

TODAY'S VERSE

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



Alexandria Truelsen smiles happily for The Paper while enrolling breastfeeding mothers into the WIC program. Thank you for your smile, Alexandria!

THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 Italian authorities have hired a new guard to protect the ruins of the ancient city of Pompeii - a tireless patrol dog, reports the Association of Mature American Citizens. What breed of dog, you ask? It's a 21st century "quadruped robotic dog" with the not-so-21st century name of Spot. Gabriel Zuchtriegel, director of the Pompeii Archaeological Park, says "Often the safety conditions within the tunnels dug by grave robbers are extremely precarious, and so the use of a robot could signify a breakthrough that would allow us to proceed with greater speed and in total safety."

2 Ivy Tech Community College Lafayette is hosting First Step to Finish, an on-campus open house event to help prospective students take the first step toward their future. The event will be held on April 26 from 3 to 6 p.m. on Tue, April 26 on the Ivy Tech Lafayette campus at 3101 S. Creasy Lane. The public is invited. Registration is not required, but visitors are encouraged to RSVP at link.ivytech.edu/FirstStepToFinish. For more information or to RSVP by email, contact scertano@ivytech.edu.

3 The fourth annual 4.01k Race for Financial Fitness is back in person! Pledging to raise money to improve financial literacy for school-aged kids across the country, the 4.01k Race for Financial Fitness™ will kick off at the Monon Rail Trail at Big Lug Canteen with a post-race Well-a-Bration on Sunday, June 12th. Hosted by ProCourse Fiduciary Advisors, local race proceeds will benefit Junior Achievement of Central Indiana to promote students' financial literacy. For more information about the race, visit https://indy401krace.com.

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CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

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Voting in Primaries 101 - No Straight Tickets and How to Vote for A Trustee

Polls are open in Montgomery County for early voting, and once again it's time to educate ourselves about voting in the primaries and choosing among the candidates.



The League of Women Voters, open to men as well as women, is a nonpartisan, multi-issue political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. For information about the Montgomery County LWV, visit: www.lwvmtgocoin.org or message to LWV, PO Box 101, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933.

First a quick reminder about primaries (because poll workers in May 2020 had to explain this) there's no straight-ticket button in May. Primary voting requires

a voter to take one ballot either Democrat or Republican - a vote so as to narrow down multiple candidates.

To help voters prepare, the county has a list of all candidates for the May 3 primary here: https://www.montgomerycounty.in.gov/egov/documents/1649441009_70627.pdf. This list won't look like the Democrat or Republican ballot, which includes only the select party's names. It could seem a little confusing, so some explanation may help. Consider the shortest list, the list of candidates for federal offices. There are two incumbents: Todd Young (R) who has no primary challenger. In November, he

See VOTING Page A6

Addressing Nastiness in Society



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

My, my. We do tend to get testy as a society now, don't we? I remember talking to then-sheriff Mark Casteel a

couple of years ago. He was telling me about sitting in a line at a red light. One guy actually ran the light (a pretty gutsy move considering the obvious sheriff's car) and others were impatiently tapping on their steering wheels and then

honking when the light changed and the first car didn't spring forward.

How long is a red light? Despite the fact that they seem like hours, they're not. They do sometimes illustrate our lack of patience.

Of course, that's just one example and doesn't account for actual differences of opinion. Heck, it doesn't matter if it's politics, religion, sex or tid-dlywinks. It's been said in this space before, you're either for me or a'gin me and there ain't much middle ground.

See TIMMONS Page A7



Artwork Courtesy of Chuck Clore

The Hoosier Cure

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a condensed version of a story from Chuck Clore that first appeared in Montgomery Memories. Chuck is a writer and artist who is a regular contributor to the monthly magazine. You can check out his articles on LinkedIn http://www.linkedin.com/in/chuckclore and see his talented artwork at Society6 http://society6.com/chuckcloreconcepts

As the early-spring canopy flourishes above, forming a dark green tunnel over the winding road leading to Deer's Mill and the Narrows, anticipation swells for the Hoosier rites of spring and the Mighty Morels.

In Montgomery County, there is only one sure-fire cure for the plague of cabin fever. So

See CURE Page A3

Sugar Creek Water Panel Discussion



AMANDA GROSSMAN
Fresh off the Shelf

Join us at the Carnegie Museum of Montgomery County on Thursday, April 21st, 2022 from 7 to 8 p.m. as we

engage in a community conversation with a panel of local conservation experts and Sugar Creek enthusiasts. We will talk about the challenges facing the Creek, the impact of our individual and collective actions upon the Creek, and what we

See CREEK Page A6

Southmont Schools Names Dr. Chad Cripe New Superintendent

The Southmont Schools Board of Trustees named Dr. Chad Cripe as their new superintendent on Monday evening. The board approved Dr. Cripe's hiring at a special meeting that ended a four-month search to replace former superintendent Dr. Shawn Greiner, who resigned in December 2021.

"Dr. Cripe has a passion for all things education, and truly believes in the values of servant leadership," said Mr. Daryl Hutson, Board of Trustees president. "We are all excited to see the impact that he will undoubtedly have in our schools and in our community."

Dr. Cripe will officially begin his time at Southmont Schools

See CRIPE Page A6

Registration Closing Thursday for Mental Health First Aid Workshop

Time is running out to register for the May 5 Mental Health First Aid workshop open to any parent, teacher, provider, first responder, or interested individual offered by United Way partner agency Volunteers for Mental Health in Montgomery

County in conjunction with Purdue University.

The program focuses on identifying mental health challenges in youth and providing approaches to assist the young

See FIRST Page A6

Barton Responds to Holcomb's INDOT Grants Announcement

City of Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton provided the following statement after the announcement of Crawfordsville being awarded over \$190,000 in matching grant money from the first phase of community

crossing grants given by the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT).

"The Community Crossing Grant program has become a

See BARTON Page A6

HONEST HOOSIER

I hope this year's crop of mushrooms is as good as this year's crop of new potholes!



TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Get an eye exam regularly - some eye diseases don't have any symptoms until it's too late. 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

Rosemary Costello Eastman (Rae)
Olivia Sue Compton Hunt

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



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INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

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THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Want To Go?

Butler Bulldogs and Indiana Hoosiers to clash on Tuesday, April 26. Gates open: 5:30 PM | First Pitch: 6:35 PM. Seating is assigned and is \$10 per ticket. The ticket price is \$8 for schools, season ticket holders, groups of 25+ individuals, children and military members. Children ages 2 and under are free.

TODAY'S QUOTE

"When you do not know what you are doing and what you are doing is the best - that is inspiration."
- Robert Bresson

TODAY'S JOKE

Parenting is filled with wonder. Like wondering why your 4 years old raced into the kitchen and quietly grabbed a handful of napkins.

7 DAY FORECAST: WED 38/60, THU 52/73, FRI 54/76, SAT 60/82, SUN 62/81, MON 58/67, TUE 46/58

OBITUARIES

Rosemary Costello Eastman (Rae)

Sep. 17, 1930 - April 16, 2022

Rosemary Costello Eastman (Rae) passed away peacefully on April 16, 2022, at home in Evansville, Indiana, with family at her side. She lived a long and happy life for over 91 years.

She was born on Sep. 17, 1930, to Edward and Helen (Foran) Costello in Omaha, Neb.

Mrs. Eastman graduated from Cathedral High School in Omaha in 1949, before entering the work world for ten years. She stole the heart of John (Jack) Eastman and the two were married on April 12, 1958. They shared a warm and loving marriage together for 62 years, and successfully raised nine children.

Following the birth of their two oldest children in Omaha and Peoria, the couple moved the family to Crawfordsville, Indiana, where they lived for over 55 years. Raising children and running a large household was a fulltime undertaking for Mrs. Eastman. She made daily runs to the grocery store and cooked healthy meals in very large portions. The family dined together on most nights and Sunday dinners were always special. She enjoyed 30 years in retirement with her husband. They enjoyed traveling to visit their children and loved to attend any events involving their grandchildren. Mrs. Eastman took great pleasure in caring for her family and she was very proud of all the many achievements. For many years, she enjoyed water aerobics and daily walks.

She will be remembered fondly as mom, grandma, great grandma (GG) and aunt by nine kids, sixteen grandkids, four great grandchildren. These were roles she was born to play...and she loved spending time with all of them. Mrs. Eastman was friendly to everyone. She took great care of her family, possessing a giving personality and a sharp wit. She will be dearly missed and forever our "Irish Rose".

Survivors include her nine children and their spouses: Julie (Jerry) Niccum, Ed (Renee) Eastman, John Eastman, Jr., Joanie (Joe) Durchholz, Terri McConnell (Lloyd McConnell deceased), Tom (Susan) Eastman, Janet (Mike) Heinold, Nancy (Daryl) Swick and Jeff (Annie) Eastman; grandchildren and great grandchildren Danny and Katie (with husband, Allen Lormand) Niccum, Mike (with fiancée Kathryn Jokela) and Alex Eastman, Julia (and daughter Ava), Jessica (with husband, Nick Kleaving, and son, Henry), Louie, and Joe Durchholz, Sam (with wife, Rachel, and son Theodor) and Hannah Eastman, Emma and Eddie Heinold, Kaleb Swick (with fiancée, Riley Shaner, and daughter Millie) and Emily, Sylvia and Will Eastman; her brother Jim; and dozens of nieces and nephews.

She is predeceased by her husband, Jack, who passed in April 2020; her parents; and siblings Ed, Bill, Renee and Steve.

May she rest in peace under the good grace of God.

A visitation is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on Monday, April 25, 2022, at St. Bernard's Catholic Church in Crawfordsville, Indiana. It is scheduled to be immediately followed by a mass of Christian burial at 10:30 a.m.

For those who wish to honor Rosemary's memory, you are invited to make memorial donations to her favored charity: St. Jude's Children's Hospital (www.stjude.org).



Olivia Sue Compton Hunt

Sep. 22, 1949 - March 11, 2022

Olivia Sue Compton Hunt, 72, of Delphi, Indiana, passed away at on Friday, March 11, 2022.

Olivia was born on Friday, Sep. 22, 1949 in Rose Hill, Va. to Kitty and Willard Compton.

Mrs. Hunt grew up in Camden Indiana and graduated from Delphi Highschool in 1967.

She married Lowell "Butch" Hunt on Sep. 14, 1968 and raised a son and daughter in Delphi.

Mrs. Hunt worked at the Carroll County Manor for several years caring for the elderly in her community. She loved Elvis Presley and over the years collected a large Elvis Presley memorabilia collection. She caught Elvis's scarf he threw at her during one of his last concerts, a story she often told proudly.

Mrs. Hunt enjoyed country line dancing in the 90's, solving sudoku puzzles, winning at bingo, going out to eat and attending her great granddaughters (Hayden) basketball games and school functions. She took great pride in her appearance and always looked her best. She loved the beauty shop gossip that developed into many great friendships.

Survivors include her children Shawn (Tami) Hunt of Delphi and Misty (Greg) Meinecke of Crawfordsville; sisters Brenda (John) Reppert of Camden and Mary Ellen (Tim) Clifford of Winter Garden, Fla.; brother Ralph Compton of Willowbrook, Ill.; granddaughter Jasmine Hunt of Dayton; 4 grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews that loved her.

She was preceded in death by her husband Butch; her mother and father; and brothers Leroy Compton and Bob (Kathleen) Compton of Rose Hill, Va.



PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Unsafe Building Order

1100 W. Market Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana
 Notice is hereby given that an Unsafe Building Order has been issued to Mark L. Sipe for the property commonly known as 1100 West Market, Crawfordsville, with the following legal description: Lot Numbered Seventeen (17) as the same is known and designated on the recorded plat of Warren Davis' First Addition to the Town of Longview, now in the City of Crawfordsville, in Montgomery County, Indiana. Parcel No. 54-07-31-331-090.000-030

The Order may affect any person with a substantial interest in the property including but not limited to the following: Mark L. Sipe

The Order requires the property to be repaired or rehabilitated to bring it into compliance with standards for building condition or maintenance required for human habitation, occupancy; or that the building be demolished. The exact terms of the Order may be obtained from the Enforcement Authority. The action required to be accomplished must be completed within 30 days of receipt of notice of the Order.

The Enforcement Authority has scheduled a hearing regarding the Order. The hearing's purpose is to afford any person with a substantial property interest in the property the opportunity to qualify or appeal the terms of the Order, if so desired. By Ordinance, the hearing authority of the Order is the board of Public Works and Safety of the City of Crawfordsville ("Board of Works"). This hearing will be held before the Board of Works Wednesday, 4 May 2022, at 10 o'clock a.m. at the city council chambers, second floor of the City Building, 300 East Pike Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana. Any owner or other person with a substantial property interest in the property are entitled to appear at this hearing, with or without legal counsel, and to present evidence, cross-examination, witnesses, and present arguments at this hearing.

If the Order is not complied with the enforcement authority may take one or more of the following actions against a property owner or the property, or both:

1. Assess a civil penalty of up to \$5,000;
2. Assess cost of enforcement;
3. Perform the work required, including possibly demolition of the premises and, either itself or by the contractor, and assess the cost of that work to you, and if these costs are not paid, impose a lien or a county special assessment on the property.
4. File a lawsuit in court to enforce this order, which may result in a receiver being appointed for the property or forfeiture of the property, in addition to either civil and equitable judgments, and/or;
5. Take such other action and impose such other fines and costs as are allowed by law.

This list is not exclusive: there are other possible actions that the Enforcement Authority and the City may by law take against the property owners or the property itself, or both. To learn more about what actions can be taken, please consult I.C. § 36-7-9 or an attorney of your own choosing at your own expense, or both.

Enforcement Authority contact information:

Jeff Davenport, Building Inspector City of Crawfordsville 300 E. Pike Street Crawfordsville, IN 47933 Telephone: 765-364-5152	Barry Lewis, Code Enforcement Officer City of Crawfordsville 300 E. Pike Street Crawfordsville, IN 47933 Telephone: 765-364-5160 Ext. 214
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CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE - DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
 UNSAFE BUILDING ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY
 PL4338 4/13 4/20 2t hspaxlp

Darlington Town Council NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF HEARING ON RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND AND RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND TAX RATE

Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of the Town of Darlington, Indiana that the Darlington Town Council will consider at the Darlington Community Center, 105 S. Franklin Street Darlington, Indiana at 5 o'clock p.m. on May 5, 2022, the re-establishment of the Cumulative Capital Development Fund and the re-establishment of the cumulative capital development fund tax rate under the provisions of Indiana Code §36-9-15.5 for the following purposes: purchase, construction and maintenance of public buildings and equipment therefor, acquisition of land and improvements that are necessary for construction of public buildings, for the demolition of any improvements on land to be acquired to level grade and prepare land for construction of a public building, provide funds for a cumulative drainage fund, acquire land or rights-of-way to be used for public ways or sidewalks, construction and maintenance of public ways or sidewalks, acquire land or rights-of-way for the construction of sanitary sewers or storm sewers, or both, to construct or maintain sanitary sewers or storm sewers or both, to purchase, lease or pay for all or part of a utility, to acquire, by purchase or lease, land, buildings or rights-of-way for the use of any utility that is acquired or owned by the Town, to purchase or acquire land, with or without buildings, for park or recreational purposes, to purchase, lease or pay all or part of the purchase price of motor vehicles for the use of the police department, to retire in whole or part in part any general obligation bonds of the Town, to purchase or lease equipment and other non-consumable personal property needed for any public transportation use, to purchase or lease equipment to be used to illuminate a public way or sidewalk, to purchase, lease, upgrade, maintain or repair computer hardware, computer software, wiring and computer networks, communication access systems used to connect with computer networks or electronic gateways, to pay for the services of full-time or part-time computer maintenance employees, to conduct nonrecruiting in service technology training of employees, and to purchase body armor for active members of the Town police department.

If accommodations are required to attend this meeting, please contact Clerk Treasurer, Michelle Cash at (765) 794-4496.

The Darlington Town Council will consider re-establishing the tax rate at \$0.05 per \$100 of assessed valuation. The tax will be levied on all taxable real and personal property in the Town of Darlington and will not exceed \$0.05 per \$100 of assessed valuation. The proposed tax will be levied beginning with taxes due and payable in the year 2023. Taxpayers appearing at this public hearing will have the right to be heard on this issue. The proposal to re-establish the Cumulative Capital Development Fund and Increase the cumulative capital development tax rate is subject to approval by the Department of Local Government Finance.

Within thirty (30) days of the adoption of the ordinance re-establishing the Cumulative Capital Development Fund and re-establishing the cumulative capital development tax rate by the Town Council, the Town will publish a Notice of Adoption.

Upon publication of the Notice of Adoption, fifty (50) or more taxpayers in the taxing district (Town of Darlington) may file a petition with the County Auditor not later than thirty (30) days after the publication of the Notice of Adoption setting forth their objections to the proposed fund.

Dated this 8th day of April, 2022.
 Darlington, Indiana Town Council

PL4337 4/11 4/18 1t hspaxlp

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Braun on End of 'Federal Overreach' Mask Mandate for Transportation



Senator Mike Braun

Senator Mike Braun released the following statement after a federal judge ruled against transportation mask mandates, leading to air-

lines, public transit, and private transportation companies like Lyft and Uber to drop their mask mandates.

"While I'm glad the federal mask mandate on airplanes is over, we have to remember this federal overreach was only ended by the courts, just like Biden's vaccine mandate that jeopardized millions of jobs. If the White House had their way, these mandates would still be in effect." - Senator Mike Braun

Senator Braun compared the to President Biden's vaccine mandate for private businesses. Senator Braun led the opposition to the vaccine mandate in the U.S. Senate with a formal challenge that passed the Senate on a bipartisan vote and was noted as the most significant Congressional action regarding private vaccine mandates in the Supreme Court's decision to strike down the unconstitutional mandate.

CURE From Page A1

as soon as the crocus croak and spring has sprung, Hoosiers head to the deep woods to hunt the mighty morel. Like an Easter egg hunt for the whole family, it is even better. Mother Nature is much better at hiding morels with a camouflage sponge look. What a challenge. "I see one over there by the May apples!" "Ooooh, oooh! There

are three more." "Careful, don't step on that one." "Wow! Look at the size of this one!" "Shhhh, you'll scare the stuffing out of them, and they will pop back underground." In the angler's tale, the fish gets bigger every time the story is told. My reminiscing of a bucket full of sponges found near the Shades State

Park magically expands to washtubs full, too heavy for one man to carry. I miss those long walks among the May apples and rustling leaves. But most of all, I miss Pappy's deep voice sharing imaginative recollections of the biggest mushrooms ever found. - Story and graphics by Chuck Clore

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Wabash College Celebrates Ninth Annual 'Day of Giving'

Wabash College is asking its campus, community, and friends around the world to engage in the opportunity to stand shoulder-to-shoulder in their support for students during its ninth annual Day of Giving on Tuesday, April 19.

This year, the goal is to receive more than 5,200 gifts by midnight, unlocking more than \$500,000 in challenge gifts for students and their life-changing education.

Combining the ideas of crowd funding—specific goals in a specific time period—with the buzz of social media, the #GiantShoulders effort hopes to inspire participation and strengthen ties to the College.

“All that we are is because of those who came before us. From generation-to-generation, the storied history of Wabash is made up of giants who were courageous enough to take bold, giant steps for our College and its students. We all stand on

their giant shoulders,” said Wabash College President Scott Feller. “Let us lead with our support and be the giant shoulders for Wabash students, faculty, and staff. By doing so we will achieve audacious success today – and always – for our College.”

On Tuesday, the Wabash campus will enjoy a variety of events throughout the day to inspire excitement and engagement, including lunch and activities in the Knowing Fieldhouse.

Alumni across the country will also be hosting get-togethers and after-work socials.

Last year, the College broke records on its eighth-annual Day of Giving when more than 3,470 donors raised over \$1.37 million. In a 24-hour fundraising effort to support students, the Wabash community broke the following records: total amount raised and the average amount raised per student.

Anyone can participate in the ninth Day of Giving by following these four steps: make a gift, convince others to do the same, spread the word through your social networks with the hashtag #GiantShoulders, and enjoy the excitement and success.

After making a gift, donors are also encouraged to submit a tribute and share a few words about a professor, mentor, coach, classmate, or Wabash friend on whose #GiantShoulders they stand on.

To make a gift, visit www.wabash.edu/419 or call 877-743-4545.

Gifts made on the 4.19 Day of Giving will be allocated to the Annual Fund, unless otherwise noted in the comments section on the giving form found on the website. Those gifts also count as contributions to the Giant Steps Campaign, the largest fundraising campaign in Wabash's 190-year history.

Safe Driving Encouraged Ahead of Marijuana 'Holiday'

April 20, more commonly known as 4/20, has become synonymous with marijuana use and, in some circles, is considered a marijuana “holiday.” Consequently, there will likely be an increase in marijuana use, despite being against the law in Indiana.

To prevent crashes, the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) wants to remind motorists that drug-impaired driving of any kind is dangerous, illegal and should be avoided at all costs.

“There’s a common misconception that marijuana use doesn’t affect your judgment or that it somehow makes you a better driver,” said Devon McDonald, ICJI Executive Director. “That’s simply false. THC has been known to slow reaction times and impair cognitive performance, which is a dangerous combination when behind the wheel.”

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, between 2009 and 2018, the presence of marijuana had nearly doubled among drivers who were killed

in crashes and tested for THC.

In light of this growing concern, over the past couple of years ICJI has provided dozens of police agencies with a new tool, known as the SoToxa Mobile Test System, to help identify and keep drug-impaired drivers off the road.

SoToxa is similar to a portable breathalyzer, but instead of testing for alcohol, it tests for the presence of six types of drugs: cocaine, methamphetamine, opiates, cannabis (THC), amphetamine and benzodiazepines. In Indiana, the test is voluntary, non-evidentiary and can only be administered to individuals suspected of impaired driving.

As of March of this year, officers have administered more than 1,098 tests to drivers, with 566 coming back positive for at least one or more substance. Of those positives, 52% had traces of THC.

“This data gives us better insight into the prevalence of drug-impaired driving in Indiana and underscores the importance of improved educa-

tion and awareness,” said Robert Duckworth, ICJI Traffic Safety Director. “Regardless of what day it is, driving while impaired by any substance is against the law and puts you and others in harm’s way.”

To keep road users safe, ICJI is asking the public to obey the rules of the road and to never drive under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Before heading out, plan ahead by designating a sober driver or using a ride service or public transportation. Never let friends get behind the wheel if they’re impaired.

It’s also important to buckle up, avoid distractions and be on the lookout for unsafe drivers. Motorists are encouraged to report suspected impaired drivers by calling 911 or contacting their local department.

Police officers are always on high alert for signs of impairment while patrolling the road, but especially on days like 4/20.

Click here to learn more about the dangers and consequences of drug-impaired driving.

Classifieds

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Gov. Holcomb Announces \$189 Million for Broadband Expansion



Governor Eric Holcomb

Governor Eric J. Holcomb today announced \$189 million for 154 broadband infrastructure

expansion projects across the state in the third round of the Next Level Connections Broadband Grant

Program.

"This record-setting investment in broadband is another game-changer for Hoosiers who now, more than ever, need affordable, reliable internet," Gov. Holcomb said. "With this third round, we take giant steps in leveling the playing field for our residents regardless of where they choose to live, work or go to school."

The Next Level Broadband Grant Program is the largest single state investment in broadband. In total, rounds one, two and three of the program have awarded \$268 million for broadband infrastructure for more than 74,800 homes and commercial locations. When combined with private and local investment, over \$580 million has been leveraged since 2018. Projects will have been completed in 83 of Indiana's 92 counties

through the three rounds of the awards. Click here for a map showing the coverage provided by all three rounds.

This third round of funding will provide broadband infrastructure to more than 52,900 homes and commercial locations in 80 counties. For example, 810 homes and 362 businesses or organizations in Cass and Fulton counties will gain broadband access with a \$4 million grant to RTC Communications. In Franklin, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Ripley and Switzerland counties, 292 homes and 18 businesses or organizations will gain access through a \$1.5 million grant to Southeastern Indiana REMC. A list of the awards can be found here.

In addition to the \$189 million awarded today, the 35 telecommunica-

tions providers and utility cooperatives contributed more than \$239 million in matching funds, resulting in more than \$429 million total investment for broadband in the third round.

The program allows broadband service providers and utility cooperatives to apply for up to \$5 million to expand service to unserved areas if they provide at least a 20 percent match.

At Governor Holcomb's request, Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch, along with the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, administers and oversees the program. OCRA will be working with service providers in the coming weeks on next steps in the grant process.

"Our Next Level Connections program continues to bridge the digital divide throughout our

state," Lt. Gov. Crouch said. "This investment will vastly grow economic opportunities in unserved areas and brings us closer to connecting all Hoosiers."

Next Level Connections Broadband Grant Program is part of Governor Holcomb's \$1 billion Next Level Connections infrastructure program, which accelerates the completion of major highway projects, expands access to rural broadband services, creates more nonstop flights and pursues the expansion of rail projects in northwest Indiana. After the initial \$100 million dedicated to broadband expansion, Governor Holcomb worked with the General Assembly on an additional \$250 million appropriation to continue the Next Level Connections Broadband Grant Program.

Todd Rokita Protects Hoosiers Who Utilized Gofundme Platform



Attorney General Todd Rokita

To protect Hoosiers who donate on the GoFundMe platform, Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita today identified potential consumer protection concerns with the conduct of GoFundMe's platform. GoFundMe's terms of service are ambiguous, raise accountability concerns, and have the potential to deceive consumers.

"Hoosiers are generous," Attorney General

Rokita said. "And when they give money to a cause, it's only logical to assume the money actually goes where it was directed. GoFundMe's current terms of service are too vague to assure a donor that is the case—and I will get to the bottom of it."

In a letter co-authored with other like-minded attorneys general, concerning issues are identified, such as a lack of clearly expressible standards regarding GoFundMe's independent ability to freeze, redirect, or refund donations.

Attorney General Rokita is charged with protecting consumers and statutorily regulating nonprofits. Under that authority, Attorney General Rokita has used one of his investigatory tools to inquire into GoFundMe and their operations.

“ALL MY DOCTORS ARE VERY CARING AND ACCESSIBLE.”

When Mary Pat S. started developing health issues, she found the help she needed through her family doctor. Dr. Emma Nordstrom is Mary Pat's healthcare partner, providing primary care and specialty referrals as needed.

"Dr. Nordstrom listens and asks questions to get the best understanding of each situation," says Mary Pat.

"I'm so impressed with Witham and the specialists associated with Witham," she adds. "My husband and I receive wonderful healthcare without having to travel very far."

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MARY PAT

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VOTING

From Page A1

will face the only Democrat running: Hammond Mayor Thomas McDermott Jr. Therefore, voters don't need to narrow down the field for US senator for either party.

The other incumbent is US Representative Jim Baird who also faces no other Republican challenger. If a voter requests a Democrat ballot, they could cast a vote for one of two Democrats competing with Baird in November: Roger D. Day and Howard J. Pollchick. Presently, neither have a working website nor much of an internet presence to research their platforms and records.

One of the most confusing areas on a ballot is the section where voters choose township trustees and board members. First, it's key to know what a township is, so you know what a trustee (and board member) does.

Townships are political subdivisions of counties. They are small geographic areas, the average size of one is thirty-six square miles. Each township has a board to guide the trustees who administer critical services. Commonly we think of the township as handling road maintenance, zoning, and trash, but the state law puts township trustees in charge of many critical services that may surprise voters.

Some responsibilities may seem like routine government work, like keeping a written record of official proceedings (and making these open for public inspection), managing all township property interests, attending all township legislative meetings, handling payments, examining and settling all accounts, and filing personnel reports.

Others are a little more surprising: performing the duties of a fence viewer for property lines, providing and maintaining cemeteries, providing fire protection (except in a township that has consolidated the township's fire department), maintaining parks and community centers, destroying detrimental plants, noxious weeds, and rank vegetation, and - this one may catch you off guard - providing insulin to the poor.

"The township trustee is responsible for the oversight and care of all poor individuals in the township as long as the individuals remain in the trustee's charge. It is the trustee's responsibility to see that township residents are properly taken care of in the manner required by law," defines the United Township Association of Indiana. Thus voting for a trustee means choosing a person who will conscientiously fulfill those duties. They have to want to be good neighbors, caring about what matters to the citizens and what risks they face.

When voters look at the list of names to vote for in their township, they should have received a knock on the door, chatted with the candidate, or known them from community connections because the trustee must pass the trust test.

To prepare to vote, look up candidates in your township. Party matters less than reputation based on action. Look for yard signs and look up those names on social media, at the local newspaper website, or just do a google search. For Union Township, Crawfordsville's township, Sally Evans Molin posted

her letter highlighting her approach to responsibilities such as parks as well as fire services. She highlights her community connections and how long she's lived in the township. So did Carolyn Rivers. Since candidates can set levels of privacy on personal pages and use their profiles or public pages to promote their candidacy, these can be helpful to find out if the candidate actively campaigning. Do their community connections and values align with your goals? Not all candidates appear to be campaigning or advocating for all of their neighbors.

Doing a little research will assure voters that they cast their ballots wisely.

Note: voting ends at 6 pm on May 3. As usual, if you want to vote you check your voter registration a couple of months before the May primaries or November general elections. Voters can check their registration at indianavoters.in.gov/ or the League of Women Voter's tool: <https://www.vote411.org/AtVote411>, citizens can see what's on their ballot, find their polling place, check on voter registration, learn about public debates, know which ID to bring when voting, learn how to apply for an absentee ballot or check the status of a provisional ballot.

- *The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, multi-issue political organization which encourages informed and active participation in government. For information about the League, visit the website www.lwvmontcoin.org; or, visit the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, Indiana Facebook page.*

TIMMONS

From Page A1

How do we fix it? Can we?

A lot of folks say that toothpaste is already out of the tube and there's no putting it back. Me? I'm not so sure. I think it's not that complicated, we just have to step back and respect the other guy's opinion. Notice, I didn't say it was easy. But it's surely not complex.

There's a great story that maybe gets to the point.

A traveling salesman finally completed what had been a long stretch of appointments away from home. There were no flights to his destination that evening, so he got a room and early the next morning headed to the airport the required two hours ahead of his flight. But when he got there, he found the flight was overbooked and he had to wait until early afternoon for the next one.

Unfortunately for him, that flight wasn't direct and he had to endure numerous stopovers at airports all over the country. On some, he was able to stay on the plane but on most he had to race to another terminal. Twice, he barely made the connection - and got no sympathy

from gate attendants who seemed to resent the fact they had to check in one more passenger.

As you might imagine, his irritation kept going up and up and up.

Finally, at around 10 p.m. the last flight lifted off and he was on his way home! He was so relieved he didn't mind much that they were out of coffee by the time they got to his seat.

Around midnight they landed! However, it seemed to take forever to get off the plane while everyone in front of him struggled with the overhead compartments. Once in the terminal he made a beeline for the carousel to get his suitcase. After what seemed like a ridiculous amount of time, the flashing light came on, the alarm sounded and the carousel sprang to life. One by one, suitcases and duffel bags wound their way around.

Not his.

People were grabbing their bags and heading out. He looked at his watch. It was 12:20. The carousel was getting emptier and emptier. Pretty soon, he was the only one left and his suitcase was nowhere

to be found.

Angry beyond belief, he found the lost baggage office and one tired clerk. The frustrations from not being able to fly out the night before to the canceled flight to the multiple stopovers, the poor service, the lousy attitudes . . . all of it spilled out and he unloaded. His voice was loud. He waved his arms. He ranted and raved. All the while, the clerk just stood there.

Finally, after the man was done, the clerk calmly leaned forward. "Sir, at this very moment there are only two people on this planet who care one iota about your luggage, and one of us is rapidly losing interest."

It's a lesson we can all learn from. Sure, we have our frustrations, our opinions. But none of that changes the fact that we need other people. Let's make sure we don't force them to lose their interest.

- *Two cents, which is about how much Timmons said his columns are worth, appears periodically on Wednesdays in The Paper. Timmons is the publisher of The Paper and can be contacted at ttimmons@thepaper24-7.com.*

CREEK

From Page A1

can do to both help and enjoy the Creek responsibly. This is the first event in our "Nurture Through Nature" year-long program and it showcases one of the many ways we are connected in this community in a very physical and tangible way: our area's major waterway, Sugar Creek.

In conjunction with this event, there is a special display featured on the 2nd floor of the library running from April 15 to May 15. Since conservation and environmental responsibility is both an individual and community topic, and since each of our actions impacts both ourselves and others around us, the display features both local and global topics. We have a section dealing exclusively with Sugar Creek: its history and formation, its unique attributes, and some of the ways that we love to interact with it, such as hiking, canoeing, and fishing. Many of these items are pulled from our local history section and cannot be checked out, but are available for patrons to peruse and explore in-house. Front and center is Dick Munro's iconic 2012 Paddling Sugar Creek from the Source to the Wabash (RL 977.24 Mun, in-house use only). Some books that are available for check-out include The Practical Handbook of Kayaking and Canoeing (797.122 Mat) and Gather at the River: 25 Authors on Fishing (808.83 Gat).

Each of our actions impacts our local and global environment. So, it was not an accident that our first big event is scheduled close to Earth Day (April 22nd). Learn about easy, Earth-friendly changes we can make to our lifestyle that seem small but can collectively make a big difference. Some topics include moving toward low-waste or even zero-waste consumption; find out how in How to Go (Almost) Zero Waste: Over 150 Steps to More Sustainable Living at Home, School, Work, and Beyond (640.286 And). You probably knew that large-scale agricultural practices can impact the local environment, but are you aware that the way you care for your own lawn and garden can affect it as well? Learn about safe alternatives to lawn and garden maintenance as well as incorporating native plants and landscapes in Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard (635.9 Tal). And The Climate Diet: 50 Simple Ways to Trim Your Carbon Footprint (363.70525 Gre) will help you reassess multiple aspects of your life, from what you buy, how you eat, and how you choose to travel.

As you may have already heard or seen, the library recently received a grant to develop a series of programs for Indiana Humanities' One State/One Story

initiative. Indiana Humanities chose World of Wonders: In Praise of Fireflies, Whale Sharks, and Other Astonishments by Aimee Nezhukumatathil for this year's book. This work is all about reflecting on the natural world and making connections to deeper, more personal experiences. Although these experiences are unique to the author, they are also universal in their themes and invite us as readers to connect with her through our own lives. The series of programs we developed to go along with the book is called "Nurturing Through Nature: One People, One Planet." Just as one drop of water joins another and then another in a field in Kempton, Indiana to form our own Sugar Creek, so we too are connected to one another through our mutual experiences and our shared environment.

CDPL and the CMMC are so excited to present this first in a series of special programs for you this year. We hope you will be able to participate in our community conversation about Sugar Creek and stop by the library any time from April 15th to May 15th to view our exhibit on how we can contribute to a healthy local and global environment. See you then!

- *Amanda Grossman is the Assistant Manager of Reference and Local History at Crawfordsville District Public Library.*

BARTON

From Page A1

valuable tool in our efforts to continuously improve our streets and aging drainage infrastructure," said Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton. "We are able to leverage the investment of local tax dollars with this funding from INDOT to make Crawfordsville a safer, more functional place for residents and businesses to grow and thrive."

Launched in 2016, the Community Crossings Matching Grant Program provides funding to cities, towns, and counties across Indiana to make improvements to local roads and bridges.

Governor Eric J. Holcomb and Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) Commissioner Mike Smith today announced from Muncie that 224 Indiana cities, towns, and counties, including Crawfordsville and Montgomery County, received a combined \$107.8 million in state matching funds for local road projects through Community Crossings, a component of the Governor's Next Level Roads program.

"Continuing to modernize and enhance our transportation infrastructure is critical to the economic success in and around our incredible communities and ultimately Hoosiers' prosperity itself," Gov. Holcomb said. "Community Crossings makes immediate impacts on improving local roads and bridges across Indiana. Those improvements translate to a safe, reliable, robust transportation infrastructure that benefits residents and business in every corner of our state and every place in between."

The Community Cross-

ings initiative has provided more than \$1 billion in state matching funds for local construction projects since 2016. Communities submitted applications for funding during a highly competitive call for projects in January. Applications were evaluated based on need and current conditions and impacts to safety and economic development. Funding for Community Crossings comes from the state's local road and bridge matching grant fund.

"Community Crossings improves safety and reliability of local roads as well as enhances connectivity in all 92 Indiana counties," INDOT Commissioner Mike Smith said. "INDOT is excited to join with our local partners to deliver on these high-priority projects and I look forward to the transformative effect of this work in our communities in the months ahead."

To qualify for funding, local governments must provide local matching funds of 50 percent for larger communities or 25 percent for smaller communities and have an asset management plan for maintaining existing roads and bridges. State law requires annually that 50 percent of the available matching funds be awarded to communities within counties with a population of 50,000 or fewer. State lawmakers identified long-term funding for Community Crossings as part of House Enrolled Act 1002, passed by the legislature and signed into law by Gov. Holcomb in April 2017.

The list of all communities receiving matching

funds in the 2022 winter/spring call for projects is online at www.in.gov/indot/communitycrossings.

The next call for projects will open in July 2022.

Motorists in West Central Indiana can monitor road closures, road conditions, and traffic alerts any time via:

- Facebook: [facebook.com/INDOTWestCentral](https://www.facebook.com/INDOTWestCentral)
- Twitter: @INDOT_WCentral
- TrafficWise: 511in.org
- Mobile App: iTunes App Store and the Google Play store for Android

Over the past 100 years, INDOT has transformed the state of Indiana into the Crossroads of America we know today. With six district offices and 3,500 employees, the agency is responsible for constructing and maintaining more than 29,000 lane miles of highways, more than 5,700 bridges, and supporting 4,500 rail miles and 117 airports across the state. Indiana once again ranked #1 in the U.S. for infrastructure in CNBC's 2019 "America's Top States for Business" ranking. Learn more about INDOT at in.gov/indot.

On July 1, 2020, Governor Eric J. Holcomb signed the Indiana Hands-Free Law to reduce distracted driving across the state. Since then, drivers have been prohibited from holding a mobile device while their vehicles are in motion. With help from the Indiana State Police and other law enforcement agencies, over 5,400 citations and more than 10,500 warnings have been issued. For more information on Indiana's Hands-Free Law, visit www.HandsFreeIndiana.com.

materials, snacks, and lunch. To access the registration portal, visit <https://cvent.me/zkAaNw>. A short-cut on the VMHMC website (vmhmc.org) may also be used.

Questions concerning the program, registration,

or scholarships may be directed to VMHMC Board President, Denise Booher Walker at 765-275-2689 or by e-mail: dbw@vmhmc.org. Co-chair for the program, Chasity Surface of HHSB, can be reached at 765-401-1922

FIRST

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person. The program will be held at Hoosier Heartland State Bank's Success Center, 1623 US-231, Crawfordsville, IN 47933.

Registration closes on Thu., April 21. The registration fee of \$20.00 includes the training, all

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