

➔ TODAY'S VERSE

Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

➔ FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



Shaun and Novi Jett smile happily while enjoying the sights in beautiful downtown Crawfordsville when they were spotted by one of our roving photographers.

➔ THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 The Montgomery County Democrats invite all voters to attend Meet the Candidates Monday at 7 p.m. in the Donnelley Room of the Crawfordsville Public Library. Candidates are Lindsey Gates Hamilton, District 2 County Council, Greg Woods Indiana House District 41, David Sanders Indiana House District 23 and Roger Day US House of Representatives District 4.

2 The Indiana Department of Transportation announces N. Jackson Street will temporarily close between W. Elizabeth St. and Shadowlawn Avenue for railroad work, near Greencastle. Crews will be repaving and replacing ties starting on or after Monday. The closure will last until the end of August, weather permitting. This project was previously rescheduled. The official detour follows U.S. 231 to S.R. 240 to S.R. 75 to U.S. 36. and back to U.S. 231.

3 According to the good folks at FamilyDestinationGuide.com, Hoosier families on average spend \$238 on airport food and drinks because of flight delays. This equals about a quarter of their ticket costs. And that figure ranks Hoosiers the 17th most expensive state in the country. Apparently the surge in flight delays this summer has created chaos in airports around America, with the delay domino effect leaving travelers spending more time (and money) inside airports while they await their unpredictable departure. Airports are famously renowned for their massively marked-up food and drink charges. In fact, an outrageously-priced \$28 beer from a vendor at LaGuardia Airport recently made headlines because of its alarming cost.

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Local 4-Her Wins Indiana State Fair Honors



Photo courtesy of Purdue Extension

Congratulations to Lennon Woods who received Champion at the Indiana State Fair in the Junior Public Speaking Contest. This is part of our Communications project offered. Lennon is the daughter of Maggie and Michael Woods and a 5-year member of the Clark Hustling Hoosiers 4-H Club. She was given top honors in the Junior division of Public Speaking with her speech about Proposition 12 in California, a law concerning animal confinement. Congratulations Lennon!

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:02 a.m.
SET: 8:40 p.m.

High/Low Temperatures
High: 82 °F
Low: 60 °F

Wacky Holiday Today
• Never Give Up Day
• National Fajita Day

What Happened On This Day
• 1958 Lolita is First Published in the US
• 1612 The Pendle witch trials begin

Births On This Day
• 1750 Antonio Salieri Italian composer
• 1983 Cameron White Australian cricketer

Deaths On This Day
• 1227 Genghis Khan Emperor
• 1990 B. F. Skinner American psychologist, author

WABASH COLLEGE
Wabash Named A Top Liberal Arts College

Wabash College is ranked ninth on a Degree Choices list of national liberal arts college based on an analysis of the economic benefits students receive from attending college.

The ranking is based on how quickly students recoup their investment and the long-term earnings compared with other college graduates.

"This new ranking, developed by Degree Choices and reported in Forbes Online, should be helpful to prospective students and their families, particularly those looking for a liberal arts education that pays out value over the long term," said Wabash President Scott Feller. "We like to say that Wabash is a college that provides elite outcomes without elitism, and this new ranking illustrates the powerful return on investment

➔ See WABASH Page A6

Himes Saga #2 – David



KAREN ZACH
Around The County

Although Daniel Himes lived to be a fairly good age into his early 80s and his wife was 70, on a whole, the Himes family are not long livers like the Dunbars and Fruits folks in the other Sagas you've hopefully enjoyed.

Today's son of Daniel, David, fits that young age, just 45 years old at his death. Born 23 Feb 1820 (I suspicion 1826) in Botetourt County, Virginia, he died on October 6th in 1865, having lost his dear wife (Mary Jane Brown whom he married in Highland, Ohio 9 Oct 1845) on Jan 16th, 1862, just 39 years old. Briefly, these two and their oldest son were in Marion County, Iowa where David worked his carpentry prowess,

but they returned fairly quickly to Montgomery County. They are buried at the old Harshbarger Cemetery, sadly with no stones. How terrible for their children to have lost them both at such a young age. One of their daughter's obituaries noted, "Her parents died many years ago." That was sure right!

Jacob Harshbarger was David's administrator and not long after his death had a notice that on the 18th of November ('65) at David's home near Whitesville, his real estate (Sec 35 Twp 18 N Rg 4 bounded by the Louisville, New Albany and Chicago RR, his saw mill and fixtures), his personal property consisting of an ox, a two-horse wagon, a buggy and harness, some hogs, corn, and household and kitchen furniture plus half of a log wagon and log chains would be sold. David was a master carpenter so assuming he used the wagon and chains to get his wood to cure and I'll bet the furniture being sold was beautifully hand made, as well.

Daniel H. was the oldest of the children of David and Mary Himes, next Sarah E, followed by Joseph B, Susan L. and

➔ See KAREN Page A6

American Artist Appreciation Month

The Crawfordsville District Public Library invites our patrons to support the arts by being knowledgeable art advocates during American Artist Appreciation Month. Artists of the Americas have become the dominant supporters of artistic freedom and have the ability to bring attention to important topics. Conventionally, an art-based education has a never-ending supply of European superstars, and its most celebrated artworks rely on their historical traditions and societal expectations. American artists have no obligation to any one group and have the freedom to reflect on personal experiences, hot topics, and imaginary ideas in any medium they choose. CDPL has an extensive collection of



Toni Ridgway-Woodall
Fresh off the Shelf

➔ See AMERICAN Page A6

➔ HONEST HOOSIER

Anyone seen any Build Back Better blue hats or yard signs? Wonder what that means?



➔ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Grandma's advice not to put anything smaller than your elbow in your ear was right - that includes Q-tips.

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
See page A2 for obituaries

➔ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

Obituaries.....A2
Service Directory.....A3
Classifieds.....A4

➔ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE
Join The Team!

Looking for a part-time job that does not involve the words: Would You Like Fries With That? The Paper of Montgomery County offers jobs that include pagination and page design, basic clerical and even some photography and writing. We're looking for bright and eager people to join our winning team! This could be the perfect job for part-time students all the way up to Baby Boomers looking for something to do. Let us know you are interested by sending an e-mail with your resume and a note telling us what you love about newspapers to jobs@thepaper24-7.com.

➔ TODAY'S QUOTE

"Men always forget that human happiness is a disposition of mind and not a condition of circumstances."
John Locke

➔ TODAY'S JOKE

The past, the present and the future all walk into a bar. Things were a little tense.



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



WTHR 7 DAY FORECAST

60/82 MOSTLY SUNNY	60/83 MAINLY SUNNY	62/85 MOSTLY SUNNY	71/84 LATE DAY STORM CHANCE	64/82 SCATTERED STORMS	66/81 PARTLY CLOUDY	64/84 PARTLY CLOUDY
WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE

OBITUARIES

David D. Hole

June 13, 1977 - Aug. 15, 2022

David Dewayne Hole of Crawfordsville passed away suddenly at home Monday, Aug. 15. He was 45.

Born June 13, 1977 in Crawfordsville, he was the son of Vicky Lynn Hole Chamness and Larry Turner.

He attended Crawfordsville schools and graduated from High School in Ennis, Texas.

He was a machinist that worked a CNC machine. He most recently worked at Dicaperl Minerals. He also worked as a welder and forklift driver. He liked fishing and anything related to fish, including aquariums. He was into stereo systems, setting up speakers and playing loud music.

Survivors include his mom, Vicky Chamness of Crawfordsville; son, Dakota Wayne Hole of Texas; brother, D.J. Chamness of Ennis, Texas; several cousins, aunts and uncles.

Visitation is scheduled from noon - 1 p.m. Friday, Aug. 19 at Burkhart Funeral Home, 201 West Wabash. Services will begin at 1 p.m., after which he will be laid to rest at Oak Hill Cemetery South in Crawfordsville.

Online condolences may be made at www.BurkhartFH.com.



Leon David Hocquard, Sr.

July 1, 1952 - Aug 15, 2022

Leon David Hocquard, Sr. of Crawfordsville passed away Monday night at Franciscan Health of Lafayette. He was 70.

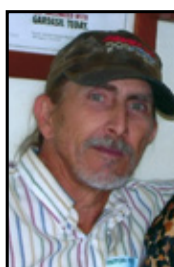
Born July 1, 1952 in Lansing, Mich., he was the son of Raymond E. Hocquard and Marvel M. Court-right Hocquard.

He served his country in the U. S. Marines. He later worked as a commercial shrimper. He married Janet Ann Rowan and they were together 48 years until she preceded him in death on Aug. 7, 2021. He was a strong, selfless devoted patriarch to the family; a devoted father, grandfather, uncle, brother and friend.

Survivors include three daughters, Robin Cunningham, Robbie (Paul) Misner and Marvel Hocquard; two sons, Leon Hocquard, Jr. and Sonny Hocquard; two granddaughters that he raised, Winter (Kyle) Shahan and Autumn Hocquard; granddaughter, Katelyn Beverlin; two great-granddaughters, Novalee Shahan and Janet Ann Hocquard; niece, Judi Rowan (Roland) Cruickshank; and nephew that he raised, Billy Ross.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Janet Hocquard; parents; three brothers; one sister; and great-grandson, Leon David Hocquard III.

In keeping with his wishes there will not be a public visitation or funeral. A graveside service will be held Friday, August 19th at 11 a.m. at Odd Fellows Cemetery in Darlington with military rites by the American Legion Post 72 honor guard. Arrangements were entrusted to Burkhart Funeral Home.



Roberta "Kay" Ferguson

Oct. 21, 1950 - Aug. 14, 2022

Roberta "Kay" Ferguson, 71 of Waynetown passed away Sunday at Franciscan Health Crawfordsville.

She was born Oct. 21, 1950 in Missouri to Robert and Lillian Stanley Lewis.

She was retired from Hi-Tek/Lithonia Lighting and was a member of the Eagles.

She was married to Ronnie Ferguson, who preceded her in death June 20, 2011.

Survivors include her son, Tony (MaryAnn) Ferguson; grandson, Mason Ferguson; companion, Roy Gossett and his daughter, Megan (David) Robinson and granddaughter, Emily Keeling. She is also survived by her siblings Margaret Kidwell, Robert "Bobby" Lewis and Mandy Bruenger; brother-in-law, Mitch (Sharon) Ferguson; sister-in-law, Virginia (Steve) Wilson; as well as several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her son, Troy Ferguson; brothers, Stanley Lewis and Randy Lewis; and sister, Linda Pass.

Funeral services is shielded at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 20 at Hunt & Son Funeral Home. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Interment will follow in the Indian Creek Cemetery.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.huntandson.com



Patricia Ilene Busenbark

March 6, 1931 - Aug. 15, 2022

Patricia Ilene Busenbark passed away on Monday, Aug. 15, 2022 at Franciscan Health Center in Lafayette.

She was born on March 6, 1931 in Putnam County to Cecil and Naomi (Newell) Dove.

She was a graduate of New Market High School in May 1949. She married Meredith E. Busenbark on June 12, 1949 at the First Baptist New Market Church by Rev. Creed Hampton. She graduated from the Indianapolis School of Beauty Culture in 1963 and owned and operated a cosmetology shop in her home for 44 years.

She was a member of New Market First Baptist Church, where she held many positions serving the Lord. She and Meredith were members in State Active Baptist Campers Club and traveled to many different states during mission projects.

Survivors include her sons, Robert Busenbark (Terrace) and Randy Busenbark; six grandchildren, Tisha McKinney (Aaron), Mindy Johnson (Clayton), Patrick Busenbark (Jennifer), Kelli Wiley (Kevin), Derick Busenbark (Jennifer) and Kyle Busenbark (Candice); 15 great grandchildren; her brother, Leslie Dove; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Meredith; sisters, Glenda Kay Debusk and Thena Beasley; daughter-in-law, Kathy Busenbark; and a special cousin, Rita Lieske.

Visitation is scheduled on Monday, Aug. 22, 2022 at New Market Baptist Church, 106 1st Street in New Market from 11 a.m. until the time of the funeral service at 1 p.m., with Pastor Todd Randles officiating. Burial will follow at Indian Creek Hill Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to New Market Baptist Church Memorial Fund, PO Box 87, New Market, IN 47965. Share memories and condolences at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.



Janice Miller

Nov. 5, 1931 - Aug. 15, 2022

Janice Miller (Mom, Nanny, Sis, Aunt Janice), originally of Spencer County Indiana, went home to Jesus with family by her side on Monday, Aug. 15, 2022. She is reunited with her husband of 73 years who preceded her earlier this year.

She lived 91 years full of strength and love. Standing by her husband's side, she supported his ministry in the United Methodist churches for over 60 years. Throughout that time, they provided a home and love to over 50 foster children. A talented homemaker, seamstress, farmer, and avid gardener (with a green thumb that could grow anything), She loved to cook and had catering and cake decorating skills that were the envy of most of her family. She enjoyed feeding and caring for any birds that were nearby, as well as helping to raise and care for many animals—as long as they stayed clear of her garden. She was a natural caretaker and looked after many friends and loved ones in their time of need. In the last years, spending time with her great granddaughters brought her laughter and joy.

Survivors include her son, Joe L Miller; daughter, Carla (John) Schetzsl; granddaughters, Kali Schetzsl (David Rigdon) and Kristi Schetzsl (Bill Stull); great granddaughters, Aailyah Keys and Brielle Stull; sister, Dianna Enlow; nieces, Sandra (John) Roberts, Mary Jo (Charlie) Patterson and Francy Miller; nephews, Wally Murphy and Matthew (Gayle) Enlow.

The immediate family will have a small life celebration at Burkhart Funeral Home in Crawfordsville, no service to be held. Please help to honor her love with contributions made to the United Methodist Youth Home.



Teresa Kay Goodnight

May 1, 1947 - Aug. 16, 2022

Teresa Kay Goodnight passed away on Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2022 at Franciscan Health in Lafayette.

She was born on May 1, 1947 in Oakland City, Ind. to Burnell and Louise (McClelland) Wilhite.

She married Gene Goodnight on Sept. 2, 1967 in Crawfordsville.

She was a graduate of Crawfordsville High School, Class of 1967. She worked at the Ben Hur Drive in Theater for 20 years. She was a member R.E.A.C.T and a longtime member of Bethel AME Church in Crawfordsville. She loved doing puzzle books, especially Sudoku and word searches.

Survivors include her children, Robert Goodnight (Amy), Michelle Browning and Stephen Goodnight (Stephanie); six grandchildren, Jessica Blatz, Jacob Goodnight, Cody Goodnight (Bri), Kristina Goodnight, Brianna Wilkie (Jeremy) and Mary Browning; six great grandchildren, Emily, Raelyn, Kaiden, Owen, Hailie and Raiden; and siblings, Tony Wilhite (Pam) and Tina Cotten.

She was predeceased by her parents; husband, Gene; infant brother, Paul; brother, Dwight Wilhite; and several aunts, sisters-in-law and brother-in-law.

Visitation is scheduled on Monday, Aug. 22, 2022 at Sanders-Priebe Funeral Care, 315 S Washington Street in Crawfordsville from 12 noon until the time of the service at 2 p.m. Burial will follow at Indian Creek Hill Cemetery. Memorial donations may be sent to Bethel AME Church, 213 North St. W, Crawfordsville, IN 47933.

Share memories and condolences at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.



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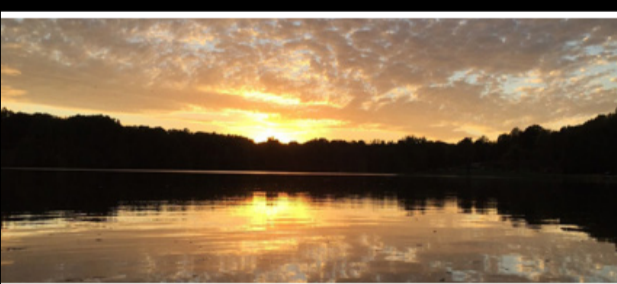
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Advocates Push Indiana Legislature To Counter Rising Medical Debt

By Whitney Downard

Roughly one in six Hoosiers have medical debt in collections — higher than the national average — and it jumps to one in four residents for Hoosiers of color.

In all, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau estimates that Hoosiers have \$2.2 billion in outstanding debt. This means Indiana has the eleventh highest share of its population with medical debt in collections across the United States, the highest among its neighbors.

The median amount owed? Just \$748.

For several community organizations, those numbers are worrisome.

Hoosiers for Responsible Lending, a coalition of the Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute, Grassroots Maternal and Child Health Initiative and Prosperity Indiana, released the figures in a report analyzing the state's medical debt and its overall impact on Hoosiers.

"After seven miscarriages, I finally was able to have a child of my own, but it came at a huge cost because of the time she spent in the NICU. Medical bills created so much stress and anguish. They caused me to go through bankruptcy, and eventually I lost my home," said Deborah Fisher, with Grassroots Maternal and Child Health Initiative, in a release. "I

believe we can all work toward solutions so that my daughter, grandchildren, and other families won't have to face the same challenges."

Stakeholders compiled the report with the assistance of Americans for Financial Reform, a nonprofit group formed in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis.

The consequences of debt

Having debt in collections creates barriers and families with children under 18 are more likely to have medical debt as well as Black and Hispanic households that may already face hurdles when it comes to credit or housing.

The report notes that people with medical debt have poorer mental health and physical health outcomes, such as depression, anxiety and high blood pressure. Many might delay or skip medical care due to their debt, exacerbating their health conditions.

"Medical debt that goes into collections can exacerbate financial challenges and stress; overdue medical debt that is reported to credit bureaus damages credit scores and makes it more difficult to get loans, insurance, rentals and jobs," the report said.

Because of the country's decision not to provide universal health insurance coverage, the United States stands out among its peers for the amount of



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accrued medical debt and the negative social impact.

States that expanded Medicaid fared better than their peers, with non-expansion states having the highest concentration of medical debt. But underinsured individuals, an estimated one in five adults, had inadequate coverage with high deductibles and co-pays, still risk high medical bills.

"The burden of medical debt is a pervasive challenge for too many Hoosiers," said Andy Nielsen, with the Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute. "This is unacceptable... Healthcare is a right, and individuals, families, and children should not have to choose between seeking medical care or dealing with crushing debt."

Analyzing the burden of debt in Hoosier communities

The Indiana Community Action Association issued a survey between 2020 and 2021 to 5,822 Hoosiers who shared information about their debts. Their clients, generally speaking, are at or below 125% of the Federal Poverty Level (though the CARES Act increased that threshold to 200% temporarily).

Nearly half of those respondents, 47.6%, reported outstanding medical debt. Most, or 40%, reported their medical debt balances to be between \$1,000 and \$10,000 but 17.4% reported having more than that.

The Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute noted that Indiana's cutoff for Medicaid eligibility is 133% of the Federal Poverty Level (\$2,313 monthly for a family of four in 2022), meaning that nearly all of the people surveyed should have been eligible for coverage.

"There is clearly work to be done to ensure that all those who are eligible for Medicaid are enrolled and covered," the report said.

Look up medical debt in Indiana counties in this interactive map from the Urban Institute: <https://apps.urban.org/features/debt-interactive-map/?-type=medical&variable=medcoll>

Nearly one-third of those Hoosiers surveyed, 30.6%, said they had medical debt in collections. According to the Urban Institute with the U.S. Census Bureau, roughly 16% of all Hoosiers have medical debt in collections, or 25.3%

for Hoosiers of color. In Allen County, the disparity was even bigger, with 29.7% of Hoosiers of color reporting medical debt in collections compared to just 11.9% of white Hoosiers. On average, each person with medical debt in collection in Allen County owed \$872.

Action on the state level In December 2021, House Speaker Todd Huston and Senate Pro Tem Rodric Bray sent letters to health insurance companies and healthcare systems urging them to reduce Indiana's disproportionately high healthcare costs.

Several responded, including the Indiana Hospital Association, promising action to lower the overall cost of care but resisting "heavy-handed government intervention."

In an April response to those letters, Huston and Bray said they wanted to continue the conversation.

"Our overarching goal is to bring down the cost of health care and deliver real savings for everyday Hoosiers and business owners," Huston said. "Hoosiers are rightfully frustrated about rising costs and simply can't afford inaction on reducing healthcare expenses."

The report from Hoosiers for Responsible Lending outlined several recommendations for reducing debt burdens, including stronger consumer protections, expanding Medicaid enrollment and requiring Indiana hospitals to adopt Financial Assistance Policies.

The report urges lawmakers to draft eligibility standards for financial assistance require all hospitals to provide some financial assistance.

According to the National Consumer Law Center, Indiana is one of a few states not to already require those provisions.

"The findings from this report indicate that, among all Midwest states, Indiana has the highest share of its population with a medical debt in collections," said Jessica Love, the executive director of Prosperity Indiana. "This should be sobering news for any policymaker concerned with long-term economic stability. Indiana's decision-makers should act quickly to use these findings and implement recommendations to increase consumer protections for all Hoosiers."

The report acknowledges that the \$2.2 billion in delinquent medical debt already held by Hoosiers poses an additional challenge, since private collection companies own that debt. Research on reducing the load is limited but offers potential avenues for further research.

Classifieds

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Indiana Sen. Mike Braun Pushes For More Spending On Agriculture Research, Development

By Casey Smith



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Indiana Sen. Mike Braun said increasing government spending on agriculture research should be a top priority for the federal government as lawmakers in Congress craft their ongoing response to food security issues.

The Republican senator met with agricultural industry leaders, including from Bayer and Purdue University, during a panel talk on Tuesday at Tom Farms in Leesburg, a rural farm community just north of Warsaw.

The farm — one of the largest in Indiana — is owned by mega-farmer and former U.S. Ambassador Kip Tom, who moderated the discussion.

Addressing food shortages

Panelists emphasized that the world's food system is under increasing pressure due to supply chain issues affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine, severe weather events, and high fertilizer costs.

Rising input costs for farmers translates to higher prices for consumers at grocery stores and creates additional challenges for mitigating record levels of global hunger.

Tom said those issues have increased the need for the U.S. to invest in agricultural research and development.

"We've relied heavily on the private sector in the past, but we need to get the government involved in some of these activities," said Tom, who ran an un-

successful GOP bid for the U.S. House in 2016 and later served on a Trump agricultural advisory committee. "We can help prevent another further food crisis."

He noted that the country's public investment in agricultural research has declined since 2003, putting U.S. trade and competitiveness at risk. Agriculture is particularly important to Indiana, where the sector contributes \$31.2 billion to the state's economy.

When asked about the upcoming 2023 Farm Bill, Braun said lawmakers haven't talked enough about food security issues but maintained that would be part of his focus as discussions within the Senate Agricultural Committee continue.

He said the bill will originate in the House and focus primarily on nutrition, conservation and "securing the food supply."

"When it comes to the Farm Bill, I don't expect any drama," Braun said, adding that he wished lawmakers in the Senate would have started the bill's crafting sooner. "The emphasis is) putting that long-term research and development into things that are going to increasingly allow us to get more out of the acres."

Braun continued that investment by businesses, whether towards agricul-

ture or manufacturing, "has got to be part of our GDP."

The senator praised companies like Bayer for investing in agricultural advancement "the old-fashioned way — not borrowing." Jackie Applegate, President of Bayer Crop Science North America, said Tuesday that the company invested \$2 billion in agricultural research and development in 2021.

"Because when you're consuming, you're living off the merits of the past. We need to start spending less on things we consume, and spend double, triple, quadruple on investment through the federal government," Braun said. "Sadly, that's not the focus. If we don't do it, you're going to have other major players across the world who do do it."

Braun spares specifics on potential Walorski replacement

Last week, Braun and his colleague from Indiana, Sen. Todd Young, joined other Republicans in voting against the Inflation Reduction Act. President Joe Biden signed the sweeping \$750 billion bill — which also addresses health care and climate change — into law at the White House on Tuesday.

U.S. Representative Jackie Walorski, R-2nd, was originally scheduled to speak at the event. An

empty chair adorned with the Indiana flag and other mementos memorialized the congresswoman at the Tuesday talk following her unexpected death earlier this month. A handful of Republicans in the 2nd Congressional District have filed to run for the seat, vying to fill the vacancy during a caucus later this week.

"She's going to be hard to replace," Braun told the Indiana Capital Chronicle. "I think from the names I've heard, we're going to get a good replacement."

Panelists also fielded questions about land depletion from some Hoosier farmers who attended the talk. Concerns were raised that solar farms and population spread are eating into the state's farmland.

Karen Plaut, Dean of the Purdue University College of Agriculture, pointed to ongoing research at the land-grant university to put solar panels in the air, which still lets farmers grow crops underneath.

"Those are some of the types of solutions that research and development can bring for the future," Plaut said.

Braun agreed, saying that increasing funding for "common sense" innovations will help bridge relationships between farmers, academic institutions and private businesses.

Commonwealth Engineers, Inc. Receives 2022 Circle Of Excellence Award By PSMJ

On Aug. 3, PSMJ Resources announced the Top-Performing Circle of Excellence Architecture and Engineering Firms for 2022. PSMJ's exclusive Circle of Excellence designation highlights firms that demonstrate outstanding business achievement in the architecture and engineering industry.

PSMJ Resources, Inc. is the world's leading authority on the effective management of architecture, engineering, and construction firms. Their

Circle of Excellence recipients include sixty-five exceptional architecture and engineering firms who are successfully managed and demonstrate outstanding achievements in areas such as productivity, client satisfaction, staff growth, and turnover. The Circle of Excellence represents the top 20 percent of participants in PSMJ's annual A/E Financial Performance Benchmark Survey, based on 13 key performance metrics.

"Each year, the Circle

of Excellence firms come from all corners of the A/E space. This diversity demonstrates that success isn't defined by a specific firm size, location, or market niche," says Frank A. Stasiowski, FAIA, Founder and CEO of PSMJ Resources. "The top-performing firms just think and act differently from the rest of the pack to achieve extraordinary business performance."

Commonwealth is pleased to receive this designation for the fifth

consecutive year.

About Commonwealth Engineers, Inc. - Headquartered in Indianapolis, Commonwealth Engineers also has offices in Evansville, Fort Wayne, and Crown Point, IN, and Bowling Green, KY. Since 1974, Commonwealth has been committed to being the most comprehensive environmental engineering and consulting firm. For additional information, visit commonwealthengineers.com or call (317) 888-1177

The Indiana State Fair Announces Top Three 2022 'Taste Of The Fair' Winners

A returning crowd-favorite, the results are in for the Indiana State Fair's annual culinary competition amongst concessionaires for the Taste of the Fair. Announced this morning at an unveiling at the Fairgrounds, the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners are taking home a "Taste of the Fair, 2022 Food of the Fair" title and a cash prize.

Entrants of this year's Taste of the Fair were voted on throughout the Fair by the public since the fair has opened and all entries can be viewed via www.indianastatefair.com/p/state-fair/shopping/taste-of-the-fair. Creativity is key in this annual competition, as

vendors push the limits and think outside the box with their bold, creative ideas to vie for a coveted title.

The 2022 1st place Taste of the Fair title goes to Pickle Pizza, created by Swain's Concessions LLC, who will take home \$2,500 in prize money. This item features homemade dough with a dill ranch sauce topped with mozzarella cheese, dill seasoning and dill pickles.

2nd place was awarded to Pretzel Nacho Bites, created by Wilson Concessions, who will leave the fair with \$1,000. This item features Wilson Concessions pretzel bites covered in nacho cheese, sour cream, jalapenos, and bacon bits.

The 3rd place winner is Mexican Street Corn in a Cup, created by Wilson Concessions, who will receive \$500. This item features roasted sweet corn, mayonnaise, hot sauce, cheese, and Mexican spices.

Just a few days remain for fairgoers wanting to try this year's Taste of the Fair entries and more - a map can be downloaded by visiting www.indianastatefair.com/p/state-fair/food-shopping/taste-of-the-fair. The State Fair is open today through Sunday, Aug. 21.

THE GREAT INDIANA STATE FAIR

The Indiana State Fair is the state's largest multi-day event celebrating the Hoosier spirit

and agricultural heritage. These 18 days bring all communities together to celebrate all things Indiana and promote it to hundreds of thousands of people across the state, and beyond. Nationally recognized for offering great entertainment, showcasing youth and interactive agriculture educational programs, premiere facilities and a variety of unique, fun foods, the Indiana State Fair has been an annual attraction for generations of Hoosiers since 1852. This year's Indiana State Fair will take place July 29 - Aug. 21 (closed Mondays & Tuesdays). For information, visit www.indianastatefair.com

Meeting Notes

Board of Works and Public Safety Meeting

The City of Crawfordsville, Ind.
Aug. 17, 2022 at 10 a.m.
City Building 300 E Pike St Crawfordsville
I. Approval of the minutes from August 10, 2022.
II. Approval of the claims for the week of August 15, 2022
III. Old Business
IV. New Business
A. Application for a loan from the Crawfordsville Sidewalk Maintenance & Improvement Non-reverting Fund
B. Barry Lewis, Code Enforcement, with work order requests
· 1208 E. Main Street, owned by Claude & Stacey
· 1030 E. Chestnut Street, owned by Michael & Nancy Hook
· 507 E. College Street, owned by Earnest Inc
· 1100 W. Market Street, owned by Mark Sipe
· 1024 E. Chestnut Street, owned by Janis Hart
V. Miscellaneous
VI. Department Heads
VII. Adjournment

Meeting Notes

North Montgomery Community School Corporation

Monday, Aug. 22, 2022 at 6 p.m.
Regular School Board Meeting August 480 W 580 N Crawfordsville, Ind.
1. Work Session - 5:15 p.m.
1.1 Budget 2022-2023 Discussion
2. Hearing Before Commencement of Collective Bargaining
2.1 Public testimony relating to teacher compensation and collective bargaining
3. Call to Order
3.1 Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

- (please stand)
4. Public Comment
 - 4.1 Public Participation
 5. Consent Agenda
 - 5.1 Minutes
 - 5.2 Monthly Claims
 - 5.3 Personnel, Extra-Curricular, Field Trips, Facilities Usage, Contributions, Gifts, Superintendent Stipends
 - 5.4 Other
 - 5.5 Consent Vote
 6. Board Development - Collective Bargaining
 7. Action Items
 - 7.1 Approve Budget Advertisement for all Funds
 - 7.2 Approve Addition to Classified Staff Salary Schedule
 8. Other
 - 8.1 Update on Solar Panel Project
 9. Adjournment
 - 9.1 Adjourn



Membership In National FFA Organization Reaches All-Time High

As the importance of agriculture continues to be a focus throughout the world, students around the country understand the vital role it plays in everyday life. No more is this more evident than in the growth of membership in the National FFA Organization.

Yesterday, the National FFA Organization announced a record-high student membership number of 850,823, an increase of 15% from last year. In addition, chapter numbers increased by 178, resulting in 8,995 chapters in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Interest in FFA and agricultural education continues to grow as membership and the number of chapters increase. The top five student membership states are Texas, California, Georgia, North Carolina and Tennessee. This year, the organization has more than 132,700

Latino members, more than 47,000 Black members and more than 13,000 American Indian and Alaska Native members. Forty-three percent of the membership is female, and 50% is male, with .5% reporting as nonbinary, 4.7% undisclosed, and 1.2% unreported.

"Our FFA members are the future generation of leaders who make a difference in their communities as well as agriculture and other industries," said National FFA CEO Scott Stump. "As we continue to grow, we see the enthusiasm for agricultural education and FFA reflected in our membership."

The National FFA Organization is a school-based national youth leadership development organization of more than 850,000 student members as part of 8,995 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



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