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TODAY'S VERSE  
Jeremiah 33:3 Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

Hamilton Happenings

Students and families from across all Hamilton Southeastern Schools are invited to join us for the 2025 Prairie Dash 5k, presented by Fishers Freight, on Saturday, May 17 at 9 a.m. The run will place throughout the historic grounds of Conner Prairie, with a portion of the proceeds benefitting the Hamilton Southeastern Education Foundation. Registration is \$25/individual and includes a race tee, timing bib, commemorative medal, plus a FREE ticket to see the new Fishers Freight football team this summer. Go to [https://runsignup.com/Race/IN/Fishers/PrairieDash?blm\\_aid=21369](https://runsignup.com/Race/IN/Fishers/PrairieDash?blm_aid=21369) for more information.

Three Things You Should Know

1 Want to know what NOT to get Mom? Diet shakes and cleaning supplies top the list according to a poll of Indiana Moms. Our friends at Mixbook (<https://www.mixbook.com/>) surveyed 2,504 moms and their kids, the overwhelming consensus was clear: please stop giving gifts that scream “you should be doing more.” After those two lame gift ideas came "How to Cook" cookbook, self-help books she didn't ask for, gas station flowers, chocolates from another holiday, gift card to your favorite store and a last-minute homemade coupon book. You'll forget this stuff, but She Doesn't!

2 Construction sector employment increased by 11,000 positions in April as rising wages enabled the industry to add workers more rapidly than other sectors, according to an analysis of new government data the Associated General Contractors of America. Officials said growing uncertainty about the impacts of new tariffs could undermine future employment growth in the sector. Construction employment in April totaled 8,316,000, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 11,000 from March. Headcount rose by 218,000 jobs or 2.7 percent during the past 12 months, topping the 1.4 percent growth rate in total nonfarm payroll employment.

3 Did you know that Indianapolis ranks as the seventh-most unpredictable city for weather in the U.S.? The research, carried out by the tide forecasting platform Tideschart examined the weather patterns across the nation's 50 highest-populated cities through five different weather measurements. The six above Indy are Oklahoma City, Omaha, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Louisville and Tulsa. The West Coast tells an entirely different story, with the study showing significantly more stable and predictable conditions across major cities. Long Beach, Calif. Was rated as the most predictable major U.S. city for weather.

The TIMES



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Boomer Bits



Ask Rusty – Please Clear Up Confusion about SS Payments?



ASK Rusty  
Social Security Advisor

**Social Security Matters**  
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**Dear Rusty:**  
I am thoroughly confused. What do I need to do to continue receiving automatic Social Security deposits to my bank account, and maintain our Medicare and Supplement health insurance? My wife has received her SS deposit regularly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month with automatic bank deposit for many years. I have received my SS deposit regularly the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday each month with automatic bank deposit also for many years. Can you please tell me what to do to continue receiving these automatic deposits?

First, I hear that we do not need to do anything. Then I hear that we must show up in person at our local SS office to visually confirm our identity. We live 100 miles away from our only SS office, and apparently, they don't

take walk-ins. Next, I hear that we must contact the SS on the internet and answer their questions in order to continue receiving our checks. I am totally confused and don't know what to do, and we don't want to miss our checks or have our Medicare and supplemental insurance cancelled. Can you please help us?  
**Signed: Confused in Hawaii**

**Dear Confused:**  
I know there have been a lot of news media reports and articles written on the recent changes announced by the Social Security Administration (SSA) with respect to a need to confirm one's identity in-person. Allow me to set your mind at ease because, from what you have described (that you are already receiving Social Security benefits

➡ See RUSTY Page A4



AARP Indiana: Sen. Young, Don't Forget Caregivers

INDIANAPOLIS – As federal spending discussions heat up in Washington, D.C., AARP Indiana is asking U.S. Sen. Todd Young and Congressional leaders to remember working family caregivers by supporting the Credit for Caring Act.

According to a recent poll from AARP, 84% percent of voters support a federal tax

➡ See AARP Page A7

Sleep Scientist Shares 7 Hacks to Help Sleep

Resident sleep expert at Opera Beds, Dr. Carleara Weiss, PhD, MS, RN has warned of the significant impact allergies can have on our sleep and urged allergy sufferers to try some surprising remedies to relieve symptoms at bedtime.

7 unusual remedies to help

➡ See SLEEP Page A3



Rep. Victoria Spartz

Spartz: We Need To Strengthen Medicare, Medicaid

Hoosier Republican Congresswoman Victoria Spartz introduced legislation to put everyday Americans back at the center of health care by stopping Medicare waste and abuse exploited by large oligopolies for far too long.

“Congress needs to grow a backbone for a change and start remembering who we serve,” Spartz said. “Courage and common sense are not typical traits in Washington D.C., but we need them now. We must stop money-laundering in Medicare and Medicaid to save health care and the fiscal future of our nation.”

The SMART Health Care Act (Stopping Medicare Abuses to Restore Trust in Health Care Act) has five parts:

**1) Tackles Medicare Advantage overbilling by large insurers.** Multiple investigations have found large insurers “game” the system to up-code on patients, making them look sicker than they are and costing American taxpayers billions. Expanding risk-adjustment to two years of data (instead of one) can give us a fuller picture of beneficiary risk. Medicare Advantage abuses of quality bonuses and “double bonus counties” could be some other areas in need of tightening the legislative framework. The Department of Justice recently sued insurers offering Medicare Advantage plans for hundreds of millions of kickbacks.

**2) Stops overbilling of Medicare by large hospitals.** Dishonest Medicare billing by hospitals is a major contributor to skyrocketing health care prices. In short, hospitals buy up independent physician practices and then charge patients significantly more

➡ See SPARTZ Page A3

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Chronic sinus and nose problems can often be solved by using a salt water nasal irrigator like a neti pot or Sinus Rinse®.



Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts.

HONEST HOOSIER

If the entire world would only say aloud things we'd be comfortable saying in front of our Mom, everything would be a lot better off.



TODAY'S QUOTE

My mother had a great deal of trouble with me, but I think she enjoyed it.  
**Mark Twain**

TODAY'S JOKE

What did the baby lightbulb say to the mommy lightbulb on Mother's Day?  
I love you watts and watts!

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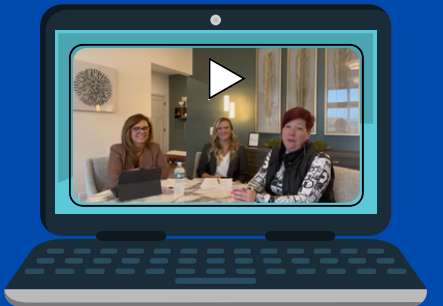


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➔

OBITUARY

Joe Hankley McCarty

January 14, 1930 - April 7, 2025

Joe Hankley McCarty, son of Cleve and Vetura McCarty, passed away on April 7, 2025. He was born January 14, 1930 on a farm in White River Township, Hamilton County Indiana, 35 miles north of Indianapolis. He resided in the Peoria and Dunlap, Illinois area since 1954. Joe married Janet McCarty of Gary, Indiana in San Antonio, TX on April 17, 1954. They had known each other since September 1951 when they met at a watermelon party at Purdue University. Janet survives along with a daughter Cheryl, a son Gregory, along with 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.



Joe graduated from Purdue University in 1952 with a B.S. in Agricultural Engineering. He worked at Caterpillar for 9 weeks before going on active duty in the Air Force from 1952-1954. Joe returned to Caterpillar in 1954 and retired in 1989 after 35 years of service. He was a service representative and a technical writer/editor in the Product Support Department. Joe was a member of the Society for Technical Publications and served as an election judge from 1990 through 2012 in Medina Township, Peoria County. He was a member of the University United Methodist Church in Peoria, serving there in various capacities since 1956. Joe had a lifetime membership in the Purdue University Alumni Association. In 1959, he joined the Illinois Grandview Masonic Lodge AF&AM No. 1112 in Peoria Heights.

Joe served in the Illinois National Guard and various Air Force Reserve units, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1980. He and his daughter, Cheryl, flew to Washington, D.C. on an Honor Flight in June of 2015.

Joe and Janet enjoyed their family regardless of the distances separating them. They enjoyed yard work, volunteering, and traveling. They were fortunate enough to visit all 50 states, and Joe had been on all seven continents. He especially enjoyed his visits to Antarctica, Siberia, Mongolia, and with Janet to Kenya. While in Antarctica, Joe was on small cruise ship converted from a Russian icebreaker and he stepped twice on the continent. They both rode camels in Egypt to the pyramids and Joe rode yet another camel in Mongolia. He also rode a horse in Argentina on the way to Antarctica. Joe and Janet enjoyed sports, especially his favorites - the Purdue Boilermakers and the Chicago Bears and Cubs. In June, 2016 he fell and injured his back. After lots of therapy, he continued mowing the yard through 2019.

A funeral service celebrating Joe's life and legacy was held at 2 pm at University United Methodist Church in Peoria, IL on Saturday, April 12, 2025. A graveside service and burial will be held at 10:00 am on Thursday, May 8, 2025 at the Aroma Cemetery in rural Atlanta with Pastor Neal Brown of the Omega Christian Church officiating. Military honors will be conducted at the graveside by the U.S Air Force and the Elwood V.F.W honor guard. Arrangements have been entrusted to Copher-Fesler-May Funeral Home in Elwood. Memorials may be made to University United Methodist Church Memorial Fund (reference Joe H. McCarty as a memo note) in lieu of flowers. Online condolences and memories may be shared at [copherfeslermay.com](http://copherfeslermay.com).

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From left, Superintendent Dr. Dan Hile, Tricia Schreck, Stony Creek Principal Heidi Karst



From left, Superintendent Dr. Dan Hile, Sam Orr, NHS Principal Dr. Craig McCaffrey



From left, Noble Crossing Principal Renee Cook, Taryn Hassler, Superintendent Dr. Dan Hile



From left, Superintendent Dr. Dan Hile, Dean Mueller, Noblesville East Middle School Principal Dr. Doug Miller

Noblesville Names Teacher of Year

Noblesville Schools has named four educators as 2025 Teachers of the Year. The teachers were nominated by their principals and were selected for the honor by a committee of administrators.

The winners are:

**Taryn Hassler, Teacher Librarian, Noble Crossing Elementary**  
(elementary winner and overall district winner)

Known for creating magical, transformative learning experiences that impact every student and family in her school, Taryn extends learning far beyond the classroom. Her powerful creativity, boundless energy, and passion for interactive learning shine whether she's creating an archaeology dig, leading journeys around the world, planting gardens, transforming her space into a museum, hosting an opera performance, or giving a cooking demonstration. Taryn has reimagined the power of the library to excite students, inspire curiosity, and make connections with the community.

**Tricia Schreck, Fifth Grade Teacher, Stony Creek Elementary**  
(elementary winner)

Passionate about improvement, Trish consistently challenges herself and her students to grow in all ways. A collaborative leader and lifelong learner inside and outside her classroom, she is the go-to colleague at her school for advice, support, friendship, and innovative ideas. Relationships matter to Trish, and when

she's not in her classroom building them, she can she be found leading 4H, cheering on students in their extracurricular activities, and being recognized by former students as a favorite teacher.

**Dean Mueller, Math Teacher, Noblesville East Middle School**  
(middle school winner)

A highly respected leader, when Dean speaks everyone listens. He masterfully blends math expertise with genuine care and connections to his students, resulting in powerful learning outcomes. Dean is full of energy, focuses on solving problems, and is quick to try new professional learning in his classroom and throughout the math department he chairs. When not in the classroom, you can find him greeting students throughout the school or coaching athletic teams, always with a smile on his face.

**Samatha Orr, Special Education Teacher, Noblesville High School**  
(high school winner)

In Sam's classroom every student feels valued, respected and supported. She serves some of her school's most challenging learners, creating an environment where students can thrive regardless of background or ability. Sam uses hands-on activities, innovative technology, and creative problem solving to push her students to grow both academically and personally. Whether coaching Unified Sports, working with struggling students, implementing new teaching strategies, or collaborating with colleagues, Sam approaches every situation with determination and creativity.

The four educators were selected to represent different academic levels, with two teachers chosen at the elementary level to reflect the fact that 50% of

Noblesville Schools teachers are in elementary schools.

One of this year's elementary school winners, Taryn Hassler, was further distinguished as the overall Noblesville Schools district winner.

Selection focused on master teachers who excel at putting Noblesville Schools' mission and vision into action and whose accomplishments align well with the Indiana Department of Education's state Teacher of the Year criteria.

The winners regularly demonstrate the highest levels of quality instruction for their students and leadership among their peers. They will be honored at a Noblesville Schools recognition dinner in May.

As the overall district honoree, Hassler will also participate in the state Teacher of the Year competition. Noblesville Schools employs approximately 700 teachers.



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# Bubba Outflanks the System



**TIM TIMMONS**  
Two Cents

As if the debacle that Indiana property taxes have become weren't enough, Gov. Mike Braun doubled down and sent a press release touting how wonderful his first 100 days in office were.

Then, President Trump starts talking about a third term. Granted, out of 45 men who have served in that office, not having the ability to run for a third term only applies to 14 of them (the 22nd Amendment wasn't ratified until 1951 when Harry Truman was in office).

And THEN, Trump had to comment on due process. I'm not sure if half the stuff he says scares me to death or makes me laugh because I think (hope) he's just messing with the left.

As the TV guys says, wait! That's not all. I got my new property assessment in the mail and, you guessed it, the value of my property rose faster than a 16-year-old on the way to the 'fridge after school.

The phone rang.

"This here's Dick Clark, spinning the hits from the '60s and '70s," a twangy voice practically yelled in my ear. "You sir are the winner in our Name That Tune contest. If you can tell us who sang 1927 Kansas City you win an iPod Nano!"

Twangy voice? Dick Clark passed away more than a decade ago? iPod Nano? The perfect next thing in an already crappy day . . .

"Hello Bubba. What can I do for you – and it was Mike Reilly."

"Dang Timmons," Bubba shot back. "How do you always figure out it's me and how the heck did you know that song? You must be one of the savannahs or something."

"Savant."

"Huh?"

"Never mind."

"Listen, Timmons, you seem abscessed with the politicians and property tax."

"Obsessed."

"Huh?"

"Never mind."

"Anyways, you is going about this all wrong. You ain't never going to get politicians to do the right thing. It ain't in their GPA."

"DNA."

"Huh?"

"Aw Geez Bubba. NEVER MIND!"

"What you got to do is what me and Gumball, Tater and Big Country did to get comfortable chairs here at the Crawl-On-Inn."

For those who haven't been there, the Crawl-On-Inn is a low-rent, hole-in-the-wall bar out somewhere near Boxley, Omega and Elwood. I've been there once but not sure I could find it again. Like any bar it has stools, but there are small tables scattered about and the chairs have flat wood seats and thin iron rods as the backrest. There is nothing comfortable about it. I figure they're that way on purpose so that patrons won't stay very long and will move out – not that there's a crowd waiting there.

"You see, Elvis (the bartender and owner, I presume?) is tighter than a size small exercise pants on a double-wide fat guy on a bicycle. So we knew we'd never talk him into forking over the bucks for cushiony chairs. Heck, we didn't even try. Instead, we outflanked him."

"You what?"

"We went to Bambi."

Bambi is the part-time waitress at the bar who also drives a truck part-time. She has a certain way with everyone that is hard to describe. Effective, but hard to describe.

It became clear Bubba wasn't going to explain.

"OK, Bubba. I'll play your silly game. Why did you go to Bambi?"

"It's elementary, my dear Timmons," Bubba said – his twang sounding nothing like Sherlock Holmes. "We told Bambi that those hard chairs was hurting her tips. You see, those chairs are so uncomfortable so peoples don't tend to stick around very long. If they don't stay long, they don't order second or third drinks. They don't order dessert. So the bill is less and that means the tip is less. Get better chairs, get better tips."

I was still trying to wrap my head around the idea that the Crawl-On-Inn had desserts.

"We knew Bambi would get after Elvis and wouldn't let it go. Took about two weeks, but we walked in one morning and there was new chairs all around.

"You see, Timmons. That's what you got to do. Forget going to the politicians. Be smarter. You can do it."

For once, Bubba didn't hang up laughing and howling. "Y'all have a nice day now." Click. He was gone.

I wonder if Bambi ever goes to Indianapolis?

*Two cents, which is about how much Timmons said his columns are worth, appears periodically in The Times. Timmons is the chief executive officer of Sagamore News Media, the company that owns The Noblesville Times. He is also a proud Noblesville High School graduate and can be contacted at [ttimmons@thetimes24-7.com](mailto:ttimmons@thetimes24-7.com).*

## Bulk Trash Day Tomorrow in Westfield

Westfield's Spring Bulk Trash Day is scheduled to take place tomorrow from 8 a.m. to noon at Westfield City Services (2728 E. 171st Street).

This event provides residents an opportunity to dispose of items not accepted as part of their weekly garbage or recycling pick-up, including air conditioners, carpet, furniture,

microwaves, select electronics, and more.

Proof of residency – such as a utility bill or driver's license – is required to participate in Bulk Trash Day. You must be a resident of Westfield or Westfield Washington Township to take part.

## SPARTZ From Page A1

for the same services at the same locations, dishonestly billing hospital facility fees. One woman saw her bill going up more than 10 times after her doctor's office was acquired by a hospital. This practice leads to further provider consolidation, decreased clinician independence, greater physician burnout, and higher prices for the same or lower quality. As a result, a majority of physicians are now employed by hospitals. Ironically, under obscure Obamacare prohibition, physicians cannot even own hospitals themselves. The issue of overbilling was partially dealt with by Congress in 2015 by equalizing billing for new outpatient off-campus locations. However, it led to hospitals bringing new outpatient services on campus and significantly reducing access to care, especially in rural areas. This bill addresses this loophole by equalizing all outpatient payments for non-rural hospitals and saving Medicare billions.

While nonprofit, tax-exempt hospital CEOs are making millions of dollars as a reward for growing their "empires" through health care consolidation and the institutions they run pay no taxes, millions of Americans are in collections for medical debt. According to a recent study, 80% of nonprofit hospitals are spending less on community benefits like financial assistance than what they are estimated to receive in tax breaks.

Earlier this month, the Congresswoman also introduced a legislative package to combat hospital monopolies, including the Holding

Nonprofit Hospitals Accountable Act to bring more transparency to the community benefit standard for tax-exempt hospitals.

**3) Improves access to care For Medicare patients in rural areas.** This bill lifts the Obamacare prohibition for the physician-owned hospitals to provide medical care to Medicare and Medicaid patients in rural communities, which is badly needed to improve access to high-quality care.

**4) Requires 340B providers not to upcharge patients for prescription drugs.** The 340B program began in 1992 to help providers serving patients who struggled to afford their prescription drugs. The program has grown significantly since its inception with limited program oversight and significant lack of transparency. Providers, like large hospitals, now use the program as a "cash cow" rather than help the most vulnerable. This bill also directs the HHS Secretary to post data and adjust properly Medicare reimbursements for drugs to these stakeholders.

**5) Improves quality of care at the skilled nursing facilities (SNFs).** This bill increases the floor from 2% to up to 5% in Medicare payment reductions for poorly managed skilled nursing facilities.



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## SLEEP

relieve allergy symptoms and improve sleep this allergy season:

### 1. Avoid alcohol before bed

Alcohol increases histamine levels, which can worsen hayfever symptoms. Red wine, beer, and champagne are the worst offenders, as they contain high histamine and sulfite levels.

### 2. Drink turmeric or ginger tea at bedtime

Both have anti-inflammatory properties that can help soothe irritated airways and reduce nasal congestion. Add honey for extra benefits—it's a natural antihistamine.

### 3. Swap the sweet treats for fruit

Whilst it may be tempting to enjoy a biscuit or sweet before bed, pineapple and kiwi contain an enzyme called bromelain, which helps to break down mucus, ease congestion and sinusitis symptoms. Other fruits like apples and berries contain a natural antihistamine called quercetin, which can reduce allergy symptoms.

### 4. Apply Vaseline around your nostrils

Extending your nighttime skin routine to include this one step could help deter pollen from entering your nose while you sleep. A thin layer of Vaseline will trap any airborne pollen particles and reduce allergy symptoms overnight. Keep in mind that Vaseline and other petroleum jelly products do not contain water and should not be used on irritated skin.

### 5. Freeze your non-washable items

Pop your non-washable items in a sealed bag and place them in the freezer for 24 hours before bedtime. This freezes and kills dust mites that may irritate your allergies and provides a cooling effect that can help reduce nasal inflammation and soothe irritated eyes.

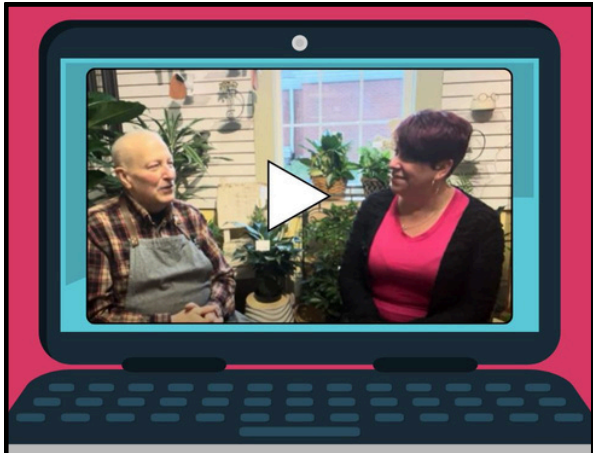
From Page A1

### 6. Dab peppermint oil on your feet

Peppermint oil is an excellent decongestant and can help unclog the sinuses and provide relief for scratchy throats. Rubbing a little diluted peppermint oil on your pulse points and the soles of your feet before bed can help open up airways and reduce nasal congestion. Your feet have large pores which will absorb the oil faster.

### 7. Keep your bedroom 60-65° F

Warmer temperatures increase histamine release, making allergy symptoms worse. Cooling your room with a fan or air conditioning can help reduce nasal inflammation and improve sleep quality but aim to keep your bedroom temperature between 60 and 65. A room colder than 60 may increase upper airway and lung irritation, making breathing difficult and impacting sleep. "Don't wait for allergy season to arrive to start taking your antihistamine or trying these remedies, Weiss said. "You can make simple changes around the home to keep allergies at bay. Keeping windows and doors shut will reduce the levels of pollen entering your home, and washing bedding more often, ideally weekly at 130°F, will remove pollen and dust mites that accumulate in your sheets. If possible, tumble dry clothes instead of air drying, as drying laundry outside lets pollen stick to fabrics, which you then bring into your home. Sleeping on your back with your head elevated by an extra pillow is the position to help keep allergy symptoms at bay during the night. Elevating your head promotes better sinus drainage, reduces nasal congestion, and prevents mucus buildup. By acting now and complementing your antihistamine with these tips, you can avoid the impact of the high pollen count and ensure that allergies don't disrupt your sleep."



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Purdue Football Rebuilding; Question is: How Good Will They Be?



**KENNY THOMPSON**  
Columnist

Not since the years after the Civil War has there been a bigger reconstruction project than the one facing Barry Odom in his first few months as Purdue football head coach.

OK, so I’m exaggerating but let the numbers tell the story of how the Boilermaker program is being rebuilt from the studs.

**25** That’s how many Boilermakers entered the transfer portal at the conclusion of spring football practice. Eighteen were on scholarship, most notably nose tackle Mo Omonode. The West Lafayette graduate played 33 games before heading north to Minnesota. Following Omonode to the Twin Cities is promising offensive lineman Jaden Ball.

Linebacker Hudson Miller, a former walk-on, started five games a year ago. Long snapper Nick Levy is off to his third school, Wisconsin. Former four-star recruit Joe Strickland, a standout defensive end at Brebeuf, is headed to Liberty. Indiana’s 2023 Mr. Wide Receiver, Donovan Hamilton, hopes to find playing time at Ball State.

**29** The number of Boilermakers to enter the transfer portal immediately after the 2024 season. Notable losses include All-American Dillon Thieneman to Oregon, tight end Max Klare to Ohio State, defensive end Will Heldt to Clemson, linebacker Yanni Karlaftis to Northwestern, offensive tackle Mahamane Moussa to Louisville, guard D.J. Wingfield to USC, nose tackle Cole Brevard to Texas, defensive linemen Jeffrey M’Ba and Damarjhe Lewis to SMU, and punter Keelan Crimmins to Illinois.

**8** Remaining players from former coach Ryan Walters’ first recruiting class at Purdue. Possible starters this fall out of that number include quarterback Ryan Browne, tight end George Burhenn, defensive tackle Jamarrion Harkless and linebacker Winston Berglund.

**6** Players remaining from Walters’ top 10 ranked transfer class of 2024: Defensive lineman Jamarius Dinkins, defensive end C.J. Madden, quarterback Bennett Meredith, wide receiver De’Nylon Morrisette, defensive end Trey Smith and offensive tackle Joey Tanona.

**10** That’s how many high school and junior college recruits remain from the 2024 class. Kicker Spencer Porath was the only impact player as a freshman.

To sum it up, that’s 54 departures to just 24 players remaining from Walters’ recruiting efforts. Add starting running back Devin Mockobee, a holdover from the Jeff Brohm era, and Odom has had a long shopping list to fill up to 105 roster spots.

Happily for two former walk-ons, offensive lineman Ethan Trent of Carmel and defensive back Sterling Smith of Cathedral via Holy Cross, they impressed Odom enough to earn scholarships. And in Smith’s case, exchanging uniform No. 46 for No. 3. Single-digit numbers usually indicate a player who is likely to see playing time.

Odom is no stranger to reconstruction projects.

Before his arrival at UNLV, the Runnin’ Rebels had had one winning season in 22 years. Odom led UNLV to consecutive Mountain West Conference championship games, was named Mountain West Coach of the Year in 2023 and compiled a 19-8 record.

The foundation of that turnaround was 50 transfers in 2023 and 55 in 2024. So it should come as no surprise that as of Wednesday, Odom has brought in 52 transfers. Eight of the transfers followed Odom from UNLV.

To put this into context, Curt Cignetti brought in 31 transfers after taking the Indiana job a year ago. Thirteen of them played for Cignetti at James Madison. Most of them were instrumental in helping Cignetti transform the Hoosiers from a 3-9 squad to a school record 11-2 team that made the College Football Playoff.\* (\*This is not a prediction Odom will perform a similar turnaround at Purdue).

Of Purdue’s 25 spring transfer portal additions, it’s obvious the positions Odom and his staff believed needed upgrading: Four wide receivers, two linebackers, five offensive linemen, five defensive linemen and five defensive backs.

Add the pre-spring practice transfers and the totals jump to 11 defensive backs, six linebackers, eight defensive linemen, 10 offensive linemen and eight wide receivers.

Also, the likely first-string punter, Jack McCallister, came in from Nebraska via Washington. Kicker/punter Seth Turner arrived from Connecticut as competition for McCallister, former Arkansas punter Sam Dubwig and incumbent kicker Spencer Porath.

The 2025 freshman class is comprised of five former UNLV commitments, five who stuck with Purdue after Walters departed and

defensive back Maxwell Barbee, who signed with the Boilermakers in February.

That’s 63 new players who, depending on their enrollment date, will have from eight months to weeks to learn Odom’s system and form a bond. Welcome to the new reality of college football.

A frequently asked question by Purdue fans this fall will be, “who’s he?” I suggest printing out the official roster from purduesports.com before the season opener Aug. 30 against Ball State.

**Another honor for Smith**  
Point guard Braden Smith on Wednesday was selected the Ricks Family Male Athlete of the Year at Purdue. Volleyball standout Raven Colvin, the daughter of former Purdue and NFL star Roosevelt Colvin, earned the Female Athlete award.

“Braden established himself as the premier point guard in all of men’s college basketball,” Purdue athletic director Mike Bobinski said of the junior who earned consensus first-team All-America honors. He also was named Big Ten Player of the Year as well as the Bob Cousy Award winner as the nation’s best point guard. “Raven capped off a remarkable volleyball career ... etching her name throughout our record books and standing out as one of the Big Ten’s most dominant defensive players.”

Smith averaged 15.8 points, 8.7 assists and 4.5 rebounds per game. He broke the 47-year-old school record for career assists during the 2024-25 season.

Colvin earned second-team All-America honors in 2024, leading the Big Ten and ranking third nationally with 1.56 blocks per set.

**Going for five**  
The Purdue men’s basketball team will seek to add the Baha Mar Championship to its string of four consecutive multi-team event titles the week before Thanksgiving.

The Baha Mar is part of what is expected to be a challenging non-conference schedule that will feature preseason No. 13 Iowa State, No. 15 Auburn in Indianapolis, a trip to No. 21 Alabama and a home game with traditional power Marquette. Purdue also has scheduled an exhibition game at No. 10 Kentucky.

GoldandBlack.com and other media reports have indicated the Baha Mar field will include Memphis and Wake Forest. Former Boilermaker guard Myles Colvin


transferred to Wake Forest after the 2024-25 season.

Since 2021, Purdue has brought home first-place trophies from the Hall of Fame Tip-Off Tournament in Uncasville, Conn., the Phil Knight Legacy in Portland, the Maui Invitational and last season’s Rady Children’s Invitational in San Diego.

Regarded as one of the national championship favorites in 2026, Purdue officially opens the season Nov. 4 vs. Evansville. The non-conference slate also includes NCAA Tournament teams Oakland (Nov. 7 at home) and Akron (Nov. 16 at home).

Oakland (2024 NCAA Tournament second round), Akron (2025 MAC regular-season and Tournament champion) and Kent State (NIT Quarterfinalist). NIT quarterfinalist Kent State comes to Mackey Arena on Dec. 29.

*Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the Lafayette Journal & Courier and an award-winning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many years.*



# RUSTY

From Page A1

and Medicare insurance), you do not need to do anything to have your Social Security benefits, and your Medicare insurance continue without interruption (and that includes your wife as well).

That which has been reported in the media is sometimes misleading or misinformed, but here at the AMA Foundation’s Social Security Advisory Service we are watching these events very closely and can assure you that your regular benefits will continue uninterrupted. The only people who may be affected by the SSA’s new processes are those who are applying for Social Security for the first time, or those who need to change where their monthly benefit is deposited. In those cases, the SSA is being very careful that no fraud is being attempted and, thus, the reason for a possible in-person SSA office visit (but only in those specific unique circumstances). But for you and your wife, it will continue to be “business as usual” and you will see no

interruption in either your monthly Social Security benefit nor in your usual Medicare coverage and supplement. You don’t need to do anything to have all your benefits continue.

So, please relax and do not worry. And rest assured that here at the AMAC Foundation we are watching all events occurring in Washington, D.C., especially those related to Social Security and Medicare, and will promptly inform our members of anything which affects them.

*This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. Russell Gloor is the, National Social Security Advisor at the AMAC Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Association of Mature American Citizens. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org /programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.*



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# Branna Reflects on the Heyday of May



BRANNA (MCCARTY) SHORES  
Guest Columnist

Goodbye to the annals of April and bring on the meritoriousness of May!

First we celebrate our memorable matriarchs on the second Sunday. Be it a birth mom, stepmom, adoptive or foster mom, we must make mention of their magnitude. Regardless of how they came into our lives, we commemorate the myriad of moms. It's not about blood, rather the blessed benevolence they have bestowed on us as their brood. These female fore-bearers founded the format for our growth and development as human beings. They have loved us for the length of our life span.

Right around the corner from heralding the heroines of motherhood, we also commemorate the results of our children's academic accomplishments. Graduation – a marked milestone in our cradle-to-grave litany of school-life achievements. A time that students can't wait for and parents anticipate with both joy and dread. It's the momentous milestone when teaching and textbooks come to an end and we bid goodbye, only to let our not-so-little ones fly. Parents wistfully wonder where the years went, and the graduates are figuring out their future. Where DID the time go?

I, myself, have been pondering this a lot lately as our NHS class of 1977 is busy building the blueprint of our 50th year class reunion. It's been almost 50 years since we hailed the hallowed halls of our high school. Say it isn't so! Ah, but the recollections and remembrances will always be treasured. Who out there remembers the amorous acclamation of our 12th year of teachings? "SENIOR-ITY!" Why, we even had T-shirts, saying as such, that we delightfully donned down the halls. While I'm not as loud and proud of my "seniority" at 66 years of age, I will never forget the battle cry of

our fourth and final year at my awesome alma mater.

Recently I attended our annual Noblesville High School alumni banquet where decades of dealings with our old aches and pains melted away, replaced by the love and laughter living on through the many memories made. If you've never attended this fabulous fete, I highly recommend it!

Maybe you're a frenetic fan of fast cars and edge-of-your-seat excitement. We Indiana natives happily host the greatest spectacle in racing right here in our own humble Hoosier land. I remember as a small child racing to the mailbox to get the Indianapolis Star's anxiously awaited printout of all 33 of the royal racers. Pretty soon, properties everywhere were peppered with checkered flags in anticipation of the annual Indy 500. Dad and I would pour over the newspaper to study the statistics of every driver in the Memorial Day lineup. Mom dug out her prized pan and concocted a cake that, when cut, would reveal the patterned plan of the finish line flag. What a delectable delight of sweet sugar rush! You just can't originate from our great state and not relish the revelry of The Great Race!

So take a moment to meander down memory lane and marvel at the musings of May!

*Branna (McCarty) Shores believes that "HOME is where your story begins." A Noblesville native and proud graduate of NHS and Purdue University, she is a professional speaker, advocate for mental health and work/family balance and retired social worker. Branna is the mother of two grown daughters, six precious grandchildren and wife of one brave husband! Her passions include singing, writing and sharing the lighter side of life through lessons learned, both personally and professionally. She can be contacted at branna18@gmail.com*



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<p><b>NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF A DECLARATORY RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF CARMEL REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND OF A PUBLIC HEARING WITH RESPECT THERETO (CLAY TERRACE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AREA)</b></p> <p>Notice is hereby given that the City of Carmel Redevelopment Commission (the "Commission"), being the governing body of the City of Carmel Department of Redevelopment (the "Department"), on December 18, 2024, adopted a Resolution (the "Declaratory Resolution") (i) declaring that a certain area within the City of Carmel, Indiana, designated as the "Clay Terrace Economic Development Area" (the "Area"), is an economic development area within the meaning of Indiana Code 36-7-14 (the "Act"), (ii) designating the entirety of the Area as an allocation area to be known as the "Clay Terrace Allocation Area" (the "Allocation Area") for the purpose of allocation and distribution of certain property taxes under Sections 39 and 43 of the Act, and (iii) approving an economic development plan for the Area (the "Plan").</p> <p>A description of the Area and the Allocation Area is included in the Plan. The Commission will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. (Indianapolis time), in the Council Chambers of the Carmel City Hall, located at One Civic Square, Carmel, Indiana, to receive and hear remonstrances and objections from all persons interested in or affected by the proceedings pertaining to the proposed projects for the Area and other actions to be taken under the Declaratory Resolution. The Commission will determine the public utility and the benefit of the proposed projects and other actions to be taken under the Declaratory Resolution.</p> <p>Maps and plats have been prepared and, along with the Plan, can be inspected at the office of the Department, located at 580 Veterans Way, Suite 100, Carmel, Indiana 46032.</p>	<p><b>NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF A DECLARATORY RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF CARMEL REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND OF A PUBLIC HEARING WITH RESPECT THERETO (BJ'S WHOLESALE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AREA)</b></p> <p>Notice is hereby given that the City of Carmel Redevelopment Commission (the "Commission"), being the governing body of the City of Carmel Department of Redevelopment (the "Department"), on December 18, 2024, adopted a Resolution (the "Declaratory Resolution") (i) declaring that a certain area within the City of Carmel, Indiana, designated as the "BJ's Wholesale Economic Development Area" (the "Area"), is an economic development area within the meaning of Indiana Code 36-7-14 (the "Act"), (ii) designating the entirety of the Area as an allocation area to be known as the "BJ's Wholesale Allocation Area" (the "Allocation Area") for the purpose of allocation and distribution of certain property taxes under Sections 39 and 43 of the Act, and (iii) approving an economic development plan for the Area (the "Plan").</p> <p>A description of the Area and the Allocation Area is included in the Plan. The Commission will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. (Indianapolis time), in the Council Chambers of the Carmel City Hall, located at One Civic Square, Carmel, Indiana, to receive and hear remonstrances and objections from all persons interested in or affected by the proceedings pertaining to the proposed projects for the Area and other actions to be taken under the Declaratory Resolution. The Commission will determine the public utility and the benefit of the proposed projects and other actions to be taken under the Declaratory Resolution.</p> <p>Maps and plats have been prepared and, along with the Plan, can be inspected at the office of the Department, located at 580 Veterans Way, Suite 100, Carmel, Indiana 46032.</p>	<p><b>NOTICE TO BIDDERS</b></p> <p>The Hamilton County Airport Authority will be receiving bids for the 'Reconstruct North Apron: Grading, Drainage, and Paving' project until Wednesday, May 21st, 2025, at 2:00 PM Eastern Standard Time in Conference Room 1A at the following address: Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, IN 46060. The project Base Bid consists of grading, drainage, and concrete paving.</p> <p>Guidelines for preparing and submitting a bid are available at <a href="https://woolpert.com/bid">https://woolpert.com/bid</a> and/or <a href="http://www.questcdm.com">www.questcdm.com</a>.</p> <p>Reference (Quest) Number: 9633365</p> <p>Bid Deadline: Wednesday, May 21st, 2025, at 2:00 PM EST</p> <p>Bid Bond guarantee will be required with each bid as a certified check on a solvent bank or a Bid Bond in the amount of five (5) percent of the total amount of the bid, made payable to the Hamilton County Aviation Authority.</p> <p>Additional information regarding this request for proposals can be obtained by contacting Nick Kowalkowski, Project Manager at <a href="mailto:nick.kowalkowski@woolpert.com">nick.kowalkowski@woolpert.com</a> or by phone at (317) 223-2241</p>
<p>CITY OF CARMEL REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TL22503 5/9 1t hspaxlp</p>	<p>CITY OF CARMEL REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TL22504 5/9 1t hspaxlp</p>	<p><b>NOTICE TO BIDDERS</b></p> <p>The Hamilton County Airport Authority will be receiving bids for the 'Extend Taxiway A Grading, Paving, Marking and Electrical' project until Wednesday, May 21st, 2025, at 2:00 PM Eastern Standard Time in Conference Room 1A at the following address: Hamilton County Government and Judicial Center, One Hamilton County Square, Noblesville, IN 46060. The project Base Bid consists of grading, drainage, concrete paving, septic sewer and dosing station installation, airfield electrical and pavement markings for a new taxiway extension.</p> <p>Guidelines for preparing and submitting a bid are available at <a href="https://woolpert.com/bid">https://woolpert.com/bid</a> and/or <a href="http://www.questcdm.com">www.questcdm.com</a>.</p> <p>Reference (Quest) Number: 9633363</p> <p>Bid Deadline: Wednesday, May 21st, 2025, at 2:00 PM EST</p> <p>Bid Bond guarantee will be required with each bid as a certified check on a solvent bank or a Bid Bond in the amount of five (5) percent of the total amount of the bid, made payable to the Hamilton County Aviation Authority.</p> <p>Additional information regarding this request for proposals can be obtained by contacting Nick Kowalkowski, Project Manager at <a href="mailto:nick.kowalkowski@woolpert.com">nick.kowalkowski@woolpert.com</a> or by phone at (317) 223-2241</p>

## As Floodwaters Rise, So Do the Risks of Coal Ash Contamination

Indiana's coal ash is also a spill risk because most of it is currently stored in the floodplains of the Ohio, Wabash and White Rivers and Lake Michigan. When flooding happens, it could damage the disposal sites causing release of the ash. The recent high-water events are a stark reminder that the

Our state needs less toxic coal ash, not more. Coal generation itself and the byproduct of coal ash it produces pollutes our air and water. Spills and leaks in other states have validated the dangers of coal ash.

This spill, one of the largest in U.S. history, contaminated about 70 miles of the river with toxic substances including arsenic, selenium and lead, posing significant risks to aquatic ecosystems and communities relying on the river for drinking water and recreation. The incident exposed regulatory failures and led to federal investigations into

Burning coal is bad for our state. Storing coal ash in floodplains that could overflow in a heavy rain creates yet another unfair burden and health threat to local communities. To protect our water resources, we need to stop burning coal and adopt a responsible approach to coal ash disposal as soon as possible.

*Indra Frank  
Coal Ash Advisor  
Hoosier Environmental  
Council*

Passed a balanced  
biennial budget that  
protects Indiana's  
surplus and reserve

Kicked off Make Indiana Healthy Again, which includes solutions like ending taxpayer subsidies for candy and sugary soda, making it easier for Hoosiers and schools to buy nutritious food directly from Indiana

Put Indiana in position to be the national leader in nuclear energy production, which has already resulted in Indiana being named host of the 2025 NGA Nuclear Summit.

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↓ AARP

From Page A1

credit for working family caregivers. Employed caregivers often leave the workforce or reduce their hours due to caregiving, resulting in a loss of income, retirement savings, benefits, and career mobility.

Family caregivers are the backbone of the U.S. care system. Here in Indiana, an estimated 790,000 Hoosiers are unpaid family caregivers providing 740 million hours of care each year. The value of this unpaid care is \$10.8 billion.

“Family caregivers consistently put family first. They take responsibility to help their parents, spouses, and loved ones stay at home—where they want to be,” said AARP Indiana State Director Sarah Waddle. “These Hoosiers continue to step up for their loved ones and we need Congress to do the same for them.”

On average, family caregivers spend \$7,200 out-of-pocket annually on care-related expenses, about 25% of their income, making it difficult for them to afford groceries and pay their bills.

Eligible family caregivers assisting loved ones of all ages could receive the credit if the care recipient meets certain functional or cognitive limitations or other requirements certified by a licensed healthcare practitioner.

Caregivers would need to be working and document qualified expenses.

The credit amount would be 30% of the qualified expenses paid or incurred by the caregiver above \$2,000, up to a maximum amount of \$5,000. The tax credit is non-refundable.

Unlike the existing child and dependent care credit, the bill would help family caregivers who care for non-dependents or who do not live with the person they are assisting.

Individuals with higher incomes would be ineligible for the tax credit and the bill includes protections to prevent double-dipping with existing federal tax provisions.


How the Credit for Caring Act Would Help

The Credit for Caring Act would help working family caregivers offset the cost of caregiving expenses such as home care aides, adult day services, home modifications, assistive technology, respite care, transportation, and other supports.

As part of the effort to highlight the importance of supporting family caregivers, AARP Indiana also released a video of AARP volunteers speaking about their own caregiving experiences.

For more information on AARP Indiana and its support for caregivers visit [aarp.org/IN](http://aarp.org/IN).

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State Shares April Recalls

Attorney General Todd Rokita is alerting Hoosiers about pressing consumer protection concerns for products recalled in April. The office is encouraging consumers to take advantage of opportunities available to them – which may include returning, fixing, disposing or replacing a purchased recalled item that could be harmful to themselves or their families.

“Safety blooms when we act swiftly to protect our homes,” Rokita said. “If you purchased an item that you see has been recalled on our list, then immediately stop using the product and see what forms of reimbursement the company that sold or manufactured that product is offering.”

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the following consumer products were recalled in April:

Kawasaki Motors USA Recalls Model Year 2025 Competition and Cross-Country Motorcycles Due to Crash Hazard

Deals Oasis Recalls Shape Sorter Car Toys Due to Choking Hazard; Violation of Small Parts Requirements; Risk of Serious Injury or Death

Sondiko Butane Torches Recalled Due to Risk of Serious Injury or Death from Burn and Fire Hazards; Violation of Federal Regulations for Multipurpose Lighters; Sold on Amazon by Sondikodirt

American Bolt and Screw Recalls Tip-Over Restraint Kits Distributed with Clothing Storage Units Manufactured by Canyon Furniture Due to Tip-Over and Entrapment Hazards and Risk of Serious Injury or Death; Sold Exclusively at Rooms To Go

Joydeco Roller Window Shades Recalled Due to Strangulation and Entanglement Hazards and Risk of Serious Injury or Death; Violation of Federal Regulations for Window Coverings; Sold on Amazon.com by Shanghai Chushuo Electronic Commerce Co.

Casely Recalls Wireless Portable Power Banks Due to Fire and Burn Hazards

Leetous Recalls Glow Sticks and Glasses Party Pack Toys Due to Serious Injury or Death from Ingestion Hazard; Violation of Federal Regulations for Battery-Operated Toys; Sold Exclusively on Amazon.com

The North Face Recalls Women’s Shellista V Mid Waterproof Boots Due to Fall Hazard

COMEONROA Infant Swings Recalled Due to Risk of Serious Injury or Death from Suffocation Hazard; Violation of the Inclined Sleeper Ban; Sold on Walmart.com by Eonroacoo

Kramer Laboratories Recalls Safetussin Max Strength Multi-Symptom Cough, Cold and Flu Blister Packs Due to Risk of Child Poisoning; Violation of Federal Regulation for Child Resistant Packaging

Lil Pick Up Recalls Youth All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) Due to Injury Hazards; Risk of Serious Injury or Death; Violation of Federal Regulations for ATVs

Costway Recalls Babyjoy Convertible High Chair Activity Centers Due to Entrapment and Serious Injury Hazards; Violation of Federal Regulations for High Chairs and Stationary Activity Centers

Multifunctional Puzzle Crab Toys Recalled Due to Risk of Serious Injury or Death from Ingestion Hazard; Violation of Federal Regulations for Toy Magnets; Sold Exclusively on Walmart.com by JinJiang Baimei

Modus Furniture International Recalls Kentfield Dressers Due to Risk of Serious Injury or Death from Tip-Over and Entrapment Hazards; Violations of Federal Regulation for Clothing Storage Units

Baby Bath Seats Recalled Due to Risk of Serious Injury or Death to Babies from Drowning Hazard; Violation of Federal Regulation for Infant Bath Seats; Sold on Amazon.com by DualOranges Store

Five Below Recalls Room2Room LED Iridescent Bear Lights Due to Fire and Burn Hazards

AliExpress Recalls Mini Travel Hair Dryers Due to Electrocution and Shock Hazards; Sold on AliExpress.com

Enerco Recalls DEWALT 70,000 BTU Outdoor Portable Cordless Forced Air Propane Heaters Due to Fire and Burn Hazards; Sold Exclusively at Lowe’s

AliExpress Recalls Foldable Travel Hair Dryers Due to Electrocution and Shock Hazards; Sold on AliExpress.com

Again, if you believe you recently purchased a recalled product, stop using it and check its recall notice (linked above for all products). Then follow the notice’s instructions, including where to return the product, how to get the product fixed, how to dispose of the product, how to receive a refund for the product or what steps must be taken to receive a replacement product.

To view recalls issued prior to April, visit the Consumer Protection Safety Commission website.

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## Fishers awards local teachers with nearly \$100,000

Fishers Mayor Scott Fadness surprised five teachers with more than \$95,000 in funding as part of the City’s Educator Innovation Grant program. The program exists to empower educators within HSE Schools with the financial resources to bring innovation to the classroom and inspire students to rethink learning.

This new round of grants brings the funding total to nearly \$350,000 since the program launched in 2024. To date, 22 educators across 12 schools have received funding for projects which include implementing virtual reality within the classroom; modernizing makerspaces for STEAM programming; professional development opportunities; and more.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, and project requests have no funding cap.

The new round of grant recipients include:

- **John McCallister (Hamilton Southeastern High School):** \$39,100 to provide a welding simulation at the high school. With a limited space to practice traditional welding, this technology will allow students to earn up to two welding certificates while preparing them for a career in the trades.
  - **Jenifer Young (Hamilton Southeastern High School):** \$15,100 to provide additional resources to better connect ESL students with their classes. This will address the language and cultural gaps that many ESL students face, empowering them to learn English and acclimate to school in the U.S.
  - **Will Hurst (Cumberland Road Elementary):** \$22,980 to support the development of the school’s “Village of Cumberland” which is set to include a “Biz Town” experience for students. This project directly connects with the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade experience in HSE’s Journey of a Student.
- Grants are awarded by a selection committee comprised of former educators from HSE Schools, community entrepreneurs, and HSE alumni. Committee members include Mike Fassold (retired junior high educator); Kaleigh Arndt (former elementary educator); Brad Jackson (retired junior high educator); Amy Murch (Conner Prairie teacher in residence); and Jordin Alexander (HSE alum and City of Fishers Chief of Staff).
- Learn more about the grant program at [FishersIN.gov/InnovationGrant](#).

## 205 Child Sex Offenders Arrested in Crackdown

This week, the Department of Justice announced the results of Operation Restore Justice, a coordinated enforcement effort to identify, track and arrest child sex predators. The operation resulted in the rescue of 115 children and the arrests of 205 child sexual abuse offenders in the nationwide crackdown. The coordinated effort was executed over the course of five days by all 55 FBI field offices, the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section in the Department’s Criminal Division, and United States Attorney’s Offices around the country.

“The Department of Justice will never stop fighting to protect victims — especially child victims — and we will not rest until we hunt down, arrest, and prosecute every child predator who preys on the most vulnerable among us,” said Attorney General Pamela Bondi. “I am grateful to the FBI and their state and local partners for their incredible work in Operation Restore Justice and have directed my prosecutors not to negotiate.”

“Every child deserves to grow up free from fear and exploitation, and the FBI will continue to be relentless in our pursuit of those who exploit the most vulnerable among us,” said FBI Director Kash Patel. “Operation Restore Justice proves that no predator is out of reach and no child will be forgotten. By leveraging the strength of all our field offices

and our federal, state and local partners, we’re sending a clear message: there is no place to hide for those who prey on children.”

"Children are the foundation of our communities. It is not their burden to protect themselves; it is our absolute responsibility as adults to shield them from the egregious predators charged today,” said John E. Childress, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana. “I commend the exceptional and tireless work of our law enforcement partners and AUSAs Tiffany Preston, Carolyn Haney, Samantha Spiro, and Jeremy Kemper, who are doing their part to execute Operation Restore Justice.”

“Behind every arrest during Operation Restore Justice was a child who was being exploited – who was suffering in silence,” said FBI Indianapolis Acting Special Agent in Charge Dominique Evans. “These crimes are both heartbreaking and deeply disturbing and the FBI remains committed to identifying and investigating these cases and ensuring those who responsible for such heinous acts are held accountable. Our hope is that these children now have a chance to heal and to rebuild their lives in safety, free from fear and surrounded by the care and support they need.”

Others arrested around the country are alleged to have committed various crimes including the

production, distribution, and possession of child sexual abuse material, online enticement and transportation of minors, and child sex trafficking. In Minneapolis, for example, a state trooper and Army Reservist was arrested for allegedly producing child sexual abuse material while wearing his uniforms. In Norfolk, VA, an illegal alien from Mexico is accused of transporting a minor across state lines for sex. In Washington, D.C., a former Metropolitan Police Department Police Officer was arrested for allegedly trafficking minor victims.

In many cases, parental vigilance and community outreach efforts played a critical role in bringing these offenders to justice. For example, a California man was arrested about eight hours after a young victim bravely came forward and disclosed their abuse to FBI agents after an online safety presentation at a school near Albany, N.Y.

This effort follows the Department’s observance of National Child Abuse Prevention Month in April, this effort and underscores the Department’s unwavering commitment to protecting children and raising awareness about the dangers they face. While the Department, including the FBI, investigates and prosecutes these crimes every day, April serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of preventing these

crimes, seeking justice for victims, and raising awareness through community education.

The Justice Department is committed to combating child sexual exploitation. These cases were brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by U.S. Attorneys’ Offices and CEOS, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, visit [www.justice.gov/psc](#).

The Department partners with and oversees funding grants for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), which receives and shares tips about possible child sexual exploitation received through its 24/7 hotline at 1-800-THE-LOST and on [missingkids.org](#). The Department urges the public to remain vigilant and report suspected exploitation of a child through the FBI’s tipline at 1-800-CALL-FBI (225-5324), [tips.fbi.gov](#), or by calling your local FBI field office.

## Noblesville Wawa Opening May 22

Excitement is building for the coming of Wawa to Indiana, and Noblesville is on the calendar. On the heels of announcing its first Indiana store opening, the convenience retailer is sharing the opening of two additional stores to come before the end of May. Details for the triple-header grand openings are as follows:

**16100 W Commerce Rd. Daleville, IN 47334**  
Thursday, May 15  
Doors Open: 8: a.m.  
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: 9 a.m.

**5890 Midland Pointe Blvd. Noblesville, IN 46062**  
Thursday, May 22  
Doors Open: 8 a.m.  
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: 9 a.m.

**1354 Veterans Pkwy. Clarksville, IN 47129**  
Friday, May 30  
Doors Open: 8 a.m.  
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: 9 a.m.

Each location will offer Wawa’s signature fresh food, beverages, convenience, fuel and more! The grand opening celebrations will gather associates, customers and

community to share its history and culture, announce community partnerships and celebrate everyday heroes with Wawa’s signature “Hoagies for Heroes” initiative.

“We are excited to enter the state of Indiana with our first three stores opening all in the month of May,” said Brian Schaller, President of Wawa. “We look forward to bringing our unique brand of fresh food, beverages and convenience to the state and to furthering our commitment to providing the community with not only a new level of convenience but a strong, committed community partner.”

In the future, Wawa plans to build and open 8-12 stores per year in Indiana with plans to open up to 60 stores in the state. To build each store, Wawa will invest more than \$7.5 million and employ, on average, 140 contractors and local partners. Once open, each store will employ an average of 35 associates, with Wawa expecting to create 2,000 new, long-term jobs.



Photo courtesy Wawa

**The Noblesville store is scheduled to open at 8 a.m. on May 22 at 5890 Midland Pointe Blvd.**

### Wawa is Currently Hiring Indiana Associates

With a goal of hiring hundreds of new associates for store operations positions for up to 10 new stores projected to open in in 2025, Wawa has posted initial Indiana job opportunities inviting candidates to “Soar with Wawa” at [www.wawa.com/careers](#). Today, Wawa is almost 39% owned by Associates through the ESOP Wawa Associates also have access to the ingredients that build a career, including training, development, educational assistance and a flexible, welcoming environment that helps everyone soar. Wawa’s expansion plans provide opportunities to join a growing company with opportunities and a culture where associates take the lead in bringing joy to new friends and neighbors and supporting their communities.

**OUR GENERATION**  
*with the Times*

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**WATCH NOW**

**Melissa Shaw’s interview with Steve from Adrienes Flowers & Gifts**

*and be sure to subscribe so you don't miss a single interview!*



May Busy Time for Noblesville Creates

In May, Noblesville Creates will showcase artist Shelley Feeney, along with *The Healing Power of Art* exhibit at the Judge Stone House, the *In the Making: An Interactive Experience of Wellness through Art* exhibit in the Stephenson House, and the *Art in Bloom* exhibit at Noblesville City Hall. Additionally, Noblesville Creates wishes to highlight a special Hamilton County Artists’ Association exhibit at Four Day Ray Brewing. Details on exhibit locations, dates, receptions, and featured artists can be found below.

JUDGE STONE HOUSE: The Healing Power of Art

The healing power of creating is soothing to the soul and opens hearts and minds to others.

Art is an important tool that many turn to to process their emotions, explore their fears, and rediscover their strengths. *The Healing Power of Art* features works that helped the artists make it through a hard time, that express the importance of the arts, or that have helped to uplift someone the artist cares about.

You can view the full exhibit, *The Healing Power of Art*, from May 2 to 31 in the Judge Stone House gallery. The Noblesville Creates on 8th campus is open Wednesday through Friday, noon to 5 p.m., and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

STEPHENSON HOUSE: Copper Z Creative Wellness

The healing power of art is extending into the Stephenson House this May with the exhibit, *In the Making: An Interactive Experience of Wellness Through Art!* Copper Z Creative Wellness has curated five activities that instruct guests on how to slow down, take a

Ribbon Cutting Monday for Humane Society Building

Hamilton County will host a ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday at 9 a.m. to celebrate the opening of the Hamilton County Pleasant Street Offices - a newly renovated county facility at the southwest corner of Pleasant Street and State Road 37 in Noblesville.

The 12,000-square-foot building, formerly home to the Humane Society for Hamilton County, has been completely gutted and repurposed to house three county departments: Household Hazardous Waste, the Soil & Water Conservation District, and Weights & Measures.

"The buildings on this campus were all built in

breath, and experience art differently.

See the full exhibit, *In the Making: An Interactive Experience of Wellness through Art*, in the Stephenson House Gallery at the Noblesville Creates campus from May 2 to 31, 2025. The full campus is open for exploration Wednesday-Friday, noon to 5 p.m., and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

NOBLESVILLE CITY HALL: Art in Bloom

In celebration of spring and the annual Indiana Peony Festival on May 17, the Noblesville City Hall gallery space has been adorned with beautiful blossoms and blooms of art! *Art in Bloom* features photography, drawings, paintings, and mixed media works that celebrate the glorious floral delights of Indiana, especially the state flower, the peony. You can view the full exhibit, *Art in Bloom*, from May 2 to June 27 at Noblesville City Hall. Visitors can visit the gallery Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

MEYER NAJEM: Shelley Feeney

See the full exhibit, *Senses in Nature*, from April 4 to June 27. This exhibit is viewable at the Meyer Najem 2nd floor gallery, located at 11787 Lantern Road in Fishers, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Meet Shelley at her free public reception on Friday, May 9, 2025 from 6 to 8 p.m.

FOUR DAY RAY: HCAA

You can view the full HCAA exhibit from April 4 to June 28, at Four Day Ray Brewing, located at 11671 Lantern Road in Fishers, Sunday and Monday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Friday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

the 1940s as part of the original Hamilton County Airport. They are all well past their prime,” says Hamilton County Commissioner Steve Dillinger. “Repurposing the old Humane Society building, demolishing the old buildings, and placing these departments under one roof will help them function more efficiently.”

The building served the Humane Society for Hamilton County from 2006 to 2021, before the organization relocated to a new shelter in Fishers.

The public and members of the media are invited to attend the ribbon cutting event.

Carmel Woman Considers Run for Secretary of State

Hamilton County Libertarian Party Chairwoman Lauri Shillings has launched an exploratory committee to run for Indiana Secretary of State in 2026. After seeing very little in terms of working for Hoosiers from current Secretary of State Diego Morales, she believes it is high time for a change in leadership.

A creative director at the University of Indianapolis and small business owner, Shillings said she believes the office is in desperate need of more integrity, competence and an attitude geared toward serving Hoosiers instead of the interests of the officer holder’s political party.

“Communities across Indiana want to know their tax dollars are not being wasted and their businesses are being well represented,” Shillings said. “That includes at the ballot box. Hoosiers need to be able to trust our state to hold free and fair elections and that starts with the Secretary of State.”

Sen. Walker Shares Update



**KYLE WALKER**  
Guest Columnist

The 2025 legislative session ended, and many bills I authored or supported will soon become law.

During the session, only about 20% of the 1,229 bills introduced by Indiana's 150 lawmakers passed the General Assembly.

Of the bills that passed, more than 90 percent received bipartisan support and nearly 50 percent received unanimous support in the Senate.

Though this session has ended, I will continue to work for you in the months ahead as the General Assembly begins preparing for the next legislative session.

I encourage you to Contact Me if I can be of assistance to you now or in the months ahead.

FISHERS NATIVE HITS the Majors

Recently, Fishers native and Hamilton Southeastern graduate Matt Gorski got called up to make his debut in major league baseball for the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Matt has been a successful player on their Triple-A affiliate team, our very own Indianapolis Indians, achieving over 20 home runs last season and during his very first major league at bat, he



Lauri Shillings

Shillings will roll out her goals for Secretary of State as she assembles her team in the coming weeks.

She seeks to gain the Libertarian nomination at the party’s annual convention in 2026.

In Indiana, a political party retains ballot access when their candidate for Secretary of State receives at least 2 percent of the total votes cast for that office in the most recent election. The Libertarian Party of Indiana has been on ballots since 1994 and continues to ensure voters have quality, responsible candidates to choose from to better the Hoosier state.

hit a 434-foot homerun.

Congratulations, Matt, on making your MLB debut as well as your first professional home run. Indiana is proud to see you succeed, and the City of Fishers will be cheering you on!

2025 FREE FISHING Days

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources will host its Free Fishing Days on June 7-8 and Sept. 27.

These days allow Hoosiers to fish in public waters without a license or trout/salmon stamp.

CELEBRATE AT THE Lawrence International Festival

On May 10, the Lawrence International Festival will be taking place at Lawrence Civic Plaza beginning at noon. Go and enjoy a vibrant celebration of world cultures right in the heart of our community.

The event will include international cuisine, live cultural performances, music and art. This family-friendly festival will showcase the rich diversity that makes Lawrence unique and special.

*State Sen. Kyle Walker represents District 31 which includes portions of Hamilton and Marion counties.*

FOR THE RECORD

*For The Record is a public service and regular feature in The Noblesville Times. It is designed to tell you what is scheduled to happen and what actually does happen in meetings paid for with your tax dollars. The Times encourages all citizens to take an active role in being involved in local government.*

**MEETING NOTICE**  
**CARMEL MAYOR’S ADVISORY COMMISSION ON VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES**  
MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025  
AT 4:00 P.M.  
CARMEL VFW POST 10003  
12863 OLD MERIDIAN ST.

**MEETING NOTICE**  
**CARMEL MAYOR’S ADVISORY COMMISSION ON ARTS**  
MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025  
AT 4:30 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
SECOND FLOOR  
CARMEL CITY HALL  
ONE CIVIC SQUARE  
Meeting Agenda:  
1. CRC Butterfly Mosaics presentation by Director Henry Mestetsky  
1. Review and Discussion of the Art in Public Spaces draft with Mindy Taylor Ross, Art Strategies, LLC

**WESTFIELD PLAT COMMITTEE**  
Meeting Scheduled for May 12, 2025 - Cancelled  
No Business items

**MEETING NOTICE**  
**CARMEL FINANCE, UTILITIES AND RULES COMMITTEE MEETING**  
TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025  
AT 6:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - SECOND FLOOR  
CITY HALL - ONE CIVIC SQUARE  
THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO DISCUSS: Ordinance D-2767-25; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Amending Chapter 2, Article 4, Section 2-96 of the Carmel City Code; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Taylor and Snyder.  
Synopsis:  
Amendment to the Ordinance regulating the Ambulance Capital Fund.  
Ordinance D-2770-25; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Adopting a New Article 6 Under Chapter 4 of the Carmel City Code; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Aasen, Taylor, Snyder and Ayers.

Synopsis:  
An Ordinance adopting requirements that owners of residential rental dwellings register and obtain a permit before letting a residential rental dwelling and; limits the number of authorized residential dwelling permits to ten percent of all homes within any subdivision or the City of Carmel as whole.  
Ordinance D-2771-25; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Authorizing the Issuance of Economic Development Tax Increment Revenue Bonds to Support the North End Phase II Project, and Authorizing and Approving Other Actions in Respect Thereto; Sponsor: Councilor Aasen.  
Synopsis:  
Ordinance authorizes the issuance of developer TIF bonds by the City of Carmel, Indiana, to finance certain improvements to support the development of the North End Phase II Project.  
Ordinance D-2772-25; An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Carmel, Indiana, Adopting a New Article 8 Under Chapter 2 of the Carmel City Code; Sponsor(s): Councilor(s) Aasen, Ayers, Minnaar, Snyder and Worrell.  
Synopsis:  
An ordinance adopting requirements for nonprofit organizations receiving public support from the City.  
Analysis of Audit Committee  
City Code Review

**MEETING NOTICE**  
**CARMEL HOME PLACE ADVISORY BOARD**  
THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025  
6:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
SECOND FLOOR  
CITY HALL, ONE CIVIC SQUARE

**HAMILTON COUNTY INFORMATION SYSTEMS SERVICES**  
**MEETING NOTICE**  
Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-5 (a) The Hamilton County GIS Policy Committee will hold a virtual Microsoft Teams meeting at 9:45 a.m. on Tuesday, May 20, 2025. The purpose of this meeting is for discussion of GIS projects.  
Virtual Meeting Information (Microsoft Teams Meeting)  
Meeting ID: 222 491 165 523  
Passcode: 5QU6qA3Z  
Or call in (audio only)  
+1 219-225-8177 United States, Lowell  
Phone conference ID: 206 994 890#

**HAMILTON COUNTY PLAN COMMISSION MEETING**  
Please be advised that our office has not received any petitions for consideration by the Hamilton County Plan Commission. Jim Galloway, as President of the Plan Commission, has cancelled the meeting for Wednesday, May 21, 2025. The next regularly scheduled Hamilton County Plan Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 18, 2025.

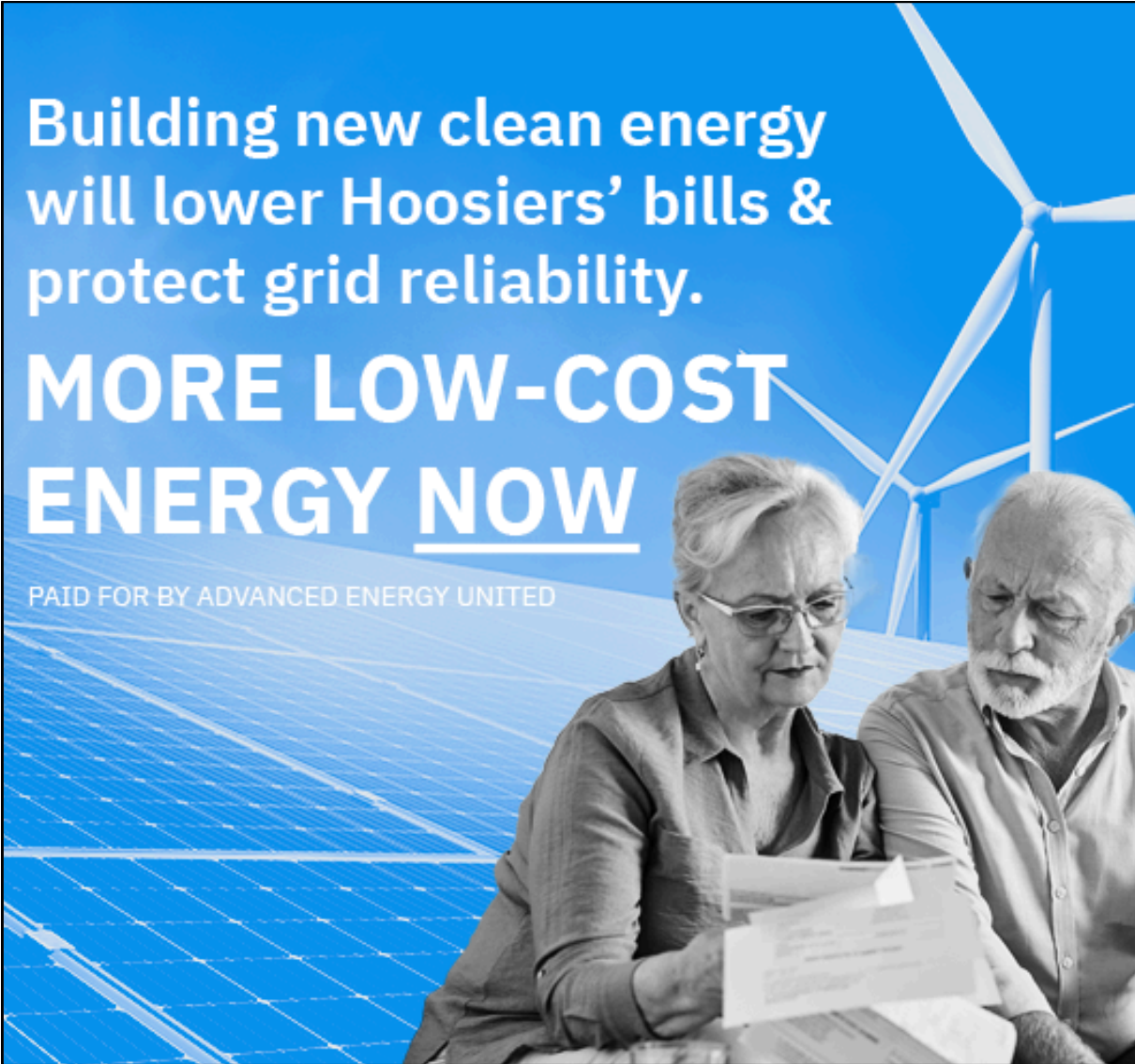
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**legals@thetimes24-7.com**

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All three winners in each category will have their books published. In addition to publication, first-place winners will also receive a cash prize. A shelving ceremony will be held to commemorate their work once printed copies are available.

An advertisement for Advanced Energy United. The background is a vibrant blue with a grid pattern, overlaid with images of solar panels in the lower left and wind turbines in the upper right. In the foreground, a black and white photograph of an elderly couple is shown. The woman, on the left, wears glasses and a dark shirt, while the man, on the right, has a white beard and wears a light-colored button-down shirt. They are both looking down at a stack of papers, which appear to be utility bills, that the woman is holding. The text is in white, sans-serif font. The top line reads 'Building new clean energy will lower Hoosiers' bills & protect grid reliability.' Below this, in larger letters, is 'MORE LOW-COST ENERGY NOW', with 'NOW' underlined. At the bottom, in smaller capital letters, is 'PAID FOR BY ADVANCED ENERGY UNITED'.

Building new clean energy  
will lower Hoosiers' bills &  
protect grid reliability.

**MORE LOW-COST  
ENERGY NOW**

PAID FOR BY ADVANCED ENERGY UNITED