⇒ TODAY'S VERSE

Isaiah 12:2 Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.

⇒ FACES of **MONTGOMERY**

People who call our community their own.



Derrick Corp of Crawfordsville offered a bright smile when one of our roving photographers caught him at work creating pizza masterpieces. Thank you for your smile,

⇒ THREE THINGS You Should Know:

Readers' Choice '22 has kicked off and the most popular and largest contest in Montgomery County is already hot The Paper's Readers' Choice contest debuted more than 15 years ago and has been copied and imitated, but no one else does it as good as the folks who originated it. Weigh in by simply going to www. thepaper24-7.com and clicking on the top Readers' Choice banner! It's that easy!

Eleven year old Davyon Johnson of Muskogee, OK had a superhero day recently, reports the Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC]. While at school he spotted a classmate choking; the boy had accidentally swallowed a bottle cap. His school's principal, Latricia Dawkins, told a reporter from the Enid News & Eagle that "Davyon immediately sprinted over and did the Heimlich maneuver. From the account of the witnesses, when he did it the bottle cap popped out." Later that day he saw a handicapped woman standing on the porch of a burning house holding on to her walker. The youngster told Tulsa's News on 6 "I thought, 'Oh, she's not moving fast enough. So I ran across the street and helped her."

CHEER LIVE 2022 Tour will break new ground in a first of its kind live performance touring across North America featuring athletes from Emmy Award-winning Netflix docuseries CHEER. Presented by Live Nation, CHEER LIVE will kick off its 38-date journey that will include a stop in downtown Indianapolis on Wednesday, June 29, 2022 at the TCU Amphitheater. Tickets go on sale to the public Friday, February 4, 2022 at 10am local time at www.livenation.com. CHEER LIVE presenting sponsor Rebel Athletic is proud to offer access to presale tickets beginning Tuesday, February 1 at 10am local time until Thursday, February 3 at 10pm local time. For complete details about presales and group sales for teams of ten (10) or more, visit www.cheertouroffical. com.



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CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

WWW.THEPAPER24-7.COM



Boomer Bits



Ask Rusty - Will I have any **Social Security benefits?**

Dear Rusty: I'm 60 years of age and wonder if I will have any Social Security retirement benefits. After all, I did pur-

Signed: Uncertain

Dear Uncertain: Your eligibility for Social Security benefits depends upon your lifetime earnings history from work, from which Social Security FICA taxes were withheld. If you have worked, contributed to SS while working, and have earned at least 40 "quarters" of credit, you will be entitled to Social Security benefits. You can earn up to four credits each year by earning a specific amount of money, which means you must have worked for about 10 years contributing to Social Security in order to be eligible for Social Security benefits. For 2022, you will get 4 credits if you earn at least \$6040 (the amount needed per credit varies by year). The amount of benefit

3 Things To **Know About Strokes**

Strokes, the second-leading cause of death globally, affect millions of people each year. A stroke can cause lasting disability and unimaginable pain for those impacted and their loved

This year, 14.5 million people globally will have a stroke and 5.5 million people will die as a result, according to the World Stroke Organization. This World Stroke Day, learn how to reduce your risk for stroke, how to identify the signs and symptoms and why timely response and treatment are critical.

1. Talk to your doctor about ways to prevent stroke

A stroke occurs when a blood vessel that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain is either blocked by a clot (ischemic stroke) or bursts (hemorrhagic stroke). When this happens, part of the brain cannot get the blood and oxygen it needs, causing brain cells to die.

See STROKE Page A6



Social Security Matters This article is intended for information purposes only and does

not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

you will get depends upon your average monthly earnings (adjusted for inflation) over the highest-earning 35 years of your lifetime. The higher your annual earnings (from which FICA tax was withheld), the more your SS benefit will be. But you must have worked, earned and contributed to SS for at least 35 years to get your maximum benefit. SS always uses 35 years of earnings to compute your benefit and if you have fewer, they will put \$0 earnings in some years to make it 35. They will use the monthly average of those 35 years to determine your primary

benefit (known as your "Primary Insurance Amount" or "PIA" which is what you get at your full retirement age (FRA).

You cannot collect your personal SS retirement benefit until you are at least 62 years old, but if you claim at that age your benefit will be permanently reduced by 30%. You can only get your full SS benefit by waiting until your full retirement age (age 67 for you) to claim your Social Security. Claiming any earlier means a smaller benefit, but you can also

See RUSTY Page A6

Aging Has Got Easier For America's Seniors **But COVID May Reinforce Ageist Notions**

By John Grimaldi It's not how old you are; it's

how old you feel. Survey after survey show that the majority of senior citizens don't feel like senior citizens. They feel younger and more active than they thought they'd be whether you ask a 55 year old or a 70 year old. "When we were kids, old folks looked and acted old; today's kids are amazed at the energy and spunk of 70 year olds and even 80 year olds they encounter," says Rebecca Weber, CEO of the Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC].

Meantime, the COVID pandemic may be giving youngsters new ageist notions, she

The Website https://brightside.me/ says it's all because we each have our own biological clock and it rarely coincides with our biological age. American researchers have come to the conclusion that biological aging in recent years has been happening more slowly, which is why subsequent generations stay young-

INSIDE

TODAY'S

EDITION

Obituaries......A2

er looking longer. The plain fact is that most of America's 70 year olds and 80 year olds don't feel or look their age these days

One study, the results of which were reported last year, compared two groups of seniors. The first group consisted of individuals who were born between 1910 and 1914. They were between the ages of 75 and 80 when they were interviewed and examined. Participants in the second group were born between 1938 and 1943. They, too, were evaluated in the same manner at the ages of 75 and 80. The results showed that those in the second group were stronger and living to older ages with better physical functioning.

Another study polled 2,000 individuals 65 years of age and older. Seventy-two percent of them reported feeling younger than their chronological ages might suggest and some 50% said they felt younger by 15 years.

See JOHN Page A6

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset RISE: 7:59 a.m. SET: 6:04 p.m.





High/Low **Temperatures** High: 28 °F Low: 10 °F



Wacky Holiday Today

 Curmudgeons Day National Puzzle Day



What Happened On This Day What Happened On This Day

- 1845 Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven" is published
- 2002 George W. Bush coins the term "axis of evil" as part of his State of the **Union Address**





Births On This Day

- 1843 William McKinley American politician, 25th President of the United States
- 1954 Oprah Winfrey American talk show host, actress, producer, founded the OWN Network, Harpo **Productions**

Deaths On This Day

- 1963 Robert Frost American poet, playwright
- 1820 George III of the United Kingdom

HONEST HOOSIER

Wrestling sectionals begin today! Good luck to all our local grapplers!



Births......A2

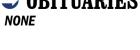
TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Ear wax is normal. If you must, clean out ear wax with an over-the-counter ear wax removal kit, not a cotton swab. 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.











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



THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE What a deal for churches!

We want to start 2022 on the good foot, so please remember that any church in the county is eligible for a free ad from the friendliest newspaper in Montgomery County. Why? Well, we've been doing this a while because we think it's the right thing to do. The way the program works is fairly simple. The Paper will give small ads at no cost to any church inside Montgomery County. The church provides basics like service times and contact info, and can include a message of faith and inspiration. With the pandemic, virtual services are expanding and info on that might be included. The normal cost of the ad is \$50 to \$65 and The Paper is absorbing 100 percent of the cost. To take advantage, just contact Paper Publisher Tim Timmons at ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com

🗢 TODAY'S QUOTE

"The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide you're not going to stay where you are." John Pierpont "J.P." Morgan

🗢 TODAY'S JOKE

What do frogs order at the drive-thru? French Flies!





PAGE A2

Saturday, Jan. 29, 2022

Twice Convicted Sex-offender Arrested F.C. Tucker West Central **With Child Sexual Abuse Material**

A Crawfordsville man was arrested Tuesday on criminal charges related to his alleged possession of child sexual abuse material.

According to court documents, an investigation into Christopher Gene Beke, Sr., 43, began with a report by Google LLC, after the company determined a Google user uploaded sexually explicit images of minors to Google servers in 2021. The Indiana Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force received these reports, and the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office identified the Google user as Beke, Sr., who had prior convictions for Child Molesting and Possession of Child Pornography. Upon execution of a search warrant, and with the assistance of "Hunter", IMPD's Electronic Detection K-9, Beke was found to be in possession of devices that contained sexually explicit images of minors. Beke admitted to police that his phone would contain illegal

"This case is a great example of how an international corporate giant like Google can use technology to detect child sexual abuse images being stored online and then quickly get that information into the hands of local law enforcement officers," said United States Attorney Zachary A. Myers. "Using these internationally generated leads, our ICAC Task Force can put local boots on the ground to stop people who traffic in sexually explicit images of children. And a special thanks for the incredible work of our law enforcement partners in Montgomery County."

"Detective French and Detective Kirby have worked tirelessly on these cases, and we are grateful for our partnerships with the ICAC Task Force," said Montgomery County Sheriff Ryan Needham. "We will continue to commit all of our resources to these types of crimes and work with our partners to ensure we do our part in keeping children safe.'

Beke, Sr. is charged with Possession of a Visual Depiction of a Minor Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct (with a Prior Conviction). The defendant made his initial court appearance today, before U.S. Magistrate Judge Doris L. Pryor

of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana and was ordered detained pending trial. If convicted, Beke, Sr. faces a sentence of at least 10 years in federal prison. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is investigating the case. The Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department, the Indiana State Police, the Crawfordsville Police Department, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office (including the County Sex Offender Registrar), and the Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office also provided valuable assistance.

U.S. Attorney Myers thanked Assistant U.S. Attorney Kristina Korobov who is prosecuting the case.

This investigation was conducted by the Indiana Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, a partnership of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies led by the Indiana State Police. The Task Force is dedicated to investigating and prose-

cuting crimes involving the technology-facilitated sexual exploitation of children and the trafficking of child sexual abuse material. Each year, Indiana ICAC investigators evaluate thousands of tips, investigate hundreds of cases, and rescue dozens of children from ongoing sexual abuse. In fiscal year 2019, the Southern District of Indiana was second out of the 94 federal districts in the country for the number of child sexual exploitation cases prosecuted.

Additionally, this case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.justice.gov/psc.

Welcomes Dan Bergfors

F.C. Tucker West Central is pleased to announce the addition of Dan Bergfors, an experienced REALTOR® to their office.

Dan has always sought

out challenging fastpaced careers and his last 3+ years in real estate have been no exception. From Dan's days in the Air Force through his 20 years in the corporate world there havs always been a common thread that makes him the perfect person to be your real estate agent; his honesty, integrity, hustle, attention to detail and best of all, he is a problem solver. Dan will not rest until your real estate needs are met. If you need more information about homes in your area, please contact Dan at 765-366- 9733 or at dan.bergfors@ talktotucker.com today so he can provide you with the latest information. On Dan's website,



Dan Bergors

you will find all the information you need to buy or sell a home. If you are ready to begin your home search, visit TalkToTucker.com/Dan. Bergors to search area homes.

F.C. Tucker West Central has been helping serve the real estate needs in west central Indiana for the last 15 years. F.C. Tucker West Central has offices in Crawfordsville and Covington. To buy or sell a home in our area, please call 765-362-4700 to speak with one of our 16 experienced realtors.

Thanks for reading The Paper!

Bookwalter Challenges Jim In IN District 4 Primary

T. Charles Bookwalter, a veteran of the US **Army Special Forces** and resident of Boone County Indiana, threw his hat into the ring to challenge House Republican incumbent Jim Baird in the Indiana District 4 primary on May 3.

Charles "Charlie" Bookwalter grew up in Vermillion County and graduated from Indiana University with a degree in legal studies and a minor in political science. Following September 11, 2001, he enlisted in the US Army Special Forces as a Special Forces Senior Medical Sergeant. He completed two combat tours, earning multiple awards including the Bronze Star for service in combat. He remained on active duty until 2012.

After returning to Indiana, Charlie reconnected with a close friend he met while interning at the Pentagon. Together they developed a commercial property in Frankfort, Indiana. While working for Intuitive Surgical 2014-2021 as a medical device surgical representative, he opened a Jimmy John's as the anchor store in that property.

Charlie lives in Thorntown, Indiana on a small homestead with his wife Beverly. They homeschool their three daughters, Natalie, Josephine, and Sadie. He is an active member and servant at Lebanon Christian Church.

A firm believer in personal liberty and small government, Charlie is fighting against mask and Covid vaccine mandates, inflation due to endless stimulus programs, and

government involvement in our schools. He is passionate about fair and transparent elections and maintaining our 2nd Amendment liberties. "These are not radical positions, but the core beliefs of the Republican Party that my opponent is not willing to fight for," said Bookwalter.

For more information about Charlie and his platform or to join the fight, subscribe to his newsletter or donate to his grassroots campaign at tcharlesbookwalter.

Waynetown Baptist Church

Service: Sunday 10:30 am

Children's Church

Casual Clothes, Everybody Welcome

Traditional and Comtemporary

Rokita Takes Action Against Illegal Immigration

Rokita today announced a multistate lawsuit seeking to stop the Biden administration from unlawfully granting special privileges to illegal immigrants. He made the announcement while in Texas, where he was gathering evidence for the next steps in Indiana's efforts to combat illegal immigration.

"Every elected official has a constitutional duty to protect our liberties, and that is why I am taking action. The flood of illegal immigrants entering the U.S. is a problem that harms all of us," Attorney General Rokita said. "The ones paying the price for this lawlessness are Hoosier taxpayers, who must bear increased costs for health care, education and other services used by illegal immigrants."

Specifically, the lawsuit asks a U.S. district court to stop a program granting certain illegal aliens from El Salvador, Guatemala or Honduras the ability to petition the federal government to bring their minor children into the United States.

Beneficiaries under the "Central American Minors Program," or "CAM" which has never been approved by Congress — are not only permitted to enter and reside within the United States for a practically

indefinite period, but their travel arrangements from their home countries are provided through taxpayer funds.

This is Rokita's second trip to the border in three months. Last fall, he visited several locations along the U.S.-Mexico border to get a firsthand look at the crisis. A video overview of

that trip is available here. "We welcome migrants to the United States who are grateful to be here and want to restart their lives under the values this country was founded upon," Attorney General Rokita said. "The first way they can show that is by following our laws. Those who do not should

not be allowed to stay." Attorney General Rokita has helped lead the fight against the Left's soft coddling of illegal immigrants, such as when he led a 16-state coalition last August aimed at stopping President Joe Biden from shelving former President Donald Trump's successful "Remain in Mexico" policy. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of Attorney General Rokita and the coalition. Although the Biden administration continues its efforts to undo the Trump policy, the federal government in December submitted to the court ruling and resumed the "Remain in Mexico" policy for now.



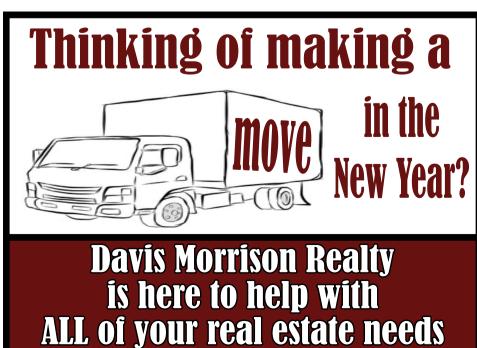
Service times: 10:02 am on Sundays

Wednesday night prayer meeting at 6:30 pm.

vinechurchlife.org

A family for everyone







1721 Lebanon Road **Crawfordville** 765-362-5878

INCLUDE YOUR INFORMATION The Paper of Montgomery County is asking churches to send us church news by noon on Thursday. Information can be e-mailed to: churchnews@thepaper24-7.com

The following is a listing of church services and various programs that organizations around Montgomery County have sent The Paper. If you would like to have your church information included in this free listing, simply e-mail it to churchnews@thepaper24-7.com by Monday for the Wednesday Print Edition.

There may be closures due to health concerns with the COVID-19 pandemic.

NEW MARKET FIRST BAPTIST

We are so excited for our church. This Sunday, we will be moving back

into the sanctuary. We have been meeting in Hampton Hall since last

summer because of damage done by an earthquake. Sunday School

and Holy Grounds will begin at 9:00 a.m. Classes for all ages. Worship

service will begin at 10:00 a.m. Pauly and Nancy will lead our worship

FREEDOM BAPTIST CHURCH

If you're looking for something special to do this Christmas, Freedom Baptist Church near Waveland has you covered! On Sunday morning Dec 12 at 9:30, we will be featuring acclaimed jazz pianist Luke Gillespie in a free concert of Christmas music. Gillespie is Professor of Jazz Studies at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music and has performed with David Baker, Buselli-Wallarab Jazz Orchestra, Sylvia McNair, Ann-Margret, Arturo Sandoval, and many others. Stick around for coffee and donuts following the program. Freedom Baptist Church is on SR 234 west, just minutes west of the intersection at SR 234 and SR 47. You won't want to

NEW MARKET CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Church News for Saturday, January 29, 2021 from New Market

The Sanctuary as well as the Drive-in Parking Lot are open for Worship held at 10:00 am. Tony Thomas will speak on "Learn Humbly, Like Jesus". His text is from Philippians 2:8.

SUNDAY SCHOOL begins at 9:00 am. COFFEE & DONUT FEL-LOWSHIP is at 8:30 am the first Sunday of each month. The next fellowship is February 6.

The worship service and Sunday school are open to everyone. MASKS are ENCOURAGED!

service. Pastor Todd will finish his series, Lord's Closet will open up on Saturday from 9:00-12:00 p.m. This is the time to bring in donations also. Everyone is welcome to come and get free cleaning at this time.

Hope to see all of you at the church for our services.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH Sundays: Worship (Casual Traditional/Family Friendly/Childcare) - 10:15 am, Adult Faith Learning/Sunday School - 9:15 am, Good News Cafe -9:15 am, Wednesdays: WOW! - Mid-week Youth Program (Grades 1-12) 4:30 - 7 pm, Faith Learning and Dinner, Rev. Darla Goodrich, We are located at: 211 S. Walnut St. Crawfordsville IN 47933 Telephone: 765-

YOUNG'S CHAPEL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

If contemporary worship is not your preference, then you Might want to visit us. A small country Bible based church made up of very friendly, compassionate, loving people. A church where everyone knows everyone's name. You will be warmly welcomed here. Why not try us out? 4527 North 200 East, Crawfordsville Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 am.

WOODLAND HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Woodland Heights Christian Church 468 N Woodland Heights Drive Crawfordsville IN 47933-9689 Telephone Number: 765-362-5284 Fax Number: 765-362-6641 Lead Minister: Tim Lueking

Associate Minister: Steve Wilke Worship Minister: Wayne Wilkinson Youth Minister: Bryson Feese Worship Service Times for Sunday:

Traditional service at 8:15a.m. & Contemporary service at 10:30a.m. All Sunday School classes at 9:30a.m., Children's classes for birth to 5th grade at 10:30a.m. All services will be streamed live on our live.whcc.us platform, Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter.

Refocus on Clarity and Conviction - Proverbs 29:18

NEW MARKET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Reverend William "Bill" Pike Office: 765-866-0703 email: bill.pike@inumc.org. Please come join our small town church for a friendly church service using hymnals and the rituals of church that you grew up with. 101 East Main Street, P.O. Box 326, New Market, IN 47965.

Facebook.com New Market United Methodist Church Indiana

Office Phone: 765-866-0703 www.newmarketumc.org Open Hearts--Open Minds--Open Doors Sunday School 9:30 and

Worship Service 10:45

Southside Church of Christ

153 E 300 South • Crawfordsville southsidechurchofchristindiana.com

> Sundays: Worship at 10:30 am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7 pm



One Way Pentecostal Apostolic Church

802 Mill St. • Crawfordsville

Pastor Steve Lee and his wife, Tamara, invite you all to their spirit-filled church

Services

Sunday at 2 pm

Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7 pm

Saturday evening (speaking spanish service) at 7 pm

Hickory Bible Church 104 Wabash - New Richmond

Sunday Services:

Breakfast and Bible - 9:30

Church - 10:30

a small church with a big heart!

Dr. Curtis Brouwer, Pastor 765-918-4949



Christ's United Methodist Church

Pastor Dirk Caldwell

We're here and we can hardly wait to see you Sundays at 11 a.m.!

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christsumc@mymetronet.net

Livestreamed and archived at christsumc.org Click the video tab, then the Livestream Link

> ---or---Watch us on our FB page



New Market Christian Church

300 S. Third Street • New Market (765) 866-0421 Dr. Gary Snowden, Minister

Sunday Worship at 10:00 am in the Family Life Center (Masks Encouraged) or in the Parking Lot Tuned to 91.5 FM No Sunday School at This Time

nmcc@sbcglobal.net • newmarketcc.org Visit Us on Facebook

> We Exist to Worship God, Love One Another & Reach Out to Our Neighbors



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Services:

Thursday night at 6:30 Sunday mornings at 10:30

Both services are streamed



Church Service at 10 am

124 West Elm Street • Ladoga (765) 942-2019 ladogachristianchurch@gmail.com www.ladogacc.com



Liberty Chapel Church

Phil 4:13

Church Services:

Sunday School 9 am

Church 10 am

Wednesday Children's Awana Program 6 pm-8 pm



Sunday Worship 10:00 AM

in person or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LindenUnitedMethodistChurch

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Pastor Clint Fink

Email: lindenum@tctc.com

Website: lindenumchurch.org

"Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."



Friendship **Baptist Church**

1981 West Oak Hill Road • Crawfordsville

Romans 15:13

Follow us on Facebook

Sunday school 9:30 am Church 10:30 am Wednesday Bible Study 4 pm



Garfield Apostolic Christian

4485 E 300 N • Crawfordsville

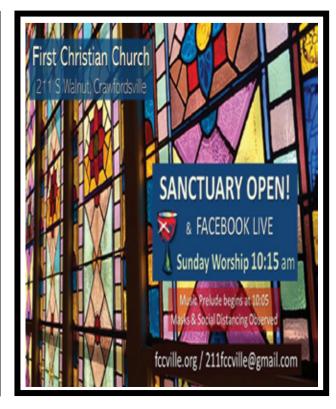
Services

Sunday at 10 am

Tuesday Prayer Meeting

6 pm - 7 pm

Thursday Bible Study 6:30 pm - 8 pm



Make us #1 again Montgomery County! We appreciate all your support!

ALAMO CHRISTIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICE: 10:30 AM

Thank you friends and neighbors for voting for us.

God Bless You!

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Crawfordsville

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Tuesday: Mexican Buffet 1-8 Friday: Seafood Meals Sunday: Buffet 11-4



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dutchertrenching@gmail.com

RESTAURANTS



RETAIL



Contact our advertising department at 765-361-0100 ext. 1 to be included in our next Service Directory.

City Of West Lafayette Is Now Seeking **Proposals For New Public Art Initiative**

The Arts Federation (TAF) and West Lafayette Public Arts Team (WL-PAT) have announced that they are requesting proposals from artists, art teams, and design firms for the design, fabrication, and installation of a multi-year public art initiative. This project will be administered by TAF in partnership with the West Lafayette Redevelopment Commission and WLPAT.

"We are using this request for proposals to identify a partner who can be responsive to our community's aesthetic desires and engagement level," says WLPAT Chair Ann Fields Monical. "We think a longer term relationship that produces a series of artworks will be of great benefit to the city, its residents, and its growing public art collection."

The West Lafayette Redevelopment Commission will invest \$50,000 for the project's first year of implementation, which is scheduled to produce an initial design concept in summer 2022. WLPAT plans to budget for the project to continue over the next five years.

WLPAT says the end goal of this project is to create a series of largescale public art pieces that are interactive, playful, and add vibrance to West Lafayette. The locations of the installations will be determined by collaboration between WLPAT and the selected artist or firm.

Fields Monical says that "WLPAT is made up of community members. We have drafted a list of themes for the RFP that we hope inspire potential partners for this project. We'd like to see ideas that reflect our outdoor environment, monumental works that contrast with the surrounding landscape, or other types of sculptures and installations that encourage interac-

Interested applicants should visit The Arts Federation's website to download a copy of the official

Request for Proposals. About The Arts Feder-

The Arts Federation (TAF) is the leader for arts & culture in north central Indiana. serves as an umbrella organization and arts council for Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fountain, Howard, Jasper, Newton, Montgomery, Pulaski, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Warren, and White Counties. The organization provides educational opportunities in the visual, performing, and literary arts, outreach programs for both underserved communities and youth, and funding for capital and operational expenses to fellow arts organizations region-wide. More information is available at theartsfederation.

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) encourages schools and qualified community organizations to participate in the 2022 Summer Food Service

Program. The Summer Food Service Program reimburses local sponsors that serve healthy free meals and snacks to children 18 years old and younger. Sponsorship is open to public and private nonprofit groups, including local governments, summer camps,

religious organizations

and recreation centers.

Organizations may also

consider partnering with an existing sponsor, such as a school corporation, to serve students in areas where children may lack good nutrition during the summer months.

Participation In Summer Meals Program

IN Dept. Of Education Encourages

In 2021, more than 280 Indiana sponsors served nearly 22 million meals during the summer months. In addition to providing free meal service in a local community, many sponsors also offer educational or physical activities for students.

Created in 1968, the Summer Food Service Program is funded and operated by the U.S.

Department of Agriculture (USDA) and is administered by the states. Participating organizations must adhere to all USDA regulations. The program is funded through a reimbursement based on the number of meals served to eligible participants. Any student age 18 or under is eligible to receive meals through the Summer Food Service Program by visiting a meal site.

The application deadline for new sponsors is April 15, 2022. IDOE will host multiple required webinars for new and returning sponsors.

December Indiana Employment Report

Indiana's unemployment rate fell from 3.0% in November to 2.7% in December—a record low for the state dating back to 1976, according to the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD).

In addition, private sector employment jumped by 10,900 over the last month and has now increased for six of the last seven months. This has resulted in a gain of 82,400 jobs yearover-year. Total private employment now stands at 2,705,500—35,000 below the December 2019 peak of 2,740,500

"With a 2.7% unem-

ployment rate and more than 150,000 job postings statewide, there are now more employment and economic opportunities available than there have been in several decades," **DWD** Commissioner Fred Payne said. "We will continue to offer Hoosier job seekers the proper skills training to secure the job of their choice, and Hoosier employers the tools to find workers to fit

By comparison, the national unemployment rate dropped from 4.2% in November to 3.9% in December.

their needs."

Learn more about how unemployment rates are

calculated here: https:// www.hoosierdata.in.gov/ infographics/employment-status.asp.

December 2021 Labor-Force

Indiana's labor force had a net decrease of 8,774 over the previous month, due to an increase of 3,836 employed residents and a decrease of 12,610 unemployed residents.

Indiana's total labor force, which includes both Hoosiers employed and those seeking employment, stands at 3.31 million. The state's labor force participation rate of 62.4% remains above the national rate of 61.9%.

Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra Announces Their Spring 2022 Teddy Bear Concert Series new voices through pro-

The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra announced the spring 2022 schedule for the beloved Teddy Bear Concert Series. The series introduces children ages 3 to 7 to the instruments of the orchestra through story, movement and live music. Featuring five different original stories written by ISO violinist Victoria Kintner, the popular series will be held at libraries in central Indiana from February to June 2022. The series is made possible with generous support from the Indianapolis Colts. All preschoolers, kindergartners, and stuffed friends are welcome!

All Teddy Bear performances are free and open to the public. Please contact individual libraries to confirm reservations or seating procedures.

Teddy Bear Series schedule (all performances

begin at 11 a.m.): February 5: Monkey's Jungle Jam – Arts for Lawrence

April 9: The Big Note -JCPL's Trafalgar Branch April 30: Monkey's Jungle Jam - Central Library

May 7: The Garden Symphony - Arts for Lawrence

May 14: The Runaway Strings - Central Library May 21: The Giant's Violin - JCPL's White

River Branch June 4: The Big Note -JCPL's Franklin Branch June 11: The Garden Symphony - Central Library

June 18: The Runaway Strings - JCPL Clark Pleasant Branch

For more details, visit https://www.indianapolissymphony.org/ learn/kids-families/teddy-bear-series/

About the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra

The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, at home and thriving in the heart of Indianapolis, offers an exceptional artistic and musical experience. The orchestra is open to all and dedicated to creating an inclusive and innovative experiential environment that is inspiring, educational, and welcoming. The ISO celebrates historically beloved performances while engaging audiences by introducing



gramming including the

DeHaan Classical Series,

Pops Series, the holiday

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information, visit www.

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URUSTY From Page A1

delay longer and earn Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) up to age 70, when your maximum benefit would be 24% more than it would be at your FRA. You have an 8 year window to claim your Social Security, and when you claim within that window determines how much of your primary SS benefit you will get.

If you claim before your FRA and you continue to work, Social Security places a limit on how much you can earn before they take away some of your benefits. For example, someone who claims at age 63 in 2022 would have an annual earnings limit of \$19,560, and if that were exceeded SS would take away benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 over the limit (a monthly limit may be imposed if you claim mid-year). The earnings limit applies until FRA is reached, after which there is no longer a limit to how much can be earned.

The easiest way to determine your eligibility for Social Security benefits and how much that benefit would be at

different ages is to obtain a Statement of Estimated Benefits from the Social Security Administration. You can request that by calling SS at 1.800.772.1213, but you can also get it yourself by creating your personal "my Social Security" online account at www.ssa. gov/myaccount. Once you have created your personal online account you can see your lifetime record of earnings and download your Statement of Estimated Benefits to understand whether you are entitled to Social Security

benefits and, if so, how much your benefit will be if claimed at various ages.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/ social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@ amacfoundation.org.

About AMAC The 2.4 million member Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC] www.amac.us is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization

that takes its marching orders from its members. AMAC Action is a non-profit, non-partisan organization representing the membership in our nation's capital and

in local Congressional Districts throughout the country. And the **AMAC** Foundation (www.AmacFoundation. org) is the Association's non-profit organization, dedicated to supporting and educating America's Seniors. Together, we act and speak on the Association members' behalf, protecting their interests and offering a practical insight on how to best solve the problems they face today. Live long and make a difference by joining us today at www. amac.us/join-amac.

U STROKE

While strokes can be devastating and deadly, up to 90% are preventable and many risk factors can be controlled before they cause a stroke. By managing conditions like high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity and atrial fibrillation (AFib); ceasing smoking; eating a healthy diet; getting regular exercise; and taking all prescribed medications, you can decrease your risk. Treating AFib, an irregular heart rhythm disorder, is particularly important as it is associated with a five-fold increased risk of ischemic

2. Recognize signs and symptoms of stroke

stroke.

When a stroke occurs, acting F.A.S.T. can help you get timely treatment needed to survive. If you recognize the signs and symptoms of a stroke – face weakness, arm weakness, speech slurring – it's time to call for help.

When F.A.S.T. is a commonly used acronym to From Page A1

identify the signs of stroke, it is important to understand the relationship between a stroke and the time it takes to receive care. When brain cells die, brain function is lost. In fact, 1.9 million brain cells are lost every minute someone is having a stroke. Quickly identifying signs of a stroke and seeking immediate treatment can save your life or reduce long-term disability. Reducing the amount of time between the onset of stroke and treatment can make a difference in how well your brain, arms, legs, speech and thinking are able

to recover. "Stroke can be a deadly and devastating neurological event," said mark Dickinson, worldwide president, CERENOVUS, a company committed to changing the trajectory of stroke and offering a broad portfolio of devices used in the endovascular treatment of stroke. "Yet when care and treatment is sough in a timely

way, the chances of survival and recovery can increase significantly. This World Stroke Day – and every day - we must continue to raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of stroke and the need to seek timely medical care. With stroke, every second and every minute counts."

3. Know your treatment

options for stroke Seeking treatment for stroke immediately means you have more treatment options available to you, such as being eligible to receive tissue plasminogen activator or mechanical thrombectomy (MT) for ischemic stroke, the most common type of stroke. MT, a minimally invasive blood clot retrieval procedure, helps the chances you'll survive an ischemic stroke and make a full recovery. Treatment options for hemorrhagic stroke include surgery to remove, repair or clip a ruptured aneurysm.

U JOHN From Page A1

Says AMAC's Weber, these longevity statistics should be powerful weapons for combating the menace of ageism the stereotyping, prejudice and discrimination against people on the basis of their age. According to the Institute on Aging "Just because we age, doesn't mean we should be treated differently because of it." One would think that the fact seniors have been steadily becoming the majority in our population for quite some time might serve to discourage ageism; the statistics show that about 10,000 Americans celebrate their 65th birthdays each and every day. But it has done little to discourage the bias of aging.

The Reframing Aging Initiative [RAI] describes ageism as an implicit bias - the unconscious attitudes and beliefs that lead to snap judgments about older people. The RAI

says ageism is bad for our health and for our economy. It makes us sick and costs "our nation billions in avoidable health care costs. Ageism [also] stifles the economy by limiting the participation of older workers, despite their years of experience."

So how do these "unconscious attitudes" form. Some say it is due to the stereotyping by younger generations as a means of rebelling against the authority of their elders. That may be true and, if so, perhaps the pandemic has exacerbated the notion, according to Weber.

She cites an American Psychological Association [APA] report that COVID may reinforce ageist beliefs. The APA report cites Shevaun Neupert, PhD, a professor of psychology at North Carolina State University, who says that messages "such as 'stay home

and protect your grandmother' could both shape how younger people think about older adults now and how they themselves will think about being older as they age. This is a transformational time to imagine how generations of people will experience aging now and in the future."

CEO Weber believes, however, "it is always important to remember 'It's not how old you are; it's how old you feel'."

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