



OPINION | 4

George Will: Something to think about

HICKORY JUNCTION | 12

City approves 'last resort' taxes for fieldhouse



THE Lebanon Reporter

Serving Boone County since 1891

Reporter.net

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2022

\$1.25

McLaren Racing to build IndyCar facility in Boone County

Global racing leader leans into IndyCar with new Whitestown facility

During the inaugural Indiana Global Economic Summit on Thursday, McLaren Racing CEO Zak Brown announced the company's plans to build a state-of-the-art IndyCar facility in Whitestown, creating up to 175 new, high-wage jobs by the end of 2025.

motorsports continues to gain speed with companies like McLaren Racing choosing to invest in our state," Governor Eric J. Holcomb said. "When Sec. Chambers and I met with Zak Brown during our recent trip to Europe, we were overly impressed that sustainability and adaptability have been the keys to their success. This aligns perfectly with what we are building here in Indiana."

Headquartered in Woking, U.K., the company plans to invest over \$25 million to build a more than 97,000-square-foot facility that will

combine modern office space with technical areas, workshop space, logistics and transport areas, as well as a dedicated space for the team to practice pit stops. The building will also feature a gym with an emphasis on sports science, allowing employees to focus on physical and mental wellbeing on and off the track. The new facility will allow Arrow McLaren SP to run three full-time entries in the NTT INDY-CAR SERIES in 2023, with plans to expand the team in the future.

The futuristic facility will be focused on advances in technology and engineering, while highlighting McLaren's history in Indianapolis. Construction is slated to begin with fall with plans to open by early 2024.

"I'm proud to support McLaren Racing's growth in Indiana as the company creates quality careers and adds to our state's already vibrant motorsports industry - further solidifying Indiana's position as the motorsports capital of the world," said Indiana Secretary of Commerce Brad Chambers. "The company's focus on sustainability is squarely

in line with the IEDC's 5E vision for the future."

Arrow McLaren SP currently employs team members in both Indianapolis and Woking, England, with plans to hire in Whitestown once construction is underway. Several roles are posted now, and the team will continue to hire into early next year. Interested applicants may apply online at the Arrow McLaren SP Careers Page by visiting <https://racingcareers.mclaren.com/indycar>.

See **MCLAREN** on 3



Photos by Maria Flora | The Lebanon Reporter

Tanya Kammerer (left), Lebanon Mayor Matthew Gentry (seated), and Lebanon Police Chief Chad Morgan (right) help children register their new bicycles with the city during a bicycle giveaway at LPD Wednesday.

Pedal pushers

Businessman sparks bike giveaway

MARIA FLORA
MARIA.FLORA
@REPORTER.NET

A Walmart bicycle sale turned into a windfall for Lebanon children this week.

Businessman Josh Kammerer was shopping for diapers when he came upon a winter bicycle sale. He bought 20 bicycles to give to Lebanon children.

"They were all lined up for \$25 each," Kammerer said, adding that he couldn't pass up the deal. Kammerer's father, Joe Kammerer, is a former Lebanon police officer and now owns a vault company. Josh called his dad to borrow one of the company trucks and hauled them away from Walmart.

"Most people would just buy a bike for their kids, but he

Online

To view more photos from this story, visit Reporter.net



Daniel Perez-Bautista waits in line to register his new bicycle with the city.

See **BIKES** on 3

'Hole' lotta fun

City preps for National Donut Day

JACOB MUSSELMAN
JACOB.MUSSELMAN
@REPORTER.NET

June 3 is National Donut Day and what better way to celebrate than by going on a scavenger hunt around Lebanon in search of a dozen donuts?

From 9 a.m. to noon, Titus Bakery is welcoming anyone with a sweet tooth to visit various locations around the city that are serving as checkpoints for the National Donut Day trail.

At each location, participants can play a short game or do some type of activity in order to have their "donut passport" stamped and receive a special clue that could lead them to a free dozen donuts - Titus' award-winning perishing donuts at that - if they are the first to finish the scavenger hunt.

Participants who make it to the secret location after the winner will receive a coupon for a free yeast donut from Titus.

Checkpoint locations include The Lebanon Reporter, 117 E. Washington St.; Greeks Pizzeria, 105 W.

See **HOLE** on 3



Jacob Musselman | The Lebanon Reporter

Titus Bakery employees handle the morning rush.

Sheridan asks townships to reorganize

GUS PEARCY
THE LEBANON REPORTER

When a developer asked the City of Westfield to annex a project in southeastern Adams Township, the Sheridan Town Council took notice.

Even though plans are to turn the 100 acres into a warehouse park, Sheridan Town Council President Silas DeVaney III said the council has always feared that Westfield would eventually start to annex into Adams Township. He does not blame Westfield because the city did not initiate the annexation.

"Someone, as a developer, wants to buy property and they need utilities," DeVaney said. "The closest utilities is Westfield."

To keep Westfield from annexing into Adams Township, the council is asking the township board to reorga-

nize both governments into a single entity. This would effectively stop Westfield from annexing into Adams Township by extending the borders of Sheridan to the township borders.

Reorganization is the same process Zionsville used to absorb Eagle, Perry and Union townships 10 years ago.

DeVaney revealed that the council has had similar conversations with Marion Township in Boone County. Also, Sheridan Town Council member Steve Fisher said the council is protecting the Sheridan School District which also encompasses Marion Township in Boone County.

"Adams and Marion has always been Sheridan," Fisher said. "We all bleed red and black."

However, at a special joint meeting

See **SHERIDAN** on 3

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

"The measure of intelligence is the ability to change."

ALBERT EINSTEIN

VISITATIONS AND SERVICES

Ruth Ann Hollingsworth - Service: 11 a.m. today at Myers Mortuary, 1502 N. Lebanon St., Lebanon.

Effie Smith - Visitation: 4-6 p.m. Tuesday at Porter and Hunt Funeral Home & Crematory, 315 W. Main St., Jamestown.

TODAY'S INDEX

Sports11 Comics.....5 Obituaries12
Classifieds8-10 Lifestyle.....2 Opinion.....4



CONNECT WITH US
Twitter:
@lebanonreporter



Facebook:
/lebanonreporter

WEATHER

Today:
Decreasing clouds,
with a high of 75

See forecast
on Page 12

Vol. 131, No. 105

Lebanon Reporter



6 971131 14010 7

Aspire
Indiana Health

We accept Medicare & Medicaid

Hometown Family Medicine!

(765) 482-7100

1600 West Main Street, Lebanon

BIKES

CONTINUED FROM 1

thought of all the children in Lebanon,” Lebanon Police Chief Chad Morgan said Wednesday while children chose their new bicycles at the police department.

Six-year-old Emberlynn Coyle chose a purple and pink bicycle, while her sister, Lyllian Gregory, 10, was drawn to a hot pink one. Ten-year-old Daniel Perez-Bautista chose a red one, his favorite color, and then changed his mind and went for a sleek black one. The bikes came in all sizes and colors. Some even came with training wheels.

Kammerer didn't know how to get the bicycles into the hands of children who needed them, so he joined forces with school guidance counselors, Mental Health America, and LPD to identify children to receive bicycles. But the list came in at 29 children for 20 bikes. So those helping organizations pitched in for nine more bicycles and invited the children and their families to come for them Wednesday afternoon.

Daniel said he received notice from his school just this week and had been excited the whole time until he could pick it up.

Kammerer, police and other volunteers watched children choose a bicycle one at a time and carried their bicycles to a table where Lebanon Mayor Matthew Gentry and Kammerer's wife, Tanya, registered the bicycles.

Police often find abandoned or stolen bicycles, especially in summer. Registration connects the bicycles to their owners, Morgan said. The city sells abandoned or stolen bicycles when police can't determine their owners.

“We encourage everyone to register their bicycles with the city,” Morgan said. Registration is available to anyone who visits the police station lobby.

Kammerer said he was shopping with his 9-year-old



Maria Flora
The Lebanon Reporter

Emberlynn Coyle leaves the Lebanon Police station with a new bicycle Wednesday.

daughter, Sydney, the day he found the bicycles. He grew up in Lebanon and was part of Boy Scout Troop 359.

“Community service was part of Scouts, and I believe in community service and saw the bicycles as an opportunity to share that with Sydney,” Kammerer said. “I challenge other business owners in Lebanon to do something like this.”

Sydney smiled broadly while she watched children choose bicycles Wednesday and said she enjoyed the experience.

Some of the children appeared to be a bit nervous while they awaited their turn, but they were all smiles, and volunteers sent them off with new wheels and a cupcake from Heather's Baked Treats, because owner Heather Ping also wanted to help when she learned of the project.

Some children couldn't be at the police station to retrieve their new bicycles, so police visited their homes with their new rides after the event.

But, before the left, Morgan read a card a mother left with him when her child collected a bicycle. In it she said her family would never forget the kindness shown to them.



Gus Percy | The Lebanon Reporter

Members of the Sheridan Town Council (left) and Adams Township Board meet to discuss the possibility of reorganizing as a single government entity as allowed by Indiana law.

SHERIDAN

CONTINUED FROM 1

of the Sheridan Town Council and the Adams Township Board last Tuesday evening, the idea of reorganization didn't thrill the board members.

Board member Floyd Barker started the meeting by saying the board asked for a letter from the town outlining the proposals, outcomes anticipated and next steps by the board. No letter was sent.

“Because the information will be new to the township board,” Barker said in a statement read to begin the meeting. “We will be unable to respond at this meeting.”

DeVaney said later in the meeting the council has approached Marion Township with a similar proposal. Marion Township Trustee Mike Morgan was at the meeting and said afterwards he wanted to learn more. It is unclear if the reorganization of Adams Township must happen before the Boone County Township.

WHAT IS REORGANIZATION?

Under reorganization, the Town of Sheridan and Adams Township would form a single government. It would effectively extend the borders of Sheridan to the township borders. Once that is done, no other city can annex into the town. This ensures the resi-

dents of the entire township have ultimate control over planning and zoning.

The process is well-defined by Indiana law.

First the two governments need to agree to pursue the reorganization. Then the two boards will hammer out an agreement about the new government and how it will work. This could include expansion of the council to seven or nine members with representation from the township.

Next, the law requires a comprehensive fiscal impact study to identify costs and to see if it is possible under the property tax caps. Costs will include utilities, fire and police protection and impact on Sheridan schools.

Then it must be voted on by residents of both the town and the township in a referendum.

The result of the ballot question must be 51% town and 51% township residents for the measure to pass. There is no advantage to having a larger population.

Taft law firm consultant Todd Burtron, a former Westfield city staffer now working for Sheridan, explained the situation and said it boils down to the question: Are we OK with the City of Westfield annexing into Adams Township?

The township would lose taxes to Westfield, he said, plus new families would still send their children to Sheridan schools, possibly

straining the corporation.

Some residents view the plan as Sheridan annexing the township.

Township board attorney Christine Altman said the annexation would be fiscally neutral for the township and perhaps beneficial if Westfield took over fire protection responsibilities for the annexed area. Altman also is a Hamilton County Commissioner.

In order to begin the process, both bodies would pass a mirror resolution to explore the possibility of reorganizing. At this week's meeting, the council was simply asking if the board would just agree to move forward with the idea.

But Adams Township Board President Gail Godby said he was concerned that the township would go away.

“We'll have to make that decision,” he said after the meeting. “There's a lot of things coming — tax rates. That's what I'm worried about.”

Nothing was decided. The Adams Township Board will take the plan under advisement.

The council is hoping to get another meeting with the township board, but nothing was set.

MCLAREN

CONTINUED FROM 1

“I am delighted to be able to confirm this news today as part of our long-term strategy for Arrow McLaren SP is to relocate the team to a new facility fit for the future,” said Zak Brown, McLaren Racing CEO. “This is both a clear sign of our commitment to IndyCar and also to the community of Whitestown, the city of Indianapolis, and the state of Indiana, which has been the home of IndyCar since the sport began.”

The announcement comes just days before Arrow McLaren SP drivers Pato O'Ward, Felix Rosenqvist and Juan Pablo Montoya participate in the 106th Running of the Indianapolis 500.

“This new facility will be a catalyst for motorsport and business growth for McLaren Racing in North America. We are working hand-in-hand with Whitestown officials throughout the entire process, making sure we create an environment for hard work and excellence,” said Taylor Kiel, President, Arrow McLaren SP. “We look forward to having a new, class-leading home for our team with access to the state-of-the-art resources they need to compete for wins and championships. Investment like this just shows the excitement and growth around IndyCar locally and nationally.”

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation and the town of Whitestown are working with the company to finalize an investment offer in the form of a performance-based incentive package.

“We are days away from the Greatest Spectacle in Racing, and now Whitestown will be home to a winning tradition unlike any other,” said Whitestown Town Council President Clinton Bohm. “The investment Arrow McLaren is making in our community proves that Whitestown is a unique environment where racing and advanced manufacturing can coexist. After the checkered flag drops this year, our work will have only just begun.”

HOLE

CONTINUED FROM 1

Main St.; Lebanon Mayor Matt Gentry's Office, 401 S. Meridian St.; Lebanon Public Library, 104 W. Washington St.; State Bank, 2436 N. Lebanon St.; State Bank,

1801 Indianapolis Ave.; and the Lebanon Police Department, 201 E. Main St.

Participants will need to stop by Titus Bakery, 820 W. South St., Lebanon, starting at 6 a.m. to get a passport card that they will need to get stamped by the participating businesses.



HISTORY LIVES HERE.

Step into history in the birthplace of the civil rights movement when you visit Montgomery, Alabama. Stand on the site where Rosa Parks was arrested, visit the church where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. preached or walk the path civil rights activists took on their march from Selma to Montgomery. Explore the history of slavery and racial inequality in America at the Equal Justice Initiative's interactive Legacy Museum, an indoor immersive experience, and the critically-acclaimed National Memorial for Peace and Justice, a six-acre site overlooking the city. Discover these and other sites on the Civil Rights Trail when you stay at the Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa at the Convention Center, in the heart of downtown Montgomery.

TO PLAN YOUR VISIT, CALL 338 481 5000 OR VISIT RENAISSANCEMONTGOMERY.COM.

RENAISSANCE MONTGOMERY
HOTEL & SPA AT THE CONVENTION CENTER
201 TALLAPOOSA STREET MONTGOMERY, AL 36104
T: 338.481.5000 RENAISSANCEMONTGOMERY.COM

R
RENAISSANCE[®]
MONTGOMERY HOTEL & SPA
AT THE CONVENTION CENTER