

■ TODAY'S VERSE

Philippians 1:21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. (KJV)

■ HAMILTON HAPPENINGS

The DNR and the city of Fishers recently celebrated the opening of an extension to the Nickel Plate Trail, which includes a pedestrian bridge over 96th Street connecting to Indianapolis. The 1.3-mile multi-use trail extension was constructed by the city of Fishers in two phases with help from a \$4.5 million grant administered by the DNR. The new section fills a critical gap between 96th and 106th Street, with a pedestrian bridge over 96th Street.

■ ADOPT A PET BAMBI



Bambi is a young pup who's full of energy and personality! This 1-year-old female Siberian Husky Mix has been available for adoption at HSHC since 11/26/25. She's super smart, playful, and always ready to be where the action is. She loves playing with other dogs and can turn any day into a full-on Husky adventure. To meet Bambi, please fill out an adoption application at hamiltonhumane.com/adopt, then stop by HSHC anytime 12-5 PM daily (closed Wednesday).



So long March, thanks for bring spring back to us!

■ QUOTE OF THE DAY

"April hath put a spirit of youth in everything."

William Shakespeare

■ JOKE OF THE DAY

What do you call an angry carrot?

A steamed veggie.

The TIMES



NOBLESVILLE, INDIANA

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APRIL FOOL'S DAY BY THE NUMBERS

By The Numbers, a look at what's in the news . . . by the numbers. These are just numbers, not suggestions that they mean more or less than what they are. We do not suggest that one number is connected to another. These are simply facts with no extraneous details, bias or slanted reporting. To borrow (and perhaps mangle a bit) a quote from legendary fictional detective Joe Friday, it's just the numbers, ma'am!

Yes, Wednesday is April Fool's Day. How did it start? According to legend – well, there are multiple stories. The one we like the most is from Chaucer's The Canterbury Tales. But others say it came from the French and still others say it is distinctly American. There are still others who claim the day goes all the way back to ancient Roman days and the festival Hilaria, which is a Latin word meaning joyful. Who are we to judge? We just know it's a day that some people like and some people don't . . .

47

According to a YouGov America poll, that's the percentage of American adults who found April Fool's antics less than pleasing.



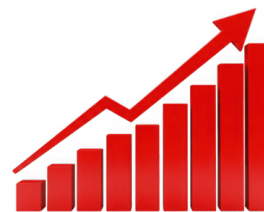
59

That's the number (percentage-wise) of your fellow citizens who don't appreciate a good April Fool's Day joke!

HAHA
HA HA!

45

From the same poll, the percentage of U.S. adults who think the day is fun.

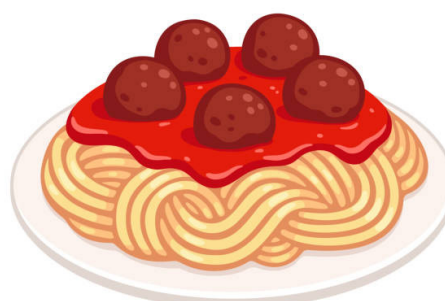


46

The percent of us who enjoy a good April fool's Day prank – played on someone else!

1957

The BBC reported that Italy was enjoying a bumper year with their spaghetti crop. There were even photos showing farmers harvesting noodles. See, those Brits weren't so formal and stiff after all!

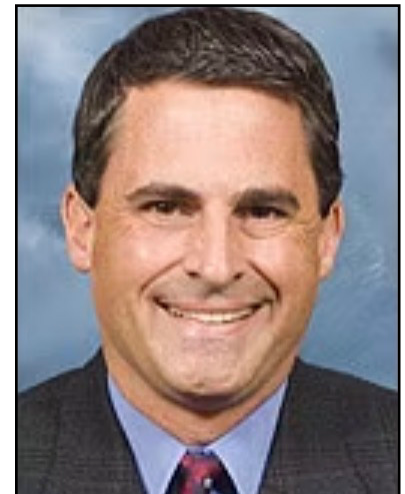


■ THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

1. On March 21, the Lebanon Police Department responded to an animal abuse call. During the investigation, the complainant reported that they observed, and captured video recordings, of a Frankfort Police Department K9 handler interacting with his K9. The complainant believed the interaction between the Frankfort K9 handler and his K9 partner was cruel and unnecessary. Due to a conflict of interest, the Lebanon Police Department has turned over the initial information gathered to the Boone County Sheriff's Department to be fully investigated. Any further inquiries into this investigation should be directed to the Boone County Sheriff's Department.

2. Meijer will open a new Supercenter on Wednesday, May 6 in Brownsburg. The Midwest retailer's 44th store in Indiana, this 159,000 square foot location will offer a wide assortment of amenities, including the fresh produce, grocery items, and full-service pharmacy Hoosiers have come to know and love from Meijer Supercenters across the state. A Meijer Express gas station adjacent to the store is also set to open on April 8. There are select part- and full-time positions still available at the upcoming Brownsburg location. Interested parties can view available roles and apply at jobs.meijer.com/stores by entering "Brownsburg" into the search field.

3. All annual licenses and stamp privileges from last season expire on March 31. Purchase your 2026 license online, in person, or by mail. Check out our Licenses & Permits webpage for more information on license expiration dates and fees. View fish stocking locations on the fish stocking webpage and Urban Fishing webpage. Mark your calendars for May 10, the first Free Fishing Day of the year. The other Free Fishing Days will be held June 6-7 and Sept. 26.



Chris Denari

Westfield Brings Chris Denari Back Home

WHS Grad, Voice of Pacers to be Grand Marshal

The City of Westfield announced that Chris Denari, longtime television voice of the Indiana Pacers and a Westfield High School graduate, will serve as grand marshal of the city's Fourth of July parade. The parade is part of a three-day celebration marking the United States' 250th anniversary.

The "Westfield 250" celebration will take place July 2-4 and will include a patriotic-themed farmers market, the Freedom Parade and Concert at Grand Junction Plaza, and the annual Westfield Rocks the 4th event.

"In Westfield, we're no strangers to celebrating Independence Day in a big way," Mayor Scott Willis said. "This year, we're building on that tradition to mark our nation's 250th anniversary in an even more meaningful way. Having Chris Denari return home as our grand marshal makes this even more special."

Applications to participate in the parade are now open at westfieldin.gov/america250.

Thursday, July 2: Westfield Farmers Market – Red, White and Bloom

The celebration runs from 5 to 8 p.m. at Grand Junction Plaza (225 S. Union St.) with a patriotic edition of the Westfield Farmers Market. The event will feature vendors with themed products, Fourth of July specials and family-friendly activities.

More information is available at westfieldin.gov/farmersmarket.

Friday, July 3: Freedom Parade and Concert at Grand Junction Plaza

Westfield's Fourth of July parade begins at 6 p.m. The parade will travel south on Union Street, starting at North Union Street and Immi Way and ending near South Union Street and College Avenue. The route is subject to change.

Following the parade, a concert and activities will begin at Grand Junction Plaza. Starting at 7:30 p.m., the Jason Lee McKinney Band will perform a free, family-friendly concert. Additional entertainment will include historical tributes by Basile Westfield

See DENARI Page 4

The TIMES

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Deadline for Registering to Vote April 6

Hamilton County Clerk Kathy Kreag Williams is reminding those who aren't already registered to vote in the Primary Election on Tuesday, May 5, that they have one week left to do so. The deadline to register to vote is Monday, April 6.



**County Clerk
Kathy Kreag
Williams**

"If you're not sure whether or not you're currently registered, you can always check online," Williams says. "You'll find everything you need to know at www.indianavoters.com."

Williams would also like to remind parents of first-time voters that they can vote in the primary even if they are not yet 18-years old.

"Any 17-year-old who will be 18 by November 5 is eligible to vote in the May primary," Williams adds. "Primary elections offer a valuable introduction for first-time voters and help build long-term civic engage-

ment. We encourage families to talk about the importance of voting and support teens as they take that first step."

In addition to registering online, you can also register by mail or in person at the Hamilton County Clerk's Office on the first floor of the Judicial Center in Noblesville. If you are currently registered to vote in Hamilton County and have moved or changed your name, you can submit these changes at www.indianavoters.com as well.

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indianafuneralcare.com

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Indianapolis

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The Times

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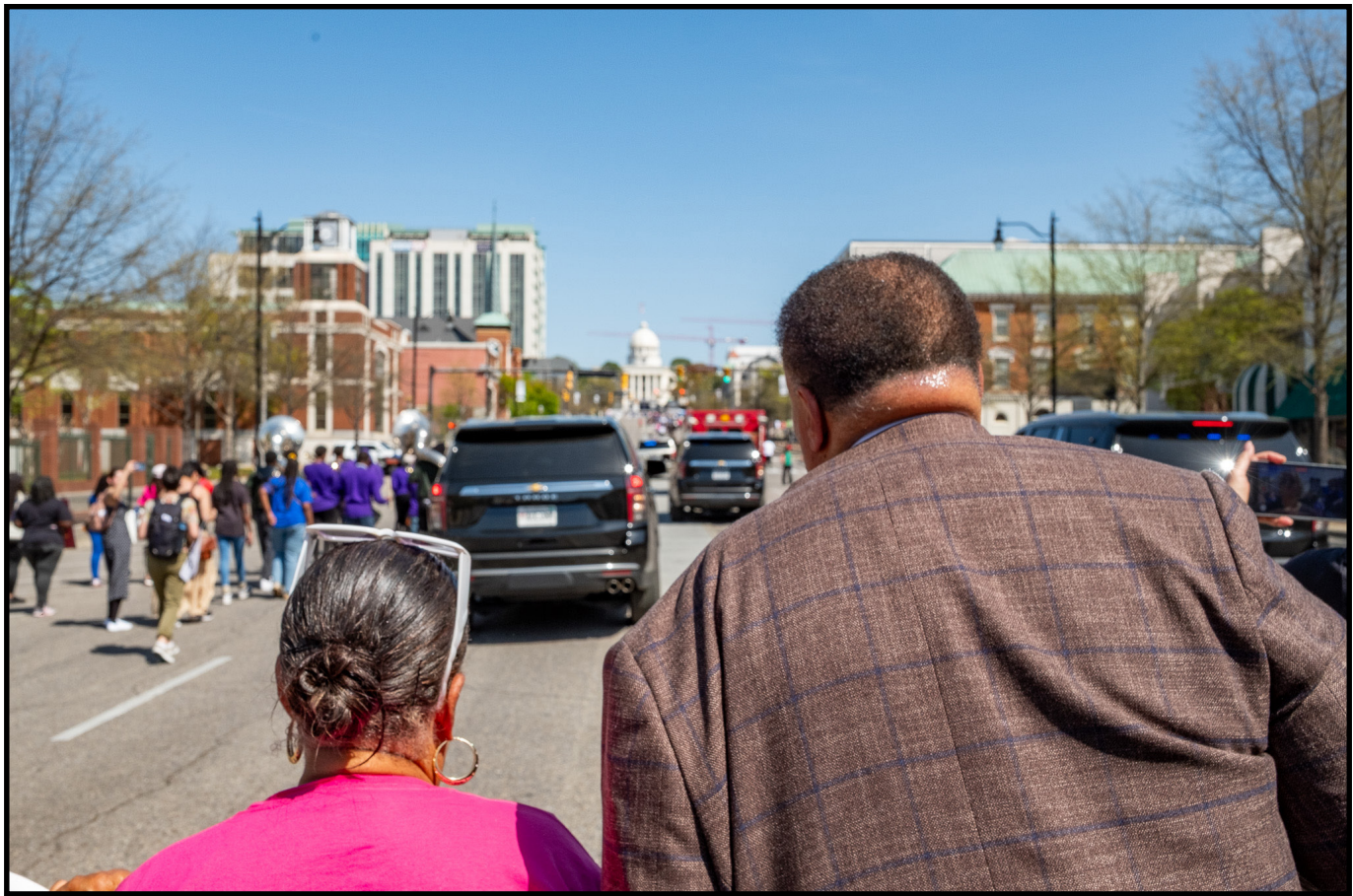
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Andy Chandler: 'Just a Photo'



ANDY CHANDLER
Columnist

Mongtomery, Ala. "It's just a photo."

It's just a picture. Just an image on a screen. If we're precise, it was taken with a Fuji XPro 2, using a 35mm lens. The settings were ISO 200, 1/800th of a second at F7.1. Metadata says it was taken on 3/22/2025. However, those are specs and settings. Like looking at sheet music for Handel's Water Music, seeing the notes and saying, "looks good," without ever hearing it performed.

There's a woman on the left. "Just a woman on a walk," someone might say, but her name is Sheyann Webb-Christburg. She was only 9 when she and her teacher were beaten by police at the bottom of the Edmund Pettus Bridge. A few days later she would complete the third march to Montgomery, Ala. with MLK Jr. Hearing she was there, he called her parents

to pick her up and he babysat her while they drove to Montgomery. For missing school, she was suspended from her mostly white school.

On the right side, there's an older man, in his 70s. He walks with the vigor of a 30 year-old. That's MLK Jr. III. He was only 10 when his father was killed in Memphis. Eventually, Jr. III would graduate from Morehouse College, where his father, grandfather and great-grandfather all graduated from. He would go onto be a Fulton County Commissioner, advisor to President Obama and eventually the head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the same organization his father started.

There's a dome off in the distance. That's the Alabama State Capitol Building. Mention that and even the modest student

of history can almost hear the words echoing through the decades from its steps: "I say segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever." Such were the words of Gov. George Wallace, punctuated by the whooping and hollering of a rebel yell throughout the crowd that January morning in 1963.

There's a street they're walking down. That's Dexter Avenue in downtown Montgomery, the road leading to the Capitol. Not more than a few hundred yards behind them, Rosa Parks was dragged off a bus and put in handcuffs 70 years earlier.

One hundred and sixty years earlier, this street saw the trotting of horses and cheers from ladies waving handkerchiefs, waving at men in sharp gray uniforms marching in step to the cadence from a military band playing Dixie. They were marching in a parade celebrating a Presidential Inauguration, and had finished listening to President Jefferson Davis give a speech where he said the main goal of the Confederacy was, "... there should be so much of homogeneity that the welfare of every portion shall

be the aim of the whole." His idea of whole, didn't include sum.

In front of them, five SUVs. Those are bullet-proof SUVs provided by the City of Montgomery. Jr. III's father had countless death threats before he was killed. The son's life and that of his marching companion that day were no different. Multiple threats had been made toward them, and the event. Behind me when I took that photo were two police bodyguards, King's bodyguard, and an FBI agent. Sadly, violence against political figures, then and later as we'd find out, is something that hasn't changed.

It's only a photo, and without context portrays something banal that happens daily. People walking outside on a beautiful spring day.

Just a photo.

Andy Chandler is a presidential historian and a museum archivist at Candles Holocaust Museum in Terre Haute and the Ernie Pyle WW II Museum in Dana Ind.



Photos courtesy Andy Chandler

Beckwith is pointing toward a bright future.

The top two government officials in the state seem to be on the same page.

Beckwith definitely knows how to rally a crowd.

Lt. Governor Micah Beckwith. Sine Cera. Part II

EDITOR'S NOTE: Andy Chandler is a presidential historian and a museum archivist at Candles Holocaust Museum in Terre Haute and the Ernie Pyle WW II Museum in Dana Ind. He is also a photographer and his work is often seen on these pages. Recently he sat down with Indiana Lt. Gov. Micah Beckwith. The second of a two-part series is presented today.

Part II: The Initiative

It was only two weeks ago to the day of my interview with Lt. Governor Beckwith that Governor Braun signed Executive Order 2-26 placing Lt. Governor Beckwith at the head of

faith-based initiatives. When I asked him about the order's origins, the Lt. Governor stated that the idea started before the 2024 election and came from, "organic dialogue between myself and then Sen. Braun. I told him, 'I know you have strong faith and understand the value that faith community brings in partnering with state initiatives.' I think that he is an incredible man of faith, and he understands that God has laid things out the way that we as human beings should follow. He doesn't shy away from that. He said we needed to bring priests, pastors and rabbis. So, this started two years ago."

Regarding what happened after he entered office, "When we got into office, I hired a faith-based initiative director." He went on to speak about how both offices wanted to take things to the next step and from that came the Executive Order which gives it state backing and legitimacy.

That question did bring up a further comment by Beckwith regarding his relationship with Gov. Braun and his office.

"People have asked me, 'What's your relationship with the governor?' I think they think there's drama. The governor, myself and our teams, we have been

linking arms since day one. We don't get push back from the governor's office, I mean they'll give us a heads up. They'll call us and say, 'There's this or there's that.' But they've never said, 'Don't you dare say this,' or 'You'd better say that.'"

Back to the initiative.

According to the Lt. Governor, the initiative will be starting with faith-based roundtables in every county. He wants them to engage in solving problems: "How do we increase foster care families? How do we decrease homelessness and decrease poverty and food

See **BECKWITH** Page 5



UNCLUTCH YOUR PEARLS; THE REDESIGNED 2026 SUBARU OUTBACK WILDERNESS IS STILL A CRAZY-CAPABLE FAMILY WAGON

Subaru found a way to please loyal Outback owners and SUV-intenders alike.



CASEY WILLIAMS
Columnist

I don't want to like this car. Subaru decided to redesign its iconic Outback, a high-riding wagon that virtually invented the crossover segment, with boxy styling embracing SUVs and seemingly rejecting its wagon origins. However, if we peel away the new rugged suit, we find the 2026 Subaru Outback Wilderness doesn't stray far from what very loyal owners love.

It's personal; my family has a 2022 Outback Wilderness in which we've driven thousand-mile days between Indianapolis and Dallas, reveled in a foot of snow, and tackled off-road trails you wouldn't dare. It also gets my daughter to school, brings home furniture from IKEA, and takes my husband to work. It seemingly does everything well.

I parked our previous-gen model next to the new one. They share a wheelbase, 9.5-inches of ground clearance, 17-inch matte black wheels, all-road tires, and copper accents. They are virtually the same length and height, which brings me to understand the new one looks like an SUV, but is still very-much a wagon at heart. Its roof rails still support 800-lbs. of static load for tent camping and it can tow 3,500 lbs.

I have two main gripes with my current Outback: Even with software upgrades, the infotainment screen takes a block to boot up and the stereo sounds tinny and terrible. Harman Kardon audio was not available in Wilderness trim.

All fixed. In fact, the 12.1-inch infotainment screen is the first thing you'll notice when sliding into the new Outback as it's front and center with crisp graphics, quick start-up, and intuitive controls. Drivers get a fully digital instrument cluster. Harman Kardon audio provides sound the Outback Wilderness deserves – as do wireless Apple CarPlay,

Android Auto and console phone charging.

And it feels familiar. Passengers slide in slightly higher, but the view over the hood and windshield rake are more wagon than SUV. Standard vegan leather seats with copper accents are heated and ventilated. Leather and leg-extensions are optional, amping luxury to near-Touring levels. A heated copper-tinged steering wheel, power moonroof, heated rear seats and dual-zone automatic climate control remain.

Fortifying Subaru's reputation for safety is its three-camera EyeSight system to enable adaptive cruise, automatic emergency braking, lane keep assist, and lane-centering steering. It also employs blind spot warning, rear auto brake, and emergency evasive steering assist.

One expects an Outback to be capable off-road, but the Wilderness is seriously quick – capable of matching my 1989 Corvette's acceleration of 0-60 mph in under 6 seconds. Thank fat tires and off-road gearing combined with a 2.4-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine and standard all-wheel-drive. Output is rated 260 horsepower and 277 lb.-ft. of torque. Fuel economy ticks up to 21/27-MPG city/hwy.

I'd like it even better with a hybrid option.

Like my OG Outback Wilderness, the new one has dual-mode X-Mode to configure the powertrain for all conditions, including deep snow and mud. It includes hill descent control, which I've used to creep down steep rocky trails. Even better, the new version offers electronic suspension damping to absorb virtually any terrain. It's crazy capable for a family wagon.

Like a lot of Subaru fans, I clutched my pearls at the automaker "ruining" my favorite wagon. Chill everybody; it's still a wagon... Do I love its styling? No! Would I buy another? Absolutely. If Subaru can keep fans happy while welcoming SUV-intenders, then mission accomplished.

Even while moving production from Lafayette, Indiana to Japan, prices have remained consistent. The Outback starts at \$34,995, climbing to \$44,995 for Wilderness models and \$50,930 for our well-equipped test car. Compare to the Honda Passport TrailSport, Jeep Cherokee Overland, Nissan Rogue Rock Creek and Toyota RAV4 Woodland.

Storm Forward!

Send comments to Casey at AutoCasey@aol.com; follow him on YouTube @ [AutoCasey](#).

LIKES

- UPDATED INFOTAINMENT
- ELECTRONIC SUSPENSION
- CRAZY CAPABLE

DISLIKES

- UGLY GRILLE
- BOXIER STYLING
- NO HANDS-OFF

2026 Subaru Outback Wilderness

Five-passenger, AWD Crossover
Powertrain: 2.4-liter T4, CVT
Output: 260hp/277 lb.-ft. torque
Suspension f/r: Elect Ind/Ind
Wheels f/r: 17"/17" alloy
Brakes f/r: disc/disc
Towing: 3,500 lbs.
Fuel economy: 21/27 mpg city/hwy
Assembly: Ota, Gunma, Japan
Base/As-tested price: \$34,995/50,930

Sweeping Up the Confetti



CARRIE CLASSON
The Postscript

My husband, Peter, and I have landed in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, and already the strange seems familiar again.

One of the things that impresses me every time I am here is the attention given to jobs that I don't always think of as needing a lot of attention. Masonry work is meticulous and crafted to last centuries. Cloth is woven one thread at a time, creating utterly unique works. Gardening is done with such patience and consistency that there are blooms every month of the year. But this morning, I was noticing the street sweepers.

The street sweepers are legion. I have no idea what their actual numbers are, but in the center of the old town, where we stay, you cannot walk down a street from the first light of morning until well after dark without encountering a person dressed in red, with a homemade broom and a sturdy dustpan affixed to a stick. Litter does not stand a chance in this town. Stray leaves are corralled as they fall. And, to me, the most amazing thing is how they sweep up the confetti.

In San Miguel, there are a lot of reasons to celebrate.

There are weddings every weekend, the city throws a party every week, and quinceañeras—the special 15th birthday party celebrations for girls in enormous poofy dresses—occur nearly every day. And most of these events involve confetti.

But between Valentine's Day and Easter, cascarones are sold on the street by the boxful. Cascarones are just ordinary eggs with the insides blown out, filled with confetti. Children throw them at each other. Lovers smash them over each other's heads. Everyone runs and laughs, hurling confetti-filled eggs at one another. It is a huge amount of fun. It is also terribly messy.

And so, every evening without fail, the street sweepers are out, sweeping every fleck of confetti and eggshell off the streets, a job that would be tricky under any circumstances, but is made much more difficult because the streets are made of brick and cobblestones.

They sweep up after parades and wedding processions. After the young quinceañera has hiked up her hoop skirt and moved on (usually revealing a pair of sensible sneakers

beneath her voluminous skirts), the sweepers move in.

This morning, I was out earlier than usual, and I saw a pickup truck filled with street sweepers. There was a white fence around the pickup bed, and the sweepers were standing in the moving truck, talking and laughing as they were deposited at whatever street corner they were scheduled to start work. And I thought how much I have to learn from the street sweepers.

It is easy to sweep up the big messes. A lot of folks do it, in one way or another. They get paid for doing the bare minimum and that is the end of it. But to do a job—particularly a job that few people truly appreciate—to do that job really well takes a special kind of dedication and, I believe, repays the sweeper in a special way.

Showing up earlier than absolutely necessary, smiling at the person I am working with, doing a bit more than is required just to make the next person's work a little easier—there is an intrinsic value to these things that brings joy and a sense of accomplishment.

The sweepers show me the value of a job well done, whether one is creating something that will last for decades, or sweeping up the confetti that will surely fall again later that day.

Till next time,

Carrie



Providing an affordable and positive baseball experience for all young men ages 13-18

The 2026 Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball Season begins April 13, 2026 and ends on June 17, 2026.
(You do not need to be a Noblesville resident as we welcome ball players from surrounding communities).

There will be two Leagues: 13-15 year old Competitive League and 16-18 year old Competitive League.

Both 13-15 League and 16-18 League will begin play on April 13, 2026. A double-elimination tournament will be played June 7-17, 2026.
**Note: Dates subject to change due to weather or unforeseen circumstances.*

Registration Fee: 2026 Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball registration fee is \$199 (plus processing fee applied at checkout) and includes team jersey and hat.

Player Evaluations: 13-15 year old players new to Noblesville Babe Ruth Baseball or 13-15 year old players wishing to re-enter the team draft need to attend the player evaluation session scheduled for March 14, 2026 from 2 pm-4 pm at Noblesville High School. **More details to be provided at a later date.*

Register today at:
noblesvillebaberuthbaseball.sportsengine-prelive.com

Interested in supporting our young men and helping with continued upgrades to our facility? Sponsor opportunities are still available!
Email nbrbcommunications@gmail.com for more information.

KENNY THOMPSON



With decades of experience as an award-winning sports writer and sports editor – most of it covering Purdue athletics – Kenny Thompson has a perspective and inside knowledge that few others have. Whether it's putting what's going on in the Big Ten in historical perspective or shooting straight from the hip on what's happening today, no one has a better take on Purdue and sports than Kenny!

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Cramping My Style



DICK WOLFSIE
Columnist

I have leg cramps. I know the last thing you want to hear about is the medical problems of some two-bit humorist.

Sometimes my calf cramps into a knot at night, and the pain becomes unbearable. My hands also cramp, along with my fingers. Sometimes, it's my thigh. Keep reading this column; it's about to get funnier. I promise.

I was tempted to go online for advice. AI also seemed like a good option, assuming that AI stood for Arthritis Information.

By pure chance, I was downtown the other day to see my accountant about taxes. While in the elevator, I saw an old friend. "Hey, Dick, how ya doin'?" "Joel, I don't like to complain, but at night I get these terrible..."

"Don't tell me... leg cramps. I used to get them too. Here's what I recommend: Take vitamin E three times a day. It's like a miracle."

I've never trusted the Internet for health information, but I am always eager to take advice in an elevator. To be certain, I called my doctor to ask for his opinion. He told me that vitamin E was

not good for me because of an interaction with another medication I am taking for my cholesterol. Then he asked me exactly where I had gotten this faulty data. I told him the 14th floor of OneAmerica Tower. "That's a really stupid place to get medical advice," he told me. "You couldn't wait another minute to get to Skyline Club? At least you'd have a good dinner before a bad night's sleep."

I went back to see my accountant later that week with some more forms. On the same elevator, I bumped into another old buddy—"old" being the key word here again. "Hey, Dick, word is out you are having leg cramps."

"Wow, word sure travels up and down fast in this building. Well, what do you think? I'm always open to a second-floor opinion. Or a second, second-floor opinion."

"My dad had leg cramps, then he started drinking a gin and tonic every night for 30 years before he went to bed—and he never had cramps again."

"What did the trick? The gin or the tonic?"

"He didn't care? It worked."

I did some googling and found that the gin might help you forget your pain, but it was clearly the quinine in the tonic that really eased the cramps. For the next two weeks, I drank a quart of tonic before bed. It had little effect on the problem, so now I'm willing to at least consider the therapeutic benefit of gin.

Over the course of a month, I asked several friends for recommendations. Here are some of the remedies suggested: zinc, magnesium, Vitamin E, quinine, biofeedback, cherry extract, folic acid, potassium, turmeric, and of course, Tylenol

I am not going to take any of this advice, nor should you, but I have noticed lately that my legs tend to cramp at night after vigorous exercise on the exercise bike or after playing more than an hour of pickleball. I'm no doctor, but I am prescribing myself a complete lack of physical activity for the next six months. And a shot of gin before going to bed.

I'd take it with tonic water, but I don't believe everything I hear in elevators.

I did try one suggestion. It's not on the list above. Wait till next week to hear about it.

Dick Wolfsie is a retired TV personality, author, speaker, teacher and all-around good guy. His award-winning column appears here weekly.



Photo courtesy Allison Waitt

Former Colts Punter and now Indiana House of Representatives member Hunter Smith spoke at Sheridan.

Representative Hunter Smith Visits Sheridan Schools

On Monday, March 23, Sheridan High School welcomed Representative Hunter Smith to speak with students!

Representative Smith, who serves District 24 and is a former India-

napolis Colts Super Bowl champion, took time to speak with SCS students, share his experiences, and tour the facilities. His unique path journeys from professional athletics to public service, business, and farming. He gave our

students valuable insight into leadership and perseverance.

Thank you for visiting and investing in the future of the Blackhawks!

Tucker Agents Honored

Several F.C. Tucker Company sales associates from the Noblesville office were recently honored for their 2025 accomplishments by F.C. Tucker Company, part of the Howard Hanna family of companies.

Award winners were named in the following notable categories:

Dani Robinson has received three awards:

- Leading Sales Producer, without Licensed

- Team Member
- Indianapolis Top 10, without Licensed Team Member
- Platinum Club

Josh Baxter has received two awards:

- President's Club, First-Time Member
- Executive Club, First-Time Member

Lisa Aerne & Associates has received two awards:

- Leading Sales Producer, with Licensed Team Member
- Platinum Club

Platinum Club:

- Craig Bowen
- Derek Manis
- Kurt Meyer
- Christian Peachey Travis

Executive Club, First-Time Member:

- Kristin Schiesser

DENARI

Continued from Page 1

Playhouse, along with face painting, airbrush tattoos, and balloon artists.

Parking will be available at Westfield High School, including accessible spaces, the Westfield Washington Public Library, downtown parking lots, and The Union Garage.

Saturday, July 4: West-

field Rocks the 4th

The celebration concludes at Droplight Grand Park Sports Campus on July 4 from 4 to 10:30 p.m. with Westfield Rocks the 4th, the city's annual Independence Day event. The event will feature live entertainment, including The Flying Toasters and The 1985, eating contests for adults and

children, and a fireworks and drone show.

The kids zone will offer attractions and activities. Wristbands are \$10 for ages 4 and older. Children 3 and younger are free.

More information about these events can be found at westfieldin.gov/america250.

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Rocker Stewart Copeland to Share His Story in Carmel

Famously outspoken founder of the British new wave scene's biggest band, Stewart Copeland, will share tales of his globetrotting career in an August appearance at Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts.

Have I Said Too Much – The Police, Hollywood and Other Adventures is the first U.S. spoken-word tour by Copeland, drummer for the Police, multiple Grammy winner, Rock and Roll Hall of Famer, writer, filmmaker, and composer of film scores, operas and video game soundtracks.

The presentation, which includes rarely seen photos and videos and a Q&A, is set for 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 2, at the 500-seat Tarkington theater, 3 Carter Green, Carmel. Tickets starting at \$35 go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday at TheCenterPresents.org, by phone at (317) 843-3800, or in person at the Payne & Mencias Palladium's Fifth Third Bank Box

Office at 1 Carter Green. The event is part of the 2026-2027 Center Presents Season sponsored by Allied Solutions, which will be fully unveiled in May.

The Police formed in 1977 as a reggae- and jazz-influenced punk trio and became arguably the most successful pop/rock band of the era before disbanding at the height of their fame in 1986. With hits like "Message in a Bottle," "Don't Stand So Close to Me," "Every Little Thing She Does Is Magic" and "Every Breath You Take," Copeland and bandmates Sting and Andy Summers sent four consecutive albums to No. 1, claimed five Grammys and two BRIT Awards, and sold 75 million records worldwide. Their 2007 reunion tour was the highest-grossing outing of the year.

Copeland's solo work as a composer has extended to the fields of opera, ballet, chamber music, world

music and soundtracks for such films as Francis Ford Coppola's *Rumblefish* and Oliver Stone's *Wall Street*. More recently, he published two autobiographical books and mounted the Police Deranged for Orchestra tour, which played the Payne & Mencias Palladium in 2023.

CALENDAR: SPEAKERS

Stewart Copeland: *Have I Said Too Much – The Police, Hollywood and Other Adventures*

7:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 2

The Tarkington

Allied Solutions Center for the Performing Arts, 3 Carter Green, Carmel, IN 46032

Tickets: From \$35, on sale 10 a.m. March 27

Purchase and information:

TheCenterPresents.org

(317) 843-3800

BECKWITH

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insecurity? How do we go after these addiction epidemics from opioids to fentanyl and some of these life destroying addictions that people find themselves in, and that comes best when faith communities engage."

He concedes that the government has shortcomings in how it can help people. "The government is terrible at caring for people. The government does not care for people, and honestly it wasn't designed to be compassionate. The government's job is to be the sword of justice, and I would even contend that the government can't be compassionate. It was not designed to be compassionate. It as an entity is not able to be compassionate. The compassion comes from people who, out of faith, commitment to honor God, and honor your neighbor, step up to serve their neighbor. That to me is where we've done a disservice as government to come in and say, 'We don't need the faith community; We'll try to be the compassion.' We get out there and what happens? Government bureaucracy grows. Agencies just start seeing people as numbers. They don't actually care if someone's getting off addiction, they just have a job to do and you're just a number. If you're homeless, you're just a number. We'll help you, maybe kind of. We'll help you get some relief, but it's just a Bbandaid. But you're not getting a holistic healing."

I asked him if he'd seen examples of how he wanted this initiative to look. His eyes lit up and he gave a firm nod. "Florida has a program called Hope Navigators and Iowa has one called Thrive. We'll probably model ours after both of those. I've talked to Casey DeSantis multiple times. They are basically creating these Hope Naviga-

tors in all the counties to where you're essentially a counselor to people, but you're just not a counselor to get them the resources, SNAP benefits, housing assistance, or addiction recovery. It's not just about that. It is about that, but it's not just about that. The other aspect of these Hope Navigators is that they say, 'We want to get you connected to a faith community. Let's get you plugged in somewhere where there's going to be pastors, life group members, or people who are in this community who can walk with you when the government has to go. We want you to have a community. And then they say, 'What do you want to be in 10 years? A Hope Navigator will say, 'What's your purpose in life?' When has the government ever stopped and asked, 'What's your purpose, what dreams do you have?'"

"Not that I can recall." I responded.

"That's where these Hope Navigators come and say we want you to find purpose. So, they train these navigators to find purpose which only comes when God gets involved. When God gets involved that's when their purpose comes alive. That's a model we'll be looking at."

He went onto say that Casey DeSantis told him that they (The State of Florida) have saved \$100 million and they project it'll be about \$100 million savings every year when it comes to government assisting people. She states that over 10 years it will be over a billion dollars.

I asked him if the government would provide aid to religious organizations in the form of finance and possible logistics. He was direct. "I don't think faith communities need government

money, and if faith communities come and say we need government money, I would say they need to evaluate who's their provider. Who's their Jehovah Jireh?"

One of the biggest questions, in fact a question so big, I had friends asking me to ask him this, was whether faith-based meant incorporating other faiths outside of Judeo-Christianity. My question to him was if the term faith-based would use an upper- or lower-case 'f'.

His response was, "If you look at the Declaration [of Independence] when it speaks of all men being endowed by their Creator, was that an upper- or lower-case C?"

I paused for a second. "Upper."

He leaned back in his chair like an instructor whose students understood the assignment. He is an instructor at a home school co-op.

"The Framers had in mind a Judeo-Christian God. With a capital C when they used the word Creator."

I asked him about whether the eight points of the Executive Order were going to be used as metrics for the success of the EO. He stated that the question was a good one. He has a team working on it, but reminded me that the EO was only signed two weeks ago.

"In a couple months, I think maybe the goal for us should be for us to have the measurables laid out. So, I think that would be very appropriate to come back in a couple of months and say, 'Hey give an update on the faith-based initiatives, executive order and what are the measurables.'"

To quote the famous governor from California: I'll be back.

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Photos courtesy NFD

NFD Responds to Residence Fire

Shortly after 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, the Noblesville Fire Department was dispatched by the Hamilton County Communications Department to the 600 block of Christian Avenue for a reported porch fire.

Upon arrival, the first units encountered heavy smoke and fire conditions coming from the front of the residence. The home was unoccupied at the time of the incident. Three pets were safely removed from the home by neigh-

bors and a Noblesville Police Department Community Service Officer prior to firefighters' arrival.

Fire crews acted quickly to bring the fire under control while additional personnel worked to protect nearby homes from potential extension. The fire was contained without further incident.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation and has not yet been released.

The Noblesville Fire Department was assisted on scene by the Noblesville Police Department.

The Noblesville Fire Department would like to remind residents that working smoke detectors save lives. If you need assistance with checking, replacing, or installing smoke detectors, NFD personnel are available to help. To schedule a visit from a Noblesville firefighter, please email thash@noblesville.in.gov.

Rokita Co-Leads Opposition to Court-Ordered Prisoner Sex-Change Surgeries

Attorney General Todd Rokita, together with Idaho Attorney General Raúl Labrador and a coalition of 24 states, has filed an amicus curiae brief in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals strongly arguing that the Eighth Amendment does not require states to provide prisoners with risky, controversial and medically debated sex-change surgeries.

The case, *Emalee R. Wagoner v. Jennifer Winkelman*, Commissioner of Department of Corrections (No. 25-6813), arises from a U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska order directing the state to refer the prisoner for surgical consultation. The multi-state brief argues that this ruling exceeds constitutional limits and overrides states' authority over prison medical care and policy, so the decision should be reversed.

According to Rokita, Indiana is co-leading this brief because a ruling upholding the order

could create a nationwide precedent. That would pressure prison systems across the country – including in Indiana – to provide or pay for similar surgeries, even though many states do not offer them to inmates or even to free citizens.

"The Eighth Amendment stops cruel and unusual punishment. It doesn't give prisoners the right to demand risky, optional surgeries when doctors and scientists still strongly disagree about whether they're safe or even helpful," Rokita said. "If courts force states to provide these expensive, controversial procedures in one prison, it will open the floodgates everywhere – putting Hoosier taxpayers and families across the country on the hook for hundreds of thousands of dollars per surgery in virtually every state. We cannot let that happen. We have to win this case to protect hardworking taxpayers from footing the bill for these insane surgeries."

The brief stresses that the Eighth Amendment bars deliberate indifference to serious medical needs but does not guarantee prisoners access to any particular treatment—especially those that are unproven, highly debated, and carry significant risks with uncertain benefits.

It notes that such surgeries are unavailable to free citizens in nearly half of U.S. states, underscoring they are not a basic necessity. The amici also contend that prior Ninth Circuit case law does not require these procedures, and mandating out-of-state prisoner transfers for unavailable care raises major federalism issues and conflicts with the Prison Litigation Reform Act.

The coalition asks the Ninth Circuit to vacate the district court's injunction and affirm states' discretion in managing prisoner healthcare and corrections.

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Easter Fun at Sheridan Library



Photos courtesy Sheridan Library

Sheridan Public Library was filled with fun at the annual Easter Egg Hunt. Children were delighted to hunt for candy-filled eggs, play fun games and make spring crafts. The Easter Bunny hopped by to visit with children and take adorable photos.



Photo courtesy Indiana American Water

An Indiana American Water employee flushes a hydrant last May in Kokomo.

Main Flushing Taking Place in Noblesville, Sheridan, Fishers

Indiana American Water will conduct water main flushing in two of its Hamilton County service areas beginning this month.

- In Sheridan, spring flushing will begin today and run through April 3, from the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- In the Noblesville service area, flushing will begin overnight on Tuesday, April 14 and continue through Thursday, April 16 in the downtown area from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Flushing of the remaining areas of Noblesville and portions of Fishers will start on Wednesday, April 16th and run through Friday, June 26 on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The company conducts the annual maintenance program to assure high-quality water service and to ensure fire hydrants are operational. Water main and fire hydrant flushing is an important part of a regular maintenance program for water distribution systems.

No interruptions in water service are anticipated as a result of the work. Customers may experience a slight drop in water pressure or temporary water discoloration while this program is underway. Customers should refrain from doing laundry during the time of day if they observe flushing is taking place in or near their neighborhood.

If tap water is discolored, Indiana American Water recommends allowing several cold-water faucets to run for a short time until the water runs clear. Using more than one faucet allows the water to clear more quickly. The water main flushing will be performed by Indiana American Water crews. They will be working out of trucks identified with the company logo. All employees will also have photo ID badges.

Learn more on how to prepare for flushing in your area and why we perform these annual tasks, by watching the following video: <https://youtu.be/KbqDPZeMYNc>

Fire Hydrant Safety

Unauthorized use of fire hydrants can be dangerous. Only fire department personnel and authorized maintenance workers should operate fire hydrants. Unauthorized use can damage hydrants, lower water pressure, and risk water quality. If you see an open hydrant, report it immediately to the local authorities.

How to receive customer notifications

American Water often uses its phone/text/email customer notification system to notify you before we begin flushing your neighborhood. You must opt-in to these types of non-emergency alerts.

- Log into MyWater, our customer portal, at: mywater.amwater.com.
- On the Alert Settings tile, click on the Edit button, which will take you to the page where you can update your contact information and preferences.

Weichert Agents Honored

Weichert, Realtors® - EPG is proud to announce that local agents were honored by the national franchise organization, Weichert Real Estate Affiliates, Inc., for outstanding real estate performance in 2025.

"We are incredibly proud of our affiliates and their agents for their remarkable achievements over the past year," said Bill

Scavone, president of Weichert Real Estate Affiliates, Inc. "Their dedication, expertise, and commitment to providing outstanding service truly set them apart. They persevered and found success during what was widely considered one of the most challenging years in real estate."

The following agents earned recognition for

reaching specified levels of real estate production in gross commission income or units closed in 2025.

Carrie Clark - President's Club - Platinum
Isabella Clark - Ambassador Club

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