

➤ TODAY'S VERSE

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

➤ FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



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

➤ THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 Are you dreading it too? According to several polls, a lot of Americans don't want to see a Trump-Biden rematch. According to sought-after politics and satire expert Dr. Sophia A. McClennen, the only way to cure this overwhelming political fatigue is through comedy, specifically satire. Dr. McClennen says "There is one antidote to the depression, anxiety, and frustration we feel in having to pay attention to the politicians and issues that exhaust us and that's comedy, especially satirical comedy. My groundbreaking new research proves that satire is the #1 most powerful political tool – it likely stopped Trump from being reelected in 2020, and the party that manages to use satire best will have a massive advantage in the 2024 election."

2 The Indiana Department of Transportation announces State Road 47 will close on or after Monday, May 8 for culvert work near Thorntown. The road will be closed between County Road 650 N. and Co. Rd. 1000 W. It's expected to reopen at the beginning of June, weather permitting. The official detour follows S.R. 75 to S.R. 32 and back. Then, around late July, another section of S.R. 47 will close for culvert work. INDOT will alert the public prior to that closure. This contract was awarded to Olco, Inc. The entire contract is expected to be completed in June of 2024.

3 Sagamore News Media is looking for talented sales people. Whether you sell by phone or in person, we want to talk with you. Hourly rates begin at \$15 per hour and only go up from there. If you have good sales skills, this might be the job you have been looking for. There is no cap on earnings and multiple people in the past have earned \$50,000, \$60,000 and beyond – all the way into six figures. Sagamore News Media owns newspapers in Noblesville and Crawfordsville and feature award-winning work every day. Come be part of our team! Apply today by e-mailing resume to jobs@thepaper24-7.com. We can't wait to talk with you!

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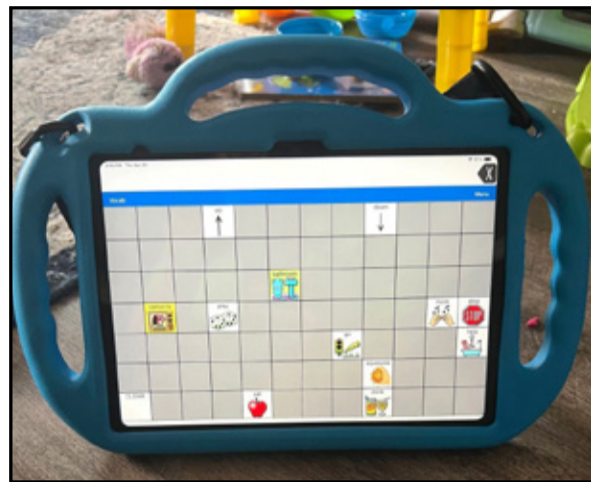


Photo courtesy of Crawfordsville Kiwanis

Pictured are Gary Behling, Adaptive Equipment Coordinator, Mom Ashley and 3 yr old Georgie.

Georgie Receives An iPad – A Tool For Autistic Children

The world for an autistic child is full of imagery, rather than words. On an iPad, an autistic child can create a sentence or even story using a series of images. By doing so, the child can communicate with parents, caretakers, and instructors without frustration. Since the iPad is mobile, children with autism can take this communication tool wherever they go.

Three-year-old Georgie Has-

sel was provided this additional tool to use in his struggles with Autism. Purchased with donations by the community and the Crawfordsville Kiwanis Club, Georgie and his mother, Ashley, attended the meeting on Thursday April 20th, 2023, to receive his new iPad.

The Crawfordsville Kiwanis Club continues to provide tools to children throughout the community through their

Adaptive Equipment Program. Donations for this program are always appreciated and can be made by sending them to Crawfordsville Kiwanis, Adaptive Equipment Program, PO Box 611, Crawfordsville IN 47933.

Come on out and visit our club any Thursday at 11:30 in the Donnelly room of the Crawfordsville District Public Library on the lower level.

A Once in a Lifetime Golfing Day



BUTCH DALE
COLUMNIST

As I mentioned in a column that I wrote last year, I started playing golf at a very early age. When I was ten years old, I made three greens in our front pasture, complete with bamboo pole flags, coffee cans for cups, and sawdust for the sand traps. I bought a 7-iron at the Sportsman's Shop in Crawfordsville for \$4.00 and received a putter and 3-wood for Christmas that year. With an uncle's old golf bag, and a few of Dad's old clubs, I was in business! Dad took me to the Crawfordsville municipal course when I was 13 years old...I loved it!!

During high school, I played very little golf, as I concentrated on Darlington's three sports...baseball, basketball, and track, in addition to working on the farm and working for others to earn a little spending money. After graduating from Purdue and beginning my teaching career, I started play-

ing golf in the summers again. A group of Darlington men golfed every Sunday morning at Fairway golf course, which was a few miles north of Lebanon, and I joined that group. The teams (consisting of four players each) were selected by "choose-ups," with the five or six best players designated as "captains," who drew numbers to see who picked first. The teams played for ten cents a hole (a "skin") and \$1.50 for each round of nine holes, with the winners usually collecting \$2.00 or \$3.00 in "prize money." Slightly less than the \$millions the pros make today!

The Fairway course was relatively easy compared to other courses...flat, few trees, and only two minor water hazards. I practiced quite often at home in those days, and I got to the point where I could shoot par (35) or slightly above, which was good enough to be a team captain. However, on one particular day, God must have been looking down on me...and here's what happened...

On the first hole, which was

➤ See BUTCH Page A5

Runnings And R.P. Home & Harvest Announce Transaction

Minnesota-Based Retailer Expands Footprint to 80 Locations by Investing in 22 Midwestern Communities

April 24, 2023, Marshall, MN — Runnings, a Minnesota-based retailer, has recently reached an agreement to purchase R.P. Home & Harvest, a family-owned company with 22 locations and one distribution facility across Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Upon completion of this acquisition, Runnings's footprint will expand to 80 locations, serving customers in 12 states from New York to Montana.

"From the customers and the communities to the employees and vendors, we truly feel this is an excellent opportunity for everyone involved," added Brian Odegaard, President of Runnings. "These stores and

➤ See R&P Page A5

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 6:50 a.m.
SET: 8:33 p.m.

High/Low Temperatures
High: 56 °F
Low: 38 °F

Today is...
• DNA Day
• National Crayola Day
• National Telephone Day

What Happened On This Day
• 2011 The largest tornado outbreak ever recorded hits the U.S..
• 1953 The double helix structure of DNA described for the first time.

Births On This Day
• 1917 Ella Fitzgerald American singer
• 1940 Al Pacino American actor, director

Deaths On This Day
• 1744 Anders Celsius Swedish astronomer
• 1944 George Herriman American cartoonist

Four Days Until Annual Plant Sale & Show

Plants, plants and more plants! This is what you will see when you visit the Montgomery County Master Gardeners' Plant Sale & Show, held this year in the 4-H Building on the 4-H grounds in Crawfordsville next Saturday, April 29, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Rain or shine, you will not be disappointed. There will be hundreds of plants to choose from to beautify your landscape, patio and home. All have been locally grown by the Master Gardeners and local wholesale nursery suppliers.

Indiana grown blueberries, sweet strawberries, a large variety of tomatoes, peppers and other vegetables such as eggplants and asparagus will be available. There will also be a

➤ See PLANTS Page A5

➤ HONEST HOOSIER

Here's a BIG tip of the seed corn cap to Nucor for their big expansion! Those good folks are investing \$400 million and creating 100 new jobs – all right here in Montgomery County! God bless them!



➤ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

If you sit a lot at work, take walking breaks as often as you can to help keep your weight in check. 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

Rev. George F. Smith

➤ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

Obituaries.....A2
Slim Randles.....A4
Brian Howey.....A4

➤ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Show Us Those Smiles!

Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton's next monthly meeting with the public, his 119th such event, is scheduled for Wednesday. The mayor began these monthly meetings after first taking office and, other than a period during COVID, has held them every month. The latest one is set for Wednesday at City Hall. It will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. in the mayor's office. It is open to the public so that citizens can ask questions or discuss concerns.

➤ TODAY'S QUOTE

"Go as far as you can see; when you get there, you'll be able to see further."
-Thomas Carlyle

➤ TODAY'S JOKE

Why do spiders stay in the house? Because they can do everything on the web.

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



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13 WTHR **7 DAY FORECAST**

34 CLOUDY, SNOW SHOWERS	25/39 A.M. FLURRY, COLD	20/50 SUNNY AND WARMER	33/58 MILD, LATE DAY RAIN	50/52 RAIN EARLY, FALLING TEMPS	22/34 BREEZY AND COLD	23/36 MOSTLY SUNNY
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

OBITUARIES

Rev. George F. Smith

December 18, 1928, Friday, April 21, 2023

Rev. George F. Smith, 94 years old, passed away peacefully on Friday, April 21, 2023 at Wellbrooke of Crawfordsville. Born December 18, 1928 to Joseph and Viola (Harris) Smith in Evansville, IN. He married Joan (Oran) Smith, and she preceded him in death on August 7, 1966. He then married Vivian (Harlan) Smith, and she preceded him in death on April 6, 2003.



George served in the US Navy aboard the USS Tanner in WWII. He was in the ministry for over 50 years, serving in local churches including The Church of God on Grace Avenue in Crawfordsville and the Elmdale Community Church.

George had 18 grandchildren, 39 great-grandchildren and 21 great-great grandchildren. His children and grandchildren were the love of his life, and he will be missed by all.

Survivors include his children, Michele Page (Jr.) and Terry Smith (Jackie) of Crawfordsville, Georgianna Patton (Scott) of Wilder, Idaho and Patty Beck (Ron) of Zionsville. He was preceded in death by his parents, wives, brother, sisters, daughter, Linda, son-in-law, George Stevens and granddaughter, Stacy Smith.

Cremation has been chosen with a Celebration of Life to be held at a later date. Share memories and condolences at www.SandersFuneralCare.com.

Wabash College Chamber Orchestra Concert Slated For April 30

The Wabash College Chamber Orchestra will perform in concert at 7:30 p.m., on Sunday, April 30, in Salter Concert Hall in the Fine Arts Center.

Under the direction of Alfred Abel, the concert opens with Beethoven's Leonore Overture #3, then moves to Wieniawski's Violin Concerto #2 in D Minor, before closing with Brahms' Symphony #3.

The Chamber Orchestra draws its members not

only from the Wabash student body, but also from musicians on the faculty and staff, along with professional and amateur musicians from the surrounding community. Maestro Abel's young son will play the violin solo in the Wieniawski Concerto.

This Music Department concert is free and open to the public. Families are encouraged to attend this audience-friendly introduction to wonderful classical music.

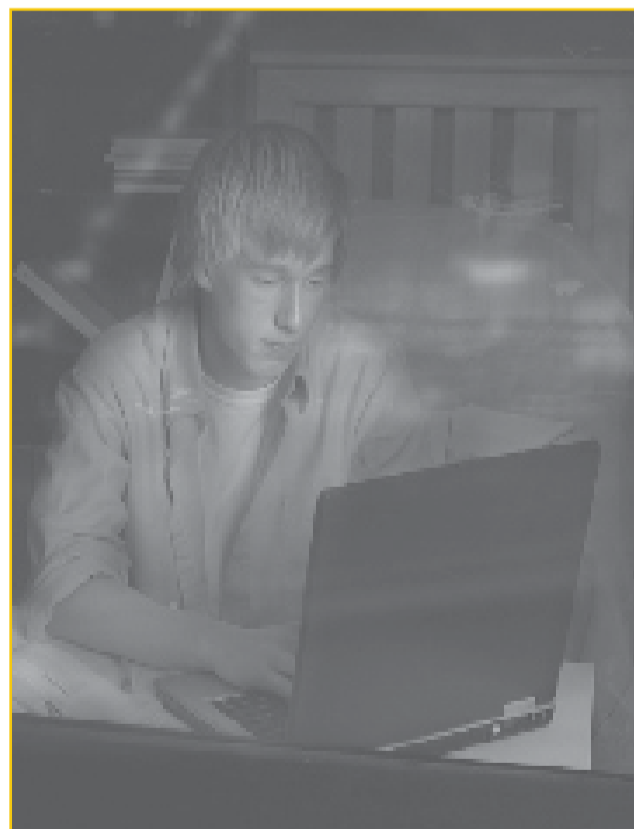
Senior Golf Results From April 21

The weather may have been cool, but the scores were sizzling in the Montgomery County Senior Golf League.

The three-man team of Rhett Welliever, Steve Priest and Dale Wilson shot 11-under-par to take first place in weekly play.

Dick Baker, Gary Enquest, Fred Phelps and Kevin Hoyt were only two shots back at 9-under.

Priest and Phelps won proxys on Nos. 4 and 12 respectively. And the Long Drive by an 80-year-old honor went to Larry Manlove.



Please visit us online:

thepaper24-7.com



Photo courtesy of Montgomery County CASA Program

Ashley Clute and Jason Anderson

Dancing With The Montgomery County Stars Dancer Bios

Dancing with the Montgomery County Stars is the largest fundraiser for the Montgomery County Youth Service Bureau. Jason Anderson and Ashley Clute are the latest selections announced by the YSB.

The event is scheduled to be May 20th at Knowling Fieldhouse on the Campus of Wabash College and is to start at 6 p.m. The doors will open at 5 p.m.

Jason Anderson is the Executive Chef for Bone Appetit Food Services and Catering. He lives in Hendricks County. For fun in his spare time, Jason enjoys fishing with his kids and participating

in BBQ competitions. He co-parents his eight-year-old twins, Blake and Emma. The song that always makes him get up and sing is "Sweet Caroline." When he was asked to be a Star, Jason says that he was "a bit nervous!" But he decided to participate in the YSB fundraiser because "it's good to give back to a great cause." Jason thinks the public should come support Ashley and him "because Ashley is amazing!"

Ashley Clute is a cosmetologist and part owner of Identity Hair Design in Greencastle, IN. She has lived in Montgomery County for three years.

In her spare time, she loves to spend time with her family, eat awesome food, listen to live music and dance. Ashley has a 16-year-old daughter, Chelsea, who is a sophomore at Crawfordsville High School. She and Chelsea live with her boyfriend of five years, Jake Martin. Jake is the head baseball coach at Wabash College and their reason for moving to Crawfordsville. Ashley started dancing at the age of five. She grew up dancing competitively. She has been a pro for Dancing with the Montgomery County Stars for three years. Before that she danced for the Putman

County DWTS for seven years. She has no favorite genre of music, but likes anything that moves her. She says she participates in the Youth Service Bureau fundraiser because her love for dance brings her back every year and "it's a nice feeling to be able to help with such an important fundraiser." Ashley thinks the public should support Jason and her because "her partner is stepping completely out of his comfort zone for this event, so come show him lots of love. It's such a fun evening and you get to leave feeling great about supporting the youth of Montgomery County."

Disaster Unemployment Assistance Available In Indiana

Indiana residents who couldn't work as a direct result of the March 31 - April 1, 2023, severe weather and tornadoes may be eligible for Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA).

Eligible individuals in Allen, Benton, Clinton, Grant, Howard, Johnson, Lake, Monroe, Morgan, Owen, Sullivan, and White counties can file a claim with the Indiana Department of Workforce Development to request benefits. FEMA funds DUA, but the Indiana Department of Workforce Development administers the program.

To be eligible for DUA

benefits, individuals must meet the following criteria:

- Became unemployed, including self-employed individuals, as a direct result of the presidentially declared disaster (March 31 - April 1, 2023, severe storms, tornadoes and straight-line winds);
- Be a U.S. national or a qualified alien;
- Not qualify for regular unemployment insurance benefits from any state;
- Have worked or were self-employed in, or were scheduled to begin work or self-employment in, one of the counties listed above; and

•Establish that the work or self-employment they can no longer perform was their primary source of income.

Learn more about the DUA eligibility criteria at in.gov/dwd/indiana-unemployment/individuals/dua/.

Applications for DUA must be filed by May 22, 2023. Individuals must first file a regular claim for Unemployment Insurance benefits by visiting the Uplink Claimant Self-Service System at uplink.in.gov/CSS/CSSLogin.htm. If applicants are denied regular Unemployment Insurance benefits, they can then apply for DUA.

Hoosiers who think they may be eligible for DUA benefits may apply by completing the forms found on the DUA website: in.gov/dwd/indiana-unemployment/individuals/dua/. After completing the forms, click the "fill out this form" link on the DUA website to apply and upload the completed forms.

For applicants who do not have access to a computer or mobile device, Unemployment Insurance access kiosks are available at WorkOne offices in the 12 designated counties. Find your local WorkOne at in.gov/dwd/files/WorkOne_CareerCenters_Map.pdf.

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March 16-31	\$62.55
April 1-15	\$59.26
April 16-30	\$55.97
May 1-15	\$52.68
May 16-31	\$49.39
June 1-15	\$46.10
June 16-30	\$42.81
July 1-15	\$39.52
July 1-31	\$36.23
Aug. 1-15	\$32.94
Aug. 16-31	\$29.65
Sept. 1-15	\$26.36
Sept. 16-30	\$23.07
Oct. 1-15	\$19.78
Oct. 16-31	\$16.49
Nov. 1-15	\$13.20
Nov. 16-30	\$9.91
Dec. 1-15	\$6.62
Dec. 16-31	\$3.33

*Minimum order 12 issues

Thank You for Reading The Paper!

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Put The Phone Down And Keep Your Eyes On The Road

April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month and with the summer approaching and more cars on the road, State Farm is reminding drivers to put the phone down and keep your eyes up.

New drivers are often taught to be "defensive drivers" when taking to the road for the first time. A defensive driver is alert, prepared and in control of their vehicle despite outside distractions such as the weather, time of day and/or other drivers.

While drivers react to

outside influences, they should eliminate distractions in the car. Eating, drinking, talking with passengers, diverting their attention to the radio, entertainment, or navigation systems, and using a cell phone to text, talk or lookup information.

Of course, not every trip will involve passengers and not every vehicle is equipped with entertainment and/or navigation systems. However, cell phone ownership is ubiquitous amongst 99% of all drivers.

State Farm survey data – driving attitudes and behaviors

A recent State Farm survey examining attitudes and behaviors around distracted driving indicated that nearly three quarters of drivers have ready access to their phone.

Indeed, cell phone usage such as texting can lead to deadly consequences. The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports that distracted driving claimed the lives of 3,522 in 2021; each one having

been preventable. Sending or reading a text, can take your eyes off the road for five seconds which when driving at a speed of 55 mph can cover the length of an entire football field.

The State Farm survey shows that cell phone usage is not limited to teens and young adults and with smart phones, talking and texting. The study dealt with self-reported behavior of licensed drivers. Cell phone usage by drivers under the age of 50 indicated:

- 52% read or send text

messages

- 43% interact with apps
- 32% watch videos
- 28% record videos

The percentage of cell phone usage among those under the age of 50 is eye opening coupled with the fact that 43% of those distracted drivers tend to drive faster than others. In general, drivers who admitted to manually interacting with their cell phones while driving were nearly twice as likely to report being involved in at least one crash that

occurred when they were distracted while driving.

Distracted driving is preventable, put the phone down and keep your eyes up and on the road. It could save your life and the life of a loved one. In addition, it reduces the chances of getting in a collision or even a ticket.

Passengers are encouraged to speak up and advocate for their own safety. Say something if you feel unsafe. Encourage friends and family to put their phones down and speak up as well.

The Paper

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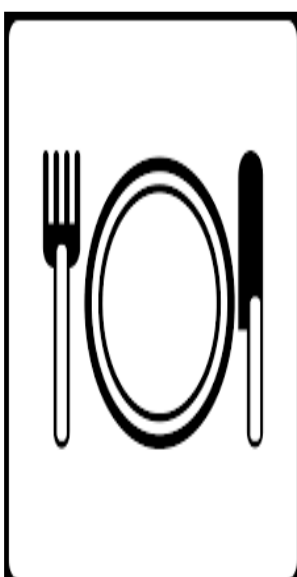


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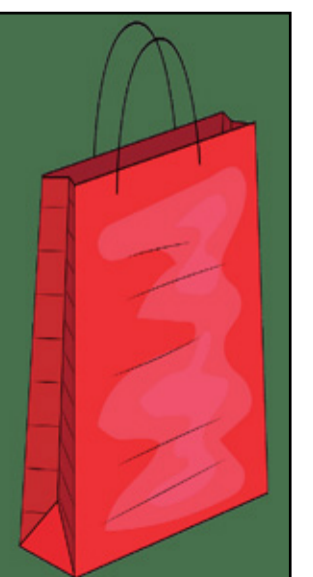


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The Biden & Trump Actuarial Dilemma



BRIAN HOWEY
HOWEY POLITICS

Leave it to Al Roker at the annual White House Easter egg hunt to smoke out President Biden on whether he will seek a second term at age 82. The NBC Today Show weatherman phrased the question as to how many more Easter hunts were in the president's future.

The president's answer was troublesome. "I'm planning on running, Al, but we're not prepared to announce it yet," Biden responded. "Well, I plan on at least three or four more Easter egg hunts ... maybe five. Maybe six I don't know, what the hell?"

That sounds like a recipe for a state funeral. Biden would be 86 years old at the end of a second term. If Republican Donald Trump wins in 2024, he would be 82 years old on Jan. 20, 2029. The Social Security Administration's actuarial life expectancy data reveals that the 79-year-old Biden would be at 88 years old. Trump's life expectancy would be at 86.7 years. Both men would be facing the Grim Reaper as a second term in the White House would wind down.

But we're not talking about just any job. We're talking about the most pressure-cooked job on Earth.

When it comes to the question of "what keeps

you up at night?" President Biden has been dealing with the specter of a potential nuclear war unfolding after Russia invaded Ukraine. That proverbial "3 a.m. phone call" could be Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Mark Milley advising a meeting beneath the White House in the Situation Room or trip to Joint Base Andrews for a rendezvous with one of three U.S. Air Force "doomsday" jets.

We've watched recent younger presidents like Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama become grayer right before our eyes.

President Biden, who has suffered two brain aneurysms as a younger man, moves and acts older than when he took office in 2021 after running a Benjamin Harrison style "front porch" campaign. The COVID-19 pandemic spared Biden hundreds of thousands of miles of travel and, perhaps, hundreds of greasy chicken dinners. According to The Hill, "Trump meets the technical definition of obesity, has at times slurred words, and has had trouble walking."

According to The Hill: If Biden lives to 86 years old at the end of a second term, he would have outlived all but seven presidents (Harry Truman at 88, Herbert Hoover and John Adams at 90; Ronald Reagan and Gerald Ford at 93; George H.W. Bush at 94; Jimmy Carter still alive at 97). Of the 45 men who have served as president, just seven (15%) have lived longer than 86.

Then there's the first Hoosier president, William Henry Harrison, who took office in 1841 as the oldest

at the time (68), gave the longest inaugural address in history during frigid weather, and died a month later.

What will be revealed between now and November 2024 is whether the "torch will pass to a new generation" as President John F. Kennedy put it after succeeding the older, heart attack prone President Dwight Eisenhower (who lasted a little more than eight years after retiring).

There's been speculation that Biden is "slow walking" his reelection announcement. It was expected in January, and now it will come sometime this summer. There are only two "fringe" candidates (Marianne Williamson and Robert F. Kennedy Jr.) running for the Democrat nomination, but RFK Jr. polled 14% in a USA Today/Suffolk Poll this week; Williamson was at 5% and 13% were undecided. That's nearly a third of Democrats unsure about a Biden reelect.

The real "next generation" for Democrats - Vice President Kamala Harris, California Gov. Gavin Newsom, Transportation Sec. Pete Buttigieg, Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, and U.S. Sens. Cory Booker and Amy Klobuchar - are preparing for their future by forming leadership PACs and preparing for 2028.

On the GOP side, all eyes are on Trump, who is facing one criminal indictment, with two or three others just over the horizon. The GOP's "next generation" would include Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (though he is stumbling through the opening phase of his national moment),

former vice president Mike Pence, and, potentially, former New Jersey governor Chris Christie, who told Republicans in Fort Wayne this past week that Trump can't and shouldn't win a general election. "I think Donald's confused," he said of the former president who called for the U.S. Constitution to be "terminated" to allow him back in office. "The oath for president says 'preserve, protect and defend' - not 'preserve, protect and suspend,'" Christie said.

Neither Trump or Biden is very popular. According to FiveThirtyEight, Biden's average approval rating stands at 43%, only 1% higher than Trump's approval rating on April 15, 2019, at the same point in his one-term presidency, according to the New York Times.

It could be a redux of 2016, when the historically unpopular Trump defeated the historically disapproved Hillary Clinton, prompting me to ask this question: Out of 320 million Americans, is this the best we can do?

The scenario of an 82-year-old Biden seeking a second term is fraught with danger for Democrats. America is pretty much a 50/50 country these days. The nightmare scenario is President Biden suffering a stroke, a heart attack, or tumbling down the Air Force One stairs in late September 2024, meaning ... all bets are off and anything could happen.

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

Herb's Been Doin' Some Readin'

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

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

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

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

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

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

There was a paucity of paws in the air.

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



SLIM RANGLES
Columnist

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

"And you read up on this by yourself?"

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

And some folks just watch teevee...

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

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BUTCH From Page A1

a par 4, I drove the ball down to the edge of the green...near the apron. Instead of trying to chip the ball towards the hole, I got out my Jack Nicklaus "white fang" putter... and lo and behold... putted it into the hole... an "eagle" and two under par already! The next hole was a short par 3, of which I never had any luck previously...most of the time scoring a bogey (one over par). This time, however, I hit my ball on the green about two feet from the hole...and then proceeded to make that putt...putting me at three under par after only two holes...I was on a roll!

Next up was a long par 5, of which I usually made par because I could drive the ball quite far. Oops! I dubbed the ball, which luckily skipped over the creek, but only went about 35 yards down the fairway. I knew my luck had just ended. But God let me off the hook, and I recovered on my next shots and made a par 5...so I was still three under after three holes. I then proceeded to birdie the fourth hole, making my score four under par, but the next two holes (5 and 6) were always difficult for me on most days. However, beyond my imagination, I birdied BOTH of those holes... making me 6-under par after six holes!

Next up came number 7, a par 4 with a sand trap right in front. Whoa...I scored a 3...another birdie, which made me 7-under par! Then I teed off on number 8, a long par 4 with a dog-leg, in which I normally scored a bogey 5. I hooked my drive near the edge of a cornfield, just barely inbounds...and then somehow managed to score a par 4. Now I was ready to tee off on the last hole...number 9. I couldn't count the number of times I had teed off on number 9 and hooked the ball across the road and into a cornfield, but on this day my ball went

straight down the middle almost 300 yards! I then chipped onto the green about 15 feet below the hole. I lined up my ball, eyed the hole a couple of times, and drilled it in...Holy Cow! I ended up with a score of 27 on the par 35 nine-hole course...a new Fairway golf course record! The three other players on my team couldn't believe anyone could shoot that low of a score...(8 strokes under par). I had a difficult time even believing it myself. We played another nine holes, and I shot one under par...34... making my score for the 18 holes...61. What a crazy day!!! I knew it would likely never happen again. That year I also won the club championship in the annual tourney.

In 1990, when I was a full-time deputy Sheriff at night in Montgomery County, I also started working full-time during the daytime as the Darlington librarian to help pay for my four kids' college educations. That was pretty much the end of my golfing adventures, as I barely had time to even get enough sleep. Fairway golf course is no longer. It was plowed up and now exists as farmland. I drove by there recently, remembering all the good times that I spent playing golf with my Dad and two brothers and all of the other fellows from Darlington...the Sunday morning golf bunch.

When Fairway golf course closed, my record 27 for nine holes had never been beaten. Maybe I should contact the guy who farms that ground and see if he can put up a monument proclaiming my great feat...but I am not holding my breath that it will happen.

- 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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R&P From Page A1

communities are very similar to the markets we presently serve and, after many discussions with R.P. Home & Harvest's leadership, both companies knew this would be a great fit from a culture, values, and operations standpoint."

"It's pretty amazing how quickly this all came together," said Jason Plummer, President of R.P. Home & Harvest. "Just a couple of months ago this wasn't even on the radar but when a win-win opportunity appears, it is an exciting thing. Runnings has been doing this for over 75 years, and they are one of the top farm, home, and outdoor-store companies in America, extremely well-regarded by customers and competitors. We are both family-owned companies and that means a lot to us. This deal would not have come together if we did not have the utmost confidence that Runnings will do a phenomenal job for all stakeholders."

The transaction between Runnings and R.P. Home & Harvest is scheduled to close in June. The stores will continue operating as

R.P. Home & Harvest for a limited period of time as Runnings transitions the stores to their well-known brand.

"I have personally visited many of the R.P. Home & Harvest stores, and I was thoroughly impressed, especially with some of the team members I encountered," said Odegaard. "We can't wait to add these stores and the R.P. Home & Harvest team members to our growing company."

"There is a long list of employees, vendors, and other hardworking people who brought these stores out of the ashes of a bad situation, literally going from empty stores to serving customers in a matter of weeks during a very tough economic time. I know the communities and customers appreciated this unbelievable effort, and this transaction with Runnings is only going to add the next great chapter to this story," added Plummer. "My family is active in many of these markets through other business and civic activity, and I can't wait to see Runnings take these stores to the next level."

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USPS Events In Support Of Small Business Week

Post Offices across the nation are hosting events during the month of May to demonstrate how the U.S. Postal Service continues to create easy and affordable services designed to help small businesses grow.

This year, many post offices in Indiana will support Small Business Week, April 30th through May 6th, by hosting a May event to demonstrate how the U.S. Postal Service continues to create easy and affordable services designed to help small businesses grow.

USPS offers numerous solutions to assist with marketing efforts such as Every Door Direct Mail. In addition to new and exciting mailing innovations for advertising, we continue to provide shipping solutions, like Priority Mail, that help small business ship economically and confidently.

Post Offices around the country will host "Grow Your Business" events where business owners and entrepreneurs can learn about USPS small business offerings designed to help grow and innovate small business in a one-on-one setting.

The Postal Service embraces this year's theme "This ZIP Code Means Business" as we recognize the importance of supporting small businesses, the jobs they help create, and the quality of life that they provide in every ZIP Code across the nation.

Small business owners unable to attend can learn more about how USPS can help to grow their business at www.usps.com/small-business. While visiting our website please check out all the tools and applications we offer specifically with small business in mind.

PLANTS From Page A1

large selection of herbs for your culinary needs. For landscape and flower beds, patrons will find Native, perennial and annual plants that grow best in this area. There will be such a large assortment of plants, too many to list, you will have to come see for yourself.

The plant sale is the main and sometimes only fundraiser the organization has each year. With monies raised, it helps fund projects and educational opportunities for all of Montgomery County in the horticultural area, such as gardens at two of the local elementary schools. In addition, the Master Gardeners award a scholarship yearly to a high school senior who is going into the agriculture or horticulture field of study. The Master Gardeners are also working on a Monarch Waystation along with the ongoing Seed Library at the Crawfordsville District Public Library and the

ASI Growing Together Community Project. All through the year, the organization will be presenting programs for the public to attend in the gardening / horticulture arena.

Master Gardeners will be on hand at the Plant Sale & Show to answer gardening questions. This year nine booths will be on premise to accentuate your plant buying. The vendors will have available specialty plants, along with information on several of the non-profit organizations serving Montgomery County and a local food truck.

Come prepared to spend time browsing all the great plants and vendors. Nucor will be giving away free trees in the 4-H barn.

To learn more about Montgomery County Master Gardeners please visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Growingtogether2> or email montcoinemg@gmail.com.

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