

**HILL CHADWICK**  
**VOTE FOR CHADWICK HILL**  
**SUPERIOR COURT 4**  
**FOR JUDGE** **MAY 5TH**  
Paid for by the Committee to Elect Chadwick Hill

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

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026**

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



**TODAY'S WEATHER**

**Today:** Mostly cloudy. Periods of showers and storms. Some could be severe, and rain could be heavy.  
**Tonight:** Mostly cloudy. Periods of showers and storms. Some could be severe, and rain could be heavy.  
**HIGH:** 80 **LOW:** 65



# Noblesville School Board earns Recognition of Excellence

**Submitted**

Noblesville Schools announced Tuesday, April 14 that the Board of Trustees is one of only five in Indiana to earn an Exemplary Board Award through the Indiana School Boards Association (ISBA). This is the highest level ISBA honors and is the second year in a row that the Noblesville board has earned the distinction.

Additionally, Christi Crosser, Stephanie Lambert, and Misti Ray earned the highest level of exemplary individual board member distinctions for their professional development accomplishments. Dr. Joe Forgey already reached the highest level of individual distinction in 2022, and board member Bret Richardson is currently working towards this individual recognition for future years.

"We're fortunate to have a school board that is so invested in the success of our students, staff and community," Superintendent Dr. Dan Hile said.



**(From left) Bret Richardson, Misti Ray, Christi Crosser, Stephanie Lambert, and Joe Forgey.**

"This recognition is well-deserved by our board as they are collaborative, service-orientated, and focused on the continuous improvement of not only our school district, but on their own performance and effectiveness as well. I'm honored to serve our community along-

side them as they truly lead with excellence."

The Exemplary Governance recognition of excellence honors school boards who have demonstrated an outstanding dedication to public service, and the highest levels of commitment to student success, continuous improvement, and

professional learning.

The **Noblesville Schools Board of Trustees** is made up of five elected community members, with president Christi Crosser, vice president Stephanie Lambert, secretary Dr. Joe Forgey, and members Misti Ray and Bret Richardson currently serving.

## Wilderness moments

Last week my sister and I visited my boys at Purdue. She wanted to know where her nephews live and explore the campus. It was such a fun and beautiful day.

I have wanted to see inside of my dorm since leaving many years ago. It was a tough decision for me to leave Purdue. I felt honored to be accepted there, as I was an average student. Certainly not a standout in the academic world.

The size of the campus led to many physical difficulties. That combined with an unexpected surgery, led me to my decision to leave Purdue and transfer to a smaller college. My kids have heard me tell this story many times. I loved my dorm, Wood Hall, within the Windsor Residence Halls. Whimsical character oozes from that set of buildings. It feels like a different world.

The day we were visiting, my younger son was adamant that we were going to go in and look around. So, he made that happen for me.

I was flooded with memories going through the front door and walking through the common area to my old room, which was conveniently located for me. It was wonderful to finally see it again.

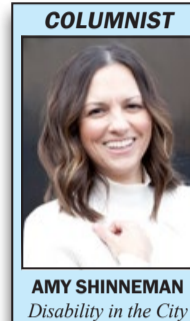
Once back outside, we sat on the front steps and talked. I looked out down the long stretch of road that I walked to class. A wave of sadness and regret washed over me. At the same time, I was in awe that there was a time when, although difficult, I could walk that distance without assistance. When we left, I felt happy I had that moment, but also a little defeated.

I felt disappointed in myself that I had not practiced more persistent patience. I let the rainstorm I got caught up in and left behind, affect me so deeply that it prompted my rash decision to leave there. After that, the other "excuses" easily solidified my decision.

Although quite rocky, that path I took led me to all the right things eventually.

In between my departure and coming to terms with my reality over the course of many years, there were many "wilderness moments." Moments where I felt completely lost, confused, wandering around out of place. Painfully uncomfortable in my own skin. Anyone else?

See *Wilderness* . . . Page 2



**AMY SHINNEMAN**  
*Disability in the City*

# Get ready to celebrate Ivy Tech Day

**The REPORTER**

On Tuesday, April 21, the community will come together to celebrate student success and expand opportunities across Hamilton County during Ivy Tech Hamilton County's annual Ivy Tech Day. As part of a statewide day of giving, the campus will highlight the powerful impact of philanthropy while rallying support for students pursuing education and training for in-demand careers.

"This day is about more than fundraising. It's about creating opportunity," Chancellor Rachel Kartz said. "Every gift, no matter the size, supports our students and strengthens the future of Hamilton County."

Ivy Tech Day reflects the power of a community coming together to invest in its people."

Ivy Tech Day offers alumni, faculty, staff, donors, and community partners a chance to invest in the future of Hamilton County's workforce. For 24 hours, beginning at midnight on April 21, supporters can make a gift, share their stories, and help amplify the importance of accessible, high-quality education.

"Ivy Tech Day is a big moment each year for everyone associated with our college. People across the state come together to support our students, celebrate our alumni, and enhance the impact we have in Indiana,"

Ivy Tech Foundation President Stephannie Bailey said. "Ivy Tech Day is a moment where we can celebrate our successes and nurture the opportunities ahead. We look forward to alumni and friends joining us on this special day."

Last year, generous donors helped drive momentum across the state, contributing thousands of gifts that continue to support students through scholarships, innovative programs, and hands-on learning opportunities. Building on that success, Ivy Tech Hamilton County has set a goal to raise \$45,000 in unrestricted support this year.

See *Ivy* . . . Page 2



**Photo provided**  
 Ivy Tech Hamilton County's mascot, Boris the Wild Boar, in front of the Historic Hamilton County Courthouse.

# If you need more time to file, request an extension

**The REPORTER**

As the end of filing season approaches, the Internal Revenue Service reminds taxpayers they can get an extension to file their federal income tax return until Oct. 15, 2026, but they must **request the extension** by the end of business on April 15 in order to avoid penalties.

An extension provides extra time to file, not additional time to pay. Taxes owed are still due by April 15. To avoid or minimize penalties and interest, taxpayers should estimate their

total tax liability, subtract any payments already made, and pay the remaining balance by the deadline.

**Ways to request an extension to Oct. 15**

- Use **IRS Free File**. All individual filers can use IRS Free File guided software at IRS.gov to electronically request an extension at no cost.

- Use **Free File Fillable Forms**. Taxpayers can complete and submit **Form 4868**, Application for Automatic Extension of Time To File U.S. Individual

Income Tax Return, electronically, regardless of income.

- Pay online and select "extension." Taxpayers who pay all or part of what they owe using **IRS online payment options**, including IRS Online Account, Direct Pay, or Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (if already registered), can select "extension" as the reason for the payment. This automatically generates an extension; no additional forms are required. Taxpayers should keep their confirmation num-

ber in their records.

**Automatic extensions for certain taxpayers**

Some taxpayers automatically receive additional time to file, even if they do not request an extension:

- Members of the military on duty outside the United States and Puerto Rico receive an automatic two-month extension to file, until June 15. However, tax payments are still due April 15 to avoid interest.

See *File* . . . Page 2

## Westfield Mayor's Coffee & Conversation moving to Titus Bakery

**The REPORTER**

The Coffee and Conversation with Westfield Mayor Scott Willis at 7:30 a.m. Thursday, April 16 is moving to Titus Bakery, 17471 Wheeler Road, Suite 110. This event is free and open to the public. Registration is not required.

Mayor Willis' second Town Hall of 2026, set for 7 to 8:30 p.m. April 16 at the Westfield Washington Public Library, 17400 Westfield Blvd., remains unchanged.



**Willis**

**VOTE SWENSON MAY 5TH 2026**

★ **DEDICATED**  
 ★ **EXPERIENCED**  
 ★ **INTEGRITY**

**ANGELA SWENSON FOR JUDGE**

**HAMILTON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT 4**

**SWENSONFORJUDGE.COM**

**PAID FOR BY THE SWENSON FOR JUDGE COMMITTEE**

**Come meet the candidates**

The Reporter is doing our part to help voters make informed decisions when casting their ballots whether early, absentee, or on Election Day.

The Reporter will publish Candidate Bios for all candidates who choose to engage with our readers. Those will appear with every online edition through Election Day (and at [this link](#)), and those pages will be updated as more candidates choose to send us their information.

This is a free public service we are providing both to candidates and our readers.

## Early Voting Totals

Below are the number of early voters as of Tuesday, April 14, listed by polling location. [Click here](#) for more information on early voting.

Judicial Center	461
4-H Fairgrounds	632
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,093</b>

## FILE

from Page 1

- Taxpayers serving in **combat zones** generally have at least 180 days after leaving the combat zone to file returns and pay any taxes due.
- **U.S. citizens and resident aliens** who live and work outside of the United States and Puerto Rico receive an **automatic two-month extension** of time to file, until June 15. Interest will still apply to payment received after April 15.
- Taxpayers in certain federally declared disaster areas may receive additional

time to file and pay. Those eligible do not need to request an extension. Information on the most recent **tax relief for disaster situations** is available on IRS.gov.

**Payment options**  
The IRS offers several options to make a payment and get the automatic filing extension:

- **IRS Individual On-line Account**
- **IRS Direct Pay**
- **Electronic Federal Tax Payment System**
- **Credit card, debit card, or digital wallet**

## Mark your calendars to meet Janet!



Photos provided

Local author and renowned Reporter columnist Janet Hart Leonard invites you to a special book signing from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 19. The event will be held at The Annex by Thistle & Thyme, 895 Conner St., Noblesville. Hart's new book, *From the Hart: Two Decades of Columns, Kindness, and Kitchen-Table Wisdom*, is a beautiful reminder of the power of words, warmth, and everyday moments. Come meet Janet, grab your signed copy, and spend a little time soaking in all the inspiration.

## ON-LINE ONLY PUBLIC AUCTION the Estate of Loyd "Gene" & Ethel Bean of Russiaville, IN

**BIDDING OPENS: Tuesday, April 14th @ 5pm**  
**SOFT CLOSE BEGINS: Saturday, April 25th @ 6pm**  
**PREVIEW DATES: Tuesday, Thursday, April 23rd From Noon - 6pm**  
**FIREARMS PREVIEW: Thursday, April 23rd From 3pm - 5pm**  
**PICK-UP DAYS: Monday, April 27th. Tuesday and April 28th From Noon - 6pm**

Coins, Morgan Dollars; Currency, Copper; Advertising, Pocket Knives; Vtg. Watch Fobs; Oil Lamps; Native American Items; Arrowheads & Artifacts; Straight Razors; Keen Kutter Cutlery; Flatware, Sterling Silver; Occupied Japan; Antiques & Rarities; Large Jewel Tea; Collection of Dishes; Household & Advertising; Old Sleepy Eye; Pottery & Adv. Coll.; Depression Glass; Crystal, Pottery, Crocks; Cast Iron, Dirilyte; Display Cases & Curios; Furniture, Appliances; Household, Longaberger; Adirondack & Trapper Baskets; China, Roseville Pottery; Red Wing Pottery; Blue & White Pottery; Hall's China; Vtg. Calendars; Hudson Bay Advertising; BB Guns, Vtg. Toys; JD Pedal Tractor; Signs, Thermometers; Wool Blankets; Musical Instruments; Singer Sewing Machines; Totes, Tools

Francotte & Winchester; Shotguns; Ammo, Antique KKK Convention Collectible Knife; Stack-On Elite 36 Gun Safe; Archery Gear, Hatchets; Remington Knives; L.L. Bean Knives, CSA Sword  
 Fishing, Hunting & Camping Gear; Poles, Tackle & Lures; Boat Motors, Tackle Boxes; Decoys, Clothing, Boots; Traps & Trapping Eq.; Small Game Taxidermy; Pelts, Furs, Skulls, Antlers; Mounted Caribou & Deer; Hunting Knives; Blinds, Binoculars; Snow Shoes; Coleman Equipment; Lanterns, Horse Saddles  
 Winchester Tools & Advertising; Bicycle & Skates; Marbles Hatchets & Knives; Keen Kutter Tools; Cutlery, Housewares & Adv.  
 2004 Ford F-150 Truck

To View Complete Sale Bill Including Pictures & Terms and to Register & Start Bidding:

Click the Calendar Link @ [www.cripesauction.com](http://www.cripesauction.com)

Absentee Bidding is still Available  
**PREVIEW - PICKUP & PAY AT**

**Cripe's Auction Service, 3247 E. State Road 28, Tipton, IN  
 765-675-6909**

[www.cripesauction@yahoo.com](mailto:www.cripesauction@yahoo.com)

**Wade Cripe, Auctioneer  
 #AU11000034**

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## WILDERNESS

from Page 1

Not only was I battling my own insecurities about my body and my walk, but I was also battling others' opinions and false assumptions about me that I often too easily adopted as my own. Taking their opinions and turning them into my reality.

I was talking with my oldest son the day after we visited. I told him I had such a fun time seeing things up close again. I told him that the glaring loss of physical abilities had hit me hard.

His response was, "Yes, I'm sure it is tough in some ways but also cool to know how much stronger you have become mentally and emotionally."

As our children often do, he shined perspective on my situation that was impossible for me to deny.

Although I have lost many things, I have gained strengths that I did not have during my times of greater physical strength. Mental and emotional strength were things that I hoped and prayed for but could never quite visualize for myself.

Thanks to my wilderness moments, they are now my reality.

Until next time ...

*Amy Shinneman is a former National Ambassador for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, disability blogger, freelance writer, wife, and mom of two boys. She is the recipient of the Reporter's Winter 2025 Ink-Stained Wretch award. You can find her blog at [humblycourageous.com](http://humblycourageous.com) and reach her on Instagram @ashinneman.*

## IVY

from Page 1

"Indiana communities rely on Ivy Tech to produce a workforce that will support their community workforce needs for decades to come," Ivy Tech Community College President Marty Pollio said. "We are excited to join hands with our friends and supporters to grow what we've started."

Funds raised will directly benefit students by enhancing classroom experiences, expanding high-demand programs, and reducing barriers to success. These investments help ensure students can persist in their education and transition into meaningful careers that strengthen the local economy.

To build excitement, the campus has embraced the theme "Hog Wild for Ivy Tech," celebrating its cam-

pus mascot and community pride. Throughout the day, supporters are encouraged to share messages on social media and participate in giving challenges. In addition to online giving, the campus will host an on-site celebration from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hamilton County campus, located at 300 N. 17th St., Noblesville. It will feature a bracelet bar, games provided by SERVE Village, food, music, and more. The event offers an opportunity for the community to connect, celebrate, and learn more about Ivy Tech's impact.

Contributing to Ivy Tech Day is easy. Starting at midnight on April 21, anyone can give for 24 hours at [giveday.ivytech.edu/hamiltoncounty26](http://giveday.ivytech.edu/hamiltoncounty26).

# THERE ARE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WAITING TO BE CLAIMED.

Take a second to search for yourself, your friends and your family!

**VISIT [IndianaUnclaimed.Gov](http://IndianaUnclaimed.Gov)**  
**TEXT "FIND" to 46220**  
**SCAN our QR code here**



 noblesville  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# TASTE OF BUSINESS

MADE IN NOBLESVILLE



**GET IN THE GAME!**  
**TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!**

**Wednesday, April 22**

**4:00–7:30 PM**

**ALL NEW VENUE!**

Presented by  **NOBLESVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

  
**Riverview Health**  
**ARENA**  
AT INNOVATION MILE

**OVER 100 EXHIBITORS | 1200+ ATTENDEES**  
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**\$8 Advance Tickets**  
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:**  
***noblesvillechamber.com | 317-773-0086***



# Local Democrats announce week of town halls ahead of primary

### Submitted

With the May 5 primary election fast approaching, the Hamilton County Democratic Party will hold a series of town halls to give voters the opportunity to hear directly from candidates across several key races.

This year marks a notable moment for Democrats in Hamilton County, with multiple contested primaries offering voters more choices and a stronger voice in shaping the party's future. The upcoming town halls are designed to connect residents with candidates, provide insight into campaign priorities, and encourage informed participation in the electoral process.

"These town halls reflect the energy and momentum we're seeing across Hamilton County," Party Chair Josh Lowry said. "For the first time in many of these races, voters have meaningful choices in Democratic primaries, and we're proud to provide spaces where they can hear directly from the candidates."

### Congressional District 5 Town Hall April 15 at 6 p.m.

Voters are invited to attend the District 5 Congressional Town Hall, where seven Democratic candidates running to represent Indiana's 5th Congressional District will share their visions and answer questions from the community.

The candidates include (in alphabetical order) Steven "Avit" Avitabile, Phil Goss, State Senator J.D. Ford, Jackson Franklin, Dylan McKenna, Tara Nelson, and Deborah Pickett. This is undoubtedly the most high-profile primary in the state.

The District 5 Town Hall will be held at the Fishers Art Center from 6 to 8 p.m. [Click here](#) to register.

### Westside State Legislative Town Hall Westfield, Carmel & Noblesville candidates April 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Voters can meet the Democratic candidates

See Dems . . . Page 5

# People behind the peonies

## Meet this year's floral sponsor & designers

By **KELLY McVEY**  
President, Indiana Peony Festival, Inc.

We are thrilled to unveil this year's list of participating floral designers. We have an incredible array of talented local floral businesses joining us, and we eagerly anticipate bringing their designs to life.

All the breathtaking floral arrangements are sponsored by Ascension St. Vincent Fishers Hospital. Visit the Ascension St. Vincent Hospital booth on festival day, on Tenth Street, to hear more about their involvement in the Noblesville community.

We also want to express our deepest gratitude to our

floral suppliers at Delaware Valley Floral Group and our floral hard goods suppliers at 46 & Spruce for their exceptional partnerships. It truly takes a village to create these magnificent peony displays. Our festival would not be as captivating or unique without the expertise of these remarkable floral businesses. These skilled florists will transform the park and downtown Noblesville into a picturesque peony wonderland. Each installation showcases their creativity, dedication, and unparalleled talent.

### This year's Floral Designers

• Karly Elbrecht | Camino & Company

- Ashley Reiger | Abloom Flower Farm
- Carmella Thatcher | Westfield Flower Box
- Lauren Catey | Catey Heritage
- Brandalyn Gragg | Oberer's Flowers
- Tasha Bradley | Bradley's Stylish Events
- Grace Krueger | Lulabelle's Flower Farm
- Megan Fraser | Garden Gem Florals
- Andrea Hudson | Pocket Full of Petals
- Elle Rowe | Bouquet of Granger/ Cherry Road Florals
- Lauren Cornille | Elle-Andree Floral
- Rachel Rusnak | The Whimsical Elephant
- Crissy Lutz | Adriens

- Flowers
- Andy Stone | A & B Farmhouse
- Aimee McClure | Fleur To Gather
- Mati Theriault | Alice Botanicals
- Kolab Walden | Kolab's Flowers
- Billie Hittle | Hittle Floral Design

Want to see previous designs from the festival? [Visit our website](#) to explore past installations and learn more about prior designers! We can't wait to show you what we've got in the works for this year! Make sure to follow us on social media for sneak peeks! [Click here](#) for more information on the Indiana Peony Festival.

# This Tax Day, Hoosiers are seeing the One Big Beautiful Bill at work

As Hoosiers filed their 2025 tax returns this month, many noticed welcomed changes on their forms. The One Big Beautiful Bill (BBB), signed into law last July 4, is now putting real dollars back into the pockets of families across Indiana.

From my desk at the Statehouse, where our office manages the state's accounting, distributes tax revenues, and compiles Indiana's annual financial report, I see how federal tax policy ripples through our state and every community. What we need is a federal government that defends us, provide a secure border, is trustworthy with taxpayer dollars, and encourages work, investment, and innovation right here at home.

The One Big Beautiful Bill delivers on all these fronts.

This is the first filing



ELISE M. NIESHALLA  
Indiana Comptroller

where Hoosiers who earn tips or overtime will see new deductions, both from the federal and state government. From waiters in Terre Haute to nurses pulling extra shifts in Fort Wayne – they will keep more of what they earn. Seniors on fixed incomes will benefit from an enhanced deduction that eliminates a portion of tax on their Social Security. And for parents, there is an expanded Child Tax Credit and the new Trump Accounts that provide a powerful financial boost for investing in their children's futures, leveraging the benefits of compounding interest from very early on.

Importantly, it also includes \$1.6 trillion in federal spending reductions, driven largely by reforms to Medicaid. By implementing work requirements for able-bodied adults and tightening eligibility standards, the

program's growth is slowed and refocuses resources on the most needy, a provision for which Senator Jim Banks pushed hard.

In addition, immediate expensing for research and development carries on, which has been a priority of Senator Todd Young's, so companies from advanced manufacturers to ag-tech startups can invest in innovation that protects our national security and keeps America ahead of our foes.

Included in these accomplishments, the BBB also invests in increased border security and military modernization, in addition to further commonsense reforms that root out waste in government assistance programs.

As a mom of four and a fiscal hawk, I do wish this legislation had gone further on the structural fiscal reforms our nation desperately needs with \$39 trillion in rapidly escalating debt. As Chair of the National Debt Crisis Task Force for State Financial Officers Founda-

tion, we will keep building a movement of support from the states for Congress and the President to chart our path forward to a balanced budget and a debt burden that is manageable. That work is urgent and must include restructuring Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, so that for the long-term, those programs will be viable for the most vulnerable – especially with insolvency coming in the 2030s.

On this Tax Day, it's good to highlight the positive changes for Hoosiers through the One Big Beautiful Bill, while also setting our sights on the honorable, honest, hard work before our country.

Now, in our country's 250th anniversary year, is time to have the big, beautiful, and necessary American family discussion about how, with renewed resolve, we restore our nation's fiscal solvency.

*Elise Nieshalla serves as the Indiana State Comptroller.*

**Elect PEGGY R. PFISTER**  
**NOBLESVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD**  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT  
Paid for by Committee to Elect Peggy R. Pfister

**Superior 9**  
CHRISTOPHER **BARROWS**  
FOR JUDGE  
EXPERIENCE • INTEGRITY • COMMUNITY  
Paid for by the Committee to Elect Chris Barrows

# JIM BUCK FIGHTING FOR HAMILTON COUNTY. DELIVERING FOR INDIANA.

A man of faith and family, Jim and his wife Judy raised their daughters right here in Indiana. Retired from business. Committed to his community. **Fighting for our conservative values** in Indianapolis.

- DEFENDING THE 2<sup>ND</sup> AMENDMENT**  
Voted to pass **Constitutional Carry** for law-abiding citizens.
- PROTECTING LIFE**  
Helped make Indiana **one of the most pro-life states** in the country.
- STANDING UP FOR FAMILIES**  
**100% voting record** with the Indiana Family Institute.
- FIGHTING ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION**  
Prohibited sanctuary cities and **required Sheriffs to work with ICE.**
- FISCAL DISCIPLINE AND CUTTING COSTS**  
Balanced the budget, paid down our debt – and just this week, Jim demanded the gas tax be suspended and **got it done.**

**PROUDLY ENDORSED BY:**

Paid for by Citizens for Buck.

**ON OR BEFORE MAY 5 VOTE JIM BUCK** REPUBLICAN FOR STATE SENATE

JimBuckForSenate.com Jim Buck for State Senate

## See The Rugged Brothers Band live at Noblesville Moose Lodge

### Submitted

The Rugged Brothers Band will be entertaining patrons at the Moose Lodge at 950 Field Drive on Saturday, April 25 after the Noblesville High School Alumni Banquet, held at the Noblesville Schools Community Center.

Four members of the Rugged Brothers Band – John Green (Class of '66), Doug Robinson (Class of '66), Bruce McMahon (Class of '70), Mike Sigman (Class of '75), along with Aimee McMahon Dodd – will play popular tunes from the past several decades.

This event is open to the public.



Photo illustration provided

## Tickets sold out, but still plenty of fan fun at upcoming Billy Strings concerts

### The REPORTER

Fishers Event Center has partnered with the City of Fishers and Hamilton County Tourism to create an immersive experience for Billy Strings fans.

The three-time Grammy Award-winning singer, songwriter, and musician will perform live at the Fishers Event Center for three nights: Friday, April 24, Saturday, April 25 and Sunday, April 26. Concert tickets are sold out, but fans do not need a concert ticket for all of these experiences, which include:

- Fan meet ups
- Pop up activities
- Beer garden
- Food trucks
- Unique photo ops at Fishers Event Center on the FORUM Credit Union Plaza
- Early access to official

tour merchandise daily at Fishers Event Center from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

For more information and unique places to check out over this exciting three-day weekend, [click here](#).

### About Billy Strings

The spring tour adds to an already landmark year for Strings, whose most recent full-length album, *Highway Prayers*, recently won Best Bluegrass Album at the 68th annual Grammy Awards.

Produced by Strings and Jon Brion (Fiona Apple, Mac Miller, Aimee Mann) and released via Reprise Records, the album debuted at No. 1 on *Billboard's* all-genre Top Album Sales Chart – the first bluegrass album in 22 years to do so – and continues to receive widespread acclaim, with *GQ* calling Strings “the hot-

test roots-music phenomenon in decades” and *Pitchfork* praising, “the bluegrass wunderkind expands his palette, exploring new textures and emotional registers while staying true to his beloved genre.” Listen to the album [here](#).

Following *Highway Prayers*, Strings released an exclusive **Apple Music Nashville Sessions** EP featuring reworked songs from the record as well as a surprise collaborative album, *Live at the Legion*, with Bryan Sutton (stream/purchase [here](#)). Recorded live on April 7, 2024, at Nashville’s American Legion Post 82, the album showcases the acclaimed duo performing 20 traditional bluegrass and folk songs, including new renditions of Bob Dylan’s “Don’t Think Twice, It’s Al-

right,” Doc Watson’s “Way Downtown,” and more.

Since his 2017 debut, Strings has been awarded Best Bluegrass Album at the 67th and 63rd Grammy Awards, Artist of the Year at the 2023 and 2022 Americana Music Awards, Entertainer of the Year at the 2025, 2023, 2022 and 2021 International Bluegrass Music Awards, Best New Headliner at the 2022 Pollstar Awards and Breakthrough Artist of the Pandemic at the 2021 Pollstar Awards among several other accolades.

Strings has also performed on *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*, *Jimmy Kimmel Live!*, PBS’ *Austin City Limits* and *Bluegrass Underground*, as well as countless sold-out shows worldwide.

## Rep. Victoria Spartz to hold second X Spaces Live policy discussion on FISA

### Submitted by Office of U.S. Rep. Victoria Spartz

Congresswoman Victoria Spartz (R-Ind.-05) will play host to the second in her series of live policy discussions on X Spaces at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 16.

The discussion, “FISA Reauthorization: How Much Surveillance Is Too Much?”, featuring special guests, former Congressman Matt Gaetz and Center for Democracy and Technology FISA policy expert Jake Laperruque, will explore key issues surrounding Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). This live briefing will also include an opportunity for audience members to participate in a Q&A.

To join the conversation, participants can visit Rep. Spartz’s official page on X, [@RepSpartz](#), at the time of the event.

Section 702 of FISA was enacted in 2008 in response to 9/11 and allows targeting of non-U.S. persons located outside the United States to acquire foreign intelligence information. However, widespread violations have been identified by the FISA Court, and significant controversy remains over the collection of large amounts of data on U.S. persons through this authority.

**In case you missed it:** Listen to Spartz’s previous discussion, “National Debt: A Titanic Moment for Our Republic at 250?”, at [this link](#).



Spartz

## Howard County Commissioner Jack Dodd endorses Tracey Powell for State Senate

### Submitted

Howard County Commissioner Jack Dodd has endorsed Tipton County Commissioner Tracey Powell for Indiana State Senate District 21 ahead of the May 5 Republican primary.

“As a fellow County Commissioner, I have worked alongside Tracey Powell as a member of the Indiana County Commissioners (ICC) Board of Directors,” Dodd said. “During this time, I have seen Tracey work tirelessly to support local government, work to promote legislation that is good for Indiana, and provide community growth. Tracey is good for the future of Indiana. I support Tracey Powell for Indiana State Senate District 21.”

Dodd is a lifelong Howard County resident, Army veteran, and current President of the Howard County

Board of Commissioners. He served in Desert Storm and retired from the United States Army and Army Reserves after serving as a Drill Sergeant at Fort Benning. He was first appointed to the Board of Commissioners in January 2020 and elected to a full term later that year. He serves as Vice President of the Northwest Region for the Indiana County Commissioners Association, where he and Powell have worked alongside one another serving Hoosiers across the state.

For Dodd, the endorsement is a natural extension of a working relationship built serving Hoosiers side by side.

“Jack Dodd is a leader who has served his country and his community in public office,” Powell said.



Powell

“He knows what it takes to deliver real results, and his support means a great deal to me. I am grateful for his endorsement and energized to keep building the coalition that will take us to victory in May.”

Powell is a Tipton County Commissioner, chi-

ropractor, and small business owner running on a platform of cutting taxes, strengthening schools, supporting healthcare access, and delivering results for the families and businesses of District 21.

If you have any questions, please contact the campaign by visiting [PowellForIndiana.com](#) or emailing [tracey@powellforindiana.com](mailto:tracey@powellforindiana.com).

## DEMS

from Page 4

running for half of the local Statehouse races. This includes the contested races of House District 29 (candidates Coumba Kebe and Devon Wellington), Senate District 21 (candidates Joe Kazlas and Kirsten Root), and Senate District 29 (candidates David W Greene, Demetrice Hicks, Kristina Moorhead, and Kevin Short).

The town hall will be held at Clay Middle School, 5150 126th St., Carmel, at 6:30 to 9 p.m. on April 17. Attendees will hear from candidates, learn about their priorities, and have the chance to ask questions in an open, community-focused setting. [Click here](#) to register.

**Eastside State Legislative Town Hall Fishers & Northern HamCo candidates April 18 at 6:30 p.m.**

Voters can meet the Democratic candidates running for the other half of the Hamilton County Statehouse races. This includes the incumbent representa-

tive for House District 32, Rep. Victoria Garcia-Wilburn, and the Democratic candidate for House District 88, Stephanie Jo Yocum. There will also be panels for the contested races for House District 37 (candidates Joel Levi and Lauren Cole), Senate District 25 (candidates Tamie Dixon-Tatum and Todd Shelton), and Senate District 31 (candidates Andrew Dezellan, Kerry Forestal, Lasima Packett, and Catherine Torzewski).

The town hall will be held at Fall Creek Junior High School, 12001 Olio Road, Fishers, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on April 18. Attendees will hear from candidates, learn about their priorities, and have the chance to ask questions in an open, community-focused setting. [Click here](#) to register.

All events are free and open to the public. Voters are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and take an active role in preparing for the May 5 primary election.

### Annual Spring Rummage Sale

**Clean out the garage, basement, and under the kids beds, because it's time for the Spring Rummage Sale!**

**Waters Edge at Springmill and Gristmill's annual Spring Rummage Sale is Saturday April 25th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (or whenever you're done selling your stuff)**

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MENU: PORK LOIN, HASHBROWN CASSEROLE, GREEN BEANS, SLAW OR APPLESAUCE, CORNBREAD, DESSERT, & DRINK

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# Lions CAN help!



Photo provided by Lisa Dick, Noblesville Lions Club  
Noblesville Lions are collecting new, manual can openers to share with families who rely on local food pantries for support. Many families receive canned goods, but don't own a working can opener. Community members can donate new, manual can openers at the entrance to Ginger's Cafe during regular business hours. (ABOVE) Lions George Long and Bob Minton are among the first to donate can openers.

## Gov. Braun announces \$200M investment to expand child care affordability & reduce waitlists

### Submitted

On Tuesday, April 14, Governor Mike Braun announced an investment of \$200 million to expand affordable child care.

This week, the State Budget Committee will review the Governor's bold decision to augment an additional \$200 million into the Financial Responsibility and Opportunity Growth (FROG) Fund to expand access to Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) vouchers.

"Indiana's child care voucher system is more than a support program – it's an economic engine," Gov. Braun said. "When parents have access to reliable, affordable child care, they can pursue better jobs, gain new skills, and build stronger futures. And this investment isn't just for one year. It marks the start of a sustained commitment to keeping care affordable and giving families long-term confidence that the support they count on will remain in place. This investment strengthens our workforce while expanding opportunity for families."

With this funding, the state will resume enrolling CCDF voucher-eligible children and increase the number of CCDF enrollments by 14,000 to a projected level of 57,000.

Rollout of this investment will prioritize enrollment of siblings of current voucher holders, infants, toddlers, and 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds. Additionally, a set of exemptions is created for children of foster and kinship families, children with special needs, homeless children, children of child care workers, and children of Ivy Tech students.

Indiana's child care system reached a breaking point in late 2024 when temporary federal COVID-19 relief funding expired, putting care for more than 55,000 children in jeopardy and creating serious challenges for families, providers, and employers. The previous administration had expanded CCDF enrollment using one-

time funds without a long-term plan, preparing to remove children from the program as the funding cliff neared.

When Braun took office in January 2025, he rejected that course of action. Instead, he partnered with the General Assembly to secure \$147 million in new state funding – then the largest single child care investment in state history – ensuring every currently enrolled child could maintain access to care and preventing mass disenrollment.

To ensure every taxpayer dollar is protected, at Gov. Braun's direction, the Family and Social Services Administration has implemented robust, ongoing anti-fraud safeguards – including a significant increase in site visits and enhanced provider oversight.

These efforts underscore Governor Braun's commitment to not only making child care more affordable for Hoosier families, but also to maintaining a secure, transparent, and accountable system so public resources support high quality care, not fraud.

### Statements

"Finding and affording reliable child care is a huge challenge for many working families. The legislature provided funding flexibility this session to help support the CCDF voucher program and reach additional families. I'm glad to see the administration pursue this additional funding option, and we will continue efforts aimed at reducing child care costs, encouraging more providers and supporting families."  
– **Indiana House Speaker Todd Huston**



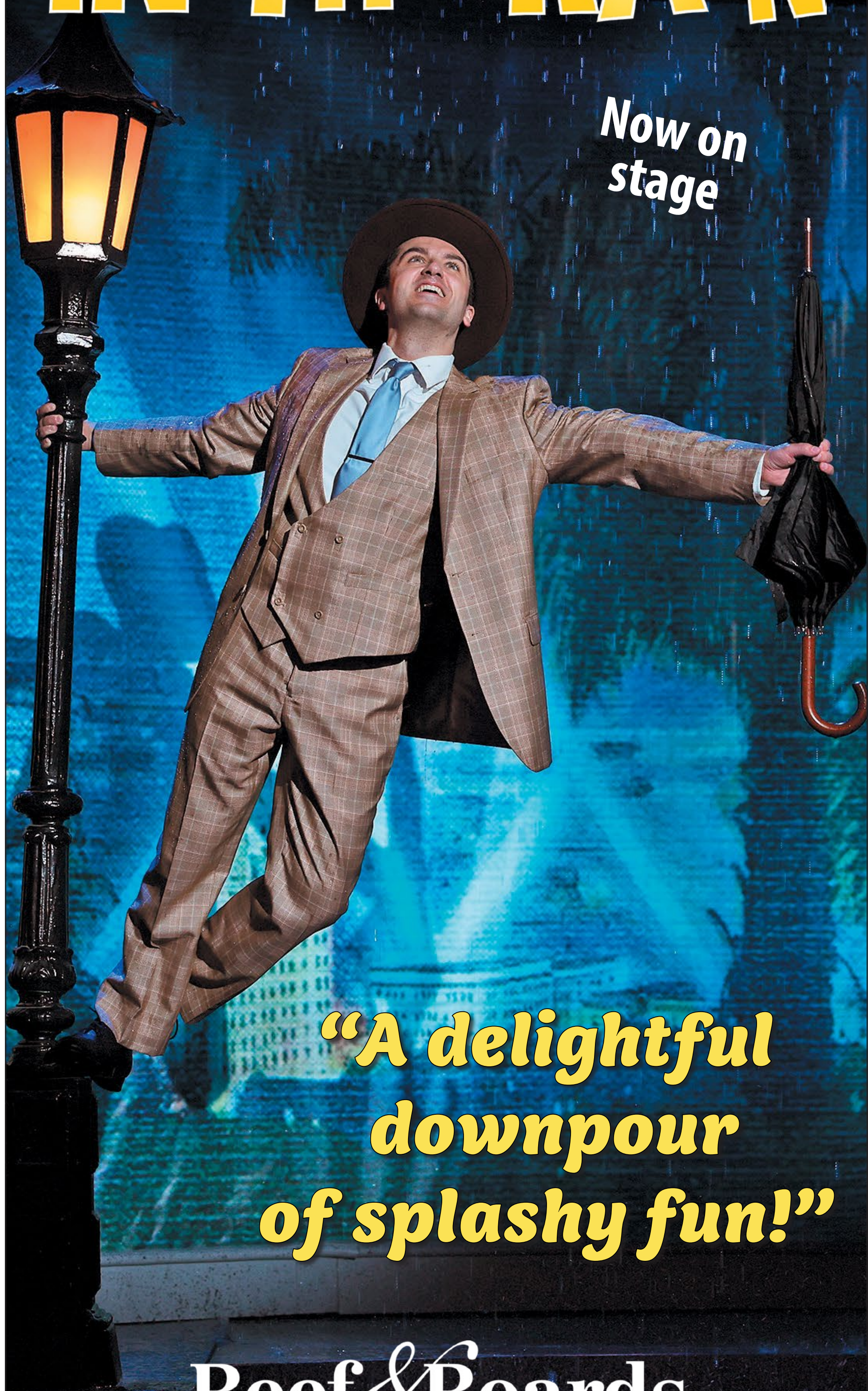
Braun

we appreciate the legislative body's willingness to find a creative solution in a non-budget year, and we are thankful the Braun Administration seized the opportunity to provide needed relief to young Hoosiers and their families. We are encouraged by this step and look forward to working with the administration to identify a long-term solution."  
– **Erin Kissling, president and CEO of Early Learning Indiana**

"Today's announcement from Governor Braun is the answer thousands of Hoosier families and child care providers have been hoping for since the waitlist for Child Care and Development Fund vouchers was reinstated in December 2024. This investment will provide urgently needed stability for the providers who make care possible and will allow tens of thousands of Hoosier children to reap the benefits of safe and healthy learning environments. It will also help Indiana make good on its commitments to being a great place to live, work and raise a family. We thank Governor Braun and his administration for this incredible investment in Indiana – for today and tomorrow. We are also grateful to the bipartisan authors and sponsors of Senate Enrolled Act 4, including lead authors Sen. Ryan Mishler and Sen. Chris Garten, for shepherding this effort through to this point. Unanimous support in the General Assembly shows this is an issue that affects all parts of our state. We anxiously await final approval by the State Budget Committee, so that Indiana's families and child care providers can once again focus on what matters most: the health and development of our youngest Hoosiers."  
– **Sam Snideman, vice president of government and sector relations, United Way of Central Indiana**

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**Thanks for reading the Hamilton County Reporter!**



Photo provided

The cast of *Singin' in the Rain* performs "Broadway Melody." The classic musical is on stage through May 23.

# Golden era Hollywood hits the stage at Beef & Boards

Beef and Boards Dinner Theatre presents *Singin' in the Rain*, the iconic musical based on the famous 1952 film version starring Gene Kelly as Don Lockwood, Donald O'Connor as Cosmo Brown, and Debby Reynolds as Kathy Selden. This is a strikingly lively staging, directed by Eddie Curry, with choreography by Doug King and musical direction by Brandon Magid. A high-energy tone is set very early by the duo of Joseph Rafael Davila and James Garrett Hill performing as Lockwood and Brown, an old vaudeville



**KEN KLINGEMEIER**  
A Seat on the Aisle

two-some. Their "Fit as a Fiddle" number kicks things off in a flurry. Several performers recreate roles from previous *Rain* productions at B&B – Kimberly Doreen Burns reprises her role as Kathy Selden, Sarah Hund returns as silent film star Lina Lamont, Eddie Curry resets his part as Director Roscoe Dexter, while Jeff Stockberger plays movie mogul R.F. Simpson again. Ms. Lillian Baxter takes the part of Hollywood gossip columnist Dora Bailey in what I believe to be her Beef and Boards debut.

The stage show is an almost direct remake of the film. Highlights for me were several big production numbers including the "Fiddle" number, but also the costume highlight "Broadway Melody" (with the plethora of red by designers Meghan Warren and Kathy Henry), Cosmo's "Make 'Em Laugh", the lead trio's "Good Morning," and of course Lockwood's ever-pleasing "Singin' in the Rain" in which Davila sings and dances in a real onstage cloud burst. Sarah Hund's turn in Lina Lamont's lament "What's Wrong With Me?" is noteworthy as a comedy highlight of the show. And as is typical in B&B musicals, the ensemble

plays a big part in the action. All the ladies in "Beautiful Girl" are stylishly attired and compliment Ian Black's fine performance. And in the "Broadway Melody" number, a lot of impressive hoofin' in the background makes it sparkle brightly. Beef and Boards' *Singin' in the Rain* continues through May 23. Show times and reservations can be found at [BeefAndBoards.com](http://BeefAndBoards.com) or you may call the box office at (317) 872-9664. **Please note:** Ms. Burns will be replaced in the role of Kathy Selden after April 26 by Sarah Daniels for the remainder of the run. Read more great play reviews from *A Seat on the Aisle* at [asota.wordpress.com](http://asota.wordpress.com).

# Nunn Law Office celebrates statewide recognition for jury trial leadership

**Submitted**  
Ken Nunn Law Office is earning statewide recognition for its leadership in the courtroom, with the Indiana Jury Verdict Reporter 2025 Year in Review naming the firm as having more reported jury trials than any other plaintiff firm in Indiana over the past 26 years. The milestone – 472 jury trials from 2000 to 2025 – reflects not only the firm's long-standing presence in Indiana, but the strength of a team-first approach led by Owner and Attorney Vicky Nunn. As a second-generation law firm, Ken Nunn Law Office has built its reputation on advocating for injured Hoosiers and their

families. Under Vicky Nunn's leadership, the firm continues to emphasize a team-first, client-centered approach, combining strong preparation with a commitment to standing up for clients when it matters most. That team effort is reflected in the firm's attorneys, including two of the most accomplished trial lawyers in the state. Troy Rivera is ranked the No. 1 plaintiff attorney in Indiana for the most reported jury trials from 2000 to 2025, with 105 cases. A U.S. Army Military Police K-9 veteran and former Ma-

jor Felony Deputy Prosecutor in Marion County, Rivera brings extensive courtroom experience to his work representing injury victims. Brad Smith is ranked the No. 2 plaintiff attorney in Indiana over that same period, with 71 reported jury trials. Smith has practiced law for nearly three decades and has focused his career on personal injury litigation, earning a reputation for guiding clients through every step of the legal process, from depositions to trial. Ken Nunn Law Office is the only firm in Indiana

to have both the No. 1 and No. 2 ranked plaintiff attorneys based on reported jury trial volume. "Results have always been at the core of what we do," Nunn said. "This recognition reflects the dedication of our entire team and our commitment to advocating for our clients in the courtroom. While we're proud of this achievement, what matters most is the impact we make for the individuals and families we represent." Based in Bloomington, Ind., Ken Nunn Law Office represents clients across the state in personal injury and wrongful death cases, continuing a legacy of advocacy that spans generations.



**Nunn**

**GREEN-DAY**

**Saturday, April 25**  
**11 a.m.–1 p.m.**  
**Grand Junction Plaza**  
**225 S. Union St.**

The City of Westfield's Parks and Recreation Department is hosting its annual Green Day at Grand Junction Plaza, a free family event celebrating Earth and Arbor Day! Enjoy activities and exhibits from local organizations covering topics like trees, water, soils, and sustainability, plus free native tree saplings (while supplies last).

Ready to dig into the details? Visit [westfieldin.gov/greenday](http://westfieldin.gov/greenday) to learn more!



# Helping voters make informed choices

The Northern Hamilton County GOP held its most recent dinner meeting on Monday evening, April 13 at the Hamilton North Public Library, 209 W. Brinton St., Cicero. Guest speakers included candidates for Sheriff, Superior Court judges, Sheridan Town Council, Jackson Township Board, Prosecutor, as well as other local and state candidates and elected officials. (Reporter photos)



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Letter to the Editor

### Local attorney: Evans has the wisdom to be Superior Court 3 judge

Dear Editor:  
I knew Chris Evans as a practitioner before he became a magistrate judge. My type of law practice has placed me as an advocate in Magistrate Evans' courtroom on multiple occasions since he was appointed to the position.

Magistrate Evans is a fair and impartial judicial officer who treats litigants and attorneys in his courtroom with respect. He not only possesses the knowledge, but also the wisdom, that is necessary to be the next judge of Hamilton Superior Court No. 3.

**Rodney Sarkovics**  
Fishers

Letter to the Editor

### Noblesville reader excited to vote for Devon Wellington for State Representative

Dear Editor:  
As a lifelong resident of Hamilton County, I am extremely excited to have many choices when voting in this year's Primary as a Democrat!

After retiring from teaching and selling our business, my first step was to join the Hamilton County and Noblesville Democratic organizations. I was pleasantly surprised to see many young people in attendance.

As Democratic citizens decided to run for different state and local offices, I listened and talked to them. I was so inspired by Devon Wellington that I decided to volunteer to

help her be elected District 29 State House Representative.

Devon (mom, small business owner, and public education advocate) impressed me with her expertise with policy. Her experience at the National, State, and local level as a policy advocate is extensive. Ms. Wellington knows when bad legislation hurts communities. She is a great listener and notes the needs of citizens.

What struck me most is that Devon has solutions! Her solutions are concrete, credible, and best of all, are workable! When voters have a candidate like Devon Wellington

that listens, is thoughtful, backs up her solutions with credible research, and best of all, is courageous enough to do the work that takes barriers and constructs policy that eliminates those barriers in public education, affordable health care, and affordable housing for the citizens of Indiana – that is a candidate that belongs in our state legislature.

Devon Wellington is my choice for District 29 State House Representative! Your vote for her will be the first step to improve our life as Hoosiers.

**Moffett R. Craig**  
Noblesville

### Letter guidelines this election season

With the approach of the May 5 Primary Election, the Hamilton County Reporter is establishing some Letters to the Editor guidelines to keep things fair and balanced.

Letters addressing new topics about the upcoming election or the policies of individual candidates will be accepted until the end of the business day on Thursday, April 23 and will be published on Friday, April 24.

Letters in response to new topics published in our April 24 edition will be accepted until Tuesday, April 28 and will be published in our April 29 edition.

These deadlines will give candidates and their supporters the opportunity to reply to letters addressing new topics.

**Please send your letters to**  
[News@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:News@ReadTheReporter.com).

Letters to the Editor do not represent the opinions of The Reporter or our staff.



Letter to the Editor

### Former State Sen. Butcher: voters should send Jim Buck back to the Statehouse

Dear Editor:  
I am writing on behalf of State Senator Jim Buck who is being unfairly attacked and characterized by his opponent and his opponent's committee.

I have known Senator Jim Buck for over 40 years. I have observed this man serve his constituents in ways and in a manner that shows his commitment to them and to good, conservative government.

I had the honor and privilege of

servicing the 21st State Senate District constituents as a State Senator for eight years from 1979 through 1986. I know something about the challenges and responsibilities required by the office. Jim has shown his 21st District constituents that he listens to them and cares about them and their concerns. He has served faithfully and responsibly based upon his commitment to conservative, Christian values which govern his personal life and family.

Finally, Jim Buck is greatly respected by his peers in Indianapolis and has become a highly-valued example to the many younger and less-experienced senators he is privileged to work with.

I strongly recommend, without reservation, that the 21st Senate District voters send State Senator Jim Buck back to the State Senate for four more productive years.

**James R. Butcher**  
Kokomo

Letters to the Editor do not reflect the opinions of The Reporter, its publisher or its staff. You can submit your own Letter to the Editor by email to [News@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:News@ReadTheReporter.com). Please include your phone number and city of residence. The Reporter will publish one letter per person per week.

## FEINSTEIN'S AT HOTEL CARMICHAEL

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**TODAY'S BIBLE READING**

**THE DEATH OF AARON**

Moses did as the Lord commanded: They went up Mount Hor in the sight of the whole community. Moses removed Aaron's garments and put them on his son Eleazar. And Aaron died there on top of the mountain. Then Moses and Eleazar came down from the mountain, and when the whole community learned that Aaron had died, all the Israelites mourned for him thirty days.  
Numbers 20:27-29 (NIV)

**Community News**

**Carmel & Fishers Democrats cleaning up invasive species**

Members of the Carmel Democratic Club and Fishers Democrats will celebrate Earth Day with an invasive species cleanup starting at 8 a.m. Saturday, April 18.

Both groups will meet at the Bur Oak Bridge at Hazel Landing Park for some coffee and donuts, and then head to their respective city parks, with Carmel going to Hazel Dell Landing, and Fishers going to Heritage Park for weed wrangling at 10 a.m.

[Click here](#) to sign up for the Carmel cleanup.

[Click here](#) to sign up for the Fishers cleanup.

Please plan to join and help keep local parks free of invasive species.

**State Treasurer to speak at Westfield GOP meeting**

The Westfield GOP Club will welcome Indiana Treasurer of State Daniel Elliott to speak at the April meeting. He will update attendees on how he is safeguarding the state's investments.

The program will begin at 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, April 21 in Program Room A at the Westfield Washington Public Library, 17400 Westfield Blvd.

[Click here](#) to RSVP for the meeting.

**Coffee Hour for Veterans**

Attention Veterans in northern Hamilton County ... From 9 to 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month, Veterans and the general public are welcome to get together at Remnant Coffee Shop, 101 W. Main St. (266th Street), Arcadia.

Come get to know other Veterans in the area. Tea drinkers are welcome.

**Cicero gets fired up about pancakes**

The Cicero Fire Department's annual Pancake Breakfast will take place from 7 to 11 a.m. Saturday, May 9 at the Fire Department, 1359 Stringtown Pike.

The breakfast will include pancakes and sausage as well as all the fixings. Speaking of which ...

What's your favorite go-to pancake topping? Fresh strawberries, blueberries, chocolate chips, bananas and whipped cream, maple syrup, or something unique? The Fire Departments wants to know what you like on your pancakes. [Click here](#) and comment on the Facebook post. Your suggestion could end up on this year's topping bar.

The cost is a free-will offering. Proceeds go to Cicero Fire & Community Outreach.

*Letter to the Editor*

**Westfield attorney strongly endorses Barrows for Superior Court 9 judge**

Dear Editor:  
Court Commissioner Chris Barrows is the right choice for Judge of the newly created Hamilton County Superior Court 9.

I have been practicing law in Hamilton County for over 20 years. I have spent that time in Hamilton County courts and advising local businesses and organizations. Our county has benefited from excellent judicial leadership including Mr. Barrows's leadership since he was appointed to our Title IV-D child support court. He will continue that tradition of excellence and common sense as the first Judge of Superior Court 9.

I have known Chris for decades as a lawyer, judicial officer, community board member, and volunteer coach. Since being appointed by the elected judges of Hamilton County in 2022, he has presided over the county's Title IV-D Child Support Court and regu-

larly serves as judge pro tem resolving civil, family law and criminal matters.

Chris has served our community with compassion as a volunteer, youth coach, as a guardian ad litem representing the best interests of children, and as a board member in various charitable organizations. I have personally seen his years of dedication. Currently, he serves on the Westfield Youth Assistance Program board and as an advisory member of the Westfield Education Foundation.

Court Commissioner Barrows is also widely respected as a legal educator. He has taught mediation practice to generations of mediators. He is also regularly called upon to provide continuing legal education to lawyers and legal stakeholders.

Superior Court 9 is a new court that will need an experienced hand at the helm as it is created from scratch. The newly elected judge will need to

understand the administrative side of presiding over a court as well as the courtroom management side.

Hamilton County is lucky to have such an accomplished attorney and judicial officer on the ballot this primary season. His deep respect for the rule of law, his judicial experience, and his extensive litigation experience demonstrate that he is ready to handle the responsibilities of the position. He serves our community with integrity, applying the law as it is written to the facts as presented to him. He is known as a judicial officer who makes sure everyone has a fair opportunity to present their cases in front of him with civility and respect.

For these reasons, I am strongly endorsing Court Commissioner Chris Barrows to be the first judge of Hamilton County Superior Court 9.

**Eric Douthit**  
Westfield

*Letters to the Editor do not reflect the opinions of The Reporter, its publisher or its staff. You can submit your own Letter to the Editor by email to [News@ReadTheReporter.com](mailto:News@ReadTheReporter.com). Please include your phone number and city of residence. The Reporter will publish one letter per person per week.*

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**The Reporter's policy on obituaries**

The Hamilton County Reporter does not charge families for publishing obituary notices in our pages. Every obituary appearing in online editions Wednesday through Saturday also appears in our Monday print editions. In order to continue to offer this as a community service, we ask that obituaries not exceed 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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**WESTFIELD**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY OF WESTFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (PARK & POPLAR PROJECT PROJECT)**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Westfield Economic Development Commission will hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m., local time, on April 27, 2026, in the City Services Conference Room, located at 2728 E 171st Street, Westfield, IN 46074, concerning the proposed issuance by the City of Westfield, Indiana (the "City") of economic development tax increment revenues bonds, in one or more series, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Nineteen Million Dollars (\$19,000,000) (the "Bonds"), which may be issued on a taxable or tax-exempt basis for purposes of federal income taxation. The City will provide the proceeds of the Bonds to Park and Poplar LLC or a single-purpose affiliate thereof (collectively, the "Company") to finance a portion of the costs of the design and construction of infrastructure improvements, including, but not limited to, the design and construction of a parking garage containing approximately 526 parking spaces with public restrooms (the "Project"), located in, physically connected to, or directly serving or benefiting the Park & Poplar Allocation Area (the "Allocation Area") of the East Side Economic Development Area (the "Area"), which will support a new mixed-use project in the Area consisting of (a) approximately 254 luxury apartments totaling approximately 271,016 square feet; (b) approximately 48 for-rent residential brownstone units consisting of approximately 24 one-bedroom units and approximately 24 two-bedroom units and totaling approximately 59,292 square feet; (c) an amenity center for residential tenants containing approximately 4,650 square feet; (d) approximately 4,200 square feet of retail, restaurant, or other commercial space; (e) a separate retail and/or restaurant building containing approximately 5,000 square feet; (f) two three-story mixed-use buildings each containing approximately 10,000 square feet of retail, restaurant, or other commercial space and 20,000 square feet of class A office space; (g) the Project; (h) approximately 90 surface parking spaces; (i) streetscape improvements along Poplar Street, a trail around or near the perimeter of the project site, stormwater management and regional detention, golf cart parking, and other public amenities; and (j) related improvements; (collectively, the "Development").

The Bonds will not be an indebtedness or general obligation of the City and will not be payable in any manner by the taxing power of the City. The principal of and interest on the Bonds will be payable solely from the tax increment revenues expected to be generated from the Development within the Allocation Area, as described in the agreements of the City concerning the financing of the economic development facilities (such agreements, collectively, the "Financing Agreements"). Copies of the form of the Financing Agreements will be on file with the Clerk-Treasurer of the City and are available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk-Treasurer of the City during regular business hours daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays.

At the time and place fixed for the public hearing, all taxpayers, residents or interested persons will be given an opportunity to express their views for or against the proposed financing of the Projects in writing or in person.

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# REPORTER SPORTS WEDNESDAY

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

## Boys Volleyball



(ABOVE LEFT) Carmel's Thomas Kuehl was recognized for reaching 500 career kills during the Greyhounds' win over Westfield on Tuesday. (ABOVE RIGHT) The Westfield team celebrates after winning a point. Reporter photos by Richie Hall

# Carmel 'packs the house,' sweeps Westfield

**By RICHIE HALL**  
[sports@readthereporter.com](mailto:sports@readthereporter.com)

**CARMEL** – The Carmel boys volleyball team got what it wanted out of the Greyhounds' "Pack The House" night Wednesday.

The Greyhounds swept county opponent Westfield, 25-17, 25-18, 25-13, to win its fourth consecutive match. Carmel also got a nice-sized crowd at the match: a total of 429 fans were present at Bill Shepherd Court at the

Eric Clark Activity Center, which Hounds coach Andrew Fuller called "a really good attendance."

"The crowd had a great energy," said Fuller. "There was a great vibe with the match. It was fun to see our guys perform well, especially in the third set."

Carmel took early leads in all three sets, which gave the Greyhounds the momentum they needed to win the match. Jack Kovac, a 6-foot-9 junior, put down

nine kills and made two blocks.

Sophomore Eli Philistin-Lynch also had nine kills. Junior Thomas Kuehl hit six kills and cleared 500 kills for his career during the match.

"Our offense has to keep getting balanced," said Fuller. "We rely so much on Eli right now. He's a fun player to watch, got a great arm. If we want to make a legitimate run for the championship, we got to get more

balanced offensively." Sophomore Dylan Kaiser made two blocks. Carmel's two seniors also stepped up. Shepard Spidel dished out 33 assists, while Brice Hagaman collected seven digs. The Greyhounds improved to 12-3 after the win. Westfield was playing its first match since Spring Break. The Shamrocks are 6-5, with coach Pat McAndrews calling the season "up and down so far."

"We've got a really

good schedule and we're a young team," said McAndrews. "A little disappointed by tonight and how we didn't compete as well as I'd like for us to. So far, it's been fine."

Junior Aidyn Kuzma leads the Rocks in kills, with 108 coming into the Carmel match. (Stats from the Carmel match were unavailable at press time.)

"He's got a high hitting percentage. He's been great," said McAndrews.

The coach also spotlighted sophomore setter Michael Terbish, who has over 300 assists for the season, and senior right side hitter Graham France.

The Greyhounds are back on the court tonight when they play at Guerin Catholic. Westfield will host Hoosier Crossroads Conference opponent Brownsburg on Thursday, then both teams will compete in the Midwest Battle at Fishers this weekend.

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## Softball

# Huskies win conference opener

**By CRAIG ADKINS**  
*For The Reporter*

Tuesday night was the Hoosier Conference opener for the Hamilton Heights softball team. The Huskies welcomed the Western Panthers in the first game of the two-game series this week.

A trio of extra-base hits were the key factors as Hamilton Heights downed Western at home, 4-1.

The Panthers scored in the top of the first. Brynley Erb tripled and then scored on a ground out.

Heights tied it 1-1 in the bottom. Hannah Dent tri-

pled with two outs and then scored on a passed ball.

Then, with two down in the fourth, Heather Crays singled to center. Crays scored to make it 3-1 when Dent sent a home run over the fence in right.

Kamryn Rhoton hit a solo blast to center to account for the final run of the game.

Crays threw a complete game, striking out two and giving up just two hits in seven innings.

Hamilton Heights (5-0, 1-0 Hoosier) travels to Russellville to visit Western (2-3, 2-1 Hoosier) tonight at 6 p.m. in the second game of the conference series.

## Baseball

# Sheridan beats Bethesda Christian

**The REPORTER**

The Sheridan baseball team cruised to a 7-1 home

victory over Bethesda Christian on Tuesday.

Chance Spencer scored

the Blackhawks' first run on an error during the first inning. The Patriots tied the game in the bottom of the first, and the score stayed 1-1 in the second inning.

Sheridan moved ahead for good with three runs in the third inning. Spencer scored again on an error, then Brayden Whisman blasted a left field home run, also bringing in Atticus Clayton.

Austin Hinshaw cracked a solo homer in the

fourth inning, giving the Hawks a 5-1 advantage. Tanner Dawson provided the final runs in the fifth inning with a two-RBI single that scored Cesar Cuatle and Clayton.

Freshman Levi Gellert pitched five innings for the win, striking out five and allowing two hits. Braelan Bochner secured the win with two no-hit innings, also striking out five.

Sheridan is 3-3 and plays Thursday at Western Boone.

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### Softball

# Three county teams in this week's softball poll

## Tigers are No. 6 after strong Castle Invite performance

### The REPORTER

Three Hamilton County softball teams are in this week's Softball Coaches Association of Indiana Class 4A rankings.

Fishers jumped into the rankings at No. 6 this week after a strong performance at last weekend's Castle Invitational, which took place Friday, April 10 and Saturday, April 11. The Tigers dropped their first game 7-3 to the host Knights, then sailed past Eastern Hancock 7-4, North Posey 10-0 in five innings and Boonville 4-0. Following the invitational, Fishers held a 7-1 record.

Frankie Jackson threw a no-hitter against North Posey, striking out two and allowing just two walks. Jackson was also strong at the plate, hitting 3-for-4 (including a double) and driving in three runs. Adrienne Cook hit a home run. Cate Summerfield had an outstanding tournament, hitting 3-for-4 in all four games.

\*\*\*

Hamilton Southeastern returned to the rankings at No. 7; the Royals were rat-

ed No. 10 in the preseason poll before dropping out for a couple weeks.

Southeastern put together some big wins at Castle, including a 2-1, eight-inning victory over 2A No. 1 Tecumseh. Lilly Palmer hit a one-out singled in the bottom of the eighth to score Ella Sicilia and Hayden Reeves. Grace Swedarsky, the senior Virginia Tech commit, threw all eight innings and totaled 17 strikeouts.

The Royals also defeated Evansville Reitz 13-0. Southeastern fell to 4A No. 1 Crown Point 11-5 but did put up a fight. Madison Burlingame was 3-for-4 including two doubles, while Swedarsky tossed five strikeouts in four innings. Kaleah McCarter struck out four in three innings.

Southeastern dropped a 4-3 contest to Lincoln-Way (Ill.) in its final game. The Griffins batted into a double play with no outs but were able to score the winning run. McCarter hit a triple for the Royals.

Southeastern has already played two games

this week. The Royals cruised past Mt. Vernon 19-2 on Monday, scoring eight runs in both the first and second innings. Freshman Jaycee McCarter blasted two home runs, totaling six RBIs. Addy Richmond and Burlin game both had three hits, with Richmond cracking two doubles. Swedarsky got the win, pitching two hitless innings and striking out four.

On Tuesday, HSE rolled to a 14-1 Hoosier Crossroads Conference win over Zionsville. Swedarsky was again dominant, with 16 strikeouts in six innings. Natavia Wright relieved her and threw strikeouts. Jaycee McCarter smacked another homer, while Kaleah McCarter counted two triples in her 5-for-5 night at the plate. Burlingame also hit a triple.

The Royals are 7-2 and play another big game Thursday, traveling to 3A No. 3 New Palestine.

\*\*\*

Noblesville is ranked No. 10 in 4A. The Millers have been off for Spring

Break and were scheduled to return to action against Fishers on Tuesday, but the game was rained out. It has been rescheduled for May 8. Noblesville hosts Carmel at 6 p.m. tonight.

\*\*\*

Carmel also competed at the Castle Invitational, splitting its four games. The Greyhounds narrowly lost to 4A No. 5 Floyd Central 4-3, then beat Wood Memorial 14-4 and Evansville Reitz 14-3, both games were five-inning run-rule contests. Carmel fell to 4A No. 2 Penn 12-2 in its final game at Castle.

Ellie Goddard was 4-for-4 for Carmel against Wood Memorial and hit a triple against Reitz.

The Hounds sailed past Lawrence North 16-2 in six innings on Tuesday. Goddard was again the hero, batting 4-for-5, driving in five runs and scoring four. Her hit total included a home run and two doubles.

Riley Petrites was also 4-for-5. Jayden Kleiner hit a home run and Chelsea Bennett was 3-for-4.

## Rocks fall to Bulldogs

### The REPORTER

The Westfield softball team was on the wrong end of a comeback at Brownsburg on Tuesday, falling 5-4 in an away Hoosier Crossroads Conference game.

The Shamrocks scored in the first inning when freshman Carlyne Schrock hit a two-out home run. Westfield added three more runs in the top of the third inning: Makayla Watson got home on an error, then Schrock blasted her second homer of the day into left

field, also bringing in Sofia Easterhaus.

Brownsburg scored three runs in the bottom of the third, cutting the Rocks' lead to 4-3. The Bulldogs then scored twice in the sixth inning to take the game.

Schrock and Reese Mahannah both had two hits. Olivia Sampia threw four strikeouts in 3.2 innings.

Westfield is 0-2 in HCC play and 3-4 overall. The Shamrocks play tonight at Greenfield-Central.

### Baseball

# Heights overwhelmed by No. 4 Panthers

### By CRAIG ADKINS

For The Reporter

In Tuesday night baseball action, Western showed Hamilton Heights why the Panthers are ranked fourth in Class 3A in this week's coaches poll.

Unfortunately for the Huskies, they were on the short end of a 16-0 loss at home. Heights had won three of its last four.

The Panthers scored three in the first, two in the

third, six in the fourth and sealed the game for good with another handful in the top of the fifth.

Jaiden McNulty made it look easy on the mound for Western. The junior held the Huskies to just two hits and struck out nine without giving up a walk.

Hamilton Heights evened its record at 3-3 overall and starts off Hoosier Conference play 0-1. The two finish up their HC series tonight at Western (6-0, 2-0) at 6 p.m.

### Baseball

# Revamped Tigers ready to challenge again

### By RICH TORRES

For The Reporter

**FISHERS** — Matthew Cherry knows what it takes to win.

With 335 victories overall since taking over the Fishers baseball program in 2007, Cherry's Tigers have stockpiled multiple trophies over the past two decades.

Last year's Hoosier Crossroads Conference championship marked the program's fourth in 10 seasons (2017, 2018, 2022), and the Tigers' Mudsock series dominance against rival Hamilton Southeastern reached five straight in 2025.

In 2018, the Tigers won the Class 4A state title and nearly claimed a second in 2021 with a state runner-up finish.

Fishers owns three sectional championships all time (2017, 2018, 2021), but with success also comes the agony of defeat.

Something Cherry knows as well.

"I do know we've lost three of the last four (sectional finals)," Cherry quipped. "I know that one."

A finalist six times since 2017, the Tigers were close to adding three more sectional titles, losing to Zionsville in 2022 and Westfield in back-to-back years (2024, 2025).

With the 2026 campaign underway, the Tigers' long-term goals remain the same, and it starts and ends with one philosophy.

Trusting the process. "Our motto this year is 'Next. Next play,'" Fishers junior shortstop Carter Strole said. "We just keep grinding. We want to win that sectional this year. It's a big goal for the team, but we have to keep battling, get there and win it."

Strole (.464, 5 doubles, 2 HRs, 11 RBI), a Central Michigan recruit, and senior ace Owen Lukac (1-1, 11 strikeouts, 11.0 IP), an Evansville commit, will be key pieces to the Tigers' potential championship puzzle as two of the most veteran players on the varsity roster.

The Tigers have eight new starters in the lineup and a revamped pitching staff this season but aren't short on talent, just experience.

"I've been telling them all along that the talent is here. It's getting them to figure out what needs to happen and getting them in the right place, getting them ready and getting them experience at this level," Cherry said. "They're talented enough to do it. They've been in the program."

Many of the new full-timers already have their futures set, including senior pitcher/outfielder Collin Bumps (Manchester), senior third baseman Vincent Pecoraro (Anderson University), senior catcher David Pina (Glen Oaks CC) and senior first baseman Miles Tebben (Grace College).

Senior outfielder Sean Frey (Anderson University), junior pitcher Auston Conley, senior designated hitter Justin Brown and senior pitcher Hayden Werner (Maryville) along with junior pitcher Grant Wolf provide more varsity know-how.

Ethan Buelt, a junior outfielder, senior outfielder Andrew Baldini and freshman Henry Cherry at second base have seized starting spots.

"We came into this off-

season confused on what to do with a lot of people. We're still trying to figure it out, since we only had a few guys returning, but we're a solid group," said the left-handed Lukac. "I love this group. It's more than baseball. We've connected with each other."

Learning how to win together will be a process after opening the season 4-5 overall and 1-1 in the HCC with two wins during their spring break trip to Tennessee.

"It took us a little bit to figure out the pieces to start the year. We went down to Tennessee, and we started, I think, 19 different hitters. It was a little bit of a tryout process there," Cherry said. "We beat the No. 7 team in Tennessee (Clarksville) in our last game down there, so they're figuring it out. We just have to keep getting better."

Series splits with HCC foe third-ranked Zionsville and Mt. Vernon have the Tigers moving in the right direction.

"The whole thing is a work in progress, and it's working," Lukac said. "Just gotta keep going."

## SPORTS SCHEDULE

### Wednesday, April 15

#### BASEBALL

Westfield at Cathedral, 5 p.m.  
Guerin Catholic at Bishop Chatard, 5:30 p.m.  
University at Alexandria, 5:30 p.m.  
Hamilton Heights at Western, 6 p.m.

#### BOYS LACROSSE

Bishop Chatard at Noblesville, 6 p.m.  
Fishers at Brownsburg, 6 p.m.  
Westfield at Guerin Catholic, 7:30 p.m.  
Zionsville at Carmel, 8 p.m.

#### GOLF

Westfield vs. Hamilton Southeastern, 2:30 p.m. at Prairie View

#### SOFTBALL

Lawrence Central at Guerin Catholic, 5:30 p.m.  
Carmel at Noblesville, 6 p.m.  
Hamilton Heights at Western, 6 p.m.  
Westfield at Greenfield-Central, 6 p.m.

#### TENNIS

University at Western Boone, 4:30 p.m.  
Taylor at Hamilton Heights, 5 p.m.  
Noblesville at Lawrence North, 5:30 p.m.  
Plainfield at Guerin Catholic, 5:30 p.m.  
Zionsville at Hamilton Southeastern, 5:30 p.m.  
Brownsburg at Westfield, 6 p.m.

#### TRACK & FIELD

Sheridan at Clinton Central (with Tri-Central), 5 p.m.  
University at Indianapolis Lutheran Invitational, 5:30 p.m.  
Pike at Noblesville boys, 5:30 p.m.  
Westfield girls at Zionsville, 5:30 p.m.  
Zionsville at Westfield boys, 5:30 p.m.

#### UNIFIED TRACK

Carmel at Pike, 6 p.m.

#### VOLLEYBALL

Soecina at University, 5:30 p.m.  
Guerin Catholic at Carmel, 7 p.m.  
Noblesville at McCutcheon, 7 p.m.  
Fishers at Cathedral, 7:30 p.m.

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

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# WISH-TV Athlete of the week: Noblesville's Aiden Reynolds

By CHARLES HUIRAS  
WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](http://wishtv.com)

Noblesville senior infielder Aiden Reynolds is playing in his last season of high school baseball, but his impact on the Millers program will be remembered.

As Reynolds enters his senior year, he's helped the Millers to a 64-28 record during his time in the Hoosier Crossroads Conference, one of the toughest

conferences in the state.

Reynolds, an Indiana commit, has an on-base percentage just below .500 for his career.

As one of the older guys on the team, Reynolds was asked if he's started to embrace his leadership role.

"Definitely," Reynolds said. "Last year I kind of felt it a little bit, I was a junior. We were a little young last year so I felt that leadership role, but this year it's definitely in full effect.

This really feels like it's my team. I have control and everybody sees me as the leader... I'm definitely a lead by example guy."

Head coach Justin Keever also described Reynolds' lead by example attitude.

"First of all, God blessed him with a lot of ability," Keever said. "But also on top of that, he works very hard at his craft. He's in the gym, he's in the cages, he's working not only offensively but defensively to be the best player he can be. From his first day with us he's been at the top of our order. It's been cool to see him mature, not only as a baseball player but as a teammate too."

To be one of the states most talented players, being successful in the batters box is a big part of it.

"My biggest strength is definitely at the plate," Reynolds said. "I think a lot of pitchers in this conference don't like facing me. I think I saw that a lot last year, I didn't get a lot of pitches to hit, and I think I'll see that even more this year."



Photo courtesy WISH-TV

Noblesville's Aiden Reynolds is embracing a leadership role as he enters his senior season for the Millers. Reynolds is committed to Indiana University.

Coach Keever agrees.

"His pitch recognition is high level," Keever said. "He's able to discern a ball from a strike. And then when he gets his opportunity he doesn't miss it very often. He's a guy that will punish mistakes, and his extra base hit frequency I think gives him that ability to swing at more pitches."

Looking past Reynolds talent on the field, Coach Keever is even more proud of who Reynolds is as a person.

"He's incredibly down

to earth," Keever said.

"He's a guy that's easy to talk to, and he's kind of quiet. He engages his teammates, he engages his coaches, he's coachable. He's got really good parents, and we've been very fortunate to have him in our program these last four years."

After Reynolds wraps up his senior year with the Millers, he's certainly excited about playing at the next level down in Bloomington.

"I'm super excited for

that," Reynolds said. "I've been committed there [IU] since I was a freshman here. Ever since then, I've been looking forward to it. I have frequent contact with the IU coaches. Every day I look more forward to it. I'm super excited for it."

Noblesville's season began on March 30, with the regular season running until the end of May.

This story originally appeared on WISH-TV at [wishtv.com/sports/athlete-of-the-week-noblesvilles-aiden-reynolds](http://wishtv.com/sports/athlete-of-the-week-noblesvilles-aiden-reynolds).

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## Indiana Esports Network live state championship finals to take place at Riverview Health Arena

### Submitted

Indiana Esports Network and Hamilton County Sports Authority have announced a joint effort to bring the Indiana esports state championships to a live audience on Saturday, April 25 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Over the past season, approximately 200 school districts across Indiana have competed in 15 different games, including *Overwatch*, *Rocket League*, *Valorant*, *Marvel Rivals*, *Fortnite*, *Super Smash Bros Ultimate*, and *League of Legends*. And everything comes down to this!

"The City of Noblesville looks forward to welcoming the Indiana Esports Network to Riverview Health

Arena at Innovation Mile," Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen said. "We purposely designed this venue to be a place for a wide range of event types, and welcoming esports athletes and fans will be an exciting opportunity for our community."

The competitions will be run and live-streamed from an exciting new venue: Riverview Health Arena at Innovation Mile in Noblesville, thanks to a partnership between Indiana Esports Network, Hamilton County Sports Authority, and the City of Noblesville. [Click here](#) to see the schedule.

"Welcoming the IEN State Esports Championship to Riverview Health Arena is an exciting moment for Hamilton County," Hamilton County Sports Authority Director Carl Daniels said. "These competitors deserve a world-class stage, and that's exactly what they'll find in Noblesville. Esports is a growing athletic discipline in the country, and we're thrilled to be at the forefront of bringing this kind of innovative event to the community."

In addition to the competitions, over 20 esports programs from colleges and universities will be present at a recruiting fair focused on showcasing the opportunities that exist for students at the next level. Top esports programs from around the region will be looking to fill roster positions with the top talent that Indiana has to offer.

There will be opportunities throughout the day for parents, high school administrators, and coaches to learn more about esports, competing in esports, competing at the collegiate level, and more. Leveraging their knowledge to help parents better understand this new industry, coaches build strong and well-prepared teams and administrators to help see the value of esports for their students.

One such opportunity comes in partnership with the U.S. Army Esports team. The U.S. Army Esports Team competes and wins tournaments in various game titles to create awareness about Army service, Soldier experiences, and being able to continue your passions while serving in the U.S. Army. The team is leveraging competitive gaming to build communities and mentor students for future roles in technology.

Through tournaments and live events, soldier-athletes demonstrate how the teamwork and problem-solving skills used in-game are the same ones that lead to success in high-demand tech careers and in the United States Army.

This initiative connects with students on a platform they are passionate about, creating awareness of the opportunity to pursue those passions while serving in the U.S. Army. It also highlights the wide range of technology-focused careers available, with team members – many from STEM backgrounds – sharing their experiences and mentoring students on transitioning from a gaming hobby to a fulfilling career.

"As IEN continues to grow (now to over 200 schools and 5,000 students) so does our annual IEN State Finals event," IEN Executive Director Joe Wilhelm. "This year will be the biggest ever! And that growth leads to an exciting change in venue. We're incredibly excited to partner with Hamilton County and the City of Noblesville to host this event at the new Riverview Health Arena at Innovation Mile. This is the perfect venue for this event and will create an exciting atmosphere for competitors and spectators alike. If you want to see the best of what Indiana has to offer in terms of scholastic esports, we hope to see you there!"

IEN State Finals 2026 is a free event open to the public. [Click here](#) for more information.


### About Indiana Esports Network

Indiana Esports Network (IEN) is a 100 percent volunteer-driven, educator-led organization. IEN is a collective of over 200 school districts across the state ranging in size, demographics, and socioeconomic populations all with the same goal: to use esports as a vehicle to engage students who aren't involved in traditional athletics or after-school activities, to increase academic performance/motivation, to create an inclusive community of students that fosters social growth, and to provide students with meaningful opportunities to develop 21st Century skills and career competencies in a novel way. Learn more at [indianaesports-network.org](http://indianaesports-network.org).

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