

news release

Area 9 In-Home & Community Services
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Tony Shepherd, Executive Director
765-966-1795 or 1-800-458-9345

PICKLEBALL IS COMING TO EAST CENTRAL INDIANA!

Pickleball is coming to east central Indiana, specifically Connersville, Cambridge City, Rushville and Richmond.

Last year the Area 9 In-Home and Community Services Agency secured a “special projects” grant from the State of Indiana to promote health and wellness, especially among older adults. A large portion of that grant was to build pickleball courts in four locations. Franklin County already had a dual court and was the inspiration for the rest of the area.

Pickleball is a hybrid of tennis, but much less physically strenuous. Although it is enjoyed by seniors, the courts are open to younger adults and children so as to promote intergenerational physical exercise.

Double pickleball courts have been built in Connersville, Cambridge City and Richmond. Rushville chose a single court design and Brookville had a double court at the Franklin County Park. Parks departments or community centers donated the use of land for the pickleball courts.

Pickleball is an enjoyable game that is played on a court about half the size of a tennis court. There is a net similar to tennis. The ball used travels much slower than a tennis ball and is a perforated plastic baseball, similar to a whiffle ball. Wood or composite paddles are used which are larger than a ping pong paddle, but smaller than a tennis racket. It is an easy game to learn, but can develop into a quick, fast paced, competitive game for experienced players.

The USA Pickleball Association website is an excellent way to find out information about pickleball: www.usapa.org. The website has beginner’s information and rules information.

“Most of all, pickleball is a fun activity for not only older adults, but for the whole family,” says Tony Shepherd, Executive Director of the Area 9 Agency which is promoting pickleball for its health and wellness aspects.

The following is a list of scheduled ribbon cuttings and new court dedication activities:

April 20th – 10:00am Connersville, Roberts Park
1:30pm Rushville, Rush County Senior Center

April 29th – 10:00am Richmond, Richmond Senior Community Center
1:30pm Cambridge City, Golay Community Center – Western Wayne Senior Center

Please call the scheduled location for details or the Area 9 Agency at 765-966-1795 or 1-800-458-9345 and ask for Tony. The Area 9 Agency is a service of Indiana University East.