

Westfield YAP receives \$15K grant from Hamilton County Community Foundation

The REPORTER
Westfield Youth Assistance Program (WYAP) recently received a \$15,000 grant from Hamilton County Community Foundation, a CICF affiliate, to support WYAP's youth-centered services.

Since 2009, WYAP has worked with youth and their families who are facing challenging life circumstances. WYAP's Early Intervention Advocates work with the youth and their families to create a tailored action plan with services that fit that youth's specific needs. This grant will allow WYAP to continue to connect Westfield youth with services such as mentoring, tutoring, mental health supports, camps, and other enrichment activities.

"My son was going through depression, but thanks to the psychologist WYAP helped us find, along with the programs offered," said Martha, the mom of a WYAP youth, illustrating the positive impact WYAP has on the youth involved in the program. "He's given it all in his academics as well. The support is just ... I'm speechless! Thank you so much for all that you've done!"

WYAP continues to see an increase in the number of youth in the program, coinciding with the rapid growth of the Westfield community. Thanks to grants like the one from Hamilton County Community Foundation



Photo provided
(From left) WYAP Early Intervention Advocate Amy Prater, HCCF Senior Community Leadership Officer Jeena Siela, and WYAP Early Intervention Advocate Megan Contreras.

See WYAP . . . Page 2

Park & Poplar development set to transform downtown Westfield

**Submitted by
City of Westfield**
Central Indiana Redevelopment Authority (CIRDA) has selected the City of Westfield's Park & Poplar Project as the recipient of a \$4 million grant from Indiana Economic Development Corporation READI 2.0 funding.

Park & Poplar is a mixed-use redevelopment project in downtown Westfield, with an estimated \$164 million of public and private funding.



Willis



Rendering provided by MKSK

rant Row," promising a dynamic blend of amenities and activities for residents and visitors alike.

At the heart of this transformative project is the vision to establish a central business district in Westfield, addressing the community's need for enhanced parking, housing options, and commercial development. Park

& Poplar will feature a mixed-use destination encompassing a boutique hotel, office spaces, experiential retail, and luxury multifamily residences. The development includes a structured public parking facility strategically placed along the Midland Trace Trail to support local businesses and community events at

Grand Junction Plaza.

"We are excited about the potential of Park & Poplar to invigorate downtown Westfield," Mayor Scott Willis said. "This project will meet current community needs and contribute significantly to the revitalization

See Park & Poplar . . . Page 2

Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre tickled pink to present *Legally Blonde The Musical*

Harvard's beloved blonde takes the stage starting July 11

The REPORTER
Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre goes blonde this summer as it presents the fabulously upbeat *Legally Blonde The Musical* starting July 11. Based on the hit MGM movie, *Legally Blonde* was nominated for seven Tony Awards and 10 Drama Desk awards and gives fans all the fun from the film in an energetic musical.

Sorority president Elle Woods doesn't take "no" for an answer. So when her boyfriend dumps her for someone "serious," Elle puts down the credit card, hits the books, and sets out to go where no Delta Nu sorority sister has gone before: Harvard Law. Elle has a rocky start as a new legal student, but this determined blonde makes some friends, finds she has more legal savvy than she realized, and proves that being true to yourself never goes out of style.

Action-packed and exploding with memorable songs and dynamic dances – this musical is so much fun, it should be illegal!

Olivia Broadwater stars as Elle Woods, who snaps stereotypes as she sets out to prove herself to the world. Griffin Cole stars as Warner Huntington III,



Photo provided

***Legally Blonde The Musical* at Beef & Boards is sure to be "Too Nancy. Too Hillary. Too Monica. Too perfect for words!"**

who she follows to Harvard after being dumped by him. Starring as the friends she meets along the way are Jacob Butler as Emmett Forrest, Logan Moore as Kyle the UPS guy, Deb Wims as Brook Wyndham, Jaddy Ciucci as Enid Hoopes, Logan Hill as Serena, Maya Mays as Margo, and Holly Wilder as Kate. Jeff Stockberger stars as the successful, but pompous and manipulative, Professor Callahan.

Legally Blonde The Musical

is on stage for 50 performances through Aug. 25 in the intimate space of Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre. Tickets range from \$55 to \$82 and include Chef Larry Stoops' dinner buffet and select beverages. (Children under age 3 not admitted.)

To see the complete performance schedule and to purchase tickets online, visit BeefAndBoards.com. Tickets are also available by calling the Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre Box Office at (317) 872-9664.

Discounts are available to groups of 20 or more. Call the Group Sales department at (317) 872-0503, or email groups@beefandboards.com for details.

Legally Blonde The Musical is sponsored in part by The National Bank of Indianapolis.

Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre, Indiana's only year-round professional dinner theatre, has been serving up exceptional entertainment since 1973.

Free Mom hugs – and free Dad hugs, too

Here on All American Road, LGBTQIA+ Street seemingly intersects with, and runs straight through, our home.

We embrace the queer lives that are part of the open fabric of our blended family.

We are proud Pride parents.



COLUMNIST

SCOTT SAALMAN
Scaramouch

My stepson, Cameron, is trans male.

When I was warmly welcomed into my new family in 2017, Cameron had reached the most personal of turning points; he publicly – and bravely – announced his transitioning from female to male.

It's sad, really, to feel the need to rely on the word "brave," or derivatives of it, when describing someone who is simply being the person they were born to be.

Fortunately, most members of our collective extended families welcomed Cameron's transition with open minds and open hearts.

Just as importantly, he was welcomed with open arms, also. A sincere hug is a powerful thing. It doesn't just end when an embrace ends. It remains a positive memento of total recall.

Open hearts; open minds; open arms: the trifecta of acceptance. Who feels wholly loved if not loved for who they truly are?

See Hugs . . . Page 2



Hear "Sounds of America" with White River Wind Symphony

The REPORTER
The White River Wind Symphony will present its eighth annual "Sounds of America" concert at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 30 at Legacy Bible Church, 13490 Howe Road, Fishers.

This year's theme is By Land, Sea, and Air. The concert will feature pieces representing each of those three modes of transportation: during war and peace, in fiction and reality, from slow to fast and everything in between.

Guest soloists are Mindy Root, voice ("The Star-Spangled Banner") and Madison Weiss, piano ("Rhapsody in Blue," which was composed 100 years ago). Other music includes music from film, Broadway,

See Sounds . . . Page 2

Adult baby store picks up its toys & moves a few blocks

By ADAM PINSKER
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

My Inner Baby was forced to close in August 2022 after the Noblesville city government deemed it was a sex shop and violated the terms of its zoning.

Owner Ryan Polokoff tried to fight that in court, but says he lost on a technicality. "They won due to a procedural error by our attorney. We never had a chance to truly argue our case in court."

This month, Polokoff reopened his store at another site near the former location, and he's now heading back to court again.

"We just opened up our shop 2½ weeks ago on June 3, and, on Monday, we got a lawsuit from the city claiming that this is sex shop location 2," Polokoff said Thursday.

See Lawsuit . . . Page 2

SOUNDS

television, 1960s pop, and other genres. In addition to the music of the theme, the concert will feature a tribute to active, reserve, and retired military. This will be the first year the concert will include the Space Force

song in that tribute. The White River Wind Symphony, under the direction of Dr. Keith Kunda, is the professional concert band in Fishers. Tickets to the concert are available at [FishersMusicWorks.org](#).

Adult tickets are \$12. Students under age 18 are free. For more information about the White River Wind Symphony and its sister ensemble, White River Chamber Orchestra, visit [WhiteRiverSymphony.org](#).

PARK & POPLAR

and walkability of the area, creating a premier destination for our residents.” Highlighting the project's emphasis on trail-oriented development, Park & Poplar will integrate seamlessly with the Midland Trace Trail, enhancing accessibility and promoting outdoor recreation. The de-

velopment is expected to attract tourism, building on Westfield's appeal as a destination of choice for visitors, particularly those drawn to events at Grand Park. As a part of the READI 2.0 “Main Street Matters” initiative, Park & Poplar is expected to fulfill existing community needs for

structured parking and to further enhance downtown Westfield's appeal as a vibrant, walkable community. This strategic alignment with the city's initiatives underscores the project's commitment to the city's overall development and its potential to attract further investment.

LAWSUIT



Photo by WISH-TV

Remember when Noblesville sued My Inner Baby out of existence for zoning violations? Well, they moved a few blocks and opened the exact same store in the exact same zoning district. Let's see how that works out.

He says he will again try to fight the latest lawsuit, filed June 13 in Hamilton Superior Court 1. In the first lawsuit, the city claimed My Inner Baby operated as a sex shop by using the #ABDL hashtag, which, he said, “stands for adult baby and diaper lovers.” “They had issues with that and other hashtags on social media, Google maps and our website, and so we stripped that. We removed it all,” Polokoff said. The city still believes the store is a sex shop. The owner of My Inner Baby says people won't find anything erotic in his

shop. What they will find are high-quality diapers that people suffering from trauma use in age-regression therapy. He says some of My Inner Baby's customers include a trucker, and a woman who's mom is in hospice. “We sell **Squishmallows**, little stuffed animals, and what not. We have adult-sized pacifiers, and a lot of clothing, body suits similar to a **One Zee**,” Polokoff said. City Attorney Jonathan Hughes shared a statement by email with News 8, referring to the store by the acronym MIB: “The Noblesville BZA (Board of Zoning Appeal)

affirmed in August 2022 that MIB is a Sex Shop, as defined in the Noblesville UDO (Unified Development Ordinance). MIB appealed that decision in both state and federal court, and the City was successful in both lawsuits. By opening this second location in the same zoning district where the first was located, MIB is deliberately disregarding the Director's determination, the BZA's affirmation of that determination, and both lawsuits that followed.” This story was originally published by WISH-TV at [wishtv.com/news/business/adult-baby-store-faces-another-battle-with-noblesville](#).

WYAP

and the generous donations of community members, WYAP will be able to continue to work to meet this ever-growing need and continue to provide life-changing services like those provided to Martha's son. **About Hamilton County Community Foundation** Hamilton County Community Foundation (HCCF), an affiliate of Central Indiana Community Foundation (CICF), is a \$69 million public foundation that serves Hamilton County by administering charitable funds, foundations and organiza-

tional endowments for individuals, families and not-for-profit entities. HCCF was established in 1991 to inspire philanthropy while helping people enhance their family and charitable legacies in tax-smart ways. HCCF has three main priorities: help people invest in the causes that matter most to them; award grants to effective not-for-profit organizations; and provide leadership to make central Indiana a better, more beautiful, more equitable community. Learn more at [HamiltonCountyCommunityFoundation.org](#).

About Westfield Youth Assistance Program The Westfield Youth Assistance Program (WYAP) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization located at 2728 E. 171st St. WYAP serves youth ages 3 to 17 who are facing challenging life circumstances. WYAP takes a holistic approach to coordinate the community's vast array of talents, services, and resources to help youth and empower parents and caregivers. 2024 marks the organization's 15th anniversary. Visit [youthassistance.org/westfield](#) for more information.

HUGS

My stepson has evolved into a much happier person. His mental well-being has spiked. His journey continues. Recently, I was honored to moderate a Q&A with Sara Cunningham, founder of Free Mom Hugs, a nonprofit organization that celebrates the LGBTQIA+ community through visibility, education, and conversation. “When our first son was born, we were plugged into a mainstream evangelical conservative church,” said Sara, who lives in Oklahoma City. Later, as an adolescent, her son announced having “same-sex attraction.” “I thought it was just a phase,” she recalled. “I really thought that something bad had to happen to him to make him gay, and I didn't understand. I didn't know any other moms with gay kids. We didn't have gay people in our congregation or in our fellowship.” She added, “I shamed him.” Sara eventually joined a private Facebook support group for moms with gay children. Since then, its membership has increased from 200 to 40,000. She credits the Facebook group for enlightening her on the history and science of human sexuality and showing her that faith and homosexuality don't have to be mutually exclusive of each other. “We all had the same story of feeling alienated from our families, from our church homes,” she said. “When Parker came out of his closet, I went into mine, and I had to reexamine everything that I believed. I deconstruct-

ed and reconstructed and eventually found faith-based resources that I needed. I needed to hear from someone who shared my faith that it's OK to search this matter out, because when you do, you get educated. I know the power of fear and ignorance, and I know the power of love and education. I've lived in both worlds. I really put my family through a very difficult time in that place of fear and ignorance.” Attending the 2014 Oklahoma City Pride Festival proved life-changing. “I'm standing at the end of the parade. People are mingling in the street. I see a crowd of diversity, color, and vibrancy. It was beautiful. I looked to the heavens, and I really did feel God's favor there. And I thought, “God, thank you that I am the one changed. I fell in love with this beautiful, spirit-filled community.” In 2015, Sara returned to the Pride event wearing a button she made that stated, “Free Mom Hugs.” “If anyone made eye contact with me, I offered them a free hug. The first hug I gave went to a beautiful young woman who said it had been four years since she got a hug from her mother because she's a lesbian. I pulled her in tight and said, ‘Well, I'm a mom. Here's a hug. I'm not letting go until you do.’ That night I went home covered from head to toe with glitter from the Pride Festival.” That first hug was the impetus of Free Mom Hugs. To date, the organization has chapters in all U.S. states, with more than 14,000 vol-

unteers. It recently developed a global foothold. According to Sara, a hug is “an acknowledgement from one person to another. It's magic. It's life-giving. It's empowering. It's the essence of humanity.” Now then, a bit more about my stepson. In the past year, Cameron's father died. He took the loss very hard. Recently, on Father's Day, I sent a text to show that I was thinking of him – what with it being his first Father's Day without his father. True, a text pales to a hug, but ... we do live in different cities. The next day, I found a Father's Day card in our mailbox – to me, from Cameron, mailed a couple of days earlier. He could've written “Happy Stepfather's Day” (if there's such a thing), but instead, he wrote “Happy Father's Day!” Today, I'm working hard to not refer to Cameron as my stepson. I have always felt an awkwardness when reserving this descriptor for him, as if bound to a borderline defined by unshared bloodline – perhaps out of respect for his “real” father. Strangely, now, “stepson” has been easier to *not* say due to Cameron's recent loss. Still, it requires discipline and thoughtfulness, similar to how I had learned to naturally address Cameron by his new pronoun. Cameron sent me a Father's Day card. It's nice to feel accepted by a son. Email Scott at [scottsaalman@gmail.com](#).

Garage Sale

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Saturday 6/29 8am - noon**

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JULY 4 – CSO WITH ACTORS THEATRE OF INDIANA
CarmelFest

AUGUST 9 – ANTONIA BENNETT
*The Palladium at the Center for the Performing Arts
In partnership with Carmel Jazz Festival*

AUGUST 23 – MOTOWN & DISCO CONCERT
Coxhall Gardens in Partnership with Artomobilia and Hamilton Co. Parks

Spark!Fishers kicks off next week

Weeklong festival features golf tournament, free concerts, 5K race, car & art show, family fun through Saturday

The REPORTER

The weeklong Spark!Fishers festival presented by Meijer returns to Fishers’ Nickel Plate Cultural District this summer. Kicking off on Monday, June 24, and running through Saturday, June 29, the festival offers ways for the community to celebrate Independence Day traditions while showcasing what it means to be uniquely Fishers.

This year, attendees will enjoy a new schedule of events, including the popular drone show now scheduled to close out the Tuesday concert, and a fireworks display to conclude the concert on Friday night at the Nickel Plate District Amphitheater. Also new this year, a 1-Mile Walk/Run welcomes participants of all ages and abilities alongside the Spark!Fishers 5K.

This year’s Spark!Fishers parade grand marshal is Indy Ignite, Indiana’s first professional volleyball

team, which will be based at the new Fishers Event Center set to open in fall 2024. Indy Ignite’s debut season is scheduled to begin in January 2025.

With the opening of the new Fishers Municipal Center, which includes City Hall and the Fishers Art Center, visitors can enjoy free programming from the Fishers Arts Council, Fishers Arts & Cultural Commission, and Fishers Art Center during Saturday’s events. This includes art galleries featuring works by the celebrated Hoosier artist, writer, and cultural icon, Kurt Vonnegut Jr., alongside high-quality demonstrations, interactive activities, and performances by local performing arts groups.

For Saturday’s festivities, Spark!Fishers attendees are encouraged to park at the FORUM Conference Center, 11313 USA Pkwy., and take the free shuttle running from 2 to 10 p.m. Shuttles will stop between 5 and



7 p.m. due to the parade at 6 p.m. Shuttles will resume at 7 p.m. and end at 10 p.m. Learn more about the festival at SparkFishers.com.

Festival Schedule

- Monday, June 24: Start the Spark! Charity Golf Outing in partnership with Fishers Rotary Club
- Tuesday, June 25 at 7 p.m.: Free Concert featuring Uptown Funk: A Bruno Mars Tribute at the NPD AMP, followed by the drone show
- Wednesday, June 26 at 6:15 & 7 p.m.: 1-Mile Walk/Run and 5K Race presented by IU Health Fishers ([registration required](#); onsite registration available until 6:30 p.m.)
- Thursday, June 27 from 6 to 9 p.m.: Spark!Fishers Car & Art Show along the Central Green at the Fishers Municipal Complex
- Friday, June 28 at 8 p.m.: Free Concert featuring Red: A Taylor Swift Tribute at the NPD AMP, followed by a fireworks show
- Saturday, June 29 from 2 to 9 p.m.: Street Fair, parade at 6 p.m.

Please be aware of road closures for the event throughout the week. Full list of closures are [available here](#). Parking information is [available here](#).

Cicero United Family Wesleyan Church offers free Fourth of July Fair

Submitted

The Cicero United Family Wesleyan Church, 210 Washington Ave., will hold a Free Fair from 4 to 8 p.m. on the Fourth of July.

The dunk tank will be back, along with a sports zone and an activity bounce house for the younger children. There will also be things like the cake walk, face painting, and free hot dogs, bottled water, and soda. Every-

thing is free thanks to the community’s help.

Last year was one of the biggest years in attendance the Fair has ever seen, and the church is planning for more people this year.

The church appreciates financial support of everyone who donated, allowing the church to spread love to everyone in the community, especially those who cannot afford 4th of July activities for their families.

Meijer recognized as “Great Place to Work” for sixth consecutive year

The REPORTER

Midwest retailer Meijer was named a Great Place to Work for the sixth consecutive year, demonstrating its ongoing commitment to championing a culture of dignity and respect for its team members.

The Great Place to Work certification recognizes employers for creating outstanding employee experiences based on responses to The Trust Index Survey, an organization-wide assessment of culture. This survey measures employee feedback across organizational culture, credibility, fairness, respect,

camaraderie, and pride.

“From the beginning, Hendrik and Gezina Meijer established a special culture that makes our company a great place to work,” Meijer President & CEO Rick Keyes said. “This team member feedback is a testament we’re living the legacy our founders envisioned.”

In its sixth year of participating in the program, Meijer achieved its highest survey score, particularly excelling in three areas: strong commitment to diversity, equality, inclusion, and belonging; providing a physically safe place to work;

and making team members feel welcome upon joining the Meijer team.

Meijer celebrates its 90th anniversary this year and continues to care for team members by treating them like family. For example, Meijer team members are eligible to receive a variety of benefits, including weekly pay, team member discounts, and flexible scheduling.

“These are our highest scores to date on this survey, which is really meaningful,” said Michelle Hall, Senior Vice President & Chief Human Resources Officer.

“Our leaders are not only creating a positive environment for team members across the company to learn and grow, but they’re doing it in a way that makes Meijer a Great Place to Work and also a great environment for our customers to shop.”

The retailer also invests in the success of its team members, offering career advancement opportunities, [free college education](#), paid parental leave, child care discounts, access to multiple health insurance plan options, and the option for 401(k) retirement contributions.



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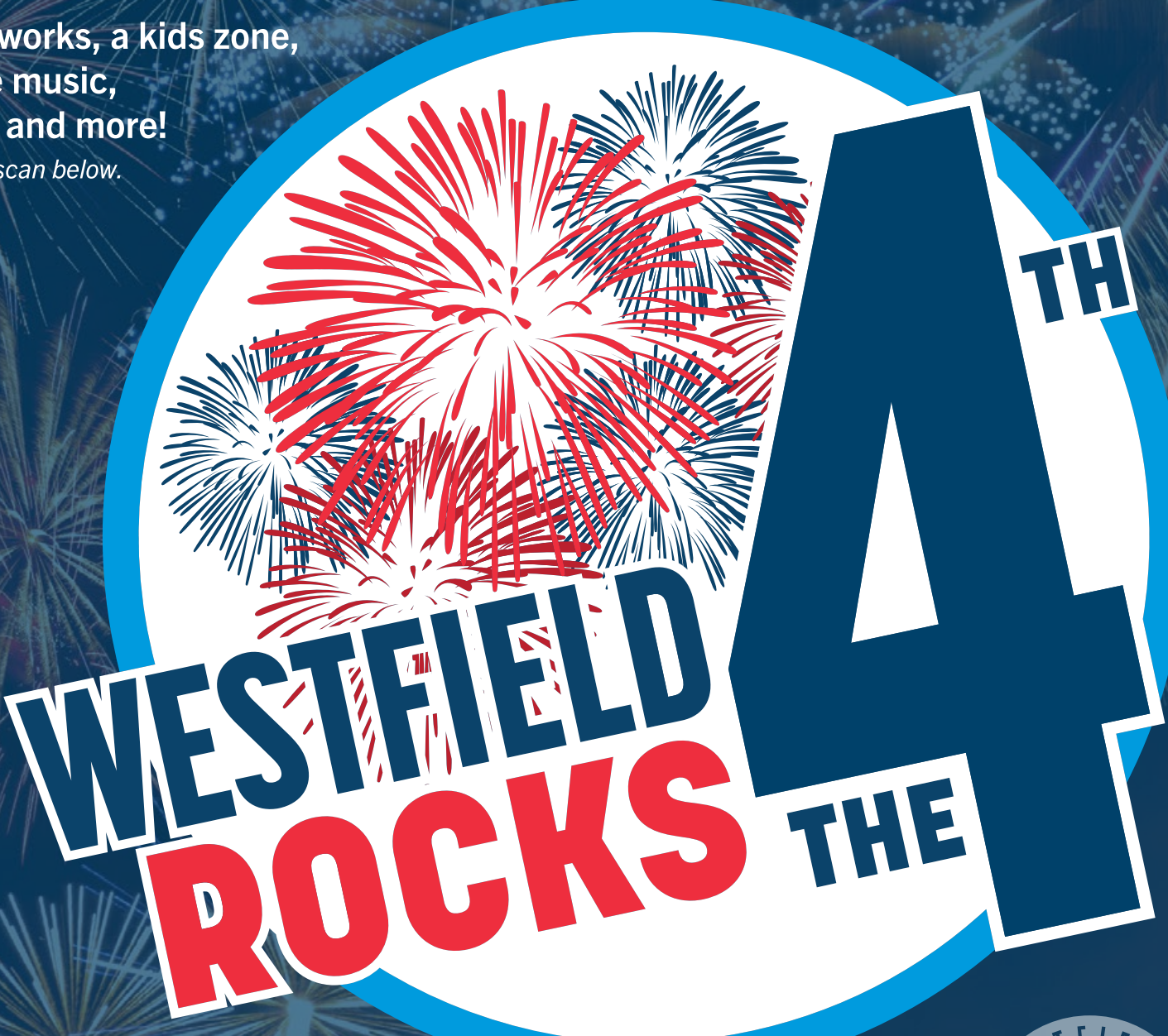

The Reporter!

JULY 4
4:00 - 10:30 P.M.

Fireworks start at 10 P.M.
Grand Park Sports Campus

Come enjoy fireworks, a kids zone, food trucks, live music, carnival games, and more!

For more information, scan below.



With deputy mayors like this, who needs Finkam?



Photo provided
Carmel Mayor Sue Finkam had a fantastic Deputy Mayor on Monday night. David Bukovac was dressed to the nines and delivered a report to the council about recent city activities, including creating a new Chief Infrastructure Officer position over streets, engineering, water, and sewer. According to Finkam, the new position, filled by Jeremy Cashman, will help the city better manage its long-term capital asset plan and also improve communication and efficiency between departments. Thank you, Deputy Mayor David. Good luck in middle school!

Latest Fishers road construction updates

The REPORTER Spark!Fishers closures

The Spark!Fishers festival is coming up from Monday, June 24 to Saturday, June 29, so here's information you need to be prepared.

Road closures: expect local roadways and access points in the downtown area to be impacted throughout the week. Specific streets will be closed at various times, especially during peak festival hours.

Find more detailed information [here](#) and visit [SparkFishers.com/Parking](#) for closure map.

Stay updated by following [@DriveFishers on X](#) as closures and restrictions may change due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances.

State Road 37 & 141st Street

Preliminary construction work is underway at SR 37 and 141st Street. During this time pavement markings and concrete barriers will be placed. There will be no closures during this phase, only intermittent lane restrictions during the hours of 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Find construction updates at [37thrives.com](#).

96th Street & Allisonville Road

Phase 3A of the project will begin in early July, during which there will be a slight shift in traffic to allow the contractor to build the future driveway for the Circle K gas station. This gas station will still be accessible from 96th Street and Allisonville Road.

On or after July 15, the contractor will move into Phase 3B and traffic will shift from the east side of

Allisonville Road to the west side and will continue to flow north and south. At this time, the driveway for Circle K constructed in Phase 3A will be accessible. [Click here](#) to see a map.

Road resurfacing projects

The contractor is continuing work in Sunblest neighborhood. The week of Monday, June 24, road resurfacing work will also take place in the Fox Run, Hillsborough, Quaker Ridge, and Tremont neighborhoods.

Additionally, the contractor will be resurfacing in the following locations on Monday, June 24:

- Intersection of 106th and Cumberland Road
- Cumberland Road from 106th Street to Woods Edge Drive.

Residents should refrain from parking their vehicles on the street during active construction operations.

Homeowners will be notified via door hangers prior to any curb reconstruction near their home. After ADA ramp and curb reconstruction is completed, those areas will be restored with topsoil and seed. It is the responsibility of the homeowner to water the seed for the seed to germinate. Prior to road resurfacing, residents will be notified via street signage for street parking restrictions.

For additional project information, view the Capital Project Dashboard [here](#).

View the Road Resurface Overview Map [here](#).

Roadways and neighborhoods are prioritized based on the PASER rating condition of their pavement. You can see a map [here](#).

AG Rokita responds to Pornhub's plan to block access to Indiana

By KYLA RUSSELL
WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](#)

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita on Thursday defended a state law that will require porn website users to verify their age with personal information. The law is set to go into effect July 1.

The law was first signed by Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb in March and lays out the verification needed by users to access the porn website's material. In addition, the law gives the state's Republican attorney general, and other people, the power to sue the websites if minors can access "harmful" material.

"Would you be OK with a child, walking, physically walking, into an adult novelty store, where there's magazines, videos, toys? No," Rokita said Thursday. "You'd at least, if it was questionable, ask for an ID, so why is it any different online?"

On June 11, Pornhub's parent company, Aylo, [filed a lawsuit aimed at blocking the law](#). The lawsuit argues the state law interferes with free speech and constitutional rights by violating the 1996 Communications Decency Act.

[Aylo then announced](#) they would block access to Pornhub in Indiana, claiming they do not take issue with performing age-verification protocol for users, but take issue with the amount of personal information the state wants to require from users.

"Any regulations that require hundreds of thousands of adult sites to collect significant amounts of highly sensitive personal information is putting user safety in jeopardy," part of Aylo's statement to News 8 said. "Moreover, as experience has demonstrated, unless properly enforced, users will simply access non-compliant sites or find other methods of evading these laws."

Rokita spoke directly to privacy concerns, saying the law requires porn websites to destroy confidential user material.

"The General Assembly considered this, and they put the onus on your favorite adult website that you want to go to to erase your data," Rokita said.

To ensure this happens, he will have enforcement authority over that destruction.

"I think that these porn sites don't want to take the risk of having a data breach," Rokita said.

In addition to his enforcing power, the law gives people the right to take legal action against the site if their private information is compromised.

Aylo says the fear of private information leaking simply drives users to different, perhaps more dangerous, sites.

"These people did not stop looking for porn," Aylo's statement said. "They just migrated to darker corners of the internet that don't ask users to verify age, that don't follow the law, that don't take user safety seriously, and that often don't even moderate content. In practice, the laws have just made the internet more dangerous for adults and children."

Similar laws are in effect in Louisiana, where Aylo has seen this scenario play out. A Texas law is also in effect while the U.S. Supreme Court weighs an appeal from the same free speech group suing in the Indiana lawsuit.

A judge will hear arguments on Monday on whether to allow the law to go into effect July 1 or issue an injunction.

Rokita said he plans to defend the law, claiming the porn sites do not want to pay for the correct verification process.

"What this comes down to is that they don't want to spend the money to protect kids," Rokita said. "Because of that, they are part of the problem, they are part of the problem for why our kids are so corrupted."

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at [wishtv.com/news/politics/pornhub-block-access-to-indiana-attorney-general-responds](#).

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Good news from Stony Creek Church of Christ

“Behold, I have played the fool” – 1 Sam. 26:21

In 1 Samuel 15:17-23, we read of Saul, king of Israel, but whom God had rejected as king because of his disobedience. Saul was very foolish on many occasions, which is one reason God rejected him as king. But Saul had one redeeming quality: he knew and admitted his foolishness.

Many today refuse to recognize their foolish course and they continue to pursue it. Others recognize how foolish their actions are but persist in them. If the truth were told by all today, I am convinced that there are many who would have to make the admission: “I have played the fool!”

The atheist is playing the fool when he rejects God and his word.

It is beyond me how anyone, with any intelligence at all, can think the universe “just happened.” The order and the system that is evident in all fields of science surely speak of a designer. Whether in dealing with an atom or the solar system, similar design and functions give evidence of God.



Consider these words of the Psalmist: Psa. 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Psa. 14:1 The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good.

The disobedient is playing the fool when he rejects the commands of God.

When king Saul disobeyed God, He was told: And Samuel said, “Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams (1 Sam. 15:22). God has always demanded obedience from man. Beginning in Eden until the present God expects and deserves obedience.

Consider these words of Solomon: information in no uncertain terms: “The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man” (Ecc. 12:13). Jesus asked:

“Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things that I say?” (Luke 6:46). When one tries to claim the blessings of God before doing His will, such can truly say: “I have played the fool.”

He who trusts in the material things of this world is playing the fool.

Have we learned the truth of what Jesus is teaching in the “Parable of the Rich Fool” (Luke 12:15-21)? We work and we struggle to save and hoard a little of this world's goods, then it is gone, and/or we are gone. Really, what have we accomplished? Solomon says that it is just “striving after the wind” (Eccl. 1:14,17).

What if we do gain much of this world's goods, what then? Jesus asks the question: “For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?” Mt. 16:26.

How foolish it is to spend a lifetime in pursuit of THINGS which must then be left behind when we depart this life.

But, Paul shows the wisdom of living a true life of Christianity. Note what he says in 2 Cor. 4:16-18: 16 So we do not lose heart.

Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. 17 For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, 18 as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Only fools trust in those things that soon perish. It is said that he that works only for the things of this life is smart for a little while but is a fool forever. The Christian puts his trust in the spiritual, the eternal.

To blame others for our own mistakes is to play the fool.

This type of thing started with Adam and even in the Garden. Gen. 3:12.

• Man has been “passing the buck” ever since.

• Mr. Truman had a sign on his desk that said: “The buck stops here.”

• Aaron tried to excuse himself for making an idol, a golden calf, by trying to place the blame on the people. Exo. 32:22-24.

• Saul tried to place the blame for not completing his job of fully destroying the Amalekites on the people. Even though he was the

king responsible for such.

Some complain, “No one likes me.” If it is true, one should read Prov. 18:24: A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

• In other words, if you don't have any friends, you should take a long look at yourself for the reason.

• Thomas Edison is reported to have said that his many inventions were the result of “ninety-nine percent perspiration and one percent inspiration.”

• Success, or if you want to call it “luck,” will usually follow the one who prepares the best and works the hardest.

• And those who do not prepare themselves and refuse to put forth real effort are often the ones who cry loudest about the cruel lot in life which is theirs.

Jesus has said, “Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world.” Mt. 28:20.

• But that doesn't mean He will do for us what He tells us to do for ourselves.

• One day, each one of us will stand before the judgment bar of God give an account. Rom. 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10.

• If we fail that test, we cannot blame God, or Christ

or our fellowmen.

Yes, it is very foolish to blame someone else for our failures.

• If we are lost eternally, we can blame no one but ourselves.

• We need to now accept the responsibility for what we do or fail to do. For, in that final day, we will have to.

Conclusion

Yes, Saul said, “I have played the fool.” But I am sure that the majority of us, if we are honest with ourselves, have at one time or another been guilty of the same thing ourselves.

So, let us determine to study and learn God's will:

• After learning it, obey it.

• Serve God, and our fellowman.

• And be ready to accept all the blame that is ours.

To follow any other course than this will be “playing the fool.”

Visitors are welcome and valued. We meet at 15530 Herriman Blvd., Noblesville. Our phone number is (317) 219-5852. We meet for Sunday morning Bible Study at 10 a.m. and have classes for all ages. Worship begins at 11 a.m. and we have a Bible Study Wednesdays at 7 p.m. A warm welcome awaits!

What Will I Take with Me?



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

Am I making prudent use of it?

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

At the **Stony Creek Church of Christ**, we assemble on Sundays and Wednesdays to seek a better understanding of Jesus and His ways. You are encouraged and invited to join us for those studies or call for a private study.



Stony Creek Church of Christ

“First Century Christianity in the Twenty First Century”

15530 Herriman Blvd., Noblesville

(317) 219-5852

Sunday Bible Study 10:00 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm

**Weather is unpredictable ... Paul Poteet isn't.
Your Hometown Weatherman!**



Carmel graduate among winners of Portee Leadership Connection Scholarships

The REPORTER

The Rotary Club of Carmel has announced the 2024 Portee Leadership Connection Scholarship recipients who attended the 2023 Leadership Connection, a branded program of the Rotary Club of Carmel.

Recipients included Maritza Hernandez, Manuel Gomez, and Cristian Gonzalez, each of whom attended Christel House Watanabe High School in Indianapolis; Kamia Price of Simon Youth Academy at Circle Centre Mall, Indianapolis; and Roshani Guragain, who attended Carmel High School.

Thanks to the combined efforts of Danny Portee and the Rotary Club of Carmel, scholarships for the Portee Leadership Connection Scholarship grew from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for five worthy recipients. In addition,

each awardee was presented with a laptop computer.

Their \$2,000 can be used for tuition at a college, university, community college, or trade school.

Selections, based upon equal emphasis on merit and need, are made by a committee at Professional Management Enterprises, a nationally recognized, Indianapolis-based staffing company led by Danny Portee.

Winners received their awards at the June meeting of the Rotary Club of Carmel and were accompanied by family members.

During the Rotary Club meeting, Rotarian Sharleen Miller and Danny Portee shared two copies of the book *13 Things Strong Kids Do*, which will be donated to the libraries of two Carmel elementary schools sponsored by the Rotary



Photo provided
Roshani Guragain and her father. She plans to study Pre-Med at IU Bloomington.

Club of Carmel.

For more information about the Leadership Connection and upcoming events, visit RotaryLeadershipConnection.com.

Noblesville Diversity Coalition receives \$14,000 grant from Crosser Family Foundation

Submitted by NDC

The Noblesville Diversity Coalition (NDC) recently announce that it has been awarded a \$14,000 grant from the Crosser Family Foundation. This generous funding will support NDC’s ongoing Community Conversations series, a key initiative aimed at fostering inclusivity and understanding within the Noblesville community.

The Community Conversations series is a collaborative effort to encourage more conversations in people’s personal and community lives. Community Conversations offers a simple, friendly, and structured way to engage in meaningful discussions on various topics of interest. When people from different backgrounds and cultures come together, they bring unique perspectives, experiences, and ideas that promote mutual understanding, empathy, and a more inclusive and welcoming Noblesville.

terfaith, will take place at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 27 at Noblesville First United Methodist Church, 2051 Monument St. Come, join and share experiences, learn from one another, and foster understanding and harmony among different faith traditions.

For more information about the Noblesville Diversity Coalition and its programs, please visit noblesvillediversitycoalition.org or contact Dana Randall at danar4ndc@gmail.com.

About Noblesville Diversity Coalition

The Noblesville Diversity Coalition’s mission is to educate, celebrate, challenge, and inspire Noblesville to be a welcoming and inclusive community that embraces all cultures and identities. Through programs like the Community Conversations series, the Listening Series, and various cultural celebrations, NDC inspires people of all ages to work together to build a better community for everyone.

About the Crosser Family Foundation

The Crosser Family Foundation, a fund of the Hamilton County Community Foundation, is dedicated to enhancing the lives of youth and families throughout Hamilton County and central Indiana. Partnering with innovative nonprofit organizations, the Crosser Family Foundation strives to cultivate a strong and engaged community. Its current focus areas include health and wellness, housing, and youth development. Guided by a philosophy of compassionate and responsible philanthropy, the Foundation advocates for opportunity and diversity within the community. [Click here](#) for more information.

Meeting Notices

The Noblesville Common Council will meet in an executive session at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 (b)(2)(B). For discussion of strategy with respect to initiation of litigation or litigation that is either pending or has been threatened specifically in writing.

A second executive session will follow at 6:15 p.m., pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(4)(i). Interviews and negotiations with industrial or commercial prospects or agents of industrial or commercial prospects by a governing body of a political subdivision.

The regular meeting will follow at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St.

The Carmel Plan Commission will meet at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, July 2, 2024, in the Council Chambers on the second floor of Carmel City Hall, 1 Civic Square.

The Noblesville Board of Public Works and Safety will meet at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, in the Council Chamber at Noblesville City Hall, 16 S. 10th St.

The Hamilton County Commissioners will meet in an executive session at 12:15 p.m. on Monday, June 24, 2024.

The regular meeting will follow at 1 p.m. in the Commissioners’ Courtroom at the Hamilton County Government & Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square, Noblesville.

Send Meeting Notices to:
News@ReadTheReporter.com

Andrew Trosen of Fishers graduates from LeTourneau

The REPORTER

LeTourneau University in Longview, Texas, recognizes spring graduates who received bachelor’s and master’s degrees. Among them were Andrew Trosen of Fishers, who received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, cum laude.

Cum laude graduates maintained a cumulative grade-point average between 3.40 and 3.59.

LeTourneau University (LETU) is the Christian polytechnic university where educators engage students to nurture Christian virtue, develop competency and ingenuity in their professional fields, integrate faith and work, and serve the local and global community. LeTourneau University’s campus is located in Longview, Texas, 120 miles east of Dallas, Texas, and 60 miles west of Shreveport, La.

15th Anniversary

Every Tuesday is TENDERLOIN TUESDAY™

June 25 – July 30

CARMEL

FISHERS

NOBLESVILLE

WESTFIELD

NORTHERN TOWNS

Born and breaded in Hamilton County, the Tenderloin Trail™, is celebrating 15 years of deals and delicious food. Claim your digital passport at TenderloinTuesday.com.



visit **hamilton county** **indiana**



Hamilton County Veterans Community Page

Welcome to the Hamilton County Veterans Corporation May 2024 Newsletter covering Military, Veteran Community (MVC) activities here in Hamilton County.

Listed below are the Hamilton County American Legion and VFW Posts located in our neighborhoods. Please stop in and see what they are doing not only for our MVC but for your neighborhoods. If you are in the Military, a Veteran or just want to help, come in and let's talk about joining our community

Carmel American Legion Post 155

852 West Main St, Carmel, In 46032

317-846-0001 Commander Kim Kilburn

Post Hours M-Tu 3-10 W-Th 10-10 F-S 10-11, Su 12-8 - Public is welcome Tu, Thurs & Fri, lunch W-F 11-2, dinner Thur-Fri 5-8 & Breakfast every Sat & Sun 8am-12pm

Meetings are the first Thursday of the month at 7pm

Website & Calendar - <https://post155.org/>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100094085413679>

• Pay attention to their Facebook page for special gaming events like Texas Hold Em, Bingo, their jackpot totals and game day specials

• Euchre is every Tuesday night at 7pm and the 2nd Friday of each month at 7:30pm

• Treasure Hunt drawing every Friday 7pm

• They have a weekly draw on Wednesday at 7pm

• Pull Tabs are available every day at the bar!!

• Post Service Officer may be reached at postserviceofficer@post155.org if you need assistance

• Room Rentals call 317-846-0001 for the Post Manager. They have 3 rooms large enough for 150 people plus outdoor space.

Cicero American Legion 341

50 Washington Ave, Cicero, In

317-984-4441 Commander Tye Anderson

M-Th 3-10pm, F-Sa 12-11pm, Sun 12-10pm

Meetings are the 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month at 730pm

Kitchen hours are 4-8pm Tues Wed Fri Sun eat in or order food to go

Public is welcome Mon, Fri & Sat and for their Treasure Hunt at 7pm Tuesdays

Website and calendar - <https://cicerolegion341.org/events/>

Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/cicerolegion341>

• Pay attention to their Facebook page for special events & Treasure Hunt results

• Weekly drawings are Sundays 6pm, Wednesdays 7pm, Fridays 8pm

• Euchre tournaments are Mondays at 7pm and Saturdays at 4pm

• Bingo is every Friday, 6pm for Early Bingo and 6:30 for Bingo

• Post Service Officer Mary Ringer may be reached by calling the Post at 317-984-4441 if you need assistance

Fishers American Legion Post 470

9091 E 126th St, Fishers, In

317-842-5944 Commander Pat Menc

M 12-10, Sa 3-11, Tu, W, Th, Su 12-11, F 12-12 – Open to the public but only members & signed in guests may order alcohol

Meetings are the second Monday of the month at 7pm

Food is served 1-9pm Sun, Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri

Website and calendar is <https://legion470fishers.org/index.php?id=1>

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/FishersLegionPost470>

• Bingo is Sunday at 1:00pm and Tuesday 6:00pm

• Texas Holdem is Every Friday at 5pm

• Treasure Hunt is on Fridays at 8pm (\$26,600)

• Pool Tournaments are at 6pm, 8 ball 2nd Saturdays, 9 ball 4th Saturdays of the month and American Poolplayers Assoc 7pm Wed & Thurs

• Pull Tabs are available at the bar every day

• Every month the Aux schedules a euchre tournament to raise funds for a local non-profit to help our community

• Pay attention to Facebook and their calendar for live music dates, times

• Room rental space is available – email Rhonda. Cree78@gmail.com

• Post Service Officer Greg Cyrus may be reached at 317-698-3745 if you need assistance

Noblesville American Legion Post 45

273 S 8th St, Noblesville, In 46060

317-773-9985 Commander Gil Soria

M-Th 11-10pm F 11-12 Sa 12-12pm, Su 12-8pm

Meeting is the third Thursday of the month at 7pm

Food is served 4-9pm Tues – Sat

Meeting location of the



our continued support by coming into their Posts and enjoying time there with friends and family. They are our local family-oriented Bar & Grill with food, drinks, games and plenty of space to host personal parties, or you may rent space for meetings or events to support local activities. Some Posts are open to the public every day while others are open on specific days for food, games, fun and they all look forward to serving you.

As of January, 2024, the Posts that are

completely SMOKE FREE, inside, are the Carmel American Legion, Carmel VFW and Noblesville VFW. The Fishers American Legion allows smoking in their enclosed bar area, the rest is non-smoking. The Noblesville American Legion allows smoking in the small game room which is a separate building out front, the Post and meeting rooms are smoke free!! The Sheridan and Cicero American Legions still allow smoking in their Posts.

Public is welcome for food and games plus every Saturday of the month and some Fridays Website - <https://www.noblesvilleamericanlegionpost45.com/>

Facebook is <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063496781153>

• Veteran Peer Support Group w/MASH Ministries – Mondays 7pm

• Coffee With A Vet – Wednesdays from 9-11am

• Treasure Hunt drawings are every Friday 6:45pm – Public is welcome (\$7,680)

• Pay attention to their Facebook page for updates and special events like Music Bingo, Shuffleboard, Trivia

• Rental space is available as well as the kitchen – Event Building holds 49 people.

Contact huntzingerpost45@yahoo.com or call 317-773-9985

• Post Service Officer may be reached on their website link above if you need assistance

Sheridan American Legion Post 67

406 E 10th St, Sheridan, In

317-758-5007 Commander Tom DeShon

Hours M-F 3-close, Sat 12-close, Su 1-6p

Meeting is the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm

Food service - lunch from 11am-2pm Tu, Wed, Thurs & Fri, after lunch bar food (fries, burgers, etc) is available. Public is welcome for lunch and games

Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/ALPost67/>

• Pay attention to their Facebook page for everything

• Lunch specials posted weekly

• Treasure Hunt Friday night at 7pm – Public welcome

• Bingo 2nd & 4th Thursdays 630pm early bird, 7pm start

• Events for the community you can help with...

• Post Service Officer may be reached after they find a qualified member to help Veterans

VFW Information

Carmel VFW Post 10003

12863 Old Meridian ST, Carmel, In 46032

317-846-0917 Commander Darin Bibeau

Sun - Thurs 11-10pm, F & Sa 11-12am

Meetings the 2nd Monday of the month at 630pm

Kitchen serves lunch specials 11-2pm with food service till 8pm. They have a great breakfast every other Saturday. Public is welcome in for food and anytime when signed in with a member.

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/CarmelVFW>

• Check their Facebook page for their weekly updates, lunch specials, music and special events

• Poker is Tues, Fri & Sun noon-midnight, dealers provided, food snacks & drinks available

• Thursdays 7pm is their Treasure Hunt – open to the public

• Post Service Officer Shawn Ransford may be reached at shawn.ransford@va.gov if you need assistance

• Contact carmelvfw10003@yahoo.com to rent space for your special events

Cicero VFW

Meets at the Cicero American Legion Post, 50 Washington Ave., at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month

Noblesville VFW Post 6246

Noblesville VFW Post 6246

654 S 9th St, Noblesville, In 46060

317-773-9956 Commander Eric Behrends

M-Th 3-8p, F 2-10p, Sa 12-10p, Su 12-8p

Meeting is the second Saturday of the month at 11am

Food service is available Mon & Fri 6-9pm & public is welcome

No Website/calendar but they have a Facebook page – <https://www.facebook.com/post6246/>

• Bingo every Friday at 7pm and the public is welcome

• Karaoke is every Saturday 7pm and the public is welcome

• Queen of Hearts is every Wednesday 7pm and the public is welcome

• Pay attention to their Facebook page for special events & food specials

• Post Service Officer Linda Behrens may be reached at 317-773-9956 if you need assistance

We are working to eliminate Veteran suicide here in Hamilton County and you can help

The 'Stronger Veterans, Stronger Communities' Coalition on the Prevention of Suicide in Service Members, Veterans, and their Families and Caregivers has been a collaborative effort since late 2021 to reduce the number of veteran suicides in Hamilton County. Under the umbrella and leadership of A Healthier Hamilton County: Systems of Care, anyone is welcome to join the Coalition who is interested in preventing suicide. Members include veteran-serving organizations, non-profits, local government, and other entities throughout the county including volunteers and veterans and service members themselves.

The coalition has teamed up with the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA) and will be launching the Governor's Challenge to fight suicide in Veterans here in Hamilton County. We are working collaboratively to leverage all resources for our service members, veterans, and their families to bring meaning and value to their lives. We plan to do this through three the Pillars of the Governor's Challenge – 1. Identifying the service members, veterans, and their families and caregivers, 2. connecting them to resources no matter the level of need, and 3. promoting safety for those in a suicidal crisis.

How will we do all this? We need everyone's help!

The Ask The Question Initiative is part of the Governor's Challenge and has become part of our Plan in Hamilton County. Five local entities have partially launched our Pilot Group and we plan to close that gap soon. We will then promote the initiative to the community, asking that any person-serving organization go through the Ask The Question Initiative process.

The key to Ask The Question is changing how we identify Service Members, Veterans, and their Families and Caregivers in our county. We encourage and will help organizations change their current identification question to the more inclusive "Have you or a family member ever served in the US Military?". If the answer to that broader question is yes, the person will be provided with a QR code that will start the process of linking them to resources.

There are a myriad of resources available for those who are serving, have served, or are related to or caring for someone who was/is in the US Military. The Ask The Question Initiative will help those folks link to helpful resources from the multiple Dimensions of Wellness and

Social Determinants of Health. As we know, mental health is impacted by other aspects, and stressors, of our lives. As we identify those in or adjacent to the military and connect them to resources, the community, and one another, potential suicidal crises decrease.

We have built a team and grown alongside the Governor's Challenge with the IDVA, who we recently requested funding to further our projects in here Hamilton County. We were encouraged to think BIG with our ideas and include those organizations that currently serve our Military Veteran community to incorporate their ideas in our 12-24-month strategic plan. This plan will include our Coalition working hand in hand with many community partners to reach our Military and Veterans who are not connected. We will introduce them to those who will get them their benefits and resources they have earned, helping them be more connected thus building stronger Veterans through stronger communities. The more we all know about where to get the benefits and resources we need to address our issues/needs the stronger more connected we all will be!!

Speaking of resources, our partner, the Hamilton County Veterans Corp (HCVC) is hosting a Hamilton County Community Resource Fair July 20, 2024, from 11am to 3pm at the Noblesville Schools Community Center 1775 Field Drive at the north end of the stadium at Noblesville High School. This resource fair is not just for our Military Veteran Community (MVC), it's for all our Hamilton County neighbors! Sure, maybe 30 resources are specific for our MVC but there will be over 85 resources setup inside and outside the community center to help us all live a more fulfilled life right here in Hamilton County. Bring a Veteran, bring a neighbor!

If you are interested in learning more about how you can work with the 'Stronger Veterans, Stronger Communities' Coalition to prevent suicide in Hamilton County's service members and veterans, email kludeker-seibert@hamiltoncountypshc.org.

If you are a Veteran or Active Military and wish to become a member of the Hamilton County Veterans Corp, please send an email to secretary@hamilton-countyveterans.com so you too may help us help our MVC. Our dues is only \$25/mo and we meet the first Monday of the month at 7pm at the Fishers American Legion 9091 E 126th St in their big American Room. See you there!

Hamilton County CVSO Office

1 Hamilton County Square Suite 179, Noblesville, In 46060

CVSO Office Ph # 317-776-9610 Fax is 317-776-8525

• Assistant Director of Administration

Hamilton County Board of Commissioners

– Dianna Lynch

• dianna.lynych@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

• CVSO – Tom Logan

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• Assistant CVSO – Caroline Franz

• caroline.franz@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

• Administrative Assistant – Christina Ellis

• christina.ellis@hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Please call to setup an appointment or walk in as your Hamilton County Veteran Service Officers are ready to help our Military, Veterans and families in the following areas:

• Obtaining your DD-214 military discharge

• Discharge Review

• Filing claims for service-connected disability or nonservice connected pensions

• Education benefits

• Survivor Benefits

• VA Medical Care

• G.I. Bill Benefits

• Vocational Rehabilitation

• Burial Benefits

• Property Tax Abatement

• Tuition and Fee Exemption for Children of Disabled Veterans

• Motor Vehicle License Plates

• Resident Veteran Hunting & Fishing License

• Golden Hoosier Passport



Community

Resource

Fair

JULY 20, 2024 From 11am till 3pm

NOBLESVILLE SCHOOLS COMMUNITY CENTER • 1775 FIELD DR. NOBLESVILLE, IN

The Hamilton County Veterans Corp is hosting a county wide Resource Fair again in 2024! We hope to reach as many of our Military/Veteran population as possible and to encourage our whole community to stop in and see what we are doing in Hamilton County. The more we know about the resources readily available to address all our issues and needs, the more connected and stronger we will be as a community of friends helping friends/Veterans Serving Veterans.

At this fair we will have over 85 resource tables there for you to get the assistance you need for the following topics and so much more from several local, regional and national providers:

VA Benefits

VA Hospital

CVSO's

County/City Health

IDVA

City Health

Mental Health

Housing

Dental Health

Employment

Insurance

Retirement

Legal

Financial Help

Homeless

Education

Suicide Prevention

Family Programs

HVAF

Faith Based

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

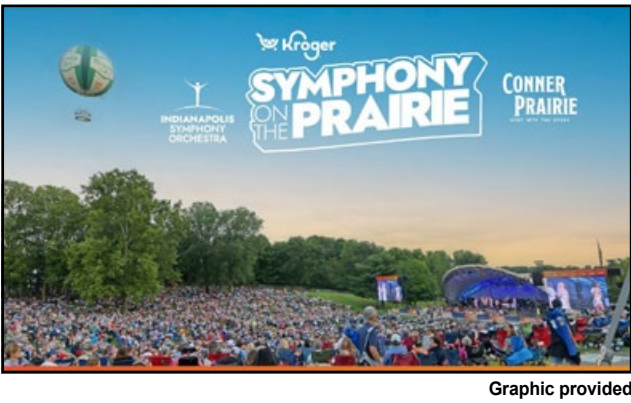
Bring a neighbor, bring a friend, bring a Veteran!!!!



DONATE



WEBSITE



Kroger Symphony on the Prairie starts next Friday

The REPORTER

Excitement is building as the 2024 season of Kroger *Symphony on the Prairie* kicks off on Friday, June 28. The Music of Queen with Windborne and the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra (ISO) will rock the Prairie Friday night, June 28, and the Music of Led Zeppelin with Windborne and the ISO takes place Saturday evening, June 29. Tickets for these shows and for all other concerts in the 2024 summer season of Kroger *Symphony on the Prairie* are available on the [ISO website](#), at their box office downtown, and at

most central Indiana Kroger stores. From symphonic rock hybrids to tributes to ABBA, Jimmy Buffett, and more, there's something for everyone this season. Concerts will be offered through Labor Day weekend at the [Conner Prairie Amphitheatre](#) in Fishers. [Click here](#) to see the complete 2024 schedule. Purchase tickets to three or more concerts and automatically receive a 10 percent discount; no code needed; discount calculated at checkout. Don't sweat the weather forecast – you may exchange your tickets before the start of the concert.



Coming soon: get tickets for these July events at Center for the Performing Arts

The REPORTER
Songbook Academy in Concert
Saturday, July 20 at 7 p.m.
The Palladium

The Songbook Academy in Concert is an exciting showcase of the next generation of artists celebrating the enduring influence of the American Songbook. Hosted by Michael Feinstein, this multimedia concert features talented young vocalists from across the nation in solos and production numbers paying tribute to iconic composers and lyricists of American popular music from George Gershwin to Duke Ellington. These emerging artists infuse their performances with passion and skill, breathing new life into classic songs that have defined generations. The Songbook Academy is the flagship education program of the Great American Songbook Foundation. [Click here](#) for tickets.

Songbook Showcase
Thursday, July 18 at 7 p.m.
The Palladium
In this public performance, now at a new evening time, all 40 of the 2024



Photo provided
Here emerging artists in person at the July 20 Songbook Academy Concert.

finalists will perform one song each on the Palladium stage. The Songbook Showcase will take place before a live audience and also will be streamed for national viewers, with special performances from Michael Feinstein and Grammy-winning guest mentor Nicole Zuraitis. [Click here](#) for tickets.
Jungle Jams Summer Camp
July 22 to 26 from 9 to 11:30 a.m.
The Studio Theater
Come out and jam! Imagine living among animal friends in a jungle filled with rhythm instruments,

music, and movement. Miss Lisa (a.k.a. "Groove Lady") and her stuffed animals introduce your child to the fun and excitement of recreational music making. Jungle Jams is a creative summer camp program in which kids learn about positive character qualities as well as concepts like rhythm and groove through music and physical activities. [Click here](#) to register.
Live at the Center: Brandon Meeks Quintet
Tuesday, July 30 at 7:30 p.m.
The Palladium & Online
Bassist and bandleader

Brandon Meeks has been a force in Indianapolis' music scene for nearly two decades, contributing to more than 1,000 recordings by various artists. He collaborates with a dynamic collective of regional musicians, infusing classic jazz sensibilities with a contemporary urban edge inspired by visionaries like Christian McBride and Madlib. The quintet includes Meeks on upright bass, Josh Strange on vibraphone, Brandon Douthett on saxophone, Kendall Carter on piano and Greg Artry on drums. [Click here](#) for tickets.

Hear ISO's historic "Mighty Wurlitzer" organ in fundraising concert

The REPORTER

The [Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra Association](#) (ISOA) and the [Central Indiana Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society](#) (CICATOS) has announced their theatre organ fundraiser. On Sunday, Oct. 20 at 2 p.m. in the Hilbert Circle Theatre, 45 Monument Circle, Indianapolis, ISOA and CICATOS will present "Remember the Paramount – the Next Generation." This concert – the third in a series of fundraisers highlighting the capabilities of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra's "Mighty Wurlitzer" theatre organ – will feature Indianapolis theatre organist Justin Stahl and

will introduce Pike High School's Jazz Ensemble. First-generation Paramount Music Palace organist Ken Double will serve as master of ceremonies and may even take a turn at the keyboard. Featured artist Justin Stahl grew up going to the Paramount Music Palace (PMP) listening and "learning" from the original organists Bill Vlasak, Donna Parker, Ken Double, and Dwight Thomas after discovering a Bill Vlasak/Donna Parker album in his great-grandfather's record collection and learning that the PMP was on the east side of Indianapolis. Stahl recalls his first and subsequent trips to the PMP: "I'll never forget turn-

ing the corner of the long hallway," Stahl said. "It was perfect timing as the organist was just beginning the next set. A low rumble of the bass pipes intoned an experience of music I'll never forget. The whole building shook. The lights came on, the console started rising, and I became instantly hooked ... so began recurring requests to return. Each time I sat at the closest table to the Mighty Wurlitzer so that I could observe the organist operate this amazing machine. I vowed over and over again that I would learn how to play it someday, and the rest, as they say is history." Stahl, a professional keyboardist and theatre organist who has played the Mighty

Wurlitzer for the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra's *Yuletide Celebration* for 11 years, will treat attendees to traditional theatre organ standards, entertain with a silent film to remind everyone of the original purpose of the theatre pipe organ/unit orchestra, and collaborate with the Pike Jazz Ensemble on arrangements that showcase the organ's capabilities and highlight the students' talent. The Pike High School Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Aaron Burkhart is a talented group of musicians who meet as a class every school day as well as after school rehearsals. Jazz Ensemble 1 is a traditional big band that can also split

into different small combos. Jazz 1 participates in festivals, community events, and competitions throughout Indiana. Several Pike Jazz musicians have received outstanding soloist awards at festivals and several graduates of Pike Jazz are studying music at the collegiate level. Stahl's solo performance will include a tribute to the Sherman brothers with music from *Mary Poppins* and other popular Disney fare, Dave Brubeck's "It's a Raggy Waltz," and his signature arrangement of "Africa." As the program concludes, the Pike Jazz Ensemble will join Stahl on stage to delight guests with renditions of the "Cantina Theme" from *Star Wars*,

Glen Miller's "Moonlight Serenade," and Elton John's "I'm Still Standing." Proceeds from "Remember the Paramount – the Next Generation" will support ISOA's Side-by-Side educational program that offers high school students an opportunity to perform side-by-side with ISO counterparts during a featured concert. CICATOS proceeds will help fund the continued superb functioning and upkeep of the ISO's Wurlitzer Theatre Organ. [Click here](#) to purchase tickets. Cost is \$35 for adults; free for those 18 and under with ID. Tickets may also be purchased at the Hilbert Circle Theatre Box Office.

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Westfield Young Professionals invite you to register for annual Golf Outing

The REPORTER

Ladies and gentlemen, get ready to tee off with the Westfield Young Professional Council's second annual Golf Outing. Swing your way to success on Tuesday, Sept. 10 at the breathtaking Wood Wind Golf Club.

Whether you're an experienced pro or new to the course, this event is your chance to network with other young professionals of Westfield and Hamilton County while enjoying great golf at Wood Wind Golf Club. Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals and learn more about the community. The outing is exclusively for young

professionals aged 40 and under who live and/or work in Hamilton County.

The Westfield Young Professionals Council, a Council of the Westfield Chamber of Commerce, connects ambitious, visionary young professionals with a robust and diverse network of peers, mentors, and regional business and civic leaders.

About the course

The Wood Wind Golf Club is the city of West-



field's only public golf course. Located in a charming country-style setting, Wood Wind Golf Club invites you to embark on a memorable day of golf with friends, associates, and family members.

Immerse yourself in the club's 18-hole championship golf course, designed to offer a challenging and beautiful round. As you explore the course, you'll encounter scenic nature,

providing a unique golfing experience at every hole. Wood Wind Golf Club offers a calm and relaxing course for any level of experience.

Golfer information

Your ticket includes a round of golf on the 18-hole championship golf course. Additionally, golfers have access to the practice range before the Golf Outing begins, two golf carts per foursome, a Bloody Mary Bar, a box lunch to take with you on the course, and entry to the 19th Hole Reception, featuring an awards ceremony and delicious hors d'oeuvres.

See Outing . . . Page 10

Senator Mike Braun leads bipartisan bill to train more Hoosiers for good-paying jobs

The REPORTER

On Thursday, U.S. Senators Mike Braun (R-Ind.) and Reverend Raphael Warnock (D-Ga.) introduced the Pathways to Prosperity Act. This bill is designed to strengthen America's workforce development pipeline between community/technical colleges and good-paying jobs from local employers.

The bipartisan Pathways to Prosperity Act expands the existing Strengthening Community Colleges Grant Program. This federal program provides competitive grants to community/technical colleges to support partnerships with employers. These partner-

ships align workforce development programs in community/technical colleges to local industry needs. The idea is to establish, improve, or expand high-quality workforce development programs to get more Hoosiers into jobs that require skills training.

Sen. Braun also authored the JOBS Act with Sen. Tim Kaine (D-Va.), which would make it possible to use Pell Grants for career and technical education programs.

"There are many good-paying jobs out there



Braun

that go unfilled because of a lack of skills and career/technical training," Sen. Braun said. "This bill will help close the gap and give more Hoosiers access to skills training programs that will put them on the path to a better career and higher pay for their families."

Specifically, the Pathways to Prosperity Act of 2024 would provide funding to:

- Set up, enhance, or broaden the quality of educational or career training initiatives at community

colleges

- Enhance opportunities for individuals to attain nationally or regionally recognized postsecondary credentials in high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand industry sectors or occupations
 - Develop or scale up career training, career pathways, or work-based learning options like apprenticeships
 - Assist individuals with barriers to employment with accessing programs
 - Provide support services to help participants complete education and training
- Click here** to read the full text of the bill.



NOBLESVILLE SCHOOLS Board Highlights

June 18, 2024 Meeting

Submitted by Noblesville Schools

The school board has responsibility for major district functions including school district governance and oversight, setting school policies, approving funding, strategic planning, and hiring and evaluating the superintendent.

- The board conducted a second hearing for a \$17.3 million bond that will fund (1) the replacement of 30-year-old air handling units at Noblesville High School, (2) paving needs throughout the district, (3) an updated girls softball locker room similar to upgrades that were made recently for boys baseball, and (4) an athletic restroom/storage building at Noblesville East Middle School. The bond will not increase the tax rate or use referendum or classroom dollars. It was approved by a vote of 4-1, with Laura Alerding voting against the funding.
 - The board recognized Hazel Dell building supervisor Fred Farley for the prestigious school support staff award he won from the State of Indiana.
 - Noblesville East Middle School students were recognized for their national placements in the Great History Challenge.
 - Elementary and secondary media specialists provided an update on school library circulations and programming.
 - A memorandum of understanding with Indiana University Kokomo was approved to significantly expand dual high school/college credit options for NHS students through Indiana College Core.
 - A food service cooperative purchasing agreement was approved to leverage competitive buying power for school breakfast and lunch items.
- Next month's board meeting will be Monday, July 15. Go to noblesvilleschools.org/leadership/school-board for meeting agendas, minutes, videos, and more.



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US Flag Requests

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



Military Academy Nominations

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



US Capitol and White House Tour Requests

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

Carmel-based Merchants Bank enters Chicago mortgage market

The REPORTER

Merchants Bank announced on Thursday the hiring of Mike Axelrod, Jason Campbell, and Rich Hass as the newest members of its mortgage sales team based out of the company's Chicago offices.

Axelrod will lead as Regional Manager, Mortgage Sales, and Campbell and Hass will specialize in the retail mortgage sector. Campbell will serve as the Producing Construction Sales Manager while Hass operates as Producing Sales Manager.

Axelrod comes to Merchants as a seasoned mortgage expert with nearly four decades of experience in various management positions. He most recently served as a Chicagoland market manager for U.S. Bank and regional manager for PNC Bank. In these roles, Axelrod held the responsibility of facilitating consultative sales training for mortgage and retail sales groups while also managing recruitment, production, P&L management, pricing and cross-selling for the Chicago and Milwaukee markets. In his new role, Axelrod will be responsible for leading the expansion of the mortgage

sales office in the Chicago market.

Campbell joins the Merchants Bank team with 25 years of mortgage experience across numerous mortgage companies. In his most recent role, Campbell was a private wealth mortgage loan originator and construction loan expert at U.S. Bank in Illinois, where he was tasked with facilitating funding for complex borrowers and diverse projects with an emphasis on high-net-worth clients. Campbell also served as a vice president of mortgage lending at Guaranteed Rate.

Hass, another veteran in the mortgage industry, brings more than 35 years of mortgage experience to Merchants Bank. Before joining Merchants, Hass worked as a production manager for PrimeLending, where he evaluated loan products and services to determine which financial products best met the customer's needs. Prior to that role, Hass was a branch manager for Wells Fargo for 31 years.

In their new capacities, Campbell and Hass will recruit and lead their respective mortgage teams within the Chicago market while



Axelrod



Campbell



Hass



managing personal production goals. Campbell's priority will be building a team of construction lenders to grow the line of business and serve as the subject matter expert on construction lending for all regional lenders. Hass will work in a similar capacity dedicated to his team of retail mortgage professionals.

"We're excited to welcome three established mortgage professionals as the newest additions to the Merchants Mortgage team," Merchants Mortgage President Jerry Koors said. "As our team enters into the Chicago market, we feel confident that Mike, Jason, and Rich can effectively lead the charge in growing the Merchants footprint. They're well-equipped to provide

our customers with exceptional services and navigate them through a demanding market."

Campbell earned his master's degree in business administration at DeVry University after receiving his bachelor's degree in business administration at Illinois Wesleyan University. Hass attended Loyola University Chicago and Axelrod studied at Northern Illinois University where they both earned bachelor's degrees at their respective institutions.

To learn more about Merchants Bank, visit [MerchantsBankOfIndiana.com](https://merchantsbankofindiana.com).

Noblesville's own Travis Park awarded in national poetry contest

Submitted

Noblesville poet Travis Park has been awarded both second- and third-place honors at the prestigious 2024 annual National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS) contest.

Park earned the distinction of being the only Hoosier to place in this year's competition. The NFSPS contest, renowned for celebrating poetic excellence,

attracted entries from across the United States.

All winning poems, including Park's award-winning pieces, are available in the anthology book *Encore: Prize Poems 2024*, which can be [purchased on Amazon](#).

[Click here](#) to see a full list of this year's contest winners.

You can find more of Park's poems at [Instagram.com/travisparkpoetry](#).



Actors needed for NPART's live radio play in August

The REPORTER

The Noblesville Preservation Alliance is at again!

In August, the NPA Radio Theater (NPART) will present a live reenactment of the 1937 radio broadcast of *Alice in Wonderland* and actors are needed. You won't need to

memorize lines as you'll be reading from a script.

The live radio show will place Aug. 15 to 18 at Preservation Hall, 1274 Logan St., Noblesville.

For more information email to npatheateris@gmail.com.

OUTING

Get ready to receive exciting prizes for first, second, and third place. Hole sponsors are also giving away their amazing prizes at the reception.

Here are the 2024 golf packages available:

- **Foursome Team:** \$400 Member / \$500 Non-Member; four players included; two golf carts
- **Two Player Team:** \$200 Member / \$250 Non-Member; two players included, plus two golfers assigned to the team; one golf cart
- **Individual Golfer:** \$100 Member / \$150 Non-Member; one player included, will be assigned to a team to create a foursome;

shared golf cart

If you have additional questions, please reach out to info@westfieldchamberindy.com.

Sponsorship opportunities

[Click here](#) to purchase a sponsorship opportunity on the Westfield Chamber website. You're your payment is received, a Chamber Staff Member will reach out to obtain a high-resolution version of your company's artwork. Arrival and set-up instructions will be sent the week prior to the event.

If you have additional questions, please reach out to info@westfieldchamberindy.com.

from Page 9

Volunteer at the Outing

There is even an opportunity for the non-golfers in your office to participate. To pull off a successful Golf Outing, the Westfield Young Professionals needs amazing, go-getter volunteers on the day of the event. Help will be needed checking people in, marshaling the sponsors to their holes, driving volunteers on the course, ground support across the course, 19th Hole Reception set up, and much more.

[Click here](#) to volunteer.

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Indiana Finance Authority releases update on state water use study

The REPORTER

In November of 2023, Governor Eric Holcomb asked the Indiana Finance Authority (IFA) to conduct a regional water study in the north central region of the state, generally comprised of the upper Wabash River Watershed. IFA staff also determined to expand the study to include the headwaters of the upper Wabash River Watershed.

Two national consulting engineering firms have been retained to perform the 50-year supply and demand study in the region: Stantec Consulting Services and Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.

The IFA has also formed an advisory committee that meets monthly with the consultants. The committee includes the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, the U.S. Geological Survey, Purdue University, Indiana University, the White River Alliance, and the Indiana Farm Bureau was recently added. IFA staff and or IFA consultants are also collaborating with regional Economic Development agencies, regional utilities, and private industry.

The IFA is committed to providing updates, and since the consultants are wrapping up their work on water demand and shifting their focus to supply, this update has been provided to IFA Board Members on the progress.

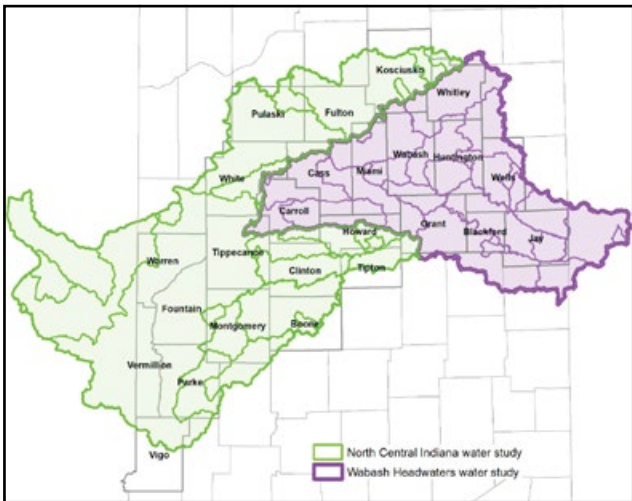
Preliminary findings on historical water withdrawals in the 10-county Wabash Headwaters study area (within Indiana) as reported in the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Significant Water Withdrawal Facility database include:

- Total annual water withdrawals increased approximately 136 percent between 1985 and 2005 but have been steadily declining since 2005. The water-use averaged over the entire period of record from 1985 to 2022 reflects an increase of 29 percent. The majority of the variability has been seen in the energy sector.

- All sectors increased their use except public water supply systems (utilities), for which the data show water use decreased by approximately 11 percent over the period of record.

- In 1985, the public water supply sector was the largest water-use category representing approximately 63 percent of total demand, followed by the industrial sector with a demand of 32 percent.

- In contrast, in 2022, the largest water use was in the industrial sector, representing approximately 47 percent of total demand,



followed by public water supply systems with a demand of 44 percent.

- Between 2007 and 2009, four new industrial facilities began operations within the region, which is reflected in an increase in water use.

- Although agricultural irrigation increased by 60 percent between 1985 and 2022, it represents a small percentage (approximately 6 percent) of overall use within the region.

- The remaining water uses include energy production, rural use (such as livestock and fish hatcheries), and self-supplied residential.

- The average water withdrawal in 2022 was approximately 63 million gallons per day, 63 percent from groundwater wells, and 37 percent from surface water diversions.

Preliminary findings on historical water withdrawals in the 15-county North Central Indiana area as reported in the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Significant Water Withdrawal Facility database include:

- Total annual water withdrawals increased by 50 percent from 1985 to 2006 but have been steadily declining since 2006 to 80 percent of 1985 levels. The majority of the decline has been seen in the energy sector.

- The top water-withdrawal categories are: the energy sector (approximately 85 percent of total), public water supplies (approximately 6 percent of total), and industrial (approximately 5 percent of total). Note that energy demand is nearly all non-consumptive water use, meaning most of the water is returned to the river after use.

- The water-withdrawal categories that have shown growth (while representing a comparatively small proportion of the total water use) since 1985 include irrigation and rural uses.

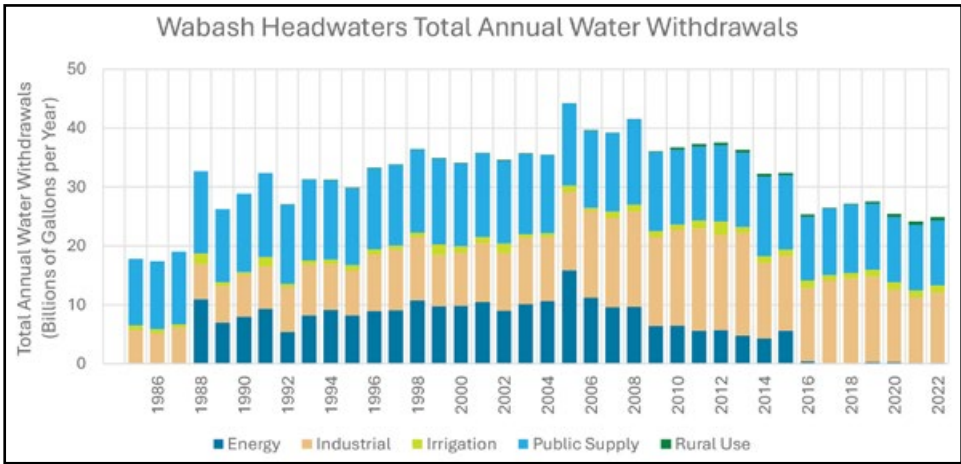
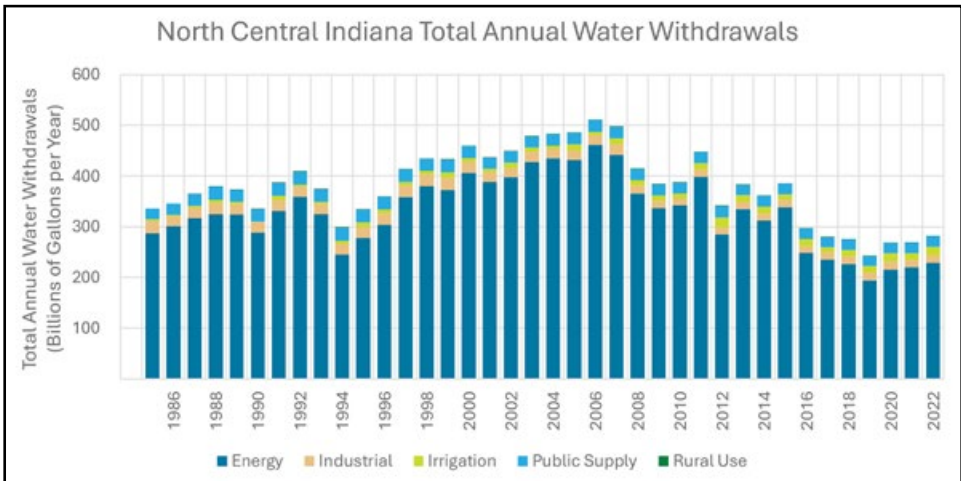
- The water withdrawal categories that have shown declines in water use since 1985 include the industrial, energy, and public water supply sectors.

- The average water withdrawal in 2022 was approximately 770 million gallons per day, 88 percent

from surface-water diversions and 12 percent from groundwater wells.

The next steps for the study include collaborating with regional economic development agencies, industry and agricultural representatives, and local utility districts to estimate possible future scenarios of water withdrawals as well as estimate water availability and develop recommendations for the future of resilient water management.

Potential drivers of a change in future water de-



Graphics provided by IFA

mand include, but are not limited to, energy transition, economic development,

changes in population, and water conservation, and water-use efficiency.

Stay informed about the studies at in.gov/ifa/regional-water-studies.



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Kent Eric Kercheval
May 22, 1966 – June 17, 2024

Kent Eric Kercheval, 58, Sheridan, passed away on Monday morning, June 17, 2024, surrounded by his wife and loving family, at IU North Hospital in Carmel, following a long and courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.

David and Wanda Kercheval were blessed with the birth of their third son, Kent, on May 22, 1966, in Frankfort, Ind. He graduated from Clinton Central High School in 1984 and later earned a degree in Industrial Illustration from Purdue University.

Kent had a distinguished 15-plus-year career as a Controller for Keystone Cooperative (previously known as Ceres Solutions and Hamilton County Co-Op), where he was known for his innovative problem-solving, matter-of-fact communication style, and infectious laughter. His incredible dedication to providing for his family was evident through his “whatever-it-takes” work ethic. Before working for Keystone, Kent demonstrated an aptitude for anything he attempted professionally. From taxes and accounting with his father, to construction and HVAC; from technical drawing at Allison Gas Turbine, to entrepreneurship; Kent was a self-identified “Jack of All Trades.”

Kent married his childhood sweetheart, Tamme, in 1986. They shared a beautiful life and marriage for what would’ve been 38 years this July, raising four children: Brandon, Bradley, Benjamin, and Baylee. Kent was a devoted husband, father, and Papaw, always placing family as the priority of his life. He always claimed to have “married up,” but Tamme’s reciprocated love for him left no room for doubt – they shared something extraordinary. If you were to ask him about his family, Kent would beam with pride and tell you about the accomplishments of his kids, their spouses, and his grandchildren.

A notorious tinkerer, Kent loved spending time in the garage or around their property, fixing, improving, and solving. He spent many evenings “facing East,” enjoying the fresh country air, and listening to bluegrass, classic country, and gospel music. He was an accomplished musician and singer, known for his beautiful bass voice.



We could always count on Kent to have music playing and enjoyed listening to him sing along. He was known for his quiet kindness, quick wit, contagious humor, wise counsel, and unwavering integrity. Friends and family will remember his laugh and hugs, balanced with a playful mischievousness.

Kent is survived by the love of his life, Tamra Lynn (Scobee) Kercheval. She and Kent were married on July 5, 1986. Also surviving are three sons, Brandon Kent Kercheval (Lydia) of Columbus, Ind., Bradley Eric Kercheval (Heather) of Westfield, and Benjamin Lee Kercheval (Ashley) of Evans, Ga.; daughter, Baylee Lynn Demaree (Andrew) of Jamestown; five grandchildren, Hazel, Oliver, Adaline, Corinne, and Kovala; his mother, Wanda Lee (Harris) Kercheval of Kirklin; three brothers, Kevin Lee Kercheval (Melea) of Michigantown, Kyle David Kercheval (Denise) of Sheridan, and Karl Neil Kercheval (Jessica) of Michigantown; and by many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, David Lee Kercheval; paternal grandparents, Everett and Lucille Kercheval; maternal grandparents, Russell “Rut” and Avianell “Avi” Harris; and by his brother-in-law, Mark Aaron Scobee.

A celebration of Kent’s life will take place at 6 p.m. on Monday, June 24, 2024, at Kercheval Funeral Home, 306 E. 10th St., Sheridan, with visitation from 3 p.m. until the time of service. Pastor Jerome Sack of Radiant Christian Life will be officiating. Kent will be laid to rest at Oak Hill Cemetery in Kirklin, Ind., at a later date. If you wish to donate funds, all proceeds received at the celebration will be made to Pancreatic Cancer Research in Kent’s honor.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the staff of IU North Hospital and IU Health Central Indiana Cancer Center in Fishers for their compassionate care and support over the last 16 months.

Kent’s legacy of love, kindness, and dedication will live on in the hearts and testimonies of all who knew him.

Condolences: kerchevalfuneralhome.com

TODAY’S BIBLE READING

THE ISRAELITES OPPRESSED

Then a new king, to whom Joseph meant nothing, came to power in Egypt. “Look,” he said to his people, “the Israelites have become far too numerous for us. Come, we must deal shrewdly with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country.”

So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites and worked them ruthlessly. They made their lives bitter with harsh labor in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their harsh labor the Egyptians worked them ruthlessly.

Exodus 1:8-14 (NIV)

Nathan Gober

November 17, 1964 – June 20, 2024

Nathan Gober, 59, Noblesville, passed away on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at Riverwalk Village in Noblesville. He was born on November 17, 1964, in Harrison Township, Mich.

Nathan proudly served in the United States Army and was a member of the 82nd Airborne Infantry that served in Germany. He worked as a handyman and was known as a “Jack of all trades.” Nathan was a rock star, a great guitarist, and a super talented musician. He loved Civil War reenactments and acting on the theater stage.



He is survived by his mother, Patricia Dorwin; son, Sean (Rocky) Gober; daughter, Brook-Glen Gober; brothers, Cris (Alys) Gober, Warren Gober, and Arron (Lisa) Gober; and grandchildren, Treydan Gober and Clover-Rose Barrantes.

He was preceded in death by his father, Warren Robert Gober; and son, Jason Gober.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at Randall & Roberts Funeral Home, 1150 Logan St., Noblesville. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to the time of service at the funeral home. Burial will be at Marion National Cemetery in Marion.

Condolences: randallroberts.com

The Reporter’s policy on obituaries

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

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

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839 PEBBLE BROOK PLACE
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This charming home on Pebble Brook Golf Course sits on just over half an acre at the end of a cul de sac. 4BR, 2full BA, 2 half BA, 3 car garage, finished basement.

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7158 SUMMER OAK DRIVE
NOBLESVILLE

Lovely home on beautiful lot in Oakmont, 4 BR, 2 full, 2 half baths, freshly painted, finished basement, updated kitchen.

Listed at \$480,000

NEW LISTING/
PENDING!



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NOBLESVILLE

Easy living! 2BR, 2BA low maintenance home, updated kitchen, office, two sided fireplace and sunroom.

Listed at \$300,000

PENDING!



18877 PRAIRIE CROSSING DRIVE
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REPORTER SPORTS WEEKEND

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

Women's Basketball

University's Kelsey DuBois experiences perfect start to her college career at NYU

Violets earn NCAA Division III title following 31-0 record

By RICHIE HALL
sports@readthereporter.com

Kelsey DuBois can honestly say that her first season of college basketball was perfect.

After four successful years at University High School, DuBois went to the Big Apple to continue her basketball and academic career, committing to New York University. The Violets had a young team, but it turned out to be a winning team: NYU completed a 31-0 season, culminating with the NCAA Division III championship.

"We never expected anything to actually happen, but we always had it in the back of our minds, there's a chance this group could go all the way," said DuBois. "We didn't want to waste any opportunities."

The 2023-24 Violets could be called a youth-movement team: eight of the women on the roster were freshmen, including DuBois. But there was solid experience on the NYU squad as well. Two players tied for leading-scorer honors: Senior Natalie Bruns and graduate transfer Morgan Morrison both averaged 14.3 points per game.

"I think going into the season, we had great people coming back, we had fantastic upperclassmen coming back," said DuBois. She also said those players "had experience on winning teams."

That's something DuBois also has. She was a four-year player for the Trailblazers, with the team compiling a 77-16 record over that time. University won regional championships in 2021 and 2022, DuBois' sophomore and junior years.

After graduating from UHS in 2023, DuBois and her fellow freshmen moved into the NYU campus a week before school started, giving them time to get adjusted. They began activities a couple weeks later such as lifting and pickup games.

DuBois said that because the game was quicker and the court is longer "you've got to be at a different level of conditioning," calling it "definitely something that took me a while to get adjusted to."

The Violets began their season Nov. 10, 2023 by hosting Massachusetts Institute of Technology – the world-famous MIT – as part of the Scholars Classic. New York won that game 88-55, with DuBois coming off the bench to play eight minutes.

"Something I've been dreaming about since I was super little was actually



University graduate Kelsey DuBois (left) had a perfect start to her college basketball career this past season. DuBois was part of the New York University women's basketball team's perfect 31-0 season, which culminated in a NCAA Division III national championship. Also pictured is Jordan Patterson, a teammate of DuBois at University High School.

happening, it was crazy," said DuBois. She admitted that she was "very, very nervous going into" the game.

"I didn't know what to expect," said DuBois. "Even just putting on the jersey for the first time, it was like, 'Oh shoot, this is for real.' But she credited the upperclassmen with doing a "great job of calming my nerves," helping her to remember that she has playing for a while.

New York rolled through its regular season, winning all 25 of their games. Only two teams were able to get within 10 points of the Violets during that stretch. Because of that, NYU was the overall top seed in the D-III tournament.

And the Violets played like a top seed, cruising through six more games to win the championship. New York played its final two games of the year in Columbus, Ohio, beating Transylvania 57-42 in the semifinals on March 14, then taking care of Smith College 51-41 in the March 16 championship.

The 10-point victory was the closest of the tournament for the Violets. DuBois didn't play, but said

the atmosphere was "super exciting that whole game."

"It felt a lot closer than what I feel like it actually was," said DuBois. "It was fun to see the team in that manner, that fashion. It was a really loud game. We tried to make it feel like it was a home environment, yelling, calling out plays. It was so fun to watch."

DuBois played in 26 of the Violets' 31 games, averaging 2.3 points and 2.2 rebounds per contest. She got to start in one game, NYU's Dec. 3 date with Connecticut College. DuBois collected eight rebounds in that game and scored four points, all from the free throw in a 4-for-4 effort.

"We had meetings with our coach scheduled that week, and during that meeting, our coach told me that our starting center went down with an ankle injury," said DuBois. She was told she would be starting that game; DuBois was told ahead of time since her coaches were aware she might nervous.

But DuBois said her teammates did a good job of helping her stay calm. The team chemistry was important, as the eight freshmen were joined by three graduate students

who transferred on to the team.

"We outnumbered the returners," said DuBois. So, the returners had to teach several new people about being a student-athlete and living in New York. As a result, DuBois said "there was a good adjustment period with everyone" as they figured out how to become a team.

"Within the first week, they had us on the subway, teaching us how to live in New York," said DuBois.

Living in New York is obviously different from living in Noblesville or Carmel, the places in which DuBois grew up. She called the adjustment "a little bit abrupt. But I think I adjusted fairly well." DuBois now loves New York and doesn't want to leave.

"Other girls came from big cities, so they helped me adjust as they were adjusting, which was very helpful," said DuBois.

With her sophomore year soon to start, DuBois said she is considering a major in "public policy, a pre-law track." Her plan as of right now is to go to law school and is thinking about "something in the realm of working with non-profits or things like that."

Tennis

Rajeev Ram will represent Carmel at Paris Olympics

The REPORTER

Carmel tennis star Rajeev Ram is heading back to the Olympics.

The six-time Grand Slam champion is one of 11 players that will represent the United States on the U.S. Olympic Tennis Team for the Paris 2024 games. Ram will pair with Austin Krajicek to form one of the two men's doubles teams for the U.S. at the Olympics.

Ram is currently ranked No. 6 in the world in doubles, while Krajicek is ranked 15th. The men's team also includes world singles No. 12 Taylor Fritz, No. 13 Tommy Paul, No. 44 Chris Eubanks and No. 53 Marcos Giron. Coached by 2012 Olympic doubles gold medalist and Davis Cup captain Bob Bryan, the U.S. men's team will also feature four singles players (Fritz, Paul, Eubanks and Giron), while Fritz and Paul will play doubles together.

The women's team includes singles world No. 2 Coco Gauff, No. 5 Jessica Pegula, No. 11 Danielle Collins, No. 17 Emma Navarro, and doubles No. 11 Desirae Krawczyk. Coached by USTA Head of Women's Tennis Kathy Rinaldi, the U.S. women's team will feature four singles players in Paris (Gauff, Pegula, Collins and Navarro) and two doubles teams: Gauff and Pegula, Collins and Krawczyk.

The U.S. will also announce its one mixed doubles team that will compete in Paris, taken from the above-named players, at a later date.

Team nominations are subject to approval by the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee and the International Tennis Federation. The United States Paralympic tennis team will be announced in late July.

The 2024 Olympic Games will be held from July 26 to Aug. 11 in Paris, with the tennis competition staged from July 27 to Aug.

4 at Roland Garros. The U.S. has won 24 Olympic medals (14 gold) in men's and women's tennis since it returned as a full medal sport in 1988, more than any other nation.

Ram, a mixed doubles silver medalist in 2016 in Rio, will compete in his third consecutive Olympics. Competing in their second Games are 2021 Tokyo Olympians Pegula, Paul, Giron and Krajicek, while Gauff – who was named to compete in 2021 in Tokyo but did not compete after testing positive for COVID-19 – Collins, Navarro, Krawczyk, Fritz and Eubanks will make their Olympic debuts.

Ram, 40, will be competing in his third consecutive Olympics, having competed in Tokyo 2021 and earning the mixed doubles silver medal with Venus Williams in Rio 2016. A former doubles world No. 1, Ram has won four major men's doubles titles – the Australian Open in 2020 and the US Open in each of the last three years.

In addition, Ram won two Australian Open mixed doubles titles, in 2019 and 2021. He's won 31 overall career ATP doubles titles, including the year-end ATP Tour Finals each of the last two years. He led the University of Illinois to a 32-0 season and NCAA team title in 2003 in his one season of college tennis, also winning the NCAA doubles title.

Eligible singles players have the opportunity to accept or decline the nomination to the 2024 Olympic tennis team. If a tennis player declines, the next highest-ranked American singles tennis player has the nomination extended to them.

Tennis was part of the Olympic program from the first modern Olympiad in 1896 until 1924. After a 64-year hiatus, tennis returned to the official Olympic program in 1988, becoming the first sport to feature professional athletes.

Golf

Westfield grad Jocelyn Bruch competes in Southwestern Women's Amateur in Arizona

The REPORTER

Westfield graduate Jocelyn Bruch competed in the Southwestern Women's Amateur tournament this week at Desert Mountain Golf Club in Scottsdale, Ariz.


Bruch, an incoming senior at Purdue University, finished tied for 13th place in the four-day event with a score of 286, two under par. Bruch's Tuesday first round consisted of a two under par 70, she then went even par in the Wednesday second round with 72.

In the Thursday third round, Bruch went under par again, carding a one

under 71. In Friday's final round, Bruch finished with 73. She totaled 14 birdies for the tournament, making five in the first round, then drained three in each of the next three rounds.

Bruch had a solid junior season at Purdue, participating in all 13 of the Boiler-makers' tournaments. She led the team in pars with 441, and got two top-ten finishes, including a tied-for-sixth result at the Boiler-maker Classic. Bruch made a hole in one during the final round of the NCAA Las Vegas regional; she finished tied for 24th in that event with a 222.

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Olympic Swim Trials

Three more Carmel swimmers compete: Pash makes it to semifinals, Han & Bowen swim prelims

The REPORTER

Swimming continued Friday night at the U.S. Olympic Trials at Lucas Oil Fieldhouse in Indianapolis.

Carmel grad Kelly Pash reached the semifinals of the Women’s 200 medley race. Pash, a 26-time All American for the University of Texas, qualified 10th in the prelims with a time of 2:14.13 to advance to the semis. She then placed 11th in the semifinals, finishing in 2:14.32.

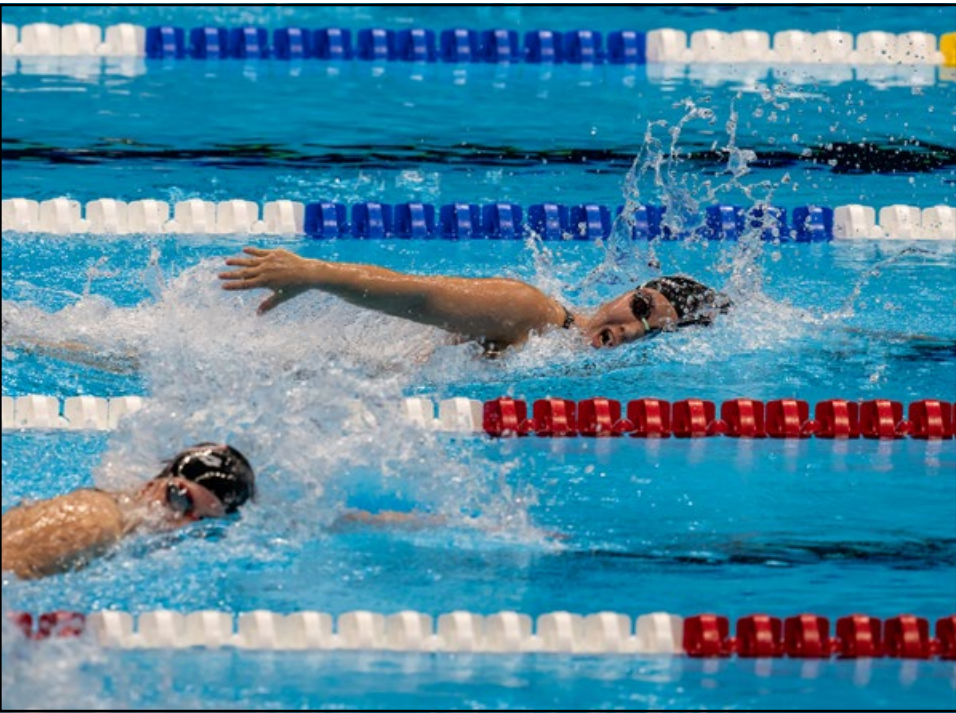
Two more Carmel swimmers competed in the Women’s 800 freestyle prelims. Lynsey Bowen placed 25th in a time of 8:45.30, while Kayla Han finished 28th, clocking in at 8:46.43.

In today’s prelims, Noblesville’s Luke Whitlock, swimming for the Fishers Area Swimming Tigers, will compete in the Men’s 1500 free event. The top eight advance to the Sunday night finals. Another Fishers swimmer, Julie Mishler, will compete in the morning Women’s 50 freestyle prelims, with the top 16 moving to the semifinals tonight.



Carmel graduate and University of Texas star Kelly Pash reached the semifinals of the Women’s 200 medley event at the Olympic swim trials on Friday.

Reporter photo by Julie Brown



Reporter photos by Julie Brown

Carmel’s Kayla Han (above left) and Lynsey Bowen (above right) both competed in the Women’s 800 freestyle.

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