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by ShawMark
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TODAY'S VERSE

Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." (NIV)

FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



Will Bernhardt smiles for one of our roving photographers. Thank you for your smile, Will!

THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 Purdue Extension Invites you to participate in Diversifying your Garden and Diet. Instead of only growing the usual staple crops, such as tomatoes, cucumbers, and corn, think outside the proverbial gardening box. A diversified garden is loaded with as many varieties as the gardener can manage in order to provide a diversified offering of produce. A diversified garden extends to container gardening and fall gardens as well. They will answer the questions, how do I get started? Which vegetables and fruit should I choose? How big does my garden need to be? If I plant a new food who will eat it? Don't worry they will be demonstrating (and tasting) how to prepare the new and diverse produce from your garden. Join them on the 4th floor of Fusion 54, April 5, 12, and 19 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Please call 765-364-6363 to register. Food and seeds are provided!

2 The Montgomery County Democrat Party will meet at 7:00 PM Monday March 27 in the Donnelley Room of the Crawfordsville Public Library. Everyone is invited to attend.

3 Just a month ago the Guinness Book of World Records declared Nick Stoerber of Salinas, CA had the longest tongue in the world. He wasted no time to seek a second award, visiting the Guinness offices in an attempt to set the record for touching his tongue to his nose. He didn't break that record and so he used his nearly four inch long lingua to set the record for removing five blocks from an unstable tower of 54 blocks in less than a minute.

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Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

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Photo courtesy of Kym Bushong

Team Hess from F.C.Tucker West Central was invaluable to the Reality Store as they guided students in the process of selecting housing. Chad Hess, Katie Viers, Julie Hess and Mason Hall worked together to help students understand the importance of staying within their budget while still meeting their needs.

The Reality Of Reality

"No kids."
"I'm never growing up."
"Life is expensive."
These are just a few of the many comments received from the eighth grade students who attended the Reality Store. The Reality Store is an annual event facilitated by the Crawfordsville chapter of Business and Professional Women (INFBPW) and hosted by the Boys and Girls Club. Eighth grade students from the three middle schools in Montgomery County attend for a brief taste of what life will be like after graduation. Adulting seemed to

be the byword of the day. The week before the Reality Store, students receive an occupation, an income, and a marital and family status in Introductory Sessions at their respective schools. Upon arrival at the Boys and Girls Club they pay their taxes, deposit their earnings and begin the process of obtaining housing, paying utilities, buying a car and insurance, stocking their refrigerator and even planning vacation. School Resource Officers

➔ See REALITY Page A5



Photo courtesy of CDPL

3,000 Books Read Before Kindergarten

Madelynn Fossnock, age 3, has completed the Crawfordsville District Public Library program "1000 Books Before Kindergarten" for the third time. Along with her parents, Mary and Josh Fossnock, she has read 3000 books. Madelynn's favorite book is Disney's 5-Minute Frozen Stories Collection. Mom said,

➔ See BOOKS Page A5

4-H Giving Back, One Pound At A Time

March was another month of our Junior Leader program giving back to those in need. When many people think of those that are hungry and in need of a nutritious meal, they think of impoverished countries. However, you may not need to look too far to find families in need of a meal. Did you know that 13.9% of children in Montgomery County are food insecure (2020)?

The term food insecure means the lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy lifestyle. While this issue has no overnight solution, the Montgomery County 4-H Junior Leaders found a way to take a small step towards reducing this percentage. At their March meeting, they partnered with the Waynetown

➔ See 4-H Page A5

Butch Remembers The "Old-Time Farmer"



BUTCH DALE
Columnist

Do you remember the farmers who were your neighbors when you were a youngster? Yes, there were many. There were thirty-two students in my Darlington High School 1966 graduating class, and eighteen of us had fathers who farmed. In fact the majority of kids who attended the small county schools came from farm families. Each farmer in those days farmed less than 200 acres, with a few owning their land and the rest working as tenant farmers. Here is how I remember a farmer from the good ol' days....

The daily life of farming could be considered monotonous.

➔ See BUTCH Page A5



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:39 a.m.
SET: 8:01 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 50 °F
Low: 42 °F



Today is...

- National Cheesesteak Day
- National Cocktail Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1999 For the first time in its history, NATO attacks a sovereign country. The military alliance bombed Yugoslavia during the Kosovo War - without a UN mandate.
- 1882 Robert Koch discovers the bacterium responsible for tuberculosis. The German scientist, who is regarded as the father of modern bacteriology, won the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine in 1905



Births On This Day

- 1930 Steve McQueen American actor
- 1874 Harry Houdini Hungarian/American magician, actor

Deaths On This Day

- 1905 Jules Verne French author
- 1603 Elizabeth I of England

HONEST HOOSIER

Omaha! Omaha! Happy 47th Peyton Manning. Maybe he's the answer to who can QB the Colts? Hey, Tom Brady did it!



TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Keep snack foods out of reach when you're stressed or anticipate stress.

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

INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

Obituaries.....A2
Kenny Thompson.....A3
Classifieds.....A4

THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE Smile!

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

"Show me a man who gets rich by being a politician, and I will show you a crook."
Harry S. Truman

TODAY'S JOKE

What'd the ground say to the rain? Hey, stop it or my name will be mud!



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



7 DAY FORECAST

| THU | FRI | SAT | SUN | MON | TUE | WED |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 64 PERIODS OF RAIN, T-STORM | 42/50 WET, COOLER | 45/54 MORNING RAIN, WINDY | 31/56 MOSTLY SUNNY | 40/54 CHANCE RAIN | 36/52 CHANCE SHOWERS | 34/53 MOSTLY SUNNY |

Meeting Notes

Montgomery County Retired Teachers Association

March 13, 2023
 The March meeting of Montgomery County Retired Teachers Association was held at the Crawfordsville Public Library on March 13. Vice President Steve Frees led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Nancy Bowes gave the invocation including an Irish Blessing. A delicious meal of garlic chicken and rice, broccoli salad, and lemon cake was served by Trish Schwabe. The program was introduced by Steve Frees. Lisa Walter presented the work of the Montgomery County Early Childhood Coalition. In order to address the problem of a lack of adequate high quality child care in the county, ten organizations have united in a coalition to solve the problem. Sara Storms of the Montgomery County Community Foundation was present with Lisa Walter to explain to the MCRTA member how the coalition works in developing high quality accredited early childhood education as well as child care and to assist providers to achieve programs that support social and emotional development of young children enabling them to succeed in school. In addition to local non-profit organiza-

tions, several industries have provided financial support. One visible project in the renovation of the former government building on South Boulevard into an early childhood center. The coalition also initiated a summer camp with the help of the Parks and Recreation Department. It is called Camp Milligan and provides a ten week program for about 40 children.

In the business meeting Vice President Steve Frees announced people celebrating birthdays and asked for a motion to accept the minutes which were emailed to members. Nancy Bowes made the motion and Barb Foster seconded the motion. The motion passed. Larry Manlove read the Treasurers report and it was accepted into the records. Membership chair Kathy Steele reported that we have 121 members. Member Concerns chair Mary Lefebvre reported that cards had been sent to members who lost loved ones and that Easter cards would be sent out in the future. Nominations chair Sheila reported that we still need a Vice President and Secretary for the slate of candidates. A collection was taken for the Volunteers for Mental Health and \$104 was collected. There was no new business. The meeting was adjourned and door prizes were awarded.

Senate Committee Moves Stricter Version Of Bill Targeting Student Pronoun Changes In Schools

By Casey Smith

Indiana senators made multiple amendments on the fly Wednesday to a controversial “parental rights” bill that seeks to restrict pronoun usage of transgender children and instruction about “human sexuality” in schools.

Critics of the bill argue that it’s part of a nationwide wave of legislation “singling out LGBT people and their families.” Supporters say parents have the “right” and “responsibility” to control what their children learn — and are called — when at school.

House Bill 1608 would require schools to inform parents if a student requests to change their name or pronouns for any reason — including to a nickname — and block adherence to the student’s request without a parent’s explicit consent.

It would also prohibit instruction on “human sexuality” for students in Pre-K through 3rd grade. Sexual education typically does not start until the fourth or sixth grades under existing state standards, however.

The proposal is reminiscent of Florida’s “Don’t Say Gay” law that has been described by some as one of the most “hateful” pieces of legislation in the country.

The measure advanced 9-4 Wednesday from the Senate Education Committee after three hours of debate — much of which included passionate testimony in opposition of the bill. Loud chants, cheers and boing echoed outside of the Senate chamber and through the Statehouse hallways amid the discourse.

“If you pass this bill ... expect the youth homeless population to rise, expect the teen suicide rate to rise, expect the incidence of violence against LGBTQ+ people to rise,” said Quinn Mackenzie, a nonbinary Hoosier who spoke before the committee. “There are those who want you to believe that this bill protects children. As a parent with genuine religious conviction, I understand that — I want the best for my children, too and I want to protect them. But trans and queerness is not something that children need to be protected from.”

Notifying parents about

nicknames

An amendment filed by bill sponsor Sen. Stacey Donato, R-Logansport, stipulates that teachers have to seek consent from a parent — not just notify them — to call a student by a different name.

Multiple other spontaneous amendments to that amendment followed, too. Democrats on the Senate committee asked to hold off on the changes and a vote on the underlying bill because of the confusion, but were turned down.

Although the latest version of the bill would apply to all Hoosier K-12 schools, private schools are exempted from the language restricting “human sexuality.”

Provisions about requested name changes require teachers to obtain parental consent within five business days, regardless of whether the name matches a student’s assigned-sex, according to the bill.

Although not specified in the bill, that teacher-parent communication could come in the form of a phone call, text message, email, or physical letter, according to Republican state lawmakers.

“A school should tell parents about any student requests to change their names, pronouns or etcetera, regardless of whether it has anything to do with the gender transition,” Donato said, nothing that if a student wanted to change their name from Stacy to Susan, for example, the school would need to notify parents and get consent to go ahead with the request.

“It’s easier for schools to administer, because they won’t have to decide if a name change is masculine or feminine. If a student wants to change the name, you just tell the parents, period,” Donato continued. “Secondly, with this language ... I believe that if a previous transgender student asks their school to change their name back to something that matches their sex at birth, parents would want to know about that, as well.”

Another provision additionally prevents schools from disciplining teachers that still use a child’s old name or pronouns — even with parental permission to

use the new, preferred versions — if the employee or staff member does so out of a “religious conviction.”

Bill author Rep. Michelle Davis, R-Whiteland, maintained that her proposal intends to “empower Hoosier parents by reinforcing that they are in the driver’s seat when it comes to introducing sensitive topics to their children.”

“I believe that parents know their children best, and their authority should not be superseded by teachers and or school administrators,” she said.

“By allowing our schools to instruct our young elementary students in human sexuality, and allowing students to decide on different identities without their parents’ knowledge and consent, creates an unacceptable intrusion into the parent-child relationship and would be inconsistent with our traditional presumption of parental competence and good intention,” Davis continued. “Engaging in any type of sexual relationship discussions in schools — especially for Pre-K through third graders — is inappropriate.”

Opposition mounts against “anti-trans” legislation

State lawmakers have directed intense legislative focus toward transgender Hoosiers this session — much of which has centered on school-age children.

Melanie Davis, a transgender mom from Bloomington, said language in this bill and others reflects old, “harmful” stereotypes about transgender people. She emphasized that House Bill 1608 is dangerous to LGBTQ children and protects “abusive” school faculty who refuse to use preferred pronouns.

“We have moved on. We have grown up as a nation. ... These kids are living in a world where they can actually be themselves for the first time in our history as a nation,” Davis said. “Now, you’re invalidating — you’re stripping this away from their future.”

Katie Blair with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Indiana, added that “vague language” in the bill “could create serious, unforeseen consequences

for schools, teachers and families.”

She said the bill, if passed, would make “age appropriate and clearly school appropriate conversations” illegal in Indiana classrooms.

“LGBTQ teachers could find themselves in violation of the law simply for acknowledging that they are married within the context of the school. Teachers who happen to be transgender could lose jobs just for existing. Children of same sex couples should be allowed to bring their dads or their moms on school trips and visits just like any other child,” Blair said. “But it’s easy to see that this bill would significantly chill a school’s ability to be welcoming for those kids. “We need to stop forcing teachers to be gender police and from making personal, subjective judgments about whether or not a student may be showing signs that they are transgender and to report on them.”

Donato said the amended bill does not stop schools from providing “age appropriate instruction on sexual abuse.”

Rep. Davis declined to give specific examples but claimed that parents in her district have reported “human sexuality” instruction in their young children’s schools.

Still, the definition of “human sexuality” remains vague. Davis describes it as “just the way people experience and express themselves sexually,” but conceded that “everything is open to interpretation.”

She said an amendment to the bill to clarify what teachers can and cannot talk about is “definitely something” lawmakers should consider on the Senate floor, “that way, teachers know exactly what they can and cannot do in the classroom.”

The bill is likely to be up for discussion in the full chamber next week.

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Here's Hoping New Purdue Grid Coach Fares Better Than History



KEN THOMPSON
Columnist

With Ryan Walters' first spring practices as Purdue's head football coach under way, let's continue our look back at his predecessors.

Purdue's football fortunes waxed and waned in the first quarter of the 20th century, a direct result of the coaching hires made until James Phelan - a member of the College Football Hall of Fame - came on board in 1922.

Two years removed from an All-American football season at Harvard, law school graduate Oliver Cutts came to West Lafayette in 1903 hoping to build on the previous season's 7-2-1 record.

Fate had different plans for Cutts and the Boilermakers.

On Oct. 31, a 14-car special train carrying the players, staff and a handful of fans was en route to Indianapolis for the annual clash with Indiana. The train never reached its destination.

Approaching 18th Street in Indianapolis, the train came around a bend. Through miscommunication, a group of coal cars was being backed down the same rail line. The coal cars were mostly steel. The Purdue special cars were wooden.

The players' car, located behind the engine, was splintered in two by the collision. Twelve players were among the 16 killed.

Cutts was among the fortunate, suffering a

sprained ankle and a badly bruised foot. A future governor of Indiana, Harry G. Leslie, suffered injuries that would affect him the rest of his life.

The remaining five games of the season were cancelled.

Perhaps inspired by their late teammates, the Boilermakers would have a 1904 season that ranks among the greatest in school history. Purdue went 9-3, including a 27-0 win over Indiana at Indianapolis and a 36-0 home victory against Notre Dame to close out the season. It would be 25 years before another Purdue team would approach that record.

Cutts left for the University of Washington in 1905 but returned to Purdue as athletic director from 1915-18.

Following his death at the age of 65 in 1939, the Journal and Courier described Cutts as "a gentleman and scholar who never smoked, drank or cursed, and never spoke roughly to his players."

If there was such a thing as hiring a big-name coach in 1905, Albert Herrstein would have qualified.

As a standout halfback on Michigan's point-a-minute teams in the early 1900s, Herrstein played in the first Rose Bowl in 1902, a 49-0 rout of Stanford that was so dominating that the Rose Bowl decided in 1903 to have chariot races instead.

After graduation, Herrstein coached the Haskell Indian School in Kansas for two seasons. His lone Purdue team outscored opponents 177-30 while compiling a 6-1-1 record.

Ohio State lured Herrstein away in 1906, apparently not concerned then about hiring a Michigan man. The Buckeyes won the Big Ten title that year, and Herrstein went 28-10-1 in four

seasons. Four of those losses, though, were to Michigan. That was a no-no even a century ago.

The hardware business proved far less stressful. For more than 50 years he ran the Herrstein Hardware Co. in Chillicothe, Ohio, before his death in 1958.

As a football coach, Myron Witham was a tremendous mathematics professor. The Boilermakers went 0-5 in 1906, his lone season in West Lafayette.

He would fare far better in his second chance as a head coach, going 63-26-7 with two Rocky Mountain Conference championships at Colorado from 1920 to 1931. Witham died in 1973 at age 92.

Another law school graduate gave football coaching a try at Purdue in 1907. Leigh Turner was an assistant coach under Fielding Yost while attending Michigan Law School.

Turner's only Boilermaker squad scored a grand total of 10 points while once again going 0-5. He died in 1971 at age 91.

Purdue's next coach was a medical school graduate. Frederick Speik looked like a promising hire, going 4-3 in 1908. Speik fell out of favor during the 1909 season and was fired with three games remaining.

The Evening Courier reported that the Purdue student body and the Athletic Association "felt that some radical measure had to be enacted to prevent a disgraceful showing over the next three games." The Chicago Tribune piled on, noting "Since Speik has been in charge ... Purdue has not won a game of note, and his ability as an instructor did not meet the expectations of members of the association, who assert that Speik had

splendid material from which to pick an eleven."

Speik established himself as a doctor/surgeon in the Los Angeles area and never coached another game. He took his life in 1940 at the age of 58.

An Olympic silver medalist in the Greek style discus in 1908 and Syracuse University's first football All-American, Bill Horr decided to give football coaching a try in 1910 at Purdue.

Horr made it four losing coaches in a row at West Lafayette, although his third and final season saw Purdue go 4-2-1 to raise his overall record to 8-11-1. Horr spent the next 10 years as line coach at Syracuse before serving as a lawyer for the American Liability Insurance Company. He was 75 when he passed away in 1955.

Purdue figured it was time to hire a full-time, professional football coach. It chose an all-time great in 1913.

Andy Smith had compiled a 30-10-3 record in four seasons at Penn before he was lured to West Lafayette. In three seasons at Purdue, Smith went 12-6-3 and never had a losing campaign.

Smith would have his greatest success after leaving West Lafayette, winning four national championships and five Pacific Coast Conference championships at California from 1916 to his death at age 42 from pneumonia in 1926. He was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1951.

Next, Purdue turned to a successful east coast high school coach. Cleo O'Donnell's 1914 Everett (Mass.) High School team went 13-0 and outscored opponents 600 to 0, including an 80-0 victory over Oak Park, Ill., in what was billed as the national championship of high school football.

The Big Ten proved a lot tougher than Oak

Park, with O'Donnell's Boilermakers going 1-8 in conference play and 5-8-1 in 1916-17. He fared better at his alma mater, going 69-27-6 from 1919-29 at Holy Cross. O'Donnell died at age 67 in 1953, eight years before his son, Kenneth, became a key aide to President John F. Kennedy.

Butch Scanlon delivered what none of his predecessors could in 1918, a Big Ten championship. That banner wasn't enough to save his job two years later when he was, as the Journal and Courier put it, "retired" by athletic director Nelson Kellogg following a 10-7 loss to Indiana.

Scanlon went 7-12-1 at Purdue. Full disclosure: Scanlon coached my wife's grandfather, end R.C. (Cooper) Kerr, as did the next Purdue coach.

By 1921, Purdue had had doctors and lawyers coaching football so someone in the athletic department figured it was time for an Indian. Well, at least someone who posed as one.

The debate has raged for decades over whether William "Lone Star" Dietz was really a Native American or a fraud.

Dietz registered for the draft in 1918 as a "Non-Citizen Indian," a claim that drew the suspicion of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The FBI determined that Dietz had assumed the identity of James One Star, an Ogala man who had disappeared in 1894. Two court appearances ended in a hung jury and then a 30-day sentence in Spokane, Wash., after Dietz pled no contest.

Dietz came to West Lafayette in 1921 with a spectacular 27-3-1 record at Washington State and with the Mare Island Marines in 1918. The Journal and Courier was sure Dietz would be the

man to build sustained success at Purdue.

"We believe that a new era of football is dawning for Purdue. With a man who is a leader, with a team that is good, that merely needs coaching, advice and understanding, Purdue cannot but come out of the gridiron rut into which she has slipped during the past few years. ... Purdue shall take its place among the leaders in the Big Ten from now on."

Dietz was an outstanding football coach and would be elected to the College Football Hall of Fame in 2012. Unfortunately, Dietz's reputation would suffer during his lone season at Purdue.

The Boilermakers were shut out five times in 1921, and scored a mere nine points on their way to a 1-6 record and a tie for eighth place in the Big Ten.

It appeared, though, that Dietz would be retained. That possibility ended in January 1922 when he was accused by a University of Washington professor of offering eight west coast high school players \$100 a month to come play at Purdue. Today, that's about \$1,650 dollars or chicken feed in today's somewhat legal bidding for college athletes.

Interim Purdue president Henry Marshall - owner of the Journal and Courier - immediately fired Dietz, even though he and the eight athletes denied the charges.

One week after his dismissal, Dietz married the society editor of the Journal and Courier in a ceremony performed by Lafayette mayor George Durgan.

Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the Lafayette Journal & Courier and an award-winning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many years.

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Senators Question Bill To Allow Pharmacists To Prescribe Birth Control

By Whitney Downard

A bill that would allow pharmacists to prescribe birth control to Hoosiers saw some opposition in a Senate health committee after easily passing the House last month.

Supporters contend that many Hoosiers live in areas with physician shortages but nearly all live within a few miles of a pharmacy. Slightly more than half of Indiana births are the result of an unintended pregnancy according to supporters and advocates maintain that this would increase access to popular contraceptive options like hormonal implants or pills.

Bill co-author Rep. Rita Fleming, a retired OB-GYN, emphasized the importance of this legislation, which 24 states have adopted and eight other states are considering.

“Doctors’ offices are not open on weekends, in the evenings, or on holidays. Most women of reproductive age work outside of their home so it’s very difficult for them to make an appointment. In my office, sometimes they sat for an hour or so while I was delivering a baby,” Fleming, D-Jeffersonville, said. “They want access to birth control. We know in states that have passed similar legislation, the unintended pregnancy rate has decreased and the number of abortions has decreased.”

Committee member responses to the bill

Two Republican committee members – north-eastern Indiana Sens. Liz Brown and Tyler Johnson – consistently peppered supporters, questioning why pharmacists should have this authority and whether it would have any impact on the state’s abysmal maternal mortality rate.

Brown said birth control couldn’t be that effective if half of women seeking abortions reported using contraceptives during the month of their conception. Johnson, a physician, said he didn’t understand how pharmacies could have more availability. He also didn’t know of a town with a pharmacy but no doctor.

During their barrage of criticism, fellow Republican Sen. Jean Leising praised the bill for increasing access in her rural district – where she said just three of her seven counties had a hospital with OB-GYN services. Roughly one-third of Indiana’s counties are considered obstetrics deserts with few specialized providers.

“I know people that when they start going into labor, they go toward the hospital where they’re going to deliver and find a park or a nice place to sit in their car when they’re beginning labor because they don’t know how fast they’re going to move,” Leising, R-Oldenburg, said.

“I think it’s sometimes hard for everybody – even in this committee – to understand that there are serious access issues. That’s just for having the babies, much less for the contraception.”

Pharmacists, doctors share support for the bill

Pharmacist Veronica Vernon, a professor at Butler University and president of the Indiana Pharmacy Association, said there are communities where pharmacists are the only healthcare provider, helping with smoking cessation and immunizations.

Other states that had enacted similar legislation actually saw cost savings, since billing for pharmacists is less than physician fees.

“In one state, phar-

macists wrote 10% of all new Medicaid prescriptions in one year for self administered hormonal contraception... this saved the state \$1.3 million by avoiding 51 unintended pregnancies,” Vernon said.

As a safety precaution, the bill requires pharmacists to refer a patient to a provider and can only prescribe birth control for up to a year. In the state mentioned above, 90% of patients did eventually schedule with a primary care provider, Vernon said.

Criticisms about the bill

Even the bill’s supporters had suggestions for improvement, including former state health commissioner Dr. Richard Feldman.

“Now, more than ever, it is important to prevent unwanted and unintended pregnancies. I think most everyone would agree that pregnancy prevention is much more desirable than addressing an unwanted, unintended pregnancy after it occurs,” Feldman said, representing the Indiana Academy of Family Physicians. “And despite some discussion... three elements are missing.”

Feldman said his organization wanted additional requirements for pharmacists, including: mandating blood pressure checks as part of the screening process, provider referrals if health issues are identified (either in the initial screening or related to the birth control) and sharing local resources to find primary care providers.

“The experience in other states where this legislation has been enacted demonstrates that, when done carefully and thoughtfully with these kinds of safeguards in the bill, pharmacist prescribing of self-administered birth control is very

safe,” Feldman said. “We need to do everything we can to increase access.”

One of the state’s largest religious organizations, the Indiana Catholic Conference, opposed the bill, saying it risked women’s health and that Hoosiers could visit multiple pharmacies to bypass the one-year limit.

“Hormonal contraceptives, despite widespread use, still pose significant health risks for women... we should more carefully consider the complicated multitude of risk factors associated with these drugs,” said Alexander Mingus, the organization’s associate director. Mingus also said the widespread availability of contraceptives “further facilitated” extramarital sexual relationships.

Knowing that the committee may vote to advance the bill over his organization’s objections, Mingus requested that pharmacists also detail natural family planning and fertility awareness methods in their efforts.

“Recognizing that a pharmacist is an important access point for healthcare, especially in underserved communities, it makes sense that we would provide a fuller range of options to best fit a patient’s needs.”

The committee only heard testimony on the bill Wednesday but plans to consider amendments and vote next week.

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Just Fine For Parking

I recently read in one of my newsfeeds that an 85-year-old man was fumbling through his drawers (which is a funny image, right there) and found a one-dollar parking ticket fine that he had gotten almost 70 years ago and forgot to pay.

Henry was apparently a man with a sharp financial sense. He knew that someday he’d be 85 (with any kind of luck) and that if he conveniently misplaced the summons, he could pay it 60 years later when a buck was a mere pittance—and maybe he could pick up a little positive press for seniors at the same time.

I’d like to re-examine this case in light of a similar event in my own life. I also forgot to pay a parking fine, right before we left for a vacation. It was a legitimate oversight. Actually, I had put the ticket in my back pants pocket, then went home, threw the pants in the Maytag, and that’s the last I remembered seeing it. After that, it was washed completely from my mind.

When we returned from our trip, I received a note from the city saying that my fine had been doubled due to failure to pay. I was somewhat relieved because I had heard that if you are delinquent on paying those tickets, they can even take away your car. Who knows what they take away if you don’t pay a jaywalking ticket!

I recalled that story about Henry. I’m a senior, also. Not quite as senior as Henry, but I think I have entered that period of life when some of my oversights would no longer be considered punishable. Most people would even say they are charming.

I decided to contest this and made the call to the Traffic Violation Bureau: “Hello, I have a question. I’m curious: have you heard about this guy, Henry, the senior citizen who didn’t pay his parking ticket for almost



DICK WOLFSIE
Life in a Nutshell

70 years?”

“Yes, of course. What an uplifting, touching story about the inner goodness of human beings. His honesty is so heartwarming. Who is this, anyway?”

“My name is Dick Wolfsie and I...”

“Yes, Mr. Wolfsie, we have your records. Disgraceful, contemptible—criminal, even.”

“I don’t get it. This guy doesn’t pay his ticket for six decades and he’s a hero. I skip a few weeks and you double my fine? You called his story heartwarming.”

“How old are you, Mr. Wolfsie?”

“I just turned 76.”

“I’m afraid you don’t have enough time left to make your story heartwarming.”

“Look, I still don’t understand why you are punishing me after two months, and I bet you have his photo on your bulletin board.”

“Oh, your picture is up there, too.”

As a result of Henry’s story, I am thinking about heading to my hometown in New York in a couple of months and taking back an old library book that I forgot to return in 1980. Of course, if I do return it now, they’ll charge me big time and call me a thief. But if I could stay alive for 30 more years, they’d think I’m downright adorable.

Dick Wolfsie spent his career sharing his humor, stories and video essays on television, radio and in newspapers. His columns appear weekly in The Paper of Montgomery County. E-mail Dick at Wolfsie@aol.com.

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REALITY

From Page A1



Photo courtesy of Kym Bushong

Certified Financial Planner, Jessica Bokhart, from Market Street Wealth Management never wavered in her enthusiasm as she guided students to make sound financial decisions during her day as a volunteer at the Reality Store. Several students commented on her easy approach in working with them in a stressful financial situation.

were on site issuing tickets for speeding, littering, loitering and child

restraint infractions, forcing the students seek legal counsel from local attorneys who donated their time to manage the Legal Booth.

Karyn Douglas, County Court Clerk, brought voting machine loaded with a mock election and gave a presentation on voting, then gave the students the opportunity to 'vote' before they finished their stint at adulthood. Mary Lou Dawald and Ellen Ball from the League of Women Voters assisted in the voting booth.

It was a lively day with nearly 450 students, staff from each school, and over 125 volunteers who managed the Reality Store.

According to INFBPW President Michele Enlow, this year's event was almost like starting over since the Reality Store had been on hiatus due to COVID. Some of the program has been updated during that time so there were adjustments to

be made.

Patti Harvey, INFBPW Treasurer noted that due to the COVID shutdown of three years, many students missed the experience of the Realty Store. In order to give that experience to the students who missed it, the local BPW will be facilitating the event in October for students in their junior year of school and will hold the event each October until caught up.

For more information about the Reality Store or INFBPW, you may contact Kym Bushong membership chair, at 765-225-9599 or log-folks@aol.com.

When the pencils and calculators were packed away and the dust settled, the one statement that resonated loudly came from a young lady who thought it was one of the best learning days she has ever had. She said, "I'm going to thank my parents for all they do for me and my sister...I never knew."

BUTCH

From Page A1

onous to many people...12 to 14 hours a day on an old Farmall, Case, John Deere, or Allis Chalmers tractor...tilling the land...or taking care of the livestock. They grew corn, soybeans, wheat, oats, sorghum, and alfalfa, and raised many types of animals...hogs, beef cattle, dairy cows, sheep, chickens...along with a horse or pony for the kids. Each man awoke at dawn, ready to begin the chores...feeding the animals, keeping the equipment in good condition, making repairs, tending to the crops, and hundreds of other duties. They rarely, if ever, took a vacation.

The farmers I knew didn't learn how to farm by going to college, by attending seminars, or by reading books. Most learned farming from their fathers. They had many skills. They were smart and were masters at being self-sufficient. If a problem arose, they used common sense or visited neighboring farmers for suggestions. Many times farmers joined in to help each other with the harvesting and other jobs. If a fellow was injured or sick, the entire neighborhood came over to help.

All of the farmers dressed the same... overalls, work boots, an old jacket, and of course a cap from a seed corn or fertilizer company. Their hands were tough and calloused. They weren't concerned with getting rich, owning possessions, or becoming famous. What mattered to them was their families, their farms, their faith, and their communities. Some of them lived in the same

house their entire lives, with farms being passed down from one generation to the next. They had attended the same church since childhood. Their kids went to Darlington school just as they had, and several married their high school sweetheart. I cannot recall any who were divorced.

Each time that Dad and the other farmers made a trip to town...to the elevator, the service station, the restaurant, the drug store...they talked crops, the weather, the basketball team...and of course had a good joke to tell their buddies. On the 3-mile stretch of road that led to town there were six farmers who tilled fields along that road: Lloyd Wells (my uncle), Wally Peebles, Dick Weliever, Gene Smith, Damon Caldwell, Floyd Hampton, and Chuck Doubet. Within a two-mile radius of our farm were fellow farmers Forrest Flaningam, Norman Coltrain, Marvin Bush, Lynn Crowe, Reid Booher, Orville Timmons, Reldo Huffer, John Royer, Royden Paddock, and Bob Groves.

The equipment these men used was minimal. For instance, Dad owned a Farmall M tractor, a smaller Ford 8N tractor, 3-bottom plow, 10-ft disc, 4-row planter, cultipacker, tractor-mounted two-row corn picker, wheat drill, two wooden wagons, a small pull-behind combine, and a sickle-bar mower.

In the 1950s, many farmers took on second jobs to make ends meet. Dad sold seed corn, measured land for the USDA, and drove a school bus

to have enough to feed a wife and five kids. By the early 1960s, many men just couldn't make a living from farming. Dad finally had to give it up as a tenant farmer in 1966. After his equipment was auctioned off and he paid all of his bills, he had a grand total of \$24.00 left to start a new life in town. Fortunately the banker loaned him \$15,000, with no down payment required, so he could purchase his very first house at the age of 42. Sadly, many of the neighboring farmers I knew also had to give up farming and seek work elsewhere. The lucky ones, mostly the farmers who owned their own land, continued on, and a few of those farmers have children who farm their land today. But the number of farmers here in Montgomery County is quite small compared to the past. Today only three men farm the land that was near our farm, compared to the seventeen I mentioned earlier. These farmers till thousands of acres, and very few even have livestock. With millions of dollars invested in their farming operations, one bad year could spell disaster. But they persevere. Why? They are just like their fathers and grandfathers. They are farmers...and proud of it. And although my Dad worked at another job the rest of his life, he was still a farmer at heart.

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.

BOOKS

From Page A1

"Madelynn loves reading and always looks forward to trips to the library!"

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4-H

From Page A1

to fill, weigh, seal, and pack meals that would benefit families in the county. Through this partnership, they were able to 15 boxes. Each box contained 36 packages of food, with each package equaling 6 meals. This means they helped provide 3,240

meals for those in need.

The 4-H program focuses on teaching youth life skills through a variety of educational programs, community service projects, and more. At this meeting, it filled my bucket up to see our 4-H members fully display their skills

of teamwork, concern for others, empathy, citizenship, and leadership. They not only worked together as a team, but they also partnered with a local organization to help address a local issue.

Junior Leaders (for youth in grades 7-12) is just one of our many opportunities offered through the 4-H program. If you have or know of a youth in grades K-12 that may be interested in 4-H, it is not too late to enroll. Visit <https://v2.4honline.com> to enroll today! The cost for Mini 4-H (youth currently in grades K-2nd) is free and the cost for regular 4-H (youth currently in grades 3rd-12th) is \$15/child. If you have any questions about 4-H or want more information about programs offered, please contact the Purdue Extension-Montgomery County office at (765)364-6363 or e-mail asweet@purdue.edu

Abby Morgan is the 4-H Youth Development Educator at the Montgomery County Purdue Extension Office.

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