

Sheriff's Office Community Foundation treats Heights kids to back to school event



Photo provided

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Community Foundation was excited to host its first ever community event. The Foundation partnered with local businesses and sponsors to provide "Back to School" shopping for more than 20 Hamilton Heights students. Each student received new clothing, a backpack filled with school supplies, a lunch box, a gift certificate for a back-to-school haircut, sunglasses and more. The organization thanked the sponsors and volunteers who participated in the event. The HCSO Community Foundation is dedicated to giving back to the community through volunteerism, donations and community engagement. For donation information or to stay updated on other ways the Foundation gives back to the community, please visit hcsocommunityfoundation.com.

Noblesville council approves \$29M economic development partnership

Five-story, 302-space parking garage coming to city's west side

By JEFF JELLISON
Reporter Publisher

On Tuesday, Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen asked the council to approve an economic development agreement with a Carmel-based developer for the redevelopment of three acres to residential mixed-use village development to be known as Village at Federal Hill.

The agreement would form a \$29 million partnership with Old Town Companies to build 160 apartments, 30,000 square feet of office/commercial space, and 400 public spaces, including a 302-space

five-story parking garage on Noblesville's west side next to Federal Hill Park.

Jensen said the development would continue to foster a stronger downtown and an east to west connection on both sides of the river.

"We are encouraged to have this project move forward at such a quick pace to provide a vibrant, livable, walkable connection between downtown and the west side of the White River," Jensen said.

What the mayor didn't



Jensen

discuss, and what the council unanimously approved without discussion, was Noblesville borrowing \$14 million to help pay for the project.

According to the agreement Noblesville would issue Economic Development Bonds which would yield \$5.2 million to Old Town Companies to pay part of the project's cost.

Noblesville will also issue \$9 million in bonds to build the parking garage.

According to project documents, Old Town Companies told the city that

without the assistance of the city and the provision of the economic development incentives within the agreement, the project would not move forward.

"Our goal for the Village at Federal Hill and for all our neighborhood developments is to create a 'sense of place' for the people living in an Old Town community," said Justin Moffett, partner at Old Town. "It's an outstanding location with its proximity to downtown Noblesville, Riverview Health and the park. We are excited to be a part of the City's plans to create new opportunities for its residents."

HSE parents upset that new virtual learning option is only for teachers' kids

By ALEAH HORDGES
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

A new virtual learning option for the children of some Hamilton Southeastern teachers, staff and faculty has upset some parents of students in the district.

HSE is providing temporary student supervision of virtual learning at school buildings for children of all teachers, staff and faculty in grades K-6.

The supervised virtual learning will start Aug. 3 and run through Sept. 4 at each elementary school and at HSE Intermediate/Junior High.

Jaclyn McTaggart is an ER nurse and told News 8 her two kids have been doing virtual learning since the spring semester. McTag-

gart doesn't want the same for them starting in the fall semester.

"It was really a challenge. I feel like the kids didn't get much of an education, and everyone was kind of rolling with it," said McTaggart. She said she would've liked the option of bringing her kids to school for assistance with virtual learning also.

McTaggart said many students cannot navigate virtual learning and parents may not be able to stay home to help due to work. She also discussed how mental health is weighing on families and believes school can be a safe haven.

"It is a benefit and perk to the staff, but this was funded by [tax] dollars that was supposed to spread out

to everyone ... spaces that are supposed to be open to everyone," McTaggart said.

HSE is supporting teachers who have to teach virtual learning from their classrooms.

Teachers are reporting back to school after families provided feedback of more scheduled virtual instruction, student engagement and increased rigor, according to the school system.

"These students will still follow along with their assigned teacher via their Canvas Learning Platform," said HSE public information officer Emily Abbotts. "They are not being provided a separate teacher. The permanent substitutes that are conducting the supervision are already being paid and are available to provide

this service. This offering is not an additional cost to the district."

Non-staff members will have the option to place their kids into childcare at the local YMCA for special virtual instruction during those four weeks, but some parents believe having to pay up to \$187 a week is costly. McTaggart hopes HSE Schools can re-evaluate the virtual option plan in the future.

"It is a cost, and that again is another point of this disparity of why do our public dollars get to pay for only the teacher's children to have supervised supervision and assistance, and not the public dollars to get to pay for all children to have supervision and assistance?" asked McTaggart.

Atlanta cancels New Earth Festival

The REPORTER

Atlanta town officials have announced the cancellation of the Atlanta New Earth Festival this year.

The small northern Hamilton County town has been conducting the event since 1974. The event is the county's longest running and largest festival, often attracting nearly 600 vendors and 100,000 visitors.

Festival organizers said, "This decision has been difficult but we believe it to be in the best interest of all concerned."

Fishers announces new 'Shop Fishers: Summer Series'

The REPORTER

The City of Fishers' Shop Fishers initiative expands this summer to celebrate and support local businesses throughout the city. A spin-off of the annual Shop Fishers event on Small Business Saturday in November, the new Shop Fishers: Summer Series offers special discounts and promotions from local businesses and restaurants every Wednesday this August.

"During these challenging times, it is more important than ever to support our city's small businesses," said Mayor Scott Fadness. "We have seen the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on our neighbors', friends', and family's businesses, and we must help our local economy recover by supporting our small business owners."

The series will culminate on the last Wednesday of the month, Aug. 26, when shoppers can enjoy local

and regional artwork and performances as they shop deals at the participating businesses in partnership with Fishers Arts Council.

A total of 50 local businesses will offer special promotions and discounts,

- including:
- 101 Beer Kitchen
 - Big Apple Bagels
 - Blue Peppermint
 - C.R. Heroes
 - Chao Vietnamese Street Food
 - Consigned by Design
 - Cynthia's Hallmark
 - Family Care Chiropractic

- Fishers Cryotherapy
- Four Day Ray
- Gallery 116
- Get on the Ball Photos
- Gratitude Boutique
- Greek's Pizzeria
- Hammer & Stein Central Indiana
- Handel's Homemade Ice Cream
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
In accordance with Ind. Code §§5-3-1 and 5-23 et. seq., the City of Fishers Board of Public Works & Safety ("Board") will hold a public hearing on August 10, 2020, at the City Hall Auditorium, One Municipal Drive, Fishers, Indiana at 4:00 p.m., to consider a recommendation to award a public-private agreement to Meyer Najem Construction, LLC ("Meyer Najem") for Meyer Najem to build, operate and transfer, a portion of the City's Nickel Plate Trail in downtown Fishers from South Street to North Street along the Nickel Plate railroad corridor, including a tunnel under 116th Street and other associated improvements ("Agreement"). The Board will hear and receive comment from all interested persons. Proposals and an explanation for the basis upon which the recommendation is being made are available for public inspection and copying during normal business hours at Fishers City Hall, Administrative Office, One Municipal Drive, Fishers, IN 46038.
Board of Public Works & Safety
c/o Chris Greisl, City Attorney
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Fishers, IN 46038
(317) 595-3111
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- Salon Seven
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- The Hot Room Yoga
- The Lash Lounge
- The MAX Challenge of Fishers
- The Well Coffeehouse
- Unplug Soy Candles
- Wasson Nursery
- YMCA Fishers

from Page 1

Shoppers can access a mobile event guide on the **Play Fishers app**, available for free download from the App Store and Google Play. Shoppers who check in at five participating businesses throughout the month will be entered to win a prize pack featuring gifts from Shop Fishers businesses.

In accordance with **Fishers' mask mandate**, shoppers must wear face coverings and practice social distancing inside businesses or anytime they are not able to practice social distancing outdoors. Several participating businesses are offering carry-out and online shopping for low-contact transactions.

Follow #ShopFishers on social media to stay up to date on the latest event news, and use #ShopFishers and #AroundFishers to share photos of your shopping and dining adventures this August. For more information, visit fishers.in.us/Shop-Fishers.








Advocating for
Victims of Crime and Abuse
www.prevailine.com


I was born and raised right here in Noblesville. I grew up in a home without domestic violence or assault – it wasn't something I saw, or even heard about. But when I was introduced to Prevail of Central Indiana, I was shocked by the number of individuals who are affected by domestic violence. In 2018 alone, Prevail helped more than 4,000 clients in Hamilton County. (Nearly 80 percent of clients are women and children.) Domestic violence and abuse are hard topics to discuss, so you don't often hear about them. But at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, we're breaking the taboo and raising awareness for Prevail, an organization that helps families in Hamilton County.
– **Mike Bragg, GM of Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville**

To help Hamilton County families affected by domestic violence and sexual abuse, you can donate the following items:


- Art supplies (for children to journal and express their emotions)
- Bottled water (8 oz. bottles, preferably)
- Individually packaged snacks
- Gas cards (many women have no access to funds after fleeing their abuser)

Drop off items at Tom Wood Volkswagen in Noblesville, 14701 Tom Wood Way.






What's new for 2020? The Atlas Cross Sport.




All **Atlas Cross Sport** models come with a touchscreen infotainment display with both Apple CarPlay and Android Auto integration. Navigation is optional, as is a reconfigurable digital gauge display and SiriusXM satellite radio. The Volkswagen Car-Net connectivity app allows for remote starting and analytics while a 4G LTE Wi-Fi hotspot allows occupants to remain connected to the internet with their smart devices while on the go.

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Carmel Community Players cancels final weekend of *The Last 5 Years*

Submitted

Editor's note: The following is a letter from Lori Raffel, President of the Carmel Community Players Board of Directors, on the board's decision to cancel remaining performances of "The Last 5 Years," along with all other live performances that were previously scheduled for the rest of the calendar year.

Dear CCP Patrons and Volunteers:

It is with much disappointment that we inform you that Carmel Community Players is closing our current show *The Last 5 Years*, and will not have a third weekend as originally planned.

Early this morning we were informed that one of our show staff tested posi-

tive for COVID-19. This individual did not have direct contact with audience members, but did have contact with the cast. Neither cast member shows any symptoms at this time, but in an abundance of caution, we are canceling the show and advising the cast get tested as soon as possible. Those who purchased tickets for the final weekend of *The Last 5 Years* will be given refunds through our Vendini Ticketing software.

When we decided to resume our season several months ago, Indiana, our country and the world were in a much different place. We now feel strongly that in the best interest of our patrons and volunteers, we must cancel all in-person

activities for the remainder of the year, which means that Shipwrecked! An Entertainment and our holiday show will not be happening as planned. We will make an informed decision on the status of our 2020-2021 season at a later date.

Current season ticket holders will be given the choice to either receive a refund for the last show of the season, or donate that amount to CCP for use in finding a new home and future show expenses.

I have spoken with the show staff member personally, and in addition to having his temperature checked each night, he did wear a mask while he was at the theater. He has assured me that his direct contact was

limited to the performers and crew, and he stayed backstage during Saturday's entire performance. However, if you have questions and would like to speak to me, please call the CCP phone at (317) 815-9387 – the phone is forwarded to my cell, and I will personally respond to all calls.

Every one of us involved with CCP is here because theatre is our passion, but safety must be foremost in our mind. Thank you for your support of CCP and please look for further communication about this and other future topics.

Sincerely,

Lori Raffel

President

Carmel Community Players Board of Directors

Letter to the Editor

Dem. Treasurer candidate says "we can do better"

Dear Hamilton County,

My name is Jake Madore, and today I'm proud to announce my candidacy for Hamilton County Treasurer.

The Treasurer's Office serves an extremely important function in local government. The office must follow county and state laws when collecting taxes. There is no room either for pushing party agendas or playing favorites. As we have seen over the last few years, these goals are missed when we have the wrong people representing us.

That is why I am running.

I will be a leader who will provide transparency and fairness for all taxpayers in Hamilton County.

We all want good government. Often the ideals we place around what good government looks like can vary between party lines. I believe the office of the Treasurer is not one where the ideals of good government can vary.

We all want a Treasurer that will faithfully collect and then lawfully manage taxpayer dollars.

That is what I will bring to this office.

For those of you who may be unfamiliar with me, I want you to know I am a Hoosier first and foremost. I also want you to know that I will place Hoosier taxpayers above party concerns during my term.

I will faithfully follow all Indiana laws that direct this office and offer the taxpayers transparency and the fairness they deserve.

Please join me to create a better Hamilton County. We can choose to do better and to end the turmoil at the Treasurer's office.

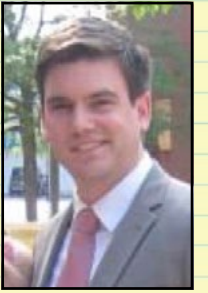
Vote for the candidate who won't play politics.

Vote for the candidate who will make Hamilton County better – for all of us.

Jake Madore

Democratic Candidate for

Hamilton County Treasurer's Office



Madore

Holder running for HSE school board

By **LARRY LANNAN**

LarryLnFishers.com

There is another candidate for Hamilton South-

eastern school board from Fall Creek Township. Chauna Leigh Holder filed the legal paperwork Wednesday at the Hamilton

County Election Office to run for a school board seat.

Fall Creek Township Incumbent Clint Wilson has already filed his candidacy. Sar-

ah E. Parks-Reese in Wayne Township has previously filed as a school board candidate.

The filing deadline is noon on Friday, Aug. 21.

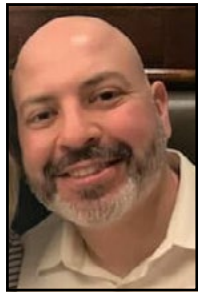
Bagato running for HSE school board

Submitted

Tony Bagato has announced his run for Hamilton Southeastern school board (Delaware Township). Bagato is the Director of Planning and Zoning for the City of Fishers.

"I am a father of three young children, with one at Riverside Junior High and two at New Britton Elementary," Bagato said.

"As a parent who moved our family to Fishers because of the excellent school system, my number one goal is to protect our children's education and our resources for our teachers and staff. My background working for city govern-



Bagato

ment has given me the skills to work in partnership with other school board members, teachers, staff and parents to keep Hamilton Southeastern one of the best school districts in the State."

In addition to Bagato's

role at the city, he is a recent graduate of Hamilton County Leadership Academy. After moving his family to Fishers to work for the community, he says he now feels called to serve in a capacity that gives back to the community in a positive way.

Learn about Bagato at his campaign's [Facebook page](#).

White River Vision Plan receives \$275K grant

The REPORTER

A branding initiative to raise awareness for the White River in Central Indiana will get under way later this year thanks to a \$275,000 grant from The Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust. The two-year grant will fund an initiative to raise awareness of how to access the river at the dozens of parks, boat ramps and cultural attractions along the 58-mile stretch of the river in Hamilton and Marion counties.

"Our hope is the more Hoosiers spend time on and around the White River, the more they will come to value, and act on behalf of, this critical waterway," said President and CEO Gene D'Adamo of the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust. "We appreciate these efforts to increase awareness of the White River and all it offers."

A brand development firm will help the White

River Vision Plan partners connect with residents, stakeholders and users of the river to create a cohesive look and feel for the community asset. Hamilton County Tourism and Visit Indy will partner with the White River's stakeholder groups to work with the selected partner to develop the brand. The project will begin Fall 2020 and be completed by Spring 2022.

"This grant allows us to create a unifying brand and voice for the White River and its many partners," said Sarah Buckner, Destination Development Manager for Hamilton County Tourism. "We're excited to take this project to the next level and give the White River the brand and recognition it deserves."

In 2018, the City of Indianapolis, Visit Indy and Hamilton County Tourism partnered to create a comprehensive plan for the economic, ecological and

cultural enhancement of the 58-mile stretch of the White River through Marion and Hamilton County. More than 13,000 public voices shaped the three overarching themes that serve as the foundation of the White River Vision Plan: Environment, economy and equity.

More information on the RFP process can be found at [this link](#). Proposals are due Aug. 10.

About the White River Vision Plan

The **White River Vision Plan** is a joint effort between the City of Indianapolis and Hamilton County Tourism, Inc. in partnership with Visit Indy's philanthropic arm, Tourism Tomorrow, Inc. to develop a comprehensive and coordinated regional, community-driven plan to enhance 58 miles of the White River in Indianapolis and Hamilton County. The goal of the vision plan is to create an accessible, recreational and cultural en-

vironment that encourages a unique sense of place for the community.

About the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust

The Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust was established upon the death of Nina Mason Pulliam in 1997 to support the causes she loved in her home states of Arizona and Indiana for 50 years. The Trust seeks to help people in need, protect animals and nature, and enrich community life in metropolitan Indianapolis and Phoenix. Since its inception, the Trust has distributed more than \$331 million. For more information visit ninapulliamtrust.org.

Meeting Notice

The Atlanta Town Council will hold a special meeting at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2020, at the Atlanta Town Hall, 105 E. Main St., Atlanta. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and review applications for the Code Enforcement Officer position.



School Board Candidates

There are 14 board seats at stake this year in the six Hamilton County school districts. Winners in the non-partisan elections on Nov. 3 will take office on Jan. 1, 2021. Filing ends at noon on Aug. 21 at the county election office.

Carmel Clay Schools

Katie Browning (At large)

Hamilton Southeastern

Tony Bagato (Delaware Twp.)
Chauna Leigh Holder (Fall Creek Twp.)
Sarah E. Parks-Reese (Wayne Twp.)
Clinton Wilson (Fall Creek Twp.)

Hamilton Heights

Kevin J. Cavanaugh (Jackson Twp.) David Adam Sheller (White River Twp.)

Westfield Washington Schools

Carl (Mike) Steele (District 3)

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Noblesville First UMC DivorceCare meeting times announced

The REPORTER

DivorceCare is a helpful, encouraging 13-week seminar for people working through a separation or divorce. The sessions meet from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday evenings in the parlor at Noblesville First United Methodist Church, 2051 E. Monument St. This program is open to everyone in the community and surrounding towns.

A one-time registration fee of \$15 is appreciated, but scholarships are available. Free child care (through age 10) is avail-



able for children of participants with adult registration.

These sessions will be held in the church building while practicing safe protocols for all participants. You will be asked to wear a mask when entering, leaving and during socializing times. Masks may be removed once everyone is seated at a safe social distance

from each other. Meeting rooms are sanitized before and after each meeting for your safety. Due to safety requirements for social distance, class sizes are limited. Preregistration is appreciated. Registration applications are available at noblesvillefirst.com or by calling the church office at (317) 773-2500.

All are welcome to this

support group which features practical suggestions and reassurance through video interviews with nationally known experts. Each session offers a time for discussion and sharing during each meeting giving everyone a new sense of community and support. New participants are welcome anytime.

For more information, contact Bill Evers at wmevers@sbcglobal.net or call Carol Miller at (317) 773-2500 or email her at cmiller@noblesvillefirst.com.

Letter to the Editor

Former Judge Jerry Barr thanks Woody Rider for community service

Dear Editor,
I was first introduced to Kevin “Woody” Rider in 2004 while serving on the board for Chaucie’s Place, a Carmel-based child advocacy center (CAC). Sixteen years have passed, and I have yet to meet another person so selflessly committed to serving their community.

Woody has guided the Carmel City Council through development that has earned Carmel national recognition as one the best cities in the country to live and work, yet his determination extends far beyond his council seat. He is a successful

restaurateur, involves himself in his church, and allocates his remaining energy to advancing the success of the Cherish Center – a CAC Woody was crucial in supporting me found in 2009.

I heard many cases of child abuse as a trial judge which prompted my involvement in CACs. For years, Woody has shared leadership positions in these organizations not just as a passive board member, but as someone who tirelessly gave their time, effort, action and financial assistance to support children and families affected by abuse. I con-

sider Woody to be the “rock” upon which the Cherish Center has been built, as he graciously served as our Treasurer, offered his restaurant for meetings, and provided untold hours of service.

Needless to say, he has a deep love for his community – a love which he lives out in service.

Carmel wouldn’t be the great city it is without your years of dedicated public and private service. Thank you, Woody.

Jerry M. Barr

Former Judge

Hamilton Superior Court No. 2

Letter to the Editor

Fishers reader disappointed in Sheriff for refusing to enforce mask mandate

Dear Editor:

It was with great dismay that I read Hamilton County Sheriff Quakenbush’s public, written refusal to enforce the Governor’s mask mandate because it supposedly violates people’s Constitutional freedoms.

Mr. Quakenbush seems to have missed a very important lesson about freedom. It’s always paired with responsibility.

If armed gunmen were to come into our community and start spraying bullets at innocent bystanders, I’m sure Mr. Quakenbush would leap into the fray and do whatever he could to the gunmen to keep more people from being maimed and killed.

Well, armed gunmen (asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic COVID-19 carriers) are in our community. And with every unmasked breath they take they are spraying bullets of contagion into every man, woman and child they meet. And of those they meet, 70 percent will sicken, 20 percent of those will suffer mightily – some scarred for life – and 2 percent of them will die.

Mr. Quakenbush was not ordered to immediately arrest every unmasked person in his jurisdiction. All he was required to do was ask them to stop “shooting” other people with their potential germs by asking them to put on a mask. And if they refused to comply, Gov. Holcomb provided guidance for the consequences that might flow from that choice.

In the Preamble to the Constitution we do indeed declare we are free to secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our children. But we also declare that we are responsible for promoting the general welfare – that is, caring for those around us. Enforcing basic public health measures, such as wearing a mask to combat a deadly respiratory virus, is therefore an integral part of upholding the Constitution.

I hope Mr. Quakenbush will rethink his position on this issue as well as his duty to the community he has been elected to serve. I hope he can make room alongside his zealous defense of the personal freedoms within the Constitution to take up with equal zeal the responsibilities that come with them. We all need to do our part because COVID-19 is a dangerous assailant that is currently armed and out of control in our Indiana communities.

UPDATE: Within just a few days of Mr. Quakenbush’s refusal to enforce the state mask mandate, Gov. Holcomb, bowing to pressure from some members of law enforcement and state legislators, dropped the criminal penalties from the mandate. Gov. Holcomb said, “The mask police will not be patrolling Hoosier streets.”


This is a failure of leadership for all the reasons described above. This failure leaves small business owners and essential workers to weather without any backup or support the verbal, and sometimes physical, assaults of those who refuse to wear a mask.

No one ever thought “mask police” would be unleashed on the state of Indiana. But in the absence of common sense exhibited by too many Hoosiers during this pandemic, Gov. Holcomb’s first instinct to issue a mask mandate complete with penalties for non-compliance was a correct and constitutional one.

I hope all who objected to enforcing this sensible public health measure will rethink their positions as this respiratory virus continues to surge in our state. I fear that if they don’t, we’ll see many of our neighbors suffer and many businesses close due to owners and staff contracting COVID-19 from their non-compliant customers.

M. Faunette Johnston
Fishers

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County's first virtual job fair pairs 45 companies with over 300 job seekers

The REPORTER

According to the Hamilton County Workforce Recovery Task Force, the county's first-of-its-kind virtual job fair was a huge success — pairing 45 Hamilton County companies with 334 job seekers. The event was hosted by the Task Force on July 9 in an effort to connect those who recently lost their jobs with Hamilton County companies looking to hire.

"We're thrilled with the success of this first virtual job fair," said Carol Sergi, Executive Director of the Hamilton County Econom-

ic Development Corporation (HCEDC). "On average 100 job seekers visited each employer booth and 356 job applications were submitted."



Sergi



Kneberg

A post-event survey shows 75 percent of employers surveyed were either satisfied or very satisfied with the number of job seekers. One hundred percent of the employers who participated said they would participate in future events, and 75 percent of job seekers shared that sentiment.

"I really enjoyed the experience," said one of the survey respondents. "I didn't know what to expect



HAMILTON COUNTY, IN
Workforce Recovery
TASK FORCE

and in a weird way I felt like I was at an actual in-person job fair."

Participants uploaded a resume before the event and then chatted virtually with a variety of companies on the actual day. Resume writing assistance was also available — all online.

"This event was such a huge success we're already planning future events," said Rob Kneberg, a member of the Workforce Recovery Task Force and Executive Director for the Hamilton County Workforce Innovation Network. "Through data driven decision making, we are plan-

ning to make the future of job fairs industry specific in order to best support the needs of both employers and job seekers. For example, a future hiring event might consist of Hamilton County employers only within the healthcare, hospitality and tourism, and human services industry sectors."

A generous grant by Duke Energy's Economic Development Relief Fund underwrote the cost of the virtual job fair. To learn more about future fairs, please contact Kneberg at rkneberg@hcwin.org or (317) 914-0171.

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry. Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him. Then certain philosophers of the Epicureans, and of the Stoicks, encountered him. And some said, What will this babblers say? other some, He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods: because he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection. And they took him, and brought him unto Areopagus, saying, May we know what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest, is? For thou bringest certain strange things to our ears: we would know therefore what these things mean. Acts 17:16-20 (KJV)

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7110 Oakview Circle
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Western Amateur at Crooked Stick . . .

County players miss cut, but improve scores in second round

The Western Amateur Championship continued Wednesday at Crooked Stick Golf Club in Carmel with the second round of medal play.

Three Hamilton County players – Noblesville’s Clay Merchant and Carmel’s Jeff Doty and Luke Prall – were among the field of 156 trying to advance in the prestigious tournament. While all three missed the cut, they improved their scores in the second round, and still had the honor of playing in an event that has been crowning champions since 1899 and counts several legendary names among the winners.

After two rounds, the field was cut to the top 44 golfers and ties; a total of 46 players advanced to today’s third and fourth rounds of medal play. The cut was even-par 144. Merchant finished with a 149, scoring 74 for the second round.

“I played okay,” said Merchant, who was battling back pain during the round. “I kind of scraped around and figured out

a way to get the ball in the hole and it just wasn’t enough.”

The soon-to-be Indiana University freshman made a birdie on Wednesday, giving him five for the tournament.

“I’m not disappointed about it,” said Merchant. “I didn’t quit. I kept grinding it out, and what happened, happens.”

Doty, a Carmel graduate, scored a 150 over the two days. Doty’s second round was a 73, including two birdies.

“I played pretty poorly yesterday,” said Doty. “Today I hit it better, just didn’t make any putts.”

Doty will be a senior at the University of Kansas this fall.

“The athletic experience at KU’s awesome,” said Doty. “Just being part of the program there is really special and I really like my time there.”

Prall finished with a 158. He carded a 78 for his second round, including one birdie. He will play at Purdue University this fall.



Reporter photos by Richie Hall

Noblesville's Clay Merchant gives an update on his scores to a tournament official during the Western Amateur at Crooked Stick Golf Club on Wednesday.



Carmel's Jeff Doty (above, with his mother Shelly) and Luke Prall (right) were two of the competitors at the Western Amateur.



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Two share 36-hole lead at Western Amateur

It was hard to tell where Kyle Hogan, of Lubbock, Texas, stood during the second round of the 118th Western Amateur at Crooked Stick Golf Club on Wednesday.

His body language didn't suggest he was on his way to a tournament-low, 6-under 66. But the even-keeled Hogan, a redshirt senior at Texas Tech, surged to the top of the leaderboard and is tied for first with Turk Pettit, of Sugar Grove, N.C., at 8 under. They are one stroke clear of three players.

Although Hogan carded five birdies and an eagle, he said he respects Crooked Stick's dangerous Pete Dye-designed layout.

"There are no easy holes out there," Hogan said. "You have to work for everything and constantly keep grinding."

Making his Western Amateur debut, Hogan shot 70 on Tuesday, a round in which he hit two balls into water hazards.

"I was more comfortable and trusted myself more" on Wednesday, he said. "If you can hit some fairways and give yourself short irons into greens, you can score a little bit."

Pettit, a senior at Clemson, had six birdies to post his second consecutive 68. He's trying to make the match play portion of the championship for the second time in two appearances.

"It was pretty similar to (the first round), but I hit it a little better," Pettit said.

Western Amateur rookies Sam Bennett, of Madisonville, Texas, Joseph Pagdin, of Sheffield, England, and Matthias Schmid, of Maxhuetten, Germany, are tied for third place at 7 under.

Pagdin, a freshman at Florida, birdied five of his last 10 holes and has 11 in 36 holes.

"I didn't get off to the best start, hitting some loose shots and making mistakes," he said. "But I drained some good putts and got on a roll. I'm happy with my round, but I could have gotten more out of it. I love the course. It can bite you when it wants, but it also rewards good shots."

After a self-described subpar college season, Schmid, a senior at Louisville, said his game has heated up this summer. He has eight birdies and two eagles — both on the par 5 11th — in two rounds.

"I played pretty nice, and I hit the ball very well," Schmid said. "But I made a couple of really stupid bogeys, which shouldn't happen."

Bennett, a junior at Texas A&M, shot himself into contention by making six birdies during a seven-hole stretch from Nos. 9-15 to post 68. He has 11 birdies in two rounds.

Three players share sixth at 6 under, including 2017 Western Junior champion William Mouw, of Chino, Calif., and last year's U.S. Amateur champion Andy Ogletree, of Little Rock, Miss.

The field was cut to the low 44 and ties after two rounds. A total of 46 players finished even par or better and will play 36 holes Thursday, with the top 16 advancing to match play Friday. Parker Gillam, of Cary, N.C., and Jamie Li, of Bath, England, each shot 69 to make the cut on the number.

Defending champion Garrett Rank, of Ontario, Canada, finished 3 over after rounds of 74-73.

For more information, including Thursday pairings and live scoring, visit thewesternamateur.com.

Fever light up scoreboard for first win of the season

The Indiana Fever (1-1) held off a late rally from the Phoenix Mercury for a 106-100 win on Wednesday night. The 106 points scored by the Fever tie the second most points scored in a regular season game in franchise history and was the ninth time the Fever reached the 100-point plateau in a regular season game.

In a fourth quarter which saw four lead changes, Fever guard Julie Allemand inbounded the ball with 17 seconds remaining to preserve a three-point lead, but the errant pass found Mercury (0-2) guard Bria Hartley who gave it up to Skylar Diggins-Smith. In an effort to get the ball on the rim, Diggins-Smith's layup did not fall, but was fouled from behind by Tiffany Mitchell and went to the free throw line hoping to reduce the Fever deficit to one with only seconds remaining. Diggins-Smith converted only one of two at the charity

stipe and the lead became insurmountable for the Mercury to overcome.

A pair of free throws to follow from both Allemand and Mitchell sealed the deal for the Fever to get into the win column for the first time in the 2020 abbreviated regular season. Mitchell poured in 22 of her career-high 24 points in the second half on 6-of-12 shooting and an 8-for-8 clip from the free throw line. She ended the night 10-of-10 from the free throw line.

Candice Dupree and Teaira McCowan kept pace with Mitchell's scoring efforts throughout the evening. Dupree pitched in 23 points and made multiple 3-point field goals in a regular season game for the first time since August 28, 2009, as a member of the Chicago Sky against the New York Liberty. She also added nine rebounds in a game-high 36:39 of action.

McCowan came off the bench to record her 12th career double-double performance, highlighted by 20 points and 13 rebounds against one of the league's pre-eminent inside threats in Brittney Griner.

Wednesday night was the third time in franchise history three players (Mitchell, Dupree and McCowan) all scored at least 20 points in a regular season game for Indiana. The last time it happened was on September 14, 2008 against the Mercury led by Katie Douglas, Ebony Hoffman and Tammy Sutton-Brown.

Kelsey Mitchell continued her league-leading efforts beyond the arc on Wednesday night as well, ending 4-of-7 from long range and 18 points. Her nine made 3-point field goals leads the WNBA and she is shooting 64.3 percent after two games.



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Major League Baseball standings

Wednesday scores Colorado 5, Oakland 1 Texas 7, Arizona 4 Washington 4, Toronto 0 Chicago White Sox 4, Cleveland 0 Cincinnati 12, Chicago Cubs 7 Milwaukee 3, Pittsburgh 0 Atlanta 7, Tampa Bay 4 Boston 6, N.Y. Mets 5	L.A. Dodgers 4, Houston 2, 13 innings Detroit 5, Kansas City 4 N.Y. Yankees 9, Baltimore 3 Minnesota 3, St. Louis 0 San Francisco 7, San Diego 6 Seattle 10, L.A. Angels 7 N.Y. Yankees at Philadelphia, postponed Baltimore at Miami, postponed
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American League				
East	W	L	PCT.	GB
N.Y. Yankees	3	1	.750	-
Tampa Bay	4	2	.667	-
Toronto	3	3	.500	1.0
Baltimore	2	2	.500	1.0
Boston	2	4	.333	2.0
Central	W	L	PCT.	GB
Minnesota	4	1	.800	-
Cleveland	4	2	.667	0.5
Detroit	4	2	.667	0.5
Chi. White Sox	2	4	.333	2.5
Kansas City	2	4	.333	2.5
West	W	L	PCT.	GB
Houston	3	3	.500	-
Oakland	3	3	.500	-
Texas	2	3	.400	0.5
L.A. Angels	2	4	.333	1.0
Seattle	2	4	.333	1.0

National League				
East	W	L	PCT.	GB
Miami	2	1	.667	-
Atlanta	3	3	.500	0.5
N.Y. Mets	3	3	.500	0.5
Philadelphia	1	2	.333	1.0
Washington	2	4	.333	1.5
Central	W	L	PCT.	GB
Chi. Cubs	4	2	.667	-
Milwaukee	3	3	.500	1.0
St. Louis	2	3	.400	1.5
Cincinnati	2	4	.333	2.0
Pittsburgh	2	4	.333	2.0
West	W	L	PCT.	GB
Colorado	4	1	.800	-
L.A. Dodgers	4	2	.667	0.5
San Diego	4	2	.667	0.5
San Francisco	3	3	.500	1.5
Arizona	2	4	.333	2.5

WNBA standings

Wednesday's games Indiana 106, Phoenix 100 Dallas 93, New York 80 Las Vegas 100, Atlanta 70

Eastern Conference				
Team	W	L	PCT.	GB
Washington	2	0	1.00	-
Chicago	2	0	1.00	-
Atlanta	1	1	.500	1.0
Indiana	0	1	.500	1.0
Connecticut	0	2	.000	2.0
New York	0	1	.000	2.0

Western Conference				
Team	W	L	PCT.	GB
Seattle	2	0	1.00	-
Las Vegas	1	1	.500	0.5
Dallas	1	1	.500	1.0
Los Angeles	1	1	.500	1.0
Minnesota	1	1	.500	1.0
Phoenix	0	2	.000	2.0

NBA standings

The NBA is scheduled to resume games on Thursday, July 30. There will be 22 teams playing; 16 of them (eight per conference) are in playoff positions, and six teams are six games or fewer behind the eighth seed in their conference.

Eastern Conference				
Team	W	L	PCT.	GB
x-Milwaukee	53	12	.815	-
x-Toronto	46	18	.719	6.5
x-Boston	43	21	.672	9.5
x-Miami	41	24	.631	12.0
x-Indiana	39	26	.600	14.0
x-Philadelphia	39	26	.600	14.0
Brooklyn	30	34	.469	22.5
Orlando	30	35	.462	23.0
Washington	24	40	.375	28.5
Out of playoff contention				
Charlotte	23	42	.354	30.0
Chicago	22	43	.338	31.0
New York	21	45	.318	32.5
Detroit	20	46	.303	33.5
Atlanta	20	47	.299	34.0
Cleveland	19	46	.292	34.0
x - Clinched playoff berth				

Western Conference				
Team	W	L	PCT.	GB
x-L.A. Lakers	49	14	.778	-
x-L.A. Clippers	44	20	.688	5.5
x-Denver	43	22	.662	7.0
x-Utah	41	23	.641	8.5
x-Oklahoma City	40	24	.625	9.5
x-Houston	40	24	.625	9.5
Dallas	40	27	.597	11.0
Memphis	32	33	.492	18.0
Portland	29	37	.439	21.5
New Orleans	28	36	.438	21.5
Sacramento	28	36	.438	21.5
San Antonio	27	36	.429	22.0
Phoenix	26	39	.400	24.0
Out of playoff contention				
Minnesota	19	45	.297	30.5
Golden State	15	50	.231	35.0

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