

The Paper

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

50¢


CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

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11 DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS

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TODAY'S VERSE

Psalm 34:8

O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



Ryan Larrance smiled for our roving photographer. Thank you for your smile, Ryan!

THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 Local income tax rates are determined by county officials and provided to DOR for review regarding compliance with Indiana law. Below are the three counties impacted along with their new tax rates: Greene County: 0.0215 (increased from 0.0195), Montgomery County: 0.0265 (increased from 0.023), Perry County: 0.014 (decreased from 0.0181). These tax rates affect businesses with employees who live or work in any of these counties and have income tax withholdings.

2 Sagamore News Media is looking for talented sales people. Whether you sell by phone or in person, we want to talk with you. Hourly rates begin at \$15 per hour and only go up from there. If you have good sales skills, this might be the job you have been looking for. Apply today by e-mailing resume to jobs@thepaper24-7.com.

3 Linden Depot Museum will be open now until Jan. 1 on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. The complex is a winter wonderland with 12 lighted Christmas trees outside and six inside. There is no admission cost - join in for the Christmas holidays.



First-Ever V3CONNECT VR Career Lab To Launch In Crawfordsville

The City of Crawfordsville and Indianapolis-based immersive experience company VisionThree are pleased to announce the launch of V3CONNECT™ at Fusion 54. The lab will be the first of its kind in the U.S., paving the way for other communities seeking solutions to connect the next generation of the workforce with jobs and degree programs in their hometowns and beyond through the power of the metaverse.

The lab will consist of 24 customized VR kiosks, complete

with a VR headset, charging station, and touchscreen tablet. Branded fabric backdrops and an interactive touch screen will transform an area within Fusion 54 into a virtual world of career opportunities.

As a part of the launch, the City of Crawfordsville will also share its "V3 Main Street™" story, in which the V3 team will build a virtual city tour, showcasing the programs, benefits, and opportunities available in

See VR Page A5

This Is How We Save Money On Energy Bills

Let's hear it for the sun, the source of light that warms the planet, cheers hearts and provides one of the cheapest sources of energy. These days, harnessing solar power is proving to be "the cheapest fuel in history," according to International Energy Agency. With the cost of fossil fuels climbing, the IndyStar reported that Hoosiers are paying as much as \$15 per month more this year, and "residential customers at four out of Indiana's five big utilities



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 LWW, visit: www.lwvmontcoin.org or message to LWW, PO Box 101, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933.

are now paying an average electric bill that is higher than \$150 per month, according to data from the state's utility regulatory commission." Bloomberg reported that energy bills "are relentlessly climbing because

prices for the two biggest power-plant fuels -- natural gas and coal -- have surged in the last year." The fuel market has been throttled in part by the lingering effects of the pandemic as well as Russia's war in Ukraine causing uncertainty in Europe. In the U.S., summer demand climbed as much of the nation sweltered in a hot, humid summer.

Meanwhile, the cost of solar (and wind) power keeps dropping. Consider that in 2013 building solar and wind power sources dropped to about 81 cents a watt. Comparably, building a coal-powered plant was about \$3 a watt and natural gas was about a dollar. Every time the production of photovoltaic cells (PVCs) doubles, the cost to make them drops 20 percent. (Furthermore, efficiency, design and storage improve drastically.) What cost more than \$76 a watt in the late 1970s is now 74 cents a watt. Indeed, in 2022, Texans are on track to save \$11 billion this year through wind and solar power, according to a study by IdeaSmiths. They've reduced air pollutants - carbon dioxide,

See LWW Page A6

Community Christmas Dinner

A strong community allows us to endure. WE are strengthened by charitable works. This is a call to those who are looking for ways to give back to the community. Francis and Mount is hosting a Community Christmas Dinner on Sunday, Dec. 25 at 12 - 3 p.m. The dinner will be located at 1905 Lebanon Road at Family Baptist Family Life Center. Call 765-362-5650 or 765-266-2341 and leave a message for meal delivery. If you would like to donate time, money and/or supplies call 765-366-2341 or 765-376-1002 and leave a message.

A strong community allows us to endure. We are strengthened by charitable works. This is a call to those who are looking for ways to give back to the community.

Francis and Mount needs your help to continue this tradition. After years and sometimes

See DINNER Page A5

Answering Questions From Readers



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

I'm 65 years old and started working for my high school newspaper when I was a sophomore in 1972. If I'm counting on fingers and toes correctly, that means I've been involved with the craft for right at 50 years. During that time I've been fortunate to have a fair amount of reader reaction. Some good, some not so much. But I have never, not even

See TIM Page A6

The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:58 a.m.
SET: 5:19 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 52 °F
Low: 40 °F



Wacky Holiday Today
• Monkey Day
• Roast Chestnuts Day



What Happened On This Day
• 1903 The Wright brothers make their first attempt to fly with the Wright Flyer at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina
• 1972 Eugene Cernan is the last person to walk on the moon after completing the third and final extravehicular activity (EVA) of the Apollo 17 mission



Births On This Day
• 1503 Nostradamus French astrologer
• 1988 Vanessa Hudgens American actress and singer

Deaths On This Day
• 1799 George Washington American general, politician and 1st President of the U.S.
• 1943 John Harvey Kellogg American surgeon and co-creator of Corn flakes

HONEST HOOSIER

11 Montgomery County shopping days until Christmas. Here's a Christmas greeting from Butch, John, Karen, Rick, Kelsey, Jacob, Melissa, Tim and all the friendly folks at The Paper!



TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Are you a "shoveler?" - put down your fork in between bites of food and chew your food thoroughly. 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

None

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



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INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

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THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Want To Go?

As you are looking for ways to give back and serve your community this season without emptying your wallet, please give blood. HHSB is hosting a blood drive on Thursday, Jan. 5, 2023 at 9:45 a.m. - 2.15 p.m. at HHSB - Crawfordsville East branch 1400 Darlington Ave, Crawfordsville, IN.

TODAY'S QUOTE

"How many observe Christ's birthday! How few, His precepts!" - Benjamin Franklin

TODAY'S JOKE

Why was the snowman looking through the carrots? He was picking his nose!

7 DAY FORECAST

40/52 BREEZY & RAINY, HEAVY AT TIMES WED	41/45 RAIN ENDS EARLY, CLOUDY THU	30/37 COLDER WITH SNOW SHOWERS FRI	25/29 SNOW SHOWERS SAT	19/32 FLURRIES, PEAKS OF SUN SUN	22/32 CHANCE OF SNOW MON	20/29 CHILLY TUE
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Consumer Alert: Products Recalled In November



Hoosiers, be on the lookout for the following products that were recently recalled. Consumers should take full advantage of the solutions available for those who purchased the recalled items, according to the state.

"The holidays should be a time of togetherness, not a time to worry about defected products," Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita said. "Hoosiers need to know if purchased items are flawed or have the potential to hurt them or their families. That's why consumer protection is one of my office's top priorities. If you have difficulty finding a solution for your recalled product, call my office for help."

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, the following consumer products were recalled in November:

- Bolt Foldable Children's Scooters from Anker Play Products
- Tangame Busy Toy Houses from Tangame Toys
- Navy Blue Canvas Shoes from Clarks Americas
- Stashables Children's Ramp from BS Interactive
- MYX I, MYX II and MYX II Plus Exercise Bicycles from Myx
- RadWagon 4 Electric Cargo Bikes from Rad Power Bikes

- FUUL Lamp Oil Products from FHS Retail
- Black+Decker® Garment Steamers from Empower Brands
- Tora Portable Power Charging Stations from Power Plus
- AirWick Fresh Linen and Fresh Water Aerosol Air Fresheners from Reckitt
- Generac Portable Generators from CPSC Reannounces
- Lighting Products from Hunter Fan
- Single-to-Double Strollers from Mockingbird
- Infant's Yellow Footed Fleece Pajamas from The William Carter Company
- Children's Rainbow Stacking Toys from Professor Puzzle
- MATRYX, AXYS and Pro-Ride Snowmobiles from Polaris Industries
- Children's Clothing Sets from Bentex
- Indigo Branded Bear Mugs from Indigo Books & Music
- Toddler's Stainless Steel Bottles and Cups from Green Sprouts

If you believe you purchased a recalled product, stop using it and check its recall notice (all products linked above). Follow the notice's instructions, including where to return the product, how to get the product fixed, how to dispose of the product, how to receive a refund for the product, or what steps must be taken to receive a replacement product.

To view recalls issued prior to November, visit the Consumer Protection Safety Commission website at www.cpsc.gov/Recalls.

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch Running For Governor

By Whitney Downard

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch threw her hat into the ring for governor in 2024 Monday morning, putting an end to speculation and joining U.S. Sen. Mike Braun and Fort Wayne businessman Eric Doden in the race for the Republican nomination.

"I'm very proud of (the Gov. Eric Holcomb) administration and the work we've done in terms of creating jobs," Crouch said. "We have had a record amount of investment in Indiana... we can unlock even more and give better opportunities to every Hoosier across our state."

In a video launching her campaign, Crouch appealed to primary voters by promising to uphold public safety laws, keep parents involved in the classroom and condemning President Joe Biden for "wide open" southern borders that encouraged drug trafficking.

In particular, she highlighted a vote during the special session that "toughened" Indiana's abortion laws "to protect the unborn," in which she voted to require an affidavit for rape and incest victims seeking an abortion. The House overturned that requirement in a later vote.

Crouch started her career in politics in Vanderburgh County, first as county auditor and then as county commissioner. Spurred by the state's dismal financial condition at the time, including delayed payments to educational institutions and local governments like hers, Crouch decided to run for state representative and won in 2005.

"I wanted to be a part of turning this state around and over the past 17 years we have done just that," Crouch said. "Today we have a balanced budget, we have low taxes and we have healthy surpluses... The next chapter of Indiana's history... is going to be quality of life."

That means continuing to grow the economy, investing in Indiana's education system, strengthening families and

communities, and transforming government – all pillars of her campaign for governor, Crouch said.

"It used to be that people followed businesses but today, businesses are following people. And people want to live where they have that quality of life," Crouch said.

Pivotal to that would be improving Hoosier health, including mental health and addiction treatment as well as opportunities for Hoosiers with disabilities.

"Because if we want to have a legacy of excellence in this state, we have to take all of those Hoosiers and lift them up," Crouch said. "Only when we do that will we be able to measure our success as a state."

Crouch's path to Lt. Gov.

Throughout Crouch's political career, increasing Hoosier access to government has played a role. While in Vanderburgh County, she pushed to publish meeting minutes online and livestream commissioner meetings.

In the General Assembly, Crouch highlighted her legislative efforts to create a one-stop shop for businesses registering with the Secretary of State's office and expand electronic meetings for government bodies.

"But I think probably the bill that I remember most... was a bill that I introduced to stop the governor from rolling out the welfare eligibility modernization system," Crouch said.

Then-Gov. Mitch Daniels, wanting to reduce cost and paperwork, proposed moving welfare applications entirely online, introducing the new system to counties starting in 2008. However, Crouch and Sen. Vaneta Becker – both of Evansville – pushed the governor to halt the rollout, citing numerous problems and disrupted access.

"(Welfare modernization) sounds great unless you're poor or elderly or disabled. You may not know how to use the computer or you may not have access to a computer," Crouch said. "It

was probably the most difficult thing I ever did because (I was) a Republican legislator introducing a bill against my Republican governor... quite honestly, I was the political leper for that season."

After former Gov. Mike Pence became vice president, then-Lt. Gov. Eric Holcomb stepped up as the GOP nominee for the state's highest office. For his lieutenant governor, Holcomb selected Crouch, then the state auditor and a former Evansville representative. Holcomb and Crouch won their election in 2016, clinching re-election in 2020.

Holcomb is term limited and cannot seek a third consecutive term as governor.

As lieutenant governor, Crouch serves as the Senate president and oversees four agencies: the State Department of Agriculture, the Housing and Community Development Authority, the Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) and the Indiana Destination Development Corporation.

Through OCRA, the state has spent \$268 million connecting 73,000 Hoosier families and businesses, Crouch said, allowing more of rural Indiana to participate in a changing economy.

"Rural Indiana is our next great economic frontier," Crouch said. "But we have to unlock that potential by having rural Indiana connected."

Challenges for the Crouch campaign
Indiana is one of 18 states to never elect a female governor, nor has a female candidate ever won the Republican nomination for governor. On the other side of the aisle, Democrat Jill Long Thompson ran, but lost, in 2008.

Nearly every other executive office has had a female leader, including Crouch's current office, where she is the fourth female lieutenant governor. But for Crouch, that wasn't a defining feature of her campaign.

"I've never defined myself as a woman; I've defined myself as a hard worker... so I

don't confine myself in that manner," Crouch said. "I truly believe that Hoosiers are looking for the right kind of leader – whether that leader is a woman or whether that leader is a man."

The average age of governors at the time of their election is 50, with the oldest being James D. Williams at 69, according to the 2006 book *The Governors of Indiana*. Crouch would be 72 at inauguration, while Braun would be 70. For comparison, Holcomb was elected at the age of 48.

"I'm proud of my age; I have boundless energy and I will outwork all of my opponents," Crouch said, rebuffing any criticisms.

Crouch faces a tough road to win the Republican nomination, with two other candidates formally in the race and rumors that others may still join.

"I'm focused on my race and what I'm going to be able to do and what I want to do for Hoosiers," Crouch said. "It's a long way from now to the election and I will continue to be lieutenant governor and be preparing myself for that next step."

Last week, Braun released results from an internal poll showing him up 37 points over Crouch in a hypothetical matchup among Republican voters. Though Braun hasn't formally announced his intention to run, submitting a filing to create a campaign finance committee could have been an attempt to clear the field of other competitors.

Doden became the first to announce his candidacy for governor last year, releasing the race's first ad campaign last month shortly after the November elections.

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WABASH COLLEGE

FULLFILLMENT AND FRONT DESK COORDINATOR

Wabash College seeks a dependable and motivated individual to provide front line support at Lilly Library. The Fulfillment and Front Desk Coordinator oversees resource sharing and works closely with partner libraries to ensure timely access to materials. The coordinator also is responsible for ensuring a high level of service to library users by hiring, training, and supervising student employees. This position requires tact and diplomacy when working with others, as well as the ability to work both independently and as part of a collegial team. Our library provides a place for research, learning, and reflection as well as collaboration in a warm and inviting setting.

To learn more about this position and how to apply, please visit the College's employment website at www.wabash.edu/employment.

Wabash College, a liberal arts college for men, seeks faculty and staff who are committed to providing quality engagement with students, high levels of academic challenge and support, and meaningful experiences that prepare students for life and leadership among diverse populations around the globe. Wabash is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications from persons of all backgrounds.

WABASH COLLEGE

ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR FOR CENTER HALL & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Wabash College invites applications for the position of Academic Administrative Coordinator for Center Hall and International Studies. The position supports work done by departments, faculty and students in Center Hall and the International Center. Review of applications will begin on Jan 3.

To learn more about this position and how to apply, please visit the College's website at www.wabash.edu/employment.

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Indiana Basketball Hall Of Fame Announces 21st Women's Induction Class



The Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame Board of Directors announces the 2023 Women's Induction Class to be honored on Saturday, April 29, 2023.

Women's basketball in Indiana has always seen the top players in the nation, historically. The 2023 Induction class of the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame is no different. The board of directors of the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame proudly announces their 2023 women's induction class, to be honored at the 21st annual Women's Awards Banquet on Saturday, April 29, 2023.

Kasia (McClendon) Campbell was a 1993 graduate of Gary West Side, averaging 17.4 points, 5.5 assists, and 8.5 steals a game her senior season, while helping her team to a 24-1 record. Her Gary West Side teams won 3 sectionals, 2 regionals, and 3 conference titles while she earned team MVP her sophomore, junior and senior seasons. Campbell was an Indiana All-Star, Indiana East/West All Star, and Gary Post-Tribune Player of the Year. She continued her playing career at Southern Illinois where she set the league and school record for steals. She was a 3 time MVC Defensive Player of the Year, and 2 time 1st Team All MVC. She played for one year after graduation in Tel Aviv Israel. She was a 2005 inductee into the Southern Illinois HOF, and a 2018 member of the IB-HOF Silver Anniversary Team. She has been a case manager for 20 years, and a real estate broker for 4.

Bruce Dockery earned 502 wins as a long time coach at Evansville Reitz Memorial High School. While at Reitz Memorial, Dockery was SIAC Coach of the Year 8 times, District Coach of the Year 5 times, won 8 conference, 14 sectional, 6 regional, 2 semi state, and 1 state runner up honor. In 2011 his team went 28-1 and won the 3A State Championship over Benton Central 58-50 in overtime. He was a 1969 graduate of

21st Women's Induction Class

Name; High School; Graduation
Kasia (McClendon) Campbell; Gary West Side; 1993
Bruce Dockery; Evansville Bosse; 1969
Katie Douglas; Perry Meridian; 1997
Jennifer (Marlow) Drudge; Rushville; 1995
Ruth (Riley) Hunter; North Miami; 1997
Sheila (McMillen) Keller; Rochester; 1995
Diane (Hoereth) Metz; Roncalli; 1986
Charmonique Stallworth; South Bend Washington; 1992
Lisa (Shepherd) Stidham; Richmond; 1997
Denise McClanahan - Silver Medal; Perry Meridian; 1981

Evansville Bosse, while also attending Charleston Southern and University of Southern Indiana.

Dockery was inducted into the Reitz Memorial Hall of Fame in 2020 and in 2021, he was honored with the Hoosier Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Excellence Award.

Katie Douglas was a 1997 Indiana All-Star, having played at Perry Meridian High School. In her senior season, Douglas averaged 19.3 points while amassing 177 rebounds and 118 steals. She was named team MVP, 1st Team All State, All County, and All Conference, while her team collected the sectional and regional title her senior season. After graduating from high school, Douglas went on to help lead Purdue to the 1999 NCAA National Championship. Douglas was honored to play for the USA Basketball Team. She was Big Ten Player of the Year both her junior and senior seasons, along with earning Kodak All American, and Purdue Female Athlete of the Year honors both years. She was a 2nd Team Academic All-American her junior year, and a 1st Team Academic All-American her senior season. Douglas was the 10th pick in the WNBA draft, played in the WNBA for 14 seasons earning multiple All Star game honors and 2009 All-WNBA honors, while also playing summer basketball in Europe during the WNBA off season. Her number 23 was retired by the Connecticut Sun. Currently, Douglas is the owner of Orangetheory fitness franchise in Greenwood.

Jennifer (Marlow) Drudge was not only a standout basketball player at Rushville, but also a 1994 State Tennis Doubles Runner-up. Graduating from Rushville in 1995, Drudge scored a career 1,306 points, averaging over 20 points per game her senior season. She was selected as 1st team All sectional, Regional and All-State

her senior season, while also being named an Indiana All-Star. Drudge played collegiately at Butler where right away, she was honored on the All-Newcomer Team her freshman season. Her junior and senior seasons she was named 1st Team All Conference and All-Defensive Team as a senior. Drudge was the Head Coach at Carmel from 2001-2004 and an assistant with the Greyhounds in 00-01 and again from 2009-13. She was inducted into the Butler Hall of Fame in 2013, while being named to their All-Centennial team. She has taught Chemistry at Carmel High School since 2000, while being their department chair since 2010.

Ruth (Riley) Hunter was USA Today Honorable Mention and a 1st Team All-State member in 1997, while leading North Miami to a 20-1 record her senior season. She holds the school record for rebounds per game, season, and career; blocks in a season and career, along with points per game in a season and career. She followed her high school playing days by going to Notre Dame where she graduated with a B.A. in psychology and Exec MBA (both Summa Cum Laude). Ruth was a 3 time Big East Defensive Player of the Year, and a 2 time Academic All-American. Her senior year, Notre Dame won the NCAA Championship, where she averaged 18.7 points a game that year, and was National Player of the Year, Final Four MVP, Naismith Player of the Year, NCAA Verizon Academic All-American of the Year, and Sports Illustrated Player of the Year. She was the 5th overall pick in the WNBA Draft and MVP of the 2003 finals. She is the first player to be MVP of the NCAA and WNBA Finals. After two WNBA Championship seasons in 2003 and 2006 with the Detroit Shock, Ruth continues to wear many hats including being the 1st Vice

President of WNBPA, United Nations Foundation Spokesperson, Share Our Strength Spokesperson, and on the Notre Dame Monogram Club Board of Directors. Since 2002, she was a radio and tv analyst for Notre Dame Women's Basketball, since 2018 is a color analyst for Miami Heat tv/radio, and 2019 to present is an analyst for the ACC Network. She was inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in 2019, and in 2006 was named to ESPN.com's 25 greatest Women's college basketball players of the last 25 years.

Sheila (McMillen) Keller led the Rochester Zebras with 28.2 points her senior season, which ranked #2 in Indiana that year. Her senior season stats earned her All Conference, South Bend Area Player of the Year, Parade All-American, a Nike All-American, North/South All-Star, and a member of the Indiana All-Star team. She holds the all-time scoring record, for boys and girls, at Rochester with 1,696 career points. She was a member of the Hall of Fame's 2020 Silver Anniversary Team. Following her time at Rochester, she went to Notre Dame, where her senior year was highlighted by being named team captain, MVP, Francis Patrick O'Connor Award (best displays total embodiment and inspiration to their team), and being named to the Big East All Tourney and Academic All-Star Team. She was also a participant in the ESPN College 3-point Championship. Sheila is currently a Varsity Assistant at Carmel High School, after numerous other coaching positions since graduation. She is also a black belt in taekwondo.

Diane (Hoereth) Metz, was 1986 Indianapolis Star's "City Athlete of the Year" as a senior on the Roncalli basketball team that went 22-5 where she averaged 17 points and 12.5 rebounds a game and were Sectional, Regional, and Semi-State Champions. She was 1st team All-State, All-Metro, along with being named Marion County Coaches of GSA Outstanding Senior Athlete. She was a member of the 2011 Silver Anniversary team, along with being the Roncalli Athlete of the Year in 1896. Diane was also a standout volleyball player where she was a 3 time All City and All-State award winner. After graduating from

Roncalli, she went on to play collegiate volleyball at Texas, IUPUI and Indiana where she holds the career record for most matches with 20 or more kills (17). Since 1991, Diane has worked for Aldi, Inc. where she is currently the Director of Administration in Mt. Juliet, Tennessee.

Charmonique Stallworth was on the 1992 historic South Bend Washington squad that was the first in school history to win a Sectional, where she averaged 26.3 points and 10.5 rebounds that season. She was an Indiana All-Star along with being named to the 2017 Silver Anniversary Team. Charmonique graduated from South Bend Washington in 1992, and continued her academic and athletic endeavor at Northern Illinois University where she averaged 23.1 points per game her senior season, which is 2nd highest in school history. She holds the school record of scoring 19 baskets in one game and sits 10th on the career scoring list at Northern Illinois with 1,415 points. Charmonique was a 2001 inductee into the South Bend Washington Hall of Fame, and a 2015 inductee into the Northern Illinois Athletics Hall of Fame. Since 2010, she has worked in MSD Warren Township as a Special Education Teacher and Department Chair at Creston Middle School.

Lisa (Shepherd) Stidham was the 1997 Miss Basketball, an Indiana All-Star, Gatorade Player of the Year, Nike WBCA All-American, and Parade All-American 1st team, in her senior season at Richmond High School. As a senior, Lisa averaged 29.9 points per game while accumulating 132 rebounds, 80 assists, and 87 steals during that campaign. She holds the career scoring record for boys or girls at Richmond High School with 2,140 career points. Following her playing days at Richmond she went to Penn State University where she was named to the Big Ten All-Freshman team. She was named 3 time Academic All-Big Ten and 2 time All-Big Ten honoree. Following playing at Penn State, she was an assistant coach at North Central from 2011-2020 where they were the 2012 State Champions. Lisa has been an activities director in different nursing homes and has been the owner of Dream Makers

Basketball since 2008, and co-owner of S & S Elite Sports since 2016. Stidham is currently on the Hamilton Southeastern coaching staff.

The Indiana Fever Silver Medal Award, including induction for contributions other than as an Indiana high school basketball player or Indiana high school basketball coach, is presented to Denise McClanahan. With over 35 years of experience as a high school coach, AAU director and coach and noted for creation and leadership of Lady Mac summer leagues, McClanahan was Director of Lady Mac high school summer league for 34 years and director for 33 years of Jr. Lady Mac middle school league. Over the years, these leagues have provided opportunities for countless central Indiana girls players, recently involving 700 players per summer (36 high school teams and 38 middle school teams). As director, she schedules teams and officials for approximately 400 games per summer. As a high school coach, a career record of 347-292 including six sectional titles, one regional title, three Marion County championships and was twice Marion County Coach of the Year and 2002 Indiana All-Star assistant coach. AAU involvement includes creation of Lady Mac AAU Club as well as coaching roles with Indiana's Finest, Indiana Faith and Indiana Elite programs, coaching teams to numerous national appearances including 2002 17U AAU National Champions with Indiana's Finest. She also created and ran the High Intensity Basketball Camps. A member of two Marion County championship teams as a player, at Perry Meridian H.S., she also played at Central Michigan, Butler and IUPUI.

The Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame's 21st Annual Women's Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2023. The day's events will include a free reception at the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame Museum that afternoon and a banquet that evening at the Primo Banquet Hall in Indianapolis. Reservations will be available online, over the phone, or through mail order in early 2023. Call the Hall at 765-529-1891, visit www.hoopshall.com or email kayla@hoopshall.com for more information.

WE DO LOANS!

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Roachdale: 765-522-1000

Russellville: 765-435-2620

Crawfordsville:

South Blvd: 765-362-9555

Downtown: 765-362-4900

Tri-County Bank NMLS: #422911  

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Join Whitlock Place for a fun Craft, Breakfast and pictures with Mrs. Claus...

Breakfast with Mrs. Claus

Saturday, December 17th 9:00 a.m. till 11:00 a.m.

@ Masonic Cornerstone Event Center
221 S. Washington St.
Crawfordsville IN

Tickets \$5.00 individual/ \$15.00 family package (up to 4)

All proceeds benefit Montgomery County Civitan International

Contact Kelley Mercer (765-364-1880)
at Whitlock Place Assisted Living to purchase tickets

WWW.THEPAPER24-7.COM

VR From Page A1

Crawfordsville. Joining the City in building out the virtual talent pipeline ecosystem will be a range of local industry and business content partners, whose day-in-the-life stories will reach not only lab users in Crawfordsville, but in every lab site launched across the state and beyond.

Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton says, "This is a groundbreaking moment, not just for Crawfordsville as a city, but for the state of Indiana as a whole. We are proud to be leading the way in solving challenges for both talent pipeline development and the brain drain."

Also aligning to bring degree program stories to V3CONNECT™ are partners at Ivy Tech Lafayette, featuring day-in-the-life experiences of students and alumni in key degree programs. For all content partners, V3CONNECT™ offers the ability to share immersive experiences at tradeshows, recruiting fairs, and beyond, expanding the reach of these opportunities to meet students where they

are. "We very much appreciate our partnership with Mayor Barton and the city of Crawfordsville," says the Ivy Tech Lafayette Chancellor, Dr. Aaron Baute. "Virtual reality is an awesome and interactive technology that can help support workforce development and industry attraction. Initiatives like this one are why Ivy Tech has expanded its offerings in the community bringing Early Childhood, Cybersecurity, and Certified Nursing Assistant to Montgomery County. We look forward to adding additional programs in partnership with the community."

Students from area high schools, colleges, and anyone else in the community interested in experiencing the technology, will have ample opportunities through scheduled visits and community events.

"It is exciting to have access to technology that links a student's interests to employment in Montgomery County! The V3CONNECT™ virtual reality platform will certainly appeal to

the students," shares Dr. Colleen Moran, Superintendent - North Montgomery School Corporation.

The Fusion 54 lab site will launch in late January 2023, with associated content partner experiences being built in parallel. These experiences will be available not only in Crawfordsville, but in every lab site launched anywhere in the state of Indiana and beyond.

"As the V3CONNECT™ program continues to gain momentum and visibility, Crawfordsville will be seen nationwide not just talking the talk, but walking the walk," says VisionThree CEO Heather Jackson. "We're thrilled to be partnering with the Mayor and his team to officially launch the program."

For more information on VisionThree and to learn about how your community, company, or institution can get involved with V3CONNECT™, please contact Dawn Lang, VP of Strategic Partnerships, at dawn.lang@visionthree.com.

DINNER From Page A1

decades of service, we have several volunteers who would like to pass the torch to future community servants. These jobs include delivery drivers, prep cooks, starch and veg preparation cooks, delivery meal assembly, buffet attendant and clean up crew.

Last year, Isaac Weliver trained with Former Chairperson and Culinary GodMother, Joyce



Fitzwater. Joyce served as Chairperson from 2010-2021.

This year, Isaac has the honor of serving the community as Chairperson of the Christmas Dinner. His mother, Christie (Wil-

son) Weliver transitioned from this life to the next on Christmas 2017. He volunteers on Christmas in remembrance of her.

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LWV From Page A1

nitrogen oxides, and sulfur oxide – and improved water usage in the state, the study said. (Carbon emissions are closely related to high asthma and poor health outcomes.) It's not just Texas. Great Britain built extensive off-shore windfarms that have created record low prices for that nation. One Little Rock, Ark. supplier has such a surplus of wind energy they offer the lowest wholesale prices in the US. It could happen here. Ten years ago, James Pethokoukis of the American Enterprise Institute wrote that fracking would allow natural gas to be a bridge to solar power, giving way to far healthier sources of power.

Here we are, at an inflection point. Renewable energy is no longer "alternative" power. It's part of our nutritious energy breakfast. It has detractors, but the arguments against renewables are crumbling. It's just fiscally more responsible to adopt solar and wind energy sources and incorporate them into a comprehensive energy plan. Furthermore, renewables offer energy independence and reduce carbon emissions.

In spite of everything going for green, some remain reticent to turn away from fossil fuels. Arguments include the need for firm backup energy, loss of farmland and sound issues.

If we had a 100 percent solar-wind energy grid, what happens when weather is whimsical? Winds calm, clouds persist. In seasons of high heating demand, Indiana often sits under still skies or a grey dome. Presently, storage options for solar and wind energy are limited – though that technology too is chang-

ing – so from where will power flow on a hot night? What are our options for firm, clean energy sources Hoosiers wonder? States have explored their options, including natural gas combined with carbon sequestration (putting the emissions underground), geothermal power plants and nuclear plants. On the journey to a reliable, renewable grid, which of these are prudent bridges for the future?

For those concerned that energy production will shrink land in America's breadbasket, Yale's 360 reported in July that new configurations will enable more efficient "agrisolar" or "agrivoltaics" farm synergies. Some configurations are upright, bifacial panels that capture the sun's energy when the sun is lower on the horizon, like morning and afternoon, when demand is high. In Germany, farmers grow hay between these panels. The configuration has reduced the need for "peaker" or "clean firm" energy sources.

Some other solar plants that track the sun are used in France's wine country and Japan. These agrisolar plants meld best with diverse agriculture products such as fruits and vegetables or with sheep farming. In California, the Netherlands and Australia, compact, flat configurations on the ground use the heat sink from the earth to improve efficiency. In addition, evolving technology has increased the amount of energy that can be harvested by a third while using half the acreage of 10 years ago. With the variety of options for designing a solar plant, each community can determine which

type best meets its needs. It will no longer need to be a question of "no solar" but which design?

The two other concerns about moving to solar and other renewable energy sources are the end-of-life for panels (and wind turbines) as well as sound production. The Harvard Business Review predicted about 315,000 metric tons of waste by 2050 would clog landfills because newer panels have radically improved efficiency and cost so much less. That tonnage counted for residential solar panels alone.

Notably, HBR's piece did not object to the implementation of solar energy, nor to its pace. Rather it called for a comprehensive recycling cost plan similar to the EU's which apportions the financial burden of recycling and waste management to the manufacturers before landfills are clogged or before we have "orphan" waste from companies no longer in business. (In the EU, the cost is distributed by the market share held by companies.)

As for sound concerns, we need context and perspective. Yes, there is sound, but what kind, how much and is there a cost-benefit trade-off? Though solar panels create little to no sound, the inverters that convert solar power from DC to AC voltage do have a tonality that some states and municipalities regulate. Firms such as Elephant Energy and Acen-Tech advise that there are simple solutions based on the placement of inverters. One key study in Massachusetts – a state that regulates decibels in residential areas – found that the

noise from panels themselves is "negligible and becomes inaudible from 50-100 feet away." The inverters and fans that cool them make about 65 decibels of an intense tone that becomes inaudible within 500 feet. If the inverter is placed centrally within the solar farm or near an industrial side, it becomes inaudible. (By comparison, an average human conversation is about 60 dBA and the decibels in a thermal energy plant, such as a coal-fired plant, are between 90-95 dBA. Prolonged exposure, such as an 8-hour workday, at 80 dBA or higher leads to irreparable hearing loss.) In short, solar farms produce decibel levels equivalent to human conversation or a vacuum, which ebb based on proximity to the inverter, fan or panels.

While acknowledging the concerns, it's also important to note that renewable energy initiatives funded by the Inflation Reduction Act, will save average U.S. households up to \$220 annually on electricity bills while protecting against volatile fossil fuel price swings. The low hum of cost savings and better health are worth the change. Furthermore, our nation will improve its aging energy infrastructure and edge in global leadership.

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.

TIM From Page A1

close, had the kind of reaction that the trip to Israel created. And a good many of you have asked questions – so let me do two things here. First, I'll try to answer some of them today. Second, if any church or community group would like to hear first-hand the details of the trip, just e-mail me and I will be happy to visit with you and share. I'm trying to organize the photos now into some sort of organized manner that doesn't resemble Uncle Bob's vacation slide show from 1964. No promises though!

More importantly, let's get to your questions:

Several of you asked if I found any answers? At first I wasn't sure what you meant. But one reader from Sheridan mentioned a column I wrote as we were leaving that mentioned the world being in a funk and that the Holy Land might be the best place to start looking for answers.

The short answer is, I don't know. When we were in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and I was losing patience with another group that had cut in front of us, I realized my trials and tribulations were absolutely nothing compared to what Jesus of Nazareth went through. And after more reflection on that, maybe handling things with more grace is part of the answer . . . and, for me at least, the biggest challenge.

The most often asked question was, what was it like to walk in the footsteps of Jesus and the Apostles? In a word, unreal. On the last day of the tour we were walking the path Christ followed when He was forced to carry His cross. Our guide pointed to a spot on a stone wall where Jesus reportedly leaned and placed His hand. We all did the same. And when it was my turn, the idea that I was physically doing the exact same thing the Son of God did, albeit in much different circumstances, physically impacted me. It made me think of how tired He must have been. I could not begin to imagine the pain He was in after the torture He endured. Nor could I wrap my head around carrying a wooden cross that weighed a few hundred pounds.

Humbling? Overwhelming? Thankful? I work with words for a living and even more than a week after the fact am still not sure how to describe it.

What was my favorite part of the trip? Many of

you asked that. It's hard to pick out one thing. Hermon Mount, the place where Jesus told Peter he would build His church on that rock, was very big (no pun intended). Masada, the fortress on top of a mountain where a thousand Jews chose death rather than surrender to slavery under the Romans, was impactful. But the three sites – the birth, the death and the resurrection – would have to be at the top of my list.

Conversely, several asked if there were any disappointments?

Sure. I wish we would have had lots more time. But more than that, it was disappointing to learn that there is some healthy disagreement on what happened where. Scholars and archaeologists are at odds on many of the locations – like the exact spot of the crucifixion. It's certainly understandable. Two thousand years have gone by and everything from the landscape to governments to cultures and even written records have changed.

Understandable, no doubt. But still disappointing.

Would we go back, was another question echoed from many? No doubt. However, I would want to do it differently if we did. The tour worked well for us as first-time visitors. It gives a very broad view of a lot of things. But if we were able to go back, I'd rather be able to spend more time with fewer places – especially the three favorites mentioned above.

The second-biggest question I got was how did this impact my faith?

I guess the easiest answer is that it made me realize how much work I have to do. I mentioned before we left that believing wasn't the problem, it was prioritizing time for that belief. I hope to do better in that regard. Perhaps more importantly, I understand why I should.

For those ready to move on to other topics, this is the final planned column on the Holy Land pilgrimage. Thank you from the very bottom of my heart for so many of you coming along with me on this trip. God bless!

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.

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