





TODAY'S VERSE

Revelation 19:9 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



Sam Melvin gives a big smile for one of our roving photographers. Thanks for your smile, Sam!

THREE THINGS You Should Know:

Oregon State Police could have charged Colin Davis McCarthy with littering when he was caught tossing wads of cash out the window while driving on Interstate 5 near the city of Eugene, OR recently. Traffic came to a screeching halt and drivers behind him got out of their cars and scooped up as many of the estimated 2,000 hundred dollar bills as they could get their hands on. The cops said they searched the roadway for leftover cash but they couldn't find any. Nonetheless, the next day would-be treasure-hunters could be seen se`arching the area for any leftover bills. McCarthy is said to have told the police that he and his family were "doing well and wanted to bless others with gifts of money."



Montgomery County's oldest locally owned independent newspaper

CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA

Childhood Memories Of Growing Up On A Farm 🛛 🕞

There are several of you readers who, just like me, grew up in rural Montgomery

BUTCH DALE Columnist

County in the 1940s, '50s and '60s. We all have special memories of when we were kids on the farm. As I stated in a previous column, farming today is an entirely different ballgame. Gone are the days when the husband farmed 160 acres and raised several types of livestock, while the wife managed the household and took care of the kids. Sadly, we will likely never see those days again. But when I think about those days when I was a farm boy, I still have images and thoughts that will always remain with me, such as . . .

•The smell of bacon frying and coffee percolating when I came into the kitchen each morning

•The multi-colored birds . . . barn swallows, blue jays, orioles, cardinals, hummingbirds, robins, and many others I saw every day

•The sound of rain on our barn's tin roof as I watched a storm from the haymow window . . . and I felt safe

•The first taste of homemade ice cream on a hot summer day •Eating a tomato right off the

vine in our family garden

•The smell of fresh-plowed earth in the spring and the smell of new mown hay in summer

•The joy of catching my first blue gill or "sunnie" at Horn's gravel pit

•The fun of exploring the woods...and also finding those first sponge mushrooms in the spring

•The pride of making something from scrap wood in Dad's toolshed •The cooling breeze as I rode on top a load of ear corn in the back of the old Dodge pickup as Dad headed to the elevator

•The thrill of being able to drive the old Farmall H tractor for the first time

•The fun of helping my neighbor collect honey from his beehives

•The smell of Mom's homemade peach, apple, and rhubarb pies

•The old basketball goal with its torn and tattered net on the side of the dairy barn . . . and playing "horse" against my brother

•The baseball diamond I fashioned by myself in the front pasture

•Walking down the lane to wait for the bus on the first day of school

•Riding my bike . . . and then my Cushman scooter . . . all over the countryside

See BUTCH Page A5





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50¢

Sunrise/Sunset RISE: 6:55 a.m. SET: 8:29 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures High: 60 °F Low: 52 °F



Today is... • Big Word Day • Kindergarten Day Chank You For Librar

It's estimated that more than two million rats live in the City of New York. The creepy-crawly rodents used to stay underground for the most part until the covid outbreak. But, for whatever the reason, rats made their presence known, bigtime, during the pandemic years. Sightings and complaints grew to a record 21,600 -- a 74% year-to-year increase -- during the pandemic years. It prompted the Big Apple to hire its first ever "Rat Czar" -- a former school teacher Kathleen Corradi. Her official title is Director of Rodent Mitigation and as she put it: "New York may be famous for the Pizza Rat, but rats, and the conditions that help them thrive, will no longer be tolerated -- no more dirty curbs, unmanaged spaces or brazen burrowing. I look forward to sending the rats packing."

Most of us wouldn't even think of paying a couple of hundred dollars for a grilled cheese sandwich no matter how hungry we might be. But, just in case you crave what some call a "cheese toastie," the New York City eatery, Serendipity 3, can accommodate you with Chef Joe Calderone's Quintessential Grilled Cheese sandwich for a mere \$214. The folks at the Guinness Book of World Records call it the most expensive sandwich on the planet. It's bread is made with Dom Perignon Champagne, white truffle butter, rare caciocavallo podolico cheese that goes for about \$50, give or take a buck or two, and after it's toasted to a tempting golden brown it is actually gilded with edible 23-karat gold. Enjoy!

Protect The Land For Future Generations

Hoosier Farmers

Farmers feed, shelter and power the world, and they take seriously the responsibility that comes with that critical role. To celebrate Earth Day, Indiana Farm Bureau, the state's largest general farm organization, honors our land and everything Hoosier farmers do to protect and preserve the natural resources entrusted to them.

"Farmers are the original stewards of the land," said INFB President Randy Kron. "We protect the land because it has given so much to us, and we want it to be around for future generations."

Sustainability and efficiency go hand-in-hand whether you are a row crop farmer producing corn and soybeans using cover crops or no-tillage, a livestock farmer who is handling manure responsibly or a forester who is actively managing the woods.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, agriculture is responsible for 10% of America's greenhouse gas emissions, much lower than transportation, electricity generation and industry. But farmers are continuously taking active steps to reduce their carbon footprint. INFB spoke to Hoosier farmers about their view of sustainability in agriculture and how they implement climate-friendly practices in their day-to-day work on the farm.

Jake Smoker, an INFB member from LaPorte County, is a fourth-generation farmer producing corn, soybeans and wheat, as well as cattle. The farm has been in his family since 1944.

"Day to day, we look at the operation as a holistic approach," explained Smoker. "You need livestock to grow the row crop production and provide a nutrient cycle throughout the farming process. You can't have one without the rest."

Farmers are committed to properly handling the manure that is produced on the farm. Manure is not a waste to be disposed of, but a nutrient-rich, natural fertilizer that allows farmers to be less reliant on commercially based fertilizers.

Livestock farms are highly regulated by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management which ensures land application of manure only occurs during appropriate ground conditions and only at agronomic rates so that it can be properly utilized as fertilizer by a crop. If a farm does not abide by these prescribed rates, it is subject to penalties.

"Inputs and fertilizer are expensive," said Smoker. "The more we can be good stewards by being prescriptive with ma-

See HOOSIER Page A5



CELEBRATE the culture of MONTGOMERY COUNTY with diverse eats. entertainment, and art.

Travel to FOUR Montgomery County galleries to CELE-BRATE the ARTS!

• ATHENS ARTS- live demonstrations- Athens member artists- KENYA FER-RAND-OTT, KATHRYN J HOUGHTON, ALICE HAR-PEL (and others)

• CREATED BY...AR-TISAN GALLERY- live music- KENN CLARK

• GREEN STREET GALLERY- poets and the spoken word readings-GWYNN WILLS (and others)

• MONTGOMERY COUNTY GOVERN-MENT CENTER- WA-MIDAN WORLD MUSIC ENSEMBLE- music and dance from various global folk music traditions

Each location will have a sampling of foods from 4 world locations!

Sample 16 different foodssuch as: Curry Balls, Goat Cheese & Apple Puff Pastry, Barbecoa Black Bean Spread & Steamed Bao Buns plus many more foods to taste!



Births On This Day
1959 Robert Smith
English singer-songwriter, guitarist
1926 Queen Elizabeth II



Deaths On This Day • 2016 Prince American singer-songwriter, guitarist, producer, actor • 1910 Mark Twain American author

CHONEST HOOSIER

Henry VIII ascended to the throne on this Date in 1509. Let the marriages begin!



TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Women should wait three weeks to resume birth control pills after having a baby and six weeks after having a cesarean section.

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.





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



THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

The Montgomery County Democrat Party will meet Monday, April 24 at 7 p.m. in the Donnelley Room of the Crawfordsville Public Library, 205 South Washington Street. The meeting is open to anyone interested in the work of the Democrat Party in Montgomery County.

TODAY'S QUOTE

"Collecting more taxes than is absolutely necessary is legalized robbery." -Calvin Coolidge

TODAY'S JOKE

What do planets like to read? Comet books.



TUDAY'S EDITION Dick Wolfsie......A3 Kenny Thompson.....A3 Classifieds.....A4 Capital Chronicle.....A4

⇒ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION



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from other ATVs.

capabilities.

surfaces.

secretary.

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pads whenever possible.

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•Ride at safe distances

•Use added caution on

pavement and wet or slick

ISYR's free weeklong

EMS Explorer Academies

Sheriff & Police, Fire &

mer with a special pilot

program involving West

Central Indiana counties,

Applications for the July

camps will be available af-

ter May 1 through partic-

ipating schools and public

Putnam, Sullivan, Vermil-

expanded accommodations

safety agencies in Clay,

Greene, Owen, Parke,

lion and Vigo counties.

Next year, ISYR hopes

will allow the Explorer

to students statewide,

Schroder added.

317-460-4242.

Academies to be offered

To donate, volunteer

or receive information,

write to ISYR, 5325 N.

47834, email ScottMi-

nier@yahoo.com or call

State Road 59, Brazil, IN

increased funding and

said Cass County Sher-

iff Ed Schroder, ISYR

will begin this sum-

•Ride defensively.

PAGE A2 🗉 FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2023

Indiana School District and University Named Recipients of U.S. Department of **Education Green Ribbon Schools Honors**

Award Honors Schools, Districts, and Postsecondary Institutions for Reducing Environmental Impact and Costs, Improving Health and Wellness, Offering Effective Sustainability Education.

The U.S. Department of Education today announced the 2023 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools, **District Sustainability** Awardees, and Postsecondary Sustainability Awardees.

In Indiana, the Carmel Clay Schools in Carmel were named a U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School District Sustainability Awardee. Purdue University in Lafayette was honored as a Postsecondary Sustainability Awardee.

Across the country, 26 schools, 11 districts, and four postsecondary institutions are being honored for their innovative efforts to reduce environmental impact and utility costs, improve health and wellness, and ensure effective sustainability education. The honorees were named from a pool of candidates nominated by 18 states. Notably, two-thirds of this year's honorees are located in disadvantaged communities.

In addition, one state education official is recognized with the Director's Award. This year, it is Alexandria Roe of the University of Wisconsin System.

"The challenges posed both by the pandemic and by climate change have driven home the importance of modernizing school facilities, embracing sustainability, prioritizing health and wellness, and improving learning conditions for students, especially in underserved communities," said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. "Our 2023 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools have raised the bar for sustainable practices, energy efficiency, health and wellness, and hands-on learning experiences that enhance students' problem-solving skills and foster a sense of environmental stewardship and civic responsibility. I want to congratulate the educators, school leaders, students, families, and advocates engaged in this work for showing the nation that any school in any community can strive to be a green school, and in doing so, empower the next generation to build a healthier, more equitable, and more sustainable nation."

The list of all selected schools, districts, colleges, and universities, as well as their nomination packages, can be found here. A report with highlights on the 41 honorees can be found here. Eligibility, including the "Three Pillars" of the award, can be found here. More information on the federal recognition award

is here. Resources for all schools to move toward the three Pillars can be found here. (Please note that the honoree links above will go live at 1 p.m. ET Thursday.)

In related infrastructure and sustainability news, in the recent omnibus appropriations bill, the Department was authorized funding to administer two programs related to school infrastructure that will address sustainable schools practices. These are: 1) a state capacity building program that will bolster several of the lowest capacity states in school facilities to, in turn, support their highest-need school districts; and 2) a national technical assistance center for school infrastructure that will support high-need districts across the nation. In both of these programs, healthy, safe, sustainable, 21st century school facilities and grounds that support high quality learning will be guiding tenants.

In addition, the Department is engaging the non- and for-profit private sector by leading an infrastructure and sustainability challenge, encouraging partners to make commitments to supporting healthy, sustainable, equitable school infrastructure, environmental education, and bold environmental justice and climate goals in schools that the Department will then promote in order to inspire additional commitments.

Indiana Sheriffs' Youth Ranch To Help 'Drive' Safer ATV Riding Among Teens

Kids account for more than one in five all-terrain vehicle deaths each year, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Latest statistics show more than 700 total deaths nationwide and an estimated 100,000 emergency department-treated injuries annually. Indiana ranks consistently among the top 20 states for ATV deaths.

That's why instructors at the nonprofit Indiana Sheriffs' Youth Ranch will this summer help "drive" statewide safety efforts among students. ISYR will kick-start Safer ATV Riding classes during free, specialized leadership camps for future law enforcement officers and firefighters.

"Public safety's most effective way of addressing ATV tragedies is to prevent them before they occur," says Vigo County Sheriff John Plasse, ISYR president. "Through Shaffstall, Inc., an authorized Polaris, Inc. dealer in Salem, Ind., our sheriffs and deputies have acquired safety equipment, videos and printed materials to help support fact-based training prior to the teens' fun-filled riding experience across our 62acre training retreat." Through past support from the Clark County Sheriff's Office and the Indiana

Sheriffs' Association, plus new support from Polaris Inc. and Schaffstall, Inc., the Youth Ranch was able to purchase a fleet of five 196 cc Polaris Phoenix 200s equipped with helmets, safety tethers, speed governors and whip flags, said John Jones, owner of John Jones Auto Group and ISYR treasurer.

Participating students will be required to follow guidelines taught in the Safer ATV Riding classes, said former Clark County Sheriff Jamey Noel, vice president of ISYR:

•Review safety videos and printed materials before riding.

•Become familiar with all controls, especially brakes.

•Utilize safety equipment - lights, flags, gear,

•Review the terrain, particularly hills and wooded areas.

•Be well rested and alert.

•Refuse to use alcohol or drugs.

•Wear a helmet, long pants, closed shoes or

U.S. SBA Disaster Loans Available For counties Affected By March/April Severe Storms

Business recovery center opening Friday in Johnson County.

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is offering low-interest disaster loans to businesses and residents in Indiana following the announcement of a Presidential disaster declaration due to damages from severe storms, straight-line

Lawrence, Madison, Marion, Miami, Montgomery, Newton, Noble, Porter, Pulaski, Putnam, Shelby, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Vigo, Wabash, Warren, Wells and Whitley in Indiana.

Businesses and private nonprofit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace disaster-damaged

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure website and should apply under SBA declaration # 17881. **Business Recovery** Center

A Business Recovery Center (BRC) will open at 9 a.m. on Friday, April 21, at the Grace Assembly of God Church in Johnson County. SBA Customer Service Representatives at the center will assist business owners and residents in filling out a disaster loan application, accept documents for existing applications and provide updates on an application's status. The center will operate as indicated below until further notice:

Attorney General Todd Rokita **Encourages Hoosiers To Participate In** Spring Cleaning On Drug Take Back Day

Attorney General Todd Rokita is encouraging Hoosiers to drop off their expired, unused, and unnecessary medications to disposal sites across the state as part of National Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, April 22. "It's vital we do everything possible to protect Hoosier families," Attorney General Rokita said. "Old medications lying around the house are a serious threat and create an avoidable risk to our children, friends, and family members. Please join us

in cleaning out the medicine cabinet this week to join the fight against drug addiction and overdose.3 Team members from

a.m. to 1 p.m. April 22: Valparaiso Police and Fire Departments located at 355 S Washington St., Valparaiso, IN from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Find a location near you at https://www.dea.gov/ takebackday#collection-locator. Staff operating the drop-off sites will ensure the safe disposal of medications, including drugs in liquid and pill form. Needles, new or used, WILL NOT be accepted for disposal. This service is free and anonymous with no questions asked.

the Office of the Attorney General are partnering with state and local law enforcement at collection sites around the state Friday, April 21 and Saturday, April 22.

Some of those sites include:

April 21: Government Center North at Capitol Police Desk located at 100 N Senate Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46204 from 11

winds and tornadoes from March 31 to April 1.

The disaster declaration covers Allen, Benton, Clinton, Grant, Howard, Johnson, Lake, Monroe, Morgan, Owen, Sullivan and White counties in Indiana, which are eligible for both Physical and Economic Injury Disaster Loans from the SBA. Small businesses and most private nonprofit organizations in the following adjacent counties are eligible to apply only for SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs): Adams, Bartholomew, Blackford, Boone, Brown, Carroll, Cass, Clay, De Kalb, Delaware, Greene, Hamilton, Hendricks, Huntington, Jackson, Jasper, Knox,

or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and other business assets. These centers are designed for businesses and not individual homeowners.

Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace disaster-damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace disaster-damaged or destroyed personal property.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is June 14, 2023. The deadline to return economic injury applications is Jan. 15, 2024. Apply online

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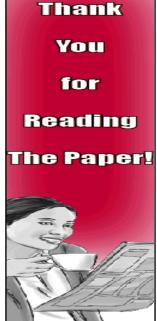
田位

you are ready to find yours or know someone who is, give me a call.

Grace of Assembly of God Church 6822 North US 31 Whiteland, IN 46184

Hours: Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Starting: Saturday, April 28

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.





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A3

Imagine If Today's NFL Draft Went 32 Rounds **Perfect Words**



KENNY THOMPSON

Columnist

in the NFL Draft, which begins Thursday in Kansas City.

Cornerback Cory Trice is forecast by The Athletic's Dane Brugler to go 101st overall in Round 3 to San Francisco.

Brugler has quarterback Aidan O'Connell going 109th overall in the fourth round to the Las Vegas Raiders. "Arguably the most popular nonfirst-round quarterback among teams this year, O'Connell is far above average in three key areas that NFL coaches covet: accuracy, intelligence and intangibles," Brugler writes.

Wide receiver Charlies Jones is projected to be drafted shortly afterward by the Pittsburgh Steelers with the 120th overall pick in Round 4. Lastly, tight end Payne Durham is slotted in the fifth round, 165th overall, to New Orleans.

Unlike today's seven round draft, the NFL used to have 32-round marathon "selection meetings," as Hall of Fame commissioner Pete Rozelle used to call the draft. Here's a look at the best Purdue players to be taken in each round.

There's just no way to choose between three members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Len Dawson had the rockiest road to Canton despite being the fifth overall selection of the 1957 NFL Draft by Pittsburgh. Seldom used by the Steelers or the Cleveland Browns, Dawson reunited with his quarterback coach at Purdue - Hank Stram with the Dallas Texans in 1962. Three AFL championships and an MVP performance in Super Bowl IV propelled Dawson to the Hall of Fame in

NFL career began with his selection with the 89th overall pick by the San Francisco 49ers in 1999.

The West Lafayette High School graduate also played for Seattle and Arizona, compiling 53 sacks among his 383 career tackles.

At 6-7, 245 pounds, Lamar Lundy put the fear in the Los Angeles Rams' fabled "Fearsome Foursome" in the 1960s.

The Rams took Lundy 47th overall in the 1957 NFL Draft as a tight end. After making the conversion to defensive end, Lundy compiled 68.5 sacks and three interception returns for touchdowns between 1957 and 1969.

Ed Flanagan was a 10-year starter at center for Detroit, which chose him with the 64th overall selection in 1965. Flanagan earned four Pro Bowl berths representing the Lions.

6

Once upon a time, there was an NFL team called the Brooklyn Tigers, which made Purdue guard Dick Barwegan the 44th overall choice in the 1945 draft. The Tigers were extinct by the time Barwegan left the Air Force in 1946.

Barwegan played eight years in the NFL, three with the Chicago Bears. The Chicago Tribune ranked Barwegan 51st in its 2019 countdown of the top 100 Bears in team history. Barwegan also was selected to the NFL's All-Decade Team of the 1950s.

Defensive tackle Jeff Zgonina was one of the rare personnel mistakes by the Pittsburgh Steelers in the 1990s, lasting just two seasons after being selected 185th overall in the 1993 NFL Draft.

The next four seasons were one-year stops (Carolina, Atlanta, St. Louis Rams, Indianapolis) before Zgonina found a home with his second Rams stint. He earned a Super Bowl ring in 2000 before leaving for Miami in 2003. Zgonina wrapped up his 17-year career with the Houston Texans in 2009, having compiled 448 tackles, 26 sacks and 13 fumble recoveries.

returned for touchdowns.

12

Punter Shawn McCarthy didn't make the Atlanta Falcons' roster in 1990 but surfaced in 1991 with the New England Patriots. On Nov. 3 that year, he booted a 93-yard punt that was downed inside the Buffalo Bills 1-yard line. At the time, it was the thirdlongest punt in NFL history and a Patriots record.

13

Bob Hadrick's knee injury kept him out of professional football. having been drafted by the Baltimore Colts and the AFL Denver Broncos in 1966. But the three-time first-team All-Big Ten end went on to have a 27-year career with the FBI.

14

Running back Norb Adams didn't think \$10,000 a year was worth the physical punishment, so he said no thanks to the New York Giants who took him with the 135th overall selection in the 1949 NFL Draft.

In today's money, that's \$126,000. But Adams figured a pharmacy career would be better for his long-term health. "A lot of my teammates played in the NFL and the physical punishment they absorbed for that money, to me, just didn't add up," Adams said in 2003.

15

Guard Joe Skibinski was the 183rd overall selection by the Cleveland Browns in the 1951 NFL Draft. After spending the 1952 season in Cleveland, Skibinski was out of the NFL for two seasons before playing for Green Bay in 1955 and 1956.

16

Running back Joe Kulbacki was an original member of the Buffalo Bills in 1960, choosing the American Football League over the Washington Redskins. Kulbacki was the 184th overall selection in a draft that saw 10 Boilermakers taken.

the Detroit Lions. Instead, the end chose the renegade All-American Football Conference and the San Francisco 49ers.

Maloney played two seasons for the 49ers before starting a 36-year career at Purdue as an assistant coach (1951-72) and equipment manager (1972-87).

22

Bob DeMoss, the father of Purdue's Cradle of Quarterbacks, was actually drafted twice, chosen by the New York Giants 280th overall in 1950 after playing one season for the New York Bulldogs. DeMoss chose to begin a long coaching career with the Boilermakers instead.

23 None

24 Tackle Wayne Farmer was the 283rd overall selection in 1959 by the Pittsburgh Steelers.

25

In the business world, former Boilermaker end Forest Farmer was a first-round pick. Farmer, selected by Denver in the 1963 AFL Draft, was a former president of Chrysler's automotive parts subsidiary, Acustar. Farmer later served as president and CEO of Bing Manufacturing Inc., LLC.

26

Walt Houston beat long odds when he made the Washington Redskins roster in 1955 as the 303rd overall pick. The 6-foot, 217-pound guard was a member of Purdue's 1952 Big Ten co-championship team.

27

Three-year starting center Neil Habig chose to play in the Canadian Football League after being selected 315th overall by the Green Bay Packers in 1958.

Habig played seven seasons with Saskatchewan, for whom he was a West All-Star six times and the CFL's first All-Star center in 1962. Habig also played inedacker and conected seven of his 10 career interceptions in 1963.

For Perfect Game I have



DICK WOLFSIE **Funny Bone**

recently on how much time he spends playing video games. I don't think he was listening, so next time I'll wait until he takes his headset off.

been

son

lecturing

my adult

I was going to really lay down the law. Tell him what a waste of time video games are, and how little you benefit intellectually. Plus, the activity provides absolutely no exercise. I was going to tell him all that, but I played golf all that day when I discovered the carts were 50 percent off.

I have an addiction, myself.

Not to golf Not to nicotine

Not to prescription drugs

Not to Uncle Ralph's Hard Lemonade

Not even to pickleball (But I am getting close, on this one)

I am addicted to SCRABBLE.

Not Words with Friends. I don't like that game. It involves friends which is exactly what I am trying to avoid when I seclude myself in the basement every night for an hour. I also don't mean the board game that is up in your hall closet wedged between your winter galoshes and the Monopoly game. And I'm not referring to the Scrabble game that you flung in your basement crawl space because you're missing a J and a V.

I'm addicted to the Scrabble that I downloaded on my computer. Oh, it's the same concept, only instead of playing your etymologically challenged uncle or your linguistically deficient neighbor, you are playing Noah Webster and someone I assume is his obsessive-compulsive

in America. I wonder who these people are and if their wives and children would like them to come up from the basement occasionally and take a shower.

Every time I play, I realize I'm in over my head. Just before writing this column, I was trounced by the computer. Here were some of the words that beat me:

PROMIAL ZOOTIER **HEWABLE** ZLOTE

SCHALENE I had never heard of

these words. As I typed them, my spell check had a hissy fit. "No such words" it tells me by underlining them all in red. But apparently the two hundred people I mentioned probably use words like these as part of their everyday speech. These wordophiles must all live together in a commune, the perfect place for people who know the names of all 4,000 varieties of tree fungus, use them in conversation...and can spell them.

The reason this computer Scrabble is so addictive is that every time I make a word that's worth more than 30 points, a nerdy little figure pops up on the screen and seduces me with adulation: GREAT JOB! EXCELLENT MOVE! I'm a sucker for this because my 43rd wedding anniversary is coming up and I've only heard GREAT JOB maybe six times during our marriage. I can't remember ever hearing EXCELLENT MOVE! And I'm even counting our honeymoon.

My son is growing more and more concerned about my obsession. So much so that he promised me the other day that if I gave up SCRABBLE, he'd cut down on his video game playing.

"Just say the word. Dad," he told me. "Just say the word and video games are history." The question is: What is the word? And how many points will I get?

1987

Bob Griese was taken one pick after Heisman Trophy winner Steve Spurrier by the Miami Dolphins, fourth overall in 1967. Griese directed Miami to three consecutive Super Bowls in the early 1970s, winning two. He was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1990.

Rod Woodson was a sure thing from the moment Pittsburgh took him 10th overall in the 1987 draft. The cornerback/safety was one of five active players named to the NFL's 75th Anniversary team in 1994. Woodson also was selected to the 100th anniversary team after retiring with 71 interceptions, including an NFL record 12 for touchdowns, and an NFL record 1,483 interception return yards.

Drew Brees just didn't measure up, physically, to NFL scouts' quarterback prototype. At 6 feet, Brees 'does not possess the ideal height you look for in a pro passer," one scouting report read.

Even the San Diego Chargers, who took him 32nd overall in the 2001 NFL Draft, didn't really believe in Brees. When the shiny new quarterback model, 6-5 Philip Rivers, came along in 2004, Brees' days were numbered.

The Chargers' loss was the New Orleans Saints' gain. Brees transformed the Saints from perennial losers to Super Bowl champions in the 2009 season. The certain first-ballot Pro Football Hall of Famer retired with 80,358 passing yards, 571 touchdown passes and NFL records for most TD passes in a game (7) and consecutive games with a TD pass (54).

Chike Okeafor's 11-year

Ralph Perretta had been a three-year starting center and Purdue co-captain when the San Diego Chargers called his name with the 206th pick of the 1975 NFL Draft. Perretta started 25 games during his six-year career.

The 1983 NFL Draft was a legendary one for Miami, which stole Hall of Fame quarterback Dan Marino with the 27th pick of the first round. The Dolphins got another steal in Purdue linebacker Mark Brown.

Brown went on to a nineyear NFL career, including his final three with Detroit. Brown amassed 10.5 sacks, four interceptions and eight fumble recoveries.

10

Roosevelt Barnes came to Purdue on a basketball scholarship in 1977 but the lone season he played football for the Boilermakers led to his selection by Detroit in the 1982 NFL Draft. Barnes would play four seasons for the Lions as a linebacker.

11

Leo Sugar was the eldest member of Purdue's Den of Defensive Ends, playing for the Boilermakers from 1949-51.

Going 123rd overall to the Chicago Cardinals in the 1952 NFL Draft, Sugar made the All-Pro team twice during his seven seasons with the Cardinals. Including stops with Philadelphia in 1961 and Detroit in 1962, Sugar started 87 of his 104 career NFL games. Three of his 13 fumble recoveries were

Willie Jones was one of the first draft choices (225th overall) of the expansion Minnesota Vikings. But the running back's lone professional season came with Buffalo in 1962.

18

Walt Cudzik went 212th overall to the Washington Redskins in 1954 but it wasn't until six years later he found a home as the center for the original Boston (now New England) Patriots. Cudzik earned an AFC championship ring in 1964 as the starting center for Buffalo.

19

When the Chicago Bears selected tackle Barry French with the 194th overall selection in 1944, George Halas was taking a low risk since French was serving in the U.S. Army during World War II.

French resumed his football career at Purdue in 1946 and then joined the original Baltimore Colts of the All-American Football Conference. In between two forearm fractures. French started 29 games for the Colts between 1947 and 1950 before winding up his career with the Detroit Lions in 1951.

20

Randy Minniear spent four seasons as a running back/return specialist for the New York Giants, which took him 301st overall in 1966.

21

Football was child's play to Ned Maloney after serving in the Marine Corps during World War II, taking part in battles at Bougainville, Guam, Emarou and Tarawa.

Taken with the 198th overall pick in 1946 while still eligible at Purdue, Maloney never played for

28 None

29

Abe Gibron still had a year of eligibility when he was chosen by the Pittsburgh Steelers with the 274th overall pick in 1948. Gibron played professionally from 1949 to 1959, earning four Pro Bowl appearances as a guard for Cleveland.

30 None

31

Ed Ehlers was the Dave Winfield of his time. Like the Hall of Fame baseball player, Ehlers was drafted by the Boston Celtics and the Chicago Bears. In the pre-draft era of Major League Baseball, Ehlers played for the Yankees and Cubs organizations.

Ehlers played all three sports at Purdue after being coached by John Wooden at South Bend Central. He ended up choosing basketball as his No. 1 sport after the Celtics made him their first ever pick, No. 3 overall, in 1947.

Bob Plevo never played for the Washington Redskins, which selected him in 1947 as the 295th overall selection out of 300. Plevo, however, had his greatest role during World War II. A tackle for the undefeated 1943 Boilermakers, Plevo received the Purple Heart after being wounded during the Battle of the Bulge.

- Kenny Thompson is the former sports editor for the *Lafavette Journal & Cou¬rier* and an award-winning journalist. He has covered Purdue athletics for many years.

sister, Merriam.

Good luck. In this computer game, you can control the level of difficulty, but with a Master Degree in English, I'll be darned if I'll compete as a Novice or Beginner. Instead, I check off Expert, at which point the computer runs a program that has beaten all but 200 Scrabble players

- 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.





Got Stuff? Sell it in the eds 5-5 515 T ASS

Friday, April 21, 2023

Automatic 21st Century Scholar Enrollment, Military Income Tax Exemption Bills Head To Governor

By Casey Smith Indiana Capital Chronicle

A bill that would automatically enroll eligible Hoosier students into Indiana's 21st Century Scholars Program — a statewide grant program that funds lower income student attendance at two- and four-year schools - advanced to the governor Wednesday in an 89-1 House vote.

Rep. J.D. Prescott, R-Union City, was the only no vote

This bill requires the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (CHE) to work with the state education department to identify kids who qualify for the program, and then notify students and parents about their eligibility. Students must agree to participate in 21st Century Scholars and can opt out at any time.

"This has turned out to be an extremely important bill. 21st Century Scholars was known with some folks, but not maybe hitting a lot of the students throughout the state — particularly in low income areas — that were not knowledgeable about this," said Rep. Sheila Klinker, D-Lafayette. "But now, at least more students are learning about it and having the opportunity to take advantage of college education, where in other circumstances in the past, they've not been able to afford that."

GOP Rep. Bob Behning, of Indianapolis, added that the bill "is a great step forward" to ensuring that all Hoosiers have the opportunity to earn "some sort of degree or credential."

Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb included CHE's auto-enrollment goal in his 2023 legislative agenda. Administration officials said earlier that year that auto-enrollment shouldn't be a cost to the state for six to seven years.

A separate bill that exempts Hoosier military members from paying income taxes is also on its way to the governor's desk.

The final draft of the measure increases the active duty military income tax deduction from its current \$5,000 cap to a full exemption. It further makes reservists and members of the Indiana National Guard eligible for the same exemption.

Currently, active duty National Guard and reserve members are exempt from the individual income tax.

House Bill 1034 originally proposed a phased-in approach, with full tax exemption not taking effect until 2027. The bill headed to the governor takes full effect July 1, however.

What's the best way to teach financial literacy?

Meanwhile, state lawmakers are debating what to do with a bill mandating that students complete

additional financial literacy requirements to graduate.

In contention is whether schools should have to offer a stand-alone course, or if financial literacy curriculum can be incorporated into existing courses, like algebra.

As currently drafted, Senate Bill 35 would require all Hoosier students — beginning with the Class of 2028 - to take aseparate personal finance course before they graduate from high school.

The course would center around life skills like opening a bank account, applying for loans, managing debt, investing for retirement and filling out tax returns.

Sen. Linda Rogers, R-Granger, said during a conference committee meeting on Wednesday that she supports the move to require an additional class. A former educator, Rogers recalled teaching a business class to high school students and the "importance" of getting kids knowledgeable about loans, insurance and retirement savings.

"These are things that I think — we're preparing students for the future. And what better opportunity do we have for schools to prepare kids for the future?" she said of the bill. "And that's why I think we need to have a standalone class, so that we can teach all these different elements

and prepare kids - regardless if they are going into work, getting a credential or going to college — every single person needs all these items.

Bill author Sen. Mike Gaskill, R-Pendelton, noted that a provision in the bill would allow the personal finance course, if taken as a standalone class, to qualify as a mathematics credit for alternative high school diplomas.

But Rep. Vernon Smith, D-Gary, said he thinks school districts should be allowed to decide how to implement the curriculum.

"I think we want to give some latitude, some freedom, to the local school districts to design a program that's responding to our legislation, and it's not necessary for us to have a separate course," he said.

Rep. Tonya Pfaff, D-Terre Haute, cautioned too that "kids already struggle to get through their schedules right now, and to get all the requirements that we keep putting on them.'

"I just worry about the requirement — making it just another mandate without removing anything at all," she said.

Lawmakers have previously pointed to "concerning" statistics that show a lack of financial literacy in Indiana, including data showing that 87% of teenagers in the United

States have admitted to not understanding their finances. Additionally, 74% of teenagers don't feel confident in their financial knowledge.

Representatives from the Indiana Association of School Principals, the Indiana Credit Union League, the Indiana Association for Community Economic Development, the Indiana Bankers Association and the Indiana Small and **Rural Schools Association** and others indicated they supported the bill as it is.

Discussions continue on health care proposal

A health care cost savings bill also underwent another transformation Wednesday, the latest in a long line of amendments to a bill filed to tackle high health care costs and inaccessibility in Indiana.

"The whole point of this was to make it a little bit easier to access health care," author Sen. Liz Brown, R-Fort Wayne, said Wednesday.

The bill still includes language that would allow for provisional credentialing, which allows a health care practitioner to begin working and get paid sooner. Initially, it would have barred insurers from requiring prior authorization for a series of select procedures and prescriptions but that language was scaled down to a pilot for state employees.

A House amendment added a requirement for insurers to cover wearable cardioverter defibrillators. However, lawmakers opted on Wednesday to exempt Medicaid, which eliminated the bill's fiscal. Brown said she believed Medicaid already covered the device. Rep. Joanna King,

R-Middlebury, thanked Brown for introducing the bill, which King sponsored on the House side.

"I think that this is a good start to doing a deep dive and providing better health care costs for Hoosiers and that's what this bill is all about," King said. I think for my caucus, one of the most important components was the prior authorization... (making) that even bigger with a broader scope - maybe in the next session – I think that would be something we should be able to do.

Indiana Capital Chronicle reporter Whitney Downard contributed reporting.

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Lawmakers Get Unexpected \$1.5B For Budget In Latest Forecast

By Whitney Downard Indiana Capital Chronicle

The General Assembly will have another \$1.5 billion under the latest forecast to incorporate in the two-year budget before session ends in just ten days.

"Indiana is doing great, investments are showing the fruits of our labor,' said Rep. Jeff Thompson, R-Lizton. "It gives more flexibility and we'll find a spot to land.'

Sen. Ryan Mishler, R-Mishawaka, urged caution – noting continued about in an April forecast during the final days of the budget-writing session in 2021. In that year, legislators resisted increasing education funding to bolster teacher salaries until the very last version of the budget.

What could change with the new forecast?

In particular, Mishler said that Senate Bill 1 was guaranteed to see an increase in funding to shore up the comprehensive mental health crisis system under 988. Whether that would include a line item or a monthly phone fee remains unclear. "We'll talk after this meeting about the cigarette tax, 988 (phone fees). Different things have been thrown out but this does add another option," Mishler said. Federal law allows states to impose up to a \$1 fee on cell phone bills to fund 988, which mirrors the current \$1 fee Indiana charges for 911 call centers. The system hinges on three components: someone to call, someone to respond and somewhere to go. In recent days, House **Republicans and Senate** Democrats have also proposed increasing the cigarette tax and dedicating those funds to improving Indiana's lagging health metrics.

But Senate Bill 4, which allocates more funding to local public health departments, likely won't be as lucky.

"That's more than just the funding; I think you have a lot of members who have some issues with the bill itself," Mishler said. "That'll be a tougher one, probably, to increase the funding.

Committee hearings on the latter bill stretched for hours and included misinformation on vaccines, COVID-19 and more. Indiana's public health spending is some of the lowest in the nation but opponents maintained that the bill would erode local control.

\$1.1 billion to subsidize private education for families making up to \$220,000 annually. Senators, on the other hand, kept the cap at \$154,000 for a family of four.

The House opted to roll funding for textbooks and extracurricular materials into K-12 tuition support while Mishler and his caucus created a new line item.

"(Vouchers are) always an ongoing discussion... you ask the same question every year and it's the same as it has been in the

gency and continuous coverage they covered 71.2% of costs – meaning Indiana will lose that extra funding.

Additionally, an analysis of Medicaid reimbursement rates, as called for repeatedly by members of the General Assembly this year, will require more monies and increasing ongoing obligations. Health care providers maintain that they must overcharge commercial insurance payers to make up for the shortfall from government insurance coverage.

in providing homeowners with meaningful property tax relief. Put plainly, there's no long-term strategy on the part of Republican lawmakers," DeLaney said in a statement.

Rather than pouring continued funds into economic development in a bid to compete with the "powerhouses" of Texas and New York when attracting businesses, DeLaney proposed shifting the attention to education.

"Let's get back to doing what Indiana does best

- supporting our great

increases projected under Medicaid as the rate of economic growth slows from the record-breaking pace of recent years.

"We're just fortunate to be in (this) position," Mishler said. "I'd rather be in that position than some of the other states that don't have those opportunities."

Several other states have reported far gloomier revenue forecasts for the coming years, including a \$24 billion budget deficit in California and a \$900 million deficit in Alaska.

The bulk of the updated revenue in Indiana comes from better-than-expected tax collections, specifically corporate tax returns.

The last-minute influx of money bears several similarities to the extra \$2 billion lawmakers learned

Weren't the House and Senate versions pretty different?

But where the two budget architects will meet in the final budget hasn't yet been determined – and the \$1.5 billion adds a new wrinkle to the negotiations.

Thompson and his caucus included an expansive increase in funding for vouchers combined with accelerated income tax cuts while senators prioritized paying down debt obligations and padding the state's reserves.

With the support of House Speaker Todd Huston, a longtime proponent of expanding vouchers, the House budget included

past," Mishler said. "The number one (outstanding) is always education issues."

The two versions of the budget also diverged when it came to reserve funding. The House had just over \$1 billion in reserves, split across several accounts, while the Senate tripled that to \$3.2 billion.

However, the Medicaid forecast, also updated on Wednesday, also had some increases – partially due to the "Great Unwinding" of continuous Medicaid coverage. That pandemic-era provision barred state governments from dropping anyone from coverage but also enhanced the federal payment.

In a typical year, the federal government covers 65% of Medicaid costs but under the public emer-

Another issue vet to be decided: potential property tax relief, as proposed by Thompson in various measures.

"We've got some ideas but we'll find out in the next couple of days," Thompson said.

Across the aisle, Rep. Ed DeLaney, D-Indianapolis, said the windfall should be directed in ways that could help Hooisers but shared his doubt that Republicans would act. Early this week, Democrats noted that neither spending plan for education kept up with inflation.

"After today's positive forecast, I expect we'll see a renewed effort by House Republicans to enact a vast expansion of private school vouchers, accounting tricks to tuck away this surplus and limited interest

colleges, universities and schools. We can lower tuition, help families and limit student debt," DeLaney said.

Legislators must finish drafting the budget before April 29, when they are due to sine die. Following the forecast, members will continue to finalize details behind closed doors before introducing the final version and approving it next week.

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U HOOSIER From Page A1

nure and nutrient management, as well as using variable rate application, the more we are helping both the environment and our business.'

David McGaughey, an INFB member from Putnam County, is a fourth-generation corn and soybean farmer. The farm sits between two watersheds at the top of a hill, meaning the rolling property is prone to excessive runoff.

"Almost all of our farm is classified as highly erodible ground," Mc-Gaughey explained. "The bottom of the hill gets a lot of erosion anytime we have rain or snow melt. The water runs off and takes the soil with it, which is why we use grass waterways.'

McGaughey Farms has more than 100 acres of grass waterways designed to move water across fields and reduce the negative effects of flow on croplands. This practice, which is part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Conservation Reserve Program, uses grass as a natural filter, trapping vital nutrients that would otherwise be washed away.

McGaughey also plants filter strips, 40-foot-wide to 80-foot-wide grass sections, which run alongside creeks and naturally collect the eroded soil from getting into the waterways, causing contamination. McGaughey also practices no-till and plants cover crops.

"These conservation practices have been a big part of the operation over the past 10 to 20 years, and we have increased profitability because of it," said McGaughey. "I'd like to leave the ground better than it was when we got it for whoever has it next.'

Nick Wenning, Decatur County Farm Bureau president, is no stranger to conservation and sustainability on his row crop farm. His family farm produces corn, soybeans and wheat. The farm has been 100% no-tillage for over 20 years, meaning they never till or plow the soil so nutrients stay locked in. No-till farming decreases the amount of soil erosion tillage causes in certain soils. Wenning also plants cover crops to replenish nutrients and hold down topsoil. "We use variable rate technology to make sure we don't over-apply fertilizer," explained Wenning. "But if we do, that is the beauty of cover crops – they will absorb the fertilizer to eliminate any chance of runoff into waterways. By doing right by the ground, I get better crops. I get phenomenal yields for what I farm." According to the Indiana State Department of Agriculture's 2022 Conservation Survey, Hoosier farmers planted cover crops and small grains on 1.5 million acres of farmland in late 2021, matching a record amount set in 2020. Because of those cover crops, it is estimated that 2.1 million tons of sediment was prevented from entering Indiana's waterways, which is enough sediment to fill more than 597 Olympic-size swimming pools. Additionally, the 1.5 million acres of cover crops planted sequestered an amount of soil organic carbon that is the equivalent of 819,941 tons. Sequestering carbon in the soil helps to offset greenhouse gas emissions, such as the carbon dioxide emitted by cars, power plants and other burning of fossil fuels. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service reports

expected carbon sequestration of 0.37 metric tons/acre/year for cover crops for most regions of the U.S. Assuming this sequestration rate, current cover crop adoption sequesters 5.5 million metric tons of carbon per year. This is equivalent to taking 1.2 million passenger vehicles off the road each year, according to Purdue University's Center for Commercial Agriculture.

Another natural practice of sequestering carbon is done in the forestry sector. Trees sequester carbon via photosynthesis and provide oxygen producing clean air. Woods that are harvested, or actively managed, with trees of varying ages will sequester carbon the best. Wood is a carbon sink because it lasts for years as a standing tree and takes years to break down after the tree dies.

Jeff Page, an INFB member from Johnson County, is a forester and timber buyer with Tri-State Timber in southern Indiana. He works with landowners and mill owners to procure, assess and harvest timber.

"Trees are truly a naturally renewable resource," explained Page. "When actively managing woods, we use activities such as invasive species control, crop tree release, and most common, timber harvest. Active forest management maintains healthy vigorous woods and provides many tangible wood products, as well as other benefits such as carbon sequestration, disease removal, wildlife habitat and improved water quality.³

The hardwood industry is a sector of ag that makes a big economic impact. It consistently ranks in the top industries in the state. According to ISDA, Indiana's hardwood industry has an annual economic impact of over \$10 billion and supports 70,000 jobs, producing products such as furniture, buildings, cabinets and countertops.

"Forest management

O BUTCH From Page A1

•My sister crying, as our family hid in the basement when a tornado struck . . . and then seeing the devastation when we came outside

•Calling the cows in from the field each evening to be milked

•Watching the miracle of birth when a cow had her calf •Finding our "barn

cat" nursing her new litter of baby kittens . . . so tiny!

•Helping catch chickens to be butchered . . . and then closing my eyes . . . I did not want to see

what happened next! •The fun of building tunnels and "secret hide-

outs" with bales of straw •Jumping in a horse tank full of water to cool

off on a hot summer day •Finding an Indian arrowhead in the "back twenty acres" after a downpour . . . Wow!

•Riding a PTO-powered elevator to the top of a corn bin . . . scary! •Watching that big

orange "harvest moon'

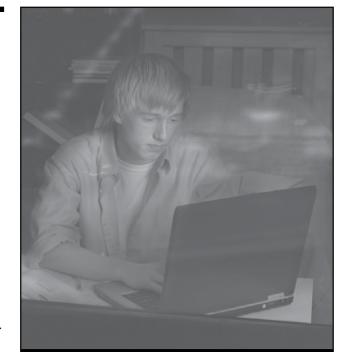
coming over the horizon, and then laying in the yard, looking up at all of the stars . . . and knowing that God does exist and He will protect me

•Sitting on top of the roof of our house and looking out over the fields at our neighbors' homes . . . and then on July 4th seeing the fireworks at Milligan Park ten miles away!

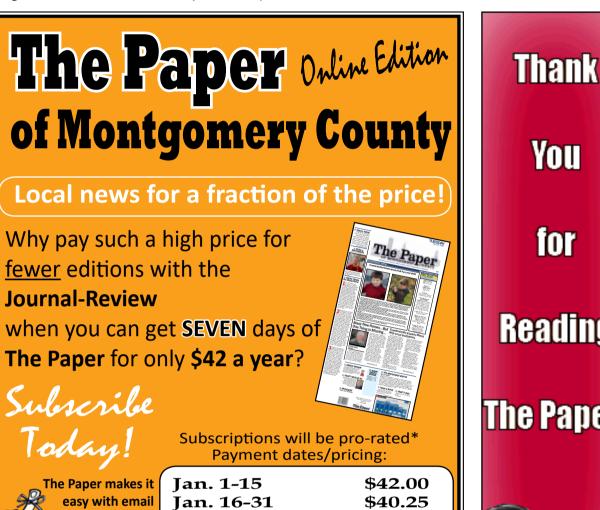
There is something special about growing up on a farm, and there are hundreds of other memories etched into my brain. But the one I remember most is . . . laying in tall grass on a hill in the field behind our house . . . and just looking up at

the clouds on a beautiful fall afternoon. It felt as though I was in Heaven. Maybe I was . . .

-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.



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is a continuous process, said Page. "There are few things in life where you can have your cake and eat it too, and forestry is one of them. Timber harvests provide a great product that filters into our state economy, yet the woods remain, regenerate and continue to grow again for future generations. To thrive in this industry, you have to think about what you are leaving for the next generation and be committed to stewardship."

Throughout a variety of ag sectors, farmers are doing more with less thanks to innovation and technology, and they are continuously looking for ways to do more. In fact, INFB is a founding member of the Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance, which is composed of organizations representing farmers, ranchers, forest owners, the food sector, state governments and environmental advocates all working together to define and promote shared climate policy priorities.

Indiana producers remind consumers there is a lot of science and conscious thought that goes into everything they do on the land.

"Nothing is random and haphazard when it comes to farmers working on the land," Smoker said. "I want to make sure that the ground is able to produce for my son's and daughter's generation. Stewardship is instilled in farmers. If we don't take care of the ground, it doesn't take care of us, so we are precise and purposeful in how we care for it."

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