

TODAY'S VERSE

Matthew 11:28 - 30 *Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.*

FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



Makia Pierce smiles for one of our roving photographers. Thanks for your smile, Makia!

THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 Continuing a practice he started since first taking office, Mayor Todd Barton will once again make himself available to meet with the public. This month's meeting is scheduled to take place tomorrow at 4 - 5 p.m. at the Mayor's Office Conference Room. The Mayor's Office is located at 300 E Pike St.

2 It's official: Tennessee may have an average number of bars but the Volunteer State has the biggest bar in the world, according to the Guinness Book of World Records. It's located in the Humble Baron whiskey distillery in Shelbyville, TN. The circular bar measures a whopping 518 feet and can accommodate more than 15,000 tippers in a town with not quite 24,000 residents. But it's about an hour's drive from Nashville with its population of nearly 700,000. The folks at Guinness tell us that "in the center of the bar is an indoor stage where there are 17 stations featuring on tap, crafted cocktails made from Uncle Nearest Premium Whiskey.

3 The Indiana Department of Transportation announces restrictions on U.S. 231 starting on or after Saturday, April 1 for work on an Added Travel Lanes Project. Restrictions will be active Monday through Friday, and involve an intermittent flagging operation. Saturday restrictions are also possible.

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OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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Photo courtesy of CDPL

Visit the Sugar Creek Quilters' page on Facebook to learn more about their organization!

Annual Exhibit Of Sugar Creek Quilters' Guild

The Mary Bishop Memorial Gallery at the Crawfordsville District Public Library would like to welcome the public to view the Annual Exhibit of Sugar Creek Quilters' Guild. Their impressive textiles will be on display now through the end of April during CDPL's hours of operation. A limited amount of quilted works will be for sale during the exhibition through our Circulation department.

On Sept. 14, 1992, the first assemblage of the Sugar Creek Quilters' Guild met at the Old Jail Museum where an exhibit of Log Cabin Quilts was being held. Organizers, Katie Mitchell and Anita Hardwick had no idea that 30 quilters would fill the room and be excited about joining together for the joy of quilting. They decided

See QUILTERS Page A5

Are Women's Health Care And Our Business Economy In Peril?

NOTE: This is the first of a two-part column addressing these issues

A diverse crowd of more than 60 people gathered at the



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

Crawfordsville District Public Library last week to learn factual information about Indiana's new reproductive health policies. How are last summer's Supreme Court Dobbs Decision and the passage of Indiana's Senate Bill 1 affecting the economic and

public health profile of our state and our own community?

Women of childbearing age are at the center of this discussion. Currently abortion continues to be legal in Indiana while the Indiana Supreme Court considers the two injunctions filed against Senate Bill 1: One case claims SB 1 is illegal under the Indiana Constitution privacy clause; the other case claims illegality based on equal rights and religious freedom. Nonetheless, the passage of SB 1 has had a chilling effect on Indiana's medical and business communities. These directly affect our economy. Indiana's flagship and smaller businesses alike have raised the red flag about worker retention and hiring. They are

See LWV Page A6

City Of Cville To Develop Shortz Nature Park

The City of Crawfordsville is pleased to announce the future development of a 47-acre nature park on the city's southwest side near the intersection of SR 47 and SR 32. Crawfordsville native Will Shortz currently owns the property, and the nature park is being made possible by his generous donation of the property to the city. Mr. Shortz, a well-known puzzle creator and editor, is best known for his work as crossword puzzle editor for the New York Times; he grew up in Crawfordsville on the plot of land he is donating for the park.

The park will be named the Shortz Nature Park in honor of the Shortz family and Will's donation of the property for current and future community residents to enjoy.

The city is preparing to apply for a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to fund many of the

See PARK Page A6

How Low Can We Go? The Answers Are Evident



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

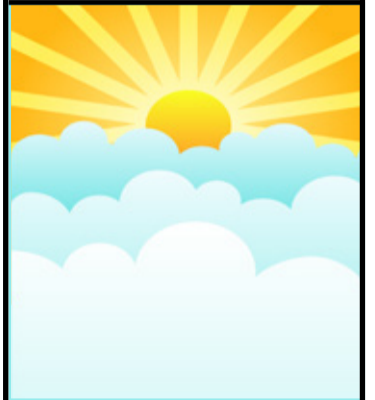
Remember Harry Belafonte's version of the Limbo song. . . that rich baritone asking how low can you go?

Harry is 96 today and I'm guessing might be surprised at the answer to that question. Why? Because today, in this country, we're proving over and over and over we can go pretty doggone low.

And it doesn't feel like we're done yet.

See TIM Page A6

The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:31 a.m.
SET: 8:06 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 54 °F
Low: 32 °F



Today Is...

- National Vietnam Veterans Day
- Piano Day



What Happened On This Day

- 2010 Two Chechen suicide bombers detonate their devices in the Moscow underground
- 1971 Charles Manson is sentenced to death in the gas chamber



Births On This Day

- 1895 Ernst Jünger German author
- 1976 Jennifer Capriati American tennis player

Deaths On This Day

- 1982 Walter Hallstein 1st President of the European Commission
- 1924 Charles Villiers Stanford Irish composer

HONEST HOOSIER

Sports wagering is getting out of hand. Think I'm wrong? Wanna bet?



INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

Obituaries.....A2
Public Notices.....A4
Classifieds.....A4

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Three-quarters of U.S. teens and adults don't get enough vitamin D in their diets.

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

Thomas "Tom" Lee Lyon

The Paper appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank Darlington Public Library 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

"People ask me what I do in winter when there's no baseball. I'll tell you what I do. I stare out the window and wait for spring."
Rogers Hornsby

TODAY'S JOKE

It's allergy season AGAIN!!! You've GOT to be pollen my leg!

7 DAY FORECAST

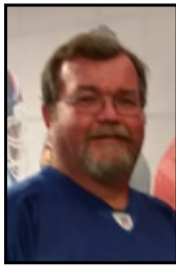
| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 32/49 SPOTTY SHOWERS TUE | 32/54 PARTLY CLOUDY, STRAY SHOWER WED | 34/60 MILDER THU | 51/64 RAIN, STORMS FRI | 53/53 STRAY SHOWERS, FALLING TEMPS SAT | 33/62 SUN AND CLOUDS SUN | 40/65 MAINLY SUNNY MON |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|

OBITUARIES

Thomas "Tom" Lee Lyon

Sept. 3, 1965 - March 26, 2023

Thomas "Tom" Lee Lyon, age 57, of Waynetown passed away on Sunday, March 26, 2023, at his home. He was born in Crawfordsville on Sept. 3, 1965, to the late William Robert "Bob" and Darlene (Cox) Lyon.



He graduated from Crawfordsville High School, Class of 1983. Tom married Sherrie Lewis on September 2, 2004 at Turkey Run. He worked as a crane operator for Whitesville Mill for 2 years and a press operator at Heritage for 25 years. He was an avid bowler and enjoyed watching the Chicago Bears Football and Purdue Boilermaker Basketball.

He is survived by his wife, Sherrie; children, Jeremiah Lyon of Waynetown, Hannah Lyon of Crawfordsville, Danielle (John Hayden) Lewis of Des Plaines, IL, Jamie (Lance) Curran of Mount Prospect, IL, and Harlie Westerman of Clinton; grandchildren, Addelaide Mylo Foy, Coen Curran, and Yorke Curran; sister, Deb (Kevin) Kinkead, Crawfordsville; brother, Tony Lyon of Greencastle; mother-in-law, Anita Lewis of Crawfordsville; sisters-in-law, Dawn Lewis of Crawfordsville and Carla Dailey Lewis of Lafayette; and nieces, Kayla (Chris) Barsotti, Kari Brant, and Kristen (Chad) Gleason; aunt Sue Lyon of New Richmond; cousins, Kathi (Lonnie) Jones of New Richmond, Karen (Eric) Vickery of Crawfordsville, Kay Lyon of New Richmond; his best friends, Martin Fleener and Rick Stephenson; and several great nieces and great nephews.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents; uncle Gene Lyon; father-in-law, Fred Lewis; brother-in-law, Brian Lewis.

Tom's family extends a special thank you to their friends and family of Ben Hur Nursing Home and staff of Care Hospice, Marine Canine Cancer Center, and Sanders Funeral Care. They would also like to thank Chris Risner from Creekside and any family and friends who sent gifts or stopped for a visit. The family is very appreciative of Tom's Heritage friends who installed a flagpole with a Chicago Bears and Purdue Boilermaker flag.

Visitation at Sanders Priebe Funeral Care, 315 S.

Washington Street, Crawfordsville on Saturday, April 1, 2023 from 10 a.m. until the time of the service at 12 p.m., with Rod Curran officiating. Burial will follow at Bethany Cemetery in Marshall. Share memories and condolences online at www.SandersFuneralCare.com

Child Care Expansion Grants Applications Now Open To Early Education Providers

Indiana's Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning today announced that \$10 million in funding is available to child care and early education providers to expand access to high-quality early education for Hoosier families.

"This Child Care Expansion Grant provides a great opportunity for child care providers who are looking to grow their businesses and serve more children and families, particularly in underserved areas of Indiana, or to expand availability to priority age groups where care is often hardest to find," said Courtney Penn, director of FSSA's Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning. "The first five years of a child's life are the most significant to build a strong foundation for future success. We welcome the opportunity to partner with providers to serve hard-working Hoosier families."



Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning

The funds for this program are made possible through Senate Enrolled Act 2 from the 2022 Indiana General Assembly special session, as well as funding from the federal American Rescue Plan Act.

The grant will be competitive with funding offered across two tracks:

- Existing program expansion: Up to \$200,000 per program to assist providers who accept child care assistance in updating existing facilities and operations with priority given to high-quality providers and those adding capacity or serving underserved age groups, such as infants and toddlers
- New program creation: Up to \$750,000 per program to assist providers in establishing

new child care programs in underserved areas of the state

An applicant must be the intended operator of the new program, provide data to demonstrate a need for new child care in the community and must contribute at least ten percent of the total project budget, either in cash, loan funding or through in-kind donations or contributions.

Applications are open now through May 12.

This expansion grant helps to build upon FSSA's recent work to help stabilize and grow child care in Indiana to support child care providers and build available child care capacity. This includes:

- Providing \$542 million in stabilization grants in 2021 and 2022 to more than 3,300 child care providers to help

them rebuild after the instability caused by the pandemic.

These investments directly strengthened the workforce, leading to a 29% decrease in vacant child care and early learning teaching positions from 2021 to 2022.

Assembling a working group of child care professionals to review current licensing rules and regulations and make recommendations to remove barriers that make licensing more burdensome than necessary.

Analyzing the data received during the stabilization grant process to help reevaluate reimbursement rates to providers, to make them more in-line with the actual cost of child care.

The Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning is a division of the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration. Child care providers may send questions to ocosl-providerinquiry@fssa.in.gov.

Indiana Securities Division Joins \$22.5 Million Settlement With The Nexo Group Related To Cryptocurrency

The Office of the Indiana Secretary of State, Securities Division joined other state securities regulators and the U.S. Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) in jointly announcing a settlement with Nexo Capital, Inc. (Nexo). The settlement requires Nexo to pay a fine of approximately \$22.5 million to states and U.S. territories. Indiana's portion is approximately \$424,528. Some of these funds will go towards the Indiana Securities Restitution fund to help victims of securities violations and to an enforcement fund supporting investor education.

The action arises out of claims that Nexo issued securities consisting of digital asset lending products that were not registered with the Securities

Division in violation of state laws.

Nexo's securities, called "Earn Interest Products" or "EIPs", offered interest to investors who set up accounts hosted by Nexo in which they deposited cryptocurrency assets. The Division alleges that the accounts, which lack the protections offered by banking institutions such as the FDIC, were pooled and used to fund Nexo's lending and trading operations. The purpose of registration is to require that investors receive financial and other significant information concerning securities being offered and to prohibit deceit, misrepresentations, and other fraud in the sale of securities.

Indiana is one of the eight leading states, playing an integral role in

reaching this settlement.

Through the EIP, investors expected to passively earn interest on digital assets by loaning those assets to Nexo. Nexo maintained total discretion over the revenue-generating activities utilized to earn returns for investors. The company offered and promoted the EIP and other products to investors in the U.S. via its website and social media channels, suggesting in some instances investors could obtain returns as high as 36%. The Securities Division states that over one thousand Hoosiers invested assets worth over \$6.4 million with Nexo in EIPs. Nationally, more than 93,000 investors invested over \$800 million in Nexo's offering.

Indiana Secretary of

State Diego Morales thanked Securities Commissioner Marie Castetter for her Division's efforts, stating "My office will continue to investigate and enforce violations of securities laws, which exist to protect the public and allow Hoosiers to make informed decisions when placing their life savings into new and potentially volatile financial products."

Before investing, always do your research and don't assume a company is reputable, properly registered, or following the law. If you believe you've been victimized by a cryptocurrency-related offering, please visit the Indiana Secretary of State Securities Division or contact the Securities Division at securities@sos.in.gov or (317) 232-6681.

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Mixed Beverage Bill Could Impact Prices For Consumers

By Leslie Bonilla Muñiz

A bill letting beer wholesalers cash in on lucrative liquor-based drinks would “expand their monopolistic advantage” and raise prices for consumers, argues a leading wine and liquor organization.

But beer wholesalers say it shouldn't affect pricing, and that they should be able to sell products from brands they've spent millions promoting.

Indiana has three types of alcohol permits and no entity can hold all three.

Permit holders can deal in wine and either beer or liquor. That means categorizing a beverage as beer or liquor locks the opposing group out from business in that drink. Classifying something as wine extends access to all.

As brands like White Claw and Truly — both name-dropped during legislative proceedings — expand into spirits-based versions, their products go to liquor wholesalers by default.

House Bill 1544 would change that by defining liquor-based mixed beverages and putting them under wine licenses. Beer wholesalers already have control over malt-based hard seltzers.

Price fight

Could the measure raise prices for consumers?

Wine and Spirits Distributors of Indiana Executive Director Jim Purucker feared it could. He told the Capital Chronicle that Indiana's lower number of liquor

wholesalers each have many more stores, so they can negotiate lower bulk rates and pass savings onto buyers.

“When retailers are forced to purchase a product from wholesalers in relatively small exclusive geographic territories, it reduces the retailer's ability to negotiate for a lower price to virtually zero and Hoosiers pay more,” he said in a news release last week.

Indiana Beverage Alliance Executive Director Tyler Starkey was confident negotiations would result in competitive, market-based prices, telling the Capital Chronicle that beer wholesalers have “good partners” in their retailers. The Alliance is made up of beer wholesalers.

But if prices did go up, he said, the market would self-correct: suppliers would go back to liquor wholesalers to get their products to retailers.

“All this does is provide an additional option — no one has to use us [beer wholesalers]. And no one has to stay with us,” Starkey told the Capital Chronicle.

System dissatisfaction?

For wine and liquor wholesalers, the bill is another slight in a system they see as overly protective of “beer guys.” But beer wholesalers say the bill has little to do with those “trade practice issues.”

Indiana gives beer wholesalers franchise, geography and credit protections, which Purucker described as

privileges not extended to wine and liquor wholesalers.

“These monopolistic advantages are granted by the government to only politically powerful beer wholesalers, giving them a near-permanent state-sponsored stranglehold on the marketplace,” he said in the news release.

He said the legislation as written puts an estimated “\$100 million of business in our warehouses at risk a year.” His organization plans to “aggressively” combat those protections to “level” the playing field.

Beer wholesalers say the bill is narrowly focused.

No Senate hearing has been scheduled yet for House Bill 1544

“A lot of these trade practice issues and buzzwords you hear in the alcohol space have nothing to do with our legislation,” Starkey said. “What our legislation does is just provide an additional opportunity for our suppliers to control the route to market. We get to carry the products that they supply. We've helped wholesale for them for decades.”

Beer wholesalers also want their investments in merchandise, free samples and more to keep paying off.

Stanley Zihlerl, president of Five Star Distributing, told the Capital Chronicle that wholesalers are hurt if they've built up equity in a brand but are blocked from dealing in some popular new products.

Beer wholesalers also want their investments in merchandise, free samples and more to keep paying off.

Beer wholesalers also want their investments in merchandise, free samples and more to keep paying off.

Innovation blurs

boundaries

Alcohol brands are continuing to diversify their offerings, producing more products that either don't fall cleanly into one category under law, or involve starkly different wholesaler types. Wine and spirits wholesalers fear the implications, but beer wholesalers say they're zeroed-in only on this year's bill.

Many traditional beer brands, for example, now include wines and spirits: think Natural Light vodkas or malt- and wine-based Fireball Cinnamon.

“This whole discussion is not about these flavored beverages or these mixed cocktails. This is a much larger discussion,” Purucker said. “To suggest that somehow it's going to end here and not be extended to White Claw vodka or Cutwater vodka ...”

“We know where this is headed,” he added.

Beer wholesalers denied that suggestion.

“The only plans that I have go through the end of April of 2023,” Starkey said, referring to the end of the legislative session. “And our effort is on these mixed beverage products.”

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Indiana Chamber To Host Environmental Permitting And Reporting Conference

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) enforces billions of dollars every year in combined federal administrative, civil judicial penalties and criminal fines. An Indiana Chamber of Commerce offering next month is designed to help Hoosier companies avoid those hits to their bottom line.

The Environmental Permitting and Reporting Conference, which takes place April 26-27 in downtown Indianapolis, is the “the most complete and comprehensive permitting and reporting course offered in the state,” says Kerri Begley, Indiana Chamber vice president of business education and events.

It's also convenient — with in-person and virtual attendance options — and timely, including the latest action from the 2023 legislative session. Fee increases for Indiana's air permitting program, in order to avoid takeover from the EPA, is a key policy currently being debated by state lawmakers. This is among the many topics on the agenda focused on preparing businesses for any existing and new costs and requirements.

“Our conference will get you up to speed on the prevalent reporting issues impacting Hoosier companies today,” offers Begley. “Whether you participate in person or virtually, this conference affords vital training for plant managers to facility personnel — all those that deal with air and water permitting issues.”

Other topics include: sustainability reporting and customer requests; environmental management fundamentals; an Indiana Department of Environmental Management update; water, air and waste permitting; self-disclosure reporting; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act: hazardous waste generator compliance; and annual Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act reporting.

The cost for the conference is \$749 for Indiana Chamber members or \$849 for non-members. Register at www.indianachamber.com/conferences.

The conference is sponsored by KERAMIDA Inc. and companies sending two or more attendees can receive a 20% discount at check-out by using the promo code GROUP20.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Montgomery Superior Court 1 of Montgomery County, Indiana, in Cause No. 54D01-2210-MF-000955, wherein Nationstar Mortgage, LLC was Plaintiff, and Rodger L. Heer was a Defendant, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 10th day of May, 2023, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 600 Memorial Drive, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Montgomery County, Indiana.

LOT 8 OF THE HABITAT OF HUMANITY FIRST ADDITION, A SUBDIVISION TO THE CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, INDIANA SUBJECT TO ALL RESTRICTIVE AND PROTETIVE COVENANTS, DEDICATION OF EASEMENTS, ALLEY AND UTILITIES FOR PUBLIC USE OF RECORD, AS SHOWN ON THE RECORDED PLAT OF DEED RECORD 200407948 PAGES 38 AND PAGE 39 IN THE RECORDERS OFFICE OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, INDIANA.

More commonly known as 605 Russell Ave, Crawfordsville, IN 47933-2729

Parcel No. 54-10-06-112-154.000-030

Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisalment laws.

/s/ BRYAN K. REDMOND
BRYAN K. REDMOND, Plaintiff Attorney
Attorney # 22108-29
FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C.
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Ryan Needham, Sheriff
Union Township

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**NOTICE
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PL4607 3/29 4/5 4/12 3t hspaxlp

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me, directed from the Clerk of Montgomery Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Indiana, in Cause No. 54C01-2204-MF-000321, wherein PennyMac Loan Services, LLC was Plaintiff, and Lynette R. Dumas, Aremo Investments and Credit Acceptance Corp. were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree, with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 10th day of May, 2023, at the hour of 10:00 AM, or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 600 Memorial Drive, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Montgomery County, Indiana.

PART OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION FIVE (5), TOWNSHIP EIGHTEEN (18) NORTH, RANGE FOUR (4) WEST, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE EAST LINE OF JOHN STREET 105 FEET SOUTH OF THE INTERSECTION OF THE SOUTH LINE OF FREMONT STREET, NOW TUTTLE AVENUE, AND THE EAST LINE OF SAID JOHN STREET, IN THE CITY OF CRAWFORDSVILLE AND RUNNING THENCE SOUTH 60 FEET; THENCE EAST 100 FEET; THENCE NORTH 70 FEET; THENCE WEST 50 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 10 FEET; THENCE WEST 50 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, INDIANA.

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Parcel No. 54-10-05-113-058.000-030

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/s/ BRYAN K. REDMOND
BRYAN K. REDMOND, Plaintiff Attorney
Attorney # 22108-29
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Indianapolis, IN 46250
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PL4606 3/29 4/5 4/12 3t hspaxlp

**Notice of Adoption of Ordinance
Designating Stop Intersections in the North Ridge Neighborhood**
On 13 March 2023, the Crawfordsville Common Council passed an ordinance that the Mayor approved to take effect on or after publication of this notice. Full text of the ordinance is available upon request of the Clerk-Treasurer of the City of Crawfordsville at 300 E. Pike Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana, 47933. An abstract of the ordinance follows:

ABSTRACT – ORDINANCE 7-2023 – AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING STOP INTERSECTIONS IN THE NORTH RIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD

Section 1. That Schedule I Stop Intersections of Chapter 76 of the Crawfordsville Code of Ordinances should be amended to add:

| Street | Intersection | Ord. No. | Date Passed |
|-------------------|----------------|----------|-------------|
| Winterberry Drive | Ridgeway Drive | 7-2023 | 03-13-23 |
| Ridgeway Court | Ridgeway Drive | 7-2023 | 03-13-23 |

The ordinance, for the purpose of public safety and welfare to address traffic, parking, and safety concerns, establishes stop intersections at the above-cited intersections in the North Ridge Neighborhood in the City of Crawfordsville as an amendment addition to Crawfordsville City Code Chapter 76 Schedule I (Stop Intersections). The Crawfordsville Street Commissioner is authorized to install the necessary yield signs and markings in conformance with Indiana law. Violations of the ordinance are punishable by civil fines and penalties under the City's traffic ordinances, Title VII of the Crawfordsville City Code.

J. Kent Minnette
City Attorney, Crawfordsville, Indiana

PL4602 3/29 1t hspaxlp

MDK # 22-037388
STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE MONTGOMERY CIRCUIT COURT
) SS:
COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY) CAUSE NO. 54C01-2302-MF-000144
Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC
Plaintiff,
vs.
The Unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, beneficiaries of Allen Beasley and their unknown creditors; and, the unknown executor, administrator, or personal representative of the Estate of Allen Beasley, et al.
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SUIT SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO: The Unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, beneficiaries of Allen Beasley and their unknown creditors; and, the unknown executor, administrator, or personal representative of the Estate of Allen Beasley;
BE IT KNOWN, that Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, the above-named Plaintiff, by its attorney, J. Dustin Smith, has filed in the office of the Clerk of the Montgomery Circuit Court its Complaint against Defendant The Unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, beneficiaries of Allen Beasley and their unknown creditors; and, the unknown executor, administrator, or personal representative of the Estate of Allen Beasley, and the said Plaintiff having also filed in said Clerk's office the affidavit of a competent person showing that the residence and whereabouts of the Defendant, The Unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, beneficiaries of Allen Beasley and their unknown creditors; and, the unknown executor, administrator, or personal representative of the Estate of Allen Beasley, upon diligent inquiry is unknown, and that said cause of action is for default on the promissory note and to foreclose a mortgage on the following described real estate in Montgomery County, State of Indiana, to wit:
Part of the East Half of Section 21, Township 18 North, Range 3 West, described as follows:
Beginning 3201 feet North of the Southwest corner of the East Half of the Southeast Quarter of said Section and running thence East 320.2 feet; thence North 109.5 feet; thence West 320.5 feet, thence South 109.5 feet to the place of beginning, containing .805 of an acre, more or less, in Montgomery County, Indiana

commonly known as 3376 South 775 East, New Ross, IN 47968.
NOW, THEREFORE, said Defendant is hereby notified of the filing and pendency of said Complaint against them and that unless they appear and answer or otherwise defend thereto within thirty (30) days after the last notice of this action is published, judgment by default may be entered against said Defendant for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated Clerk, Montgomery Circuit Court
J. Dustin Smith (29493-06)
Stephanie A. Reinhart (25071-06)
Nicholas M. Smith (31800-15)
Chris Wiley (26936-10)
Susan B. Klineman (17405-49)
Attorneys for Plaintiff
MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC
P.O. Box 165028
Columbus OH 43216-5028
Telephone: 614-220-5611
Facsimile: 614-220-5613
Email: sef-jdsmith@manleydeas.com

PL4597 3/22 3/29 4/5 3t hspaxlp

**TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTEREST PARTIES
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE**
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Superior Court of Montgomery County, Indiana, in Cause No. 54D02-2111-MF-000935 wherein U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust was Plaintiff, and Brian Higgins aka Brian S Higgins, et al., were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 10 day of May, 2023, at the hour of 10 am or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 600 Memorial Drive, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Montgomery County, Indiana.

LOT NUMBERED THREE (3) AS THE SAME IS KNOWN AND DESIGNATED ON THE RECORDED PLAT OF JAMES W. TRIBBY'S FIRST ADDITION TO THE TOWN OF NEW RICHMOND, IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, INDIANA.
SUBJECT TO ALL LIENS, EASEMENTS AND ENCUMBRANCES OF RECORD.
More commonly known as: 305 S Wabash Street, New Richmond, IN 47967

Parcel No. 54-03-10-332-010.000-013
Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisalment laws.
"Subject to all liens, encumbrances and easements of record not otherwise extinguished in the Circuit/Superior Court of the County of Montgomery, Indiana."
Plaintiff Attorney:
Matthew C. Gladwell (30493-49)
Christopher J. Arlinghaus (31680-15)
Reisenfeld & Associates LLC
3962 Red Bank Road
Cincinnati, OH 45227
Voice: (513) 322-7000
Facsimile: (513) 322-7099
305 S Wabash Street, New Richmond, IN 47967
Street Address
The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein
PL4605 3/29 4/5 4/12 3t hspaxlp

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF HEARING ON PROPOSED RE-ESTABLISHMENT CUMULATIVE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of Town of Linden, Montgomery County, Indiana, that the Linden Town Council will consider at 302 E Water Street, Linden IN 47955 at 7 o'clock pm on April 25, 2023, the re-establishment of a Cumulative Capital Development Fund under the provisions of Indiana Code IC36-9-15.5 for the purposes as follows:
IC 36-9-15.5-2 Authorization of fund; purpose Sec. 2. The legislative body of a municipality may establish a cumulative capital development fund under IC 6-1.1-41 to provide money for any purpose for which property taxes may be imposed within the municipality under the authority of: IC 8-16-3; IC 8-22-3-25; IC 14-27-6-48; IC 14-33-14; IC 16-23-1-40; IC 36-8-14; IC 36-9-4-48; IC 36-9-16-2; IC 36-9-16-3; IC 36-9-16.5; IC 36-9-17; IC 36-9-26; IC 36-9-27-100; IC 36-10-3-21; or IC 36-10-4-36.
The tax will be levied on all taxable real and personal property within the taxing district and will not exceed \$0.0500 per \$100 of assessed valuation. The proposed fund will be levied beginning with taxes due and payable in the year 2024. Taxpayers appearing at such hearing shall have the right to be heard thereon. The proposed tax rate for the Cumulative Capital Development Fund is subject to certification by the Department of Local Government Finance.
Within 30 days after the date of the adoption of the cumulative fund by the Linden Town Council, the Town of Linden will publish a Notice of Adoption.
Upon publication of the Notice of Adoption, 25 or more taxpayers in the taxing district may file a petition with the County Auditor not later than noon 30 days after the publication of the Notice of Adoption setting forth their objections to the proposed fund.
Dated this 24th day of March, 2023

Linden Town Board
Wade Bennett, President
Paul Buckles, Member
Dennis Charleston, Member
PL4604 3/29 4/5 2t hspaxlp

**Notice of Adoption of Ordinance
Repealing Handicapped Parking Designation at 312 South Water Street**
On 13 March 2023, the Crawfordsville Common Council passed Ordinance 8-2023 – An Ordinance Repealing Handicapped Parking Designation at 312 South Water Street. The City hereby gives notice that this restricted parking designation is repealed and parking at 312 South Water Street is open for parking subject to all other terms of the Crawfordsville City Code, or Indiana law, or both.
J. Kent Minnette
City Attorney, Crawfordsville, Indiana
PL4603 3/29 1t hspaxlp

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3 Kids, 3 Adults Killed In Shooting At Nashville Private Elementary School

By Lookout Staff

Three children and three adult staff members are dead after a mass shooting event Monday at The Covenant School, a private Christian school in Nashville's Green Hills neighborhood.

Among the victims are three 9-year-old children: Evelyn Dieckhaus, Hallie Scroggs, and William Kinney. The adult victims are Cynthia Peak, 61, Mike Hill, 61, and Katherine Koonce, 60. Police said Peak was a substitute teacher, Hill a custodian and Koonce Covenant's head of school.

The shooter, identified as 28-year-old Nashville native Audrey Elizabeth Hale, was killed by responding officers, according to police. Hale is believed to be a former student of the school, Nashville Police Chief John Drake said. Police said they have found a "manifesto," a map detailing entry points into the school and other materials. Local and federal law enforcement on Monday afternoon continued a search of the Nashville home Hale shared with parents and also said they have found no prior criminal history.

Drake said Hale may have had plans to target another school.

"It's a very unfortunate situation," Drake said of the tragic loss of life. He was moved to tears to see children being ushered out of the building following the shooting, he said. "My heart goes out to the families of all six" victims.

All of the victims' families have been notified, according to police. Families of students and staff gathered at a nearby church that served as a reunification center.

President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden on Monday morning also addressed the tragedy at separate public appearances.

"It's sick ... heart-breaking ... a family's worst nightmare" the president said. He called on Congress to pass an assault weapons ban and urged students and teachers to seek out counseling.

"We stand with Nashville in prayer," Jill Biden said.

Shooting details

The shooting took place Monday morning inside the school where 209 students and 42 staff are present on a typical day. The school, operated by Covenant Presbyterian Church, is located in

one of Nashville's most affluent neighborhoods.

Nashville Police responded to a report of an active shooter incident made at 10:13 a.m., said Don Aaron, a police department spokesman.

At 10:27 a.m. the shooter was killed by two of a five-member police team that responded, he said.

Aaron said the shooter was armed with at least two assault rifles and a handgun. Hale entered by shooting through a side door at the school and went to the second floor, police said. The shooting took place on the second floor, a "lobby-type area," not inside a classroom.

Drake said they believe two of the weapons were legally obtained in Nashville.

One officer suffered a hand injury from cut glass, Aaron said. "That is the only other injury I'm aware of," he added.

Vanderbilt University Medical Center confirmed students from the pre-K-6th grade school on Burton Hills Road were transported to Monroe Carrell Jr. Children's Hospital, where they were pronounced dead.

The private school had no onsite school resource officer, Aaron said.

The school did have security cameras. "There is video from the school we are viewing now to try and learn exactly how all of this happened," Aaron said.

Nashville Police plan to release video of officers confronting the shooter.

A nearby vehicle yielded clues to law enforcement about the shooter's identity, the police chief said.

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation will handle the officer-involved shooting, while Nashville police will field the larger investigation, law enforcement officials said during a 2 p.m. briefing.

"It's a horrible, senseless tragedy, and we will be here working with our partners to get through this," said TBI Director David Rausch.

Reaction pours in
Rep. Bob Freeman, D-Nashville, issued a statement on the incident, which took place in his South Nashville state-house district.

"This is an unimaginable tragedy for the victims, all the children, families, teachers, staff and my entire community," Freeman said.

"I live around the corner from Covenant and pass by it often. I

have friends who attend both church and school there. I have also visited the church in the past. It tears my heart apart to see this. I'm praying for my neighborhood, my city and my state," he said. "It is time to pull together and provide all the love and support that we can to those affected by this terrible catastrophe. It is time for serious action."

State Sen. Heidi Campbell, a Nashville Democrat, spent the day at Covenant School reuniting parents with students in the church sanctuary. The school also located in her district.

"No parent should have to go through this. This has been the worst waiting room I've ever sat in," Campbell said.

Campbell, in part, blames what she calls a "diseased gun culture" for the shooting deaths. Tennessee passed a permitless carry law in July 2021 allowing anyone except felons, two-time DUI offenders and stalkers to carry handguns without a state permit process.

The law applies to residents 21 and older, but bills are moving this year in the General Assembly to lower the age limit to 18.

Campbell said when she spoke out against the legislation two years ago on the Senate floor, the bill's sponsor told her "this is the price we pay for freedom."

"This has nothing to do with freedom. This is the antithesis of freedom. These parents are sitting here with minutes turning into hours waiting to find out what's happened to their children," Campbell said.

Gov. Bill Lee said on Twitter early Monday afternoon he was monitoring the situation.

"As we continue to respond, please join us in praying for the school, congregation and Nashville community," Lee said.

The House Republican Caucus issued a statement calling the shooting deaths "a horrific act of violence carried out by a disturbed individual."

Tennessee Lookout is part of States Newsroom, a network of news bureaus supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501c(3) public charity. Tennessee Lookout maintains editorial independence. Contact Editor Holly McCall for questions: info@tennesseelookout.com. Follow Tennessee Lookout on Facebook and Twitter.

5 Tax-Efficient Strategies To Include In A Holistic Financial Plan

(State Point) As consumers focus on filing taxes and spending returns, a new study reveals a need for increased awareness around tax-efficient financial strategies. Lincoln Financial Group's Consumer Sentiment Tracker reports that only 2% of Americans can correctly identify financial solutions with tax advantages, despite one in three saying they prioritize investments that would help them pay less in taxes either now or in the future.

"Lincoln's research shows consumers are under-educated about tax strategy and tax-efficient investments, revealing a disconnect between aspirations and actions," said David Berkowitz, president, Lincoln Financial Network, the wealth management arm of Lincoln Financial Group, which provides advice and guidance through its network of independent financial professionals. "Consulting a financial professional and learning more about products and solutions can grow one's confidence in their financial decisions."

While not intended to be legal or tax advice, Lincoln Financial Group recommends considering the following five tax-efficient strategies as part of a holistic financial plan:

1. Contribute to a workplace retirement account. Pretax contributions to an employer-sponsored retirement savings plan will reduce total taxable income and allow savings to grow tax

deferred. A good rule of thumb is to save at least 10% to 15% of your pay, but if that feels out of reach, start wherever possible and increase contributions a little each year to see big changes in total savings over time. Remember to save up to the employer match, if one is offered.

2. Explore the value of lifetime income. At a time when people are living longer and face greater risks to their savings, an annuity can provide protected guaranteed monthly income that can last a lifetime. Taxes on the gains aren't paid until the money is withdrawn, so interest can be earned on the money that would have otherwise been paid in taxes. Being in a lower tax bracket during retirement means potentially paying less in taxes overall on the same amount of money. A financial professional can help determine which type of annuity might best fit your specific needs.

3. Prepare for unexpected long-term care costs. The greatest changes to income and lifestyle may result from an unexpected long-term health care event. Different solutions can help provide a cushion, and many of these benefits are income tax-free. Understanding the various policies is the first step in helping ensure you'll receive needed care without passing a financial burden on to family or loved ones.

4. Diversify a portfolio with life insurance.

Adding cash value life insurance to a larger financial plan can help protect savings and provide an income tax-free death benefit for your beneficiaries, as well as tax-deferred growth opportunities. It can also offer advantages that help meet goals at every stage of life, including funding a child's education costs; strengthening retirement savings; creating additional cash flow; and protecting wealth for future generations. Keep in mind that if loans or withdrawals are taken from the policy, it will reduce the value of the death benefit and other payouts, as well as have potential tax consequences.

5. Work with a financial professional. According to Lincoln's study, just 1 in 5 U.S. adults feels very confident about making financial decisions to minimize exposure to taxes, yet 47% say they are more concerned about the impact of taxes on their retirement savings due to the current market. A financial professional can help tailor a holistic plan to your needs, as well as provide education about various insurance and retirement solutions.

"Ongoing challenges like market volatility, inflation and changing tax laws have the potential to hit wallets hard," said Berkowitz. "That's why tax-efficient investing is an important aspect of financial planning that can help you build wealth and achieve your financial goals."

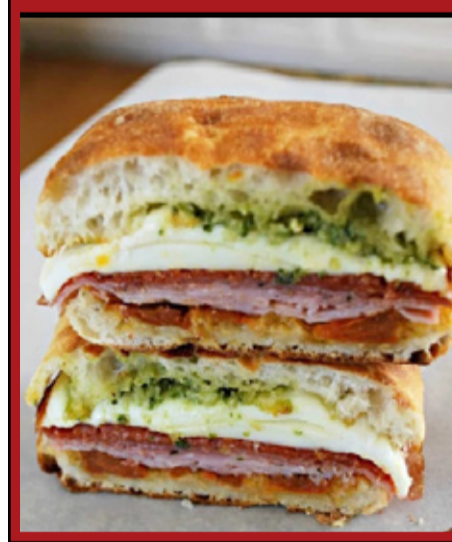
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Thursday through Saturday / 8am - 8pm

Closed Sunday



Daily Specials
Soup & Salad Bar

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Crawfordsville

765-307-2250

Whitlock Place Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 1st
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Easter Bunny is coming to Whitlock Place!

Bring the family for an afternoon of fun. We will have an Easter egg hunt starting at 2:30 p.m. Each age group has one special golden egg to find! We will be serving treats, have an Easter craft, and pictures with the Easter Bunny.

Stop by Whitlock Place and pick up a picture to color. After coloring the picture, bring it to Whitlock Place by Thursday, March 30th to enter for judging by our residents, we will display all pictures to share with everyone who visits our community.

Whitlock Place
Senior Living

1719 South Elm Street
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
765-379-8206

QUILTERS From Page A1

their purpose was to encourage the enjoyment of sewing and strengthen the bond between quilters. The Guild has shared its work with the community since the group was created and they have exhibited their quilts at CDPL almost every year since 1995.

The Guild's activities started with a workshop making baby quilts for newborns at the Well Baby Clinic. They have made quilts for the Family Crisis Center, Marie Canine Cancer Center, Well Baby Clinic, and Military Veterans. The Sugar Creek Quilters Guild has held educational activities for both adults and 4th graders during Pioneer Days. They give their support to the 4-H Youth organization by sponsoring awards for the sewing category. The Guild also hosted the State Quilt

Guild with the help of merchants who displayed quilts in their windows and venues that provided exhibit spaces. Each year in November, the guild members bring creations to be sold at the Holiday Bazaar to raise money for these community projects and programs.

The Sugar Creek Quilters' Guild meets on the 3rd Monday night of the month at 6:30 pm. Programs and Show & Tell featuring their members are major focal points of these meetings. Field trips and retreats also play an important role for the Guild's members. They have held basting bees. Challenges have been offered, fabrics have been shared, and the block of the month has been available for members to enjoy and grow. They are continually accepting new

members, professional and amateur, advanced and beginners, all are welcome. Janet Fields enthusiastically states, "We aspire to inspire! Now, as we begin our 31st year, we have learned various techniques and formed many friendships. Everyone is welcome no matter your skill level."

Please visit the Sugar Creek Quilters' page on Facebook to learn more about their organization. For more information about CDPL's hours of operation, please visit our website at <http://www.cdpl.lib.in.us/>. If you are an artist or a member of an artists' group and are interested in displaying your work at the Mary Bishop Memorial Gallery in 2024, please contact Toni the Gallery Coordinator at (765) 362-2242 for more details.

WWW.THEPAPER24-7.COM

LWW From Page A1

deeply concerned that a substantial change in healthcare policy would be “at best detrimental and at worst reckless” to their workforces and to hiring potential. Two of Indiana’s largest employers, Indiana business juggernauts, Eli Lilly and Company and Cummins, Inc. wrote public letters with this warning the day after SB1 passed the Indiana Senate last August.

Mayor Todd Barton led off the evening, welcoming our guest speakers and the audience. He also provided perspective on our local economic and medical care situation. As “Cheerleader-in-Chief” for Crawfordsville he is deeply involved in the economic development of our community. When businesses choose to come here, many things are considered: land, utility rates and healthcare are central in the decision-making process. Businesses and individuals rank health care as a high priority: its cost, its access, its quality. Since young families are especially concerned about reproductive and child health, we have to discuss this as a state.

Mayor Barton suggested that our legislators meet in General Session to address this issue directly. He encouraged citizens to let their representatives and senators know how vital this is to us right here, right now. The League of Women Voters of Montgomery County reminds the public that they are invited to register for the Chamber of Commerce State Legislative Breakfast to be held on Saturday, April 15.

How did we get in this worrisome situation? A panel of three professionals in the fields of medicine, business affairs, and economics were on hand at the “Indiana’s New Reproductive Policies” event to provide the local audience with more information. Local Nurse Practitioner Christine Amidon moderated the panel.

Dr. Caroline Rouse is a maternal-fetal medicine specialist in Indianapolis. She is a highly regarded spokesperson for her profession. Maternal-fetal MDs serve

patients before pregnancy, during pregnancy and post partum. They also monitor fetal health. Dr. Rouse and most of her colleagues are qualified to provide abortion care as part of overall care. Abortion care has been part of Dr. Rouse’s women’s healthcare practice.

When asked during the questioning period, Dr. Rouse reported that 96 to 97 percent of all abortion surgeries (performed legally and safely under physician’s care) occur during the first trimester; virtually all other abortion surgeries are performed either because of risk to the mother’s health or because of major fetal anomalies or morbidity.

To help the audience see the bigger picture, Dr. Rouse set women’s health in context:

even before 2022’s Supreme Court decision striking down Roe v Wade and prompting Indiana’s Senate Bill 1, Indiana was already in a public health and maternal care crisis. Indiana currently ranks 45th in the nation in public health care spending. This has significant impact on general health and maternal health care in our state. In Indiana, maternal deaths at the time of birth are 26/100,000 for white women and 70/100,000 for women of color. More than a third of Indiana’s counties lack obstetric care (Montgomery County is one of them). For a significant amount of Indiana women, obstetric medical care is more the 30 minutes away. This can cause a dire situation in an emergency.

In states when near total bans on abortion are in force, the risk of maternal death climbs significantly – as much as 33 percent. It is also important to know that maternal death in childbirth is 14 times higher than deaths associated with abortion care.

Data from the nation’s public health departments show that lack of reproductive care – good prenatal care, fetal care and abortion care – has morbidity effects on women during the course of a lifetime. Women in poverty and women of

color bear disproportionate burdens in this regard. In response to a question from the audience, Dr. Rouse noted that 70 to 80 percent of women seeking abortions through a legal provider already have one living child and that one in every four women in America has received abortion care.

Dr. Rouse also reported that currently “abortion restriction is a physician workforce issue.” On “Match Day” last year, the day when c. 2000 medical students are matched with residencies, 80 percent of them said they would not accept residencies in states with restrictions to reproductive care. “Match Day” is for doctors of all specialties.

In Idaho where strict abortion restrictions are in place, a survey showed that 45 percent of their OBGYNs want to leave the state. Hospitals are closing. This is a dire situation. While Governor Eric Holcomb has proposed significant increases in public health funding, it remains to be seen what the legislature will do.

The next State Legislative Breakfast takes place on April 15 at 9 a.m. at the Hoosier Heartland State Bank Success Center, 1623 S. US 231, Crawfordsville. Cost to attend (with or without breakfast) is \$10. Space is limited. Register to attend online at www.crawfordsvillechamber.com by April 12. Contact Chamber of Commerce Director Stacy Sommer for more information at: ssommer@crawfordsvillechamber.com.

Next week’s column will continue this conversation by looking directly at how businesses and our state’s economy stand to be affected in this medical climate.

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

Consider:

- Voting
- Government assistance
- Drug testing
- School sports
- Academic rankings
- Sin
- Journalism
- Even tax day

Think not? Let’s delve into each.

Voting: Most of us grew up with the idea that we would vote on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November at a specific location. That law was passed by Congress in 1845 and even though early voting options (absentee) have been in use for quite a while, the vast majority of Americans who voted (more than 90 percent) tended to do so on Election Day. In the 1990s that began to change, and those changes have accelerated of late. Is that good, bad or indifferent? Fans will tell you that early voting brings out more voters. Critics will tell you it opens the door to fraud. All I know is that growing up we usually had results election night. Now, despite technological advances, results often take longer and the whole process went from simple to confusing. All in the name of lowering the bar for voting.

Government Assistance: Remember when most people would rather dig ditches than accept government assistance? There was a matter of pride involved, and I would argue that despite the sinful connotation, that wasn’t a bad thing. Today, it is not uncommon for people to turn down jobs so they can stay at home on the government dime.

Drug testing: I was at an event recently where a manufacturing plant exec told me they quit drug testing as a pre-condition of employment. Why? It’s harder to find employees now than ever before. They don’t need an extra barrier.

School sports: OK, so the IHSAA has been a favorite punching bag on the issue of class sports. So, let’s leave that low-hanging fruit alone for a second. What about earning varsity letters? Last time I looked, letter sweaters weren’t in vogue anymore. But letter jackets still are. Even though every school can have their own system of how a student gets one, at some schools, the bar is pretty low. As soon as a kid gets their first letter, they can go out and buy a letter jacket. It used to be a lot harder. A hundred or so years ago when I was in school you got half a point for making the freshman or JV team and you got one point for making varsity. At three points, you earned your letter sweater and it took six points to earn your jacket. For most, that meant they got their jacket as a junior or senior – and I guarantee you it meant a lot! It also kept you going

when things got tough because that was a big goal you were working toward. **Academic rankings:** Like most of the above, this is not a blanket statement. But some schools have done away with academic rankings and things like valedictorians. The idea being that such put undue pressure on kids and made some kids feel bad. And good gosh we don’t want anyone feeling pressure or, even worse, feeling bad today.

Sin: This is one of my favorites. Things we were taught were wrong back in Sunday School now aren’t only OK, they are celebrated. Even more, if you still believe all the things you were taught in those classes, you are now the one in the wrong. In fact, you are now characterized as a right-wing Christian Zealot.

Journalism: This one is NOT my favorite, but sadly, it’s a reality. One of the first newsrooms I worked in had a sign on the wall – If your mother tells you she loves you, get a second source. That used to be the standard. Us rookie reporters might write something without attribution, but savvy editors would whip out the red grease pencil and wipe out any “facts” that weren’t backed. Today, take a look at a lot of stories and you won’t be hard-pressed to find phrases like “falsely claimed.” Are those statements backed up with sources and facts? Usually not. And most of the time they are aimed at conservatives. This one is personal for me, but we’ve lowered the standard way too much.

Tax Day: What, was having the same deadline every year too boring? Now, Tax Day is a movable feast (for the government) and the April 15 deadline is long gone.

I know, I sound like the grumpy old man I am. The thing is, we used to live in a country that raised standards – that set high goals and worked hard to achieve them. Anyone remember JFK’s moon speech where he set a goal that we didn’t even have the technology to pull it off? But pull it off we did.

You can talk sports or work, doesn’t matter. In sports, good coaches raised expectations and standards. They never lowered them. And let’s not forget those wonderful class sports. How many schools did we have back when Milan won state in 1954, 750 or so? The thing is, that tournament was never about the winner, not really. That tournament taught those 749 schools that if you want to win, work harder. It taught the valuable lesson that sometimes in life you lose . . . and how to handle that.

Not true today. We don’t want anyone to feel left bad or left out. We

want the lowliest of jobs to pay good money, really good money. Forget the fact that some of us started out in low-paying jobs and worked our asses off to make a better life. Now, you get the better life handed to you without having to work so hard for it.

What does all that teach us? Are we learning that if you want something, work for it? Or are we learning that if you want something whine about how unfair things are and wait for someone to give it to you?

Before anyone gets offended, this has nothing to do with discrimination of any sort – race, gender, creed, orientation . . . Discrimination, in whatever form it manifests itself, is wrong. Capital W.R.O.N.G. But we’ve taken the concept and blown it out of proportion. Now, if an unjust act occurs, and if it is the exception and not the rule, we rush to change the rules so we can crush it out of existence and never, ever let it happen again. Sure. We seem to forget the ugly fact that no matter how many guidelines, rules and laws we have, stupidity will never go completely away. One can argue that the process can actually make things worse.

We lower standards with the idea that everyone will feel OK. But let me repeat – stupid will not go away.

You want to make a real change? Teach people to pray for those who discriminate in any form . . . and then ignore them. Don’t give them power. Don’t make them martyrs. Walk away. Find another path. Do better. Don’t give them any power.

Truth to tell, life can be hard . . . and unforgiving at times. When we keep giving everyone easy answers we are not preparing them for when things get tough.

Raising our standards, expecting the best from each other, that practice made us and our country better, tougher, more competitive. We survived and won a few wars because we truly were the toughest kid on the block. Keep on lowering things and see how tough we become . . . and see what happens when some other nation takes our lunch money and bloodies our nose.

We have to toughen up, to not get our feelings hurt so easily. We have to get back to raising the bar, to getting what we work for and taking a little pride in that. If we don’t, then we should not be surprised when, as my grandpa used to say, things go to hell in a handbasket.

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 timmons@thepaper24-7.com.

PARK From Page A1

amenities that will be a part of the new park, and grant awards will be announced in 2024.

Upon learning the status of grant funding, the City of Crawfordsville will engage the services of a professional design team, and public input will be sought as plans for the new park are developed. Preliminary plans call for a public parking area, trails connecting to the Sugar Creek Trail, a small bridge spanning the stream that flows through the property, a sledding hill, and a small picnic area. In addition, the park will feature a puzzle theme in honor of the

work of Mr. Shortz.

“This is an invaluable gift to this and future generations of area residents and will serve as another contribution to the overall quality of life in our community,” said Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton. “The property is beautifully wooded and within walking distance, for most people to enjoy. I truly appreciate Mr. Shortz’s generosity and willingness to set this land aside for the enjoyment of all,” Barton added.

Will Shortz concluded, “I’m donating the property to honor my parents, Lyle and Wilma Shortz;

my sister, the late April Curtis; and my brother, Richard Shortz. I owe so much to Crawfordsville. It pleases me that the land will continue to be enjoyed by others.”

In addition to the Shortz Nature Park, the City of Crawfordsville will be simultaneously developing the Brickyard Nature Park on a 100-acre parcel of land located on the north side of the city, with funding provided by Indiana’s Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI). The Brickyard Nature Park is scheduled to be completed by June of 2024.



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