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**TODAY'S VERSE**

Psalm 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**FACES OF MONTGOMERY**

People who call our community their own.



Carly Joy McAllister was hard at work at Dollar General when one of our roving photographers happened by. Even with the busy shopping season, she still had time for a smile!

**THREE THINGS You Should Know:**

**1** The Indiana Legislature will be back in session soon and there are already rumblings about the politicians taking public notice ads out of newspapers so that the foxes are finally guarding the henhouse. Rep. Tim Brown of Crawfordsville recently sent a survey out that included this question: "Currently, most units of local government, including schools, must buy newspaper advertising space for certain announcements, like budgets. Do you believe posting this information online as well as in a public building should be alternative options to this sometimes costly notification requirement?" Rep. Brown did not mention that governmental public notices are the cheapest rate of advertising we offer - preferring instead to add the word "costly." We hope you'll let Brown know you don't appreciate his attempt to pull public notice from the last guardians of a free press. You can reach his legislative assistant at (317) 232-9651.

**2** The holidays are upon us, and while it is a season of festivities and joy, it is also one of the most dangerous times of year for drunk driving which is why December is National Impaired Driving Prevention Month. A new national survey by SafeAuto reveals that 40 percent of Americans ages 21-34 say they are more likely to drive after consuming alcohol over the holidays than at other times of the year.

**3** Then it seems fitting that, according to the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, more than 200 police agencies will be increasing patrols during the holiday season, as part of a statewide crackdown on impaired driving. Going on now through Jan. 1, officers will be on high alert for anyone driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Law enforcement will also be watching for seat belt violations and other forms of dangerous driving. This is part of the Safe Family Travel campaign aimed at reducing crashes and traffic fatalities around the holidays, when statistics show an increased potential for drunk driving. Every year, more than 10,000 people die in drunk-driving crashes in the U.S. Last December, 73 people lost their lives in fatal collisions in Indiana.

# The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

50¢

CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

WWW.THEPAPER24-7.COM

## Our veterans are the best



Photos courtesy of Joe Ellis, Montgomery County Veterans Service Officer

Here are three pictures of veterans that were taken gifts to at local nursing homes. The first is a picture of Bob & Joyce Cowan along with Joe Ellis, Bob & Joyce, Dave Sadler Bonita Clements and Tim McMahan. The second pic is Caleb Surface and in picture three we have Wayne Simpson. But we traveled to Ben Hur, Lane Place, Bickford Place, Wellbrooke and Hickory Creek. A group of veterans from Post 72 of the American Legion took a total of 36 gift bags to all of the veterans.

## Christmas in Waynetown



Photo courtesy of Judi Wooton

The little community of Waynetown has such a nice display of Christmas lights for folks to drive through at Tremaine Park. Best of all, there is no cost - although there is a container where voluntary donations are gratefully accepted. If you are out looking at Christmas lights, this is a good one to check out!

## Born, raised and lived here

Tragedies followed this Montgomery Countian through life. The Ball commonality seems to equal blue eyes.

The Ball family in MoCo has indeed been my subject before; however, this is the first I've researched this particular one and may even be the first I've heard of him.



KAREN ZACH  
Around The County

His father, Thomas Zopher Ball was a farmer in Union Township for decades as were some of his brothers, including Elihu Crane, Lafayette Zopher and Cyrus. At least three sisters rounded-off this family (Nancy, Almira Jane and Mary Ann). Solomon was twice married, the mother of my subject, Zephaniah Mitchel Ball, being Lucetta Banks Crane. The Balls didn't stop there, either, as Solomon was blessed with

See KAREN Page A6

## The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset  
RISE: 8:07 a.m.  
SET: 5:27 p.m.



High/Low  
Temperatures  
High: 47 °F  
Low: 25 °F



- Wacky Holiday Today
- HumanLight
  - National Roots Day
  - National Regifting Day



- What Happened On This Day
- 1975 Metric Conversion Act signed by U.S. President Gerald Ford
  - 1888 Vincent van Gogh cuts off his ear



- Births On This Day
- 1944 Wesley Clark American general
  - 1963 Jim Harbaugh American football player

- Deaths On This Day
- 2007 Oscar Peterson Canadian pianist
  - 1795 Henry Clinton English general, politician

## HONEST HOOSIER

Christmas is two days away. One of my favorite memories is seeing L.S. Ayres and William H. Block in downtown Indianapolis all decorated.



## TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Eating quickly can triple your chance of becoming overweight - put the fork down between bites and allow your stomach to realize it's full. Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Paper and online at www.thepaper24-7.com.



## INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

Obituaries.....A2  
Meeting Notes.....A4  
Classifieds.....A5

## THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

### Holiday schedule

Like the city and county offices, The Paper offices will be closed Friday, Dec. 24 and Monday, Dec. 27. In addition, we won't have an Online Edition on Christmas Day, Sunday and Monday. Our Online Edition will resume on Tuesday, Dec. 28. All Indiana BMV offices will be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. A few other branches (not Crawfordsville) will be closed on Thursday.

## TODAY'S QUOTE

"Every time a bell rings an angel gets his wings."  
It's a Wonderful Life

## TODAY'S JOKE

What does Santa do when his elves misbehave?  
He gives them the sack!

## OBITUARIES

SEE OBITUARIES ON PAGE A2

The Paper appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank CAROL PENDLETON of Crawfordsville for subscribing!



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13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

23/35 SUNNY AND COLD	25/47 MORE CLOUDS, BUILDER	38/56 WARMER FEW SHOWERS	56/62 HEAVY RAIN, WINDY, FEW SHOWERS	32/45 NOT AS WARM	39/56 RAIN CHANCES	39/50 RAIN CHANCES
WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE

## OBITUARIES

### Judie Dell Foster

July 5, 1940 - Dec. 20, 2021

Judie Dell Foster, 81, Ladoga passed away, Dec. 20, 2021, at her home.

She was born July 5, 1940, Green-castle, to the late Herbert and Olas (Gardner) Hinkle.

On Oct. 10, 1958, she married Larry Dean Foster. They were married over 62 years until his passing on Feb. 4, 2021. Mrs. Foster was a homemaker. She enjoyed crocheting, going to yard sales, visiting her friends and playing cards. She was every one's "favorite aunt," and she knew how to keep a secret. In her younger years she was an avid bowler, competing and making so many memories with her friends. She will be greatly missed by many.

Survivors include her children, Timothy Dean Foster, Mark Anthony (Kathy) Foster, and Tina Jo Nicholas (Mike) Back; grandchildren, Alisha Marie Foster (Kenneth) Friend, Laura Elizabeth Foster (Zachary) Henson, Raymond Allen Bobenmoyer (Heather Calliotte), Bryan Dean Bobenmoyer (Alex Samberg) and Samantha Ryan Back; sisters, Joyce (Dennis) Bradshaw and Sally Heller; several nieces and nephews; and great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Larry; and siblings, Margaret Miller, Janice Warren and Herbert Hinkle.

Funeral Service is scheduled at 1 p.m., Dec. 28, 2021, at Servies & Morgan Funeral Home 203 North Washington Street, Ladoga. Burial will follow in Ladoga Cemetery. Visitation will be on Tuesday from 12 p.m. until time of service. Visit [www.serviesmorgan.com](http://www.serviesmorgan.com) where you may share a memory or leave a condolence for the family.

### Doris Branstetter

Nov. 27, 1917 - Dec. 20, 2021

Doris D. Branstetter, Crawfordsville, passed away Monday night in her residence. She was 104.

Born Nov. 27, 1917 in Sullivan County, Indiana, she was the daughter of Ceryl Downen and Ethel Downen.

Mrs. Branstetter was a long-time member of First Christian Church. She also belonged to Psi Iota Xi and a homemaker's club. She enjoyed sewing, playing bridge and golf, but most of all, loved baking and was known as the "Cookie Queen". She taught school for several years and then went to work with her husband owning and operating the lumber yard, B and D Lumber.

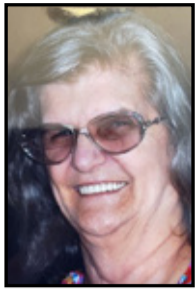
She graduated from Sullivan High School and Purdue, after which she served in the U. S. Navy from 1943 until her honorable discharge in 1946. She married Don E. Branstetter on Feb. 9, 1947. He passed away March 11, 2005.

Survivors include two daughters, Carol Blunt (David) and Linda Branstetter; four granddaughters, Constance Wilcox, Christine Hlavaty, Beth Brock and Annie Smith; seven great-grandsons; one great-granddaughter; and brother, John Downen.

She was preceded in death by her husband; two daughters, Janice Branstetter and Pamela Hlavaty; and four siblings, Earl, Carl, Ruthanne and Martha.

Visitation is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dec. 29th at Burkhardt Funeral Home, 201 W. Wabash Avenue. Services, led by Pastor Darla Goodrich, will begin at 1 p.m., starting with military rites by the Navy and American Legion Post 72 honor guard. Burial will follow at Greenlawn Cemetery in Darlington.

Donations may be made to the charity of your choice. Online condolences may be made at [www.BurkhardtFH.com](http://www.BurkhardtFH.com).



### Edward Lee Ratcliff

Oct. 9, 1932 - Dec. 21, 2021

Edward Lee Ratcliff, 89, Kingman, passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2021 at St. Vincent Indianapolis.

He was born in Kingman on Oct. 9, 1932 to the late Ross E. and Maxine (Glascok) Ratcliff.

Mr. Ratcliff graduated from Kingman High School and served his country in the United States Army during the Korean War. He married the love of his life, Martha Ellen Hardy on Nov. 22, 1956. He was a farmer and drove the school bus for Kingman Schools and Fountain Central. He enjoyed singing, going to auctions and farm sales and spending time with his grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife of 65 years; two sons, Hardy (Sally) Ratcliff and Mark (Judy) Ratcliff; a daughter, Carol Marshall; eight grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Martha Ziegler.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Mary Campbell.

Visitation is scheduled at Sanders Funeral Care, 203 S. 1st Street in Kingman on Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2021 from 11 a.m. until the time of funeral service at 1 p.m. The family had requested that masks be worn. Burial will follow at Kingman Fraternal Cemetery. Sanders Funeral Care is entrusted with care. Share memories and condolences online at [www.sandersfuneralcare.com](http://www.sandersfuneralcare.com).

### Thomas C. Witherspoon

Oct. 20, 1958 - Dec. 9, 2021

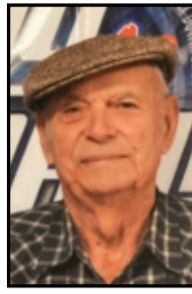
Thomas C. Witherspoon, 63, Crawfordsville, passed away Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021.

He was born Oct. 20, 1958, in Detroit, to Thomas and Catherine Hubbard Witherspoon.

He attended Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn, Mich. Mr. Witherspoon worked as a paleontologist, and was known over the globe as "The Crinoid King" for the extraordinary work he did. He was a member of the "Mid-American Paleontological Society" (MAPS) for over 30 years.

Survivors include his brother, Tim of St. Clair Mich.; his son, Tim of Indianapolis; and a granddaughter, Zoey.

Cremation was chosen with a memorial service to be held at a later date.



### Connie J. Record

May 18, 1953 - Dec. 20, 2021

Connie J. Record, Waveland, passed away unexpectedly Monday at her home. She was 68.

Born May 18, 1953 at Crawfordsville she was the daughter of the late Alfred and Ethel Deck.

She was a graduate of Southmont High School and Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a degree in equine studies. She enjoyed equine work and sold crafts on the side.

Survivors include her sons, Douglas (Anne) Record of Fairbanks, Ala., Aaron (Angela) Record of Delphi, and Andrew (Jennifer) Record of Lafayette; brother, Mike Deck of Montgomery County; twin brother Tom Deck of N.C.; sister, Sandy Deck of Montgomery County; grandchildren, Evan, Kyle, Sara, Wyatt, Mariah, Colin, Bailey and Mikah; and one great-grandchild, Atley.

She was preceded in death by her parents and sister-in-law Lois.

Visitation is scheduled from 1 to 4:30 p.m., Dec. 27th at the Christian Union Church, 1472 North 650 West, Waynetown. Memorial service is scheduled to begin at 4:30 with Pastor Paul Morrison officiating. Private burial will take place at Oak Hill Cemetery North.

Donations may be made in memory to: Christian Union Church, 1472 North 650 West, Waynetown. Online condolences may be made at [www.BurkhardtFH.com](http://www.BurkhardtFH.com)



### Robert Andrew Deme

Oct. 25, 1942 - Dec. 18 2021

Robert Andrew Deme, 79, New Market, passed away on Dec. 18 2021.

He was born in Yonkers, NY on Oct. 25, 1942 to the late Andrew and Catherine Elizabeth (Orth) Deme.

He worked at Midstates Wire and Steel for several years. He enjoyed watching old movies and was a car enthusiast.

Survivors include his friends Jerry and Connie Perkins, Tom Lauy; family; Travis and Veronica Spencer; a cousin Ruth Grant; and his neighbors.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Ray Deme.

There will be a graveside service at Indian Creek Hill Cemetery on Monday, Dec. 27, 2021 at 11 a.m. with Pastor Vernon Dowell officiating and military honors by the United States Army and Post 72 Honor Guard. Sanders Priebe Funeral Care is entrusted with care. Condolences online at [www.sandersfuneralcare.com](http://www.sandersfuneralcare.com).



## Crawfordsville Fire Dept. to donate fire gear to Kentucky Fire Depts. hit by tornadoes

The Crawfordsville Board of Works recently approved the Crawfordsville Fire Department's (CFD) donation of surplus fire gear to fire departments in Kentucky who were affected by the devastating tornadoes that took place earlier this month.

"This was a team effort by CFD, Crawfordsville Professional Firefighters Local 4143, Mayor Todd Barton, Crawfordsville Board of Works and Montgomery County EMA. Because of this,



Photo courtesy of Crawfordsville Fire Department

The Crawfordsville Fire Department donated surplus gear to fire departments in Kentucky that were severely damaged by the devastating tornadoes that hit the state recently.

we were able to move quickly and get these supplies where they needed to go," said Crawfordsville Fire Department Chief Scott Busenbark. "Fire departments in Kentucky are hurting, and this is just a small effort to try and support them with the equipment we have available."

Some fire departments in Kentucky were severely damaged or destroyed completely, losing vital equipment and fire trucks to the storms.

The gear will be sent down with food, clothing and essential tool donations from the Montgomery County Emergency Management Agency. The CFD donation will include loose equipment like axes, flashlights and picks, and three sets of protective clothing gear. The gear will be boxed by the Crawfordsville Professional Firefighters Local 4143 before shipping.

About the City of Crawfordsville: Craw-

fordsville is home to more than 16,000 residents and is the county seat in Montgomery County, Indiana. About an hour west of Indianapolis, the growing city is known for its state and nationally recognized paramedicine program, extensive outdoor recreational opportunities at Shades State Park and Sugar Creek River, and is home to the Ironman Lucas Oil AMA Pro Motocross Championships and Wabash College.




**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR CLIENTS AND EMPLOYEES FOR A GREAT 2021!**  
**May 2022 be as bright and prosperous!**  
**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**  
**Dave, Haley, Kim, Lisa, Paula**

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## Merry Christmas

## & Happy New Year



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# DNR properties offer first day hikes

Usher in 2022 with other outdoor lovers at one of the many First Day Hikes offered Jan. 1 at Indiana's state parks, forests, and lakes. First Day Hikes are a healthy way to start 2022 and a chance to get outside, exercise, enjoy nature and connect with friends. Nearly all state parks and lakes, as well as some state forests, will offer hikes. Find a hike near you at on.IN.gov/INstateparkevents.

The guided hikes are organized by Indiana State Parks in cooperation with America's State Parks. First Day Hikes will take place in all 50 states. First Day Hikes originated more than 20 years ago at the Blue Hills Reservation, a state park in Milton, Massachusetts. The program was launched to foster healthy lifestyles and promote year-round recreation at state parks. For more information, visit America's State Parks' website (stateparks.org) or facebook.com/Americas-State-Parks-205324976548604.

First Day events are listed below. More may be added so check the website if your favorite place isn't listed below:

**Brookville Lake.** Meet at 4 p.m. at the Campground Shelter at Miami State Recreation Area, which is across from the Wildlife Wander Trail. Hike is 0.7 miles, rated easy, and should last about 45 minutes. There will be a campfire after the hike.

**Brown County State Park.** This hike will be open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will be self-guided with interpretive stops along the way, including a hot chocolate stop. Participants should start at the Nature Center. The hike is 2 miles and should take about 90 minutes.

**Cataract Falls.** A brochure for this self-guided hike is available at the gatehouse.

**Chain O'Lakes State Park.** Meet at 2 p.m. at the Sand Lake Beach parking lot for this 1.5-mile hike over easy terrain, which should last about 90 minutes. The hike will be followed by cocoa and cookies as supplies last.

**Charlestown State Park.** Meet at the Trail 3 and 4 parking lot at 10 a.m. for a 2.5-mile, two-hour hike to Rose Island. The hike is considered moderately rugged.

**Clifty Falls State Park.** Meet at the Clifty Shelter at 2 p.m. for a two-hour moderately rugged hike along Trail 8. This trail meanders along the west side of Clifty Creek and offers scenic views of the canyon below. Water and cookies will be provided before the hike. The restroom at Clifty Shelter will be closed for the winter, so plan ahead.

**Falls of the Ohio State Park.** Meet at the Interpretive Center at 2 p.m. to hike the fossil beds and learn about Devonian sea life. Bring binoculars to

look for winter birds. The Interpretive Center will be closed on Jan. 1 except for restrooms.

**Ferdinand State Forest.** Meet at the Sycamore Shelter at 9 a.m. to hike about 1.7 miles along a section of the Twin Lake trail with a brief stop to warm by a fire and have hot chocolate.

**Fort Harrison State Park.** Meet at the Delaware Lake Shelter at 1 p.m. for a 2-mile, one-hour hike. Friends of Fort Harrison will be providing hot cocoa while supplies last.

**Hardy Lake.** Meet at the Main Trailhead across from the beach access road at 9 a.m. for a 2.75-mile, one-hour hike.

**Harmonie State Park.** Meet at the pool parking lot at 10 a.m. CT for a moderate 2-mile, 90-minute hike. Cookies and cocoa will be provided by the Friends of Harmonie after the hike.

**Indiana Dunes State Park.** Meet at the Indiana Dunes State Park Nature Center at 10 a.m. for a 1 1/2-mile, 90-minute hike on the 3-Dunes Challenge. Drinks, snacks, a campfire, and a 3-Dunes Challenge sticker will be provided by the Friends of the Indiana Dunes.

**Interlake State Recreation Area.** Stop by the main office to pick up a map for a scavenger hunt from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. CT and complete the hike for a prize while supplies last.

**Jackson-Washington State Forest.** Meet at the parking lot below the CCC playground at noon at start of Trail 1, just before the Pinnacle Shelter, for a 2-mile, one-hour hike to Pinnacle Peak.

**Lieber State Recreation Area.** Join the naturalist for Lieber's Sunset First Day Hike at 4:30 p.m. at Hilltop Shelter. Hike is a moderate 1.5-miles. Snacks and hot chocolate, and a campfire will be provided.

**Lincoln State Park.** Meet at the Nature Center at noon CT for a 1 1/2-mile, one-hour hike to the Sarah Lincoln Nature Preserve. Snacks and hot chocolate provided at the Nature Center. A second 2-mile hike will be offered around Lake Lincoln.

**McCormick's Creek State Park.** Meet at Canyon Inn at 1 p.m. for registration for Winter Magic Photo Contest Hikes, which will begin at 2 p.m. Pick one of three different guided hikes. After the hikes, enter your photos and enjoy refreshments courtesy of Canyon Inn.

**Mississinewa Lake.** Meet at the Blue Heron Trail within Miami State Recreation Area at 4:30 p.m. for this hour-long hike. S'mores will be served. Advance registration is requested by calling 260-468-2127.

**Monroe Lake.** The ninth annual First Day Trail Run/Walk will take place at Fairfax State Recreation Area. Registration is from 2:15 to 3:15 p.m. at Bay View Shelter and

the untimed event starts at 3:30 p.m. Participants can choose from a 1.3-, 2.9-, or 3.7-mile course. Cost is \$15 and includes a grab-n-go box meal, event patch, gift certificate, and an entry for prize drawing. Advance registration is required by Dec. 30.

**Morgan-Monroe State Forest.** Meet at the forest office parking lot at 9 a.m. for this walk on an accessible trail.

**Mounds State Park.** Meet at the Nature Center Front Porch before 5:30 p.m. for warm beverages. At 5:30 p.m. will be a .25-mile easy hike lasting about 45 minutes along an illuminated trail.

**O'Bannon Woods State Park.** Meet at the nature center at 10 a.m. for a Walk with an Ox and the park's donkeys, Garth and Gracie. The walk will be on a roadway for about 1 mile, with photo opportunities with the animals. Refreshments will be served at the Nature Center.

**Ouabache State Park.** The hike will start at 1 p.m. at the bison enclosure parking lot on Trail 1, an easy trail with a gravel surface, and will go around the American bison enclosure. The hike will include a stop at the feeding station where guests will be able to observe the bison up close.

**Owen-Putnam State Forest.** Meet at the Owen Putnam State Forest office at 9 a.m. for a guided hike on Poplar Top Trail.

**Patoka Lake.** Meet at the Nature Center at noon and grab a challenge sheet about Patoka history that participants can fill in during the hike. The winner will receive a 2022 Annual Entrance Pass. Cookies and hot chocolate will be served.

**Pokagon State Park.** Meet at the CCC Shelter for a 3-mile hike from 2 to 3:30 p.m. There will be a bonfire, cocoa, and treats after the hike. Park in the South Beach parking lot or near the basketball courts.

**Potato Creek State Park.** Meet at the Quaking Aspen parking lot at 2 p.m. for a 1-mile hike around Worster Lake. Bring binoculars. At 3:30 p.m., warm up at the Nature Center with a bowl of chili provided by the Friends of Potato Creek.

**Prophetstown State Park.** Meet at the Prairie View Picnic Area at 1 p.m. Jan. 1 or 2 for a 2-mile easy hike. Enjoy hot chocolate and apple cider by the campfire.

**Raccoon State Recreation Area.** Meet at the Bluebird Shelter at noon for this one-hour moderately rugged hike.

**Salamonie Lake.** Meet at the Interpretive Center at 10:30 a.m. for this one-hour hike through the woods along the Wildlife Management Trail. Advance registration is requested by calling 260-

468-2127.

**Shades State Park.** Meet at the Hickory Shelter at 10:30 a.m. for this 1-mile moderate to rugged hike on Trail 1. Expert birder and park volunteer Alan Bruner will lead this hike, which includes Prospect Point, Silver Cascade Falls, and Devil's Punch-bowl.

**Spring Mill State Park.** Two hikes will be offered. Meet at the Spring Mill Inn at 9 a.m. for a 90-minute moderate to difficult Nature Preserves Hike along Trail 3. For an easier hike, meet at the Gus Grissom Memorial parking lot at 10 a.m. for a 30-minute hike along Trail 6, which is paved and .25 miles long. Hot chocolate and cookies will be served in the Lakeview Room at the Inn after the hikes.

**Summit Lake State Park.** Meet Smokey Bear at the Park Office from noon to 2 p.m. for photos and a scavenger hunt on Trail 4.

**Tippecanoe River State Park.** Meet at the Fire Tower parking lot at noon for this .5-mile hike to the tower.

**Turkey Run State Park.** Meet at 2 p.m. at the Turkey Run Inn for a guided hike through Turkey Hollow on Trail 6 and the Trail 7 loop.

**Versailles State Park.** Meet at the Oak Grove parking lot at 1 p.m. for a 2.5-mile moderately difficult hike on Trail 1. Refreshments will be provided.

**Whitewater Memorial State Park.** Meet at the Poplar Grove Shelter at 2 p.m. for a 2.5-mile hike of the Memorial Loop Trail, which should last about 90 minutes.

**Yellowwood State Forest.** Meet at the forest office parking lot at 9 a.m. for a first day hike along the 1-mile Resource Management Trail.



## Uber and Lyft credits available to curb impaired driving over the holidays

The Sober Ride Indiana program is teaming up with Uber and Lyft to cut down on impaired driving over the holidays. In Fort Wayne and Indianapolis, \$15 ride credits will be available for the first 2,000 redemptions (1,000 per city) from Dec. 23 through Jan. 1.

Ride credits can only be redeemed between the hours of 5 p.m. and 3 a.m.

"If your holiday plans involve alcohol, make arrangements ahead of time and book a sober ride," said Devon McDonald, Indiana Criminal Justice Institute Executive Director. "Reaching your destination safely is the best gift you can give your loved ones this holiday season."

Sober Ride Indiana was created by the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) last December with funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The goal of the program is to reduce crashes and fatalities around certain holidays, when statistics show an increased potential for impaired driving.

Tragically, compared to other holidays, Christmas and New Year's are among the deadliest for drunk-driving-related fatalities. According to ICJI, last December in Indiana, there were 361 collisions

involving a driver over the legal limit - resulting in 11 fatalities.

ICJI Traffic Safety Director Robert Duckworth said that these fatalities are preventable and can be avoided by planning ahead, finding a designated driver, using a ride service or taking advantage of programs like Sober Ride Indiana.

"Since we launched the program last year, we've had roughly 6,000 redemptions," Duckworth said. "Those are people who made the right decision, not only for themselves, but for other drivers on the road. No one should have to lose a loved one to impaired driving, especially during the holidays."

To redeem a \$15 ride credit, visit SoberRideIndiana.com. Click on "Redeem Ride Credits" and follow the instructions for the ride service being used.

Before booking a sober ride, users are encouraged to review and follow any COVID-specific requirements designated by Uber and Lyft. Tips are not included, and users are financially responsible for anything over \$15. Possession of the code does not necessarily guarantee availability of the credit.

Visit SoberRideIndiana.com to learn more about the program.

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*We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy & blessed New Year!*

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## Blood donors needed to avoid delays in patient care

As holiday celebrations continue, concern is rising for the nation's blood supply, which has now dipped to concerning levels and could force hospitals to hold off on essential blood and platelet transfusions for patients.

Historically low blood supply levels not seen in more than a decade persist for the American Red Cross, which supplies about 40% of the nation's blood. The ongoing decline comes at a time of year when donations typically fall. Holiday get-togethers, school breaks and winter weather often lead to lower donor turnout, potentially further compounding the situation.

Potential donors are urged to schedule an appointment now by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). If there is not an immediate opportunity available to donate, donors are asked to make an appointment in the days and weeks ahead to ensure the Red Cross can replenish and then maintain a sufficient blood supply.

In thanks, all who come

to give through Jan. 2 will receive an exclusive Red Cross long-sleeved T-shirt, while supplies last.

Those who come to give blood, platelets or plasma in January will automatically be entered for a chance to win a getaway to Super Bowl LVI in Los Angeles. As an extra thank-you from the Red Cross, those who come to donate in January will also be automatically entered to win a home theater package and a \$500 e-gift card. Terms apply; visit RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl for more information.

Blood drive safety Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions – including face masks for donors and staff, regardless of vaccination status – have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive.

Save time during donation

Donors can also save up to 15 minutes at the blood drive by complet-



ing a RapidPass®. With RapidPass®, donors complete the pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of donation, from a mobile device or computer. To complete a RapidPass®, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

To donate blood, individuals need to bring a blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification that are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also must meet certain height and weight requirements.

Health insights for donors At a time when health

information has never been more important, the Red Cross is screening all blood, platelet and plasma donations from self-identified African American donors for the sickle cell trait. This additional screening will provide Black donors with an additional health insight and help the Red Cross identify compatible blood types more quickly to help patients with sickle cell disease who require trait-negative blood. Blood transfusion is an essential treatment for those with sickle cell disease, and blood donations from individuals of the same race, ethnicity and blood type have a unique ability to help patients fighting sickle cell disease.

Donors can expect to receive sickle cell trait screening results, if applicable, within one to two weeks through the Red Cross Blood Donor App and the online donor portal at RedCrossBlood.org.

## Meeting Notes

### Board of Works and Public Safety Meeting

The City of Crawfordsville Indiana Dec 22, 2021 at 10 AM City Building 300 E Pike St Crawfordsville, IN 47933

- I. Approval of the minutes from Dec. 15, 2021.
- II. Approval of the claims for the week of December 20, 2021.
- III. Old Business
- IV. New Business

- A. Discussion of an agreement with Invoice Cloud
- B. Discussion of an agreement between the City and American Structurepoint, Inc.
- C. Surplus inventory for Kentucky Relief from the Crawfordsville Fire Department
- D. Open received bids for demolition of an unsafe building order - 202 Canby Avenue
- V. Miscellaneous
- VI. Department Heads
- VII. Adjournment

## Rokita's statement on vaccine mandate order

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita issued the following statement following the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit's decision to dissolve the Fifth Circuit's stay of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) rule implementing the Biden Administration's vaccine

mandate order. "We will not be deterred by the Sixth Circuit's decision. I am committed to defending Hoosiers' liberty," said Attorney General Rokita. "We have already appealed this finding to the US Supreme Court. These outlandish mandates will not be tolerated."

## Purdue Extension Master Gardener program to offer virtual basic training next year in the spring of 2022

The spring 2022 Purdue Extension Master Gardener (EMG) basic training program will begin Feb. 1 as a series of live virtual webinars.

Visit bit.ly/2022PurdueEMGTraining and contact a hosting Purdue Extension educator to obtain an application. The application deadline is Jan. 11. The training wraps up May 3. An individual registration costs \$180 and includes a print version of the Purdue EMG manual. The fee for two people sharing a print version of the manual is \$280.

Purdue Extension specialists and educators from across Indiana teach the course. Topics include soils, fertility,

pest control, invasive species, pesticide safety and alternatives, trees, vegetables, flowers, lawns and fruit.

"The Purdue Extension Master Gardener program's main purpose is to train volunteers to assist Purdue Extension with consumer horticulture education in Indiana communities," says John Orick, Purdue EMG state coordinator (www.hort.purdue.edu/mg).

Extension Master Gardener volunteers are required to give a minimum of 40 hours back to the community after completing initial training and passing an exam. Volunteers completed 117,000 hours in 2021, Orick says.



To strengthen connections to county Purdue EMG programs, each hosting Extension educator will hold a required one-hour weekly meeting with participants to dig deeper on how the topic of the week applies to local gardeners.

"Indiana is a long, north-south state," says Jeff Burbrink, a Purdue Extension educator in Elkhart County who is on the team that planned the spring program. "Our climate and soils vary a great deal from Lake Michigan to the Ohio River. We want to be

sure that our Extension Master Gardeners can see how these concepts work in their backyard."

Most Master Gardeners stay involved in the program for years.

"Our local Master Gardeners created the Michiana Master Gardener Association in 1996," Burbrink says, "in part because they enjoy learning, and in part because they can work on big projects together, like our annual Garden Tour and Garden Expo. They are an amazingly talented group of creative people."

## Club News

### Wabash Valley Genealogy Society

2022 Public Program Schedule Held via Zoom until further notice Second Mondays, January through November Program starts at 6:30 p.m. Visit WVGS website, regularly, for more information www.inwvgs.org

- PROGRAMS AND SPEAKERS
- January 10 Beth Foulk – Researching Colonial Pennsylvania
  - February 14 Deborah Abbott – Breaking the Brick Wall: Re-

searching in Black & White

- March 14 Dan Lilienkamp – Accessing European Church Records
- April 11 Jane Haldeman – National Archives Resources at the Chicago Branch
- May 09 Glenn York – Using Tree Information Provided by DNA Testing Companies
- June 13 Julie Miller – How to Plan Your Digital Afterlife
- July 11 Doborah Dudek – Researching Your Irish Ancestors Online
- August 08 Laura Street Chaplin – DNA: What Do I Do With It Now That I Have It? Working with DNA Test

Results

- September 12 Melissa Tennant – Treasure Awaits: The Genealogy Center's Digital Collections
  - October 10 Paul Milner – Finding the Correct Place: Maps and Gaetteers for Scottish Research
  - November 14 Hal Johnston – Title to be Announced – regarding Military
  - December 12 ANNUAL MEETING AND SOCIAL Members Only
- These programs are free to WVGS members. If you are not a member, you may join this meeting and all of the following meetings in 2022 by sending \$15

per individual, or \$20 per family to Wabash Valley Genealogy Society, P O Box 7012, Terre Haute, IN 47802-7012. If you wish to pay using Paypal, add \$2 to each choice. You can obtain the application by going to www.inwvgs.org. Click on membership. Send application at least one week before the meeting date.

For this fee, you will be able to obtain assistance from other members when you reach a "brick wall" in your research. You will also receive the WVGS newsletter. Handouts and recorded videos will be available for periods of time for members only. . . so join to take advantage of the WVGS offerings.

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**KAREN** From Page A1

guardianship and of raising his brother Zopher's children: Benjamin, Aletha, Martha, Malissa and Hester.

Solomon Ball was born in Marietta, Ohio in 1803 and married Lucetta (daughter of Elihu and Mary (Clark) Crane) on the last day of January in 1828, being a fairly early union in our county. He took out land on December 2nd, 1830 (Sec 31, 19N, 5W). Online in several places, the Balls can be found back to the early 1700s. Solomon's kind of unique look peeks at ya' on many Ancestry family trees.

Where Zephaniah Ball got his interest in the drug store business I'm not sure but several of his cousins were doctors and seeing the perils of the Civil War first hand may have prompted it. Speaking of the CW, Zephaniah was a 1st Lt. in Company I, 49th Colored Infantry, a Louisianan unit. It was not unusual a white person would volunteer to serve as an officer in these companies. More than one from here did so. Earlier, he had been in the 11th Indiana, Company G out of Ladoga so he had experience, as well. Zeph left Wabash to join the 11th. In the 49th, he was well liked by this group and vice-versa. Assume the same in the

Indiana unit. He volunteered April 15, 1864 at Crawfordsville and was discharged March 22, 1866 at Vicksburg, Mississippi; however, another source says October 23rd in 1865 and I would guess this one to be the official for him personally whereas the unit itself was mustered out the next March. His constant diarrhea contracted at Vicksburg likely pushed him somewhat ahead. He would have bouts of this for the rest of his life and suffer greatly his last few years. Luckily, he received his first pension 10 July 1888 and had several raises thereafter as there were times his problems made it impossible to work. Somewhere along the way he seems to have gotten the nickname Dick, which is odd as it sure isn't a nickname for Zephaniah or Mitchel.

On May 6th in 1869 here in Montgomery County Dick married Louisiana Noble Smock, daughter of Cornelius and Elizabeth Adams Smock, Cornelius being quite well known in the community having been an elder of the Center Church for 45 years, all of his children also members. Lou and Dick had three children, Howard Noble who was tall, slender, red headed and served many years as a probation officer in



the Indianapolis courts and was also a mail clerk. He married Inez Sullivan. At Wabash he was a Phi Delta Theta as was his brother Alan Cornelius. Howard graduated from there. Not sure if Alan did but he attended there and then went on to graduate from the Central Dentistry School in Indianapolis and was a well-known dentist in the capital city for years. He did not look like his brother, but instead was medium height, stout, brown headed but they also both had the blue eyes. He married Jennie Niswander (not positive of that last name) and neither brother had children. Alan and Howard were also joined by Lizzie

(Elizabeth Mary) who was loved by everyone in Crawfordsville. Healthy, bright, full of fun, she got sick and passed away May 15, 1895 at about 14 years. It was devastating to the whole community, especially the family.

Other tragedies followed Dick Ball. Not long after his marriage, they moved to Waveland where he went into the drug business in a rented room, then in May of 1872, he upped to the "finest room in Waveland and was filling it with newly purchased furniture." However, in October of the next year most of downtown burned, beginning with a small fire in the back of Ong's bakery that quickly

had each and every building ablaze even jumping alleys to the next group of buildings, which was the situation with Ball's. Give this man credit, though, as the others were standing around scratching their heads about what to do he already had fine boards out and ready to rebuild by the next day which wasn't an easy task since his hands and face were so badly burned. He had one of the heaviest losses of all as he was working to save the building versus carrying his supplies outside and no insurance. Some of the others had it but none was enough to cover the losses which amounted to over \$30,000 in all, a great deal of money for the times.

He did rebuild and remained in Waveland a few years before going to Crawfordsville where his children mainly grew-up (boys born in Waveland, Lizzie in Cville). By the 1880 census, he is working as a druggist living on Washington Street. He had retired by 1887. Lou passed away at their Washington Street home 31 January 1899 after a brief illness with congestion of the lungs that took her rapidly. Buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

After her death, Dick went downhill quickly and by 1906 he was living

at the Danville Illinois soldier's home. In those records, he was described as 5'9" with light complexion, gray hair and those proverbial blue eyes. Born in Montgomery County, he was listed as a druggist when he went into the home but thereafter had nothing in the occupation category in census and other documents. The two sons were listed as his next of kin and his pension was \$24. On June 4, 1926, Dick was transferred from Danville to Hampton, Virginia where he died the upcoming February on the 16th. Oddly, the one who had suffered with an emaciating health problem for years lived to be 86, born 12 Feb 1841, died 16 Feb 1927 and ironically isn't buried with his wife or children, parents or brothers/sisters but alone in the Hampton National Cemetery (photo by John Hall, FindAGrave). Rest In Peace, dear Zephaniah Mitchel "Dick" Ball and thanks for fighting for your country!

*Karen Zach is the editor of Montgomery Memories, our monthly magazine all about Montgomery County. Her column, Around the County, appears each Thursday in The Paper of Montgomery County. You can reach her at Karen@thepaper24-7.com*

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