

# 2015: Municipal Election Year



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## Spotlight on Noblesville Ditslear vs. Corbett

Noblesville is the fourth in a series of Hamilton County cities this space has focused upon leading up to the May 5 primary election. Like its neighbors, and like all of Hamilton County, it is a heavily Republican community which means once again, the winning candidates in May most likely will be the determined winners and office holders for the next four years. Noblesville, with a population of 56,540 is the Seat of Hamilton County and perhaps the oldest and most settled of the County's varied cities.

This year's race for Mayor features a rematch of sorts. Mayor John Ditslear was first elected in 2003 and has been reelected three times since. Now he is seeking a fourth consecutive term.

His opponent in the May Republican primary is Mike Corbett, publisher of the Hamilton County Business Magazine. Corbett challenged Mayor Ditslear four years ago with a late campaign as an Independent in the fall 2011 election. This time he is taking the Mayor on as a Republican.

Mayor Ditslear has managed the City during a period of rapid growth. He plans to expand the City to the west in part by creating a major park with an amphitheatre.

Corbett claims that while the City has grown, its neighbors like Carmel and Fishers have grown faster due to more innovative leadership. He sounds the "time for a change" theme.

Who is right? The voters will get to decide on May 5. For more information on Mayor Ditslear and his opponent Mike Corbett visit their campaign websites:

John Ditslear: [www.greaterthingsnoblesville.com](http://www.greaterthingsnoblesville.com)  
Mike Corbett: [www.mikecorbettformayor.com](http://www.mikecorbettformayor.com)



## 2015市政选举年

聚焦 Noblesville: Ditslear 和 Corbett 之争

继之前我们陆续介绍了三个冲刺5月5日初选的城市之后, 我们这次为您介绍第四个 - Noblesville. 像Hamilton县的其他地方一样, 这又是一个共和党占多数之地, 5月当选的人也很有可能会成为赢家, 任期4年。Noblesville人口56,540. 算是Hamilton县中历史最悠久, 百姓安居时间最长的地方。今年的比赛拥有各种各样的复赛。市长John Ditslear于2003年首次当选以来已经连任三届, 现在, 他正在寻求第四次连任。他的共和党初选对手是Mike Corbett, 是哈密尔顿县商业杂志的出版商。他曾在四年前作为一名独立参选者, 挑战市长Ditslear. 而这一次, 他是作为共和党竞选。市长Ditslear带领城市经历了一段快速增长期, 他计划通过在城市西部创建一个露天剧场, 来带动当地发展。Corbett则称, 虽然城市在不断壮大, 但要达到像Carmel, Fishers一样的发展, 还需要更有创新的领导。他的口号更是鼓励选民考虑 "是时候换换了"。谁是谁非? 5月5日见分晓。详情请参阅两人的竞选网站

John Ditslear: [www.greaterthingsnoblesville.com](http://www.greaterthingsnoblesville.com)  
Mike Corbett: [www.mikecorbettformayor.com](http://www.mikecorbettformayor.com)



Incumbent Mayor Ditslear (top) versus Mike Corbett (bottom)

# IACA Great Indy Cleanup

Reported by Benny Ko

From afar, one would think it is a proliferation of spring flowers, that for reasons unknown, arrived earlier than anywhere else.

However, when one comes up closer to this stretch of the road, West 56th Street from the Eagle Creek Park entrance to Raceway Road, that adoration simply turns into a rude disappointment. The profusion of colors on top of the newly germinated grass was not flowers after all but rather discarded plastic bags, beer and soda cans, styrofoam cups and empty liquor bottles, among other descriptions of trash. It is an eyesore.

For sore eyes, one seeks medicine. For eyesore, the city looks for good men and women to go into action. This year, as in past ones, it finds them from IACA (Indiana Association of Chinese Americans). Five volunteers, IACA members and their friends, showed up on the Saturday morning of April 11 and worked side by side with another fifty or so other volunteers. Gloves and trash bags were given out at the Eagle Creek Park Headquarter, with police patrol cars to slow down passing vehicular traffic, everyone set off hunting for trash with the enthusiasm of looking for mushrooms. Three hours later, the result? I will let the following letter from Ms. J. McHenry, City-County Councilwoman and organizer of the event, to finish the story I started.

In short, there is no better way to learn to serve other than by serving. Our city is our home and community, how it looks is a reflection of who we are. The Cleanup is hard work but also a source of pride, joy and honor. Why shall we not expect you at next year's Cleanup too?

## Thank you letter from the City

Just wanted to let you know how much your help on Saturday was appreciated by sending you a huge ThankYou!!!!!!

We had 56 people sign our sheets (and I am not sure everyone signed in), but isn't it ironic that we had:56 Volunteers for our 56th Street Cleanup!

I don't know how many of you have driven back across the causeway and to Raceway Road, but what a lovely difference you all made! WOW, what an improvement! And the amount of trash that was picked up from the piles of bags that were setting ready for pickup after we were done was amazing!

Thanks again for your participation. It is having great people like you that helps make this City a wonderful place to live. You did make a terrific difference today!

Sincerely,  
Janice McHenry  
City-County Councilor District 6



# HIKING AT THE WHITE RIVER STATE PARK

The harsh winter has finally departed and it is a good time to go for a walk to welcome in the spring. The beautiful White River State Park has been a pride and joy of our city and its recently opened section of the White River Trail to the south of downtown is still pristine and little traveled. Very few trails anywhere I know would take one along a gentle riverbank with shady foliage while across the river is the magnificent skyline of our city. On May 3rd when this hike is planned to take place, dogwood and red buds should be in full bloom. The hike/walk is estimated to be 4-5 miles, should be completed leisurely in about an hour, slightly more or less.

The event is free and opened to all. Bottled water will be provided, courtesy of IACA (Indiana Association of Chinese-Americans). Looking forward to a fantastic turn-out. For questions, call Benny @ 317-919-3294.

Date: May 3, 2015. Sunday  
Time: 10:00 AM

Meeting Place: The east end of the pedestrian bridge in the White River State Park. (This pedestrian bridge is located between the New York Street Bridge to the north and the W. Washington Street Bridge to the south).  
Course: The southern section of the White River Trail.

Parking: The Park's parking lots are to the south of the pedestrian bridge, entrance is a left turn at 805 W. Washington Street, going under the iron arch.



The White River Trail pedestrian bridge; the hike will begin from its east end (right side of picture) at 10:00 am precise. Benny Ko, guide, Hiking Club, IACA (Indiana Association of Chinese-Americans)

# ICPC Spring Photo Exhibition

"It was better than excellent, I call it a tour de force lecture on contemporary Middle East history as well as photojournalism. The photography exhibit of the Indiana Chinese Photo Club was also very impressive in artistic height." A comment hailed by Dr. Benny Ko in his feedback after attending the ICPC Spring Photo Exhibition.

The joint event was put together by Indy Asian American Times, Indiana Chinese Photo Club (ICPC), and IUPUI Chinese School on April 19, 2015. Forty selected photographs from ICPC members were displayed and the event was highlighted by a presentation from Bill Foley on his life experience, a Pulitzer award winning photojournalist.



Bill Foley sharing his work and life experience as a photojournalist



IAAT Board Members & Staff with Mr. Bill Foley in front of the ICPC photo gallery

# Infrastructure Improvements

If you commute, shop, or do business on the northeast side of Indianapolis, better roads are on the way. Although most will agree it's what is needed, most will also admit it's what is dreaded. Two major infrastructure improvements are beginning this spring along 82nd Street in Marion County and 96th Street in Hamilton County.

Phase I of the Marion County project is evidenced by yard markers, ribbons around trees, and new rows of utility poles. The Indianapolis Dept. of Public Works has made widening the residential end of 82nd Street part of the REBUILD INDY project providing infrastructure improvements throughout the city. Phase I will focus on 82nd Street from Hague Road to Lantern Road and take a little over a year to complete. Phase II, extending to Fall Creek Road, is slated to begin in Spring 2018.

The 96th Street project in Hamilton County, similar in scope, will widen the 2 lane residential section to 4 lanes from Lantern Road to Mollenkopf Road. A secondary project slated for Summer 2015 will include a multi-lane roundabout at the intersection of 96th Street and Cumberland Road in the middle of the lane widening project.

The long-term benefits is, including increased

driving safety, ease of access, and quicker connectivity to the Keystone submarket, make these projects key to tenants of Keystone at the Crossing. The short-term outlook is equally predictable. Congestion, slow commutes and detours may try the patience of northeast Indy drivers.

For more information, visit the project websites. For the 96th Street project, visit: [www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/v6/egov/documents/1320076050\\_56918.html](http://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/v6/egov/documents/1320076050_56918.html).

For the 82nd Street project, visit: [www.indy.gov/eGov/City/DPW/RebuildIndy/Projects/Pages/82nd-Street-Widening-Project.aspx](http://www.indy.gov/eGov/City/DPW/RebuildIndy/Projects/Pages/82nd-Street-Widening-Project.aspx).



# ARBOR DAY - 植樹節

"Arbor Day is not like other holidays. Each of those reposes on the past, while Arbor Day proposes for the future." ~Julius Sterling Morton



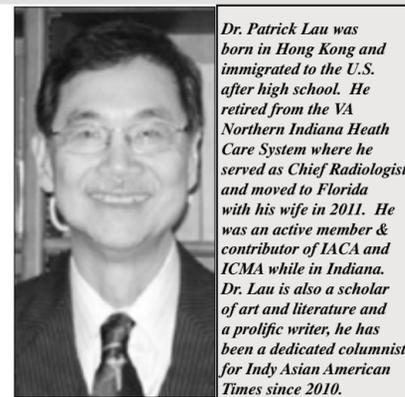
Today, April 24th is Arbor Day in the United States. "Arbor" derives from the Latin word for "tree". Arbor Day is a day dedicated to the celebration and caring of trees as well as for recognizing the significance of trees and planting more trees in our communities. A Chinese proverb says, "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The next best time is now."

Julius Sterling Morton, the founder of Arbor Day, was born in New York State on April 22, 1832. He moved to Michigan where he received his college education and got married. In 1854, the couple relocated to new Nebraska territory and settled down on a 160-acre area of the treeless prairies. Morton soon discovered that the climate was very harsh for farming; from time to time, the black, fertile topsoil was blown away by gusty winds. He planted a tremendous number of trees and shrubs which, besides helping to retain the valuable soil, provided fruit and shade as well as aesthetic value. In fact, there was a great demand for the settlers in the new territory for trees for building houses, farm buildings, fences, fuel and windbreaks.

Morton believed that extensive tree planting would promote the economy of Nebraska. He was also heedful that people should care for and preserve the American natural resources and landscape. He became an advocate for forests and woodlands; he once said, "The cultivation of trees is the cultivation of the good, the beautiful, and the ennobling in man."

Morton published many articles in the newspaper, extolling the merits of planting trees and encouraging people to protect and preserve their farmlands with windbreaks and reforestation projects. On January 4th, 1872, Morton, a member of the Nebraska board of Agriculture, introduced a resolution which was approved by the board to proclaim April 10th, 1872 as the world's first tree-planting holiday, Arbor Day. On that day, approximately one million trees were planted in Nebraska. In 1885, Arbor Day was changed to April 22nd in honor of Morton's birthday, and was made a legal holiday. In 1970, President Richard Nixon proclaimed the last Friday in April as National Arbor Day.

Trees reduce the greenhouse effect. The foliage absorbs carbon dioxide from the atmosphere with the assistance of sunlight to make food (sugar and starch) and release vital oxygen back into the air through photosynthesis. One acre of forest absorbs six tons of carbon dioxide and puts out four tons of oxygen. Carbon dioxide is a major greenhouse gas. Global warming is a consequence of excess greenhouse gases, created by burning fossil fuels (coal and petrol) in our power



Dr. Patrick Lau was born in Hong Kong and immigrated to the U.S. after high school. He retired from the VA Northern Indiana Health Care System where he served as Chief Radiologist and moved to Florida with his wife in 2011. He was an active member & contributor of IACA and ICMA while in Indiana. Dr. Lau is also a scholar of art and literature and a prolific writer, he has been a dedicated columnist for Indy Asian American Times since 2010.

plants, factories and cars, and destruction of tropical rainforests (deforestation). Heat from the sun is trapped in the thickening layer of gases, leading to the elevation of global temperatures. Other than producing oxygen, trees purify the air we breathe by soaking up pollutant gases, such as nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen and ozone. They also filter particulates and other pollutants by entrapping them on their leaves. Trees can help prevent air pollution.

Trees can absorb or break down hazardous chemicals and pollutants that have entered soils, sludge, sediments, surface water and groundwater; the process is termed phytoremediation. Trees clean water runoff; their leaves, trunk, and roots are natural pollution filters. They help combat water pollution. Trees can prevent soil erosion by binding the soil with their roots and break the force of wind and rain on soil by their leaves. They slow storm water runoff. The roots of trees obtain water and moisture from the soil. During transpiration, the leaves return moisture to the atmosphere as water vapor, helping to cause rain. Trees therefore play an important role in the water cycle.

Trees placed around buildings can reduce air conditioning needs by 30% and save 20-50% in energy used for heating. Trees, acting as a sound barrier, provide protection against noise pollution. Trees can increase the property value of our homes by 5-15%. Trees provide fruit, timber, paper and firewood, among other things.

Arbor Day is the time to celebrate planting and nurturing trees. It bestows us the opportunity to appreciate the positive impact of trees on the environment, social, economic and health benefits of our communities. Arbor Day inspires us to plant trees for our future generations. A Greek proverb says, "A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in."

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