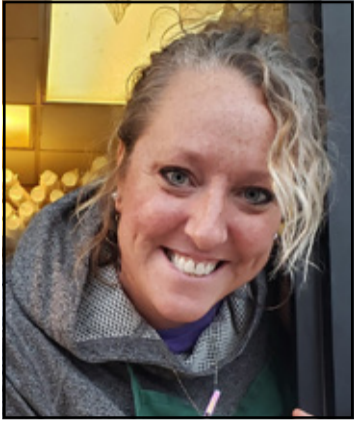


➔ TODAY'S VERSE

Mark 8:38 *Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.*

➔ FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



Jamie Griffin, smiles brightly while serving delicious coffee. Thank you for your smile, Jamie!

➔ THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 Attention Paper subscribers. Don't forget that in 2022 The Paper will not publish an Online or a Print Edition on holidays. So that means this coming weekend, there will not be a Sunday or Monday edition as we observe Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday. The Paper will resume our regular cycle on Tuesday with the Jan. 18 Online Edition. Thank you for your understanding!

2 The Indiana Criminal Justice Institute announced that more than \$2 million in grant funding has been awarded to 20 organizations across the state to support sexual assault victims. The funding was provided through two programs administered by the agency: the Sexual Assault Victim Assistance Fund and the Sexual Assault Services Project. Established in 2016 by the Indiana General Assembly, the purpose of the SAVAF program is to provide a comprehensive statewide response to support victims of sexual assault. Funding, which primarily comes from the fees collected from sexual assault-related crimes, can be used to establish and maintain rape crisis centers, and provide services that work to address the physical, psychological and emotional needs of victims, known as trauma-informed services.

3 The goth lifestyle was all the rage in the early 1980s among teens who focused on the dark side of life when it came to the music and the dark, depressing clothing they preferred, says the Association of Mature American Citizens. They wore black clothing, black lips and black eyes. Some of them are still with us 40 or more years later and you can be sure that there are still some who would love to live in a goth house like the one up for sale in Lincoln, Ill. Realtor Seth Goodman purchased the house last year and fixed it up goth style. Its exterior is all black as is its interior and, guess what, it is attracting a lot of attention. Goodman put it up for sale recently and the house is getting a lot of attention but Goodman says he is having second thoughts about selling it.

The Paper

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Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

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Loy and Grimble file for County Council

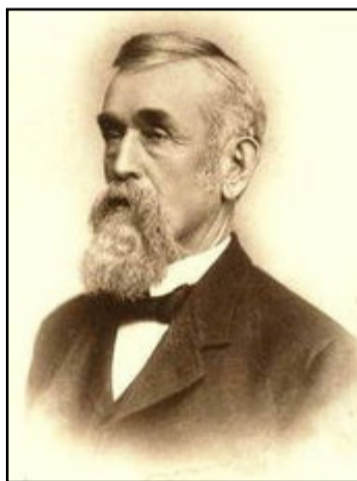


Photos courtesy of Montgomery County

Steve Loy (Left) and Joyce Grimble (Right) have filed for County Council! Steve in the NE district, and Joyce in the NW district. The County Council is the governing body who has the power over fiscal affairs. Specific responsibilities of the Council include approving annual and operating budgets of all county department heads, establishing salaries and compensation, authorizing the expenditure of public funds for specific purposes, fixing tax rates and levies and authorizing the borrowing of money in the form of bonds and notes.

Our subject this week now rests with the best of Crawfordsville

One of the most interesting families in the area was the Talbot family and much has been written about Capt. Henry Harp Talbot (son of Courtney and Elizabeth Harp) but I'd like to tell ya' today about his first cousin, Jesse Nicholas Talbot, son of Coleman and Druscilla Bowles. Coleman and Courtney were sons of Nicholas Reagan (wife Ariabelle Kennedy) Talbot, thus Jesse's middle name. Nicholas and Aria had two other sons, Charles who remained in Bourbon County, Kentucky and Rufus who also ended-up in Crawfordsville. Nicholas R. was born in 1776 in Fairfax County, Virginia, losing his father Samuel the next year. Nicholas was in the war of 1812 and both Jesse and Henry were in the Civil War, Henry for the duration (in a Ky. unit) and Jesse for a four-month service, (135th Indiana) mustering in on May 23 and out 29 Sept in 1864. All of the Talbot men were quite handsome but do believe Jesse was the best looking



(CDPL photo)

Seems the most adventurous of the four sons of Nicholas and Aria was Coleman, he first moving Druscilla and the Kentucky born of their nine children to Illinois (by the way, Jesse was the middle child, born 15 August 1840 near Quincy, Adams County, Illinois. In the early 1850s, Coleman packed up his family with other friends and moved to the Sonoma, California area, beginning in early spring with all they owned packed in a couple of wagons drawn by oxen. The wagon train trip took from early spring to late fall. Jesse desired to return

KAREN ZACH
Around The County

had two other sons, Charles who remained in Bourbon County, Kentucky and Rufus who also ended-up in Crawfordsville. Nicholas R. was born in 1776 in Fairfax County, Virginia, losing his father Samuel the next year. Nicholas was in the war of 1812 and both Jesse and Henry were in the Civil War, Henry for the duration (in a Ky. unit) and Jesse for a four-month service, (135th Indiana) mustering in on May 23 and out 29 Sept in 1864. All of the Talbot men were quite handsome but do believe Jesse was the best looking

➔ See KAREN Page A6

Holcomb delivers 2022 State of the State Address

Governor Eric J. Holcomb addressed a joint convention of the Indiana General Assembly on Tuesday as he delivered his 2022 State of the State Address. The Governor's progress report celebrated accomplishments and focused on next steps to enhance the quality of life for all Hoosiers by strengthening the economy, reskilling the workforce and expanding the state's infrastructure.

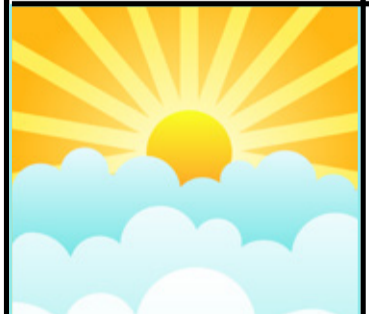
"Hoosiers have proven throughout the pandemic that they are resilient and have a spirit that can't be broken," Gov. Holcomb said. "It's the foundation of who we are and what we strive to be and together we can build an even better Indiana."

Indiana continues its strong fiscal position. The 2021 state fiscal year closed with \$3.9 billion in reserves resulting in an automatic taxpayer refund and reduction of pension obligations.

"When it comes to our strong economy, we've earned it," Gov. Holcomb said. "Sound fiscal management over time has become our state's reputation."

➔ See STATE Page A6

The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 8:08 a.m.
SET: 5:45 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 42 °F
Low: 30 °F



- Wacky Holiday Today**
- National Rubber Ducky Day
 - National Sticker Day



- What Happened On This Day**
- 1968 Johnny Cash performs live at Folsom State Prison
 - 2000 Bill Gates steps down as CEO of Microsoft



- Births On This Day**
- 1964 Bill Bailey English comedian
 - 1978 Nate Silver American journalist

- Deaths On This Day**
- 1978 Hubert Humphrey American politician
 - 1929 Wyatt Earp American police officer

➔ HONEST HOOSIER

Someone told me to stop complaining about the weather - or move south. I'm just following all those Hollywood types who said they'd move if Donald Trump got elected - and then stayed.



➔ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

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

➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Exercising at least five days a week can cut sick days in half. 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.



➔ OBITUARIES

- Wilma Jean Newlin Keller
- Joyce Maxine (Calvert) Gilland
- Jerry A. Grabman
- Christine Louise Mahan

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



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➔ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Delivery help needed

No, this isn't what you might think of as a typical newspaper route. This is delivering papers to Post Offices and stores around Montgomery County. The pay is outstanding and you get to work for yourself. Interested? E-mail Tim at ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com.

➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"And now let us welcome the new year, full of things that never were."
Rainer Maria Rilke

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

He was going to give up all his bad habits for New Year's. But then he remembered that no one likes a quitter!

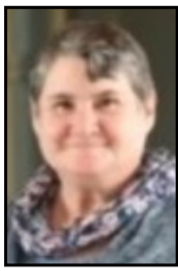


OBITUARIES

Christine Louise (Sevenish) Mahan

Dec. 2, 1960 - Jan. 10, 2022

Christine Louise (Sevenish) Mahan, 61, Hillsboro, passed away on Monday, Jan. 10, 2022 at Franciscan Health Lafayette.



She was born in Indianapolis on Dec. 2, 1960 to the late Francis J. and Beverly J. (Holmes) Sevenish.

She attended Avon High School and worked as a Walmart Associate in the deli in Crawfordsville for 20 years. She enjoyed riding on the side by side and taking trips to the creek to listen to the flowing water. On Aug. 10, 1978 she married the love of her life, David Mahan. Mrs. Mahan loved spending time with the kids, watching movies and drinking chocolate milk, and was a mamaw to many. She enjoyed taking trips to Florida to see the grandkids and spend time in the pool with them.

Survivors include her husband, David Mahan; her two daughters, Jean (Joe) Gallo of Florida and Lindsay Mahan of Crawfordsville; two sisters, Michele (Ed) Haas of Florida and Andrea (Brent) Reynolds of Florida; mother-in-law, Eunice Mahan of Coatsville; three grandchildren, Owen Query, Hailey Gallo and Andrew Gallo; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a grandson, James Gallo; and father-in-law, James Mahan.

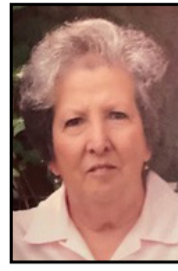
Visitation will be at Sanders Shoemaker Funeral Care, 202 Bratton Road in Waynetown on Saturday, Jan. 15, 2022 from 1 p.m. till the time of the Celebration of Life Service at 3 p.m., with Celebrant Amanda Atkins officiating. Cremation will follow the service.

For memorial donations may be given to your favorite charity in her memory. Share memories and condolences online may be made at: www.sandersfuneralcare.com

Joyce Maxine (Calvert) Gilland

July 28, 1941 - Jan. 10, 2022

Joyce Maxine (Calvert) Gilland, 80, Waveland, passed away on Jan. 10, 2022 at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis.



She was born on July 28, 1941 to the late Charles "Charley" and Ethel (Anderson) Calvert in Waveland, Ind.

Mrs. Gilland attended Waveland High School. She worked in quality control for W-M Plastics for 17 years, as well as being a homemaker for many years. She married Harvey Gilland on Aug. 7, 1959. He preceded her in death. She attended Crossroads Church of the Nazarene in Ladoga with her son and family. Mrs. Gilland was a loving wife and mother who loved to travel. Over the years she visited Hawaii 16 times with family and friends.

Survivors include her son, Daryl (Cathy) Gilland; two grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; brother, Dale Calvert; and two sisters, Marilyn Harris and Carol Busey.

Funeral service will be at 1 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 17, 2022 at Machledt & Servies Funeral Home, 301 E. Green Street in Waveland, with Pastor Mark Roberts officiating. Burial will follow in Maple Ridge Cemetery. You are invited to visit with the family on Monday from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the funeral home. You can visit www.machledtservies.com to leave an online condolence for the family. Machledt & Servies Funeral Home has been entrusted with the funeral arrangements.

Jerry A. Grabman

Nov. 18, 1940 - Jan. 11, 2022

Jerry A. Grabman, 81, Crawfordsville, passed away Jan. 11, 2022 in the evening at Franciscan Health Crawfordsville. He was born on Nov. 18, 1940, and arrangements are pending at Hunt & Son Funeral Home.

Wilma Jean Newlin Keller

May 12, 1931 - Jan. 10, 2022

Wilma Jean Newlin Keller, 90, Mace, passed away on Monday, Jan. 10, 2022 at Franciscan Health Lafayette.



She was born in Crawfordsville on May 12, 1931 to the late Homer and Mabel (Rice) Huffman.

Mrs. Keller graduated from New Ross High School in 1949 and worked at the Redwood Inn, Standard Grocery and Elston Bank. On May 10, 1949, she married James "Jake" Newlin. He preceded her in death on Jan. 1, 1997. She later married Kenneth Keller on Feb. 14, 2003, and he preceded her in death in 2007. She was a member Progressive Home Ec Club, Methodist Women, AARP and Pythian sisters. She enjoyed IU basketball, going to flea markets and auctions and taking care of her family.

Survivors include her three daughters, Linda Harmon, Teresa Newlin and Kathy Edwards; a brother, Jim (Kathy) Huffman; a sister, Karen (Gary) Dale; five grandchildren, Stacy (John) Douglas, Stefani (Jeff) Rizer, Jason (Misty) Mennen, Melissa (Ben) Auxier and Eric (Jennifer) Edwards; eight great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; and three stepchildren, John Keller, Monte Keller and Kendy Cummings.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two husbands, James "Jake" and Kenneth; two sisters, Dory Edwards and Donna Rogers; two grandsons, Aaron and Michael; and a great-grandson, Courtland

Visitation will be at Sanders Priebe Funeral Care, 315 S. Washington Street in Crawfordsville on Tuesday Jan. 18, 2022 from 10 a.m. until the time of funeral service at 12 p.m., with Tami Mussche officiating. Burial will follow at Mace Community Cemetery. The service will be live-streamed and recorded and can be viewed on her obituary page at www.sandersfuneralcare.com. Sanders Priebe Funeral Care entrusted with care.

Condolences online at www.sandersfuneralcare.com.

Committee advances Negele's bill closing loophole to make rape by impersonation a crime

The House Committee on Courts and Criminal Code today advanced legislation authored by State Rep. Sharon Negele (R-Attica) that would close a loophole in Indiana's rape statute to ensure those who commit rape by impersonation are held accountable.

Negele said her bill stems from a case involving a Lafayette student in 2017 who had sex with a man she believed was her boyfriend in a dark dorm room. He later admitted to the act, but was acquitted of rape due to a gap in state law. According to

Negele, a member of the House Courts and Criminal Code Committee, her legislation would make it a crime for someone to pose as the victim's normal, consensual partner since they are removing the victim's right to consent.

"This woman deserved justice, and this legislation is an opportunity to help right a wrong," Negele said. "The outcome may not be what we had hoped for in her case, but it shined a bright light on a loophole in the law that I'm dedicated to closing." Current law requires

a person charged with rape had to knowingly or intentionally cause another person to perform or submit to sexual conduct in one of three ways, including force, mentally disabled or mentally deficient, or unaware the sex is occurring. Negele said the current definition of consent is lacking and her legislation would allow a judge and jury to consider whether a person provided consent to sex through their words and actions.

"Unfortunately, consent is not defined in the Indiana code, which can make it hard for a judge



Sharon Negele

or jury to assess individual rape cases," Negele said. "I have had many discussions with lawmak-

ers, experts and victims of rape over the past few years to tackle this issue. I believe this legislation defines consent effectively, and will protect those who deserve justice."

According to Negele, courts and jurors could use the new definition to better guide them as to whether a victim provided consent or not. The definition would also be placed solely within the rape statute, so it cannot be erroneously used. It shifts the focus from the actions of the victim to the intention of the perpetrator in relation to what

they are witnessing and doing. Negele said this change would ensure that victims are able to bring their case forward and be able to articulate why and how they did not consent.

House Bill 1079 now heads to the full Indiana House for further consideration. For more information, visit iga.in.gov.

State Rep. Sharon Negele (R-Attica) represents House District 13, which includes all of Benton County, and portions of Fountain, Jasper, Montgomery, Newton, Tippecanoe, Warren and White counties.



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Club News

County Retired Teachers Association holds December meeting

The December meeting of Montgomery County Retired Teachers Association was called to order by Dr. Kathy Steele. She began the meeting by telling several humorous stories about her years of teaching. Then she led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. An invocation was given by Debbie Howard.

Secretary Karen Patton read the minutes from the November meeting and Treasurer Larry Manlove gave the treasurers report. Both reports were approved.

Vice President Kim Nixon introduced Marsha Smith and the Crescendos with Bill Stockwell on the keyboard. Members were entertained with several classic Christmas songs as well as new versions of old favorites. One standout was the story of Christmas used as the lyrics to the tune of Amazing Grace. For the first time we had a sing along of Christmas Carols. Marsha and the Crescendos have been singing for the MCRTA annually for 17 years and Marsha has been directing the Crescendos for almost 50 years. Our own member Barb Foster is a

member of Crescendos. The group does many concerts in the community as well as performing at the State Fair with the State Fair choir. The group is a Home Extension club. The music put all in a holiday spirit.

Vice President Kim Nixon announced that a check for \$1000 will be sent from the membership to Youth Service Bureau from our funds at the MCCF.

In the business meeting Community Service Chair Nancy Bowes reported on the importance of collecting volunteer hours. They are due by the end of December and can be emailed or mailed to Nancy. Even during the year 2020 we accumulated over 10,000 volunteer hours.

Constitution and By-Laws chair Letty Calder announced that the committee will go over possible changes with the officers in the near future. Member Concerns chair Mary Lefebvre passed out Christmas cards to be sent to people who can't always attend meetings. She also sent cards to members who had surgeries recently and to the family of Bob Nabor who passed away

recently. Membership chair Debbie Howard announced that we have 196 members.

Nominations committee chair Sheila Hodges announced that at our February meeting that she will engage the membership in a group activity to get nominations for officers for next year. Sheila talked about the need to get new people to try to take a leadership position.

Please email Pam Crull is you can to eat lunch at the MCRTA meeting. That helps us to give the caterer the correct count. Members can attend without eating lunch. MCRTA must pay for every meal in the count. If attend just the business meeting, please do not make a reservation with Pam.

President Steele announced that she would be attending the North Montgomery School Board meeting to present to Cassandra Bever the \$500 grant she was awarded for the Breathe For Change program. Mrs. Bever was the ISTA Area 4 winner of the active teacher grant.

In New Business President Steele announced that we need to be aware

of a scam going around supposedly sent from the Indiana HRA Plan. The IT department of Indiana HRA has shut down all incoming and outgoing email. If you need to contact the office, use the secure messaging service. Log on to <https://portal.indianahra.com>, and click the envelope icon at the top of your screen. If you suspect suspicious email contact the Customer Care Center at 1-888-711-9182. The Indiana HRA will confirm if it is legitimate.

On Jan. 19 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. the IRTA will offer a Virtual Reconnection session that officers have been invited to attend. Dr. Steele will be attending. This replaces the cancelled in person Fall Workshop.

There will be no meeting in January. The next meeting will be Feb. 14 with Karen Branch, director of the YSB, as our speaker. President Steele thanked the caterer and Debbie Howard and Linda Sabol for the beautiful decorations. The meeting was adjourned, and door prizes were awarded.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Patton, Secretary

Ag Alumni Fish Fry postponed until spring due to COVID-19 rise

The annual Purdue Ag Alumni Fish Fry, originally set for Feb. 4, has been postponed until April 30 due to safety concerns surrounding the current COVID-19 Omicron variant surge in Indiana.

Danica Kirkpatrick, executive director of the

Purdue Ag Alumni Association, spoke about the difficult decision made by the event planning team.

"We became concerned that we could not produce this event safely," Kirkpatrick said. "We will return to the

Indiana State Fair-

grounds and will have a wonderful celebration this spring."

Ticket holders who plan to attend the April 30 event will be able to use the tickets they have purchased.

Ticket holders who are no longer able to attend the 2022 Fish Fry should email

Kirkpatrick at danica@purdue.edu so that a refund can be processed as soon as possible.

"We will return to the February dates in 2023," Kirkpatrick said. "Thank you for understanding, stay safe and healthy, and we'll see you in April."

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Lt. Gov. Crouch statement on Gov. Holcomb's 2022 State of the State address

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch offered the following statement following Gov. Eric Holcomb's 2022 State of the State address:

"Our state's fiscally responsible investments continue to make Indiana a leader in the Midwest and nation for families and businesses. Our incredible growth has taken us to a low unemployment rate that we haven't experienced in more than 20 years, and Indiana is reaping the benefits that our neighboring states envy.

I applaud Governor Eric Holcomb for his vision to navigate these unprecedented times. I look forward to another year of investing in our infrastructure, recruiting talent for our businesses and keeping Indiana a low tax state.

Additionally, I look forward to reducing the stigma of mental health, expanding mental health services for all Hoosiers and growing the number of behavioral health professionals in Indiana.

2022 brings new opportunities to make Indiana the best it can be, and we have great momentum to ensure all Hoosiers have equal opportunities to succeed in their lives and livelihoods."

The Lieutenant Governor constitutionally serves as the President of the Indiana Senate, statutorily serves as the Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development, chairs the Indiana Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Task Force and oversees four state agencies.



Indiana small business thanks governor for focusing on small business, announces priorities

NFIB State Director Natalie Robinson released the following statement today in response Gov. Eric Holcomb's State of the State Address.

"Small business owners across the state are encouraged by the governor's agenda for the 2022 legislative session," said Natalie Robinson, NFIB State Director in Indiana. "Gov. Holcomb is calling for business tax cuts and affordable and transparent healthcare, which are two of the biggest issues facing our entrepreneurs and job creators across the state."

"NFIB members have spoken and are ready for the governor and legislature to act on tax cuts this year. While Indiana has largely been protected from the burdensome mandates that other states have suffered since COVID-19 hit, we need to do more here in Indiana to help small business help off-set rising inflation. Our hard-working entrepreneurs are confident that the governor will work to make sure that small business owners can continue to recover from the devastating pandemic."

There is no doubt 2021 was filled with angst and uncertainty for small business in Indiana and around the country. Small business is still recovering from the unprecedented health and economic crisis of 2020, not to mention battling ongoing federal government mandates and proposed tax increases. Sky-rocketing costs of goods and services, supply chain disruptions and record inflation are proving to be consequences that aren't going away anytime soon.

These challenges have created an unprecedented workforce shortage and a continued financial burden for small business around the country and in Indiana.

Below are NFIB's key priorities this legislative session:

- Business Equipment Tax Cuts
 - Many states don't have this tax at all - especially those in the Midwest.
 - The tax value on business equipment decreases over time, but under current Indiana law, the taxes business pay on their

machinery and equipment can never fall below 30% of the cost.

- Small business owners shouldn't have to pay 30% of the original value on old and depreciated equipment that's worth less than that amount.

Eliminating this requirement for new equipment is a step in the right direction but it doesn't help all of the small business owners that still have to pay on equipment they've owned for years. That's why the more types of equipment that are deemed by statute to be exempt, the better.

- Individual Income Tax Rate Reduction

- Business owners are struggling to find ways to raise compensation and compete with big corporations, especially when the labor shortage is at an all-time-high.

- Approximately 75% of small business members in Indiana are structured as pass-through entities so lowering individual income taxes will substantially benefit our members.

- NFIB supports the proposal which would reduce Indiana's current individual income tax rate of 3.23% over the next four years to 3.0%.

- Transparency and Affordable Healthcare

- Indiana's hospital facility fees are the fifth highest in the country.

- Indiana ranks sixth in the nation for hospital price disparities—ahead of New York, California, Massachusetts and other larger states with higher costs of living.

- Small businesses deserve health insurance that is affordable, flexible, and predictable - not rates that top national charts and exceed that of Indiana's cost of living.

For more than 75 years, NFIB has been advocating on behalf of America's small and independent business owners, both in Washington, D.C., and in all 50 state capitals. NFIB is nonprofit, nonpartisan, and member-driven. Since our founding in 1943, NFIB has been exclusively dedicated to small and independent businesses, and remains so today. For more information, please visit nfib.com.

Fall Dean's List at Olivet Nazarene University

To qualify for inclusion on the Dean's List, a student must have been enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student and must have attained a semester grade point average of 3.50 or higher on a 4.00 grading scale.

Emmalee Dorsey of

Crawfordsville

Krista Sixberry of Crawfordsville

Olivet Nazarene University is an accredited Christian, liberal arts university offering more than 140 areas of undergraduate and graduate study, including the Doctor of Education

BBB Scam Alert: Tracking code trick costs online shoppers

BBB Scam Tracker has received numerous reports about shipping tricks that scammers use to steal from online shoppers. The con artists are exploiting PayPal's policies by delivering incorrect items and using stolen tracking numbers.

How the Scam Works:

People are shopping online and are finding amazing deals, often brand name goods at a significant discount. Often, the items are large - such as pieces of furniture or a vacuum cleaner. The website and the products look legitimate, so consumers are deciding to take a chance and make a purchase. The site directs them to pay through PayPal, which leads many to believe it's safe.

After checkout, a confirmation email arrives that contains a tracking number from UPS, FedEx, or another shipping service. After a few weeks, the package arrives, but it's not what was expected. For example, one shopper ordered a six-foot artificial Christmas tree, but "received a bottle brush Christmas tree no bigger than my hand." Another shopper told BBB that they ordered "a pressured machine washer for \$78..." and received "a yellow shirt that's not worth \$2." In another common version of this scam, the package is delivered... but to the wrong address.

When consumers try to correct the mistake, they are finding that the e-commerce site is either unresponsive or unhelpful. In some cases, the site doesn't



provide contact information, or no one responds to emails or calls.

Some scam victims report filing claims with PayPal in order to get a refund. PayPal's protection promise says customers can open a dispute if the package never arrives, if the item received is counterfeit or differs significantly from what was ordered. However, not all claims are resolved to the buyer's satisfaction. Take one shopper's experience, for instance, who ordered a desk online they never received. Upon further investigation, the shopper discovered the tracking number indicated the order was shipped to a fictitious address. The shopper filed a dispute though PayPal, but the seller insisted they delivered the package, so PayPal dropped the dispute. "PayPal did not give me any option to discuss their decision," the consumer reported. "They just closed the case."

BBB contacted PayPal about the BBB Scam Tracker reports. After looking into the stolen tracking code issue, they

replied: "We notified various shipping carriers of this issue allowing tracking data to be stolen and we believe it has been closed. In addition, we made enhancements to our algorithms to identify and disable these fraudulent bad actors. In fact, we are stopping a significant majority of these fraudulent sellers at first transaction through our detection program and have refunded customers impacted by this fraud scheme even if they did not appeal our decision."

Protect Yourself from a Package Delivery Scam:

Before paying, know your rights and responsibilities. In everything from check cashing scams to cons involving new peer-to-peer payment systems, scammers often take advantage of what consumers don't know when it comes to processing payments. Don't make a purchase from a shady seller assuming the purchase will be protected no matter what.

Before buying online, confirm the site has real contact information. Make sure the seller has a working phone number and address on the website, so you can contact them in case of problems.

Don't wait too long to file a dispute. Scammers know that PayPal and credit cards have time limits for disputes. They often try to delay the process long enough so that shoppers miss the window.

If the price seems too good to be true, there's probably something

wrong. Be wary if the item is selling for significantly lower than what's been advertised elsewhere.

Review BBB online shopping tips. Many online purchase scams use similar tactics. See BBB's online shopping tips for more advice and visit our BBB.org/onlineshopping for more.

For More Information

Learn more about spotting and reporting PayPal fraud. For more resources on shipping fraud, see FedEx's website and UPS's online resource center. To learn more about scams, go to BBB.org/ScamTips.

If you've been targeted by this scam, help others avoid the same problem by reporting your experience at BBB.org/ScamTracker.

NOTE: PayPal Inc., FedEx Corporation and United Parcel Service are BBB Accredited Businesses.

ABOUT BBB SERVING CENTRAL INDIANA: For more than 100 years, Better Business Bureau has been helping people find businesses, brands and charities they can trust. In 2020, people turned to BBB more than 220 million times for BBB Business Profiles on more than 6.2 million businesses and Charity Reports on 11,000 charities, all available for free at BBB.org. There are local, independent BBBs across the United States, Canada and Mexico, including BBB serving Central Indiana, which was founded in 1916 and serves 46 counties.

Meeting Notes

Board of Works and Public Safety

Meeting Agenda
The City of Crawfordsville Indiana
Jan. 12, 2022 at 10 a.m.
City Building 300 E Pike St Crawfordsville, IN 47933

- Approval of the minutes from Jan. 5, 2022.
- Approval of the claims for the week of Jan. 10, 2022.
- Old Business
- New Business
 - Crawfordsville Fire Department - Battalion Chief Promotion
 - Miscellaneous
 - Department Heads
 - Adjournment

The City of Crawfordsville acknowledges its responsibility to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

In order to assist individuals with disabilities who require special services (i.e. sign interpretive services, alternative audio/visual devices, and amanuenses) for participation in or access

to City sponsored public programs, services, and/or meetings, the City requests that individuals makes requests for these services forty-eight (48) hours ahead of the scheduled program, service, and/or meeting. To make arrangements, contact Renee Demoret, Mayor's Assistant, at 765-364-5160

Red Cross blood drive to be held at Muhammad Ali Center

On Jan. 17, Muhammad Ali would have turned 80 years old. Throughout his life, he followed his principles, one of which was giving. Since January is National Blood Donor Month, the community is invited to consider donating blood in memory of Muhammad to help those in our community who desperately need it. The Red Cross Blood Drive will take place on Monday, Jan. 17 at the Ali Center in View Pointe Hall from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"Partnering with the Red Cross on Muhammad's birthday for this community initiative aligns so well with Muhammad's spirit of giving," said Laura Douglas, Interim President and CEO of the Muhammad Ali Center. "Muhammad always said that 'service to others was the rent you pay for your room here on earth,' so we know he would be grateful for this blood drive."

Donating blood is one of the simplest things a person can do to help celebrate a person's life. For the hour it takes to give blood, there could be a whole community of people thankful for another birthday given to a loved one.

"We are excited to partner with the Ali Center to celebrate the legacy of Muhammad Ali," said Eric Holden, District Manager-Donor Recruitment, Kentucky Region American Red Cross Blood Services.

"As an organization that is built on the generosity of people giving, we believe our mission aligns perfectly with that of the Ali Center. We are excited to see this partnership grow as we work to ensure a more diverse blood supply through efforts like our Sickle Cell Initiative."

Blood Drive Safety

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control. Additionally, precautions—including facemasks for donors and staff, regardless of vaccination status—have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance. Signing up for an appointment in advance helps reinforce the Red Cross safety guidelines.

Save Time During Donation

Donors can also save up to 15 minutes at the blood drive by completing 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.

To show your support of this partnership or to share that you are giving blood on Muhammad's birthday, please use the following hashtags on social media: #Ali80 #GreatestGiveBack

The Muhammad Ali Center, a 501(c)3 corporation, was cofounded by Muhammad Ali and his wife Lonnie in their hometown of Louisville, Kentucky. The international cultural center promotes the Six Core Principles of Muhammad Ali (Confidence, Conviction, Dedication, Giving, Respect, and Spirituality) in ways that inspire personal and global greatness and provides programming and events around the focus areas of education, racial and gender equity, and global citizenship.

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NEH announces \$24.7 million for 208 humanities projects nationwide

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has announced \$24.7 million in grants for 208 humanities projects across the country. Among these are grants to support Oakwood University's creation of a living history museum, based on the life of Dred Scott, and the digitization of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century North American climate and weather data, including daily meteorological observation records kept by Thomas Jefferson from 1776 to 1826.

"These NEH grants will support educators and scholars in enriching our understanding of the past and enable cultural institutions from across the country to expand their offerings, resources, and public programming, both in person and online," said NEH Acting Chair Adam Wolfson. "We look forward to the many new insights and discoveries that these 208 exemplary projects will make possible."

Thirteen new NEH Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants, which leverage federal funds to spur nonfederal support for cultural institutions, will enable projects such as the preservation and repurposing of seven historic buildings in San Antonio, Texas, for a humanities programming and resources center focusing on the history and cultures of immigrant communities in San Antonio's Westside neighborhood. Other grants will support digital infrastructure upgrades at the Chapman Center for Rural Studies at Kansas State University to ensure the sustainability of the center's digital humanities research projects on Great Plains history, and assist with the relocation of the Hamm Archives, documenting the history of the Brooklyn Academy of Music, to a new facility to provide public access to the collection.

Several projects apply new technologies and digital methods to innovative humanities research and public programs, such as the development of a digital archive of Cherokee manuscripts and lexical resources

to facilitate collective translation and study of the Cherokee language, and the creation of a multimedia civics and history education gaming experience to teach middle and high school students about the history of the Supreme Court and its landmark cases. Other newly awarded grants will underwrite an assessment of the impact of Open Access editions of scholarly books on print sales at university presses and support an interactive storytelling website based around a collection of postcards published and mailed during the 1941-44 Siege of Leningrad.

In the field of conservation science, NEH Preservation and Access Research and Development Grants will advance research on biomolecular identification of chia seed oil, which was widely used as a binder in Mexican lacquerware and painting from the sixteenth through the nineteenth century, and support the development of a risk assessment matrix for public art collections to address essential needs in conservation and emergency planning. Additional grants will provide training in the digital preservation of cultural heritage materials to Indigenous community groups in Alaska, Hawai'i, and Maine, and fund workshops for staff of small museums, libraries, and archives on preserving and providing access to born-digital materials.

NEH Fellowships and Awards for Faculty will support humanities scholars in noteworthy research and writing projects: a book on Frederick Douglass's work as the editor of four influential antislavery newspapers; an economic history of working people and the poor in the Roman empire; a study of Louchébem, a secret slang spoken by French butchers since the thirteenth century that was used by members of the Resistance during the Nazi occupation of France; and a history of the African-American GIs who reopened the Burma Road, creating a pipeline to transport Lend-Lease Act supplies to China during WWII.

Thirty-three NEH Humanities Initiatives grants will enable curricular innovations and enhance educational resources at colleges and universities. These include the formation of a minor in Asian-American studies at Chapman University, the development of an undergraduate Book Studies lab and courses on global print and manuscript cultures at the University of Iowa, and an interdisciplinary curriculum project at the University of Chicago focused on Chicago's Oak Woods Cemetery and the roles of the Great Migration and Eastern European immigration in shaping the city.

This grant cycle also includes the second round of awards made under the NEH/AHRC New Directions for Digital Scholarship in Cultural Institutions program, a joint initiative between NEH and the U.K.'s Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), to advance digital scholarship at museums, libraries, and archives. These awards will fund international teams of U.S. and British researchers working on projects including the development of a model for collaborative digital curation of Indigenous heritage materials and the digital identification and analysis of patterns in book illustrations published between 1750 and 1940.

A full list of grants by geographic location is available here.

In addition to these direct grant awards, NEH provides operating support to the agency's humanities council partners, which make NEH-funded grants throughout the year in every U.S. state and territory.

Grants were awarded in the following categories:

- Awards for Faculty Support advanced research in the humanities by scholars, teachers, and staff at Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities. 25 grants, totaling \$1.3 million
- Digital Humanities Advancement Grants Support the implementation of innovative digital



Photo courtesy of National Endowment for the Humanities

In addition to these direct grant awards, NEH provides operating support to the agency's humanities council partners, which make NEH-funded grants throughout the year in every U.S. state and territory.

humanities projects that have successfully completed a start-up phase and demonstrated their value to the field. Digital Humanities Advancement Grants receive partial funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). 15 grants, totaling \$2.2 million

- Digital Projects for the Public Grants

Support projects such as websites, mobile applications, games, and virtual environments that significantly contribute to the public's engagement with humanities ideas.

11 grants, totaling \$1.4 million

- Fellowships Support advanced research in the humanities by college and university teachers and independent scholars.

73 grants, totaling \$3.9 million

- Fellowships for Advanced Social Science Research on Japan

A joint activity of the Japan-United States Friendship Commission (JUSFC) and NEH. Awards support research on modern Japanese society and political economy, Japan's international relations, and U.S.-Japan relations.

3 grants, totaling \$155,000

- Humanities Initiatives Grants

Strengthen the teaching and study of the human-

ities in higher education through the development or enhancement of humanities programs, courses, and resources. Grant programs are offered for colleges and universities, community colleges, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities.

33 grants, totaling \$4.7 million

- Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants

Leverage federal funding to strengthen and sustain humanities infrastructure and capacity-building activities at cultural institutions.

13 grants, totaling \$5.2 million

- NEH/AHRC New Directions for Digital Scholarship in Cultural Institutions

A joint initiative between NEH and the U.K.'s Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) to advance digital tools and methods used by museums, libraries, and galleries to bring the humanities to global audiences.

12 grants, totaling \$1.2 million

- NEH-Mellon Fellowships for Digital Publication

A joint initiative between NEH and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support digital research and publication in the humanities.

9 grants, totaling

\$470,000

- Preservation and Access Research and Development Grants

Support projects that address major challenges in preserving or providing access to humanities collections and resources.

6 grants, totaling \$1.5 million

- Preservation Education and Training Grants

Help the staff of cultural institutions obtain the knowledge and skills needed to serve as effective stewards of humanities collections. Grants also support educational programs that prepare the next generation of conservators and preservation professionals, as well as projects that introduce the staff of cultural institutions to recent improvements in preservation and access practices.

8 grants, totaling \$2.7 million

National Endowment for the Humanities: Created in 1965 as an independent federal agency, the National Endowment for the Humanities supports research and learning in history, literature, philosophy, and other areas of the humanities by funding selected, peer-reviewed proposals from around the nation. Additional information about the National Endowment for the Humanities and its grant programs is available at: www.neh.gov.

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Girl Scouts of Central Indiana kicks off 2022 Girl Scout Cookie Season

Girl Scouts of Central Indiana kicked off the 2022 Girl Scout Cookie Season in central Indiana, where consumers can support local Girl Scout entrepreneurs by purchasing their favorite cookies. Girl Scouts are now selling the new Adventurefuls, an indulgent brownie-inspired cookie with caramel-flavored crème and a hint of sea salt, and an incredible taste of adventure in every bite. Adventurefuls join the whole portfolio of iconic Girl Scout Cookies including favorites like Thin Mints®, Samoas®, and Tagalongs®.

This season, Girl Scouts of Central Indiana is participating in a national collaboration with food ordering and delivery platform DoorDash, so girls

have an additional way to facilitate contact-free cookie orders. Starting in February, in select cities, consumers can order Girl Scout Cookies for delivery on the DoorDash app. Local Girl Scouts will track and fulfill orders, manage inventory, and more.

You can get Girl Scout Cookies in central Indiana through March 13. If you know a Girl Scout, ask how she's selling cookies via the Digital Cookie online platform for direct shipment or local delivery. In February, Girl Scouts will also run cookie booths at supermarkets and other local retailers. And beginning Feb. 18, consumers can enter their zip code to purchase cookies online from a local troop for direct shipment or donation

1 in 4 Hoosiers would NOT stop to help a stranded driver in a snowstorm, survey finds

- However, Hoosiers among the most likely to help another driver.
- Most people would rather walk 5 miles than accept a lift from a stranger.

Driving during winter can often be a treacherous task if roads are filled with ice and snow, causing many drivers to break down and possibly be stranded for long stretches of time. The holidays can also be a tricky time to get hold of vehicle assistance companies, especially if the car has broken down in a remote area with no phone signal...

Gunther Volkswagen of Coconut Creek surveyed 3,000 drivers across the country, asking if they would stop and help a fellow driver who had been stranded in a snowstorm with a broken-down vehicle. Surprisingly high, almost a quarter of drivers in Indiana (23%) admit they would NOT stop to help. Reassuringly, however, it seems that on the whole Indiana is a state of 'Snowstorm Samaritans' whereby the majority (77%), would come to a fellow driver's aid. In fact, drivers in this state are among the most likely in America to help out.

When these figures were analyzed by state, perhaps unsurprisingly (given they are among the coldest and least populated states) those in Idaho and Wyoming seemed to have the biggest hearts when it comes to helping out other road users, with 91% of people in these saying they'd stop to assist a driver stranded in bad weather.

Comparatively, this figure was just 42% in Nevada - in other words, most here would not stop to help.

It was also discovered that more than 3 in 4 respondents said they'd go the extra mile (pardon the pun) and give a stranded driver a lift to a place of safety if their car had broken down. The survey also found that 55% said they are more likely to help a stranded woman driver who has broken down, as compared to if they were a man.

Lastly, it was found that 67% of drivers said if their car broke down in a heavy snowstorm, they'd rather walk 5 miles into town than accept a lift from a stranger. It seems some are more afraid of their safety in the hands of other people, as compared to harsh weather conditions... However, it's important to note that in an emergency, your vehicle provides you and passengers with temporary shelter and also makes it easier for rescuers to locate you. It's

possible to lose sight of your car in poor visibility or snowy skies, therefore, increases your risk of getting lost if you walk around.

If the weather proves too dangerous for driving, it's always a good idea to stay home if you're concerned about your safety. However, if you must make a long drive or cross-state road trip while the roads are slick and snow-covered, it's in your best interest to maintain a slower speed overall and increase your following distance for safety reasons. For example, if you encounter a car in front of you that suddenly brakes on an icy road, it's better to drive at a slower pace in case you need to brake quickly too. Additionally, it's a good idea to have an emergency supply bag on hand in case you may need it, on top of your usual breakdown kit. Some supplies that could come in handy are:

1. Cold-weather gear, such as warm clothing suitable for extreme weather (in case you need to be outside the car).
2. Phone charger.
3. A flashlight, as well as extra batteries.
4. Glass scraper to remove ice or snow from your windows or windshield.
5. Medication and first-aid kit, especially if you or any passengers have chronic conditions.
6. Extra food such as non-perishable snacks, in case you get stranded, as well as water.
7. Spare tire.
8. Always keep half a tank of fuel in your car in case you run out in a desert area.
9. Jumper cables.
10. Emergency red triangle.
11. Duct tape.
12. Wrench or pliers.
13. Local maps in case you can't access signal for map apps on your phone.

"It can be daunting to plan a long drive or road trip during poor weather conditions, however, sometimes these scenarios are unavoidable if you need to be somewhere," says Joseph Gunther IV for Gunther Volkswagen of Coconut Creek. "It's advisable to keep a safe following distance and maintain a much slower speed than usual at all times. Be prepared in case of emergencies and make sure each item in your supply kit is fully functioning should you need it. Most of all, make sure you're in the right state of mind to operate a vehicle when driving in poor weather conditions. Don't exert yourself if you're feeling tired and of course, and don't drive while intoxicated."



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Every Girl Scout Cookie purchase fuels local Girl Scouts' adventures throughout the year: exploring what interests them, discovering their passions, and taking action on issues they care about. Whether they're using their STEM skills to solve a problem, changing a law to help their community, having a courageous outdoor experience, or starting an innovative non-profit, Girl Scouts build a better future for them-

selves and the world. And through the Girl Scout Cookie Program, including by earning new Cookie Business badges, girls get a taste of being entrepreneurs and learn important online and offline business skills that set them up for success in life.

To purchase Girl Scout Cookies this season:

- If you know a registered Girl Scout, reach out to her to find out how she's selling cookies, including via the Digital Cookie online platform.

- If you don't know a Girl Scout, visit www.girlscoutsindiana.org/cookies, or use the official Girl Scout Cookie Finder app for free on iOS or Android devices to find socially distant or contact-free cookie booths when they are available in your area.

- Starting in February, use the DoorDash app to order via contact-free delivery from DoorDash in select cities.

- Beginning Feb. 18, enter your zip code into the Girl Scout Cookie Finder at www.girlscoutsindiana.org/cookies to purchase from a local Girl Scout troop online for shipment to your door or to donate cookies to local causes.

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dreams to life and work together to build a better world. Through programs from coast to coast, Girl Scouts of all backgrounds and abilities can be unapologetically themselves as they discover their strengths and rise to meet new challenges—whether they want to climb to the top of a tree or the top of their class, lace up their boots for a hike or advocate for climate justice, or make their first best friends. Backed by trusted adult volunteers, mentors, and millions of alums, Girl Scouts lead the way as they find their voices and make changes that affect the issues most important to them. To join us, volunteer, reconnect, or donate, visit girlscoutsindiana.org.

Red Cross: National blood crisis may put patients at risk

The American Red Cross is facing a national blood crisis – its worst blood shortage in more than a decade. Dangerously low blood supply levels are posing a concerning risk to patient care and forcing doctors to make difficult decisions about who receives blood transfusions and who will need to wait until more products become available.

Blood donations are critically needed to help prevent further delays in vital medical treatments, and donors of all blood types – especially type O+ are urged to make an appointment now to give in the weeks ahead.

In recent weeks, the Red Cross had less than a one-day supply of critical blood types and has had to limit blood product distributions to hospitals. At times, as much as one-quarter of hospital blood needs are not being met.

Pandemic challenges
The Red Cross continues to confront relentless challenges due to COVID-19, including about a 10% overall decline in the number of people donating blood as well as ongoing blood drive cancellations and staffing limitations. Additionally, the pandemic has contributed to a 62% drop in blood drives at schools and colleges.

"Winter weather across the country and the recent surge of COVID-19 cases are compounding the already-dire situation facing the blood supply," said Dr. Baia Lasky, medical director for the Red Cross. "Please, if you are eligible, make an appointment to give blood in the days and weeks ahead to ensure no patient is forced to wait for critical care."

Over the next month, more than 60% of donation appointments remain unfilled in the Indiana Red Cross Region. Make an appointment to give blood as soon as possible by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting Red-



American Red Cross

CrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

The Red Cross and the NFL are partnering this January, during National Blood Donor Month, to urge individuals to give blood and help tackle the national blood shortage. Those who come to give blood 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 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.

Who donations help
Tara is a wife and mother to four wonderful boys from southern Indiana. She has been fighting for her life for almost a year after being diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) on December 1, 2020. She credits blood donations from selfless strangers for her ability to keep fighting.

"People ask me all the time how they can help me," said Brower. "I always encourage them to give blood, so they can help not only me, but others fighting to survive as well."

Volunteers needed
In addition to blood donors, the Red Cross also needs the help of volunteers to support critical blood collections across the country. Blood drive volunteers play an important role by greeting, registering, answering questions and providing information to blood donors throughout the donation process. Blood

transportation specialists – another volunteer opportunity – provide a critical link between blood donors and blood recipients by delivering blood to hospitals in communities across the country. To volunteer to support Red Cross blood collections, visit redcross.org/volunteertoday.

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 completing 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.

About the American Red Cross

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides comfort to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; distributes international humanitarian aid; and supports veterans, military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or cruzrojaamericana.org, or visit us on Twitter at [@RedCross](https://twitter.com/RedCross).

*Terms and conditions apply. Additional information and details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl.

Center for Rural Affairs pleased with USDA's plan to invest

The Center for Rural Affairs is applauding the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for its dedication to climate-smart agriculture following the agency's announcement Monday that it plans to invest \$38 million in a new program aimed at increasing cover crop acres. In addition, a key change to the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) was announced.

"Investments of this size are important for building climate resiliency in agriculture," said Kayla Bergman, senior policy associate for the Center. "We know that producers are eager to implement conservation measures to improve their on-farm financial and natural resources; and often look to USDA to support those efforts."

In outlining the USDA's plan, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack said the goal is to increase the cover crop acres in the U.S. to 30 million by 2030, which is double the current amount. To assist in achieving the goal, a new cover crop initiative was announced as part of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). This program is focused in 11 states, including Iowa and South Dakota.

According to state-level agency representatives, the program will be focused on areas within each state that have high volumes of applications for the existing cover crop financial assistance programs.

"Cover crops are an important tool to address numerous economic and natural resource con-

cerns, including building soil health over the long term and improving water quality," Bergman said. "In order for producers to offset the initial cost of implementing this practice and reap the long-term economic and natural resource benefits, it is important they have financial assistance programs like this one to lean on."

Bergman commends the added flexibility for producers wanting to re-enroll in CSP, one of the flagship working lands conservation programs at USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

Up to this point, if a producer did not apply to renew their CSP contract the same year their existing contract expired, they would have to wait two

years before applying to re-enroll. This ineligibility was regardless of whether a renewal application was rejected due to lack of funding on USDA-NRCS's part.

"We know that only 47% of CSP renewal applications were funded in 2020 alone," Bergman said. "This removal of the two-year waiting period for producers wanting to re-enroll will eliminate a gap in financial assistance for many."

Established in 1973, the Center for Rural Affairs is a private, non-profit organization working to strengthen small businesses, family farms and ranches, and rural communities through action oriented programs addressing social, economic, and environmental issues.

Visit us online at ThePaper24-7.com

US Department of Labor launches program to provide assistance to veterans and spouses

The U.S. Department of Labor has announced that its Veterans' Employment and Training Service will extend its traditional Transition Assistance Program curriculum beyond the active military installations it currently serves to at least 50 locations in at least 20 states to expand their efforts to improve employment-related outcomes in

areas where large veteran populations face high rates of unemployment. The five-year Off-Base Transition Training pilot program begins Jan. 18, 2022, and offers 10, two-hour, instructor-led employment skills and workforce development workshops for veterans, including veterans serving currently in the Reserve Component (National

Guard and Reserve members), and their spouses. The core curriculum has four modules offered in-person and virtually. Beginning Jan. 24, 2022, VETS will offer 10 virtual workshops. Participants may choose the modules that best meet their needs and schedule. VETS will start the pilot at eight locations in California, Massachusetts, North

Carolina, Pennsylvania and Texas, chosen using current annual unemployment data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Initial pilot sites are Los Angeles and San Diego, California; Boston, Massachusetts; Fayetteville, North Carolina; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Houston, Dallas and San Antonio, Texas. The agency plans to expand the pilot to at least

50 locations. In its effort to help veterans and their spouses to join the civilian workforce, Employment Resource Coordinators will work with partner organizations to host the workshops in each state, and coordinate and schedule training. They will also offer referral services to local agencies, such as American Job Centers and

interested partner organizations that meet requirements needed to host workshops. Organizations interested in hosting workshops, should contact VETS-OBTT@dol.gov or their VETS' state director. Register for an in-person or virtual Off-Base Transition Training workshop or learn more about the program.

KAREN From Page A1

to the Midwest, all his brothers and sisters more than satisfied in sunny California, so when Jesse's Uncle Courtney was visiting California and returning, Jesse hopped on with him in another wagon train, this time with different results. The train was attacked, with Jesse put under one of the wagons by his uncle for protection. An arrow (35" long with an ironhead at the end) came whizzing at him and luckily stuck in the wagon's wheel. Uncle Courtney made it through okay and they headed on home, finally arriving in Crawfordsville in late 1863. Years later, Jesse gave that arrow to his cousin Henry likely as a thank you for Henry's father's safe keeping him.

The plan was for Jesse to attend Wabash College and he did some but then joined the service; however, when he returned he did indeed finish Wabash College then began studying medicine having seen the need for medical knowledge first-hand during the war. He graduated from the Miami Medical College in Cincinnati in 1870, then went to the little town of Wallace (Jackville at that time) to begin his practice. By the way, he was completely out of funds. He rented a little place on his word where he had his office, a bedroom and a bit of a kitchen. But, nothing happened until ... a farmer popped up with small pox and none of the other doctors around wanted to take the chance of catching it. Jesse was in no position to say no thus he not only went to the farmer's home to medicate him but he also cleaned him, cooked for him and accomplished whatever needed done. The farmer not only recovered but sang Jesse's praise all over Fountain and western Montgomery. There were not many yet a few more cases of that dreaded disease but it was certainly enough to get the new doctor up and going on a great career.

I assume he met Lucretia Clore (Burlington County, Kentucky) from either his relatives in Kentucky or the Clores in Fountain County but meet her he did. Coming from a wealthy family, it was an extremely pleasant surprise that she willingly came to the little town of Jackville, and not only did her own sewing, housework, but aided him in any way possible. They were both quite happy and content. Three children blessed the home (Lucy married #1 Sam Cullom; #2 Henry Springer, they having one daughter, Jean), Jessie who married Clint Marshall (who died in 1919 - they had one son, Nicholas) then married Rolla Hubbard. If you have ever heard of Marshall Studios (made pottery, first in Indianapolis, later in Veedersburg), this was created by Jessie who started hand making and hand-painting lampshades in her home. Her son and his wife took over the business, then later his daughter. Jessie was absolutely beautiful and very talented - you can find her on findagrave. Dr. J.N.'s other daughter, Grace lived in Florida for several years but passed away in Indianapolis where she remained for a quarter of a century in 1946 at age 71, having never married. Nothing indicated she had an occupation and sources point to only a 6th grade education, but one census showed she had a boarding house.

I recently did an OTD (On This Day) on the good doc, and there was much interest so I wanted to give ya' more of his life. Both he and Lucretia were amazing at handling money and began piling up a good fortune, he more than willing to loan to those down on their luck as he had once

been. He owned a farm or two, and a very nice home (paid \$4,000 in 1894 for it) on East Main in C'ville. An extremely hearty fella, he reveled in being called out in the night to go visit a patient, and more than not would stay all night talking, then ride back home to begin his day. An ardent Republican, the topic of a long discussion would be politics, but he could discuss religion or any topic with the best of 'em, usually with a lot of laughs.

About ten years before his passing, he retired from doctoring and stepped back in his business affairs, as well. One day he decided he needed to get things in order so that his beloved would have nothing to worry about, thus he sent her to Florida and had plans to redo the whole house and update it to perfection so there would be nothing to keep her from being happy when he died as he had the inkling it was coming (heart troubles). Oddly, she had a bad attack of appendicitis there and passed suddenly. He was never the same thereafter, and a couple of years later he fell down the stairs at his home, never really recovering from that. Yet, even to the day of his death (5 Jan 1908),

he had friends come to ask guidance in their finances. One intellectual, loving, fun-filled, hearty fellow gone to rest with his Lucretia in Oak Hill Cemetery, where many of the best of C'ville now reside!

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.zach@sbcglobal.net

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STATE From Page A1

As further support of Indiana's stable positions, the Governor reported state's robust workforce environment is experiencing its lowest unemployment rate in 21 years at 3%, and more Hoosiers are working today than before the pandemic

"It's a time of unprecedented growth," Gov. Holcomb said. "We're revitalizing and connecting our communities across the state like never before to enhance and elevate the quality of life for all Hoosiers."

Gov. Holcomb recognized the two-year battle against COVID-19 and the exhausting toll on our healthcare system. He took time to thank healthcare providers for their commitment to caring for Hoosiers and to the 3.5 million people who are vaccinated to protect themselves and their loved ones against COVID-19.

Each year, Indiana's Governor addresses both houses of the state legislature, the state's Supreme Court Justices, and other state leaders at the beginning of the legislative session in the State of the State Address. It provides an opportunity for the Governor to report on the status of the state's affairs, highlight key accomplishments of the past year and outline top priorities for the year ahead.

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