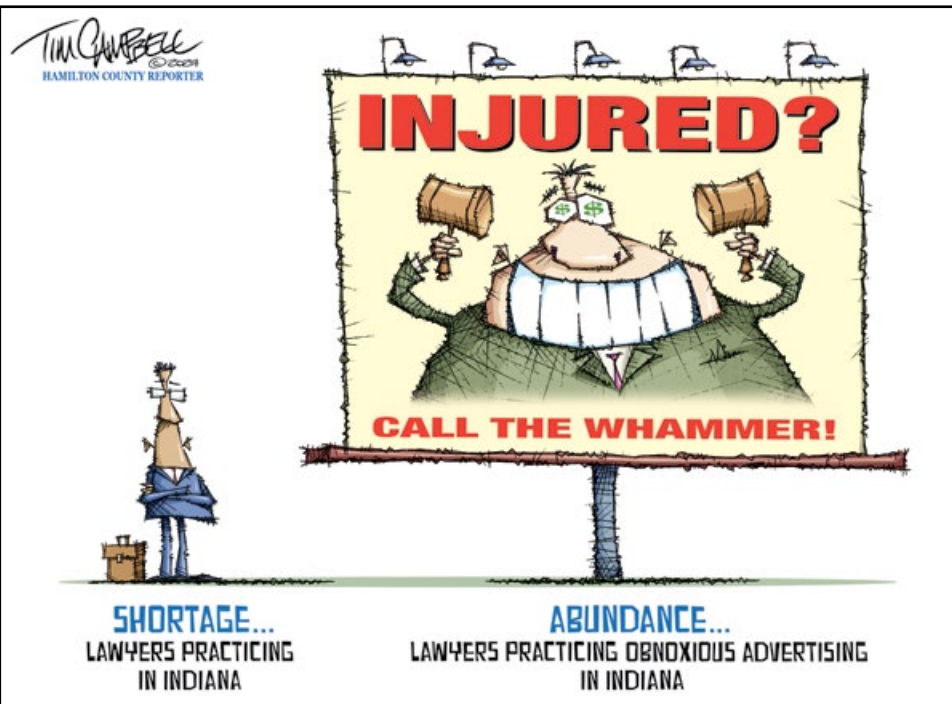


Photo courtesy @MyBigFuture
Hamilton Heights' Landon Faubion, Kristina Penski, Hailey Hall, Isabel Morrow, and Cole Martin earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs. They were among 90,000 students from across the country recognized for their strong academic performance and to open opportunities for their future.

Five students reaching new Heights in education

The REPORTER

Five students at Hamilton Heights High School earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs.

These programs celebrate students' hard work in high school and showcase their strong academic performance. The academic honors for Rural Area, Black, Indigenous, and/or Latino students, and new this year, First Generation are an opportunity for students to share their strong academic achievements with colleges and scholarship programs that are seeking to recruit diverse talent.

• **Landon Faubion:** National Rural and Small-Town Award (NRSTA), First Generation (FG)

• **Hailey Hall, Cole Martin, and Kristina Penski:** First Generation (FG)

• **Isabel Morrow:** National Hispanic Recognition

Award (NHRA), National Rural and Small-Town Award (NRSTA)

Hamilton Heights is thrilled to celebrate these students and recognize them for the great work they've been doing. The National Recognition Programs honor the strong academic achievements of underrepresented students and are a great way for students to showcase their hard work in high school. Congratulations!

Noblesville Lions keep the pace at Woofstock



Photo provided by Noblesville Lions Club / Jake Doll
On Saturday, Aug. 10 at Woofstock, Noblesville Lions served as course marshals, directing traffic and participants and cheering everyone on. (From left) Lions Steve Shaw, Vicki Neddenriep, Tomas Lopez-Pumarejo, Jen Carr, and Tim Baker.

Westfield Lions recognized for over 270 years of membership

13 Lions celebrate anniversaries with the Club

By JEFF LARRISON
Westfield Lions Club

At the Aug. 15 Westfield Lions Club meeting, 13 Lions received membership anniversary chevrons, with an accumulated total of over 270 years of service.

Members at the meeting who received their chevrons were Larry Clarino (10 years), John Wardlow (10 years), Keith Sanborn (20 years), Joel Davis (30 years), and Ted Engelbrecht (50 years!).

Year in and year out, the Westfield Lions Club serves Westfield, and surrounding communities, in a number of ways. Raising funds to donate to various charities, providing scholarships for Westfield High School seniors, conducting vision screenings



Photo provided by Westfield Lions Club
(From left) Westfield Lions Joel Davis (30 years), Ted Engelbrecht (50 years), Larry Clarino (10 years), Keith Sanborn (20 years), and John Wardlow (10 years).

for elementary students, and serving in numerous capacities at events and activities are just a few of the ways impact our community.

About the Westfield Lions Club

The Westfield Lions Club has been serving the

community since 1930 and currently has 67 members. The Club is looking for men and women that would like to make a difference in Westfield. To find out more about the Westfield Lions Club and how to be a member, go to westfieldlions.org.

Noblesville, Carmel & Westfield Lions assist Gleaners for August



Photo provided by Noblesville Lions Club / Jake Doll
On Monday, Aug. 12, the Noblesville Lions Club (NL), Carmel Lions Club (CL), and the Westfield Lions Club (WL) assisted Gleaners Mobile Pantry donating food to over 216 families. The pantry is normally held on the first Tuesday of each month at Grand Park in Westfield. However, due to extreme heat on Aug. 6, the pantry was postponed to the 12th. Even with the postponed date, a record number of families came through the line. (From left) Betty and Bob Yunker (CL), Jack Waldroup (WL), Ron and Linda Williamson (NL), Jerry Baker (NL), Kathy and Jim Kahler (WL), Gary Smith (WL), Bill Nesbitt (WL), Joe Connerley (NL), Carrie Larrison (WL), Gene Beck (NL), Rollin Cutter (NL), Bill Ryan (CL), Mark Bachar (NL), John Einsfeld (NL), Vicki Neddenriep (NL), Lane Sims (CL), and Judy Waldroup (WL).

CRUISE

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"We need more unity in this country, right?" Rokita said. "Well, we can unite around these heroes! They make us proud! And we're all patriots who love America, right? And that's something else we can unite around."

In addition to his Corvette, Rokita also owns a 1974 Volkswagen Thing.

"And there are a few other old cars in various stages of, shall we say, 'disrepair,' Rokita said. "Well, that's what my wife calls it. I prefer to call it various stages of 'progress.'"

Rokita added that he agrees with Cruise Indy's philosophy, which he described as the idea that "classic vehicles are intended to be used and driven and seen and heard."

But like others at the event, Rokita kept returning



Photo provided

to the larger theme of supporting American heroes.

"We celebrate men and women who have paid a great price," Rokita said, "to protect all the rest of us and defend our liberties

and help keep us free and safe."

To learn more about Fields of Honor, go to foldsofhoron.org. To learn more about Cruise Indy, go to cruiseindy.com.

LIGHT UP the Night

Fri., Aug. 23 | 6-10 PM

Potter's Bridge Park

19401 N. Allisonville Rd., Noblesville, IN 46060

This unique visual event includes:

- Luminaries
- Live music and entertainment
- Lighted canoes
- Food trucks and Mashcraft Brewing

Free

For more details:
call 317.770.4400 or visit
MyHamiltonCountyParks.com.

Annual Cook family reunion outgrows Forest Park shelter



Photos provided

Another amazing Cook Family Reunion is in the books! Each year on the second Sunday in August, the Cook Family holds their annual reunion. This year marked the 81st reunion of the Arthur and Julia Cook family of 11 children. As families have grown, so has the reunion. This year, led by brothers Steve Cook and Mark Cook, over 70 people attended. The family started meeting years ago under a shelter in Forest Park, but now they meet in the Forest Park Inn. Relatives came together to share a good meal, memories, and some photographs, too. Before eating, Roy Haskett shared a few words of togetherness and good wishes. Twins Joe Cook and JoAnn Wilson had the honor of the oldest family members there this year at 94 years old.

Inaugural “Cheers For Hope” craft fair in Arcadia to help local families

The REPORTER

On Saturday, Sept. 21, dozens of artisans will take over Main Street in Downtown Arcadia for the inaugural Cheers For Hope Fall Festival and Craft Fair, set for noon to 4 p.m.

The event is being organized by Secret Families of Hamilton County in partnership with Northbrook Brewing Company as a fundraiser to help families across the community in need this holiday season.

The festival, which will be held along West Street and in front of Northbrook on Main Street in downtown Arcadia, will feature over 70 craft vendors showcasing items such as handmade leather goods, clothing, jewelry, woodcrafts and artwork. Northbrook will be serving food and drinks at the event and there will be live music from the Aura Ray & Sean Noel Singing Duo. There will also be facepainting and other activities for children. Street parking will be available.

“We have been wanting to launch a signature fundraising event for a couple of years, but hadn’t found the right place,” according to Leachia Kern, co-executive director of Secret Families. “Northbrook saw one of our social media posts and invited us up to talk. We were so impressed with the space and their willingness to partner with us – we knew it was the right place to

launch our event.”
About Secret Families of Hamilton County

Over 14,000 people fall below the poverty line in Hamilton County. Since 2014, Secret Families of Hamilton County has worked with local elementary schools and Hamilton County Youth Assistance to identify and support these families in need. This may be due to the illness or death of a parent, loss of a job, natural disaster, or any other number of circumstances.

On the second Saturday of December, months of planning and fundraising culminate in a highly orchestrated, single-day event with hundreds of Hamilton County volunteers shopping, wrapping and delivering presents to their neighbors in need, along with a fully decorated tree, a Bible, toiletries/personal care items and a gift card for Christmas dinner. In 2023, Secret Families served over 60 families and almost 300 individuals, and the goal is to serve 100 families and 500 individuals in 2024.

Secret Families spends approximately \$550 on each family supported by the organization, which would not be possible without generous donations from the community. Learn how to get involved at secretfamilieshc.org.



Photos provided

These Medical Mutt grads have proven they’re ready to help humans who can benefit from their expertise.

Diamonds in the ruff

Turning shelter dogs into Medical Mutts

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

Medical Mutts Service Dogs turns dogs in animal shelters across the country into furry little life savers by training them to be medical service alert dogs. The people they have paired with just the right mutt hale not only from Hamilton County, but from across the U.S. and Canada.

The Reporter spoke to Medical Mutts Director of Development Liz Boskovich about what makes a good medical mutt and what these dogs can do.

“We go around the country rescuing shelter dogs and train them to become medically alert service dogs for people with seizures, epilepsy, PTSD, anxiety, and autism,” Boskovich said. “We also have some mobility dogs for people with MS and we’re now moving into alert dogs for migraines and allergies.”

For a dog to become a Medical Mutts candidate, it must look friendly, be the right age for training, and be what Boskovich calls a “Velcro dog.”

“They have to have what we call Velcro-like qualities,” Boskovich said. “A dog that’s going to stick by you. A dog that’s going to follow you to the bathroom. A dog that’s really going not to leave your side. We want them to be Velcro dogs and we want them to be happy service dogs – working dogs – who will be happy in their profession.”

While they do tend to train larger dogs, some of the Medical Mutts dogs are smaller than you might think.

“We do have some smaller dogs for psychiatric patients for people with PTSD, anxiety, or autism,” Boskovich said. “But the larger the dog then the more they can do, particularly if someone has mobility

Barks & Booze

Next month you can have a fun evening out and learn more about Medical Mutts at their fundraiser, “Barks & Booze,” at 6 p.m. on Sept. 19 at Daniel’s Vineyard, 9061 N. 700 County Road West, McCordsville.

Guests will get to enjoy live music, a behind-the-scenes tour of the winery, and a tasting event. There will be a silent auction and an opportunity to hear from someone whose quality of life has been improved by the presence of a service dog.

Get tickets or donate online at medicalmutts.goodworldnow.com/e/barks-n-booze.

issues. If someone has a seizure or someone has epilepsy, they can get to them faster and do more things like call for help. If somebody has a button that is attached to 911, any size dog could do that.”

For people who might need emergency medication, only the larger dogs will do, though. It would be hard for a smaller dog to get to medications that are kept on a table and carry them to their humans, but larger dogs can be trained to do this job just fine.

Perhaps the most sur-

prising thing Medical Mutts does it train dogs to alert their humans before an episode begins.

“We actually have a dog here now that can sense a seizure up to an hour before the person has it,” Boskovich said. “It’s all scent-based work. President, Founder and CEO Dr. Jennifer Catet was able to work with a group in Europe to prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that before somebody has a seizure, they let off a scent.”

You can learn more about Medical Mutts online at medicalmutts.org.

Hamilton County
Fall Festival & Boutique Fair
September 21 • Noon - 4 p.m.
Outside of Northbrook Brewing on Main Street, Arcadia
All proceeds benefit Secret Families of Hamilton County
Over 70 vendors • Live Music • Food and Drinks • Kid Friendly

Bien Mexicana
150 S Peru St, Cicero

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

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

The Hyperion Players to stage An Inspector Calls

The REPORTER

The Hyperion Players will present J.B. Priestley's *An Inspector Calls* Sept. 12 to 15 at The Switch Theatre in Fishers.

The action of the play occurs in an English industrial city, where a young girl commits suicide and an eminently respectable British family is subject to a routine inquiry in connection with the death. An inspector calls to interrogate the family, and during the course of his questioning, all members of the group are implicated in the girl's undoing.

The play was first performed in the Soviet Union in 1945, before enjoying a successful UK run starring Ralph Richardson and Alec Guinness.

An Inspector Calls is the first play of Hyperion's third season. Coming in October is the hair-raising thriller *The Woman in Black*, followed by *The 39 Steps* in

March 2025 and *Rocket Man* in May 2025.

An Inspector Calls is scheduled for four performances:

- Thursday, Sept. 12, 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, Sept. 13, 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Sept. 15, 2:30 p.m.

All performances will be at The Switch Theatre, 10029 E. 126th St., Fishers (located inside Ji-Eun Lee Music Academy).

The show will run two hours with one 15-minute intermission. Tickets cost \$15 and can be purchased at hyperionplayers.com/tickets or at the door.

Mission statement

Hyperion will be a collaborative, welcoming theatre that constantly strives for artistic excellence; we will deliver authentic stories that engage, inspire, challenge, and delight; and we will raise up our community through the power of the performing arts.

CSO AT COXHALL

from Page A1

Experience the nostalgia of a bygone era as Artomobilia joins the event to showcase classic cars that embody the golden age of Motown from 1959 to 1972, such as the Cadillac Eldorado, the Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud III, or the Ford Thunderbird. Immerse yourself in the beauty and history of these iconic cars as you enjoy a performance by the CSO. Don't miss the opportunity to see these stunning vehicles and more at this year's Artomobilia on Sept. 7 in the Carmel Arts & Design District, starting at 11 a.m. Learn more at artomobilia.org.

After working up an appetite and thirst from all the dancing, treat yourself to delectable food and drinks with a VIP experience or visit one of the food trucks on site, including Kona Ice, Samonas, Polish Cottage "Polska Chata," Joella's Hot Chicken, and Sugar Creek Winery.

The concert experience offers a variety of seating options to accommodate every budget. Lawn seating and discounted pricing for youth are available for those looking for a more affordable experience.

For those seeking a more luxurious evening, VIP seating provides the best view of the concert, access to the air-conditioned Coxhall Mansion, two drink tickets for beer and wine, and exclusive entry to the CSO's VIP Patron Bar. VIP tickets also grant access to the orchestra's afterparty event in the Mansion, and a chance to mingle with the musicians of the CSO, as well as guest artists. Purchasing a table for eight not only secures you front row seats and a catered dinner, but also complimentary beer and wine throughout the evening, and helps support the CSO's education programs.

Coxhall Gardens is located at 1677 Towne Road, Carmel. In the event of rain, the 8:30 p.m. CSO performance will move to Clay Middle School, 5150 E. 126th St., Carmel.

This concert is presented in partnership with the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department.

Subscribe to the CSO's newsletter to receive updates and information on upcoming concerts and community events at carmelsymphony.org.

DIPLOMAS

diploma, as it stands, would close doors rather than open them for students.

Because of these and other concerns, Heinzman said a group of WHS teachers went on a world-of-mouth crusade.

"We really wanted to spread the word as much as we could to educate people and let them know what was happening," Heinzman said.

They encouraged anyone with concerns to fill out the online form provided by the IDOE.

Knight said word of the new plan circulated quickly because it raised so many questions.

The teachers said they feel that their initial efforts have paid off. The IDOE received around 8,000 responses from union members, teachers, parents and others across the state. In addition, leaders at Indiana University, Purdue, and other Indiana colleges and universities wrote letters expressing concerns.

"There are places where standards are being lowered," Knight said. "I don't know of a situation in my 30 years of teaching when lowering standards is good for kids in any way."

One area in which the teachers said they feel standards are being lowered is in the lack of a foreign language requirement for students.

"Being able to communicate in other languages and understand other cultures is important for all students, not just those going to college," Hasler Troutman said. "It needs to be a requirement for all students."

Hasler Troutman said that teachers of different languages have partnered together through Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association to express the value to all students of learning a world language, including showing college admissions officers, future employers, and recruiters

that students have learned the value of hard work and problem-solving skills.

Though the new diploma plan adds requirements for personal finance and computer science, it changes the requirements for math and science, not requiring courses such as geometry or advanced algebra and chemistry or physics. In addition, the new diploma standards would not mandate that students take economics or world history.

Knight described how a knowledge of world history is important to understanding other subjects. For example, she needs students to have a grasp on history in order for them to understand the context of literature in her English classes.

"I think we're doing our kids a disservice if we aren't giving them the more global education they need," Knight said.

In addition to removing requirements for specific courses, the teachers have questions about the lack of clarity in the wording of the document.

Knight pointed out that the proposal contains the wording, "demonstrates skill development in communication, collaboration, and work ethic," with no guidelines as to what measures would be put in place to track and sign off on those requirements.

The teachers also still have questions about whether certain elements have been thought through. One example is that there is verbiage about using AP test scores in the application of an honors seal to a diploma, and yet those scores don't come out until July, while students graduate in May or June.

"It doesn't matter what the percentage is of kids

who want to go to college," Knight said. "Whoever wants to should be able to compete. That is my concern, that this base diploma does not do what it needs to do."

However, the teachers agree that these needs apply to all students, not just those who may be college-bound.

Hasler Troutman said that the IDOE has described the new pathway options in terms of three E's: enrollment, employment, and enlistment, and there is talk that the goal is to make students more career-ready coming right out of high school.

However, Heflin expresses concern that the newly proposed GPS Plus diploma will put more of the educational burden on employers rather than trained teachers.

"We want to make sure we have mandatory robust diploma requirements," Heflin said. "As career and technical educators, we are always going to support that students are having a really quality education. Students who are career-driven still have to have core requirements because that is what builds a successful employee."

She went on to say it is unreasonable to expect a freshman to know they want to pursue a career as a chef.

"This will pigeon-hole students into choosing a pathway very early on," Heflin said. "In reality, high school is a time for students to explore."

Schaaf acknowledged that the new proposal would allow students to add seals to the base diploma in both honors and technical realms.

"I think that this flexibility is a good thing," he said, "but there are many details that have to be flushed out.

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It is important that a seal means something. For it to be meaningful, we have to go through and define what some of these requirements look like. Whether it's a college or university or an employer, we have to believe that those organizations know what an honor seal means."

Another major concern for teachers is the speed at which decisions are expected to be made. The new diploma requirements are projected to take effect for the class of 2029.

That seems like a long time away. In reality, Schaaf pointed out, it is actually less than a year away because the students in that graduating class start their freshman year next fall in 2025 and need a direction toward which to work.

"I'm not sure this is something that can remotely be done by the end of the year, which is when I understand they want to make a decision about this," Schaaf said.

Knight also expressed doubts that one more draft will result in the finished product the teachers are desiring.

"I think the biggest concern is the time," she said. "I'm very glad they're listening, but I hope we are in drafting-only stages. I hope they continue to listen and say we have to take the time to do this well. We have to ensure that we are doing this in a way that is truly measurable and equitable."

The teachers encourage parents, students, counselors and concerned community members to continue to push for revisions that will help best prepare students for life after high school and expect a new Jotform to be released soon for feedback.

"They've done a lot of work," Hasler Troutman said. "There's more work to do."

To read more about the proposed changes in diploma requirements, go to in.gov/doe/diplomas.

LAWN & GARDEN

from Page A1

There might be a bit of a spiritual thought there.

It's taken time to grow. We love going out to get the mail and watch its beauty open up. We didn't plant it, yet it found a place to thrive — an unexpected joy.

Doesn't real beauty take time? Don't we often neglect to see what has unexpectedly shown up in our lives and the prospect of its beauty?

I never want to neglect taking the time to seek and find joy in the unexpected. I've become a joy prospector.

An unexpected friendship. A small gesture of kindness. A glimpse of hope. The beauty of a rogue sunflower. Over time, the beauty will be seen ... if we pay attention.

Success doesn't come overnight. Anything of value takes time. A relationship takes time to flourish and grow a strong connection. Hard work and patience lead to success.

We want **instant** beauty, but what we need is **sustaining** beauty.

We want to see the best in people when there is a side of them, we have yet to see. Watch for the red flags that show the not-so-good things about someone

or something. Red flags tell us someone isn't what they first appear to be or the opportunity is too good to be true. Gold flags tell us this person is to be trusted or this opportunity is a good thing.

Being patient is hard work. It's not easy to take the time to see the real things in people. We want to believe what we see at first is the real thing. As my mother would say, *you can't pretty up a pig for long*. This goes right along with ... *Pretty is as pretty does*.

I have come to realize that infatuation clouds us from the ugly reality we refuse to see. Read that again.

Opportunities that sound too good to be true most likely are. You can spend a lot of money trying to make money only to lose what you invested and more.

I've lived in my Little House on the Alley for 49 years. Crazy huh? I've fought weeds and drought. Over the years, I've invested in flowers, fertilizer, and mulch. I know how much you can sweat on an almost 100° day. I know what a crick in your back feels like after a day of "playing" in the yard. A little sweat and a few cricks can eventually bring about a thing of beauty.

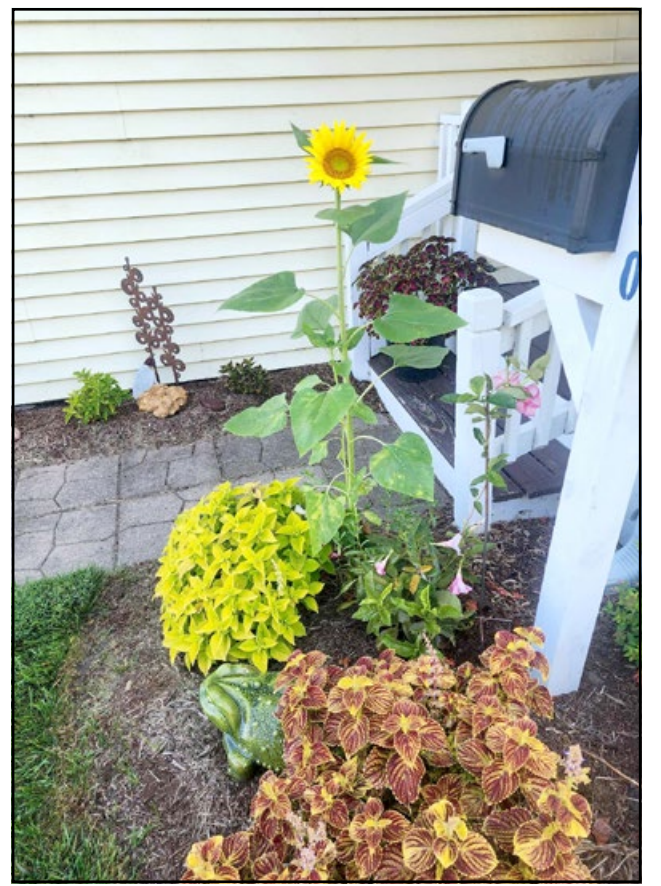


Photo provided by Janet Hart Leonard

I will not let a little bit of crappy grass keep me from enjoying my yard. I choose to see the beauty. What I choose to see and what I focus on determines how I see my yard ... and my life. I've fought the weeds in both.

I hope you find a few unexpected joys this week and enjoy them for what they are. I hope you see

the weeds for what they are and ... well, you know what to do.

There might be a few "lessons" in my column this week.

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

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Contact Information

Publisher Stu Clampitt News@ReadTheReporter.com 765-365-2316	Subscription Inquiries Subscribe@ReadTheReporter.com
Mailing Address 136 S. 9th St., Suite 12 Noblesville, IN 46060	Sports Editor Richie Hall Sports@ReadTheReporter.com Twitter: @Richie_Hall
Web Address ReadTheReporter.com	Public Notices PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com 765-365-2316

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20th annual Morse Lake Cleanup one for the books

Submitted by Morse Waterways Association

Last month, Morse Waterways Association (MWA), held its 20th annual lake cleanup event and it was one for the books. Volunteers literally fished out a record-setting amount of debris during the two-day event. A strong contingent of volunteers filled up nine 30-yard dumpsters of logs and one 20-yard dumpster of debris – the equivalent of some 30 truckloads!

Volunteers from Duke Energy returned for a second year in a row to remove all the logs and debris that had accumulated in and around the town docks and the BoatHouse docks on Friday, July 19. The official Lake Cleanup kicked off at 8 a.m. on Saturday, July 20 with volunteers pulling the logs to shore. Boats came towing logs, limbs, and debris. The city, once again, provided the loader and operator to pull the logs out of the water and the MWA had the chainsaw gang to cut the logs as needed.

This year, Thomas Docks provided the dumpsters to collect and haul the debris. The two large dumpsters were emptied from round one on Friday and were refilled from Saturday's efforts. There was so much debris this year, the dedicated crew of volunteers worked well beyond the scheduled four-hour timeframe and into the following week.

Dave Vanette, who has been at the helm of this event along with fellow MWA member Art Hall, said, "This year's Lake Cleanup was an extraordinary event!"

He credits the success of the clean up to the many companies and individuals who helped.

"On behalf of the Morse Waterways Association, we would like to extend a special recognition and our heartfelt gratitude to the following for their exceptional effort to make Morse Lake



Photos by Mike Berry

For 20 years, volunteers have gathered at Red Bridge Park in Cicero to remove tons of trees, debris, and garbage from Morse Lake during their annual half day cleanup effort. The annual event is organized by members of the Morse Waterways Association.



a cleaner and safer place for residents and visitors alike," Vanette added.

Thank you to Cicero Street and Utility Director Terry Cooper, Shannon Fiddler with the Town of Cicero, Cicero Parks Superintendent Jimmie Hunter, Thomas Docks, Dan Derda, Greencycle, Duke Energy volunteers Mark LaBarr, J.D. Cox, Don McDuffy, Travis Krick, Ryan Delphia, Kristin Gong, and Nico Kennerly, Edward Jones for donating the water for the volunteers, Martin Marietta materials for helping with restoration of Redbridge Park, photographer Mike Berry, and all the volunteers who made this happen, and those who generously donated to help with the addi-



tional expenses.

Mark your calendar for next year's cleanup from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, July 19, 2025, from 8 a.m. to noon. MWA encourages everyone who lives on and around the lake to be in-

involved in helping to keep this valuable amenity clean and safe.

To be included in the list for future notifications related to the cleanup, email Dave Vanette at va-netteda@hotmail.com.

Indiana homeland security leader named Carmel fire chief

The REPORTER

One of the state's leading authorities on public safety is joining the City of Carmel as fire chief, Mayor Sue Finkam announced Aug. 12.

Joel Thacker will assume the role Sept. 3, providing the leadership and direction necessary to enable members of the Carmel Fire Department to deliver the highest level of fire prevention, EMS and response services to the community.

Currently executive director of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Thacker was appointed to the position by Gov. Eric J. Holcomb in 2022, having previously served as state fire marshal and director of the state's fire and building safety division.

"Joel has been repeatedly called upon at both local and state levels for his leadership and knowledge in public safety," Finkam said. "I am thrilled to have his expertise focused on our community, leading an impressive team that is committed to the safety of our residents, businesses and visitors."

With more than 30 years of public service experience, Thacker served as fire chief of the Plainfield Fire Territory prior to his appointment as state fire marshal. His public safety career began as a volunteer firefighter and EMT in Johnson County. Throughout his leadership roles, he has overseen firefighting and emergency medical

services training, fire investigations, cybersecurity preparedness, emergency management response and recovery.

Mayor Finkam involved fire safety peers and community members in the selection process for the chief. The selection process included extensive meetings and interviews to support the final decision.

"On behalf of the State of Indiana, I want to thank Joel for his years of service to Hoosier taxpayers," Governor Eric J. Holcomb said. "I am personally grateful for his commitment to public safety and constant collaboration with the Cabinet. The City of Carmel and Mayor Finkam are fortunate to have him."

A public swearing-in ceremony will be held for Chief Thacker with details announced at a later date.

"It is an honor to serve the firefighters and people of Carmel and to support Mayor Finkam's vision," Thacker said. "Preparedness is crucial for the success of Hoosier families, communities and the state, and I look forward to advancing training, while supporting all partners in ensuring the safety of the Carmel community."

Thacker is a licensed paramedic and holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Indiana Wesleyan University and a master's degree in criminal justice and public safety from Indiana University.



Thacker



Finkam

Did you know Fishers has its own dedicated Health Educator?

Submitted by Fishers Health Department

Meet Kacy Brobst, who plays a pivotal role in promoting health and wellness throughout the Fishers community. Her routine involves engaging with students and adults, providing education on a variety of important health topics.

A Day in the Life

Brobst spends much of her time in schools, teaching K-12 students about health and wellness. From the importance of handwashing to understanding mental health, she ensures that young minds are well-informed about their well-being. She also conducts sessions for adults, covering essential topics like food safety and Narcan training to combat opioid overdoses.

Mental Health Advocacy

One of the highlights of Brobst's role is witnessing the positive response from students during her lessons. She recalls how enthusiastic students become about public health after participating in activities

like the glow germ experiment, which illustrates the ease of germ transmission. These interactive sessions educate and excite students about taking care of their health.

Brobst emphasizes the importance of mental health, particularly during back-to-school periods which can be stressful for many children. She encourages parents to monitor their

children's screen time and promote outdoor activities and imaginative play, aligning with guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

"We are so lucky to have an experienced HSE teacher in our health educator role," Fishers Health Department Public Health Director Monica Heltz said. "Kacy's enthusiasm and experience will get our youngest residents set up for success to take charge of their own health and wellness."

To learn more about the Fishers Health Department's health education services, reach out to Kacy Brobst at HealthEdu@fishers.in.us or call (317) 567-5045.



Brobst



Photos provided by Carmel Lions Club

As always, the Carmel Lions are ready to serve you . . . some delicious food, that is!

Carmel Lions Club announces 88th annual Grillin' & Chillin' Fish Fry

Carmel's longest-running event is back with culinary delights

Submitted by DENISSE JENSEN

Carmel Lions Club Member

The Carmel Lions Club has announced the return of its much anticipated Grillin' & Chillin' Fish Fry, scheduled for Friday, Aug. 23 and Saturday, Aug. 24 at the Carmel Lions Clubhouse, located at 141 E. Main St.

Now in its 88th year, this Fish Fry is Carmel's longest-running community event, bringing together friends, families, and neighbors for a memorable weekend of delicious food and good times.

For nearly nine decades, the Carmel Lions Club Fish Fry has been a beloved tradition, drawing crowds from all over the region.

The event has evolved from its humble beginnings into a cornerstone of the Carmel community, known for its signature sandwiches and home-cooked sides.

What's on the menu?

- **Signature menu items:** Attendees can enjoy the famous Roundabout Fish Filet Sandwich, Breaded Pork Tenderloin Sandwich, World Famous Grilled Chicken Sandwich, and Grilled Veggie Sandwich and Jumbo All Beef Hot Dog.

- **Yummy sides:** Complement your meal with baked beans, cabbage slaw, french fries, and mac & cheese.

- **Delicious desserts:** Be sure to save room for a variety of delicious pies

that will satisfy any sweet tooth.

"The Grillin' & Chillin' Fish Fry is more than just a fundraiser – it's a celebration of our community and a way for us to give back," Carmel Lions Club President Matt Best said. "We're proud to continue this long-standing tradition and to see the familiar faces that come back year after year, as well as welcome new friends."

Proceeds from the Fish Fry support the Carmel Lions Club's various charitable activities throughout the year, including supporting vision programs, providing scholarships to local students at the Indiana School for the Blind, and contributing to local food pantries.

Attendees can pre-order their meals online at carmellions.org/fishfry.

Raffle tickets

You can participate in a raffle to win a \$100 gift card to Ace Hardware. Raffle tickets will be available at the event: \$1 for one ticket or \$5 for six tickets. The drawing will be at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24. You do not have to present to win.

The Carmel Lions Club invites everyone to join in the fun and become part of this historic event. Whether you're a lifelong resident or new to the area, the Grillin' & Chillin' Fish Fry is the perfect way to experience the spirit of Carmel.

For additional details and updates, go to carmellions.org/fishfry.

Paul Poteet . . . Your Hometown Weatherman!

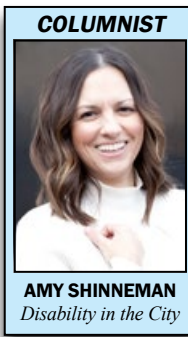
Mrs. B

Some teachers change your life. For me, one of those teachers was my fourth-grade teacher, Mrs. B. She was one of a kind and is written in my book of favorite teachers at the top of the list, along with a few others.

Fourth grade, a time in a child's life when they are starting to be one of the bigger kids in elementary school, not the top dog, but close! From the start, Mrs. B treated me differently. What I mean by that is that she did not treat me as Amy, who was hindered by her disability, but Amy who had worth and value *along with* her disability.

She did not single me out, but she was exceptionally good at explaining to my classmates, my threshold, in a way that did not make me seem so different from them. Looking back, I now wonder if she had experience with a child like me before I came along. She just got things in a way others did not.

She gave me classroom jobs that worked for me and that helped me feel like I did not just have to sit on the sidelines, which was a frequent occurrence for me. When I was younger, and even now occasionally, those who do not know me assume that because I cannot do certain things, that means I cannot do anything. She saw in me that I was, in fact, a very capable human being. I could not



AMY SHINNEMAN
Disability in the City

get enough of her and the joy she brought to my life. We had a special connection, but the cool thing was that she had that connection with most of her students, if not all. Like I said, she was one of a kind!

My mom taught at this same school, and she knew Mrs. B. It was good for my parents to see me light up and be excited about school. I am guessing they saw a change in me that year, too. I felt happier and more hopeful.

There are times when, as a disabled person, it may take me longer to do a task than it would someone else. Just adapting to how to make it work for me, or trial and error, requires a lot of patience. Something I notice is that people often take that as I cannot do anything, and then they will just take over due to their impatience before I may even get a chance to explain myself.

It is not that disabled people are incapable, it is often society's lack of understanding the situation or willingness to learn. I do not mean to sound harsh, but it is the truth. I have lived it my entire life, so I have felt that to be true and hear that from many others living with a disability.

A close friend of mine battled breast cancer recently. After one of her surgeries, she had to attend some school events for her

See Mrs. B... Page A7

Mini vacation

Here's another story from my mother.

The old house had been empty for years. Now it had a new coat of paint and it brought back a flood of memories from about 1961 or '62.

When Daddy, Sister, and Brother were off to school, days seemed long to Little Sister. There were no playmates nearby. Mother was busy with gardening, canning, baking bread, cooking, raising chickens, and sometimes with cattle or hogs. Those and a few dozen other chores.

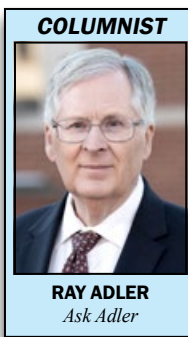
Often Little Sister would ask for a picnic. On those days Mother would pack her little green dinner bucket for her. Then Little Sister would sit on a cement slab in the backyard and invite "Linda" to eat with her. Linda always came when she was called, but she could collapse into a pocket or be thrown into a closet until needed again. Or she could just fade away.

One day Little Sister had a new request. She wanted to go on a vacation. Mother could see no way to implement that request, so she began explaining why they couldn't. Little Sister was not one to make unreasonable demands.

"Just a little vacation," she pleaded with that little smile that could wobble harder hearts than Mother's. Who could refuse? Mother finished the task at hand and soon they were ready to start.

"Which way shall we go?" Mother wanted to make a vacation as pleasing as possible. The road in front of the house went east and west. Little Sister pointed west, and they set off down that dusty way. At each intersection mother asked again for directions. Each time the answer was "west."

As they neared Bluffton, Mother saw something that caused her to stop. Someone was raising peacocks. Their pen (or peacock yard) was



RAY ADLER
Ask Adler

next to the road. When they got out of the car for a better view, a lady came out of the house. She was instantly captivated by Little Sister.

She gave a little lecture on care and feeding of peafowl before inviting them into her home. She was a little old lady and this invitation surprised Mother. However, the two of them followed her into the house and on into a bedroom. The furnishings were of an ancient vintage; even then they were antiques. On a lovely old dresser there was a large stoneware crock or jar. It was filled with peacock plumes.

Back in those days ladies wore hats when they went anywhere. This lady sold her plumes to a hat maker in New York City. Generously, she reached into the jar and took a handful which she gave to Little Sister. Mother perceived that Old Lady was not blessed with an overabundance of cash, so she protested the gift. One or two plumes, not a whole handful. Old Lady insisted. Both Little Sister and Old Lady looked happy. Mother recalled that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

After a little chat, it was time to head for home. It'd been a very pleasant mini vacation.

Later, a Decatur lady gave Little Sister one more plume. The plumes were given a permanent home in Little Sister's bedroom.

A son or daughter lived next door to Old Lady and had an upholstery shop. They are still in business (or perhaps it is their children), but the old house was empty for several years. The peacock yard fell into disrepair and disuse.

Now someone has painted the big old house. And who knows? Perhaps some other day another small girl will have a mini vacation complete with peacocks and a little old lady who wants to share.

By Dorothy Howard Adler

Learning to release our grip

Amy, I just finished this book, and I am bawling!

I read this text from my friend Cynthia a few weeks ago and nodded knowingly. Her daughter was going off to college soon. I remembered wiping away several tears myself when I read the book she was referring to earlier this year.

Release My Grip: Hope for a Parent's Heart as Kids Leave the Nest by Kami Kilgour was a huge help as my youngest son's college graduation date got closer. I know other columnists have written about the empty nest recently, but I figure the more tips readers have for this roller coaster stage of life, the better.

Release My Grip is a compilation of Ms. Gilmour's blogs accompanied by bits of Scripture and space to think and journal about various empty nest topics. I consider this book to be a keeper and have already read it twice!

It's hard to pinpoint what the best tip is from it, but I have to say that one of my favorites is to accept that you're now the encourager



AMY SHANKLAND
Perfectly Imperfect

and guide for your children vs. the "doer."

For example, my older son Jonathon, who's been on his own for almost a year, texted me months ago with a quandary.

Hey Ma, I read, you won't believe this. My glasses just fell apart. My eyebrows shot up.

Really? I responded, picturing the lenses popping out and the entire frame disintegrating. Then I chuckled at myself, realizing I was going into Mom Panic Mode probably for nothing.

Do you mean they completely fell apart? Or that one of the temples fell off? I watched the dots as he prepared to reply.

Do you mean the side piece? Yes, one of those fell off. The screw's missing. The old Amy would have told him to come by after work and we would fix them together. But the post-*Release My Grip* Amy paused, especially since I knew he had contact lenses

as well.

Oh, that's an easy fix! I texted. Just stop by CVS and pick up an eyeglass repair kit and you'll be set. They have little screws and screwdrivers in them.

They sell those? Cool! I'll go get one. Thanks Ma. Problem solved.

While not all situations are as easy as this one, it's a good illustration of what we must do when our kids become young adults. It's tempting to swoop in and fix their problems, and I sometimes feel myself almost sitting on my hands when I want to do that very thing.

I must remember that I faced troubles in my early 20s and navigated them – overall – just fine. My parents were there to guide me, but I no longer needed or wanted them to "swoop" anymore ... just encourage me instead and point me in the right direction.

I highly recommend

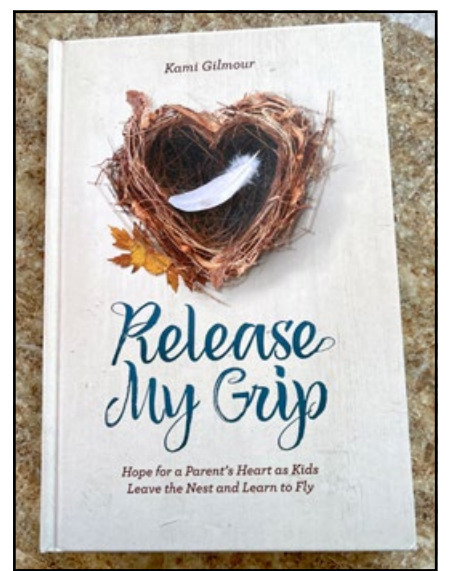


Photo provided by Amy Shankland
Release My Grip is another good tool for the empty nest arsenal.

Release My Grip as a tool to help you as your kids go off to college, the military, or other avenue towards becoming independent adults. It really will help you gradually release your grip and embrace the empty nester stage with all its newness and fun!

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

Cool your jets & halt the stress

"If you ask what is the single most important key to longevity, I would have to say it is avoiding worry, stress and tension. And if you didn't ask me, I'd still have to say it."

– George Burns

Although August is nearing its end, I was contemplating that as we move toward Fall, August is actually "National Wellness Month" – and although I seldom know who/what all the special days/weeks/months are named for, I am all for every month being a "wellness" month!

The level of stress we all feel from time to time can accumulate and become detrimental to our physical health. The stress response in our bodies is there for a reason; it is a survival tactic and is intended for dangerous situations, allowing the body to face a threat



SHARON McMAHON
Be Well

or flee to safety. Your pulse quickens, your brain uses more oxygen, your breath comes faster – functions intended for survival. While most of us do not have the experience of running from

wild animals and foraging for food, surviving in this often-crazy world can be daunting!

When stress becomes chronic and the effects accumulate in the body, the result can be serious health problems, which may include sleep disorders, digestive issues, a weakened immune system, and other complications. Although I am by nature an optimistic person, being a "Type A" is certainly a challenge these days! Working at home is becoming common for many, although there can be a tendency to work many

hours more than we would in our physical workplaces away from home. It is very important to limit or budget your time and retain a similar schedule to pre-pandemic considerations.

There are other strategies and habits to make this time more manageable and less stressful, let's review some of those:

- Take 10 minutes to stretch when you wake up and again before bed.
- Go outside for a walk for 10 minutes or an entire afternoon.
- Drink a full eight glasses of water each day (unless you have a medical condition which prohibits).
- Experiment with a new workout.
- Turn on music and dance around your house. (One of my favorites!)
- Give your mind a workout with crosswords, Scrabble, etc.
- Go an entire day without foods that have added

sugar.

- Spend 10 minutes with deep, focused breathing.
- Add a green veggie to every meal or snack.
- Take yourself on a picnic with a view. (Granted that finding a serene spot for this activity is challenging, though I do recommend Forest Park here in Noblesville as an option.)

We are moving through some times of uncertainty in this 21st Century, sometimes feeling helpless but knowing that although we cannot change the world we can take responsibility for taking care of ourselves to the best of our abilities. Stay strong.

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

When insurance companies do not agree with your doctor

Medicare Advantage is frequently in the news over Prior Authorizations. What does that mean? If you have government Medicare and a Medicare Supplement plan, when your doctor orders

a surgery, you just schedule that surgery. There is no extra process to get approval from the insurance company for your treatment.

But with private Medicare, known as Medicare Advantage, when your doctor orders that same surgery, your doctor then has to ask the insurance company for PERMISSION to get that surgery. That is called Prior Authorization. Insurance companies can use this to delay or deny your treatment. Insurance companies have been sued for denying or delaying prior authoriza-



SYLVIA GORDON
Make Sense of Medicare

tions. There have been so many complaints to Medicare about this practice that the government has finally stepped in with new rules to speed up this process.

Medicare Advantage companies all have this issue. It's not limited to one or two insurance companies. They defend the practice saying that they need to prevent unnecessary treatments by doctors who want to beef up their bank accounts.

This will be great news for the nearly 30 million people on Medicare Advantage. The new rules will require the insurance companies to respond to your doctor's request within seven calendar days, and if it is an URGENT request, the insurance company must respond within 72 hours.

But this new rule doesn't make the insurance company actually approve the medical care your doctor orders. The new rule just says that the insurance company must tell you sooner if it will deny or approve your procedure. It will also have to give a reason why it denies a procedure. By requiring insurance companies to give some type of medical explanation, they can be called out when they have no reason to deny procedures. This will be a win for Medicare Advantage members starting in 2026. This new rule doesn't begin for another year.

If you get your prior authorization denied, either now or in the future, be sure to appeal. Most people fail to appeal the denial. But for those who do appeal, the rate of approval is very high. This process takes time. Be warned that it is as frustrating for your doc-

tor's office as it is for you. Providers spend countless hours faxing (yes, the insurance company wants a fax) requests for approval.

Clearly there is a more efficient way to process Prior Authorization requests. You can guess why they use such a slow process. Delays save money and private Medicare plans are about profits. This is not to say that I don't recommend these types of plans. Just know that Prior Authorization is an extra hurdle you may face with Medicare Advantage – one you won't face with government Medicare and a Medicare Supplement plan.

Sylvia Gordon is known as Medicare Mama on social media. She and the Noblesville-based TheMedicareFamily.com have amassed nearly one million followers online where she teaches about Medicare, Social Security, and retirement.

Sheridan Library asks you to donate blood

The REPORTER

The Sheridan Public Library will play host to a Versiti Blood Center blood donation drive from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Thursday,

Aug. 22. The blood drive will take place in the Community Room of the library, located at 103 W. 1st St.

Blood is an essential medicine that cannot be

manufactured. Whether you are looking for a way to give back to the community or support a friend fighting an illness, blood donation is a generous and vital gift.

Schedule your donation at tinyurl.com/533urzz5.

Several timeslots remain available. Be sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.

Psst . . . have you heard of this “new” band called Little Feat?

“And I’ve been from Tucson to Tucumcari, Tehachapi to Tonopah

Driven every kind of rig that’s ever been made

Driven the back roads so I wouldn’t get weighed

And if you give me: weed, whites, and wine

And you show me a sign I’ll be willin’ to be movin’”

— Lowell George (Little Feat)

I saw a great, new band this summer: the kids call themselves Little Feat.

I write that in jest, of course. Little Feat has been kicking rock and roll ass for 55 years – I use the “rock and roll” reference hesitantly since Little Feat remains, to this day, one of those refreshingly defiant gumbo acts, filling fans’ ear holes with a musical melting pot of funk, boogie-woogie, blues, rockabilly, swamp, country, horns, Caribbean beats, guitar gonzo greatness – and, yes, rock and roll. Their live shows are a joyous jam session jamboree. Their songs have been covered by a who’s who of popular musicians.

Technically, though, Little Feat is a “new” band to me. Full disclosure: I was aware of Little Feat most of my life, mainly due to flipantly flipping past their albums in record shop bins on my journey to finding (this is so embarrassing to admit) the latest Little River Band release.

Bottom line: I had heard of Little Feat; I just had not heard Little Feat.

If I deserve a music lover merit, it is due to my late appreciation of all things Little Feat. I recall no friends mentioning Little Feat; but over the years, musicians I long



Little Feat during a performance at Everwise Amphitheater this summer.

Photo by Scott Saalman



SCOTT SAALMAN
Scaramouch

admired occasionally referenced (and continue to reference) Little Feat as an influence, speaking their name with a reverence typically reserved for that other band of “musicians’ musicians” lore, The Band, who is a first cousin, sound- and talent-wise, to the lesser known Little Feat. The Band actually charted on mainstream radio with “The Weight,” “Up On Cripple Creek,” and “The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down.”

That Little Feat bypassed Casey Kasem’s *American Top 40* is what cemented my shameful closed-mindedness. Many years would pass before I realized that popular radio was merely the iceberg tip to deeper depths of a more rewarding musical spectrum.

To sample Little Feat “back in the day” would’ve meant plunking down hard-earned lawn mowing money while risking being “stuck” with a record I might regret. We cave people of the pre-online streaming generations lacked today’s at-your-fingertips luxury of sampling an entire record on Spotify before deciding whether to

buy it or bypass it.

I am well aware of the grievances (rightfully so) aired by my professional musician friends regarding the digital streaming company’s chintzy compensation practices. Still, I unabashedly admit that Spotify has enriched my musical appreciations simply by introducing me to scores of artists (old and new) that I wouldn’t have known otherwise. Customized playlists populated by Spotify’s soulless bots based on the bread crumb trails of my recent song selections often result in me buying tickets for concerts I otherwise would’ve skipped.

I first “discovered” Little Feat thanks to an online ad for one of their shows last June in Indy. The ad included the band’s trademark cartoony, yet sexy, tomato girl plastered on album covers who once tried to seduce me and my wallet from the record bins of my youth. “Little Feat is still at it after all these years despite me still not being able to name even one of their songs,” I thought. I was impressed by their longevity and steadfastness. I also realized I still had a crush on a long-lashed, smiling, come-hither, bright-red tomato chick. (Farmers, hide your tomatoes!) The ad

prompted me to do a deep dive via a Spotify *This Is Little Feat* playlist, which led me to *Waiting For Columbus*, hailed by critics, including *Rolling Stone*, as one of the best live albums recorded (rightfully so). Subsequent replays of *Columbus* set high expectations for their Indy concert. I’m happy to report that the show was everything I hoped it would be, if not more.

Arguably, Little Feat qualifies as the godfather of Americana music. They remain a pre-eminent band without boundaries, sustaining success in their own unique way while thumbing their noses at the mediocrity representing music commerciality. That, in itself, is no small feat.

Little Feat has become my favorite band. So what if I’m half a century late to the party? I’m pondering tickets for their Louisville show later this year. As a Little Feat newbie, I know I have a lot of making up to do. Let’s just say, I’m willin’.

Email Scott at scotssaalman@gmail.com. To read a 2022 review in *Under The Radar* magazine written by Scott’s music writer son Austin about Little Feat’s 1972 album, *Sailin’ Shoes*, go to undertheradarmag.com/artists/little_feat.



Photo provided by Tim Rathz
Family Man Tim Rathz has mastered the delicate art of chaos mitigation, a valuable skill to have as a parent of two toddlers!

Say Hey SoHa!

Another summer’s almost gone, and a lifetime of memories have been taken from it. Barbecues, pools, popsicles, and outdoor parties. So much fun to be had.

And, of course, there is the big question everyone is inevitably asked: Did you go anywhere for vacation this summer? The answer for my family happens to be yes.

My wife, Megan, my two kids, Mary and Pat, and I try to go to beautiful South Haven, Mich., at least once for a week each summer. To keep them excited during the three-hour drive up, I’ll randomly shout out, “Say hey SoHa!” The kids will then joyfully respond, “Hey SoHa!” This might get old after the 87th time, but you do what you gotta do to keep things reasonably nonchaotic during a car ride.

My wife and I were also lucky enough to be able to go there for a long weekend for our anniversary as well, which got me thinking ... vacations are different without the kids. Very, very different.

So, please indulge me while I share all the differences I noticed.

Packing

I am a self-admitted over-packer. I always bring way more stuff than any human could ever possibly need, because one never knows when a winter coat and extra lightbulbs might come in handy while sunbathing.

But even so, packing is completely different when a three- and five-year-old are hitching a ride. There are clothes, pull-ups, wipes, tablets, snacks and oh, so many beach toys. By the time we pack the minivan, I’m holding my own bags on my lap while I drive. Possibly not the safest of situations, but we get there.

Since the car is so full, I can’t really see anyone else along for the ride, so I pray the whole trip that we didn’t forget anything ... like the kids.

Shopping

I don’t mind poking around all the shops with Megan. We find some cool shirts, trinkets, and bobbles. Shopping with the kids is a whole different animal. We allotted both Mary and Pat a certain amount that they could spend each day on toys and candy. Naturally, if we didn’t go to the toy store first, we were responsible for ruining two young lives.

It’s such a joy to watch them touch every single toy in the entire store, one thing at a time, only to finally land on a final decision to buy a 40-cent sticker. Six hours well spent.

Dining

Eating is my favorite thing to do on any vacation, and there is no shortage of good food in South Haven.

Since becoming a parent, I learned eating out takes preparation. Always



TIM RATHZ
Forty-something in Fishers

look up the menu beforehand so you can find something your kids will actually eat and then order for them the second the server steps within a 10-yard perimeter. Be ready to explain that gummy bears are not on the menu. And if your kids are tired and starting to show signs of crankiness, for the love of God have tablets on hand with pre-downloaded shows, just in case the internet isn’t working.

I just saved your life. You’re welcome.

Beach

What beach town vacation is complete without making several trips to ... well you know ... the beach? The days of just bringing a beach chair, a radio, and a cooler are long gone, my friends. And since the local authorities won’t let me park a 6-by-8-foot U-Haul cargo trailer on the sand (prudes), a wagon is a must.

Well, actually two wagons are a must, because when kids see a wagon, they sit in it. Please listen to me when I tell you, if you don’t want to look like a weatherman broadcasting during a hurricane while pulling the wagon on the beach, buy one with big treaded wheels that are made for just such an occasion. You will need the extra traction while hauling four beach chairs, two umbrellas, towels, sunscreen, a cooler, a radio, 14 buckets of sand toys, several bags of snacks and eight tons of lake rocks that your daughter put in the wagon so she can take them home.

When you finally collapse at your chosen spot, three miles from your parked car, you’ll most likely be told by one of the children that they forgot a toy in the car, and if you don’t go back to get it, you will suffer toddler wrath. Since you’d probably rather contract SARS than deal with a beach tantrum, you will make the trek. When you return and your knees buckle, you finally black out face down in the sand and get that sweet rest and relaxation you’ve been longing for. The best part of it all is waking up with the best vacation souvenir of all ... a water blister sunburn. Hooray!

Sure, vacations can be a lot of work when kids are involved, but would you have it any other way? I have many memories of the trips I took with my family as a kid, and I want the same for my children. Through all the disorder, remember to smile at the chaos. They won’t be little forever, but they’ll always remember these times. And so will I.

The moral of the story is ... Even if your yearly respite seems a bit disorderly ... Say Hey SoHa!

Tim Rathz can be reached at 40somethinginfishers@gmail.com. Follow on Facebook or Instagram.

\$67M mixed-use development coming to Pleasant Street Corridor

Submitted by City of Noblesville

On Aug. 13, the Noblesville Common Council approved evening a \$67 million mixed-use development project, The Granary, along the new Pleasant Street Corridor.

Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen prioritized the proposal as part of the city’s overall efforts to enhance its downtown area and tie resident well-being to economic and workforce growth. The Flaherty & Collins development is approximately three acres, bounded by South 8th, South 9th, Mulberry, and Walnut streets. Construction is expected to begin in summer 2025, with anticipated completion by summer 2027.

The project seeks to redevelop the vacant land of the former Noblesville Milling Co.’s granary site, which was built in the early 1900s and was a large part of the milling history of the city and the inspiration behind the Noblesville Schools moniker, the Millers.

The plan involves a four-story mixed-use building and parking garage containing 225 luxury apartment homes, 5,000 square feet of commercial retail space, and approximately 300 structured parking spaces for residents and the public. The southern portion of the development will include a trailhead area to the Midland Trace and Nickel Plate trails and include public restrooms and lockers.

“This is the first significant project along the new Pleasant Street Corridor, and one that will further invest in the livability for current and future Noblesville residents,” Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen said. “A priority for my administration, this development will feature architecture that complements the surrounding historic area, provides a new housing option, walkable and neighborhood-oriented amenities, and pedestrian connectivity to the nearby trail system.”

“As Noblesville contin-

ues to grow, it’s essential that we invest in developments that will benefit our community for the future,” Noblesville Common Council President Darren Peterson said. “This project will reflect the history of our downtown while offering unique architecture and new amenities to enhance the quality of place and life for our residents.”

The Granary proposal includes resort-style amenities like a saltwater pool and aqua lounge, co-working areas, a state-of-the-art fitness center, an outdoor kitchen with grilling stations and fire pits, a game room with billiards, a pet spa, bike storage and bike shop, and a club room with kitchen, bar, and seating for groups.

“We could not be more excited to partner with the City of Noblesville to bring a first-class, transformational development to the Pleasant Street Corridor, a project that all residents can be proud of and enjoy,” said Flaherty & Collins Chairman Emeritus

and Principal Jerry Collins. “Noblesville is a thriving, vibrant community that myself and many of our employees and executives are proud to call home.”

The Pleasant Street Corridor is part of the Reimagine Pleasant Street project, a multi-year initiative that will result in improved east-west connectivity and accessibility for the City of Noblesville. The roadway design will provide Noblesville residents, local businesses, and key stakeholders with many improvements that will enhance mobility and public safety while also honoring the urban character and historic features of the project area. Key stakeholders include the City of Noblesville and Hamilton County. The project will provide a link for three major trails (Nickel Plate, Midland Trace, and Riverwalk) to connect Noblesville with Hamilton County and the greater Indianapolis area.

Learn more at reimaginepleasantst.com.

MRS. B

children in a wheelchair. She sent me a text during and expressed how immediately isolated she felt. People looked at her differently or overlooked her. She felt frustrated. I appreciated her sharing that with me. It did not take her long to see things from that perspective and gain some understanding of all that comes with living disabled,

whether it is permanent or temporary. Living disabled can be such an isolating experience, but it does not need to be.

I was lucky to have Mrs. B in my life. I have no doubt she changed the course of my life and the way that I viewed myself. I felt like I had something to offer. I was not just a kid to be stared at, mocked or underestimated.

She lit a fire within me. It started as a slow burn, but I would say now it is a steady, glowing ember. It needs stoking from time to time to keep going, but the fire never completely goes out anymore.

Thank you to all the incredible teachers out there changing lives and instilling confidence in their students. To Mrs. B, you are

one of my life’s heroes. Thank you for believing in me.

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 at [ashinneman](https://www.instagram.com/ashinneman).

from Page A6

Fishers gears up for expanded Geist Half Marathon Race Series

The REPORTER

The City of Fishers is getting ready for its largest community race – the Geist Half Marathon Race Series presented by Meijer – with an expanded event on Saturday, Sept. 14.

The 16th annual waterfront race around Geist Reservoir serves as an iconic community tradition, originally hosted by a group of Geist residents and now managed by the city as part of its Culture of Health initiative.

This year's event features a half marathon, 5K, and the return of the popular 10K race. Operated in partnership with Vision Event Management, the family-friendly race series showcases the beauty of Geist Reservoir with stunning water views, tree-covered trails, and scenic waterfront bridges. All races are walker-friendly, and participants receive a race shirt, medal, and a free drink at the post-race party.

"We're excited to host the 16th running of this popular community race and solidify the Geist Half Marathon Race Series as a staple early-fall endurance race in the region," said Ginny Zimmerman, Race Director of the Geist Half Marathon Race Series and Culture of Health Ambassador for the City of Fishers. "We have reimagined our post-race party and are excited to offer expanded food and drink options that support our local businesses and nonprofits. We listened to the feedback from last year's participants and brought the 10K course back into the lineup, added age awards for all three races, and pushed back the start time so participants can take in the scenic views as the sun rises over the course. With registration already exceeding last year, we're elated at the number of residents and regional participants who are returning to the course and for all of our first timers who are using the event to check off their fitness goals."

New this year, a post-race breakfast will be offered by Hero Hut, a nonprofit that works to build community for veterans and first responders through collaborative spaces at events nationwide. Breakfast is \$10 per person and all funds will directly support Hero Hut's mission. Tickets for breakfast can be purchased ahead of time or onsite at the event.

Also new at this year's post-race party, Java House, Smoothie King, and Athletic Brewing will join MashCraft Brewing to provide complimentary refreshments for race participants.

Another new feature in 2024 is the Mental Health Mile, joining the Gold Star Mile as a dedicated mile along the half marathon course.

- **The Mental Health Mile** at mile five will provide encouragement and support to participants halfway through the race with Aspire and Hamilton Southeastern's student-led Bring Change to Mind Club cheering on racers. The mile aims to bring together area mental health agencies to support the Fishers Health Department's ongoing mission to create a Stigma Free Fishers.

- **The Gold Star Mile**, presented by The Tot Spot and Fishers Armed Services Commission, is designated as mile ten to honor Indiana's fallen service members and their families. Gold Star race bibs will be available at packet pickup on Friday, Sept. 13.

City officials are recruiting hundreds of volunteers to help with the event, from course marshals and medal distributors to water station volunteers. Opportunities are available for families, groups, and individuals. Visit VolunteerFishers.com to sign up.

Sponsors for the Geist Half Marathon Race Series include Meijer (Presenting Sponsor); IU Health (Photo Sponsor); WTHR-Channel 13 (Bib Sponsor); Java House (Post Race Party sponsor); Stretch Zone (Post Race Party Sponsor); and MashCraft Brewing (Post Race Party Sponsor).

To learn more and register for the event, visit FishersIN.gov/GeistHalf.

Riverview Health receives of Culture of Good's 2024 Community Impact Award

Submitted

Riverview Health is one of 15 companies nationwide to be named a Culture of Good 2024 Community Impact Award recipient.

Presented by Culture of Good, Inc., an organization dedicated to inspiring businesses to make a positive difference in the world, this award celebrates companies that exemplify excellence in corporate citizenship and embody the values of compassion, generosity and purpose-driven leadership.

"We are honored to receive Culture of Good's 2024 Community Impact Award," Riverview Health President and CEO Dave Hyatt said. "Riverview Health's mission is to preserve and improve the health and well-being of those we serve. We know that if we want our community to be healthier, we need to partner with and support the work of other local organizations. Being recognized for creating that culture of working together to uplift the community really reaffirms why we're here."

According to Culture of Good, Riverview Health

was hand-selected for this prestigious award based on an outstanding commitment to community service and using business as a force for positive change in the world. The selection committee cited the excellent care Riverview Health provides to the community in terms of health and wellness and how the health system gives back through the Riverview Health Foundation, which raises funds in support of patients, patient families and medical scholarships, and partners with local charities.

Ryan McCarty, the spokesperson for the awards, said, "We are proud to recognize companies like Riverview Health. Culture of Good's Community Impact Award is not just an event; it's a movement towards recognizing businesses that integrate social good into their core."

For more information about Culture of Good's Community Impact Award, visit cultureofgood.com or contact Culture of Good award spokesperson Ryan McCarty at ryan@cultureofgood.com.



Hyatt



McCarty

Two local farm families presented with Hoosier Homestead Award

The REPORTER

Recognized for their families' longstanding commitment to agriculture, 103 Indiana farm families were presented the Hoosier Homestead Award at the Indiana State Fair from Indiana State Department of Agriculture Director Don Lamb.

Locally, two families received recognition:

- The Honnold-Muir family of Hamilton County were presented with the Centennial Award (1902).

- The Meyncke family of Tipton County were presented with the Centennial Award (1924).

"The Hoosier Homestead ceremony at the Indiana State Fair is a prestigious event for all involved," said Lt. Gov. Crouch, who also serves as Indiana's Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. "It is a true honor to celebrate these families for their work and commitment to bettering Indiana agriculture."

To be named a Hoosier Homestead, farms must be owned by the same family for more than 100 consecutive years, and consist of 20 acres or more, or produce more than \$1,000 in agricultural products per year.

Based on the age of the farm, families are eligible for three different distinctions of the Hoosier Homestead Award. They can receive the Centennial Award for 100 years, Sesquicentennial Award for 150 years or Bicentennial Award for 200 years of ownership.

"Keeping a farm opera-



Photos courtesy Indiana State Department of Agriculture
The Honnold-Muir family of Hamilton County (top) and the Meyncke family of Tipton County (above) each received Hoosier Homestead Awards.

tional for 100 years or more is something these families can take great pride in," Lamb said. "Each of the awarded family farms continues to adapt and evolve

through each new generation on the farm to ensure their success."

Since the program's inception in 1976, nearly 6,200 families have re-

ceived the award. Often, a Hoosier Homestead farm is easily recognized because most recipients proudly display their awarded sign on their property.

Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank helps families in need through Meijer's Simply Give hunger relief program

The REPORTER

Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank (HCHFB) announces a partnership with Meijer to provide much-needed relief to local families facing food insecurity through the retailer's customer-driven hunger relief program, *Simply Give*.

"Food insecurity is a real issue in our hometown community," HCHFB Executive Director Anita Hagen said. "Over 32,160 Hamilton County friends and neighbors are not sure where their next meal is going to come from."

The *Simply Give* program encourages customers to add a \$10 *Simply Give* donation card to their cart, which is then converted into a Meijer food-only gift card

and given to a local food pantry in the store's community.

HCHFB will benefit from donation cards at the Noblesville Meijer stores now through Sept. 28. In addition, Meijer will DOUBLE MATCH all customer cards on Saturday, Sept. 14, effectively tripling contributions made on both days. Meijer customers shopping online using Meijer Pickup or Home Delivery can also include *Simply Give* donation cards as an add-on to their orders.

"Continued hardships have taught us all the importance of community

members supporting each other," Hagen said. "We encourage our community to give and help us feed our Hamilton County neighbors in need by adding a Meijer *Simply Give* food donation card to your cart during your next shopping trip."

Since 2008, more than \$91 million has been distributed to food pantries across the Midwest to feed neighbors in need through the Meijer *Simply Give* program.

You can also donate to this program online at hchfoodbank.org/online-giving. Just select "Food Purchases" or "Meals for Kids" and be ensured

your donation will go towards food purchases for hungry neighbors.

About Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank

Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit supporting over 40 food pantries and meal programs in neighborhoods all across Hamilton County with nonperishable food, fresh, locally grown produce, locally grown meat, and network support. Since 2009, HCHFB has given over 1.5 million meals into the county's food support network. The organization's goal is to "Work Together with YOU to Feed Hamilton County." Please visit HCH-FoodBank.org and Hamilton County Harvest Food Bank on Facebook.



Hagen

Community First Bank & Hedges partner for nonprofit leadership training program

The REPORTER

Community First Bank of Indiana (CFB) recently partnered with Hedges, a local nonprofit consulting firm, to offer free training to nonprofit leaders serving Hamilton County throughout 2024.

The third session wrapped up on Creating Competitive Grant Proposals on Aug. 13 at the Delaware Township Community Center in Fishers. All sessions are a blend of teaching and attendee engagement.

This training series is the result of a \$12,000 investment from CFB after hearing firsthand how much high-caliber training meant to local nonprofit leaders and after surveying the group to identify the most impactful topics. Hedges' expertise matched up perfectly to the requested topics.

"These funds will be used to put on meaningful, requested programming for this group of dedicated non-



Photo provided by Community First Bank of Indiana
The Delaware Township Community Center was the site of the training.

profit leaders," CFB President & CEO Robb Blume said. "They work tirelessly each day to advance their organizations' missions and we're thrilled to come alongside them with these resources. Topics will include building corporate partnerships, building and evaluating programs, creating competitive grant proposals, activating board committees, protecting organizations from fraud, and more."

Hedges President Erin Hedges said CFB's partnership will help local nonprofits expand their capacities.

"Hedges has been a trusted partner since 2002 to more than 150 leading nonprofits, foundations, corporations, and public entities in Indiana and beyond," Hedges President Erin Hedges said. "We deeply appreciate Community First Bank's commitment to building the

capacity of local nonprofit organizations by sponsoring these training courses and strengthening the community for years to come."

Programming will continue through November. You can email communication@cfbindiana.com if you'd like to be notified when registration is open for future sessions. To learn more visit CF-Bindiana.com/nonprofit-learning-series.



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Noblesville H.S. student journalists to lead school board candidate forum

The REPORTER

Noblesville High School student journalists will lead a forum this fall that will feature school board candidates sharing their views on topics and questions selected by the students.

All six of the candidates running to fill three open seats on the Noblesville Schools Board of Trustees have been invited to participate.

“Students will get a real-world career and civic development experience, board candidates will get to share their views and vision for our school district with the public, and community members will have the opportunity to learn more

about each candidate as they decide who they want to support on the ballot,” Noblesville Schools Superintendent Dr. Dan Hile said.

The event is open to the public and will be held at the Noblesville High School auditorium on Oct. 2 beginning at 6 p.m. For those unable to attend in person, the event will also be streamed.

The following candidates have filed to run for the Noblesville Schools Board of Trustees:

- Christi Crosser
- David Dawson
- Alison Hanley
- Brad Helvey
- Stephanie Lambert
- Bret Richardson

Mary Katherine Perkins

December 29, 1942 – August 15, 2024

Mary Katherine Perkins, 81, Noblesville, passed away on Thursday, August 15, 2024, in Noblesville. She was born on December 29, 1942, to Harvey and Evelyn (Russell) Steele in Indianapolis.

She married Kenzel “Ken” Perkins in 1957 and they raised their family in Indianapolis. Upon Ken’s retirement they moved to Jabez, Ky., for the next 20 years. Once Ken passed in 2019, Mary returned to Indiana to be closer to her family.

Mary was a homemaker for many years while raising her family, then went to work for Tappen Company and held other factory jobs. She attended New Life Church and enjoyed playing BINGO. Mary loved the holidays, especially Christmas, and spending time with her family. She loved being a mom and grandmother.

She is survived by her children, Steve (Susan) Perkins, Judy York, and Rick (Linda) Perkins; grandchildren, Nicole Wray, Stevi Perkins, Josh Perkins, Amy Perkins, Matthew Perkins, Austin York, Zachary Perkins, Miranda Perkins, Marissa Perkins, and Joey Perkins; several great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren; and brother, Frank Steele.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, Kenzel “Ken” Perkins; son, Jeffrey Perkins; brothers, Larry, twin brothers, Tommy and Ronnie, and Bobby; and sisters, Jeanie, Betty, and an infant sister.

Visitation will be from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., with services at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, Noblesville. Burial will follow at Washington Park East Cemetery in Indianapolis.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Linda Louise Fosnight

May 9, 1939 – August 14, 2024

Linda Louise Fosnight, 85, Sheridan, passed away peacefully on August 14, 2024. She was born on May 9, 1939, to the late Milton Verne and Evelyn Louise (Bidgood) Kelshaw in Indianapolis.

Linda always loved telling the story of how she met her husband Richard Harold Fosnight. She was outside of her family’s home, and they caught each other’s eyes as he was walking by. It was an instant attraction. They started dating, and on August 4, 1956, the two of them were married. They had spent 52 years at each other’s sides until his passing in November of 2008.

She loved being outdoors, and she was an avid gardener. She took great pride working in her flower gardens, and she loved to show off her gardens.

She also loved to go camping and spent time with her family. She would look forward to sitting around the fire roasting marshmallows and telling stories.

When her children were at school, she could be found watching her soap operas, always catching up on her favorite soap, *The Young and the Restless*. Linda was an avid reader; she enjoyed reading fiction and nonfiction books – it didn’t matter to her, just as long as it struck her interest. She just loved to learn, but every morning she would read the *Ledger* newspaper to catch up on all the news.

Linda is going to be greatly missed by her family. She was a devoted mother to Beverly (Bryan) Jones, Richard (Pamela) Fosnight, Benita (Jeffrey) Johnson, Donna Smith, Freddie (Robin) Fosnight, and Teddie Fosnight. She was a loving grandmother to 32 and a proud great-grandmother to 53. She also leaves behind her siblings, Donald L. Kelshaw, Larry V. (Marsha) Kelshaw, Dennis Kelshaw, and Patricia Little, along with several nieces and nephews. Preceding Linda in death are her daughters, Wanda Kay Edwards and Treena Mae Gordon; her son, Sammie J. Fosnight; and her two brothers, Butch Kelshaw and Glenn Kelshaw.

Linda’s services were held Monday, August 19, 2024, at The Bible Church, 1478 State Road 38, Sheridan, where family and friends gathered prior to the time of services. Burial followed at Eagle Creek Cemetery. Pastor Harrell T. Wilson officiated her service.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Humane Society for Hamilton County, 10501 Hague Road, Fishers, IN 46038.

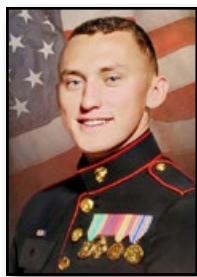
Everyone is invited to sign the online guestbook, leave a condolence or share a memory at fisherfunerals.com.

Fisher Family Funeral Services is honored to serve the Fosnight Family.

Jerry Lee Betzold

February 12, 1998 – July 28, 2024

Staff Sergeant Jerry Lee Betzold, 26, Avon, Ind., passed away on July 28, 2024, surrounded by family, friends, and fellow Marines. He was born in Indianapolis on February 12, 1998, to Jim and Melinda “Missy” (Broyles) Betzold.



Jerry graduated from Avon High School in 2016. Shortly after he joined the United States Marine Corps on August 15, 2016. Jerry proudly served his country for seven years and 11 months. He began as an infantry Marine and worked diligently to become an Infantry Unit Leader and was promoted to Staff Sergeant on March 1, 2024. His decorations include the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, and Sea Service Deployment Medal. Most recently, he was stationed with Tactical Training Exercise Control Group, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, CA. Jerry’s call sign was 31W, better known as 31 Whiskey.

He was best known for his sense of humor, genuineness, and contagious smile. He never met a stranger and could always make you laugh. At the age of 16, Jerry decided to become an organ donor. Jerry has continued to help others in need by his selfless act and the giving of his gifts to others upon his passing. Jerry’s unwavering dedication and vibrant spirit touched the lives of many. Though he is no longer with us, his legacy of bravery, humor, and kindness will forever be remembered. The family wishes to extend their heartfelt thanks to extended family, friends, and fellow Marines who have offered their support during this difficult time. Rest in peace, Jerry. Your sacrifice and love will never be forgotten.

Jerry is survived by his mother, Melinda “Missy” (John Mark) Groover; father, Jim (Amy) Betzold; brothers, John Michael (Kate) and James Betzold; stepsiblings, John Mark Groover II, Jordan (Shawn) Sattler, Caleb Banks, and Ali (Scott) Schaffer; grandparents, Jerry and Sandy Broyles, Melinda A. Betzold, Nancy Groover, and David Martin; and many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He is preceded in death by grandparents, John N. Betzold, Mary and Gene Herndon, and Lloyd Groover.

Family, friends, and fellow service members gathered for visitation on Friday, August 16, 2024, at First Baptist Church Plainfield, 1012 Stafford Road, Plainfield. Jerry’s life was celebrated on Saturday morning, August 17, 2024, at First Baptist Church Plainfield, 1012 Stafford Road, Plainfield. Interment followed with Military Honors at Maple Hill Cemetery, 709 Harding St., Plainfield.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Honoring Our Fallen (honoringourfallen.org) or the Wounded Warrior Project (woundedwarriorproject.org).

Memories of Jerry and condolences may be shared with the family at thefuneralchapel.net.

Patricia Ann Hammer

July 2, 1937 – August 6, 2024

Patricia Ann Hammer, 87, Indianapolis, passed away August 6, 2024. She was born July 2, 1937, in Bald Hill, Okla., to the late David Franklin and Blanche (Hicks) Crumrine.

Patricia received her bachelor’s degree in graphic design from Oklahoma State University and married Charles Edward Hammer, who preceded her in death in 2017. After raising her family, Patricia was employed in the bookstore at Oklahoma State University. Patricia was a beautiful, humorous, and loving woman who never met a stranger she couldn’t charm. She always treated friends like family and loved hosting celebrations at her home. Patricia loved to dance and had her own ceramic business for many years.

Visitation will be Saturday, August 24, 2024, from 10 a.m. until the time of service at noon at Shirley Brothers Thompson Road Chapel, 3333 E. Thompson Road, Indianapolis.

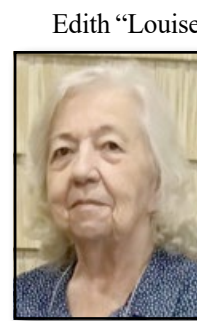
Patricia is survived by her children, Mary Beth Hughes (Clint), Keith Allen Baldwin (Suk), Ronald Lynn Baldwin (Esther), Brenda Ann (Paul) Howard, Alice Rebecca Whalen (Joseph), and Lela Kay Fredrick (Darren); sisters, Mary Lee Roomsburg and Nina Faye Hyde; 17 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by her sister, Ruth Williams; and two grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to East Central College, Whalen Family Scholarship, 1964 Prairie Road, Union, MO 63084.

Condolences: shirleybrothers.com

Edith “Louise” Harber

March 20, 1938 – August 15, 2024



Edith “Louise” Harber, 86, Noblesville, passed away on Thursday, August 15, 2024, at Prairie Lakes Health Campus in Noblesville. She was born on March 20, 1938, to George and Edith (Sutton) Fleenor in Saint Charles, Va.

For 28 years, Louise worked for Firestone Industrial Products, retiring in 1990 as a pressline worker. She was a member of Pentecostal Lighthouse Church in Noblesville and enjoyed crocheting, sewing, and gardening. Most of all, Louise loved spending time with her grandkids.

She is survived by her brothers, Olen Fleenor, Jimmy (Jill) Fleenor, and Johnny (Angie) Fleenor; sister, Shirley (Clyde) Harber; son-in-law, Douglas Coverdale; three grandchildren, Brandon Coverdale, Corrine (Alex) Huntzinger, and Zachary (Micah) Coverdale; and three great-grandchildren, Jace Huntzinger, Mckenna Coverdale, and Rileigh Coverdale.

In addition to her parents, Louise was preceded in death by her husband of 45 years, Pearl Harber; daughter, Rita Elaine Coverdale; brother, David Fleenor; and her sisters, Marie Sharp and Ovella Gibson.

Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at Pentecostal Lighthouse Church, 1765 Hannibal St., Noblesville. An additional visitation will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. Thursday, August 22, 2024, with funeral services at 11 a.m. at the church. Pastor Alfred Parks will officiate. Burial will be at Cicero Cemetery in Cicero.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 681405, Indianapolis, IN 46268-1405 (cancer.org/about-us/local/indiana.html).

Condolences: randallroberts.com

Stephen James Costlow

November 9, 1947 – August 12, 2024

Stephen James Costlow, known affectionately as Steve, passed away on August 12, 2024, at the age of 76 in Indianapolis. Born on November 9, 1947, in Frankfort, Ind., to James and Lillian (Reeder) Costlow. Steve spent his formative years in Sheridan before settling in Noblesville, where he became a pillar of the community.

Steve had over 50 years of service with Indiana Bell, AT&T, and Frontier Communications. His devotion extended beyond his professional life into his community involvement. He was a member of the Fraternal Order of the Eagles, Noblesville Moose, and the American Legion. Steve was particularly passionate about the Noblesville Babe Ruth baseball league, where he served as President for many years, contributing countless volunteer hours.

A 1966 graduate of Sheridan High School, Steve carried the spirit of his hometown throughout his life. He was Blackhawk Football fan through and through. His personal hobbies included playing cards, attending car shows, and enjoying time with friends, all activities that reflected his outgoing and engaging personality.

Steve was a member of the Refuge Christian Church in Noblesville.

He leaves behind his wife of 56 years, Dale Ann Costlow; his son, Mark (Heather) Costlow; his daughter, Jody Costlow (Mark) Brillhart; his siblings, Cathy Burris, Chris Barrick, and Mike Costlow; and his cherished grandchildren, Tatem, Bella, Carlie, Catey, and Holden. His life was also touched by the loss of his granddaughter, Logan Alynn Costlow; and his parents, James and Lillian Costlow.

Steve was an exceptional Papaw to his grandchildren.

Visitation and services to celebrate Steve’s life were held Saturday, August 17, 2024, at Refuge Christian Church, 11772 E. 196th St., Noblesville. Friends from the Car Club were encouraged to drive their cars to the church, where a memorial car show was held at the picnic shelter during visitation and after the services.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Noblesville Babe Ruth at noblesvillebaberuthbaseball.sportsengine-prelive.com and then clicking on the NBRB Paypal Link.

Randall and Robert’s Funeral Home in Noblesville is assisting the family during this time.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

The Reporter’s policy on obituaries

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

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

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Carmel celebrates grand opening of Fire Department headquarters

New Carmel Clay Community Building built on same spot as original CFD HQ

The REPORTER

The City of Carmel proudly celebrated the grand opening of the Carmel Clay Community Building on Thursday, Aug. 15, marking a significant milestone in the community's dedication to public safety.

The event, held at 210 Veterans Way, attracted numerous residents and officials who came together to explore the new Carmel Fire Department (CFD) Headquarters and its associated facilities.

"Today's grand opening is a proud moment for our city," Mayor Sue Finkam said. "The Carmel Clay Community Building not only honors our past with its location on the site of our original fire headquarters but also represents a significant leap forward in public safety and community engagement. This state-of-the-art facility is a testament to the collaborative spirit of Carmel Clay Township, the City of Carmel, and our dedicated private donors. We are excited to see how this space will enhance our ability to serve and educate our community."

In 1950, long before there was the bustle of neighboring Midtown Plaza, CFD's original headquarters was constructed on the very site of the new headquarters. When City Hall and Civic Square were constructed in 1987, the administrative functions relocated to what is now Station #341. In 1989, the Fire Buffs Museum was founded and housed within the headquarters as a way to preserve and highlight historic

CFD vehicles, memorabilia, and important documents.

The facility's upgrades will support the functions of CFD's growing number of firefighters and was funded through a collaborative effort between Clay Township, the City of Carmel and private donations, including contributions from the Carmel Redevelopment Commission (CRC) and the Koorsen family of Koorsen Fire & Security.

One of the highlights of CFD's new headquarters is the Stay Alive Family Education (S.A.F.E.) House. This interactive, immersive learning space, developed with cutting-edge audio/visual technology to enhance public safety education, was created by Bloomington, Ind.-based Blockhouse Studios and the city's Information and Communication Systems team and features unique special effects designed to engage and educate the community about fire and life safety.

See a video of the S.A.F.E. House experience at tinyurl.com/SAFEhouseCarmel.

"Carmel Fire is excit-



Photos provided by City of Carmel

(ABOVE) Carmel Fire Department and Carmel Fire Buffs administrative staff. (BELOW LEFT) Chief David Haboush, Carmel Fire Buffs President Jim Martin, retired Clay Township Trustee Doug Callahan and Clay Township Trustee Paul Hensel (center) were joined by members of the Koorsen family, Carmel City Councilors, former Mayor Jim Brainard, Mayor Sue Finkam, representatives from Clay Township, CTI Construction, DLZ, and Envoy, Inc. (BELOW RIGHT) The original Carmel Fire Department headquarters.

ed to open this impressive education facility, museum and administrative offices," Chief David Haboush said. "This one-of-a-kind interactive S.A.F.E. House will

allow Carmel firefighters to educate our community on fire and life safety. The presence of this facility and its programs will ultimately save lives not only in our city

but throughout the state."

The grand opening event included remarks, refreshments, and guided tours of the new facility. CFD, along with partners

and donors, were honored for their contributions, and attendees were treated to a firsthand look at the advanced educational tools and interactive exhibits.



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HAMILTON COUNTY SPORTS

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

Girls Golf



Reporter photo by Richie Hall
The Westfield girls golf team won the Hamilton County meet last Wednesday at Harbour Trees. The Shamrocks scored 302 as a team and had the top two individuals: medalist Addi Kooi and runner-up Kelsey Haverluck.

Shamrocks secure 2nd big tournament win in one week

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

NOBLESVILLE – The Westfield girls golf team won its second important tournament in less than a week last Wednesday.

The No. 1-ranked Shamrocks scored a convincing victory at the Hamilton County meet, which took place at Harbour Trees. Westfield cruised to a team score of 302, comfortably ahead of runner-up Noblesville's 315. Hamilton Southeastern was a strong third, carding 318.

"We obviously played fantastic," said Westfield coach Josh Bryant. He gave credit to all the Shamrocks golfers, saying that "up and down the lineup, the girls really executed."

"We practiced short game for a couple days in a row," said Bryant. "Harbour Trees, the green complexes off a different challenge that you don't see at other places. I couldn't be happier with how we played."

The Rocks claimed three of the top five individual positions as well. Addi Kooi took medalist honors with an even par 71. Kooi had also led Westfield to a win in the State Preview meet at Prairie View last Saturday, winning medalist honors there as well.

Kooi made an eagle on hole No. 4 and followed that up with three birdies.

"I definitely had a good putter and a good swing," said Kooi. "I've just been really trying to focus and improve my mental game more than anything, so

that's really helped me." Kelsey Haverluck earned runner-up honors with her score of 72. She totaled five birdies, including four on the back nine.

"I played pretty well," said Haverluck. "I had a hard time getting it started on the front nine. I doubled my first hole, but I ended up three over on the front and then I pulled it back together with a few birdies on the back and shot under on the back."

Sophie Raines tied for fourth place by scoring a 76, making four birdies. Bryant called Raines "a huge bright spot so far."

"He play has just been getting better and better all year and it's even ratcheted up in the first week of August," said Bryant.

Sadie Edwards also had one birdie for the Rocks. Meanwhile, Kooi and Haverluck said that team chemistry is also key for Westfield's solid start.

"I think all the girls really get along, and that really helps for our scores," said Haverluck.

"I think a lot of these longer rounds the past few tournaments, getting backed up and being able to talk to your teammates and have a good time, and not just focus on golf and being able to enjoy each other's company is really important and just keeps us really happy," said Kooi. "Our team dynamic, when someone makes a birdie and it just makes the other person want to do better."

See Golf . . . Page B2

Cross Country

Carmel girls win at Valley Kick-Off meet

The REPORTER

The Carmel girls cross country team began its season last Saturday by winning the Valley Kick-Off meet at the LaVern Gibson Cross Country Course in Terre Haute.

The Greyhounds scored 37 team points, comfortably ahead of runner-up Lake Central's 69 points. Carmel had five runners finish in the top 11 overall, with junior Sadie Foley leading the Hounds by placing second in a time of 19 minutes, 1.3 seconds. Lake Central's Macey Thompson won the race in 18:58.6. Sophomore Larkin Taylor placed fifth for Carmel with a time of 19:16.2.

Westfield placed 15th as a team with 510 points. Ju-

nior Izzy McCulloch led the Shamrocks with a time of 23:09.0, taking 103rd.

Here are complete results for Hamilton County runners.

Carmel runners: 2. Sadie Foley 19:01.3, 5. Larkin Taylor 19:16.2, 9. Olivia Mundt 19:38.6, 10. Annabel Pollert 19:54.9, 11. Margo Halle 19:59.0, 16. Kaitlyn Oshimura 20:30.0, 25. Katy Dascoli 20:48.6, 33. Ella Gaddis 21:16.1, 35. Kalinda Lee 21:25.2, 37. Lillianna Cate 21:26.4, 38. Nola Eling 21:27.9, 94. Malia Larger 22:54.3.

Westfield runners: 103. Izzy McCulloch 23:09.0, 105. Sam Plummer 23:09.6, 110. Lyla Osborn 23:12.9, 119. Olivia Barnett 23:20.8, 129. Eliana Colon 23:26.4, 130. Claudia Southworth 23:26.8, 150. Maryn Babb 23:56.9, 179. Charlotte Isaacs 24:20.5, 184. Cecilia Schmidt 24:25.5, 189. Zoe Burgei 24:31.0, 192. Maddie Samreta 24:32.8, 242. Ava Britton-Heitz 25:59.4.

Soccer



Photo by Julie Brown



Photo by Julie Brown

(ABOVE LEFT) Hamilton Southeastern freshman Sydney May scored two goals for the Royals during their victory over Carmel. (ABOVE RIGHT) Carmel's Isabella Cueto keeps her eye on the ball.

Several county girls teams begin campaigns victorious

The REPORTER

The IHSAA girls soccer season began in Hamilton County last Saturday with several teams getting together for big games.

Noblesville, the two-time defending state champion, opened its campaign by hosting Cathedral at Hallmark Orthodontics Soccer Complex. The Millers easily posted a 4-0 victory, scoring two goals in each half.

Kaydence Fleck got Noblesville on the board during the eighth minute of the game, with Lily Ault providing the assist. Fleck assisted the Millers' second goal, which Meredith Tippner put in during the 32nd minute to give Noblesville a 2-0 half-time lead.

Tippner struck again early in the second half, kicking in a goal during the 45th minute. Bella Wyatt made the assist on that goal. Delaney Stone finished the scoring with a 49th-minute goal; Diem Bromley had the assist.

"It's fun to get together



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

Noblesville defender Sadie Black gets control of the ball during the Millers' season-opening win over Cathedral last Saturday.

and play, but it's still really early and we have a lot of work to do," said Millers coach Mike Brady, who began his 22nd season coaching the Noblesville girls. "But it's good to play a team like Cathedral, and they're going to compete for a state title this year."

The Millers' next game is Wednesday at Pendleton

Heights.

Hamilton Southeastern won an early clash of highly-ranked teams, beating Carmel 3-1 at the Royals' field.

Gracie Pyle got Southeastern on the board with a first-half goal; that would be the only score of the half. The Greyhounds' Elsie Flanders

tied the game in the second half, with Kate Klinginsmith making the assist. But Royals freshman Sydney May took over after that, putting in two more goals to secure the victory for Southeastern.

Sloane May handed out two assists, with Pyle also making one.

See Girls . . . Page B2

Noblesville, Southeastern, Carmel, Fishers boys all start seasons with wins

The REPORTER

The Noblesville boys soccer team opened its season last Saturday with a 2-0 win at Columbus North.

The three-time defending state champion Millers scored both of their goals in the second half. The first goal came in the 48th minute: Caden Rice made a kick into the goal; it was initially saved, but the power of the kick caused the Bull Dogs' goalkeeper to deflect the ball off the crossbar and into the

goal. Noblesville scored its second goal during the 72nd minute, as Anthony Fuentes sent the ball to Brady Frayer, who sent a kick into the upper 90 for the score.

Junior Alex Eberhart made four saves.

The Millers play their first home game Tuesday against Perry Meridian. This weekend, the Noblesville hosts a showcase featuring several top teams. The Millers take on Cincinnati St. Xavier Friday night, then

play Okemos (Mich.) Saturday afternoon.

Hamilton Southeastern traveled to Mount Vernon for its season opener and came home with a 3-1 victory.

The Royals' Dillon O'Rourke scored the first goal during the 10th minute, with Jack Anderson providing the assist. That would be the only goal of the first half. The Marauders tied the game early in the second half, but Southeastern

answered with two goals. Cooper Perez put in the go-ahead score off an assist by Alex Orris; then O'Rourke scored again with Gavin Boyle making the assist.

The Royals play their home opener Tuesday against Cathedral, then travel to Guerin Catholic on Saturday.

Carmel beat Zionsville 1-0 at Murray Stadium to begin its season.

See Boys . . . Page B2

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CURRENT REAL ESTATE MARKET

CENTRAL INDIANA STATISTICS FROM THE 16-COUNTY REGION

July 2024 Average Sale Price \$353,581 <small>compared to this time last year</small>	Sales Decreased July pended home sales compared to this time last year 4.8%	1,204 More Homes For Sale 7/23 vs. 7/24
12.5% Price Increase 7/23 vs. 7/24	Months of Inventory Change 39.3% 7/23 vs. 7/24	Interest Rates 30-Year Fixed 6.625% With an APR of 6.60%

TOP COUNTIES
Decatur County Sales Up 70.6%
Shelby County Sales Up 26.3%
Hendricks County Sales Up 13.9%

F.A.I.R. HOUSING CASES
Total-13
Rental-13
Sales-0
Other-0

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Noblesville High School unveils 2024-25 Athletic Hall of Fame Class

The REPORTER

Noblesville High School has announced its Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2024-25. These individuals and team will be inducted at half time of the Jan. 11 boys basketball game versus Muncie Central.

In order to be considered, past Noblesville athletes/graduates must be nominated. A committee then votes on those nominations. Information and nomination forms can be found online at the Noblesville High School Athletic site.

Here are this year's nominees:

Ashley Auld (2008) – Soccer

Named the 2007 Indiana Miss Soccer and the Gatorade Indiana Player of the Year as a senior. Honorable mention All-State as a sophomore, Third Team All-State as a junior, First Team All-State as a senior. The Millers went 59-8-6 over Auld's four years and won four HCC Championships. Accumulated 110 career points with 42 goals and 26 assists. Auld was named the 2007 *Indianapolis Star* All-North Player of the Year.

Jeff Chapman (1999) – Basketball, Golf

Three-year letterman in basketball playing on teams that went 60-15. All Olympic Conference both as a junior and senior. Metro North All Hamilton County as both a junior and a senior. Led the county as a senior in scoring (19.7) and rebounding (9.5). Scored 34 points in a single game. Metro North Player of the Year in 1999. Hamilton County Player of the Year as a senior. Individual Sectional Champion as a junior. Finished fourth in the state meet as a senior. IHSAA Mental Attitude Award winner as a senior.

GIRLS

This week, the Royals travel to Franklin Central on Wednesday to begin Hoosier Crossroads Conference play, then head to Newton Park in Lakeville on Friday for an evening game with Penn. Southeastern then takes on Evansville Memorial on Saturday, also at Newton Park.

Carmel plays its first home game Tuesday, welcoming South Bend St. Joseph to Murray Stadium. The Hounds then head to Guerin Catholic for a Saturday morning game.

Westfield hosted Guerin Catholic in the opener for both schools, and the Shamrocks beat the defending 2A state champion Golden Eagles 2-1.

Guerin Catholic scored first, with Mia Gatz putting in a goal unassisted. Westfield's Kate Malin tied the

BOYS

Junior Troy Enslin scored the Greyhounds' goal, with senior Eli Roberts making the assist. Sophomore Aidan Gostomelsky had three saves.

The Greyhounds play Monday at Pike.

Fishers also got a season-opening victory, beating Franklin Central 2-1 in a Hoosier Crossroads Conference game.

Lacey Boutwell Schnell (2001) – Swim

Lacey earned three individual IHSAA state swim titles during her time at NHS. In 1998 she was the state champion in both the 50 and 100 freestyle as a freshman. Her 50 free state meet performance in 1998 set the state record with a time of 22.90 seconds; that time stood until 2014. She is one of 10 people in IHSAA swim history to win two individual state titles as a freshman. In 2001, she won the 100 freestyle again and set the state record in 49.77 seconds; that time stood for 12 years. Today, Lacey still holds five Noblesville swim records in the 50 free, 100 free, 100 butterfly, 200 individual medley and 200 free. She still owns Hoosier Crossroads Conference records in the 200 free and 100 free which were established in 2001.

Debbie King Woodward (1973) – gymnastics

In the first ever IHSAA Girls State Championship in any sport, Debbie won the individual state championship on the balance beam. This was Noblesville's first ever individual or team IHSAA state championship in a girls sport.

1985-1986

Boys Basketball

Sectional Champions, Olympic Conference Champions, Ranked as high as No. 2 in the state. Finished the regular season ranked No. 4. Indiana High School Basketball Hall of Fame participant at Southridge. The players on this team played a major role in establishing a 41-game home win streak over the course of five years.

Team members: Jeff Blackford, Matt Cook, Robin Davis, Shane Deering, Bill Dodd, Craig Hawley, John Karaffa, Mike McLochlin, Dan Nicholson, Jeff Oman, Mark Roberts, Larry Simmons, Chris Stapleton Coaching Staff: Dave Nicholson (head coach), Jim Sparks, Tony Oilar, Ron McIntosh, Mike Chesser.

from Page B1

game in the 33rd minute, then scored early in the second half with a 47th-minute goal that sent the Rocks to victory.

Westfield travels to Fishers on Wednesday for an HCC contest. The Golden Eagles will also play Wednesday, hosting Zionsville before their Saturday game with Carmel.

Fishers began its season with a 4-2 win at McCutcheon.

Junior Elise May scored two goals for the Tigers, with senior Grace Preston and junior Delaney Allgeier each putting in one goal. Sophomore Jena Love and senior Lauren Faulkner both had one assist.

Fishers plays its first home game Monday against Park Tudor before hosting Westfield on Wednesday.

from Page B1

Senior Reid Spittler and junior Jack Butts both scored one goal each for the Tigers.

Drew Palmer and Kradien Bumbala both had one assist.

Fishers plays another HCC game Tuesday at Westfield, then travels to the Noblesville showcase this weekend. The Tigers take on Detroit Catholic on Friday and Cincinnati Moeller on Saturday.

Football



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

Noblesville senior Max Miller is moving from tight end to quarterback this year for the Millers team.

Millers reload offense, bring back experience on defense

By CRAIG ADKINS

For The Reporter

Head coach Dave Sharpe returns for his fifth season with the Noblesville football team and looks to improve on the Millers' last two seasons, which each finished 4-7. In 10 years, Sharpe is 51-56 with previous stints at John Glenn and LaPorte.

The Millers got off to a 3-2 start in their first five games of 2023, but a four-game losing streak to end the regular season put them at 3-6. They won a playoff game against Zionsville for the second straight season, but also lost for the second consecutive postseason to Westfield in the sectional championship to finish 4-7.

Noblesville scrimmaged against North Central last Friday at Beaver Stadium, and Sharpe was pleased with what he saw out of the Millers.

"It was a great scrimmage, because pretty much everybody got to play and nobody got hurt," said Sharpe. "And that's all you're looking for. You just want to get some of your guys that are two- and three-year starters, just got them a little taste and got them out right away. And then I can't wait to get in and watch the film. We've got some guys battling for those starting spots, or rotating in, or legitimate backups. Tonight will help really paint the picture of our depth chart."

Starters are never easy to replace or fill the void, but the Millers are having to do that after graduating 2,660 yards and 27 rushing touchdowns.

All-time leading rusher Logan Shoffner gained 4,168 yards (7.7 per carry) and scored 27 rushing



Reporter photo by Richie Hall

The Millers have several solid returning players along with a talented sophomore class. Pictured are sophomore Caden Lydle (95), junior Nate Jones (16), senior Israel Oladipupo (0) and senior Michael Bennett (56).

touchdowns and Gage Guley was a steady complement for a one-two punch, graduating with 1,373 yards (4.5 average) and 25 TDs in 32 games during their three-year varsity careers.

The rushing load looks to be put on seniors Brody Gump, Israel Oladipupo and Bryce Englert, junior Luke Hile, along with sophomores Nicky Morris and Noah Shinkle.

"I think we handed the ball off to maybe 10 or 11 guys tonight, and we're figuring that out," said Sharpe.

Senior Max Miller sits atop the quarterback depth chart heading into fall camp. After playing a vital tight end role in 2023 and catching seven passes for 130 yards as well as blocking for graduated quarterback Jacob Baker, Miller is looking to use his height as an impact under center. Sophomores Aidan Braun and Windsor Hutchins are listed as Nos. 2 and 3 behind him as backups.

"What a great story to be that versatile within our

program," Sharpe said of Miller.

Senior Aiden Brewer, who recently committed to play in the Mid-American Conference at Bowling Green, is the leading returning receiver with 22 catches, 399 yards and two TDs. Fellow senior Indy Wilhelm will anchor at tight end opposite Brewer.

Toby Barnes (center), Merek Helvey (moving from center to guard), Bennett and Wilhelm (tackle to tight end) all return on the offensive line.

Oladipupo, a Boston College commit, will also lead the Miller defense, coming back from a junior season of 75 tackles (6.5 for a loss), two sacks, two caused fumbles and a pass deflection. Classmates Corbin Hornickel had 68 stops (six for a loss, two sacks) and Jrue Kanté made 41 tackles and 1.5 sacks. Seniors Michael Bennett, Wilhelm and Adam Mhedbhi will also be a presence on the D-line. Brewer will also

start at a linebacker spot.

Sharpe also believes his sophomore class will be strong, calling them "awesome" after the scrimmage. The coach said that "we got a ton of offensive line experience in the game today from Mason McDermott, Cale Metzler, Caleb Johnson, all three sophomores. Big Jackson Apple really led our JV team last year. Now he's definitely in the mix to be one of our big offensive linemen as well."

Noblesville will host Mount Vernon in its season opener on Aug. 30. They'll then hit the road at Homestead on August 30 and open HCC action on Sept. 6. The Millers will host Westfield on Sept. 13 and visit Zionsville on Sept. 20 at the midway point of the season.

The Millers get a visit from Franklin Central on Sept. 27, followed by Hamilton Southeastern at home on Oct. 4. The regular season finishes up at Brownsburg on Oct. 11 and at home versus Avon on Oct. 18.

GOLF

The No. 3-ranked Millers had three players finish in the top 10. Josie Kelley tied for fourth with 76, totaling three birdies. Olivia Fowler scored 77 to place sixth, also making three birdies. Karis Shields tied for ninth with 80, draining two birdies. Kate Murphy and Olivia Anderson both made two birdies.

Janelle Garcia led the way for the No. 9-ranked Royals. She scored 74 for third place, making three birdies along the way.

"I did well," said Garcia. "I haven't done well in a while. I'm happy with my score today." Garcia also said her performance will "encourage me for the next few matches."

Laci Hart tied for ninth place, scoring 80. Sophie Roberts, Karolina Franssen and Brooke Willard each made one birdie.

Eighth-ranked Carmel scored 336 to place fourth. Sophie Mock tied for seventh place with 79, draining two birdies along the way. Maddie Headlee, Allie Thompson and Mallorie Monico all had one birdie.

Guerin Catholic placed fifth with 360. Ali Scott tied for seventh place by scoring 79, putting in one birdie. Sydney Delagrance also made one birdie.

Fishers scored 380 for sixth place. Lola Kivett made two birdies, while Kendall Manion had one birdie.

University's Grace Cates also had one birdie during her round.

Team scores: Westfield 302, Noblesville 315, Hamilton Southeastern 318, Carmel 336, Guerin Catholic 360, Fishers 380, Hamilton Heights 427, University 473.

Medalist: Addi Kooi (W) 32-39=71.

Other Westfield scores: Kelsey Haverluck 38-34=72, Sophie Raines 35-41=76, Kate Brown 42-41=83, Sadie Edwards 40-45=85, Ellison Daggy 47-46=93.

Noblesville scores: Josie Kelley 36-40=76, Olivia Fowler 39-38=77, Karis Shields 38-42=80, Kate Murphy 38-44=82, Presley White 41-43=84, Olivia Anderson 43-44=87.

Southeastern scores: Janelle Garcia 35-39=74, Laci Hart 41-39=80, Sophie Roberts 37-44=81, Karolina Franssen 41-42=83, Brooke Willard 43-47=90, Paige O'Hara 48-50=98.

Carmel scores: Sophie Mock 40-39=79, Maddie Headlee 38-43=81, Allie Thompson 44-44=88, Georgia Murnan 47-41=88, Reese Roubush 43-49=92, Mallorie Monico 51-48=99.

Guerin Catholic scores: Ali Scott 40-39=79, Gracie Navarro 41-50=91, Sarah Rigg 49-44=93, Sydney Delagrance 48-49=97, London Payne 54-56=110, Avery Wall 54-57=111.

Fishers scores: Lola Kivett 40-49=89, Kendall Manion 41-49=90, Ellie Webster 53-46=99, Aleah Miller 47-55=102, Sophia Rush 50-52=102, Grace Pedersen 60-63=123.

Heights scores: Taylor Morrison 43-52=95, Alayna Kauffman 47-49=96, Fiona McDonald 58-56=114, Sammie Powers 63-59=122, Emma Trees 60-66=126, Tanner Penwell 67-69=136.

University scores: Grace Cates 54-50=94, Scout Griffiths 58-62=120, Maryn Stephenson 62-67=129, Sophie Stratman 62-68=130.

Football

Hamilton Heights has sights set high after historic '23

By CRAIG ADKINS
For The Reporter

Hamilton Heights head football coach Jon Kirschner enters his seventh season (33-30) leading the Huskies this year and his teams keep getting better.

Last season, Heights started off 11-0, including five straight shutouts and ended the regular season winning the outright Hoosier Conference title at West Lafayette. The 2023 campaign was a dream season for the Huskies that unfortunately came to an end in the sectional championship game at home to eventual Class 3A state champion Bishop Chatard, 28-8.

Heights will have a new quarterback this year, with Bodie Derrer (1,911 yards and 16 TDs), Owen VanHaaren (865 yards) and Eric Balcom (490) all graduating, leaving a hole in the rushing game. The trio also combined to score 24 touchdowns.

The Huskies have two quarterbacks that are in competition for the starting nod to replace the graduat-



Bob Cross / File photo

Hamilton Heights senior Michael Cain is one of several key defensive players that return to the Huskies football team this season. In his junior season, Cain made 43 tackles (13 for a loss), 12 sacks and a fumble recovery.

ed Derrer, who's now a Ball State Cardinal.

"Right now, there looks to be a competition between sophomore Drew Woodruff and senior Joey Sigler," said head coach Jon Kirschner.

Senior Logan Hickman (74 yards and a TD) and junior Nathan Flanders (37 yards and a TD) both saw time as backups and are the

lone running backs returning with experience.

"Running back will be a by-committee approach with no true starter named at this point. Players in the mix at RB will be junior Dre Chandler, senior Logan Hickman and junior Nathan Flanders," continued Kirschner.

Senior Tyler Champion

(645 yards and seven TDs) leads four receivers returning with significant contributions. Senior Cam Fleming (356 yards, two TDs), senior Keaton Weaver (258 yards, three TDs) and junior Dre Chandler (102 yards) will all be major contributors in Heights' offensive attack.

See Millers . . . Page B4



Julie Brown / File photo

Fishers' JonAnthony Hall was the top receiver in Hamilton County last year with 69 catches for 1,055 yards and six touchdowns. Hall, a Stanford commit, returns to the Tigers football team this season for his senior year.

Tigers turning a corner in 2024

By CRAIG ADKINS
For The Reporter

system, but the Tigers also lost many key players.

The Fishers football team is somewhat flying under the radar in the first four years of the Curt Funk era.

After two consecutive 7-4 seasons and 6-4 in 2021, the Tigers are trying to get over the hump to get back to their winning ways. Funk is 23-20 in his first four years and is more than ready to improve. Before Fishers, Funk was 77-36 in 10 years at Mississinewa, giving him a 100-56 mark in 15 seasons.

Last fall, Fishers went 4-2 over its final six games, but fell in the sectional championship at Hamilton Southeastern, 38-21. The Tigers are looking to win a sectional, which hasn't happened since 2017.

Fishers looks to bounce back with numerous players coming back and up in the

"We lost a lot of really good players from last year and guys will need to step up this season," said Funk.

Funk and his staff will have to replace the services of running back Khobie Martin (1,379 yards and 19 TDs) and quarterback Bennett Gorak's 1,785 yards and 15 touchdowns through the air.

Junior quarterback Gage Sturgill returns with experience under his belt in a few games Gorak missed due to injury. Sturgill was a consistent 27-for-49 for 344 yards with three TDs and two interceptions. Senior Ryan Thembulembu showed spark in eight games with 50 carries and 283 yards and a score last season. Senior Brady Griffiths will also see some time in the backfield.

See Tigers . . . Page B4



Joshua Herd / File photo

Hamilton Southeastern's AZ Wallace averaged 5.7 yards per game and scored nine touchdowns for the Royals during his junior year last season. Wallace is back for his senior season at Southeastern.

Royals aim to build on playoff success

By CRAIG ADKINS
For The Reporter

Chandler Weston returns from a productive junior season. Weston threw for 1,415 yards and 18 touchdowns as a junior and ran for 295 yards and four TDs.

The Hamilton Southeastern football team has itself in a pretty good spot with fifth-year head coach Michael Kelly (35-10). He was also 14-16 in from 2017-2019 at Seymour.

Last season, the Royals were 9-3, winning five of their last seven before losing their regional battle with Westfield, 24-21. HSE is back to their winning ways the last four seasons, including two consecutive sectional crowns and a trip to the semi-state in 2022.

Senior quarterback

Southeastern graduated two of the more talented skilled players in the area in Jalen Alexander (1,444 rushing yards, 17 TDs) and 2022-23 Hamilton County Reporter Player of the Year Donovan Hamilton (934 receiving yards, 11 TDs).

Senior AZ Wallace is back from a junior year when he gained 595 yards for a 5.7 average and nine touchdowns.

See Royals . . . Page B4

Shamrocks show off their new tennis court



Reporter photos by Richie Hall

Westfield High School showed off its new tennis complex last Thursday by hosting a boys tennis scrimmage with Guerin Catholic. While rain cut the scrimmage short, the courts were in perfect shape. Pictured here are the Golden Eagles' George Hein about to serve, while the Shamrocks' Jay Hostetter takes the scorekeeper after the scrimmage finished. Westfield will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 5 p.m. Tuesday to officially open the tennis complex, after which the Rocks play North Central for their first meet of the season.

He's still a faithful fan . . . from the comfort of his easy chair



Photo provided by Janet Hart Leonard

For the first time ever, Chuck Leonard watched a Colts game at home. Leonard was the scoreboard operator for the Colts from their first game in Indianapolis since 1984, and he retired from his duties at the end of the 2023 season. On Aug. 11, Leonard saw the Colts' pre-season opener from the comfort of his own living room. You can read about Leonard's 40-year career as scoreboard operator at tinyurl.com/ChuckLeonardFeature.

MILLERS

from Page B3

Senior Kendall Flanders returns as the leading tackler with 63 (10 for a loss, three sacks), along with three fumble recoveries from last season. Michael Cain is back up front for his senior season after 12 sacks, 43 tackles (13 for a loss) and a fumble recovery. Nick Hulen comes back as a senior from a junior season with 37 tackles (five for a loss) and a pass deflection.

“Overall, our team’s success will be dependent on the leadership and play of guys like seniors Tyler Champion, Keaton Weaver, Michael Cain, two-way lineman Drew Laitas and Kendall Flanders. We feel we have a strong nucleus of newcomers and younger players who will do a phenomenal job filling the voids

left by last year’s graduating seniors,” added Kirschner. Starting this season off on the road at Lapel on Friday, Hamilton Heights hosts Triton Central on Aug. 30 for its home opener. Sept. 6 puts Heights on the road at 4A McCutcheon and they’ll stay on the road at Danville on Sept. 13.

The Western Panthers come to town from Russiaville for a Hoosier Conference Big School division opener on Sept. 20 and then face league newcomer Logansport on the road on Sept. 27. Twin Lakes comes to Arcadia on Oct. 4, then the Huskies head just north to face the Tipton Blue Devils on Oct. 11 and conclude the regular season at home on Oct. 18 against West Lafayette.

TIGERS

from Page B3

Senior and recent Stanford commit JonAnthony Hall returns as the top receiver in the county with 69 catches for 1,055 yards and six touchdowns. Fellow two-sport senior Millen McCartney helps provide depth at wide receiver with 220 yards on 13 catches and a pair of TDs last season. Themblemu will also see some time at receiver, along with another senior Denkota Fletcher.

The Tigers return just one on the offensive line. Senior left tackle Chuck Slain is back to protect Sturgill’s blindside. “We will need to continue to develop that group,” said Funk.

Senior outside linebacker Jev Hutton is tops on defense with 51 stops (31 solo, seven for a loss), along with two sacks and three caused fumbles. Senior three-year starting safety Owen Folta is right behind with 45 tackles (36 solo and two for a loss)

and seven pass deflections. Seniors Tristan Johnson and Carsen Eloms look to be on lockdown at the corners. Junior Tyler Maynard also brings back 33 tackles (22 solo, five for a loss) at defensive end.

Starting on the road on Aug. 23 at North Central, the Tigers have two home games in a row on August 30 against Pike and opening Hoosier Crossroads Conference play with Noblesville on Sept. 6. The annual Mudsock game puts Fishers back on the road with the shortest road trip in the state at Hamilton Southeastern on Sept. 13.

A similar rotation for the remainder of their slate has them at Brownsburg on Sept. 20, then hitting the road again at Avon on Sept. 27 and Franklin Central on Oct. 4. The home finale will be against Westfield on Oct. 11, followed by a visit to Zionsville on Oct. 18.

ROYALS

from Page B3

TDs on the ground. Fellow senior Brennan Baker (121 yards, TD) will be another important piece to HSE’s offense this year.

Seniors Dylan James (110 yards, two TDs) and Liam Boyd (105) return at wide receiver for HSE. Along with juniors Kendrick Pennybaker and Graham Toner, the Royals WR corps looks to make a name for themselves.

On the defensive side, the Royals graduated many players that contributed to their 2023 success, but still have a lot coming back. Senior Michael Hoog brings his 64 tackles (2.5 for a loss, 1.5 sacks) back and fellow senior Mason Alexander leads the secondary with three interceptions, eight pass deflections and added 39 tackles.

HSE continues its series with Fort Wayne Carroll to begin the season on Friday. They began a series with the Chargers following their 2022 semi-state playoff matchup.

The Royals’ home opener is in Week 2 against North Central on Aug. 30. Hoosier Crossroads Conference play starts on Sept. 6 at Avon. The Battle for the Mudsock continues at home on Sept. 13 versus Fishers. On Sept. 20, Southeastern heads to Westfield and hosts Zionsville to end the month on Sept. 27.

A road trip to Noblesville starts October off on Oct. 4, with the final two regular season games being at Franklin Central on Oct. 11 and at home against Brownsburg on Oct. 18.

WESTFIELD

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advised that the Westfield-Washington Township Advisory Plan Commission will meet at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 3, 2024 at Westfield City Hall, 130 Penn Street, Westfield, Indiana, or in a virtual format viewable at https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofWestfieldIN, for the purposes of holding a public hearing and reviewing and acting on the following petitions:
• 2409-PUD-20; Claiborne Farms (Kimblick) Phase III Planned Unit Development (PUD) (Ord. 24-25); Generally, North of and adjacent to 151st Street and East of Shelborne Road; Pulte Homes of Indiana, LLC by Nelson & Frankenberger requests a change of zoning for 108 acres +/- from the AG-SF1: Agricultural / Single-family Rural District to the Claiborne Farms (Kimblick) Phase III PUD District.
• 2409-PUD-21; Northpoint PUD Amendment (Commerce Parke Area 3) (Ord. 24-44) Planned Unit Development (PUD); Generally, North of and adjacent to 151st Street and East of Shelborne Road; Farnam NP I LLC, Williams Enterprises LLC, Stellhorn Northpoint LLC, Amazon Westfield LLC and Northpoint Owners LLC by Church Church Hittle + Antrim requests to modify architectural standards on a 36.6 acre +/- portion of the Northpoint PUD District.
• 2409-ZOA-02; The City of Westfield requests various text amendments to the Unified Development Ordinance generally pertaining to Art. 6.8 Landscaping Standards.
• 2409-ZOA-03; The City of Westfield requests various text amendments to the Unified Development Ordinance generally pertaining to 6.17 Sign Standards, 6.18 Temporary Use and Event Standards, and Ch. 12 Definitions.
Specific details regarding the requests may be obtained from the Westfield Community Development Department, 2728 East 171st Street, Westfield, Indiana 46074 or by calling (317) 804-3170.
Written suggestions or objections relative to the requests may be filed with the Secretary of the Commission at the Westfield Community Development Department, 2728 East 171st Street, Westfield, Indiana 46074 or before the hearing will be considered. Oral comments concerning the proposals will be heard at the aforementioned public hearing. In the case of a virtual meeting, written comments concerning the proposals can be provided before and during the aforementioned public hearing by emailing planners@westfield.in.gov. Such hearing may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary.
Westfield-Washington Township Advisory Plan Commission
Westfield Community Development Department
2728 East 171st Street, Westfield, Indiana 46074
www.westfield.in.gov
R4817 8/19/24

Thanks for reading The Reporter!

COURT NOTICES

STATE OF INDIANA)
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)
IN THE HAMILTON)
CIRCUIT COURT)
Cause No. 29C01-2408-MI-8638
IN RE: NAME CHANGE OF:
IGOR WANKO MBOUMI
NOTICE OF HEARING
Notice is hereby given that Petitioner, IGOR WANKO MBOUMI, through counsel, filed a Verified Petition for Change of Name to change his name from IGOR WANKO MBOUMI to IGOR MBOUMI WANKO .
The petition is scheduled for hearing in the Hamilton Circuit Court on December 16, 2024 at 10:00 am, which is more than thirty (30) days after the third notice of publication. Any person has the right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections on or before the hearing date. The parties shall report to One Hamilton County Square, Suite 337, Noblesville, IN 46060.
Date: August 12, 2024
Kathy Kreag Williams
Clerk, Hamilton Circuit Court
R4806 8/19/24, 8/26/24, 9/2/24

29D01-2408-EU-000339
S. MATTHEW COOK
Attorney for Estate
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
In the Superior Court No. 1 of Hamilton County, Indiana.
Notice is hereby given that Kimberly Michelle Fahrkopf was on the 5 day of August, 2024, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Mark Alan Fahrkopf, deceased, who died on the 28th day of June, 2024.
All persons having claims against said estate, whether or not now due, must file the same in said Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Noblesville, Indiana, this 5th day of August, 2024.
Kathy Kreag Williams
Clerk, Hamilton Superior Court No. 1
S. Matthew Cook
COOK & COOK
Attorneys at Law
955 Logan Street
Noblesville, IN 46060
(317) 773-5522
R4763 8/12/24, 8/19/24

HAMILTON SUPERIOR COURT
HAMILTON COUNTY, INDIANA
IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
SABRA ANN KELLUM
CAUSE NO. 29D03-2407-EU-000297
NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that Sabra Kristine Jarosinski was on the 18th day of July, 2024 appointed as administrator of the estate of Sabra Ann Kellum, who passed away January 11, 2024. Persons who have claims against the estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of the Court within three months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine months after the decedent’s death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated this 24th day of July, 2024.
Kathy Kreag Williams
Clerk of the Hamilton Superior Court
Jon M Myers
Myers Law Office
Attorney No. 14617-09
Attorney for the Estate
3015 High Street
Logansport, IN 46947
574-721-4466
Logansportmyers@gmail.com
R4759 8/12/24, 8/19/24

29D03-2408-EU-000344
Webster & Garino, LLC
209 E. 175th Street, Suite A
Westfield, IN 46074
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
In the Hamilton County Superior Court, Indiana. Notice is hereby given that Scott Myers was on the 13th day of August, 2024, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Gary Myers, deceased, who died on October 1, 2023.
All persons who have claims against the estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the Office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent’s death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Noblesville, Indiana this 13th day of August, 2024.
Kathy Kreag Williams
Clerk of the Hamilton County Superior Court
R4809 8/19/24, 8/26/24

29D03-2407-EU-000307
ATTORNEY:
Jayme E. Donnellson
Hess Hess & Donnellson, LLP
540 N. Rangeline Rd.
Carmel, IN 46032
(317) 844-1377
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
In the Hamilton County Superior Court
In the Matter of the Sharon B. Slack, Deceased.
Cause Number 29D03-2407-EU-000307
Notice is hereby given that Angela Williams and Cynthia Martin were on July 24, 2024, appointed Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of Sharon B. Slack, Deceased, who died on June 5, 2024.
All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent’s death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Noblesville, Indiana, this July 24, 2024.
Kathy Kreag Williams
Clerk of the Hamilton County Court
R4723 7/29/24, 8/5/24

29D02-2408-EU-000336
ATTORNEY: Gavin S. O’Gara,
Attorney at Law
ADDRESS:
7271 North Shadeland Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46250
PHONE: (317) 855-9922
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
In the Hamilton County Court, Probate Division
In the Matter of the Estate of Jerry L. Burgess, deceased.
Jerry L. Burgess, was over the age of 55
Notice is hereby given that Connie Burgess was on August 5, 2024 appointed Administrator of the estate of Jerry L. Burgess, deceased, who died on 6/11/2024
All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the clerk of this court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent’s death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Hamilton County, Indiana: August 5, 2024.
Kathy Kreag Williams
Clerk of the Hamilton County Court
Probate Division
Gavin S. O’Gara, Attorney
Gilbert Legal Services, LLC
7271 North Shadeland Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46250
(317) 855-9922 Phone
(317) 855-9923 Fax
gavin@gilbertlegalservices.com
R4770 8/12/24, 8/19/24

C. Russell Cox
Attorney No. 11378-49
COX, SARGEANT & BURNS, P.C.
8010 Castleton Road, Suite 100
Indianapolis, IN 46250
NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
In the Hamilton Superior Court
In the Matter of the Unsupervised Estate of Flois D. Burrow, deceased.
Estate Docket: 29D02-2408-EU-000338
Notice is hereby given that KEVIN D. BURROW was, on the 5th day of August, 2024, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Flois D. Burrow, deceased.
All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, 8/19/2024, 2024, or within nine (9) months after the decedent’s death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Noblesville, Indiana this 5th day of August, 2024.
Kathy Kreag Williams
Clerk of the Hamilton Superior Court
R4804 8/19/24, 8/26/24

29D03-2407-EU-000303
ATTORNEY:
Jayme E. Donnellson
Hess Hess & Donnellson, LLP
540 N. Rangeline Rd.
Carmel, IN 46032
(317) 844-1377
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
In the Hamilton County Superior Court
In the Matter of the Estate of Herbert Klaus Putz, Deceased.
Notice is hereby given that Frank J. Putz was on July 23rd, 2024, appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Herbert Klaus Putz, Deceased, who died on March 15, 2024.
All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent’s death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Noblesville, Indiana, this July 23, 2024.
Kathy Kreag Williams
Clerk of the Hamilton County Court
R4778 8/5/24, 8/12/24

29D03-2407-EU-000325
STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF HAMILTON
IN THE HAMILTON COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT
IN THE MATTER OF THE)
UNSUPERVISED)
ESTATE OF CARL E. KESLING,)
DECEASED)
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF HAMILTON COUNTY, INDIANA.
In the matter of the Estate of Carl E. Kesling, Deceased. Notice is hereby given that on August 1st, 2024, Mark D. Kesling was appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Carl E. Kesling, deceased, who died on July 17, 2024. All persons having claims against this Estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this Notice, or within nine (9) months after the Decedent’s death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Noblesville, Indiana, this August 1st, 2024.
Kathy Kreag Williams
Clerk of the Superior Court of Hamilton County
This Instrument Prepared By:
James H. Hernandez #8563-49
Attorneys at Law, LLC
567 North Emerson Avenue
Greenwood, Indiana 46143
(317) 886-7103
R4796 8/19/24, 8/26/24

STATE OF INDIANA)
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)
IN THE HAMILTON)
CIRCUIT COURT)
Cause No. 29C01-2408-MI-8664
IN RE THE MATTER OF:
Ron Alfred Faraggi
Petitioner
NOTICE OF HEARING
Ron Alfred Faraggi, whose mailing address is: 117 Rolling Hills Dr., Carmel, Indiana 46032, in the Hamilton County, Indiana, hereby gives notice that Ron Alfred Faraggi has filed a petition in the Hamilton County Circuit Court requesting that name be changed to Iris Roni Faraggi.
Notice is further given that the hearing will be held on said Petition on: December 16, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.
Ron Alfred Faraggi
Petitioner
Date: August 5, 2024
Kathy Kreag Williams
Hamilton County Clerk
R4807 8/19/24, 8/26/24, 9/2/24

Full County Coverage Sports News Events ReadTheReporter.com

SHERIFF SALES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF’S SALE
TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Superior Court of Hamilton County, Indiana, in Cause No.: 29D03-1702-PL-001111 wherein Pleasant View Homeowners Association, Inc. was Counterclaimant / Third-Party Plaintiff, and Craig D. Severance and Catherine Severance were Counterclaim Defendants; and Mortgage Electronic Registrations Systems, Inc., United Guaranty Residential Insurance Company of North Carolina, as assignee of USAA Federal Savings Bank, Unifund CCR, LLC, and Velocity Investments, LLC assignee of LendingClub Corporation assignee of WebBank were Third-Party Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and costs, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 3rd day of October, 2024, at the hour(s) of 10:00am-12:00pm of said day, at the Hamilton County Sheriffs Office, 18100 Cumberland Rd; Noblesville, Indiana, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate, in Hamilton County, Indiana:
Lot Number 158 in Pleasant View, Section 5, a subdivision in Hamilton County, Indiana, as per plat thereof, recorded May 3, 2001 as Instrument No. 200100024829 in the Office of the Recorder of Hamilton County, Indiana.
Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisalment laws.
Dennis J. Quakenbush II
Sheriff of Hamilton County
/s/ Stephen R. Donham
Stephen R. Donham, Esq.
Thrasher Buschmann & Voelkel, P.C.
Fall Creek Township
10622 Howe Road. Fishers. IN 46038
Street Address
29-11-29-021-023.000-020
Parcel Number
October 03, 2024
Sale Date
The Sheriff’s Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein.
R4815 8/19/24, 8/26/24, 9/2/24

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
NOTICE OF SHERIFF’S SALE
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Hamilton Circuit Court of Hamilton County, Indiana, in Cause No. 29C01-2408-CC-008525 wherein GSWC Recovery Fund, LLC as assignee of BMO Bank N.A. f/k/a BMO Harris Bank N.A., was Plaintiff, and, Jaspal Sidhu was Defendant, required me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 3rd day of October, 2024, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 18100 Cumberland Road, Noblesville, IN 46060 the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Hamilton County, Indiana.
Acreage .27 Section 31, Township 18, Range 3 SANCTUARY AT 116TH STREET Section 1
Lot 24 Irregular Shape
Commonly known as: 11816 Eagleview Drive, Zionsville, Indiana 46077
Township: Clay
State Parcel No. 29-09-31-005-024.000-018
Local Parcel No. 17-09-31-00-05-024.000
Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisalment laws.
Dennis J. Quakenbush II
Sheriff
Tasha R. Roberts, Plaintiffs Attorney
WONG FLEMING, PC
118 North Delaware Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Telephone: (317)631-0172
Facsimile: (317) 631-0178
Email: troberts@wongfleming.com
The Sheriff’s Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street addressed published herein.
R4814 8/19/24, 8/26/24, 9/2/24

NOTICE OF SHERIFF’S SALE
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of the Superior Court of Hamilton County, Indiana, in Cause No. 29D01-2402-MF-001726, wherein Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC was Plaintiff, and Camila R. Bogard and Star Financial Bank, were the Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and costs, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 3rd day of October, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. of said day, at the 18100 Cumberland Road, Noblesville, IN 46060, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Hamilton County, Indiana:
Lot 20 in Turnberry, Section 1, as per plat thereof recorded December 15, 2015 as Instrument No. 2015063890, in the Office of the Recorder of Hamilton County, Indiana. 29-12-29-026-020.000-020
and commonly known as: 12889 Girvan Way, Fishers, IN 46037.
Subject to all liens, encumbrances, rights of redemption, easements and restrictions of record not otherwise foreclosed and extinguished in the proceedings known as Cause # 29D01-2402-MF-001726 in the Superior Court of the County of Hamilton Indiana, and subject to all real estate taxes, and assessments currently due, delinquent or which are to become a lien.
Said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisalment laws. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee’s Attorney.
Dennis J. Quakenbush II
Hamilton County Sheriff

DOYLE & FOUTTY, P.C.
41 E Washington St., Suite 400
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Fall Creek Township
12889 Girvan Way, Fishers, IN 46037
Street Address
The Sheriffs Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein.
DOYLE & FOUTTY, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR
R4812 8/19/24, 8/26/24, 9/2/24

NOTICE OF SHERIFF’S SALE
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Hamilton Circuit Court of Hamilton County, Indiana, in Cause No. 29C01-2310-MF-010341 wherein U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for VRMTG Asset Trust was Plaintiff, and The Unknown Heirs and Devises of Martin J. Rohman, Deceased and LVNV Funding LLC were Defendants, required me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 3rd day of October, 2024, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 18100 Cumberland Road, Noblesville, IN 46060 the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Hamilton County, Indiana.
Lot Number 46 in Sun-Blest Farms Unit 3-A an addition to the Town of Fishers in Hamilton County, Indiana as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 5 pages 128-129 in the Office of the Recorder of Hamilton County, Indiana.
More commonly known as 11540 Timberlake Ln, Fishers, IN 46038-1975
Parcel No. 15-14-01-01-013.000
Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisalment laws.
Dennis J. Quakenbush II
Sheriff

BRYAN K. REDMOND
BRYAN K. REDMOND, Plaintiff Attorney
Attorney # 22108-29
FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C.
8415 Allison Pointe Boulevard, Suite 400
Indianapolis, IN 46250
(317) 237-2727
Delaware Township
The Sheriff’s Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street addressed published herein.
NOTICE
FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR.
R4813 8/19/24, 8/26/24, 9/2/24

COURT NOTICES

29D03-2407-EU-000325
STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF HAMILTON
IN THE HAMILTON SUPERIOR COURT
ESTATE DOCKET: 29D03-2406-EU-000247
IN THE MATTER OF THE)
UNSUPERVISED)
ADMINISTRATION OF THE)
ESTATE OF)
WILLIAM DONALD SHEETS,)
DECEASED)
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
In the Superior Court of Hamilton County, Indiana.
Notice is hereby given that Brian J. Paul was, on the 14th day of June 2024, appointed personal representative of the estate of William Donald Sheets, deceased, who died on the 20th day of May, 2024.
All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the clerk of this court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent’s death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 13th day of August, 2024.
Kathy Kreag Williams
CLERK OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
FOR HAMILTON COUNTY, INDIANA
R4801 8/19/24, 8/26/24

29D02-2407-EU-000302
STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF HAMILTON
IN THE HAMILTON COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT
CAUSE NO. 29D02-2407-EU-000302
IN THE MATTER OF THE)
ESTATE OF)
PAMELA JO LOHMAN)
DECEASED)
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that on the 22nd day of July, 2024, Kelly J. Armour was appointed personal representative of the estate of Pamela Jo Lohman, deceased, who died on the 11th day of April 2024.
All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent’s death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 22 day of July, 2024.
Kathy Kreag Williams
Clerk, Hamilton County Superior Court
Attorney for Personal Representative:
Elizabeth A. Schlueter,
Attorney No.: 16502-49
SCHLUETER BREMAN LLC
9292 North Meridian Street, Suite 350
Indianapolis, IN 46260
317-953-6000; Fax 317-953-6001
Elizabeth@schlueterbremen.com
R4750 8/5/24, 8/12/24

Submit Public Notices To: PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com

COURT NOTICES

29D02-2408-EU-000346
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
IN THE HAMILTON SUPERIOR
COURT OF HAMILTON COUNTY,
INDIANA.

29D02-2408-EU-000341
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
In the Hamilton Superior Court
In the Matter of the Estate of
Charlene C. Roth, Deceased.

WESTFIELD

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Notice is hereby given that SEALED BIDS will be received:
By: Westfield Washington Schools
For: Shamrock Station
Deliver to: 18160 Market Court, Westfield, Indiana 46074
Date & Time: September 5th, 2024, at 2:00pm (EST)

SHERIFF SALES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of
the Superior Court of Hamilton County, Indiana, in Cause No. 29D01-2311-
MF-010735, wherein MidFirst Bank was Plaintiff, and James D. Stuckey, Anna
T. Stuckey, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and State of Indiana
through its Department of Revenue, were the Defendants, requiring me to make
the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and costs, I will expose at
public sale to the highest bidder, on the 19th day of September, 2024, at 10:00
a.m. to 12:00 p.m. of said day, at the 18100 Cumberland Road, Noblesville,
IN 46060, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Hamilton County,
Indiana:

COUNTY

NOTICE OF EXECUTION OF LEASE AGREEMENT
Pursuant to action previously taken by the Hamilton County Board of
Commissioners (the "County"), at a meeting and a public hearing conducted
on August 12, 2024, a lease agreement between the County and the Hamilton
County Public Building Corporation was executed and entered into on August
14, 2024 (the "Lease").

CICERO

NOTICE OF ADOPTION
Notice of Adoption of Ordinance Annexing Certain Real Estate to the Town of
Cicero, Indiana Ordinance 04-16-2024-01. An Ordinance Annexing Territory by
Voluntary Petition to the Town of Cicero, Hamilton County, Indiana, was adopted
by the Cicero Town Council on July 2, 2024.

COUNTY

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF HAMILTON COUNTY
Pursuant to IC 5-3-1-2(b) Notice is hereby given that the Hamilton County
Council of Hamilton County, Indiana will meet Wednesday, September 4, 2024
at 5:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Courtroom at their regular meeting place of
One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, Indiana.

COUNTY

BEFORE THE HAMILTON COUNTY DRAINAGE BOARD
IN THE MATTER OF
Little Eagle Creek Drain
Shed Correction for 2704 W. 146th St.
NOTICE
Notice is hereby given of the hearing of the Hamilton County Drainage Board
on the Little Eagle Creek Drain, Shed Correction for 2704 W. 146th St. on August
26, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. in Commissioners Court, Hamilton County Judicial Center,
One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, Indiana, and which construction and
maintenance reports of the Surveyor and the Schedule of Assessments made by
the Drainage Board have been filed and are available for public inspection in the
office of the Hamilton County Surveyor.

SHERIFF SALES

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND
ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of
Hamilton Superior Court of Hamilton County, Indiana, in Cause No. 29D01-
2303-MF-002566 wherein Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, Not
Individually but Solely as Trustee for Finance of America Structured Securities
Acquisition Trust 2019-HBI was Plaintiff and The Huntington National Bank as
Defendant, Counterclaimant, Cross-Claimant, and Stacy L. McGivrey, as Personal
Representative of the Estate of Barbara L. Wilson Pursuant to Cause No. 29D03-
2305-ES-242, was a Defendant, required me to make the sum as provided for
in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest
bidder, on the 3rd day of October, 2024, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 18100 Cumberland Road, Noblesville,
IN 46060 the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Hamilton County,
Indiana.

SHERIDAN

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL
APPROPRIATION
Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of Sheridan Civil Town, Hamilton
County, Indiana, that the proper legal officers of the Town of Sheridan, at their
regular meeting place at 300 East 6th Street, Sheridan, IN, 46069, at 6:00
P.M., on the 3rd day of September 2024, will consider the following additional
appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year.

COURT NOTICES

STATE OF INDIANA)
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)
IN THE HAMILTON
CIRCUIT COURT
Cause No. 29C01-2407-MI-007999
IN RE THE MATTER OF:
Lisa Michelle Gamott-baas
Petitioner

STATE OF INDIANA)
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)
IN THE HAMILTON
CIRCUIT COURT
Cause No. 29C01-2404-MI-4301
IN RE NAME CHANGE OF:
LANCE BARTAIZE JOHNSON
NOTICE OF HEARING
LANCE BARTAIZE JOHNSON,
whose mailing address is: 12713
BRONCOS DR FISHERS, IN 46037,
in the Hamilton County, Indiana,
hereby gives notice that LANCE
BARTAIZE JOHNSON has filed a
petition in the Hamilton County
Circuit Court requesting that name
be changed to LANCE BARTAIZE
MARBLEY II.

WESTFIELD

ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Proposals for the performance of the City of Westfield's Landscape
Maintenance Services will be received by the City of Westfield, Indiana, at the
Westfield Public Works Building, 2728 E. 171st Street, Westfield, Indiana,
46074 until 12:00 p.m., local time, on Friday, October 18th, 2024. Written
confirmation of intent to bid is due on August 30th, 2024. A copy of the full
Request for Proposals documents can be found on the City of Westfield website at
http://www.westfield.in.gov.

SHERIFF SALES

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND
ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of
Superior Court of Hamilton County, Indiana, in Cause No. 29D02-2402-
PL-001510, wherein Charleston Crossing Homeowners Association, Inc. was
Plaintiff, and Priscilla A. Rush, et. al. were the Defendants, required me to make
the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose a
public sale to the highest bidder, on the 19th day of September, 2024 between the
hours of 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. of said day, at the Hamilton County Sheriffs
Office, 18100 Cumberland Road, Noblesville, IN 46060, fee simple of the whole
body of Real Estate in Hamilton County, Indiana:

COURT NOTICES

STATE OF INDIANA)
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)
IN THE HAMILTON
CIRCUIT COURT
Cause No. 29C01-2407-MI-007999
IN RE THE MATTER OF:
Lisa Michelle Gamott-baas
Petitioner

WESTFIELD

NOTICE OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY
ALDI Inc. (486 E. Stop 18 Road, Greenwood, IN 46143) is submitting a Notice
of Intent to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management to comply
with the requirements of Construction General Stormwater Permit (CGSP) to
discharge storm water from construction activities associated with the proposed
ALDI development located at 54 E Spring Mill Pointe Dr, Westfield, IN 46074
(Section 2, Township 18 North, Range 3 East, Hamilton County, Indiana). Runoff
from the construction site will discharge into an unnamed tributary, which outfalls
into Grassy Branch. Questions or comments should be directed to Ryan Vliet,
P.E., IngenAE, LLC, 301 N Main Street, Suite B, South Bend, Indiana 46601,
phone 574-400-2167.

COUNTY

NOTICE
Cummins Sales and Service 3621 W. Morris Street, Indianapolis, IN, 46241
317-244-7251
1FVACWDT2CDBH7636 2012 FRHT MR-102 \$29,511.00
R4667 7/22/24

Starstruck Carmel Swim Club swimmers meet Shackell siblings

Olympians joined by Coach Chris Plumb for Q&A, autograph signing event

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

CARMEL – There were already a sizable number of people in the Carmel High School Main Cafeteria last Thursday, waiting to hear from two Olympic swimmers and their coach.

Carmel siblings Alex and Aaron Shackell were set to make their entrance to talk with Carmel Swim Club members after their experience at the 2024 Paris Olympics, along with Carmel Swim Club coach Chris Plumb, who was one of the assistant coaches for Team USA.

Right before they spoke, more Carmel Swim Club swimmers appeared. Many of them. Roughly 200 more young swimmers rolled into the cafeteria for the half-hour question-and-answer session starring the Shackells and Plumb.

Afterwards, those same swimmers got a chance to take a group picture with the siblings and there was a fair amount of autograph signing as well. Alex and Aaron accommodated them all, happily making time for all of the young swimmers; after all, it wasn't that long ago that Alex, 17, was a young swimmer herself.

"I remember when I was younger and I would see an Olympian in person, I'd be starstruck," said Alex Shackell. "Being the Olympian now is really weird, but I want these kids to know they can do it too, and I was their age before going to be an Olympian. Anyone can do it."

Alex Shackell became the first female swimmer from Carmel to win an Olympic medal as part of two Team USA relays. She swam in the semifinals of both relays, participating on the 4x200 freestyle and

4x100 medley teams.

The 4x200 free squad placed second in the finals, making all who participated eligible for a silver medal. Then on the last day of the swimming competition, the 4x100 medley team won the gold medal, with the entire relay roster again getting a medal.

Alex told the crowd if a swimmer has an opportunity for an Olympic medal, "you don't deny that." And of course, she brought both of those medals to the ceremony. Alex said that having the medal put around her neck "was the most surreal moment. Looking at it in my hand right now, both of them, it's the best experience ever and I always wanted one so bad."

Aaron Shackell qualified for the Olympics after winning the 400 freestyle race at the U.S. Olympic Trials in Indianapolis. Once he was at the Paris games, he started thinking of Team USA right away.

"I knew that me and Kieran (Smith) were going to have a tough time making finals and I really wanted to have an American in the final, whether it was me or Kieran," said Aaron Shackell. "But I wanted to make it myself. Being in an Olympic final is something that almost no one gets to do and being able to go against all those guys in the final, some of the best 400 freestylers of all time, was super cool. I didn't perform like I wanted to, but we'll be back in four years and hopefully the next few years at world championships."

Aaron placed eighth in the 400 free, which was swam early in the games. But he continued to support his fellow Americans throughout the remainder of the swimming events.

"Aaron showed up for eight



Reporter photos by Richie Hall

(TOP LEFT) Aaron and Alex Shackell signed autographs for fans after the question-and-answer session. (ABOVE LEFT) Carmel Swim Club coach Chris Plumb speaks to the large crowd at the start of the celebration. (ABOVE RIGHT) Carmel Swim Club celebrated its Olympic swimmers last Thursday night at Carmel High School. Pictured are Alex Shackell (and her two medals), coach Chris Plumb and Aaron Shackell.

straight days to cheer on the team," Plumb told the crowd during the Q&A session.

"It was just really nice to be there and competing for Team USA and trying to make finals and cheering everyone on," said Aaron Shackell. He also gave a shout out to the Carmel Swim Club swimmers that supported him along the way.

Alex Shackell also mentioned the support she got during the games.

"All my friends did, and some parents definitely did reach out," said Alex. "It's always great to get

the extra support, especially the night before you race."

Meanwhile, Plumb told the crowd that he had always dreamed of going to the Olympics since he was little. He began coaching at Carmel Swim Club and Carmel High School in 2006, taking over what had already been a powerhouse program. Since then, Carmel has continued to reach new heights.

"We had this vision to have it happen," said Plumb "It just takes a long time. This only happens every four years. To have it come to fruition,

I remember what I said when I said today, 'these dreams do come true,' and this was a dream of mine, to have it happen here. And to realize that and to visualize that and to put it out there into the world, and it's manifested today. It's a proud moment to be able to stand here and have it with the club, especially with all the challenges you go through being a coach and raising your children here and all the stuff that comes along with it. It just feels good to say that we took kids to the Olympics and they have medals."



CONGRESSWOMAN
VICTORIA SPARTZ
PROUDLY SERVING **INDIANA'S** 5TH DISTRICT

Constituent Services



Help with Federal Agencies

I can help you when dealing with federal agencies, including:

- Social Security issues
- Medicare claims
- Veterans benefits
- Passport assistance
- IRS questions



US Flag Requests

Obtain commemorative flags flown over the US Capitol from my office.



Military Academy Nominations

High school students in our district may contact my office to request a nomination to attend one of our nation's service academies.



US Capitol and White House Tour Requests

My office can help arrange tours throughout our nation's capital.

West District Office: (317) 848-0201

East District Office: (765) 639-0671

www.spartz.house.gov