

▶ TODAY'S VERSE

Mark 8:38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

▶ FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



Carrie Clements smiles brightly for one of our roving photographers. Thank you for your smile Carrie!

▶ THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 Did you know this is the week to focus on sleep? During the days following the change to daylight savings time, we face a 30 percent increased risk of heart attack, according to studies cited by the Centers for Disease Control. The studies also show that fatal car accidents increase after we spring forward. To bring light to these alarming statistics and encourage better sleep habits, the week of March 12-18, 2023, is recognized as Sleep Awareness Week. However, sleep deprivation is a serious problem year-round. Drowsy driving is linked to more than 6,000 fatal crashes a year and nurses who work 12-hour shifts make three times as many medical errors than those who work eight-hour shifts (as reported by the Sleep Foundation). And, according to the CDC, a third of adults report getting less than the recommended amount of sleep, which for those between the ages of 18 and 60 is seven or more hours per night.

2 The Indiana Department of Transportation announces County Road 100 W. over I-74 will close on or after Monday, March 27 for bridge work, near Crawfordsville. This is about one-mile west of U.S. 231. Crews will also be restricting both driving lanes of I-74 at the bridge. It's expected to reopen after early October, weather permitting. The restrictions are also expected to end after that time. The detour follows U.S. 231 to Co. Rd. 400 N. to Co. Rd. 100 S. to N. 400 N. to U.S. 231 and back to Co. Rd. 100.

3 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. There is no cap on earnings and multiple people in the past have earned \$50,000, \$60,000 and beyond - all the way into six figures. Sagamore News Media owns newspapers in Noblesville and Crawfordsville and feature award-winning work every day. Come be part of our team! Apply today by e-mailing resume to jobs@thepaper24-7.com. We can't wait to talk with you!

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A House Is Not A Home



BUTCH DALE
Columnist

When my wife and I travel to Lafayette, we often take the "back road" through Stockwell to Gladden's Corner and then northwest up the "Old Concord Road." It's a much more scenic drive with many curves, passing old farmhouses and a few newer homes along the way. Yes, it takes a few minutes longer than traveling up US 52, but we are never in a hurry, and we enjoy seeing several beautiful horses grazing in pastures along the route. About a mile before we reach the city limits, just past a small cemetery located on a curve, there are two fabulous homes...

the kind of homes that people can only envision in their dreams, located next to each other in a quarter mile stretch of roadway. The first home is landscaped with small trees surrounding it, with a large man-made pond behind. The second home is also beautifully landscaped, with a tall, elegant fence encircling the property, and a locked gate at the paved driveway. Both homes have magnificent outbuildings that likely cost more than most houses built today. When we pass these two homes at night, we can see numerous security lights to ward off intruders. I would imagine each home and property would be in the million dollar range in today's market.

On a drive to Danville a few weeks ago to see a high school basketball game, I passed by homes even larger than these two...mansions with perhaps fifteen to twenty rooms, situated on sprawling and well-manicured lawns, with garages larger than my house. And inside I can picture in my mind large luxurious rooms,

▶ See BUTCH Page A5

Mayor To Meet With The Public



Mayor Todd Barton

Continuing a practice he started since first taking office, Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton will once again make himself available to meet with the public.

This month's meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, March 30 at 4 - 5 p.m. at the Mayor's Office Conference Room.

The Mayor's Office is located at 300 E Pike St. The purpose is to open discussions with concerned citizens about anything to do with the city of Crawfordsville.

ATHENS ARTS

Upcoming Calligraphy Class At Athens Arts

A calligraphy class is being held at the Athens Arts next month. Calligraphy is the art of decorative handwriting. It is a skill that can beautify almost anything from creating invitations, decorating an art journal, to enhancing a signature. In parts of the world, calligraphy has long been a major art form equal to sculpture or painting.

The instructor will provide all supplies needed to learn calligraphy, an elegant writing form. We encourage you to join this fun class and learn something new!

Class will be on Thursday, April 13. Choose either an afternoon session (1 - 3 p.m.) or an evening session (6 - 8

p.m.). Class is open to anyone 12 years and older. Cost is \$35. Classes meet at Athens Arts, 216 E. Main Street, Crawfordsville, IN.

To reserve a spot for the April 13 class, stop by Athens Arts Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or call 765.362.7455 during business hours to pay via credit card.

Come be PART of it! This project in part is made possible through funds from The Arts Federation (TAF) via the Biden-Harris Administration's American Rescue Plan (ARP) allocation to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).



HHSB Hosting Blood Drive

Hoosier Heartland State Bank is once again hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 9:45 a.m. - 2:15 p.m. The blood drive will be held at the HHSB - Crawfordsville South branch 1661 US Highway 231 South, Crawfordsville. Help make a difference and donate!

Blood is unique in our healthcare ecosystem. It cannot be synthetically made, meaning volunteers are the only way to provide blood to those in need. And the demand is great: every

▶ See HHSB Page A5

▶ HONEST HOOSIER

I always used to think if my wife and I were talking about diapers it might be something kind of kinky. At my age now, I've learned it's anything but.



▶ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

In addition to keeping track of what you eat, also determine how and why you eat to try and find ways to cut back. 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

Jerry McBee

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



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▶ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Show Us Those Smiles!

Are you a proud parent or grandparent? Got a great photo of your loved one? E-mail it to news@thepaper24-7.com along with the pertinent info (and your contact information so we can reach you if we have questions). C'mon, let's show off as many bright and smiling faces as we can and make clear exactly why Montgomery County is such a great place to raise a family!

▶ TODAY'S QUOTE

"There are good ships and there are wood ships, the ships that sail the sea. But the best ships are friendships, and may they ever be." - Irish Toast

▶ TODAY'S JOKE

Who was the roundest knight at the round table? Sir Cumference! He at too much Pi! (And happy Pi Day!)



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:55 a.m.
SET: 7:50 p.m.



High/Low
Temperatures
High: 39 °F
Low: 25 °F



- Crowdfunding Day
- Pi Day



- 1991 The Birmingham Six are released. The 6 men had been wrongly sentenced to life imprisonment in 1975 for the IRA Birmingham pub bombings.
- 1910 The Lakeview Gusher causes the largest accidental oil spill in history. The spill lasted 18 months and 9 million barrels of crude oil were released



- 1879 Albert Einstein German/American physicist, Nobel Prize laureate
- 1933 Michael Caine English actor, author

Deaths On This Day

- 2014 Tony Benn English politician
- 1883 Karl Marx German philosopher



OBITUARIES

Jerry McBee

Oct. 28, 1936 - March 12, 2023

Jerry McBee, 86, of Linden passed away Sunday, March 12 at Ben Hur in Crawfordsville. Born Oct. 28, 1936 in Crawfordsville, he was the son of Frank and Leona McBee. He graduated from Linden High School in 1955 and enrolled in Purdue's Agriculture Short Course. He married his high school sweetheart, Nancy Timmons on March 31, 1957.



This past fall, Jerry's family celebrated his retirement from farming, calling the celebration the "Last Load".

Jerry enjoyed the outdoors. Along with farming, he enjoyed camping, boating, working on stained glass projects and being with family.

He was an active member at North Cornerstone Church in Linden and Walk to Emmaus. Jerry and Nancy helped start the Burning Hearts Emmaus Community.

Surviving family includes: wife, Nancy McBee; children, Mark McBee (Evy) Darlington, IN, Connie Will (Tom) Fishers, IN, Jim McBee (Margaret Howden) Darlington, IN, Mary Pendleton (Kelly) Pineland, Texas, Bill McBee (Janet) Owensville, IN; grandchildren, Heather Kilgour, Jenny Seewar (Jeff), Nathan Bluett, Jessica (Tim) Maly, Kristie Bluett, Matthew (Amanda) Bluett, Jeff Will (Erin), Mike Will (Madison), Chris McBee, Josh McBee (Nicole), Riley Howden (Sam), Abby Okey (Nathan), Ryan VanScoyoc (Brooke), Luke McBee, Ryan McBee, Alan McBee; great grandchildren, Sean Kilgour, Ava Kilgour, Blake Seewar, Ty Seewar, Winston Bluett, Henry Bluett, Mason Will, Lacey Will, Simon Will, Titus Will, Ada McBee, Owen McBee, Leila Okey, Crosby Howden, Maura Howden, Louise Howden, Dansby Howden, Skyler VanScoyoc

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Laura Webster; daughter-in-laws, Kim McBee, Glenna McBee; grandchild, Erica McBee.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, March 16 at North Cornerstone Church in Linden. Services will begin at 1:30 p.m., followed by a burial at the Linden Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to Burkhart Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to North Cornerstone Church, P.O. Box 38, Linden, IN 47955.

On My Way Pre-K Applications For The 2023-2024 School Year Now Available

Following a record-setting year of enrollment for On My Way Pre-K, Indiana's Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning is now accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year. On My Way Pre-K allows 4-year-olds from lower-income families to receive a free, high-quality, prekindergarten education through Indiana's only state-sponsored prekindergarten program. Information about the program and the link to apply can be found at OnMyWayPreK.org.

"We enrolled more than 6,200 children in 2022 and expect to enroll even more this year," said Courtney Penn, director of FSSA's Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning. "The Purdue University long-term study released last year showed that children who attend On My Way Pre-K are better

prepared for school and that the benefits continue well into elementary school. As we enroll an even larger group of children, we know more will be better prepared to succeed throughout their school years."

For the 2023-2024 school year, a child is eligible for On My Way Pre-K if they:

- will be 4 years old by Aug. 1, 2023
- plan to start kindergarten in the 2024-2025 school year
- live in a household with an income below 127% of the federal poverty level
- have parents or guardians who are working, attending job training or an educational program, looking for employment, or
- meet other requirements specified on this page

An easy-to-use, online application called "Early

Ed Connect" serves as the application for both On My Way Pre-K and child care assistance provided via the federal Child Care Development Fund or CCDF. Early Ed Connect makes it easy to attach documents and notifies the user that their submission was successfully submitted. A Spanish version is also available.

Once the family has met eligibility requirements and completed the enrollment process, they may choose from any of the 1,055 approved On My Way Pre-K programs located across Indiana.

These programs are operated in homes, centers, schools and religious settings, allowing families to choose the type of setting that works best for them. Families can search approved providers at www.ChildCare-Finder.IN.gov.

If a family needs help

working through the enrollment process or finding an approved pre-K program, they can go to navigate.onmywayprek.org to connect with a manager in their county.

More than 21,000 Hoosier children have attended pre-K through the On My Way Pre-K program since it began in 2015.

The program, which started as a five-county pilot and then expanded to 20 counties in 2017, became a statewide program in 2019. OECOSL also updates the Indiana General Assembly every year on the program.

The Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning is a division of the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration.

Families may call 800-299-1627 for assistance from an early learning referral specialist or for other questions about On My Way Pre-K.

It's Severe Weather Preparedness Week



Indiana is no stranger to storms. Snow and ice happen each winter, then

in the summer, extreme heat can alter outdoor plans. Even though Hoosiers experience this kind of weather often, they cannot get complacent.

That is why Gov. Eric Holcomb proclaimed March 12-18 Severe Weather Preparedness Week.

Each year, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) collaborates with the National Weather Service during Severe Weather Preparedness Week

to remind and educate Hoosiers about seasonal severe weather threats and how to prepare effectively for them.

"This week reminds us that we all have a role in preparing for severe weather, whether we're emergency responders, community leaders or simply concerned citizens," said Emergency Management and Preparedness Director Mary Moran.

All Hoosiers should learn the best practices to

stay safe, save lives and recover from Indiana's severe weather.

IDHS encourages all families, schools and workplaces to make tornado safety plans. You can practice these plans during the statewide tornado drill at 10:15 a.m. Tuesday, March 14.

Throughout the week, IDHS will share severe weather safety tips on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Follow IDHS and use the hashtags #SevereWx and #SWPW.

PUBLIC NOTICES

2023 Gravel Road Dust Control 50/50 Terms

Montgomery County will do 50/50 Gravel Road Dust Control program for 2023. Dust Control is an oil application that is sprayed in front of residences on gravel roads. The 50/50 program means that Montgomery County will pay for half of the Dust Control application up to 600 feet. Lengths for application are measured in the center of the road. Orders will require a minimum 300 feet. Orders can exceed 600 feet. However, the resident will pay for all additional application after 600 feet. Applications greater than 600 feet must be in increments of 100 feet at a cost of \$292 per 100 feet. (Example: Resident orders 800 feet of application. Montgomery County will pay 50% of 600 feet. Resident will pay 50% of 600 feet and 100% for 200 feet.)

Length of Application	Montgomery County Responsibility	Resident Responsibility	Total Cost
300 ft	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1000.00
400 ft	\$666.00	\$666.00	\$1332.00
500 ft	\$832.00	\$832.00	\$1664.00
600 ft	\$875.00	\$875.00	\$1750.00
Every 100 ft after 600 ft	\$0.00	\$292.00	\$292.00

1. The county is not offering Calcium Chloride, therefore if the resident would like Calcium Chloride they will need to contact the application company directly. It is not part of the 50/50 program.
2. The County Highway will send invoices to the resident. Payment MUST be made to the Montgomery County Treasurer's Office either by mail or in person with cash or check. No credit/debit cards will be accepted.
3. Sign up will be from February 13th through March 24th. Payment deadline is April 6, 2023. If no payment has been submitted, the county will not spray dust control. Anticipated time to start spraying is May 8, 2022.
4. We cannot spray in front of the resident's neighbor without the neighbor's permission.
5. We cannot spray on roads we do not maintain.
6. All dust control is subject to repair anytime at the discretion of the highway.

Jake Lough - Highway Director

PL4578 3/1 3/14 2t hspaxlp

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➤ Meeting Notes

Crawfordsville Council Meeting

The City of Crawfordsville, Indiana
 March 13, 2023 at 6 p.m.
 City Building, 300 E. Pike St.
 Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933 Council Chambers
 I. Pledge Presenter: Kent Priebe
 II. Prayer Presenter: Stan Hamilton
 III. Roll Call
 IV. Approval of Minutes – Feb. 13, 2023.
 V. Acknowledgment of receipt of the monthly Financial Reports
 VI. Roll Call for additions to the Agenda
 VII. Public Hearing
 A. An Ordinance Re-Establishing the Cumulative Capital Development Fund under Indiana Code § 36-9-15.5
 B. An Ordinance Re-Establishing a Cumulative Fire Fund under Indiana Code § 36-8-14
 C. An Ordinance to

Annex Property Known as approximately 47.403 acres located at 164 W. State Road 32 and the associated right-of-way.
 VIII. Fiscal Affairs
 A. First reading of an Ordinance Amending Ordinance _____-2022 Salary Ordinance for City of Crawfordsville's Appointed Officers and Employees
 B. A Resolution Acknowledging Receipt of the 2022 Crawfordsville Rental Registration Program Annual Report
 C. Second reading of an Ordinance Re-Establishing the Cumulative Capital Development Fund under Indiana Code § 36-9-15.5
 D. Second reading of an Ordinance Re-Establishing a Cumulative Fire Fund under Indiana Code § 36-8-14
 E. Second reading of an Ordinance Amending the Green Power Rider for Services Rendered by Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power

IX. Ordinances & Petitions
 A. First reading of an Ordinance Repealing and Replacing City Code Chapter 156: Floodplain Management and Retitling Chapter 156: Flood Damage Prevention
 X. Traffic, Parking & Safety
 A. Second reading of an Ordinance Designating Stop Intersections in the North Ridge Neighborhood
 B. Second reading of an Ordinance Repealing Handicapped Parking Designation at 312 South Water Street
 XI. Annexation
 A. A Resolution Approving Proposed Annexation Fiscal Plan
 B. First reading of an Ordinance to Annex Property Known as approximately 47.403 acres located at 164 W. State Road 32 and the associated right-of-way.
 XII. Miscellaneous
 XIII. Adjournment

➤ Meeting Notes

Montgomery County Board of Commissioners

Meeting Summary
 March 13, 2023
 Consent Agenda
 Approved
 Approval of Claims: Feb. 27, 2023 to March 13, 2023
 Payroll 3/10: \$
 Accounts Payable: \$
 Minutes: Feb. 27, 2023
 Approving Motorola Contract
 The Motorola contract is for the purchase of the radio consoles for the Central Communications Center (CCC). The CCC Governing Board and the Commissioners have approved the purchase. The Council will consider the approval of the purchase and the loan with Tri-County at their March 14 meeting.
 Acknowledge Receipt of RDC 2022 Annual Report
 RDC's (Redevelopment Commission) are required to annually file an annual report with the County Executive (Commissioners) and the County Fiscal Body (Council). After approvals the annual reports are submitted to the DLGF by the County Auditor.

New Business
 Request to Name Private Driveway - Ruth/Jason Leaming
 Approved "Leaming Lane" as the name of the private drive located on the Leaming property outside of the City limits on 136E.
 Authorizing the Serving of Alcohol at Event at the Government Center
 Approved Athens Arts request to utilize the County Government Center for an art event and to serve wine during the event at the County Government Center.
 On April 22, Athens Arts is hosting an event in which attendees, in groups of 20, will visit four art galleries in Crawfordsville to view the art, listen to music, enjoy finger foods and taste some wine.
 The wine tasting will involve tasting two types of wine in two glasses of 1 to 1.5 ounces. The wine will be served by a licensed bartender. Athens Arts will obtain the necessary state permits and sign an indemnification agreement.
 Award Bid & Issue Notice to Proceed for CCMG Paving Project
 Awarded the Commu-

nity Crossing Matching Grant paving bid to Reith Riley for the amount of \$1,214,158.05.
 Reith & Riley was the lowest and most responsible bidder. Montgomery County was awarded \$999,542.03 from the State of Indiana our match will be \$249,885.51. This will be used to pave 6.678 miles and those roads are:
 CR 500 S from SR 231 to SR 47
 CR 100 W from New Market Limits to CR 500S
 CR 500 E from CR 300 N to SR 47
 CR 200 E from 150 S to Elmore Street
 Traction Road from CR 400 E to City Limits
 CR 300 S from SR 47 to US 231
 Approving Expense from ARPA
 Approved the use of ARPA funds to reimburse the County Surveyor for the engineering expenses of the Claude Moody drainage project in Mace. The engineer is Clark Dietz and the estimated cost for reimbursement is \$217,016.91. ARPA funds were used to fund a portion of the construction costs, as well.

➤ Meeting Notes

Sheriff's Merit Board

A meeting of the Sheriff's Merit Board will be held at 4 p.m. on Tuesday March 21, 2023.

Sheriff's Office 600 Memorial Drive Crawfordsville, IN
 Agenda
 I. Call to order (President of Merit Board)
 II. Reading and Ap-

proval of minutes (Secretary)
 III. Goelzer Investments
 IV. Old Business
 V. New Business
 VI. Crash Reviews
 VII. Adjourn

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The CPAC Time Warp

Let's crank up the CPAC time machine.

On March 20, 1981, there stood President Ronald Reagan, who told the Conservative Political Action Conference, "We've come to a turning point. We have a decision to make. Will we continue with yesterday's agenda and yesterday's failures, or will we reassert our ideals and our standards, will we reaffirm our faith, and renew our purpose?"

"This is a time for choosing," Reagan said.

In February 2011, the man behind the podium was Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels, who gave the Reagan Dinner address.

"We face an enemy, lethal to liberty, and even more implacable than those America has defeated before. We cannot deter it; there is no countervailing danger we can pose. We cannot negotiate with it, any more than with an iceberg or a Great White. I refer, of course, to the debts our nation has amassed for itself over decades of indulgence. It is the new Red Menace, this time consisting of ink."

Daniels continued: "Purity in martyrdom is for suicide bombers. King Pyrrhus is remembered, but his nation disappeared."

"We are at such a moment," Gov. Daniels said. "I for one have no interest in standing in the wreckage of our Republic saying, 'I told you so' or 'You should've done it my way.'"

And then came last weekend.

On Friday night, the Reagan Dinner speaker was Kari Lake, defeated



BRIAN HOWEY
Howey Political Report

Arizona gubernatorial nominee, who said, "There's no hiding it. There's no sugarcoating it. They stole that election. The entire world saw that crime was committed in broad daylight on Nov. 8. They sabotaged Election Day."

Lake was referencing her own election, which she lost by less than 1% a week after she told supporters of the late U.S. Sen. John McCain to "Get the hell out!"

"I'm not just the most dangerous politician in America - I'm the most dangerous politician in the world because we are not going to let these people win," Lake said.

Former president Donald Trump, who lost his reelection bid by 7 million votes in 2020 (and who spoke to CPAC the night before Daniels did in 2011), gave a rambling two-hour address on Saturday before a room not at capacity. "In 2016, I declared, 'I am your voice,'" Trump said. "Today, I add, I am your warrior. I am your justice. And for those who have been wronged and betrayed, I am your retribution."

When Trump took office in January 2017, the national debt was \$19.9 trillion, according

to the Treasury Department's Bureau of Fiscal Services. By September 2020, it stood at \$26.9 trillion, which was an increase of \$7 trillion, or 39%. It amounts to about \$23,500 in new federal debt for every person in the U.S.

Conservative commentator Charlie Sykes of The Bulwark observed, "Ronald Reagan proclaimed 'It's Morning in America'; Trump declared, 'I am Nemesis.' It gives a taste of the bleak storm to come."

Trump won the CPAC straw poll with 62%. Lake won the straw poll for veep.

Tom Nichols of The Atlantic noted, "Donald Trump went to CPAC and gave a speech that was, even by his delusional standards, dark and violent. Much of it was hallucinatory. It is long past time to admit that support for Trump, after all that we now know, is a moral failing. Anyone who cares about the health of American democracy, of any party or political belief, should say clearly that to applaud Trump's fantasies and threats at CPAC is to show an utter lack of civic character."

During his 1981 address - coming a little more than a week before he survived an assassination attempt - President Reagan told this story: "You know, one day the great baseball manager Frankie Frisch sent a rookie out to play center field. The rookie promptly dropped the first fly ball that was hit to him. On the next play he let a grounder go between his feet and then threw

the ball to the wrong base. Frankie stormed out of the dugout, took his glove away from him and said, 'I'll show you how to play this position.' And the next batter slammed a line drive right over second base. Frankie came in on it, missed it completely, fell down when he tried to chase it, threw down his glove, and yelled at the rookie, 'You've got center field so screwed up nobody can play it.'"

"The point is we must lead a nation," Reagan continued, "and that means more than criticizing the past. Indeed, as T. S. Eliot once said, 'Only by acceptance of the past will you alter its meaning.'"

Reagan referred to a speech he gave on behalf of Republican presidential nominee Barry Goldwater in 1964. "I said, 'We've been told increasingly that we must choose between left or right.' And I'll repeat what I said then in '64. 'There is no left or right. There's only an up or down': Up to the ultimate in individual freedom, man's age old dream, the ultimate in individual freedom consistent with an orderly society - or down to the totalitarianism of the ant heap. And those today who, however good their intentions, tell us that we should trade freedom for security are on that downward path."

The columnist is managing editor of Howey Politics Indiana/State Affairs at StateAffairs.com/pro/Indiana. Find Howey on Facebook and Twitter @hwypol.

Herb's Been Doin' Some Readin'

Herb graciously spread his right arm around the table, indicating to Loretta that all his friends needed their coffee cups topped off. She would've done it anyway, of course, but this made him look ... generous.

"I've been reading up," said Herb Collins, who had retired from his pawn shop but not from reading up, "and I learned a thing or two."

We settled back, in what we considered a learned and curious pose. We probably weren't, though.

For the more forward-looking members of the World Dilemma Think Tank at the Mule Barn coffee shop, learning from Herb's habit of reading up sometimes was entertaining, if not always educational.

"How many of you fellas ever heard of Babe Ruth?" We all raised our hands.

"Now how many of you fellas ever heard of Carl Ditters von Dittersdorff?"

There was a paucity of paws in the air.

"He was born way-back sometime in a suburb of Vienna, and started out life as Johann Carl Ditters. But through the years, and because his compositions needed publicity, and his friends didn't think his name was impressive enough, he coagulated his name



SLIM RANGLES
Columnist

into what it now says on the billboard at the opera house."

"And you read up on this by yourself?"

"Sure did, Doc. Now ol' Carl made a bunch of friends who were musical and had weird names, too. Used to hang around with Christof Willibald Gluck. Name like that, you'd have to pardner up with someone who could handle himself in a dark alley. So there's my theory in a nutshell guys. If you were a German or a fake German living in a close by, but not yet German country, and your name was too common for people to remember, you either had to give them a name they couldn't forget ... or go start a war."

And some folks just watch teevee...

Free sheet music from the ol' Ditters himself! If you can play this, you're better than most mental patients. [https://imslp.org/wiki/Andante_cantabile_\(Dittersdorff%2C_Carl_Ditters_von\)](https://imslp.org/wiki/Andante_cantabile_(Dittersdorff%2C_Carl_Ditters_von))

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↳ BUTCH From Page A1

king-sized closets, beautiful baths, spas, fabulous kitchens...all decorated with the most expensive furniture and modern appliances.

I always silently wonder who lives in these "dream homes." How did they obtain their wealth to build such a home? Did they work hard and invest wisely? Did they inherit a fortune? Did they invent something and become wealthy that way? Did they own a successful business? Did they build their home to fulfill a life-long dream, or did they build the home just to impress people? Perhaps they have always been wealthy and have a very large family?

There is certainly nothing wrong with a million dollar home, but they are not fortresses against the real world and real life problems. Through the years of dealing with people as a police officer, I discovered that large, magnificent and fancy houses are not guarantees of contentment or fulfillment.

A home is not just wood, bricks, glass, and tiles. It's the people that make a home. Small, modest houses can actually be rich homes,

and sometimes expensive houses are broken homes. In other words. Like the old saying goes, "A house is not a home." And as someone once said, "Dreams are not built with a hammer, but with a heart." Where we live is less important than how we live.

These two homes south of Lafayette are certainly beautiful, but I will always be curious about the families who live in these two fancy homes we pass on our travel to town. Honestly, even if I was wealthy, I would not feel comfortable living in a million dollar house. In a column I penned last year, I mentioned that I love old houses. I'll stick with our 1890 farmhouse in good old Sugar Creek Township. My wife has told me many times that she would be happy living in the barn... and she wasn't kidding! Well, that's OK...and I promise to buy some extra straw if we sleep in the loft.

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.

↳ HHSB From Page A1

two seconds, someone in America needs a blood transfusion. You can give the gift of life at our Blood Drive.

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use 25% of all blood donations and blood transfusions are needed in one out of every 83 newborn deliveries in America today, a rate that has increased by more than 50% between 2006 and 2015. The list goes on.

In short, all of us are likely to know someone who will need blood. Despite this, only 3% of all Americans donate blood. A reality that should trouble us all.



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↳ Letters

Reader Supports Marjorie Taylor Greene

Dear Editor,

Thank you Mr. Howey for the history lesson (column of 3-7-23). I have a peer friend whose family fought in the Civil War in Kentucky with some dying immediately after joining. Not only was the Civil War fought for the end of slavery, other issues consisted of states rights; the states west of the Mississippi River territory with the problems of free states and enslaved states being admitted to the union; economic interests of the north and south; cultural values; and the power of the federal government to control the states. They had their problems

back then, we have ours now.

Marjorie Taylor Greene emphasized the problems we are having now shared with her by disgusted Americans; a divided America instigated by the media backed up by the Shadow Government and its affiliates, no trust in our government (FBI), serious harms to our most precious commodity – our children, calling parents decrying policies at school board meetings as terrorists, forcing transgenderism onto our children, Biden's administration of; high inflation, lack of sufficient baby formula, failure in Afghanistan,

avid overspending, very high prices on everyday commodities, dangerous toxic train derailments that has ruined East Palestine, Ohio and the rise of deadly drugs and human trafficking coming across our southern border with an oblivious Biden reaction.

Merrick Garland is lacking the nerve to punish protesters at abortion free clinics and protecting our Supreme Court Judges at their homes from violators, no respect for our policemen and women and just plain civil unrest within our country.

The list is longer and true American citizens are at a point of divorc-

ing away from people who are not Patriotic to our country (NFL), people who are involved in shootings and killing Americans, the illegal immigrant aliens invading our country and being financed by tax dollars (this can be eliminated from Biden's budget), and no law and order as it used to be.

I support Marjorie speaking up at the State of the Union speech condemning Biden and the others who shouted out "it's your fault" when Biden mentioned the Fentanyl deaths. Someone has to do it!

Mari Briggs
Sheridan

7 Mistakes To Avoid When Decluttering Your Home This Spring Cleaning Season

The spring cleaning season is always such a great time to refresh your home and everyday lifestyle. Are you already planning to deep clean your carpets and rugs, clean all of your home's windows, and wipe down all counters and cabinets? These are all fantastic steps to take, but have you thought about taking the time to declutter each room? You may not know it, but if you have a cluttered home, you are unknowingly hurting your mental wellbeing.

It's true — clutter takes up physical space, uses your mental energy, and can amplify stress and anxiety. In my experience as the Professional Organizer and Brand Ambassador of Modular Closets (a DIY customizable closet system that organizes any space in your home), I have found that decluttering and organizing your home is one surefire way to live healthier and happier. That said, if you want to declutter your home this spring cleaning season, avoid these blunders:

Mistake #1: Thinking You Need to Throw Everything Away

Oftentimes, when one thinks of decluttering, they falsely assume that any and all clutter should just be thrown away. Their reasoning is that if articles of clothing and other clutter have been strewn around the home for a long time, the items are obviously not important and it would be easiest to just toss them out. However, don't make this mistake, as it can lead to unnecessary

waste in landfills. You may also have friends and family who would love the items you no longer want, or you can donate them to charitable causes that need them.

Mistake #2: Keeping an Item You Don't Need

On that same note, don't make the mistake of holding onto an article of clothing or other product because you think you might use it in the future. If the item has been sitting in the back of your closet or laying forgotten underneath your bed for months (or years!), then I recommend donating it, giving it away to a friend, or trying to sell it. You get the benefit of less clutter, and the item will go to someone who truly wants to use it. It's a win-win for you both! Don't let objects take over you — remember that you always control the items.

Mistake #3: Starting the Decluttering Process Without Planning Piles

I get it — when you finally decide to declutter and organize your home, it can be tempting to just go all-in and start tossing all the items strewn about into one box to sort through later. However, you will streamline the whole process if you plan out your plies first — you can designate a pile of items you will keep, a pile to donate, a pile to sell, and a pile to throw away. Then, you can sort all of the items as you go — then you can easily box up the piles to donate to Goodwill or another organization, place all the items in the "Throw Away" pile into a trash bag, etc.

Mistake #4: Decluttering With Everything Still in the Space

Many people make the mistake of decluttering their drawers, closets, and entire rooms with all of the items still in the space. Don't commit this blunder, as you can really optimize the decluttering process by first emptying out the closet / room / space before sorting the items. You will be much more cognizant of the items you decide to place back in the space and consider more if you really want to hold onto certain items you haven't used in a long time. Also, you won't overlook items that may be hidden under others.

Mistake #5: Keeping Clutter for a Garage Sale That Isn't on the Calendar

Garage sales are a fun and effective way to rid your home of items you no longer need, make a little profit, and give someone else the chance to enjoy your old items at a very low price — as the saying goes, one man's trash is another man's treasure! However, if you want to hold a garage sale to sell your old items, it is absolutely key to schedule the day and time you plan to hold it. Otherwise, you may end up having to keep pushing the garage sale out as other obligations come up, all the while still holding onto a bunch of items cluttering up your space.

Mistake #6: Decluttering Without a Goal and Intention for Your Space

Having a goal you want to achieve for your space will further optimize the decluttering process. Do

you finally want to sort through that jumbled junk drawer in your kitchen? Are you ready to organize all of the clothes in your master bedroom's closet? Do you have a ton of makeup and other beauty products you really want to declutter and organize? Set your goal and declutter accordingly. This will prevent you from being distracted by any clutter in other spaces — as you achieve one goal, you can then set another goal for another space. One step at a time!

Mistake #7: Decluttering Without a Snack On Hand

Trust me, decluttering and organizing any space can be tiring! This is especially true if you are moving heavy boxes and equipment around. So keep your energy and momentum up by having a tasty snack nearby at all times. This can also make the process more fun and enjoyable!

To Wrap It All Up

Are you ready to declutter and organize your home this spring cleaning season? Good for you! You can make the decluttering process much more efficient by avoiding some common mistakes others make, like thinking you need to throw everything away, decluttering while everything is still in the space, and keeping clutter for a garage sale that isn't yet on the calendar. Also, do not be so hard on yourself, because this process is a lot! The fact that you are working on your space to make it better is truly such an accomplishment. Good luck!

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