THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER NEWSPAPER FEBRUARY 2024 YOUNG ARTIST OF THE MONTH: CAITRIONA PRIDDY (1ST PLACE)
SPONSORED BY: TOM WOOD VOLKSWAGEN NOBLESVILLE • GAYLOR ELECTRIC (CEO CHUCK GOODRICH) • ADLER ATTORNEYS

FRIDAY, FEB. 16, 2024

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TODAY'S WEATHER

Today: Snow showers, especially in the afternoon. Much colder. Chills in the 20s.

Tonight: Snow showers ending by late evening. Final totals around an inch. Chills in the teens.

HIGH: 34 **LOW**: 18

paulpoteet.com

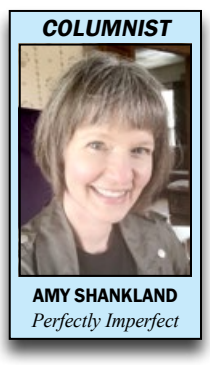
Rocks kids learn service by helping other kids

Photos provided by Westfield Washington Schools

Kindergarten classes at Monon Trail Elementary School have been learning about serving their community. Recently, some students and their families came to Monon Trail to put together gift bags for kids at Riley's Children Hospital. They also made cards for the nurses and doctors.

WESTFIELD WASHINGTON SCHOOLS

Make your email signature come alive



I love how email has evolved in recent years. It's great that you can add your picture or one that represents who you are or what your company does. And with social media's popularity, having a picture and some extras in our emails makes a lot of sense.

People are used to more and more visuals in communication now. But most of us spend less time on our email signatures than our voicemails. However, this is another opportunity to make a strong first impression.

Your department or company may want all email signatures to be similar, perhaps including a logo, website, social media channels, office number, disclaimer, etc. My company, Green Avenue, is the same way.

But I can still personalize my email with a nice head shot. And instead of saying "Warm Regards" or "Yours Truly" at the end, for years I've written "With Enthusiasm" before my name. Anyone who knows me says it sums me up perfectly. Heck, if you like it, I'll even let you borrow it for your email signature!

My former boss at the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District had a beautiful picture of a drop of water bouncing and leaving ripples in her email signature. She definitely captured what we did – and you know the saying, "a picture is worth a thousand words."

See *Email* . . . Page 2

4-H can help your Spring Break "staycation"

The REPORTER

No plans for Spring Break this year? Hamilton County 4-H has you covered. Check out these amazing camps being offered to youth in third through seventh grades during Spring Break at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds, 2003 Pleasant St., Noblesville.

Monday and Tuesday mornings from 8 to 11:30 a.m. is Crafting Curiosities to discover your creativity with canvas painting, paper crafts, string art, and a charcuterie board. Wednesday's Clover Gaming Connection will explore engineering, design, logic, technology, math, and story concepts behind the Science of Games from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch is not provided, so be sure to bring your own.

The cost is $30 per camp. Dates are April 1, 2, and 3. Participants may attend one or both camps. 4-H membership is not required. Registration deadline is March 22. Space is limited so don't delay.

To register, visit **in.4honline.com** or call Purdue Extension Hamilton County at (317) 776-0854. You can also email Program Assistant Kristen Yutzy at **kyutzy@purdue.edu**.

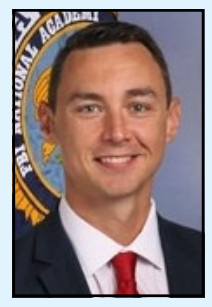
Photo provided

Fairy Gardens were one of the Spring Break activities last year.

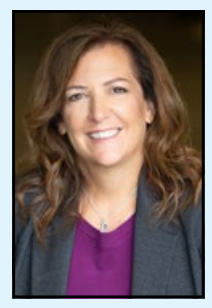
Mayor Sue Finkam selects Drake Sterling as Carmel's next chief of police

The REPORTER

An experienced police executive leader with more than 15 years of dedicated law enforcement service will serve as the new chief of police for the City of Carmel, Mayor Sue Finkam announced Thursday.



Sterling



Finkam

Drake Sterling will assume the role Feb. 29, providing the leadership and direction necessary to enable members of the Carmel Police Department to deliver the highest level of law enforcement services to the community.

"Drake is a one-of-a-kind leader in law enforcement as evidenced by recognition from his peers for excellence and devotion to duty," Mayor Finkam said. "I greatly appreciate his enthusiastic leadership and desire to build a positive culture. Leading what I believe to be the best police department in the country, taking care of those who wear the uniform and working closely with me as we keep public safety the top priority, is a position that Drake is well-suited for, and I am delighted to have him join our leadership team."

Sterling most recently served as Captain for Zionsville Police Department and the Assistant SWAT Commander for the Boone County Special Response Team. Through his various roles with the Zionsville Police Department, Sterling oversaw community outreach, patrol, investigations, training, budgeting, fleet management, contracts, and hiring. He is a graduate of

See *Chief Sterling* . . . Page 2

Pulchritudinous peonies paint Pleasant

Rendering provided

The Indiana Peony Festival is set for May 18, but one day simply isn't enough time to celebrate Indiana's lovely state flower. That's why festival organizers jumped at the opportunity to partner with American Structurepoint as Noblesville's peony experts to help bring the new Pleasant Street to life. Soon, the Pleasant Street corridor will be filled with 650 peonies from 15 different varieties. The Nickel Plate, Midland Trace, and Riverwalk trails will all converge in one spot that will serve as a gateway into downtown for pedestrians and cyclists. You'll be able to see peonies interwoven with walking trails and even public art displays. Better yet, with strategic companion plantings, there will be a little extra flower power in Noblesville, all year long. Click here to watch a video from the Indiana Peony Festival on YouTube.

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THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER NEWSPAPER FEBRUARY 2024 YOUNG ARTIST OF THE MONTH: LIA CHRISTMAN (2ND PLACE)
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EMAIL

from Page 1

Another former City of Noblesville coworker named Cindy always signed her emails, "Serving Joyfully." This reflected her personality well.

Maybe you have some leeway, and you can explore different fonts and colors for your email signature. Or perhaps you'd just like a little help in this area because you're short on time. You can try one of these three email signature generators: WiseStamp, NewOldStamp, or htmlsig.

No matter what direction you choose, follow the same guidelines as with voicemail. Be positive, be brief, and only give pertinent information. For example, it's not necessary to put your email address at the bottom of the message, since people can just hit "reply" to get it.

But your email signature might be a great opportunity to provide a link for your latest promotion, such as an annual native tree sale if you work for a soil and water conservation district. With a little thought and effort, your signature could bring you and your company more benefits than you ever imagined and show the world your positive attitude.

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****.*

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Get free FAFSA help at Westfield High School

The REPORTER

Westfield High School will play host to College Goal Sunday, a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) help session, from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 25. Please arrive prior to 3:30 p.m.

There will be financial aid experts to support you through the entire FAFSA process from start to finish. If you are planning to attend college in 2024-2025, this is a great time to get FAFSA support and all your questions answered.

IMPORTANT: please follow this step PRIOR to coming to College Goal Sunday. In order to access this financial aid application, BOTH the student and guardian need to create a separate FSA ID. This FSA ID approval process takes one to three days to complete, so do this right away.

The FAFSA is now required for any senior entering college in 2024-25. There is also a "FAFSA Waiver/Non-participation for students graduating in the 2023-24 school year" option that you are able to print out from the FAFSA website. Students are required to submit this waiver form to the WHS counseling center.

What to bring

1. Make sure you have both your student and guardian FSA ID.

2. Student and guardian Social Security Number (if you have one)

3. 2022 tax forms

4. Bank records and any investments

5. Net worth of any business or investment farm

There will be translators on site to help as well.

CHIEF STERLING

from Page 1

the FBI National Academy in Quantico, holds a graduate certificate in criminal justice from University of Virginia and is a graduate of both the Public Service Leadership Institute and the Indiana Police Chief Training Program. He is also a current member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

"Carmel is a city on the move, and I look forward to providing strong collaboration and leadership for the police officers and citizens of this community as we advance Mayor Finkam's vision," Chief Sterling said. "Leadership is challenging. We must be willing to meet people, both our employees and the citizens we serve, where they are at. We must do so with humility, patience, and respect for our differences. My leadership philosophy is rooted in three principles: establishing expectations, investing in people, and empowerment."

"Chief Sterling understands a police department is not detached from nor separate from the community, but instead an extension of it," Zionsville Police Chief Michael Spears said. "He is committed to transparency with the public and an active member of the community. He is committed and shows personal sacrifice to get the job done right. He will no doubt do the same for Carmel. I look forward to collaborating with Chief Sterling as a peer."

Mayor Finkam involved community members, media, and police peers in the selection process and held extensive meetings, simulations, and interviews to assist in making a final decision.

"I'd like to thank everyone who participated in the selection process, especially the leadership of the Carmel Fraternal Order of Police, for their thoughtful and diligent work," Mayor Finkam said. "This was an extremely difficult decision with so many exemplary candidates, and I would like to thank every applicant who put themselves forward to serve the City of Carmel."

Chief Sterling will have a public swearing-in ceremony on March 12 with details announced at a later date.

THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

THE HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER NEWSPAPER FEBRUARY 2024 YOUNG ARTIST OF THE MONTH: AVA GIST (3RD PLACE)
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Photo provided

Presenting this year's officers of the Husky 4-H'ers Club!

Husky 4-H'ers set high bar for community engagement

By GRACE MILLER
Husky 4-H'ers Reporter

On Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 6:30 p.m., the Husky 4-H'ers had their second club meeting of the year at Cicero Christian Church, which is the club's new meeting location this year.

The meeting began with the officer installation after voting for officers during the last meeting. Lauren Happel is the new president.

The Husky 4-H'ers practice the pledge each meeting and are challenged to memorize and recite the 4-H pledge to one of the Jr. Leaders.

Each month, the club has a community service project. This month's project was donations for the Humane Society for Hamilton County. Many generous donations were given, such as cat food, cat litter, paper towels, hot dogs, and more.

Every meeting, the club hosts a guest speaker. The speaker was Mr. Brandon Adomatis, the director of shooting sports at 4-H. Mr. Adomatis talked about the safety of a gun and bow, muscle memory, muzzle loading, archery, and more.

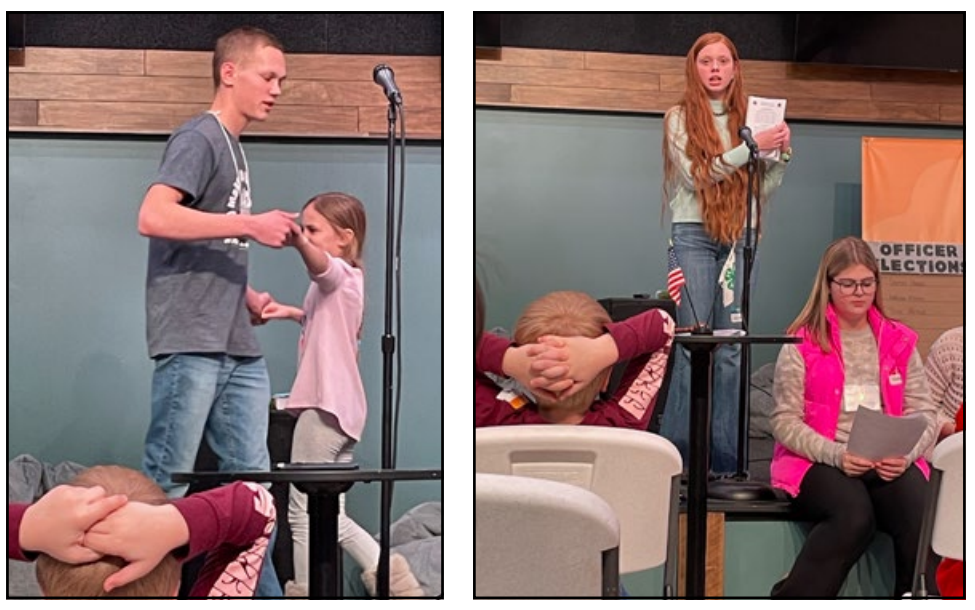


Photo provided

(LEFT) Isaac Leonard and his sister demonstrated how to swing dance. (RIGHT) Lauren Heppel was elected Club President.

The meeting also has fun aspects like a game, song, and trivia. The trivia question by Addy Martin was: "How many cocoa beans does it take to make one pound of chocolate?" The answer was correctly chosen by the winner, Levi Small.

Each meeting, a club member gives a demonstration. The first demonstration this year was performed wonderfully by Isaac Leonard and Isaac's younger sister. They demonstrated how to swing dance and explained how to do basic steps along with performing some advanced tricks and flips!

The meeting ended with a pizza party along with chips, cookies, and soda served by the Jr. Leaders!

A big thank you to the Jr. Leaders and officers for the hard work and dedication to the Husky 4-H'ers second meeting of 2024!

Sheridan Kiwanis cancel pork dinner

The REPORTER

Saturday night's Sheridan boys basketball game has been postponed to Monday, Feb. 19 due to the girls team going to semi-state.

In light of that, the Kiwanis Club of Greater Sheridan has canceled the pulled pork dinner.

Figures show Foster Success helped older foster youth advocate for their health

The REPORTER

Figures show Foster Success' Health & Well-Being program supported 140 teens and young adults exiting foster care in its first, full program year. The program distributed more than $42,000 during the year to young people to assist with their basic needs and other items that contribute to Health & Well-Being.

Foster Success is the only statewide nonprofit organization supporting teens and young adults transitioning out of Indiana's foster care system. The Health & Well-Being programs at Foster Success provide holistic resources that strengthen the confidence, knowledge, and abilities of young people so that they can become effective advocates for their own health and navigate complex healthcare systems.

"At Foster Success, we know that the health and well-being of a young person is not simply dependent on the choices they make," Senior Director of Impact & Programming Angel Crone said. "There are complex conditions, like where they live, work, learn and play, that affect them, too. The Health & Well-Being programs focus on the whole person – physical, mental, financial."

Those who have been in foster care face numerous mental and physical health problems related to the abuse and neglect that led to them being placed in the system, as well as from their time in care. One study showed that older age and long-term foster care in general may be risk factors for obesity – which can lead to a variety of health issues.

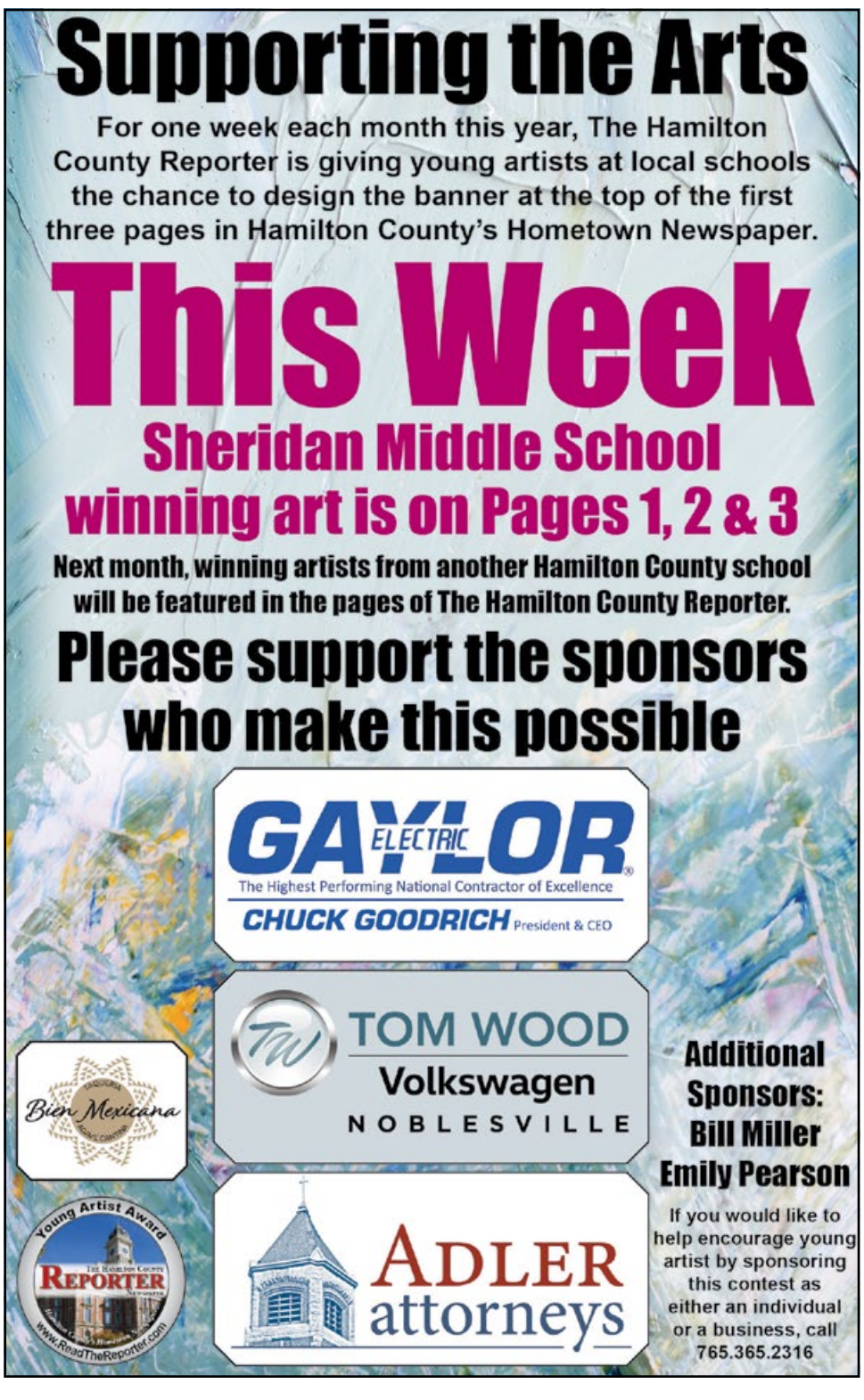
"We encourage the young people we support to take time to care for themselves even though they are often too busy focusing on meeting basic needs to focus on preventive health care," Crone said. "We provide one-on-one referrals and real connections to community resources to make the path a little easier. We also know that many of the young people transitioning out of foster care are left without the necessary documents they need to navigate adulthood. We help them track down vaccination records, among other documents."

Foster Success announced its Health & Well-Being program in late 2021 thanks to a $350,000 grant from the Indiana Department of Health.

About Foster Success

Foster Success is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization whose mission is to hear, support and empower teens and young adults transitioning out of foster care on their journey to self-sufficiency. Foster Success provides financial, educational, and social support to the 24,000 young people with foster care experience throughout the state at the most critical time – when they are about to or have already transitioned out of the foster care system, most often with no family or economic support. More information about Foster Success can be found at **FosterSuccess.org**.

Thanks for reading The REPORTER



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Army, Rocks develop character

Photo provided by Westfield Washington Schools

Westfield High School Principal Alicia Denniston and Captain Brandon Kuegler, U.S. Army, recently signed a memorandum of understanding to implement the S.T.A.R. (Students Taking Active Roles) educational program. The S.T.A.R. club is a student-led leadership and character development program for high school students that the Army provides resources for and administers in partnership with WHS and is open to all high school students. Contact Mary Edith Malin at malinm@wws.k12.in.us for more information and to get involved.

Guerin Catholic graduate gains experience at Indiana Statehouse

The REPORTER

Nathan Davis is serving as an intern for the Indiana Senate Majority Caucus during the 2024 legislative session, said State Sen. Scott Baldwin (R-Noblesville).

Davis, a resident of Noblesville, is the son of Paul and Jill Davis. He graduated from St. Theodore Guerin Catholic High School and is a senior at Purdue University studying public health.

"I'm extremely proud to have Nathan representing Senate District 20 this session," Baldwin said. "Gaining work experience in a professional environment will serve him well, and I am eager to see how he uses this knowledge in the future."

As a legislative intern, Davis tracks and analyzes bill data, provides constituent services, staffs Senate committee hearings and meetings, and conducts legislative policy research.

"I am happy to be doing any work I can to better serve my district and Hoosiers alike," Davis said. "I look forward to growing professionally and getting the chance to network with those who share professional interests."

Senate Majority interns work through the duration of the legislative session, which is scheduled to end by March 14.

Photo provided

Guerin Catholic High Schools graduate Nathan Davis (left) and State Senator Scott Baldwin (R-Noblesville).

Three Dog Bakery®
THE BAKERY FOR DOGS

Three Dog Bakery shares love with adoption event

The REPORTER

February is a month to share the love, and who better to share with than rescue pups in need?

This Saturday, Feb. 17, all Three Dog Bakery locations (**Hamilton Town Center**, Broad Ripple, and Mass Ave) will play host to an Adopt Love Adoption Event from 1 to 3 p.m. where prospective pet parents can add a furry valentine to their family.

The Four Legged Ranch at Hamilton Town Center, The Animal Protection League in Broad Ripple, and Chihuahua Rescue Indiana at Mass Ave will be onsite to introduce rescue dogs to potential pet parents at the bakery in hopes of finding forever homes. Families will be able to meet the dogs and take them home all in the same day.

"We spoil dogs all year round, but during the season of love, we thought it was important to give extra to the rescue pups looking for a forever home," said Stacey Petcu, owner of Three Dog Bakery, Indianapolis. "Our bakeries are working hard to spoil these pups with the love they deserve with our favorite treats and a forever family!"

Those adopting will be able to fill out a free Paw-tificate, Three Dog Bakery's version of a birth certificate for rescue pups, finishing it off with the stamping of their new furry family member's paw for the paw-sitively perfect keepsake to commemorate their Gotcha Day.

Pet parents will be able to treat their new pups to Three Dog Bakery's special Valentine's treats. All month long, bakeries are featuring love filled treats like Personalized Heart Cookies and Cakes, Red Velvet Cookies, and Lickety Splits, and the Strawberry Créme Cake.

Three Dog Bakery has three local bakeries located at:

- **13904 Town Center Blvd., Suite 200, Noblesville**
- 844 Broad Ripple Ave., Indianapolis
- 444 Massachusetts Ave., Indianapolis

Visit from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, and follow along on social media at @threedogindy. Visit ThreeDogStores.com for more information.

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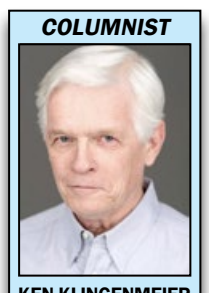
You've got a friend in Beef & Boards musical



Beef & Boards continues its very tuneful 2024 season with *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*, a bio-jukebox stroll down musical memory lane for folks of my generation or anyone who is a fan of the great music of the 60s and 70s.

With a book by Douglas McGrath and words and music by Gerry Goffin & Carole King and Barry Mann & Cynthia Weil, *Beautiful* tells the story of Ms. King's rise in the very competitive music business from a talented 16-year-old in the late 50s to an accomplished solo artist in the early 70s. With Goffin, King wrote such immortal hits as "Will You Love Me Tomorrow," "Up on the Roof," "Some Kind of Wonderful," "The Locomotion," and a hundred more.

B&B debuter Devon Perry stars as Ms. King and is an absolute stunner as the gifted songwriter. Bringing her experience as King from a previous production, Ms. Perry fills the role with impressive talents in acting, singing, and playing piano. The resulting portrayal is of a sweet, mega-talented, and empathy-worthy young woman, conquering an art form dominated by males with an unassuming grace.

Ms. Perry is coupled with Elliott Litherland as King's lyricist/husband, Gerry Goffin. Litherland's full-on approach to the flawed genius of the high-strung man lands effectively and especially shows his fine capacity for acting.

Devan Mathias hits the stage running in her energetic portrayal of fellow lyricist Cynthia Weil (who with Barry Mann wrote "You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling," "On Broadway," "We Gotta Get Out of This Place," and many more). Ms. Mathias exudes moxie as the self-assured Weil and brings her strong singing talents to the fore. Matched up with Kyle Southern as Barry Mann, the duo provides many light moments and a great rendering of Mann/Weil compositions. Southern is perfect playing the hypochondriacal Mann and has most of the show's laugh lines. Don Farrell fills the bill nicely as recording executive Don Kirshner.

As the storyline brings out the array of songs these two couples create, we see performances by Neil Sedaka, The Drifters, The Shirelles, Little Eva, and The Righteous Brothers – all set forth in shining turns by the tremendous ensemble which has been assembled for this show. Many members of this group have had leading and featured roles in past B&B productions, and thus the talent level is high and quite impressive.

Director Heather Patterson King and Musical Director Terry Woods have done a remarkable job bringing this hit-filled show to the B&B stage. Every aspect of the staging and the performances is given sharp attention – even the many set changes are done with ease and quickness. Choreographer Kenney Green-Tilford has arranged a great variety of combinations for the "historic" portrayals of 60s and 70s singing groups.

Photo by Rob Slaven / IndyGhostLight.com

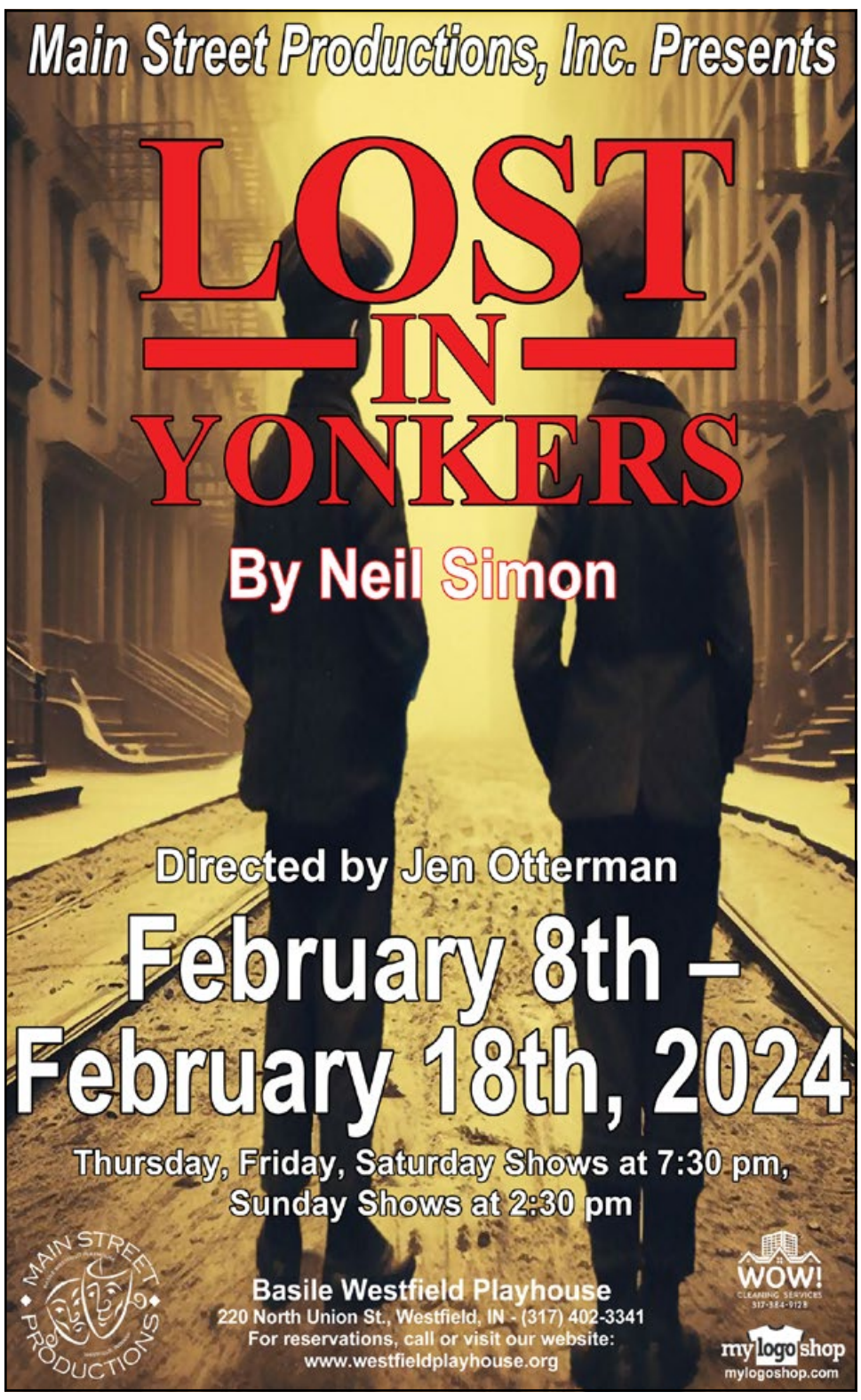
Gerry Goffin (Elliott Litherland) smiles at his fiancée Carole King (Devon Perry) as she plays "Some Kind of Wonderful" on the piano in Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre's production of *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*, now on stage through March 30. Tickets include Chef Larry Stoops' buffet and select beverages. Visit BeefAndBoards.com for pricing and availability, or call the box office at (317) 872-9664.

Finally, the efficient set design by Michael Jackson and the costume work by Dustin Cross and Kathy Henry all add to the picture of a time gone by.

Bottom line: If you are a fan of Carole King, or of the history of American popular music, or of just great music, this is a must-see show. The strong story of Ms. King's conquests and troubles, coupled with the Goffin/King – Mann/Weil catalogues of songs, makes for a memorable evening (or afternoon) of musical theatre. Oh, and the buffet is outstanding as well!

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical continues at Beef and Boards Dinner Theatre through March 30. Show times and reservation availablity can be viewed at **BeefAndBoards.com** or by calling the box office at (317) 872-9664.

Read more great play reviews from A Seat on the Aisle at asota.wordpress.com.



Fishers student makes dean's list at Trinity Christian College

The REPORTER

In recognition of outstanding academic achievement, Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Ill., released the dean's list for Fall 2023.

Kara VanDyke of Fishers is among those students on the dean's list.

The dean's list is Trinity Christian College's highest academic honor. It is recognized for traditional undergraduate students who achieve a semester grade-point average of 3.5 or better in 12 or more credits with grade points.

Civic Theatre is set to take over Palladium with *Ragtime* musical

The REPORTER

Next month's "Civic in Concert" will be the first time Civic Theatre takes the stage at the Palladium in Carmel. The people of Civic Theatre say they are excited to be able to present this unique format which, with minimal staging, focuses on the incredible music that is included in many Broadway shows.

Ragtime the Musical will take the stage at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 2 and again 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 3.

Based on the novel by E.L. Doctorow with music by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty, *Ragtime* is a terrific example of a glorious score that examines the complexities of immigration and racism in the early 20th century. *Ragtime* received four Tony Awards and five Drama Desk Awards in 1998. This piece will be presented with American Musical Theatre as a fundraiser to support the ongoing work of Civic Theatre.

Graphic provided

Synopsis

At the dawn of a new century, everything is changing … and anything is possible. Set in the volatile melting pot of turn-of-the-century New York, three distinctly American tales are woven together – that of a stifled upper-class wife, a determined Jewish immigrant, and a daring young Harlem musician – united by their courage, compassion, and belief in the promise of the future. Together, they confront history's timeless contradictions of wealth and poverty, freedom, and prejudice, hope and despair … and what it means to live in America.

Click here to get your tickets now.

Tracing the legacy: the pivotal role of African Americans in Indiana's medical advancements

Access to quality healthcare is vital to the wellbeing of every American. Indiana is no different. As we celebrate Black History Month, it is important to reflect on the rich history of African Americans in Indiana's medical progress and how far we have come.

As Health Equity Director at Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, I recognize that the health inequities we face are not fated or destined, but rather challenges that we can overcome and change. At the same time, I know we stand on the shoulders of giants who have shaped Indiana's healthcare system for the better.

We must not forget those who paved the path forward for us. Two icons in Indiana's healthcare history who deserve recognition are Dr. Samuel A. Elbert and Dr. Beulah Wright Porter Price.

Dr. Elbert was the first African American in Indiana to receive a medical degree and become a licensed physician. Born in Maryland in 1832 to free parents, he did not learn to read and write until his early twenties but served as the personal servant for Lt. Col. Stanley Matthews and future President Maj. Rutherford B. Hayes during the Civil War.

Following the war, Elbert attended Oberlin College in Ohio and moved to Indianapolis in 1866. Though he wanted to study medicine, he found most medical schools would not accept him because of his race. However, he found two white doctors who were willing to open their personal libraries so he could privately study with them, and who would intercede to secure his admission to the newly opened Indiana Medical College in 1869. Although he paid tuition and completed the prescribed course of study, the college initially refused to grant him a degree. Eventually, the faculty reversed its position, and Dr. Elbert received his M.D. in 1871 and would go on to establish a large private medical practice. In 1879, Dr. Elbert was influential in one of the earliest efforts of organized care for sick African Americans in the state, as he worked alongside a Black Christian relief society to provide medical attention to sick Black migrants.

A voice for all Hoosiers and inspiration to all future physicians following in his footsteps, Dr. Elbert would later be appointed to the state Board of Health and nominated to the State Legislature as a Republican in 1882.

Dr. Porter Price similarly became the first African American woman physician in Indianapolis in 1897. She was an educator, physician, and active participant in the Indianapolis African American women's club movement. Born in St. Louis, she started her career as a schoolteacher in the Indianapolis Public Schools in 1889 and married Jefferson D. Porter, a mail carrier, on March 8, 1893.

Following her marriage, she gave up her position as a teacher and enrolled in the Indiana Medical College. From 1897 to 1901, she treated mostly African American women and children, but her medical career was frequently interrupted whenever a need to educate future generations arose. In 1905, she became principal of the segregated Robert Gould Shaw School, a position she held for 25 years. Although she gave up her practice, her medical expertise proved an invaluable asset to the Woman's Improvement Club (WIC) of Indianapolis in its tuberculosis work, through which she established the first fresh-air camp for tuberculosis patients in the United States.

These physicians, who were pioneers in serving their communities, personally inspire me and remind us of the richness in the history of Indiana's medical progress, particularly during Black History Month. I'm honored to work for a trusted health partner that serves underserved communities, and which recently achieved the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Health Equity Accreditation Plus status. Notably, we are the only Managed Care Entity in the state to achieve this recognition. This newly established accreditation recognizes our commitment to eliminating health disparities in underserved communities and leadership in developing solutions to expand access to equitable, high-quality healthcare.

While there is still progress to be made, there is no better time to celebrate the contributions of those who have shaped Indiana's healthcare landscape into its current formidable stature, especially the efforts of trailblazing heroes like Dr. Elbert and Dr. Porter Price. In tracing back this eventful legacy, we stay motivated to ensure that every Hoosier has a fair and just opportunity to attain their highest level of health.

Darryl Lockett is Health Equity Director for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield's Medicaid Health Plan in Indiana which serves more than 750,000 Medicaid members through the state's Hoosier Healthwise (HHW), Hoosier Care Connect (HCC) and Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP) health insurance programs.

INDOT & ISP encourage drivers to plan ahead for upcoming solar eclipse

Arrive early, stay put, leave late: path of totality to cross Indiana on April 8

The REPORTER

Indiana will play a pivotal role in welcoming eclipse enthusiasts as they flock to the Hoosier State to catch a glimpse of the first total solar eclipse in seven years on Monday, April 8.

The eclipse will be visible over a large portion of the state, with the **path of totality** spanning from Evansville to the outskirts of Fort Wayne, entering southwest Indiana at 3:01 p.m. EDT/2:01 p.m. CDT and exiting to the northeast at 3:12 p.m. EDT/2:12 p.m. CDT.

Other parts of the state will experience a partial eclipse of at least 90 percent totality from approximately 1:30 p.m. EDT/12:30 p.m. CDT to 4:30 EDT/3:30 CDT.

Nearly four million Hoosiers live within the path of totality, with hundreds of thousands of people expected to visit Indiana for the event. Increased traffic and congestion are also expected as residents and tourists alike make their way to viewing destinations. Areas near the eclipse centerline are anticipated to see the greatest influx of visitors, including Vincennes, Bloomington, Franklin, and Bluffton. Indianapolis and Evansville are also included in the path.

To ensure a smooth trip, the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and Indiana State Police (ISP) urge drivers to plan ahead and prepare for potential travel impacts before, during, and after the eclipse.

Before the eclipse

• Research your viewing site, considering accessibility, parking, and crowd size. Check INDOT TrafficWise on the mobile app or at **511in.org** to plan your route and monitor traffic conditions. Plan to arrive to your destination early.

• Anticipate increased traffic and congestion, especially in areas in or near the path of totality.

• Reach your destination safely – buckle up and put your phone down while driving.

• Pack plenty of snacks and water, as well as charging cables for electronics and mobile devices, in the event you or your group become stranded.

• Make sure your vehicle has a full tank of gas and top off fluids before you head out in case you're stuck in traffic for a long period of time. Use this **eclipse-ready checklist** for more road trip essentials.

• Don't forget your solar eclipse viewing glasses. You will need specially designed glasses to avoid damage to your eyes.

During the eclipse

• Avoid travel during the eclipse or in the main path if possible.

• Exit the roadway to stop and view the solar eclipse. Do not stop along highways or park on the shoulder for viewing.

• Do not take photos or videos while driving. Indiana is a **hands-free state**. Holding mobile devices such as smartphones or tablets while driving is prohibited by state law.

• Do not wear eclipse glasses while driving.

• Turn on your headlights. Do not rely on automatic lights.

• Watch for pedestrians, especially along secondary roads.

After the eclipse

• Plan your post-event transportation method well in advance. If celebrating, ensure everyone has a safe and sober way to return home. Designate a sober driver or arrange for alternate transportation.

• Exercise patience when leaving your viewing location as traffic may be heavy. Follow instructions from law enforcement or emergency personnel and be considerate of fellow drivers.

• Stay put and stick around to avoid the post-event rush.

• Clean up after yourself and dispose of trash in designated receptacles or take it with you.

• Once again, check INDOT TrafficWise on the mobile app or at **511in.org** to plan your route and monitor traffic conditions.

INDOT will limit road closures and restrictions where possible on state routes to help with traffic flow surrounding the eclipse. View current construction and maintenance activities on INDOT's **TrafficWise map** or the free mobile app.

Visit the sites below and follow INDOT and ISP on social media for more information regarding the total solar eclipse in Indiana:

• **eclipse2024.in.gov**
• **visitindiana.com/eclipse2024**
• **greatamericaneclipse.com/indiana-2024-eclipse**
• **science.nasa.gov**

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for
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& PERSONAL PROPERTY OF
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SOFT CLOSE BEGINS: Saturday, February 24th @ 6pm
PREVIEW DAY: Thursday, February 22nd from Noon - 6pm

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Thank you for reading The Reporter!

Lane restrictions along 146th Street

As part of the ongoing 146th Street and Allisonville Road improvement project, beginning on or after Monday, Feb. 19 through Friday, Feb. 23 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. each day, the contractor will restrict the westbound right lane of 146th Street for concrete work.

Use extreme caution while driving through this construction zone.

Click here for more information on the project.

MOBILE HEALTH & WELLNESS CLINIC
FREE MOBILE HEALTH SCREENINGS

9 a.m. to noon, March 9, 2024

PROVIDED BY THE HAMILTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

HOPE Family Care Center
270 W. Jackson St., Cicero

Walk-ins available for the following services:

- Blood Pressure
- Cholesterol
- HIV testing*
- Blood Sugar
- Hepatitis C testing*
- A1C
- Triglycerides Testing

**HIV & Hep C test results may take up to 20 minutes*

Don't miss all-Beethoven program from Bulgaria's national orchestra, Aretha Franklin tribute & more at Center for the Performing Arts

The REPORTER

Photo provided

See the faithful note-for-note rendition of Aretha Franklin's classic album *Aretha's Gold* on Feb. 24 at The Palladium.

Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra
Friday, Feb. 23 at 8 p.m.
The Palladium

With a history dating to the 1890s, the Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra has been known since 1945 as the national orchestra of Bulgaria and remains one of that nation's leading cultural institutions. Its repertoire comprises works from the entire historically available range of music – from classical to contemporary opuses, including premiere performances of numerous works by Bulgarian composers. The orchestra has won praise from audiences throughout Europe, Asia, and North America. Since 2017, Nayden Todorov has served as its general director.

Program: Beethoven's Coriolan Overture, Op. 62, Piano Concerto No. 5 in E Flat Major, Op. 73 ("Emperor") with soloist Ivaylo Vassilev, and Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op. 92

Click here for tickets.

Aretha's Gold: Classic Albums Live Tribute to Aretha Franklin
Saturday, Feb. 24
at 8 p.m.
The Palladium

Juno Award-winning Canadian R&B singer Divine Brown recreates the magic of "The Queen of Soul" in this note-for-note, cut-by-cut performance of Aretha Franklin's 1969 greatest hits album, *Aretha's Gold*.

Classic Albums Live is a Toronto-based touring concert series that specializes in performances of classic rock and pop albums, focusing not on costumes or interpretations, but rather on faithful renditions of the recordings performed by top musicians. *Aretha's Gold* included such hits as "Respect," "Chain of Fools," "Think" and "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman."

Click here for tickets.

Live at the Center: Peyton Womock Band
Wednesday, Feb. 28
at 7:30 p.m.
The Studio Theater

Saxophonist Peyton Womock is known for innovative cover interpretations as well as original compositions that cross genres from smooth jazz and funk to hip hop and pop. His videos on X, YouTube, and Instagram have attracted more than a million impressions, and he also brings a unique perspective on music technology through his Indiana University studies in Informatics with a cognate in music. A collection of original compositions, *Saint*, is available on Spotify and Apple Music. See more at **Facebook.com/PeytonWomockMusic**.

Click here for tickets.

Peanut Butter & Jam: Spring Animal Babies with Silly Safaris
Saturday, March 2
at 10:30 a.m.
The Studio Theater

Meet Amazon John as he introduces you to several wonderful spring animal babies. Did you know that animals living where there are cold seasons have their babies in the spring, when food is more abundant? Attendees will celebrate motherhood as they learn how mommy animals take care of their springtime babies. Be sure to stick around after the show to meet the animals up close.

Click here for tickets.

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West District Office: (317) 848-0201 East District Office: (765) 639-0671
www.spartz.house.gov

Diverse Democratic candidates running to "create more representative Indiana"

Submitted by Indiana Democratic Party

Indiana Democrats are the party of firsts. Over the years, Democrats elected Indiana's first Latino member of the state legislature, Indiana's first-majority female caucus, and record numbers of African American legislators from across the state.

Garcia Wilburn

Just this past year, Hoosier Democrats elected the first Black female mayors of three cities: Evansville, Lawrence, and Michigan City. Now, a diverse slate of candidates is stepping up to represent their communities and fight for a stronger, fairer Indiana.

State Reps. Mike Andrade and Victoria Garcia Wilburn serve in Districts 12 and 32, respectively, and are two of four Latino members of the Indiana General Assembly along with fellow Democrats Sen. Rodney Pol (District 4) and Rep. Earl Harris, Jr. (District 2). They are both running for reelection to continue seeking bipartisan solutions to the problems Hoosiers face.

"This is a wonderful, diverse community, and I believe when we all come together and work for solutions, we create a better future for all," State Rep. Victoria Garcia Wilburn said. "The recent actions limiting access to healthcare services for women, children with Autism, and families of medically complex children as well as the constant culture wars threatens our district's future. I'll keep working to restore and protect our rights and keep our community one of the best places to raise a family in Indiana."

Garcia Wilburn was born in a working-class neighborhood in the Chicago suburbs and raised in a union family. She earned a bachelor's degree in occupational therapy as a first-generation college student. She went on to earn both her Master's and Doctorate in health science, while working part time and raising her three young children. For the past 19 years, Victoria and her family have made Indiana their home.

Garcia Wilburn has been a tireless advocate for equity and access to mental and behavioral health service. She serves on the Indiana Behavioral Health Commission and on the Indiana Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs. Last year, she authored and passed legislation requiring mental health support for Hoosier police officers and firefighters. Learn more about the candidate at **WilburnForIndiana.com**.

* * *

Alex Burton is an Evansville City Councilman running for state representative in District 77. His focus at the Statehouse would be on jobs and economic development. His leadership on the council gives him the experience to hit the ground running at the Statehouse.

Erika Robinson-Watkins is the first woman of color to be selected to the Valparaiso Community School Board, and lives with her family in the city. She's passionate about early childhood education and co-operates a daycare facility with her sister. She's running in District 4 which contains all of Valparaiso and parts of southern Porter County.

Dominique Davie is running for the open House District 90 on the southwest side of Marion County. He's an Indy native, graduate of IUPUI, and is running because he wants to invest back in District 90 as its representative.

Don't miss Westfield Winter Market this Saturday

The REPORTER

The Winter Market will run from 9 a.m. to noon this Saturday, Feb. 17 at West Fork Whiskey, 10 E. 191st St. The Market runs weekly through Saturday, March 9.

Stop by for baked treats, fresh produce, meat, cheese, dog treats, honey, fresh flowers, handcrafted items and so much more. The market is free and open to the public.

The presenting sponsor is The Farmers Bank, and the host sponsor is West Fork Whiskey.

Presenting Sponsor

• **Now open in Westfield:** The new Financial Center is located just behind Meijer on Spring Mill Road and is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday. During business hours, high-tech drive-up smart ATMs are available to conduct any transaction with or without live help without the need to leave your vehicle. **Click here** to visit the Westfield Financial Center website.

• **CD & Money Market specials:** Visit The Farmers Bank's table at the market to learn more about CD and Money Market specials. Farmers Bank staff will be on hand to share information with you and even schedule an appointment to set up a new account.

• **Free tote & enter to win:** Pick up your free Farmers Bank tote bag and then enter to win as you enter the market. This month, The Farmers Bank is giving away a portable Bose speaker (value $300) and two Yeti thermoses. No purchase necessary. Must be 21 or older to enter.

Feb. 17 Vendors

The following is a list of vendors that have confirmed their participation for this Saturday. This list is subject to change without notice.

- Alcomy LLC
- Angelo's Italian Market
- Baked, A Cookie Company, LLC
- Becky the Bakester
- BricksMadeBetter
- Chez Pauline homemade French bakery
- Country Fun Freeze
- Creolicious Bakery
- Darling Impressions
- DonutNV Hamilton County, Indiana
- Dragonwood LLC
- Eagle Creek Apiary
- Emberline Designs
- Emma Mourfield Pottery
- Fungi Meadows
- Glaux Co.
- Gluten Free Creations, Inc.
- Happy Mutt Pet Bakery
- Heritage Homestead Farms, LLC
- Just Millie and Me
- Kell Squires Pastures
- Kim's Key Lime Cookies, Inc.
- Lazy Labs Bakery
- Old Major
- Park Wagyu Cattle
- PipKing Creations with Soule
- Poppin' Sweet Confections
- REFcreatives
- Revolt CBD LLC
- Rivet Coffee Bar & Roastery
- Rock-A-Toy
- Rosie Sue Designs
- Simply Chunky Creations
- Sweets by Lauren
- The Food Florist
- The Goodie Basket
- The Kafe (Kafeteria LLC)
- timbar
- Travelin Tom's Coffee
- United Bonds
- Wander Free Design Co
- Wrightway Crafts

Who's on my ballot for the May 7, 2024 Primary Election?

Note that * indicates the candidate is the incumbent for that office.
To view precinct and district maps, please visit hamiltoncounty.in.gov/221/Precinct-and-District-Maps.
NOTE: Candidates for precinct committeement and state delegates will appear in upcoming editions of The Reporter.

PRESIDENT
*Joseph R. Biden, Jr. (D)
Nikki R. Haley (R)
Donald J. Trump (R)

U.S. SENATE
Jim Banks (R)
Marc Carmichael (D)
Valerie McCray (D)
John Rust (R)

U.S. HOUSE, 5th DISTRICT
Jonathan D. Brown (R)
Raju Chinthala (R)
Max Engling (R)
Chuck Goodrich (R)
Mark Hurt (R)
Scott A. King (R)
Patrick Malayter (R)
Matthew Peiffer (R)
Ryan Pfenninger (D)
Deborah A. Pickett (D)
LD Powell (R)
Larry L. Savage Jr. (R)
*Victoria Spartz (R)

GOVERNOR
Mike Braun (R)
Brad Chambers (R)
Suzanne Crouch (R)
Eric Doden (R)
Curtis Hill (R)
Jennifer G. McCormick (D)
Jamie Reitenour (R)
Tamie Dixon-Tatum (D)

STATE SENATOR
District 20
*Scott A. Baldwin (R)
Joel Levi (D)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
District 24
Bill Gutrich (R)
Josh Lowry (D)
Hunter Smith (R)
District 29
Laura L. Alerding (R)
Christopher Hartig (D)
Alaina Shonkwiler (R)
District 32
Patricia Bratton (R)
Tom Havens (R)
*Victoria Garcia Wilburn (D)
District 37
*Todd Huston (R)
District 39
Daniel (Danny) Lopez (R)
Matt McNally (D)
District 88
Starr Joy Hairston (D)
*Chris Jeter (R)
Stephanie Jo Yocum (D)

JUDGE, CIRCUIT COURT
*Andrew R. Bloch (R)
Angela Brown Swenson (R)

JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT 1
*Michael A. Casati (R)

JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT 6
*Stephenie K. Gookins (R)

COUNTY AUDITOR
Todd Clevenger (R)

COUNTY SURVEYOR
Gary Duncan (R)

COUNTY TREASURER
*Susan Byer (R)
Robert (Bob) Bragg (R)

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
District 2
*Steven C. Dillinger (R)
District 3
*Mark E. Heirbrandt (R)

COUNTY COUNCIL
At Large
*Brandon (Brad) Beaver (R)
Elizabeth Fouch (R)
Keely J. Gladieux (D)
*Sue Maki (R)
*Steven R. Nation (R)

Health Spotlight: Blue light makes bladder cancer glow pink

By JAY ADKINS
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

This year, **more than 82,000 people** will be told they have bladder cancer, and almost 17,000 will die from it. Now, new technology is helping to light up the problem like never before.

Frank Sinatra had it, so did Jack Lemmon, Telly Savalas, and U.S. Senator Hubert Humphrey – bladder cancer is almost three times more common in men than women. The key to beating it – early detection.

One of the first signs is blood in the urine. Also, patients may have to urinate frequently and experience pelvic or back pain. Detecting it early is key to survival.

"It's very important because when we find this, people on this stage, we can offer them the treatment, aggressive treatment," said Amirali Salmasi, MD, Urologist at UC San Diego Health.

Oncologists at UC San Diego are now using blue light cystoscopy to detect and monitor bladder cancer. It's the same technology used in computer monitors, smart phones, tablets, and TVs. Before the procedure, urologists insert a special dye into the bladder. Then, using a catheter, doctors use a camera with a white light to look inside. Then, they switch to a blue light. Combined with the dye, it makes the once undetectable cancer cells glow florescent pink.

"With blue light, the cancer cells accumulate this drug and they have fluoresce," Salmasi said. "By doing that, we can have some contrast between the tumor cells and the normal cells, and by doing that increase our detection rate. In 11 percent of the people, they can change your diagnosis or upgrade your diagnosis."

It's FDA approved and can be used in both the clinic and the operating room, for a new diagnosis, and also monitoring those battling the disease.

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Thank you, Hamilton County!

TODAY'S BIBLE READING

Dinah and the Shechemites

Three days later, while all of them were still in pain, two of Jacob's sons, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, took their swords and attacked the unsuspecting city, killing every male. They put Hamor and his son Shechem to the sword and took Dinah from Shechem's house and left. The sons of Jacob came upon the dead bodies and looted the city where their sister had been defiled. They seized their flocks and herds and donkeys and everything else of theirs in the city and out in the fields. They carried off all their wealth and all their women and children, taking as plunder everything in the houses.

Then Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, "You have brought trouble on me by making me obnoxious to the Canaanites and Perizzites, the people living in this land. We are few in number, and if they join forces against me and attack me, I and my household will be destroyed."

But they replied, "Should he have treated our sister like a prostitute?"

Genesis 34:25-31 (NIV)

Meeting Notices

The Clay Township Board will meet at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024, at the John W. Hensel Government Center, 10701 N. College Ave., Carmel.

The Noblesville Schools Board of Trustees will meet for a work session at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024, in the board room of the Noblesville Schools Educational Services Center, 18025 River Road, Noblesville.

A regular meeting will follow at 7 p.m. in the same location.

The Hamilton County Plan Commission will meet at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024, in the Commissioners' Courtroom on the first floor of the Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

The Hamilton Southeastern Schools Board of Trustees will meet at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 23, 2024, in the board room at HSE Central Office, 13485 Cumberland Road, Fishers.

PUBLIC NOTICE DEADLINE

5 p.m. Friday

for Monday publication

PublicNotices@ReadTheReporter.com

Beth Helbing

August 11, 1957 – February 14, 2024

Beth Helbing, 66, Noblesville, passed away on Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at her home. She was born on August 11, 1957, to Roger and Anne (Condo) Williams in Marion, Ind.

Beth graduated from Bennett High School and Ball State University. It was at Ball State that she met the love of her life, Bill Helbing. They shared a life of love and joy for more than 44 years. Beth spent many years working in fabrics and packaging procurement. She retired in 2022 from procurement management for Schorr Packaging in Chicago. Beth was an active member of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Cicero, where she was their finance chair. Beth was also a long-time member of Tri Kappa Sorority and President of the Noblesville chapter.

Beth and Bill loved traveling and enjoyed many adventures together, including trips gathering information for Billsbackroads on Facebook. She also loved cruising and trips with her sisters. Many family members and friends were the beneficiaries of her baking and enjoyed her wonderful sense of humor. She also had special expertise in cooking standing rib roasts and supervised this every Christmas.

Beth is survived by her husband of 44 years, Bill Helbing; son, David (Sarah) Neiling of Tuscon, Ariz.; grandson, Mac Neiling; sisters, Ellen (Robert) Welk of Fountaintown, Anne Marie Williams of Evansville, and Mary Kay Williams-Duff of Jeffersonville, Ky.; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends who loved her dearly.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her only brother, Frank Williams.

Services will be held at noon on Saturday, February 24, 2024, at Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church, 410 S. Pearl St., Cicero, with Fr. Sean Pogue officiating. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to the time of the service at the church. Burial will be at Cicero Cemetery in Cicero. Following the burial, there will be a dinner at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church, 410 S. Pearl St., Cicero, IN 46034, or Tri Kappa of Noblesville, Tri Kappa Central Office, 941 E 86th St #103, Indianapolis, IN 46240 (**trikappa.org**).

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**.

Federal grant funds available for specialty crop industry

The REPORTER

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA), is seeking project proposals from Indiana's specialty crop sector for funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) **Specialty Crop Block Grant Program**.

"Beyond traditional row crops and livestock agriculture, Indiana is home to a robust specialty crop sector," said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. "I look forward to seeing what projects are selected for this year's funding allocation as we continue to support this impressive sector of our agricultural economy."

The USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program offers federal funding annually to state departments of agriculture to support their specialty crop industries. This year, Indiana will be allocating $471,000.00 to selected projects.

Eligible projects must enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops in Indiana, defined as fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, horticulture and nursery crops.

Funding will not be awarded to projects that benefit a particular commercial product, or provide a profit to a single organization, institution or individual. Each project must identify at least one of the **USDA performance measures** that specifically demonstrate the project's impact on enhancing the competitiveness of eligible specialty crops.

ISDA is seeking projects that have objectives such as: increasing consumption and consumer purchasing, increasing access and distribution, increasing food safety knowledge and processing, developing new seed varieties and improving environmental sustainably, among other things.

ISDA and USDA encourage applications that benefit smaller farms, new and beginning farmers, underserved producers, veteran producers and underserved communities.

Applications open on Feb. 22, 2024 and are due by noon ET on March 22, 2024. Proposals must be submitted online through the Indiana State Department of Agriculture's **Grants Management System**. Indiana Specialty Crop Block Grant application resources are located on ISDA's **Grants and Funding Opportunities** website.

HAMILTON COUNTY REPORTER

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Noblesville, Carmel, Westfield, Sheridan, Hamilton Heights, Fishers, University, Guerin Catholic, Hamilton Southeastern

Swimming

Dozens of county swimmers will compete at Saturday sectional finals

By RICHIE HALL
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Reporter photo by Richie Hall

Carmel's Brian Qian (left) and Noblesville's Graham Kulp talk during a break in the action at the IHSAA boys swimming sectional prelims Thursday at the Greyhounds' Natatorium.

CARMEL – The IHSAA boys swimming post-season began Thursday with sectional preliminary tournaments taking place throughout the state.

Carmel hosted prelims at its natatorium, and everything there went according to plan for the nine-time defending state champions. The Greyhounds advanced all 27 of their swims to the "A" Final, or championship heat of Saturday's sectional finals.

Carmel claimed 10 of the 11 top seeds. Gregg Enoch holds the first seed in the individual medley and 500 freestyle, while Andrew Shackell is the top seed in the 50 freestyle and butterfly. Lewis Zhang is first in the 200 free, Ethan Zhang paced the 100 free, Anderson Kopp is first in the backstroke, and Carmel has the top seed in all three relays.

"I thought the kids did a nice job tonight," said Greyhounds coach Chris Plumb. "We got everybody to the top eight. We did what we were supposed to and that's all you really can do in the prelims."

L. Zhang

Noblesville also qualified all of its swims into the Saturday final. The Millers have 23 swims in the "A" Final, with their other four headed to the "B" Final. Anthony Mathis earned the top seed in the breaststroke.

"We had a goal of getting 20 top eight swims," said Noblesville coach Aleks Fansler. The coach noted that his team was "just under that off the psych sheet," so the Millers exceeded their goal.

"I think they came in focused and they knew what they needed to do," said Fansler. "So, they did a good job with that."

Westfield sent all 27 of its swims on to Saturday, with 13 reaching the "A" Final and 14 advancing to the "B" Final. The Shamrocks' top performance came in the 400 free relay, with Zach Welch, Garreth Thomas, Luca Barbosa and William Chambley getting second.

"Everybody advanced, so everybody did their job today," said Westfield coach Darrick Thomas. "The kids that needed to be fast today were fast and the kids that could afford to sneak through and focus a little more on Saturday's performance did that also."

Guerin Catholic had five swims reach the "A" Final and seven more qualify for the "B" Final. Drew Wilhite led the Golden Eagles by taking second in the backstroke and third in the 50 free.

"We had some ups, we had some downs," said Guerin Catholic coach Abby Maroney. "For the most part, we got most of our team back for finals on Saturday." The coach said she was "pretty happy" with how everyone swam.

The sectional finals begin with diving prelims and semifinals at 9 a.m., with the swimming and diving finals starting at 1 p.m.

Positions 1-8 qualify for "A" Final (championship heat), positions 9-16 qualify for "B" Final (consolation heat), positions 17 and 18 are alternates.

AT CARMEL

200 medley relay: 1. Carmel (Anderson Kopp, Brandon Malicki, Andrew Shackell, Michael Gorey) 1:36.93, 3. Noblesville (Caleb Mathis, Josh Naas, Lane Monger, Shep Huff) 1:40.69, 4. Guerin Catholic (Drew Wilhite, Will Ladine, Sam Holl, Charlie Jurewicz) 1:42.56, 5. Westfield (Harrison Barents Froman, Ethan Braasch, Bennett Morse, Silas Hendrix) 1:44.30.

200 freestyle: 1. Lewis Zhang (C) 1:43.48, 2. Ethan Zhang (C) 1:44.98, 3. Zach Welch (W) 1:45.48, 4. William Lathrop (C) 1:47.54, 5. Monger (N) 1:48.71, 6. Mason Snyder (N) 1:48.92, 7. Sean Halvorsen (N) 1:49.53, 8. Luca Barbosa (W) 1:51.28, 12. Sagan Blansette (W) 1:55.13, 13. Holl (GC) 1:57.02, 20. Lucas Morse (GC) 2:10.86, 24. Isaiah Gaskill (GC) 2:23.06.

200 individual medley: 1. Gregg Enoch (C) 1:52.05, 2. Brian Qian (C) 1:55.59, 3. Michael Gorey (C) 1:58.12, 4. Graham Kulp (N) 1:59.06, 5. Garreth Thomas (W) 1:59.78, 6. William Chambley (W) 2:00.17, 7. Zak Armstrong (N) 2:02.49, 8. Naas (N) 2:03.81, 10. Griffin Barents Froman (W) 2:04.36, 18. Joey Kunkel (GC) 2:23.99.

50 freestyle: 1. Shackell (C) 21.45, 2. William Allen (C) 21.61, 3. Wilhite (GC) 21.76, 4. Malicki (C) 21.94, 5. Morse (W) 22.51, 6. C. Mathis (N)

See *Swim* . . . Page 12

Reporter photo by Richie Hall

Westfield's Jackson Burgess (left) gives teammate Garreth Thomas some encouragement before the start of the individual medley.

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CURRENT REAL ESTATE
CENTRAL INDIANA STATISTICS FROM THE 16-COUNTY REGION
JANUARY 2024
January 2024 Average Sale Price $326,978 compared to this time last year
Sales Decreased January pended home sales compared to this time last year 4.8%
55 More Homes For Sale 1/23 vs. 1/24
6.6% Price Increase 1/23 vs. 1/24
Months of Inventory Increased 1.6% 1/23 vs. 1/24
Interest Rates 30-Year Fixed 6.875% With an APR of 7.037%
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TOP COUNTIES
Decatur Sales Up 100%
Putnam Sales Up 82.6%
Bartholomew Sales Up 19.7%
FAIR HOUSING CASES
Total– 7
Rental– 6
Sales– 1
Other– 0

Swimming

All 27 Tigers will swim in championship heat

The REPORTER

Fishers hosted an IHSAA boys swimming sectional preliminary tournament on Thursday.

The Tigers had a perfect evening, as they qualified all 27 of their swims to the "A" Final of the Saturday sectional finals. Fishers picked up seven top seeds along the way.

Luis Sanchez is first-seeded in the individual medley and 500 freestyle, while Alex Koo is the top seed in the 50 and 100 freestyles. Jonathan Hines paced the 200 free, and the Tigers' 200 and 400 free relays also finished as first seeds.

Hamilton Southeastern advanced all 27 of its swims to the Saturday finals. The Royals qualified 22 swims to the "A" Final, with the other five reaching the "B" Final. Collin Huston picked up a top seed in the breaststroke, while Southeastern's medley relay also finished as the first seed.

Hamilton Heights sent 19 swims into the finals, with nine making the "A" heat and 10 more qualifying for the "B" heat. The Huskies' highest seed is in the medley relay, with Gabe Roosa, Owen VanHaaren, Aiden Clarke and Cameron Wheat placing third.

Saturday's action begins with the diving prelims and semifinals at 9 a.m., followed by the swimming and diving finals at 1 p.m.

AT FISHERS

200 medley relay: 1. Hamilton Southeastern (Jacob Frey, Jihoon Jung, Derek Robison, Nolan Pugh) 1:38.46, 2. Fishers (George Kallas, Allon Bluvshteyn, Victor Herbert, Qwinton Upshaw) 1:40.78, 3. Hamilton Heights (Gabe Roosa, Owen VanHaaren, Aiden Clarke, Cameron Wheat) 1:42.89.

200 freestyle: 1. Jonathan Hines (F) 1:44.29, 3. Jack Waren (HSE) 1:45.95, 4. Sean Harvey (F) 1:48.94, 5. Camden Bailey (HSE) 1:49.18, 7. Pugh (HSE) 1:50.26, 8. Hagen Lee (F) 1:50.28, 11. Rudy Bowman (HH) 1:54.47, 13. VanHaaren (HH) 1:59.37, 14. Wheat (HH) 1:59.52.

200 individual medley: 1. Luis Sanchez (F) 1:56.65, 2. Jung (HSE) 1:57.04, 3. Collin Huston (HSE) 1:58.81, 4. Anthony Adams Jr. (F) 1:58.95, 5. Caden Askren (F) 2:02.77, 6. Clarke (HH) 2:03.02, 7. Frey (HSE) 2:04.86, 11. Roosa (HH) 2:13.03, 21. Owen Semester (HH) 2:45.73.

50 freestyle: 1. Alex Koo (F) 21.54, 2. Hudson Lee (F) 22.30, 3. Herbert (F) 22.33, 4. Robison (HSE) 22.52, 7. Rowan Donald (HH) 23.43, 9. Xander Goss (HSE) 23.91, 13. Blake Blackhurst (HH) 24.72, T16. William Bostock (HSE) 24.96, 20. Cole Martin (HH) 25.29.

NOTE: Bostock won a swimoff to advance to the "B" Final.

100 butterfly: 3. Jung (HSE) 51.86, 4. Herbert (F) 52.70, 5. Robison (HSE) 53.25, 6. Kallas (F) 53.46, 7. Diego Kitazuka (F) 53.91, 8. Alden Sealls (HSE) 54.86, 10. Blackhurst (HH) 1:00.53.

100 freestyle: 1. Koo (F) 48.64, 2. Thomas Johanneman (F) 49.03, 4. Wheat (HH) 51.40, 5. Harvey (F) 51.51, 7. Jagger Chan (HSE) 52.14, 8. Donald (HH) 52.36, 9. Goss (HSE) 52.53, 13. Bostock (HSE) 54.24, 23. Isaac Correll (HH) 59.60.

500 freestyle: 1. Sanchez (F) 4:38.16, 2. Hines (F) 4:40.79, 3. Adams Jr. (F) 4:45.88, 4. Waren (HSE) 4:55.78, 5. Clarke (HH) 5:00.24, 6. Bailey (HSE) 5:02.85, 10. Lucas Cochran (HSE) 5:21.18, 12. R. Bowman (HH) 5:23.62, 15. Martin (HH) 5:39.56.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Fishers (Ha. Lee, Harvey, Hu. Lee, Koo) 1:31.37, 3. Southeastern (Bostock, Goss, Sealls, Huston) 1:36.24, 4. Heights (Martin, Blackhurst, Donald, R. Bowman) 1:37.27.

100 backstroke: 2. Frey (HSE) 53.51, 3. Johanneman (F) 54.03, 4. Sealls (HSE) 56.73, 5. Askren (F) 56.74, 6. James Gropp (F) 56.82, 7. Tristan Stivers (HSE) 56.95, 8. Roosa (HH) 58.78, 19. Owen Eshelman (HH) 1:21.35, 23. Jack Powell (HH) 1:26.02.

100 breaststroke: 1. Huston (HSE) 57.23, 3. Pugh (HSE) 1:01.72, 4. Upshaw (F) 1:02.10, 5. Kallas (F) 1:02.52, 6. Bluvshteyn (F) 1:02.57, 8. Chan (HSE) 1:03.04, 10. VanHaaren (HH) 1:06.93, 16. Max Bowman (HH) 1:14.78, 21. Isaiah Heuer (HH) 1:20.30.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Fishers (Ha. Lee, Adams Jr., Hu. Lee, Hines) 3:19.92, 3. Southeastern (Waren, Bailey, Sealls, Robison) 3:35.37, 4. Heights (R. Bowman, Martin, Clarke, Donald) 3:35.37.

University sends four swimmers to sectional finals

The REPORTER

University had four swims qualify for the "A" Final of the Lawrence North sectional after its performance at the Thursday prelims.

Senior Neiman Kumler was part of all four qualifying swims. He placed second in the 50 freestyle and third in the 100 free, then joined Gabriel Pryor, Zachary Sullivan and Owen Ascioti to take seventh in the 200 free relay and sixth in the 400 relay.

Swimming finals begin at 1 p.m. Saturday.

AT LAWRENCE NORTH

200 freestyle: 18. Gabriel Pryor 2:06.12.

50 freestyle: 2. Neiman Kumler 21.97, 25. Owen Ascioti 26.26.

100 freestyle: 3. Kumler 48.35, 19. Zachary Sullivan 57.24, 33. George Lynch 1:13.45.

500 freestyle: 18. Ascioti 6:23.84.

200 freestyle: 7. University (Pryor, Sullivan, Ascioti, Kumler) 1:39.85.

100 backstroke: 17. Pryor 1:12.33, 18. Sullivan 1:12.34.

100 breaststroke: 24. Lynch 1:29.13, 29. Cael Head 1:48.61.

400 freestyle relay: 6. University (Pryor, Sullivan, Ascioti, Kumler) 3:47.86.

Swim

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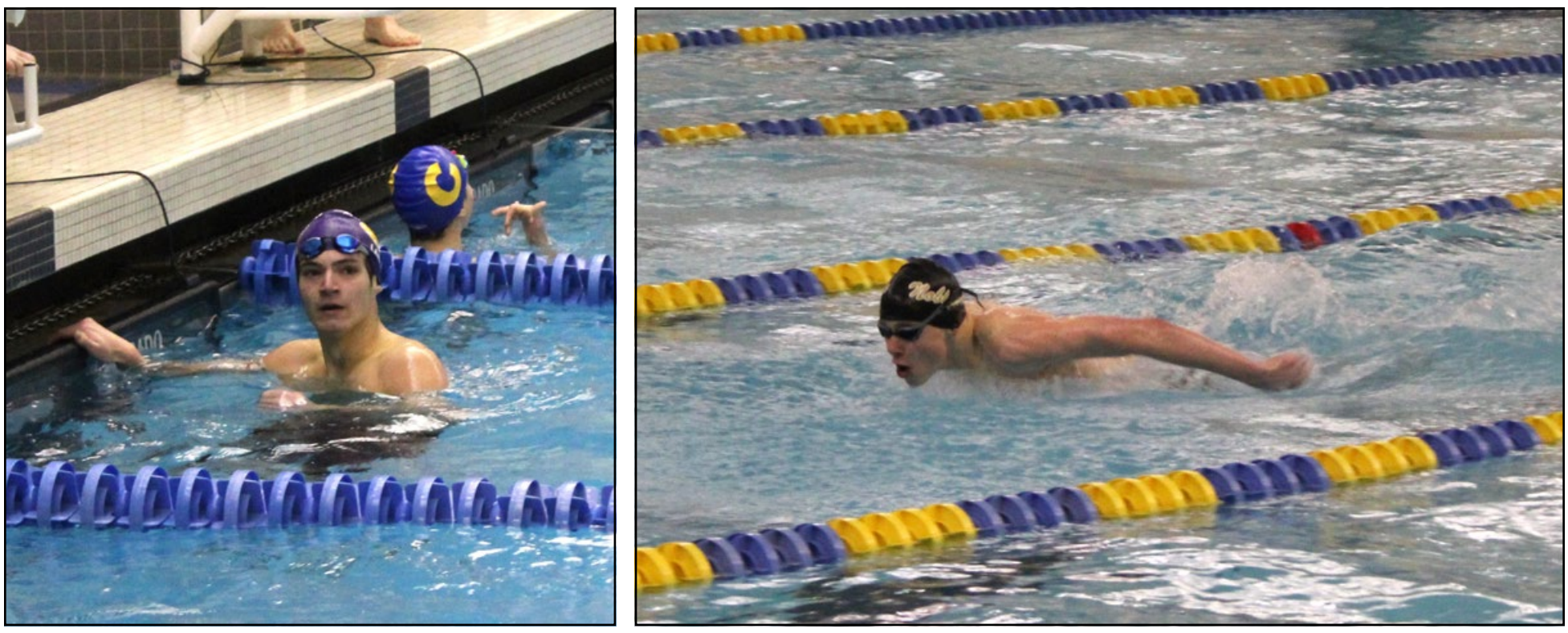

Reporter photos by Richie Hall

(Left) Guerin Catholic's Will Ladine checks his time after finishing the 100 freestyle race. (Right) Noblesville freshman Brayden Wright swims in the butterfly.

22.55, 10. Locke Taylor (W) 22.98, 11. Henry Pham (W) 23.41, 13. Huff (N) 23.64, 16. Mark Berger (N) 24.08, 21. Adam Jurewicz (GC) 25.68, 23. Ethan Nimri (GC) 25.98.

100 butterfly: 1. Shackell (C) 51.14, 2. Emile Haig (C) 52.80, 3. Qian (C) 52.86, 4. Anthony Mathis (N) 53.72, 6. Thomas (W) 54.42, 8. Armstrong (N) 55.19, 9. Barbosa (W) 55.50, 11. Brayden Wright (N) 57.98, 13. Owen Hudson (W) 58.87, 16. Lucas Morse (GC) 1:03.51, 7. Kunkel (GC) 1:04.37, 18. Jude Hubner (GC) 1:04.48.

100 freestyle: 1. E. Zhang (C) 47.83, 2. Carter Hadley (C) 48.77, 3. Allen (C) 48.78, 4. B. Morse (W) 48.90, 5. Snyder (N) 49.29, 6. Monger (N) 49.42, 7. C. Mathis (N) 49.73, 8. Ladine (GC) 50.31, 10. Taylor (W) 51.14, 13. C. Jurewicz (GC) 53.41, 15. Pham (W) 54.74, 23. A. Jurewicz (GC) 59.95.

500 freestyle: 1. Enoch (C) 4:36.62, 2. L. Zhang (C) 4:40.39, 3. Kopp (C) 4:41.63, 4. Welch (W) 4:44.93, 5. Halvorsen (N) 4:54.97, 7. Oliver Mark (N) 5:08.37, 8. Berger (N) 5:09.61, 9. Blansette (W) 5:09.89, 10. Holl (GC) 5:11.67, 12. Hudson (W) 5:22.67, 18. Nimri (GC) 5:57.23.

200 freestyle relay: 1. Carmel (Haig, Malicki, Allen, Enoch) 1:29.33, 3. Noblesville (Huff, Mark, Berger, Wright) 1:34.49, 5. Westfield (G. Barents Froman, Cole McGrath, Pham, Hudson) 1:40.06, 9. Guerin Catholic (Kunkel, L. Morse, Hubner, Nimri) 1:49.26.

100 backstroke: 1. Kopp (C) 51.86, 2. Wilhite (GC) 52.20, 3. Carson Szotek (C) 53.80, 4. Hadley (C) 54.74, 5. Kulp (N) 55.07, 6. Huff (N) 55.77, 7. Wright (N) 56.78, 10. H. Barents Froman (W) 57.54, 11. Jackson Burgess (W) 1:01.29, 12. C. Jurewicz (GC) 1:01.83, 15. Hendrix (W) 1:03.51.

100 breaststroke: 1. A. Mathis (N) 59.45, 2. Malicki (C) 59.52, 3. Gorey (C) 1:00.45, 4. Chambley (W) 1:00.65, 5. Landon Holmes (C) 1:00.84, 6. G. Barents Froman (W) 1:01.37, 7. Naas (N) 1:02.19, 9. Ladine (GC) 1:03.34, 11. Braasch (W) 1:03.89, 14. Mark (N) 1:09.35, 24. Jacob Gaskill (GC) 1:22.05, 25. I. Gaskill (GC) 1:23.70.

400 freestyle relay: 1. Carmel (L. Zhang, Enoch, E. Zhang, Hadley) 3:15.75, 2. Westfield (Welch, Thomas, Barbosa, Chambley) 3:22.24, 3. Guerin Catholic (Holl, C. Jurewicz, Ladine, Wilhite) 3:28.64, 4. Noblesville (A. Mathis, Berger, Setmeyer, Mark) 3:29.65.

Basketball

Trips to state on the line

Noblesville, Hamilton Heights & Sheridan will face semi-state opponents Saturday for chance at trophy

The REPORTER

Three Hamilton County girls basketball teams will play for a semi-state championship on Saturday and a chance to punch a ticket to the IHSAA state finals.

In Class 4A, Noblesville travels to La Porte where the Millers play Valparaiso in the second semifinal game at 1 p.m. Eastern Time (noon Central Time). That game follows the opening semifinal between Homestead and Lake Central, which tips off at 11 a.m. Eastern Time (10 a.m. Central Time).

In Class 3A, Hamilton Heights heads north to Huntington North, where the No. 1-ranked Huskies take on No. 2 Norwell in the 10 a.m. first semifinal. Bremen and NorthWood play the second semifinal at noon.

In Class 2A, Sheridan heads to Shelbyville for its first-ever semi-state. The Blackhawks play Eastern Hancock in the noon second semifinal, after the first semifinal between Brownstown Central and Linton-Stockton. The first game starts at 10 a.m.

Noblesville vs. Valparaiso

The Millers will play the Vikings for the second time this season when they face off in the second semifinal at La Porte. Noblesville hosted Valpo at its holiday tournament, with the Millers winning 65-56.

Valparaiso is 19-7. The Vikings hosted Sectional 2, getting past Chesterton 55-49 in the first round before turning up their defense to beat Portage 48-20 in the semifinals and Crown Point 41-28 in the championship. Valparaiso then beat No. 7-ranked Northridge in a dramatic regional championship game at La Porte 47-46.

Vikings senior Becca Gerdt hit the winning basket with 8.2 seconds left to give Valpo its first regional title in 20 years. Sophomore Lillian Barnes leads the Vikings in scoring (17.5 points per game), rebounds (6.6) and assists (5.5), with Gerdt adding 15.1 points and 6.4 rebounds.

Noblesville enters the semi-state at 17-8. The Millers won Sectional 8 by pulling away from Fishers 56-42 in the semis and holding off host and No. 6-ranked Hamilton Southeastern 49-45. Noblesville then took the Marion regional championship with a comeback win over No. 4 Fort Wayne Snider 43-40.

The Millers have three double-digit scorers. Senior Reagan Wilson leads with 16.3 points per game, while junior Meredith Tippner averages a double-double at 16.2 points and 10.0 rebounds, along with 3.4 steals and 3.3 assists. Senior Ava Shoemaker contributes 12.3 points, while sophomore C.C. Quigley adds 9.9 points.

Hamilton Heights vs. Norwell

The Norwell Knights are 21-4 this season. They easily won the Maconaquah sectional with a 71-32 semifinal victory over the host Braves and a 57-40 win over Bellmont in the final. That sent Norwell to the Caston regional, where it beat No. 7 Benton Central 58-44 to claim the championship.

Four players scored in double figures for the Knights in the regional title game. Sophomore Vanessa Rosswurm had 17 points, followed by three seniors: Kennedy Fuelling scored 15, Dekota Hubble had 13 points and nine rebounds while Makenzie Fuess added 10 points, including back-to-back 3-pointers in the first quarter.

The Huskies are 24-2 for the season. They won the Yorktown sectional by defeating New Castle 64-9 in the first round, Frankton 53-23 in the semifinals and Jay County 37-36 in the championship. Heights then beat Woodlan 55-31 to win the Lapel regional, the second consecutive year the Huskies have won a regional crown.

Senior Camryn Runner has been dominant all season, averaging 27.0 points and 5.6 rebounds per game. Runner broke the Hamilton County scoring record during Heights' regional win and now has 1,936 career points. Senior Ella Hickok adds 10.2 points and 4.3 assists per game; she had 28 in the regional victory.

Sheridan vs. Eastern Hancock

The No. 3-ranked Eastern Hancock Royals are 24-1 for the season, with their only loss to Lawrence North on Dec. 30 at the Elkhart Tournament.

Eastern Hancock had no trouble winning the Scecina sectional, beating Triton Central 56-38 in the semifinals and the host Crusaders 67-11 in the championship. That sent the Royals to the Southmont regional, where they beat Parke Heritage 55-40 to defend their regional title.

Eastern Hancock has a veteran crew, but a freshman is the leading scorer. McKenzie Koch is averaging 19.0 points per game and leads in steals with 2.9. Seniors Sammie Bolding (13.7 points) and Ruby White (10.9 points) are also averaging in double figures. White is the top rebounder at 5.7 per contest, with Koch and senior Brooklyn Willis tied for first in assists with 2.9 each.

Sheridan is 20-5 for the year. The Blackhawks won their first sectional since 2015 at Park Tudor, beating the host Panthers in the semifinals 55-40 and taking care of Covenant Christian 47-28 in the championship game. Sheridan traveled to Southwestern Shelby for the regional title and cruised past Northeastern 46-31 to win the first regional championship in program history.

Junior Kenzie Garner is the leader in all categories for the 'Hawks, with 20.5 points, 9.9 rebounds, 5.0 assists, 4.1 steals and 2.1 blocked shots. Another junior, Cecilia Timme adds 9.6 points, 4.9 rebounds, 3.7 assists and 3.4 steals.

Blackhawks fall to Cowan

The REPORTER

Sheridan dropped an away game 79-73 at Cowan on Thursday.

The Blackhawks led 18-17 after one quarter and 35-33 at halftime. Cowan took the lead by the end of a high-scoring third period, going up 61-59, then added another 18 points in the fourth quarter to clinch the game.

Caleb Wright scored 22 points for Sheridan and also pulled six rebounds. Trent DeCraene reached double-double status with 16 points and 10 assists, while Damon Winston had 14 points and two blocked shots. Trey Page contributed nine rebounds, eight points and five assists. Owen Bell made five steals.

Sheridan is 11-8 and hosts Western Boone on Monday; the game was moved from Saturday due to the Blackhawks girls team playing in the semi-state.

COWAN 79, SHERIDAN 73

Sheridan	FG	FT	TP	PF
Trent DeCraene	7-11	1-2	16	1
Tyler Garner	2-2	0-0	4	4
Trey Page	4-11	0-0	8	1
Caleb Wright	8-14	4-4	22	2
Damon Winston	7-11	0-0	14	2
Owen Bell	2-5	0-0	4	2
Carson Wright	2-3	0-0	4	3
Devon Hamilton	0-0	1-2	1	2
Totals	32-57	6-8	73	17

Score by Quarters				
Sheridan	18	17	24	14 – 73
Cowan	17	16	28	18 – 79

Sheridan 3-point shooting (3-20) Cal. Wright 2-4, DeCraene 1-4, Page 0-7, Winston 0-3, Bell 0-2.
Sheridan rebounds (30) Page 9, Cal. Wright 6, DeCraene 4, Car. Wright 4, Winston 3, Bell 2, Garner 2.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Friday, Feb. 16

BOYS BASKETBALL

Avon at Noblesville, 7:30 p.m.
Brownsburg at Hamilton Southeastern, 7:30 p.m.
Carmel at Warren Central, 7:30 p.m.
Fishers at Zionsville, 7:30 p.m.
Franklin Central at Westfield, 7:30 p.m.
Hamilton Heights at Twin Lakes (Hoosier Conference third-place game), 8 p.m.

BOYS WRESTLING

State finals first round at Ford Center, Evansville
– 3 p.m., weight classes 152-285
– 6:30 p.m., weight classes 106-144

Saturday, Feb. 17

BOYS BASKETBALL

University at Decatur Central, 1:30 p.m.

BOYS SWIMMING

– Diving prelims, semifinals at 9 a.m.
– Swimming, diving finals at 1 p.m.
Guerin Catholic, Noblesville, Westfield at Carmel
Hamilton Heights, Hamilton Southeastern at Fishers
University at Lawrence North

GIRLS BASKETBALL SEMI-STATES

Class 4A at La Porte
Homestead vs. Lake Central, 11 a.m.
Noblesville vs. Valparaiso, 1 p.m.
Championship, 8:30 p.m.
Class 3A at Huntington North
Hamilton Heights vs. Norwell, 10 a.m.
Bremen vs. NorthWood, noon
Championship, 8 p.m.
Class 2A at Shelbyville
Brownstown Central vs. Linton-Stockton, 10 a.m.
Sheridan vs. Eastern Hancock, noon
Championship, 8 p.m.

GYMNASTICS

Noblesville, Westfield at
Southmont Mountie Invitational, noon

Please email schedule changes or corrections to sports@readthereporter.com.