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BOWLING GREEN

MONDAY, MAY 18, 2026

## WCPS celebrates 2026 graduates



PHOTOS BY GRACE MCDOWELL / THE DAILY NEWS

Warren East High School's 208 graduating seniors toss their caps at the end of their graduation ceremony at WKU's E.A. Diddle Arena on Saturday.



Greenwood High School graduating seniors march into WKU's E.A. Diddle Arena.



Malika Avdic fixes the tassel on her cap before she waits to march in their graduation ceremony at WKU's E.A. Diddle Arena.



Warren Central High School's 254 graduating seniors move their tassels over at the end of their graduation ceremony at WKU's E. A. Diddle Arena on Saturday, May 16, 2026.

## Allen, Butler to choose judge-executives Tuesday

By Jack Dobbs  
The Daily News

Two Republican candidates are in the running for Allen County Judge-Executive, a race that will act effectively as a general election for the office as no Democrats have filed.



Rob Herrington

Dennis Harper was first elected judge-executive of Allen County in 2018. Prior to serving as the head of county government, he spent three terms on the Allen Fiscal Court as first district magistrate.



Dennis Harper

"We have more I want to see get done, and (I) just feel like my experience can help lead us," Harper said. "I'm not finished giving to the county."



Tim Flener

Increasing the reach of Allen County emergency responders is a proud point for Harper. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, Allen County used funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to build a new fire station near the Allen-Warren County line.



Travis McIntosh

"That area is now covered with fire protection, lowering people's insurance rates significantly out in that area," he said.

Looking ahead, Harper said if reelected he will focus on continuing to encourage economic development in Allen County, along with finishing a long-in-the-works sports complex.

Work on the complex began just before the pandemic. Space will be available for soccer and football, ponds will be created for fishing and basketball and pickleball courts will come along as well.

"This park will provide our

See ALLEN, 3A

## County gives final approval to development area

By Jack Dobbs  
The Daily News

A new economic development district in Warren County is now ready to begin as Warren Fiscal Court on Thursday gave final approval to an ordinance creating the Nashville Road Local Development Area, something the county hopes will support a large development underway that will include the region's first Publix grocery store.

The district will act similarly to a Tax Increment Financing

district, where revenue from taxes is reinvested in the area.

Magistrates approved a first reading of the ordinance earlier this month. Under the ordinance, 75% of tax revenue will be reimbursed to STNL Nashville Road, LLC, the developer leading the project.

Rebates will cover costs associated with infrastructure upgrades in the area, including improvements made to Dillard Road ahead of Publix's opening.

"This is maybe as much as a \$75-\$80 million investment in

that area, and it will grow from there," Judge-Executive Doug Gorman said then.

Warren County Treasurer's office is overseeing the area. STNL will be reimbursed up to \$4 million for costs associated with infrastructure work. The development area will terminate once the \$4 million mark is hit, or after 15 years, whichever comes first.

"It is a way for a private company to make a significant investment and for the county to be able to incentivize them

to do infrastructure improvements," Gorman said then, adding that this measure has been done to encourage growth in the Kentucky Transpark.

Publix's store in the area will join a host of other businesses also moving to the corner of Nashville and Dillard Roads. A McDonald's location is expected to come along, as is a Fifth Third Bank branch and a Speedway convenience store.

The development will also have an apartment complex totaling more than 200 units.

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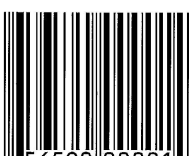


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