





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**  
COMMUNITY CARE HOMES AT L&L

**BRUNCH & BLOOMS**

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

SPONSORED BY **46&SPRUCE**  
BY STRICKLAND



## Early Voting Totals

*Below are the number of early voters as of Thursday, April 30, listed by polling location. [Click here](#) for more information on early voting.*

|                                           |              |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Judicial Center . . . . .                 | 1,916        |
| 4-H Fairgrounds . . . . .                 | 2,725        |
| Roy G. Holland Park (Fishers) . . . . .   | 751          |
| Billericay Park (Fishers) . . . . .       | 947          |
| Westfield City Hall . . . . .             | 371          |
| Washington Twp. Office . . . . .          | 306          |
| Cool Creek Nature Center . . . . .        | 774          |
| Jill Perelman Pavilion (Carmel) . . . . . | 661          |
| Wilfong Pavilion (Carmel) . . . . .       | 382          |
| Carmel Clay Public Library . . . . .      | 969          |
| <b>TOTAL . . . . .</b>                    | <b>9,802</b> |

## Where to vote early

### Noblesville

**Judicial Center, 1 Hamilton County Square**

- 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.**

- May 1 & 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.**

- May 1 & 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### Fishers

**Roy G Holland Memorial Park Building, 1 Park Drive**  
**Billericay Park Building, 12690 Promise Road**

- 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.**

- May 1 & 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

DIGITAL

from Page 1

team, they make an offer,” Kerkes said. “There’s been offers for me, too. My entire team’s also been offered a couple college scholarships to be able to participate in college Esports teams.”

Some of those are full-ride scholarships.

“So, kind of like regular sports, if you’re part of a D1 team, and you’re very good, and you’re the top player in the league, then they would want to offer you as much as they could,” Kerkes said.

Kerkes will attend college at virtually no cost, but that is because of his academic performance, rather than Esports.

“I’m going to Purdue Northwest up in Hammond,” Kerkes said. “I’m part of the honors college and they offered me a full ride there, just from academics.”

Kerkes plans to drive back and forth to college classes because the Purdue campus in Hammond is only 30 minutes from his home.

Patton told The Reporter INGDA fields teams in multiple Esports games.

“We actually compete in six different teams: Chess, Tetris, Fortnite, Marvel Rivals, Rocket League, and Mario Kart,” Patton said.

Much like physical sports, some Esports build cooperation and teamwork. Rocket League is one of



those. It is a game of virtual soccer where the players are all cars and trucks. The INGDA teams play three-on-three matches.

“Specifically for Rocket League, you have what’s called rotations,” Patton said. “If one person is up near the ball, the two people are behind him. If he goes past the ball, the second person goes up. It’s like a revolving gear, essentially.”

Because he has attended INGDA through high school, for Kerkes, this was the first time he had been in the same physical space as his teammates, one of whom he’s been playing Rocket League with for three years.

“It was pretty fun that I got to meet up with him finally because of how far away he usually is and how far I am,” Kerkes said. “It’s



really nice and a good opportunity that I was able to finally meet up with him and talk to him.”

Kerkes told The Reporter he appreciated his time with INGDA, which has contributed to the level of academic success that earned him a full scholarship to Purdue.

“It’s been pretty good that I’ve been able to work at my own pace,” Kerkes said. “I’m not rushed by teachers telling me I have

to do it before the end of class. I don’t have to then go home and do the work, and then make sure I keep the work ready and secure before I go back to school the next day, then turn in all my homework. This way it’s easier because I can go to class when I wake up, and then after class I can do what I need to do. Then I’m free the rest of the day.”

If you’d like to learn more about INGDA, you can do so at [ingda.k12.com](http://ingda.k12.com).

**Place food donations in a bag and place at your own mailbox on Saturday, May 9th.**

**Donated food will be picked up by your postal carrier that day.**

**Current Needed Items**

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Pancake Mix        | Rice Side         |
| Syrup              | Pasta             |
| Cereal Boxes       | Oatmeal           |
| Canned Chicken     | Crackers          |
| Canned Tuna        | Ketchup           |
| Chunky Soup        | Canned Vegetables |
| Canned Fruits      | Black Beans       |
| Canned Pasta Sauce | Baking Items      |



**HAMILTON COUNTY HARVEST FOOD BANK**  
[www.HCHFoodBank.org](http://www.HCHFoodBank.org)



**Working Together With You to Feed Hamilton County**

Hamilton County Food Pantries serve over 32,000 food insecure neighbors in our community.



Connect With Us!

HISTORY

from Page 1

of the name for Monument Street that runs along the south side of the cemetery. He is currently leading a restoration project to clean the monument as well as add names of the soldiers and sailors who were previously left off.

The Unknown Soldiers Monument was dedicated in 1901. There is not a soldier buried under the monument, but it represents the Hoosier soldiers who were among the 620,000 men who died in the war. Some were buried on the battlefields, while others were buried at prisoner of war camps where they died. There is a can-

non in the cemetery that has been authenticated as being built in 1862.

The memorial on the courthouse square in downtown Noblesville was originally erected in 1946 by the Noblesville Lions Club to honor all Hamilton County veterans killed in action. This Memorial Day, Monday, May 25 at 11 a.m., Yaney will speak about the history of Memorial Day at the memorial. He will be joined by Danny Russell, an Abraham Lincoln interpreter who will give the Gettysburg Address in celebration of America’s 250th birthday.



## Vote Court Commissioner Christopher Barrows First Judge of Hamilton Superior Court 9

|                                               | Christopher Barrows | Opponent One | Opponent Two |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|
| More than 10 years as a lawyer?               | ✓                   | ✗            | ✓            |
| More than 1 year judicial experience?         | ✓                   | ✗            | ✗            |
| Thousands of cases in Hamilton County Courts? | ✓                   | ✗            | ✗            |

## Integrity, Community Roots, and Experience That Matters Court Commissioner Christopher Barrows for Court No. 9

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Chris Barrows

# Celebrate Mom with an art scavenger hunt

**Submitted by**  
**Ros Demaree**  
*Indiana Artisan Gifts & Gallery*

This Mother’s Day weekend, take a cue from Mom’s adventurous spirit and join Indiana Artisan for Mission: Mom-Possible. The special mom-themed scavenger hunt is part of the monthly Seond SaturDate events at Indiana Artisan Gifts & Gallery. Mark your calendars for May 9 from 1 to 5 p.m. in the Carmel Arts & Design District.

Scavenger hunters of all ages will receive a clue sheet featuring six intriguing hints to discover beautiful art pieces scattered throughout

the nonprofit organization’s store. Once you’ve completed the hunt, turn in the entry form for a chance to win an amazing gift collection – all handcrafted by talented Hoosiers, many of whom are moms themselves!

The prize pack, made possible through a Carmel arts grant, includes:

- A stunning pulled glass flower by **Lisa Pelo**
- Luxurious goat milk soap by Rose Brown
- A beautiful fused-glass tray by **Anna Lee Chalos-McAleese**
- A unique pine needle basket for rings and trinkets by **Connie Moolenaar**
- A tasty package of



Chocolate Starlet Cookies, prayerfully baked by the **Sisters of St. Benedict**

Join Indiana Artisan Gifts & Gallery for an after-

noon of fun, creativity, and community connection at 22 N. Range Line Road, Carmel. Make this Mother’s Day a mission impossible to forget.

## MOM

from Page 1



Photo provided

## BLOOM

And here in Indiana, May carries another beloved tradition that perfectly captures this spirit: the Peony Festival in Noblesville.

The peony, Indiana’s state flower, blooms boldly but briefly. Its beauty lasts only a short time, which makes it even more meaningful. People gather not just to admire flowers, but to celebrate community – parades, local events, shared smiles, and the joy of simply being together outdoors again.

The festival feels like a gentle reminder from nature itself: appreciate the bloom while it is here.



Photos provided

**We’re looking forward to the May madness and the one and only Peony Festival.**

tion. Fast engines on the track mirror the fast pace of our own lives, yet both remind us that the journey matters just as much as the finish line.

May is also a time to honor the nurturing spirit within our communities – especially mothers and caregivers whose strength helps everything grow. Much like roots beneath a tree, their care often goes unseen but

sustains every bloom above the surface.

Perhaps that is why May feels so special.

It is a season of endings and beginnings, of gratitude and hope. A season that asks us to reconnect – with nature, with neighbors, and with ourselves.

As the peonies open across Noblesville and the days stretch longer, May invites us to celebrate, ap-

preciate, and simply enjoy the blooming season we are living in.

Because sometimes, the most meaningful thing we can do is pause long enough to recognize that we, too, are in bloom ... together, as a community.

*Pooja Thakkar is working to build cultural connections. You can read her column each week in the pages of The Reporter.*

Over the years, Michaels has fostered children ranging from newborns to teenagers, including bringing home a three-day-old infant with only hours’ notice. She has also adopted two children when reunification was not possible.

A graduate of Anderson University, Michaels built her career in central Indiana after being selected for Orr Fellowship, an early-career development program for versatile high-achievers and future-focused businesses in Indianapolis and Evansville. Despite having no formal business background, the experience helped launch her into healthcare consulting, where she now serves as Chief Clinical Officer at Kinetiq Health.

“I never took a business class,” Michaels said. “Orr Fellowship gave me the foundation and confidence to step into leadership in a way I never imagined.”

Today, she helps employers rethink healthcare delivery and reduce costs and recently had the opportunity to speak at the New York Stock Exchange as part of an investor event.

“It’s surreal,” she said. “To go from a clinical background to standing at the Stock Exchange, it’s something I never would have imagined.”

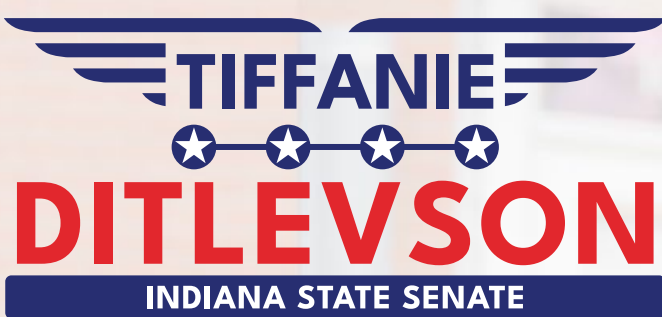
Michaels says her experience as a foster parent has directly shaped her leadership style.

“When you experience foster care, you understand what a real crisis looks like,” she said. “It gives you perspective and teaches you how to stay calm under pressure.”

As National Foster Care Day approaches on May 5, Michaels hopes her story encourages others to consider fostering, especially for older youth who are often overlooked.

“Teenagers are the hardest to place, but they’re incredibly resilient,” she said. “With the right support, you can completely change the trajectory of their lives.”

Originally from La Grange, Ill., Michaels now calls Noblesville home, where she continues to foster while leading a growing healthcare organization, proving that meaningful impact can start right at home.



## TIFFANIE DITLEVSON

INDIANA STATE SENATE

### THE ONLY PROVEN LOCAL LEADER FOR STATE SENATE

**Common-sense Republican.**  
**Former Air Force Major.**  
**Combat Veteran.**  
**Fishers City Councilor.**

- ✓ 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

✓ **Vote Tiffanie Ditlevson**  
Republican for State Senate

Republican Primary | May 5, 2026  
Early Voting Available

**Learn More about Tiffanie**



[www.TiffanieForIndiana.com](http://www.TiffanieForIndiana.com)



**ENDORSED BY**  
**SCOTT FADNESS**  
Mayor of Fishers

Paid for by Tiffanie for Indiana Senate.

# DIXON FOR SHERIFF

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

SUE FINKAM, CARMEL  
SCOTT FADNESS, FISHERS  
CHRIS JENSEN, NOBLESVILLE

## ENDORSED BY 4 FOP's



DIXON  
FOR  
SHERIFF

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT DUSTIN DIXON

DIXONFORSHERIFF.COM

# Protecting warmth & dignity

Hamilton County Kids Coats appoints executive director

Submitted

For two decades, Hamilton County Kids Coats has been a quiet constant: neighbors showing up for neighbors, making sure that when winter settles in, children don't have to face it alone. What started as a simple act of care has grown into something the community counts on.

Now, that work is entering a new chapter.

To reach more families and strengthen its impact for the years ahead, Kids Coats has named MaryEdith Malin as Executive Director.

Since its founding, the organization has operated as a true grassroots effort, powered by volunteers, supported by schools, and sustained through partnerships with churches and local organizations. This step is not about changing that foundation, but about protecting it and building on it, so no child is overlooked as the need continues to grow.

Malin brings a lifelong commitment to service and years working alongside schools, nonprofits, and community partners. In those roles, she has seen how the smallest gaps can carry the biggest weight for families and how meeting a basic need can change the course of a child's day.

"A coat is more than something you wear," Malin said. "It's what lets a child walk into school feeling comfortable, confident, and like they belong. That matters more than we sometimes realize. My heart has always been in mission-driven work because I believe good causes deserve



Malin



strong, thoughtful systems behind them. When we build those well, we can reach more families and do it in a way that lasts."

While she leads Kids Coats, Malin is also completing her Executive Master of Nonprofit Administration at the University of Notre Dame Mendoza College of Business, with a focus on strengthening organizational strategy and scaling community impact.

"This organization has always been about people taking care of each other," Board President Rosanne Burge said. "MaryEdith is someone who can honor where we've

been while helping us grow in a way that still feels personal and connected."

In this next phase, Malin will focus on strengthening the network that makes the work possible. Through relationships with schools, community partners, and local foundations, infrastructure will be built that ensures families can count on Kids Coats year after year.

**About Kids Coats of Hamilton County**

Kids Coats of Hamilton County, a 501(c)(3), is built on a simple belief: no child should face an Indiana winter without a coat. Through a strong network of volunteers, schools, foundations, and community partners, the organization provides thousands of coats each year, offering not just warmth, but a sense of care and dignity to families across the county. To join the mission, donate a coat, or volunteer, visit [KidsCoats.org](http://KidsCoats.org) or email [info@kidscoats.org](mailto:info@kidscoats.org).

Letter to the Editor

## Wiles endorses Shields for Superior Court 9

Dear Editor:

I am proud to endorse Magistrate Sarah Shields for Judge of Hamilton Superior Court 9.

As a fellow graduate of the Richard G. Lugar Excellence in Public Service program, I have seen how Sarah's career has been defined by steady preparation, sound judgment, and a clear commitment to serving our community. She has built the experience that matters most: real, day-to-day decision-making on the bench, applying the law thoughtfully and fairly.

Sarah represents the future of Hamilton County and is ready to meet the needs of a growing and evolving community. I encourage you to join me in supporting her.

**Megan G. Wiles**  
Noblesville

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

## Spartz's checkoff transparency amendment passes U.S. House

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

On Thursday, April 30, Congresswoman Victoria Spartz's (R-Ind.-05) amendment to increase transparency for commodity checkoff boards passed the House and will be included in the Farm Bill.

Checkoffs are taxes on farmers mandated by Congress and have been known to be abused by some boards to pay lavish salaries to executives or lobby for Big Ag against small farmers instead of helping them," Rep. Spartz said. "Hardworking farmers deserve transparency and accountability to know how their hard-earned money is spent."

This amendment requires the U.S. Department

of Agriculture to publicly post key financial information for checkoff boards, including audit reports for the previous five years, updated annually.

The checkoff is a mandatory fee that many U.S. farmers pay every time they sell any of 22 major commodities for research and promotion purposes. Checkoff programs were originally voluntary where farmers could check off a box to pay into the shared fund, but eventually Congress made these fees mandatory. These programs collect roughly \$1B annually and have been involved in a number of abuse and corruption scandals over the years.

[Click here](#) to read the full text of the amendment.



Spartz

Letter to the Editor

## As national debt exceeds 100% of GDP, we need to stop the bleeding

Dear Editor:

It's happened – the national debt is now larger than the U.S. economy, about twice the historic average. We've heard plenty of alarm bells in the past few years about our fiscal path, but this one rings especially loudly. The real question is whether or not our leaders in Washington will listen.

The national debt hit 100.2 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at the end of March, based on new economic data released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Debt held by the public on March 31 was \$31.27 trillion, while nominal GDP was an estimated \$31.22 trillion over the prior 12-month period.

With debt now above 100 percent of GDP, it's only a matter of time until we pass the all-time record of 106 percent reached in the immediate aftermath of World War II. This time the borrowing isn't borne from a seismic global conflict, but rather a total bipartisan abdication of making hard choices.

The higher we allow our debt to grow, the more we erode our own prosperity and that of future generations. Rising debt compromises affordability by slowing income growth, pushing up interest rates, and increasing inflationary pressures. Debt squeezes our budgets with massive interest costs. It exposes us needlessly to challenges from geopolitical rivals. And without corrective action, rising debt could spark a devastating fiscal crisis.

To put the country on a prosperous and sustainable path, we need to stop the bleeding. That starts with rejecting any new borrowing and offsetting new spending or tax cuts twice over under "Super PAYGO." But to stabilize and reduce debt as a share of the economy, we'll need to go much further – we need about \$10 trillion of deficit reduction. One option among many is to follow the bipartisan momentum towards bringing deficits down to 3 percent of GDP, which would help bring the debt below 100 percent of GDP over time. What's most important is turning this pattern of inaction around – there is no time to lose.

**Maya MacGuineas**  
President, Committee for a Responsible Budget

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.

# Westfield to observe Memorial Day & honor our fallen heroes

Submitted by  
City of Westfield

Westfield residents are invited to gather in remembrance of the men and women who gave their lives in service to this nation during the annual Memorial Day Ceremony, set for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 20 at the Fallen Hoosier Heroes Memorial, 401 N. Union St.

“Serving alongside my fellow countrymen and women as a proud U.S. Marine is one of the greatest honors of my life,” Mayor Scott Willis said. “While I’m eternally grateful to all who have served, Memorial Day is a time to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy, and hold the families who carry that loss close to our hearts.”

Gold Star father and Indiana State Representative David Abbott will serve



Photo provided by City of Westfield

as the ceremony’s keynote speaker. The ceremony will feature remarks from local veterans, including Mayor Scott Willis. The Westfield Community Choir will also perform a special selection of songs in tribute to the fallen heroes.

As part of the ceremony,

all attendees will be invited to place a carnation at the base of the Fallen Heroes Memorial in remembrance of their sacrifice.

Free parking available at Christ United Methodist Church, 318 N. Union St., and Westfield High School with a complimentary shut-

tle provided to transport guests to-and-from the ceremony location.

This outdoor event is free and open to the public, though registration is requested. To register for the Memorial Day Ceremony or learn more, visit [westfield-in.gov/memorialday](http://westfield-in.gov/memorialday).

# Sen. Young introduces bill to promote & expand apprenticeship programs

Submitted by Office of  
U.S. Senator Todd Young

On National Apprenticeship Day – Thursday, April 30 – U.S. Senator Todd Young (R-Ind.) and U.S. Representative Nathaniel Moran (R-Texas-01) introduced the Workforce Apprenticeship Growth and Education Support (WAGES) Act.

The legislation would create a refundable payroll tax credit for employers who maintain or participate in a Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP). The tax credit would offset the cost of wages paid to apprentices and mentors, as well as the cost of other program expenses.

“Apprenticeships equip individuals with sustainable skills to advance their careers and offer employers job-ready workers, but too many businesses still face barriers to launching or scaling these programs,” Sen. Young said. “At a time when high-demand industries are struggling to fill open positions, our bill will make it easier for businesses to invest in high-quality apprenticeship programs, strengthening our workforce and expanding pathways to good-paying careers. This is an important step in ensuring Americans are prepared for the jobs of today and tomorrow.”

Under the WAGES Act, eligible employers would be required to:

- Maintain a RAP or participate in one through written agreements, like collective bargaining agreements (CBAs);
- Employ at least one qualified apprentice during the calendar quarter; and
- Not have received federal payments for the same

qualifying wages/expenses. Covered program expenses would include:

- Related technical instruction (classroom, distance learning, or other approved format);
- On-the-job learning costs and supervision reimbursement;
- Mentor wages – the amount paid above a journeyworker’s base rate while mentoring an apprentice (capped at \$10,000/quarter per mentor);
- Program development, registration, and maintenance costs; and
- CBA contributions to registered apprenticeship sponsors.

In 2025, President Trump signed an Executive Order to [prepare Americans for high-paying skilled trade jobs of the future](#), with plans to reach and surpass one million new active apprenticeships. The WAGES Act builds on the Trump Administration’s efforts to grow apprenticeship programs across the country. These programs benefit workers by providing them a skills-based education for a sustainable career and offer employers an opportunity to recruit, build, and retain a highly skilled workforce.

The WAGES Act is supported by the following organizations: American Hotel and Lodging Association, American Society for Nondestructive Testing, American Trucking Associations, Associated Equipment Distributors, Associated General Contractors of America, Caliber Collision, National Association of Home Builders, National Restaurant Association, National Roofing Contractors Association, Real Estate Roundtable, Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Ascend Indiana, CEOs of Indiana Corporate Partnership, Indiana Electric Cooperatives, Indiana Manufacturers Association, and the Indy Chamber.

[Click here](#) to read the full text of the bill.



Young

Trampas  
**WHALIN**  
FOR JUDGE  
COURT 4



**BUILT FOR THIS BENCH.**

Entire Career Practicing Every Area of Law Superior Court 4 Handles.

Trampas Whalin for Hamilton County Superior Court 4 Judge

✓ Proven Courtroom Experience in Family, Civil and Criminal Law

✓ Committed to Safe Communities and Justice for All

✓ Served as Judge Pro Tempore in most Hamilton County Courts

✓ Respected Leader in our Community

✓ RESPECT   ✓ REASON   ✓ RELIABILITY

**Qualified for the Work. READY FROM DAY ONE.**

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY - **MAY 5TH, 2026**

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT TRAMPAS WHALIN

Thanks for  
reading  
The  
Reporter!

**JOHN LOWES**  
YOUR CONSERVATIVE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE  
FOR HAMILTON COUNTY SHERIFF





Endorsed by:  
**SHERIFF  
DENNIS QUAKENBUSH**

**EXPERIENCE MATTERS**  
*Hamilton County Sheriff — Side by Side Comparison*

| QUALIFICATION                                      | JOHN LOWES | OPPONENT |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------|----------|
| <b>LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPERIENCE</b>                  |            |          |
| Officer                                            | ✓          | ✓        |
| Mid-Level Supervision                              | ✓          | ✓        |
| <b>COMMAND EXPERIENCE</b>                          |            |          |
| Patrol Division Commander                          | ✓          | ✗        |
| Investigations Division Commander                  | ✓          | ✗        |
| Chief Deputy / Assistant Sheriff                   | ✓          | ✗        |
| Manages \$34 Million Budget                        | ✓          | ✗        |
| <b>EDUCATION</b>                                   |            |          |
| Graduate Certificate — Executive Police Leadership | ✓          | ✗        |

John has spent the last eight years as part of the leadership team responsible for running the Sheriff's Office alongside Sheriff Dennis Quakenbush.

**JOHN LOWES — A LEADER THAT IS READY ON DAY ONE!** 

PAID FOR BY LOWES FOR SHERIFF COMMITTEE

When weather is unpredictable, you can trust  
**Your Hometown Weatherman!**



# Anti-redistrict Republicans face primary challengers in closing days

By GARRETT BERGQUIST  
WISH-TV | [wishtv.com](http://wishtv.com)

A longtime state senator on Wednesday said primary challenges aren't unheard of, but the scale of this year's primary is very unusual.

Sen. Jim Buck, R-Kokomo, has represented north-central Indiana in the state Senate since 2009 and spent 14 years before that in the House. He spent Wednesday afternoon knocking on the doors of Westfield voters who have not yet cast a primary ballot.

"Normally, in a primary, we have what's kindly referred to as a family food fight," he said. "But we've never had a primary like this where somebody outside the family is determining how that food fight should occur."

Buck is one of eight Republican state senators running for reelection this year who voted against a proposal to redraw Indiana's congressional maps just before the 2026 election. President Donald Trump and Gov. Mike Braun both vowed at the time to support primary challengers to any anti-redistricting Republicans, and both have made good on

that threat. Earlier this year, Trump met with several primary challengers in the Oval Office, took pictures with them, and endorsed all of them. Braun endorsed all of the primary challengers earlier this month. In Buck's case, he faces Tipton County Commissioner Tracey Powell.

Powell did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

"I was kind of surprised, candidly, when we had a president, a vice president, a governor, a lieutenant governor, a sitting U.S. senator and a number of sitting Congresspeople coming against us," Buck said. "It's just unheard of."

A former state senator, Jim Merritt, a Republican who represented Marion County for three decades, said he nearly always faced a primary challenger, but the governor's decision to support so many insurgent candidates is extremely unusual. He said primary voters often don't pay attention to candidates until late in the process, so Trump and Braun could sway some opinions.

"If the governor and his team and the president play it right toward the end of

the primary election, it could have massive impact," he said. "It just all depends, really, if the incumbent senators who are opposed run really good campaigns, and I think that's the key to what's really going on."

Merritt said he thinks most of the Republicans facing primary challenges will survive. Besides Buck, the other anti-redistricting Republicans facing primary challenges this year are Sens. Spencer Deery, Dan Dernulc, Greg Goode, Travis Holdman, Rick Niemeyer, Linda Rogers, and Greg Walker.

Hamilton County Republican Party Chair Mario Massillamany isn't so sure. He said he thinks as many as four or five of those senators could lose their primaries, in particular Buck and Walker. He said outside

groups are spending well north of half a million dollars in each of the primaries. Massillamany said national groups such as Turning Point USA and Americans for Prosperity have turned out to support the challengers.

"I think some of these state senators didn't realize the kind of time and effort and energy that the Trump team and these Super PACs were going to put into these races, and they're in dog-fights right now," he said.

A group called Hoosier Leadership for America has aired ads targeting senators like Buck who voted against re-districting. The group is registered to an address in Fort Wayne under the name of Abdy Surabian, a national Republican operative. News 8 checked the address



Buck



Merritt



Massillamany

of record and found it is a single-family home owned by Austin Ochoa. Surabian has never owned the home. Ochoa refused to comment when News 8 contacted him.

Massillamany said there's a serious risk primary upsets could jeopardize the Republican supermajority in the General Assembly. He said some of the primary challengers, if successful on Tuesday, might be unable to attract the cross-party voters necessary to win in November. Moreover, he said an expensive primary will deplete campaign money candidates might need in the general election.

"Is the Trump team and the super PACs going to help support them in the November general election? Be-

cause if they help them win in the primary but don't give them the tools and resources, then Republicans just lost a number of seats that they are not going to be able to recover from," he said.

Buck said he always runs his campaigns as if he's behind and his colleagues take the same attitude.

"We're looking forward to each day and what it brings on the campaign and we will all gather at campaign headquarters and see what happens Tuesday night," he said.

*This story was originally published by WISH-TV at [wishtv.com/news/election/anti-redistricting-republicans-face-indiana-primary-election-challengers-in-closing-days](http://wishtv.com/news/election/anti-redistricting-republicans-face-indiana-primary-election-challengers-in-closing-days).*

## A visit to New Riff Distillery

*"Vanilla iced sugar cookie. Walnut & oak on the nose. A palate entry of oak, vanilla, maple, brown sugar, cocoa & spice."*  
— Description from the bottle of one of New Riff's Single Barrel bourbons

COLUMNIST



JON SMYRNIS  
*Bourbon Psychosis*

I am a HUGE fan of New Riff Distillery. I keep using the word "favorite" in these columns. I certainly don't want that word to lose its meaning through overuse. Yet, when you're a bourbon lover, a list of many "favorites" isn't out of the question. This place is one of them. Aficionados out there know what I mean.

New Riff jumped to the top of my list many years ago with their amazing single-barrel offerings. Re-read the quote above. How can anyone pass up snagging a bottle of booze with a description like that?! Marketing works. And ... they keep releasing different "flavors," all with equally tantalizing descriptions.

Yet, it isn't just marketing. I don't know whether it's the power of suggestion or not, but these single barrels actually taste like their descriptions. Believe me I know. I spent a night with a friend tasting several different bottles. Whew! The next day was rough, but what an enchanting evening. I suppose it would be best to do a blind tasting and then try to match up the tasting notes with the de-

scription. Sounds like another fun night in the future.

There was a time when there would be three to four different tasty and thoroughly enjoyable bottles of this stuff available at one time. Of course, the kicker is they're single barrels, so one better snag them while you can. And I did. I have 10 or so of these beauties sitting in my basement collecting dust right now. I'm hesitant to drink them because once they're gone, they're gone. Need to rectify that. Life isn't going to get any longer. If you happen to run across one (or two, or more) of these selections, I highly recommend that you snag it. You won't be disappointed. I promise.

Switching gears. According to the 2026 World Whiskies Awards, New Riff Bottled-In-Bond Kentucky Straight Bourbon is the World's best bourbon for 2026. It's not. Don't get me wrong, this is a very nice bourbon, with the usual notes of caramel, cinnamon, yada, yada, and bottled at a nice 100 proof. Yet, to me, it just didn't have any "wow" factor. I suppose it was awarded this sobriquet due to the fact that it's solidly good, highly proofed, and priced at an incredibly reasonable \$40. Honestly, those are good enough reasons for me.

One problem; you can't find it — anywhere. That's

the rub with these new, "hot," "World's Best" bottlings. Everyone wants a bottle — the psychosis is far flung. Fortunately, I just happened to be on a trip recently (yes, another one) that took me right by the Cincinnati/Newport area. The very home of New Riff Distillery. Yay!

New Riff's distillery in Newport, Ky., is slick, clean, and modern with a very nice storefront and tasting room. Even better, than all that, they have all of their boozy offerings. So, on this little trip, I had to snag a bottle of the "world's best bourbon." I mean, I was right there! While pursuing their shop I came across a few rows of a bottle that looked quite different from all the rest — Silver Grove Straight Bourbon Whiskey.

"What, pray tell, is that?" Asked my psychotic mind. I inquired with the extremely cheerful gentleman who was attending the showroom desk, and learned that it is a barrel-proof bourbon that is only available at the distillery. Of course, sight unseen (until then), and without even giving it a smell, let alone a taste, I had to buy a bottle.

Reaching my trip destination, I excitedly cracked open both of my purchases for a little taste test. The 116-proof Silver Grove stole the show right out from under the "World's Best Bourbon."

It had all of the hallmarks of the Bottled in Bond but everything was deeper, richer, bolder, and

darker (if there is such a thing). Seriously, this had the complexity and depth of character that made it delicious.

I couldn't help but think, why isn't this the "World's Best Bourbon"? I suppose it comes down to accessibility (once the hype dies down, one will be able to find the Bottled in Bond everywhere) and price point. The Silver Grove retails at \$60, which is still not bad for such a limited, and extraordinary bottle of bourbon.

I haven't even discussed New Riff's "normal" stuff like their wonderful Rye or their eight-year bourbon. All of their offerings are reasonably priced and truly outstanding. New Riff's website states that their mission is "to someday be counted among the world's great small distilleries." Mission accomplished! Their Bottled in Bond might not really be the world's best bourbon, but their line of bourbons and ryes in its entirety certainly ranks near the top. Give them a try. Until next time, cheers!

**\*Travel tip:** right next to New Riff's distillery is a place called "The Party Source." This wonderful place is the largest liquor store I've ever seen (and I've been to quite a few). Huge selection of bourbon, whiskies, and anything else you might desire. Check it out.

*Jon Smyrnis is a lifelong Indianapolis area resident. He enjoys traveling, hiking, biking, kayaking, dining out, and, of course, fine cocktails and great bourbons.*

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Letter to the Editor

Chairman Lowry to Democrats: pull the Dem ballot on Election Day

Dear Editor:

ATTENTION DEMOCRATS: At the Primary Election on May 5, pull the Dem ballot! We have a full slate of great candidates and you can define the future of our party.

A lot of Democratic voters have been targeted by Republican candidates: they knock Democrat doors, text Democrats, and even send a proxy to the Hamilton County Democrats' Office to pitch us voting in the Republican primary.

Even as the Hamilton County Democratic Party chair, with ZERO chance that I show up on a Republican list, I've gotten texts from Republicans.

They say, "I'm not one of the normal ones" or "I'm not MAGA."

Democratic voters: reject these Republican pitches. Here's why.

1. The HamCo Democratic Primary is loaded with great candidates in contested races. Your vote decides which of these great candidates will be representing you in the general election. Make sure you have a say in the direction of the Party's future.

2. Give your Primary vote to someone who aligns with your morals and ethics. Republicans voted for President Trump three times in the primary "because of his economic policies," and now we're all living with his questionable moral and ethical decisions.

3. Responsible voting is a two-way street. If a Republican candidate is so extreme that Democratic voters NEED to vote against them, why don't the Republican voters NEED to vote against them, too?

Our Democrat primary is deeper than ever, with the most competent and qualified candidates that you will find across the Nation. Your vote has never mattered more. So when you go to the Primary election, pull the Dem ticket!

**Josh Lowry**  
Chair, Hamilton County Democrats  
Westfield

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

Carmel announces 2026 Bike Carmel event schedule

**Submitted by City of Carmel**

Warm weather and sunshine are right around the corner, and Bike Carmel is gearing up for a summer full of fun events for all ages. From kid-friendly, family-oriented, bike-focused activities to rides through Carmel's roundabouts, there's something for everyone on this season's agenda.

**Coffee on the Monon Kick-Off**

**Friday, May 1 & 8 to 10 a.m.**

Kicking off National Bike Month, Bike Carmel will host the first Coffee on the Monon of the season on the first Friday of May. A coffee station, courtesy of Prufrock Coffee Company, will be set up right on the Monon Greenway in Midtown to thank and encourage cyclists for biking to work. (Walkers are welcome to grab a cup, too!)

Subsequent Coffee on the Monon events will be held from 6:30 to 9 a.m. on the fourth Friday of every month from May through September and will have coffee courtesy of Just Love Coffee Cafe.

**National Bike to School Day**

**Wednesday, May 6**

Bike to School Day is a national event that encourages students, families, and school communities to bike to school together to promote healthy habits, safety, and environmentally friendly transportation. Held each May, it's a fun and active way to build

school spirit, reduce traffic congestion and raise awareness about the importance of safe routes for biking and walking.

**National Bike to Work Day & Coffee on the Monon**

**Friday, May 15**

There will be a special Coffee on the Monon event held this day to celebrate with riders who are biking to work for this national bike holiday. Free coffee courtesy of Just Love Coffee Cafe will be available.

**Family Fun Ride**

**May 9, June 6, June 20 & July 11**

Take part in a family-friendly two-mile ride along Carmel's paths and trails. Enjoy an interactive bike rodeo, free caricatures, and a neighborhood ride with Coach Matt Tanner. Participation is free but registration is required.

**Starting locations:**

- May 9 & June 20 – Carmel Elementary School
- June 6 & July 11 – Carmel Middle School and a tour of the Carmel Fire Department S.A.F.E. House

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the ride beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Sign up for one of the Family Fun Ride events by [clicking this link](#).

**Roundabout Ride**

**Sunday, Sept. 13**

The city and Bike Carmel will host the annual Roundabout Ride at 8 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 13. This fun event will have three distance options: 10 miles,



Photo provided by City of Carmel

25 miles, and 50 miles; the costs will be \$10, \$25, and \$50, respectively. \$5 of each registration will be donated to the Rollfast Foundation for mental health.

The routes will be capped at 100 riders for the 25-mile ride and 50 for the 50-mile ride, so register as soon as possible as these events will fill up quickly.

The Roundabout Ride will begin and end in Midtown Plaza and the roads will be open to vehicle traffic for the duration of the ride with the Carmel Police Department stationed at strategic points along the route to manage traffic and safety.

Register for this year's Roundabout Ride by [clicking this link](#).

**Micromobility ordinance reminder**

As you prepare for another cycling season in Carmel, please note the updated micromobility and e-bike regulations passed by the City Council last fall. These guidelines are designed to

ensure the safety of all residents on the city's busy multi-use paths, sidewalks, and streets.

- Key reminders:
- 20-mph speed limit on multi-use paths
  - 15-mph speed limit on sidewalks
  - All riders under the age of 16 years of age must wear a properly-fitted helmet
  - "E-moto" devices, such as electric motorcycles, and electric dirt bikes – are prohibited on all city trails, paths, and sidewalks.

To help residents navigate these changes, the Carmel Police Department will host an information night at 6 p.m. Friday, May 8 at the Carmel Police Department Headquarters, 1000 S. Range Line Road, to discuss the ordinance and answer questions regarding e-bike use within the city. This is a great opportunity to learn more about safe riding practices and ensure Carmel remains a leader in bicycle safety.

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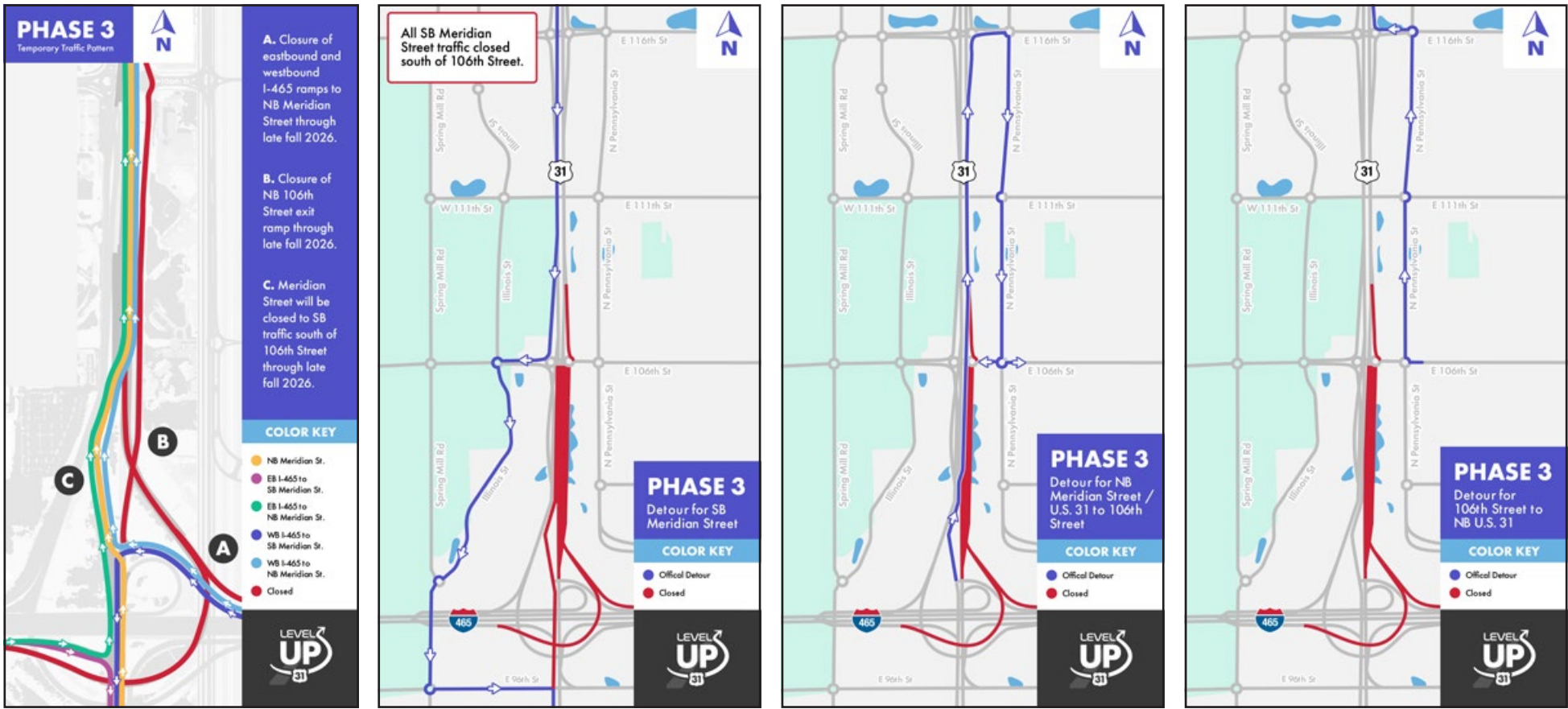
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# I-465 ramp to northbound U.S. 31 closures begin as Level Up 31 work progresses

## The REPORTER

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) announces the Level Up 31 project is moving into phase 3 on or after Monday, May 11. This is the third of four phases of the project.

Upcoming work includes widening the eastbound and westbound I-465 ramps to northbound U.S. 31, along with additional improvements to accommodate for the rapid regional growth and number of vehicles using the interchange.

Phase 3 closures will remain in place through fall 2026. During this time, a temporary traffic shift will be in place along U.S. 31 / Meridian Street from 106th Street to 96th Street.

During the closure of the I-465 ramps to northbound U.S. 31, traffic will utilize the existing southbound U.S. 31/Meridian Street. Traffic will switch back to the existing northbound lanes just south of 106th Street. Signs will be posted to assist drivers on the changes.

The new traffic pattern is scheduled to begin next week with all closures expected to be in place by May 15. These closures will allow crews to safely expand lanes in elevated sections of the project.

**Monday, May 11**

- Closure of southbound Meridian Street between 106th Street and 96th Street through late fall 2026

- Closure of 106th Street exit ramp to southbound Meridian Street through late fall 2026. The 106th Street exit ramp to I-465 will remain open

**Friday, May 15**

- Closure of eastbound and westbound I-465 exit ramps to northbound U.S. 31/Meridian Street and 106th Street through late fall 2026
- Closure of northbound U.S. 31/Meridian Street to 106th Street exit ramp through late fall 2026
- Closure of 106th Street ramp to northbound U.S. 31 through late fall 2026

**Alternate routes & detours**

- Meridian Street will be closed to southbound

traffic between 106th Street and 96th Street. Motorists headed southbound on U.S. 31 will take the 106th Street exit, travel west to Illinois Street and continue south to Spring Mill Road. From there, continue south to 86th Street, head east to Meridian Street, and resume southbound travel.

- The U.S. 31/Meridian Street northbound ramp to 106th Street will be closed though late fall 2026. Motorists traveling northbound on U.S. 31 / Meridian Street should turn right (east) onto 116th street then exit to Pennsylvania Street, continuing south for one mile before exiting at 106th street.
- The 106th Street on ramp to northbound U.S. 31

will be closed though late fall 2026. Motorists traveling on 106th Street should take Pennsylvania Street one mile north before taking the 116th street exit on to northbound U.S. 31.

Signs will be posted to direct traffic along all detour routes.

**Previous phase work now open**

Once Phase 3 traffic changes are in place, extended closures from earlier phases are scheduled to open.

**Monday, May 11**

- Southbound U.S. 31 ramp to 106th Street scheduled to open

**Friday, May 15**

- Westbound I-465 ramp to southbound Meridian Street (Exit 31) scheduled

to open

- Eastbound 106th Street underneath U.S. 31 scheduled to open

**Awareness & safety**

The speed limit remains 45 mph along I-465 and U.S. 31 in the construction zone. Drivers should follow posted signs and watch their speed. Delays are likely during peak travel times, so drivers are encouraged to plan alternate routes and allow extra travel time.

Actual dates of scheduled work may change due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances.

For a more in-depth look at the four-phase project and updated traffic overview with the latest closures, visit [LevelUp31.com](http://LevelUp31.com).

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# Community News

## Carmel VFW to hold free breakfast for Veterans

To kick off the fifth annual VFW Day of Service, the Delbert L. Waugh VFW Post 10003, 12863 Old Meridian St., will welcome Veterans for a free breakfast beginning at 8 a.m. this Saturday, May 2.

## Coffee Hour for Veterans

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

# Noblesville City Councilor Aaron Smith endorses Jack Russell for Hamilton Heights School Board

## Submitted

Aaron Smith announced on Tuesday, April 28 his endorsement of Jack Russell for Hamilton Heights School Board At-Large. Smith, a member of the Noblesville Common Council, began his first term in 2020 and was reelected in 2024. He serves as Partner & Principal at BAR

Communications and previously worked on the staff of Dan Coats in both Washington, D.C., and Indianapolis. Smith is also a 2024 IJB Forty Under 40 honoree and has served on the boards of Noblesville Main Street and the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce Foundation. “Jack Russell is the kind of leader Hamilton Heights needs on its school board,”



Russell

Smith said. “He looks at every issue through the lens of what’s best for our kids and their future here – and from my experience on city council, I can tell you that perspective is what makes our county stronger. Jack will be a thoughtful voice for Hamilton Heights students and families. I’m proud to endorse him.” “I’m honored to have Aaron’s endorsement,”

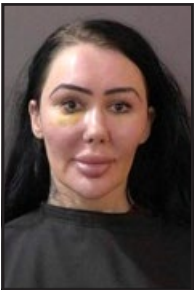
Russell said. “Our schools shape the future of our community, and I’m committed to ensuring every decision we make puts students first and positions them for success.” Russell is running on five key priorities: Elevate Academic Excellence, Strengthen School Safety & Well-Being, Inspire Community Connection, Champion Fiscal Responsibility & Operational Excellence, and Foster a Culture of Respect, Accountability & Growth.

# Women arrested in Westfield on eight child sex abuse charges

## Submitted by Westfield Police Department

On Wednesday, April 29, the Westfield Police Department Special Investigations Unit, in partnership with the FBI Violent Crimes Task Force, located Elizabeth Creekmore in Westfield. Creekmore was wanted on an arrest warrant for the following charges: • Level 4 Felony – Child Exploitation (four separate charges) • Level 5 Felony – Possession of Child Sex Abuse Material (four separate charges)

At approximately 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, law enforcement conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Main Street and Union Street on a vehicle in which Creekmore was a passenger. Creekmore was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Hamilton County Jail on the outstanding warrant. Creekmore was initially charged as a result of the outstanding investigative



Creekmore

work conducted by the Hamilton County Metro ICAC Task Force. Her apprehension was made possible through the continued partnership and coordinated efforts between the FBI Violent Crimes Task Force and the Westfield Police Department. A charge is merely an accusation. All defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

# Community Health Network appoints two new regional presidents

## The REPORTER

Community Health Network has appointed Dave Hyatt as president of the South Region, which includes Community Hospital South, and Dan Parod as regional president of the Northeast Region, which includes Community Hospital Anderson, as part of the organization’s regional operating model. Hyatt and Parod join Jen Hindman, president of the Central Region, which includes Community Hospital North, and Derek McMichael, president of the Northwest Region, which includes Community Howard Regional Health and the new Westfield campus. All are part of a team led by Beth Sharp, president of hospital services and Community’s Chief Nursing Officer. “The regional model allows us to maintain strong hospital level leadership while adding greater focus on regional strategy, physician partnerships and community engagement,” said Jason Fahrlander, chief operating officer for Community Health Network. “Together, our regional presidents bring deep operational experience and a collaborative leadership approach that supports alignment across hospitals,

service lines and system priorities.” In their roles, regional presidents work closely with hospital leadership teams, network leaders and product line leadership to support quality outcomes, access to care, operational consistency and long-term growth. Hyatt brings nearly 20 years of healthcare leadership experience to Community Health Network. Most recently, he served as president and chief executive officer of Riverview Health in Noblesville. Prior to that, he held multiple executive leadership roles with Indiana University Health. He holds a master’s degree in health administration from Indiana University and is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives. Parod joins Community Health Network with extensive experience leading complex, multi hospital regions. He most recently served as president of the Central Region for Ascension St. Vincent in Indiana. He holds a master’s degree



Hyatt



Parod

in labor and industrial relations from the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign and a bachelor’s degree in business communication from Illinois Wesleyan University. Hyatt and Parod are expected to start their new roles in May. **About Community Health Network** Headquartered in Indianapolis, Community Health Network has been deeply committed to the communities it serves since opening its first hospital, Community Hospital East, in 1956. Community Health Network puts patients first while offering a full continuum of healthcare services, world-class innovations, and a new focus on population health management. Exceptional care, simply delivered, is what sets Community Health Network apart and what makes it a leading not-for-profit healthcare destination in central Indiana. For more information about Community Health Network, please visit [eCommunity.com](http://eCommunity.com).

# Spartz’s amendment meant to make farming & food more affordable passes U.S. House

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

Congresswoman Victoria Spartz’s (R-Ind.-05) amendment to exempt large farm tractors, combines, and sprayers from unreasonable EPA emissions standards, such as Diesel Exhaust Fluid, passed the U.S. House on Thursday, April 30 on a bipartisan basis. It was included in the final passage of the Farm Bill. “I appreciate my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who stood with American farmers and consumers to pass this commonsense

amendment,” Rep. Spartz said. “While I’m disappointed that some chose to side with large corporate interests over the hardworking families who feed our country, this is a meaningful win for farmers and consumers.” Under one-size-fits-all EPA regulations, farm diesel engines were swept into burdensome emissions standards, adding unreasonable costs to farmers, caus-



Spartz

ing damaging delays, creating fire hazards, and leading to higher prices at grocery stores. Farm machinery and input costs have surged by 30 percent to 100 percent in just the last five years, pushing food prices higher and putting family farms on the brink of widespread bankruptcies. [Click here](#) to watch the floor debate; [click here](#) to read the full text of the amendment.

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# Songbook Foundation awarded GRAMMY Museum grant

*Digitization project will make rare radio recordings publicly accessible*

## THE REPORTER

The Great American Songbook Foundation has been selected as one of 14 recipients nationwide to receive funding from the GRAMMY Museum Grant Program, which supports research, archiving and preservation initiatives across the United States.

The \$20,000 grant will fund the Songbook Library & Archives' efforts to digitize and provide access to approximately 350 lacquer and vinyl discs from the James McDowell Collection. The recordings document McDowell's career as "Jimmy Mack," a prominent Midwestern radio and television broadcaster known for his influential role in the region's mid-20th-century music scene. This project will make the full collection of rare and commercially unavailable recordings publicly accessible through the Songbook Foundation's Preservica digital asset management system and online archives.

"We are thrilled to have been awarded a GRAMMY Museum Grant, which will allow us to digitize an incredible collection of radio recordings," said Emily Rapoza, the Songbook Foundation's Director of Library & Archives. "Recordings like those in the James



Photos courtesy Great American Songbook Foundation (ABOVE) Broadcaster James "Jimmy Mack" McDowell speaks at a 2011 Songbook Foundation event at the Payne & Mencias Palladium. (LEFT) The James McDowell Collection at the Songbook Library & Archives includes this transcription disc from the U.S. Treasury Department featuring Bing Crosby and Bob Hope.

McDowell Collection provide archives and researchers with access to a wealth of information about a specific and important time period. Without preservation, these stories are much harder to tell. Thanks to this grant, we will be able to share rare radio recordings that document wartime and local Indiana news through the lens of Jimmy Mack."

Born in Nebraska, McDowell met his wife and creative partner, Peggy, at an Indianapolis record shop while stationed at Camp Atterbury during World War II, according to his obituary. After serving in England during the war, the lifelong

music aficionado launched a broadcast career that eventually brought him back to Indianapolis, where in the late 1950s he and Peggy produced the *Teens & Tunes* radio show and a TV dance party called *Teen Twirl* for WISH. After stints at radio stations including WXLW, WBRI and WIRE, he hosted the teen dance show *Bandstand 13* on WLWI (now WTHR) from 1965 to 1969 and came to be known as "Indy's own Dick Clark."

McDowell was inducted into the Indiana Broadcast Pioneers Hall of Fame in 2009 and donated his collection to the Songbook Library & Archives in 2018

before passing away at age 99 in 2021. The items include recordings of his radio shows as well as WWII-era transcription discs — music and other programming issued by federal agencies and other organizations to entertain and inform military personnel, often on extra-large 16-inch platters.

Generously funded by the Recording Academy, the GRAMMY Museum Grant Program provides annual support to organizations and individuals working to advance the preservation of the Americas' recorded sound heritage, as well as research exploring the impact of music on the human condition.

## Fishers Farmers Market returns Saturday, May 2 with expanded footprint & more than 25 new vendors

### Submitted by Fishers Parks

Fishers Parks announces the return of the Fishers Farmers Market, Presented by IU Health, this Saturday, May 2 at the Nickel Plate District Amphitheater, 6 Municipal Drive, launching the season with its largest footprint to date.

With an expanded layout surrounding the AMP, over 25 new vendors, and the addition of the new Fishers Farmers Market Breezeway Café, featuring coffee, pastries, and additional seating, this year's market offers more ways than ever for the community to shop local and connect in the heart of downtown Fishers.

Opening day also marks the kickoff of Mental Health Awareness Month in Fishers with the annual **Hope for Happiness event**, hosted in partnership with Hamilton Southeastern High Schools' Bring Change to Mind clubs and the Fishers Health Department. At the event, which supports the city's StigmaFree Fishers initiative, guests can participate in hands-on activities, including creating glitter

stress jars, decorating mindfulness journals, and other interactive experiences to promote well-being.

The top-ranked market takes place every Saturday through September from 8 a.m. to noon and features more than 90 Indiana vendors offering fresh produce, baked goods, meats, specialty foods, coffee, plants, and artisan goods. A reimagined layout in 2026 will make it easier for guests to explore and discover new favorites. The new Breezeway Café, located at the south end of the market near the Fishers Municipal Center, will offer a dedicated space for guests to relax, gather, and enjoy market offerings. A full vendor list and market map are available at [FishersParks.com/FarmersMarket](https://fishersparks.com/FarmersMarket).

"The Fishers Farmers Market has become one of the most anticipated traditions of the summer, and this year's expansion allows us to elevate that experience even further," Fishers Parks Director Marissa Deckert said. "We're proud to continue growing a market that supports local businesses while creating space for our community to

gather and connect."

Beyond shopping, the market offers a full morning of programming each week, including free community yoga from 8 to 9 a.m., live music by local artists from 10 a.m. to noon, and the popular Fishers Parks kids' activity, where young shoppers can enjoy hands-on fun.

Several themed market days throughout the season provide additional opportunities for engagement, including:

- Sustainability Day on May 9, highlighting sustainability-focused organizations in and around Fishers
- Thrift-a-Thon on May 23, July 25, and Sept. 26, a sustainable clothing event featuring local clothing producers and resellers
- Biz Kidz Festival on June 20, where young entrepreneurs sell their handmade and homegrown items;
- Accessibility and Inclusion Day on July 11, highlighting and raising awareness about individuals with disabilities
- Health and Wellness Day on Aug. 1, highlighting organizations that promote

healthy living

- Safety Day on Aug. 22, in partnership with the Fishers Fire Department and Fishers Police Department, featuring live demonstrations and interactive activities

- Day of Service on Aug. 29, connecting residents with local nonprofit organizations

- Club Day on Sept. 19, encouraging community members to explore local clubs and build social connections.

Free parking is available throughout the Nickel Plate District, including street parking, surface lots, and nearby garages such as The Depot, Flats at Switch, Nickel Plate Station, the Fishers Police Department garage, The Edge, and First Internet Bank. Get more parking information [here](https://fishersparks.com/FarmersMarket).

Special thanks to the 2026 Fishers Farmers Market presenting sponsor, IU Health, and partner sponsor, Harrah's Hoosier Park Racing & Casino.

For more information, including a full vendor list and event details, visit [FishersParks.com/FarmersMarket](https://fishersparks.com/FarmersMarket).

## Northwest Bank welcomes Chad Brandenburg as its new Commercial Relationship Manager

### Submitted

Northwest Bank has announced that Chad Brandenburg has joined the bank as a Commercial Relationship Manager. Based in Fishers, Brandenburg will serve commercial and industrial businesses across the central Indiana and Indianapolis markets, delivering relationship-driven banking solutions tailored to the needs of growing organizations.

In this role, Brandenburg is responsible for developing and managing commercial relationships, providing customized credit solutions, deposit services, and treasury management capabilities to support long-term business growth and financial suc-

cess. Brandenburg brings nearly 20 years of diverse financial and operational experience to Northwest, including more than a decade in leadership roles within commercial banking.

Most recently, Brandenburg served as Vice President and Commercial Relationship Manager at 1st Source Bank, where he was the first commercial banker hired to help establish and grow the Indianapolis market. Prior to joining 1st Source Bank, Brandenburg held senior commercial and business banking roles with Wells Fargo, Huntington National Bank, PNC, and JP Morgan Chase.

See Bank ... Page 12



Brandenburg

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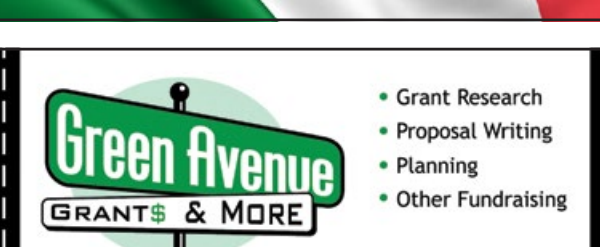
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| NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |  |
| Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of the City of Westfield, Hamilton County, Indiana, that the Common Council at their regular meeting place at Westfield City Hall at 130 Penn Street, in Westfield, IN at 7:00 PM, on the 11th day of May 2026, will consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year.<br>Additional appropriations to be added:<br>642 GPSE Escrow Fund<br>Major Budget Classification:<br>Capital Outlays Line item- #642004474 \$2,000,000<br>TOTAL for GPSE Escrow Fund \$2,000,000<br>Taxpayers appearing at the meeting shall have a right to be heard on the additional appropriation.<br>R7888 5/1/26, 5/4/26                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |  |
| NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |  |
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| Notice of Adoption of Ordinance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
| <b>Annexing Certain Real Estate to the City of Westfield, Indiana</b><br>Ordinance 26-19, An Ordinance Annexing Certain Real Estate to the City of Westfield, Hamilton County, Indiana, was adopted by the Westfield Common Council on April 27, 2026. The annexation area consists of approximately 39.14 acres +/-, generally located on the east side of Freemont Moore Road. The ordinance shall be effective in accordance with Indiana Law upon its passage by the Council, its publication in accordance with law, and upon the passage of any applicable waiting period, all as provided by the laws of the State of Indiana. Ordinance 26-19 in its entirety is available for inspection during regular business hours at the Westfield Clerk-Treasurer's Office located at 130 Penn Street, Westfield, Indiana.<br>Ordinance 26-20, An Ordinance Annexing Certain Real Estate to the City of Westfield, Hamilton County, Indiana, was adopted by the Westfield Common Council on April 27, 2026. The annexation area consists of approximately 23 acres +/-, generally located on the east side of Grassy Branch Road. The ordinance shall be effective in accordance with Indiana Law upon its passage by the Council, its publication in accordance with law, and upon the passage of any applicable waiting period, all as provided by the laws of the State of Indiana. Ordinance 26-20 in its entirety is available for inspection during regular business hours at the Westfield Clerk-Treasurer's Office located at 130 Penn Street, Westfield, Indiana.<br>Dated this 28th day of April, 2026.<br>R7890 5/1/26, 5/4/26                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |  |
| Public Notice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |
| Thieneman Corporate Headquarters (17219 Foundation Pkwy, Westfield, IN 46074) is submitting a Notice of Intent to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management of our intent to comply with the requirements of the Construction Stormwater General Permit to discharge stormwater from construction related activities associated with the Thieneman Corporate Headquarters project, located in Hamilton County, Indiana. More specifically, the project is located at 17219 Foundation Pkwy, Westfield, IN 46074, part of the NE Quarter of Section 23, Township 13N, Range 4E. Little Cool Creek is the receiving water for this project site. Please direct questions to Nathan Winslow, PE of American Structurepoint at 317-547-5580 or by email at nwinslow@structurepoint.com.<br>R7892 5/1/26, 5/4/26                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |  |
| NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY OF WESTFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (PARK & POPLAR PROJECT)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |  |
| Notice is hereby given that the City of Westfield Economic Development Commission will hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m., local time, on May 11, 2026, in the City Hall Assembly Room, located at 130 Penn Street, Westfield, Indiana 46074, concerning the proposed issuance by the City of Westfield, Indiana (the "City") of economic development tax increment revenues bonds, in one or more series, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Nineteen Million Dollars (\$19,000,000) (the "Bonds"), which may be issued on a taxable or tax-exempt basis for purposes of federal income taxation. The City will provide the proceeds of the Bonds to Park and Poplar LLC or a single-purpose affiliate thereof (collectively, the "Company") to finance a portion of the costs of the design and construction of infrastructure improvements, including, but not limited to, the design and construction of a parking garage containing approximately 526 parking spaces with public restrooms (the "Project"), located in, physically connected to, or directly serving or benefitting the Park & Poplar Allocation Area (the "Allocation Area") of the East Side Economic Development Area (the "Area"), which will support a new mixed-use project in the Area consisting of (a) approximately 254 luxury apartments totaling approximately 271,016 square feet; (b) approximately 48 for-rent residential brownstone units consisting of approximately 24 one-bedroom units and approximately 24 two-bedroom units and totaling approximately 59,292 square feet; (c) an amenity center for residential tenants containing approximately 4,650 square feet; (d) approximately 4,200 square feet of retail, restaurant, or other commercial space; (e) a separate retail and/or restaurant building containing approximately 5,000 square feet; (f) two three-story mixed-use buildings each containing approximately 10,000 square feet of retail, restaurant, or other commercial space and 20,000 square feet of class A office space; (g) the Project; (h) approximately 90 surface parking spaces; (i) streetscape improvements along Poplar Street, a trail around or near the perimeter of the project site, stormwater management and regional detention, golf cart parking, and other public amenities; and (j) related improvements; (collectively, the "Development").<br>The Bonds will not be an indebtedness or general obligation of the City and will not be payable in any manner by the taxing power of the City. The principal of and interest on the Bonds will be payable solely from the tax increment revenues expected to be generated from the Development within the Allocation Area, as described in the agreements of the City concerning the financing of the economic development facilities (such agreements, collectively, the "Financing Agreements"). Copies of the form of the Financing Agreements will be on file with the Clerk-Treasurer of the City and are available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk-Treasurer of the City during regular business hours daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays.<br>At the time and place fixed for the public hearing, all taxpayers, residents or interested persons will be given an opportunity to express their views for or against the proposed financing of the Projects in writing or in person.<br>CITY OF WESTFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION<br>R7895 5/1/26, 5/4/26 |  |  |



“The world needs ditch diggers too.”

– Stanley (like the power drill) Clampitt, 1990

# Governor ceremonially signs new laws co-authored & sponsored by Rep. Lopez to expand childcare, strengthen public safety

## Submitted by Office of State Rep. Danny Lopez

Two new laws co-authored and sponsored by State Rep. Danny Lopez (R-Carmel) were recently ceremonially signed by Gov. Mike Braun. These laws focus on expanding childcare in Indiana and keeping communities safe through strengthening public safety.

**House Enrolled Act 1177**, which Lopez co-authored, seeks to expand access to high quality childcare for Hoosier families by incentivizing a larger number of employers to provide these services for their workers. Businesses are eligible for the credit if they offer an employer-run childcare facility for their employees or if they contract with a facility or provider to offer care. Under this law, the credit can be used to help pay for related costs such as operating a childcare facility, employee training and higher wages for staff.

“Expanding access to affordable, high-quality childcare is critical to supporting working families and strengthening Indiana's economy,” Lopez said. “This new law will help en-



Photo provided by Office of State Rep. Danny Lopez  
**State Rep. Danny Lopez (R-Carmel) (sixth from left) joins Gov. Mike Braun (sitting, center) for the ceremonial signing of Senate Enrolled Act 160 on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at the Statehouse in Indianapolis. Lopez sponsored the new law to address growing local antisemitism concerns and combat the spread of targeted hate propaganda. Also pictured are bill author State Sen. Spencer Deery (R-West Lafayette) (fourth from right), bill co-sponsor State Rep. Tim Yocum (R-Clinton) (third from right) and other stakeholders.**

sure more Hoosier parents can find reliable care, giving their children a strong start while allowing them to stay in the workforce.”

Lopez also supported the State Budget Committee's recent approval of \$200 million in additional investment to expand access to childcare for low-income families. Legislation to allow for this additional investment was passed during the 2026 legislative session. Additionally, Lopez car-

ried **Senate Enrolled Act 160** in the House, a bill to address growing local antisemitism concerns and combat the spread of targeted hate propaganda in Hamilton County and across Indiana. It gives judges the ability to consider wearing a mask while committing a crime an aggravator in sentencing, and it makes malicious littering in our communities a crime.

“Sadly, the number of acts of antisemitism seems

to be on the rise in Hamilton County and across the state, it is critical that law enforcement and judges have every tool they need to crack down on this horrific behavior,” Lopez said.

Ceremonial bill signings showcase legislation passed during the 2026 session and are a way for lawmakers, stakeholders and those directly impacted to come together and reflect on how these new laws will benefit Hoosiers.

# Baldwin’s legislation banning cryptocurrency kiosks & establishing requirements for proxy advisors ceremonially signed by governor

## Submitted by Office of State Sen. Scott Baldwin

Two bills sponsored by State Sen. Scott Baldwin (R-Noblesville) to ban virtual currency kiosks and establish transparency requirements for proxy advisors who issue voting recommendations to shareholders and companies were ceremonially signed into law by the governor yesterday.

**House Enrolled Act 1116** bans cryptocurrency kiosks from operating in Indiana and allows the Attorney General to pursue action against violators by making it a deceptive act to operate one of those kiosks in the state. This new law will not hamstring Hoosiers from investing in cryptocur-



Photo provided by Office of State Sen. Scott Baldwin  
**State Sen. Scott Baldwin (R-Noblesville, left of center) attends the ceremonial bill signing of HEA 1116, which bans virtual currency kiosks from operating in Indiana.**

rency, rather this law will ensure these investments are made through regulated exchanges.

“Cryptocurrency kiosks have been used to scam Hoosiers out of their hard-earned money, and House

Enrolled Act 1116 offers a way to protect our neighbors from cryptocurrency scams,” Baldwin said. “I am glad to see HEA 1116 become law, and I appreciate the governor for recognizing the importance of this legislation.”

**House Enrolled Act 1273** defines proxy advisors as people who give advice to investors to help them decide how to cast their votes on corporate governance issues for compensation and requires these advisors to disclose to investors whether recommendations against company management proposals are supported by a written financial analysis.

When a written financial analysis is used by a proxy advisor, they must disclose that their analysis covered short- and long-term costs and benefits, concluded their recommended action has the most positive effect on the shareholder and ex-

plained their processes and qualifications.

If a written financial analysis isn’t used, the advisor must share the services they are providing, their recommendation and provide that their suggestion was made without a written financial analysis to shareholders and entity management. They are also required to publish that their recommendation was made without a financial analysis on their website.

“Shareholders make critical decisions that shape the future of a business, and this new law will ensure proxy advisors prioritize their fiduciary duty by providing clear justifications for their recommendations,” Baldwin said. “I am proud to have sponsored Rep. Kyle Pierce’s legislation in the Senate, and I look forward to seeing how this legislation improves the quality of proxy advisors in the state.”

# BANK from Page 11

“Northwest Bank’s commitment to relationship banking and local decision-making strongly aligns with how I serve clients,” Brandenburg said. “I’m excited to join a team that prioritizes collaboration and long-term relationships, and I look forward to partnering with businesses across central Indiana and the Indianapolis market.”

In addition to his banking career, Brandenburg brings an entrepreneurial perspective, having founded and led an urban farming business focused on sustainable food production and community impact.

“Chad brings a unique combination of commercial banking expertise, leader-

ship experience, and entrepreneurial insight,” said Garrett Doan, regional commercial banking market executive. “His ability to build trusted relationships and deliver thoughtful financial solutions will be a strong asset as we continue to grow our commercial banking presence in central Indiana.”

**About Northwest Bank**  
Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, Northwest Bank is a full-service financial institution founded in 1896, operating 151 financial centers across Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, and Indiana, including 20 branches in Indiana. More information is available at [northwest.bank](https://northwest.bank).

| — WESTFIELD —                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
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| PUBLIC NOTICE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| Please be advised that the Westfield-Washington Township Plat Committee will meet at 11:00 a.m., Monday, May 11, 2026, at the Westfield City Services Center, 2728 E 171st St, Westfield, Indiana, or in a virtual format viewable at the following link: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofWestfieldIN">https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofWestfieldIN</a> , for the purposes of holding a public hearing on the following petitions:<br>• 2605-SPP-03; Grand Park Master District Plan; West side of Grand Park Boulevard, approximately 0.25 miles south of 191st Street; Westfield Redevelopment Authority by American Structurepoint requests Primary Plat review of six (6) blocks and three (3) lots on 90.45 acres +/- in the Grand Park Planned Unit Development (PUD) District.<br>Specific details regarding the requests may be obtained from the Westfield Community Development Department, 2728 E 171st Street, Westfield, Indiana or by calling (317) 804-3150, option 5.<br>Written suggestions or objections relative to the requests may be filed with the Secretary of the Committee at the Westfield Community Development Department, 2728 E 171st Street, Westfield, Indiana at or before the hearing. Oral comments concerning the proposals will be heard at the aforementioned public hearing. In the case of a virtual meeting, written comments concerning the proposals can be provided before and during the aforementioned public hearing by emailing <a href="mailto:planners@westfield.in.gov">planners@westfield.in.gov</a> . Such hearing may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary.<br>Westfield-Washington Township Plat Committee<br>Westfield Community Development Department<br>2728 East 171st Street, Westfield, Indiana 46074<br><a href="http://www.westfieldin.gov">www.westfieldin.gov</a><br>R7900 5/1/26, 5/4/26 |  |

## TODAY'S BIBLE READING

## BALAAM'S DONKEY

When Balak heard that Balaam was coming, he went out to meet him at the Moabite town on the Arnon border, at the edge of his territory. Balak said to Balaam, "Did I not send you an urgent summons? Why didn't you come to me? Am I really not able to reward you?"

"Well, I have come to you now," Balaam replied. "But I can't say whatever I please. I must speak only what God puts in my mouth."

Then Balaam went with Balak to Kiriath Huzoth. Balak sacrificed cattle and sheep, and gave some to Balaam and the officials who were with him. The next morning Balak took Balaam up to Bamoth Baal, and from there he could see the outskirts of the Israelite camp.

Numbers 22:36-41 (NIV)

## Mary Kennedy

March 4, 1950 – April 29, 2026

Mary Kennedy, 76, Noblesville, passed away on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at River-view Health in Noblesville. She was born on March 4, 1950 in Marietta, Ga.

Mary received her bachelor's degree from the University of Georgia and was an English teacher for many years at Clinton Central and Central Catholic School in Lafayette. She was a member of Noblesville First United Methodist Church. Mary enjoyed

reading, watching movies, and was active in the local theaters in Noblesville and Indianapolis. She also volunteered with the jail ministry and was a substitute teacher for Noblesville Schools.

She is survived by her husband, Joseph H. Kennedy; son, Joseph R. (Brie Taylor) Kennedy; grandchild, Harper Heather Kennedy; sister, Gail Williams; brother, James Evans, Jr.; sisters-in-law, Cindy Smith and Susan Kennedy; brother-in-law, John (Beth) Kennedy; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father, James Evans; and mother, Mary Lee (Castile) Evans.

Services will be held at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at Noblesville First United Methodist Church, 2051 Monument St., Noblesville. Visitation will be from 1:30 p.m. until the time of service at the church. Burial will be at Crownland Cemetery in Noblesville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Humane Society for Hamilton County, 10501 Hague Road, Fishers, IN 46038 ([hamiltonhumane.com](http://hamiltonhumane.com)).

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

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## Banks raises concerns over Chinese espionage targeting U.S. artificial intelligence sector

Submitted by Office of U.S. Senator Jim Banks

On Wednesday, April 29, U.S. Senator Jim Banks (R-Ind.) and Senate Judiciary Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) sent a letter to nine individual artificial intelligence companies citing growing concerns that the People's Republic of China (PRC) is actively targeting America's AI sector through espionage and other security threats.

The letter highlights mounting evidence that the

Chinese Communist Party is leveraging state-backed programs, corporate infiltration, and coercive tactics to access sensitive AI technologies critical to U.S. national security and economic leadership.

The letter also asks AI companies to describe how they detect and guard against PRC espionage, how they manage insider threats, whether they



Banks

following:

- Sam Altman, CEO, OpenAI
- Dario Amodei, CEO, Anthropic

are capable of preventing PRC actors from stealing their models, and whether they have policies to notify the U.S. government if they detect security threats.

The nine letters were sent to the

- Sundar Pichai, CEO, Google LLC
  - Elon Musk, CEO, x.AI Corp.
  - Mark Zuckerberg, CEO, Meta Platforms, Inc.
  - Satya Nadella, CEO, Microsoft
  - Andy Jassy, CEO, Amazon
  - Ilya Sutskever, CEO, Safe Superintelligence Inc.
  - Mira Murati, CEO, Thinking Machines Lab
- [Click here](#) to read the letter sent to the CEOs.

## Have dreams of writing a new play? Here's your chance with ATI's DIY Playwriting Workshop

Submitted

Actors Theatre of Indiana (ATI) announces the third annual DIY Playwriting Workshop, part of the company's LAB Series which focuses on developing and supporting new plays and playwrights.

Registrants will join accomplished playwright, educator, and new works expert Andrew Kramer as he provides writing prompts, guidance, and inspiration for participants to start writing their own script. They will then have the rare and thrilling experience of hearing their words brought to life by professional actors as they read excerpts from the brand-new works. Both novice and experienced writers are encouraged to participate.

The workshop is free. Registration will be capped at 15 and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Workshop classes will consist of four two-hour writing sessions on June 9, 10, and 11 from 6 to 8 p.m. and June 12 from 4 to 6 p.m. The short scenes or monologues that are created during those classes will then be read by a cast of professional actors in a free public performance on Saturday, June 13 at 2 p.m.

All classes as well as the public performance will be held at the Carmel Clay Public Library, 425 E. Main St. Registration is available at [atistage.org](http://atistage.org).

Andrew Kramer is a playwright, director, and new play dramaturg originally from Cleveland, Ohio. He is the Literary Director of American Lives Theatre in Indianapolis, where he directed last season's production of Will Arbery's *Heroes of the Fourth Turning* and returns this season to direct Samuel D. Hunter's *A Case for The Existence of God*.

Kramer is a graduate of Ball State University's Department of Theatre & Dance and a proud alumnus of the Emerging Writer's Group at The Public Theatre. His plays have been developed through The Downstage Left Playwriting Residency at Stage Left Theatre, The Nord Playwriting Fellowship at Cleveland Public Theatre, the Groundbreakers Playwrights' Group with the terraNOVA Theatre Collective, the Sig-Works Musical Theatre Lab with Signature Theatre, the Ingram New Works Lab at Nashville Repertory Theatre and the Core Apprentice Writer Program at The Playwrights Center.

Kramer was a finalist for the Forward Flux's New American Plays Commission. His work has been seen in Cleveland, Indianapolis, Chicago, Brooklyn, Kansas City, Lincoln, Lou-

isville, Nashville, Houston, Williamsburg, Va., New York City, Sacramento, Washington, D.C., Cairns, Australia, and Bucharest, Romania.

The ATI LAB Series is the company's commitment to nurturing and developing new plays and musicals through readings and workshops. This program is sponsored by Jennifer Hershberger and is a partnership with the Carmel Clay Public Library Foundation and American Lives Theatre.

[Click here](#) to register to be a student in the workshop.

ATI performs at The Studio Theater in the Allied Performing Arts Center for the Studio Theater in the Allied Performing Arts Center in Carmel. Information on upcoming shows and tickets are available at [atistage.org](http://atistage.org) or by calling the Fifth Third Bank Box Office at (317) 843-3800.

### The Reporter's policy on obituaries

The Hamilton County Reporter does not charge families for publishing obituary notices in our pages. Every obituary appearing in online editions Wednesday through Saturday also appears in our Monday print editions. In order to continue to offer this as a community service, we ask that obituaries not exceed 500 words. The limitations of space may not allow for longer ones to appear in print.

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

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REPORTER SPORTS FRIDAY

Sports Editor Richie Hall | Sports@ReadTheReporter.com | Twitter @Richie\_Hall

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

Girls Tennis

# Golden Eagles win showdown with Brebeuf

## Anna Kolb clinches match with No. 3 singles victory

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

NOBLESVILLE – The Guerin Catholic girls tennis team didn’t get much time to enjoy being ranked No. 1 before that honor was put on the line.

Three days after moving up to the top spot of the Indiana High School Tennis Coaches Association rankings, the Golden Eagles had to face off against their rival Brebeuf Jesuit, who just happens to be ranked No. 2. The teams met Thursday at the Guerin Catholic courts for a dual meet.

It was a meet worthy of a 1-vs.-2 matchup, and the Golden Eagles prevailed 3-2. The clincher was Anna Kolb, who won the No. 3 singles match in a third-set tiebreak. The score was 6-3, 1-6, 7-6 (4).

“I’m just so excited for these girls right now,” said GC coach Becky Ragsdale. The Golden Eagles ascended to No. 1 after winning the Carmel Invitational on Saturday, April 18. The Braves finished second at the invitational.

The first three matches were decided quickly. Guerin Catholic easily won both doubles matches, with No. 1 Katie Kolb and Abby Quigley taking their match 6-3, 6-1 and No. 2 Grace Docktor

and Maddy Hood cruising to a 6-0, 6-2 victory. Brebeuf’s Chloe Wendowski won the No. 1 singles match 6-1, 6-0.

The Nos. 2 and 3 singles matches went the distance. The Braves’ Kitty Noga got past GC’s Cece Phillips 4-6, 6-1, 7-5. Phillips fought back from a 5-2 third-set deficit to 5-5 before Noga won the final two games.

Anna Kolb, a senior, won the first set over Brebeuf freshman Cyra Abbasi 6-3 before Abbasi took the second set 6-1. That led to a marathon third set, with both players battling tough. They were grinding through long points, rarely making errors and being consistent and using different tactics.

“It was definitely different from what I normally do,” said Kolb. “She is super consistent and it’s hard to play that. She’s really fast and gets everything back.”

Kolb matched that tactic, then began playing her own game: “Being aggressive.”

Kolb led 3-0 in the third set before Abbasi came back to lead 4-3. The match eventually reached the tiebreak, where the first player to reach seven points would be the winner.

The score was tied at 3-3 before Kolb won three straight points. Kolb hit a powerful forehand, followed that with a service



Reporter photo by Richie Hall  
**Guerin Catholic’s Anna Kolb won the No. 3 singles match for the Golden Eagles, clinching their 3-2 dual-meet victory over Brebeuf Jesuit in a 1-vs.-2 match.**

winner, then another big forehand gave her three match points at 6-3. Abbasi saved one before Kolb took the second match point and clinched the win.

“I was actually thinking, ‘be consistent until she gives me that high ball, and then when I have the chance, I’ll take it,” said Kolb.

Thursday’s dual meet was the first of three consecutive days of home competition for the Golden Eagles, all against ranked teams. Guerin Catholic welcomes No. 10-ranked South Bend St. Joseph this afternoon, then hosts No. 11-ranked Westfield on Saturday morning.



Photo provided  
**Fishers Area Swimming Tigers coach Joe Keller received the Brent Rutemiller Award at the International Swim Coaches Association’s ORCA Awards, which took place April 17 and 18 in St. Petersburg, Fla. The award honored Keller’s perseverance after battling through a brain tumor.**

## FAST coach Joe Keller receives Brent Rutemiller Award

### Recognized for perseverance after battling brain tumor

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

Since becoming the head coach of Fishers Area Swimming Tigers, Joe Keller has helped the club become one of the pre-eminent swim clubs in Indiana and the entire country.

Keller has led the club with his pleasant, thoughtful and calm manner. That allowed him to carry on through a health crisis that Keller not only recovered from, but received recognition for the way he handled it.

Keller received the Brent Rutemiller Award at the International Swim Coaches Association’s ORCA Awards, which took place April 17 and 18 in St. Petersburg, Fla. The award honored Keller’s perseverance after battling through a brain tumor.

The coach began having symptoms, or “episodes” of the tumor in the Spring of 2023.

“I was sitting at home on a Saturday afternoon in the recliner,” said Keller. “All of a sudden my foot started to go numb and this weird sensation worked its way up my leg, and it went away. I thought maybe it was a pinched nerve or something like that. A month later, it happened again, but it went up the right side of my body into my right arm.”

As the next two years went on, the sensations became more frequent and severe, which eventually led to the diagnosis of meningioma, a tumor that develops in the meninges, the thin layers that cover the brain and spinal cord.

“The reason why they became more frequent and more severe was because the tumor was growing,” said Keller. “It was pushing against my brain and it was causing irritation, and that’s

when I would have a seizure. It was starting to happen where it was becoming a little debilitating when it would happen. I would always have an aura that it would happen.”

Keller went to see a neurosurgeon in February 2025, and the doctor told the coach “we’re going to have to do surgery because [the tumor] has gotten really big. We need to do this pretty soon.”

Keller thought the definition of soon was August. The doctor’s definition was two weeks.

“My 30th wedding anniversary is on April 1,” said Keller. “Is there any way we can wait until after that?”

“Okay, we’ll wait,” said the doctor. “But April 3, you’re having surgery.”

The surgery removed much of the tumor and it was found to not be cancerous. Keller recovered quickly; although he had to stay for the entire month of April, he was able to do some work from home about two weeks after surgery.

“Swimmers are tough people and they’re used to doing hard things,” said Keller. “I compartmentalized it a lot. Let’s go do this, let’s get it done, we’ll take the next step and hopefully things work out. I had a lot of support. I’m a person of faith and that was a real anchor for me.”

The Brent Rutemiller award honors the former publisher of *Swimming World Magazine* and CEO of the International Swimming Hall of Fame who passed away from cancer in 2024. Keller originally was not going to go to the ceremony, but thought it over “and decided it was a tribute to Brent.” Keller said it was way to honor Rutemiller and others who “aren’t as fortunate as I am.”

See Keller . . . Page 15

Baseball

# Tigers beat HSE for Mudsock trophy

By **RICHARD TORRES**  
*For The Reporter*

The Hamilton Southeastern Royals applied the pressure early Thursday night, but the Fishers Tigers provided the finishing touch during their annual Mudsock rivalry game.

HSE (11-5, 4-3 HCC) loaded the bases with two outs in the top of the first and grabbed a 1-0 lead before host Fishers (8-9, 4-3 HCC) staved off the threat and charged back to win its sixth straight Mudsock, 4-1.

An RBI-ground out by senior David Pina tied the game 1-1 in the bottom of the first, and Carter Strole’s RBI-sacrifice fly in the third put the Tigers in control.

Strole (2-for-2, 3 RBI, 2 doubles), a junior, drove in two more runs with a two-



Photo courtesy Fishers Athletics  
**The Fishers baseball team beat Hamilton Southeastern 4-1 on Thursday to win the annual Mudsock game.**

out double in the bottom of the fifth to keep the Mudsock trophy firmly in Fishers’ grasp.

Senior Owen Lukac finished 3-for-3, as Fishers tallied eight hits.

A walk issued to senior

Chase Bradle plated HSE’s run during the Hoosier Crossroads Conference contest, bringing home senior Parker O’Steen (1-for-4), who initiated the two-out rally with a single.

Junior Clark Bucher

(1-for-4) and senior Cy Cole (1-for-2) both lined doubles, but HSE left nine runners on base.

Senior Hayden Werner earned the win, and junior Austin Conley picked up the save.

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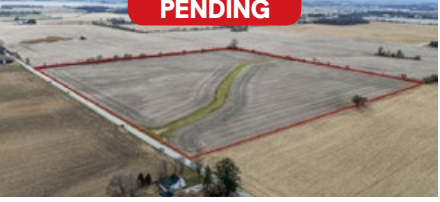
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Softball



Westfield Mayor Scott Willis threw out the first pitch before the Westfield softball team's game with Yorktown on Thursday. The Shamrocks won 3-0.

# Westfield earns shutout victory, Mayor Willis throws out first pitch

**Submitted**  
Westfield High School Varsity Softball secured a strong 3-0 win over Yorktown on Thursday night at home, highlighted by a dominant combined shutout performance in the circle and a meaningful pregame recognition of city leadership.

Mayor Scott Willis threw out the ceremonial

first pitch as the team honored his leadership and recognized the ongoing impact of Westfield's city government on the community.

On the field, Westfield delivered a complete performance. Pitchers Shea Vohs and Mackenzie Delph combined for a shutout, holding Yorktown scoreless throughout the game. Vohs set the tone early, allow-

ing just two hits over four innings while striking out two. Delph closed the game with three innings of no-hit relief, adding three strikeouts.

Offensively, Westfield was led by Reese Mahannah, Olivia Sampia, and Makayla Watson, who each recorded two hits. Sampia and Sofia Easterhaus each drove in a run to support the

Shamrocks' scoring effort.

Defensively, Westfield played a clean and disciplined game, turning a double play and committing no errors. Mahannah and Easterhaus also added aggression on the basepaths with one stolen base each.

The win reflects a strong, balanced team effort and continued momentum for the Shamrocks this season.

# Hounds take care of Tri-West

**The REPORTER**  
The Carmel softball team beat Tri-West 4-1 Thursday at Cherry Tree Softball Complex.

The Greyhounds began with three runs in the third inning. Jayden Kleiner hit a solo home run, then Avery Klein smacked a double to score Chloe Junkersfield and Winni Owens.

Megan Pike scored a fourth-inning run on Riley Petrites' RBI groundout. Pike had two hits, including a double.

Chelsea Bennett pitched five innings for the win. Carmel is 10-8 and hosts Center Grove on Tuesday.

\*\*\*

ese Newsom in the seventh inning before the Arabians got the third out.

Maggie Kern also hit a two-run home run in the fourth inning. She finished the game a perfect 5-for-5 and totaled five RBIs and three runs scored. Walker was 4-for-5, scoring four runs and driving in two. Newsom had three hits and three RBIs.

Roslyn Ervin pitched 4.2 innings, striking out seven.

Noblesville is 1-7 and hosts Westfield tonight in a Hoosier Crossroads Conference game.

\*\*\*

Sheridan dropped a 13-2 Hoosier Crossroads Conference home game to Rossville on Thursday.

Ellie Eaton hit a leadoff home run in the first inning, then Hayleigh Kemp scored a fifth-inning run on a Norah Adams sacrifice fly.

Eaton was 3-for-4 at the plate. Adams pitched a complete game, striking out four.

The Blackhawks are 1-7 and host North Montgomery this afternoon.

Baseball

# Huskies win at Lawrence Central

**The REPORTER**  
The Hamilton Heights baseball team traveled to Lawrence Central on Thursday and came home with a 9-5 victory.

The Huskies led from the start, scoring two runs in the first inning. Dillon Pitts singled in Josh Newton for the first run, then Cy Mason's line drive sent Pitts home.

The Bears scored a run in the bottom of the first inning, then took a 3-2 lead after two innings. Heights tied the game with a fifth-inning run; PJ Wright doubled and eventually scored on a wild pitch.

The Huskies took con-

trol of the game in the sixth inning by scoring six runs. Tyson Upchurch led off with a double and was batted in by Newton, then AJ Flanagan scored after Pitts reached on error and loaded the bases.

Wright drew a walk, sending Newton home. Mason hit a sacrifice fly to score Austin Kappes. Brennen Heckman finished things off with a two-run single into left field, bringing in Pitts and Wright.

Newton went 3-for-4 at the plate. Owen Hughes pitched a complete game, striking out 10.

Heights is 5-9 and plays this afternoon at Clinton

Prairie.

\*\*\*

Carmel fell to Center Grove 8-4 Thursday at Hartman Field.

The Trojans led 4-0 after three innings and put up four more in the top of the fourth. The Greyhounds scored all four of their runs in the bottom of the fourth inning.

Complete stats were unavailable.

Carmel is 5-9 and hosts Lawrence North on Friday.

\*\*\*

Sheridan dropped a 16-5, six-inning Hoosier Heartland Conference home game to Rossville on Thursday.

The Hornets led 12-0

midway through the fourth inning. The Blackhawks got on the board in the bottom of the fourth: Brayden Whisman scored on a wild pitch, then Jake Hall and Austin Hinshaw both scored on passed balls.

Braelan Bochner smacked a home run in the fifth inning, also scoring Chance Spencer and getting Sheridan within 12-5. But Rossville scored four runs in the sixth inning to end the game.

Bochner finished the game with two hits.

The Blackhawks are 2-2 in conference play and 5-8 overall. Sheridan hosts Elwood Saturday morning.

# Millers beat Rocks in series opener

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

Noblesville and Westfield got together on Thursday for the first of a two-game series. Noblesville had won the previous four, sweeping the 2024 and 2025 meetings.

The Millers scored their runs later in the game to take the series opener at Shamrock Field, 10-3.

The Rocks scored

first in the bottom of the fourth. Evan Govert drove in Gabe Garcia and Aiden Grabowski for a 2-0 lead.

Noblesville responded in the fifth. Chris Martz walked, followed by an Ethan Clark hit for two on. Zac Glander doubled to center, scoring both runners to tie it 2-2. Slade Hodges also doubled, scoring Glander for a 3-2 lead they didn't give back.

Five more touched

home in the sixth. Garrett Dixon and Clark hit. Martz scored on Aiden Reynolds' double. Oddly enough, the scoring spree was highlighted by three of four getting hit by a pitch, resulting in three runs.

Two insurance runs scored in the top of the seventh for a 10-2 advantage.

The Shamrocks scored once on a sacrifice fly from Grabowski, but Nobles-

ville held on by seven.

The Hoosier Crossroads Conference series' second game moves to Victory Field tonight at around 8 p.m. in the Victory Field Classic.

# KELLER

from Page 14

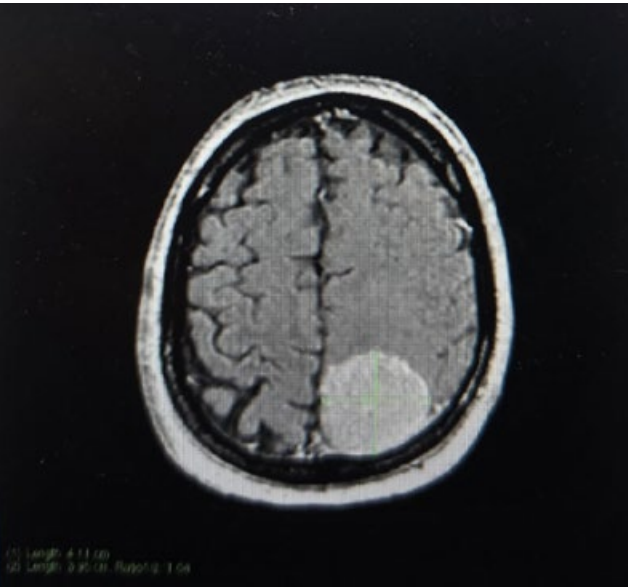


Photo provided  
Keller provided this photo of his MRI that showed the tumor in his brain. Much of it was removed by surgery and found to not be cancerous.

Mike Gannon, whose daughter Grace Gannon is a swimmer for FAST and won the Girls 13-Year-Old Swimmer of the Year award at the ORCAs, realized Keller would receive the award just moments before it was announced when the speaker was introducing the award – “He’s talking about Keller!” said Gannon.

Gannon said it was “so deserving because when he had that tumor that had to be removed, he was back, like he didn’t blink an eye. He

was just grinding.”

Keller said he didn’t want his swimmers to be distracted by his condition, so he minimized it, creating “a situation where they thought ‘Okay, not too big a deal.’ It wasn’t until after surgery and my return and over time people realized the severity of it and what it was.

“I had a belief that everything was going to turn out fine. It’s kind of my attitude and approach. And fortunately, it did turn out all right.”

# Heights announces dates for boys basketball Spring Camp

**The REPORTER**  
Hamilton Heights boys basketball coach Chad Ballenger is hosting his annual Spring Camp in May.

The camp is for boys who will be finishing grades kindergarten through 3 this school year. Boys finishing grades K-1 will have their camp May 11, 12, 14 and 15, with boys finishing grades 2-3 will have camp on May 18, 19, 21 and 22.

Both sessions of the camp begin after school and run until 4:30 p.m. at the Hamilton Heights Elementary Gym. The cost is \$40, with a family discount of \$5 for each additional child. If any boy cannot afford to pay the camp fee at this time, call Ballenger at (765) 438-2016.

“The basic requirement

in developing a strong basketball program is to instill in all our boys a desire to improve themselves so that some day they can become part of the Husky Basketball team,” said Ballenger. “This can be

best accomplished by developing the proper fundamentals and pride in themselves and their school at an early age.”

For more information, contact Ballenger at [cballenger@hhschuskies.org](mailto:cballenger@hhschuskies.org).



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SPORTS SCHEDULE

**Friday, May 1**

**BASEBALL**  
Covenant Christian at Sheridan, 5:30 p.m.  
Hamilton Heights at Clinton Prairie, 5:30 p.m.  
Southport at Guerin Catholic, 5:30 p.m.  
Fishers at Hamilton Southeastern, 6 p.m.  
Lawrence North at Carmel, 6 p.m.  
University at Mooresville, 6 p.m.  
Noblesville vs. Westfield, 7:30 p.m. at Victory Field

**BOYS LACROSSE**  
Westfield at Crown Point, 7 p.m.  
Carmel at Hamilton Southeastern, 8 p.m.

**GIRLS LACROSSE**  
Detroit Country Day at Carmel, 7:30 p.m.  
Westfield at Guerin Catholic, 7:30 p.m.

**SOFTBALL**  
Hamilton Southeastern at Pendleton Heights, 5:30 p.m.  
Danville at Hamilton Heights, 6 p.m.  
Fishers at Zionsville, 6 p.m.  
Westfield at Noblesville, 6 p.m.

**TENNIS**  
South Bend St. Joseph at Guerin Catholic, 5 p.m.  
Fishers at Noblesville, 5:30 p.m.

**TRACK & FIELD**  
Circle City Conference meet, 5:30 p.m. at Bishop Chatard  
Hamilton Heights at Tipton Invitational, 5:30 p.m.  
Hamilton Heights, Noblesville girls, Westfield at Zionsville Invitational, 5:30 p.m.  
University at Park Tudor Invitational, 5:30 p.m.  
Carmel boys at Max Truex Invitational, 6 p.m. at Warsaw  
Fishers at Hamilton Southeastern, 6 p.m.

**VOLLEYBALL**  
North Central at Hamilton Southeastern, 7:30 p.m.  
Fishers at LWE (Ill.) Tournament, TBA

**Saturday, May 2**

**BASEBALL**  
Sheridan at Elwood, 10 a.m.  
Bloomington North at Hamilton Southeastern, 11 a.m.  
Daleville at Hamilton Heights, noon  
Crown Point at Noblesville, 1 p.m.  
Greenfield-Central at Fishers, 6 p.m.

**BOYS LACROSSE**  
Penn at Noblesville, 11 a.m.  
Detroit Country Day at Carmel, noon  
Guerin Catholic at St. Francis De Sales (Ohio), TBA

**GIRLS LACROSSE**  
Fishers at Hamilton Southeastern, 2 p.m.

**GOLF**  
Carmel, Guerin Catholic, Hamilton Southeastern, University, Westfield at Kent Frandsen Invitational, 9 a.m. at Ulen CC  
Noblesville, Westfield at Winchester Invitational, 9 a.m. at Winchester GC  
Hamilton Southeastern at Hall of Fame Invitational, TBA at Rock Hollow

**SOFTBALL**  
Noblesville Miller Invitational, 10 a.m.

**TENNIS**  
Hamilton Southeastern at Delta Invitational, 8:30 a.m.  
University at Whiteland Invitational, 9 a.m.  
Westfield at Guerin Catholic, 9:30 a.m.

**TRACK & FIELD**  
Carmel girls, Noblesville at Kokomo Relays, 11:30 a.m.

**VOLLEYBALL**  
Guerin Catholic Round Robin, 9 a.m.  
Carmel at Franklin Central, noon  
Noblesville, University at North Central Invitational, noon  
Fishers at LWE (Ill.) Tournament, TBA

**Sunday, May 3**

**BASEBALL**  
Sectional pairings show, 8 p.m.

**SOFTBALL**  
Sectional pairings show, 7 p.m.

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

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Noblesville’s Jackson Apple signs with Wabash College



Photo courtesy Noblesville Athletics  
Jackson Apple has signed with the Wabash College wrestling team. (Front row, from left) Chastity Apple (mother), Jackson Apple, and Drew Apple (father). (Back row, from left) Michael Weimer (Noblesville Wrestling Head Coach), Ava Apple (sister), Addison Apple (sister), and Alex Bowers (Noblesville Wrestling Assistant Coach).

Noblesville’s Kyra Blackwell signs with Kean University

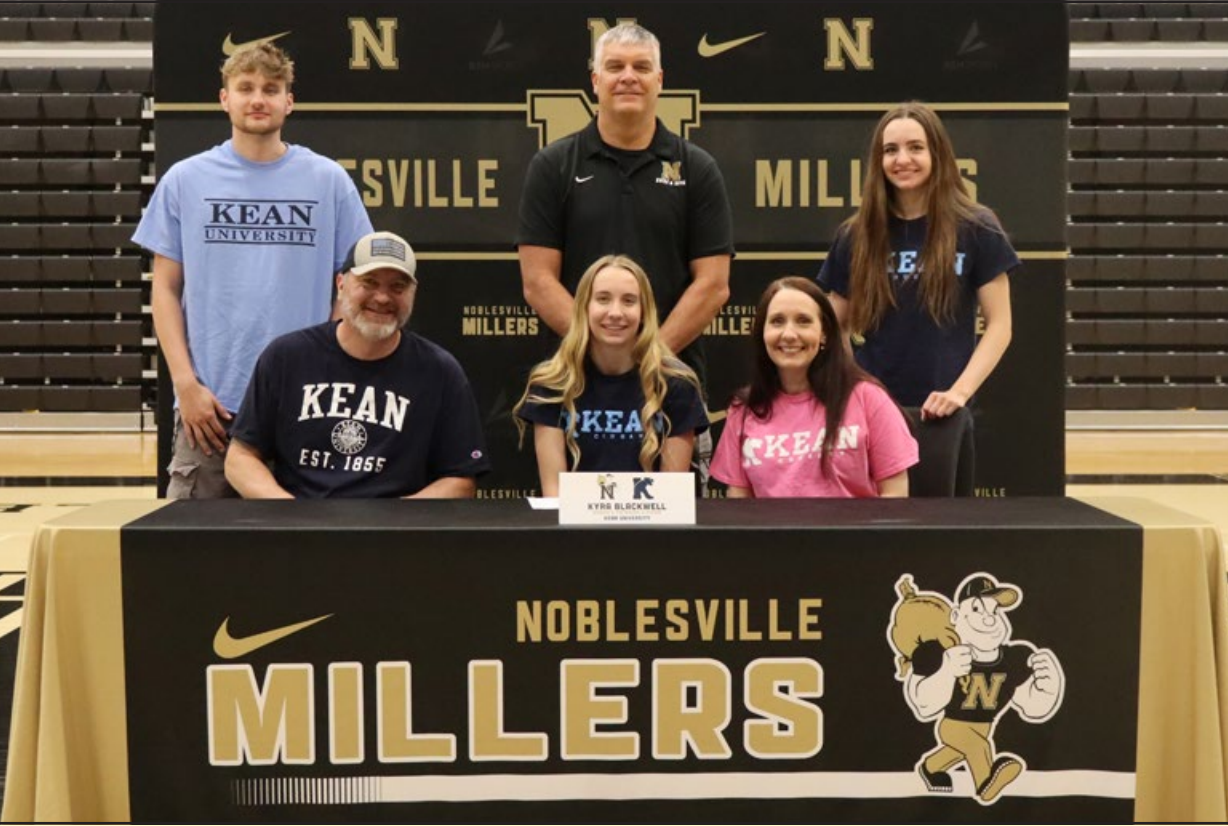


Photo courtesy Noblesville Athletics  
Kyra Blackwell has signed with the Kean University women’s swimming and diving team. (Front row, from left) Stuart Blackwell (father), Kyra Blackwell, and Amanda Blackwell (mother). (Back row, from left) Dylan Blackwell (brother), Jess Preston (Noblesville Swimming & Diving Head Coach), and Hayley Blackwell (sister).

Pacers Sports & Entertainment, Indiana Diaper Bank ask fans to donate for families in need

**Submitted**  
In celebration of Mother’s Day, Pacers Sports & Entertainment and Indiana Diaper Bank have teamed up for the third year, with an urgent call for fans to donate diapers.  
The Indiana Diaper Bank is a nonprofit focused on eliminating diaper needs in Indiana by supplying reliable diaper essentials and raising awareness. For those who could not attend the first preseason home game on Wednesday, donations can be made now through May 6 at [GiveButter.com/PSEDiaperDrive2026](http://GiveButter.com/PSEDiaperDrive2026).  
“Last year, with the help of our fans and partners, we were able to donate over 35,000 diapers and wipes to our community,” Pacers Sports & Entertainment SVP of External Relations Tracy Ellis-Ward said. “We’re excited to bring this initiative back for a third season with the Indiana Diaper Bank and continue showing up for the families and their little ones across our state who need it most.”  
“Indiana Diaper Bank is thrilled to tip off our third year of the diaper drive with Pacers Sports & Entertainment, continuing our commitment to support the one in two infants and toddlers in Indiana experiencing diaper need,” Indiana Diaper Bank President and CEO Ashley Burns said. “This effort is about more than diapers; it’s about dignity, health and giving families the resources they need to thrive. Together we can eliminate diaper need for our neighbors.”  
On Wednesday, May 6, Pacers Sports & Entertainment staff, various community groups and PS&E Ambassador Tamika Catchings will bundle diapers before the Indiana Diaper Bank donates the items to community partners like food pantries, day care and foster care programs, and local shelters.

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

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

**White River Family Cruise**  
Enjoy this short, scenic rail bike ride from Hobbs Station in Forest Park.

[NickelPlateExpress.com/railbike-rides](http://NickelPlateExpress.com/railbike-rides)