

TODAY'S VERSE

*Psalms 88:2 Let my prayer
come before thee: incline
thine ear unto my cry*

FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



Julie and Randy Neideffer were out and about and just bought some beautiful flowers when one of our roving photographers happened along. Thank you for the bright smiles!

THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 AWL is participating in a national event Clear the Shelters for their first time. Clear the shelter is a nation wide event that focuses on advertising and fundraising for animal shelters in need of assistance. This annual event helps increase adoptions and raises thousands of dollars for your local participating shelter. If you are looking for a new pet for your home August is the month so do so. Hills science diet has partnered with CTS as well as many other pet related companies to assist in the national campaign. During the month of August AWL has reduced adoption fees and lots of free goodies to give out with each adoption. Visit our site at mcawl.com or stop by the shelter and see if you can find your next best friend. If August is NOT a good time for you to adopt don't worry Clear the Shelter has set up a great platform for you to still show your support by donating. visit Animal Welfare League of Montgomery County Indiana in Crawfordsville, | The Animal Rescue Site (greatergood.com) and see just how easy it is to show your support by donating.

2 As hunting season quickly approaches, DNR is happy to provide you with the new 2022-2023 DNR Hunting & Trapping Regulations Guide. Pick up a copy at your local retailer, the Natural Resources Building at the Indiana State Fair, a DNR property, or view the guide online. With the new hunting guide, you'll be able to pinpoint exactly when you want to go for your next hunting adventure. Ready, set, hunt!

3 It can get pretty crowded at the balmy beaches of La Jolla, CA and, recently, the crowd at La Jolla Cove got a wakeup call when a beachgoer accidentally roused a group of sea lions, reports the Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC]. Apparently, the sleeping mammals were awakened by a visitor who had gotten too close to them. She was frightened and started running away, the sea lions allegedly ran after her, which in turn caused a panicked mass evacuation of sunbathers. The sea lions eventually returned to the water and no one was hurt.

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Kiwanis Starting The New School Year



Photo courtesy of Crawfordsville Kiwanis Club

The Crawfordsville Kiwanis Club started with the new school year by packing backpacks for the Nourish Program. There were some great volunteers. Pictured below front row: Rumiko Nishina, her daughter Sanako - who flew all the way in from Japan, and Seth Kruse. Back Row: Gary Behling, Nate Cravens, Caryn Heisel, Mac Petty, Conrad Harvey and Morris Odle. Thanks all for your help!

Carnegie Museum To Open New Exhibit

The Carnegie Museum of Montgomery County is pleased to announce the opening of a temporary exhibit, Light and Shadow: Art & History of Shades State Park. The exhibit will open with a public reception on Saturday from 2 - 4 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Light and Shadow showcases 22 works of art created by 15 talented local artists. Artwork includes works on paper and canvas, stoneware, and photography, all celebrating the unique landscape of the park. Featured

artists include Marianne Darling Ballenger, Kayla Beard, Fritz Bennett, Will Bernhardt II, Michael D. Bowman, Woody Dagner, Lissa Fairfield, Brooke Harshbarger, Kathryn J. Houghton, Shari McCollough, Stacy Savage, Jerry Smith, Alex South, Amy Westphal, and John Zimmerman.

The exhibit also features historic photographs and memorabilia from the park. Did you know that Shades State Park used to have a dance pavilion and a hotel? Ever wonder what happened to

Trail 3? Visitors will also learn about early travel to the "Shades of Death" and the people who worked there.

Light and Shadow: Art & History of Shades State Park will be on display through Saturday, Oct. 29, 2022.

The Carnegie Museum is located at 222 S. Washington Street, Crawfordsville. Admission is free, and the museum is wheelchair and stroller accessible. The Carnegie Museum is open Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Butch Loved His 4th Grade Teacher



BUTCH DALE
Columnist

When one of my granddaughters, who is in the 5th grade, finished her first week of school, I asked her if she liked her new teacher... "Yes, I love my new teacher!" A good teacher can make a huge difference in a child's life. I wrote a column three years ago about my favorite teacher, and



Photo courtesy of Butch Dale

I want to tell you a little more about her.

When I started school in the fall of 1954, I was somewhat mischievous and hard to control. I wanted to do things "my way." I liked school, especially

➔ See BUTCH Page A6

The Reality Of TV Now



JOHN O. MARLOWE
With the Grain

I've been dog-sitting. My brother and his family are on their way to Michigan for a well-deserved vacation. When you own two dogs, have twin

➔ See JOHN Page A6

HONEST HOOSIER

President Biden ran on the platform of bringing the country together. I don't think anyone knew that meant into a recession.



INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

Obituaries.....A2
Slim Randles.....A5
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TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Medical advice changes over time - that's how good science works.

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

Cecilia Eileen Tjaden-Rush (nee Bundy)

The Paper appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank Joseph Lewien for subscribing!



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The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:00 a.m.
SET: 8:42 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 80 °F
Low: 61 °F



Today is.....

- National Airborne Day
- National Roller Coaster Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1858 First transatlantic telegraph message is sent
- 1898 Patent for loop-the-loop roller coaster is awarded
- 1954 First issue of Sports Illustrated hits the newsstands



Births On This Day

- 1947 Roy Hodgson English football manager
- 1958 Madonna American singer-songwriter, actress, producer, director

Deaths On This Day

- 1959 William Halsey, Jr American Admiral
- 1977 Elvis Presley American singer, guitarist, actor

THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

For Your Information

If you are one of the many who were Readers' Choice winners in our annual huge recognition promotion, you may be getting e-mails from Showmark, a company trying to sell plaques and such. Please know, that has nothing to do with our company and the actual Readers' Choice program. For years, we have produced the annual popular Readers Choice contest and we give, absolutely free of charge, certificates suitable for framing to our winners, runner-ups and honorable mentions. We're not familiar with this Showmark group, and we certainly don't blame them for trying to wiggle in to one of the biggest contests around, we just want you to know we have never charged a penny for those recognized - and we never will!

TODAY'S QUOTE

"No one has ever drowned in sweat."
Lou Holtz

TODAY'S JOKE

Memory is what helps husbands remember their anniversary. Good memory is when they remember BEFORE that day.

13 WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

81 GRADUAL CLEARING	61/80 PLEASANT	60/80 SUNNY	60/82 WARM	61/85 WARMER	63/82 RAIN, STORMS POSSIBLE	64/78 STORMS POSSIBLE
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

OBITUARIES

Cecilia Eileen Tjaden-Rush (nee Bundy)

Aug. 13, 2022

Cecilia Eileen Tjaden-Rush (nee Bundy) of rural Waynetown, passed away peacefully surrounded with love on Saturday, Aug. 13, 2022 at 4:37 am at the age of 68 in Ascension ST. Vincent Hospital Indianapolis. Arrangements are incomplete at Family and Friends Funeral Home of Wingate.

Senior Golf Results

As the heat subsides and we get a whisper of cool fall weather, the Crawfordsville Senior Golf League keeps on playing. And this week was another great round out!

In first place at 12-under-par was the five-some of Denny Wilson, Ed Roberts, Bill Franklin, Bill Sheldon and Bill Combs.

Two shots back at

10-under was the team of Dave Hart, Dick Baker, Greg Simpson, Stan Walker and Bob Stephens. Tied with them at 10-under-par was the five-some of Steve House, Mike Fry, Lou Mason, Steve Priest and John Hatke.

Claiming the title of long drive for the 80-and-older group was Ed Bayless. Great job, Ed!

Meeting Notes

Montgomery County Master Gardeners

Twenty members of the Montgomery County Master Gardeners met at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds on Aug. 8 at 6 p.m. for their regular monthly meeting.

A program on the Master Naturalist Workshop was given by Phillip Cox, Ag & Natural Resources Extension Educator for Vermillion County. The first workshop was held in Putnam County in 2002. It was initiated to fill a need for adult education on a broad variety of natural resource topics that could be put to good local use. The workshop is administered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and includes topics such as botany, zoology, geology/soils, water, and people and natural resources. Mr. Cox is currently signing up interested folks for an upcoming workshop. More information can be found at www.indianamasternaturalist.org

Indiana Master Naturalist Program

About the Indiana Master Naturalists program offered by Indiana State Parks

www.indianamasternaturalist.org

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were approved.

Extension Educator Tricia Herr supplied information and tickets for those working at the Purdue Plant Info-To-Go Booth at the Indiana State Fair.

The scholarship committee reported that the first-ever Master Gardener college scholarship has been awarded to Levi Brush, a graduate of Southmont High School, who is attending Purdue University this fall.

Denise Ducharme announced that at the Sept. 12 meeting the program

will be presented by Mark Davidson on hemp growing and his study on bees and hemp.

The Community Growers of Montgomery County, of which the Master Gardeners are a part, is under the umbrella of Urban Soil Health. It is a national initiative and is federally funded. It is aimed at backyard gardeners and small-scale growers. The program provides support, training, workshops and education to help members become self-sustaining. Master Gardener Andria Grady represents the Master Gardeners with the CGMC and she reported that the West Side Garden tour was a great success with over 50 people in attendance. The walk included two seasoned gardeners and two "pandemic" gardeners. The theme of the walk was to learn from each other and not to show gardens as a display. Many Master Gardeners attended and enjoyed the walk. The CGMC were also present at the Farmer's Market in July and will be returning on Sept. 24.

Thanks were given to those who represented the Master Gardeners at our table at the Montgomery County Fair.

The Nicholson Elementary garden is growing very well and producing lots of tomatoes, green beans, peppers, squash, cucumbers, and other vegetables. Most of the produce is being donated to the FISH food pantry.

A review and discussion of the Montgomery County Master Gardeners Association new by-laws was led by Sheri Bethard. Some changes will be made and final approval will come at a future meeting.

The annual fall plant exchange will be held Saturday morning, Oct. 15 at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds.

State: Be Award Of Kids' Online Activity

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita has an important warning for parents related to their kids' internet usage. Technology is a great learning resource, but it can also expose children to inappropriate and dangerous activities online.

"While technology and the internet can be helpful, they can also be harmful," Rokita said. "Social media platforms can be helpful, but they can also open the doors to untraceable anonymous messaging, sex trafficking, and exploitation of children by criminals. We all must take steps to protect our children from online predators."

To that end, Rokita says parents should become familiar with popular phone apps that may make children vulnerable to dangers online. Some of these include:

- **TikTok** – TikTok is a popular app among kids that is used to create and share short videos with limited privacy controls. Users are vulnerable to explicit content, ads, and cyberbullying from the moment they sign up.
- **Bumble** – Bumble



Attorney General Todd Rokita

is a popular dating app that requires women to make the first contact. It is common for minors to use this app and falsify their age.

- **Grindr** – Grindr is a dating app for LGBTQ adults, not children. The app gives users options to chat, share photos, and meet with people based on a smartphone's GPS location.

- **Phony Calculator App** – Most phones have a calculator app. However, there are many third-party calculator apps that serve as a "vault" where the user can hide photos, videos, files, and even browser history data.

- **Snapchat** – Snapchat is a photo and video sharing app that promises users their photo or video will disappear

even though it does not. Snapchat stories allow users to view content for up to 24 hours and share their location.

- **Tinder** – Tinder is a dating app that allows users to "swipe right" to like someone and "swipe left" to pass. Users can falsify their age, share photos, message, and meet.

- **Tumblr** – Tumblr is a blogging app and website that allows users as young as 13 to create an account. There are very few privacy settings and pornography is easy to find. Most posts are public and cannot be made private.

- **WhatsApp** – WhatsApp is a popular messaging app allowing users to text, send photos, make calls, and leave voicemails worldwide. This app makes it easier for predators to message children without parents knowing.

- **YouTube** – YouTube is a video sharing app that may not be age appropriate for kids. Inappropriate content can be found using innocent search terms, but with parental controls, this can be avoided.

New apps are always

available, so Rokita offers a few tips to help parents monitor their child's online activity:

- Keep the computer or laptop in a common room of the house, not in a child's bedroom.

- Utilize parental controls available from internet service providers or use blocking software. Some may be accessed by going to "Settings" on your device.

- Always maintain access to a child's online account and monitor text, email, and other message inboxes.

- Familiarize yourself with computer safeguards, like firewalls, anti-virus software, effective passwords, and secure websites and ask if they are being utilized at school, the library, and at friends' homes.

- Never automatically assume that what a child is told online is true.

If you believe you or your child were targeted online by a predator, please contact your local police department. If you believe you were the victim of an online scam, please file a complaint at indianaconsumer.com or call Rokita's office at (800) 382-5516.

Indiana Health Information Exchange And Indiana Department Of Health Partner On Advancements In Healthcare For Hoosiers

Indiana Health Information Exchange (IHIE), one of the largest health information exchange networks in the U.S., and the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH), are partnering on advancements in healthcare for Hoosiers and will present together at the Civitas Networks for Health Annual Conference Aug. 21 to Aug. 24 in San Antonio, Texas. Through their partnership, IHIE and IDOH want to make advancements in public health such as improving maternal and infant outcomes and diabetic care and continuing to collaborate on COVID-19 vaccination efforts.

"While IHIE has supported public health throughout its 18-year history, we're now working more actively with the state," said John

Kansky, president and CEO of IHIE. "We appreciate the engagement of IDOH leadership, which will enable us to have more impact on health of Indiana citizens."

IHIE and IDOH will present on an emerging concept in healthcare – health data utilities (HDU) – which are organizations that serve the health data or analysis needs of its state, both the private sector, such as healthcare providers, payers and employers, and state government. They will focus on how HDUs must have cooperative relationships with the state government and any other sector they serve. There are many organizations that exist around the country, including IHIE, that resemble the HDU model, so IHIE and IDOH will

explore how they can benefit patients, healthcare organizations, the government and taxpayers.

"While we embrace the many gains in public health over the last century, future advancements depend on our ability to leverage data with a public health focus," said Dr. Lindsay Weaver, chief medical officer at IDOH. "The Indiana Department of Health and IHIE share a vision for using data to inform work in health equity and disease surveillance, and we look forward to a continued collaboration that will enhance the delivery of public health services to Hoosiers."

The four-day conference will include nationally recognized healthcare thought leaders and bring together peers from across the

country to connect, share experiences and learn – together. More information about the conference can be found here. To learn more about Indiana Health Information Exchange, visit www.ihie.org.

About Indiana Health Information Exchange (IHIE)

IHIE was founded in 2004 as a health information exchange that enables hospitals, physicians, laboratories, pharmacies, payers and other health service providers to avoid redundancy and deliver faster, more efficient, higher quality healthcare to patients in Indiana. Today, by making information available to more than 50,000 healthcare providers in Indiana and neighboring states, we deliver services that make a real difference in health and healthcare. For more information, visit www.ihie.org.

About the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH)

The Indiana Department of Health was formed as the State Board of Health in March 1881. Its mission is to promote, protect, and improve the health and safety of all Hoosiers, helping them to achieve their optimal health regardless of where they live, work, or play. For more information, visit www.health.in.gov.

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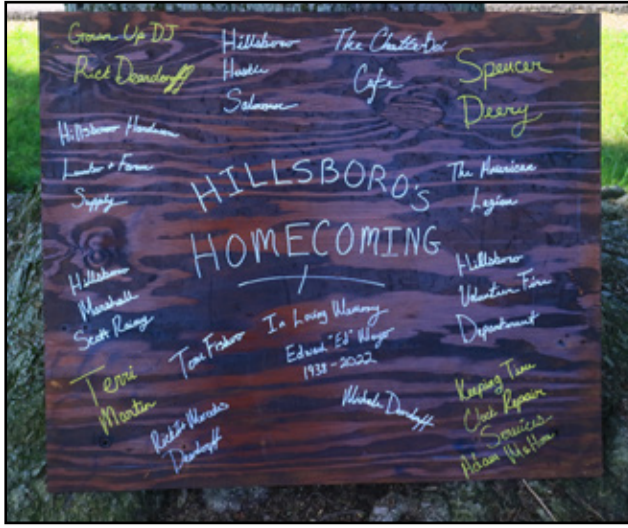
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A Look Back At Hillsboro Homecoming 2022



Photos courtesy of the town of Hillsboro

This past Saturday, the Town of Hillsboro came together at Betty Bailey Park in Hillsboro for their maiden Homecoming Celebration. Featuring music from Hillsboro local Larry Matillo, residents were also treated to vehicle displays from the Hillsboro Volunteer Fire Department and Town Marshall, as well as a baking contest, watermelon eating contest and a talent contest. The event was kicked off by the American Legion. Enjoy these photos of "600 happy people and a few old soreheads" coming together to enjoy a nice slice of Hoosier life.



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Indiana Farmers Adopting More Cover Crops, But More Still Needed

By Casey Smith

Indiana reported a record number of cover crops this year to help absorb nutrients and reduce runoff, but scientists and environmental activists say more should be done to help improve water quality locally and regionally.

Hoosier farmers planted cover crops and small grains on 1.5 million acres of farmland in late 2021, matching a record amount set in 2020, according to the results of a new survey by the Indiana State Department of Agriculture.

Cover crops and small grains, like winter wheat or cereal rye, are usually planted after the fall harvest to help reduce soil loss and improve overall ground health. By adding living roots to the soil throughout the winter, the practice also improves water infiltration into the soil, and some cover crops, like legumes, serve as natural fertilizers.

State agriculture officials said the use of cover crops planted last year prevented an estimated 2.1 million tons of sediment from entering Indiana's waterways. The state agency also boasted that the winter crops



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prevented 5.1 million pounds of nitrogen and over 2.5 million pounds of phosphorus from entering Indiana's waterways. The two chemicals are commonly found in farmland fertilizers.

The conservation survey also showed that about 70% of Indiana's farmed acres were not tilled, and 18% employed "reduced tillage" after the 2021 harvest.

"Indiana farmers continue to help lead the way through their dedication to conservation farming," Jerry Raynor, Indiana conservationist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, said in a statement. "The work being done by farmers throughout the state to promote soil health through no-till farming and the planting of cover crops will have positive impacts for generations to come."

The latest state data does not reveal cover crop percentages for 2022. Andy Tauer, executive director of public

policy for the Indiana Farm Bureau, said it's likely that even more Indiana farmers will adopt cover crops this year, given the rising cost of fertilizer.

"Many farmers around the state are only applying the exact amount of fertilizer that the crop needs at that time," he said. "Making sure we don't over-apply then equally has some water quality, environmental benefits."

More work needed to help improve water quality

Still, less than 10% of farmers statewide plant cover crops, and roughly 38% do not till their fields, according to state data.

Numerous incentives are in place to encourage farmers to employ methods to reduce runoff, but low participation puts further strain on already dismal water quality in Indiana.

A study published earlier this year found that the state has the

dirtiest waterways in the country.

Nearly 25,000 miles of Indiana's rivers and streams are too polluted for swimming and recreation, mostly due to bacteria and nutrients that leach from various agricultural operations.

Livestock waste and excessive fertilizer applications are the main sources of non-point water pollution in Indiana rivers, according to the Hoosier Environmental Council.

During periods of rain or melting snow, sediment and nutrients from manure or chemical fertilizer wash off crop fields and into the state's waterways, leading to high concentrations of E. coli bacteria and the growth of harmful algae.

The report noted that a loophole in the Clean Water Act allows most agricultural runoff to go unregulated.

"Indiana's waters have benefited from the Clean Water Act, but unfortunately, they also illustrate

some of the gaps in the law," said Indra Frank, Environmental Health & Water Policy Director for the Hoosier Environmental Council.

"We have seen persistent, unresolved impairments, especially for E coli bacteria in our rivers and streams, in part from industrial agricultural runoff," she continued. "And unfortunately, we have also seen examples of Clean Water Act permits used to send water contaminated with coal ash into our rivers. We need to halt pollution like this."

Dead Zone

With 90% of Indiana's waterways draining to the Mississippi River, the state's farmland runoff also contributes to an annual "dead zone" in the Gulf of Mexico.

The dead zone, also known as a hypoxic zone, is primarily fueled by Mississippi River discharge and nitrogen and phosphorus runoff, mostly from the Corn Belt. The dead zone contains almost no oxygen, leading to the deaths of large quantities of marine life.

In 2001, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and 12 Mississippi River basin states — including

Indiana — agreed to take action to reduce the Gulf dead zone by two-thirds by 2015. Researchers estimated that this would require reducing nitrogen loads reaching the Gulf by about 45%.

Because nitrogen and phosphorus loadings at the mouth of the Mississippi River haven't seen much improvement, that deadline has since been extended to 2035.

Recent measurements revealed this year's Gulf dead zone is more than 1,000 square miles smaller than the five-year average — which could be a hopeful sign. But Nancy Rabalais, a professor at Louisiana State University who measures the Gulf dead zone annually, cautioned that "this summer was an unusual year for Gulf hypoxia."

She said a combination of weather events led to the smaller size this year. Drought conditions in the Midwest additionally reduced the water flow from the Mississippi River into the Gulf of Mexico during June and July.

"Agricultural interests are trying to reduce their nutrient flux, but it's going to take a bigger effort than what's being done right now," Rabalais said.

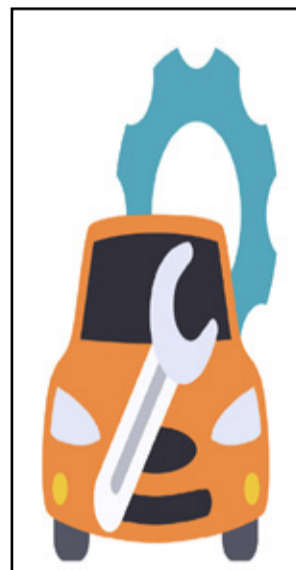
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Potential Foster Families Decry Vaccine Requirements

By Whitney Downard

In Indiana, some families say they are prohibited from serving as foster homes because of their personal beliefs surrounding vaccines, which are required for the children of potential foster families.

With the passage of an abortion ban, child advocates worry about the impact on the state's foster care system, which doesn't have enough families for the current number of children. Advocates testified before the Indiana House earlier this month that the shortage of homes means the Department of Child Services sometimes houses children on their office floors. In response, Rep. Chris Judy, R-Fort Wayne, introduced an amendment to the General Assembly's \$75 million investment in social services seeking to allow families to claim religious and medical exemptions to the vaccine requirements. The bill seeks to accommodate the increased demand in services following the passage of an abortion ban.

"I brought the amendment just to bring awareness to it," Judy said. On the floor, he withdrew the amendment and the chamber didn't vote on the proposal. "There's a lot of loving families out there that would like to foster and I think giving them the ability to, regardless of their immunization status, would be a step in the right direction."

Judy said his family declined to vaccinate his youngest child, 10, and previously fostered his niece and nephew temporarily. Immunization requirements don't apply to kinship care, or foster families related to the children.

Requirements for foster families in Indiana

The Department of Child Services declined an



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interview and didn't respond to an emailed list of questions surrounding vaccines sent on Wednesday. They didn't clarify which vaccines the department required or how many families had been rejected for failing to comply with this requirement.

In Indiana, to be licensed as a foster parent, an applicant must be at least 21 years old and pass a criminal history/ background check. Their home must meet certain physical standards and pass a home-study assessment.

Along with financial stability, the applying parent must provide medical statements from a physician for all household members and complete training requirements. Foster parents don't need to be married – and can be single or cohabiting – but a relationship should be established for at least one year.

The medical statement from a physician includes one checkbox for vaccines, asking if a child's immunizations are current. The form also includes space for medical history questions about drug and alcohol assessments.

Similar forms for foster parents in Ohio and Michigan do not include any checkbox for immunizations.

"The physical and mental health of all members of the foster family or other individuals living in the foster family home, excluding foster children, shall be such that it will not be detrimental to the health and welfare of the foster children," Indiana's

requirements read.

Indiana's foster system does require families to lock up firearms.

The importance of vaccines

Possibly due to unfounded concerns about the COVID-19 vaccine, overall vaccine hesitancy increased during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over the last few years, many parents opted to delay vaccines for their children, with a 14% nationwide drop for all vaccines – including a 20% drop for the measles vaccine, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Many of the immunizations suggested in the CDC's immunization schedule for children used to be deadly or debilitating diseases, such as polio or whooping cough. Vaccines virtually eradicated the dangers of those diseases.

Additionally, many children in the foster care system may not have completed their childhood immunizations due to the abuse and neglect they experienced in their previous living situation. In the interest of the child, most states require foster children to be vaccinated according to the American Academy of Pediatrics' recommended immunization schedule.

To give an additional layer of protection, some states require the children of foster families be vaccinated as well.

The Administration for Children and Families, part of the Department of Health and Human Services, crafted model stan-

dards for foster care under former President Donald Trump. Standards include immunizations for children in the home, though the organization acknowledged that the "vast majority" of the 1,273 public comments objected to this standard. Specifically, children should be vaccinated according to prevailing immunization schedules and every household member must have an up-to-date pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine and annual influenza vaccination if caring for an infant or a child with special medical needs.

A guide to foster care in each state as of February 2018 from the Child Welfare Information Gateway (part of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services) lists only four states with vaccination requirements for household children explicitly included in their foster family requirements: Arkansas, Missouri, New Mexico and South Dakota. In addition to children, Missouri requires all household members to have up-to-date immunizations.

However, 26 states do require vaccinations for one type of household member: pets.

Judy previously introduced his amendment allowing exemptions to vaccine requirements as a bill in 2021 but it didn't receive a committee reading. He said he wasn't done bringing attention to this issue.

"I'm going to work on it again this fall and bring it out as a bill in the next session," Judy said.

Most Of The Time

Packing people into the back country doesn't sound really exciting, I know. And if it gets exciting, it's undoubtedly because something went wrong. But we did have occasional chuckles during those eight summers.

I stopped off at the backcountry ranger's tent near Bullfrog Lake, in Kings Canyon National Park. He mostly checked fire permits and had a fun summer. He told me to get off my horse and in the tent ... NOW, to see what he had.

He said no matter how many times they told campers not to feed the wild animals, there was always someone with a hearing problem. On the western slopes of the Park, where there are roads, a young guy was driving along in his brand-new Chevy hard-top convertible when he spotted a bear moseying along.

That's when the great idea hit him. He wrapped some bacon around the steering wheel, opened the driver's door, and stepped out with his camera. In a few minutes, the bear climbed in behind the wheel and was eating the bacon. He closed the car door on the bear. Click, click! Wow. It sure looked like the bear was driving the car. But when he walked over to open the



SLIM RANGLES
Columnist

door and let the bear out, the bear had other ideas. He growled and snapped and our photographer backed off.

When the bacon was gone, the bear discovered a creel in the back seat smelling deliciously of prime trout, and wanted that, too. So he turned and started climbing into the back seat. Unfortunately, the bear stepped squarely on the car's brand-new horn as he went for the creel.

So the picture the ranger showed me was a good illustration of what a brand-new hardtop convertible looks like when a hand grenade goes off. Think sardine can. The bear left, and without using the brand-new door.

But most of the time ...

Brought to you by "A Cowboy's Guide to Growing Up Right" by Slim Randles. Buy one for that problem kid down the street. Only \$2.99 on Amazon.com.



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The American Heart Association Introduces Eight Heart Heroes As Part Of The Kids Heart Challenge™ Campaign

More than 150,000 elementary students in Indiana will be encouraged to "Be the Torch" for better health by a new cast of characters that are part of the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge campaign.

Eight heart heroes, characterized as dragons, each represent a positive trait that aligns with the school-based initiative aimed at improving students' health while raising life-saving donations for the American Heart Association, a global force for healthier lives.

This year's Heart Heroes are:

Frankie – Frankie, our tour guide, helps our heroes cruise through worldwide adventures by using good listening ears and respecting everyone's ideas.

Hydro – Hydro makes sure to drink plenty of water every day and even helps clean up trash from lakes and ponds on weekends.

Marley – Marley loves moving to music! Skateboarding, running, playing soccer and helping in the garden are other ways Marley stays active.

Dream – Dream knows that sleep makes us all feel and think better and always tries to get at least 10 hours of sleep every night.

Hearty – Hearty's torch brings light and warmth – a symbol reminding us all to be the Torch by being kind and helping others.

Breeze – Breeze loves to fly, enjoying how clean air feels on the face and in the lungs. Breeze does NOT like to breathe



American Heart Association.

polluted air or second-hand smoke. Say NO to tobacco and vaping!

Finn – Finn loves learning about your heart and saving lives. He's created Finn's Mission so he can share what he's learned with you.

Baxter – Being considerate of others' feelings and opinions makes the world go round. Baxter keeps a gratitude journal and makes time for self-reflection every day.

These heroes will be intertwined into the Kids Heart Challenge™ campaign that engages over 350 elementary schools and 150,000 students in Indiana. Through the challenge, students will learn healthy habits including staying active, drinking water, getting plenty of sleep and saying no to tobacco and vaping. They will also take part in online challenges that teach habits like kindness and gratitude.

"One of the most exciting parts about launching the Kids Heart Challenge every year is learning who the new Heart Heroes are going to be" said Kathy Staton, the physical education teacher at Bunker Hill Elementary School in Franklin Township in Indianapolis. "It's exciting to see our students connect with these characters, and the

American Heart Association does an incredible job in bringing it all to life."

The Kids Heart Challenge™ is rooted in proven science which has shown that kids who are regularly active have a better chance of a healthy adulthood[1]. In addition to improved physical health, the benefits of physical activity for children include better grades, school attendance and classroom behavior. Physical activity can also help kids feel better, improve mental health, build self-esteem, and decrease and prevent conditions such as anxiety and depression[2].

About the American Heart Association

The American Heart Association is a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives. We are dedicated to ensuring equitable health in all communities. Through collaboration with numerous organizations, and powered by millions of volunteers, we fund innovative research, advocate for the public's health and share lifesaving resources. The Dallas-based organization has been a leading source of health information for nearly a century. Connect with us on heart.org, Facebook, Twitter or by calling 1-800-AHA-USA1.

🔪 BUTCH

From Page A1

art and recess, but my grades, for the most part, were quite average. My first three teachers, Marian Couger, Tessie Stwalley, and Naomi Peterson, were very good, but for some reason I just could not get excited about learning and studying.

My new teacher in the 4th grade was Audrey Cox, who was the younger sister of Mrs. Stwalley. Although she was in her mid-fifties (she graduated from Darlington in 1923), I soon developed a "crush" on her. As a student at Indiana University, she was named as one of the most beautiful girls on campus in 1925. I longed for her approval, as a few other classmates did, so I volunteered to wash the chalkboards, clean the erasers, and sweep the floor. My first three teachers used the paddle, although sparingly, on those who misbehaved. Corporal punishment shaped up a few classmates, but it would not have bothered me. I was used to it at home. Dad straightened me out plenty of times, but Mom didn't "smack" very hard...even though I acted the part.

Audrey used another method of punishment. She drew a square on the blackboard, and above it she wrote "BABY PEN." If you misbehaved in her class, she wrote your name in the square. If you were REALLY bad, you had to wear a baby bonnet all day! I did NOT want to misbehave in Audrey's class. Also, the student at the front of each row was designated as the "row monitor" each day for one week (and we switched seats the next week). Each morning the row monitor checked everyone in his row to make sure they had combed their hair, cleaned their fingernails, and brushed their teeth...and

then reported the results to Mrs. Cox.

With Audrey's encouragement, I showed improvement in all of my subjects, and when I received a report card with all A's, she gave me a big hug and a kiss. She made me feel special! When the bell sounded for the close of school each afternoon, she helped us with our coats and gave us a kiss on the cheek. I couldn't wait to be back in school the next day. From the 4th grade on, I was an excellent student and strived to do my best...and in fact, graduated as the valedictorian of my class in 1966.

In 1972, I became a teacher at Darlington. By that time, Audrey had retired, but she often filled in as a substitute. Each time she always came up to me and gave me a hug and told me how much she enjoyed having me in her class back in 1958, and how she was so proud of me. In 1988, I wrote a book about Darlington School, and I interviewed Audrey, who stated, "I taught 37 beautiful years and loved every year of it...because I loved my boys and girls. I had no trouble with discipline because I loved my pupils, and they knew it. It was my love for children that made me want to be a teacher."

When I was elected Montgomery County Sheriff and took office in 1995, I had to travel down to Greencastle one evening to pick up a prisoner. A former classmate told me that Audrey was in a nursing home down there, and I decided to stop and visit with her for a few minutes. However, the desk attendant informed me that Audrey was in very poor health and usually did not see visitors. I told the attendant to just tell Audrey

that Butch was here, and to give her my best regards. But a few minutes later, a nurse came out and stated, "Audrey would like to see you!"

With the help of the nurse, Audrey walked out to the foyer. She had a big smile on her face and put her arm around me... "Oh, Butch, I am so glad to see you!" My eyes watered up, and I gave her a big hug. We sat and talked about the "old days" when teaching was actually fun. She asked about my family, my career, and my hopes for the future. Just as in the past, she made me feel special!

Time passed by too quickly, and I reluctantly had to leave. I hugged her again, and she gave me a kiss on the cheek. I promised to come back and see her soon when I had more time. But sadly, a few days later, I was shocked to see Audrey's obituary in the newspaper. I was so glad that I had taken the time from my busy schedule to visit with her that evening in Greencastle. I truly believe that God had directed me to Audrey that day.

Everyone has a special person that has made a difference in their life...a parent, grandparent, close friend, employer, co-worker, doctor, or others... perhaps a teacher. I had many great teachers at Darlington, and I am grateful for all of their help, wisdom, and encouragement. But one teacher changed my life. Thank you, Audrey...I love you and I hope to see you again some day!

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

🔪 JOHN

From Page A1

2-year-olds, and a loving wife for whom your term of endearment is "Commander," Michigan may not be far enough.

(As a quick aside, I'm praying that my sister-in-law has forgotten how to read.)

Although I am glad when I can be helpful, I'm not really fond of dog sitting. House sitting, too, which is basically dog sitting minus eight legs.

It comes down to the fact that I just don't like living in a home other than my own. Not that I couldn't make it my own. I have permission. "Make yourself at home," they always say.

Good! Let's start by throwing away those cow bell wind chimes that kept me awake three nights last time. The hallway could use a coat of paint, too.

Translated, "make yourself at home" means "I'll say anything to get out of here." It ranks right up there with history's second-oldest house / dog sitting ruse, "Eat anything you want out of the refrigerator," whereupon you discover there's only a half-eaten birthday cake inside, and four different brands of barbecue sauce in the door.

History's oldest house / dog sitting ruse? "We won't be gone long."

Before digital data was invented, one of the things that used to make house / dog sitting worthwhile was watching cable television. I looked forward to seeing the shows that only city folks could get. The area where I lived was too remote for the big cable companies to serve, so we were left with only the shows our

local provider, Duncan's Auto Body and Cable, could offer.

Duncan didn't have any television industry experience, but he discovered that his brother's reupholstery shop backed right up to the downlink satellite dishes outside the cable company in the neighboring town. A set of well-placed jumper cables and a few spools of coaxial wire could provide limited programming.

It wasn't long after settling back in the recliner this week that I realized the joys of multi-channel programming are over. Gone are The Sopranos, Mad Men, and Breaking Bad. Now we have 90-Day Fiancé, 1,000 Pound Sisters, and Caught in the Act: Unfaithful.

It isn't enough that these reality shows are voyeuristic and exploitative. My biggest issue with them is that they are just telling the same old stories. I heard this one years ago.

It was commonly known in my small town that Mr. and Mrs. Peyton were having issues. Some said there was even a pool started so people could wager on when the breakup finally occurred. Mrs. Peyton had even threatened to move back in with her mother in Phoenix.

One day, while getting her hair done at Mabel's, Mrs. Peyton suggested that she might just go south, if only for a little break. She mentioned to Mabel that, because of scheduling issues, she had a four-hour layover that might give her time to sightsee.

"I'm so looking forward to seeing Austin,"

she said.

Well, beauty shops being the noisy, gossipy places they are, it wasn't long before the whole thing got out of hand.

Juanita Fisher, under the dryer after her wash and set, only heard part of the conversation. Immediately she thought the worst. Mrs. Peyton had something going on with Austin Melton. Austin Melton was notorious. The town gigolo purportedly made more "deliveries" in one day than our milkman.

She couldn't wait to tell her husband when she got home.

By the time Mr. Peyton left the feed store the following morning, the news was all over town. Enraged, he raced his pickup truck down Pennsylvania Street to the bowling alley where Austin Melton headquartered. He walked up to the man, and without saying a word, punched him with all his might, squarely on the jaw.

Unfortunately for Mr. Peyton, three of Austin's sons happened to be standing there, too, and pummeled Mr. Peyton mercilessly. When Mr. Peyton came to in the hospital, Mrs. Peyton was by his bedside.

"I'm so sorry the way I've treated you these past years. I love you," he said. "Promise me you'll never go back to Austin." "Austin?" Mrs. Peyton said. "Austin's in Texas." "Good! I guess I showed him a thing or two.

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

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