

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 22, 2026

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



TODAY'S WEATHER



Today: Partly to mostly cloudy. Scattered afternoon showers and storms.
 Tonight: Clouds decrease.



HIGH: 74 LOW: 55

Rotary Club of Carmel awards six Leadership Connection Scholarships

Submitted by **Dubbie Buckler**
 Carmel Rotary Club
 Board of Directors

Carmel Rotarians honored the six recipients of the 2026 Carmel Rotary Leadership Connection Scholarships at the club's annual recognition luncheon. The exceptional high school seniors each received a \$2,000 scholarship toward their post-secondary education, a personal tablet computer, and an inscribed display award.

The awards were presented by club president Doug Willard and program chair Louise Jackson, whose remarks included guiding principles for future decision-making.

The scholarship recipients were selected through a competitive application process reviewed by a committee of Rotarians, educators, and community leaders.

To be eligible for the scholarships, the students must have participated in both the Carmel Rotary Leadership Day of Service, performing hands-on charitable acts to those in need, plus the Carmel Rotary Leadership Day, an immersive learning experience about leadership, entrepreneurship, business models, and the importance of giving to others from the fruits of their



(From left) Carmel Rotary President Doug Willard; President-Elect Tyler Smith; scholarship recipients Halla Wilburn, Zach Flint, Anthony Garcia, Kane Lomax, Cheryl Yu, and Carter Buhr; CRLC Chair Louise Jackson; and CRLC Founder Dr. Rick Markoff.

laborers. Carmel Rotary Leadership Connection is the club's signature youth leadership initiative created to bring together business leaders and high school students from the wider Carmel area to help the students develop confidence, character, and a deeper understanding of leadership through real-world interaction with community leaders and hands-on service experiences.

Each student selected demonstrated a meaningful reflection on their Carmel Rotary Leadership Connection experience

See *Scholars* . . . Page 2



Photo provided
Carmel Rotary Leadership Connection Founder Dr. Rick Markoff speaks to attendees.

What if . . .

Most of my life was built on a hope that someday I would no longer be disabled. Many of those years hung on a prayer that my "unidentified" disease would be eradicated.

I spent countless hours thinking about how I would live my life once my miracle happened. I pictured strong legs running with ease. I envisioned keeping up with and blending in with my peers.

I thought of all the adventures I would go on. I thought of the stress my family could let go of, not having to worry about me and all the medical woes that came with . . . me. They deserved this cure as much as I did.

It felt right that my cure would come. After all, I did not really feel comfortable in my own skin, so surely the "glitch" would be "fixed" sooner rather than later. My legs could then "connect" to my brain and all the plans it had for me would be within reach.

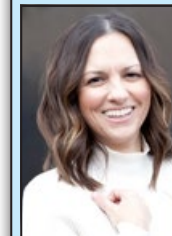
At 51, I still have not been cured of my Muscular Dystrophy (now at least I have a name). My daydreams about life without a disability have become less frequent. Those thoughts no longer regularly take a front seat with my time.

Now I think, what if I had been cured? I would have missed so much. My life would be far less meaningful. The tapestry that life with a disability has created would not be as beautiful. The colors would be less vibrant, the highs not as high.

I would not get to hear my sons tells me that their lives are so much more meaningful because they have a mom like me.

See *What If . . .* Page 2

COLUMNIST



AMY SHINNEMAN
 Disability in the City

Tipton High School sophomore Abby Lacy reflects on her first WGI Finals experience

Submitted by **Tipton Community Schools**

Tipton High School sophomore Abby Lacy recently completed her first season performing with One Light Performance Arts, culminating in an appearance at Winter Guard International Finals. Her achievement reflects both her personal dedication and the strong foundation she built through TCSC's performing arts programs.

Lacy began winter guard in sixth grade, returned in eighth grade for a season she describes as one of her most memorable, and continued to develop her skills through Tipton's marching and winter programs. This fall, with encouragement from coaches Rocky Teutle and Shaley Davis, she auditioned for her first independent winter guard – a significant step for any young performer.

Throughout the season, Lacy drew on the instruction, mentorship, and performance

opportunities she received at Tipton. She credits a long list of individuals who supported her growth, including Joshua Fullerton, Shaley Davis, Rocky Teutle, Keegan Pollard, Ms. Wallyn, Addie Davis, Cassie Simmons, Reid Scholz, Paul Yoo, John and Erin Hughes, and her family.

Her home team at Tipton continued to excel in festival class, earning a solid gold season, while Lacy gained valuable experience performing at the national level.

Tipton's color guard coach, Shaley Davis, added, "I'm so glad Abby has found such a passion for Color Guard and it's amazing to see her balance her responsibilities as a student and performer in the WGI circuit."

Lacy's journey highlights the impact of TCSC's commitment to student opportunity – from early exposure in middle school to advanced pathways that allow students to pursue



Photo provided
A season to remember! THS sophomore Abby Lacy took her Tipton grown talent all the way to WGI Finals with One Light Performance Arts. Her journey from middle school guard to the national stage is a testament to hard work, mentorship, and opportunity.

their passions at the highest levels.

She hopes to continue per-

forming next winter, building on a season she describes as "insane in the best way."

Hamilton County participates in 30th annual National Drug Take Back Day

The REPORTER

The Hamilton County Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs will hold a drive-thru medication drop-off event on Saturday, April 25 to help residents safely dispose of expired or unwanted prescriptions. The event will take place from 9 a.m. to noon in the east parking lot of Riverview Health in Noblesville, located across from Federal Hill Commons.



Greer

This year marks the 30th year that the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration has coordinated national efforts to collect unused medications. Locally, the council has participated in these April and October timelines for years, collecting hundreds of pounds of medication annually.

"A critical aspect of the prescription drug epidemic is the supply chain," said Monica Greer, executive director of the Hamilton County Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs. "For most people who misuse

See *Drug Take Back* . . . Page 3

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.



INDIANA PEONY Festival
INDIANAPEONYFESTIVAL.COM

MAY 16

SPONSORED BY
Smith's
JEWELERS

peonies
IN THE PARK

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 6-9PM
HISTORIC SEMINARY PARK

SPONSORED BY **cch+a**
COUNCIL ON COMMUNITY HOUSING

BRUNCH & BLOOMS

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 10AM-4PM
DOWNTOWN NOBLESVILLE

SPONSORED BY **46&SPRUCE**
BY STRONG

Early Voting Totals

Below are the number of early voters as of Tuesday, April 21, listed by polling location. [Click here for more information on early voting.](#)

Judicial Center	908
4-H Fairgrounds	1,229
TOTAL	2,137

Early voting now underway

Deadline to apply for absentee ballot is Thursday, April 23

The REPORTER

Two early voting locations in Noblesville opened on Tuesday, April 7, with eight other locations opening on April 22. Dates, times, and locations are as follows:

Noblesville

Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square

- April 22 to 24 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- April 25 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- April 27 to May 1 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- May 2 from 9 to 4 p.m.
- May 4 from 8 a.m. to noon

Hamilton County Fairgrounds, 2003 Pleasant St.

- April 22 to 25 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- April 27 to May 2 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- May 4 from 8 a.m. to noon

Carmel

Wilfong Pavilion, 11675 Hazel Dell Pkwy., Building A

Jill Perelman Pavilion, 3000 W. 116th St.

Carmel Public Library, 425 E. Main St.

- April 22 & 23 from 2 to 7 p.m.
- April 24 & 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- April 29 & 30 from 2 to 7 p.m.
- May 1 & 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Fishers

Roy G Holland Memorial Park Building, 1 Park Drive

Billerica Park Building, 12690 Promise Road

- April 22 & 23 from 2 to 7 p.m.
- April 24 & 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- April 29 & 30 from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- May 1 & 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Westfield

Westfield City Hall, 130 Penn St.

Cool Creek Nature Center, 2000-1 E. 151st St.

Westfield Washington Twp. Offices, 17400 Westfield Blvd.

- April 22 & 23 from 2 to 7 p.m.
- April 24 & 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- April 29 & 30 from 2 to 7 p.m.
- May 1 & 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The deadline to request an absentee ballot is also nearing. Those wishing to vote absentee must submit an application before midnight on Thursday, April 23. The form can be submitted electronically at indianavoters.com. You can also call (317) 776-8476 and make a request for an application over the phone.

SCHOLARS

from Page 1

through their leadership, personal growth, how they can positively impact others, and a clear commitment to continued growth. Their applications highlighted resilience, initiative, and a desire to make a lasting impact in their communities. Unlike traditional scholarships focused solely on academics, this program emphasizes growth, leadership, and personal reflection.

The 2026 recipients are a strong and diverse group of future leaders who exemplify the program's core values. Five students received the Carmel Rotary Leadership Connection Scholarship: Cheryl Yu, Carmel High School; Zach Flint, Carmel High School; Anthony Garcia, Christel House; Kane Lomax, Pike High School; and Halla Wilburn, Christel House. A sixth student, Carter Buhr of Carmel High School, received the Dr. Rick Markoff Carmel Rotary Leadership Connection Scholarship, named for and presented by the program's founder.

After receiving their awards, each student spoke about the program's impact on them personally, shared



Photo provided

Carmel Rotary President Doug Willard listens as scholarship recipients Cheryl Yu, Kane Lomax, Zach Flint, Halla Wilburn, Anthony Garcia, and Carter Buhr answer audience questions.

their experiences and future plans, reflected on their participation in the program, and then answered questions from Carmel Rotarians and the many guests present. Carmel Rotary Leadership Connection continues to showcase what's possible when young people are given the opportunity to lead, reflect, and grow.

About Rotary Club of Carmel

The Rotary Club of Carmel, founded in 1972, regularly contributes to local community projects including the Merciful H.E.L.P.

Center, Crooked Creek Food Pantry, Meals on Wheels, Carmel Summer Lunch Program, Trinity Free Clinic, and many others.

Carmel Rotary's youth outreach includes Leadership Connection, a leadership skills development and scholarship program for Carmel area high school students; Interact, a Rotary-sponsored service club for youth ages 12 to 18; and the Youth Exchange Program, hosting foreign exchange students and sponsoring Carmel High School students studying abroad.

Carmel Rotary proudly presents Carmel's annual 4th of July parade and celebration, CarmelFest. Carmel Rotary is also involved in global service projects focused on Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution; Disease Prevention and Treatment; Water and Sanitation; Maternal and Child Health; Basic Education and Literacy, and Economic and Community Development. The longstanding primary goal of Rotary International is the eradication of polio on earth.

For more information visit CarmelRotary.com.

WHAT IF

from Page 1

My husband would not be pushing me all over the world in marathons, where we have blessed and been blessed by so many strangers in a split second as we run by. There are so many deep, unspoken moments.

I would not have had the opportunity to speak to hundreds of people on stage during my time as National Ambassador for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Spreading hope to those who have a long road ahead. How lucky I was to have such an opportunity!

I certainly would not have the opportunity to reach others through this column, and have the joy of hearing countless people

say, "You will never know how many people you are helping by being so vulnerable." That gets me every time.

When we are younger, we assume we have our gifts and talents figured out. After all, when we leave high school, we are expected to know exactly what we want to do with our lives at the ripe old age of 17 or so.

I joined a club in high school called A.W.O.L. (A Work of Love). When I first joined, it was to check a box to look good on college applications. I was hooked after the first service project. We shopped for Christmas gifts for those in need and delivered them. That

experience changed me.

Life with a disability molded me in such a way that I easily recognized their pain and emotional distress. Seeing their joy mixed with sorrow deeply resonated within me.

The experiences with A.W.O.L. led me to my career path. After college, I spent many years helping those with disabilities and felt that was exactly where I was meant to be.

Somehow, through all of this, I was drowning out the kind things people would say to me. Others were able to recognize my gifts and tell me what they saw in me. What they thought were my most im-

portant qualities.

What if I had listened? Could I have made more of a difference had I truly leaned into that earlier?

Or, what if, I am exactly where I am supposed to be, arriving at this moment exactly as planned?

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 and reach her on Instagram @ashinneman.

D.C. DARK MONEY GROUPS ARE SPENDING OVER \$1 MILLION LYING ABOUT JIM BUCK

HERE'S THE TRUTH.

Jim Buck voted for the first law in Indiana history to block foreign adversaries like China from buying farmland near our military bases.

Then he voted to expand that protection statewide.

Now no foreign adversary can buy Indiana farmland. Period.

PROUDLY ENDORSED BY:



OUR FARMERS TRUST JIM BUCK.

YOU SHOULD TOO.

ON OR BEFORE MAY 5

VOTE JIM BUCK

Conservative Republican for State Senate



Paid for by Citizens for Buck.



Local students advance to 2026 National History Day state contest

The REPORTER

The Indiana Historical Society (IHS) has announced that more than 300 students from schools across the state took part in the 2026 National History Day in Indiana (NHDI) State Contest at Marian University on Saturday, April 18. NHDI is a year-long academic program designed to strengthen history education for students in grades four through 12.

Each year, participants select a historical topic connected to an annual theme and conduct extensive primary and secondary source research. The 2025-2026 theme, "Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History," challenges students to explore how individuals, communities, and governments have balanced freedoms and civic duties throughout history.

Students present their findings in one of five categories: documentary, exhibit, paper, performance, or website. Advancement to the state contest requires qualification through one of seven regional competitions held across Indiana.

"We are incredibly proud of Hoosier students who continue to raise the bar with their curiosity and thoughtfulness," IHS CEO Jody Blankenship said. "History is not something they simply inherit, it's something they actively build an understand-

ing of together. Programs like National History Day ensure the next generation doesn't just learn about the past, but learns how to think critically about it, connect it to their communities and carry those lessons forward."

Through its project-based, inquiry-driven model, NHDI gives students ownership of their learning by guiding them to develop research questions, analyze evidence and present conclusions in creative and compelling ways. From classroom projects to regional and state competitions, the program builds critical thinking, analytical and presentation skills while fostering meaningful collaboration between students and educators.

Students qualified for state by taking part in regional contests where 120 volunteer judges worked in teams to evaluate projects and rank winners. All regional finalists advanced to the state contest, where students also had the chance to win special prizes for Indiana history topics.

For more information about National History Day in Indiana, visit indianahistory.org/historyday or call (317) 232-1882.

National History Day in Indiana is presented by Rooker Family Foundation with support from the Vigran Family Foundation.


Local students who advanced

- Junior Individual Documentary**
3rd – "Hippies: The Counterculture of Artistic Revolution" – Lucy Feng (Clay Middle School)
- Senior Group Documentary**
1st – "From Reaction to Reform: How ACT UP's "Inside-Outside" Strategy Revolutionized AIDS Activism" – Benjamin Lu, Divya Ariyur, Emma An, Shawn Feng (Carmel High School)
- Senior Individual Website**
1st – "The Catalyst for Change: Rachel Carson's Silent Spring and the Revolution, Reaction, and Reform in Environmental Policy" – Iman Hallab (Eman Schools)
2nd – "Resisting Hate: Notre Dame Students' Revolutionary Reaction to the Ku Klux Klan" – Katelyn Chen (Carmel High School)
3rd – "The Triangle Shirtwaist Company Fire of 1911's Effect on Labor Laws in the United States" – Mia Taliaferro (Carmel High School)
- Senior Group Website**
1st – "The War Powers Resolution: Redefining the Separation of Powers in the Vietnam Era" – Katie Zhao, Olivia Lim, Stephanie Tan, Valerie Fu (Carmel High School)
2nd – "The Wounds of Labor Justice: Revolution, Reaction, and Reform in the Indianapolis Streetcar Strike of 1913" – Eryn Arockia, Jeonghu Yang, Luke Zang (Carmel High School)
- Senior Individual Exhibit**
1st – "The Floating Hells and the Voyage to Modern Prisons" – Sophia Andres (Carmel High School)
2nd – "Blood Money: The True Story Behind the UK Blood Scandal and How it Reformed the NHS and Health Regulations" – Thea Purvis (Carmel High School)
3rd – "Reaction, Reform, and Quakers" – Grant Block (Carmel High School)
- Senior Group Exhibit**
1st – "Insulin: A Partnership, a Revolution, and Millions of Lives" – Thomas Washburn, Tyler Carlston (Carmel High School)
2nd – "Dorothea Dix and the Central State Hospital" – Isabella Henderson, Kate Templeman (Carmel High School)
3rd – "The 6888 and the Letters that Saved the War" – Journee Collins, Oli Muyumba (North Central High School)
- ***
- Roy F. Stringer Memorial Prize for Labor Unions in Indiana:** "The Wounds of Labor Justice: Revolution, Reaction, and Reform in the Indianapolis Streetcar Strike of 1913" – Eryn Arockia, Jeonghu Yang, Luke Zhang, Senior Group Website (Carmel High School)
- Indiana Local History Prize – Senior Division:** "Resisting Hate: Notre Dame Students' Revolutionary Reaction to the Ku Klux Klan" – Katelyn Chen, Senior Individual Website (Carmel High School)
- Indiana Women in Politics Prize:** "Dorothea Dix and the Central State Hospital" – Kate Templeman and Isabella Henderson, Senior Group Exhibit (Carmel High School)
- William Henry Smith Memorial Library Prize:** "Free Riders or Fair Share? How an Indiana Agency Shop Battle Reshaped American Labor Law" – Sheza Nawaz, Senior Individual Website, (Carmel High School)

Superior 9
CHRISTOPHER BARROWS FOR JUDGE
EXPERIENCE • INTEGRITY • COMMUNITY
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Elect PEGGY R. PFISTER
NOBLESVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD
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DRUG TAKE BACK

these drugs, the source isn't an anonymous street dealer but a trusted friend or family member, and the point of access is the home medicine cabinet. If we get the unused or expired medications out of our houses, we can deter misuse and abuse."

The event will accept expired and unused medications as well as vape devices. Staff cannot accept liquids, sharps, or needles. Individuals with those items are encouraged to dispose of

them at the Hamilton County Household Hazardous Waste Center.

For those unable to attend the event, safe disposal remains available throughout the year at several local law enforcement agencies, including the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office and the Fishers and Westfield police departments. Select Walmart, Walgreens, and Meijer locations also offer year-round collection options.



Photo provided
Captain Mark Bowen with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office helped collect more than 150 pounds of unused and expired prescriptions last Spring.

from Page 1

TIFFANIE DITLEVSON
INDIANA STATE SENATE

VOTE EARLY FOR TIFFANIE DITLEVSON

- ✓ The only elected Republican in the race
- ✓ The only candidate already serving 70% of District 31
- ✓ The only combat veteran in the race
- ✓ The only candidate with local government experience



2026 Republican Primary
May 5, 2026
Early Voting Available April 7 - May 4



Fishers Early Voting Locations
Roy G. Holland Memorial Park Building
1 Park Drive, Fishers

Lawrence Early Voting Location
Indianapolis Public Library – Fort Ben Branch
9330 E. 56th Street, Indianapolis

Fishers Early Voting Hours
Wednesday-Thursday
April 22-23 | 2:00 PM-7:00 PM

Lawrence Early Voting Hours
Saturday, April 25-Sunday
May 3 | 11:00 AM-6:00 PM

Friday-Saturday
April 24-25 | 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Wednesday-Thursday
April 29-30 | 2:00 PM-7:00 PM

Friday-Saturday
May 1-2 | 10:00 AM-3:00 PM



Visit **IndianaVoters.com**
Scan the QR code to confirm your voter registration, view a sample ballot, request an absentee ballot, or find additional voting locations and hours.

✓ **Vote Tiffanie Ditlevson**
Republican for State Senate
Republican Primary | May 5, 2026
Early Voting Available

Paid for by Tiffanie for Indiana Senate.

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PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT DUSTIN DIXON



- ✓ Veteran Who Served Our Country
- ✓ Leader Focused on Public Safety
- ✓ Strong Community Relationships
- ✓ Proven to Deliver for Hamilton County

ENDORSED BY 3 MAYORS

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SCOTT FADNESS, FISHERS
CHRIS JENSEN, NOBLESVILLE

ENDORSED BY 4 FOP'S



DIXON
FOR
SHERIFF

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT DUSTIN DIXON

DIXONFORSHERRIFF.COM

Letter to the Editor

Congressional candidate Phil Goss says getting rid of “big money” is first step to real health care reform

Dear Editor:
How should we address our problems?

Identifying problems is easy, to an extent. We recognize the inequities in our healthcare system, tax structure, social services, and education policies.

Many of those problems persist because they are complex and cannot be solved with a “Band-Aid” solution or other quick fixes. Increased spending on these issues results in increased prices and costs for everyday Hoosiers.

Achieving greater efficiency and better services for less money is only possible with better management and a more appropriate regulatory environment.

For example, one way to improve health care in the U.S. would be to replace the Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) Act of 1973 – a measure that transactionalized health care by allowing health insurance plans to limit coverage to specific in-network providers – with an outcome-based system that protects Americans from conflicts of interest, monopolies, and trusts within the health care industry and prioritizes patient outcomes.

Implementing those changes will

take sustained effort from federal lawmakers and an overhaul of our current system, which not only allows but encourages monopolies and vertical integration. Better health care comes from the Department of Commerce, not the Department of Health and Human Services.

Oddly enough, we can look to the re-legalization of alcohol as an example of how appropriate barriers to vertical integration and the prevention of conflicts of interest keep that market competitive, which ultimately protects consumers. After Prohibition, the federal government gave states the ability to regulate alcohol within their borders. While each state has its own alcohol regulations, many use a three-tiered system that clearly separates alcohol producers, wholesalers, and retailers.

Creating a similar system in health care would improve Americans’ collective health significantly. This would require effective involvement from the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Commerce, in addition to the Department of Health and Human Services.

But solving health care isn’t the entire solution. We must also improve our collective nutrition through

restrictions on harmful ingredients, similar to those found in other countries. Many other countries restrict the use of ingredients that are known to cause negative health outcomes. We could, but we don’t, because the food and agriculture industries have long controlled federal dietary recommendations.

Adverse health outcomes resulting from the lack of an adequate regulatory structure affect us all. One classification of ingredients in the U.S. is “GRAS” – generally recognized as safe. But the food industry often determines the safety of their own ingredients. Our health is not their priority.

The first matter we must address in order to implement effective change and improved health and health care outcomes in the United States involves getting big money out of the legislative process. This means moving away from Citizens United and returning us to a county of, by, and for the people – not the corporations who are acting in the interests of their own profits at the expense of our well-being.

Phil Goss

Candidate in the Democratic primary for Indiana’s 5th District Congressional seat

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.

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

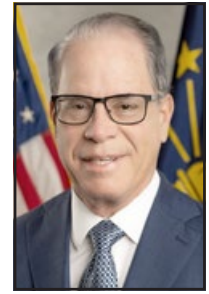


Gov. Braun takes action to protect Hoosier highways from illegal immigrants with CDLs

Submitted by Office of Gov. Mike Braun

On Monday, April 20, Indiana Governor Mike Braun highlighted his signing of **HEA 1200**:

a bill to take on the dangerous upsurge of illegal aliens with Commercial Drivers’ Licenses (CDLs) driving large commercial trucks on Hoosier roads and highways.



Braun

Governor Braun was joined by bill author Rep. Jim Pressel, Secretary of Public Safety Anthony Scott, and representatives from Attorney General Rokita’s Office.

“We are revoking all CDLs from illegal aliens and penalizing companies who employ them,” Gov. Braun said. “We’re also strengthening our CDL licensing process. Through strong enforcement we will keep our highways safe for Hoosiers.”

Recent cases of illegal aliens driving commercial vehicles involved in fatal crashes has brought attention to this issue. Indiana experienced multiple fatal crashes caused by illegal immigrants with CDLs driving massive commercial trucks.

This is not the first enforcement measure Gov. Braun has taken to remove illegal alien commercial truck drivers from Indiana’s roadways.

Last fall, Gov. Braun teamed up with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on Operation Midway Blitz, a successful 287(g) operation with Indiana State Police that resulted in the arrest of 223 illegal aliens on Indiana highways near the Illinois state line – including 146 truck drivers.

Additionally, Gov. Braun recently completed an audit of Indiana’s non-domiciled CDLs with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and as a result, the state has already removed hundreds of illegally licensed drivers from the road.

Gov. Braun, AG Rokita, and Rep. Pressel collaborated on first of its kind language that strengthened the process for CDL licensing and enabled the state to remove CDLs from illegal immigrants. In addition, it also created new penalties to crack down on non-licensed drivers and the companies that employ them.

Letter to the Editor

Experience matters: Todd Clevenger details his support of Lowes for Sheriff

As the County Auditor of Hamilton County, I view the office of Sheriff through a lens that is somewhat different from most. Certainly, public safety is paramount. Our residents deserve strong, steady leadership to ensure the continued safety and well-being of our communities.

However, as the County’s Chief Fiscal Officer, I am equally mindful of the operational and financial responsibilities that come with leading the largest department in our county government.

The Sheriff’s Office is not only a law enforcement agency, it is a complex organization that manages significant financial resources, oversees substantial infrastructure, and leads a large and diverse staff. Effective leadership in this role requires more than experience in uniform; it demands proven executive management ability, fiscal responsibility, and an understanding of the business operations that sustain modern law enforcement.

Both candidates in this race bring law enforcement experience to the table. However, John Lowes is the only candidate with direct experience managing and operating the Sheriff’s Office itself. He understands not only the demands of public safety, but also the intricacies of budgeting, personnel management, procurement, compliance, and long-term strategic planning within our county structure.

For these reasons, I strongly endorse John Lowes for Hamilton County Sheriff. I am confident in his ability to lead with integrity, accountability, and a deep understanding of both public safety and responsible stewardship of taxpayer resources.

Todd Clevenger
Cicero

The position of County Sheriff

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. Please include your phone number and city of residence. The Reporter will publish one letter per person per week.

Westfield whiskey seller to make way for indoor golf & entertainment venue

By GREGG MONTGOMERY
WISH-TV | wishtv.com

A Hamilton County whiskey distillery and restaurant is selling its hospitality and real estate assets to an indoor golf and social entertainment club, said a news release issued Tuesday morning.

Westfield-based West Fork Whiskey Co. announced the deal with Fishers-based Stick & Hack.

Stick & Hack said in its own news release that

it will move into the West Fork Whiskey location near Grand Park Sports Campus. The sale was expected to close within 45 to 60 days.

Stick & Hack already has sites in Fishers and Broad Ripple with golf simulators. The virtual golf startup began in 2019.

The release said the Westfield Stick & Hack site will have two restaurants; three full-service bars with a craft cocktail, beer, and wine program; and an entertainment lineup featuring putt-

putt, golf simulators, racing simulators, darts, ping pong, shuffleboard, and bocce.

“Plans for an outdoor beer garden and expanded outdoor activities on the property are already in development, with the vision of creating a true indoor-outdoor destination that serves the community year-round,” the release said.

West Fork Whiskey says its products, including the Old Hamer and Hugh Hamer lines, will continue to be available at wholesale and

retail sites and at bars and restaurants across Indiana. The Westfield location will remain open during the transition so customers can get a final change to experience the venue. The company will also continue operating West Fork Social House in Indianapolis’ Fountain Square neighborhood.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/business/westfield-whiskey-seller-to-make-way-for-indoor-golf-and-entertainment-venue.

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 Cristmill’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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Photo provided

See Melissa Etheridge live in Carmel on May 3.

Iconic rocker returns to Carmel on May 3

The REPORTER

Melissa Etheridge stormed onto the American rock scene in 1988 with the release of her critically acclaimed self-titled debut album, which led to an appearance on the 1989 Grammy Awards show. For several years, her popularity grew around such memorable originals as "Bring Me Some Water," "No Souvenirs," and "Ain't It Heavy," for which she won a Gram-

my in 1992.

Now, she will make her return to Carmel at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, May 3 when she plays the Payne & Mencias Palladium at Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts.

Known for her confessional lyrics and raspy, smoky vocals, Etheridge has remained one of America's favorite female singers for more than three decades.

[Click here](#) for tickets.

First some adjectives: powerful, compelling, noteworthy, spellbinding, tear-jerking, and meaningful.

These only begin to describe the story, the acting, the direction, and the effects of Epilogue Players' current offering – *The Tin Woman*. The play, by Sean Grennan, deals with loss and discovery, heartache and joy, living and dying – and does it in a unique set of vignettes that unfold the effects of one man's death and of his donated heart, which goes to a fragile and uncertain woman.

We first meet Joy in her post-op hospital room, in her mid-30s and given this remarkable second chance at life – a replacement heart. Next, we meet the donor's family, dealing with the loss

COLUMNIST



KEN KLINGENMEIER
A Seat on the Aisle

of their son in a manner that damages the solidity of their relationships – the mother, Alice, trying to cope with having to move on in spite of the pain; the father, Hank, angry at everything that means.

The twist comes when we learn that Joy is nearly as miserable as the family members, wondering why she is the lucky one, why this young man's death was the essential cog to her surviving. She isn't coping with it any better than the man's family is.

An eventual meeting of the principals doesn't go well at first, but eventually leads to new understandings and new horizons.

The production is excellently compiled by veteran director Nicole Amsler, who has been blessed with an outstanding cast. Careful and thoughtful work has been done here, finding the humor and the sorrow in this story and projecting it all into a truly remarkable and relatable theatre experience.

Laura Gellin is just perfect as the heart recipient, Joy. Ms. Gellin finds truth and conveys it as Joy feels less and less sure that her survival is the best thing that has ever happened to her. Her friend, Darla – played with bubbly non-conformity



Photo by Rob Slaven / IndyGhostLight.com

Darla (Mary DeBoer, left) visits her friend Joy (Laura Gellin).

by Mary DeBoer – encourages her to seek a connection with her donor's family and Joy is hopeful she might thus shed her uncertainties.

Tanya Haas plays Alice, with a fervor and an understanding that I know she holds in her heart. This mother is doing the best she can, or at least is trying to in the face of her son's death and her additional concerns for her husband, Hank, offered by Eric Bryant. Hank holds a grudge on the entire world, it seems. Bryant evenly portrays his internal chaos and his external pain due to the loss he has faced in a very well-formed turn.

Lauren Janning is delightful as Sammy, the daughter in the family, who faces everything with a new-age outlook, and offers some much-needed humor to the mix. Matt McKee takes on the role of Jack, the departed son. In a brilliant addition to the story, Jack is

always there – unseen, but tenderly caring for the world he has left in terms of his family and of the new person with his heart. Presented also in some flashbacks of Jack while alive, McKee is able to fill in some gaps with his solid work.

Sarah Froehlke smartly handles the short but hilarious Nurse role at the onset of the story.

Bottom Line: This is an outstanding achievement, both in its script and in the presentation given by this amazing group of actors. I would label it must-see as well as must-bring-tissues. Go see it!

The Tin Woman continues at Epilogue Players' Alabama St. playhouse through April 26. For more information about dates, times, and reservations go to [EpiloguePlayers.com](#).

Read more great play reviews from *A Seat on the Aisle* at [asota.wordpress.com](#).

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Legacy Christian School gives dinner for donors



Reporter photo

Legacy Christian School, 470 Lakeview Drive, Noblesville, thanked donors with a family-style dinner on April 16 at Matteo's Ristorante Italiano. (ABOVE) Middle School/High School Principal Jason Klingerman and Elementary Principal Anne Barth speak with attendees, thanking them for their support of local Christian education. Learn more at [LegacyChristianSchools.org](#).

Noblesville launches program to encourage downtown visitors

Submitted by
City of Noblesville

As construction continues for the Embrace Downtown project, the City of Noblesville is launching a program to promote shopping and dining in downtown Noblesville.

As part of its commitment to assisting business owners throughout the construction, the Embrace Small Business stamp card program has been implemented to encourage residents and visitors to continue supporting local in downtown Noblesville. The project website has a page detailing the new program, participating businesses, and how to play. Go to [EmbraceDowntownNoblesville.com/business-support](#) to learn more.

"We understand the challenges that come with construction and how that impacts our downtown

businesses," Mayor Chris Jensen said. "We are committed to helping business owners while we make the improvements that are part of the Embrace Downtown project to promote a vibrant, healthy downtown economy."

The stamp cards can be picked up at any participating business. Completed cards can be returned for a chance to win \$250 in gift cards to downtown businesses. Ten winners will be drawn each month in April, May, and June.

"This program creates excitement and gives customers a reason to visit multiple small businesses in downtown Noblesville. It's a win for everyone!"

said Cheryl Schulz, owner of Alexander's on the Square.

The Embrace Downtown project is a multi-phase initiative to create a more welcoming, accessible, and vibrant downtown Noblesville. Phase 1B construction began on Logan Street from Eighth Street through the intersection at Ninth Street.

Phase 1B is anticipated to last until this fall, weather dependent. Access will remain to businesses in the construction area, but there will be no parking on Logan Street between Eighth Street and Ninth Street.

Overall construction is anticipated to be complete in November 2026.

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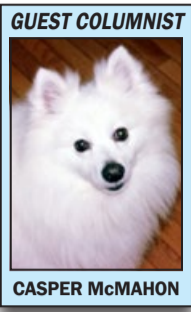
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As warmer weather nears, it's time to pay special attention to our furry friends

"You think those dogs will not be in heaven! I tell you they will be there long before any of us." - Robert Louis Stevenson



CASPER McMAHON

are now aware of the dangers of hot cars, for both people and pets. Did you know that the inside of a closed car on an 80-degree day will heat up to 99 degrees in only 10 minutes and up to 109 degrees in 20 minutes?! Yikes! So, I hope you reconsider traveling us around to events in very hot weather as most of us (all of us I imagine!) would prefer to wait at home in the A/C until you come home to play with us.

Golly I love this quote! This week I am submitting for my human mom as she is on a well-deserved get away from me and my dog sister, Blue. I will be spending some fun time with my pet sitter Ashley, and Miss Blue has other arrangements made this time. Sometimes we need a break from each other as well!

Both Blue and I are what you might say "middle age" dogs, so we don't cause too much trouble around the house except for some barking now and then ... that sort of thing. We love the groomer and just tolerate the veterinarian - although we know that we need our health updates.

In considering some topics for this column, I find I have a few which may be news to some and hopefully taken in the spirit in which they are intended. After all, my furry friends and their well-being is important to me and I know it is to all of you pet owners, too.

Summer is just around the corner - yay! More outdoor time, more walks, more yard creatures at which to bark ... I love it! However, there are some summer related issues which might affect us dogs so let's talk about it.

Fleas & ticks

Yuck! I am very grateful that my humans make sure that I have the necessary meds to keep those pesky and dangerous critters away from me. Not only are they dangerous for me (and Blue, of course!) but may also affect my humans so we need to follow our vet's advice on that topic.

Outdoor activities

As much as we love spending time with you, we do not especially enjoy being taken along on a hot day to a ballgame, concert, parade ... you get the picture. If you feel you must take us along please be sure we have access to shade and water. I don't know if you would like to walk barefoot on hot pavements but OUCH that can be quite dangerous.

"Pavement, like asphalt or artificial grass, can become incredibly hot and cause discomfort, blisters, and burn a dog's paw pads," says Dr. Jerry Klein, DVM, Chief Veterinary Officer for the AKC and an expert in veterinary emergency and critical care.

I bet he has seen a few examples in his practice. Thanks to public service awareness, most people

You may also know that both the City of Noblesville and Hamilton County have passed legislation which addresses the legal obligations of pet parents in relation to the above.

I think a mention of crowds and associated noise levels warrants a mention here. We canines have very sensitive ears, as you may know. Most dogs are uncomfortable at a noise level over 70 dB. Most humans are uncomfortable over 85 dB. Many outdoor concert venues present music over 120 dB.² We know our humans love their music and they like to show us off (that is sweet) but really we do not have the need to be exhibited nor are we able to cover our ears. This applies to the Fourth of July events as well!

If I could put in a word about the importance of pet rescue organizations, please consider adopting your next pet - and yes, I am a rescue dog. What a relief. I was really scared (still kind of a sissy) and it has taken a lot of love and patience but I am much better now. Whew! Blue is also a rescue and although she is really lazy and not much fun, I know that she is very happy here as well.

We miss our humans but we know that they will be as glad to see us (right?) as we are to see them when they return. I have enjoyed writing for you and, who knows, maybe I will get another opportunity if the humans need a break. This was fun!

¹ Department of Geosciences, San Francisco State University

² Joshua Leeds, Pres., BioAcoustic Research, Inc.

Please consult your professional veterinary medical associates for more information regarding any recommendations presented in this column.

LOCAL NEWS? LOCAL SPORTS?
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Hamilton County Reporter

Westfield Washington Public Library launches strategic plan

The REPORTER

The Westfield Washington Public Library (WWPL) has introduced a new three-year strategic plan aimed at strengthening its role as a community hub.

Executive Director Sheryl Sollars said the plan reflects a shift from past efforts focused on expanding physical space to enhancing services, programs, and community connections. The library moved into a new 43,000 square-foot space building at the corner of Westfield Boulevard and Park Street in 2024.

"Now that we have the space, the question becomes: how do we use it in the best possible way for our community?" Sollars said. "We want everything we do - from programs to partnerships - to feel meaningful and truly meet people where they are."



Sollars

The updated plan introduces a new vision and mission to guide the library's future.

Vision: Connecting our Community

Mission: Providing our community with welcoming spaces, impactful experiences, and a variety of resources

To support this vision and mission, the plan is built around three strategic directions: creating community connections, welcoming the community, and nurturing a strong library culture.

Residents can expect to see expanded outreach for all age groups, including

stronger connections with elementary, middle, and high schools. Plans include developing a partnership strategy and dedicating staff to youth programming.

The plan was developed with guidance from Fast Forward Libraries and informed by community surveys, focus groups, and interviews with local leaders, staff, and the library board.

Sollars said the plan will be actively evaluated each quarter to ensure it remains relevant and community-focused.

The full plan is available at wwpl.lib.in.us.

Rotarians welcome Mendi Cooley of Westfield Family Network

Submitted by Ron Fall
Westfield Rotary Club

The Westfield Rotary Club welcomed Mendi Cooley of the Westfield Family Network (WFN) as our guest speaker last week. The Westfield Family Network is a community initiative dedicated to supporting families raising loved ones with disabilities.

Funded through a grant from the Governor's Council for People with Disabilities, the mission of the Westfield Family Network is to connect people and organizations, elevate voices, and mobilize support to build a more welcoming and accessible Westfield - where everyone belongs and no family ever has to navigate alone.

Cooley shared that her work is both professional and personal. As a parent of a son with Down syndrome, she has firsthand understanding of the daily experiences and obstacles families navigating disability encounter.

Her leadership team brings a deep combination of lived experience and professional expertise to the network's work. The network offers a wide range of practical and social support, including inclusive events, access to resources and services, educational opportunities, and community-building programs. A key initiative is the Family Connector Program, through which trained WFN members walk alongside other families. These members provide support one-on-one or through "Family Circles," which are both WFN-hosted gatherings and existing community events where WFN shows up to offer connection, information, and resources.

WFN also engages in advocacy efforts and collaborates with over 60 community partners, including the Westfield Advisory Council on Disabilities, the City of Westfield, Westfield Washington Schools, and the



Photo provided

Mendi Cooley of the Westfield Family Network recently spoke to Westfield Rotarians about her organization's work.

Westfield Rotary Club.

Membership into the Westfield Family Network is open to all in our community, and the work of the network is focused on families supporting loved ones with disabilities.

An upcoming event is scheduled with the Westfield Advisory Council on Disabilities for June 20: a Nature Sensory Walk on the

Midland Trace Trail from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Westfield Family Network is supporting this event and community volunteers are welcome.

Reach out to Mendi directly with any needs, ideas, or questions at mendi@coolabilities.org.

To learn more about the Westfield Family Network, visit WestfieldFamilyNetwork.org.

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Everwise Credit Union celebrates Zionsville branch grand opening

Submitted

Everwise Credit Union celebrated the grand opening of its newest full-service branch on Tuesday, April 21. Located at 10920 N. Michigan Road, the branch marks Everwise's first Zionsville location and 19th in the greater Indianapolis area. The new location reflects Everwise's continued investment in serving its membership.

"Today represents an important milestone for our organization," Zionsville Branch Manager Melanie Smith said. "Zionsville has the kind of civic energy Everwise is drawn to: strong local businesses, active community leadership, and families putting down roots who want a financial partner that's doing the same."

The Zionsville branch reflects Everwise's ongoing commitment to its members and community-focused service, offering convenient access for commuters and families traveling between neighborhoods, downtown Indianapolis, and surrounding communities.

The new building was designed to reflect local historic architectural character, featuring a distinctive Italianate façade with 178 handcrafted exterior brackets and a prominent cupola that conceals rooftop mechanical equipment while preserving the building's historic design character.



Photos provided

Inside, members will find three private offices for one-on-one consultations and a small conference room for financial planning conversations.

The drive-through includes two Interactive Teller Machines (ITMs), which combine the convenience of an ATM with the option to connect with a live teller via video during extended service hours. A self-service coin machine is also available in the lobby.

"We believe convenience and personal service shouldn't be mutually exclusive," Everwise Chief Banking Officer Jay Gendics said. "Technology like our ITMs allows members to access help when they need it, while still maintaining the human



connection that matters. This isn't just a new building. It's a long-term commitment to providing personalized, member-first financial guidance for Zionsville families and businesses."

The Zionsville branch offers a full range of Everwise financial services, including:

- Checking and savings accounts
- Mortgages and home lending
- Credit cards and consumer loans
- Wealth management services

For more information, visit everwisecu.com.

William Million endorses Jack Russell for Hamilton Heights School Board

Submitted

William Million, Head of Logistics and Business Development at Will Power Excavation & Bulldozing, has announced his endorsement of Jack Russell, candidate for Hamilton Heights School Board.

Million has lived in the Hamilton Heights community for more than 30 years, is the proud father of four Hamilton Heights graduates, and has given back through years of coaching and mentoring with local civic and sports organizations.

"Jack's commitment to fiscal responsibility and emphasis on accountability will help our district through the changes and challenges in funding that may face our

district in the future," Million said.

Russell said he is grateful for the endorsement and support.

"William represents the kind of community leadership that makes Hamilton Heights special," Russell said. "I'm honored to have his support and look forward to working to keep our schools strong, accountable, and focused on student success."

Jack Russell is a candidate for Hamilton Heights School Board At-Large focused on academic excellence, responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars, safe schools, and strong partnerships between families, educators, and the community.



Russell

Joel Levi earns Moms Demand Action Gun Sense Candidate distinction & endorsement from Run For Something

Submitted

Democratic State House candidate Joel Levi has been named a 2026 Moms Demand Action Gun Sense Candidate and has earned the endorsement of Run for Something, a national organization that supports young, diverse leaders running for office.

Levi, who is running for Indiana State Representative in District 37, received the Gun Sense Candidate distinction for the second time, underscoring his longstanding commitment to common-sense gun safety and protecting Indiana families.

"I'm honored to once again be recognized as a Moms Demand Action Gun Sense Candidate," Levi said. "From the start, I've believed that keeping our kids and communities safe has to be a top priority. This work is personal, and I'm committed to advancing practical solutions that help prevent gun violence and save lives."

In addition to this recognition, Levi has been

endorsed by Run for Something as part of its latest class of candidates working to build a new generation of leadership across the country.

"Bold leaders like Joel Levi are at the forefront of the fight for our rights and freedoms at a time when they have never faced greater threats,"

said Amanda Litman, Co-Founder and President of Run for Something. "Run for Something is proud to endorse Joel Levi as part of our latest class of young leaders working to secure lasting change in their communities."

Levi said the dual recognition highlights the importance of bringing fresh perspectives and steady leadership to the Statehouse.

"I'm grateful for the support from Run for Something and for the continued partnership with advocates, like our local Hamilton County Moms Demand Action chapter, who are working every day to make our



Levi

See Levi . . . Page 10

Braun takes action to ban street camping & connect homeless Hoosiers to help

Submitted by Office of Gov. Mike Braun

On Tuesday, April 21, Governor Mike Braun ceremonially signed **SEA 285**, legislation establishing a statewide prohibition on unauthorized camping on public land while connecting homeless Hoosiers to shelter, diversion, and mental health services.

"Hoosiers deserve safe streets, sidewalks, and public areas in our cities, and homeless individuals deserve a clear path to shelter, treatment, and mental health services," Gov. Braun said. "SEA 285 helps communities take immediate action to make streets safer and

address the underlying problem in a meaningful way."

The law prohibits unauthorized camping, sleeping, or long-term shelter on land owned by the state or a political subdivision. Before criminal enforcement moves forward, law enforcement must first determine whether emergency mental health detention is appropriate and, if not, provide a warning and information about available shelter and services.

The purpose of the bill is not criminal action, but



Braun

moving homeless Hoosiers toward social service networks to help them get needed services and stay safe.

Before Braun's leadership with SEA 285, Indiana's approach to the issue of homelessness had focused on housing-first legislation that has demonstrably not reduced homelessness.

Under SEA 285, a person may be charged only if at least 48 hours have passed since the warning and the person remains within 300 feet of the warned location.

The law provides diversion options and provides defenses when no shelter or treatment bed is available within five miles or when a person has been recently released following an involuntary mental health commitment.

SEA 285 strengthens accountability by preventing local policies that discourage enforcement of public-camping and sidewalk-obstruction rules. The law requires annual reporting from local law enforcement and from recipients of Continuum of Care funding so the state can better measure efforts to reduce unsheltered homelessness.

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Young introduces bill to close loopholes allowing taxpayer-funded abortions

Submitted by Office of U.S. Senator Todd Young

U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.) and Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) introduced the Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act to ban federal Title X family-planning grants from going to any entity (like Planned Parenthood) that performs abortions or funds abortion providers.

“Title X was designed to provide moms and children with necessary family planning services, not fund abortions,” Sen. Young said. “This legislation will protect life and ensure taxpayer dollars are protected from taking innocent lives.”

The Title X Family Planning Program is intended to assist low-income women with family planning services. Unfortunately, this program has a history of subsidizing massive organizations that engage in abortion activities such as Planned Parenthood. Since 1976, federal law has prohibited use of federal funds for abortions.

Section 1008 of the Public Health Service Act explicitly states that Title X funds “shall not be used in programs where abortion is a method of family planning,” but Clinton-era rules require all grantees to refer patients for abortions and allow abortion facilities to be co-located within Title X clinics.

As a result, Planned Parenthood clinics that receive federal family planning funds can share the same facility, staff, and waiting room as abortion clinics, and often refer women for on-site abortions.

The Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act would:

- Amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) from providing federal family-planning grants to entities that perform abortions, or provide funds to entities that perform abortions;
- Strip the abortion giant Planned Parenthood and other Title X clinics of taxpayer funding that ought to go to comprehensive healthcare alternatives instead; and
- Require that HHS provide an annual report to Congress that includes: information on grantees who perform abortions under the exceptions; and a list of entities to which grant funds are made available.

This legislation is supported by Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee, March for Life Action, National Right to Life Committee, Americans United for Life, and the Students for Life Action.

Click here to read the full text of the bill.

LEVI

from Page 9

communities safer,” Levi said. “Together, we can build a future where every Hoosier feels safe, heard, and represented.”

Levi’s campaign for State Representative focuses on

strengthening public education, supporting working families, and ensuring safer communities across District 37.

Learn more about the candidate at JoelLevi-ForIndiana.com.

“Fairville: An Enchanted History” takes over Downtown Noblesville

Submitted

Downtown Noblesville is about to transform into a living storybook.

From April 22 to 25, the 14th annual Noblesville Creates Fairville, presented by Duke Energy, invites families, artists, and dreamers of all ages to step into “An Enchanted History” – a whimsical, immersive celebration where fairy homes line wooded trails, live fairies roam the streets, and creativity brings an entire community together.

This year’s theme blends magic with meaning.

Inspired by Duke Energy, “An Enchanted History” highlights the connection between energy, nature, and community – encouraging visitors to reflect on how we care for the world around us while celebrating it through art, imagination, and play.

Visitors can expect:

- A Fairy House Trail

filled with handcrafted miniature homes

• Live fairies interacting with guests throughout downtown

• Costumed characters, music, and immersive storytelling moments

• Hands-on crafts like wand-making and fairy house building

• Fairy Tea Parties with etiquette lessons and special guests

From glowing trails to bustling vendor markets, Fairville turns Noblesville into a destination where fantasy meets real-world connection.

Noblesville Creates Fairville Events

• April 22–23 | Winged Wednesday & Troll Thursday: Preview the Fairy Home Show, vote for your favorites, and create your own magical crafts.

• April 24 | Fairy Friday: The Fairy Trail comes alive



Photo provided

– complete with live fairies, music, vendors, and a sparkling evening atmosphere in Downtown Noblesville.

• April 25 | Sprite Saturday: A full day of family fun, including the Fairy House Contest awards, live art demonstrations, glass blowing, and tea parties.

Fairville also activates downtown Noblesville,

with local businesses hosting themed experiences, specials, and events – making it a key driver of community engagement and local economic activity.

Fairville is free to attend, with select ticketed experiences available. For tickets, registration, and full event details, visit NoblesvilleCreates.org/fairville.

New director at Indiana Child Services says agency is ‘ripe & ready for change’

Former Director Adam Krupp named special advisor to Governor on child welfare, will continue to receive \$210K salary

By KARA KENNEY WISH-TV | wishtv.com

The new director at the Indiana Department of Child Services says the agency is “ripe and ready for change.”

Governor Mike Braun appointed Jennifer Dorfmeier to take over as head of the third-largest state agency.

I-Team 8’s Kara Kenney spoke with Dorfmeier on-camera on her first day on the job.

WISH: What’s your number one goal at DCS?

Dorfmeier: My number one goal is to ensure that we have a home for every child and that there’s a safe and loving place for all Hoosier children.

WISH: What do you want people to know about you and DCS?

Dorfmeier: I want people to know I’m a human that DCS staff are human beings, we are parents, we are foster parents, adoptive

parents. We care deeply about children. We want what is best for our most vulnerable Hoosiers.

Dorfmeier worked at DCS from 2003 to 2014 as a family case manager, family case manager supervisor, and an executive role.

She returned in June 2025 as deputy commissioner, and from mid-January to mid-April 2026, she served as the interim director while director Adam Krupp took

a leave of absence.

“My initial impression is that they are ripe and ready for change,” Dorfmeier said. “We have a lot of amazing staff.”

DCS currently has more than 4,000 employees.

Adam Krupp will continue to earn his \$210,000 salary as a special advisor to the Governor on child welfare issues, I-Team 8 has learned.

See Director . . . Page 11

FEINSTEIN'S AT HOTEL CARMICHAEL



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Tipton School Board Briefs: April 14, 2026

Submitted by Tipton Community School Corporation

Tipton Community School Corporation Board Briefs is designed to share highlights from the most recent School Board of Trustees monthly meeting. Official minutes of each Board meeting are posted on the district website and are available for public viewing.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of School Trustees is May 12. School board meetings are conducted from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the TCSC Board Room at the Administrative Offices and are open to the public.

Blue Future Awards

Superintendent Dr. Ryan Glaze recognized TES students' Atlas Jackson and Meridan Smith for earning perfect scores on the IREAD Assessment.

TMS Principal John Ayars and TCSC Board of Education Member Kim Fague recognized the following swim team members and coaches:

Brianna Bannon, JJ Adams, Maggie Boyland, Xander Beech, Jayda Cast, Dean Biedermann, Cami Condict, Chase Browder, Oliva DeFoe, Luke Conwell, Evelyn Fague, Cas DeFoe, Sophie Fakes, Brody Fakes, Annie Hare, Carson Hughes, Collette Hiatt, Reid Hughes, Piper Hughes, August Short, Jannaleigh McClish, Merrill Smith, Zoie McMahan, Jaxson Stout, Genevieve Pearson, Aiden Walker, Ayesha Sharma, Harlow Stewart, Monroe Stewart, Lilah Tragger, Evelyn Uitts, Aubry Walker, Kelsey Weaver, Abigail Wesner, Hallee Whitehead, Kinley Woelfert, Mikella Woelfert, and Assistant Coaches, MacKenzie Hoover, Jie Phifer, Erin Stiner, and Coach Kendrick Vester.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Glaze shared the following facilities update:

Pool deck work is nearing completion, with the new deck installed, the Dectron system operational, pool painting underway, starting blocks scheduled for installation in the next two weeks, and drainage pump and circuit board re-

pairs in progress.

Reroofing continues with metal work finishing on the Inferno, Connector, and Band/Choir areas, and crews now transitioning to the Vocational Wing; roofing is projected to be completed by the end of April, with metal work wrapping up in early May.

The TES playground project begins June 1 with demolition, followed by a four-week installation starting June 8 or 15, targeting completion in early July and including a groundbreaking ceremony.

Estimated cost reductions for 2026-2027 presentation

Dr. Glaze shared a detailed presentation with an in depth review of TCSC's financial landscape, outlining the structural pressures created by state funding changes, declining enrollment, and rising operational costs that now require a multi-year, districtwide cost-reduction plan. Highlights of the presentation included:

- **Quick Review of School Finance:** TCSC operates three primary funds: Education, Operations, and Debt Service.

- **Debt Service and Operations** are supported by local revenue (property tax, remaining LIT, auto excise, commercial vehicle tax). Debt Service can only be used for capital improvements, not salaries.

- **The Operations Fund** covers daily district needs – transportation, utilities, maintenance, insurance, and administration – and supports limited staffing costs (about 37 percent transportation/maintenance and 15 percent central office/administration). Most remaining costs are fixed.

- **The Education Fund**, supported solely by the state funding formula, must be used to educate students. Teacher salaries/benefits make up about 68 percent, and when all building level staff are included, about 89 percent of the fund supports personnel. Remaining dollars cover curriculum, PD, classroom materials, instructional technology, and supplies. Up to 15 percent may be transferred to Operations annually. TCSC currently transfers about 7

percent of Education Fund dollars to Operations, but SEA 1 (2025) is already increasing the need for transfers compared to last year. By 2027, the district will be forced to transfer the maximum 15 percent just to keep up with costs.

- **Responding the Tipton Way.** TCSC's Expense Reduction and Review Committee is examining all district spending to identify what is academically essential, particularly core instruction, and to recommend reductions within a four-year plan that assumes no new revenue. Every area of the district will be affected.

In summary, TCSC has implemented significant cost reductions for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 in response to the new Homestead Exemption, declining enrollment, and the projected \$2.7 million revenue loss tied to SEA 1 by 2029.

Early reductions total \$398,560, followed by \$847,307 in 2026-2027 through the elimination of administrative, certified, and classified positions; consolidation of technology and software; reduced transportation and curricular spending; and strategic use of attrition.

These measures – along with anticipated reductions in staffing, extended contracts, and stipends in 2027-2028 and 2028-2029 – will reshape programming, class sizes, staffing levels, transportation, and extracurricular offerings as the district works to maintain long-term fiscal stability without additional revenue.

New Business

The Board addressed a range of action items under New Business, approving updates to academic materials, district partnerships, insurance coverage, technology staffing and compensation, and upcoming academic calendars.

- **Public School Foundation Support for Tipton Blue Devil Athletics Foundation Approved:** The Board approved a resolution allowing two Board representatives, authorizing fund transfers with notification, and permitting free facility use for student-focused

Foundation activities.

- **THS English Language Arts Materials Approved:** The Board approved supplemental novels for THS ELA following a full committee review by teachers, parents, administrators, community members, and board representatives.

- **TMS ELA Curricular Materials Adoption Approved:** The Board approved Savvas My Perspectives for TMS ELA, an IDOE-approved, standards-aligned program recommended by a review committee of staff, parents, and board members.

- **Property/Casualty Insurance Renewal Approved:** The Board approved the annual renewal with a 6.67 percent base increase and added wind/hail coverage and higher liability limits, resulting in a total premium of \$276,549.

- **Technology Team Reconfiguration and Compensation Adjustments Approved:** Following the decision not to replace the Middle School Technology Specialist, the Board approved a \$2 per hour increase for Technology Specialists and extended the Director of Technology's contract, aligning compensation with KASEC districts and generating \$41,500 in savings.

- **Academic Calendar Updates Approved:** The Board approved modifications to the 2026-2027 calendar and adopted the 2027-2028 Academic Calendar as recommended by the Academic Calendar Committee.

Important Dates

- April 23: TESO Father-Daughter Dance, 5 p.m.
- April 25: THS Prom
- April 28: Internet Safety Meeting, 6 p.m.
- May 1 to 3: THS Musical Annie
- May 4 to 8: Staff Appreciation Week
- May 6: TCSC Employee Banquet
- May 8: TES Spring Music Program, 5:30 p.m.
- May 9: YO Reunion Concert
- May 10: Mother's Day
- May 11: TMS Spring Choir Concert
- May 12: Monthly Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

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DIRECTOR

from Page 10

As DCS director, she will also earn a salary of \$210,000.

"Indiana's children are our future and our most precious resource. I am grateful for Adam Krupp's service and the changes he has made to improve DCS. I have every confidence in Jennifer and her ability to lead this important work at such a critical agency," Gov. Mike Braun said.

Child advocacy groups are concerned about turnover at DCS among staff and leadership.

"DCS is important because they are the front line for keeping kids safe," Kathleen Moman, director of communications at Champions for Children said. "We've had a lot of director turnover. It's an incredibly difficult job to manage."

News 8 previously reported that in fiscal year 2024, the turnover rate was 37 percent among family case managers, up from 33 percent in 2023.

Moman said Champions for Children, a nonprofit advocacy group, is excited to work with Dorfmeier.

"She's been working with DCS for many years," Moman said. "She's also an adoptive parent of a child from the system herself, so we're excited to see someone step into leadership that has experience within the system."

Moman said DCS needs to improve on child safety.

"A lot of times we hear the priority of DCS is reunification," Moman said. "The priority for DCS should not be reunification or adoption. It should be child safety. I have yet to see a leadership

that really takes that stance seriously."

Jennifer Dorfmeier said it's one of many issues she's evaluating.

"We are always assessing the work we are doing and how can we keep kids safer and reach permanency faster and make sure we have a home for every child," Dorfmeier said.

Dorfmeier will oversee implantation of several new child welfare laws.

HEA 1036 will require DCS case workers to see a child in person within 30 days of closing a case.

Another new law says that within five days of a child's death or near-death from abuse or neglect, DCS is required to publicly report any current or past involvement with the child.

Currently, DCS shares an annual fatality report, but critics say the release of the report is delayed a year.

For example, the agency just released the **2024 Annual Report of Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities in Indiana**.

Starting July 1, DCS must share public summaries on child fatalities throughout the year, including any actions taken by DCS in response to a child's case.

DCS will also have to overhaul its annual fatality report and include the names of judges involved with cases where a child ended up dying from abuse or neglect.

This story was originally published by WISH-TV at wishtv.com/news/i-team-8/new-director-at-indiana-child-services-says-agency-is-ripe-and-ready-for-change.

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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

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TODAY'S BIBLE READING

DEFEAT OF SIHON AND OG

Israel sent messengers to say to Sihon king of the Amorites:

"Let us pass through your country. We will not turn aside into any field or vineyard, or drink water from any well. We will travel along the King's Highway until we have passed through your territory."

But Sihon would not let Israel pass through his territory. He mustered his entire army and marched out into the wilderness against Israel. When he reached Jahaz, he fought with Israel. Israel, however, put him to the sword and took over his land from the Arnon to the Jabbok, but only as far as the Ammonites, because their border was fortified. Israel captured all the cities of the Amorites and occupied them, including Heshbon and all its surrounding settlements. Heshbon was the city of Sihon king of the Amorites, who had fought against the former king of Moab and had taken from him all his land as far as the Arnon.

That is why the poets say:

"Come to Heshbon and let it be rebuilt; let Sihon's city be restored.

"Fire went out from Heshbon, a blaze from the city of Sihon. It consumed Ar of Moab, the citizens of Arnon's heights.

Woe to you, Moab! You are destroyed, people of Chemosh! He has given up his sons as fugitives and his daughters as captives to Sihon king of the Amorites.

"But we have overthrown them; Heshbon's dominion has been destroyed all the way to Dibon. We have demolished them as far as Nophah, which extends to Medeba."

So Israel settled in the land of the Amorites.

After Moses had sent spies to Jazer, the Israelites captured its surrounding settlements and drove out the Amorites who were there. Then they turned and went up along the road toward Bashan, and Og king of Bashan and his whole army marched out to meet them in battle at Edrei.

The Lord said to Moses, "Do not be afraid of him, for I have delivered him into your hands, along with his whole army and his land. Do to him what you did to Sihon king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon."

So they struck him down, together with his sons and his whole army, leaving them no survivors. And they took possession of his land.

Numbers 21:21-35 (NIV)

Billy Strings concerts rescheduled for August

The REPORTER

The Billy Strings concerts originally scheduled for April 24 to 26 at the Fishers Event Center have been rescheduled to Aug. 6 to 8. Ticket holders should retain their tickets as they will be honored for the rescheduled dates.

- Friday, April 24 tickets → Thursday, Aug. 6
- Saturday, April 25 tickets → Friday, Aug. 7
- Sunday, April 26 tickets → Saturday, Aug. 8
- 2-Day Ticket → Thursday, Aug. 6 & Friday, Aug. 7

Banks calls on FTC to probe abortion drug companies over alleged deceptive safety claims

Submitted by Office of U.S. Senator Jim Banks

On Monday, April 20, Senator Jim Banks (R-Ind.) sent a letter to the Federal Trade Commission Chairman, Andrew Ferguson, urging the Commission to investigate abortion drug companies for allegedly pushing misleading safety claims about their products and engaging in deceptive trade practices that could endanger women's health.

[Click here](#) to read the full letter.



Banks

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Meeting Notice

The Hamilton County Election Board will convene a public meeting at 10 a.m. Tuesday, May 5, 2026, in the Clerk's Office pursuant to Indiana Code 5-14-1-5.5. The purpose of the meeting is to address any Election Day matters and other Election Board business.

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.

Bette Marie Wechsler

d. April 15, 2026

Bette Marie Wechsler, 80, Indianapolis, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family, on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, after a valiant battle with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, leaving behind a legacy of love, energy, and deep connection to those around her.

A proud graduate of Pike High School's Class of 1964, she remained actively involved with her classmates throughout her life, maintaining friendships that spanned more than six decades.

She dedicated many years of her professional career to American States Insurance, later Safeco, where she ultimately retired. Never one to slow down, she went on to become a Starbucks barista, bringing joy to countless customers with her warmth and spirit. She later played a foundational role in opening RISE, the coffee shop at Launch Fishers, where she designed the layout and trained a team of baristas, including three of her granddaughters. It was a place that reflected her personality, welcoming, vibrant, and full of life.

Bette was also a dog lover through and through. She owned and operated All About Dogs Fishers, offering in-home dog sitting and boarding in her own home. Caring for dogs brought her immense joy, and she treated each one as if it were her own.

She was a lifelong and devoted fan of the Indiana Pacers, dating back to the ABA days at the Indiana State Fairgrounds Coliseum. Her passion went far beyond fandom. She wrote and published thoughtful game reviews and tracked player performance and game statistics, combining her love of the game with a sharp analytical mind.

Known for her infectious smile and boundless energy, she had a remarkable ability to make people feel seen, welcomed, and loved. She was the heart of her family, organizing regular gatherings and creating lasting traditions, including the annual "Grandma Day," a celebration honoring her mother and bringing generations together.

She was the last of her generation, carrying forward the stories, traditions, and spirit of those who came before her.

Bette was preceded in death by her mother, Marie Grace Brenneman (Snyder); her father, William Henry Brenneman; her sister, Eadie Kamp; her brother, Max Brenneman; and her great-grandson, Owen Petry.

She is survived by her son, John Wechsler (Debbie); her daughter, Jodi Petry; her grandchildren, Anthony Petry (Jordan Hess), Allison Petry, Emily Petry, and Grace Wechsler; her great-grandchildren, Xander Petry and Aliza Hinderliter; and her many beloved nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held at Randall & Roberts Fishers Mortuary, 12010 Allisonville Road, Fishers, on Friday, April 24, 2026, from 3 to 5 p.m., with a funeral service immediately following.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions be made in Bette's memory to K9s For Warriors, 114 Camp K9 Road, Ponte Vedra, FL 32081 (k9sforwarriors.org).

As one friend so beautifully shared, "It is hard not to picture Bette in heaven right now, surrounded by every dog she ever knew and loved, tails wagging and competing for her attention, each one waiting for her loving touch and a well-earned belly rub."

Condolences: randallroberts.com

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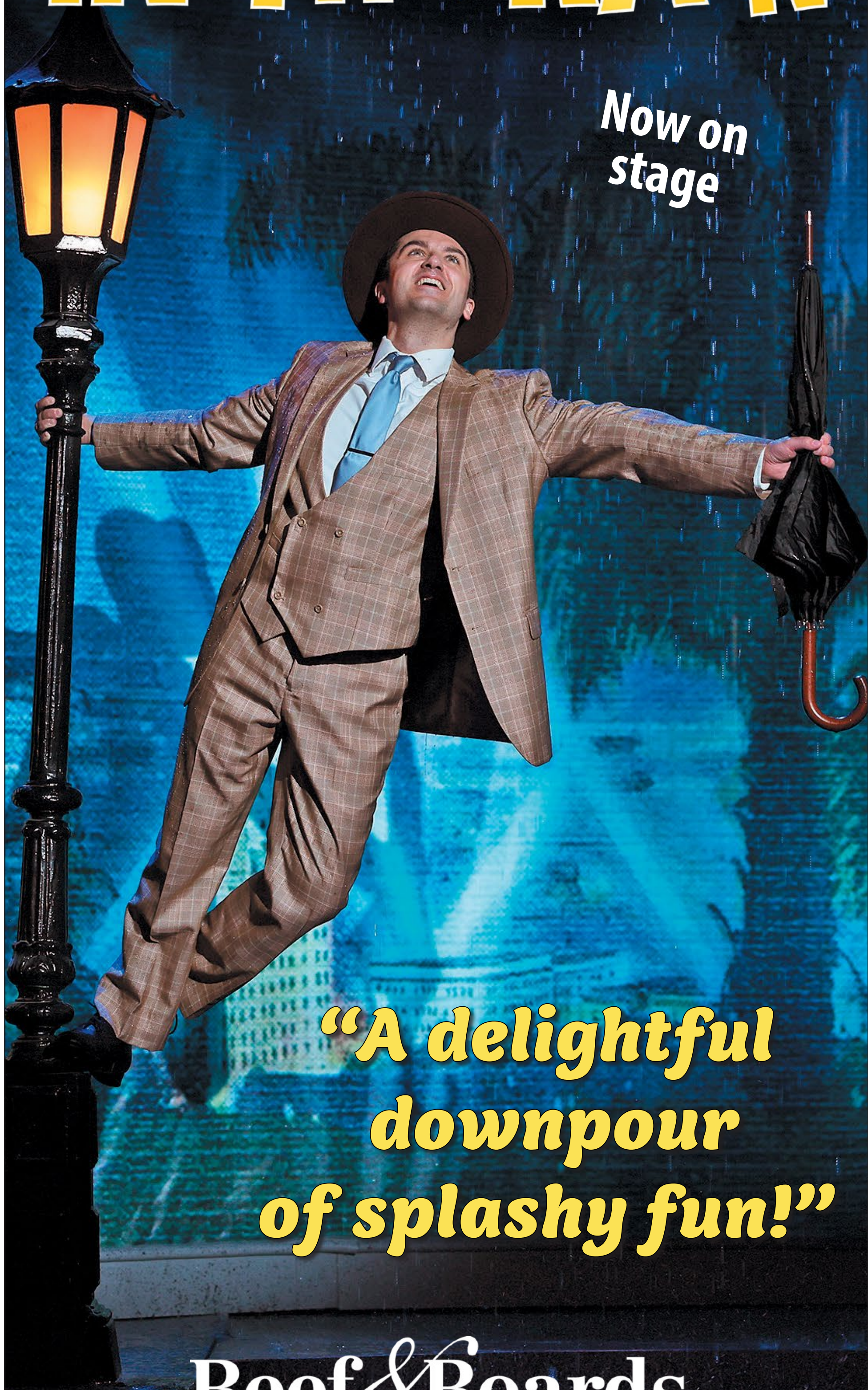
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REPORTER SPORTS WEDNESDAY

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

Softball

Early runs send Rocks past Tigers

By RICHIE HALL

sports@readthereporter.com

WESTFIELD – Westfield softball senior Makayla Watson was asked if the Shamrocks' Wednesday victory over Fishers was a statement win.

"I do think it's a big statement win," she said.

It was certainly a loud statement. Westfield stunned the Class 4A No. 5 Tigers 15-5 in a six-inning game at the Monon Elementary School Athletic Complex. The victory was also the Rocks' first Hoosier Crossroads Conference win of the season after they started league play 0-2.

"Tonight was the first time we've come out strong, pitching, defense and hitting," said Westfield coach Maddie Moore. "The past few games, we've been timid out there and not ready to swing. And tonight, we told them 'We are hunting and we are attacking today,' and that makes a big difference."

"We knew they would be a good team," said Watson. "Obviously, their record shows it. We just came out and did what we need to do, hit the bats."

Both teams scored a run in the first inning. Fishers' Frankie Jackson doubled in Adrienne Cook, then Sydney Jordan sent Watson home with an RBI single.

Westfield erupted for six runs in the second inning. The Shamrocks loaded the bases, starting with Alyssa Ayers' double, then Watson smacked a double to score Ayers and Reese Mahannah.

Sofia Easterhaus was next and she singled in



(ABOVE LEFT) Westfield catcher Carlyne Schrock made a tag-out at home for the Shamrocks during the second inning of their game with Fishers on Tuesday. Westfield won the game 15-5. (ABOVE RIGHT) Fishers' Kennedy Shockley was one of five Tigers that hit a double during the game.

Reese Gettinger. Watson scored when Carlyne Schrock reached on error, then Cam Pulice singled in Easterhaus and Annika Lawrence, who was running for Schrock.

Westfield kept things rolling in the third inning with another four runs. Easterhaus singled Ayers and Mahannah home, Watson scored on a wild pitch, then Easterhaus got home on Jordan's RBI groundout.

"Put the ball in play and

good things happen," said Moore. "We've been really working hard to cut down our strikeouts, so tonight I think they got a lot better. We were ready to hit, we were just putting it in play and good things were happening."

Fishers began a comeback in the later innings, starting with two runs in the fifth inning. Kennedy Shockley doubled in Joni Oliver, then Cook's double scored Shockley.

The Tigers put up two

more runs in the sixth. Saylor Roberts got home on Olivia McNall's RBI groundout, then Anna McGrath singled Elizabeth Hammond home.

Fishers was within 11-5, but the Shamrocks finished the game with four runs in the bottom of the sixth. Ayers, Mahannah and Gettinger all hit singles to load the bases. Watson singled Ayers and Mahannah scored, then Easterhaus batted in Bella Blakeley (running for

Gettinger). Jordan singled in Watson to end the game.

"We worked really hard on small ball in the off-season and I do feel like that has actually made a big impact," said Moore.

Watson was flawless at the plate, hitting 4-for-4. Mahannah and Ayers were also perfect, going 3-for-3.

"I think we respond really well," said Watson. "Even when we get down, we trust our bats and have our energy to keep us going."

Olivia Sampia pitched five innings for the win, striking out eight.

"I definitely think it was one of my better games," said Sampia. The sophomore said she threw with

"a lot better spin" and also credited "having confidence in myself and knowing that my defense is behind me. I can't necessarily strike every hitter out, but I know my defense is ready to make a play."

Five Fishers players hit a double: Hammond, Shockley, Cook, Brooke Clayton and Jackson. Anna McGrath was perfect, going 3-for-3, while Hammond and Clayton both had two hits.

Westfield is 5-5-1 overall and plays at the Kokomo Tournament this weekend. The Tigers were playing in their HCC opener and are 10-3 overall. Fishers hosts Lawrence North this afternoon.

Softball

Huskies open series with win over Tipton

By CRAIG ADKINS

For The Reporter

The Hamilton Heights softball coaches couldn't have asked for a better game out of their team on Tuesday night. Heights extended its winning streak to three games and has scored 49 runs in its last three to its

opponents' nine.

It was the first of a two-game set with Tipton, which resulted in a 14-0 rout of the visiting Blue Devils.

Six runs in the first and five in the second put the game out of reach right away for the Huskies for an 11-0 score through two.

Heights scored two more in the third and another in the fourth that would account for the final score.

Hannah Dent, Kaitlyn Schakel and Melanee Forrester all three had two-hit nights. Schakel led all with three RBIs and Lily Cash two and the Huskies pounded out 13 hits in 28 at-bats.

Heather Crays grabbed the win with seven strikeouts in five innings. Crays one-hit the Blue Devils and yielded just two walks.

Hamilton Heights (8-1, 2-1 Hoosier) and Tipton (3-7, 1-5 Hoosier) shift north for game two on the Blue Devils' home field tonight at 5:30 p.m.

Baseball

Huskies edge Tipton

By CRAIG ADKINS

For The Reporter

The Hamilton Heights baseball team got back into Hoosier Conference action on Tuesday with a visit from their neighbors from the north, the Tipton Blue Devils.

The Huskies snapped a three-game losing skid that produced just two runs to their opponents' 29. Heights edged Tipton 5-4.

The Blue Devils scored one in the first on a balk from Dillon Pitts.

Cy Mason got the second off right with a double. Mason scored on a triple by Kaden Lawson to go up 1-0.

Jackson Mikesell walked. Then, both he and Lawson ran home on an AJ Flanagan base hit to left and it was 3-0.

PJ Wright hit the second triple of the inning, scoring Flanagan and Austin Kappes for the 5-1 advantage through two.

Tipton scored three more in the top of the third to cut their deficit to 5-4.

The combo of Pitts and Owen Hughes on the mound struck out nine together on the way to holding off the Blue Devils for the win.

The series between Heights (4-5, 1-2 Hoosier) heads to Tipton (1-8, 0-5 Hoosier) tonight at 5:30 p.m.

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Photo provided
Hamilton Heights' Simon Kuhn has signed a letter of intent to wrestle for the Cornerstone University Golden Eagles in Grand Rapids, Mich. Kuhn (seated) is pictured with (from left) Brian Kuhn (father), Naomi Kuhn (sister), and Virginia Kuhn (mother).

Kuhn signs to wrestle at Cornerstone University

Submitted by Hamilton Heights School Corp.

Hamilton Heights High School senior Simon Kuhn has officially signed his national letter of intent to continue his academic and athletic career at Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids, Mich. Cornerstone is a member of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference (WHAC) and competes as an NAIA institution. He is the son of Brian and Virginia Kuhn.

Kuhn chose Cornerstone for its Christ-centered education and the strong sense of community he felt within the wrestling program. He plans to study Business Management and ultimately pursue a career as an Air Traffic Controller.

A strong student-athlete, Kuhn has excelled both in the classroom and on the mat. He currently serves as President of the National Honor Society, is an active member of Hamilton Heights' chapter of Business Professionals of America, and volunteers at Arcadia Christian Church. His academic and athletic achievements include being named a two-time Academic All-American, Academic All-State, Academic All-Conference, and a Sectional and Conference Champion in wrestling.

While wrestling has

been his passion since middle school, Kuhn has also been a dedicated member of Hamilton Heights' Unified Flag Football Team for four years and the Unified Track Team for two years. He credits his brother, Issac, as a major influence in his development as both a student and an athlete.

"Simon Kuhn leaves Hamilton Heights as one of the most decorated wrestlers but academically as well," said Gary Myers, Hamilton Heights High School Wrestling Coach. "Simon accomplished a rare feat by becoming a 2x Academic All-State and a 2x Academic All-American as well. Simon was our team captain the last two seasons as well as finishing with 118 career victories."

"I can't think of a better representative of what we want to see in an athlete here at Hamilton Heights," said Kurt Ogden, Hamilton Heights High School Athletic Director. "Simon is a very strong student, extremely conscientious and treats others with the utmost respect. He has been a leader of both the Wrestling and Unified programs for the past four years and he is the epitome of who other athletes should be emulating. We wish him the best as he continues his wrestling career at Cornerstone University."

Girls Tennis

Blazers improve to 2-0

The REPORTER

The University girls tennis team improved to 2-0 with a 5-0 win over Heritage Christian on Tuesday.

In singles, No. 1 Lau-

rel Buttrick won 6-1, 6-1, No. 2 Duygu Arseven was a 6-0, 6-1 winner and No. 3 Tess Eggeson scored a 6-0, 6-0 shutout. No. 1 doubles Sruti Alturi and Lauren Quinto won 6-0,

6-1 and No. 2 doubles Sarah Coleman and Ainsley Hensel were victorious 6-2, 6-1.

The Trailblazers beat Western Boone 5-0 on Thursday, April 16 for

their first win. All three singles matches and No. 1 doubles were decided 6-0, 6-0, while No. 2 doubles won 6-2, 6-4.

University will play at Guerin Catholic tonight.

Baseball

Blazers, GC storm to big wins

The REPORTER

University scored big early and late, propelling the Trailblazers to a 12-3 win at Lewis Cass on Tuesday.

Cooper Cammack blasted a three-run home run in the first inning, also bringing home Beckett Suh and Oliver Kingery. Finn Steiner followed that with a solo homer, giving University a 4-0 lead.

The Kings got on the board in the top of the third inning with one run. Suh hit a triple in the bottom of the inning, and scored after Cammack hit a triple. Ryan Castetter led off the fifth inning with a home run, giving the Blazers a 6-1 lead.

University then put up six runs in the sixth inning. Phillip Jacobs bunted Ethan Cutsinger home for the inning's first run. The Trailblazers loaded the bases, then Suh drove a base hit into right field, scoring Jacobs and Braxton Sparks. Kingery got home on Cammack's sacrifice fly, then David Gasper homered into left field, also scoring Suh.

Suh was perfect, hitting 3-for-3 with a triple, double and single. Cammack pitched four innings for the win, striking out five and allowing two hits. University is 7-5 and

plays at Brownsburg this afternoon.

Guerin Catholic, the No. 2-ranked team in Class 3A, kept rolling with a 9-1 Circle City Conference win at Brebeuf Jesuit on Tuesday.

The Golden Eagles scored two runs in the first inning. Ian Taylor batted in Nolan Ratcliff, then was brought home by a Grant Beard hit.

Luke Gremelspacher opened the second inning with a home run, putting GC up 3-0. Ben Canada doubled the score to 6-0 in the fourth inning with a three-run homer, also bringing in Rat-

cliff and Brody Cain.

Karson Smith hit a triple in the fifth inning, then scored on Beard's RBI groundout. Brebeuf scored its run in the sixth inning, but the Golden Eagles answered with two runs in the seventh. Taylor and Carson Kail (who hit a double) got home when Smith reached on error.

Tate Troxell pitched a dominant five innings for the win, striking out 12 and allowing one hit.

Guerin Catholic is 3-0 in conference play and 11-1-1 overall. The Golden Eagles host Brebeuf this afternoon to complete the CCC series.

Softball

Hounds blast Panthers, Millers still perfect

The REPORTER

Carmel cruised to a 15-1, five-inning victory at North Central on Tuesday.

Jayden Kleiner had a perfect night, going 4-for-4 at the plate. Kleiner's total included three doubles and a third-inning home run. Riley Petrites smacked a two-run homer right before Kleiner hit hers.

Kleiner totaled three RBIs and two runs scored. Winni Owens also had a flawless night, hitting 3-for-3 with two RBIs and two runs scored. Petrites also totaled two RBIs and two runs scored. Chloe Junkersfield had two hits, while Keira Libel and Avery Klein both had two hits; Libel also scored two runs.

Chelsea Bennett got the pitching win.

Carmel is 7-6 and hosts Pendleton Heights this afternoon.

Noblesville roared back to keep its record undefeated on Tuesday, scoring five runs in the seventh inning to win 8-7 at Franklin Central in its Hoosier Crossroads Conference opener.

The Millers' Maggie Kern led off the second inning with a home run to start the scoring. The Flashes scored three runs in the bottom of the second and added another run in the third for a 4-1 lead.

Blythe Walker doubled in Izzy Zapp for a Noblesville run in the top of the fifth inning, but Franklin Central scored two in the bottom of the inning, pushing the host school ahead 6-2. The two teams traded leadoff homers in the sixth inning; Kern hit her second HR of the game.

The Millers trailed 7-3 going into the seventh inning before making their move. Zapp got on base with a double, then was doubled home by Walker. Haley Schatko cracked a double into center field to score Walker. Noblesville loaded the bases, then Lilly Brown drew a walk to

score Savannah Decker, getting the Millers within 7-6.

Kinley Westbrook batted in the tying and go-ahead runs, as her center field single scored Kate Ringholz and Reese Newsom. Noblesville then took care of the Flashes 1-2-3 in the bottom of the seventh. Addison Retzinger struck out the first two batters, then induced a flyout for the third out.

Zapp and Walker both hit two doubles. Retzinger pitched a complete game, striking out nine.

Noblesville is 6-0 and plays at the Carmel Invitational this weekend.

Hamilton Southeastern dropped an HCC contest 8-5 at Avon Tuesday.

The Class 4A No. 4 Royals scored the game's first run. Carly McCall drew a bases-loaded walk in the

first inning to score Addy Richmond.

The Orioles took the lead with two runs in the bottom of the first inning, then hit an RBI single in the third inning for a 3-1 advantage. Three fourth-inning runs put Avon ahead 6-1.

Richmond smacked a two-run home run in the fifth inning, also scoring Lilly Palmer. Kaleah McCarter scored on McCall's RBI groundout, and Southeastern was within 6-4.

But Avon hit back-to-back homers in the fifth inning, increasing its lead to 8-4. Sophia Feher doubled in Madison Burlingame in the seventh inning for the game's final run.

The Royals are 1-1 in conference play and 8-5 overall. Southeastern's next game is Thursday at Lawrence North.

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SPORTS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, April 22

BASEBALL

Brebeuf Jesuit at Guerin Catholic, 5:30 p.m.
 Hamilton Heights at Tipton, 5:30 p.m.
 Sheridan at Carroll, 5:30 p.m.
 University at Brownsburg, 5:30 p.m.
 Zionsville at Carmel, 6 p.m.
 Avon at Hamilton Southeastern, 6:30 p.m.

BOYS LACROSSE

Zionsville at Fishers, 6 p.m.
 Westfield at Cathedral, 7 p.m.
 Brownsburg at Hamilton Southeastern, 8:30 p.m.

GIRLS LACROSSE

Fishers at Homestead, 7 p.m.

GOLF

Noblesville vs. Cathedral, 4 p.m. at Harbour Trees

SOFTBALL

Hamilton Heights at Tipton, 5 p.m.
 Guerin Catholic at Bishop Chatard, 5:30 p.m.
 Lawrence North at Fishers, 5:30 p.m.
 Sheridan at Carroll, 5:30 p.m.
 Pendleton Heights at Carmel, 6 p.m.

TENNIS

Brebeuf Jesuit at Carmel, 5 p.m.
 Hamilton Heights at Frankton, 5 p.m.
 University at Guerin Catholic, 5 p.m.

TRACK & FIELD

Fishers boys at Carmel, 5:30 p.m.
 Westfield at Noblesville Girls Invitational, 5:30 p.m.

UNIFIED TRACK

Carmel Invitational, 5:30 p.m.
 Hamilton Heights at Hamilton Southeastern, 5:30 p.m.
 Westfield at Fishers, 6 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Monrovia at Guerin Catholic, 6:30 p.m.
 Mooresville at University, 7 p.m.
 Noblesville at New Palestine, 7 p.m.

Please email schedule changes or corrections to sports@readthereporter.com.

Coca-Cola Indy 500 porch parties, Indy 500 Décor, initiatives unite community for Month of May

Submitted by IMS

May is community, and nothing brings people together like the stunning art and fan-friendly events that signal "This is May" throughout Central Indiana.

Whether a lifelong resident or a first-time visitor, everyone across Central Indiana and beyond is United in Racing this May. There's no better way to celebrate the countdown to the 110th Running of the Indianapolis 500 presented by Gainbridge on Sunday, May 24 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Many community activations are celebrating their 10th anniversary this year. Started to honor the 100th Running of the Indianapolis 500 in 2016, these initiatives continue to unite communities throughout the state.

Porch Parties are an incredibly popular part of the Indy 500 celebration and serve as a great example of the community spirit Central Indiana has for the Month of May.

Race fans are encouraged to host racing-themed gatherings to show off their decorated spaces, including balconies, garages, bars or anywhere family and friends gather to celebrate "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing."

Nearby Coca-Cola Indy 500 Porch Parties are scheduled at:

- Ale Emporium spon-



Photo provided by IMS

sored by Molson Coors – 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 30 at 8617 Allisonville Road, Indianapolis

- Group 1001/Gainbridge with Andretti Global – 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 5 at 10555 Group Way, Zionsville

- Westfield Farmer's Market – 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 13 at 225 S. Union St., Westfield

The best-decorated fan Porch Parties will be chosen and awarded with prize packs and visits from drivers and other special guests. The top three winning homes will be featured on the IMS website and social media channels. To participate, register your porch party by 7 p.m. ET Sunday, May 17 at ims.com/porching.

Additional décor includes the latest collection of Welcome Race Fans art. In collaboration with the Indy Arts Council, the artwork of Kirsten Anderson, Jonathan E. Carr, Kylene Dolen, Kenyon Mason and Philip Ramilo will be unveiled at the Harrison Center Coca-Cola Indy 500 Porch Party on May 1. Following the unveil, the artwork will be installed at locations throughout Indi-

anapolis. Look for the art, snap a photo and share it on your social media pages with #WelcomeRaceFans to help welcome fans to Indy. Learn more about the program [here](#).

Race fans also are encouraged to dress themselves in their best and most festive "500" items every Friday in May. 500 Fashion Fridays is a creative and unique outlet for fans to show their Indy 500 pride and excitement for the race. Be sure to share #500FashionFridays photos!

IMS is working with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana to support the "500 Bigs by the Indy 500" recruitment campaign. To learn more about BBBS-CI and how to get involved, visit bigforkids.org/500by500.

For the fifth year in a row, IMS will host a naturalization ceremony. On Tuesday, May 12, which is also opening day of practice for the Indianapolis 500, 33 individuals from around the world will be inducted as United States citizens at the Racing Capital of the World. The event will be held in Pagoda Plaza and is open to the public for those attending practice.

The BODYARMOR Flash I.V. Bike to the 500 presented by Central Indiana Cycling continues this year with two departure times, allowing the most loyal fans to arrive in time for pre-race ceremonies. With parking sold out for Race Day, Bike to the 500 offers fans a safe, environmentally friendly and healthy commute to the Speedway on Indy 500 Race Day. The Race Day commute will begin at the AMP at 16 Tech, and hundreds of bikers will depart that morning for the track. To secure a spot in line on Race Day, cyclists must register in advance [here](#).

All 33 drivers will participate in Community Day presented by Gallagher by visiting students at schools throughout Indianapolis. The drivers will engage with students through hands-on STEM activities designed to introduce the magic of the Indianapolis 500 to new fans.

To explore the full list of Indy 500 community initiatives and programs, visit IMS.com/Community. To see an up-to-date calendar of events IMS will have a presence at this May, [click here](#).

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Upcoming Broadcasts

Wed April 22 - Lacrosse
 5:10 pm Culver Academy vs Park Tudor | 2026 Girls Lacrosse | IndianaSRN
 6:15 pm Brownsburg vs **Hamilton SE** | Boys JV Lacrosse | Southeastern Sports
 8:00 pm Brownsburg vs **Hamilton SE** | Boys Varsity Lacrosse | Southeastern Sports

Thur April 23 - Volleyball
 5:55 pm **Westfield vs Fishers** | Boys JV Volleyball | Fishers Sports Network
 7:15 pm **Westfield vs Fishers** | Boys Varsity Volleyball | Fishers Sports Network

Fri April 24 - Baseball \ Lacrosse
 6:30 pm Franklin Central vs **Noblesville** | HCC Baseball | HCTV Sports
 7:15 pm Olentangy Liberty vs **Hamilton SE** | Boys Lacrosse | Southeastern Sports

Sat April 25 - Baseball \ Lacrosse
 11:00 am Homestead vs **Noblesville** | Boys Varsity Lacrosse | Noblesville High School
 1:00 pm Eastern vs **Noblesville** | 2026 Noblesville Baseball
 2:15 pm Twin Lakes vs **Hamilton SE** | Baseball | Southeastern Sports Network

Mon April 27 - Baseball
 6:30 pm **Carmel vs Noblesville** | Baseball | HCTV Sports

Tues April 28 - Softball
 5:45 pm **Fishers vs Hamilton SE** | Softball | Southeastern Sports Network

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Women's Football — Indiana Valor season debuts Saturday

Submitted

The Indiana Valor's season debut is set to begin Saturday, April 25 against the Derby City Dynamite at Louisville. This will mark the Women's Football Alliance's 17th season as the largest and longest running women's tackle football league in the world. The local Indiana Valor are kicking off their second season in Division II of the WFA.

The eight-week, six-game regular season will feature three home games at Westfield's Grand Park for fans to attend. The Home Opener will feature a matchup against the Music City Mizfits of Nashville at 7 p.m.

May 2. The Openers theme: Country Night. Sponsored by Clayton's Country Bar, Country Night will feature a Live Performance by Clayton Anderson.

Following the opener, the Valor will have a May 9 home battle against the Lansing Legacy. After a bye week, the three-game home stretch will conclude with a May 23 game against the Michigan Mercenaries of Detroit. Tickets are on sale at IndianaValorFootball.com.

Should the Valor qualify for the playoffs by the end of the regular season on June 13 and win the championship, they will have the

opportunity to be promoted from Division II to Division I in the WFA, joining the Elite 15 team top division and receive the broadcasting rights on ESPN. While they are still new to the WFA scene, their goal is high: to get the promotion.

The Indiana Valor seek to embody the courageous fighting spirit of Indiana and to honor the brave veterans of Indiana's history. The logo of a valiant eagle is inspired by Indiana's iconic Soldiers and Sailors Monument that has Lady Victory atop it with an Eagle ready to soar on her helm. To join the fanbase is to join The Brave.

Don't just ride the rails ... Bike them!

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 An 8-mile round trip rail bike ride starting at Hobbs Station in Forest Park.

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