

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

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CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

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Signs of change at AHW Randy Allen and Ron Hatke retire

By John O. Marlowe
john@writetality.com

Ever since man stepped away from hunting and gathering food, to colonize into settlements and farms, the success of the grower has depended on how well he or she interprets the signs.

For instance, a halo around the sun or moon is believed to indicate rain. Cows approaching labor will often separate themselves from the herd. Field corn is usually ready for harvest about 20 days after the first full silks appear.

And . . . seeing 30 or so half-ton and three-quarter ton pickup trucks surround the local John Deere dealership? Well, that's the sign of tremendous respect for two people who have helped farmers in the community for more than five decades.

Ron Hatke and Randy Allen recently announced their respective retirements from AHW, LLC, the John Deere Dealership in Crawfordsville. Together they represent more than 100 years of service to West Central Indiana agri-business. The two were feted, Friday, at an open house at the dealership, and the lobby was teeming with farmers and

See AHW Page A6



Photos courtesy John Marlowe

Tammy and Randy Allen preside over a room full of well-wishers at the AHW, LLC retirement fete.



Longtime friend, Craig Leafgreene, left, congratulates Ron Hatke on a successful career.

It's a shame that it is now January

I've come to the conclusion that, if December is the season of Hope, then January must be the season of Shame. I base this conclusion primarily because advertisers tell us it is so.

No sooner do the last holiday fruitcakes make the annual transition from Christmas delicacy to New Year's doorstep, advertisers start reminding us of how we overindulge at Christmastime. We are bombarded by advertising campaigns that play to our insecurities.

"Hey fatty! You did it again

See MARLOWE Page A6



JOHN MARLOWE
COLUMNIST

Butch remembers "Barnlot Basketball"

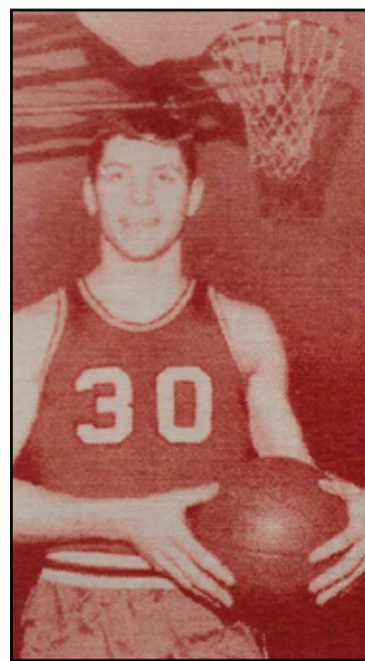
On the south end of our little red barn, just above the corn-crib door railing, hung a prized possession...our basketball goal.



BUTCH DALE
COLUMNIST

In summer, winter, spring, and fall the old rusted basketball goal, with its taped and torn net, was a reliable companion to my brother and me. Our "gym" was a barn lot, and we became experts at dribbling through a maze of mudholes, corncocks, rocks, and gullies. We imitated our Darlington high school heroes. The nearby hogs and cows were the spectators, and the chattering chickens, our cheerleaders.

The most common game that we played was "Twenty-one," in which the first shot counted two, followed by a lay-up, which



scored one. The first player to reach twenty-one points without going over was declared the

See BUTCH Page A6

State of local gov. addresses have changed

The League of Women Voters of Montgomery County announced that because of rising COVID-19 cases in Montgomery County, the State of the City / County Addresses by Mayor Todd Barton and Montgomery County Administrator Tom Klein scheduled for Jan. 27 will not take place in-person again this year. Instead, they will be recorded and broadcast on radio station WCDQ at 7 p.m. on that date and will be available in podcast format so people can access them at their leisure and from the safety of their own home.

"We just received a COVID update briefing from Dr.

See STATE Page A6

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 8:06 a.m.
SET: 5:50 p.m.

High/Low Temperatures
High: 45°F
Low: 23°F

Wacky Holiday Today

- Winnie the Pooh Day
- National Gourmet Coffee Day
- Printing Ink Day

What Happened On This Day

- 1943 Insurgents in the Warsaw Ghetto take up arms against the German oppressors
- 1886 Modern hockey is born
- 1919 The Paris Peace Conference opens

Births On This Day

- 1955 Kevin Costner American actor
- 1892 Oliver Hardy American comedian, actor

Deaths On This Day

- 1862 John Tyler 10th President of the U.S.
- 2011 Sargent Shriver American politician

TODAY'S VERSE

Psalm 23:1-6 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



Stacie Cook was very cheerful recently when one of our friendly roving photographers happened by. Thank you for your smile, Stacie!

THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 It's here! The Indianapolis Home Show is under way and your friends at Montgomery County's friendliest daily would love to give you two, four, six even eight free tickets. All you have to do is send a selfie of your beautiful smiling face to ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com and tell us why you like The Paper. Also, be sure to let us know how many tickets you want. If we use your photo in The Paper, you win the tickets. It's that easy! But time is running out, so best hurry!

2 Beginning a week from tomorrow, Lake Monroe has its annual Eagles over Monroe event that offers a wide range of programs and activities about bald eagles. It runs until Jan. 30. Included are a mix of small to medium-size in-person programs and hikes, a self-guided tour and scavenger hunt, and a virtual presentation on Facebook Live. Details, including full descriptions and registration links, are available at bit.ly/eaglesovermonroe2022. One featured program is a conversation with Al Parker, a wildlife biologist who guided Indiana's bald eagle reintroduction program. He will share history and personal stories starting at 2 p.m. on Jan. 29 at Paynetown State Recreation Area (SRA). Space for this free program is limited to 40 attendees. Advance registration is required by Jan. 26.

3 Paginator needed by your favorite Montgomery County daily! We are losing the lady who has been doing the job for us and are looking for her replacement. She left some pretty big shoes to fill though! If you are interested in helping produce daily editions in Crawfordsville and Noblesville, as well as learning the basics of journalism, let us know - SOON! You can e-mail jobs@thepaper24-7.com. Did we mention soon?

HONEST HOOSIER

I showed up yesterday but no one was here. This new schedule of not publishing on the holiday is going to take some getting used to for me.



TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

If you're trying to get pregnant, or are pregnant, be sure to take 400 micrograms of folic acid a day to help prevent birth defects. 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

Earl Franklin Elliott
Jerry Grabman
Terry King
Bradley Spencer Lough

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



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The Paper
OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

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Slim Column.....A2
Classifieds.....A4

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

"The bad news is that most people give up; they settle for second best; they don't start over; they stay stuck. Please don't allow that to be you."
Doug Fields

TODAY'S JOKE

What do you call a fish wearing a bowtie?
Sofisticated

13 WTHR **7 DAY FORECAST**

23/32 LIGHT SNOW EARLY	22/45 WARMEST FOR AWHILE	39/25 BRIEFLY FALLING TEMPS	8/23 COLDER, FLURRIES	9/25 BRIGHT BUT CHILLY	14/30 CHANCE OF SNOW	16/28 CHANCE OF SNOW
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

OBITUARIES

Earl Franklin Elliott

July 7, 1933 - Jan. 12, 2022

Earl Franklin Elliott, 88, passed away in his home Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2022, surrounded by his loving family and faithful companion dog, Sammy.

He was born on July 7, 1933 to Nancy (McCloud) and Orville Elliott.

Mr. Elliott was a lifelong resident of Crawfordsville and was the youngest of nine children. He enjoyed a long career in banking and retired from Montgomery Savings and Loan as President and Chairman of the Board. Mr. Elliott served on the boards of several Montgomery County nonprofit and civic organizations during his career and retirement. He was an active member of Kiwanis for over fifty years.

Mr. Elliott's humor and joy for life will be missed by all who knew him.

Survivors include his loving wife of sixty-four years, Ruby (Barker) Elliott; their three treasured daughters, Jennifer Elliott (David) Meadows, Sarah (Mike) Elliott and Connie Elliott (Roy) Mills. Earl was an adored "Paps" to his 10 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He was also a much-loved uncle to his many nieces and nephews, and was a cherished younger brother to older siblings. Mr. Elliott was a dear and special friend to his sisters in law and brothers in law.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Orville and Nancy Elliott; his eight siblings, Jack Elliott, Ruby Vaught, Harry Elliott, Bonnie Shea, Vivian Stewart, Doris Brier, Lois Rizzo and Wilma Vaught.

There will be a private family memorial at a future date. Arrangements are being made by Hunt and Son Funeral Home.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the Earl and Ruby Elliott Fund at the Montgomery County Community Foundation. You are invited to sign the online guestbook, leave a condolence or share a memory at www.huntandson.com

Jerry Grabman

Nov. 18, 1940 - Jan. 11, 2022

Jerry Grabman, 81, Crawfordsville, passed away on Jan. 11, 2022, at Franciscan Health.

He was born in Crawfordsville on Nov. 18, 1940, to Joseph Grabman and Marian Howard.

Mr. Grabman was married to his first girlfriend, Sandra (Sandy) Alexander on Jan. 5, 1963, until her passing in August of 1993. He never remarried and devoted his life to his family and his church. He was a "semi-retired" life insurance salesman and before that had worked at Indiana Printing Company for 22 years.

Mr. Grabman was a giver in every way. He was a lifelong member of his beloved church, St. Bernard's Catholic Church. He was an active member of the Knights of Columbus since he was a young man and served as the Grand Knight. He actively participated in nearly all the service activities supported by the Knights of Columbus especially the Tootsie Roll Drive. Mr. Grabman served in the National Guard, volunteered as a Redcoat at Franciscan Health and contributed to Gibault School for Boys among many other charities.

Survivors include his two children, Jill Avila Lima (Grabman) and Joe Grabman; son-in-law, Daniel Jose Avila Lima of Crawfordsville; daughter-in-law, Stacey Grabman of Oceanside, Calif.; grandchildren, Cassie Jones (Grabman) of Waynetown, Stephanie Grabman and Devin Luse of Crawfordsville, Alexandria Grabman, Meigan Grabman and Colin Grabman all of Oceanside, Calif.; and his great-grandchildren, Dylan Tyner, Olivia Seward and Briar Sullivan.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joeseeph Grabman and Marian Grabman (Howard); his wife, Sandra Grabman (Alexander); and his siblings, Stephen Grabman, Marian Joan Grabman and Lucille Jane Davis (Grabman).

There is a visitation service scheduled for Friday, Jan. 21, 2022, from 4-7 p.m. at St. Bernard's Catholic Church in Crawfordsville. A funeral mass will be held on Saturday, Jan. 22, 2022 at 11 a.m.

The family requests that donations be made to the Knights of Columbus at St. Bernard's Church, Bernie's Buffet at St. Bernard's Church, or Gibault School for Boys. Condolences and memories may be shared at www.huntandson.com

Terry King

Feb. 22, 1948 - Jan. 13, 2021

Terry King, 73, Crawfordsville, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 13, 2021 at Wellbrooke of Crawfordsville.

He was born in Conran, Mo. on Feb. 22, 1948 to the late Marion and Edna (Emerson) King.

Mr. King graduated from LaMoille High School in 1966 and served his country in the United States Army from October 1967 until October 1969. After basic training, he was stationed at Fort Gordon in Georgia and Stuttgart, Germany. He married the love of his life, DeAnn Kay Pinter April 6, 1969. He worked at RR Donnelley's for 39.5 years, starting downtown in Chicago and then being transferred to Crawfordsville in 1991. He was a member of Christ Lutheran Church. He enjoyed attending his grandchildren's sporting events and activities and telling them tall tales. He liked woodworking, hunting and fishing, gardening, reading, birdwatching and being outdoors. He was a resident at Bickford Memory Care for a year.

Survivors include his wife of 52 years, DeAnn; three children, Denise (Chad) Mixdorf, Nyla (Sean) Gwynn and Dan (Sara) King; six grandchildren, Tori (Jeffrey) Miller, Vince (Jeanine) Gwynn, Veronica Gwynn, Vaughn Gwynn, Stella King and Nolan King; two great-granddaughters, Roslyn Miller and Emery Gwynn; four sisters, Peggy Davenport, Bonnie Faber, Connie Mecum and Rita Blackburn; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three sisters, Verla Laws, Wendy Davenport and Mary Lou Kennedy; two brothers, Ray King and Phil King; and three brothers-in-law, Don Davenport, Brian Pinter and Wayne Cooper.

There will be a visitation scheduled at Christ Lutheran Church 300 W. South Blvd in Crawfordsville on Saturday, Jan. 22, 2022 from 10 a.m. until the time of funeral service at 12 p.m., with Pastor Kelly Nelson officiating. Burial will follow at New Richmond Cemetery.

Condolences online at: www.sandersfuneralcare.com



Bradley Spencer Lough

June 9, 1959 - Jan. 13, 2022

Bradley Spencer Lough passed away peacefully on Jan. 13, 2022 at Bickford Memory Care after battling with dementia for several years.

He was born on June 9, 1959, in Crawfordsville to Clifford and Sharon (Hankins) Lough.

After graduating from North Montgomery High School in 1977, he worked in the swine industry for several years and was employed by Nucor Steel for 25 years before retiring in 2017. He married Amy (McCullum) Lough in Darlington on June 6, 1987.

Mr. Lough was a life-long resident of Darlington and was an active participant in his community. He was a member of the Sons of the American Legion, Masons and Conservation Club. He was a chaperone twice with the Lafayette Honor Flight and enjoyed spending time with the veterans. Mr. Lough was also actively involved with 4-H and would always assist with his children's projects. He loved helping other people and with his friendly, out-going personality, he could strike up a conversation with everyone he met.

He was an avid sports fan and enjoyed attending Nascar and Indy Car races, Butler basketball games and Indianapolis Colts games. Mr. Lough was also an active outdoorsman and spent time hunting, fishing and boating. He enjoyed traveling on vacation with his family, and his favorite destination was Lauderdale-by-the-Sea, Fla.

Survivors include his mother; his wife; his children, Abigail Lough (Justin Cotten); grandsons, Jude Cotten of Crawfordsville and Spencer Lough of Indianapolis; his brother, Brian (Patty) Lough; sister, Kim (Denny) Carpenter of Darlington; sister, Kay (John) Barrett of Thorntown; mother-in-law, Carolyn (John) Doyel; father-in-law, Jim (Patti) McCollum of Crawfordsville; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father; paternal grandparents, Orville and Minnie Lough of Shannondale; and maternal grandparents, Charlie and Mary Hankins of Darlington.

Visitation is scheduled at the Darlington United Methodist Church, 201 West Harrison Street on Friday, Jan. 21 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Funeral services are scheduled to start at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 22, 2022 at the church with burial to follow in Greenlawn Cemetery. Burkhart Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Memorial donations may be made to the Darlington Covered Bridge Fund or Darlington Conservation Club or The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration at: www.theaftd.org. You may share memories and condolences at www.burkhartfh.com.



Raymond M. Kirtley certified once again as Senior Judge

Raymond M. Kirtley has been certified by the Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission as qualified to be appointed as Senior Judge through this year.

The Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission made the certification to the Indiana Supreme Court.

Kirtley is a former judge and long-time attorney in Crawfordsville and Montgomery County. He was first certified as a Senior Judge in 2013 and re-certified each year thereafter. He served as judge of the Montgomery County Court from 1985 to 2002.

In 1989, the Indiana Legislature authorized the creation of the senior judge program, allowing Indiana courts to use the services of retired judges to supplement existing judicial



Raymond M. Kirtley

resources. The Indiana Supreme Court may appoint senior judges to serve a circuit court, a probate court, the tax court or court of appeals. A senior judge may be used as a replacement when the regular judge is unavailable, to complement sitting judges or to oversee the process of certain types of cases or court programs.

Meeting Notes

Redevelopment Commission

Jan. 18, 2022, 8:30 a.m. Common Council Chambers Municipal Building Meeting Agenda

I. Call to Order & Roll Call
 II. Election of Officers
 III. Approval of Minutes
 A. December 21, 2021
 IV. Approval of Claims
 A. Taylor, Chadd, Minnette, Schneider & Clutter
 V. Approval of Finan-

cial Reports
 VI. Update from Mayor Todd Barton
 VII. Economic Development Report
 VIII. Old Business
 IX. New Business \$402.50
 A. Consider a resolution accepting the transfer of real property known as the Old Match Factory located at 1300 East Elmore Street from the City of Crawfordsville
 IX. Miscellaneous
 X. Adjournment

CFD swears in their newest member

Crawfordsville Clerk-Treasurer Terri Gadd swore in new firefighter/paramedic Spencer Brown to the Crawfordsville Fire Department (CFD) after the Crawfordsville Board of Works meeting Wednesday.

Brown is a 2017 Brownsburg High School graduate from Brownsburg, IN. He worked with the Putnam County EMS and Pittsboro Fire Department before joining the CFD.

"Spencer is a welcome addition to our team, and his past experience gives him the necessary tools to be successful," said Crawfordsville Fire Department Chief Scott Busenbark. "We are continuing to look for qualified individuals who can fill our department needs, and I am happy with the progress we have made thus far."

Brown's training includes the Ben Davis Area 31 Fire Science course and EMT certification through Hendricks Regional Health.

"I wanted to be a firefighter because every day is something different, and I love doing the most I can for people in their time of need," Brown said. "I wanted to work for CFD because of the great working relationship the current guys on shift have with the chief and each other. I'm looking forward to a long and great career at the



Photo courtesy of Crawfordsville Fire Department

Brown takes his oath of office in front of Crawfordsville Clerk-Treasurer Terri Gadd after the Board of Works meeting on Wednesday.

CFD." The Crawfordsville Fire Department is currently hiring and accepting applications until Jan. 28. For more information on the Department and how to apply, please visit www.crawfordsville.net.

About the City of Crawfordsville: Crawfordsville 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.

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I can put on my fancy car wash dress and not care who sees



Carrie Classon
Columnist

Want MORE?

Carrie Classon's memoir, "Blue Yarn: A Memoir About Loss, Letting Go, & What Happens Next" is available at Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and other fine stores. Learn more at CarrieClasson.com.

I was excited to wear my new dress.

It was slimming, I thought: all black and covered with flounces from the neckline to the hemline. I wore it with high heels—which I rarely wear—and red drop earrings. I was feeling much more sophisticated than I usually do when I went over to my sister's house for dinner.

"Nice dress!" my mother said.

I gave my new dress a little twirl and set the ruffles flying in all directions.

"You look like a car wash," my sister said.

This is why it's good to stay close to family.

My husband, Peter, and I moved across the country to the Midwest in large part so we could be closer to family. It's good to see my parents on a regular basis. Peter's oldest sister is battling cancer, and we can now be near her. We have dozens of cousins, nieces and nephews, aunts and uncles, and now most of them live nearby.

My family members (and my sister in particular) absolutely do not care what I say about myself. They do not care about my New Year's resolutions or nice things other people might have said about me.

They remember when I was 13 and wore a green felt hat all the time out of some sort of weird superstition. They remember when Dad had to drive back two hours to fetch the green hat after I left it someplace. And they will never believe that the green felt hat-wearing person has entirely changed.

I look at pictures of myself as a young teen, very shy, trying to become invisible beneath my peculiar green hat and only drawing more attention to myself in the process.

There was a lot I didn't understand as an awkward teen. I didn't realize that lots of people were shy. I

didn't know that, by starting a conversation with someone, I would be doing them a huge favor. I didn't know I'd see the relief in their eyes when they realized they could talk to me and forget about feeling awkward themselves. I didn't need a green hat to become invisible. To take the pressure off me, I just needed to direct the attention to someone else. If someone had told me that sooner, I wouldn't have had to wear that silly hat for so long.

I like to think I've changed quite a bit since then, but my family knows better.

I firmly believe in the power we all have to change ourselves and follow our dreams wherever they take us. I hope to continue trying new things for quite a while. But, while chasing my highfalutin dreams, it's good to have family around to keep me grounded. It's good to remember that, no matter what grand schemes I take on, there are people who have known me before and know me best.

They will always cheer me on, but they will also know that I am still the same person, in a fancy dress, trying new things, sometimes succeeding and sometimes failing miserably. And they still love me.

"It doesn't really look like a car wash," my mother said.

My mother has been saying reassuring things to me all my life. But I suspect, now that the image is in her mind, my fancy-schmancy dress will never look quite the same. And that's OK.

My self-esteem has come a long way since my green hat-wearing days. Nowadays, I can put on my fancy car wash dress with a pair of heels and not care who sees me.

Till next time,
Carrie

Carrie Classon's memoir is called "Blue Yarn." Learn more at CarrieClasson.com.

Meeting Notes

Human Rights Commission

City of Crawfordsville
Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2022
at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call
Old Business
New Business
General Discussion
Miscellaneous
Adjournment
Next meeting Feb. 15, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

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 Pirtle, Mayor's Assistant, at 765-364-5160

What to do when both flu and COVID cases are rising



JOHN R. ROBERTS, M.D.
Montgomery Medicine

The cold weather appears to have finally arrived and, in addition to COVID, it's time to start thinking about the flu. Most people use the term "flu" in a very generic sense, meaning anything from cold symptoms to having a case of vomiting and diarrhea. The "flu" in this column refers to respiratory influenza.

You are probably aware that last year's influenza season was incredibly mild (thank goodness). We're not exactly certain why that was but many hypothesize it was due to all the social distancing, hand washing, decreased travel and mask wearing. Previous flu seasons have been much worse producing between 12,000 and 79,000 annual deaths between 2010 and 2020. Hospitalizations varied between 140,000 and 960,000 and total cases between 9.3 and 49 million.

Influenza is a completely different type of virus than the coronavirus that causes COVID-19. Influenza viruses causing the majority of human infections are classified as Type A or Type B. Type B usually does not cause severe disease whereas Type A can be lethal, particularly in the young, elderly, and those who have compromised immune systems (much like COVID).

Type A virus can be further characterized into different subtypes or "se-

rotypes" based on which proteins are found on the surface of the virus.

When you read about

influenza virus with a name like "H3N2," the "H" and "N" refer to the different proteins on the surface of the virus and the numbers refer to the serotype. The serotypes are also often given common names, usually from their region of origin, such as Influenza A Hong Kong.

Influenza viruses are constantly changing or mutating so that each flu season brings new serotypes. Scientists look at the circulating strains in the southern hemisphere each year and make an educated guess on what serotypes might occur the following year in the northern hemisphere and formulate that year's vaccine accordingly.

The predominant serotype of influenza A this year looks to be H3N2. This serotype tends to cause more severe disease and was the dominant strain during the severe flu season of 2014-2015. This year's vaccine is designed to protect us from H3N2, but the circulating strain appears to have resistance to the vaccine. This, combined with our waning immunity from prior influenza infections, could be a

recipe for a bad flu season this year.

Despite the apparent poor match this year, vaccination still remains the best defense we have to prevent hospitalizations and deaths. Just like vaccinating for COVID, it's important to attain a high level of vaccination in a community to reduce the spread of the disease to those who are more likely to die from complications of the disease.

Receiving an influenza vaccine can't give you influenza. The vaccine is made up of killed virus particles that can't cause an infection. Some people do have a reaction to the vaccine with some fever and aches, but it is not an infection with the virus. Often people are exposed to cold viruses around the time they receive the vaccine. They come down with cold symptoms, and blame the vaccine for "giving them the flu." You can receive influenza vaccine at the same time you receive COVID vaccine.

Symptoms of influenza can be similar to COVID and usually include rapid onset, fever (typically 100-103), dry cough, runny nose, chills, headache and body aches. Most people describe it as being hit by a truck. This is in contrast to the common cold that usually has a slow onset, low-grade fever (usually 100 or less), cough, runny nose and mild body aches. Both illnesses usually last

around ten days.

Since a virus causes influenza, antibiotics are useless. There are anti-viral medications available to shorten the course of influenza, but they must be started in the first 48 hours of illness to be of any benefit. Many people choose not to take the medication since it is expensive, has some side effects and may only shorten the course by a day or two. The medication can also be administered to high-risk individuals to help prevent infection if they have a high risk of exposure.

While it's best to contact your health care provider for advice on whether or not to be seen, most healthy people who develop symptoms of influenza usually do not need to see their doctor and should stay home to avoid spreading the infection. People who should see their physician include those with heart or lung conditions and children under the age of two. Those who have diabetes or weak immune systems should also be seen since they are more likely to develop secondary complications of influenza. Shortness of breath and dehydration with severe weakness are also indications to be seen.

Dr. John Roberts is a member of the Franciscan Physician Network specializing in Family Medicine as well as the Deputy County Health Officer in Montgomery County.

Send one dollar to Box 87 here in town for no reason

It was a contemplative kind of morning, with each member of the vaunted World Dilemma Think Tank seeming content to think silently for a change, just sipping on the coffee refills and waiting for Loretta to bring more.

Steve, the professional cowboy of the bunch, was reading the house copy of the Valley Weekly Miracle. Somebody else had already done the crossword, the sports page was old news, and if he wanted to keep up on church news, he'd probably attend every now and then. So Steve was belly deep in the personal ads in the classifieds.

He looked more closely, then glanced around the philosophy counter at his fellow thinkers. "Here's something you don't see every day," he said.

The room grunted in reply.

"I'll read you the whole ad," he said, "'cause it's short."

Doc looked up. "What's it say?"

"Send one dollar to Box 87 here in town."

"One dollar for what?"

"Doesn't say. Just says to send one dollar."

"You're kidding."

Steve handed Doc the paper and pointed to the ad.

"That's what it says," Doc said, nodding.

So then the conversation got going. Some were of the opinion that a mistake



Slim Randles
Home County

Want MORE HOME COUNTY?

In The Paper of Montgomery County. Slim is out of Albuquerque, N.M. and his writing is enjoyed all over the country.

was made when the ad was put in

the paper, and you're supposed to get a cookie recipe or something for your buck. Others were of the school that this was placed by some joker as a gag.

"When I was packing

mules," Steve said, "the pack boss swore he was going to put a wooden box with a slot in it at the trailhead and write 'Scenic Route. One dollar' and see if anyone was dumb enough to pay extra for scenery."

"Aren't all those trails scenic?"

"Of course. He never did it, though."

"And this ad," said Doc, shaking his head. "How many people would be dumb enough to just mail a dollar to Box 87 for no reason?"

Dud looked up and smiled. "Seven so far, Doc. Seven so far."

Brought to you by Home Country (the book), published by Rio Grande Press and now available as a Kindle ebook on Amazon.

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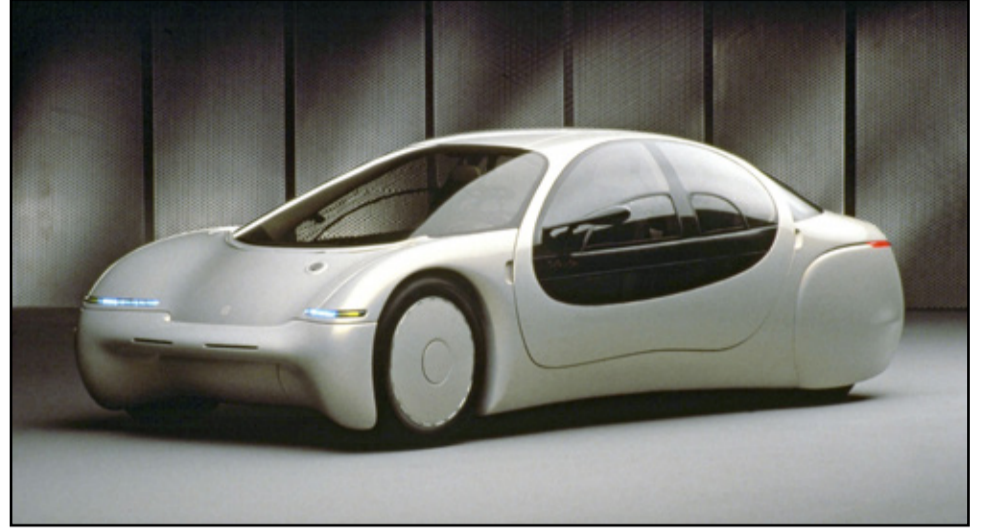


Photo courtesy of GM

Demolition Man autos proves the future is better than predicted

One of my favorite future sci-fi movies is Demolition Man (1993). Its dystopian future, where everything was filled with joy-joy feelings and toilet paper replaced by three seashells, was dominated by a fleet of General Motors concept cars that provided a sleek backdrop. But when Sylvester Stallone's character, a brute police officer frozen for crimes in 1996 and reconstituted in 2032, needed a fast car, he reconstituted a 1970 Oldsmobile Cutlass 442. He'd blasted past GM's future-mobiles without trouble.

A Future Not Imagined

Police cars were based on the 1992 GM Ultralite concept that weighed just 1,400 lbs. (400 less than a Smart car) thanks to a carbon fiber shell. Gullwing doors eased access to a basic four-seat interior. Under the aero body that claimed a 0.19 coefficient of drag (about the same as a 2022 Lucid Air) was a 1.5-liter two-stroke gasoline engine good for 111 horsepower, 135 mph top speed, and 88-MPG. Pretty impressive for the 20th Century.

The Olds 442 was an entirely different beast. It busted out with all the swagger of an NFL lineman, weighing a hefty 3840 lbs. and powered by a 455 cubic-inch (7.5 liters) V8 delivering a whopping 370 horsepower. It ran 0-60 mph in 5.8 seconds and wasted the quarter in 14.8 seconds at 95 mph. Because of all that power, horrific

aerodynamics and mid-century tires, the 442 delivered just 10.7-MPG and a 127-mph top speed.

The 442 would have whipped the Ultralite, but would have been wholly humbled by today's tech wagon, the 2022 Tesla Model 3. Where the Ultralite employed carbon fiber to maximize performance, the Tesla employs Lithium-Ion batteries and all-wheel-drive to put 430 horsepower to the road. It runs 0-60 mph in 3.1 seconds, hits the quarter in 11.7 seconds, and reaches 162 mph. Economy is rated 118/107-MPG city/hwy. It's considerably more luxurious than the 442 and Ultralite too.

Subaru Goes Like A Bandit

Given the 442 isn't nearly as impressive as it is in enthusiasts' imaginations, I wondered about others like the fast black Trans Am with the gold flaming chicken in Smokey and The Bandit. Built flat in the middle of the Malaise Era, the 3,530-lbs. alter ego of Burt Reynolds packed a 6.6-liter V8 delivering...200 horsepower. That got it from 0-60 mph in, yawn, 9.3 seconds. Fuel economy was hideous.

I want to submit one more car for perspective. My family recently purchased a 2022 Subaru Outback Wilderness with the turbocharged 2.4-liter flat-four engine, off-road tires, and all-wheel-drive. Producing 260 horsepower, the

engine shoves the big wagon from 0-60 mph in 5.8 seconds and achieves 26-MPG highway. Yeah, Subaru's big fat, all-road, four-cylinder wagon can match the legendary 442... in hiking boots and getting better fuel economy doing it.

This isn't an insult to classic muscle cars that employed all of the technology available in their time to maximize performance. In their eras, the 442 and Trans Am were formidable beasts. However, with turbocharged engines, advanced batteries, and electronic all-wheel-drive, today's mainstream cars are simply superior to yesteryear's muscle machines. Turns out, the future is much better than we expected.



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AHW From Page A1

friends congratulating the pair on their successful careers.

"I'm so impressed by the number of generations represented, here," said Tammy Allen, Randy's wife, and the mother of the couple's three daughters — Stacey, Stephanie, and Shelby. "That means a great deal to Randy and me."

"It doesn't seem that long ago that the girls tagged along with their Dad, when he worked Sundays. During the early years, a lot of extra hours were spent here, especially during planting and harvest, and if the girls were going to spend time with their father, it was here."

Allen started the Crawfordsville John Deere dealership in 1996, and managed operations for 25 years. Initially, he wrote

parts orders, but quickly turned to sales.

"I just really liked working with people," said Allen. "I've really enjoyed the customers."

Eventually becoming part of the Wright Implementation, Inc. family of dealerships, the Crawfordsville location transitioned again when AHW, LLC — a private company based in Dwight, Ill. — purchased the dealership in 2014, along with other western Indiana stores in Williamsport, Rockville and Attica.

"It was awkward, at first," admitted Allen. "We didn't know them well, and they didn't know us. In the beginning, we felt like we had to prove ourselves. Our employees did just that, and we are happy to be a part of AHW, today."

Hatke, who began long

ago under pioneer dealership head, Charlie Homsher, echoed Allen's assessment of the merger.

"Change is not easy, but it didn't take long for me to feel comfortable working for and with them," said the veteran employee.

With more than 50 full-time years under his belt, Hatke, a service technician has seen a lot of innovations in his tenure. When he started in 1972, the big news was operator comfort. Cabs were enclosed, and heaters, air-conditioning and air-filtration was introduced to protect the farmer. Now, technology includes tracking the vehicle via Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and satellites that can measure the amount of fertilizer needed to be added to the field.

"There's no question the technology is more compli-

cated," said Hatke, "but I wouldn't necessarily say it was harder. John Deere is really good about training."

"Years ago, they used to send us to Service Schools for training, as far away as Indianapolis or Ohio, or maybe to branch houses as close as Linden. However, nearly all of the training is conducted online, now."

And getting parts these days? Are the supply chain woes hurting work here, too?

"Some specialized parts are hard to find right now," said Hatke. "However, we have really good relationships with other dealers around the Midwest. We can contact them online, and often they will share inventory with us, and vice versa."

"Nevertheless, when inventory is this tight, everyone kind of hangs on

to what they have."

Hatke and his wife, Teresa, a local insurance agent, plan on spending more time with their three children and six grandchildren. However, Ron has a few projects lined up at home, too.

"I'm going to do some woodworking. Nothing special. I just like working the wood. I've got things I want to make for the kids."

Randy Allen had this day circled on the calendar for some time. He wants to use hard-earned time to restore a tractor. John Deere, of course?

"No, it's a Red one (Case IH)," he winced. "But it belonged to my Dad. It's really important to me."

"Starting last year, I've been taking less and less responsibility for operations, here. It's time for

me to step aside," said Allen, who served a similar role at Williamsport, Covington, and Mellott. "I will miss the people, though."

"Maybe not everyone," chimed his longtime friend and co-worker, Randy Saltz. "Ask him about the time someone got sick in the hallway. It seems while the two worked at the Mellott dealership, Saltz was angling to get a day off, and was willing to go to great lengths to achieve it."

"Yeah, Saltz kept telling me he didn't feel good," said Allen with some chagrin. "It's amazing what a can of cream of chicken soup dumped on the hallway floor will make you think of."

Evidently, that's another one of those signs that successful agribusiness people just can't ignore.

MARLOWE From Page A1

this year! You'd better buy our slimming product, so that when you do it again next year, you won't feel as bad as we are going to make you feel this year."

The reality is that The New England Journal of Medicine conducted a study that showed adults only gain on average thirty-seven kilograms (37 kg), or just under one pound of extra weight during the holidays. That's nothing more than a brisk walk on your lunch hour, or replacing the knish with a scoop of low-fat cottage cheese for a few weeks.

The way advertisers assault us with slick commercials, you'd think the pounds that we added might just throw the earth off its axis. What a fraud!

We should have caught on to this deception by now. But we fall for it every year. Each January magazine publishers jet-tison the scantily dressed celebrity cover girl in favor of a nice bowl of fruit salad. Look at those sexy melons!

We are barraged by all the familiar guilt-mongers, plus a few newer ones.

Weight Watchers™ dropped a few pounds of their own, recently. The weight loss company now markets itself as the "WW," shedding twelve letters. Jenny Craig™ has beefed up its delivery methods this year, and Nu-

trisystems™ markets a diet plan for couples. Let's all feel guilty-together!

Noom™ is the newest high volume advertiser. I can't find out what a "Noom" is, but I found reference to a laboratory acronym that means "Number of Overindulging Methods". Makes me wonder.

January is a great month for overweight celebrity spokespeople. Each year, they are trotted out of retirement to pitch everything from meals that come directly to your door in a box, to \$4,000 electronic bicycles that tilt

from side to side when you ride them. I get the same sensation from riding "Sandy," the electronic horse at the grocery store, and it only costs me a dime!

I guess I shouldn't pick on the weight loss industry for making us feel guilty about Christmastime. January is also the traditional month for carpeting to go on sale. Were we a little embarrassed by the red wine stain when Aunt Mildred stopped by?

Digital cameras go on sale in January, too. I'm guessing that you disap-

pointed everyone by not capturing the moment that Uncle Fred thought the guacamole was just really bad-looking gravy.

In the end, I think the biggest sneers come from the textile industry. For as long as I can remember, January has been the traditional month for linens, sheets, and pillows to be discounted. The marketing strategy called the White Sale, dates all the way back to 1878 when Wanamaker's department store in Philadelphia coined the phrase.

I'm not sure why

retailers pick January. Maybe they think we are especially hard on sheets in December. That would make sense if mattresses went on sale in January, too, but they don't. The seasonal sale month for mattresses is August.

August, according to the CDC is the month that most babies are born. Uh-oh. August, July, June, May, April ... Yep. Nine months before August is December. Shame. Shame.

John O. Marlowe is an award-winning columnist for Sagamore News Media.

BUTCH From Page A1

winner. If someone reached unlucky 13, he had to start all over again. The next most popular game was "Horse." The first player shot from his chosen spot, and if he made it, the other player had to make it from the same spot, and in the same manner, or he would have an "H." This proceeded on until someone ended up with H-O-R-S-E, and was declared the loser.

There were numerous other games such as playing one-on-one, consecutive free throw shooting, and attempting trick shots...such as shooting from the haymow window, from behind the fence, over the barn roof, under the legs, behind the back...and the trickiest shot of all, ricocheting the ball from the barn roof overhang. But the one game that I remember the most was "strip basketball," which was very similar to "Horse," except that after a missed shot, the unfortunate player had to discard a piece of clothing. This went on until a completely nude, and needless to say, frustrated loser was crowned. My brother and I played this game in the middle of winter one time, and by the time both of us were down to only our underwear, we were C-O-L-D. Our Dad spied us from the top of the barnlot hill and ordered the game to a halt... Thank the Lord!

Sometimes we played until dark, our clothes dripping with sweat and hands caked with dirt. There were a few twisted ankles and sprained backs through the years, and one time the ball was punctured by a barn nail. Despite these obstacles and all of the fighting and arguing over rules and points and who may have cheated, the fun and excitement was always present. And those countless hours at the barn paid off when we played "real" basketball on our school teams.

Each time I watch the movie "Hoosiers" and see a boy shooting baskets at a basketball goal on the side of a barn, I think of my brother and me as we were growing up on our farm in the 50s and 60s. And yes, I get a little teary-eyed remembering that magical period of childhood.

John "Butch" Dale is a retired teacher and County Sheriff. He has also been the librarian at Darlington the past 32 years, and is a well-known artist and author of local history.

STATE From Page A1

Douglas and it isn't good," Barton said. "Our local hospital is beyond capacity and our healthcare system is very strained. I really thought we would be able to return to an event this year but things have unraveled on us".



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