



**Easter EGG HUNT**  
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**April 4th • 10am**  
**Holland Park (Fishers)**  
RAIN OR SHINE • FREE • 10,000 EGGS!



**THE HAMILTON COUNTY**  
**REPORTER**  
Your Hometown Newspaper

**THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026**

ARCADIA | ATLANTA | CICERO | SHERIDAN  
CARMEL | FISHERS | NOBLESVILLE | WESTFIELD



**TODAY'S WEATHER**



Today: Partly sunny.  
Tonight: Showers and storms, possibly severe. Heavy rain is possible.



HIGH: 81 LOW: 40

# Help The Gathering House get back on track Friday

**Submitted**

To support repair efforts at The Gathering House following a recent fire, Faith Community Church and Nickel Plate Heritage Railroad will hold a special fundraising event aboard the Nickel Plate Express on Friday, March 27.

The event will bring the community together for an evening of food, trivia, and fundraising, with 100 percent of proceeds going directly toward repairs.

The event, Pizza, Puzzles, and a Bourbon Pull aboard the Nickel Plate Express, will take place during a two-hour sunset ride from 6 to 8 p.m. departing from Forest Park in Noblesville. The fundraiser will feature trivia, pizza, refreshments, a cash bar, a bourbon pull, and a dessert dash.

The Gathering House serves as a community space focused on connection, learning, and service. Organizers are working to raise \$45,000 by April 15 to



Photo provided

complete repairs and reopen the damaged space.

Nickel Plate Express made one of its available train cars accessible for the event as a way to support local recovery efforts. One hundred percent of the proceeds from the evening will go directly toward repair costs for The Gathering House.

"Nickel Plate Express was glad to be able to make a train car available for the evening and

support this effort," said Emily Reynolds, executive director of Nickel Plate Heritage Railroad. "It is a meaningful way to use an otherwise open car while helping Faith Community Church and The Gathering House raise support for an important community space."

The March 27 event will include:

- A two-hour sunset ride aboard the Nickel Plate Express

- Team trivia for groups of four

- Pizza and refreshments included with each ticket

- A cash bar with custom cocktails and wine

- A bourbon pull featuring 24 premium bottles donated by Nickel Plate Express

- A dessert dash featuring donated gourmet desserts

Click here to get your tickets.



Photo provided by Amy Shankland  
Our columnist's rescuer, Sasha.

## Who rescued whom?

It's common to adopt a pet from a shelter. When we do, we often say we "rescued" our dog or cat. But I'm not sure this is truly the case.

Last fall, my family and I heard the devastating news from our vet that we would have to put our sweet cat, Chilly, to sleep. Her lungs were quickly filling up with fluid. She was only 11 years old.

This crushed me. Due to my husband John and I planning to get an RV once we retired, we decided a few years ago we wouldn't adopt any more cats. I dearly love felines, but I wasn't worried. Chilly wasn't that old. I figured I had plenty of time with my little friend. But fate didn't have the same plans.

On that sunny day in late October, my heart felt like a knife had plunged into it. Who would lie on my chest when I did my morning stretches (a.k.a., cat yoga)? Who would sit beside the window on our dining room chair and gaze out at the neighbors? Who would greet me every morning as I gradually awakened?

Our two young adult sons, John, and I were filled with tears and pain those first two weeks after we said goodbye to our Chilly.

See Rescued . . . Page 2

**COLUMNIST**



AMY SHANKLAND  
Perfectly Imperfect



Photos provided

Would you like to try something different this Easter? Come to Woolly Yak Ranch and Winery for a European Easter Walk. There's nothing to rush through. Just relax. Walk. Enjoy the scenery.

## Have you ever been on a European Easter Walk? Come to Woolly Yak!

**The REPORTER**

In many parts of Europe, families celebrate spring with a relaxed Easter Walk, a peaceful stroll outdoors to enjoy the beauty of the season together.

Now you can enjoy that tradition at Woolly Yak Ranch & Winery with the Discovery Edi-

tion Easter Walk – and it's completely free to attend.

From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Easter Sunday, April 5, guests can wander the farm and visit a few Easter Discovery Stops, featuring charming seasonal decorations nestled by the pond and right alongside the sheep pas-

ture, with a few other surprises around the ranch.

If you're hungry, try the Grill & Graze Food Truck.

Take in the fresh spring air, see the animals, and enjoy a simple springtime experience on the farm. As families head out, children will receive can-

dy-filled Easter eggs to place in their baskets.

This is not a rush, and it's not an egg hunt. Just a sweet little spring adventure on the farm.

Woolly Yak Ranch & Winery is located at 3124 E. 266th St., Arcadia, just east of U.S. 31. Learn more at [woollyyak.com](http://woollyyak.com).

## Hamilton Heights Indoor Percussion earns fourth consecutive trip to IPA State Finals

**Submitted by Hamilton Heights School Corp.**

Hamilton Heights Indoor Percussion ensemble has advanced to the Indiana Percussion Association (IPA) State Finals for the fourth year in a row.

Following a season defined by rigorous rehearsals, strong competition, and unwavering commitment, the ensemble secured 12th place, earning the final qualifying position for this year's State Finals.

The group will perform at the Hulman Center on the Indiana State University campus at 11:43 a.m. Saturday, March 28.

"This season has been grueling, but our students never backed down," said Mark Snelson, Hamilton Heights High School Band Director. "Their hard work, resilience, and heart carried them through some tough competition, and I



Photo provided by Hamilton Heights School Corporation

Members of Hamilton Heights Indoor Percussion brings intensity and precision to the floor, clinching the final qualifying spot for this year's IPA State Finals.

couldn't be more proud of the way they earned their spot at State Finals."

This achievement reflects

the dedication, discipline, and resilience of the students and staff who have worked tirelessly throughout the season. Ham-

ilton Heights congratulates the ensemble and wishes them the very best as they represent the school on the state stage.

## Share your story on POW Recognition Day

Submitted by Jon Baldwin  
Clay Twp. Military Library & Museum

Clay Township Military Library and Museum invites former U.S. prisoners of war and family members of POWs to join us for a special observance from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, April 9 in honor of National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day.



The event will take place at the Clay Township Military Library and Museum, 10801 N. College Ave., Carmel.

**Why April 9?**

April 9 is the official date designated to honor and recognize the courage, resilience, and sacrifice of Americans who were held as prisoners of war and returned. This day holds deep significance in military history and serves as a solemn reminder of the extraordinary hardships endured by POWs and their families.

**Featured presentation**

We are honored to have George Matta Jr. share the powerful story of his father, George Matta, who was a prisoner of war during the Korean War. George will present twice, at 9 a.m. and at noon, in the Community Meeting Room of the nearby Township Government Center to accommodate all who wish to attend.

See POW . . . Page 2

# RESCUE

from Page 1

Then one morning as I began to wake up, I heard a strange rumble. It was our one-year-old pup, Sasha, whom we had adopted last June. We no longer had a gate at the top of our stairs (a necessity when we had a kitty box) so Sasha burst into my room, leaped on my bed, and covered my face with kisses.

She decided to join me for my stretches, and cat yoga morphed into puppy yoga ... which is a bit more violent ... but still gave me some good laughs. I also remembered Sasha's enjoyment of looking out the window, and I put the dining room chair in front of it. She began to sit there a few times a day.

No new pet can completely replace the loss of another. I still have painful

moments, especially when I open a can of tuna and don't see a ball of fur skidding into the kitchen. But Sasha's exuberance and love have eased our family's pain these last six months. Her joy has helped our grief in countless ways.

John was cuddling with Sasha recently when he looked up at me and said, "I know we rescued her ... but I think she really rescued us."

As we enjoy daily walks, play time, and Sasha's slobbery kisses, I agree. Maybe when we adopt a pet, they are the ones who rescue us.

*Amy Shankland is an empty-nester, writer, and fundraising professional living in Noblesville with her husband John and two dogs. You can reach her via email at [amys@greenavenue.info](mailto:amys@greenavenue.info).*



Photos provided by Allison Waitt

# Sheridan High School honors outstanding students at National Honor Society induction ceremony

Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

Sheridan High School held its annual National Honor Society (NHS) induction ceremony on Monday, March 16.

This event recognized students who have demonstrated excellence in scholarship, leadership, service, and character. These values truly represent the best of the Sheridan Blackhawk community.

To be eligible for NHS membership, Sheridan High School students must have a cumulative grade-point average of 3.5 or higher. Eligible students are then reviewed and selected for induction.

The induction ceremony shines a light on students who are making positive impacts in the classroom and outside of it. The event brought together students, faculty, and families to honor the accomplishments of these new inductees.

Sheridan High School and Sheridan Community Schools are proud of their hard work and commitment, and look forward to seeing the impact these individuals will continue to make both in school and beyond.

- Norah Adams
- Emily Berner
- Jordan Byrne
- Liliana Caudillo
- Lia Christman
- Dylan Clear
- Oliver Crail
- Tanner Dawson
- Isabella Delgado
- Desh Donathen
- Amiyah Doss



- Lillian Dunn
- Amy Foley
- Presley Fox
- Felicity Garrett
- Isadora Grau
- Elisha Henderson
- Avery Hills

- Addison Houde
- Adria Jump
- Ben Martin
- Adalyn McCardia
- Vivian Olivias
- Omi Patel
- Haeyli Pilkington

- Grace Pratt
- Khamila Reyes-Espinoza
- Leann Huffman
- Alexis Sayre
- Kelsey Sedwick
- Elijah Shirar
- Madison Underwood

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# POW

**We need your voice**

We are seeking living former POWs and family members of POWs (now deceased) who would be willing to share their stories – whether briefly or at length – during our event. Some have written accounts or been interviewed; others may wish to speak informally or simply be recognized for their service and sacrifice.

Your participation matters. Every story preserves history, educates our community, and honors the legacy of those who endured captivity in service to our nation.

**How to participate**

If you are a former POW, or a family member of a POW, and would like to share your story or simply

attend and be recognized, please contact us:

- Email: [claytwpmilitarymuseum@gmail.com](mailto:claytwpmilitarymuseum@gmail.com)
- Phone: (317) 435-7194

• In person: Visit us at 10801 N. College Ave., Carmel

Our librarian and our genealogist are actively researching records to identify and reach out to former POWs in our county, but we know personal networks are invaluable. Please share this message with anyone you know who might be interested in participating or attending.

**Can't participate but want to support?**

If you know of a former POW or family member who should be invited, please share their contact



Photo provided

information with us (with their permission), or forward this email directly.

We are honored to create

a space where these important stories can be told and preserved for future generations.

from Page 1

CD rates that are better than they have to be? That's highly un-bank-like.

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**3.66% APY\***  
17 Month CD/IRA

Community **FIRST** Bank of Indiana

\* APY is Annual Percentage Yield. APY is effective as of 3/13/2026 and is subject to change without notice. Minimum balance to open account and obtain APY is \$1,000.00. Early withdrawal may be subject to penalty. Fees may reduce earnings on the account. Other standard and special rate maturity terms are available. Member FDIC

## Community News

See all Westfield Winter Programs ensembles in one place ... no fooling!

Westfield Band Winter Programs Community Night is less than a week away ... Wednesday, April 1. This is your one opportunity to see all four ensembles in one place.

Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and include all four Westfield Winter Programs ensembles: RA Guard, Open Guard, Indoor Percussion, and World Winds. Senior members will also be honored ... and there may be a few other surprises throughout the night.

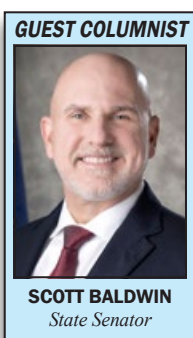
Tickets are \$5 (available online or at the door).

Get yours now at:

[whsband.ticketspice.com/community-preview](http://whsband.ticketspice.com/community-preview).

## A short session with meaningful results

The 2026 legislative session may have been short, but it delivered meaningful results for our state. From public safety to affordability and government accountability, we focused on issues



SCOTT BALDWIN  
State Senator

\$237 million. At the same time, we advanced efforts to improve electric utility affordability and bring greater transparency to energy pricing, an issue I continue to hear about from constituents.

that matter most to Hoosier families here in District 20.

Public safety continues to be a top priority, especially as new technologies create new challenges. This session, I authored legislation to ensure law enforcement can detect and respond to unauthorized drones when permitted under federal law, giving our first responders the tools they need to keep our communities safe. I also authored a law to modernize Indiana's judicial security structure, strengthening protections for judges, court staff and court facilities at a time when threats against members of the judiciary are becoming more frequent, including here in Indiana.

We also took steps to give courts more flexibility to keep dangerous criminals off our streets. I supported a commonsense constitutional amendment to allow judges greater discretion when setting bail, and I look forward to supporting this measure again when it appears on the ballot later this fall.

Affordability was another key focus, as families across our community continue to feel the pressure of rising costs. We passed legislation eliminating state taxes on tips, overtime pay and loan interest on American-made vehicles for the 2026 tax year, a change expected to save Hoosiers

Health care access remains a top concern for many families. To address this, I authored legislation preventing insurance companies from penalizing hospitals when care involves an out-of-network provider, a practice that can limit access to care and shift costs onto patients. This new law reinforces the intent of the federal No Surprises Act and helps ensure Hoosiers can get the care they need without unnecessary barriers.

Finally, we made progress toward a more efficient and accountable state government. By streamlining outdated boards and commissions, modernizing procurement practices and eliminating unnecessary fees, we are reducing bureaucracy and making government more responsive to the people it serves.

There is still more work to do, and I will continue meeting with constituents, working with colleagues and preparing for the next legislative session to address the challenges facing our communities.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to reach out this session. Your input is invaluable, and it is an honor to represent you at the Statehouse.

Republican Scott Baldwin represents District 20 in the Indiana Senate, which includes Noblesville.

# Father of slain teen pushes for new Indiana law to protect children online

By CAT SANDOVAL  
WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](http://wishtv.com)

The father of Hailey Buzbee is pushing for a new Indiana law to protect teens and children from predators.

If approved by next year's Legislature, Hailey's Law, named after his daughter, would give families and authorities opportunities to act in the most critical hours, Beau Buzbee says.

The Fishers girl and Hamilton Southeastern student went missing in January after communicating with a 39-year-old Ohio man she met online. She was later found dead in Ohio.

As a result of her death, Indiana lawmakers this year updated the Indiana Silver Alert to include high-risk endangered children who are missing.

The proposed Hailey's Law would institute a Pink Alert for missing high-risk

youth in cases specifically involving online grooming or trafficking risks. It's a gap, the family says, that can be missed by an Amber Alert or an Indiana Silver Alert. The proposed Hailey's Law also would push for mandated online safety education in schools.

Beau said, "We're also asking for higher penalties for first-offense groomers. Right now, it's a misdemeanor, and we need that to be a felony, and I think Hoosier families would agree. In today's world, things move so fast we don't have days before we complete some initial steps."

A suspect has been arrested and charged in connection with Hailey's disappearance, but nobody has been criminally charged in relation to her death.

Talking about his desire to change Indiana law has not an easy conversation for Beau to have as he mourns

his daughter. He said she was interested in journalism and communications. "I saw a folder. It was full of college flyers and applications and Hailey. ... She had a future and was looking forward to it."

"She's a very special girl to us and because of that love and how selfless she was as a person and all about other people and those relationships, and we just want to carry that forward for others."

Beau said he intends to champion Hailey's Law in **remembrance of her** and to assure it doesn't happen to another child again. "The changes we make together will be rooted in the love Hailey brought into this world during her time with us."

Hailey was a good kid, a star student, and a hard worker, Beau said, and there were no obvious signs. The family implemented safe-

guards, such as keeping no computers or phones in her room at night and keeping her door open. Despite this, she was lured away.

Beau encouraged parents to be diligent and to keep communication open. "We know some of them have had to do it alone, and what we're trying to do is surround them with love and support to where they feel hope so they can feel like they can take action and fight. ... We're trying to getting work done to fill those gaps."

Beau said he is grateful for the community support, using that attention to act. The father said he intends to deliver a draft of Hailey's Law to state lawmakers next week.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at [wishtv.com/news/politics/father-of-slain-teen-pushes-for-new-indiana-law-to-protect-children-online](http://wishtv.com/news/politics/father-of-slain-teen-pushes-for-new-indiana-law-to-protect-children-online).

## Bierman Autism Centers launches *Pilot the Penguin: Alex's Learning Adventure* in honor of Autism Acceptance Month

### Submitted

Bierman Autism Centers (BAC) announces the launch of *Pilot the Penguin: Alex's Learning Adventure*, a children's book released in honor of Autism Acceptance Month that celebrates the unique learning journey of every child.

Observed each April, Autism Acceptance Month encourages communities to move beyond awareness toward deeper understanding and inclusion. With approximately one in 31 children in the United States diagnosed with autism, according to the CDC, the story aims to help families celebrate individuality, progress, and the many different ways children learn and grow.

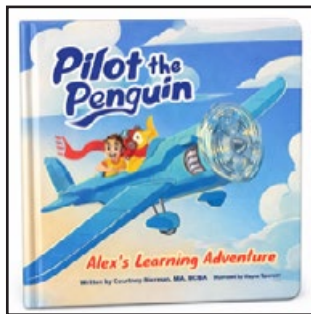
Written by Courtney Bierman, BCBA, President and Founder of Bierman Autism Centers, the book builds on Bierman's beloved *Pilot the Penguin* character, first introduced through the *Adventures of Pilot the Penguin* coloring book and the *Pilot the Penguin* stuffed companion. Together, these efforts reflect

Bierman's commitment to creating meaningful, family-centered experiences that extend learning beyond the therapy center and into everyday life.

*Pilot the Penguin: Alex's Learning Adventure* is a gentle, story-driven book designed to highlight individuality, resilience, and progress. The story offers families a warm, accessible way to talk about learning differences, growth, and belonging.

"Pilot was created to reflect what we see every day in the children and families we serve," Bierman said. "Though Pilot can't fly alone, anything is possible with the right support, creativity, and encouragement. This book is a celebration of that belief."

All current Bierman families will receive a copy of the book, and it will be



Graphic provided

included as part of the Day 1 welcome experience for new clients, along with a *Pilot the Penguin* stuffed companion.

Families, educators, and community members can visit [adventureswithpilot.com](http://adventureswithpilot.com) to learn more about the book and be among the first to know when it becomes available for purchase on Amazon.

Copies of the book will also be donated to local libraries near Bierman centers, extending the message

of acceptance and inclusion to the broader community.

### About Bierman Autism Centers

Bierman Autism Centers provides play-based, individualized ABA therapy designed to help children with autism grow, thrive, and build meaningful life skills, including communication, independence, and self-advocacy. Founded in 2006, Bierman is privately held and clinically owned and operated. Learn more online at [biermanautism.com](http://biermanautism.com). Families and referring clinicians can call (888) 795-9465 or email [start@biermanautism.com](mailto:start@biermanautism.com) to speak with an intake specialist or schedule a tour.

## Thanks for reading!

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Must be 18 years or older to play.

\*Bingo is free to play and tickets sold help cover food, support a good cause, and to reserve your spot. IGC ref. #164314 - Lic. #017492.

## Thanks for reading!

# An evening with The Crane Wives featuring Brye

Live in concert this August in Fishers

**The REPORTER**

The Nickel Plate District Amphitheater (NPD AMP) and MOKB Presents have announced a special evening with indie band The Crane Wives featuring Brye live in concert in Fishers on Saturday, Aug. 22.

Tickets go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday, March 27 [fisherslive.com](http://fisherslive.com), [npdamp.com](http://npdamp.com), and [mokbpresents.com](http://mokbpresents.com).

Indiana has evolved into a strong concert and live en-

tertainment market with the addition of its new world-class arena and the continued growth of the wildly popular outdoor Nickel Plate District Amphitheater. Both venues have helped propel the market as a must-play city on the concert circuit, welcoming hundreds of thousands of fans each year.

**More about The Crane Wives**  
Born of the 2010s folk boom and now comfortably

stationed in their rock and roll era, The Crane Wives epitomize the evolving landscape of indie folk. Their high-energy performances are described as “charged with emotion and technical skill” (Blurred Culture LA), while their harmony-dense melodies support deeply resonant lyrics, exploring the vulnerable and the ugly sides of the human condition.

Visit [thecranewives.com](http://thecranewives.com) for more information.

# Indiana Wind Symphony presents “Suite Dreams” concert April 12 at the Payne & Mencias Palladium

**The REPORTER**

The Indiana Wind Symphony will present “Suite Dreams,” a concert celebrating familiar melodies and imaginative musical storytelling, at 4 p.m. Sunday, April 12 at the Payne & Mencias Palladium at the Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts in Carmel.

The program highlights composer Steven Bryant’s “Suite Dreams,” a work inspired by the iconic melody from Gustav Holst’s “First Suite in E-Flat.” It will also feature “Sweet New Moon” by Yukiko Nishimura, “Suite from Mass” by Leonard Bernstein, and “First Suite in E-flat for Military Band” by Gustav Holst, among other “sweet” musical selections.

Additionally, the concert will highlight the Indiana Wind Symphony Young Artists Concerto Competition winner, Caliel Mosley, a 16-year-old clarinetist from Crown Point, Ind. Mosley studies under John Bruce Yeh and Teresa Reilly, and he is a scholarship fellow of

the Chicago Musical Pathways Initiative, an intensive training and scholarship program for select young musicians in the Chicago area.

“We had submissions to our concerto competition from so many talented students around Indiana, but Caliel stood out among the pack,” said Jay Gephart, music director of the Indiana Wind Symphony. “His talent and professionalism at such a young age are remarkable, and we are thrilled to have him join us on stage for this concert.”

As an added feature, advanced musicians from local high schools who were nominated by their teachers will perform alongside members of the Indiana Wind Symphony during two pieces on the program. This provides students with the opportunity to experience performing in a professional ensemble setting.



**Mosley**

The concert begins at 4 p.m. on April 12 at the Payne & Mencias Palladium in Carmel. Tickets start at \$22, with \$10 tickets available for students and seniors.

Tickets and additional information are available at [this link](#).

**About the Indiana Wind Symphony**

Founded in 1997, the Indiana Wind Symphony is Central Indiana’s premier symphonic wind ensemble, dedicated to performing compelling repertoire that spans classical masterpieces, contemporary works, and culturally inspired programs. Composed of passionate musicians, educators, and community members, IWS seeks to enrich lives through outstanding musical experiences and community engagement. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [indianawindsymphony.org](http://indianawindsymphony.org).

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[www.basilewestfieldplayhouse.org](http://www.basilewestfieldplayhouse.org)

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# Cheryl Anne Lorance art showing debuts April 3 in Zionsville

**Submitted**

The Art of Cheryl Anne Lorance will be on display beginning Friday, April 3 at Robert Goodman Jewelers, 106 N. Main St., Zionsville.

The showing opens with a public reception at the Zionsville shop from 5 to 7 p.m. on April 3. Light refreshments will be served and the artist will be on site to discuss her limited-edition etchings, watercolors, and ink drawings.

Lorance is a sculptor, illustrator, and educator. She moved to Santa Fe, N.M., after obtaining her Master’s Degree in Sculpture in 1996 from Ball State University. While in Santa Fe she continued her work in bronze and established a career as a goldsmith. She began working in stone and returned to Indiana in 2012. Since her return to the Hoosier State, she has completed several stone public artworks in-

cluding 10 hand-carved benches for the newly opened Riley Arts Trail in Greenfield.

A special guest exhibitor at the showing will be Abby Filter, a long-time friend of Lorance who studied art with her at Ball State. Filter embraces drawing as a stress-reducing, meditative process, using watercolor, markers, and colored pencil on paper to create portraits, small drawings, and handmade cards.

The showing will be at Robert Goodman Jewelers through May 31.

Robert Goodman Jewelers is owned and operated by Robert and Rose-Marie Goodman. Founded in 2000, the shop is distinguished through its unique offerings including per-



**Lorance**

sonally curated collections from diverse designers and environmentally-conscious pieces from sustainable designers.

The Goodmans are committed to fighting discrimination, supporting their community and the people in it (especially local schools and fine arts), partnering with numerous organizations that strive to make a difference in our world, and maintaining a gun-free space.

For additional information about the store and upcoming events, including art showings and trunk shows featuring exclusive jewelry creations and their designers, visit [robertgoodmanjewelers.com](http://robertgoodmanjewelers.com) or follow Robert Goodman Jewelers on Facebook and Instagram.

# The 2026 Hamilton County Passion Play

## Behold the Lamb

produced by Behold the Lamb Ministries, Inc.  
Featuring a Cast, Choir & Crew of over 300

Noblesville High School Performing Arts Center

Wednesday, April 1 - 7:00 pm  
Thursday, April 2 - 7:00 pm  
Friday, April 3 - 7:00 pm  
Saturday, April 4 - 11:00 am & 5:00 pm

**A Spectacular Live Theatre Tradition Since 1991!**

Ticket Required for Admission - Seating is Limited  
Order tickets online at [beholdthelamb.com](http://beholdthelamb.com) or

# 1-800-965-9324

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# Sheridan High School hosts quarterly Future Fair

## Submitted by Sheridan Community Schools

On Friday, March 20, Sheridan High School held another Future Fair for high school students and eighth graders.

These college and career fairs are put on each quarter for students to gain insight into the businesses, schools, and opportunities that await them after high school and beyond.

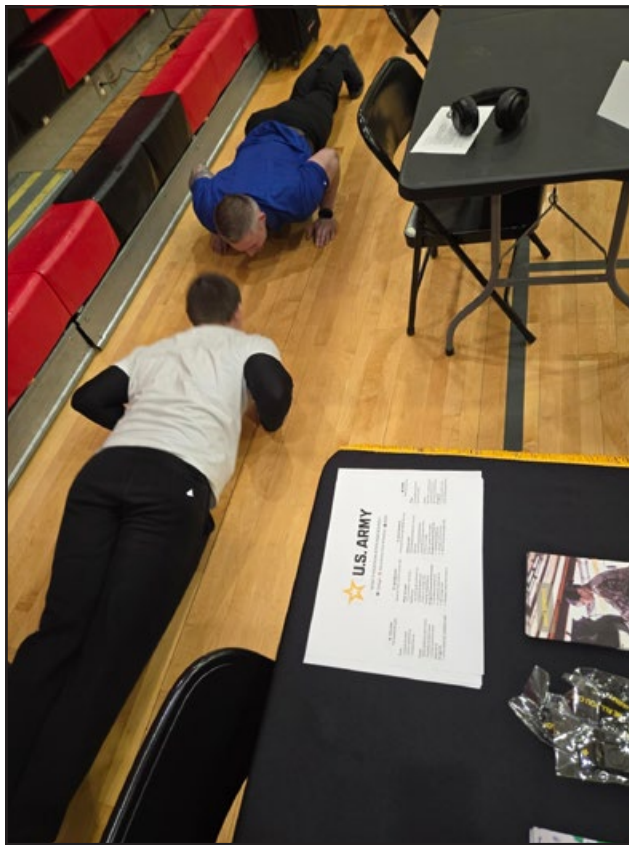
At this quarter's Future Fair, students had the opportunity to learn about the various career paths while interacting with the representatives from the local businesses and organizations. Through the conversations, students are able to form a personal connection and gain real-world insight into the different pathways.

These experiences help bridge the gap between high school and post-graduation life while allowing students to better understand what they are capable of. Students got to meet and make connections with the following businesses and organizations:

- ABG Ag Services
- Aspire Indiana Health
- Bullpen Tournaments
- C & N Pool Manage-

- ment
- Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation
- Chick-fil-A Westfield
- Wheeler Landing
- City of Noblesville
- Crew Carwash
- CTA - Custom Truck & Auto
- Dental Careers Foundation
- H&N Outdoor Services, LLC
- Hamilton County Public Safety Communications
- IU Indianapolis
- Ivy Tech Community College
- Manchester University
- Shelby Materials, Inc
- SKYLAKE Adventures
- Swenson & Associates PC
- The Learning Experience
- U.S. Army
- University of Southern Indiana
- Valparaiso University
- Vet Tech Institute of Indiana

Sheridan High School and Middle School appreciate the businesses and organizations for their time, support, and willingness to invest in students by providing meaningful conversations and real-world opportunities.



Photos provided by Jill Cali

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# Sheridan Library filled with eggy goodness



Sheridan Public Library was filled with fun at the annual Easter Egg Hunt last Saturday, March 21. Children were delighted to hunt for candy-filled eggs, play fun games, and make spring crafts. The Easter Bunny hopped by to visit with children and take adorable photos. Keep track of all upcoming events at the library at [sheridan.lib.in.us](http://sheridan.lib.in.us).

Photos provided by Sheridan Public Library

## New at Sheridan Public Library

### The REPORTER Fiction

- Astral Library – Kate Quinn
- Bookstore Diaries – Susan Mallery
- Crossroads – C.J. Box
- Felicia’s Favorites – Danielle Steel
- Is Anyone Listening? – Barbara Freethy
- Judge Stone – James Patterson
- Just For the Cameras – Meghan Quinn
- Lady Tremaine – Rachel Hochhauser
- Mistakes Were Made – Lucy Score
- Names – Florence Knapp
- Obsession – Natasha Preston
- To His New Wife – Willow Rose
- Tourist Season – Brynne Weaver
- Even If – Bart Millard
- Fireworks – Matthew Burgess
- Five Mice Bake a Cake – Rebecca Donnelly
- Growing Home – Beth Ferry

- How to Catch a Garden Gnome – A. Walstead
- Iguana Miss You! – Sandra Boynton
- Wilma & Cal Cast a Spell – Rebecca Donnelly
- All Booked Up – Melody Carlson
- Amish Country Killer – Mary Alford
- Chasing a Kidnapper – Laura Scott
- Mountain Murder Retreat – Shannon Redmond
- Protecting the Orphan – Jodie Bailey
- Secrets Beneath the Snow – Teresa Summers
- Obsession – Natasha Preston
- Stage Set For Villains – Shannon J. Spann
- Sun and the Starmaker – Rachel Griffin
- Thousand Boy Kisses – Tillie Cole
- Thousand Broken Pieces – Tillie Cole
- David
- Housemaid
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# Join central Indiana's newest Kroger team

Grocer seeks more than 250 associates for new Noblesville store

**The REPORTER**

One of Noblesville's most-anticipated construction projects enters a new season soon, hiring season. Kroger is ready to build the team for the new store that will open this spring at 146th Street and Howe Road. The grocer has openings in every department of the store.

"Our people are the heart of our business and are truly what makes our stores run efficiently every day," said Mike Goodwin, President of Kroger Central Division. "That's why we're looking, first, for friendly, energetic

people. Whether you have years of experience or are just getting started, this new store has a place for you. Kroger offers an inclusive culture with tremendous potential for growth. We're confident applicants will quickly discover why Kroger says, 'Come for a job. Stay for a career.'"

The new Noblesville store will employ more than 250 associates, adding to an impressive workforce across eight other local Kroger stores in Hamilton County. No experience is required for hourly clerks; however,

store leaders desire experience in candidates who could lead key departments in the store. Schedules for the positions will vary based on the role. Some associates can anticipate a traditional retail schedule, working nights and weekends.

Pay will also vary based on experience. The beginning wage for clerks is \$16.05 per hour. New hires will appreciate exclusive associate perks such as product discounts, education incentives, and competitive compensation plans.

"This is how Kroger

helps feed your future by supporting associates, providing value to their lives today and in the future," Goodwin said.

Members of the Kroger hiring team will hold their first open interviews at the 116th Street and Cumberland Kroger in Fishers, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, March 28. Job seekers are also welcome to apply at [krogerfamilycareers.com](http://krogerfamilycareers.com) or via the QR code provided here.

Kroger plans to unveil the new store with a Grand Opening celebration in June.

## Community News

*Celebrate Holy Week with free choir & orchestral performance*

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints invites everyone to a multi-denominational Holy Week musical celebration.

This choir and orchestral performance will take place from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at the Pike Performing Arts Center, 6701 Zionsville Road, Indianapolis. Doors will open at 4 p.m.

This presentation brings together a multi-denominational adult and youth choir and orchestra, small vocal ensembles, and a children's choir in a powerful celebration of the life, sacrifice, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Reserve your free spot at [this link](#) ... but hurry! Seats are going quickly.

## Hamilton County Federation of Democratic Women seeks members

Submitted by Hamilton County Democratic Party

Democratic women from across Hamilton County are invited to attend the inaugural meeting of the Hamilton County Federation of Democratic Women (HCFDW) at 1 p.m. Sunday, March 29 at Eller House, 7050 E. 116th St., Fishers.

The meeting marks the launch of a new caucus dedicated to educating, energizing, and empowering Democratic women while expanding civic engagement and leadership opportunities across the county.

Organizers say the moment presents a unique opportunity for local Democratic women to get in on the ground floor of a new group and help shape its direction, priorities, and impact from the very beginning.

As Democratic wom-

en across Indiana mobilize ahead of an important election cycle, the HCFDW aims to connect women who want to become more involved in local politics, support Democratic candidates, and build a stronger pipeline of women leaders in the party and public office.

"Women are the backbone of our families, communities, schools, and corporations," Jessica Irvine said. "It's time we made a concerted effort to ensure civic engagement has not only their input, but their strategic direction."

All Democratic women in Hamilton County, whether longtime volunteers, new activists, or those simply interested in learning more, are encouraged to attend, meet fellow community members, and help build this new organization together.

## Gov. Braun praises IURC for strong defense of ratepayers following utility hearing, expresses disappointment with utilities' defense of high rates

Submitted by Office of Governor Mike Braun

Indiana Governor Mike Braun praised the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) and Chairman Andy Zay for their strong, ratepayer-first approach during the March 24 utility rate hearing, while expressing disappointment with how the major utilities defended continued high rates.

The Governor said he will personally review the results of the hearing and the IURC's upcoming listening sessions to identify every additional way to deliver relief to Hoosier families.

"On Tuesday, utilities defended their rate increases in front of the IURC," Gov. Braun said. "I want to strongly praise Chairman Zay and the entire Commission for taking a hard stand and demanding real accountability. They asked the tough questions and made it clear that automatic pass-throughs and unchecked hikes are no longer accept-

able. Residential electric rates have climbed 28.9 percent since 2014 – far outpacing inflation and our peer states. Hoosier families have had enough."

"I will personally review the results of Tuesday's hearing and the full listening sessions to identify every additional way we can deliver real relief to ratepayers," Gov. Braun said. "With HEA 1002 now law, we have the tools to make it happen, and these sessions will ensure the voices of the people paying the bills come first."

**Key facts on Indiana electric rates (U.S. Energy Information Administration data)**

- Residential rates rose 28.9 percent from 2014 to 2025 (11.46 ¢/kWh to 14.77 ¢/kWh).

- In the most recent year alone (2024 to 2025), rates

jumped 11 percent – the highest increase in the Midwest.

- Neighboring states from 2024-2025: Illinois +7 percent; Ohio +9 percent; Michigan +6 percent; Kentucky +1 percent

- In multiple years, Indiana's residential electric price growth exceeded the national Consumer Price Index (CPI).

**Governor Braun's actions on energy affordability**

- Signed HEA 1002, establishing performance-based ratemaking, multi-year rate plans, low-income bill stabilization programs, and new transparency requirements for utilities.

- Appointed new IURC commissioners with a clear mandate to prioritize ratepayer interests and scrutinize costs more rigorously.

- Strengthened the Of-

fice of Utility Consumer Counselor to ensure stronger advocacy for families and small businesses.

- Made utility rate relief a cornerstone of the 2026 legislative agenda and State of the State address.

The Governor says Hoosiers are already seeing results from ratepayer-focused approach to energy. Indiana Michigan Power (AEP/I&M) has announced it will file a new rate case specifically designed to lower residential rates for its customers.

The IURC will hold a series of public listening sessions across the state beginning this week. Ratepayers are encouraged to attend and share their electric bills, experiences, and ideas. Testimony will directly inform future regulatory proceedings under the new authorities granted by HEA 1002.

Session details and registration information will be posted at [in.gov/iurc](http://in.gov/iurc) in the coming days.



Braun

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## TODAY'S BIBLE READING

### DUTIES OF PRIESTS AND LEVITES

The Lord said to Aaron, "You, your sons and your family are to bear the responsibility for offenses connected with the sanctuary, and you and your sons alone are to bear the responsibility for offenses connected with the priesthood. Bring your fellow Levites from your ancestral tribe to join you and assist you when you and your sons minister before the tent of the covenant law. They are to be responsible to you and are to perform all the duties of the tent, but they must not go near the furnishings of the sanctuary or the altar. Otherwise both they and you will die. They are to join you and be responsible for the care of the tent of meeting—all the work at the tent—and no one else may come near where you are."

Numbers 18:1-4 (NIV)

### Nancy T. Jasper

November 20, 1962 – March 22, 2026

Nancy T. Jasper (née Shultz), a woman of spirited humor and boundless love, was born on November 20, 1962, in Indianapolis. She passed away on March 22, 2026.

Nancy, a loving homemaker, was married to her beloved husband, Andrew Jasper, on January 7, 1992, and together they created a wonderful life and family. Their love story was one of patience, understanding, and endless devotion. Nancy was a funny, generous, and loving mother to her children, January Jones and Andrew Jasper, and to her grandson Kai Grise. Nancy is also survived by her sisters Betsy, Susan, Janet, and Mary Helen, and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Betty Shultz.

Nancy's visitation will be held from 1 to 2 p.m. Friday, March 27, 2026, at Hartley-Dunnichay Funeral Home, 209 W. Jackson St., Cicero. Her memorial service will follow at the same location at 2 p.m. Services are under the direction of the Hartley-Dunnichay Funeral Homes – Cicero.

Condolences: [hartleyfuneralhomes.com](http://hartleyfuneralhomes.com)



# Indiana Orthopedic Institute unveils expansion of services

## The REPORTER

Noblesville-based Indiana Orthopedic Institute announced Tuesday that it is expanding by adding a clinic, specialties, and surgeons to become a full-service provider of musculoskeletal care.

The growth includes adding physicians, staff, locations, and service lines beyond the Institute's original focus on hip and knee joint replacement.

- New outpatient clinic at 747 County Line Road, Suite J, in Greenwood, opening March 30 to serve patients in the Southside region of Indianapolis.

- Fellowship-trained orthopedic surgeon Dr. Daniel Williams joins in May to provide sports medicine

and general orthopedic services, including ACL reconstruction, knee and shoulder arthroscopy, rotator cuff repair, and other sports-related injuries.

- Service lines for spinal care and foot and ankle care are planned for this summer and fall.

With these additions, Indiana Orthopedic Institute is a comprehensive provider of musculoskeletal care. The expansion offers patients more nationally recognized care close to home.

"This high-quality, efficient care is attractive to patients and employees providing their health benefits," said Dr. Michael Meneghini, Indiana Orthopedic Institute's founder

and CEO. "Our expansion has been an evolution of the Indiana Orthopedic Institute. What we are doing resonates with people, and as a result, we're growing."

Indiana Orthopedic Institute is also expanding its commitment to research, education, and the physician-patient relationship. These efforts include its Surgeon Visitation Program, in which physicians visit Indiana Orthopedic Institute's Noblesville surgery center to study modern techniques and protocols for same-day discharge orthopedic procedures.

Indiana Orthopedic Institute also uses research-backed protocols to serve patients by increasingly offering same-day

discharge for more complex procedures, such as revision (redo) surgeries on hip and knee implants.

These moves follow February's expansion of no-appointment, walk-in urgent care for musculoskeletal issues at Indiana Orthopedic Institute's Noblesville and Terre Haute facilities and its clinic in Brazil, Ind.

"Our model is simple amid the complexity of modern health care," Dr. Meneghini said. "We have tightly integrated care teams, guided by proven protocols and research, and we treat each patient as we would a member of our own family."

Learn more at [indianaortho.com](http://indianaortho.com).

## Vicious Biscuit of Fishers shakes up brunch with a bold new cocktail lineup

### Submitted

Brunch just got a bold new attitude. Vicious Biscuit, the Southern-made originator of bold biscuit creations and the fast-casual brunch rebellion, is rolling out a refreshed cocktail menu that leans all the way into what the brand does best: deliver big flavors, a little attitude and a brunch experience that doesn't play by the rules.

The new lineup introduces three spirited additions designed to complement its biscuit stacks and keep the good times roll-

ing. The Bold Fashioned is a twist on a classic, made with Elijah Craig bourbon, house-made hot honey simple syrup, bitters, fresh-squeezed orange juice and finished with an orange twist. The Iced Espresso Martini blends Tito's vodka, cold brew and Baileys for a smooth, brunch-ready option served over ice. The Dude is a laid-back favorite featuring Tito's vodka, milk, and Kahlúa served over ice for a rich, nostalgic sip.

Because no brunch is complete without a mimosa



Photo by Andrew Cebulka

moment, Vicious Biscuit is also expanding its mimosa offerings. Guests can now choose from fresh-squeezed orange, cranberry, apple, or grapefruit juice, providing more ways to customize their brunch experience.

"Brunch should feel like something special, and that includes what's in your glass," said George McLaughlin, co-founder and CEO of Vicious Biscuit. "These new cocktails are bold, indulgent and made to match the way our guests love to brunch."

This cocktail refresh comes as part of the brand's ongoing commitment to listening to guest feedback and elevating the overall brunch experience. To make room for the updated offerings, select cocktails, including the Southern Sunrise, The Greyhound and The Screwdriver, have been removed, keeping the menu focused, fresh and aligned with guest preferences.

The new cocktail menu is available now at all Vicious Biscuit locations. Visit [viciousbiscuit.com](http://viciousbiscuit.com).

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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 500 words. The limitations of space may not allow for longer ones to appear in print.

Submit obituaries under 500 words online at [ReadTheReporter.com/obitform](http://ReadTheReporter.com/obitform).

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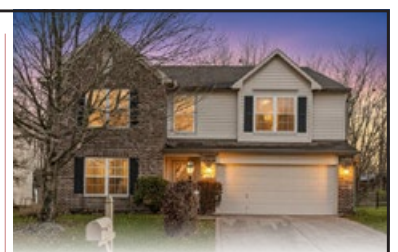


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## REPORTER SPORTS THURSDAY

Sports Editor Richie Hall | [Sports@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:Sports@ReadTheReporter.com) | Twitter @Richie\_Hall

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

# Several county boys players named to IBCA Supreme 15 teams

### The REPORTER

Six Hamilton County boys basketball players are among the 15 seniors and 15 underclass players that have earned IBCA "Supreme 15" All-State honors for 2025-26, it was announced Wednesday.

The IBCA also named Large School All-State teams (17 seniors, 16 underclass) and Small School All-State teams (16 seniors, 15 underclass). Another six county players appear on those lists.

The "Supreme 15" is the top honor awarded, and players were voted to that group without regard to school size. The Large School and Small School all-state teams are secondary accolades – the Large School group including players from Class 3A and Class 4A schools and the Small School group including players from Class A and Class 2A schools.

Players who make the Supreme 15 are not considered for Large School or Small School honors. Large School and Small School honor teams typically have 15 players each, but ties in voting resulted with more players on three of four groups this year.

Local players on the senior Supreme 15 list are Carmel's Evan Harrell, Fishers' Kai McGrew and Noblesville's Baron Walker. Harrell is committed to Belarmine University, Walker has signed with Butler University and McGrew is entertaining multiple Division I offers.

The three county players on the underclass Supreme 15 list are all juniors: Carmel's Cash Daniels and Fishers' Jason Gardner Jr. and Cooper Zachary.

Four local stars were honored on the Senior Large School All-State team. They are Noblesville's Justin Curry II, Westfield's Drew Haffner, and Hamilton Southeastern's Landon Osswald and Luke Weemer. Curry



Photo by Joshua Herd



Photo by Joshua Herd



Reporter photo by Richie Hall



Reporter photo by Richie Hall



Photo by Joshua Herd



Photo by Joshua Herd

**(TOP ROW, from left) Evan Harrell of Carmel, Kai McGrew of Fishers, and Baron Walker of Fishers made the senior list. (BOTTOM ROW, from left) Cash Daniels of Carmel, Jason Gardner Jr. of Fishers, and Cooper Zachary of Fishers are on the underclass list.**

has committed to Valparaiso University, Haffner has signed with Abilene Christian University, Weemer is an Emporia State University recruit, while Osswald is undecided.

Two county players are on the Underclass Large School list: Hamilton Southeastern sophomore Varschon Clark and Guerin Catholic junior Jake Grissom.

In addition, 96 more seniors and 94 more under-

class players were selected honorable mention all-state. The honorable mention laurels are awarded without regard to school size. In total, 284 players – 144 seniors and 140 underclass players – were recognized on the 2026 IBCA boys' basketball All-State teams. In total, 706 players were nominated (304 seniors, 402 underclass) from 331 schools.

Local senior Honorable Mention players are Sher-

idan's Devon Hamilton, Fishers' Ethan Hillsman and University's Josh McGee.

Local underclass Honorable Mention players include three juniors: Guerin Catholic's Carter Murans and Hayden Rogers, and Sheridan's Trey Page.

All IBCA-member head coaches have the opportunity to nominate players. A panel of 22 IBCA coaches – 16 from the current regional areas plus six at-large rep-

resentatives (two each from IHSAA Districts 1, 2 and 3) – reviews the nominations and votes to determine the honor teams. David Wood, former coach at West Lafayette, is the non-voting committee chairman and finalizes the lists.

The IBCA will provide plaques to Supreme 15 honorees as well as certificates to players receiving Large School All-State, Small School All-State and Hon-

orable Mention All-State recognition. Plaques will be sent via U.S. mail to the coach of the Supreme 15 honorees in April. Certificates will be emailed as a PDF to the coach of each Large School, Small School and Honorable Mention recipient in mid-April. Upon receipt, each honoree's coach may present the award to each player prior to the end of the 2025-26 academic year.

### Softball

## Rocks outlast Hounds in high-scoring game

### The REPORTER

Offense has not been a problem so far for both the Westfield and Carmel softball teams.

Both programs have already scored over 30 runs

this season in a short amount of time. The two teams met at the Greyhounds' Cherry Tree Softball Complex on Wednesday, where the Shamrocks won 18-10.

"We are just coming out

swinging," said first-year Westfield coach Maddie Moore, a Noblesville graduate who played at Butler University. "I think that's been one thing we've been really working on in the off-season. We have been repressing at them, finding good pitches, knowing your zone and being ready to attack. We don't have kids looking up there to walk. If you look at all our counts, we're going up there swinging."

Westfield scored one run in each of the first two innings. Makenna Watson got the first run on a passed ball in the opening inning. Olivia Sampia then blasted a solo home run in the second inning.

Bella Blakeley added another homer in the fourth inning, sending an 0-1 pitch over the left field fence. That made the score 3-0 in favor of the Rocks.

Blakeley is a freshman and Sampia is a sophomore. Moore said she thinks the

young players are "doing great" so far.

"Being a first-year is hard, especially playing against really good 18-year-olds," said Moore. "We're in a really good conference. I think they're adjusting really well. I think they're being willing to learn. They're getting along with all the kids, and so it's just been great to have them up."

Carmel took over in the bottom of the fourth, putting up nine runs. Winni Owens singled in Jayden Kleiner for the first run, then Ellie Goddard scored after Avery Klein reached on an error to load the bases.

Taylor Vietch and Tinsley Malek drew back-to-back bases-loaded walks to move the Hounds ahead 4-3. Chloe Junkersfield got the tying run and Owens scored the go-ahead run. Riley Petrites sent a two-run single into center field to bring in Klein and Vietch.

**See Rocks ... Page 10**

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## SPORTS SCHEDULE

### Thursday, March 26

#### BOYS LACROSSE

Park Tudor at Fishers, 6 p.m.

#### GIRLS LACROSSE

Fishers at Park Tudor, 7:30 p.m.

Noblesville at Carmel, 7:30 p.m.

Westfield at Hamilton Southeastern, 7:30 p.m.

#### SOFTBALL

Fishers at Lebanon, 6 p.m.

#### TRACK & FIELD

Brownsburg girls at Westfield, 5:30 p.m.

Westfield boys at Brownsburg, 5:30 p.m.

#### VOLLEYBALL

Noblesville at New Castle, 6 p.m.

Westfield at Lawrence North, 6 p.m.

Hamilton Southeastern at Franklin Central, 7:30 p.m.

Perry Meridian at Fishers, 7:30 p.m.

### Friday, March 27

#### BASEBALL

McCutcheon scrimmage at Guerin Catholic, 5:30 p.m.

#### BOYS LACROSSE

St. Louis University at Westfield, 6 p.m.

Hamilton Southeastern at St. Louis Christian Brothers, 8 p.m.

#### SOFTBALL

Hamilton Heights at Lapel, 5:30 p.m.

Carmel at Hamilton Southeastern, 6 p.m.

### Saturday, March 28

#### BOYS LACROSSE

Hamilton Southeastern at St. Louis MICDS, noon

#### GIRLS LACROSSE

Hamilton Southeastern at Kentucky Country Day School, 11:30 a.m.

Hamilton Southeastern at Louisville Collegiate, 2:30 p.m.

#### SOFTBALL

Center Grove at Westfield, 11 a.m.

Penn at Westfield, 3 p.m.

#### TRACK & FIELD

Hoosier State Relays

Class 4A-6A schools, 8:30 a.m.

Class 1A-3A schools, 3 p.m.

#### VOLLEYBALL

Westfield at Jeffersonville, 10 a.m.

Hamilton Southeastern, Westfield JV at Fishers March Madness, 11 a.m.

Herron at University, 11:30 a.m.

Please email schedule changes or corrections to [sports@readthereporter.com](mailto:sports@readthereporter.com).

## Softball

# Royals, Huskies, Millers all victorious in openers

### The REPORTER

Hamilton Southeastern opened its 2026 season with a 13-1 home victory over North Central on Wednesday.

The Royals scored four runs in the second inning; Addy Richmond blasted a two-run double and later stole home, then Jaycee McCarter singled in a run.

Richmond struck again with an RBI triple in the third inning, the first of five runs in the third. Sophia Feher doubled Richmond in, McCarter singled Feher home and Madison Burlingame finished the inning with a two-run home run.

The Panthers scored their lone run in the top of the fourth, but Southeastern answered with four runs in the bottom of that inning. Breah Mitchell doubled in Lilly Palmer, then McCarter blasted a three-run homer.

McCarter was perfect at the plate, going 4-for-4 and totaling five RBIs. Richmond finished with three RBIs. Grace Swedarsky, a senior Virginia Tech commit, pitched two innings for the win, striking out four.

The Royals host Carmel on Friday.

\*\*\*

Hamilton Heights traveled to Frankton on Wednesday to start its season and came home with a 7-4 win.



Photo by Dwight Casler

Hamilton Heights' Lily Cash scored one run for the Huskies during their win at Frankton Wednesday.

Olivia Turner scored the Huskies' first run in the opening inning on a passed ball. Hannah Dent scored in the third inning, getting on base with a one-out double, then scoring on an RBI punt by Heather Crays.

Heights added a pair of runs in the fourth inning. Taya Trosper singled in Lily Cash, then McKenzie Jackson got home on an error. Audrey Cain scored a fifth-inning run after Ellie Engle reached on error, putting the Huskies ahead 5-0.

Dent singled in Turner in the sixth inning, then scored on Kamryn Rhoton's RBI double. Heights led 7-0, but the Eagles got on the board with a two-RBI double in

the bottom of the sixth. Frankton hit back-to-back RBI singles in the seventh inning, but Heights ended the game with a double play by Melanee Forrester.

Cash pitched five innings for the win, striking out two and allowing two hits.

The Huskies play Friday at Lapel.

\*\*\*

Noblesville began its season with a 3-2 win at Western on Wednesday.

The game was scoreless until the fifth inning. The Millers' Maggie Kern led off with a single, then Zadie Brown came in to run for Kern. Blythe Walker came up with two outs and sent a

home run over the left field fence, giving Noblesville a 2-0 lead.

The Panthers got a run back with a two-out RBI single in the bottom of the fifth. In the seventh inning, Reese Newsom came up with one out and hit a solo homer to center field. Western hit a one-out RBI singled in the bottom of the seventh, but Addison Retzinger tossed two strikeouts to end the game.

Retzinger was dominant, throwing 19 strikeouts against five hits. She also had one of four hits for the Millers; Kern, Newsom and Walker also got one hit.

Noblesville's next game is Tuesday at McCutcheon.

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## ROCKS

from Page 9

Kleiner came up to bat again and sent a home run over the right field fence. The hit also brought Malek and Petrites home and gave Carmel a 9-3 lead.

But Westfield answered. Reese Mahannah doubled in Watson and Sofia Easterhaus, then was sent home after Carlyne Schrock cracked a center field home run. Blakeley singled, Alyssa Ayres was hit by a pitch, and Sampia came up and blasted a left field homer, sending everyone home and giving the Shamrocks a 10-9 lead.

Klein tied the game at 10-10 in the top of the fifth with a solo home run. The score stayed there until the seventh inning, when Westfield put up eight runs.

Mahannah singled in Annika Lawrence, Schrock batted in Watson and loaded the bases, then Easterhaus scored when Adelyn Kurth drew a walk, making the score 13-10.

Blakeley batted in Mahannah, then Schrock scored on Ayers' sacrifice fly. The bases were loaded again, and Dylan Todd drew a walk to send in Kurth. Watson provided the final RBIs

with a two-run single, scoring Blakeley and Lawrence.

Watson and Easterhaus both collected four hits for Westfield, while Schrock and Blakeley both had three hits. Sydney Jordan and Sampia took turns in the pitching circle, with Sampia throwing one strikeout.

Petrites, Kleiner and Owens all had two hits for Carmel, including a double for Owens. Malek also hit a double. Chelsea Bennett threw four strikeouts in four innings.

"We just ran out of steam there at the end," said Greyhounds coach Stephanie Kleiner. Still, the coach believes there is improvement, as Carmel had won its first two games of the season before falling to the Rocks.

"Clearly, we've made a turnaround here and we're doing really well," said Kleiner.

Westfield is 1-1; this was the Rocks' first win of the year after dropping a Tuesday game at Plainfield. Westfield hosts Center Grove on Saturday. The Greyhounds travel to Hamilton Southeastern on Friday.

  
*Justin Sicking*

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## Boys Lacrosse

# Royals triumph in Mudsock game, Carmel wins Meachum game

**The REPORTER**

The Hamilton Southeastern boys lacrosse team won the Mudsock game on Wednesday, beating host Fishers 21-0.

Twelve different players scored for the Royals, with Marcus Laux leading the way by putting in four goals. Henry Wans celebrated his birthday by scoring three goals and making one assist.

Sophomore Ben Speckman dished out three assists and also scored one goal. Jackson Joyce was 14-4 in face-offs, a 78 percent success rate.

Jake Kuxhausen had two goals and two assists, with Carson Berry also scoring two goals. Kyle Jenkins handed out two assists. Sam Brandenburg collected four ground balls.

Southeastern is 6-2 and plays two games in St. Louis this weekend, taking on Christian Brothers Friday and MICDS on Saturday. Fishers is 3-2 and hosts Park Tudor on Friday.



Photo provided

The Hamilton Southeastern boys lacrosse team won the Mudsock game on Wednesday.

\* \* \*

Carmel hosted Westfield Wednesday in the Jack Meachum game.

Carmel won 23-2. Ike Stitle led the Greyhounds scoring with six goals. Max McCord added five

goals and Evan Bardwell scored four. Lincoln O'Leary had three goals and two assists.

Luke Shrift dished out five assists, while Evan Coulter made four assists. Matthew Quigley picked

up five ground balls.

Westfield stats from this game were not available at press time. It was the first loss of the year for the Shamrocks after they won their first four games, including a 7-6 double

overtime win at Zionsville on Friday, March 20.

Keegan Hemingway scored three goals for Westfield in that game, followed by Finnigan Smyth with two goals. Jake Norris and Landon Clark both

scored one. Clark made two assists and Hemingway had one.

Carmel is 4-0 and plays at Crown Point Saturday. Westfield hosts St. Louis University on Friday, March 27.

## Men's Basketball

## Purdue's mindset ahead of Sweet 16 matchup against Texas

By ANTHONY CALHOUN  
WISH-TV | [wistv.com](http://wistv.com)

No. 2 seed Purdue got on the court to practice for the first time in San Jose ahead of its game against No. 11 seed Texas in the Sweet 16.

Texas is the only double-digit seed playing the Sweet 16, but the Boilermakers know it will not be easy against the Longhorns. Texas has won three games in the NCAA Tournament, beating No. 11 seed NC State in the First Four, No. 6 seed BYU in the first round, and No. 3 seed Gonzaga in the second round.

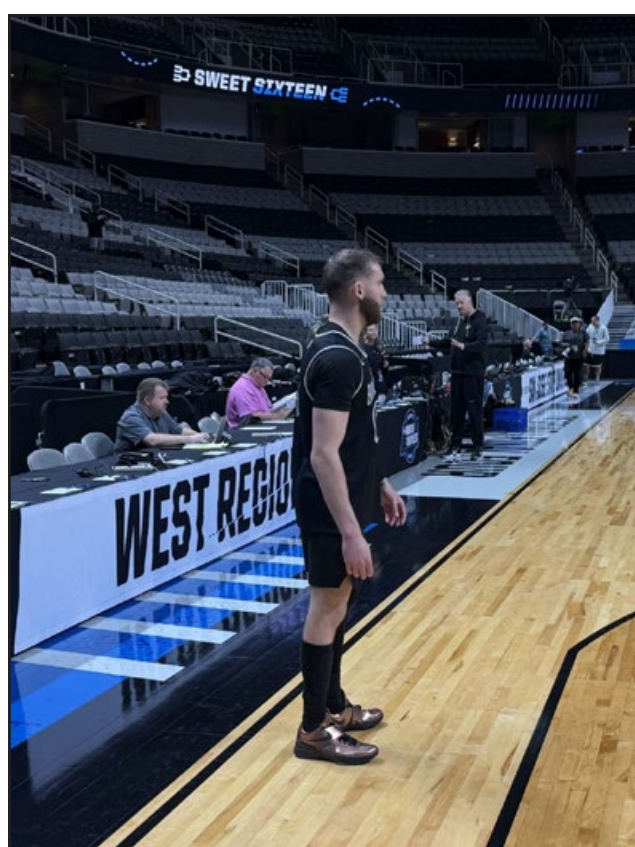
Purdue also knows it is only two wins away from making it back to Indianapolis to play in the Final Four. But, the Boilermakers' main focus right now is taking care of business against Texas.

"We know Texas is going to be a tough match," Purdue head coach Matt Painter said. "Very good across the board. Very athletic, very long, tough. Sean's [Sean Miller] teams always defend, rebound, and they're obviously play-

ing their best basketball. A little similar to us at the end of the year where we had some losses, they've had some losses, but I think you can magnify a lot of different things. They've played better here in the tournament. We've played better. We've both defended better than we did in those stretches, and I think that's what it's all about, is how you're playing right now and how you've got to be able to just to push forward. But excited about the challenge. We know this is going to be a very, very difficult game.

"Obviously they're a very talented group," Purdue senior guard Braden Smith said. "Obviously they've got a lot of guys in there that have played high-level basketball for a long time and continue to do so and are really good players, and we have that understanding."

"I think for now, it's special with this group of guys and try to take it all in," Purdue senior guard Fletcher Loyer said. "But we all know come tomorrow, for 40 minutes, we got to be some hard-playing dudes

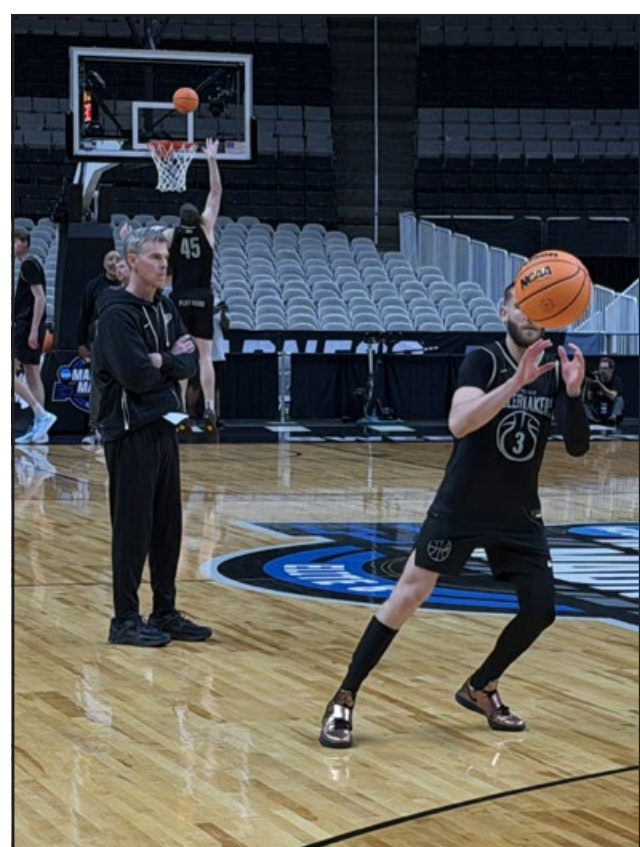


Braden Smith practices ahead of the Sweet 16.

and ready to take it at them." "Just taking it one step at a time," Purdue sophomore guard C.J. Cox said. "Making it to this point in the tournament is definitely big for us. Texas is a great team, so just doing what-

ever we can to stop them, being able to know what we're doing on offense and defense and then being able to execute and then continuing to move on."

The Boilermakers are familiar with this position.



WISH-TV photos by Anthony Calhoun

They have been in the Sweet 16 in seven of the last nine seasons. They will look to advance to the Elite 8 for the second time in the last three years against the Longhorns. Tipoff is scheduled for 7:10 p.m. on

Thursday.

This story originally appeared on WISH-TV at [wistv.com/sports/basketball/purdue-basketball/purdue-mindset-ahead-of-sweet-16-matchup-against-texas](http://wistv.com/sports/basketball/purdue-basketball/purdue-mindset-ahead-of-sweet-16-matchup-against-texas).



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